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MASONIC REFORM.

PROBABLY the title of this article may awaken the susceptibilities or shock the prejudices of many, but we are not without hope that a calm and dispassionate consideration of the arguments shadowed forth in these prefatory remarks will remove any false impressions from those who consider the word "reform" as meaning violent or radical change, to which we are most strongly opposed. Our views, so far from being fraught with danger to Masonry, are directed solely by an earnest wish to achieve such improvements in its administration, and in the routine of its general management, as may tend to increase its efficiency in carrying out the great objects which lie within the compass of its purpose.

Freemasonry is not a thing of mushroom growth, which need fear scrutiny, or shrink from examination. It boasts a foundation in far-off years of the illimitable past: it has endured scathless the fires of persecution; triumphed over obstacles and trials; withstood the shafts of ridicule; and now stands confessedly one of the noblest institutions in the world. With the views of those who hold that any discussion of its principles is to be deprecated, we have no sympathy; neither can we agree in the opinion that in its nature it is so widely different from every other institution that the general maxims of polity which apply to other, and to some extent kindred, bodies, are inapplicable to this. Those secrets and mysteries which are peculiarly its own cannot, of course, be too securely guarded from the inquisitive; they naturally belong to and can be known only by the initiated; but the grand principles on which the Order is founded are cosmopolitan in their effect and tendency, and the more widespread is the knowledge of them the better for the interests of the craft, and most unquestionably for those of humanity in general. Look for a moment at the persecutions which Brethren in various

quarters of the globe have recently encountered—is it to be believed that they originate in any other source than entire ignorance of our tenets and professions? Could they have arisen had these been understood and appreciated? Moreover, as to details of management, if the interests of the body are universal, the greater is the necessity that the executive should be maintained in a condition of the most perfect efficiency, and hence most ample is the justification of Masons who take upon themselves to discuss whether the ruling powers properly fulfil the conditions required of them.

We do not shut our eyes to the ungraciousness of the task of finding fault, especially when those against whom censure is to be directed are, by either their personal character or by the services they have rendered, objects of regard and esteem. But past efficiency cannot be accepted in excuse for present incompetency, any more than the existence of abuses can be held as a valid plea for their continuance. We are quite willing—nay, happy—to admit the value of services rendered in times past by some most distinguished officials, and to attest the advantages resulting from their exertions; but, on the other hand, we are bound to maintain that the treatment of our Canadian Brethren, as proved by their petition and memorial, and the complaints we constantly receive from Masons at home and in the colonies, prove the existence of gross and unpardonable neglect, and of a state of things that imperatively requires amendment.

We had hoped, indeed, that the sullen endurance which ill concealed the ever and anon outspoken dissatisfaction at his tenacity of office, would have induced Lord Zetland to have relinquished a charge which he is evidently incompetent to fill, or that some lingering spirit of independent pride, or conscientious recollection of his duty, would have won a few hours towards the maintenance of Masonic honour: but sarcasm, ridicule, sneer, or invective, fall powerless before the love of patronage, and we therefore hail the announcement of an organization that will assuredly correct neglect, if it does not coerce efficiency, by shaming indifference into action.

The remarks of the G.M. at his installation, 31st March last, prove incontestibly that there is no hope of redress from that quarter; while the appointments of the Grand Officers on that occasion would seem to have been purposely made to exasperate the notoriously increasing spirit of discontent.

In alluding to this latter subject we may be blamed for interfering with the prerogative of the G.M., still we disclaim any such intent, only advancing the fact as a proof of the evil; but while we thus disclaim all idea of touching upon prerogative, we reserve to ourselves the right of criticizing its exercise, and in the selection of *some* of the officers we fearlessly assert that the bestowal of honours has afforded satisfaction to none in the Craft save the recipients. Brethren who have laboured for years without fee or reward, who have given their time and expended their money to support our charities, and in endeavouring to extend their usefulness and efficiency, have been passed over in silence and their claims neglected; whilst others have

been honoured who have contributed little or nothing, whose very names are almost unknown out of the *select* Lodge of which they are members, or recognised only by the small coterie who manage the patronage department. As to Lord Goderich's nomination, he is so well renowned as an administrative reformer elsewhere, that though Masonry has had but little of his acquaintance, we augur much from his activity, and can only promise him ample occupation for his favourite vocation, in cleansing the Augean stables of Grand Lodge.

A speaker on a recent occasion, alluding to Masonic allegiance, expressed himself to the following effect:—"Fatal would it be to the happiness, interests, and prosperity of the order should the clouds of disaffection arise—such may one day be the case—but he trusted he should not live to see that day." We tell him and others whom it may concern, that the horizon is *already* dark with clouds, the effect of which is to induce earnest Brethren who have the good of our noble institution as sincerely at heart as any of those who join in condemning their motives, to unite in order to avert the impending storm, and to concert measures for placing the government of the Order on an efficient basis. We are happy to say that an organized body of Masonic Reformers has already received the adherence of many well-known Brethren of the Order, and that their numbers are rapidly increasing. Certain plans have been propounded and measures discussed, which, hereafter carried out and elaborated, must revive the bright days of Masonic glory.

In a future number we hope to be able to place before our readers further details of the progress of this noble movement. Meanwhile we invite the co-operation of our friends, and shall be happy to receive any suggestions or communications bearing on the subjects alluded to. In conclusion we would assure all, that the Masonic Reformers desire to rivet, not to sever, fraternal unity; that their views are dispassionate, while their energy is determined; and that they will be guided by the principles so well laid down by a statesman of rising eminence in recently addressing his constituents—"Reform, to be efficient, must partake of the nature of Conservatism; while Conservatism, to be practical, must partake of the nature of Reform."

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES  
OF CELEBRATED FREEMASONS.

INIGO JONES.

It is not a little surprising that the life of this great architect, of whose name Masonry may well be proud, did not, at a much earlier date, form the subject of a more complete and connected biography than any of those presented to the world; and the want of such a memoir was long complained of by the countless admirers of his genius.

Prior to 1848, indeed, the public did not possess anything worthy the name of a biography, owing, it may be, to the fact that those who had undertaken to produce such a work had not sufficient materials at their command, nor facility of access to sources from which alone those materials could be obtained; and in more recent times, the amount of research necessary for compiling the history of an individual who lived and flourished nearly three hundred years ago, has no doubt deterred many modern writers from encountering the task, to whom it would otherwise have been a labour of love. Be that as it may, the biographies of Inigo Jones were little more than echoes of one another, until the publication of his life by the Shaksperian Society, from the pen of Peter Cunningham, Esq., than whom no living writer is better qualified for a work demanding talent, learning, and antiquarian research. This biography is rendered the more valuable by the insertion of facts previously omitted, and by liberal quotations from documents which had been overlooked or unemployed; and to the material thus introduced we are considerably indebted for the information which enables us to present to our readers the following sketch of an illustrious member of the Masonic Brotherhood, whose studies and acquirements embraced all branches of art immediately or remotely connected with the profession to which he was so zealously attached.

Like many of our most eminent men, Inigo Jones may be called the architect of his own fortune and fame. His father, Inigo Jones, who is supposed to have been a Welshman, was a cloth-worker residing in West Smithfield, London, where the future artist was born in 1573, and the parish register of St. Bartholomew-the-Less records his baptism on 19th July of that year. Of his early life and education there exists but little information which can be at all relied on; but we may be justified in inferring, from the indifferent share his father seems to have enjoyed of this world's wealth, and from the fact of his having a rather numerous family to support, that Inigo was indebted for his acquirements more to his own tastes and exertions than to any liberal or expensive course of training he had afforded him. The elder Jones died in 1597, when the son was in his twenty-fourth year. It is said, and with some claim to probability, that the future architect was originally apprenticed to a joiner; but be that as it may, it is certain he was early distinguished for his taste and skill in drawing and designing, particularly "in the practice of landscape drawing." This early-formed taste appears to have attracted the favourable notice of those able and willing to encourage the development of his latent genius, and to have secured him valuable patrons. Indeed, it has been generally asserted, that he was sent to study painting in Italy, under the auspices and at the charge of Lord Arundel; but although there is no direct contradiction of this statement, yet in the account he gives of himself, in his work on Stonehenge, there is nothing to corroborate its truth—an omission somewhat surprising if the report were well founded. In any event it is very evident that he did "pass into foreign parts," in

his younger years, to study the arts of design, and to "converse with the great masters thereof in Italy," where he assiduously applied himself to "search out the ruins of those ancient buildings which, in despite of time itself and violence of barbarians, are yet remaining." It is not quite clear when he abandoned landscape painting as a profession, an art in which he acquired considerable skill; but he himself tells us that on his return to England he applied himself more particularly to architecture. A small landscape from his hand, in the possession of the Burlington family, is criticized by Walpole as well conceived, but in the colouring indifferently executed.

There appears to be considerable doubt as to the exact period when Jones embraced architectural drawing as his future profession; and even Webb, his kinsman and pupil, falls into error on the subject; for in his vindication of Stonehenge he asserts that Jones returned to England in the train of Christianus IV., king of Denmark, whereas he is proved to have been resident and professionally engaged in this country prior to that monarch's visit, which did not take place until July, 1606. It is evident, however, that his stay in Denmark had been long, and although it has not been positively stated what was the nature of his employment there, we are justified in assuming it to have been architecture. It has been said, that while in that country he rebuilt part of the royal palace of Fredericksburg; and there would appear to have been some truth in the report, from the striking resemblance of design that exists between the principal court of that building and that of Heriot's Hospital in Edinburgh, another building attributed to Jones.

Jones had reached his thirty-second year when we first hear of his being employed at the English court in 1604-5. At this time Anne of Denmark, the sister of Christianus IV., and queen of James I., ordered the first of a series of masques, a kind of entertainment not common in this country, to be performed on Twelfth-night; and although the poet (Ben Jonson) and the painter (Jones) engaged in its production were equally inexperienced in such matters, both the conception and execution appear to have been satisfactory. The title of this revel was the "Masque of Blackness;" and Jonson's description of the bodily part of it is the first notice we possess of the use of scenery in stage performances. The production of those princely entertainments, which mainly owed their origin to the taste of the queen consort, afforded ample scope for the exercise of pen and pencil, and generally led to an enormous expenditure of money. The style of magnificence in which they were got up may be gathered from the fact that the one we have just alluded to cost about £10,000 of our present money. In executing his part of the work, the exertions of Jones were no doubt greatly aided by the knowledge and practice he had acquired of landscape painting, as much of the scenery introduced belonged to that department of art.

Inigo's pencil was from time to time employed in the composition of various masques and other dramatic representations; sometimes

jointly with Ben Jonson, who pays high tribute to the abilities of his *collaborateur*; and his reputation and favour at court was such as occasionally to introduce him to other employment, which, if not strictly professional, was of a nature suited to promote the ambitious views of the artist. Carrying letters in the service of the crown was at that time an introduction to good society, and was therefore an occupation much courted by those desirous of distinction at foreign courts; and we find Inigo thus employed in a mission to France in 1609, but the nature of the service is not known. In 1610, when Prince Henry was created Prince of Wales, a masque formed part of the entertainments at court, and Inigo was professionally engaged on it, together with Samuel Daniel; and the young prince having now a separate household of his own, Jones was appointed surveyor of works to the new establishment, besides receiving gifts and rewards from his royal master. This office was not of long duration. The prince died in 1612, amid the deep and general regret of the court, and the employment of Inigo as an officer of the household terminated. It does not appear that he for some time afterwards devoted much attention to theatrical drawing, with the exception of the masque given by the Middle Temple and Lincoln's Inn in 1613, in honour of the marriage of the Princess Elizabeth.

By the lamented death of Prince Henry the fortune as well as the prospects of the architect were seriously affected. He did not, however, with his position, lose his friends, and the self-reliance and indomitable perseverance so prominent in his character now stood him in good stead. He was, besides, untrammelled by the harness of office, and free to gratify his thirst for travel and research in other lands. In 1613 he again visited Italy, this time certainly under the united patronage of Lords Arundel and Pembroke, and during this tour the result of his researches is not confined to drawings alone; for he has enriched his copy of Palladio (still preserved in Worcester College, Oxford) with annotations of great value by comparison of the designs with the ruins themselves. This work was his constant companion in all his travels, and is profusely supplied with his annotations not only on its own contents, but such as would naturally occur to an individual eminently able and anxious to grasp at every subject, however distantly related to a profession to which his attachment approached to enthusiasm. It is also clear that while in Rome he was employed by Lord Arundel in making purchases on his account, but the particulars thereof are not known. We may not, however, be wrong in supposing that his "disbursements" were for objects in accordance with the taste of that nobleman, who understood and appreciated works of art, and whose name has been rendered familiar by the Arundelian marbles at Oxford, and the patronage he extended so munificently to Jones, Hollier, and Vandyke.

In 1615 fortune again began to smile on him. Simon Basil, the king's surveyor of works, died; and as Jones had been granted the

reversion of this office while in the household of the Prince of Wales, he returned to take his place at the English court. His income as surveyor was derived from various sources, and amounted in the aggregate to between £700 and £800, besides other emoluments, and a yearly allowance for a court livery from the master of the wardrobe, equal to about £50 of our present money. His noble patrons, Arundel and Pembroke, continued unabated in their friendship, and lost no opportunity of commending to his majesty's notice the merits of their *protégé*.

Jones now found full employment for his time, and scope for the exercise of his talents. His duties consisted, to a great extent, in devising and superintending the alterations and repairs which were constantly in progress at the numerous palaces and manor-houses belonging to the Crown; and as this entailed the expense of frequent travelling, he received from the treasurer of the chamber a special allowance, as well as occasional presents. As we have already remarked, he did not after the death of Prince Henry give much attention to theatrical entertainments at court. He was, however, after his return from Italy occasionally employed, jointly with Ben Jonson, in devising some of those amusements, which, however, had become of less frequent occurrence, as well owing to the enormous expense attending their production, as to the necessities and altered tastes of the sovereign. Besides, during Inigo's residence abroad, another architect had been introduced in these performances—one Constantine, an Italian—and the friendship that existed between the original and principal contrivers, Ben Jonson and Inigo Jones, had unfortunately given place to sentiments much less pleasant. There is no record of the original cause of this unhappy difference between two of the most talented men of their day; but it is certain it occurred prior to 1619; for in Jonson's conversations of that date with Drummond of Hawthornden, the epithets applied by the poet to Jones are the very reverse of flattering. A short reconciliation between them was succeeded by another and a fiercer quarrel than before. The invectives, however, which Jonson hurled at Jones with no sparing hand, do not appear to have done the latter any material injury, but rather the reverse. During the poet's absence in Scotland, in 1619, the old banqueting-house at Whitehall was burnt to the ground, and Jones received commands to erect a new building on the site it had occupied, and of similar style and dimensions. It was just in such an emergency that his powers of conception, decision, and execution, became prominent; and the successful rapidity he exhibited on this occasion was then unprecedented in the annals of art, and is perhaps even now unsurpassed; the ground having been cleared, the design produced, and the first stone of the new building laid on 1st June, within five months from the date of the fire, which took place on the 12th January preceding. The cost of the erection is declared at £14,940. 4s. 1d. A good description of it is quoted by Mr. Cunningham from the account preserved in the Audit-office. The master mason was Nicholas Stone, the

sculptor of St. Francis Vere's monument in Westminster Abbey. Notwithstanding the large sum which appears as the cost of the structure, the wages of the workmen were at that period very low, and it was then not uncommon for tradesmen to be forced into the service of the Crown by a sort of press-gang. This authority to compel the services of workmen was in the hands of the knight marischal, whose men were allowed a gratuity of from £8 to £10 for each man so impressed. Frequent desertion was of course a natural consequence of this compulsory service, occurrences which greatly retarded the progress of the works, and were therefore severely regarded. Inigo, in a letter to Lord Arundel, of 17th August, 1620, the only autograph letter which seems to have been preserved, says:—

“After my departure for London, many of the masons went away without leave, but since, some of them are returned; and for the rest, yf your lo<sup>ps</sup> doe shewe sum exemplary punisment, causing them to be sent up as malyfactors, it will detter the rest frō ever doing the lyke.

“The banqueting-house goith on now well, though the going of the masons away have byne a great henderance to it.”

While these extensive operations were in progress, Inigo prepared, by order of the crown, a ground map or plan for the guidance of a commission appointed to plant and reduce to uniformity Lincoln's-Inn Fields. An oil-colored view of this plan is still preserved by the Pembroke family, in which Lindsey House, originally the residence of the Earl of Lindsey, general of the forces of Charles I. during the civil war, situated in the centre of the west side, presents the most prominent feature. The proportions of the square, as adopted from Jones's plan, are said to be equal to the base of the Great Pyramid, by the dimensions of which the architect is supposed, for peculiar reasons, to have been guided in his design.

At this time (1620) a “Commission for Buildings” was in operation, the business of which was to inquire into the number and nature of the new buildings erected in London from the accession of James I. A commission was formed in the same year for conducting the repairs of old St. Paul's. Inigo was a member, and practically the soul of both commissions.

The zeal of Lord Pembroke, by the way, for the advancement of Jones, led the latter into an extravagance which, after his death, afforded scope for some controversy of rather a ludicrous character. In 1620, that nobleman sent for Jones, who “received his Majesty's commands to produce, out of his own practice in architecture and experience in antiquities, whatever he could possibly discover concerning Stonehenge.” In the additional works thus committed to his charge, the restless activity of his mind did not flag. The result of his inquiries, however, did not appear during his lifetime, but was published some years after his death, in a folio volume, edited by Webb, his kinsman and executor, who represents it as a compilation of “some few undigested notes” of Inigo's, “moulded” together by the editor.



The monstrous doctrine here propounded is attributable, perhaps, more to the anxiety of Inigo, who was a courtier, to flatter the vanity, by illustrating the absurd hypothesis, of his sovereign, than to any fallacy that really existed in his own judgment. The notes are very ingenious, and aim to show that "Stonehenge was a temple of the Tuscan order, raised by the Romans, and consecrated to the god Coelus, the origin of all things." This wild theory was attacked by Dr. Charlton, and vindicated by Webb; but neither the architect nor his defender found any supporters.

Another short reconciliation had again been effected between Jones and Ben Jonson, for the three last masques represented in the reign of James I. were of their joint invention. They were performed in 1623-4-5; and an apparently trivial cause connected with the last, which was called "Chloridia," again and for ever estranged the two artists. The influence and power of Jones had become predominant at court, and his jealousy, somewhat childish, was excited into deep resentment by Jonson having, in the masque of "Chloridia," placed his own name in the title-page before that of his coadjutor.

This was the last court entertainment in which Jonson was engaged, for Inigo found means to introduce other poets—Townsend, Carew, Shirley, Heywood, and Davenant,—creatures of his own, who express their gratitude in rather servile terms to the proud and powerful architect. Jonson, however, although thus neglected in his old age, and in circumstances of comparative indigence, did not fail to retaliate on his former associate in terms of the bitterest satire; written, as Howell has it, "with a porcupine's quill dipped in gall." "An Expostulation with Inigo Jones," in Jonson's own handwriting, is included in the Bridgewater MSS., in which he ridicules the velvet court livery of the architect. The fact is, the poet is not far from the mark when he says, that Jones wanted to be *Dominus Do-all*, and to monopolize to himself all the praise; that, in short, as Gifford says, he preferred "an obscure ballad-maker who could string together a few rhymes to explain the scenery, to a man of talent who might aspire to a share of the praise given to the entertainment." In Jonson's play of the "Tale of a Tub," he introduces Jones as *Vitruvius Hoop*, in which the master surveyor and his peculiarities are held up to ridicule. This shaft of Jonson's satire went home to the mark, and so exasperated Jones, that he actually paid for and received authority from the Lord Chamberlain to have the character of *Vitruvius Hoop* struck out of the play. The offensive character is not to be found in the copies we now possess. Inigo's position enabled him to revenge himself, and he did so in a manner that argued rather a vindictive spirit, for he found means to "damn" the last play of the illustrious poet, which was performed at court by the queen's players, and is recorded in the office-book of the master of the revels as "not liked."

George Chapman, the translator of Homer, and one of Jones's most constant friends, died during this petty warfare. The friendship which the architect entertained for him is commemorated by a

monument he erected to his memory, and still to be seen in the churchyard of St. Giles-in-the-Fields.

About this time (1637) an unfortunate misunderstanding took place between Jones and the parishioners of St. Gregory, which resulted in their appealing to the Commons' House of Parliament, from whence the complaint found its way to the House of Lords, with a declaration appended that the parishioners were entitled to redress, and that proceedings ought to be taken against the king's architect. The quarrel originated in this wise:—

St. Paul's was in a state of great dilapidation, and it being the wish of the king and of Archbishop Laud that the whole cathedral should be rebuilt, Inigo was instructed to perform the work. In order to accomplish this according to the magnificent design he had prepared, it was necessary that the adjoining church of St. Gregory should be totally removed; and contrary to the remonstrances of the local authorities, who wished to preserve their church, Inigo proceeded to demolish a portion of it, and then coolly informed the grumblers, that unless they themselves completed the work of destruction, "they should be laid by the heels." This forms a portion of the accusation brought against him; and it is worth mention, were it only as an illustration of the somewhat arrogant character of the ambitious and powerful architect. The complaint brought Inigo before the House of Lords, and although he was successful in parrying the charge and thus gaining time, the decision was ultimately against him; and he thus was obliged not only to abandon his noble work, but to see the very stones he had provided for it applied by the parishioners of St. Gregory in rebuilding what he had pulled down.

The last of Inigo's professional works was the chapel in the square of Covent-garden, which was erected by desire of the then Earl of Bedford, and completed in 1638. It was originally built of brick, with Tuscan columns, and consecrated by Juxon Bishop of London. It was repaired by Lord Burlington in 1727, but was totally destroyed by fire in 1795, when the present stone building was erected on the original plan.

As we have already said, this was Inigo's last work, and with its completion his worldly prosperity may be said to have ended, for although he lived for many years afterwards, sound in mind and body, public attention had become absorbed by subjects of more vital importance to the welfare of the nation than admiration of the fine arts. Other and sterner duties occupied the mind of the king and his nobles than the encouragement of architecture; that dread scourge of kingdoms and bar to peaceful progress, civil war, had begun to spread its devastating hand over the country, draining its resources in men and money, and absorbing the very elements of social prosperity and improvement. A termination was put to all the public works in progress, and the idea of planning new ones, was, of course, out of the question. The most incredible revolutions took place amongst all classes of society. Every profession and trade not absolutely essential to the existence of the people became suddenly

forsaken by its followers, who found their way into the army of the King or Parliament, as either contending party offered the best hopes of gain or advancement. Davenant, the poet laureate, became lieutenant-general of Ordnance to the king, and so on with most members of the household. As may be expected, Jones was not backward in manifesting towards the royal house the loyalty which, from him at least, was its due; and he was, amongst other devoted followers of the king, taken in arms at the siege of Basing, by the soldiers of the Parliament, and in consequence was subjected to both fine and imprisonment.

In so far as worldly matters were concerned, Jones was, as may naturally be supposed from the lucrative posts he had occupied, not unprepared for the advent of those troublous times. Indeed, as money was then estimated, he was rich; but the reputation of wealth had become such a dangerous adjunct to a man's character, that those who really were possessed of riches considered it their duty to appear poor not only by an outward semblance of poverty, but by the actual concealment of their treasures. Following the example of those who had money to lose, he had his for a time buried near his house, in Scotland-yard; but in consequence of the Parliament issuing an order encouraging servants to inform of such concealments, and as four of his workmen were privy to his deposit, Jones removed it to Lambeth-marsh, where he buried it with his own hands.

Jones's life had been in many respects an eventful one, and in his declining years the political and social atmosphere in which he lived was by no means cheering. He was never married, and having lived to a long age he survived his early friends, patrons, and associates. He had seen the end of James I., the accession of Charles I., and the execution of that monarch before his own banqueting-house, at Whitehall, the building which had first established the architect's fame. He was well stricken in years, and his proud and ambitious spirit could ill brook in old age the contemptuous neglect of those in power towards him who had, during a long life, been recognised as a monarch in his own sphere. He died at Somerset House, on 21st June, 1652, in the seventy-ninth year of his age, and on the 26th of the same month he was buried by the side of his parents, in the church of St. Bennet, Paul's-wharf, where a monument was erected to his memory, having the following inscription:—

Ignatius Jones, Arm.  
Architectus Reg. Mag. Brit. celeberrimus  
Hic jacet.  
Aul. Alb. Reg. ædificavit.  
Templum D. Pauli restauravit:  
Natus Id. Julii MDLXXII.  
Obiit XI (X) Cal. Junii MDCLI (I)  
Vixit Ann. lxxix D<sup>es</sup>. xxx iix.  
Uxoribus Patruo amantissimo  
Præceptoribus suis meretissimo  
Hæres et Discipulus  
Posuit Mœrens Johan. Webb.

It was of white marble and stood against the north wall, at some distance from the grave. It was destroyed by the great fire of 1666.

Inigo was never married. He lived in Scotland-yard, was a Roman Catholic, and paid periodical fines to the poor of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, for the privilege of eating flesh during Lent. His will is dated 22nd July, 1650, and registered in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. John Webb, his kinsman and pupil, was his executor, and succeeded to the bulk of his property, after payment of sundry bequests and other disbursements, amounting to upwards of £4,000. He also succeeded to the architect's library and his collection of designs, all of which he seems to have put to good use.

As it would not have been possible within the compass of our limited space to follow the career of the architect so closely as we could have wished, we will now conclude with an enumeration of the most important works he undoubtedly accomplished as well as those of a more doubtful origin.

The following are unquestionably of his production:—

Banqueting-House at Whitehall, 1619; Pier in Isle of Portland, for conveying stones to ditto, 1619; the reduction to uniformity and planting of Lincoln's-Inn Fields, 1619; Chapel at Lincoln's-Inn, consecrated 1623; Chapel for the Infanta at Somerset House, destroyed to make way for the present Government-offices; Water Gate to Buckingham House, at the bottom of Buckingham-street, Strand; West Portico of Old St. Paul's Cathedral, 1637; the Queen's House at Greenwich, begun by Anne of Denmark and completed by Henrietta Maria, queen of Charles I., 1635; Theatre of the Hall of the Barber-Surgeons, in Monkwell-street, City; Piazza or Square of Covent-garden, 1631; Chapel of Covent-garden, 1638; the Cabinet for the King's pictures at Whitehall; the Queen's Chapel at St. James's; a Front at Wilton, and Grotto; St. John's College, Oxford—the middle parts of each end of the quadrangle; Cobham Hall, Kent, built for the Duke of Richmond, now the seat of Lord Darnley; Coleshill, Berkshire, built for Sir Mark Pleydell, now the seat of the Earl of Radnor; the Grange, Hampshire, the seat of Lord Ashburton; a Gateway at Oatlands; a Gateway at Holland House, Kensington; a Gate at Beaufort House, Chelsea, removed by Lord Burlington to Chiswick; Wing, in Buckinghamshire, pulled down by Sir William Stanhope; Ashburnham House, in Westminster; several houses in Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn Fields; and many others of less note.

The following are attributed to Jones, but although in most cases there can be little uncertainty on the subject, they are classed as doubtful:—

Albins, Essex; Cashiobury, Hertfordshire; Charlton House, Kent; Amesbury, Wiltshire; Gunnersbury, near Brentford; Chevening, Kent; the Front to the garden of Hinton St. George, Somersetshire; a Front at Castle Ashby, Northamptonshire; Chilham Castle; the Tower of the Church at Staines; a part of Sion House, Brentford;

Brympton, Somersetshire; part of the Church of St. Catharine Cree, Leadenhall-street; a Bridge of Gwydder, in Wales; Drumlanrig Castle, Dumfriesshire; Heriot's Hospital, Edinburgh; and the more modern part of Glamis Castle, Forfarshire, &c.

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## THE SIGNS OF ENGLAND;

BY ONE WHO HAS PAINTED MANY.

SIGN THE FOURTH.—PUBLIC PLACE-HUNTERS AND JOBBERS IN GENERAL.

MEN, really, in these latter days, would almost seem to go out of the way to give themselves trouble: they do this in their vices; they do it in the wrong they commit. A good, honest, straightforward life is supposed to be conducive to health and long continuance in this pleasant mortal being. People who are not always setting traps to catch their neighbours, must be less fixed in ugly work, and less engrossed uncomfortably, than those who have their hands full of wires whose meaning is mischief, and whose success is some person's undoing. We never thought a rat-catcher a happy man; we never imagined that those who dig pits for others, found much pleasure in admiring the mere fresh, natural green grass with which they cover the hole. Actual *strabismus* is accounted an unsightly thing; but there is so much moral squinting, or wilful aversion from the positively true aspect of things, that, neither in political nor private circles, is anything thought about it as disadvantageous; it is rather, we think, looked upon as an ornament, and it is praised, with the usual approval of what this good tolerant world calls success, as "sharp sight."

Now, we are disposed to quarrel with this universal winking. We question its righteousness, though it runs through the public world and through private society. Human life is not to be altogether made up of dodges. Our governors shall not make ninepins of us. It is not at all necessary that we—every man of us—should be straining with prolonged neck round a corner, and that, with eager eyes, we should watch an opportunity of taking our fellows at a disadvantage. We are not to be like the Clown in the Pantomime; placing blandly in, and closing the fist of our friend upon, a worthless stone, while we are smuggling, behind us, that money-box which we have deluded out of the gripe of his other unconscious hand. We are not, with all that suavity—our face prying affectionately into his—to inquire, with all apparent interest, how that respectable parent "his mother" is; whilst, like the wicked Motley in gay chalk and red dots, with our hands embracing him, we strip the very coat from off the passenger's back. It is against the law of right so to "smile and smile, and be a villain." And, besides, it is very clumsy work, and

we shall be rightly served if it obtains us a kick. Now, if in private it is not yet thought quite doing the glorious thing to entrap your neighbour, or to divert, with dexterous sleight of hand, the bread from his mouth (like some penny or five-pound conjurer), whilst you deposit in it only the wrong end of your walking-stick; surely, in your public capacity, and when you are trusted as a servant of the nation, so sworn, over and over again, to guard its interests, it is something next to guilt—if it be not guilt itself—to shuffle, and job, and cut, villanously, and contrive, until all your patronage has been sifted into a great basin of gold just to put away in your own private corner-cupboard. We speak to the public Cati-lines!—sellers of their country. But there are others, we think, sometimes more dangerous and intolerable, who sit so snugly and hug each other on that long bench of public patronage. Fools abound—incapables—great talkers and little doers—unwieldy Gogs and Magogs of conceit, with their large foolish heads wagging from side to side, winking with an air of wondrous wisdom;—men with an exaggerated *os frontis*, on which is written all the cleverness of Parliament, but with a walnut of a heart;—big with the little, little with the big, placing their gripe upon the coat-skirt of any one before them whose gift it is to lift them yet higher up the ladder of public advantage, or, Mawworm-like, to drag them after them through the golden gates of that sunshiny heaven of the Court. Dull wheatsheaves, to be thrashed out of all the corn they have to yield, in the hope of dropping it to purpose, provided the hand be vigorous (and jewelled) that is flourished against them, and the brow-beating or cajoling flail be well applied, relentless, and tipped with gold. Indeed, my good friend and reader—yourself a Member of Parliament or hoping to be one, or wishing something through the interference of one, and therefore all the more qualified to apprehend the justice of my political painting—indeed, my likely-to-be-prosperous, because pushing, friend, there are many placed upright upon that purple-coloured bench in the Lords, or nodding from that quarter-mile of crimson cushion in the House of Underlings, that are inane woolbags. It is the easiest thing in the world to acquire a reputation for talent, provided you look occasionally fierce and hold your tongue. Say you are a great man—if you have money in your pocket—and people will believe you: they will stare at first; but never mind that! Take our advice, and only insist, and you will soon be so great as to only want a pedestal to step up upon. Men see a whole world of possibilities in you if you know how to sit at the top of your table and have a gilt knocker to your door. Gentlemen having the advantage of a bald head, or who have acquired the accomplishment of snapping authoritatively, have got into Parliament, ere this, solely through the basketfuls of envelopes which they have sent empty away. Bishops have fluttered in lawn, like white summer clouds; rising men in the Church have grasped crooks before they were aware of it; and ascetic Deans, whose only sack-cloth has been that in which the coals were contained which served

to maintain their kitchen fires at the due clerical intensity of red, have dined with Dukes, merely through the sermons which they did *not* write, and the theology which they had too much wit ever to acquire. Englishmen like to be brow-beaten by a great man; they like to be put down by a person whose position is not to be questioned. We may endeavour to persuade ourselves to the contrary, but the best half of our London society is composed of those who would sell their very soul for a Bristol-stone necklace.

People are charmed in the Park with a grand startling charge of social cavalry, provided, if they cannot override admiring gazers, themselves, they have superb carriage-horses or high-stepping blood-mares of other people's to make folks get out of the way and rush to the sidewalk. Ah! what envy and astonishment is felt as the coronet or the "red hand," or the fiery plumes, or clattering plate—the whole a blessed vision of some unknown fashionable sainthood—flashes, like a meteor, by. Idolaters of the great world, who cannot dash about themselves, like to do it by deputy. Go, we say, into the Parks. Go into Parliament. Go into the House of Peers. Investigate—like some curious little animal, with restless movements and sharp, though clever eyes—one of your busiest Members of Parliament at his breakfast of papers and red-tape—dry food that! Yet all that, he would persuade you, he munches. Bag Bishops and Baronets in this your moral pursuit of game, feathered and unfeathered—those who fly into the aristocratic heaven and bask in the direct beams of royalty, and dingy clericals, and other longers after fleshpots and fine things, who can only creep envious into their holes, at a distance, when the day is done; ministers of state; officials of all colours; men who have things to give, and men who want those things; garters, stars, ends of ribbon, doctors'-gowns, *bâtons* of field-m Marshals, all the grand odds and ends, all the tinsel and velvet, and nodding ostrich-feathers and sticks and staves, which constitute the droll masquerade of which this queer, social, and political world of us English is composed:—where, ask we, and we ask it confidently—shall you find, in all this procession, this harlequinade of mingled royalties and rags, true religion, real honour, self-sacrifice, Christian charity, pure patriotism? Is there anything that can enable us to lay our hand honestly on our heart and aver that, to the best of our poor miserable ability, we have done God's work here, and hope for His grace in the future world, which, whatever we may think of our certain long lease of life, is speeding fast towards us—nay, perhaps, is at the door! Either the Christian religion is true, or it is not. If it is true, then we are mad in leaving the care of our souls to the last:—thinking, struggling, trying, scrambling for anything rather than for that which is all in all. Ah! my friend, consider well! And, this very day follow with less eager appetite and with less sharp eyes some fancied good thing, towards the seizing of which thine own desire, or thy wife's prompting, or thy children's murmurs at thy slow advance, urge thee. If thou hast it now in thy hand, and if thou

suspectest it of coming of the devil, cast it out of thy fingers—cling it never so tenaciously—like a snake.

We hate jobs; we hate jobbers. We turn with disgust from men who do not care for merit in their choice for an office, provided that their objects are answered, in relation to it, other ways. These men would raise money upon the keys of St. Peter. We almost believe in a certain metaphysic double-doing, and that the acts of this world are faithfully copied into—perhaps instigated by—another one of which we are insensible, of which this world is the complement or reflection. In this queer but not unphilosophical view of things—disciples of Spinoza, Berkeley, and Swedenborg—majestic Triad!—well understand us—all our petty acts of religious treason, all our devil's-barter, all our Mammon-huckstering and infidel compromise, hath perhaps its double-drama going contemporaneously on, faint or red, in the realms of Orcus, according to the intensity of our sin-stain or guilt-glow in the actual world, and apprehended through altogether another agency than any which, in this mortal state, we may understand. Terrible suspicion, this! There may be an invisible witness and register against us—ay, about our footsteps!—alone, as we think ourselves, in this quiet world! There, in that fact, the *belief that the spirits are out of the world*, lieth, we think, the source of much vice and sin. Men, in their secret heart, believe that there is no such thing as a superintending Providence. They act as if they thought that God had forgotten His world. It is too much of an everyday place of business for high truths to seem any other than as excellent stories to frighten children. Priests remain satisfied with forms, and decline to question conscience too closely. They sleep; or we should see them—by name and office—holy ministers, torch in hand and with cries of alarm, arousing the dead midnight in their knocks at the doors of a by far too luxuriously-housed generation, buried in dreams which may well indeed be called *dangerous!*

Our rulers and governors, and those who are put in authority over us, have much carelessness, much muddle, to answer for: we fear there are even “pickers and stealers” amongst them. They make the government of this great England, in many respects, nothing but a miserable mean game of cards—a perpetual cribbage. Do we pay our taxes to have our Public Boards so frequently nothing but wood? Is this huge banner of the public weal that is so ostentatiously paraded in our faces, and behind which all these fine gentlemen with their bags, green or blue, and their bundles of papers, advance crouching, or stand up, every now and then, to blow some foolish blast upon their vain-glorious trumpets;—is this banner of presumed excellent government and grand patriotic leading (so marched up and down, and bobbed impudently in, to astonish us at our second-floor windows)—is this, we say, to be continually patched when public disgust tears a great hole in it? Alas! little of our grand British lions shall we have remaining but the tails, if we go on at the present rate of demolition, on the part



of the public, and of private piecing. Flag of St. George! we tremble for thee. Is it to be thy fate, in this official stumbling and blundering;—this talk round and round but never touching the meaning;—this officious throwing down of cushions on which those struck through in the just public charge of muddle, incapacity, or evil-doing, may fall comfortable;—this greasing of the wheels of the carriage of the public service, with golden Government ointment, when it creaks villanously;—this thrusting, for excellent private reasons, the wrong men into the wrong places, and the right men out of doors or nowhere:—is it to be thy fate, oh, glorious flag! with that red cross upon thee, amidst all this scramble around the staff—this kicking, jostling, fawning, bawling, and time-serving—to be hustled away to some pawnbroker's? We do not know. Strange things come to pass. If the leaders of the public constituencies be Merry Andrews, it ought to be no wonder if queer antics are played at the head of the business-battalions. Boards, offices, seats for secretaries, stalls for church dignitaries, despatch-boxes for light fingers, laced coats, cocked-hats, a whole draper's shop of red tape—all this furniture of government is very well, but we should like to see the great national house—on which Britannia's flag is flying, especially now that clouds are rolling about it—put a little in order. We should like a new face quite to be put upon things. “Oh, for an hour of blind old Dandolo!” Oh, for a whole waggon-load of new brooms! England's old constitutional castle demands a thorough cleansing; and its queer nooks and neglected corners—its public departments and its private conscience—its well of capacity and its airy bartizans, stuffed with titles—its whole auctioneer's catalogue of an heraldic Noah's ark—its Gothic cupboards and its private snuggeries;—nay, the whole time-honoured pile together, cries out for a rummage. But, in the mean time, and while this good work is coming about (for we suspect it will be long), do ye—we speak to all our patrons and government or giving people—take care that you think twice before you give away a place once, and that your first thought, in relation to *everything* which you have to bestow, is the public advantage; the next, the actual, personal, virtuous fitness of the applicant for it.

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## NOTES OF A YACHT'S CRUISE TO BALAKLAVA.

(Concluded from page 336.)

AS I DESCENDED from my post of observation, deafened—paralyzed—mute! I saw numbers of mule and hand litters, and ambulances loaded with wounded sufferers; while various poor fellows, more or less injured, were slowly dragging themselves towards the hospital tents.

I supplied those I met with brandy-and-water, as far as the contents of my canteen would go; but none of them could tell me the

fate of poor Captain H. : one man thought he had seen him drop on the salient of the Redan.

I wandered about for some time endeavouring to gain some intelligence of him and of the colonel, but in vain.

The wounded in the mean time were being rapidly carried in.

Night was now fast approaching, and having had quite enough of the assault, I determined to return to poor Kate and Lady C., who, no doubt, were tremblingly anxious for news; when I heard my name called out. I turned, and met Sir Arthur looking tired and very grave. "Ah!" said he, "I am glad I have caught you; you are going back?"

"Yes; have you any commands, or shall you accompany me?"

"No, no, not now; poor H. is missing, nowhere to be found; he chose to rush back, for some inexplicable reason, when all the rest were in full retreat; so I suppose he is now stiff and stark in that accursed Redan. The colonel, too, has managed to get himself hit, but he will do; so, as you are going back, let them have everything ready for him—we can nurse him ourselves."

I was terribly cut up at the idea of poor H.'s untimely end, as I then concluded he never would appear; but I was mistaken, and a more hair-breadth escape I do not think is to be met with even in war annals.

I give the story here, though it was not till some time after I collected it, partly from H.'s own confused recollection, and partly from some of the actors in the scene.

The colonel and major of his regiment had been early put *hors de combat*, and H., chafing at the almost unresisted slaughter of his men, three times attempted to form and lead them in a sudden rush on the traverses, but in vain.

The idea that the place was mined, and the murderous fire of the enemy, conspired to keep them back; at last, trusting that they would follow him, he dashed forward alone, shouting—"Come on, men! will you give your lives for nothing?"

He was instantly set upon by three Russians, who ventured with murderous purpose from the shelter of the traverses; but his quick eye and brave heart stood him in good stead—two of them were disabled by shots from his revolver, before the third closed with him in a sword-to-sword encounter. Meantime, while his attention was thus occupied, a fourth, pressing close, aimed deliberately at him with his rifle; when Denis O'Flaherty, a private of his company, perceiving, from the mob of soldiers in which he was entangled, his captain's danger, sprang to his rescue with a fierce yell that H. declares rang over the din of the combat, and laid about him with the strength of a giant and the fury of a demon. H. was freed in a moment from his antagonists, whilst Denis sunk stunned by a severe sword-cut on the head; at that instant the precipitate retreat of our people commenced, and H. was driven on a few paces by the torrent. He looked in vain for Denis; he was nowhere to be seen, and the gallant young fellow determined to make an effort to save him.

Disentangling himself, therefore, with difficulty from the *melée*, he returned to his brave preserver, from whose prostrate form he warded off some random blows, till, pierced in the shoulder, he fainted from loss of blood.

Denis had now partially recovered, and struggling to his knees, beheld a Russian plunderer endeavouring to cut off the unfortunate young officer's epaulettes. Denis raised his clubbed musket, and with an energetic "To the divil wid ye, ye thief of the world, to go take the officer's showlder-knots," gave him a tremendous blow on the head that quieted him perhaps for ever.

The remainder I give in O'Flagherty's own words, as spoken from his sick-bed in Balaklava hospital, where I had the pleasure of administering to the brave fellow's wants and comforts.

"By-an'-by, as everything was quite and asy, mee wound stopped bleeding. Ses I, 'Be the powers it's time fur us to beoff;' fur the captain had fainted off agin; he wasn't so used to hard knocks as meeself. So I rus up, and the sorra word, good nor bad, did I hear, savin the groans of the poor creatures lyin massacred about. 'Faith, an they'll have a busy half-hour of it in purgthory to-night,' ses I to meeself. Wid that I struv to dhrag mee poor captin an mee back: I put him sitting up and then I knelt behind him, and got my two arrums ondher his. The day had closed in a good bit as I scrambled to that bloody wall, bad cess to it! and there I was done up entirely—there was no getting over it anyhow. So I laid him down to die, and meeself beside him; what more could I do for the brave young jontleman that come back to me from safety to death, bekase I'd just done mee duty to mee officer? 'Be the blessed Vargin,' ses I, 'I'll go wid ye wheriver yer goin!' Wid that, a holy thought came into mee head: 'I'll go bail there's a drop iv sperrits somewhere among these cratures;' so I rummaged about, an' sure enough I found a mighty fine man in green an' goold, wid a canteen full of brandy and a bag of biscuits. In coorse this revived me, an' I poured a dhrop down the captin's throat, an' by-an'-by he come to himself, and was able with a thrifle of help to get down the wall. And so, lanin agin each other, slippin in half-dhrey blood wan minnit, stumblin over dead bodies the next, we come into the English lines—where we wor nearer bein shot be Pether Short, mee rear-rank man, than iver we wor yet. And that's the way the Lord sint me luck to save the man that come back for poor Dinny, who's nothing but a common soldier."

Unacquainted as I then was with this story, I returned to the yacht with a heavy heart.

It may be imagined with what eagerness I was assailed for news when I reached my destination. I had little good to tell—the intelligence of poor H.'s non-appearance did not tend to cheer my fair friends; but what most oppressed us was the idea of the murderous assault to-morrow.

About two hours after my return, a boat pulled alongside, and out of it was assisted the colonel, his left arm bandaged, and his head tied up. He looked pale, and seemed weak from loss of blood.

The ladies behaved beautifully; they did not shriek nor go into hysterics when this ghastly object met their sight, though they changed colour, and the tears stood in Lady C——'s eyes.

The colonel declared there was not much the matter; his professional ardour carried him too far with the advancing columns, a spent ball had grazed his head, and another had broken his arm.

Sir Arthur, however, enjoined him not to talk, and he was given into the hands of the all-accomplished François, Sir A.'s valet, immediately.

*September 9th.*—Thank God! there is not to be another attack. We were startled last night by some terrific explosions of more than even accustomed loudness, and imagined the attack was renewed, but early this morning the report reached us that Sebastopol had been evacuated; after breakfast this was confirmed by Mr. ——, of the Naval Brigade, who was fresh from the camp, and as the day advanced we heard various reports. It seems that some soldiers of the light division in the trenches were struck by the remarkable silence of the Redan, and crept forward to ascertain the reason: they could hear nothing but the groans of the wounded and dying. As, however, the Redan was said to be mined, our troops were drawn off; and soon battery after battery exploded—a gigantic *feu-de-joie* over the downfall of a tyrant's stronghold.

Went ashore to have a look at the burning city. A pillar of gray downy smoke rises from it that seems like a column supporting the skies.

The fumes of the sacrifice ascending to Heaven! Heard from some of the stragglers that poor young H. is still alive, though dangerously wounded.

The excitement is great, and we can scarce believe our senses, that this long-besieged fortress is absolutely evacuated.

Returned early to the yacht to nurse the colonel. He is rather feverish, and his mind wanders a little.

The ladies greatly delighted with the reports of H.'s gallant conduct, but clamorous to leave Balaklava. They did not bargain for such horrors, and our gay tone of light merriment is terribly altered: so much for pleasure seekers, who thrust themselves into such awful realities! Sir Arthur, however, begs for a peep at Sebastopol, since we are here, and promises to sail on Tuesday.

Anecdotes of extraordinary acts of daring on the part both of men and officers startle us hourly.

I think the soldiers of the present day surpass in valour the paladins of old. There is no decay of the ancient spirit here.

Every one is talking of a young officer, scarce eighteen, who not only showed a lion's courage, but the judgment of a hero. His name is, I think, Massy. Colonel Windham, too, is a constant theme of conversation. His daring and extraordinary escapes are miraculous.

But what a fearful loss. What agonies for the hearts at home!

*10th.*—One of the French officers who dined with us on the 4th

was killed in the attack on the Malakoff, and the other is slightly wounded.

Poor H. was moved to the Balaklava hospital this morning, and bore it wonderfully. Sir Arthur has been to see him. Several officers, naval and military, joined us at dinner. Miss P. is quite upset; both she and the fair widow most anxious to quit the neighbourhood of the seat of war.

But as no one was permitted, or, indeed, wished to venture into Sebastopol to-day, Sir Arthur has postponed our departure.

I am getting fidgety about my return, as I must be in London early in October, and my yachting friends talk of a visit to Sicily on their way back.

11th.—Tremendous gale blowing from the southward and eastward, with fierce torrents of rain, such as I never saw before; it falls in sheets rather than showers, and with the sound of a cataract. We were all roused from our slumbers by the violence of the storm towards daybreak this morning, while the short startling peals of thunder are like salvoes of artillery.

There is something peculiarly impressive in this renewal in the air of the storm that had ceased upon earth.

No Sebastopol to-day for any one.

Towards noon went ashore to inquire for H.; he is doing well, and will be removed to Scutari as soon as possible.

12th.—At last we have had a peep at Sebastopol, though but a hurried one.

The colonel was much better this morning, and terribly mortified that he cannot see the town.

It was in the afternoon when we reached Sebastopol, the roads having been reduced to watercourses by last night's terrible wet. We entered it by a ravine opposite the English camp, and leaving to our right the docks, barracks, and arsenals, penetrated into Sebastopol proper. Sir Arthur, and some gentlemen whose acquaintance he made here, entered by the Malakoff, and picked their way amid heaps of French and Russian dead; but I preferred keeping clear of such things, and therefore avoided the scene of the struggle and the hospitals. The description of these latter I received from a medical man is something so appalling in its grotesque horrors, in the agonies of suffering which it displays, that to hear it was enough to bear.

Sebastopol seems to have been rich in public edifices of no mean architectural beauty—now blackened, split, and torn; but even in the best quarters wretched huts appear to have mingled with handsome houses. I noticed a theatre, a library, and what seemed to be catacombs, near a fine fort,—St. Catherine's, I think.

The upper part of the city has a splendid promenade, planted with trees, and forming a delightful lounge, I should imagine, for the inhabitants: this is approached by a double flight of stone steps, on a gigantic scale.

In the centre of this terrace, on a pedestal, is a vessel of bronze,

adorned with wings: whether emblematic of the city and the swiftness of her fleet, I leave to the learned to decide. The ruins of a handsome church stand at the end of the promenade and command a view of the entire city, harbour and all. All the churches have been set on fire, and nothing of them remains except the four walls and the domes, which are painted green.

The southern part of the town has been utterly destroyed. It is indescribably depressing to witness such ruin of man's handy-work, and to think at what a cost of precious life it has been accomplished.

Few pens could do justice to the extraordinary figures that met our sight. Imagine rough tars, with bottles and rich pelisses, pictures and plate, under their arms, while their heads are decorated with furred caps, turbans, and in one instance a small coquettish French bonnet was stuck at the back of a Highlander's red head. Zouaves were walking off with arm-chairs, Chasseurs-à-pied with richly-framed mirrors; two French seamen were gravely examining the contents of a costly workbox; men of our line might be seen wrapped in Indian shawls.

I purchased a splendidly-ornamented sabre from a Zouave, two shawls from an Irishman, and, curious enough, a canary-bird and cage from a dapper little Chasseur de Vincennes, who made me pay more than both the others put together. Laden with these spoils, I returned to the terrace and took a last look at Sebastopol.

I had little dreamed when I started on our pleasure-party, that I should have stood upon these dearly-purchased ruins! At all events, our troops will have comfortable winter quarters, and the terrible scenes of last year will not be again enacted.

Having learned the features of the scene off by heart, I returned to the yacht, thankful at having seen so much, and that such sight-seeing was over.

My spoils excited great interest; and I was put through a severe cross-examination as to how I obtained them. The cage and bird I presented to Miss Kate P., and a shawl to Lady C.

The colonel was well enough to join us in the evening, though extremely pale and interesting. Sir Arthur and our good skipper, with the Hon. Fitzurse, came back very late, full of the horrors they had seen.

The former had been admitted to see poor H., who is much better, and able to speak. He has engaged him to make P—— Park his head-quarters on his return to England.

We had numerous visitors this evening; one of them, Mons. le Capitaine S——, hearing me mention my anxiety to return to England, has most kindly offered me a passage to Marseilles in his fine steam-ship the C——, which sails to-morrow with despatches and a wounded general. The opportunity is too good to be thrown away, though my kind friends here cry out at my desertion of them.

Indeed, Miss P. entreated me to remain with such sweet earnest-

ness, that I nearly said "Yes" to the pretty gipsy,—like an old fool as I am.

I felt depressed at the idea of separating from my pleasant acquaintances, but I had already far outstayed the time I had allowed myself on quitting England, and it would not do to be delayed beyond the first week in October before reaching London; so I have closed with Captain S——'s offer.

13th.—After a tender leave-taking, and many, and on my part most ready promises to meet again, I received the small German's blessing, and a hearty grasp of the hand from Captain Kidd, and then transferred myself and my kit to the C——. Sir Arthur accompanied me, and consigning me to the care of our agreeable allies, bid me good-bye.

As the ladies have persuaded Sir Arthur to sail to-day, the French captain has offered to tow the *Imp* out of harbour; so I shall not lose sight of that tight little craft just yet.

14th.—At noon yesterday steamed out of harbour, towing the yacht for a mile or two sea-ward, and then cast her off; the wind not being favourable, she was obliged to tack immediately.

All the party were on deck, and waved me an adieu; then our stately vessel bore up against the wind, the *Imp* stood away on her port tack, and gradually faded from the sight.

So ends my Yacht's Cruise to Balaklava, the memory of which will long remain with me to freshen my spirits in my lonely chambers, till I meet the same party under the mistletoe-bough next Christmas at P—— Park

S. C.

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GENERAL EXPOSITION AT TURIN.—Our manufacturers must not forget the approaching Exhibition in Italy. It is said that the Palace where it is destined to take place proves insufficient for the accommodation of the various productions sent, and that important additions to it are in the course of erection. The Palace itself, which stands upon the banks of the Po, was built as a residence for Valentina Balbiana, who became the wife of René de Birague, the then President of the Parliament of Turin, and whose daughter married a member of the family of Montmorency, Jean de Laval, Marquis de Nesle. The descendants of Valentina de Birague have been in this age allied to a noble house of our own country, that of Russell. The palace of Valentina de Birague has become an appurtenance of the royal possessions of Sardinia. It has been since restored and embellished, and the Sardinian Government will doubtless render it a worthy receptacle for all the interesting objects which will arrive from far and near. While speaking of expositions, it gratifies us to predict the favourable influence which the establishment of peace will exercise upon that of Turin. Manufacturers of all nations will speedily become the partizans of the Universal Peace Society, which is actually forming in London at this time. Few enterprises are there that a general peace would not eminently promote, and this society cannot fail to attract the attention of enlightened men of every party, whose desire it is to see institutions flourish which tend to the amelioration of humanity. Committees are about to be established in all the principal cities of the world in furtherance of the objects of this society. Every philanthropist will have reason to rejoice when its sentiments have enlisted the sympathy and protection of the various Governments of the world. To all who take interest in this important question we would proffer the information that in London has been established the nucleus of this association for the peace, and that communications are invited, addressed to the Provisional Office, 2, Red Lion-court, Fleet-street.

## THE ANTIQUITY OF FREEMASONRY.

*Air*—"Red, White, and Blue."

When the great Architect of Creation  
Form'd man in his wisdom Divine,  
When Charity sought an oblation,  
Freemasonry show'd its first sign ;  
Thus, when murderous Cain slew his brother,  
And the sapling of death did engraft,  
For the safety of one and the other  
Men united themselves to the Craft.

Men united themselves, &c.

Of Cain, may we hope he repented,  
Join'd the Craft, mourn'd the deed he had done ;  
But a city he built well cemented,  
— And gave it the name of his son :  
Chaste Jubal did harmony settle,  
Tubal Cain gave mechanics the draught  
Of curious working in metal,  
To the honour and praise of the Craft.

To the honour and praise, &c.

There were cities and towns well erected  
By Masons, with banners unfurled,  
Ere men for their pride were rejected,  
And scatter'd all over the world ;  
From Methusaleh, Noah, by lecture,  
Form'd the Ark as a safe floating raft,  
And founded marine architecture,  
Thus ennobling the fame of the Craft.

Thus ennobling the fame, &c.

The Fraternity flourished in splendour,  
And embraced all the talent on earth,  
When Solomon rose their defender,  
And divided in sections their worth ;  
His temple superb was erected,  
God himself from on high gave the draught,  
And the wondrous work thus effected,  
God's glory ! and joy to the Craft !

God's glory ! and joy, &c.

Ancient records report as Grand Masters,  
Kings, princes, and famed noblemen,  
Learned bishops and other Church pastors,  
With St. Alban and Christopher Wren.  
'Tis our pride to exalt in that station  
Men of talent, who well can engraft,  
In the heart of each well meaning Mason,  
The duties and care of the Craft.

The duties and care, &c.

May each Master, protected from evil,  
Long be guardian of all our degrees,  
And with zeal guide the square and the level,  
The plumbline, the compass, and keys ;  
With the pens at command, may he cherish  
Our rights, 'till the angels shall waft  
His spirit, from that which must perish,  
To join with the saints of the Craft.

To join with the saints, &c.

J. F. WRIGHT, S.D., *Lodge of St. George, No. 164, Greenwich.*



## REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

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[Publishers are requested to send works for review not later than the 20th of the month, addressed to the Editor of the "Freemasons' Monthly Magazine," 74-5, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn Fields.]

*A Plea for Reformatories*, By CHARLES RATCLIFF. London: Nisbet & Co.—We hail this sagacious, withal most philanthropic publication, as an augury of an increasing soundness in the public view upon a momentous question. Whilst the statistics are affecting—for what can be more so than the fact, that in 1855 twelve per cent. of the whole criminal population of England were committed under the age of 15 years?—the pleas advanced for the Reformatories evince a singularly deep knowledge of the human heart; founded, we may add, upon the only safe and pure medicine for its sickness, namely, religious truth. "Nemo repente fuit turpissimus," says Juvenal. "Principiis obsta, venienti occurrere morbo," echoes Horace. So that even those who look to human sages as their chief instructors, have undeniable stimulus for their exertion in this righteous cause of attending to the moral culture of the young. To those, on the other hand, who are not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, but consider it as truly the power of God unto salvation, we heartily commend this address, in which the Christian metaphysician will discover an acknowledgment of Gospel truth as the sure basis in the hearts of young and old, for the "security of any people." The hints, also, to instructors and other attendants upon criminals in their progress of reformation are admirable, and Mr. Ratcliff's advice in this respect cannot be too closely followed.

*A Vindication of the Authorized Version of the English Bible*. By the Rev. S. C. MALAN, M.A. London: Bell and Daldy.—Any work by so sound an Oriental and classical scholar as Mr. Malan demands our utmost attention, especially when employed upon so important a subject as the Vindication of the English Version of the Bible from certain charges brought against it. In his present treatise, this justly approved author remarks,—1st. Upon the miracle of the Passage of the Red Sea. 2nd. On a specimen of a revision of the English Scriptures of the Old Testament (Job i.), wherein the superiority of the authorized to the revised version is established beyond all question. It is one thing to criticize, another to amend; but the knowledge possessed by Mr. Malan, not only of the Ancient Hebrew and Syriac, but also of the Anglo-Saxon tongue, carries all before it in proving that whilst the present English Bible is unapproachable in its exact translation of the original meaning, the suggestions of its pseudo-improvers are open to most serious inculpation. The Mosaic account of the Passage of the Red Sea is supported by direct estab-

lishment of its consistency with the terms, phraseology, and verbal roots of the ancient tongues, whilst the whole treatise develops a combination of earnest piety, solid learning, and sagacious judgment, well calculated to discourage dabblers and pedants, who tamper even with the Sacred Word, discovering, at each step, their own ignorance and self-sufficiency. Mr. Malan's treatise ought to be in the hands of every doubter, who, if at all skilled in philology or criticism, will, we trust, be stablished thereby and settled in the truth.

*The Acacia Monthly Masonic Magazine.* Edited by W. P. MELLEN, Natchez, Mississippi.—The number for April of this admirable miscellany has been kindly forwarded, and so struck have we been with its contents as to mark one paper for extract, *in extenso*, in our Journal, which we are unwillingly compelled to postpone from press of matter. We have every desire to return the courtesy of our worthy Brother Mellen, by forwarding the F.M.M., and have endeavoured to do so, but the maladministration of the postal arrangements continue to thwart our best intentions. May the "Acacia" long flourish and abound.

*Early History of the Original Charter of the Grand Lodge of New York.* By Bro. F. GUSTAV FINCKE. Trubner & Co., New York and London.—This is a very important and well-prosecuted inquiry into the authenticity and genuineness of an original charter granted in 1781, and which not only affects the decision of a controversy between the so-called Phillips and Willard Grand Lodges, of New York, but also impugns the veracity of certain documents and persons upon matters of considerable moment to Freemasonry in general. Appendices of the discussed charters are also given, and the treatise is remarkable for its plain spirit of candour and research.

*The American Freemason.*—The recent numbers of this super-excellent periodical have reached us; replete are they with Masonic information and graphic art. Indeed the latter is exquisitely developed, and the seals of the various Provincial Lodges constitute a complete cabinet of antiquarian record as well as of talented research.

*Gosnell and others versus Napoleon Price.*—This case, calling for an injunction to prevent the defendant disposing of any goods sold under the original firm of Price & Gosnell, has been printed in most excellent type by our worthy Bro., J. W. Taylor, of 54, Chancery-lane, who has kindly forwarded us a copy. We can only say that the decision of Vice-Chancellor Page Wood, given in favour of the defendant, Mr. Napoleon Price, is founded in justice and common sense, and the imperative way in which the Vice-Chancellor decided the matter, speaks volumes for the judgment and temper evinced by Mr. Napoleon Price, who is entitled to the sympathy and support of all those who wish to obtain the best articles in equity or soap; whether to maintain the purity of the law, or of the hands of the public generally.

## MUSIC.

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### HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

Her Majesty's Theatre opened once more on Saturday, the 10th ult., and a house densely crowded from floor to ceiling declared the popular interest and sympathy in the energy Mr. Lumley has displayed. All the stories of unfitness and decay relative to the internal condition of this magnificent Temple of the Muses have proved groundless. The decorations are withal fresh; and though we can never admire the colour of the hangings, yet for a time, at least, it is pleasant to be reminded we are in the same building and surrounded by the same accessories which our three years' deprivation has rendered yet more valuable. Madame Alboni, who has been attracting large audiences in the "Cenerentola," "Barbière," and "Sonnambula," now shares her empire with Mdlle. Piccolomini, whose *débüt* in Verdi's opera of the "Traviata" was one uninterrupted triumph from first to last. The opera itself is meagre in the extreme, but the admirable action as well as voice of the fair *débutante* redeemed all drawbacks. She is *petite* and very interesting in face and manner; at once asserted her prerogative of talent over London as she has done over Florence, and played with an ease and confidence which surprised whilst it enchanted. She is perhaps too sprightly, and a year or two in practice will give that dignity from which her smallness and *espièglerie* rather detract. Calzolari sung admirably.

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### ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

Circumscribed in space, Mr. Gye has made the difficulties of his locality an additional stimulus to his already long-proved energy in providing for the tastes of the public. Whatever human ingenuity could do to obviate lets and hindrances to the full appreciation of the inimitable *artistes* he has retained, has been accomplished, though even greater local disadvantages could be easily borne under the influence of such a vocal *répertoire*. Grisi, Bosio, Didiée, Marai, Mario, Ronconi, Gardoni, Tagliafico, all the host of celebrities concentrated within the walls of the Lyceum, whilst Costa, "the unrivalled," each time proves afresh the sympathy of every thought of tone between himself, his band, and the *dramatis personæ*, who give to music, life and breathing soul! Such a collection of talent is beyond criticism. Besides "Norma" and "Il Trovatore," wherein Signior Tamberlik bade us, we trust, merely a temporary adieu, two more operas have been added—"Comte Ory," most admirably performed, and in which Madame Bosio's voice is angelic, and "Lucrezia Borgia," wherein Mario evoked enthusiasm even from the cold denizens of the stalls. He and Mdlle. Bosio can absolutely make them clap their hands! Cerito has appeared in the ballet of "Eva," and those who miss seeing her in it, will fail to obtain an idea of ethereal lightness and grace, which once received can never be forgotten. The audience throng every night, and comprehend all the rank and beauty now in London, during this its otherwise depressed season.

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### THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

By celebrating the return of peace in a manner befitting the taste and the intelligence of the age, the directors of the Crystal Palace have nobly vindicated the national character of the institution over which they so ably preside. The Government have had their peace pageant; and another governmental festivity is yet to come off—the explosion of some £10,000 worth of gunpowder in the shape

of squibs and crackers on a gigantic scale. On the other hand the Crystal Palace—a structure unrivalled in the world, both for grandeur and for beauty, devoted, moreover, especially to the illustration of the arts of peace, naturally suggested itself as the fitting arena for the commemoration of so important an event. And well did the directors understand and provide for the exigencies of the occasion. It was no antiquated pageantry or meaningless gewgaws they invited the public to behold; but the model of a grand monument which is to stand as a lasting memorial of the valour and devotion of the British officers and soldiers who have fallen in defence of Turkey, and in vindication of the common rights of nations. The music performed in the course of the day by the military bands (the Coldstream, Scotch Fusiliers, Grenadiers, and Artillery) was very effective, and agreeably beguiled the time spent in expectation of the ceremonial; but it seems to us that the vocal music which preceded and accompanied the unveiling of the monument and the peace trophy, was (however intrinsically beautiful, and however well performed), considering the magnitude of the space to be filled, decidedly ill chosen. We could have wished, moreover, to have heard something composed expressly for the occasion, and therefore more likely to harmonise with the passing scene than selections from even the grandest oratorios. As a whole, however, the ceremony was admirably arranged, well planned in its details, and imposingly grand in its general effect; and the directors may look back with just pride on this, the inauguration of their third season.

The concerts of Mr. Gye's Lyceum troupe of Italian vocalists continue to draw immense audiences, and the horticultural fête was of a character beyond praise.

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#### BRO. HERR TEDESCO'S FAREWELL CONCERTS.

Bro. Herr Tedesco gave his farewell concert on Tuesday, 20th inst., at the Hanover-square Rooms, which were well filled, notwithstanding Mr. Benedict's concert with Madame Lind—an attraction which came off the ensuing evening. Mr. Benedict was to have assisted, but being prevented, his place was supplied by Mr. Aguilar, and Herr Shmeyer very ably supported him. Herr Tedesco's performance was a luxury to hear,—so exquisitely classical, devoid of all assumption, resting on his own genius for effect, not on mere execution, as is now so much the fashion. He displayed also an astonishing mastery over the instrument; and in the "Adagio" of Mendelssohn's quartette, in F minor, left nothing to be desired. We have never heard the trying music of this great composer more admirably interpreted. Bro. Tedesco is equally happy in his rendering of the sonatas of Beethoven, and altogether fully justified his high continental reputation; the song of the "Woodbirds" was received with loud applause; but the encore was too *exigeant*, and he substituted his *notturmo* "Passé." Mdlle. Krall and Herr Reichart were the principal singers; the latter received a well-merited recall in the new romance, by Howard Glover, to which, however, he was rather slow in responding, and then substituted "Good night, Beloved," which we consider his masterpiece. Signor Rigondi pleased everybody with his concertina performance. Every aid was given in the quartette by Herren Jansa, Hausemann, and Borschitzky. Mlle. Lina Belrichard performed a grand duo on two pianos with Herr Tedesco, and although very young, is already a fine player. Her gentle and lady-like deportment interested all in her favour. Herr Tedesco must take back with him our cordial regrets for his departure, and best wishes for a speedy repetition of his visit.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

[THE EDITOR *does not hold himself responsible for any opinions entertained by Correspondents.*]

### MASONIC CLIQUES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The letters of your correspondents "A. Z." and "Sile" deserve a reply from me, because, if they were to remain unanswered, erroneous statements would be propagated, and a Brother's character remain unjustly stigmatized. I will first begin by remarking, that *no single fact stated in my former letter is contradicted by either*; but personality from both indulged in with a splenetic feeling, highly discreditable to them as men and Masons. One unfortunately unintentional omission is eagerly seized upon by both, and capital made out of it; but the old adage, that every case has two sides, was never better exemplified than in this instance, as my narrative in due time will show. It is also a strange coincidence that your two correspondents, before they sent off their letters, should not have considered that my former letter was dated from no place, and that the TRUTH of my statements alone could make them fix upon the right party; by so doing they have tacitly acknowledged the correctness of all that I stated.

"A. Z." begins his letter by calling into question the fairness of the appointments made by our W.M., and is either ignorant of or suppresses the fact, that with the exception of that of S.W., the following offices were to have been conferred on three out of four of the Brethren who left the Lodge, viz., J.W., S.D., and Dir. of Cer. One of these Brethren left because he *hissed* the W.M., and was led forthwith from the room by the Dir. of Cer., saying, that he never would put foot inside the Lodge again. The truth is, that the disappointed Brethren who left were the clique, and to prove this, we have gone on in comparative comfort since their retirement. With regard to the assertion made by "A.Z." that these Brethren had worked their way with great zeal, &c., step by step, why only two out of the number ever held any office, and one of them was initiated more than ten years ago, and only passed and raised about one month before our present S.W. This same Brother left because he was not offered this latter post, and now states that another reason why he left was because no member of our Lodge would ever get the purple, which is the summit of his ambition. I may state, *en passant*, these Brethren were received with open arms by a sister Lodge in this town, recently revived, and even after the W.M. of that Lodge had been communicated with respecting the Brother who hissed our then W.M., he also was admitted. So much for the zeal and *Masonry* of these Brethren, and the truth of the statement made by "A. Z."

I now come to the accusation made against our present W.M., that preference was shown in nominating the Brother who now fills the post of S.W. to that office, because he assisted our immediate P.M. to establish a camp of Knights Templar. Our present S.W. was not, at the time he was invested, either a Royal Arch Mason or a Knight Templar, and consequently could not assist in establishing any camp; neither could the Brother I allude to, for at the time of the revival of the camp he was not installed into the Order.

From time immemorial a camp of Knights Templar has been held in this city, called the Camp of Antiquity, of Seven Degrees. *Time immemorial*, and it having

lain dormant many years, certain Sir Knights of the Grand Encampment of Baldwyn, Bristol, assisted by the only surviving member of the dormant camp, agreed to revive it, as they were in possession of the warrant and all the ancient books, which prove without a shadow of doubt that this encampment is and ever was a free, grand, and independent one, it never having paid any dues to or acknowledged the supremacy of any grand conclave, much less of one which is, like the present one, barely ten years old. After its revival, our acting P.M. and several others were installed, and he is now the Commander, and the latter end of last January our present S.W. was admitted into the Order. So much for the veracity of "A. Z."

I admit that the Brother of whom I write, who is our P.M., was offered the collar of G. Reg. and refused it; but "A.Z." and "Sile" suppress this fact, which is well known, as it was told to our R.W. Prov. G.M. by the Brother himself, that the Prov. G.M. sent out his deputy from the ante-room to offer our P.M. this office, and he politely declined it twice; and you may guess his astonishment when he was called upon in open Prov. Grand Lodge, to take that which he not an hour before had refused. Was any other course left open to him? I am instructed to deny the accusation made by "A. Z.," that he did not deem it of sufficient importance for the dignity of his position. What right has he or any one else to attribute such motive to any one, much less to one who has laboured like this Brother? Is this the Masonry of your correspondent?

As to our acting P.M. having repeatedly thrown odium and discredit on our Prov. G.M., and endeavoured to weaken his authority, this I can with truth emphatically deny. The circumstance to which your correspondents refer is as follows:—Just before the last Prov. Grand Lodge was held, this Brother called together his Lodge, and, as their representative, asked them for their instructions, which they gave to him; and at the next Lodge which he held afterwards, he recapitulated what had occurred, and commented upon the fact that one of the highest offices in the province had been given to a Brother who made his application for the purple not to our Prov. G.M. or his deputy, but to the "Alter ego" of the former, whose boast is "*that he can do what he likes with the Prov. G.M.*" He furthermore said, that it seemed very strange that his Lodge for the last three years had only received the collar of Organist on two occasions, while a highly-favoured Lodge in this city, to which the Prov. G.M. belongs, received the highest honours. He also commented on the fact, that he was the only representative of a Lodge, out of all those present, who was not sent for to ask if any member would receive the purple, and said, that it was a very great pity that dislike to himself for having done his duty should be visited on his Lodge as a body, but this he attributed entirely to the influence of a clique over the mind of our Prov. G.M., who belong to a sister Lodge in this town, two of whom sat, one on the one side and one on the other side of the Prov. G.M. during his interview with those Brethren of the province they wished to be sent for. If doing a duty and speaking the truth be casting odium upon and endeavouring to weaken the authority of the head of our province, then our acting P.M. must plead guilty to the charge.

I will now proceed to answer the lengthened letter signed "Sile;" and in the first place I would call the attention of your readers to page 70 of the Book of the Constitutions, wherein it is expressly stated that "real worth and personal merit shall form the ground of all Masonic preferment, and that no Brother shall be nominated to any office merely on account of seniority or rank;" and yet "Sile" would combine his ideas of zeal and integrity with rank, as forming a good claim for Masonic honour.

I regret to say that this parade of rank is carried, by a highly-favoured Lodge in this town, to a ridiculous extent, which will not admit any one who is in business; but physicians, surgeons, architects, in fact any one who does not keep a shop, is by them called a gentleman, and entitled to the rare and exalted privilege of admission to this the youngest Lodge but one in the province. The present Prov. G. Treasurer, himself a member of this Lodge, has been known to say, that there ought to be Lodges for tradesmen, and Lodges for gentlemen, and that one ought not to associate with the other; and yet this same Brother has been heard, in his post-prandial speeches, to dilate at length upon ALL RANKS meeting on the

level, &c. &c. But I digress. In my humble opinion, a capability of performing our ceremonies correctly,—not merely as an effort of parrot-like memory, but with a close adherence to our landmarks, and the power of giving a reason for everything said and done in the Lodge,—a knowledge of all that appertains to the Order, and an acquaintance with the mysteries of antiquity, form, in my own poor judgment, a claim for Masonic rank; and whatever may be and is the animus of “Sile” and his Lodge to our P.M., no one can deny but that his desire to communicate information is only equalled by his ability to do so, and the pleasure it confers upon him.

With regard to this same Brother having attempted, while acting as P.S., to introduce obsolete matter into the ritual of his chapter, this I also deny *in toto*. The ceremony really introduced is used at this very time in the far-famed province of Bristol, and will again be used here at our next exaltation; and although the Grand Superintendent of a province, who is also Past Grand P.S. and Past S.G.W. of England, thought fit to call in question the act of this companion, he stoutly defended himself, traced the origin of the Order, and proved that the ceremony was correct. But he could have told this R.W. Brother and Prov. Grand Superintendent, that he ought to have set a better example to the Brethren of this city when presiding as M.E.Z., than by *reading the whole of the ceremony*.

A Brother may be an exemplary Mason in the performance of his social duties, but mere seniority or rank, even when combined with these qualifications, does not qualify any Brother to receive Masonic rewards. I opine that the Prov. G.M. is not to be the judge of any Brother's private conduct—he can only take cognizance of his Masonic actions; and if any Brother evinces an ardent love for the Order, and has the ability to labour diligently in its cause—whose moral character is unimpeachable—then such an one deserves honour being shown to him, whatever his rank in society may be.

The refusal of our Prov. G.S. to grant a dispensation for passing this Brother over the third chair, was an act of bad taste, because for *less cause* he granted two dispensations the very year before to a sister chapter of gentlemen in this town. The request to the Prov. G.S. was made by the M.E.Z. of our chapter, by the unanimous request of the companions. The Brother who then ruled the chapter is a man, above all others, who never could or would belong to any clique, but whose firm and manly independence of conduct places him in our eyes above the suspicion which “Sile” endeavours to attach to him.

It is a very remarkable fact, that throughout these two letters not one fact I mentioned in my last is controverted, but a violation of our constitutions even palliated by “Sile.” It now behoves me to put a right construction upon the matter of the appointments made at the Prov. Grand Lodge in 1853 by the D. Prov. G.M. I myself heard the present Prov. G. Treas., who was made J.G.W. on that occasion, say, that on looking over the list, offices were intended to be conferred upon Brethren who were not entitled to receive them; but it is a remarkable fact, that “Sile” and himself (he was W.M. of his Lodge that same year) should have allowed the D. Prov. G.M. to confer the office of S.G.W. upon the S.W. of his Lodge, who by the bye was J.G.W. the year before, and the offices of Reg. and S.G.D. upon two recently raised Brethren also members of his Lodge! The office of S.G.D. was promised to a Brother of our Lodge, and upon the D. Prov. G.M. being asked why the promise made was broken, he said, that there were several Brethren of rank in society present, and he was desirous of rewarding them; and verily if a purple collar could confer honour upon mere rank, it was done on that occasion, and the W.M. of that Lodge, aye and his P.M. too, both stood coolly by and sanctioned a violation of the constitutions.

I would with all charity entreat “Sile,” when next he indites a letter, not to allow his feeling of personal resentment to outweigh his discretion, and above all to remember facts.

It is a serious charge to bring against a Lodge as a body, that they could sit still and hear their W.M. condemn, in unqualified terms, the G.M. of his province. “Sile” must know such not to be the fact; and if any information of that nature has reached him, I ask him, in the name of the Lodge and the Brother he slanders, to repeat what was uttered, so that the Masonic world may know

whether his words were discreditable or not. I have heard more than one member of this clique, before he became such, use not very kind or decent expressions about our R.W. Prov. G.M.

In conclusion, I must briefly allude to the grand treasurership of the province: the Brother who was the unsuccessful candidate at the last Prov. G.L. did not give his consent to be nominated until within two hours of the opening of Lodge, and therefore how could any solicitation have been made by our acting P.M., by letter or otherwise, to any one in the province. As to *vivâ voce* canvassing, this Brother was assisting for more than one hour and a half to initiate two candidates, and had barely time to take some slight refreshment before the Prov. Grand Lodge was opened. Can any one call this an organized opposition?

I own that there is a large and influential party in this province who desire that every Lodge shall stand on its own merits, and who feel that the domination of one Lodge over the rest is prejudicial to the interests of the Craft; for this reason we desire to see a Brother fill the *only* office we have the *power* to bestow, who is not a member of this clique or favoured Lodge, and whose well-known habits of business will enable him to send out a statement of account without any such glaring errors as mistakes in wording the Dr. and Cr. sides of a cash account, and by taking nearly six months to make out that which a schoolboy could do in a few hours!

I think I have assigned a good reason for wishing to have another Brother in the office, but "Sile" must know full well that the esteemed Brother who was unsuccessful last year was one of the foremost pioneers in bringing about an investigation into the affairs of the province, the present Prov. Grand Treasurer coming in as it were at the death, and by clique influence reaping the reward. I must also state another little fact, which "Sile" drowns in oblivion, and that is, that our acting P.M., then the Senior Warden of his Lodge, was the very individual who proposed the investigation into the affairs of the province, and who nominated the committee of which the Prov. Grand Treasurer (then Senior Grand Warden) was one, he himself refusing to be placed in it, although the Prov. Grand Master and many others begged him to do so.

So much for the claims of the Past Grand Treasurer who did nothing but make a couple of speeches, attend about two committee meetings, and eat a good dinner,—all his travelling expenses being paid; the actual work being done by a Brother who is a professed accountant!

I must apologise for the unavoidable length of my communication, but I could not refute the charges made against a P.M. of our Lodge without entering somewhat into detail. I have stated nothing but the truth, without any colouring; and consequently all that I have written will bear the strictest investigation: and to these two Masons—to these two fellow-townsmen, whoever they may be, whenever they again unjustly calumniate this Brother, my parting benediction is,—go ye and do likewise. I remain,

Yours sincerely and Fraternaly,

BATH, April 11th, 1856.

JUSTITIA.

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TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The W.M. who has done me the honour to notice my reply to "Justitia," accuses me of "stooping to calumny," and having "lost sight of veracity," yet he makes no attempt to substantiate these grave charges.

Recrimination cannot be made to occupy the place of reasoning or of proof; and I apprehend, that to make accusations of slander and falsehood, having no other foundation than the hardness of effrontery, is a proceeding as much opposed to the true spirit of Masonry as it is to that which is usually considered to regulate the intercourse of gentlemen.

The statements in my letter rested on two kinds of evidence; the one derived from my own knowledge, the other from information afforded by friends: no effort has been made to disprove the former, and I have yet to learn that the latter is unentitled to credit.



I noticed "Justitia's" letter for the purpose of recording a statement that his representations were incorrect, and that they could not be received without some reservation. You were kind enough to insert my letter, and thus my only object has been attained.—I remain, Sir and Brother,

Yours, fraternally,

May 16, 1856.

SILE.

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TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR,—Annexed I hand you Copy of the Charter of Incorporation of Free and Accepted Masons, taken from a book entitled "New : Ahiman Rezon," and dedicated to William Earl of Blessington. This document was some time ago forwarded to your predecessor, who promised to look into the matter, and report thereon, but which has never been done. You will observe that there is no date, and should this be a correct copy, you will confer a favour on the Craft out here in furnishing the date it was granted, and any other information in your power. The separation of the Lodges in Canada from the Grand Lodge of England has stimulated some of the Craft out here to consider the propriety of a similar step as regards the West India Islands, unless the Grand Lodge shows more solicitude for her subordinate Lodges in this part of the world than she hitherto has done. My full conviction is, that were the Grand Lodge to divide the West Indies into sections, and have a Prov. G. M. for each, that it would tend to the greatest advantage to Freemasonry ; and I would strongly recommend that the sections should be formed as under :—No. 1. Trinidad, Grenada, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Venezuela. No. 2. Barbadoes, Demerara, Berbice, Tobago. No. 3. Dominica, Montserrat, St. Kitts, Nevis, Antigua. No. 4. St. Thomas, Curacoa, Bahamas. No. 5. Jamaica, Honduras. There is a Prov. G. M. for Barbadoes *alone*, Sir R. B. Clarke ; but I understand that for a long period no Grand Lodge has been held.

The persecution of the Roman Catholic Bishop here against Freemasonry is strong. Touching this subject the Grand Lodge has been written to, and its reply awaited with anxiety. Can you enlighten us regarding what has been the result respecting the Mauritius Brethren ?

Yours fraternally,

P. M.

*Copy of the Charter of Incorporation of Free and Accepted Masons.*

"GEORGE THE THIRD by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, to all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting : Whereas the Society of Free and Accepted Masons have for ages held frequent meetings within this realm, and have ever demeaned themselves with duty and loyalty to us and our predecessors, with reverence and obedience to the laws, and kindness and good-will to their fellow-subjects ; and whereas the said Society appears to have been originally instituted for humane and beneficent purposes, and to have distributed from time to time, to all, without distinction, who have had the single claim of wretchedness, sums to a great amount, collected by voluntary contribution among themselves : and whereas, our entirely beloved &c. &c. &c. members of the Society of Free and Accepted Masons under the constitution of England, in behalf of themselves and many others of the said Society, by their petition humbly presented to us, to grant our most gracious letters patent to incorporate the said Society, and make them a body politic and corporate for ever : Now know ye, that we, out of our princely regard to a body of men associated for such laudable purposes, willing to manifest to the world our entire approbation of their past conduct, and desirous to enable them to answer more effectually the humane ends of their institution, of our especial grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have ordained, given, and granted, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, do ordain, give, and grant, that for the future there shall be a perpetual Society, which shall be called by the name of the Society of Free and Accepted Masons of England. And we do hereby declare, that the said Society shall consist of a Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Past Grand Officers, Provincial Grand Masters, Grand Treasurer,

Grand Secretary, Grand Sword Bearer, Twelve Stewards, and of the Masters and Wardens of the several subordinate Lodges, who, together with those already numerated, compose the Grand Lodge, who, by the name of the Society of Free and Accepted Masons of England, shall for ever hereafter be a body politic and corporate, in deed and in law, and that by the same name they and their successors shall have perpetual succession, and that they and their successors, by that name, shall and may for ever hereafter be enabled, and rendered capable, and have power (notwithstanding the statute of Mortmain) to purchase, have, take, acquire, receive, possess, enjoy, and hold to them and their successors, manors, messuages, lands, rents, tenements, goods and chattels, annuities and hereditaments, of whatsoever nature or kind, in fee and perpetuity, or for terms of life or years, or otherwise. And we hereby give and grant unto the said Society and their successors by the name aforesaid, our special license, full power and lawful authority, to hold and enjoy lands and hereditaments which may be hereafter devised, granted, or sold to the said society: and also to purchase, hold, receive, and possess in Mortmain, in perpetuity or otherwise, to or for the use of, or in trust for them and their successors, for the use and benefit of the said corporation, from any person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, their heirs and successors respectively, such manors, lands, tenements, rents and hereditaments, as they shall think fit to purchase, or shall be given, granted, devised, or conveyed to them by deed or otherwise, not exceeding the yearly value of \* \* \* \* over and above all charges and reprises, so far as they are not restrained by law, and also to sell, grant, demise, exchange, and dispose of any of the same manors, messuages, lands, and tenements whereof or wherein they shall have an estate of inheritance for life or lives, or years as aforesaid, and we further grant, that the said Society and their successors, by the name aforesaid, may and shall by the said name of the Society of Free and Accepted Masons of England, be able to sue and to be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto, defend and be defended, in all courts and pleas whatsoever, of us, our heirs, and successors, before any of our judges and justices, and other officers of us, our heirs and successors, in all and singular actions, suits, plaints, causes, matters, demand, and things whatsoever, and to act and do in all matters and things relating to the said corporation in as ample a manner and form as any other our liege subjects, being persons able and capable in the law, or any of the body politic or corporate, in this part of our kingdom of Great Britain called England, lawfully may or can act or do. And that the said corporation for ever shall and may have and use a common seal for the cause and business of them and their successors, and that it shall and may be lawful for them and their successors to change, break, alter, and make new the said seal, from time to time, as they shall think fit. And we do hereby give and grant unto the said Society a Coat of Arms, that is to say, \* \*

And for the better execution of this our grant, we do nominate, constitute and appoint our right trusty and dearly beloved cousin and counsellor Henry Duke of Beaufort to be First Grand Master, our trusty and well beloved the Honourable Charles Dillon to be the First Deputy Grand Master, each of them respectively to be and continue in their several and respective offices of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, &c. &c. &c. until the Feast of St. John the Evangelist, which shall happen next after the expiration of one year from the day of the date of these presents, and from thence until other fit and able persons be chosen into the said offices in their respective rooms. Provided always, that all the persons so appointed, or hereafter to be appointed members of the Grand Lodge shall in all things aid, advise, and assist in conducting the business, and in all matters relating to the regulation and government of the said Society of Free and Accepted Masons of England. And we do give and grant unto the said Grand Master, or his deputy, his or their successor or successors for the time being, full power and authority, by virtue of these our letters patent, to issue warrants for the constituting of subordinate Lodges, and the said Lodges warranted as aforesaid shall be and they are hereby declared to be legal and regular. And furthermore, we give and grant to the said Society, that they shall and may hold meetings of themselves for the better management of their funds, and the application of them to proper purposes, and the transaction of all other business relating to the Society,

when and as often as it shall be necessary. And it shall be lawful for the said Society from time to time to nominate and choose once in every year one fit and able person to be Grand Master, and one other to be Grand Treasurer of the said Society; the other officers to be appointed in the manner and form heretofore established by the long and uninterrupted usage of the Society, to continue severally until the Feast of St. John the Evangelist, next after the expiration of one year from the time of their respective elections or appointments (if they shall so long live), or not be removed for some just or reasonable cause, and from thence till another be chosen. And in case the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, &c. &c. &c. or any of them shall die, recede, or be removed from any of the said offices respectively, then, and in such case, it shall be lawful to choose or appoint (according to ancient usage) a fit and able person to fill up such office as shall become vacant. And the person or persons so chosen or appointed shall continue till the expiration of the year for which their predecessor in such office had been chosen or appointed. And if it shall happen that the election of the Grand Master and Grand Treasurer, and appointment of the other Grand Officers cannot be perfected on the Feast of St. John the Evangelist, we do hereby grant that the Grand Master may lawfully assign or appoint any other day as near as may be after the Feast of St. John the Evangelist, for the perfecting such election or elections, which shall always be in the manner and form heretofore observed by the said Society, and for the nomination and appointment of such officers as by the ancient usage of the said Society are not elective, and so from day to day, till the said elections and appointments shall be completed. And we further give and grant to the said Society, that the Grand Master Deputy Grand Master, and constituent members of the Grand Lodge for the time being, shall and may from time to time assemble together in such convenient place in London, or within ten miles thereof, as the Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master (by the Grand Master's authority) shall appoint, by summons or other notice, which he is by these presents empowered and required timely to issue for that purpose to all the said members. And that they being so met shall have full power to make, constitute, and ordain such statutes, bye-laws, or ordinances as shall appear to them to be good and necessary, and expedient for the government, order, and regulations of the said Society, and every member thereof, which statute, bye-laws, and ordinances, not being repugnant to the laws of this realm, shall and may be effectually observed and kept, and to do all other things concerning the government, estate, and revenues of the said Society. Provided, nevertheless, and our will is, that no bye-law, statute, or ordinance so to be made by this corporation shall be binding upon the said Society until the same shall have been read over and approved of by the majority of the Society assembled together for that purpose.

“In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent. Witness Ourselves at Westminster.”

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TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I rejoice that a few worthies have the moral courage to say, that if the Craft is to progress, we must, like the good people of Hendon, mend our ways; that is to say, we must quit the Knife-and-fork Degree, and betake ourselves to higher pursuits. The sociality of the banquet is well in its way, but when we know there is much to be learned in literature and science that would elevate the Craft, it is idle folly to say that the Lodge is not the place for such purposes. There are Brethren identified with the Order who would feel happy, as time and occasion occurred, to deliver lectures on such subjects as would not only instruct but amuse the Brethren. Let but one or two Lodges start this matter, and many others will follow this excellent example. Of one thing I feel sure, that if we could give to our Lodges, in its best sense, the “feast of reason and the flow of soul,” we should have many in the ranks who are now enjoying their *otium*; because, as they say, we have left off dining out. Show them that there is intelligence in our Order, and also a desire to communicate it, and depend upon it you will have done more to place Masonry on a lasting foundation than all the

hilarity of a banquet ever has or can do. Do not let us be frightened by the "Old Bogy" innovation; this has been the phantom that has stopped the way, not only in Masonry, but in almost all things, and surely it is our duty to profit by what we see around us. Let but a few Brethren of the stamp of Bro. C. P. Cooper lead this onward movement, and we may yet rise, like the Phoenix of old. Wishing Masonry reform from the bottom of my heart, I am, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

JESSE TURNER, P.M., No. 33.

May 17, 1856.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It is currently rumoured in well-informed Masonic circles, that our respected Prov. G.M. (R. H. Williamson, Esq.) is about to vacate his important trust—the onerous duties of a Past M.G. obliging him to be continually absent from the Presidency, and therefore I believe there was only one Prov. Grand Lodge held in all last year. I must not, however, attribute this as the primary cause of the consumptive state of the Madras Lodges (the Black Town Lodge is the only one just now in vigour), neither lead your readers to suppose that the Madras Masons "falsify their oaths, and neglect their Brethren," but my object in addressing you is to express a hope I have reason to believe is joined by all the Craft, that the Earl of Zetland (in whose gift is the appointment) will select a Prov. G.M. "true to his obligation and the sacred trust reposed in him," when the Craft will again flourish as in the palmy days of Lord Elphinstone. I trust the mantle will descend on such a Brother as Edward Green Balfour, Esq., a gentleman well known in literature and science, and also for his liberal views and devotion to Masonry; and although I have named a Brother, yet the Earl will have no difficulty in selecting the "right man," when there are such Brethren in the Madras Presidency as Col. Thomson, Macdonald, Ritchie (Major), Balfour, Roberts (Civil Service, now in England), Ouchterlony, and many others.

Pray let this epistle see the light in your Masonic Journal, so as to call the especial attention of the "powers that be" to uphold the character of Masonry in India.—I remain, dear Sir and Brother,

Your humble servant,

OBADIAH.

In the Valley of Jehosaphat, April 8, 1856.

#### THE PRINTERS' ALMSHOUSES.

WE hail with especial gratification the approaching Inauguration of the New Asylum at Wood Green, Tottenham, on the 11th June next, on which occasion there will be a Public Breakfast, at which Earl Stanhope, who laid the Foundation-stone of this Institution, will preside. The List of Stewards is excellent, including not only the majority of the Master Printers of the metropolis, but also the names of individuals whose writings have achieved an European fame, besides representatives of many of our most distinguished Literary and Scientific bodies, and proves that something of energy is now manifesting itself in the cause of men to whom the Public owes unusual obligations. Although we call ourselves a nation of intellect and letters, we have hitherto been content that the professors of the Art of Printing should too often pass unprotected and in poverty to an untimely grave. We trust, however, now that this much-needed Asylum has been completed, and the difficulties which have hitherto retarded its progress are all removed, that it may be vigorously supported, not only by those for whom it is especially designed, but that the reader—either for amusement or instruction—will give liberally to those who have contributed to lead his mind or cheer his solitude by the practice of an Art entailing great exhaustion of physical strength, and almost always inducing to hasten the allotted period of man's decay. Prince Albert and the Duke of Cambridge have done well in becoming the patrons of this Institution, but we call upon all to support it who acknowledge that to the Printing Press they owe Liberty, and Intellectual as well as Moral Life.

# THE MASONIC MIRROR.

## UNITED GRAND LODGE.

### GRAND FESTIVAL.

A MEETING of Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday, 30th April.—The M.W. the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, G.M., on the throne, supported by the R.W. Bro. Thomas Henry Hall, Prov. G.M. for Cambridgeshire, as D.G.M.; the R.W. Bro. Col. C. K. Kemys Tynte, Prov. G.M. for Somersetshire; the R.W. Bro. Alexander Dobie, Prov. G.M. for Surrey and G. Reg.; the R.W. Bro. C. P. Cooper, Prov. G.M. for Kent; the R.W. Bro. Henry R. Willett, Prov. G.M. for Dorsetshire; the R.W. Bro. Henry Atkins Bowyer, Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire; the R.W. Bro. Robert Bagshawe, Prov. G.M. for Essex; the R.W. Bro. B. A. Kent, Prov. G.M. for South Australia; the V.W. Bro. Frederick Dundas, P.S.G.W. as S.G.W.; the V.W. Bro. Henry W. Eaton, J.G.W.; the V.W. Bro. Pattison, P.J.G.W.; the V.W. Bros. the Rev. J. E. Cox and Edward Moore, G. Chaplains; the W. Bro. W. H. White, G. Sec.; the V.W. Samuel Tomkins, G. Treas.; the V.W. J. N. Tomkins, J.G.D.; Bros. J. Havers, G. W. K. Potter, Thos. R. White, G. Leech, J. B. King, John Hervey, S. C. Norris, and C. Baumer, P.G.Ds.; H. L. Crohn, Sec. for German Cor.; C. W. Elkington, G.S.B.; Bros. R. J. Spiers, Geo. Biggs, G. Leach, J. Masson, A. A. Le Veau, E. H. Patten, P.G.S.Bs.; Richard W. Jennings, G. Dir. Cers.; Thory Chapman, Asst. G. Dir. Cers.; Edwin Ransford, G. Org.; William Farnfield, Asst. G. Sec.; the Grand Stewards of the year; Fred. Burgess, W.M., Grand Steward's Lodge; the Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of Several Lodges.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form and with solemn prayer.

The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 5th of March, so far as related to the election of the Grand Master and Grand Registrar, were read and confirmed.

Bro. Thory Chapman, Asst. G. Dir. of Cers. then proclaimed the election of the Earl of Zetland as Grand Master, and called on the Brethren to rise and salute his Lordship with honours.

The M.W. Grand Master thanked the Brethren for the confidence reposed in him by thus re-electing him to the high office of presiding over the United Grand Lodge; he assured them that it was most gratifying to his feelings to be thus kindly received, and that it should ever be his object to perform the duties of his station to their satisfaction. During the past year he had been compelled on many occasions to claim the indulgence of the Grand Lodge for his absence, in consequence of the serious illness of one most dear to him. This year, however, commenced with better auspices, and he took the present opportunity to mention a circumstance that had been much talked of, relative to a petition that had been sent to him from Canada (hear, hear). The petition in question was of a most sweeping character: it asked that the Canadian Brethren should elect their own G.M., appoint district G.Ms., control and dispose of the Fund of Benevolence, and, in short, he did not see what was to be left to the Supreme Grand Lodge at all. After deliberately weighing the subject, he considered he should not be doing his duty if he gave a consent to the prayer of the petition; and from information he had received, it appeared that the petition was not a unanimous one of the Brethren in Canada, but resulted from only a portion of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Canada West; he, therefore, not liking to tell the petitioners that their desire was most preposterous, decided to take no notice whatever of it, and he was now satisfied that his judgment was correct, for he had reasons for knowing that a very large proportion of the Canadian Brethren desired to hold fast their allegiance to the United Grand Lodge of England.

The G.M. was listened to with marked silence.

The G.M. then re-appointed the R.W. Bro. the Earl of Yarborough, D.G.M., and said that Lord Yarborough, in consequence of a long and severe illness preventing his attendance at any public meetings, had requested him to appoint some other Brother to fill that distinguished office, but that Lord Yarborough had consented, at his (the G.M.'s) express wish, to hold the appointment another year.

The R.W. Bro. the Earl of Yarborough was then duly proclaimed and saluted.

The G.M. then invested Bro. Samuel Tomkins, the G. Treas.; and appointed and invested Bro. the Viscount Goderich, S.G.W., and Bro. Thomas Tooke (a Director of the Bank of England), J.G.W.; the R.W. Bro. Alexander Dobie, G. Reg.; the Rev. Bros. J. E. Cox and Edward Moore, G. Chaps.; W. H. White, G. Sec.; Henry L. Crohn, G. Sec. for German Cor.; Thomas Jones, S.G.D.; and Edward Phillips, J.G.D.; J. Daukes, G. Supt. of Works; Richard W. Jennings, G. Dir. of Cers.; Thory Chapman, Asst. G. Dir. of Cers.; W. E. Walmisley, G. Sword Bearer; William Farnfield, Asst. G. Sec.; Edwin Ransford, G. Org., and Joseph Smith, G. Pursuivant; Thomas Barton continuing as G. Tyler.

The following Brethren were returned by the several Lodges as Grand Stewards for the ensuing year, the return being approved of by the G.M.:—H. D. Sandeman, No. 1; Lieut. Col. R. Wilson, No. 2; Joseph Josephs, jun., No. 4; Alg. G. Perkins, No. 5; Col. Brownrigg, No. 6; Edward Baxter, No. 8; Samuel Glover, No. 14; John Symonds, No. 21; W. G. Morris, No. 23; H. T. Hinxman, No. 27; H. Webber, No. 32; A. W. Wood, No. 54; W. B. Graham, No. 66; W. Young, No. 72; F. Grosjean, No. 108; H. Butt, No. 116; Frederick Slight, No. 233; J. D. Rigby, No. 324.

The Grand Lodge was then closed, and the G.M. and Brethren proceeded in form to

#### THE BANQUET IN THE HALL.

The M.W.G.M. the Earl of Zetland presided, and was supported by the Prov. G.Ms. of Cambridgeshire, Dorsetshire, Essex, Kent, Oxfordshire, Somersetshire, Surrey, and South Australia; Bros. the Viscount Goderich and Thos. Tooke, the new Wardens; the past and present Grand officers we have already named, and about two hundred Brethren.

The viands were of the best, and included all the varieties of the season, and it was universally acknowledged that the display and serving deserved the highest praise. The attention of Bros. Shrewsbury, Elkington, and Banks also deserves acknowledgment; and, lastly, the wines proved the excellence of the contents of the cellars. On the removal of the cloth, the arrival of the ladies in the gallery was most warmly greeted, and the grace, "For these and all Thy mercies," from *Laudi Spirituali*, was sung by the professionals, the musical arrangements being under the direction of Bro. Ransford, the G. Org.

The M.W.G.M. rose and called on the Brethren to do honour to "The health of Her Majesty the Queen."

The National Hymn was sung with good effect; the last verse by Miss Ransford brought loud applause. "Prince Albert and the rest of the Royal Family," was also duly greeted.

The R.W. Bro. Hall, Prov. G.M. for Cambridge, rose and said—There was no one present, he was sure, who would not be anxious to pay due honour to the G.M. who presides over them; and if the noble lord was absent, he might be disposed to more especially speak of the eminent service Lord Zetland had rendered to the Craft. The family of Dundas had for three generations been worthy and excellent Masons; and it must be also remembered that the Brethren annually expressed their confidence in their G.M., and retained him in that high position. That confidence he trusted would long endure, for he could not but consider that it would be fatal to the dignity, interests, and prosperity of the Order, if clouds of dissatisfaction were to arise; for himself, should that ever be the case, he hoped that he might not live to see it.

The G.M. said,—Brethren, I have again to tender you my thanks for the cordial manner in which you have received my name. For the thirteenth time you have elected me to preside over you, and during the whole period I have held the

high position of your G.M. my anxious desire has ever been to merit your kindness and confidence. I cannot but acknowledge that as time goes on I find increased difficulty in discharging my duties to your entire satisfaction, still I do not despair of finding it out in time. Under my illustrious predecessor, I had the honour of serving you in two capacities, and consequently had many opportunities of learning from the Duke of Sussex the principles of Masonry; and deeply respecting his memory, it has ever been my wish to worthily follow in his footsteps. I have, I am happy to say, hitherto, to a certain extent enjoyed your confidence: I sincerely hope I shall still retain it, and assure you, that as long as health and strength are spared to me I shall find pleasure in so discharging my duties as to merit its continuance.

“The Grand Masters of Ireland and Scotland,” was the next toast.

The G.M. again rose and said,—I have now to propose a toast to which I am sure you will respond most cordially; it is “The health of the Earl of Yarborough, the Deputy Grand Master,” and in giving his health I think it right to mention that my excellent friend and esteemed Brother has been a long time in a bad state of health, but I am happy to say is now going on very favourably. He desires me to express his great regret at not being able to be present on this occasion; and I am sure you will cordially unite with me in wishes for his speedy recovery. (The toast was responded to with most enthusiastic applause.)

The G.M. again rose and said,—I have now to propose a toast to which I beg to call your attention. It is indispensable to Grand Lodge that we should have Grand Officers, well known by their position in life as well as by their meritorious services in Masonry. I give “The Grand Officers this day appointed, coupling therewith Bro. the Viscount Goderich” (much applause).

Bro. Viscount Goderich said,—M.W.G.M. and Brethren, in returning you my thanks for the very kind and cordial manner in which the toast has been received, I cannot but feel that I had no right to rise, being the youngest Mason among the officers appointed; but I feel I shall not misrepresent the feelings of the Grand Officers in thanking you most warmly for the honour that has been paid us. The Grand Officers will endeavour to discharge their duties in such manner as to render them deserving of the kind reception on the present occasion. For myself, I can but feel how little I deserve the high office to which I have been appointed; but though but a short time a member of the Institution, I highly prize the honour of being a Freemason, and accept the compliment paid me to-day, not as a reward for services, but as an encouragement for the future.—Our noble Brother was most warmly greeted.

The G.M. rose, and in proposing “The Provincial Grand Masters,” congratulated the Brethren on the array of those officers who had done him the honour of being present.

Bro. Dobie, Prov. G.M. for Surrey, in brief terms responded to the toast.

The G.M. said he proposed now to offer to their notice, the toast which best deserved their attention—“The Masonic Charities;” and he begged to call to mind, in offering this toast, that charity was the great object—the very keystone of Masonry. He felt proud of the great advance the Charities had made, and of their flourishing state during his tenure of office. He relied on the Brethren using their best efforts in supporting all the Charities.

The G.M. next proposed “The Grand Stewards of the Day,” and hoped that due honour would be paid to those Brethren who had provided so amply and so well for their comfort in every respect.

Bro. W. P. Scott briefly returned thanks.

The G.M. then approached the last toast of the evening. They were all well aware how highly honoured their meeting had been by the presence of the fair ladies in the gallery, who had graced their meeting. He was sure he had but to name the toast, “The Ladies,” to insure a hearty reception.

The G.M., accompanied by most of the Brethren, then left the Hall, and proceeded to the glee-room, where the ladies were assembled, and where, we presume, the remainder of the music was gone through; but which we, wanting the spirit of endurance for needless suffering, certainly avoided; and we cannot but think that Masonic gallantry—to say nothing of a manly consideration for the

fair sex—ought to create a universal determination either to provide more ample accommodation for this display, or to do away with the matter altogether; and we cannot let this opportunity pass without expressing our extreme regret, that when the question was mooted in Grand Lodge, it was not put to the vote, as the majority would certainly have been in favour of the use of the Temple for these great occasions.

To the Stewards, the Brethren generally and individually expressed their most grateful thanks for the untiring attention that they paid to the wants and wishes of all the company; it being universally acknowledged that no festival had ever been known to have gone off so well, or in which the arrangements were better.

Bro. Ransford conducted the music, assisted by Bro. Young, Bro. W. E. Ransford, Mr. and Mrs. Lockey, Miss Clara Henderson, and Miss Ransford. The ladies were most warmly congratulated by the M.W.G.M. on the admirable manner in which they had interpreted the music intrusted to them.

#### ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

THE annual meeting of the governors and subscribers of this Institution, for providing Annuities for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, was held in the Temple on the 16th May, but, owing to there being no election, was very thinly attended. The chair was originally taken by Bro. Patten, V.P., but resigned by him to the M.W.G.M. the Earl of Zetland, the President of the Institution, who arrived shortly after the commencement of the proceedings.

The business having been opened, Bro. Farnfield, the Secretary, proceeded to read the report of the auditors and the committee, from which it appeared that the MALE FUND stood thus:—

	£.	s.	d.
Balance to March 31, 1855 .....	112	5	2
Subscriptions and donations since received ....	1,341	18	0
	<u>1,454</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>
Disbursements .....	1,245	8	7
Purchase of £231. 13s. 2d. 3 per cent. reduced..	213	5	0
	<u>1,458</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>7</u>
Balance against the Fund overdrawn .....	4	10	5
WIDOWS' FUND:—			
Balance, 31st March, 1855 .....	87	19	8
Subscriptions and donations since received ....	449	13	2
	<u>537</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>
Disbursements .....	392	17	2
Purchase of £111. 6s. 5d. } 3 per cent. reduced	102	11	0
	<u>495</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>2</u>
Balance in favour of the Fund .....	42	4	8
BUILDING FUND:—			
Balance on the 31st March, 1855 .....	106	6	6
Subsequent receipts .....	247	5	0
	<u>353</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>6</u>
Disbursements .....	301	8	5
Balance in favour .....	<u>52</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>



The balance in favour of the Widows and Building Funds together amount to £94. 7s. 9d., from which has to be deducted a balance of £4. 10s. 5d. against the Male Fund, leaving the net balance in the hands of the bankers £89. 17s. 4d. The report proceeded to say that the committee deeply regretted having to announce that there had been a falling off in the contributions from the Brethren and Lodges to an extent which precluded the possibility of electing on this occasion, from the list of forty-six candidates, a single annuitant. Indeed, the present income would not be sufficient to pay the present annuities, and meet the current expenses. Since the last election, two of the male annuitants had died, but such an event having been anticipated at the last election, did not leave any vacancy to fill up. The committee had to acknowledge the receipt of a legacy of £20 from the executors of the late Bro. Christopher Crawford, Waterman's Arms, Wapping Wall. Of the existing male annuitants thirty-five had been members of country Lodges, and received amongst them £713 per annum, and twelve members of London Lodges receiving £250 per annum. The committee had further the satisfaction of reporting, that since the last meeting the debt on the Asylum building had been paid off, through the liberal donations of £50 from the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and several Brethren.

The following is the state of the Funded Stock of the Institution:—

	£.	s.	d.
Male Annuity Fund.....	8,347	14	11
Widows' Fund.....	1,205	9	7
Building Sustentation Fund.....	567	7	9

The reports having been adopted, a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Bro. Thos. L. Henley, the Honorary Surgeon to the Institution, for his valuable services to the inmates of the Asylum at Croydon, who, we are informed, is most assiduous in the discharge of his duties.

Some formal business having been transacted, Bro. W. H. White, G. Sec., brought forward a motion, of which he had given notice, that as No. 45 of the bye-laws—"The total number of votes announced at the last or two last preceding elections as polled on behalf of an unsuccessful candidate shall be carried forward to the credit of such candidate at the succeeding election"—operated unequally and unfairly, inasmuch as the number of candidates to be elected varied on each occasion, the same be repealed, and declared inoperative after the next election of annuitants.

Bro. Warren asked Bro. White to postpone the motion, inasmuch as he was preparing a requisition to the committee, asking for a special meeting of the subscribers, to consider a general revision of the bye-laws, some of which were now out of date or inoperative.

After a short conversation, it was resolved to proceed with the motion, and Bro. White argued that the bringing forward the votes from the last two elections virtually shut out other candidates, the friends of whom had no inducement to exert themselves.

Bro. Le Veau seconded the motion, which was supported by Bro. Barrett, and opposed by Bros. Patten, Aldrich, Davis, and others, the chief ground of the opposition being that the accumulative system was the only safeguard which Brethren of limited means and influence had that any candidate proposed and supported by them had a chance of election; and every Brother, from the moment he was deemed worthy to be placed on the list of candidates, ought to have every opportunity afforded him of becoming an annuitant.

Bro. White acknowledged that he did not think the law would act so harshly if all the votes were carried forward from the moment a Brother was admitted a candidate until he was elected, whereupon

Bro. Warren said that he was opposed to the motion of Bro. White, and acting on the hint just given him, he would move as an amendment, "That in future the votes of the Brethren should be allowed to accumulate from year to year."

At the suggestion of the M.W.G.M., Bro. Warren so framed his resolution as to allow all votes recorded for the candidates from the date when the cumulative principle was first adopted, in 1852, to be brought forward in their favour.

Bro. Davis seconded the amendment, which Bros. White and Le Veau expressed their willingness to adopt, instead of the original motion; but Bro. Barrett strongly opposing its withdrawal, the question was put, and the amendment carried.

A vote of thanks to the M.W.G.M. for his conduct in the chair closed the proceedings.

The following letter was placed before the Brethren in the course of the meeting, but no definite resolution came to with respect to it:—

“ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL, *May 13th*, 1856.

“SIR,—At the request of the Weekly Board of Directors of this charity, I have the honour of addressing through you the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, to state the earnest desire of this Board to co-operate with the supporters of that excellent Institution, by relieving the sick and destitute Brethren of the Craft. The Hospital being now considerably enlarged by ‘The Sussex Wing,’ lately erected to the memory of the late illustrious Grand Master, we feel that members of the Masonic body have a peculiar claim upon our respect and sympathy; we beg, therefore, to inform you, that we shall be prepared to receive into our wards, or to relieve with advice and medicine any sick members of the Fraternity, and to afford them all the assistance in our power, without their applications being delayed by seeking for tickets or orders for admission. I am requested to add, that it will be gratifying to us, to make the Hospital as useful as we can to the Brethren of the Ancient Order, and to establish permanently friendly relations with the Order throughout the kingdom.

“I have the honour to be, Sir,

“Your most obedient servant,

“To the Chairman of

“W. H. FENN.”

“The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution,

“&c. &c. &c.”

#### ROYAL FREEMASONS' GIRLS' SCHOOL.

The Sixty-eighth Anniversary Festival of the Royal Freemasons' School for maintaining, clothing, and educating Female Children, the daughters of decayed Freemasons, was celebrated with unusual *éclat* at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, the 21st of May. The chair was occupied by the M.W.G.M. the Right Honourable the Earl of Zetland, supported by the R.W. Bros. Purton Cooper, Q.C., P.G.M., Kent; Dr. Kent, P.G.M., South Australia; B. B. Cabbell, P.G.M., Norfolk, Treas. of the Institution; the W. Bros. Jones, G.J.D.; Walmisly, G.S.B.; Beadon, P.G.J.W.; Gaskoin, P.G.J.W.; Potter, P.G.J.D.; Henry, P.G.S.D.; Faudel, P.G.J.D.; Havers, P.G.J.D.; Parkinson, P.G.S.D.; Le Veau, Biggs, Spiers, L. Evans, Patten, all P.G.S.B.; and several other Brethren of eminence and distinction, the total company numbering about 300; whilst the gallery was occupied by about 100 elegantly-dressed ladies. At the conclusion of the banquet, which was most liberally and magnificently served under the personal superintendence of Bros. Elkington and Shrewsbury, the usual loyal toasts were given and most cordially responded to.

The Grand Master then rose and said,—The country had just emerged from a war of two years' duration, during which their brethren in arms had undergone the greatest hardships and difficulties. Their army had fought with the greatest bravery, and the navy had as gallantly performed their duty in securing the safety of commerce all over the world. He considered there never was an occasion in the history of this country when that toast could have been more cordially considered than at present, when they were about to enter upon the commencement of peace, won for them by the exertions of their brave soldiers and sailors: he begged to give them “The Army and Navy.”

The toast having been drunk,

The R.W. Bro. Purton Cooper, Prov. G.M. for Kent, rose to propose “The Health of the M.W.G.M.” He knew too well the value of time to detain the Brethren long, and his speech would therefore be an inverse ratio to the merits of

the noble earl. No family had conferred greater benefits on the Order than that of their M.W.G.M., his father and grandfather having been most distinguished Masons, whilst the noble earl himself had ever shown himself anxious for the interests of the Order and the prosperity of its charities. Trusting that the G.M. would live many years to preside over them, he would now ask them to join with him in drinking his very good health.

The toast having been drunk with loud cheers,

The M.W.G.M. acknowledged the compliment, and assured the Brethren, that he had at all times the greatest pleasure in being amongst them, and upon no occasion more so than when presiding at the festival of their most excellent Charity.

The M.W.G.M. next gave "The Health of the D.G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers." The D.G.M. had so often presided over the festivals of that Charity, that he felt it necessary to say a few words relative to him on that occasion; he was sure they all deeply regretted the ill health with which their noble Brother had been afflicted; he was happy to say the noble earl was now slowly recovering from his illness, though he was strictly forbidden by his medical men to attend meetings such as that over which he (the Earl of Zetland) had then the honour to preside; he was sure they would all join with him in prayer to the G.A.O.T.U. that the noble earl might shortly be restored to health and that usefulness which he had been to the Craft and society at large.

The toast having been most enthusiastically responded to,

The children were introduced into the Hall, round which they passed in procession: their healthy and cheerful appearance, and the neatness of the modernized dress—in which the charity badge, of which we have so often complained, has been done away with,—were the theme of general admiration amongst the company. On being arranged in front of the dais, the children sang the following hymn, which we publish, not on account of its literary merit, but because it is the composition of two of the children, only thirteen years of age:—

To Thee, O Lord, our voice we raise,  
We bless thy name and sing thy praise;  
Thou art our Father and our Friend,  
On Thee for ever we depend.  
O Lord of all! we pray Thee, spare  
All those who give themselves to prayer,  
Teachers and friends, and when they die,  
Take them to live with Thee on high.

Our patrons kind we now address  
In gratitude and thankfulness,  
For they provide for us a home,  
And guide our feet where'er they roam.  
Our infant hands we raise in prayer,  
To that great God who's everywhere,  
To bless our benefactors dear,  
And fill their hearts with holy fear.

Love dwells indeed within our walls,  
And peace within our spacious halls,  
Hope's brightest charms her aid doth send,  
And praise and prayer to Heaven ascend.  
Our patrons, benefactors, bless,  
Crown them, O Lord, with great success,  
For them our grateful prayers shall rise,  
Each morn and ev'ning to the skies.

With thankful hearts we sound Thy praise,  
In cheerful notes, but humble lays,  
For mercies shown us every hour;  
To Thee be glory evermore.

Hallelujah, Amen.

The M.W.M. then rose and said:—I now come to the toast of the evening, “Success to the Royal Freemasons’ Girls’ School,” and I regret I have not powers of eloquence adequately to recommend it to your notice. The institution was founded nearly 70 years ago, in the year 1788, by Chevalier Ruspini, and it is remarkable that he being a man in good circumstances—a good man and good Mason, and most charitably disposed—having founded this school with the most disinterested motives, two of his grandchildren were subsequently received into it. This school is a great honour to Freemasonry, has been well supported, and is so now; but I hope to see the time when the benefits it is so well calculated to bestow may not be limited, as they are now, to sixty-six children; but that, as there is considerably further accommodation in the building itself, the liberality of the Brethren may provide the means for increasing the number of inmates. There is an additional reason for a call for extra support, viz.: the large outlay expended on the building has necessitated the selling out of a portion of the stock from which the permanent income of the charity is derived, and reduced the income by £300 a year. It is true the advantages gained by the transfer from the old building to the new are very considerable as regards convenience, and also in a moral as well as sanitary point of view, while, from the saving in ground-rent and other ways, we are not affected pecuniarily to the full extent of the income so lost. Still I wish to impress on you how desirable it is in every respect that the amount of stock so sold out should be replaced. The old School was badly situated near the Thames, and the atmosphere was polluted and prejudicial to the health of the children, to say nothing of the degraded state of the neighbourhood in which it was situated. I have it upon the authority of one of the medical officers that never was the health of the School better than at present; the new School-house is built upon a fine gravelly soil, with pure air and a good garden for the recreation of the children; and, moreover, they can go out without the fear of contamination. The School itself is admirably managed. Miss Jarwood, the matron, has long been connected with it; indeed, she was herself brought up in it, under the late Mrs. Crook, and she has also under her a governess who was educated in it. A visit to the school will well repay any person making it, as he cannot fail to be delighted with the neatness, regularity, discipline, and manner generally in which the children are brought up. In addition to receiving a good education, they are taught and practised in every description of domestic work, there being only one servant kept in the establishment, with the exception of the cook. On the present occasion it is my pleasing duty to present various prizes to those children who have distinguished themselves—the medal for “good conduct” being awarded to one who is chosen by her companions as best entitled thereto. This year their choice has fallen upon Sarah Ellen Stringer, to whom I now present it, together with the “Life of Christ,” the gift of Bro. E. H. Patten: The other prizes, the gifts of Bros. Patten, H. B. Smith, and the Rev. J. G. Wood, were then presented to the following children:—Mary Teulon Lloyd, good conduct, “The Lives of our Saviour, the Prophets, and the Apostles;” Cordelia Owen, good conduct, “The Pilgrim Fathers;” Sarah Langley Purdy, good conduct, “Biblical Cyclopædia;” Mary Ann Bull, good conduct, “Biblical Antiquities;” Charlotte Field, good conduct, “Thomson’s Poetical Works;” Emma Susanna Cox, good conduct, “Moral of Flowers;” Mary Ann Reid, good conduct, “Kirke White;” Susannah Sarah Gray, good conduct, “Anecdotes of Animal Life;” Emma Charlotte Hurrell, good conduct, “Anecdotes of Animal Life;” Louisa Carolina Barnsley, good conduct, “Parables of Krummacher;” Kate Pollard, good conduct, “Ministering Children.”

The M.W.G.M. then proceeded to say—I trust that the prizes, which the children have just received will be duly estimated by them, and that they will look upon their education as their safeguard in after-life, so that they may turn out well, and become an honour to this Institution, as hitherto no child that has been brought up within its walls ever turned out ill. Now let me address a few words to the children themselves:—My dear girls, I beg to assure you that every girl educated in this School will be sure to find friends and well-wishers amongst the Members of the Craft. Let me recommend you, if at any time in after-life you should be placed in difficulty, to apply to a Mason, from whom you

would be sure to obtain good advice and assistance; and, for myself, I can assure you that any girl educated in this School will always attentively be listened to by me, and it will be my anxious desire, as I feel it to be my duty, to extend relief where relief is needed, and I urge you never to be afraid of applying to me.

The children having sung "Good Night" and other hymns, retired from the room laden with the contents of the dessert-plates.

The G.M. next proposed the health of Bro. B. B. Cabbell, Treasurer of the Institution, warmly eulogizing the constant support the worthy Brother had given this and the other Masonic charities.

Bro. Cabbell responded in appropriate terms, thankfully acknowledging the state of prosperity the School at present enjoyed.

The G.M. then gave the "Healths of the Hon. Medical Officers," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Gaskoin, and thanking them for the attention paid to the health of the children—to which Bro. Gaskoin briefly responded.

The next toast was "The other Masonic Charities, the Annuity and Widows' Fund, and the Boys' School."

Then followed "The Stewards of the Day," acknowledged by Bro. Sir J. E. Harington, Bart.

In proposing the last toast—"The Ladies,"—the G.M. besought the quiet attention of the Brethren, telling them that when he had finished, they might cheer as loud as they pleased. It was very gratifying to have their proceedings witnessed by the fair sex, and he thought they would be wanting in respect if they did not tender them their gratitude for their attendance. He was sure the ladies must have felt highly pleased by the amount of subscriptions, which he trusted would do away with any idea of a want of gallantry on their parts, which might exist owing to the ladies being placed at so great a distance from them.

The M.W.G.M. then quitted the chair, and those Brethren having the *entrée* joined the ladies in the Glee-room, where the same disgraceful scene of crowding, crushing, and noise of former years was re-enacted, scarce one note of the singing being heard, and certainly not attended to.

The music was under the direction of Bro. Young, who was assisted by Miss Clara Henderson, Clari Fraser, Bros. Genge and Leffler, and two or three gentlemen, to the disgrace of the Stewards be it spoken, altogether unconnected with the Craft.

The amount of subscriptions announced amounted, as will be seen from the following list, to more than £1,800.

The following are the subscriptions, with the Numbers of the Lodges and the names of the Stewards:—Nos. 1, H. D. Sandeman, £63; 2, E. N. Bryant, £59. 17s.; 4, C. Beaumont, £98. 14s.; 5, R. Havers, £67. 4s.; 6, Sir J. Edward Harrington, £84; 7, J. S. S. Hopwood, £84; 8, W. Maxwell, £18. 18s.; 10, W. S. Portal, £42; 11, J. Scott, £47. 5s.; 14, S. Glover, £25. 4s.; 18, J. C. Hillman, £40. 8s.; 21, G. Singer, £36. 15s.; 30, G. Gurney, £39. 18s.; 28, M. Chubb, £82. 19s.; 40, W. H. Absolon, £10. 10s.; 54, W. C. Hood, M.D., £35. 14s.; 66, W. Kynaston, £75. 12s.; 87, H. Gregory, £31. 10s.; 108, S. Rée, £48. 6s.; 109, R. G. Ledger, £44. 2s.; 113, F. H. Leaf, £55. 12s.; 116, Richard Hill, £124. 15s.; 167, J. Burder, £25. 4s.; 201, J. Jackson, £24. 3s.; 225, C. Barclay, £35. 14s.; 233, J. Freeman, £92. 3s.; 247, H. A. Isaacs, £15. 15s.; 269, T. N. Ker, £21; 275, H. Sanford, £32. 11s.; 324, E. B. Sutton, £112. 7s.; 486, G. Harcourt, M.D., £26. 5s.; 578, T. Docura, £31. 10s.; 680, H. Maudslay, £92. 18s. 6d.; 745, G. Haward, £30. 9s.; 812, T. Phillpot, £62; 875, T. C. Eyton, £33. 12s.—Total, £1,851. 19s. 6d. Amongst the subscriptions on the list of the stewards from No. 7, the Manchester Brethren of the Lodge of Virtue gave nearly £60, a good example for other Provincial Lodges to imitate.

## GRAND LODGE.

### NOTICE OF MOTION.

Bro. Henry G. Warren, P.M., No. 202, to move:—That henceforth no person, other than a member of the Craft, shall be permitted to dine with the Brethren at any Masonic festival, on any pretence whatever.

## METROPOLITAN.

**GRAND MASTERS' LODGE (No. 1).**—This Lodge closed its season on the 19th May, when Bro. Arthur Harris, W.M., presided. After the performance of some formal Masonic business, the Brethren adjourned to dinner, there being a large number of visitors present, amongst whom were Bros. Col. Stewart, St. John's Kilwinning, Edinburgh; Col. Rathbone, No. 141, Dublin; Tooke, G.J.W.; Pattison, P.G.J.W.; W. W. Beach, P.M., No. 10; Head, P.M., No. 5; Dangerfield, &c. &c. The evening's entertainment was much enlivened by the exertions of Bros. Donald King, and Jolley.

**LODGE OF ANTIQUITY (No. 2).**—At the meeting of this Lodge, at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 28th May, Bro. W. Pulteney Scott, W.M., presiding, his Grace the Duke of Manchester was duly initiated into the Order. There was a large number of visitors present.

**LODGE OF FIDELITY (No. 3).**—A meeting of this Lodge was held on the 14th May. The W.M., Bro. Shackelton, occupied the chair, and passed three and raised three Brethren to their respective Degrees.

**ROYAL SOMERSET-HOUSE AND INVERNESS LODGE (No. 4).**—This Lodge brought its season to a close on the 26th May, when the W.M., Francis Roxburgh, raised three duly qualified Brothers to the 3rd Degree. In the course of the evening the W.M., in the name of the Lodge, presented a very elegant silver snuff-box, of the value of twenty-five guineas, to Bro. George Elkington, on his retiring from the office of Secretary, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented by the Royal Somerset-House and Inverness Lodge, No. 4, to Bro. George Goode Elkington, P.G.P., on his retirement from the office of Secretary, which he held for thirteen years, and by his courteous and effective discharge of its duties won for himself the approbation and esteem of every Member of the Lodge. 26th May, 1856." At the same time, an emblematic P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. Locock Webb, the immediate P.M. About thirty of the Brethren afterwards dined together, there being several visitors present, amongst whom we observed Bro. Thos. Bisgood, P.M. No. 8, and D. Prov. G.M. for Kent; Bro. Faudel, P.G.D.; Bro. Beach, P.M., No. 10, and P. Prov. G.W. for Oxfordshire, &c. &c.

**BRITISH LODGE (No. 8).**—The members of this distinguished Lodge met at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday, May 19, when a Brother was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, in a most able manner, by Bro. Bisgood, P.M. The Brethren then proceeded to banquet, after which the pleasures of the evening were greatly enhanced by the beautiful performances of the Bros. Ganz, from Berlin; the one on the violin, and the other on the violoncello. The other visitors were Bros. Leask, of No. 3; Roberts, No. 319; and Johnson, S.W., No. 778.

**ALBION LODGE (No. 9).**—The Brethren of this Lodge met together at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 6th May, for the last time this season, when the W.M. very efficiently initiated three gentlemen—Messrs. Cassidy, Spicer, and Warr—into the Order, and passed Bro. Jackson to the 2nd Degree.

**WESTMINSTER KEY-STONE LODGE (No. 10).**—The annual festival of this distinguished Lodge was held on Wednesday, May 7th. In the absence of the W.M., who was detained in the country by important private affairs, the business of the Lodge was ably conducted by Bro. P.M. Beach. The report of the Audit Committee for the past year was read and approved. Bro. the Hon. W. A. Amherst was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M.; and Bro. Samuel Lancaster Lucas duly passed to the 2nd Degree. The W.M. elect, Bro. Wyndham S. Portal, was installed by Bro. Beach, in his accustomed efficient and impressive manner. The W.M. then appointed and invested as his Officers—Bros. the Earl of Carnarvon, S.W.; R. A. Benson, J.W.; Rev. R. C. Pettat, Chap.; Rev. G. R. Portal,

Sec. ; Rev. W. H. Davies, S.D. ; W. A. Tyssen Amherst, J.D. ; Lord North, M.C. ; J. R. D. Tyssen, I.G. ; W. W. Harrison, Organist ; J. Hammerton and the Hon. W. A. Amherst, Stewards. The visitors were Bros. T. H. Hall, Prov. G.M. for Cambridgeshire ; Colonel Burlton, P. Prov. G.M. for Bengal ; Harris, W.M., No. 1 ; Binckes, W.M., No. 11 ; Adlard, P.M., No. 7 ; Robinson, P.M., No. 8 ; Crew, P.M., No. 1 ; Thiselton, P.M., and Fenn, P.M., No. 23. The Lodge was closed, and the Brethren partook of a sumptuous banquet, under the presidency of the new W.M.

ENOCH LODGE (No. 11).—An “emergency” meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, May 14th, when Bro. F. Binckes, W.M., raised Bros. R. W. Burrows and T. H. Ames, to the Sublime Degree of M.M. There was but a small muster of members, with Bro. W. H. Gwinnett, W.M., No. 97, as visitor. After voting the sum of £10. 10s. from the charity fund as a donation to the Royal Freemasons’ Girls’ School, a few of the Brethren adjourned to banquet in the hall, under the banner of Bro. J. Scott, steward to the festival in aid of the funds of that charity, which was held on the same day.

LODGE OF FORTITUDE AND OLD CUMBERLAND (No. 12).—At the monthly meeting of this Lodge, on the 12th May, Bro. Donald King, W.M., initiated a gentleman into the Order and passed a Brother to the 2nd Degree.

OLD DUNDEE LODGE (No. 18).—The members of this long-established and well-governed Lodge, held their last meeting for the season on Tuesday, the 6th of May, at the London Tavern ; Bro. J. C. Hillman, the W.M., in the chair, supported by his Wardens and all the Officers of the Lodge. Bro. Dutton was passed to the 2nd Degree. The duties of the Lodge being closed, the Brethren retired to banquet : the W.M. having on his right the R.W. Bro. C. Purton Cooper, Prov. G.M. for Kent, Bros. How, Cox, and others. After the toasts to her Majesty, and the M.W. the Grand Master had been honoured, the W.M. proposed “The R.W. the Earl of Yarborough and the rest of the Grand Officers ;” and as one of that eminent body was present, he called upon the Brethren to do honour to their guest, Bro. Cooper, whose high professional attainments, as well as his Masonic character, entitled him to the esteem and regard of all who knew him. Bro. Cooper, in returning thanks, spoke first of his sincere wishes for the restoration of the health of Lord Yarborough, whose great services to Masonry had gained for him the sincere affection of the Craft. Lord Yarborough had done much for Masonry, and especially he wished to mention that in Lincolnshire his Lordship had been the means of introducing many clergymen of that Province into the Order ; and he was convinced there was no way of doing such effectual service to the Craft as by the introduction of men of high station and of literary attainments. Bro. Carter, P.M., then called on the Brethren to give “Hearty good Wishes to Bro. Hillman,” their W.M., whose merits did not require a lengthened eulogy, all his duties being so well and so attentively discharged. The W.M. in reply, briefly acknowledged the kind reception his name had always met, and whether at the head of their board, or as a P.M., should use his best efforts to merit a continuance of their kindness. The W.M. then said, he had the agreeable duty of calling on the members of the Old Dundee to tender such a hearty welcome to their visitors as would assure those Brethren how much pleasure their presence afforded, and the ever readiness of the members to greet them well. At the request of the Prov. G.M. for Kent, Bro. How returned the united thanks of the visitors. The W.M.’s next toast was the pillars of the Old Dundee, if he might so term them, “The P.Ms. of the Lodge.” Bro. Carter in brief terms responded. The healths of the Treas., Sec., and the other Officers being all proposed and acknowledged, the Brethren separated at a goodly hour.

OLD KING’S ARMS LODGE (No. 30).—The usual monthly meeting was held at Freemasons’ Tavern, on Monday, April 28, Bro. Wm. Paas, W.M., in the chair, when a duly qualified Brother was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. About twenty sat down to banquet, and the evening was passed in the usual harmonious and agreeable manner. The visitors were Bros. F. Binckes,

W.M., No. 11; T. Bohn, P.M., No. 201; Wheeldon and Nesbitt, No. 113; Warwick, No. 329; Jackson, &c. &c. The Brethren again met on the 14th of May, and dined at the Girls' School Festival, under the banner of Bro. Gurney.

BRITANNIC LODGE (No. 38).—The annual meeting of this Lodge was held at the Thatched House Tavern, on the 9th of May, when Bro. Woodhouse was passed to the 2nd, and Bros. Mellor, Eborall, and Brown raised to the 3rd Degree. Bro. Bridges was then most impressively installed as W.M. for the ensuing year by Bro. P.M. Gooch, D.G.M. for Wiltshire. The W.M. invested as his principal Officers—Bros. George England, S.W.; Hensley, J.W.; L. Crombie, Treas.; Slight, S.D.; Freeman, J.D. Bro. Chubb succeeds Bro. Hensley as Sec. Nearly sixty of the Brethren afterwards dined together, and spent a most agreeable evening.

MOUNT MORIAH LODGE (No. 40).—At the closing meeting of this Lodge for the season 1855-6, on the 21st May, Bro. Absolon, P.M., presided in the absence of the W.M., Bro. Russell, when Messrs. Gascoigne and Holt were initiated into the Order, and two Brethren passed to the 2nd, and one raised to the 3rd Degree.

GIHON LODGE (No. 57).—The members of this Lodge assembled at the Bridge House Hotel, on the 15th of May. The chair was occupied by Bro. George England, P.M., in the absence of Bro. Willmott, W.M., who, having been married in the morning, had left town. Mr. Simpson was initiated into the Order, three Brothers passed, and one raised; the whole of the ceremonies being most excellently performed.

LODGE OF GOOD REPORT (No. 158).—The last meeting for the season of this select Lodge was held on Thursday, the 1st of May. Bro. W. V. J. Simons, W.M., supported by Bros. Fish, P.M. and Treas., as S.W.; Newman Ward, J.W.; Southgate and Robinson, P.Ms., and other Brethren. Bro. Murray Anderson was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. The Brethren then adjourned to banquet, at which Bro. Halt's (of Radley's Hotel, where the Lodge is held) good taste was well displayed. In course of the evening, the W.M., in proposing the health of Bro. Southgate, his predecessor in the chair, presented an elegant P.M.'s Jewel to that Brother, in acknowledgment by the Lodge of his good services and kind attention to the members. The W.M. afterwards gave a hearty greeting to their visitor Bro. How, who had that day, as well as on a former occasion, so kindly assisted their working. The vocal abilities of Bros. Aguilar, Small, Robinson, and Ward, contributed to the enjoyment of a pleasant evening.

PRUDENT BRETHREN LODGE (No. 169).—At an emergency meeting of this Lodge, on the 19th of May, Bro. Henry Landon was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., by the W.M. Bro. Morbey. After the transaction of some other business, the Lodge adjourned until the 26th, when Mr. Jones was initiated into the Order, and Bro. Wells passed to the 2nd Degree. Amongst the visitors were Bro. Donald Campbell, Prov. G. Sec. for Glasgow and D. Prov. G.M. for Renfrewshire; Wieland, of St. Mark's, Glasgow; Bro. Hughes, &c. &c.

BEDFORD LODGE (No. 183).—The members of this Lodge held their summer banquet at the New Ship, Greenwich, on Friday, the 16th May, under the presidency of the present W.M., Bro. Robert Jones. The banquet was served by the proprietor, Bro. Quartermaine, in excellent style. In giving the health of the W.M., Bro. P.M. Cooper highly eulogized his conduct of the business both at labour and refreshment. "The Health of the Visitors" was given, coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Jones, who replied in terms highly gratifying to the Lodge. "The Health of the Honorary Secretary, Bro. Jerwood," was drunk, and a pleasing compliment paid him for the exertions he had used in carrying out one of the most pleasant evenings that could be spent. The Brethren were much delighted by the comic singing of Bro. Cowell, and some excellent singing by Bros. Lowick and Gover.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE (No. 196).—This Lodge, held at the Hollybush Tavern, met on Tuesday, May 13, 1856. We are told that there are various degrees in human



enjoyment, and that pleasures, which to some are in the highest degree delightful, fail to possess the least charm for another. A cool tankard and a long pipe, in one of the Hollybush rooms, overlooking the garden at the back, would be the dearest solace to some; a bright fire on a cold winter's night, when, with slippers on the fender, feeling more cosy from hearing the roaring of the boisterous wind, that comes whistling down the chimney and goes howling up again, as if it had got burnt by the fire and had gone off grumbling in consequence; this, with the evening paper and the quiet little wife sitting, serving some little folks fixins on the other side of the chimney-corner, makes up the sum total of the delights of others; or, sitting by a river side, with all around the green fields and the high trees, with rooks everlastingly cawing there, with the soft, dreamy summer twilight over all, many love to be with their arms around their deary, oh!

When worldly cares and worldly men  
May all gae tapsalterie;

keeping pigeons and smoking short pipes on the tiles constitutes the delights of another portion of mankind, particularly that portion of the *genus homo* located about the commencement of the Eastern Counties Railway. One man we met, once upon a time, conceived that the acme of human bliss was attained by sitting on one of the steam-boat dummies, late at night, and watching the dark waves ever murmuring past, and the tall pillars of wavy light the reflection of the lamps gave to the water: for our parts, if there is one delight possessing more enjoyment than another, it is to have a Hansom cab with a fine spirited horse in, as we had on the 13th—a creature who seemed to have made up his mind to run over somebody—to go tearing along all the way to Hampstead, with a cheerful companion like Bro. William Stopher with us; and then, on arriving at the Hollybush, to hear Bro. Samuel Aldrich perform the work of the Lodge in the first-rate manner in which he does it. And any Brother who doubts that such is a real treat is at liberty to go down and judge for himself, and well we know he will be heartily welcomed. The Brethren present were—Bros. Aldrich, W.M.; Hazard, S.W.; W. Johnson, Sec. and J.W.; Thomas Adams, P.M.; John Mott Thearle, Prov. G.S.B., Herts; Hamilton, Cormack, Jones, Nicholson, Gassuk, Cowdrey, Burrige, Pritchard, Hart, Ware, Stropher, Leming, Clifton, Aspinall, Holney, Birchman, Douglas, and a host of other distinguished Brethren. The varied duties of the Lodge and three initiations were most ably performed, in a finished and correct manner, by Bros. Aldrich, Thomas Adams, Hazard, and Johnson; and for the banquet which followed, those whose particular delight lies in that direction may imagine not only a feast of reason and a flow of soul, but the more tangible effects in the way of fish, flesh, fowl, and wines of the choicest quality. On the removal of the cloth, the W.M., with a brevity as remarkable as it is commendable (we do not approve of long speeches where a number of toasts are required from one individual), gave the various toasts of the evening, coupling with that of the guests the name of Bro. John Mott Thearle. We left at rather an early hour; and cannot conclude our report more gracefully than by earnestly wishing prosperity and perpetuity to the St. John's Lodge, No. 196.

OLD CONCORD LODGE (No. 201).—This Lodge held its last regular meeting of the season at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday, May 6, on which occasion there was a full attendance of the members and visitors. The W.M. (Bro. Nicholson) had really a very arduous duty to perform, there being four gentlemen initiated into the noble Order, viz. Messrs. H. N. Abbott, C. Waters, T. Potts, and J. Ward. Bros. Webb, Adams, and Jennings, were passed to the 2nd Degree, and Bros. Houghton and Cock raised to the Degree of Master Masons. These nine ceremonies were performed by Bro. Nicholson in a manner which elicited the praise of all the Brethren present; and, from the manner in which the whole business was conducted, reflects to the credit of this very prosperous Lodge, for since the installation in January last, Bro. Nicholson has initiated fourteen gentlemen into the Order. The Lodge being closed, forty-three Brethren adjourned to the banquet, after which all the usual Masonic toasts were given, and drank with due honours. The W.M. then called on the Brethren to drink the

health of the four gentlemen who had been initiated this evening, and he trusted they would shine forth as bright ornaments of the noble Order of Freemasonry. Bro. Waters (the senior initiate), in responding to the toast, said, that he had long been anxious to become a Mason, and from what he had witnessed this evening, his only regret was that he had not carried out his intention long before; he could not but admire the unanimous and cordial feeling, and, if he may be allowed to use the term, brotherly love, which seemed to exist amongst the Brethren. He had always had a favourable opinion of Masonry, and from all he had seen this evening it more strongly confirmed his ideas; and, for himself, he would add, he hoped to become a true and industrious member amongst them. The W.M. then said, the next toast he had to propose was one that gave him great pleasure; it was not always he had the opportunity of doing so, as the Rev. Brother whose health he was about to propose did not usually remain with them at the banquet; he was glad of this opportunity now to propose the "Health of the Rev. Bro. Laughlin, their worthy and esteemed Chaplain." The Rev. Brother, in responding to the Brethren's kind and enthusiastic reception of his name, took occasion to congratulate the W.M. on this great and steady increase in the number of new Brethren. But he felt much more satisfaction in hearing the noble sentiments which one of the initiates put forth "that he hoped to become an industrious Mason." It was thus alone that the noble institution could take its due place in the estimation of the outer world, that the Brethren should devote themselves to the study of its noble perfections. Too many Masons contented themselves with giving attendance at the ordinary ceremonies and Lodge duties, and then partaking of the refreshment, to which, no doubt, after the labours of the evening, the W.M. and Brethren were so well entitled; but from confining their attention to these more external matters and not studying the hidden and vital principles of the Craft, they not only compelled the world at large, but even themselves, to believe that Masonry was confined to certain (no doubt) edifying ceremonies, and to festive meetings afterwards. Bro. Laughlin contended that there was more, far more, in Masonry than this; that he, for his part, never attended a Lodge of his Brethren without deriving profit and pleasure from it: for here those distinctions which necessarily and providentially prevailed in the outer world, were held in abeyance; Brethren met as Brethren on the level, and their proceedings were based on the pillars of Masonry, "Brotherly love, fidelity, and Truth." The wisest and best of beings whom the world has ever seen had belonged to the noble Order. Masonry and religion are identical—wherever Masonry exists, light and knowledge, truth and brotherly love, prevail; and a man could not devote himself, as he ought, to the study of the sciences, without being a better man in all the relations of life—social, civil, and religious. The Rev. Brother again thanked the W.M. and Brethren for their constant and uniform kindness. Several other toasts were then given (including the W.M., the P.Ms., Officers, &c.), all of which were duly responded to. A very delightful evening was spent, all seeming to vie with each other in promoting general happiness and enjoyment, in which they were greatly assisted by the excellent singing of Bros. Donald King, Winter, Taylor, &c. The visitors were Bros. Goodyear, Collard, Otto, Dancock, King, Woolmer, Sowden, Appleton, Winter, and Clifford Smith.

PHOENIX LODGE (No. 202).—The third anniversary, since the resuscitation of this Lodge, was celebrated at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 10th of May, when Bro. Waite, late of the St. John's Lodge, Adelaide (Scotch Constitution), was admitted a joining member, and passed to the 2nd Degree; and Bro. Graham was raised as a M.M. Bro. Harrison, the W.M., then installed his successor, Bro. James Burton, into the chair, in a very masterly and impressive style. The new W.M. invested the Officers for the ensuing year, as follows:—Bros. Barton, S.W. and Sec.; Sharman, J.W.; Warren, P.M., Treas.; Dunphy, S.D.; Williams, J.D.; Maslin, J.G.; Armstrong, M.C. The W.M. then presented the immediate P.M., Bro. Harrison, with a very elegant Jewel, in testimony of the esteem in which he is held by the Brethren, and the admirable manner in which he discharged the duties of his office during the past year. Upwards of thirty of the

Brethren after sat down to a most magnificent dinner, admirably served ; and the evening was spent in the utmost harmony, to which Bros George Genge, George Ford, Donald King, and Lawler, much contributed.

MANCHESTER LODGE (No. 209).—The last meeting for the season was held at Bro. Rackstraw's, Gun Tavern, Pimlico, on Thursday, May 15, Bro. Collard, W.M., presiding. The business comprised two initiations, one passing, and two raisings, the whole of the ceremonies being performed most ably and efficiently, every officer being thoroughly "up" in his duties. There are few Lodges that have made greater progress than this, and much of the success is attributable to the assiduous care and attention bestowed on all its concerns by the present W.M., while as a working Lodge it cannot be surpassed. About twenty-five Brethren partook of an excellent banquet, the visitors being Bros. F. Binckes, W.M., No. 11 ; A. H. Hewlett, P.M., No. 23 ; Couchman, P.M., No. 165 ; J. Levinson, S.W., No. 7 ; Harrison, J.D., No. 53 ; Blackburn, S.W., No. 169 ; Ellis, J.W., No. 745 ; Platt, Bennett, Herfich, &c. ; the former of whom responded for the "visitors' toast," warmly eulogizing the manner in which the whole of the Lodge business had been conducted, and expatiating on the advantages of Masonry generally. A resolution was unanimously passed for a summer festival, to be held, as at present proposed, on the first Thursday in July, and six stewards were appointed to arrange and carry out the details.

ST. JAMES'S UNION LODGE (No. 211).—The Brethren of this Lodge met on emergency, on Tuesday, May 13, to raise two Brethren to the 3rd Degree, pass one to the 2nd Degree, and initiate three gentlemen into the Order. The whole of the ceremonies were performed by the W.M. Bro. Gurton, assisted by Bro. Kelly, P.M., and the other officers, in that excellent manner for which this Lodge is now so much distinguished.

LODGE OF INDUSTRY (No. 219).—The Brethren of this Lodge met at Bro. James Quelch's, Dick's Coffee-house, Fleet-street, on Tuesday, April 22nd, the last regular meeting for the season. The comfort of this little Lodge is much improved since it has been removed as above, and the members increase. There was not much business before the Lodge—Bros. Henry Baker raised, and Cotterell passed. All business being ended, the Lodge closed, and the Brethren retired to the banquet-room. Amongst the visitors we noticed Bro. Thomas Wade, P.M., No. 168 ; Longstaff, P.M., No. 156 ; T. A. Adams, P.M., No. 195 ; J. W. Figg, No. 318 ; R. V. Hayday, No. 186 ; James Brett, No. 206 ; M. Levinson, No. 209. The evening was spent very pleasantly, and the Brethren separated.

JERUSALEM LODGE (No. 233).—At a meeting of this Lodge on the 2nd of May, it was resolved to vote £10. 10s. to the Girls' School. The other business was formal.

JORDAN LODGE (No. 237).—This Lodge held its meeting on Friday, May 2nd, at the Freemasons' Tavern, when Bro. Goff was passed, and Bro. Goldsborough raised to the respective Degrees. It was resolved that the sanction of the Lodge be given to a Lodge of Instruction, to be called the "Jordan Lodge of Instruction," and held at Bro. Sheen's, Sussex Stores, Upper St. Martin's-lane, every Friday, from May to October inclusive. In the absence of the W.M., Bro. Spooner, the immediate P.M., officiated, as well as presided at the banquet. The visitors were Bros. Muggeridge, P.M., No. 227 ; Best, No. 3 ; and Beuler, No. 15. We can speak with confidence of the desire evinced by Bro. Sheen to render the members and visitors of this newly-established Lodge of Instruction comfortable, and we have no doubt it will be as well supported as the Masonic worth and knowledge of our respected Brother deserve.

IONIC LODGE (No. 275).—This Lodge held its last meeting for the season, at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, on Thursday, the 1st of May, when Bro. H. Sanford, the W.M., initiated three gentlemen into the Order, and passed a Brother to the 2nd Degree with remarkable ability. The W.M. was supported by P.Ms. Bros. Charlton, Barwood, Tomkins, Symonds, and other Brethren, and by a goodly array of visitors, including Rev. Bro. Westall, Bros. Charlton, sen., Fenton,

Ritchie, Fenwick, &c. At the subsequent banquet, Bro. Symonds in returning thanks for the P.M.s., took the opportunity to refer to the Girls' School, the W.M. being a Steward for the Festival, and strongly urged the Brethren to support him. He read an extract from the Report of the Special Committee appointed to investigate the accounts of the Institution, showing how much more than formerly it is dependent upon donations and annual subscriptions, in consequence of the reduction of the permanent income through the expenditure upon the new building. The Brethren responded liberally to this appeal.

ST. ANDREW'S LODGE (No. 281).—This Lodge closed its season on the 1st May, when Bro. Dr. Paul, the W.M., initiated Mr. Simmons into the Order, and passed Bros. Jones and Warr as Fellow-crafts.

LODGE OF NINE MUSES (No. 286).—This Lodge closed its season on the 13th May, Bro. Chapman presiding, in the absence of the W.M., Bro. Warner, when a gentleman was admitted into the mysteries of the Order.

LODGE OF UNIONS (No. 318).—The last meeting of this Lodge for the season was held at the Freemasons' Tavern on the 5th May, when Bro. Green, the W.M., presided. Two gentlemen were initiated into the Order. At the close of the Masonic business, nearly thirty of the Brethren dined together, the W.M. being supported by Bros. John Hervey, P.G.D., and H. R. Willett, Prov. G.M. for Dorsetshire.

LA TOLERANCE LODGE (No. 784).—At the meeting of this Lodge on the 6th May, Bro. Dr. Caplin, the W.M., presiding, a Brother was raised to the 3rd Degree, and other Masonic business transacted.

BEADON LODGE (No. 902).—This Lodge held an emergency meeting on the 5th May, at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge, when Bro. Wm. Watson, P.M., presided, and initiated Messrs. Morecroft and Louis John Jaquier into the Order.

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### INSTRUCTION.

FIDELITY LODGE (No. 3).—At a meeting of this Lodge on the 1st of May, the fifteen sections were ably worked under the presidency of Bro. T. A. Adams, W.M., the Wardens being Bros. Brett, S.W., and Suter, J.W. The Sections were worked as follows:—1st Lecture, Bros. Arliss, Brett, Mapp, Thomas, Best, Suter, and Odell; 2nd Lecture, Bros. Arliss, Tyrrell, Scott, Arnold, and Odell; 3rd Lecture, Bros. Brett, Tyrrell, and Odell. At the conclusion of the working it was unanimously resolved that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes of the Lodge to Bro. Adams, for the very efficient manner in which he presided on the occasion. Bro. Adams responded in a truly feeling and Masonic spirit, and thanked the Brethren for the great kindness and consideration he always received at their hands.

ROYAL ATHELSTAN (No. 19).—This Lodge, meeting at Bro. Young's, Albion Tavern, Vernon-place, Bloomsbury, brought the session of 1855-6 to a close on April 27, when the seven sections of the First Lecture were admirably worked by the following Brethren:—1st, Bro. Queely; 2nd, I. Levison; 3rd, F. Binckes; 4th, M. Levison; 5th, F. Figg; 6th, Collard; 7th, T. Scott. Bro. J. N. Tomkins, G.J.D., presided,—a sufficient guarantee that the arduous duties which fall to the lot of the W.M. on occasions such as this, were most admirably and efficiently performed. On the conclusion of the lecture the W.M. briefly addressed the Brethren, congratulating them on the very successful season the Royal Athelstan had enjoyed, and expressing an earnest hope that many such were in store for them. Votes of thanks were proposed to the W.M., to the worthy host, Bro. W. Young, and to the Secretary, Bro. Figg, all of which were responded to in feeling, concise, and elegant terms. The Lodge was closed at an early hour, and adjourned to the first week in October.

PROSPERITY LODGE (No. 78).—Amongst the varied duties the discharge of which falls to our lot, in our endeavour to give a full and faithful monthly account

of the sayings and doings in the Masonic world, there is none which affords us more pleasure than that of recording those instances which occur from time to time of the appreciation of merit, affording proof that the labours of those who exert themselves in promoting the well-being and prosperity of our Order are duly estimated by those who in various ways share in the advantages thus afforded. The spread of Masonic knowledge by a cultivation of the intellectual department of the Craft, we regard as of paramount importance, and we sincerely rejoice at having it in our power to lay before our readers a report of the very interesting proceedings which accompanied the presentation of a testimonial to Bro. H. A. Isaacs, W.M., No. 247, who, as Hon. Lecture-Master of the Prosperity Lodge, has been, and continues to be, an ardent labourer in the field of usefulness we have just indicated.

About seventy Brethren met on Monday evening, the 12th ult., at Bro. Morris's, White Hart, Bishopsgate-street, and partook of a banquet, well and liberally supplied, over which Bros. Weeks, P.M., No. 78, presided as W.M., Schwabe, No. 223, acting as S.W., and J. Isaacs, No. 247, as J.W., supported by Bisgood, D.G.M., Kent, and P.M., No. 8; F. Binckes, W.M., No. 11; W. Paas, W.M., No. 30; Thomas, W.M., No. 78; Risch, W.M., No. 223; Feist, P.M., No. 22; Lehmann, P.M., No. 78; Lyon, Freeman, Selig, P.M.s, No. 223; J. Somers, P.M., No. 225; Cohen, Biggs, P.M.s, No. 247, &c. &c. &c.

Bro. Leo officiated at the pianoforte, and the evening was enlivened by several songs and melodies by Bros. Herr Eppetch, P. Corri, J. Isaacs, &c. The former is quite new to us, but from what we heard of his talents on this occasion, we augur favourably of his career.

On the removal of the cloth the customary loyal toasts were given, and the national anthem sung; then followed the health of the M. W. G. M. Earl of Zetland, after which the W.M. rose and gave

“The Earl of Yarborough and the Grand Officers,” coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Bisgood, D.G.M. of Kent.

Bro. Bisgood, in reply, assured the W.M. and Brethren, that he felt proud in having his name associated with that of the Earl of Yarborough, though it was an honour that did not belong to him, inasmuch as he was not one of the Grand Officers of England. He never felt desirous of honour he did not deserve, but, as the W.M. had paid him the compliment, he should be wanting in common gratitude if he did not at once return his heartfelt thanks for the manner in which the toast just given had been received. The Earl of Yarborough stood too high in the regards of the Masons of England to need any encomium from him; his constant support of the charities, and indeed his conduct generally, being such as deservedly to win for him that estimation in which he was universally held. He need hardly say how highly he appreciated the honour of an invitation to be with them that evening to witness the presentation to Bro. Isaacs of the splendid testimonial he saw before him. He had had the pleasure of being associated with Bro. Isaacs as fellow-steward at the recent festival of the Boys' School, and from what he saw of him on that occasion, he thought he could safely say that a more disinterested Brother does not exist. He would not say too much in his praise, nor could he rise to return thanks without assuring his Bro. Isaacs how highly he esteemed his many virtues. He would add, too, his sincere wish, that not only prosperity, but length of days might be accorded to him, and that his amiable partner might long be spared to gladden his home, that when she looked upon that testimonial she might regard it as a mark of the esteem in which her husband was held by his numerous friends.

The W.M. then proposed the “Army and Navy,” expressing a hope that on their return to their native country our poor soldiers and sailors will receive many honours from their fellow-citizens.

On again rising, the W.M. thus addressed the Brethren:—We have met this evening to do honour to my esteemed friend Bro. Isaacs, whose many virtues and high Masonic attainments have endeared him to us all. Our Bro. Bisgood has relieved me from some portion of my duties, for which, believe me, I do not feel the least regret, as the testimony which he has borne to Bro. Isaacs' worth and value proves that he is regarded by, and that his qualifications are known to, many

Brethren out of the range of his own immediate circle. Two years since, the Prosperity Lodge was at a very low ebb ; its members were mostly young and inefficient, as perhaps too many of them are now ; but under the kind care and nurture of our worthy Lecture-Master, great progress has been made. As you are aware, Bro. Sacqui filled the position of Lecture-Master for some time, but professional engagements took him from us. We were not, however, left without a friend. Bro. Isaacs stepped forward, and voluntarily undertook the duties of the hon. Lecture-Master. In every respect he is a good man and a good Mason ; you know it, you know him—and it is unnecessary for me to say another word in his behalf. It now becomes my duty to give effect to your wishes, and I assure you I feel very proud at having this pleasing task allotted to me. Permit me, Bro. Isaacs, to present you with this testimonial as a slight token of our regard ; the resolution of the Lodge, unanimously arrived at, accompanies it, and for this I hope you will find a corner in your sitting-room ; and this jewel I place on your breast, with the heartfelt wish that you may long be spared to wear it. Thus, my dear sir and Brother, you will be able to show to the Craft, as well as to your private friends, how highly you are esteemed, and may the G.A.O.T.U. long spare you to disseminate the beautiful principles of our Order.

The testimonial consisted of a most elegant silver tea-service, tea-pot, cream-ewer, and sugar-basin, with a handsome and massive P.M. jewel of gold, set with diamonds, and the resolution of the Lodge written on vellum, and framed and glazed. There was an inscription on each of the articles in the tea-service, and also on the jewel, which was as follows :—

“Presented by the members of the Prosperity Lodge, No. 78, to Bro. H. A. Isaacs, to mark their esteem and approbation of his valuable services.”

Bro. Isaacs, on rising to respond, was received with loud and prolonged applause. Quiet having been restored, he spoke as follows :—W.M. and Brethren, I scarcely know how sufficiently to thank you, firstly, for the very kind and flattering manner in which my name has been introduced and received ; secondly, for the very handsome gift which has just been presented to me ; thirdly, for the kindness of those Brethren who have honoured me with their presence here this evening. With reference to what has been said of my duties as Lecture-Master, believe me, I am proud of the progress which has been made under my tuition, in the course of which it has often been my lot to correct many Brethren, which correction has always been received with good feeling. Of this, too, I cannot but feel proud, as a young man of twenty-six, because it proves to me that we are never too young to be useful. I assure you, I always look forward to the Wednesday evenings with as much pleasure in my capacity of teacher as any of those who attend for the purpose of learning, and cherish the honour of being afforded the opportunity of disseminating those beautiful principles on which our Order is founded. I believe ours is an institution more adapted than any other to sweep away all distinctions of creed, race, and clime, and to exterminate the errors and mischief arising from bigotry and intolerance. I must again thank you for this munificent testimonial of your friendship and esteem, which I feel that hitherto I have not deserved. It will be an incentive to increased exertions for the future, for which, however, without undervaluing that now presented to me, I feel that my highest reward is in the esteem and regard of those I see around me.

Bro. Schwabe then proposed the health of the W.M., thanking him for the manner in which he had discharged the duties of the evening, and for the trouble he had taken in the various arrangements for carrying out the testimonial which had resulted so successfully.

The W.M. thanked Bro. Schwabe and the Brethren for the tribute of praise just awarded to him, which he hardly felt he deserved. To Bro. Isaacs, and to his unwearied care, he owed the honours he possessed ; others amongst them were equally sensible of their obligations to him. They had determined to present him with a testimonial, and it would have been a disgrace to them if they had not provided a handsome one.

Other toasts followed, and a very pleasing and delightful evening was at length brought to its conclusion.

LODGE OF INDUSTRY (No. 219).—The members of this Lodge of Instruction met to commemorate the thirteenth anniversary at Bro. James Quelch's, Dick's Coffee House, Fleet-street, on Monday, the 28th of April, when there were present, Bros. Henry Carpenter, P.M., No. 219, W.M.; Edward Orelli, No. 219, S.W.; R. V. Hayday, No. 183, J.W.; Thomas Adams, P.M. No. 195, P.M.; Wm. Watson, P.M., No. 25; Hopkins, Carter, Platt, Queely, P.M., No. 219; Mahomed, P.M., No. 183; Suter, W.M., No. 219; G. Walker, Painter, Spooner, P.M.; G. Martin, P.M., No. 219; Grice, Cotterell, Polden, Foottet, Reed, McIntire, Figg, Salmon, Plummer, Quelch, Henry Baker, Hon. Sec., &c.

The Lodge was opened in due form, &c., when the lecture of the 1st Degree was ably worked in sections by the following Brethren, viz. :—1st, Bros. H. Carpenter, No. 219; 2nd, G. P. Salmon, No. 96; 3rd, E. Orelli, No. 219; 4th, J. W. Figg, No. 318; 5th, Plummer, No. 15; 6th, Suter, No. 219; 7th, W. Watson, No. 25. Proposed and seconded that Bro. Carter, of No. 165, become a member of this Lodge of Instruction. Carried.

All business being ended, the Lodge was closed in perfect harmony, after which the Brethren adjourned to the banquet-room, where a very sumptuous repast, with the usual hospitality of Bro. Quelch, was provided.

After the usual Masonic toasts, Bro. R. V. Hayday, J.W., asked permission of the W.M. for the use of his gavel, which was granted, when Bro. R. V. Hayday, No. 183, thus addressed Bro. Henry Carpenter :—

“Bro. Henry Carpenter, I have the honour to be deputed by our Brethren of the ‘Industry Lodge of Instruction’ to be their spokesman, or rather I should say, to be, on this occasion, the medium of communication from their hearts to yours. I am sorry their selection did not fall upon some one more competent to the gratifying task—upon some Past Master, some Brother older or more advanced in Masonry than myself, for then to you the compliment might have been the greater. Since, however, I am thus placed, I shall content myself with the consoling reflection that no one could have approached you with a greater amount of sincerity of purpose wherewithal to discharge the honourable duty to which our Brothers have been pleased to call me. Bro. Carpenter, to the members of the Industry Lodge of Instruction your amiability of disposition has been long patent. Having experienced from you that unremitting kindness, that fraternal cordiality, marking at once the gentleman, the worthy soul, and the good Mason, the Brethren unanimously resolved to testify, by some token, their esteem, their gratitude, their affection. At the same time, it is our spontaneous hope that you may long be blessed with health to continue in your honourable office among us. Indulging as we have been in the pleasures of hope, we would seek to mark the present by begging your acceptance of this testimonial, or more properly speaking, this soul-offering. This volume of the Sacred Laws keep in memory of us, and of our good wishes. It was the gift of your own choice. Your sister, on leaving England for Australia some short time since, implored from you your Family Bible; you, in the fulness of your heart, could not refuse her. Since parting with it, you have felt a void at home; that void we seek to fill, and

‘As every want that stimulates the breast  
Becomes a source of pleasure when redrest,’

so may this Book prove to you a source of the greatest consolation. Believe me, it comes to you surrounded with a halo of our brightest and holiest wishes; and hereafter, when your eye rests upon it, think of us all and of the happy moments we have passed together in Masonry, as we are but mortal, and liable to—

\* \* \* \* ‘the thousand natural shocks  
That flesh is heir to.’

“Should sickness or adversity assail you then, as in all cases of difficulty and danger, may the precepts herein contained be a sheet-anchor to your soul. Little can the uninitiated know by what holy links Masonry is connected with ‘the good, the beautiful, and the true;’ and when an uninitiated one contemplates

this gift as it lies before him, he will feel assured from his inmost soul that there must be something heavenly and far beyond his ken in connection with the Craft, when such a souvenir as this passes from Brothers to a Brother. The Mason, when he sees it, will say (and, oh! how truly), 'Our Brother must have been worthy of the gift, or he would never have received it.' Bro. Carpenter, accept this Sacred Volume—God bless you! May you be among us, as of old, for many, many years to come; you to continue to be esteemed and honoured by us—we to be the recipients of your kind offices, and to enjoy the pleasure of your good-fellowship."

The Bible was illustrated, mounted in silver, of exquisite design and beautiful workmanship, with the following inscription engraved on a silver shield:—"Presented to Bro. Henry Carpenter, P.M., by the members of the Industry Lodge of Instruction, as a token of their personal esteem, and an acknowledgment of his valuable services, April 28th, 1856."

It was indeed a gratifying display of kindly feeling, and duly reciprocated by Bro. Carpenter, although not without much emotion. Bro. Carpenter returned thanks in a very short but appropriate speech, and expressed his anxious desire and intention to promote by every means in his power the interest of the Industry Lodge of Instruction, and the Craft in general, whenever his services should be called into requisition. In conclusion, he thanked the Brethren for their valuable token of respect, and hoped ever to merit their kind wishes; might the G.A.O.T.U. give them health and happiness; might they prosper in their private and public avocation, and might this Lodge of Instruction long flourish. The W.M. sat down amid much applause. He then proposed the health of Bro. Orelli and the Committee, which was suitably responded to. To the toast of "Our Worthy Host," Bro. Quelch replied, and thanked them for their repeated marks of attention. As a member of the Lodge, he was highly gratified at the increase in members, the ability of the working, and, beyond all, the satisfaction and happiness he always observed amongst them; his humble services would ever be contributed to assist in every possible way he could. The encomiums he had received in the past upon that subject would be a guarantee for them in the future. He thanked them heartily, and hoped that the Lodge of Industry might endure even to that time, when

"The cloud-capp'd towers, the gorgeous palaces,  
Aye, even the great globe itself  
Shall dissolve, and, like the baseless  
Fabric of a vision, leave not a wrack behind."

After more toasts, more singing, and as much Brotherly love as it was possible to condense into the time, the Brethren separated. "Happy did they meet, happy did they part," and they have our hearty good wishes "to happy meet again."

LODGE OF JOPPA (No. 223).—The members of this efficient and numerous Lodge met on Wednesday evening, 20th May, to celebrate the close of their labours, at the Crooked Billet, Tower-hill, Bro. S. G. Risch W.M., of the Parent Lodge, in the chair, supported by several P.Ms. and other Brethren well skilled in the Science. At 9 o'clock the Brethren sat down to a substantial entertainment. Grace having been chanted in the Hebrew language, by Bro. Alex. Levy, P.M., Lodge of Tranquillity, the W.M. proposed "The Healths of the Queen, G.M. and D.G.M.;" then followed "Success to the Joppa Lodge of Instruction," with "The Health of Bro. Sacqui, the Lecture-Master," to which Bro. Sacqui replied. Bro. S. M. Lazarus, late Sec. of the Joppa, then requested the Gavel to propose "The Health of the Master." In the following address he said, "That he had, for twenty-five years, been a member of the Joppa Lodge; that he had known many skilful Masters fill the chair, but the present Master equalled, if not exceeded, all of them; some were eminent in the working of Masonry, but not equally so in the extempore addresses necessary at the banquet-table, but the present Master was efficient in both, added to which, his high character for liberality had never been eclipsed by any of his predecessors," and concluded by calling on the Brethren to do honour to the object of the toast, whose character he could not sufficiently



eulogize. The toast was responded to in a manner showing that the Brethren fully agreed in every sentence uttered by Bro. Lazarus. The W.M. expressed his thanks to Bro. Lazarus and the Brethren, and would endeavour always to deserve and retain the good opinion of the Members of his Lodge. "The Healths of the Seven Warders and P.Ms." were severally proposed and responded to, and during the intervals some very excellent singing was given by Bros. Perrini, D Marks, Mayers, &c., &c.; separating, in right good humour, at 11 o'clock, with the proceedings of the evening.

LODGE OF UNITED STRENGTH (No. 276).—This excellent and old-established Lodge, which was founded A.L. 5837, by Bro. Crawley and several most able working Brethren, met at the Enterprise Tavern, Wednesday, May 14; when it was resolved "That for the future this Lodge of Instruction meet at Bro. Caldwell's, Crown and Two Chairmen, Dean-street, Soho."

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## PROVINCIAL.

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### BEDFORDSHIRE.

BEDFORD.—*Stuart Lodge* (No. 787).—This Lodge, which has been prevented from holding its monthly meetings since December last, in consequence of the partial destruction of its Lodge-room and furniture by the fire which happened at the George Hotel, has now resumed its work. At the meeting on the 21st ult., the Sec. (Bro. Riley, P.M.) informed the Brethren that the injury done to the Lodge, furniture, and jewels, had been repaired, and that the amount awarded by the County Fire Office, in which the property is insured, had fully defrayed the expenses of the restoration. After the raising of Bro. Campion to the Sublime Degree of M.M., and the passing of Bro. Roberts to 2nd Degree, the Worshipful the Mayor of Bedford was duly initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, the ceremony in the latter instance being most impressively performed by Bro. Rudge, P.M., and in the former by Bro. W. J. Nash, P.M. A donation of five guineas from the Lodge funds was voted in aid of the General Infirmary, Bedford, and five guineas to the Royal Medical Benevolent Institution. Upwards of twenty of the Brethren sat down to the banquet, and a most agreeable evening was passed.

### BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

AYLESBURY.—*The Buckingham Lodge* (No. 861).—The members of this young but thriving Lodge, held at the White Hart Hotel, had their meeting for the Installation of the W.M. on Monday, May 26th—present, the Rev. Bro. Arthur Perceval Cust, W.M.; the Rev. Bros. P.Ms. J. Reade, Charles Lowndes, Wm. Bousfield, W.M. elect, and other Brethren. The Lodge was opened by Bro. Cust, the W.M., and Bro. Boorman was passed to the 2nd Degree. Bro. Bousfield was then presented by Bro. Reade, and the ceremony of Installation was performed by Bro. How, Prov. G.D.C. for Hertfordshire. The W.M. was proclaimed and saluted in the several Degrees: he then appointed and invested as his Officers the following Brethren—Frederick Irving, S.W.; James Cooper Farnborough, J.W.; Charles Hooper, S.D.; Rev. J. O. Wharton, J.D.; Thos. Horwood, Sec.; Edward Thomas Boorman, I.G. Bro. James James, who had been elected Treas., and Bro. Walker, Tyler, were also invested. At the banquet which followed, the W.M. expressed the great pleasure the members of the Lodge felt in having the presence of Bro. How, whose impressive manner of discharging the duties of Installing Master, as well as the clear and forcible delivery of the addresses deserved the best thanks of the members of the Buckingham Lodge. Bro. How, in acknowledgment of the kind greeting of the Lodge, considered himself much honoured by the summons to their meeting, composed as the Buckingham Lodge was of the clergy of the surrounding district, whose influence

could but have a beneficial effect on the Institution. He also was gratified in observing the patronage the members of the Lodge, collectively and individually, gave to the *Freemasons' Magazine*. The present W.M., Bro. Bousfield, is the rector of Cudlington; Bro. Cust, the rector of Cheddington; Bro. Reade, the vicar of Stone; and Bro. Lowndes, the vicar of Hartwell.

#### CHESHIRE.

CHESTER.—*Cestrian Lodge* (No. 615).—This Lodge, held at the Royal Hotel, completed its Masonic session for the season on Wednesday, May 14th, and this being the first meeting since the lamented death of their esteemed Senior Warden (Bro. Charles Bull), the Brethren (according to ancient custom) marked their respect for the memory of the deceased Brother by an oration from the W.M. Bro. Truss, on the uncertainty of life, and covering the S.W.'s chair and pedestal with black crape. The Cestrian Lodge does not meet during the months of June, July, and August, except in cases of emergency. We are informed that preparations are being made on a large scale for holding the next Provincial Lodge at Egremont, in this county.

#### GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—*Cotteswold Lodge* (No. 862).—The installation of the Hon. J. H. L. Dutton, as W.M. of this Lodge for the year ensuing, took place at the Ram Inn, Cirencester, on Wednesday, 21st ult., and may fairly be regarded as an event which crowns the success achieved by the founders—a success which their unflagging exertions have amply deserved. The Lodge was established in 1851, at which time Bro. F. Newmarch was, with one exception we believe, the only Mason resident in the ancient borough. With him to resolve was to accomplish; accordingly, in spite of all difficulties, with the necessary assistance of two or three Brethren in the town of Cheltenham, he got the application for a warrant properly supported, and immediately set about organization. The Lodge now ranks second to none in the province, numbering amongst its members the heirs to three peerages (all of whom take an active interest in its prosperity) and many of the most respectable inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood, amongst whom are some whose merits as working Masons need not fear comparison with old-established London Lodges. On this occasion the ceremony of installation was performed by the out-going W.M. Bro. Cripps, assisted by Bro. P. M. Newmarch, and it has rarely fallen to our lot to hear it more correctly or impressively performed. At its conclusion, the W.M. proceeded to appoint and invest his officers as follows:—Bro. Trinder, S.W.; Jones, J.W.; Cook, Treas.; Darby, Sec.; White, S.D.; Perry Keene, J.D.; Heideman, I.G.; after which the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren, to the number of nineteen, adjourned to the banquet. A committee of the Lodge had taken much pains to insure the attendance of a large number of visitors, but a variety of unforeseen circumstances led to disappointment in many quarters. Amongst those, however, who were present, we noticed our worthy and respected Brother W. F. Beadon, P.G.J.W., and Bros. F. Binckes, W.M., No. 11, London; Rev. Southwood, P.M. Coley, and Ball, No. 97, Cheltenham; and Fawcett, No. 658, Notts. The chief topic dwelt upon by most of the speakers, as might naturally have been expected, was the approaching fulfilment of the long-deferred hopes of the Brethren, by the re-establishment of a Provincial Grand Lodge. In the course of his remarks the W.M. alluded more than once to this subject, assuring the Brethren that, without at all undervaluing the honour that day conferred upon him, he must be allowed to express the pride and gratification he felt at the prospect of his appointment as Prov. G.M., stating that he should regard it as the inauguration of a new era for Freemasonry in the province of Gloucester, and that his best exertions should be unsparingly used to promote the prosperity of an institution the privileges of which he highly valued, the principles of which he warmly revered, and the extension of which he considered fraught with great and manifest advantages. The W.M. paid a well-merited compliment to their excellent P.M. Bro. Newmarch, highly eulogized his services, and acknowledged with thankfulness

the debt of gratitude due to him for his untiring zeal in the cause. Bro. Beadon responded on behalf of the D.G.M. and Grand Officers, remarking how great was the pleasure he experienced in being present at the installation of his friend Bro. Dutton, and stating his conviction of the great benefits to the Lodge that must result from his rule, and to the province generally under his superintendence as Prov. G.M. Bro. Gurnnett, W.M., No. 97, replied on behalf of the "W.Ms. of the Province," and Bro. Binckes acknowledged the toast of "The Visitors." One unanimous feeling of congratulation appeared to prevail, and after passing an evening of unalloyed gratification, the Brethren separated, with the highest anticipations of a thorough revival and extension of Masonry in the province, the interests of which have most unquestionably suffered from the want of that centre of communication and local prestige which the establishment of a Prov. G.L. can alone supply. We need hardly say how anxiously we shall watch their progress, and how delighted we shall be at all times to receive accounts of their proceedings.

#### LEICESTERSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.—A meeting of the Grand Lodge of this province was summoned to take place at Leicester, on Monday, the 19th of May, for the appointment of officers, &c. On the morning of that day, however, the D. Prov. G.M. received a letter conveying the melancholy intelligence that the highly-revered Prov. G.M., Sir Frederick Gustavus Fowke, Bart., had expired at Leamington (where he had gone for the benefit of his health), on Saturday evening. In consequence of this mournful event the Prov. Grand Lodge business was, of course, not proceeded with, but the Brethren formed themselves into a general meeting of the Masons of the province, Bro. Kelly, D. Prov. G.M., in the chair, when, among others, the following resolution was unanimously carried:—  
 "Resolved, That the members of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Leicestershire have received with the deepest sorrow and regret the melancholy intelligence of the decease of the R.W.G.M. of this province. The death of one holding so high and important a position in Freemasonry, must, under any circumstances, create a deep emotion in the breasts of those over whom he ruled; but the late Prov. G.M. was endeared by other and far stronger ties than those resulting from official position, or duties discharged with courtesy. His high attainments in Freemasonry, which rendered him one of its best teachers and illustrators, commanded the intellectual respect of the Brethren; and these were combined with such truly noble qualities of heart and mind, as endeared him to all and created towards him the warmest feelings of personal regard. During a brilliant Masonic career of nearly half a century, whether as a private member of the Order or as a ruler in the Craft in his high official positions as D. Prov. G.M. and Prov. G.M. of Leicestershire, which offices he had successively held during a period of twenty-three years, his chief anxiety seemed to be that of doing good—of alleviating the sorrows and of increasing the enjoyments of all with whom he came in contact. The Masonic Fraternity of this province must long deplore their irreparable loss. They beg respectfully to offer their heartfelt condolence and sympathy to the family of the departed, and to express their earnest prayer that the G.A.O.T.U. will bless and protect them."

*John of Gaunt Lodge* (No. 766).—At the monthly communication of this Lodge, held on the 15th instant, Bros. Thomas Henry Pares, Esq., of the Oaks, and the Rev. Thomas Ratcliffe, M.A., of St. George's, Leicester, were, in a most efficient manner, raised to the 3rd Degree by Bro. Smith, the W.M., assisted by Bro. Kelly, D. Prov. G.M. This being the time for the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, a ballot took place; when Bro. William Millican, Esq., architect, was duly (and unanimously) elected. At a former meeting of the Lodge, held on the 21st of February, resolutions were unanimously carried, severally, of congratulation to Bro. Wm. Kelly, on his appointment to the office of D. Prov. G.M.; and of condolence and sympathy with Bro. Clephan, P.M. of this Lodge; and Bro. Underwood, W.M., of St. John's Lodge, in the irreparable loss which they had sustained in the sudden removal, by death, of the youthful and amiable wife of the former, and daughter of the latter Brother.

## LANCASHIRE.

BLACKBURN.—*Lodge of Fidelity* (No. 336).—The assemblage of this Lodge took place on the evening of Friday, the 25th of April, at the Angel Inn. After the Lodge had been opened according to ancient custom, a gentleman was initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, the ceremony being ably performed by the W.M. Bro. Whewell, assisted by Bro. Stocks, P.M., &c. as S.W., and Bro. Wm. Harrison, J.W., Bro. Collinson, P.M., officiating as S.D. The ceremony being concluded, the Brethren adjourned to a banquet, provided by the worthy hostess in her usual excellent style, and passed a most agreeable evening.

*Lodge of Perseverance* (No. 432).—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 6th May, at the Old Bull Hotel, the P.M. Bro. Houliker, presiding. There was a moderate attendance of members, and among the visitors were Bros. Stocks, P.M., &c., No. 336; Shepherd, No. 336; and Radcliffe, No. 434. The Lodge was opened in due form, with solemn prayer; after which various matters of business were transacted and the proceedings closed, when the Brethren present adjourned for a short period, and separated in good harmony at an early hour.

BOLTON.—The Earl of Ellesmere having retired from the office of Prov. G.M. for the Eastern Division of the County of Lancaster, Bro. Stephen Blair, of Bolton, who has long and ably discharged the duties of D. Prov. G.M., has been appointed in the place of the noble earl; and Bro. Royds, of Rochdale, will take the place vacated by Bro. Blair, as D. Prov. G.M. Bro. Blair's appointment has given great satisfaction to the Masonic Body throughout the division.

## LINCOLNSHIRE.

BOSTON.—*Provincial Grand Lodge*.—The Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire was held at the Assembly-rooms, Boston, on Thursday, the 8th May. The proceedings commenced at one o'clock. The D. Prov. G.M. proceeded to make the appointments for the ensuing year, viz.—F. Cooke, Prov. G.S.W.; T. Wood, Prov. G.J.W.; F. L. Hopkins, Prov. G. Supt. W.; R. Hall, Prov. G.S.; J. W. H. Tidswell, Prov. G.S.D.; Titus Rainey, Prov. G.J.D.; C. R. Worsley and E. Rainey, Prov. G. Stewards; D. Jackson, Prov. G.A.D.C.; G. Waghorn, Prov. G.S.B. E. F. Broadbent was, for the seventh time, unanimously elected Prov. G. Treas. The Lodge having been closed, the Brethren proceeded to the Guildhall, and partook of a most sumptuous banquet, provided by Bro. Jackson, of the Peacock. The D. Prov. G.M. presided, and was supported by the Grand Officers and other Brethren of the province to the number of fifty-eight. Bro. L. Daulton, P.M., No. 339, occupied the vice-chair. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and (after the Brethren had been duly cautioned by Bro. Greenwood, the Prov. G.D.C.) were honoured in a truly Masonic style.

BOSTON.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 339).—A meeting of emergency of the Brethren of this Lodge was holden on Thursday, April 17th. Bro. Kent, sculptor, a veteran, who was initiated into Freemasonry in that Lodge when nearly seventy years of age, delivered a lecture upon the symbols and drawings with which he had decorated the Lodge-room, such as the equilateral triangle, surrounded by rays of glory; the winged globe, surrounded by the eternal serpent; the poppy, in bud, half-blown, full-blown, and in seed, &c.; and concluded by an explanation of the Masonic character or cipher, similar, in many respects, to that used by the ancient Chinese. The lecture was listened to with great attention, and at its conclusion a vote of thanks to the lecturer was carried by acclamation.

SPALDING.—*Hundred of Elloe Lodge* (No. 690).—At the monthly meeting of this Lodge, holden on the Thursday nearest the full moon in March last, Bro. Pocklington, W.M.—who had delayed the passing of their newly-initiated Brother until the next regular Lodge night, in order that he might, by first hearing a lecture on the E. A. Degree, become better acquainted with the initiating Degree before he extended his researches into the hidden mysteries of nature and science—then requested Bro. P.M. Tidswell to deliver a lecture on the tracing-board in the

1st Degree. Bro. Tidswell said it was with much pleasure that he responded to the wish of the W.M. and the Brethren of the Lodge, to deliver a lecture on the first tracing-board, for two reasons—first, that Bro. Tyler, who had been recently initiated, would have an opportunity of knowing that the 1st Degree consisted of something more than the initiatory form ; and the second reason, that the attention of the Brethren could not too often be drawn to the lectures, as they necessarily led the members to the paths of virtue and happiness. In commencing his lecture, he must be excused for referring to a subject which had occupied some portion of their attention on the previous Lodge night, for he could not see anything which could induce him to believe that we were copyists from the Egyptians, but the contrary appeared to him to be the fact. He would refer his hearers to the Egyptian Historian Berosus, in his “*Berosi Chaldæorum Historia*,” in which, speaking of Abraham, he writes, “He was great and skilful in the celestial science, and Josephus says he taught them (the Egyptians) the science of astronomy ; for before Abraham came into Egypt, they were unacquainted with those parts of learning, for that science came from the Chaldeans.” The Egyptians had evidently copied from the usages of the Hebrews and Masons : for instance—not understanding, they had taken the type for the thing itself—the shekinah, the blazing star, emblem of the sun, and of the G.A.O.T.U., they had worshipped under the name of Osiris, and hence they became worshippers of the sun ; and to say then that we copied from the Egyptians, was like saying the pupil taught the master. The lecturer then stated that he had been some years back much surprised to read works that were published by professed Masons ; one in particular, by a Pole, which stated that Masonry did not exist previously to the eighteenth century. The portals of a higher Lodge than a Craft Lodge having been opened to him (the lecturer), and there finding it was necessary to know something of the Hebrew language to thoroughly understand the beauties of the tenets of that Lodge, he was well satisfied that all language had sprung from the Semetic, Phœnician, or Hebrew period, and that philology might satisfactorily prove the antiquity of Masonry. All the languages spoken in the world were related to each other. For instance, the languages now spoken in Europe had sprung from the Gothic, Slavonic, Lithuanic, Classical, and Celtic stocks ; thus, from the Gothic spring the Swedish, Icelandic, Norway, Danish, English, and Germanic ; from the Slavonic, the Russian and Polish ; from the Lithuanic, the Hungarian and Turkish ; from the Classical, the Greek, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and French ; and from the Celtic, the Welsh, the modern Cornish, and Irish. He would not occupy their attention upon this subject further than by referring them to an analytical table he had drawn out, in which he had given the Lord’s Prayer in twenty-one languages, so that they could, with very little trouble, satisfy themselves. All languages, purely Gothic or Classical, took the possessive pronoun after the noun, while the Celtic placed it before the noun ; and languages which had either the Gothic or Classical engrafted on the Celtic retained the Celtic mode, as the English and the French. By a careful examination of this table, they could satisfy themselves upon the subject, and extend their view. Upon the table they would readily find that all written languages were derived from Semetic, Phœnician, or Hebrew period. The Hebrew was the vernacular tongue of Abraham, and, according to the Bible chronology, Abraham was contemporary with Noah ; at all events, if not contemporary, he was in existence shortly after Noah, and no doubt spoke the same language. Noah was antediluvian as well as postdiluvian ; therefore the language Noah spoke in his old days he spoke in youth ; the Hebrew, then, was spoken before the flood. If, then, the Hebrew had been handed down with the higher Degrees in Masonry from its origin, philology inferentially proved most satisfactorily the antiquity of Masonry. Again, as to the antiquity of Masonry, what was its name ? Why, according to the ancient patriarch, it was “Light ;” according to Solomon, “Wisdom ;” Pythagoras, “Philosophy ;” Euclid, “Geometry ;” the Greeks, *Λατόμος*, meaning a “Stone-cutter.” The Masons, *i. e.* the stone-cutters, showed their wisdom by carving their tenets and secrets on stones, which was done before the Hebrew became a written language.

The lecturer then gave a full explanation of the symbolical tracing-board, and

on its conclusion a vote of thanks to him for his able lecture was proposed, seconded, and carried by acclamation, in the manner peculiar to Masons.

On the conclusion of Lodge business, the Brethren and visiting Brethren partook of a sumptuous banquet at the house of Bro. Tyler. The W.M. occupied the chair, and the S.W. Williams the vice. The company, which was numerous, included P.M. Bates, P.M. Tidswell, P.M. Rainey; and among the visiting Brethren, W.M. Geo. Jackson, Lodge of Harmony, No. 339, Boston; P.M. Frieker, Bros. Tewson, Waghorn, &c. &c.

P.M. Frieker, in response to "The visiting Brethren," took occasion to allude to the pleasure he had experienced at hearing the lecture delivered that evening in the Lodge by the W.M. Nothing could be more desirable than for the intelligent members of the Masonic body to devote themselves to the study of the principles of the Craft, and to show that Masonry was composed of something more than mere outward and visible signs. The manner in which Bro. Pocklington had done that proved not only that he had read deeply, but that he had well digested and thoroughly comprehended what he had read. That Masonry was connected with the mystic rites of the earliest nations, there could be no doubt; the revelations made in the temples of interior India clearly proved that fact; and there was little less difficulty in tracing its practices to the ancient people of Egypt. To do this, Bro. Pocklington had evidently adopted the right course in the study of the works of Denon and the commissioners appointed by the invading Emperor of the French, who sought not only to conquer the present, but to overcome the past. It was indeed curious to trace the gradual unravelling of the secrets of early Egypt by means of hieroglyphic decipherings, even now but in their infancy, but which promised, ere long (as the lecturer had truly observed), to illustrate the habits and manners of this long-sealed race with greater exactness than they could do those of their own country before the time of Alfred. And to the Masonic body, how deeply interesting it was to trace, in the gradual unfolding of Egyptian history, unquestionable evidences of the early existence of their revered Craft. Bro. Pocklington had alluded to the mighty pyramids, the monuments of Egyptian power, and the wonders of the world. On the eve of the Battle of the Pyramids, Napoleon, pointing to the mighty structure, thus addressed his army, "Soldiers of France, from the heights of these Pyramids four thousand centuries look down upon you!" Was it not, he (the speaker) asked, a gratification for them to know that from those same heights the Masonry of four thousand years looked down also upon their labours, encouraging them to persevere in their peaceful endeavours to attain the "hidden mysteries of nature and science?" He (Bro. F.) congratulated Bro. P., not only on the example he had set, but on the manner in which he had performed his task; and he hoped he would persevere in his object of rendering the meetings of the Hundred of Elloe Lodge something more than mere formal assemblages. He would, by so doing, encourage others to study, to communicate their ideas, so that, in time, each might contribute the results of his individual observation towards the enriching of the whole body.

A variety of other toasts and sentiments followed, and the evening was spent in harmony and brotherly love.

The monthly communication of this Lodge was holden in "The Turret," on Thursday, the 24th April, when Bro. P.M. Bates passed Bro. Tyler to the Degree of F.C. in a very satisfactory manner. After which Bro. Pocklington, the W.M., read the first of a series of papers, compiled by him, upon subjects connected with that Degree, prefacing it by observing, that as the rites of the ancient mysteries were calculated to show to the candidate the darkness and ignorance of the uninitiated in contrast with the life of purity and perfection pointed out as his future path; so in F.M., according to Preston, our meetings should be rendered interesting by those scientific instructions and philosophical lectures which characterized later parts of those mysteries. The papers treating principally upon architecture, the lecturer glanced, first, at the *Masonry* of the existing monuments of antiquity as exhibited by their sculptured writings and symbolism, showing what is at present believed to have been the *primeval language*; and that the Egyptian monuments of elaborately-engraved records, now in course of deciphering, favour the presumption that the *art of writing originated* with the people of

that nation ; whilst it is expected that such records “ will unfold codes of ancient virtues and antique law, long lost in the darkness of past ages ;” for, says Denon, an Egyptian temple is an open volume, in which the teachings of science, morality, the arts, and history, are recorded. The W.M. then alluded to the discovering, by Young and Champollion, of the hidden meaning of the Egyptian hieroglyphics, through the deciphering of the inscriptions on the Rosetta Stone, obtained by the researches of Napoleon’s commissioners in Egypt ; and he concluded by a reference to the architecture and sculpture of the ancient Egyptians, as illustrated by the mighty pyramids and temples, statues, obelisks, colossi, and of those initiated into the hierophantic mysteries of that traduced and misunderstood people.

#### NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

NORTHAMPTON.—*Pomfret Lodge* (No. 463).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the George Hotel, Northampton, on Thursday, the 1st of May, when the usual Lodge business was transacted under the Presidency of Bro. Worster, W.M. Bro. Worster subsequently vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Boème, P.M., who then with his accustomed ability raised Bros. Lanaan, Bowman, and Wake to the Sublime Degree of W.M. Bro. Worster having resumed the chair, Legh Richmond (of Guilsborough Park), Esq., was balloted for and elected. Bro. John Watkins (of Lodge No. 696, Birmingham), was also balloted for, and elected a subscribing member of this Lodge.

A Lodge of Emergency was held on Monday the 12th May, when Bro. Boème, P.M., raised Bros. Rubbra and Bland to the Sublime Degree of M.M. The Lodge subsequently voted a sum of £2. 2s. from its funds towards the completion of the “Sussex Wing” of the Royal Free Hospital. Messrs. Hinton and Jeffs, of Northampton, and Mr. Fisher, of Stamford, were then balloted for and elected ; and Mr. Frederick Stimpson, of Northampton, was then proposed as a fit person to become a member of the Order.

#### NORTHUMBERLAND.

BLYTH.—*Consecration of the Blagdon Lodge* (No. 957).—On Tuesday, the 6th of May, the Prov. G.M. of the province, the Rev. Edward Challoner Ogle, attended by the officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge, proceeded to the Ridley Arms Inn, Blyth, for the purpose of consecrating a new Masonic Lodge, to be known as the Blagdon Lodge, No. 957. The Prov. Grand Lodge was opened in due form by the Prov. G.M., assisted by his officers. The Brethren then formed, and proceeded to church in the order prescribed by the Book of Constitutions. The sacred edifice was crowded, there being a large number of ladies amongst those present. A most excellent and touching sermon was preached on the occasion, in aid of the fund for the widows and orphans of shipwrecked mariners belonging to Blyth by the Rev. Mr. Norman. The rev. gentleman took his text from Deut. xiv. 29 :—“ And the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow which are within thy gates shall come, and shall eat and be satisfied, that the Lord thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hand which thou doest.” After Divine Service the Brethren went to the Lodge-room, which was duly constituted, consecrated, and dedicated. A number of the fair sex were in it during a portion of the ceremony, and appeared deeply impressed with the solemnity of the proceedings. Wine and cake were afterwards partaken of by them, and the Prov. G.M. (the Rev. Edw. Challoner Ogle) proposed “The Health of the Ladies” in a truly happy manner. The ladies having retired, Bro. Jas. Morton Winn was installed as first W.M. of the Blagdon Lodge, by Bro. E. D. Davis, Prov. G.D.C. for Durham, assisted by the R.W. Prov. G.M. ; Bros. Wm. Dalziel, P.M., No. 586, and P. Prov. J.G.W. ; J. Barker, P.M., No. 24, and P. Prov. J.G.W. ; J. G. Tulloch, W.M., No. 624 ; and Robt. Shute, P.M., No. 909. The W.M. then appointed and invested the following Brethren as his officers for the year, viz.—Bros. Robert Fisher, S.W. ; Thos. Cockburn, J.W. ; George Hardey, S.D. ; Gabriel Hindhaugh, J.D. ; James Heron, Treas. ; Henry T. Barton, Sec. ; John Evans, Tyler. At the consecration, besides the above, we noticed Bros. M. L. Jobbing, P. Prov. S.G.W., and G. P. Birkinshaw, P.M., No. 793, and P. Prov.

G. Sec. The Brethren, numbering nearly seventy, afterwards dined together in the Lodge-room, where Bro. Middlemiss provided a most sumptuous entertainment, with a dessert comprising every delicacy and wines of *recherché* quality. Bro. Richard Medcalfe, the D. Prov. G.M., presided, supported on his right by Bros. Wm. Berkley, Prov. G. Sec. : E. D. Davis, P. Prov. G.D.C. ; Wm. Dalziel, P. Prov. S.G.W. ; and John Hopper, P.M., No. 614 ; and on his left by Bros. James Morton Winn, W.M., No. 957 ; Geo. Weatherhead, P. Prov. J.G.W. ; Robert Shute, Prov. S.G.D. ; J. G. Tulloch, W.M., No. 624. The vice-chairs were filled by Bros. J. W. Mayson, Prov. S.G.W. for the province and ex-Mayor of Tynemouth ; and F. P. Jonn, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Durham. Supporting the vice-chairs, and amongst the Brethren, we also observed Bros. Thomas Fenwick, Prov. G. Registrar ; H. P. Mork, P.M., No. 586 ; D. W. Spence, Assist. G.D.C. ; James Prendergast, J.W., No. 793 ; James Hearon, Treas., No. 957 ; Henry Thomas Barton, Sec., No. 957 ; George Hardey, S.D., No. 957 ; Gabriel Hindhaugh, J.D., No. 957 ; Wm. Preston, P.G., Standard Bearer ; Haswell, P.G.O. ; Henry Hotham, Cranford, and Popplewell. The usual loyal, Masonic, and patriotic toasts were ably given and warmly responded to. An express train, at eight o'clock, conveyed the Brethren and a large number of the ladies back to "Cannie Newcastle." Never, perhaps, was a prouder day seen in the fine old port of Blyth ; the church-bells rang merry peals, whilst from many vessels in the harbour floated Masonic and other flags in honour of the occasion.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—*Lodge de Loraine* (No. 753).—The installation of Bro. E. D. Davis, W.M. elect., took place on the 16th of May. The Lodge was opened by Bro. John Barker, P.M., as W.M., assisted by the following Brethren :—E. D. Davis, as P.M. ; E. W. Franklin, as S.W. ; T. Purdy, as J.W., and about fifty Brethren of the town and neighbourhood. After the preliminary business, the W.M. elect was presented by P.M. Jones, and he was regularly installed by Bro. Barker, in that efficient manner for which the Brother is distinguished. The W.M. appointed and invested the following Brethren his officers for the ensuing year :—J. L. Donald, P.M. ; Joseph E. Joel, S.W. ; Septimus Bell, J.W. ; J. De Hart, Sec. ; John Emerson, S.D. ; Bellamy Carr, J.D. ; Alex. Dickson, Tyler ; he also appointed James Gilpin the Treasurer. After the Lodge was closed, the Brethren adjourned to the George Hotel, Bro. Carmon's, where they partook of a most satisfactory repast, there being nearly sixty present. The W.M. was supported on his right by Bros. W. Berkeley, Prov. G. Sec ; Saville, P. Prov. G.S.W. for Durham ; Erasby, Prov. G. Sec. for Durham, and others ; on his left by Bros. Barker, Alderman Foshack, P.M. No. 292 ; Puncheon, P.M. No. 586 ; J. Tulloch, W.M. No. 624 ; T. Hodge, P.M. No. 24 ; W. E. Franklin, W.M. No. 614, and other P.Ms. On the removal of the cloth, the W.M. gave the usual loyal toasts ; also "The Emperor of the French and the French Masons," which was ably responded to by Bros. L. Clement and Hodge. The usual Masonic toasts which followed were responded to by those present who represented the local Grand Lodges and private Lodges, and the evening closed with love and harmony at ten o'clock.

#### OXFORDSHIRE.

OXFORD.—Next week being Commemoration Week, the Apollo University Lodge will, on Monday, give a *déjeuner* in Worcester College Gardens, to present to Bro. Wm. B. Beach, P.M., P. Prov. S.W.G., a very handsome piece of plate, consisting of a very elegant group of figures, being five feet in circumference, and weighing nearly five hundred ounces, as a testimonial of his zealous and efficient conduct whilst occupying the chair as their W.M. during two years,—his constant attendance to the interests of Masonry,—the able manner in which he discharged the duties of Steward at the festival of the Masonic Charities of the Boys' and Girls' School,—his urbanity of manner and amiability of character, and the esteem in which he is held by the Brethren of the Province of Oxford. In the evening, and on Tuesday, there will be a grand ball in the Town-hall, given by the Apollo Lodge of Freemasons. At the same time there will be several private balls and other entertainments.



## SURREY.

CHERTSEY.—*St. George's Lodge* (No. 486).—The anniversary of this Lodge is on St. George's Day, April 23rd. This year it was postponed, in consequence of the Naval Review, to the 29th, when Bro. Christopher Rawson was installed W.M. The Lodge for two years had been ruled by Bro. William Blinkin, who testified his zeal for the Fraternity by punctual attendance to his duties, by careful and correct working, and by a splendid present of three highly ornamental chairs. On this occasion, from the unavoidable absence of Bro. Blinkin, the chair was most ably filled by Bro. George Harcourt, P. Prov. G.S.W. Bro. W. Bird was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M.; after which Bro. Harcourt proceeded to instal Bro. C. Rawson a Ruler of the Craft. The new W.M. then addressed the Brethren in a most appropriate speech, thanking them for the honour they had conferred in confiding the interest of the Lodge to his care, and hoped that he should retain the same feeling of kindness on his retirement they had been pleased to express towards him this day. The Brethren then retired to the banquet, amply and admirably supplied by Bro. Lovett, where they enjoyed a cheerful and intellectual evening, which was materially aided by the visitors, Bros. S. Rawson, Prov. G.M. for China; W. King, P. Prov. G.J.W. for Surrey; W. H. Smith, and Greenaway. The Prov. G.M. Bro. Dobie has signified his intention to hold a Prov. Grand Lodge at Chertsey in June, and the St. George's Lodge hope to welcome a good muster of the Craft.

## SUSSEX.

BRIGHTON.—*Royal York Lodge* (No. 394).—The Brethren of this Lodge held their monthly meeting at the Old Ship Hotel, on Tuesday, the 6th May, when Bros. A. Bacon, Ambrosoni, and Porter were elected as joining members. The W.M. Bro. R. Wood afterwards ably and impressively passed Bros. Dell and Poole to the Degree of F.C. The Lodge was then duly closed in perfect harmony.

## WARWICKSHIRE.

BIRMINGHAM.—*Lodge of Light* (No. 689).—This Lodge held its annual meeting on Tuesday, May 20th. Bro. James Tertius Collins was installed W.M. by Bro. Dee, one of the P.Ms. One Brother was raised to the Degree of a M.M.; several visitors were present, and after business, the Brethren adjourned to the festive board, where good fellowship and hospitality prevailed.

## WORCESTERSHIRE.

DUDLEY.—*Harmonic Lodge* (No. 313).—Owing to the unavoidable absence of Bro. Cooper, the W.M., from domestic affliction, the Lodge was opened on Tuesday, the 6th, at the customary place of meeting, by Bro. W. Bristow, the immediate P.M., when Bro. J. Timmins was passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft, the Lecture being delivered by the W.M. *pro. tem.* in a careful and impressive manner. In consequence of the absence of the W.M., Bro. Bristow's motion was again deferred. On the motion of Bro. Masefield, P.M., seconded by Bro. Dennison, Treas. (P.M.), Bro. Kendrick's resignation was accepted with regret. The Lodge being closed, the Brethren adjourned to supper, when a pleasant evening was passed; the non-banqueting Lodge contributing slightly to their fund of entertainment. The peculiar feature of this intended new Lodge is, not that of being teetotal, but of not wasting its funds by the sociality of after-hours, leaving the members perfect freedom, so that they do not divert Lodge money to any other purpose than Masonic Charities. We believe that at the installation there will be a banquet to be paid for, as at present in most other Lodges, by ticket, including wine, &c.

*Lodge of Perseverance* (No. 838).—This Lodge was opened by Bro. W. Harrison, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Stone-street, on Wednesday evening, the 30th of April, when the three candidates for raising not being present, the ordinary business finished, and nothing further transpiring, the Lodge was closed in due form.

About twenty sat down to a good supper, which did credit to the worthy host, Bro. E. Roberts. The visitors present were Bros. John Shedden, P.M., No. 313; Thomas Morris, P.M., No. 313; W. Wigginton, Sec., No. 313, and I.G., No. 730; and G. H. Roper, No. 296. The principal topic of conversation was the contemplated non-banqueting Lodge—a subject which met with much discussion, but which found but little Masonic charity. How it can be called a “Teetotal Lodge,” considering that the promoters intend a *banquet* once in the year, upon the ceremony of installation, it puzzleth deponent to understand, and therefore he “sayeth not.” No gall should, however, be allowed to mingle with the honey of Masonic Brotherhood (no matter what difference of opinion may exist), still less sarcasm, and if a Lodge chooses to drink water in order to spend its superfluities on the poor, no Brother should put vinegar in the cup.

#### YORKSHIRE.

DONCASTER.—*St. George's Lodge* (No. 298).—This Lodge met on Friday, April 25, in the Lodge-room, at the Guildhall, Doncaster. The Brethren assembled at two o'clock, and immediately proceeded to instal Bro. George Brooke as W.M. for the ensuing year, in the room of the retiring Master, the Rev. J. G. Fardell, who had held the office for the past three years. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Bailes, of Sheffield. On being placed in the chair, the newly-installed W.M. proceeded to appoint his officers, and invested each with the respective jewel or badge. The W.M. then initiated two gentlemen, who had been previously balloted for and elected, into the mysteries of Freemasonry; and it was remarked that he performed the ceremony in an effective and satisfactory manner. At the close of the proceedings the Brethren adjourned to the Reindeer Hotel, to partake of a grand banquet, provided in honour of the Rev. J. G. Fardell, on his retirement from the duties of W.M., and on his leaving this neighbourhood, and to which the reverend gentleman had been invited by his Brethren belonging to *St. George's Lodge*.

The chair was taken by Bro. George Brooke, the W.M.; at whose right sat the guest of the evening, the Rev. J. G. Fardell, P.M. of Sprotbro', now rector of Banham, Norfolk; at his left was the Rev. E. M. Wilson, vicar of Sandall, near this town. The vice-chair was occupied by Bro. Sherwin, P.M., of Sheffield; and the following Brethren of the Lodge were also present:—T. B. Mason, P.M.; T. Webb, P.M. and Treas.; W. H. Bailes, P.M., Sheffield; R. Clarke, S.W.; G. S. Liddle, J.W.; Theophilus Smith, S.D.; Lyons Kerans, Bramwith Hall; J.W.; S. Collinson, Sec.; Richard Morris, William Acaester.

On the removal of the cloth some loyal and Masonic toasts were given with the honours peculiar to Masons.

The Chairman rose to propose what he denominated the toast of the evening. He meant the reverend gentleman on his right hand—a gentleman who had been honoured by this Lodge, at the same time that he had conferred honour upon it. Mr. Fardell had not only been the W.M. of the *St. George's Lodge* for the past three years, but he had also during that time been Prov. G. Chap., and during the last year had filled the important and honourable office of Prov. S.G.W. It was, therefore, deeply to be regretted that they were so soon to be deprived of the assistance and the friendly aid of that gentleman. Need he go far back to prove the estimation in which Mr. Fardell was held, not only by his Masonic Brethren, but by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance and friendship—for with him to be an acquaintance was also to be a friend? No; for he had only to refer to what had taken place during the last few days, and what was still about to take place in the village where he had for so many years been so highly useful and excellent a pastor. They were all well aware, from what had been recently published, that their reverend brother and his amiable lady had received the most flattering testimonials of affection and regard—not alone supported by the contributions of the “rich and affluent,” but contributed to by those who, comparatively speaking, were verging on a state of “poverty and distress.” The W.M. next alluded to the fact of Mr. Fardell having been requested to preach a sermon at Holmfirth last week, on the occasion of the laying the foundation-stone of the monumental almshouses at that town, by the Freemasons, and according to their

ancient usage. And what was the effect of that discourse upon the minds of his hearers? Why that as the matter originated in a flood of waters, so had it on this occasion terminated; for he had been told that the flood-gates of their eyes had opened, and that the tears gushed forth in abundance on hearing the appeal so feelingly made by the reverend gentleman. Suffice it to say, that their reverend Brother, in leaving this neighbourhood, would take with him the best wishes of every member of this Lodge, and their grateful sense of his kindness and generosity—one proof of which would long be held in remembrance by them when they attended the Lodge meetings—on so many occasions. He should now propose that they drink the health of the Rev. J. G. Fardell, with the usual honours.

The Rev. J. G. Fardell rose to respond to the toast which had been proposed. He observed, that he was not in the habit of preparing on such occasions any regular speech or address, and that he could only say what the heart dictated at the moment. He could assure the Brethren present that he was extremely grateful to them and to all his kind friends and neighbours for their extreme attention to him on all occasions. It was not the value of the banquet to which he had been invited that he regarded, but it was the value of the goodwill and affection that they showed him that could make an impression on him, and one which he should always dwell upon with pleasure. Ever since he had been connected with the Lodge, there had been one uniform feeling of respect and esteem shown to him, not only by those who were then present, but by all with whom he had been connected in Masonry. And although this might be considered as a farewell banquet, yet he trusted that he should at some future day be again amongst them, not only in their Lodge, but to partake in their meetings on such occasions as the present. Although he was about to leave this neighbourhood, he should still wish to remain a subscribing member to the Lodge of St. George, and thus have the right of coming amongst them, not only in their Lodge but to partake in their meetings on such occasions as the present. He was quite sure that absence would not deprive him of their good esteem and friendship, and he hoped to live on terms of Brotherly love and affection with them.

Several other toasts were drunk and responded to, and the Brethren spent a very pleasant evening.

**HALIFAX.**—*The Lodge of Probity* (No. 73).—We have not for some time past had the opportunity of recording any of the doings of this Lodge. But if it has not appeared in the report which we are able from time to time to present in our columns, of various Provincial as well as Metropolitan Lodges, we are happy to observe that it is not inactive in practical Masonry. We have now the happiness of noticing two ceremonies wherein the Brethren of this Lodge have recently been engaged, which, from their importance and general interest, have a peculiar relation to the dignity and high obligations of the Craft. We allude to laying the foundation-stones of public edifices with the honours and rites of Freemasonry.

The first in order of the events to which we refer was the laying of the corner-stone of All Souls Church, Haley-hill, Halifax, on the 25th ultimo—a church which was being erected by Edward Akroyd, Esq., for the spiritual accommodation of a newly-appointed district or parish, chiefly constituted of that portion of the Borough of Halifax in which the very extensive manufacturing premises of Mr. Akroyd, as well as the residences of himself and a large number of the work-people employed by him are situate.

It would be difficult to over-estimate the munificence with which Mr. Akroyd has entered upon this truly laudable work—whether as regards the spirit and aim of the project, or the liberality with which the design is being carried into execution—it is worthy the head of so vast an establishment, and alike honourable to the representative of the well-known and deservedly eminent firm of James Akroyd and Sons.

The church, however, is but part of what the Christian sympathy of this worthy individual is prompting him to undertake for the welfare and happiness of those around him. On the day of commencing the church, the ceremonies we are about to record were preceded by the consecration of a large parochial burial-ground, to be annexed to the church. The burial-ground, embracing an area of

nearly three acres, is also a gift to the district by Mr. Akroyd, taken from his estate on one side of his residence and grounds at Bank Field; the site presented for the church, at the other side, is in close proximity to one part of the vast manufacturing premises.

The burial-ground, previous to its consecration, had been laid out, planted, and formed in an exceedingly beautiful manner at the sole expense of Mr. Akroyd.

Of the general design of the church it will suffice to say, that it provides accommodation for upwards of 800 persons—its style in every respect worthy of the eminent individual to whom its erection is confided, viz., George Gilbert Scott, A.R.A.

The day's proceedings began by consecrating the burial-ground; the service being performed by the Bishop of Ripon, assisted by the Ven. Archdeacon Musgrave, D.D., Vicar of Halifax; the Rev. Dr. Burnett, Vicar of Bradford, and nearly 50 of the clergy of the diocese.

The service of consecration being ended, a procession was formed at the entrance to the burial-ground, which moved to the site of the new church in the following order:—

Laymen (two abreast).  
Haley-hill Allotment Gardener's Society.  
Beadle with Mace.  
Corporation Banner.  
Town Council of Halifax.  
The Magistracy.  
The Freemasons.  
G. G. Scott, A.R.A., the Architect.  
Apparitor with Silver Dove.

The Mayor in Robes and Gold Chain.	The Bishop.	The Founder, Edw. Akroyd, Esq.
Rev. C. R. Holmes, Incumbent of Haley-hill.	Ven. Archdeacon Musgrave, D.D., Vicar of Halifax.	Rev. W. H. Wawn, Incumbent of Coley.

The Clergy in Surplices, two and two.

The Freemasons who, by dispensation from the W. Bro. Charles Lee, Dep. Prov. Grand Master of West Yorkshire, appeared in full Masonic Costume, were in the following order:—

Tyler with Drawn Sword.  
Visiting Brethren, two and two.  
Junior Brethren of Lodge of Probity.

Steward Bro. Adj. Johnson.	Cornucopia with Corn, borne by Wm. Smith, P.M., P. Prov. G.S.B.	Steward Bro. James Barber.
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Two Ewers, with Wine and Oil, borne by Bro. James Franklin, P.M.  
Bro. Thomas Robertshaw, P.M.  
Director of Ceremonies, Bro. Thomas Duncan.  
Secretary with Book of Constitutions on a Velvet Cushion, Bro. Ramsden Riley.  
Treasurer, Bro. John Fisher.  
Past Masters (two and two).  
The Junior Warden, Bro. James Fielding, with Plumb Rule.  
The Senior Warden, Bro. Henry Edwards, Dep. Lieut. and Magistrate  
for the West Riding, with Level.  
The Junior Deacon, Bro. Hugh Beck.

Steward, Bro. J. Richardson.	The Chaplain, Bro. J. H. Warneford, bearing Sacred Law on Cushion.	Steward, Bro. J. H. Kershaw.
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Bro. L. Bramley, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W., with Square.  
Bro. W. Walsh, P.M., with Mallet.

Steward, Bro. Geo. Jackson.	Banner of the Lodge borne by Bro. J. H. Thornber, I.G.	Steward, Bro. F. Roper.
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The Worshipful Master,  
Bro. Richard Carter, C.E., P. Prov. S.G.W.  
The Senior Deacon, Bro. Wm. Elliott.  
Tyler with Drawn Sword.

The ceremony having been gone through with appropriate prayer, the Masonic procession was reformed, and the Brethren returned in order to the Lodge-room at the Old Cock Inn, where, after closing the Lodge, they sat down, to the number of about fifty members, to a splendid luncheon, provided at the expense of Mr. Akroyd, whose wish it was that the Brethren should have joined the general party, including the bishop, clergy, and gentry invited to partake of a similar repast, in the large school-room of the premises near the site of the church; but the invitations accepted absorbed the whole space in the school-room before the wish of Mr. Akroyd, that the Rites of Freemasonry should be observed, had been expressed to the W.M.

The Brethren were presided over by Bro. R. Carter, W.M.; and after the cloth had been drawn, and various Masonic toasts drunk,

The W.M. rose to propose "The Health of the Founder of All Souls' Church, Edward Akroyd, Esquire," and took occasion to remark on the many noble undertakings in which Mr. Akroyd had engaged for the general welfare and prosperity of the town and neighbourhood, during the twelve or fourteen years of his, the W.M.'s, acquaintance with him. In the social advancement of his fellow-men Mr. A. had been most active, particularly in promoting sound education amongst the labouring classes; and a few weeks only had elapsed since, under his individual auspices, a working-man's college had been established in the district of Haley-hill, to which the W.M. looked with most sanguine expectations, of the benefits to the industrial classes of which it would be impossible to over-estimate the value. To other qualifications, however, there was one which ought not to be overlooked, at a time and in a company like the present. It was the intelligent and just appreciation which their hospitable and kind-hearted friend entertained of their favourite science. Not many of those initiated into Freemasonry comprehended as he did the objects and scope of the Institution; and Bro. Carter could hardly persuade himself that any lengthened period would elapse before they should be able to welcome so worthy a man amongst them.

The health of Mr. Akroyd, and many thanks for his generous hospitality, was drunk with three times three, and one cheer more. After many other toasts, the party separated, highly delighted with the ceremonies and enjoyments of the day.

**HOLMFIRTH FLOOD MONUMENTAL ALMSHOUSES.**—On Monday, April 21st, the Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire met at Holmfirth to lay the foundation-stone of the Almshouses, erected to provide a home for necessitous persons, and to commemorate the flood caused by the bursting of the Bilbury Reservoir, and the noble efforts of the nation to alleviate the distress consequent on that fearful calamity. The building is to comprise five houses, and the style of architecture adopted is the Gothic of the 14th century. The P.G. Lodge was opened by P.M. Bro. J. Peace, of No. 342, P. Prov. G.J.W., assisted by the officers of the Holme Valley Lodge, in the Lodge-room, at the Victoria Hotel, at 11 o'clock, A.M. A procession was then formed in front of the Town-hall, and was composed of about 150 Brethren from the following Lodges: Probity, Halifax; Peace, Metham; Three Grand Principles, Dewsbury; St. George's, Dancaster; Amphibious, Hickmondwilke; Nelson of the Nile, Batley; Harmony, Huddersfield; Fidelity, Leeds; Huddersfield Lodge, Huddersfield; Philanthropic, Leeds; Alfred, Leeds; Candour, Saddleworth; Integrity, Morley; Aire and Calder, Goole; Tudor, Saddleworth; Wakefield Lodge, Wakefield; Truth, Huddersfield; Harmony, Bradford; Zetland, Cleckheaton; Holm Valley, Holmfirth. The procession passed through the principal street to the Church, where prayers were read by Bro. the Rev. Dr. Senior of Wakefield; and Bro. the Rev. Jno. Fardell, M.A., Rector of Banham, Norfolk, and Chaplain to the Right Hon. the Earl of Courtown, P. Prov. G.S.W., and P.P.G., Chaplain of West Yorkshire, preached the sermon from 1st St. Peter, 2 chap., and 12 v.: "Whereas they speak against you as evil doers, they may by your good works which they shall behold glorify God in the day of visitation." After quoting from the charge, he proceeded to show that it was only by ignorant and evil men that Freemasonry could be spoken against. That it has ranked among its members the great, the wise, and the good of all ages and all countries. He then inculcated the necessity of charity and

good works, and of each Brother upholding the respectability of the Craft. Speaking next of the varied and uncertain incidents of human life, he drew a graphic picture of the bursting of the Bilbury Reservoir in the dead of the night, and the horrors resulting therefrom; after eulogising the liberality which poured in subscriptions to relieve the distress occasioned by that calamity, he made an appeal to the Brethren to assist in endowing the Almshouse, and concluded with the Divine words—"Blessed is the man that provideth for the sick and needy—the Lord will deliver him in the time of trouble. The offertory sentences, and the prayer for the whole state of Christ's Church militant here on earth, were read, and the benediction pronounced by the Rev. R. E. Leach, Incumbent of Holmfirth. The alms collected amounted to £20.

The procession then formed in the same order as before, and proceeded to the site of the intended building. The proceedings were commenced by an ode.

Solemn prayer was then offered by Bro. the Rev. J. G. Fardell. Bro. C. S. Floyd, P. Prov. G.S.W., who in the absence of the R.W. Prov. G.M. and the W.D. Prov. G.M. officiated under a dispensation as D.Prov. G.M., first asked the Prov. G.T. for a bottle, with suitable contents for the occasion. A hermetically-sealed bottle was then produced containing copies of the *Times*, *Huddersfield Chronicle*, and other papers, and specimens of all the silver and copper coins of the realm for the present year, &c. The bottle was deposited in the cavity prepared for it, and covered by a plate, bearing the following inscription:—"The foundation-stone of the Holmfirth Monumental Almshouses, erected to commemorate the great flood caused by the bursting of the Bilbury Reservoir, on the 5th of February, 1852, (by which upwards of 80 lives were lost), and also the munificent liberality of the British Public, was laid by the Provincial Lodge of Freemasons of West Yorkshire, on Monday, the 21st April, A.D. 1856, A.L. 5856." The architect then produced the plan, which was examined and approved; the mortar was then carefully spread by Bro. Floyd, and the stone lowered into its place, the band playing a solemn tune. The Prov. G.J.W. Bro. W. Widdop, of Brighouse, advanced and applied the implement of his office, and ascertained that the stone was plumb; the Prov. G.S.W., Bro. J. Lee, of Leeds, applied his instrument to see that the stone was level, and Bro. Floyd, having ascertained that the stone was square, took the mallet, and striking it three times said, "Thus, and thus, and thus I lay this stone, and may the G.A.O.T.U. bless this benevolent undertaking, and crown the work with his blessing." According to ancient usage, Bro. Floyd strewed the corn and poured the wine and oil over the stone (which were presented to him, in silver cups, by three P.Ms.), and prayed—"May the all bounteous Author of Nature bless this village and neighbourhood with an abundance of corn, wine, and oil, and with all the necessaries, comforts, and conveniences of life; and may the same Almighty power preserve this neighbourhood from flood, fire, and tempest, from ruin and decay, to the latest posterity."

An eloquent speech was then delivered by Bro. Floyd, at the conclusion of which he announced that they had succeeded in gaining the consent of the Rev. Bro. Fardell to allow the very excellent discourse they had listened to that morning to be printed, and that Bro. Fardell had insisted on paying the whole expense, that the entire proceeds of the sale should go in aid of the Almshouses. Three cheers were then given for the Almshouses, and the National Anthem was sung; three cheers were then given for the ladies, of whom a great number were present. The procession then moved back to the Victoria Hotel, where the P.G.L. was closed.

A large number of Brethren then sat down to a sumptuous dinner, the officers of the Holme Valley Lodge presiding.

HUDDERSFIELD.—*Huddersfield Lodge* (No. 365).—A meeting of the Members of this Lodge was held at their new room, at the Zetland Hotel, on Wednesday evening, April 23. The Lodge was opened in the 1st and 2nd Degrees by the W.M. Bro. Aston. Bro. J. R. Dore then by command of the W.M. explained the Tracing Board in the F.C. Degree, for which he received a vote of thanks from the Brethren. The Lodge was then lowered to the 1st Degree, and two gentlemen were very ably initiated into the Order; every officer performing his duty in a

highly creditable manner. After some business matters were settled, the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren were called to refreshment, and a very pleasant evening was spent. Amongst the Visitors present we noticed the W.M., J.W., and S.D. of the Lodge of Harmony No. 342, the Prov. S.W. Sec. and D.C. of the Lodge of Truth 763, and the S.W. and other Brethren of Holme-Valley Lodge.

**HUDDERSFIELD UNITED LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.**—At the meeting of the Brethren on Friday, April 25, the Lodge was opened in the three Degrees, and two sections of the 3rd Lecture worked. When the Lodge had been closed down to the 1st Degree, Bro. Astin W.M., of 365, presented, on behalf of the Members, a very handsome gold P.Z. jewel to P.M. Bro. W. Smith, P. Prov. G.S.D., Prov. G.D.C., Hon. Member of Lodge of Truth No. 763; Hon. Member of Chapters at Leeds and Bradford, who is about to leave England, bearing the following inscription:—“Presented to Bro. W. Smith P.M. and P.Z., P. Prov. G.S.D., and Prov. G.D.C., as a mark of the esteem of the Brethren for him and for his untiring zeal in imparting Masonic knowledge.” Several Brethren were called on to speak, all of whom bore testimony to Bro. Smith’s unwearied exertions in the cause of Masonry, to the kind and gentlemanly conduct which has given him a place in the heart of every Mason in the town and neighbourhood; to the sincere regret they felt in parting from one who has been the instructor in Masonic lore of nearly all the Masons in the town, and one of the brightest ornaments of the Craft. His loss will, indeed, be severely felt throughout the whole province, but especially by the Brethren in Huddersfield, who had daily proof that he put into practice all those virtues that ought to be the distinguishing characteristic of every Freemason.

**SOWERBY-BRIDGE TOWN-HALL.**—The foundation-stone of the building to bear the above name, now in course of erection at Sowerby-bridge, was laid with great *éclat* on Monday, May 12. The want of an edifice capable of affording accommodation for the transaction of public business and for other purposes, has been felt for years and is still felt at Sowerby-bridge. No public meeting can be held, nor can a lecture or a concert be given, except in a room connected either with a public-house or a place of worship. In order to supply this requirement, “The Sowerby-bridge Town-hall Company” was established some three years ago. Since that time about £4,000, a sum sufficient to cover the cost of a suitable building, has been subscribed in £1 shares, by the gentry, the tradesmen, and the working men of the district.

The Freemasons of the Lodge of Probity had been requested by the building committee of the Town-hall to conduct the entire ceremony of laying the corner-stone; and the first anxiety of the Brethren, on acceding to that request, was to secure the attendance of the Provincial Grand Lodge on that occasion. With that view a deputation waited upon the Earl of Mexborough, Prov. G.M., and invited his lordship to honour them by performing the ceremony in his official capacity, but urgent engagements in the south of England unfortunately prevented his yielding to their solicitations. Disappointed of this gratification, Bro. Henry Edwards, of Pye Nest, S.W. of the Lodge of Probity, having expressed his concurrence in the plan of the committee, to a deputation that waited upon him, the honour of laying the corner-stone was awarded to him, on the understanding that he should be assisted by the W.M. in such parts of the ceremony as were not competent to one not holding the senior rank in the Craft. Circulars were issued in the name of the W.M. to all the Lodges in the province of West Yorkshire, and the programme of the procession affords a proof of the gratifying response to that invitation. The Brethren assembled at Underbank, where convenience was afforded by Bro. Edwards, S.W., for opening the Lodge and for marshalling the procession of the Brethren in the Masonic order—a duty discharged with his usual tact by Bro. Thomas Duncan, D.C. Soon after two o’clock a general procession began to form under the able direction of Mr. Adjutant Johnson, in the fine open road bounding the Underbank premises on the west; and, about half-past two, it proceeded towards the site for the Town-hall, in the following order, the bands playing suitable music:—

Band of Music.  
Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Band of Music.  
 United Order of Odd Fellows.  
 Band of Music.  
 Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds.  
 Band of Music.  
 Ancient Order of Druids.  
 Mr. Adjutant Johnson, Chief Conductor, on horseback.  
 Chief Constable.  
 Shareholders and Gentry.  
 Churchwardens and Constables.  
 Magistrates and Clergy.  
 Architect and Contractors.  
 Directors and Building Committee.

And (by the kind permission of Lieut.-Colonel Pollard and Officers) the Band of the Second West Yorkshire Yeomanry.  
 Cavalry in Uniform.

“The Ancient Order of Free and Accepted Masons.”

The Odd Fellows of the Christmas Rose Lodge (No. 63), of the Bolton Unity, were headed by a splendid crimson flag. The other Orders also carried flags, some of them very fine; and the Officers of each appeared in the insignia of office, thus adding considerably to the charm of the procession. An object of great attention was a Shepherd's Boy carrying a Lamb on a pony, lead by two attendants, at the head of the Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds. The Freemasons mustered in great strength, and fell into position at the rear of the procession, in the order following:—

Tyler with drawn sword.

Visiting Brethren (two and two) of the

Zetland Lodge, Cleckheaton .....	(No. 871).
Lodge of Harmony, Bradford.....	(No. 874).
Lodge of Truth, Huddersfield.....	(No. 763).
Wakefield Lodge .....	(No. 727).
Loyal Ancient St. James's, Thornton ..	(No. 656).
Prince Frederick, Hebden Bridge ....	(No. 385).
Alfred Lodge, Leeds .....	(No. 384).
Philanthropic Lodge, Leeds .....	(No. 382).
Lodge of Hope, Bradford .....	(No. 379).
Huddersfield Lodge .....	(No. 365).
Lodge of Fidelity, Leeds .....	(No. 364).
Lodge of Harmony, Huddersfield .....	(No. 342).
Amphibious Lodge, Heckmondwike ....	(No. 352).
Three Grand Principles, Dewsbury ....	(No. 251).
Junior Brethren of Lodge of Probity ..	(No. 73).

Architect (with plans)—W. W. Perkin, P. Prov. G.R.

Cornucopia with corn, borne by Bro. Lord, a Visitor from the Province of West Lancashire.

Steward.	Ewer with Wine, borne by Bro. J. Franklin, P.M., of Lodge of Probity.	Ewer with Oil, borne by Bro. W. L. Bramley, P. Prov. S.G. W., P.M. of the Lodge of Probity.	Steward.

Director of Ceremonies, Bro. T. Duncan.

Secretary, Bro. R. Riley—with Book of Constitutions on a Cushion.

Treasurer, Bro. J. Fisher, bearing a phial, containing coins, &c., &c. to be deposited in the stone.

Past Masters (two and two).

Junior Warden, Bro. W. Elliott (*pro tem.*), with plumb and rule.

Senior Warden, Bro. M. Smith (*pro tem.*), with level.

Junior Deacon.

Steward.	Chaplain, Bro. Rev. J. H. Warneford, bearing the Sacred Law and the square and compass.	Steward.
	Bro. the Rev. Dr. Senior, LL.D, P. Prov. J.G.W, accompanied by	



P. Prov. the Grand Chaplain.  
 Square, borne by Bro. T. Robertshaw, P.M.  
 Mallet, borne by Bro. Wm. Walsh, P.M.  
 W. Samuel Clark, P. Prov. G.P.  
 W. John Lee, P. Prov. G. R. and Prov. G.S.W.  
 W. W. Widdop, P. Prov. G.S.B., and P. Prov. J.W.  
 Banner of the Lodge, borne by J. B. Thornber, J.G.  
 W. Wm. Smith, P. Prov. G.S.B., bearing the sword of Prov. G. Lodge.  
 The Worshipful Master, Richard Carter, C.E., Prov. S.S.W.,  
 accompanied by Bro. Henry Edwards, S.W.  
 Senior Deacon, Bro. Wm. Stott (*pro tem.*),  
 Tyler, with drawn sword.  
 Bro. John Beckett, Prov. G.T.

Steward,

Steward,

The procession was nearly a mile in length.

The site chosen for the Town-hall is a piece of ground near the bridge, at the junction of Hollings Mill-lane with the Rochdale and Halifax turnpike-road; purchased from Messrs. Sutcliffe, of Hebden Bridge. On the procession returning over the bridge, the Secret Orders opened right and left, allowing the Freemasons first to enter the ground. The Brethren of the Craft took up their position in the immediate vicinity of the corner-stone, with the directors of the building committee, the magistrates, clergy, gentry, &c. immediately behind them upon a temporary flooring laid over the excavation. A commodious platform, with a tier of seats rising one above another, was filled with ladies, in muslin and other dresses little calculated for such an afternoon as it unfortunately turned out. The large heaps of stones hard by, the rising ground to the rear, and the barricades that had been put up, were all occupied by spectators; as, indeed, was every available space, commanding a view of the ceremony. About a quarter past three o'clock the ceremony commenced, and the rain, then beginning to fall, continued to come down all the afternoon.

Bro. J. Fielding, acting J.W. of the Lodge of Probity, presented Major Edwards, as Chairman of the Sowerby-bridge Town-hall Company, on behalf of the directors and shareholders, with a trowel, to be used in the commencement of the work they had now met to inaugurate.

[The trowel bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Henry Edwards, Esq., of Pye Nest, Deputy Lieutenant and Justice of the Peace for the West Riding of Yorkshire, by the shareholders, on the occasion of his laying, with Masonic honours, the corner-stone of the Sowerby-bridge Town-hall, on Whit Monday, May 12, 1856."]

Bro. Edwards, S.W., said he was happy to see so large an assembly. They were come, not to witness a mere idle unmeaning ceremony, but to witness the laying of the foundation-stone, and they should consider it a solemn occasion. This stone was laid as a record of what had been done in the neighbourhood of Sowerby-bridge during the last half century; and of what public spirit, animated and well directed, could do and would accomplish. It was laid, not in the gloom of solitude, but in the light of heaven—he wished he could add, in the sunshine of heaven—that the ten thousand persons then assembled might witness the ceremony with good will, and give their good wishes for the prosperity of the work—and it was laid with the consent of the Worshipful Master, and with the sanction of those ancient symbols of wisdom and of mystery. As this stone was laid at the commencement of an auspicious season of peace, might the Almighty, the G.A.O.T.U., shower down his blessings upon the inhabitants of Sowerby Bridge, and might their work prosper.

Bro. the Rev. J. H. Warneford (the Chaplain) then offered up an appropriate prayer, and

The Worshipful Master, Bro. R. Carter, having tested the lower stone, called on the Treasurer, Bro. John Fisher, who produced a phial, containing new coins of the realm, from a half-farthing to a five-shilling piece, and a roll of parchment, having upon it an inscription.

The phial having been deposited by Bro. Fisher in a cavity formed in the rock,

it was covered by a brass-plate, bearing the following inscription, read by Bro. William Perkin :—

In the Nineteenth Year of the Reign of  
HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA  
This Foundation-stone  
Of the  
SOWERBY-BRIDGE TOWN-HALL,  
Was laid  
WITH MASONIC HONOURS,  
By  
HENRY EDWARDS, ESQ., OF PYE NEST,  
Deputy-Lieutenant and Justice of the Peace for the West Riding of Yorkshire,  
ON WHIT-MONDAY,  
The 12th Day of May, A.D. 1856. A.L. 5856.  
Bro. JAMES FIELDING, J.W., Chairman.  
Messrs. Perkins and Backhouse, of Leeds, Architects.

The mortar having been spread by Bro. Edwards with the silver trowel, the corner-stone was lowered into its bed, the cavalry band playing "Rule Britannia" in slow time. The W.M. then proceeded to prove the correct adjustment of the stone with the square, level, and plumb, handed to him by the Brethren who bore them in the procession. Having the mallet also he placed it in the hands of Bro. Edwards, who struck the stone thrice, saying, "Thus, and thus, and thus, in the name of the G.A.O.T.U., I lay this foundation-stone of Sowerby-Bridge Town Hall."

Bro. the Rev. J. H. Warneford offered up another prayer to the Almighty.

The National Anthem was sung by the whole company, led by the band of the 2nd West York; and the ceremony concluded with three cheers for "The Queen," and three for "The Town-hall," led by Bro. Reed; three for "The Worshipful Master," led by Bro. Edwards; three for "The Ladies," led by Bro. Carter; three for "Major Edwards," led by Bro. Reed; and three each for "The Secret Orders," and "The Committee."

The Brethren then returned in procession to Underbank, and the crowd dispersed; but the ground was subsequently visited by hundreds of people unable to get in during the ceremony. A grand dinner closed the proceedings of the day.

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## ROYAL ARCH.

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### LONDON CHAPTERS.

#### SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The Quarterly Convocation was held in the Temple, on May 7. Present—The Most Excellent the Earl of Zetland, Z.; E. Comp. Alexander Dobie, as H.; John Havers, as J.; W. H. White, as E.; J. H. Goldsworthy, as N.; H. L. Crohn, as P.S.; T. Tombleson and Geo. Biggs, A.S.; J. N. Tomkins, S.W.B.; Peter Matthews, Dir. of Cer.; also E. Comps. J. Hervey, J. Parkinson, A. A. Le Veau, John Hervey, T. Tooke, and some twenty other Companions.

The Grand Chapter was opened in ancient and solemn form. The minutes of the last quarterly communication were read and confirmed.

The Report of the Committee for General Purposes was read, showing the following financial statement to the 16th of April :—

Balance brought forward .. ..	..	..	£442	14	5
Since received .. ..	..	..	221	12	6
			£664	6	11
Disbursements .. ..	..	..	127	6	6
			£537	0	5
Balance in hands of Treasurer ..					

The M.E.Z. then appointed as Officers for the ensuing year:—

The Earl of Yarborough, H. ; Alex. Dobie, J. ; Samuel Tomkins, Treas. ; Alex. Dobie, Reg. ; W. H. White, E. ; F. Pattison, N. ; Herbert Lloyd, P.S. ; Thos. Duke, A.S. ; Thomas Jones, A.S. ; W. E. Walmisley, S.W.B. ; Thomas Gole, St. B. ; E. Rainsford, Org. ; Jos. Smith, Dir. of Cir.

A petition was read from N. Bradford, S. Isaac, J. Washbrook, and seven other members of the St. John's Chapter, No. 196, meeting at Radley's Hotel, in New Bridge-street, setting forth that the original Charter had been lost, and praying that a new one might be granted. Before the question was put, Comp. H. G. Warren inquired how it was that the members had removed the Chapter from the locality for which it had been granted, as he understood it was done without the necessary forms and consent being first obtained, and also how long the Chapter had continued the practice of exalting Brethren without a warrant. No reply was given by the Scribe E. ; and as Comp. Warren made no motion, the subject dropped and the petition was granted ; it being, it appeared, recommended by the committee. A petition was also read from Comp. Frank and several others for a Charter for a Chapter to be attached to the Belville Lodge, No. 496, meeting at Belville, in Canada West, to be called the Moira Chapter, which petition was also granted. A memorial was read from the Building Committee of the Asylum for Aged Freemasons, at Croydon, praying for assistance to the extent of £50 from the Grand Chapter, to enable the committee to clear that establishment of debt. The prayer of the petition was unanimously granted.

Comp. Le Veau then, in pursuance of notice, moved, "That clause 20, at page 19 of the Book of Resolutions, which enacts 'No Mason shall be exalted to this Sublime Degree unless he have been a Master Mason for twelve calendar months at least, of which satisfactory proof shall be given,' be altered from twelve months to four weeks," urging that great inconvenience was sustained by the Brethren in the colonies, who were by this law unable to obtain the Degree under the English constitution so readily as under the Scottish and Irish constitutions, by this means diminishing the funds of the Grand Chapter and losing members who might otherwise have been made under the English banner.

Comp. Hervey, in seconding the motion, entered into some explanations of the settlement of the R.A. Degree, as now constituted.

Comp. Savage rose, and entreated the Grand Chapter to pause and hear some stronger reasons than had yet been advanced, ere it made so sweeping a change. The arguments at present used were to the extent of the alteration being desired only in the colonies. They had on other occasions granted concessions to their colonial Brethren, and he was not indisposed to take the matter as far as the colonies were concerned into consideration upon this occasion ; but he must repeat his caution to pause—and rather than move an amendment, he should meet the subject with a decided negative.

Comp. Havers said, he took the same view of the subject as Comp. Savage. He was not aware that the subject was to be mooted until that evening, and he heard it with great dismay. He must say, that he considered they were banded together for the noble cause of beneficence and charity, and that they ought not to take such narrow views of their institutions as to adopt changes to prevent the loss of a few men or a few pounds. They were told that the constitution of the Order was solemnly and seriously settled at the union, and doubtless good reasons were then shown for the present law. He thought they were much too ready to make alterations, and he knew not where they were to stop. The same arguments that were now advanced to alter twelve months to four weeks, might hereafter and with as much reason be made for a reduction of the interval between the degrees to one week or one day. He agreed with Comp. Savage, that to the extent of conceding the point to the colonies he would go ; but, as there was no proposal for that purpose, he should say No to the question.

Comp. Dobie could not see why the law should not be altered, and thought it would be quite consistent if the same period which was requisite between the three Degrees in Craft Masonry should be sufficient in this. It appeared when the present law was enacted at the union, the practice had been for a Brother

to be a P.M. to obtain the R.A. Degree, and the interval subsequently fixed upon was the same as was fixed upon before he could become a Master of a Lodge. Then the practice was for the Master in the chair to propose a Brother to be his successor, who was duly intrusted and as quickly gave place to another. The Duke of Sussex checked this, and the law was then enacted fixing twelve months as a probation for the R.A. Degree. He saw no real necessity or use in adhering to the twelve months in the case before them, and if the alteration was really desirable for the colonies it might just as well be made in the general law.

Comp. Dr. Hinxman said, that what he had heard from Comp. Dobie afforded, he thought, good grounds for rejecting the motion. They were satisfied that the point had been gravely considered at the union, and from what he had seen and heard, it appeared they were too much disposed to change their laws. If the alteration is desirable for the colonies, let a motion be brought forward to that effect only.

Comp. Scribe E. entered into a long explanation of Craft and R.A. Masonry throughout all time, which to the outer world would doubtless be very entertaining; but embodying, as it did, considerable portions of our ceremonials, it would be impossible to publish. Comp. White strongly recommended the alteration.

The M.E.G.Z. said, before he put the question he would submit his own opinion on the subject, premising that he thought it unwise to continue a prescription unless there was a decided necessity for so doing. He thought it desirable to make the change in England, as it was well known a Brother might, after obtaining his M.M.'s Degree, go over the border and obtain immediately the R.A. Degree. Although the reasons for the enactment were good thirty-eight years ago, he thought that at the present time there was no need for its continuance, and under these circumstances he could not but express his opinions were strong in favour of the motion. The question was then put, and carried by a large majority.

The next business was the election of six Companions for the General Committee, when the following were declared duly elected:—Comp. J. Savage, J. Hervey, A. A. Le Veau, T. Tomblason, J. Parkinson, and J. N. Tomkins. The M.E.Z. appointing Comps. Alex. Dobie, President; F. Pattison, and H. L. Crohn. All business being concluded, the Supreme Grand Chapter was closed.

The accumulation of offices in one person is noticeable: as also is the appointment of some of the Companions to office who were not actually members of the Grand Chapter.

ROBERT BURNS' CHAPTER (No. 25).—A convocation of this Chapter was holden on the 27th May, Comp. E. Robinson, M.E.Z., presiding, who (assisted by Comps. Kirby and others) exalted Bros. Winter and Rogers into the Supreme Degree. Amongst the visitors were Comp. Donald Campbell and Comp. Hughes, of No. 50, Glasgow.

MOUNT SINAI CHAPTER (No. 49).—The last convocation of the season was held on Tuesday, May 20, at the Gun Tavern, Pimlico, when Bro. Fitch, of the Lodge of Faith, was exalted to the supreme degree of Royal Arch. The following Comps. were installed into the several chairs, viz.—Cooper, Z.; Potter, H.; Barfield, J.; the ceremonies being performed by Comp. Andrew, P.Z. Comp. Daly, the P.S., nominated Comps. Copus and Norman as first and second A.S.; Comp. Garner, having been unanimously re-elected, was invested as Treasurer. All business being over, the Comps. adjourned to an elegant banquet, and, after enjoying an agreeable evening, separated with mutual good wishes for a prosperous season for 1856-57. The visitors were Comps. Watson, P.Z., No. 25; Orelli, No. 25; Morbey, No. 778; Suter, &c. &c.

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#### PROVINCIAL CHAPTERS.

GRAVESEND, KENT.—*Hermes Chapter* (No. 91).—A convocation of this Chapter was holden at the Old Falcon Hotel, on the 12th May, when Comp. Carpenter was elected Z.; Sharland, H.; and Dawson, J. The first-named Companion only

being present, he was duly installed by Comp. Wm. Watson, P.Z. Two of the Brethren were in the course of the evening exalted into the Royal Arch.

NORTHAMPTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.—*Northampton Chapter* (No. 463).—A meeting of this Chapter was held at the George Hotel, Northampton, on Friday, the 16th May, Comp. Geo. Worley M.E.Z., presiding, when the usual business relating to the Chapter was proceeded with, and the minutes of the last Chapter confirmed. The M.E.Z. then vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Machin, of the Birmingham Chapter, who, with his usual ability, exalted the following Brethren, namely :—Bros. W. Brooks, Gates, Hall, and Jones, of No. 463 ; Robinson, of No. 514 ; Montreal and Todd, of No. 687. The Chapter was then closed by the M.E.Z. The Brethren subsequently adjourned to a sumptuous banquet provided by the Messrs. Higgins, and upon the removal of the cloth, and the usual toasts having been given and responded to, the M.E.Z. rose and said that a pleasing duty had that day devolved upon him, and that it had afforded him greater pleasure than he was able to express that the presentation he was intrusted that day to make had occurred in his year of office. The Companions well knew the services rendered by Comp. Elkington, P.Z., not only to their Chapter, but to Masonry at large—the trouble and the journeys he had taken to establish their Chapter, and how ready he was at all times to impart to them his experience, and to instruct them in Freemasonry. On behalf of the Chapter he begged his acceptance of the silver claret-cup now placed on the table, as a slight mark of the respect the Chapter entertained for him, and that he hoped his life might be long spared to labour, as he had hitherto done, for the well-being of the Craft. Comp. Elkington then rose, and seemed at first to be deeply affected ; he at length said, he did not know how to reply to the observations made by the M.E. ; the compliments he had paid him were far more than he deserved. He received the cup with pride, and it would serve to remind him, not only of the Chapter that day held, and which Chapter it was true he had some share in forming, but of associations long since passed, when he had been accustomed to attend in that room on the nights of meeting of the Pomfret Lodge, and to which Lodge he had been for so long a subscribing member. The P.Z. then added that it would require the mind of a scholar to thank them, but that, unfortunately, he never was ; but he would say this, that he hoped he should always appreciate their kindness that day conferred upon him, and remain worthy of their confidence.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—*Chapter of Hope and Unity* (No. 259).—A convocation of this Chapter was holden at the White Hart Hotel, on Friday, May 6, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year :—Comps. R. Costa, Z. ; Bowers, H. ; Trevanion, J. ; Thiselton, E. ; J. A. Josephs, N. ; H. G. Warren, P.S.

WATFORD, HERTS.—*Watford Chapter* (No. 580).—The members held their first meeting for the year, in the Freemasons' Hall, on Monday, the 19th of May, for the purpose of electing the Officers for the ensuing twelve months. Comps. G. Francis, M.E.Z. ; J. How, P.Z., No. 593 and No. 661, as H. ; and H. Burchell Herne, P.Z., as J. ; King, S.E. ; T. A. Ward, P.Z., as N. ; Rogers as P.S. ; and the following Companions were elected unanimously :—John Sedgwick, Z. ; William Stuart, jun., H. ; J. Tootel, J. ; Thos. Rogers, Treas. ; King, E. ; T. A. Ward, N. ; Burchell Herne, P.S. ; Thomas, Janitor. Bro. Carpenter Ward, P.M. of the Watford Lodge, was proposed for exaltation by the M.E.Z. The Treasurer's report of the financial state of the Chapter was of the most satisfactory kind ; and after the Chapter was closed, the Companions remained in their hall for the enjoyment of a temperate banquet and a social hour.

## KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

### GRAND CONCLAVE.

The Grand Conclave was held at the Freemasons' Tavern on May 9. Present, Frs. Col. C. K. Kemys Tynte, M.E. and S.G.M. ; William Stuart, V.H. and D.G.M. ; the Rev. Edward Moore, G. Prelate ; Matthew Dawes, V.E., Prov. G.M. for Lancashire ; Charles John Vigne, V.E., Prov. G.M. for Dorsetshire ; Sir John De la Pole, 1st Capt. ; H. Udall, P.G. Capt. ; H. C. Vernon, P.G. Capt. ; R. J. Spiers, P.G. Capt. ; Michael Costa, 2nd Gr. Capt. ; J. H. Law, G.V.C. ; J. A. D. Cox, G. Reg. ; John Masson, G. Treas. ; Thomas Ward, 1st G. Expert ; R. H. Wheeler, 2nd G. Expert ; M. H. Shuttleworth, G. Almoner ; Samuel Rawson, 2nd G.A.D.C. ; William Macefield, G. Sw. B. ; Dr. Hinxman ; G. Herald ; R. Spencer, G. Ban. B. ; Capt. Bowyer ; H. Burchell-Herne ; Dr. Harcourt, J. How, Rev. J. C. Wood, Rev. G. R. Portal, W. H. Beech, Dr. Clay, Dr. Kent, and other Fraters.

The Grand Conclave was opened in due form, with solemn prayer.

The M.E. and S.G.M. then addressed the Conclave on the severe loss they had sustained by the decease of the Chancellor, whose long illness had prevented the affairs being in that perfect order in which they had been hitherto kept. However, by the indefatigable attention of the Vice-Chancellor, the accounts were to some extent arranged, and would be laid before the meeting.

The minutes of the last G. Conclave were read and confirmed.

The M.E. and S.G.M. directed alms to be collected by the G. Almoner, and during the collection of them, the G. Prelate read the usual exhortations.

The committee reported, that in consequence of the absence from England of the executor of the late Chancellor, they were unable to arrive at a correct state of their affairs ; and that it was proposed that the statement of accounts should be received, subject to correction. There was a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of £325. 9s. 11*d.*

Fr. Hinxman then, in pursuance of a notice, brought forward a resolution relative to those Encampments which had refused to recognize the authority of the G. Conclave, and also for a return of those E.Cs. who had retained that office for more than two years, in violation of the Statutes. He also drew attention to the desirability of settling the proper salute for certain officers, and suggested that the Jewel of Office should be embroidered on the gauntlets.

The V.C. Fr. Dawes, in reference to E.Cs.' holding office beyond the legal time, had, on a recent occasion, on a visit to an Encampment, finding the E.C. was put forward for a third year, objected to the proceeding, and the consequence was a new election.

Fr. H. Udall stated that when such violation of the statutes occurred, they ought to be made known to G. Conclave.

Fr. Hinxman replied that, having attained his object in drawing the attention of the G. Conclave to the subject, he should not make any motion.

The M.E. and S.G.M. announced his intention to confer another office on Fr. Masson, and proposed that the Conclave should then proceed to the election of a Treasurer. Fr. H. Udall proposed Fr. J. N. Tomkins, which was seconded, and he was duly elected.

The M.E. and S.G.M. then appointed the following Frs. Officers for the year ensuing :—Wm. Stuart, D.G.M. ; B. B. Cabbell, G. Prior ; J. C. Morris, G. Sub. Prior ; Rev. Ed. Moore, G. Prelate ; R. W. Wheeler, 1st G. Capt. ; Dr. Kent, 2nd G. Capt. ; John Masson, G. Chanc. ; J. H. Law, Vice G. Chanc. ; J. A. D. Cox, G. Reg. ; Major A. P. Browne, G. Cham. ; S. Rawson, G. Hosp. ; Capt. Dawes, 1st G. Expert ; G. B. Cole, 2nd G. Expert ; Dr. Harcourt, 1st G. St. B. ; Dr. Clay, 2nd G. St. B. ; M. H. Shuttleworth, G. Alm. ; A. Wilson, G. Dir. Cers. ; Rev. J. G. Wood, A.D.C.

The following Fraters were elected by the G. Conclave members of the Com-

mittee for General Purposes for the year ensuing :—Frs. the Rev. Ed. Moore, H. Burchell-Herne, R. J. Spiers, M. H. Shuttleworth, and R. W. Wheeler ; and the M.E. and S.G.M. appointed Dr. Hinxman, Goldsworthy, H. Udall, and J. N. Tomkins also members of the said committee.

The funds in the hands of the Almoner were £13. 9s. 10d., which, with £4. 5s. collected that day, made a total of £17. 14s. 10d.

The sum of ten guineas was voted to the Institution for the Education of Soldiers' Daughters ; and two guineas to the fund collecting for Fr. Coggin.

The M.E. and S.G.M. mentioned that it had lately come to his knowledge that Fr. W. H. White, who had rendered great services to the Order on its revival some years since, had incurred expenses which had not been repaid him, and he (the G.M.) was desirous of suggesting a vote of a sum of money for the purpose of discharging the debt.

Fr. Tomkins feared that such a vote might not be agreeable to Fr. White. Some further remarks having been made on the subject, it was resolved that a vote of thanks for Fr. White's services be tendered to him, and that the committee should institute an inquiry into the circumstances, and be empowered to repay any expenses that had been incurred by Fr. White.

The G. Conclave was then closed in ancient form, and with solemn prayer. The Fraters, of whom there were thirty-six present, then adjourned to banquet.

BRISTOL.—*Camp of Baldwyn, from Time Immemorial.*—This Ancient and Independent Encampment held its annual festival at the White Lion Hotel, Broadstreet, on Friday the 9th of May, when a large number of Knights Companions were present. The Most Eminent Supreme G.M. of the Order, Sir Knight Henry Shute, being unable to attend through illness, the chair was most ably filled by the D.G.M., Sir Knight Davyd W. Nash. The "Health of her Majesty the Queen" having been responded to with loyal enthusiasm, the D.G.M. observed, that although the Sir Knights were not assembled as Knights Templar only, but as a union of the Five Orders comprising the Camp of Baldwyn, yet as all the Orders of Christian Knighthood were indissolubly bound up with the illustrious Order of the Temple, he would propose that toast which should always be given in an assembly of Knights Templar, "The Memory of the last G.M. of the entire Order, Jaques de Molay," who perished on the scaffold, a victim to the sordid avarice and perfidy of a tyrant and a pope, on Sunday, the 11th of March, 1313. The toast was received and drunk by the Sir Knights in solemn silence. The D.G.M. next proposed "The Health of Sir Knight Henry Shute, the G.M. of the Order," whose absence they all deplored, the more so as it was occasioned by a painful illness ; it had been determined that the festival should be held in honour of the natal day of Sir Knight Shute, and he was sure they would readily believe that it was a matter of deep regret to him that he could not be with them. The toast was drunk with much cordiality and enthusiasm. In proposing "The Healths of the Dukes of Athol and Leinster, as the G.Ms. of the Knights Templar of Scotland and Ireland," the D.G.M. observed, that the Encampments of Scotland and Ireland were, like that of Baldwyn, from time immemorial, descended from the Knights who, after the martyrdom of De Molay, in 1313, connected themselves with the Masonic body, rather than enter the ranks of their rivals, the Knights of the Hospital. In Scotland, the Knights Templar joined the fortunes of the heroic Bruce, and fought under his banner at the battle of Bannockburn, and they could boast among the lists of their G.Ms. one of the most heroic and gallant warriors of modern times, John Graham, of Claverhouse, Viscount Dundee. This toast was acknowledged by Sir Knight William Powell.

The Dep. Grand Master then proposed "The General Grand Encampment of Knights Templar for the United States of America," and coupled with that toast the name of a distinguished Knight, Sir Theodore S. Greerdin, E.C., of South Carolina, Encampment No. 1, who has published an excellent historical sketch of the Order, in which he has done full justice to the antiquity and position of the Camp of Baldwyn, of Bristol. The toast was acknowledged by Sir Knight S. E. Taylor.

Sir Knight Samuel Bryant, the M.E.C. of the Knights Rosæ Crucis proposed, in an appropriate speech, "The Health of the Dep. Grand Master, Sir Knight D. W. Nash," whose ability, courtesy, great Masonic knowledge and research, rendered him essentially qualified for the distinguished position he held amongst them. The Companions received this toast with rounds of applause, thus testifying their esteem and regard for their Deputy Grand Master, who is deservedly most popular with all the Fraternity of his province. The Dep. Grand Master, in an eloquent and lengthened speech, replied, dilating upon several very interesting historical and other facts relating to the Order, and concluded by thanking the Sir Knights for the very handsome and kind manner in which they had received the toast.

The Dep. Grand Master next proposed, successively, "The Health of the E. Commander of the Rosæ Crucis Camp, Sir Knight Samuel Bryant;" "The Health of the E. Commander of Knights Templar, Sir Knight S. E. Taylor;" of "The E. C. of the Sword, Crest, and Eagle," Sir Knight George Chick; and of "Sir Knight William Powell, the E.C. of the Scotch Knights of Kilwinning:" these toasts were severally acknowledged.

In proposing "The health of the E.C. of the Nine Elect," the Dep. Grand Master observed, that he regretted the Degree of Grand Elected Knights Kadosh, which had in former times been given in the Camp of Baldwyn, as in other of the ancient Encampments in England, had fallen into abeyance in this Encampment. It was a degree held in great estimation on the Continent, and had been revived in this country with great splendour by the Supreme Council of the 33rd Degree, who were about, he believed, to establish consistories of the 30th Degree of Knights Kadosh in several places in England.

The Dep. Grand Master next proposed "The Health of the E.C. and Companions of the Camp of Antiquity of Bath," the sister Encampment of Baldwyn, which had been revived and was now working under the same authority; he was delighted to see these ancient and time-honoured Camps rising again to their original splendour. Sir Knight S. E. Taylor, Past E.C. of the Camp of Antiquity, in acknowledging the toast said,—"That at the request of the surviving Companion of the Knights of the old Camp, he had with considerable pleasure assisted in re-opening it. They could never forget the important fact that the late D.P.G.M. of Bristol, Bro. Husenbeth, was at one time the E.C., and took much interest in its working and prosperity; he, Sir Knight Taylor, had enjoyed the privilege of being the first Commander of that revived Camp."

The memory of the late Grand Master and Superintendent, Sir Knight William Powell, was drunk in solemn silence. The health of the Sir Knights newly installed, and that of the Chancellor and Recorder, having been proposed and responded to, the Companions separated, having spent a most delightful evening.

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## SCOTLAND.

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### GLASGOW.

*St. Mark's Lodge* (No. 102).—At a meeting on the 21st April, Bro. D. Campbell, as R.W.M., and the Wardens, Bros. J. Reid and R. Thomson, jun., affiliated Bros. J. C. Crawford, J. Bryden, and Daniel Mackay, M.Ms. of the Lodges *St. John's*, England, No. 844, *St. Thomas*, Muirkirk, and *St. Mungo*, Glasgow, No 27. Messrs. Thomas Shiels and William Leslie Stuart were afterwards initiated. At an Emergency Meeting on the 28th, Bro. Campbell occupied the chair; Robert Mitchell, acting S., and Robert Thomson, jun., J.W. Mr. Alexander Turner's application for initiation was entertained and complied with, he being found well recommended. Instructors were appointed to Bro. Turner, and on a motion regularly made and carried, Bro. George Smythe Moncrieff, M.M., of Lodge *Fortrose*, Stornoway, No. 108, was affiliated. On the 5th May, the R.W.M. Bro. W. B. Huggins, the Wardens, D. M. Bro. Campbell, and a large



attendance of Brothers of this and sister Lodges, being present, Messrs. John Hamilton Hamilton, and William Walker Scott, were found well vouched for, and were initiated. Bro. Hamilton being about to leave this country, as was fully certified, and on Sect. 4, cap. 21, of the Grand Lodge Laws being implemented, was, along with Bros. Leonard Gow, Allan, C. Gow, Morrison, Kyle, Thomas Shiels, James McL. Henderson, Robert Whyte, Alexander Turner, R. T. Pearce (and, by courtesy, an apprentice of St. John's, No. 312), passed to the Fellow-Craft Degree. Bro. D. Campbell, D.M., read an excellent and instructive paper on the Tracing-Board and Symbols of the Fellow-Craft Degree, and the R.W.M. moved a vote of thanks to Bro. Campbell, which motion was seconded by Bro. Robert Thomson, jun., and unanimously carried. At an emergency meeting on the 9th May, Bro. Campbell officiated as R.W.M. and the S.W., Bro. John Reid, and acting J.W., Bro. John Werge, and other Office-Bearers and Brethren, assisted him. The Lodge having been opened and raised, Bros. James Easton, John Hamilton Hamilton, Alexander Turner, William Whyte, jun., and Robert Whyte, who was about to travel, as was properly certified, were all found eligible, and were raised from the Fellow-Craft to the Sublime Degree of M.M.

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### ROYAL ARCH.

GLASGOW.—*Glasgow Chapter* (No. 50).—This Chapter met in Saint Mark's Hall on 2nd May; the M. and P. Lodges of the Chapter were opened, when Bros. Donald Campbell, as R.W.M., James Horne, S.W., and Robert Thomson, jun., J.W., conducted the business. Bros. Ralph S. Boyd and J. G. Galbraith, both M.Ms. of St. Mark's Lodge, were initiated in the Mark, and elected in the Past Degree. The Chapter was opened of the same date, and a motion as to some irregular actings was disposed of. On the 9th May, R.W.M. Bro. D. Campbell presided, and acting S. and J.W. Bros. John and Robert Thomson, jun., assisted him, with other Brethren, in initiating Bros. John Mitchell Moubray and J. H. Hamilton in the M. and P. Degrees. Thereafter, in the Chapter, these Brethren were passed through the Excellent and exalted to the Sublime Degree of Royal Arch Masonry, by Comps. D. Campbell, James Horne, and George Macleod, as Z., H., and acting J.

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### COLONIAL.

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#### MALTA.

*Union of Malta Lodge* (No. 588).—Through the kindness of Bro. Spencer, Masonic Bookseller, &c., we were favoured with a view of a handsome presentation silver chain-collar and P.M.'s jewel, with the following inscription engraved on the back, viz. :—

“To P.M. Bro. Winthrop, as a mark of esteem and respect, by the Brethren of Lodge No. 588, Union of Malta.”

The Masonic emblems on the chain were beautifully executed, the whole exhibiting great taste in the manufacturer, and we have no doubt will be fully appreciated by the recipient, who has *our* hearty good wishes.

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### AMERICA.

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#### VERMONT.

At the annual meeting, held at Burlington, on the 9th January last, Bro. Bowditch from the committee to whom was referred the communication from the

Grand Lodge of Canada, made their report, which was unanimously accepted and adopted. It said, that before entering upon a strict examination of the matter, they were disposed to look upon the action of the delegates assembled at the city of Hamilton on the 10th day of October, A. L. 5855, with suspicion, as being revolutionary in its tendency, and as having been prompted by a spirit of insubordination to the Venerable Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland, instead of a spirit of devotion to the welfare of the Fraternity. Yet your committee, upon a full investigation of the premises, find all the statements set forth in the Communication from the Grand Lodge of Canada to be true. That the Masons of Canada, in this movement, were actuated by no spirit of insubordination, revenge, hatred, or malice toward the Venerable Grand Lodges of England, Ireland or Scotland; not that they loved and venerated those Grand Lodges less, but that they loved the cause more, and considered the existence, interests, and welfare of Masonry in Canada as demanding precedence over every other consideration; that the Lodges in Canada would gladly, throughout all time, subject themselves to the jurisdiction of either of said Grand Lodges, were it possible to overcome the insurmountable barriers of distance, and means of communication which the G.A.O.T.U. has placed in the way—barriers which must remain, and ever render it utterly impossible for the Lodges in Canada to force their way within hailing distance of the practical jurisdiction of either. [The report then quoted an extract from the *Freemasons' Magazine* of December last, to justify the step taken by our Canadian Brethren, and proceeded:—] Your committee further find that forty-one Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons, all in good standing, a portion of which were working under authority derived from each of the Grand Lodges aforesaid, united in this movement, *ex necessitate*, and that the warrants under which they acted have all been surrendered and returned to the sources from which they emanated. It was urged before your committee that the assent of the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland should have been obtained before the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada: but your committee are not aware of the existence of any Masonic law or usage giving to the Grand Lodges aforesaid the power to establish or prevent the formation of a Grand Lodge in Canada. Entertaining the opinion which your committee do, and which the Masonic world must, of the high reputation of the three Venerable Grand Lodges aforesaid, your committee are unwilling to believe that they, or either of them, will for a moment harbour or tolerate a sectional or selfish view of this matter, but, on the other hand, feeling, as they must, an interest in the prosperity of the cause the world over, will with one accord hail our Brethren of Canada, and with a paternal and fraternal blessing bid them a hearty God speed in their new organization.

Believing that there was, on the 10th day of October, A. L. 5855, at the City of Hamilton, in Canada West, a Grand Lodge of Canada, constitutionally and Masonically established, according to ancient usages and precedents of the Order, this committee unanimously recommended the passing of the following resolution:—

“*Resolved*—That the Grand Lodge of Vermont cordially extends to the Grand Lodge of Canada the right hand of fellowship, and recognises it as an independent Grand Lodge, entitled to all the courtesies and fraternal regards due to the most favoured Grand Lodge.”

Other business having been transacted, Bro. Washburn, from the committee appointed on the subject of exchanging representatives with the Grand Lodge of Canada, reported the following resolution, which was passed by a unanimous vote:—

“*Resolved*—That this Grand Lodge will receive a delegate from the Grand Lodge of Canada, and that the Grand Master be and he is hereby authorized to appoint some suitable Brother a delegate to attend the communications of the Grand Lodge of Canada as a representative from this Grand Lodge.”

## SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR MAY.

### THE PEACE.

Sunday, May the 4th, was observed as a Day of Thanksgiving for the return of Peace, and appropriate sermons were preached throughout the land. Her Majesty and family attended divine service in the chapel attached to Buckingham Palace, in the morning, and in Westminster Abbey in the afternoon. In the course of the following week, an address from both Houses of Parliament approving the peace were presented to her Majesty. On the 29th there was a grand display of fireworks, and illuminations in various parts of the metropolis in honour of the event.

### IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords, on the 28th April, Lord Brougham brought in a bill to consolidate the Marriage Law of Scotland with that of England, and Lord Clarendon laid on the table the treaty of peace. On the 29th, the Exchequer Bills Bill and some private bills received the royal assent. On the 2nd May, Lord Redesdale brought in a bill for doing away with exemptions under the Smoke-consuming Act. On the 5th, the Earl of Ellesmere moved an address to the Queen on the treaty of peace, assuring her of the satisfaction with which it had been received by the House. The address was agreed to without a division. On the 6th, the County Courts Amendment Bill and the Joint-Stock Companies Winding-up Amendment Bill were read a second time. On the 8th, the grant of £1,000 a year to General Williams, whom her Majesty has created a baronet, was approved, and a vote of thanks given to the Army, Navy, Marines, and Militia, for their services during the war. On the 9th, at the instance of the Bishop of Oxford, a select committee was appointed to investigate the mode of carrying out capital punishments, and then some bills having been advanced a stage, the House adjourned for the Whitsun holidays. On the 19th, a motion of the Earl of Albemarle for a select committee to inquire into the affairs of the Indian Empire was negatived. On the 20th, the Lord Chancellor's Matrimonial Causes and Divorce Bill was referred to a select committee. On the 22nd, Lord Colchester drew attention to the Maritime laws, and moved a resolution deprecating their alteration as was proposed by the plenipotentiaries at Paris. His motion was negatived by 156 to 102. On the motion of the Earl of Shaftesbury a committee was appointed on the 23rd to consider the operation of the ticket-of-leave system. On the 26th the Earl of Albemarle's motion for returns on the subject of the administration of India affairs was after some discussion withdrawn. On the 27th, after some explanations relative to the Danubian principalities and Central America, several bills were advanced a stage.

In the House of Commons, on April 28, Lord Palmerston laid on the table the treaty of peace, and Mr. Whiteside brought on his motion relative to the fall of Kars, declaring it to be owing to the want of foresight and energy on the part of her Majesty's administration. The debate lasted throughout the evenings of the 28th, the 29th of April, and the 1st May, when it was negatived by a majority of 303 to 176. On the 30th April, the House was in committee on the Dwellings for the Labouring Classes (Ireland) Bill. On the 2nd, after some conversation on the propriety of military bands playing in the parks on a Sunday (since relinquished in consequence of the interference of the Archbishop of Canterbury and members of various religious bodies), the Boroughs and Counties Police Bill went into committee. On the 5th, Mr. Evelyn Denison moved an address to the Queen, approving of the treaty of peace, which after some discussion and cavilling relative to the words "joy" and "satisfaction," was agreed to on the following day. On the 7th, the Tithe Commutation Rent-Charge Bill was read a second time, and the Aggravated Assaults Bill lost by a majority of 135 to 97. On the 8th, the grant of £1,000 a year to General Williams was approved, and a vote of thanks given

to the Army, Navy, Marines, and Militia, as in the Lords. On the 9th, Lord Palmerston, in reply to a question, stated that it was her Majesty's intention to grant an amnesty to all political offenders, excepting those who had broken their parole. The grant of £1,000 a year to General Williams having passed through committee, the House occupied itself with the debates of the Boroughs and Counties Police Bill. The House then adjourned for the Whitsun holidays. On the 19th, the Chancellor of the Exchequer made his financial statement, from which it appeared he calculated upon a deficiency of £8,873,000; and if the vote of credit be deducted, £6,873,000. To meet this deficiency the Government did not propose to increase the existing taxes or to search for new imposts. They had resolved to borrow £5,000,000 in consols, and a transaction to that extent had that forenoon been concluded. In addition to this operation, power would be asked to borrow £1,873,000 on Exchequer Bonds, and a like power to borrow for £2,000,000 as a vote of credit. On the 20th, Mr. Henry Berkeley's annual motion in favour of the ballot was negatived by 151 to 111. On the 21st, Mr. Packe's Church Rate Bill was withdrawn, in deference to the feelings of the House. On the 22nd, Mr. Patten's Factories Bill, the Reformatory and Industrial Schools Bill, and the Formation of Parishes Bill, passed through committee. On the 23rd, the Oath of Abjuration Bill, by which the members of the Jewish profession will be admitted to seats in Parliament, passed through committee. On the 26th the Joint Stock Companies bill passed through committee, and the Partnership Amendment Bill was read a second time. On the 27th, a motion of Mr. Miall's for a committee to inquire into the temporalities of the Irish Church was rejected by a majority of 163 to 93.

#### ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

On the 8th there was a slight mutiny amongst some of the German legion, stationed near Plymouth, as they complained of the hardness of their drill and that they were only enlisted to serve during war. It was suppressed without any serious consequences resulting.

The trial of William Palmer for the murder of John Parsons Cook, by poison, at Rugeley, was commenced at the Central Criminal Court, on the 14th instant and continued until the 27th, when the jury found a verdict of Guilty. The evidence was wholly circumstantial.

On the 19th two seamen were killed by the explosion of a gun, when firing a salute on the occasion of her Majesty laying the foundation-stone of a new Military Hospital, at Netley, near Southampton.

On the same day four men lost their lives by an explosion at Woolwich.

#### JOINT-STOCK BANKS.

On the twenty-third annual meeting of the Provincial Bank of England, held on the 8th, the net or undivided profits on the 31st December, 1855, were declared to be £211,196. 6s. 5d., and the report said, the directors have the satisfaction to announce to the proprietors that it is their intention to declare a bonus of 8 per cent. on the company's stock, to be paid along with the usual half-yearly dividend, at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, in July next; after payment of the bonus the reserve fund will stand at £175,195. 6s. 5d. The report was adopted, and, in consequence of the increase in the company's business, the directors authorised to call up new capital by the issue of 15,000 shares of £20 each, rateably amongst the proprietors.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Bank of Ireland was held on the 15th. The report, after showing a very favourable state of accounts, concluded by saying, the directors have to intimate to the proprietors that it is their intention to pay, in July next, a bonus or extraordinary dividend of £1 on each £100 share (£25 paid), and 8s. on each £10 share, of the capital stock of the bank, in addition to the usual half-yearly dividend of 4 per cent., making the amount to be then paid £2 on each £100 share, and 16s. on each £10 share, for the half-year ending at Midsummer next; and they will also, as heretofore, pay the property tax for the proprietors.

## BENEVOLENT.

The anniversary festival of the Royal Literary Fund, for the relief of literary men of standing in the hour of distress, was celebrated at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 7th May. The Duke of Cambridge presided, and the subscriptions announced amounted to £1,300. The proceedings were as dull as the Society is exclusive.

The anniversary festival of the Royal Asylum of St. Ann's Society was celebrated at the London Tavern, on the 5th. The Society was established in 1790, to afford a home, clothing, and education to the children (boys and girls) of once prosperous parents (whether orphans or not) of any nation. Lord Ashley occupied the chair, and stated that the institution now contained 238 children, and the committee had recently largely increased the accommodation of the asylum at Streatham, originally built in 1829, by which they had incurred a debt of about £3,000, which he trusted the liberality of the company that evening would go far to reduce. The appeal was responded to by a subscription of about £1,200. The funds of the Society have since been materially increased by a most successful bazaar, at Leigham-court, Streatham.

The anniversary festival of the corporation of the Sons of the Clergy, established under the charter of King Charles II., for assisting necessitous clergymen, pensioning and assisting their widows and aged single daughters, and educating, apprenticing, and providing outfits for their children, was celebrated on the 21st, according to the usual custom, by a full choral service at St. Paul's in the afternoon, and a dinner in Merchant Taylors' Hall in the evening. The Lord Mayor presided, and the subscription of the evening amounted to about £4,000.

The annual festival of the Goldsmiths' Benevolent Institution was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on April the 29th, when nearly 100 gentlemen sat down to dinner, under the presidency of Mr. James Bogle Smith, Prime Warden of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths. After the customary and loyal toasts were gone through with, Mr. Lambert, the Treasurer, read a list of subscriptions, which amounted to near £700. Mr. B. Banks, jun., officiated as toastmaster with great tact.

## PROVIDENT.

On the 28th April the sixth annual meeting of the Accidental Death Insurance Company was held. The report said—"During the past year 4,350 policies have been issued, the premiums of which amount to £6,855. 8s. 11*d.*, of which £176. 18s. was for policies for the whole of life, and the remaining £6,678. 10s. 11*d.* for annual policies, which latter sum will, therefore, become available in future years as renewal premiums. The total amount of premiums received during the year is £28,152. 2s. 3*d.* The claims paid during the year amount to £10,712. 16s. 6*d.* There are also fatal claims amounting to £1,588. 10s. applicable to the year, which had been allowed but were not paid until February last, in consequence of the non-production of probates, and which, in point of fact, raise the claims for the year to no less a sum than £12,301. 16s. 6*d.*" The report was adopted, and a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. declared, provision being made to meet probable claims on outstanding policies.

On the 29th April the annual meeting of the Kent Mutual Life Assurance Society was held. The following are extracts from the report:—"Three hundred and fifty-one new policies having been issued in the year this day ended, representing new premiums amounting to £6,401. 4s. 10*d.*, and the gross premiums being thus increased to the large sum of £24,531. 14s. 11*d.*, the directors do not hesitate to anticipate that you will join in their gratification at such a result. The total number of policies issued is 1,848; the premiums, £24,531. 14s. 11*d.*; and the amount assured, £686,174. 16s. 7*d.* The yearly statements of receipt and expenditure up to the 25th of March last, and of the assets and liabilities as at that date duly framed and audited, are laid before you, exhibiting transactions of a very large extent, and showing assets and a balance in favour of the society amounting to £48,408. 8s. 8*d.* Fourteen claims have been paid (making twenty-seven since the commencement of the Society)

during the year, amounting to £3,575. 8s. 11d. One of them which greatly swelled the gross amount paid, was that of the Lord Viscount Chewton, the much-lamented chairman of the Kent Mutual Fire Society, who died of wounds received at the battle of the Alma. His life was assured here for £2,500; and £1,000 thereof having been reassured, the loss to the Society by his untimely death was £1,500." The report was adopted.

On the 6th May the tenth annual meeting of the Sovereign Life Assurance Company was held, and a report presented, which said—"During the last fifteen months, ending on the 31st of December, the board have issued 353 policies, assuring £130,308, and producing new premiums to the extent of £4,870. 9s. 10d. The total addition to the income of the office amounts to £23,807. 12s. 9d., while £900 has been received for the purchase of immediate annuities. The directors cannot but consider this result as satisfactory, the account having reference to a period the financial depression of which is evidenced by the fact that they have been called on to pay, during its duration, an amount for the surrender of policies nearly equal to the entire sum demanded during the previous nine years. Although assurances to the extent of nearly half a million were in force on the 31st of December last, the claims by death continue remarkably small, a feature in the operations of the office to which the directors are particularly desirous at this moment to give publicity, as it has enabled them to accumulate a large sum for future contingencies, independent of the paid-up and invested capital of £45,900." The report was adopted, and, in order to meet competition and extend the business, the directors authorised to expend from £1,000 to £1,500 a year in advertising.

On the 14th the annual meeting of the Metropolitan Life Assurance Society was held at the office. The summary of the experience of the Society to the 5th of April last was as follows:—The number of policies issued had been 4,077, of which 943 had ceased, leaving 3,134 existing policies, the annual premiums receivable on which amounted to £99,424. 5s. 2d. The aggregate of the claims on the Society, by death, was £358,536. 15s. 5d., of which the sum £50,869 had arisen during the past year. The total amount of abatement of premiums made to its members had been £288,777. 3s. 9d. The accumulated capital to the 5th April last, was £711,063. 7s. 11d. The report was adopted, and the retiring directors re-elected.

On the same day the Legal and Commercial Life Assurance held its annual meeting. The Secretary read the report, from which it appeared that the total number of policies issued to December 30, 1855, was 2,370, and the amount insured was £938,933. Up to that time the number of policies remaining in force amounted to 1,443, which represented £594,448 assured. The total number of premiums received by the society, *ab initio*, was £98,426. 10s. 10d., and the amount received on lapsed policies was 19,503. 11s. 11d. The aggregate claims by death were £26,447, and the disbursement for the surrender of policies was £637. 14s. 5d. The amount of premiums received during the past year was £18,603. 7s. 11d., and the number of claims seven, representing £4,149. The surplus carried to the general assurance fund for the past year was £9,535. 11s. 4d., and the income of the society, to December 31, was £21,800. The report was adopted.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

An injunction has been granted to prevent the republication of the *True Britannia*, or any colourable imitation thereof, the *Britannia* having been amalgamated with the *John Bull*. The united journal is rapidly rising in public esteem.

The Unity Mutual Joint-Stock Banking Association commenced business at Unity Buildings, Cannon-street, and 1, New Coventry-street, on the 1st; and on the 2nd, nearly 300 gentlemen celebrated the event by a grand dinner at the London Tavern, at which Mr. J. J. Mechi, the governor, presided.

Lord Wodehouse has been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of St. Petersburg.

Her Majesty's Ministers were entertained by the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House on the 7th.

Our distinguished Brother, Lord Dalhousie, arrived in England on the 13th, in very debilitated health. The East India Company have voted his lordship an annuity of £5,000.

On the 13th, a new loan of £5,000,000 was negotiated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on very favourable terms.

On the 15th, a very elegant testimonial, of the value of about £400, was presented at the Freemasons' Tavern to Dr. Hassall, in appreciation of his exertions in exposing the adulterations in food.

From a return just issued, it appears that the gross amount realised in 1855 from Fire insurances effected in the United Kingdom was £1,341,242. For 1850 the amount was £1,159,530; for 1854, £1,313,223.

The abolition of the stamp duties on newspapers and the substitution of a postage charge have caused a decrease of about one-fourth in the number of newspapers posted. There are still about seventy-one millions of newspapers per annum posted, or 200,000 per day. Of these much the larger portion bear the impressed stamp.

The freedom of the City of London was presented to Admiral Sir Edward Lyons at Guildhall on the 19th.

Her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert have made a joint contribution of £500 to the fund for the erection of the Memorial Church at Constantinople.

We have been extremely gratified by an inspection of the gorgeous apparel prepared for the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts by Bro. Spencer. It is beautifully executed, and moreover is placed in an upright pedestal, including drawers, itself forming a very handsome piece of Lodge furniture. By a clever contrivance each drawer is fitted with slips, which are easily and closely fixed, and secure the gauntlets from obstructing the opening of the drawers. The whole is a fine specimen of thoroughly artistic design and workmanship, and corroborates the estimation entertained for our worthy Brother Spencer, by all who either employ or know him.

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## Obituary.

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### BRO. GEORGE JAMES BALDWIN.

On the 12th of May, at Fortwilliam, Glasthule, Kingstown, Bro. George James Baldwin, Esq. Bro. Baldwin had been for many years a most prominent supporter of our ancient Order, and the Craft will sadly mourn the loss of one who took so lively an interest in all that concerned the Order, to which he became so warmly attached. Bro. Baldwin's qualities endeared him to all classes of society, and his demise will be a source of regret to many sincere and sorrowing friends. He filled without intermission for upwards of thirty years the secretaryship of St. Patrick's Lodge, No. 50, and was mainly instrumental in reviving Masonry in Ireland. Bro. G. J. Baldwin was a zealous, faithful member of the haut grades to K.H. or 30th inclusive.

### THE R.W. BRO. SIR FREDERICK GUSTAVUS FOWKE, BART.

On the 17th of May, at Leamington, in his 75th year, Sir Frederick Gustavus Fowke, Bart., of Lowesby Hall, Leicestershire, the R.W. Grand Master for the province of Leicester. The deceased was born in January, 1782, and by his lady, Mary Anne, the only daughter of the late Alex. Henderson, Esq., has left five sons and one daughter. He was descended from the Fowkes of Staffordshire. The estate of Lowesby he derived from his mother, the second daughter and co-heir of Sir Isaac Woollaston, Bart.

### BRO. SAMPSON PAYNE.

We regret to have to announce the death of Bro. Sampson Payne, which took place towards the close of the month, somewhat suddenly. Bro. Payne at the time of his death was Mayor of Southampton.

## NOTICE.

THE EDITOR requests that ALL COMMUNICATIONS may be sent to him, at 74-5, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn Fields, by the 20th of each month AT LATEST, to insure their insertion.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The large amount of Masonic intelligence which has pressed upon us this month has compelled us to increase the size of our publication by nearly one-half; but we have done so ungrudgingly and without extra charge to our readers, being determined to redeem the pledge we gave at the commencement of the year, that it should be made consonant with the requirements of the Craft.

“ALFRED”—We consider it at all times advisable for the W.M. to instal his successor in the chair, but there is no absolute necessity for his doing it. If he is capable of performing the ceremony, it is unquestionably his duty to do so.

“P. M.” asks,—“Did Bro. Patten act correctly by giving up the chair, which he had been unanimously appointed to fill, at the General Meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Annuity Fund, on the arrival of the Earl of Zetland, who came half an hour after the appointed time for the chair to be taken.”—[We think he acted courteously, though not altogether correctly.]

“C. W.,” Brighton, is thanked for his communications. A notice of the Lodge he alludes to appears in the Magazine for February.

“O. B.” asks us the following questions:—1st, “When a Lodge is closed for a time or during the Master’s pleasure, are the members thereof liable for Lodge dues during the period it remains so closed?” 2nd, “At the appointed time, by the bye-laws of a Lodge, for the election of a W.M., a heavy list of members for Lodge dues is handed in by the Treasurer; the W.M., in conformity with the bye-laws, has the names of all such defaulters struck off the roll of the Lodge, by the result of which there is no one eligible for the chair, and the W.M. then presiding ceases in power, he having been already two years in office; the Lodge is therefore closed for a time, and at another period the Lodge is reopened, such time being a few months previous to the regular time laid down by the laws for election of a W.M., and which opening is brought about by the immediate P.M.’s summoning a Lodge: what is to be done under such circumstances as regards the chair and officers to carry out the working of the Lodge?” 3rd, “There being no officers at the re-opening, has the Immediate P.M. the authority to appoint or instal officers until the next election?” 4th, “If Wardens and other officers so appointed or installed, would Wardens be eligible for the Master’s chair at the next election?”

[To the first question we reply, “Certainly;” to the second, we should think the Master acted most improperly in closing the Lodge in the manner stated, and when a Lodge was called, any of the Brethren might be put in office for that evening; to the third, he could not make such appointments; and, to the fourth, they would not be eligible for the chair, having been illegally appointed—indeed, we much doubt if the course pursued would not subject the Lodge to the loss of its Charter. Under the circumstances, if no other Brother is eligible to take the Master’s chair, a dispensation should be obtained to enable the Master to continue in it.]

“J. C.”—We do not wish to enter into personal questions; but we certainly do not understand the opposition by certain Grand Officers to Bro. Barrett, after the testimony just borne to his services as V.P. of the Board of General Purposes.

“S. S.”—We regret that the Grand Lodge of Ireland finds reason to complain of the neglect by the Grand Lodge of England of its communications. We do not wonder at it, but no cure can be expected until the Masonic Reform Society gets to work. As to the Irish Freemasons, they are the worst correspondents we have, and if they expect us to fight their battles, they must let us hear of their proceedings more regularly.