A MASONIC LODGE IN LONDON IN CONNECTION WITH THE ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS."

Sir,—Some three years ago, at the Corps Dinner, we discussed the advisability and feasibility of starting a Masonic Lodge in London in connection with the Royal Army Medical Corps, and we thought, as experienced masons, that such a project was not only practicable but that it might well prove to be highly desirable, in promoting esprit de corps on the one hand, and assisting our charities on the other. Unfortunately, at that time, our old friend "exigencies of service" intervened, and our idea never got beyond incubation. But it so happens that the "exigencies of privilege leave" have thrown us together for the last fortnight, and the outcome of that "foregathering" is a revival of the nascent idea. We think that the establishment of—shall we say, Lodge "Fidelis"?—would be distinctly advantageous to the Corps, and in that assumption we crave the hospitality of your columns, knowing no other way by which we can get at the "Brethren" in the Corps who would be inclined to support us. And by "the Corps" we mean not only the officers of the Regulars past and present, but the Territorials, and possibly, if it is deemed advisable, the warrant officers and senior non-commissioned officers of both. We want to foster forbearance, tolerance, camaraderie and good fellowship—in short, Freemasonry—in every branch of the Corps. If, then, any of your readers who are in sympathy with this project and are willing to support it, will communicate with either of us, or better still, if any officer located in or near London will undertake pro tem. the duties of honorary secretary, there should be no difficulty in giving effect to the scheme. There is a precedent, to wit, Lodge "Ubique" of the Royal Artillery. At this stage it would be premature to discuss details even if you were willing to afford the space, but we might just say that the bye-laws will be framed to meet the requirements of a nomadic clientèle, and no doubt "Ubique" will gladly give us a few tips. Further, as the annual dinner of the Corps takes place on a Monday, the Saturday preceding would appear to be a suitable day to fix for the installation meeting. It is evident that we must have more founders than is usually requisite to guard against premature decease, and therefore we urge all masons in the Corps to come forward at once; the expense need not be great, nor the calls upon leisure exacting.

We are, &c.,

R. H. Forman, Colonel,
Grand Master, O.S.F.I.

J. G. Harwood, Colonel,
P.M., P.Z., &c.

Bombay,
September 17th, 1908.