

THE CHARGE AGAINST THE GRAND REGISTRAR.

THE proceedings of Grand Lodge on Wednesday last, exhibit an instructive lesson which brethren will do well to ponder. Never did the cause of justice and good order enjoy a more perfect triumph, and never was faction more signally defeated on the battle field of its own choice. We trust that we have now seen an end of these conflicts; it must be evident to all, and most, we should imagine, to Bro. Portal and the Grand Lodge Club, that the Craft are weary and sick of their proceedings. It is a matter for deep congratulation that the brethren generally are awakened to a sense of the dangers by which they were threatened, and are bestirring themselves to take a more active share in the administration of the concerns of the Craft.

It may be useful briefly to recapitulate the facts as they appeared in the debate at last Grand Lodge—they may be comprised within very narrow limits.

The Grand Registrar is charged by Bro. Whitmore with misconduct in his office, in having organized a party movement for the purpose of securing the election of certain brethren as members of the Board of General Purposes; and in support of this view it is argued, that as it is admitted on the evidence of certain letters that a meeting took place at the Grand Registrar's chambers, that therefore the charge is proved; that the Grand Registrar had no right to hold such meeting; that a paragraph in a newspaper, professing to give an account of what took place at such meeting is substantially true, with the exception of a statement therein made in reference to a well known brother, which is admitted to be a little "embellished;" that Grand Lodge is not called on to censure the Grand Registrar, but only to express its regret; and is invited to give such an opinion as will prevent similar occurrences in the future. On the other side it was urged that the Grand Registrar has a perfect right to consult any of his

friends, that to do so would not be to organize a party movement; that it has always been the custom to prepare beforehand lists of candidates for the various Boards; that these lists have hitherto been prepared secretly; and that on the occasion referred to, the Grand Registrar invited a large number of brethren of all parties, many of whom were unknown to him, and requested their assistance, not alone for the purpose of selecting good men for the work of the Boards, but to advise and assist him generally in the management of the work of Grand Lodge; and that this was a straightforward and constitutional proceeding, and likely to be advantageous to the Craft. On the evidence of several brethren who were present, it was shown that the account of the meeting was a gross fabrication; and it was more than hinted that the motion of Bro. Whitmore was never intended to come on, but was what is popularly termed an election "dodge." The case being argued out, was met and disposed of by the following amendment:—

"That this Grand Lodge is of opinion that the charge implied against the Grand Registrar is unfounded; and that the giving of notice of motion imputing misconduct to any brother upon insufficient grounds, or on mere assumption of facts, is deserving of severe censure."

The overwhelming majority by which the amendment was carried, must, we think, carry out to the full extent the wish expressed by Bro. Binckes, that Grand Lodge would pronounce such an opinion as will prevent a similar occurrence. In a letter which we published from that brother last week, we find it stated that the Grand Lodge Club had no connexion with the motion levelled against the Grand Registrar. We will not throw a doubt upon Bro. Binckes's word, but we feel it our duty to call attention to the fact that notice of the motion was given by Bro. Whitmore, who is Treasurer of the Club; that it was moved by Bro. Binckes, who is Secretary of the Club; and supported by Bro. Stebbing, a Vice President of the Club, and by our reverend Bro. Portal, who is the founder and originator of the Club.

As to the right of the Grand Registrar to hold a meeting of his friends, we entirely agree in the opinion so well expressed by Bro. Savage—if it be allowed to all the brethren to consult their friends, why, in the name of common sense, is the Grand Registrar to be the only one to be deprived of that right? If Bro. Binckes and Bro. Portal be right, every time the Grand Master consults his friends—every time the Master of a Lodge consults his Past Masters—they may be charged with organizing a party movement.

We cannot but feel the justice of certain remarks made by

Bro. Havers. He with his colleagues in office took their present position at a time of great difficulty, when much was to be done towards repairing the neglect of the past, and in preparing for the future; and, attentive observers as we have been, we cannot fail to perceive that from their very entrance into office they have been the objects of unscrupulous attack. So long as those attacks were general and vague it was impossible to meet or to refute them; twice, and twice only, have the "*Observer* party" endeavoured to fix upon specific charges, and twice have they been defeated and exposed—that against the Grand Master was met, as we well know, by an indignant repudiation, both in Grand Lodge and throughout the Craft; the second was against the Grand Registrar, and was disposed of as we have just seen.

If it be not the Grand Lodge Club which originates these dissensions, we would inquire, who is it? *Quis custodiet custodes?* Who moves the mover? It is whispered that Bro. Whitmore is not responsible (further than by lending his name) for the motion against the Grand Registrar; who is then? It has been industriously circulated that our reverend Bro. Portal had determined to withdraw his opposition—is it that he really does so, and that he cannot control the ardour of his too willing followers; or is it that he is still the chief moving power in keeping alive a spirit of litigation and discord?

The "*Observer* party" must perceive, not only from the debate of the last Grand Lodge, but from the result of the elections, that while their circle of supporters is daily diminishing, that of the friends of good order and good government is surely and steadily increasing day by day. They must surely now perceive the error they have fallen into; it is not too late to stay their course: let them remember that persistence in a career of obstructiveness will only bring down upon them in more signal manner the condemnation of all good men.

We take leave of this subject now, and we trust, for ever; we earnestly impress upon our brethren, that though victory may rest with one side or the other, such conflicts are at the expense of the Craft. Let the offer made, as we believe in all sincerity, be accepted—let bygones be bygones—and let us work together for the future with one mind for the good of the Order. We have great things before us; we have a great mission to fulfil; let us apply ourselves to it as becomes honest and upright Masons.

There is another subject which demands our notice; but except to offer one word of congratulation, we cannot this week do more than refer to the happy settlement of the Canadian question.

OUR ARCHITECTURAL CHAPTER.

MANY Lodges insure their furniture and halls; and indeed there is in many by-laws an express provision to that effect. It is desirable that this should be done by every Lodge, but many are deterred by the inconvenience of policies. In all cases for one shilling paid for insurance, two shillings is paid for government duty, to the continual absorption of a considerable fund. The duty on fire assurance is three shillings per cent. yearly, while the yearly premium in some offices is only one shilling, and in most two shillings per cent. for simple risks; and for double risks two shillings or half a crown per cent.

The Order ought therefore to be self assurers, and we earnestly call the attention of the Board of General Purposes to the subject, with the view of measures being immediately taken for forming a Temple Fund by subscriptions of the Lodges. The amount subscribed would be optional, the smallest amount received from a Lodge being one shilling per year; but a Lodge should be taxed according to its property. If, therefore, a Lodge has property to the extent of two thousand pounds, it will be taxed at two pounds yearly to the Temple Fund.

The Temple Fund should be applied first to the sustentation of all temples, Lodge rooms, and their furniture; and, secondly, to the provision of furniture and Lodge rooms for those Lodges which are as yet deficient in those respects.

In case of a Lodge losing its furniture by the bankruptcy of a landlord, damage by wet, falling of a house, or any other casualty, the Board of General Purposes would afford relief according to the extent of its funds, and the amount of subscriptions of the Lodge. Thus for every shilling a year subscribed, the Board would afford relief not exceeding fifty pounds.

The funds would be lent at five per cent. to new and old Lodges, for providing furniture. This would be a great benefit to many new Lodges, and would be a most valuable arrangement for the propagation of Masonry, as the expense of outfit prevents the formation of many a Lodge.

Thus for a subscription less than one half of what is now paid for fire assurance, the Lodges would be provided against all casualties, whether of fire or otherwise, while a provision would be made for the extension of Masonry. This would be no new tax on most Lodges, but an economy, and on those not now assuring it would fall very lightly, as they have little Lodge furniture.

There would not in the course of a few years be a province without a Lodge in every town where there ought to be a Lodge, as seven members could then safely form a Lodge, and a few initiations would pay off the outfit for the Lodge furniture.

Our correspondence brings us very interesting particulars as to Lodges and halls abroad; a fuller account of the Masonic Hall at Copenhagen is however desirable. For the present there is some compensation in the fact that for the practice of the high degrees a king has assigned his palace, and that the high degrees of Sweden are worked in the royal palace of Christiansborg, at Copenhagen.

We should feel obliged by an account from "X," of the Masonic Hall at Stockholm, and its library; and likewise of the Masonic Halls at Berlin and Rostock. Even in the middle of the last century the Grand Lodge or mother Lodge of Berlin was known for the splendour of its adornments; and the description of some of these buildings might be of use at a time when there is some doubt whether the Grand Lodge of England is not too well lodged in a tavern.

Not so think the Brethren of the John of Gaunt Lodge, No. 766, at Leicester, for they say, in answer to the questions of the Board of General Purposes, that as their Lodge has contributed largely amongst its members towards a Masonic Hall in Leicester, which hall is entirely separate from any tavern, so it would view with regret any extension of the tavern system in connexion with either Grand Lodge or any Masonic body whatever.

We cannot equally approve a resolution of that Lodge accepting an invitation for the Master and Brethren to dine with the annual congress of delegates of the United Order of Odd Fellows. This countenance of mock Masonry by the constituted authorities of Masonry is only calculated to confirm the public in the belief that there is no difference between them.

Bro. F. W. Breitling has responded to our appeal respecting the Masonic Hall of the Lodge Wilhelm of the Rising Sun, at Stuttgart, which we had read *Ausgehend*. It will be seen what a number of rooms is therein contained, whereas an English Lodge would consider three rooms as a wonderful provision.

We are glad to notice the exertions being made to found a Masonic Hall at Gateshead, and that the two Lodges, Nos. 56 and 614, are in conference for that purpose. There are Masonic Halls at Newcastle, Hartlepool, and Sunderland, so that there is every encouragement for Gateshead to be on an equal footing; though practically, Gateshead is a suburb of Newcastle, but forming a parliamentary borough, as Southwark does with regard to London, Salford to Manchester, and as Birkenhead is proposed to be constituted in relation to Liverpool.

We have received a valuable communication from Worshipful Bro. G. W. W. Ingram, W.M., No. 345, at Gibraltar, and Prov. S.G.D. of Andalusia. Our Gibraltar friends are annoyed to find their city, in our Architectural Chapter of 13th April, included in the list of those which adopt the unmasonic practice of holding Lodges in taverns. On our number reaching Gibraltar Bro. Ingram was charged to write to us in vindication, and he states that there are now at Gibraltar the following Masonic bodies.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Andalusia.

The Ancient Lodge of St. John, No. 132.

The Inhabitants' Lodge (likewise ancient) No. 178.

The Lodge of Friendship, No. 345.

The Calpe Lodge, No. 482.

The Calpean Chapter attached to No. 345;

all these are on the Grand Register of England.

On the Grand Register of Ireland are—

St. John's Lodge, No. 325; and

The St. John's Chapter, attached thereto.

The Calpe Encampment is under the jurisdiction of the Masonic Knights Templar of England and Wales.

There is no Chapter of the high degrees.

We are glad to learn that not one Masonic body meets at an hotel, or tavern, and our information to the contrary was derived, as Bro. Ingram states, from that imperfect publication, the *Freemasons' Pocket Book and Calendar*, which gives as little information as possible, and very much error.

No. 132 meets in a small house, of which the Lodge holds a building lease under the Crown.

Nos. 178, 345, 482, Chapter 345, and Calpe Encampment, meet in a suite of rooms exclusively hired for Masonic purposes, and commonly designated *Freemasons' Hall*, Glynn's-buildings.

In these rooms likewise meets the Provincial Grand Lodge of Andalusia.

No. 325 on the Grand Register of Ireland, with the Chapter, meets in a similar suite of rooms, likewise hired exclusively for the Craft.

Bro. Ingram says, that although he believes none of these buildings have ever been formally consecrated, yet all are set apart for Masonic purposes, and relieved from the imputation of profanity.

It will be noticed from the above enumeration, in what a flourishing state is Masonry in the small city of Gibraltar, and what a contrast does it furnish to many a large city in England—Norwich, for instance. Our Worshipful brother's account of Masonry in Gibraltar, is an accession to our stock of information.

The last mention Bro. Ingram found of the Lodge of Friendship meeting in an hotel, was on the 6th October, 1835, in the minutes of which meeting it was recorded, that "It having been represented that the removal of the Lodge to a private dwelling would be very conducive to the prosperity of the Craft in general, and of this Lodge in particular, a committee was appointed to procure such place, and make arrangements (if possible) to receive the Lodge at its next monthly meeting."

The Lodge was consequently accommodated in a school room, until, in the January of 1836, "the permanent use of a room considerably larger" having been obtained, a committee was appointed "to superintend the fitting up of the room in such manner, and at such expense, as to them may seem proper." Even at that time other Lodges met in private rooms.

Bro. Ingram pointedly remarks that he has given this information, believing that the above record, showing, as it does, that the principles we have so strongly advocated were recognized and acted upon at Gibraltar so long as twenty-four years ago, may serve as an additional excitement to others to "go and do likewise."

A project for erecting a Masonic hall at Gibraltar for the joint use of all the Lodges, has lately been talked about, but from the peculiar formation of Gibraltar there is very great difficulty in obtaining a site. If this can be secured, the Lodges have sufficient means to erect a suitable building. We wish them success.

We are indebted to a brother signing as "Scriba, No. 857," for an account of the old Masonic hall at Philadelphia from the book referred to in *Masonic Notes and Queries*. At p. 291 it is recited that the state Lodge of the Ancient and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, had been for several years past anxious to erect a building suitable to the dignity of the Craft and to their thriving situation, but were not able until the year 1809, to accomplish their wishes. With the funds then in hand and the help of additional subscriptions they began their undertaking, but their views enlarging as the work proceeded, it became needful to increase their funds, and the Grand Lodge therefore proposed a loan of £8,000 at six per cent., redeemable on the first of January, 1825, and charged on the security of the ground lot and the building.

We may observe as a fact worth noting in these days of Masonic zeal and depression, when it is questioned whether we can afford such a sum to redeem the Grand Lodge of England from disgrace, that in less than two hours the loan was filled by eighty subscribers; and a second loan of four thousand pounds was afterwards filled.

This hall was situated in Chesnut-street, between Seventh and Eighth-streets, from Delaware, in what is now the heart of the city. It was consecrated in ample form, and with all possible splendour and solemnity, on St. John's day, 1810. Upwards of eight hundred brethren, many of them from other states, attended the ceremony on that occasion. An impressive oration was delivered by the M. W. Grand Master, James Milman, in St. John's church, Sans-fra's-street. This was printed and sold by Bradford and Inskip; and appended to it was a full account of the procession.

A description of the building we must reserve for another occasion, as dimensions are given, and the disposition of the rooms, and it affords some useful examples.

The cost of the Masonic hall at Philadelphia was about twenty thousand pounds. We need hardly observe, that there are few cities in England of equal population that have laid out so much on a Masonic hall. There was at that time still subsisting the Royal York Grand Lodge in that same city.

TWO PHOTOGRAPHS BY THE SAME ARTIST.

LOOK UPON THIS PICTURE

— AND ON THIS.

"CONSISTENCY is often held to be only another name for obstinacy; but it was generally felt that the tergiversation of which Bro. Warren had been guilty had placed him entirely out of the pale of membership with brethren whose principles Bro. Warren had once espoused, &c., &c."—Bro. BINCKES, P.M. No. 11; Letter dated May 28th, 1859, in *Free-masons' Magazine*, June 1st.

"HE would read a letter from one present at the meeting—Bro. Warren, the Editor of the *Free-masons' Magazine*—who with that candour, openness, and manliness, which always distinguished him, said, &c., &c."—Bro. BINCKES, P.M. No. 11, in Grand Lodge, June 1st, 1859.

MASONRY IN AMERICA.

[From a Special Correspondent].

Louisville, Kentucky, April 16th, 1859.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—As my communication of February was deemed worthy of notice I shall endeavour to give you hereafter such news as I may be able to gather suitable for your truly valuable and widely circulated journal. Since I last wrote you I travelled 2900 miles (going and coming) to attend a meeting of the Supreme Council of the 33°, for the southern jurisdiction of the United States at the Grand East of Charleston, South Carolina. The number of brethren present of course on such an occasion was not large, as the active members of that august body were but nine (the same as in Ireland and Great Britain). I was the only one from a distance, with the exception of the M.P.S.G.C., Bro. Albert Pike, who travelled from Washington, and was on his way to his home in Little Rock, Arkansas. Bro. Pike is more than an ordinary man in every way; he is a lawyer of large and profitable practice, and counsel for the Creek, Choctaw, and Cherokee Indian tribes, for whom he has gained suits in the Federal Courts amounting to millions of dollars; he is a great favourite with the Indians, who all love him; he is very fond of hunting in their country, and as he sometimes stays for months among them he has often been reported dead, and on three occasions has had his obituary notice published in every section of the United States, and has had the satisfaction of knowing that his death would be much regretted, and that the Masonic order would not alone mourn for him. He has been the subject of a book entitled "The fine Arkansas gentleman that died before his time." I know, of my own knowledge, one of the luminaries of our Order that mourned his death with tears which nothing could stop for several

weeks. I said Bro. Pike was more than an ordinary man; I will say he is an extraordinary man—about six feet two inches high, weighing 250 lbs. I assure you he looks very unlike one on whom worms had been feasting. Notwithstanding his large practice he has found time to purchase a lot of French and other rituals, and books on Masonic subjects (especially connected with our beautiful Scottish Rite), amounting to thousands of dollars; read and translated immense numbers of them—and then discarding what was of no value, he has after immense labour been enabled to present that portion of the Masonic family with a work which for grandeur and sublimity of language has no equal in the literary world. This I speak openly, as I have had the pleasure of reading it—though to carefully read and study it would require years. He is a linguist of considerable reputation, being perfectly conversant with Arabic, Syriac, Chaldee, and a great many of the dead and living languages; but I must not dwell too long on his subject, but pass on. He was elected M.P.G. Com. of the Supreme Council in place of Bro. Honour, who resigned. It was a proud day for that rite that placed him at its head. Now may they look forward to a glorious future; the rite has one to govern it who will do so, and take a pride in it, whose time, talents, and purse as heretofore will be at its disposal. I predict that there will be more Scotch Rite Masons in this jurisdiction in ten years than in any other country where the “York Rite” is the ruling power. For years past it was almost impossible to get together sufficient members of the S.P. to transact business; scattered over such a great extent of country and in various kinds of business, the select nine could not be got together. He entered upon his duties with a zeal which he alone knows how to display, and through him that autocratic number was, like the Supreme Councils of France and Belgium, increased to thirty-three, giving a chance to every one of the States in the jurisdiction to be represented; thus the twenty-four vacancies will be filled out of the various States as opportunity occurs. Kentucky has been awarded two on account of her large Masonic membership, and having for eight years maintained her position and kept alive through great trials. Of the regular members you will in due time get a list—the official proceedings will of course be sent to every Supreme Council in the world. The 33° was conferred on four brethren who were then present, and who had been elected. Many other matters of interest to the rite were transacted, which I shall at a future time take pleasure in communicating to you. The sincere wish and prayer of the writer is that Bro. Pike may be spared for many years, and when he does grapple with the king of terrors, and by him be conquered, he may find the rich reward of a well spent life in that glorious abode of which angels are the favoured occupants—and also in the hearts of his Masonic brethren.

On Saturday evening, March 26th, one of those events occurred, of which the page of American Masonic history has no duplicate. Bro. Henry Buist, M.W. Grand Master of South Carolina, called an “Occasional Lodge,” for the purpose of conferring the first and second degrees, and again on the 29th, the third degree, on Col. Chas. A. May, United States army, the hero of the battle of Buena Vista (Mexico), and capturer of the Mexican general Le Vega—one of the best and finest looking men I ever saw, six feet three inches high, and would weigh three hundred pounds at least. Bro. Buist, Grand Master, opened the Lodge, stated its object, and proceeded to work. His assistants were Bro. Shroeder, J.G.W., acting S.W.; Bro. Fred. Webber, of Kentucky, P.M., acting J.W.; Bro. J. R. Campbell, D.G.M., acting S.D.; Bro. Stokes, P.M., acting J.D., assisted by Bro. Albert Pike, 33°, P.G.H.P. of Arkansas, and Bro. Albert G. Mackey, 33°, G.H.P. and

G.S. of South Carolina, who conferred the degrees, and in that remarkably lucid and impressive manner for which he is remarkable. The candidate, himself a gentleman of intelligence, will never forget the lectures he that night heard. Of Bro. Mackey, I need not say anything—he is well known throughout the Masonic world. As an intimate friend I have known and loved him for years; in 1851 he conferred the Scottish Rite degrees on me, and since then our intimacy has been unbroken. Like Bros. Pike and May, he, too, is a man over six feet high, and his heart so big that he can scarce find room for it in that big body, and the same I can well say of Bro. Pike. Of Bro. Mackey's family relations I may here say that his inestimable lady and children are as much devoted to Masonry as he is; he has a most valuable library of Masonic and other works, and some rare books in it. But about the occasional Lodge—it will occasion a great deal of talk for some time to come among the Masonic editors. Many of them, I fear, will be inclined to dispute the propriety of it; his right to call it they certainly cannot call in question. I will here bring to your recollection instances on record of such Lodges being held, as evidence that Grand Master Buist has not arrogated to himself any power but that which justly belonged to him by virtue of his office. The term "making Masons at sight" is a merely technical term, and nothing more than conferring the three degrees in a Lodge convened by the Grand Master for that especial purpose and none other, as the Lodge ceases to exist as soon as the said degrees are conferred and the brethren have been dismissed by the Grand Master. In 1781, Lord Lovell, G.M., called such a Lodge, and made the Duke of Lorraine, afterwards Emperor of Germany, and also the Duke of Newcastle; in 1787, Dr. Desaguliers, P.G.M., under authority from the Grand Master, the Earl of Darnley, made a Master Mason of Frederick, Prince of Wales; in 1766, Lord Blaney made a Master Mason in the same manner of the Duke of Gloucester; in 1767, the Duke of Cumberland was also made; in 1787, the Prince of Wales was made by the Duke of Cumberland.

From these few instances, which might be multiplied, it will be seen that in England the power has been exercised by the Grand Masters; and it does not appear that on every occasion the members composing the Lodge were officers of the Grand Lodge; all that was necessary was, the presence of the G.M., and in his absence, his written dispensation for that purpose. In the case of G.M. Buist, I think it but fair to say, that Colonel May, the candidate, being an army officer and having no settled abode, he, before acting in the matter, took the advice of those who were well qualified to express their views, and back them by argument if necessary.

On the day following the above, Bro. Buist entertained a select party at his residence. The dinner was such as might be expected from a gentleman living in a city where old country customs (even to the judge wearing his gown, and the sheriff his cocked hat and sword), are still, and I hope ever will be held in veneration; it was more especially in honour of Bro. Pike and the Supreme Council.

I have just received the reports of the Grand Lodges of South Carolina and Louisiana. The former met 16th November, 1858, and was, for the first time, composed of the actual members of the Lodges represented, no Lodge being allowed a proxy vote. This change was one long desired in that State; and among those few who lived in Charleston, and always ruled the Grand Lodge by holding the proxy votes of the Lodges living at a distance, some were found who openly opposed the measure of actual representation, as it curtailed their own influence: but right will sometimes overcome might, and after a hard struggle the "old foggy" party died in that Grand Lodge. Bro. Buist, no doubt the youngest Grand Master in the world, was

the champion of the cause gained (ably seconded by Bros. Mackey, Ramsey, Shroeder, &c.), and was elected by an overwhelming majority. His address to the Grand Lodge is a well written document. Like the Kentucky representatives, the Grand Lodge now pays them twelve shillings a day, while in attendance, and fivepence a mile travelling expenses by the nearest route.

Bro. Mackey's report on foreign correspondence, is an able document. He is particularly severe on a Lodge allowing its room being used for any other than Masonic purposes. The principle is good, but I think not always practicable, especially in small country villages where money is not over plentiful: he is, he says, opposed to the amalgamation of Masonry with the other imitative societies, which are springing up like mushrooms around the trunk of some venerable oak. He holds that no apron should be admitted into the room but a Mason's apron; no gavel be heard but a Master's gavel. The Lodge, at its previous session, recommended each Lodge to raise a subscription among its members to aid in the purchase of Mount Vernon, the home of Washington; the result was flattering, being two hundred and eighty pounds sterling. Bro. Mackey also very justly observes, that if the Masonic institution ever suffer shipwreck, it will be from the terrible increase in the quantity of initiations without any reference to their quality. The entire report is well worthy of careful study, I will endeavour to send you a copy.

The proceedings of Louisiana fill a very large book, containing three hundred and sixty pages; from it I shall send you some extracts.

By a circular issued by the Grand Lodge of Ireland, it appears that any one "excluded, suspended, or restored to the rights of Masonry," by any one of the bodies entering into the compact, shall, "on the case being officially communicated to the others, be by them severally excluded, suspended, or restored, as the case may be, without any further inquiry or investigation." This is, to *American Masons, a strange proceeding*; with us, any one "excluded or suspended" from a Blue Lodge is of course debarred the privileges of the other branches of the Order; but any one expelled from a higher body is not necessarily so dealt with in the lower body without trial (as in the higher body). We have members of our Encampment of Knights Templar, who are debarred the privileges of that sublime branch of the Order, but are still active members of the Blue Lodge.

A few words about home matters, and I shall close this letter. Bro. Rob Morris, G.M., will, on the 2nd of May, open a school of instruction for the benefit of the Craft, wheresoever dispersed. The lectures taught are of the old Webb or Prestonian school. A great many brethren, from various parts of the State, are expected to be in attendance; and Bro. Morris's idea is, to concentrate the members of Lodges at some one point, and there demonstrate to them that there is nothing like an uniform mode of work; this he has zealously endeavoured to do since his election, and although his efforts have not been crowned with complete success, still it is gratifying to know that they have not been entirely in vain; some of the trees he has planted will bear ripe and golden fruit, long after he shall have solved the mystery of eternity. Bro. Morris's assistant, Bro. E. D. Cooke, starts in a few days for the Old World. He, of course, will call upon you; he will also cross over into the Emerald Isle. We shall hear of his kind reception by his brethren in those countries. Bro. Cooke has most indefatigable perseverance, and when he has made up his mind to get information, he knows no such word as fail: he was the subject of a series of resolutions at the School of Instruction on the 6th inst. I enclose you an extract from a recent address of one of our most distinguished brethren:—

"The past year, my brethren, has been one full of pleasure and happiness to

some, and equally as full of trials and misfortunes to others; still, when we look around us, we have reason to be thankful—indeed, if we seriously reflect and behold many who a few years since counted their thousands now on the very lowest spoke of fortune's wheel, and many of our brethren (for all men are brethren) in want of the common necessities of life, we are forced to admit that "our lines have been cast in pleasant places," that the Giver of good has been more kind and indulgent to us than we have deserved at his hands, and that we know not how soon some of us may be compelled to ask for fraternal aid. * * *

The cardinal virtues demand at least a passing notice. That great man of all future ages, the immortal Washington, declared that the grand object of Masonry was to promote the happiness of the human race; intemperance, therefore, must be unmasonic, as its tendency is to produce unhappiness, and the Mason who properly regards his vows, made almost at the very threshold of our temple, must be temperate in all things. While I do not adopt the ultra views of total abstinence, still it must be candidly admitted that alcoholic stimulant is the greatest curse to which the human family has been subjected, its touch and taste is enticing, and when once it firmly grasps its victim, it closes his eyes and ears to all warning, and finally he ends his reckless voyage in a drunkard's grave.

"Fortitude is a noble virtue, and necessary to the proper discharge of all our various duties as members of society or Masons. Many a man who had projected stupendous plans for the benefit of the human race, which would have immortalized his name, has, for the want of this virtue, suffered himself, and the offspring of his imagination, to be consigned to oblivion.

"In every relation of life, as Masons or men, we should adopt the homely watchword of him who fought and fell on the bloody field of the Alamo,* for the independence of that glorious state upon whose banner as her emblem shines 'the blazon star of Masonry'—'Be sure you are right, then go ahead.' Be sure that your conscience approves, then have the fortitude to grasp the legitimate means, and wield them for its accomplishment. It was this virtue which enabled the widow's son to be faithful even unto death. It was this virtue which enabled De Molay and his companions to laugh to scorn the coarse jeers of his unrelenting persecutors, and even when the accursed faggots crackled around the noble forms of him and his valiant knights, enabled him with courage sufficient for the occasion, to summon that demon Philip, and his tool the sovereign pontiff of the catholic world, to meet them ere twelve months should roll round, at the bar of the eternal King, and while slowly burning, to sing praises to Him 'who taketh away the sting of death; the victory of the grave.'

"Prudence, like the balance wheel of the timepiece, should enable us to regulate all our actions, having eternity in view; with its proper exercise we shall be enabled to select such ashlers as will fit well in the temple for which they are designed. Prudent as to the extent to which our kindness should allow us to go; not however suffering a fellow being to die while debating the propriety of affording relief, but, on the contrary, it is our duty as Masons to bestow such aid as we can afford to distress, in whatever shape we may find it, and whenever an opportunity presents itself. On a proper exercise of this virtue depends much of the good we may do as Masons, and while exercising this virtue we should have an eye to the object claiming our attention, and be careful that our aid is properly bestowed, lest the viper being warmed in our bosoms may for our kindness return unto us deadly stings. * * *

"Justice is that boundary of right which enables us to render to every man his due. Temperance may give a clear head and free thought; prudence may dictate the proper means for its accomplishment; but it remains for justice to exercise the discrimination necessary, and mete out to our brother that which is his just due. And as to err is human, it teaches us to scan well the motives of those whom we would censure, and impartially balance the scales in order to ascertain the wrong intended or the injury sustained, so that in our censure the erring man may not pay too dearly for his fault, and that perchance a gentle chiding may win him

* The celebrated David Crockett, one of the pioneers of the present state of Texas.

back to the forsaken paths of rectitude so essential to the character of a true Mason.

"The outline has thus been given you of the cardinal virtues enjoined on all men, but more especially on Masons. I must pass on to the close of these expressions by a reference to those rounds of the ladder which teach us faith in God, hope in immortality, and charity to all mankind."

Believe me, dear Sir and Brother, yours truly and fraternally,
F. W., 33°.

FIELD FLOWERS.

YE field flowers! the gardens eclipse you, 'tis true,
Yet, wildings of Nature, I doat upon you,
For ye waft me to summers of old,
When the earth teemed around me with fairy delight,
And when daisies and buttercups gladdened my sight
Like treasures of silver and gold.

I love you for lulling me back into dreams
Of the blue highland mountains and echoing streams,
And of birchen glades breathing their balm,
While the deer was seen glancing in sunshine remote,
And the deep mellow crush of the wood-pigeon's note,
Made music that sweetened the calm.

Not a pastoral song has a pleasanter tune
Than ye speak to my heart, little wildings of June;
Of old ruinous castles ye tell,
Where I thought it delightful your beauties to find,
When the magic of Nature first breathed on my mind,
And your blossoms were part of her spell.

Even now what affections the violet awakes;
What loved little islands, twice seen in their lakes,
Can the wild water lily restore;
What landscapes I read in the primrose's looks,
And what pictures of pebbled and minnowy brooks
In the vetches that tangled the shore.

Earth's cultureless buds, to my heart ye were dear,
Ere the fever of passion, or ague of fear,
Had scathed my existence's bloom;
Once I welcome you more, in life's passionless stage,
With the visions of youth to revisit my age,
And I wish you to grow on my tomb.

Campbell.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

"JUSTITIA" AND THE "OBSERVER FACTION."

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—In your last number there appears under the above heading a letter from Bro. H. Garrod, of No. 11 Lodge, in which that brother takes great exception to the observations contained in my letter of the 23rd ultimo.

Bro. Garrod says that my former letter was "couched in terms of scurrility," that I "descended to contemptuous expressions towards Bro. Whitmore," and that "I characterize opponents by opprobrious epithets."

Those of your readers who may have taken the trouble to peruse my letter can judge for themselves whether it is open to those strong observations. I have already said, and I repeat it—the cause which I have felt it my duty to support does not require the aid of such unmasonic means; and wherever "scurrility," "contemptuous expressions," or "opprobrious epithets" are employed, we may be certain that the cause is bad, or that its advocates have entirely lost their temper. I decline to follow such an example, and am content to leave to the "*Observer* party" the exclusive use of their "expletives."

As regards the real question at issue Grand Lodge has spoken for itself. Unwarned by the proceedings of last September, the "*Observer* party" placed Bro. Whitmore's notice on the paper of business, and for the first time the much abused executive had a distinct charge brought against them. They accepted the challenge, and the Grand Registrar determined to appeal to the M.W. Grand Master, immediately on the opening of Grand Lodge, to take Bro. Whitmore's motion, and thus ensure its being discussed and dealt with. It was publicly stated and admitted in Grand Lodge that the Grand Registrar had given Bro. Whitmore due notice of his intention, so that he might not be taken by surprise. We are told, however, that "discretion is the better part of valour," and this might have been Bro. Whitmore's opinion. In any case, certain it is that Bro. Whitmore did not think fit to attend in his place in Grand Lodge to substantiate or to withdraw "the scandalous attack" made by him on the Grand Registrar. The duty of conducting the motion fell therefore upon Bro. Binckes, and a sorry case he made of it. His seconder had not one syllable to advance in favour of it, and the support of Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal and Bro. Stebbings was weak and inconclusive.

Bro. Savage's speech and Bro. S. Barton Wilson's letter completed the

downfall, and Grand Lodge, not satisfied with merely rejecting the motion passed by an overwhelming majority a vote of severe censure on Bro. Whitmore and his friends.

It is much to be regretted that they have drawn down upon themselves so severe a reproof. Each succeeding Grand Lodge has unmistakably shown that the brethren are all but unanimous in their absolute determination to put down these proceedings on the part of the "*Observer* party;" a fact which was clearly proved by the division on Wednesday, and by the large majority by which every member of the Board of General Purposes proposed by the friends of order was elected.

These brethren will do well to pause while it is yet time; let them cease these factious attacks on the Grand Master and his executive, and devote themselves to the promotion of the true interests of Freemasonry, and they will find every member of the Craft willing to forget the past. If they will not do so, they must not expect that it is only by themselves that harsh words will be used. The Craft is becoming more and more alive to their proceedings; and the more the real facts are understood and appreciated by the brethren at large, the more will each succeeding Grand Lodge witness the discomfiture of faction, and demonstrate clearly that the Freemasons of England will no longer tolerate these repeated attempts to sow disunion where, but for the "*Observer* party," all would be concord, nor suffer that our time, which ought to be devoted to the profitable consideration of many subjects affecting the best interests of our Order, should be continually wasted at the instigation of a very small section, in proceedings which are most discreditable, and inconsistent with the principles which are inculcated everywhere in the Craft except at the Grand Lodge itself.

I am, Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

4th June, 1859.

JUSTITIA.

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—Having been informed that I was nominated at the General Meeting of the Committee of P.Ms., on the 18th instant, as a candidate for a seat at the Board of General Purposes, I wrote to the Grand Secretary yesterday, asking for the name of the brother who put me in nomination. Bro. Clarke says in reply, "I am sorry that it is not in my power to comply with your application. It has always been the custom for the lists to be sent in to the chairman without any signature being attached to them, and this custom was not deviated from at the last meeting of the committee." I am satisfied that Bro. Clarke has given a correct version of the affair; but as I am not, and never have been ambitious of "office," I desire to enter my protest against the proceeding by which my name was "dragged" before Grand Lodge on Wednesday last, without my knowledge or consent.

I am, dear Sir and brother, yours fraternally,

SAMUEL ALDRICH, P.M., 196.

Hampstead, 4th June, 1859.

[Such a practice is not only very loose, but very reprehensible; and we think the chairman of the Board of Masters ought at once to reject lists so

handed in. At the meeting at Bro. Roxburgh's, one of the principles strongly insisted upon was, that no brother should be put in nomination for any office without the name of the nominator being on the nomination paper.—*Ed.*]

“MASONIC MISSIONS:” SOUTH WALES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—As I am appealed to by the writer of the very talented article bearing the above title, at page 1018 of your *Magazine*, as to the nearly defunct Lodges at Milford and Pembroke, I have great pleasure in giving him a short account of Masonic doings in the province during the very brief period which has elapsed since the appointment of Bro. John Johnes as Prov. Grand Master.

But first as regards the doomed Lodges. The truth is simply this—that there are too many Lodges within a very limited area, there being no less than three (one at Pembroke, one at Pembroke Dock, and one at Milford) within a circuit of three miles. This is too much Masonic accommodation for the district, because the Lodge at Pembroke Dock, No. 525, is situated in the centre of the three, and from its very numerous members and good working is amply sufficient for the district I have mentioned. There is also another very good Lodge within a short distance, at Haverfordwest; so that in my humble opinion the erasure of the Lodges at Milford and Pembroke will be rather advantageous to the district than otherwise. At the same time, if any good reasons can be shown why they should not be erased, by all means let the brethren bestir themselves at once.

Masonry during the lifetime of the late Prov. Grand Master, Lord Milford, was almost at a stand still in this province, and I believe no Prov. Grand Lodge was held for some years before his death; but immediately Bro. Johnes (who was previously the Deputy Prov. Grand Master) was appointed to the office of Prov. Grand Master, matters took a more favourable turn. Bro. Johnes was installed in a Prov. Grand Lodge held at Carmarthen on the 4th May, 1857, and on the 14th of the same month he commenced his career as Prov. Grand Master, by holding another Prov. Grand Lodge at Carmarthen, and proceeding to lay the foundation stone of the Carmarthenshire Infirmary with Masonic honours (a full account of which ceremonies you will find given in the pages of your *Magazine* for 1857). On the 26th of June following, another Prov. Grand Lodge was held at Llandilo, for the purpose of consecrating the new Lodge of St. Teilo. A new Masonic Hall very beautifully arranged and fitted up was also opened at Carmarthen by the brethren of St. Peter's Lodge, No. 699, on the 30th of December in the same year (see page 231 of your *Magazine* for February, 1858), and excited great interest in the province on account of its being kept exclusively for Masonic purposes.

On the 5th July, 1858, Bro. Johnes held another Provincial Grand Lodge at Pembroke Dock (see page 231 of your *Magazine* for August 4th, 1858), and in the month of August following presided at a dinner given by the brethren of the Prince of Wales's Lodge, Llanelly, No. 969, to celebrate the opening of a new Masonic Hall in that town. This hall is also very handsomely furnished, but I believe, does not enjoy the privilege

of being used exclusively for Masonic purposes, neither will it bear comparison with the one at Carmarthen, although it reflects the highest credit on the brethren of this young Lodge in so soon building a hall for their use.

Bro. Johnes will no doubt hold another Provincial Grand Lodge very shortly, so that I think you will agree with me, that the cause of Masonry has not languished during his tenure of office. The Lodges now in this province (exclusive of the two doomed Lodges,) number five, as follows:—Pembroke Dock, No. 525; Haverfordwest, No. 653; Carmarthen, No. 699; Llanelly, No. 969; and Llandilo, No. 996;—and are all in good working order. The Carmarthen Lodge is, I believe, the most ancient, but as it lost its warrant once or twice, it only numbers 699 now. Carmarthen was originally the Provincial Grand Lodge town, and enjoyed the honour of being the meeting place of the first Provincial Grand Lodge under the second Provincial Grand Master, to which office the M.W. Grand Master appointed Sir Edward Mansell, Bart., on the 24th of June, 1727. Bro. Hugh Warburton, Provincial Grand Master for North Wales was the *first* Provincial Grand Master ever appointed, and his appointment only bears date on the 10th of May previously.

There are still several places in the province where I think Lodges might be established with advantage, and I dare say we shall soon see some of the local brethren taking the matter in hand. The towns I can more particularly mention are, Tenby, Cardigan, Lampeter, and Llandovery; but except these four towns, I think the province is well provided for.

Royal Arch Masonry is not so flourishing, as the Lodges at Haverfordwest and Carmarthen are the only Lodges with Chapters attached. This certainly ought to be seen to, as I am convinced the Llanelly and Pembroke Dock Lodges could well support a Chapter each.

In conclusion I may observe, that the brethren of the principality have always occupied a good position in the Craft; and when they joined the Grand Lodge in London, in the year 1726, it was thought an event of no little importance to our Order. That they have not forfeited their claim in this respect I can testify; and as a proof that they evince a sincere regard for any brother who takes an interest in their welfare, I need only refer to the presentation of a Past Master's jewel to myself, recorded at page 565 of your journal for March, 1858.

I am, dear Sir and brother, yours fraternally,

W. H. COLE,

P.M. No. 996, and D.C. No. 32, &c., &c.

London, 4th June, 1859.

MASONIC HALL AT ST. HELIERS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I send you a report, of the proceedings at the last meeting of Lodge La Césarée, which are of a most important character, and I would therefore direct especial attention to them, that they may be certain to meet the eye of brethren who have in your pages expressed themselves as desirous of erecting independent buildings, with a view to free themselves from the fetters imposed upon Lodges which meet at hotels, but cannot devise means of accomplishing so desirable an object. On a former occasion I have, through your kindness in allowing space in your columns,

described the course pursued by the Howe Lodge in Birmingham, and now the opportunity occurs of giving details of plans differing in some respects from those then adopted. The report shows the difficulties which arise in the progress of such a work, and the manner in which they may be overcome, besides affording means for the avoidance of mistakes that may afterwards give rise to serious trouble. Thus, wherever a body of Freemasons may desire to accomplish the same object, great facility will be afforded by reference to the course adopted elsewhere; and it may be strongly recommended to any such, to direct their architect to examine buildings recently erected for Masonic purposes, that they may see how the requisite provisions are made—for instance, those at Bristol, Hull, and Liverpool, of which I have heard a high character. A little expense thus incurred would probably be real economy.

Though not adopted in the present instance, I cannot but think, as stated in a former communication, and worthy of being again impressed on the projectors of Masonic temples, that a large sum of money might be easily raised for such a purpose, by allotting shares of from five to twenty pounds each, among the brethren, who would probably be content with an interest of two and a half or three per cent. instead of five per cent., which an indifferent person would require. The burden would by this distribution be easily borne, and they might ultimately be disposed at death, or even during lifetime, to give up their shares entirely for the benefit of the Lodge, a result which I have known to be extensively produced in at least one case.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

H. H.,

Jersey, May 31st, 1859.

A P.M., and Past Prov. G.S.W.

NINETY-SEVEN WONDERS.—We laugh at the old worshippers of sticks and stones, potherbs and onions; yet these are really good and reasonable things, and display a wise and benign power in the production of them; but soft, fashionable sentiment, popular swaggering phrases, arbitrary dogmas, the generalized lies of proverbial cunning, which pass for truths by being lies comprehensive, are utterly worthless. They are the dregs and scouring of whatever in man is diabolical. Yet these are the true gods of millions who read tracts, newspapers, and novels. These are the invisible powers on which they rely and on which they try to build their existence. For anything I know, an old Egyptian who worshipped a cabbage may have been less absurd in doing so than this or that sensitive and fantastic idolator of landscapes and size coloured daubery of tinsel, talents, and melodramatic greatness. An Irish peasant, honouring with his mouth a glorified potato, would be performing a more reasonable service than that to which he often submits himself.—*Blackwood's Magazine.*

ENGRAVINGS FROM PHOTOGRAPHS.—Amongst our portrait engravers, Mr. W. Holl takes very elevated rank, and perhaps his happiest effort is one of his most recent works, a portrait of Professor Holloway; this is from a photograph, and is pronounced by competent judges equally excellent as a life-like portrait, as it is beautiful as an artistic effort. We are informed that Mr. Holloway has been requested to publish a portrait of himself by his foreign friends. Those persons who wish to possess the counterfeit presentment of this famous individual can obtain it in a very unique frame, elegantly got up, for half a guinea, by sending a post office order, or postage stamps, to Mr. Holloway's establishment in the Strand.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MENS.

A SPECIAL GRAND LODGE has been appointed by the M.W. Grand Master, for the 23rd instant, in order to complete the business which was left unfinished on Wednesday last.

THE Annual Provincial Grand Lodge of Hertfordshire is convened for the 17th instant, to be held at Freemasons' Hall, Watford, at half-past three o'clock, p.m. Amongst the other business, we find the following:—"To take into consideration the following proposition, viz., 'That £10 10s. be subscribed out of the funds of the Provincial Grand Lodge to the Freemasons' Boys School, and £10 10s. to the Girls School.'" So far so good; but if the funds will permit, we trust the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows will not be forgotten.

THE Provincial Grand Lodge for Derbyshire will be held on the 16th instant; previously to which the new Lodge, Beaureper, No. 1089, will be consecrated, and the Marquis of Hartington, *M.P.*, Prov. Grand Master, installed as the first Master.

THE Wellington Lodge, No. 1086, is to be consecrated at Deal, on the 18th inst., the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Purton Cooper, officiating.

THE M.W. Grand Master has fixed the last Wednesday in January, 1890, for the next festival of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows.

BRO. ELISHA D. COOKE, a pupil of Bro. Rob Morris, Grand Master of Kentucky (who is so well known by his Masonic writings), has just arrived in England, with a view of collecting as much Masonic information as possible throughout the united kingdom, and obtaining subscribers to Bro. Morris's new work, the *History of Freemasonry in Kentucky*. Bro. Morris, in introducing Bro. Cooke to us, says:—"Bro. Cooke is thoroughly taught from my own lips, the work and lectures of the Blue Degrees, word, syllable, and letter. Let the English brethren know this, that from one end of the country to the other he may communicate as he travels (and always without fee or reward) the work of Masonry, as it was brought to this continent from Preston, in 1795. I can but think my English brethren will be delighted to witness and hear it, especially that they may know what will suffice to pass them as Masons when they come among us." We are sure Bro. Cooke will be a welcome visitor wherever he goes, and nothing can be more interesting than to trace how far our brethren in America and ourselves agree in the ceremonies and customs of the Order.

GRAND LODGE.

A QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday last, June 1st, the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M., presiding, supported by Bros. Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, as D.G.M.; Frederick Dundas, M.P., as S.G.W.; Frederick Pattison, as J.G.W.; S. Tomkins, G. Treas.; Rev. A. Ward, G. Chaplain; Roxburgh, G. Reg.; W. G. Clarke, G. Sec.; Crohn, G. Sec. for German Correspondence; J. Savage and F. Slight, G.Ds.; S. Daukes, G. Supt. of Works; R. W. Jennings, G. Dir. of Cers.; A. W. Woods, Asst. G. Dir. of Cers.; G. E. Pocock, G.S.B.; W. Farnfield, Asst. G. Sec.; C. Horsley, G. Organist; J. Smith, G. Pursuivant; Capt. Bowyer, Prov. G.M. for Oxford; Bagshaw, Prov. G.M. for Essex; Revs. J. Vane, Sir J. W. Hayes, and J. E. Cox, P.G. Chaplains; W. H. White, P.G. Sec.; Nelson, Potter, Udall, Havers, Hervey, Scott, N. Tomkins, Rowe, and Keightley, P.G.Ds.; Thory Chapman, P.G.D.C.; Le Veau, Philippe, L. Evans, Biggs, Elkington, Patten, Spiers, and Masson, P.G.S.Bs.; Breitling, P.G. Pursuivant, &c. &c.

Grand Lodge having been opened in ample form,

The M.W. Grand Master said—Brethren, before the business of the evening commences I wish to inform you I have received a communication from the D.G.M. Lord Pannure, expressing his regret at being unable to attend Grand Lodge on account of important private business detaining him in Scotland.

BREACH OF PRIVILEGE.

Bro. Roxburgh, G. Reg., then addressed the M.W.G.M., and said, Most Worshipful Grand Master, I wish, before anything else is done, to call attention to what I conceive to be a breach of privilege. (Hear, hear). There is on the paper of this evening a notice of motion by Bro. Whitmore, reflecting on the conduct of the Grand Registrar, and I submit that it is a breach of privilege. It is a notice of motion assuming as a fact a vague report which has appeared in a certain periodical, and which Bro. Whitmore has not brought before the Board of General Purposes, (the constitutional tribunal for the investigation of charges against any brother). Upon that report Bro. Whitmore has founded an accusation, which he has not attempted to prove before that Board. (Hear, hear). No brother has, I conceive, a right to circulate among the Craft a charge against another brother assuming that which has never been proved. (Cheers). Whether it be or not a breach of privilege, I ask your indulgence, inasmuch as I am not longer fit to hold the office with which you have honoured me, should the scandalous charge preferred against me be true—that you will allow the motion to be at once brought forward before Grand Lodge, that Bro. Whitmore may have an opportunity of proving his charge, or that I may be exculpated from it. It states that “the Grand Lodge is desirous of expressing its regret that the Grand Registrar should consider it consistent with his duty to the Craft, of which he is the authorized legal adviser, to organize a party movement for the purpose of securing the election of certain brethren as members of the Board of General Purposes.” It is impossible that I can be in a position to advise your lordship on the election of the Board of General Purposes while that charge remains undisposed of. It charges me with conduct which I emphatically and indignantly deny. I deny that there is a particle of truth in it; and I ask your lordship to have it at once investigated, and I throw myself on your indulgence and on that of Grand Lodge. (Cheers).

The M.W. Grand Master.—I hope I may save the time of Grand Lodge by the few observations which I shall now make. (Hear, hear). I can assure the Grand Lodge and Bro. Roxburgh, that this notice has not escaped my observation. It decidedly appears to me to be a breach of privilege—(hear, hear)—inasmuch as it contains an unproved charge against a Grand Officer, who, to use the words of the notice itself, “is the legal adviser of the Craft.” Whether such a charge be true or false, it ought, in my opinion, to have been brought before the Board of General Purposes, as the constitutional board for the investigation of all such complaints; but to bring it before Grand Lodge as a notice of motion, which can only be brought

on at the termination of the business of the evening, puts Grand Lodge in this position—that it has to proceed with the election of the Board of General Purposes, while there is on the notice paper a charge against the Grand Registrar of organizing a party movement to insure the election of certain brethren as members of that Board. But whether the notice be or be not a breach of privilege, it is evident to me that the election of the Board cannot be satisfactorily disposed of until this charge is met, and either substantiated by Bro. Whitmore, or repudiated by Grand Lodge. I now call on Bro. Whitmore to proceed.

Bro. Binckes rose to address Grand Lodge.

The M.W. Grand Master:—I called on Bro. Whitmore.

Bro. George Barrett:—Bro. Whitmore is not now present. He will be here later in the evening, when the motion may come on in regular order.

Bro. Binckes then said, that a previous engagement occasioned the absence of Bro. Whitmore; but if he were in order, he would endeavour on his behalf to bring forward the motion. First of all he would comment on the admission of Bro. Roxburgh, that if the facts were correctly stated, he was not any longer fit to hold his present office. He (Bro. Binckes) would not have used language so strong as that, nor did the wording of the motion justify it. (Oh, oh!) Bro. Roxburgh too had circulated with the agenda paper a printed slip, in which he denounced the motion as a scandalous attack upon himself. No brother had, he conceived, the right so to circulate any private notice of his own. But to come to the facts of this astounding case (Oh, oh!) first he would call attention to the terms of the motion. It merely said—"That the Grand Lodge was desirous of expressing its regret [he would ask them to mark that word] that the Grand Registrar should consider it consistent with his duty to the Craft, of which he is the authorized legal adviser, to organize a party movement for the purpose of securing the election of certain brethren as members of the Board of General Purposes." Bro. Roxburgh said he considered that to be a scandalous attack upon himself, but in the name of Bro. Whitmore he protested against such language, and he was there to justify every expression used in the motion, which was as mild—(laughter)—as was consistent with the facts of the case.

Bro. Jennings, G.D.C., requested Bro. Binckes to address the Grand Master.

Bro. Binckes said he had already made obeisance to the M.W. Grand Master, and denied that he had ever shown a want of proper respect to the throne. All that Grand Lodge was now asked to do was, to express its regret that one of the Grand Officers had taken a certain course. It was a mere matter of taste, of good taste or bad taste, they were called to decide upon. It might be asked if an independent member of Grand Lodge were to be debarred from exercising his right and privilege to take counsel with whom he pleased on matters relating to the Craft. Abstractedly, he would say, no; but there were two Grand Officers—the Grand Registrar and Grand Secretary—who consistently with good taste ought not to take any such course. The motion spoke of organizing a party movement; but if in the nineteenth century they were amenable to common sense, they ought to call things by their proper names. If Bro. Roxburgh called a meeting which did meet at his offices to arrange a list of brethren for election to the Board of General Purposes whose names would be unobjectionable to the Craft, he (Bro. Binckes) would call that a party movement. Was that done, or was it not done? Was it good taste, or was it bad taste? To shew that it had been done, he would read a letter from one who was present at the meeting, Bro. Warren, the editor of the *Freemasons' Magazine*, who, with that candour, openness, and unaltness, which always distinguished him said, "It is true that there was a meeting at Bro. Roxburgh's, and it is true I was present, [he would ask them to mark those two lines]—but it is not true that Bro. Roxburgh stated he had called the meeting, either at the request of Bro. Havers, or of any other brother; neither is it true that the meeting deputed to Bros. Roxburgh and Havers the preparing of a list of candidates for the Board of General Purposes. The meeting nominated a list of sixteen or seventeen candidates, certainly, leaving it to Bro. Roxburgh to reduce it to fourteen, so that there should not be any particular predominating interest upon it (whilst the law will not allow two to serve from the same Lodge) [beautifully and parenthetically put], and there never was

the slightest allusion to the *Observer*, or any other party. Who may have been subsequently consulted with regard to the reduction of the list, I am not prepared to say, but I freely admit that I for one have been so consulted, and I believe the list, as now arranged, will be as popular as any ever submitted to Grand Lodge. [The test of that rested with the brethren then present]. What Bro. Roxburgh particularly impressed on the brethren at the meeting was this, that the time for exclusiveness and secrecy in the proceedings or elections of Grand Lodge had passed.—(Hear, hear).—[Happy was it for Masonry if that time had arrived]—and he called upon the brethren duly to consider all the business to be brought before Grand Lodge prior to the meetings; to take their fair share in the business; and so render the decisions come to by Grand Lodge and its Boards what they ought to be—the reflex of the opinions of the large mass of the brethren.” (Cheering). To that he thought no sane brother could object. He would now ask if it was any use for him to prove a fact so plainly acknowledged by a brother who was present at the meeting. Another brother who had been there had distinctly and solemnly assured him that the report of the proceedings which appeared in one of the ordinary channels of communication was perfectly true, except so far as related to Bro. Havers, and that was rather an embellishment. (Hear, hear, and laughter). He hoped that was the case, and he had no doubt it was; but did that matter of detail interfere with the main fact that a meeting had been held to exclude from the Board of General Purposes the representatives of a large, numerous, and important body in the Craft, and that there, in consultation with brethren of his own views, Bro. Roxburgh submitted a list, and organized a movement for the election of fourteen brethren of his own views, or of views not opposed to his own? That was a fact which could not be gainsaid, controverted, or denied. (Hear, hear). He defied Bro. Roxburgh to deny it. The notice of motion was justified by the facts of the case, and he therefore now asked Grand Lodge to express its opinion upon the matter, and if they called a spade a spade, they would say it was a party movement to arrange for carrying a particular list of candidates for the Board of General Purposes. In good government there must always be party, but then they should act on the apostolic maxim, and do all things in decency and order—(oh, oh!). Relying on their common sense, he asked them to say aye or nay whether the conduct of Bro. Roxburgh was right or not right?

Bro. Sherry seconded the motion.

Bro. Savage, S.G.D.: Most Worshipful Grand Master, I am surprised and astonished that, on evidence worse than meagre—indeed without any foundation whatever—a brother should present to Grand Lodge, on mere assumption, a charge like that now brought against Bro. Roxburgh. I regret, first of all, I must say, that such a notice should appear on the paper—that a notice, impeaching the character, as well as the dignity of a Grand Officer, should be circulated throughout the length and breadth of the land. I do think that, without much stronger evidence (and here there is no evidence to warrant it) such a motion should not have been put on the paper by Bro. Whitmore. I have had a long acquaintance with Bro. Whitmore, and I esteem him, but I do think that, in this instance he has made a great mistake, and I am somewhat surprised that he is not here in person to bring the motion forward, and that for that purpose he has not put aside every other engagement, as it impeaches the character and judgment of the Grand Registrar. While we ought to be jealous of our rights and privileges, we should, I think, guard them by seeing that none but legitimate notices are placed on the paper, and not notices on such assumption of mis-called facts as the motion before us. (Hear). How has it been supported? I confess that, although I came here to defend what has been done, I did not expect that so slight a case would have been made out. (Hear, hear). Bro. Binckes asks Grand Lodge to express its regret at what has taken place—regret! and what does that mean? It means a vote of censure in disguise. (Cheers). Are you about to pass such a vote on what you have heard? We have not heard a word from the worthy brother who seconded the motion, so that we have to take the case as placed before us by Bro. Binckes, and I ask you whether what he has stated does not manifest itself as being much of assumption. I admit that he was not bound to tell us where he got his information. He tells us, however, that the

part of the report relating to Bro. Havers is an embellishment. (Laughter). It is the first I have heard of Bro. Havers having taken any part at all in the meeting referred to. I am one of those who attended that meeting, and I did not meet Bro. Havers there. (Hear, hear). When I attended it, I did not know that it was summoned for any special object whatever. (Hear, hear). I heard Bro. Roxburgh state that it was his wish to promote the interests of the Craft, and take counsel with the brethren as to what was best to be done; and among other matters reference was made to the Board of General Purposes; and is that—the privilege of every member of the Craft—to be denied to the Grand Registrar of the order. You will, I am sure, admit that he has a right to take such counsel, and if so I would appeal practically to you—I would say that you have evidence before you that what has been done is not a party move. Look to the left hand side of the list—the list of Masters. Only one of the names placed there has been heard of before in connexion with what takes place in Grand Lodge, and his name was not placed on the list by us. They are all independent members of Grand Lodge, and by only putting one other name in nomination on the list of Masters, it is practically admitted that, six out of the seven are unobjectionable. It is admitted on all sides that six of the names could not be improved, and in that fact you have a proof that it is not quite so much a party list as it has been represented to be. (Hear, hear). I stand here to protect your privileges, and not only yours but also those of the Grand Registrar. If you disapprove of the names, you have in your own hands the remedy and can reject them. For the last twenty years it has been the practice to take the opinion of different members in Grand Lodge as to who are the most fitting brethren to constitute the Board of General Purposes, and there has been no question as to how the lists have been prepared. The real question is, are they fit and proper men. You are right to say that you will not be dictated to by a hole and corner meeting, but was the meeting so often referred to one of that kind. It was, if anything, too open, and characterized by too much straightforwardness. That seems to be the objection to it; and it is argued that, because so many brethren were consulted, it was therefore a party movement. Nothing was ever more straightforward, or more upright than the conduct of Bro. Roxburgh, and I am bound to bear witness that he is actuated by but one feeling and one wish—to render the best service to the Craft from his warm attachment to Freemasonry. I cannot but term what you have heard an assumption on facts which do not justify it—in fact, mere guesswork. The statement originally published was most incorrect, and though I have not yet denied that portion of it which refers to my name, I take this opportunity to say, that a statement more unwarrantably incorrect could not possibly have been put into print. (Hear, hear). It is founded on something that did take place, but the facts have been so distorted, that when I read the report I could not help smiling; indeed, I did not recognize the meeting I attended, in that garbled and unfair statement of what took place. There is nothing in the conduct of Bro. Roxburgh which calls on you to censure him or express in the mild words of Bro. Binckes, “your regret,” except it be your regret that the notice of motion should have been for the time circulated amongst the members of the Craft to his prejudice, and though I feel sure, your good sense will give a negative to the motion, I would throw out the suggestion that you should do something more. As the charge has been put on the agenda, and so circulated amongst the brethren, I would suggest that you should go some steps further, and instead of giving the motion a cold negative—for Bro. Roxburgh deserves better things of you—I would say, let us tell the Masons of England that he has faithfully discharged the duties of his high office. (Cheers). I believe the more we know of him the better we shall like him, and should he continue to hold his present appointment we shall find in him a most excellent officer. Bro. Roxburgh is comparatively to me a stranger, but I am so thoroughly convinced, Masonic feeling and nothing but Masonic feeling influenced him in doing as he has done and as he had a perfect right to do, that I hope you will not only give a negative to the motion, but do something more to vindicate his conduct and prevent an indirect censure being passed upon him by Grand Lodge. (Cheers).

Bro. Blake believed nothing could be more injurious to the cause of Masonry

than small party cliques in Grand Lodge. He thought the complaint before Grand Lodge came with an ill grace from Bro. Binckes, a member of an organized party, which, by their movements last year excluded him from the Board of General Purposes in favour of a member of the same Lodge who never attended the Board, and would not have allowed himself to be put in nomination if he had known it.

Bro. Stebbing regretted that Bro. Savage's first speech from the dais should be in support of what he considered the improper conduct of a Grand Officer. There was no doubt that a meeting had been held in Bro. Roxburgh's chambers, and an arrangement made to secure the election of certain brethren on the Board of General Purposes. His conduct at that meeting was tantamount to that of a clerk of the peace who would pack a jury to decide on the liberties of the people. (No, no). As an Englishman he protested against such unconstitutional conduct. He was as ready as any man to denounce party, and should he be placed upon the Board he should pursue a straight and undeviating line of conduct, and endeavour by all means to put an end to a practice which he regarded as unholy and unworthy of Grand Lodge.

Bro. Gregory thought the weakness of the case had been shown in the way Bro. Binckes had addressed Grand Lodge in an appeal *ad misericordiam*. The motion itself bore every mark of an obstructive party spirit, and he therefore wished to move an amendment upon it. They had already heard from Bro. Savage that the statement was grossly untrue, and the mover himself admitted that the paragraph on which it was founded was, in regard to the name of Bro. Havers, an embellishment—a mild word for a gratuitous falsehood—and he (Bro. Gregory) could not but admire the dexterity with which the names of brethren known to be popular in the Craft were introduced as dissentients; Bro. Savage was one of those, and he could tell them, that although there might have been differences of opinion expressed upon some points, they were animated but by one mind, and that not a single name on the list had been suggested by the Grand Registrar. He invited a number of the brethren to meet together, and asked them not to leave the business to be brought before Grand Lodge entirely to the dais, but to work for themselves, and he (Bro. Gregory) could not see anything very unconstitutional in that—(hear, hear)—and yet he held that if Bro. Roxburgh, or those who met in his chambers, were inclined to get up what was called a house list, they had a perfect right to do so. The statement that the list was a packed one, was, he would not say intentionally false, but perfectly erroneous, for it would be seen that the names were taken from all classes of the Craft. The charge embodied in the motion ought to have been investigated by the Board of General Purposes, the proper and constitutional tribunal, before it was placed on the agenda paper. If he was out of order in denouncing it as an "election dodge," he would withdraw the observation, and say that there was something behind it—that the object was not on the face of it. It was he considered, a cowardly attack upon Bro. Roxburgh, for when Bro. Whitmore placed it there, he knew, or rather thought, that it would not come on for discussion that evening, and that thus the calumny would be allowed to remain before the Craft uncontradicted. That had been the policy of the obstructives, and the M.W. Grand Master himself had been similarly attacked—(Question, question).

The Most Worshipful Grand Master said Bro. Gregory had a right to refer to whatever in the past illustrated his argument, but hoped he would bear in mind the time of Grand Lodge.

Bro. Gregory would do so, but he had in his hand three different notices of motion, brought forward at different times, by the members of the party to whom he alluded, attacking his lordship in covert language, not one of which had ever come before Grand Lodge for discussion. He would now implore Grand Lodge to deal fairly with the feelings of a brother whose character and good name they were bound to support, and to give them an opportunity of so doing, he would move, as an amendment, "that this Grand Lodge is of opinion that the charge implied against the Grand Registrar is unfounded, and that the giving notice of motion imputing misconduct to any brother upon insufficient grounds, or a mere assumption of facts, is deserving of severe censure."

Bro. McIntyre seconded the amendment. He had been present at the meeting,

and could give the report of its proceedings an emphatic and indignant denial. It assembled for no party object, but with the view of making arrangements for so conducting the transactions of Grand Lodge that they should have the confidence of the brethren all over the world, and that purpose was adhered to. It had been said that a list was proposed by Bro. Roxburgh for the adoption of the meeting but that was not the case. On the contrary, the list of which they heard so much was the spontaneous production of those who attended the meeting, and any other statement was unfounded and scandalous.

Bro. Mason thought the motion before Grand Lodge was only whether it was true that such a meeting had been held. He entertained a high esteem for Bro. Roxburgh, knowing and respecting his character and forensic talents. He made this remark that his motive in stating that if such a meeting was held it was a thing which should not exist among Masons, might not be misunderstood. Speaking without any party spirit, for he detested it, he could not help thinking that the calling of such a meeting by the Grand Registrar was inconsistent with proper legislation among Masons, and he hoped the expression of an opinion by Grand Lodge on the subject would prevent its being repeated.

Bro. Havers—I am sure that Grand Lodge will bear with me for a few minutes while I endeavour to bring it back to the main facts of the case. It is stated that Bro. Roxburgh held at his chambers a meeting of brethren of his own peculiar views. (Hear, hear). My Lord, if he had done so, I contend that he would have been perfectly justified. (Cheers). I believe, from the bottom of my heart, that a large portion of the difficulty and discord we have seen of late years has arisen from the circumstance that brethren high in office have not thought it worth their while to consult other brethren on the business of Grand Lodge. I emphatically, and on my honour as a Mason, deny that Bro. Roxburgh has done anything deserving the censure of the Craft. He has held a meeting—is that organizing a party movement? What is it he has done? He has departed from an old and, as I really believe, a bad custom. He has done openly and publicly what was before done secretly. Instead of asking men of his own peculiar views to meet him, he invited some thirty or forty influential brethren of all parties, many of whom were personally unknown to him, and he invited their counsel and assistance in carrying on the work of the Craft. He saw the time was gone by when two or three brethren could dictate to the Craft (cheers), and there should be no longer anything like exclusiveness. Is he to be blamed for this? (Cheers). If he is to be blamed, let him not be blamed alone, let me say boldly and at once, he acted by and with the advice of his colleagues, and if he is deserving of censure so are we. (Cheers). This, then, is what Bro. Roxburgh has done, and no more. It has been alleged in a publication, which there seems to be an unwillingness to name—the *Era* newspaper—that there has been a base conspiracy concocted; and it has been farther alleged that none but party men would be put upon the Board of General Purposes. To prove the falsehood of this charge, you have heard to-night Bro. Savage tell you there is no truth in it, nor in the statements made in reference to himself only. I hold in my hand a letter from an old friend, Stephen Barton Wilson, who hoped to be present to give it his denial: he writes to me from the hotel, Gravesend, stating that illness renders it impossible for him to move, or that he would be here in person to contradict it. You have here our worthy brother, Joseph Smith, and he, likewise, will tell you that from beginning to end it is utterly false. (Cheers). My Lord, at your bidding we came forward in times of great difficulty to assist in carrying on the business of Grand Lodge; we have done so zealously and faithfully, I believe I might add successfully. (Hear, hear). Since we have held office we have been exposed to repeated charges of misconduct; so long as those charges were general, it were impossible to meet or refute them, but whenever a special charge has been made, we have been ready and willing to reply to and disprove it. You, my lord, were the first object of a specific attack, you were charged with having prostituted your patronage to political purposes (hear, hear), you indignantly refuted and repelled that charge (hear, hear), and the Grand Lodge endorsed your refutation. The Lodges in the provinces indignantly echoed that refutation; and even from the other side of the Atlantic, from our West India provinces was that denial re-echoed. The charge of censure is now upon the Grand Registrar. Of two

things, one must be true; if the censure rests upon the Grand Registrar, and if he is guilty of what he is charged with, he is no longer worthy of his office. But if it does not rest on him, it rests on those who, through the length and breadth of the land, have circulated a calumny upon him. (Cheers). With regard to this charge, I meet it boldly and openly; our opponents have now fixed upon a special charge. We accept the issue raised by Bro. Whitmore, and supported by Bro. Binckes, and upon the verdict of Grand Lodge we will stand or fall. If it be true, then are we not fit to hold our office one moment longer. If it be not true, I call upon Grand Lodge to relieve us from the reproach attempted to be cast on us. It is not sufficient to meet the motion by a mere negative; you are bound to shew yourselves the custodians of the honour of your brethren—the honour of one is the honour of all—and if your chief officer be guilty of the offence with which he is charged, he is no longer worthy to be your officer. In a paper published this day, I am called by the mover of this resolution the “arch-apostle of discord.” (Laughter). I see by the smiles of Grand Lodge that my brethren take that charge as I do, whence it comes. My lord, the Craft is utterly tired of these intestine quarrels so detrimental to the harmony and best interests of Freemasonry. (Hear, hear). On the part of those brethren who act with me, I do in all sincerity assure those who have hitherto so strongly opposed us, that we are labouring only to put down discord; that upon the slightest semblance of a fair disposition on their part we will be ready to meet them more than half way. Let this charge be disposed of, and then in Heaven’s name I say, let by-gones be by-gone, and let us work together for the good of the Craft, and not for party purposes. (Cheers).

Bro., the Rev. J. R. Portal, said that what they had to decide was, whether or not Bro. Roxburgh had summoned a party meeting at his chambers. (No, no). The whole thing turned on what was party. It was quite clear, from the evidence, that the questions had been very fairly discussed, but who were the persons present? If it was called on private invitation, and not by public advertisement, then it was a packed meeting, and it was impossible that a Board of General Purposes selected by it could have the confidence of the brethren.

Bro. Warren had not intended to have addressed one word to Grand Lodge on the subject, nor would he have done so, had not his name been more than once alluded to in the course of the discussion. It certainly appeared to him somewhat extraordinary that Bro. Binckes should principally rest the defence of the motion then before them upon a letter of his which was not written until some days after the notice of motion had been given—so that the notice could not have been founded upon his letter which was written to contradict the garbled report previously published of the proceedings at the meeting at Bro. Roxburgh’s. It was true that the meeting did take place—that no one attempted to contradict—but the statements originally published with respect to it were not true. He admitted that he was present at the meeting, and he was not ashamed having attended it, or of the part he had taken. He had used his influence to place on the list of candidates the names of the Masters of two Lodges—perhaps not so well known to other brethren who attended the meeting as to himself—one of those Lodges containing upwards of one hundred members, and the other something like one hundred and fifty. He did not know whether they could call that a party movement, he certainly did not. It did appear rather strange to hear some brethren talk about party arrangements, and denounce the meeting of brethren to prepare a list of candidates for the Board of General Purposes, the more especially the rev. brother who had just spoken, and no one could have less right to complain upon the subject than that brother, unless indeed he had forgotten that himself and a noble earl had, a year or two since, met a Grand Officer and arranged a list for the Board, in which his (Bro. Warren’s) name was carefully excluded, because he was not sufficiently a party man either for the one side or the other.

Bro. Sawbridge, as a young Mason, deprecated these intestine divisions, which, if allowed to go on, would uproot the principles of the Order. He would support the amendment, because he did not see a tittle of evidence brought forward in support of the charge.

Bro. Binckes having briefly replied,

The M.W. Grand Master put the amendment, and declared it carried by an immense majority.

SCRUTINEERS.

The following brethren were then appointed Scrutineers of the ballot for the election of the Board of General Purposes, namely, Bros. Gole, Gower, Collard, Payne, Maney, Nicholson, Cramer, Punchand, Coulcher, Wright, and Tompkins.

THE GRAND SENIOR WARDEN.

Bro. Gray Clarke, G. Secretary, then stated that he had received a letter from Bro. Lord de Tabley, G.S.W., regretting he would not be able to attend Grand Lodge that evening, as he was out on duty with his yeomanry in Cheshire.

The minutes of the last regular Grand Lodge, and of the special Grand Lodge, held prior to the grand festival, were then read and confirmed.

THE GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

The M.W. Grand Master then said—It now becomes my duty to communicate to you the result of the undertaking which you placed in my hands, when you unanimously requested me to communicate with the Grand Lodge of Canada, for the recognition of the rights of English Masons residing within its jurisdiction, and to take such other steps as I thought necessary for maintaining the honour and dignity of this Grand Lodge. I have now much pleasure to inform you of the result of the communications which have passed between us, but in order to prevent any misconception, I thought it better to put down in writing the main points of the case, and I would premise that as some of the letters are marked private, I do not think it right or proper to lay the whole of the correspondence before you, but to communicate to you the result, and assure you that nothing of importance is concealed from you. The noble Earl then read as follows:—

“At the last meeting of Grand Lodge it was determined that the final arrangements respecting the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Canada should be left in my hands. I do not think it necessary to take up the time of Grand Lodge by reading the whole of the correspondence which has taken place, but in communicating its result, I anticipate with pleasure the satisfaction with which I feel sure Grand Lodge will hear that all the differences heretofore existing between our brethren in Canada and ourselves are now happily terminated. The questions to be considered were—1. The extent of jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada. 2. The position of private Lodges and individual brethren still holding firm in their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England. 3. The position of the Provincial Grand Lodges of Montreal and Quebec. As regards the extent of jurisdiction to be accorded to the Grand Lodge of Canada, I have already expressed an opinion that the Grand Lodge of England, actuated by the true spirit of Masonry, would never seek to limit its spread to those only who would be subject to its control. Believing, under existing circumstances, that union will be restored, that Masonry will spread, and its true principles be disseminated far and wide through the land, and unwilling on the part of Grand Lodge of England to claim a nominal sovereignty over a territory where we have so few, and the Grand Lodge of Canada so many Lodges, I readily consented to the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada being acknowledged over the whole province, a course which I had already expressed my approval of, and which I should have been equally ready to recommend in December last, had it been understood that application to such effect had been made. The Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia still remain subject to the Grand Lodge of England. I felt it my duty to stipulate for the full recognition of all the rights and privileges of private Lodges and of individual brethren, and this has been willingly accorded. I have informed the Grand Lodge of Canada that it is not my intention to grant warrants for new Lodges in any part of Canada. The Provincial Grand Lodge of Montreal having virtually ceased to exist for several years past, I do not think it desirable, nor shall I take any steps to resuscitate it. I have directed it to be intimated to the Lodges still remaining in the Montreal district, that they may, according to their wish, be either placed under the Provincial Grand Master of Quebec, or may communicate

direct with the Grand Lodge of England. I have felt it to be my duty to stipulate that the rights and privileges of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Quebec shall be fully recognized and respected, inasmuch as that Provincial Grand Lodge has existed and held authority from a period long anterior to the formation of any Grand Lodge in Canada, and none of its Lodges have at any period joined, or expressed a desire to join, the Grand Lodge of Canada. I have claimed, therefore, that the privileges which they have possessed for years should still be secured to them. In reply to the claim thus put forth, it is urged that Provincial Grand Lodges are of recent origin, and that their rights and privileges are ill-defined. I am glad to perceive that though there is an evident dislike, on the part of the Grand Lodge of Canada, to the existence of a Provincial Grand Lodge within its jurisdiction, that the claim I have made is acceded to, and I rely with full confidence on the assurance given me by the Grand Master of Canada, [That no one connected with his Grand Lodge will attempt to interfere with either their rights or privileges, whatever they may prove to be.] I congratulate Grand Lodge on the happy result at length arrived at. I must express my gratification at the courteous and fraternal spirit exhibited by the Grand Master of Canada, and say how entirely I reciprocate the feeling expressed in the last sentence of his letter, dated 23rd April. I feel that I cannot take leave of this subject better than by quoting that sentence to Grand Lodge. The following are the words of his letter addressed to me:—"Again I thank you, Most Worshipful Sir, for the kind and fraternal feeling evinced by your last communication, and indulge in the hope that nothing will hereafter occur to disturb the harmony and good feeling which I now regard as firmly established between our respective jurisdictions." His Lordship concluded by saying—I need scarcely assure Grand Lodge of the satisfaction which I feel in seeing the matter thus settled, and I hope Grand Lodge will join with me in expressing its satisfaction at the result which has taken place in the arrangement of this complicated and embarrassing affair. (Cheers).

Bro. Rd. Havers, Prov. G.W., Oxfordshire, then said—M.W. Grand Master and brethren, the communication which has been just made to us, must, I think, be a source of the greatest satisfaction to Grand Lodge. That communication will, as a matter of course, come upon the minutes of our proceedings; but I am sure I only speak the feelings of every brother present when I say, that we should regret to see it placed on those minutes unaccompanied by a declaration of our satisfaction at the able and judicious manner the negotiation has been carried out. Believing that there is no question of Masonic law which has been overlooked, and that there is no fact connected with the negotiation which has not been already given to Grand Lodge, I trust I shall not be out of order in founding on what we have just heard a motion, as follows:—"That this Grand Lodge expresses its gratification at the happy result which has attended the labours of the Grand Master in the settlement of the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and offers its best thanks to the M.W. Grand Master, for the able and judicious manner in which he has brought this important matter to a successful termination." (Cheers).

Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal said: M.W. Grand Master and brethren, I have great pleasure in seconding the motion of Bro. Havers. There cannot, my lord, be two opinions upon the subject of the negotiations which have taken place. First of all, they have been conducted with all the dignity and courtesy which we might justly expect from you; and, in the second place, there is no right or privilege which we could wish which has not been conceded to our brethren in Canada. Having on the one hand regard to our privileges and dignity, and on the other the concessions made to the Canadian Masons, we may congratulate ourselves on the issue to which your lordship has brought this peculiarly delicate and distressing subject.

Bro. Sir Lucius Curtis, in putting the resolution, expressed the satisfaction he felt in doing so.

The motion was carried by acclamation.

THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

The Grand Secretary having read the report of the Board of General Purposes,

a remanet from the last quarterly communication, it was, on the motion of Bro. Havers, seconded by Bro. Webb, received and entered on the minutes.

Bro. Havers then moved an alteration in the Book of Constitutions, removing the limit of two years after the death of a brother within which his widow can apply for relief to the Board of Benevolence.

Bro. Locock Webb seconded the motion.

Bro. Roberts, in supporting the resolution, mentioned an instance in which, had it not been for the interference of another Lodge during the recess of the Lodge to which her husband had belonged, the widow of a brother would, by lapse of time, have been excluded from relief.

The motion was then agreed to.

Bro. Havers then moved that a friendly representation be made through the D. Grand Master to the Grand Lodge of Scotland, asking it to prohibit the granting of degrees to English brethren visiting Scotland at shorter periods than they could be obtained in England.

Bro. Locock Webb, having seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved of.

THE COLONIAL BOARD.

The report of the Colonial Board remaining over from the last meeting of Grand Lodge was then read and entered on the minutes.

BENEVOLENCE.

The following grants were approved of :—

The widow of Bro. Thomas Hand, of Lodge No. 317, Richmond, Surrey	£100
The widow of Bro. David Freeman, of Lodge No. 680, Croydon	50
Bro. William Bush, of Lodge No. 264, London	50
Bro. James B. Newcombe, of Lodge No. 10, London	30

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

Bro. Havers moved that "That the office of Assistant Grand Pursuivant be created, and that the brother appointed to that office shall assist the Grand Pursuivant in his duties, and shall, during his tenure of office, wear the clothing of a Grand Officer, and take precedence immediately after the Past Grand Pursuivants." He justified the motion on the ground that the duties of the office had increased tenfold since its establishment, nineteen years ago. With regard to the motion of which Bro. Barrett had given notice, he would submit that it was contrary to all Masonic practice, and would, in no remote degree, clip the privileges of the Grand Master.

Bro. Locock Webb seconded the resolution.

Bro. Joseph Smith had great pleasure in supporting the resolution. He had now held the office several years, and unless he could be inside the Lodge and outside it at the same time, it was impossible he could adequately discharge the duties which devolved on him.

Bro. Barrett moved, as a rider to the resolution, the following motion, of which he had given notice, "That on the appointment of an Assistant Grand Pursuivant, the election be in the Grand Lodge, in the same manner as the election for Grand Treasurer." He looked upon the appointment as unnecessary, and only intended to increase the patronage of the Grand Master. He hoped soon to see the Grand Lodge patronage equally divided between the Grand Master and the Craft.

Bro. the Rev. J. S. Sidebotham seconded the motion, as he could not conceive how the appointment of so subordinate an officer by Grand Lodge could derogate from the dignity of the Grand Master.

Bro. McIntyre would give the proposal of Bro. Barrett a direct negative. When the M.W. the Grand Master improperly disposed of his patronage, then, and not till then, ought he be deprived of his just prerogative; in fact, it was only an attempt to get in the small end of the wedge towards depriving the Grand Master of his most valuable prerogative.

Bro. Sir Lucius Cmtjs also opposed Bro. Barrett's motion, as a dangerous precedent.

The amendment was negatived by a large majority, only five hands being held up for it, and the original motion carried.

DEFAULTING LODGES.

Bro. Havers moved that the following Lodges—

No.	Date of last Return.
49. Lodge of Concord, London	December, 1849.
64. Howard Lodge of Brotherly Love, Arundel	March, 1836.
362. Lodge of School of Plato, Cambridge	December, 1853.
459. Lodge of Benevolence, Sherborne	December, 1851.
658. Marquis of Granby, Eastwood, Notts	Warrant returned.
751. Prince Edwin's Lodge, Eye	December, 1849.
765. Roden Lodge, Wem	{ Warrant granted February, 1846—no return.
785. Angholme, Brigg, Lincolnshire	Warrant returned.
806. Castlemartin Lodge, Pembroke	December, 1849.
878. Mariners' Lodge, Littlehampton	{ Warrant granted July, 1852—no return.
940. Peveril of the Peak Lodge, New Mills, near Glossop	{ Warrant granted July, 1855—no return.

should be summoned to show cause, at the next meeting of Grand Lodge, why they should not be erased from the books of Grand Lodge. Since the notice had been made public, three of the Lodges named in the list as originally published, had come in and made their returns, and he hoped the summons would operate beneficially in causing a great many others to follow their example. He might mention that those Lodges now on the list had been several times applied to within the last twelve months, and although the Board of General Purposes, in its wish to afford them every indulgence, put off the present motion from time to time, no good had come of the delay.

Bro. Locock Webb seconded the resolution.

Bro. Stebbing hoped Grand Lodge would grant the defaulting Lodges three months more to make their returns, and condemned the motion as taking the Lodges by surprise.

Bro. Gregory said, that if the motion was to erase those Lodges, they might complain of surprise, but such was not the fact. Each of them would next Grand Lodge have an opportunity of stating its case, and then Grand Lodge itself would have to decide whether the Lodge should be erased or not.

Bro. Havers would again assure Grand Lodge, that every opportunity had been given, and would be given, to those Lodges to save their position.

The motion was then agreed to.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

It being now past eleven o'clock, no further business was proceeded with, but Grand Lodge in idleness waited some minutes for the return of the scrutineers, who made a report, giving the following votes, there being two lists canvassed for—one containing fourteen names, all of whom were returned; and the other, the four names immediately following:—

MASTERS.	PAST MASTERS.
Levinson (No. 19) 159	Young (No. 72) 124
Farmer (No. 25) 156	Cotterell (No. 8) 121
Stacey (No. 211) 153	Gregory (No. 233) 110
Ladd (No. 247) 153	Wheeler (No. 324) 108
McIntyre (No. 125) 151	Snell (No. 5) 107
Moore (No. 329) 145	Webb (No. 4) 101
Tyerman (No. 234) 143	Symonds (No. 21) 88
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Barrett (No. 212) 62	Stebbing (No. 152) 42
	Binckes (No. 11) 38
	Barnes (No. 30) 37

There were also a large number of other Past Masters put in nomination, mostly without authority, whose names it is unnecessary to give; but we may add that the following votes were recorded—for one candidate, 25; one 21; one 16; one 10; one 9; two 8 each; four 6 each; three 5 each; two 3 each; seven 2 each; five 1 each; and two none. Bros. Blake, W.M. (No. 21); and Watson, P.M. (No. 25), withdrew their names prior to the evening of election; and Bros. Hewlett, P.M. (No. 23); and Warren, P.M. (No. 169), previous to the polling.

The following brethren were nominated members of the Board, by the M.W. Grand Master:—

Bros. John Havers, P.G.D., President; W. H. White, P.G. Sec.; John Savage, S.G.D.; F. Slight, J.G.D.; Rev. J.E. Cox, P.G. Chaplain; John Hervey, P.G.D.; S. B. Wilson, P.G.D.; R. W. Jennings, G.D.C.; J. Ll. Evans, P.G.S.B.; A. A. Le Veau, P.G.S.B.; Joseph Smith, G. Pursuivant.

COLONIAL BOARD.

The undermentioned brethren were elected as members of the Colonial Board:—

Bros. Nicholas Bradford, P.M., No. 54; John Hervey, P.G.D.; J. S. S. Hopwood, P.G.D.; F. Ledger, P.M., No. 11; James Mason, P.M., No. 168; M. H. Shuttleworth, P.M., No. 225; George Wilkinson, P.M., No. 21; and the Grand Master nominated Bros. J. Ll. Evans, P.G.S.B., President; A. W. Woods, Asst. G.D.C.; and J. Smith, P.G. Purs. The Grand Master also appointed Bro. Hervey (one of the elected members) Vice-president.

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The undermentioned brethren were elected to represent Grand Lodge on the Committee of Management for the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows:—

Bros. Samuel Aldrich, P.M., No. 196; Robert Collard, P.M., No. 168; H. S. Cooper, P.M., No. 276; Alfred Day, P.M., No. 78; Samuel Gale, P.M., No. 19; W. S. Masteman, P.M., No. 11; Thomas Gole, P.M., No. 18; Benjamin Head, P.M., No. 5; William Paas, P.M., No. 30; John Symonds, P.M., No. 21.

The Grand Master having intimated that it would be necessary to hold a special Grand Lodge for the transaction of the business unfinished that evening, Grand Lodge was closed in ample form, and adjourned to the first Wednesday in September, emergencies excepted. The Lodge of Emergency has since been fixed for the 23rd instant.

METROPOLITAN.

APPOINTMENTS.

Wednesday, June 8th.—Lodges, Fidelity (3), Freemasons' Tavern; Union of Waterloo (13), King's Arms, Woolwich; Kent (15), Three Tuns, Southwark; Royal Naval (70), Freemasons' Tavern; Vitruvian (103), White Hart, Lambeth; Justice (172), Royal Albert, New Cross, Deptford; Caveae (205), Star and Garter, Kew; Zetland (752), Adam and Eve, Kensington. Committee Royal Benevolent Institution, at 3.

Thursday, 9th.—Lodges, Friendship (6), Thatched House Tavern; Friendship (248), Ship and Turtle; Bank of England (329), Radley's Hotel, Polish (778), Freemasons' Tavern.

Friday, 10th.—Lodges, Caledonian (156), Ship and Turtle; Bedford (183), Freemasons' Tavern; High Cross (1056), Railway Hotel, Northumberland Park, Tottenham.

Tuesday 14th.—Lodges, Israel (247), Bridge House Hotel; Wellington (805), Lord Duncan Tavern, Deptford.

Wednesday, 15th.—Lodges, United Mariners (33), Three Tuns, Southwark; St. George's (164), Globe Hotel, Greenwich; Sincerity (203), Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars; Oak (225), Radley's Hotel; Beadon (902), Star and Garter, Kew.

Thursday, 16th.—Lodge, Westbourne (1035), Manor House Tavern, Westbourne Terrace. Chapters.—United Pilgrims (745), Manor House Tavern, Walworth; Yarrowborough (812), George Tavern, Commercial Road East.

Friday, 17th.—Chapter.—Moirs (109), London Tavern. *Encampment.*—St. George, Radley's Hotel.

Saturday, 18th.—Lodge, Panmure (1017), Pembury Tavern, Hackney.

[The appointments of Lodges of Instruction appear in the last number of each month.]

THE ST. JAMES'S UNION LODGE (No. 211).—On Monday, May 30th, an emergency meeting of this Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, at half-past five o'clock. Bro. Stacey, W.M., commenced the business of the evening by initiating Messrs. Parker, Beatty, Williams, and Hasberry. Bros. Walker, Tatner, and Addington, were entrusted with the second degree; and Bros. Benningfield, jun., R. Berry, J. Price, and J. Hamilton, were then raised to the sublime degree of M.M. Bro. A. Trupps, of Social Lodge, No. 110, Norwich, was admitted a joining member. The committee appointed to revise the by-laws presented their report. A further sum of five guineas was voted to the Girls School, making twenty guineas contributed to this charity by the Lodge within the specified period, thereby constituting its Master (*pro tempore*) a governor during its existence. The Lodge was then closed in ancient form, and the brethren, upwards of fifty in number, adjourned to dinner. The toasts, "The Queen and the Craft," "The Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M.," having been duly honoured, the W.M. proposed "The health of the Visitors," and was sure the brethren would join him in hailing at their festive board such distinguished Masons as Bros. W. Watson, P.M., No. 23; and W. Walkley, P.M., No. 367, both of whom had been for many years promoters of sound Masonic knowledge. Bro. W. Watson expressed his sense of the high compliment paid the visiting brethren, and would not let that opportunity pass of bearing testimony to the amiable qualities possessed by Bro. H. A. Stacey, W.M. The brethren had often witnessed the zeal and efficiency with which he had filled the various subordinate offices of the Lodge, which rendered his elevation to the Mastership a matter of deep interest, and his conduct in that chair had realized their fondest expectations; his urbanity, and his perfect mode of performing the ceremonies that evening, entitled him to the thanks and respect of his brethren. The W.M. then gave "The Past Masters," responded to by Bro. John Gorton, who expressed his gratitude on behalf of the Past Masters, for the compliment paid them. He had ever taken, as he should continue to do, the greatest interest in the prosperity of the Lodge; he had never sought Masonic honours out of it, and he had, on all occasions, endeavoured to do his duty, and which he was certain his brother Past Masters would continue to do; he would conclude by drinking "Health and prosperity to Bro. H. Stacey, W.M.," and expressed the great satisfaction of the Lodge at the able manner he had performed the ceremonies, and the Masonic feeling with which he presided, that the brethren were fully justified at the choice they had made. The W.M., in acknowledgment, said "I feel deeply the kindness which has marked every word uttered by Bro. J. Gorton; most fully, indeed, do I feel what the worthy brother has said, which ought, if anything could, teach me the responsibilities attached to the duties of the chair. I am indebted to you, collectively and individually, for many acts of kindness and consideration, and I now receive this compliment as a mark of your approval, and I hope I may never prove unworthy of it." Bro. Williams returned thanks for "The Initiates," and expressed his gratification in being received into a society he had long desired to enter, and as far as he could at present see, there was nothing in the profession of Masonry inconsistent with his duties as a Christian man, and it was his firm intention to persevere in the new duties he had entered on, and as his lot in life had been favourably cast, he would endeavour to practise that charity which had been so amply illustrated that evening in the Lodge. Bros. Hart, Davis, and Jackson, sang appropriate songs.

CRYSTAL PALACE LODGE (No. 1,044).—The first anniversary and installation meeting of this flourishing Lodge was held on Thursday, in the old dining-room at the Crystal Palace, in the presence of a numerous body of members and visitors. Amongst the latter were Bros. J. Savage, S.G.D.; Maney, W.M., No. 201; James Cooper, P.M., No. 18; Haig, W.M., No. 23; Stacey, W.M., No. 211; John Gorton, P.M., No. 211; Hurlstone, No. 201; Hollins, No. 198; Bolton, W.M., No. 198; Truslow, No. 198; Frampton, No. 166; Tucker, J.D., No. 172; Shaboe, No. 812;

Rackstraw, P.M., No. 9; Norman, P.M., No. 209; Thompson, No. 206; Imhof, No. 57; Nutt, No. 78; Robinson, No. 106, &c. Bro. R. M. Smith, W.M., presided, and the Lodge was opened soon after twelve o'clock. The first business of the day was to raise Bros. Finch, Charlwood, and Reed (the latter gentleman afflicted by perpetual darkness), to the sublime degree of M.M., in a most impressive manner. Bro. Ashton was passed to the second degree. The W.M. then proceeded with the ceremony of installation, Bro. Anslow being for the time S.W.; and Bro. John Gorton, J.W. Bro. Purbrook, the W.M. elect, being presented, the W.M., in a most able and impressive manner, installed him as his successor in the chair for the ensuing twelve months. The customary salutes having been given to the W.M., he nominated his officers as follows:—Bros. Handford, S.W.; Palmer, J.W.; H. T. Thompson, S.D.; Oliver, J.D.; J. Smith, I.G.; Hill, Treasurer; and Blackburn, Secretary. The W.M. then proceeded to initiate Messrs. Moore, Hazelman, Fincher, and Martyn, into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry, with a perfection that excited the admiration of all present, many old P.Ms. remarking that they had never seen that impressive rite more carefully or correctly performed. Bro. Amos, Organist of the Lodge, was made an honorary member. The brethren, numbering sixty-three, then retired to the banquet. After the loyal and Masonic toasts had been given, the W.M. proposed "The Visitors," a large number of whom he had great pleasure to see present that evening. Bro. Haig, W.M. of the Globe Lodge; and Bro. Manley, W.M. of the Old Concord Lodge, responded; the latter remarking that it was most gratifying to him, as a Mason of thirty-three years standing, to see so flourishing a Lodge, with so large a number of members, and it was equally gratifying to him to see their W.M., who was a mere infant in Freemasonry, go through the ceremony with such nerve and ability on being installed into the chair, and, indeed, it ought to set an example to other Lodges. He hoped, with such an able W.M., the brethren would well support him on all occasions. "The Initiates" having been given and responded to, Bro. Smith, P.M., gave "The Health of the W.M.," and said that as he had only been eighteen months a Mason, it spoke well for the future. The W.M. acknowledged the compliment, and said that the more he trod in the footsteps of their P.M., the better. Bro. Smith, P.M., in returning thanks for the P.Ms. in the Lodge said that although he had not done as much as he could have wished, yet he had the honour to initiate twenty members during his year of office, and therefore he had a right to feel proud of his position, believing as he did that there were but few old Lodges in which the W.M., on leaving the chair, could say that he had initiated twenty members. Bro. Watson, P.M., also responded, and said he was delighted to find the position which their Lodge now occupied in the eyes of the Craft, for, as Bro. Smith had said, it was no small boast, it was no small honour to them to say, that although they only met four times a year, with two extra meetings, they had had twenty initiations. Their present W.M. had that day introduced four of his own personal friends, making twenty-four within twelve months, for the Lodge would not be a year old until that day week. It was going on most gloriously, and to find within twelve months a Lodge more than sixty strong, he said, as one having some experience, that it was one of the most remarkable circumstances which had ever occurred to his knowledge in Freemasonry. As one of the first to lend a helping hand, he felt great pride at its prosperity, and he believed that that glorious Lodge was destined at no distant day, to exceed all the Lodges in the Order. He concluded by congratulating the brethren on the eminent position which they occupied, and thanked them for the cordial manner in which their names had been received. Bro. Blackburn, Sec., in returning thanks for his health, and that of the Treasurer, said he was happy to say that instead of the Lodge numbering sixty members, there were nearer eighty; and if the Lodge was governed as it had been during the past year, it could not fail to succeed. The W.M. then gave "The other Officers of the Lodge." Bro. Handford, S.W., returned thanks, and said they felt highly honoured at the position in which the W.M. had placed them. That Lodge had been singularly fortunate in finding so many eminent brethren to teach them their duties, particularly Bros. Watson and Anslow, who were scarcely ever absent from their Lodge of Instruction, and who had taught them what they knew. "The Health of the Auditors" was responded to in a very humorous speech by Bro. H. T. Thompson, and, after some

other toasts had been given, the proceedings terminated, after one of the most agreeable meetings ever witnessed in Freemasonry.

INSTRUCTION.

ENOCH LODGE (No. 11).—At the usual weekly meeting of this Lodge, held at Bro. Rowland's, the Newton Hotel, St. Martin's street, Leicester-square, on Thursday last, Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson presiding as W.M.; Bro. Sewell, S.W.; and Bro. Hides, J.W., notice of motion was given by Bro. Sewell—"That the Lodge adjourn over the summer months." Bro. Sewell was elected W.M. for Thursday, the 9th, and the Lodge was adjourned to that day at seven o'clock.

PROVINCIAL.

BRISTOL.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, June 13th, Royal Clarence (81), Freemasons' Hall, at 7; Tuesday, 14th, Jerusalem (986), ditto, at 7; Wednesday, 15th, Colston (880), ditto, at 7; Friday, 17th. *Instruction*.—Ditto, at 7½. *Mark*.—Thursday, 16th, Canynoges, ditto, at 7.

BRISTOL.—*Royal Sussex Lodge of Hospitality* (No. 221).—On Wednesday evening, the 25th ult., this Lodge was honoured by a visit from the R.W.D. Prov. Grand Master of the province, Bro. Wm. Powell, accompanied by the Officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge, and also by Bro. Wm. Done Bushell, of Cardiff, formerly D. Prov. Grand Master of Bristol. The brethren of the Prov. Grand Lodge, having been received with the usual Masonic honours, the regular business of the Royal Sussex Lodge was proceeded with, and a ballot was taken for three candidates and two joining members. The W.M., Bro. Charles H. Low, then initiated, in his usual effective manner, the following gentlemen:—Mr. J. B. Low (brother of the W.M.); Mr. Wm. Patterson (a son of the eminent ship-builder, at Bristol), and Mr. Frederick Lucas (brother of Mr. Saml. Lucas, the literary critic of the *Times*.) Bro. Wm. D. Bushell, then shortly, but impressively, addressed the newly initiated candidates and the younger members of the Lodge, urging them to follow in the Masonic footsteps of their fathers, most of whom the speaker had been in the habit of meeting within the walls of that Masonic Hall. The R.W.D. Prov. Grand Master, and brethren of the Prov. Grand Lodge, soon afterwards retired, a candidate and a joining member were proposed, and the Lodge was closed in perfect harmony at a little before ten o'clock, P.M.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

ST. HELIER, JERSEY.—*La Césarée Lodge* (No. 860).—May 26th was the eighth anniversary of the foundation of this Lodge, which formed a new era in the history of the Order by affording a means, under the warrant of the Grand Lodge of England, for our French neighbours to join in the rites of the Craft, by the employment of their own language; and was celebrated not only by the holding of the usual monthly meeting, but by the installation of the new officers and a banquet. The latter was of the usual kind under such circumstances, when social happiness and fraternal feelings prevailed, and mutual congratulations and compliments were exchanged, an account of which can have no interest beyond the immediate sphere of the members—it is therefore not intruded in these pages. The W.M., *Le Cras*, having opened the Lodge, the routine business was performed; the annual accounts of the Treasurer were rendered and approved, as might well be the case, since they presented a favourable financial statement. This was followed by an initiation conferred with the usual accuracy and impressiveness, but in consequence of the amount of work before the Lodge, the exhortations and ex-

planations of Bro. Ratier, the Orator, were postponed till a future occasion. The most important business of the evening, however, was the reading of the report presented by the Masonic Hall Committee, the appointment of which was mentioned in the account of the April meeting, and for the consideration of which this meeting was made special. The W.M. of the past year having been re-elected, was re-installed in his chair, and made the following appointments of the principal officers, respecting whom it may be stated that there is every reason to hope that he has been singularly successful, and that he is rearing up a class of brethren who will profit by his example, and will prove no mean competitors for honour in the Masonic course which he has run, and which they will doubtless endeavour to emulate. Bro. Philip Bandanis, S.W.; Bro. G. Vickery, J.W.; Bro. Perrot, S.D.; Bro. Deveulle, J.D.; Bro. Le Neveu, Sec.; Bro. J. Asplet, Dir. of Cers.; Bro. Robert, Assist. Dir. of Cers. The latter appointment is a new one, made in consideration of the advancing years of Bro. Asplet, who certainly has earned the kind regard and gratitude of all under whom he has so long and efficiently served. It is unnecessary to enumerate the other officers, of whom it may be confidently predicted that they will, in their turn, obtain higher distinctions. The W.M. then closed the Lodge, and the brethren adjourned to the Poinne d'Or Hotel to celebrate the auspicious event.

The following is the report of the Masonic Hall Committee:—

"The committee appointed to devise means for the erection of a Masonic temple has met many times. The committee was required to seek a suitable spot, to inquire into the probable expense, to consider measures for raising the requisite sum, and to present a plan of the proposed edifice. Some situations which have appeared available have been rejected, either because they could not be purchased, or because their extent or form rendered them insufficient or incapable of adaptation. The following have been under consideration:—A plot of land in Victoria-road, belonging to Mr. Aubin, constable of St. Helier; and one in Stopford-road, the property of Mr. C. Ahier. These two plots were offered to us to the extent required as regards the breadth or front to the public road; but with respect to the extent at the back, we were obliged to submit to the depth of the plots of land themselves. Each of these allowed a frontage of thirty feet, which was deemed sufficient, but the land of Mr. Aubin will allow a depth of one hundred and sixty feet, and that of Mr. Ahier of one hundred feet. This difference was of little importance, for the excess in the first case can be useful only as a garden; nevertheless it may add to the completeness of the premises, and may afford means of more complete isolation. The price required was fifteen quarters, (£300) for the first, and eight quarters, (£160) for the second. This great difference naturally attracted our attention, but serious objections to the least expensive land presented themselves to us, compared with the other. Several members of the committee thought it too remote: considering New-street as one of the main thoroughfares of the town, there is a difference in the distance from it of about four hundred yards. Again, the land in Stopford-road is said to be damp, which would render it impossible to have good cellars, and it would be necessary to raise the building to a height from the surface which would entail considerable extra expense. Lastly, although Stopford-road is a large street, containing good houses, the part offered to us is at present devoid of buildings, and its future occupation is not so certain as that of Mr. Aubin; since an extent of sixty feet of frontage of the latter is taken for the erection of an Independent chapel. All the members of the committee have agreed that the situation of Victoria-road, between New-street and Bath-street, in one of the best districts of the town, a little removed from the centre, out of the commercial district, without being too remote, was perhaps the most desirable, especially as the elevation of the ground would permit all the proposed plans to be carried out. For these reasons the committee has, without hesitation decided upon the ground in Victoria-road. The question of the price was the only one now remaining, and as the choice of this spot would involve an expense of one hundred and forty pounds more than the other, the kind offer made by Bro. Manuel was accepted, to see the proprietor with a view to some reduction in the terms he proposed. We are happy to say that Bro. Manuel succeeded beyond our hopes; and it is important to know that it is on all hands considered that Mr. Aubin presents one of the best guarantees in

the island, not only by reason of his position and fortune, but also because he is not engaged in any business. It must also be stated that the quarter of rentes is generally estimated at twenty pounds, fifteen quarters representing a capital of three hundred pounds. By the step taken by Bro. Manuel, it has resulted that the price of the land has been definitely fixed at two hundred and seventy-five pounds, of which two hundred pounds is to be paid down, and a bill at a long date is to be taken for the remaining seventy-five pounds. The proprietor requires a prompt reply, because he has other applications for the land. It is hoped, therefore, that the members of the Lodge will agree in opinion with the committee as to the desirability of at once accepting the offer. With regard to the plan of the building, it was impossible to present any thing definite which could be decided upon before the purchase of the land should be determined. This plan, with the aid of the zeal and co-operation of the talented architects who have been consulted, must necessarily depend upon the extent of the application of art, and the especial circumstances of the case. At present, therefore, nothing more can be given than a slight sketch of the course which it is proposed to pursue in the construction of the plan.

"1. To the street, an iron palisading with a gate, two stone pillars in the form of a pedestal, upon which should be placed two Egyptian sphynxes, in Caen stone.

"2. A grass plot.

"3. The house with a peristyle. Of course the front will bear an especial character, referring to the early period of initiation.

"In the house there will be, on the ground floor—a parlour for the brethren, serving as a library; a preparing room; a robing room; a parlour for the Tyler, serving also as a chamber: at the end of the broad passage, the temple, in the form of a double square, terminating in a semicircle; an arched dome. In dimensions, the room to be forty-eight feet long, twenty-four feet wide, and twenty-four feet high. On the first story—a large banqueting room, thirty feet long, eighteen feet wide, over the portion used as a house. Underneath the whole, apartments, in which will be comprised a kitchen and warming apparatus for the temple. A garden behind the temple. A building of this extent may be estimated to cost from eight hundred to one thousand pounds, and the committee has considered the means of raising this sum. It is proposed to provide for the purchase of the land by a vote of money from the Lodge, and by the voluntary subscriptions of the brethren. We are happy to be able to state that many have already offered co-operation, and have given their names as subscribers, to which list we hope to have many additions on the presentation and adoption of the report. In order to preserve a memorial of their liberality, it is intended to engrave their names on a marble slab in a conspicuous part of the temple. Taking into account the balance sheet to be presented to the Lodge this day, and the arrears due to the funds, we can reckon on a sum of sixty-eight pounds, of which we consider that the Lodge may vote fifty pounds as its share of the contributions. Judging from the present state of the list of subscriptions, we do not doubt that a sum of from two hundred and fifty pounds to two hundred and seventy-five pounds may eventually be raised. Bro. Manuel is about to visit London, where he hopes to meet a great musical artist, and to induce him to come to Jersey, and give a concert for our benefit. Possibly, also, a theatrical performance may be undertaken, with the same object. Lastly, although the proposed temple will belong to Lodge La Cesarée, it is hoped that the spirit of Masonry will justify us in making an appeal to the Masons of the province individually, and also to all the Lodges in England. For the expense of the buildings, it is proposed to raise a loan, giving as security the deeds of the land and the edifice itself. It is considered that the sum of eight hundred pounds may thus be procured, the interest of which, at four and a half per cent., may be taken at thirty-six pounds per annum. There is no doubt that two other Lodges, namely, the Mechanics' and the Sussex, will be glad to avail themselves of our building, paying an annual rent each of six pounds, to which may be added two pounds yearly from the Provincial Grand Lodge, thus reducing our annual payment as interest to twenty-two pounds. It is within the bounds of possibility that the Sussex Lodge may ultimately join us, in which case our debt would become insignificant, since it would amount to but little more than the

Lodge paid as rent when it consisted of only fifteen members, whereas we have now fifty, exclusive of four who, as non-residents, pay a smaller subscription. The increasing prosperity of the Lodge induces us to hope that from the resources afforded by annual subscriptions, initiation fees, and other means, a reserve fund may be laid aside for the gradual repayment of the capital, without infringing upon our pecuniary assistance for charitable purposes. It will now be necessary to offer a few practical suggestions. It will be understood that it is impossible for your committee to act efficiently if it is required on all occasions to consult the Lodge, and to obtain its consent, since the regular meetings are held only once in each month. Moreover, it will be desirable at once to appoint trustees (by whose means alone the Lodge can obtain legal possession) in whom you have confidence, that they will take all precautions to protect your interests. On them also will devolve a great responsibility, but it is hoped that their devotedness to the cause, and the security which they will have in the absolute tenure of the property, will free them and you from all anxiety on the subject. On a consideration of all that has been advanced, we venture to lay before you the following resolutions, as worthy of adoption. Lodge La Césaire, specially summoned by a resolution of April 25th, to consider the erection of a Masonic temple, by which it has entrusted the examination of the proposition, and authority to report to the Lodge at its next meeting to the W.M., Bro. Le Cras; the S.W. Bro. Durell; the J.W., Bro. D'Allain; and to Bros. Manuel, Binet, Voisin, Le Gros, and Ratier, after having heard the report of this committee now presented.

"Resolved—

"1. That the erection of a temple specially devoted to Freemasonry is definitely decided upon.

"2. The spot fixed upon for the erection of the building shall be that situated in Victoria-road, belonging to Mr. Aubin, constable of St. Helier.

"3. The brethren Du Jardin, Hocquard, Manuel, Durell, D'Allain, Vickery, Bandanis, Le Gros, and Le Neveu, are hereby appointed trustees. They are invested with full power to obtain possession of the site fixed upon, on the best terms that can be effected, and to purchase such a quantity of land as may be deemed necessary for carrying out the plan, provided that the point to Victoria-road does not exceed forty feet. They are also empowered, under guarantee of the Lodge, to sign all deeds and documents relative to the same, and to raise such loans as may be requisite for the expenses of the erection of the building, and of the internal arrangements in respect to decoration and fittings.

"4. The committee charged with the carrying out of the plan shall consist of the before-named trustees, with the addition of the W.M., Bro. Le Cras, and of Bros. Thos. Gallichan and Gustave Ratier.

"5. A voluntary subscription shall be commenced, with a view to raise a fund for the purchase of the land.

"6. The sum of fifty pounds is hereby voted from the Lodge funds towards the said subscription.

"7. For the security of the trustees, they shall appoint a confidential and responsible person, to whom shall be paid all sums raised by subscription, loan, or any other means. All agreements with the architect and builder shall be executed in his name; and all payments shall be made by him.

"8. Until the completion of the project, every thing is to be done in conformity to the directions of the committee, whose powers shall continue until they report that all proceedings in relation to the buildings are perfected, and present the accounts relating thereto.

"9. The said committee shall be specially charged with the decision as to the plans of the building, with the superintendence of the work, with the arrangement of all the internal decorations and fittings, in fact, with the care of all the details, as well exterior as interior, having due regard to the character appropriate to the objects for which the edifice is designed.

"10. On the completion of the buildings, and the presentation of the accounts, the powers of the committee shall cease. On the trustees alone shall then devolve the management, under direction of the Lodge.

"11. Each year the Lodge shall vote the sum requisite for the payment of the

interest of the debt contracted, and as soon as circumstances shall permit, it pledges itself to devote such sums as may be at its disposal, to commence and to continue from time to time the reduction of the capital borrowed, until the whole shall have been repaid.

"After much interesting discussion and careful deliberation, the above resolutions, as they now stand, slightly amended in a few unimportant respects regarding matters of detail, were unanimously adopted."

CHESHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Thursday, June 16th, Unity (334), Macclesfield Arms, Macclesfield, at 7; Industry (465), Norfolk Arms, Hyde, at 7; Combermere (580), Seacombe Hotel, Seacombe, at 5; Friday, 17th, Mersey Instruction (701), Angel Inn, Birkenhead, at 6. *Mark*.—Wednesday, 15th, Fidelity (31, L.C.), Norfolk Arms, Hyde, at 7.

CORNWALL.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, June 14th, Druids of Love and Liberty (559), Lodge Rooms, Redruth, at 7; Wednesday, 15th, Cornubian (659), Crotch's Hotel, Hayle, at 7; Peace and Harmony (723), Dunn's Hotel, St. Austell, at 7.

DERBYSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—Thursday, June 16th, Prov. Grand Lodge, Derby. *Lodge*.—Monday, 13th, Devonshire (905), Norfolk Arms, Glossop, at 7.

DEVONSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, June 13th, Sun (123), Globe Hotel, Exmouth, at 5; Sincerity (224), St. George's Hall, Stonehouse, at 7.

DORSETSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, June 13th, Montague (963), Lion Inn, Lyme Regis, at 7; Thursday, 16th, Friendship and Sincerity (684), Town Hall, Shaftesbury, at 7. *Chapter*.—Wednesday, 15th, Faith and Unanimity (605), Freemasons' Hall, Dorchester, at 6.

DURHAM.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, June 13th, St. Hildas (202), Golden Lion, South Shields, at 7; Fawcett (959), Lord Seaham, Seaham Harbour, at 7; Tuesday, 14th, St. John's (95), Phoenix Hall, Sunderland, at 7; Wednesday, 15th, Phoenix (111), Phoenix Hall, Sunderland, at 7; Thursday, 16th, St. Helen's (774), Masonic Hall, Hartlepool, at 7½.

ESSEX.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, June 13th, Star in the East (935), Private Rooms, Harwich, at 7; Tuesday, 14th, Angel (59), Cups Hotel, Colchester, at 7; Thursday, 16th, Good Fellowship (343), White Hart, Chelmsford, at 7; Saturday, 18th, Chigwell (663), King's Head, Chigwell, at 3.

HAMPSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Wednesday, June 15th, Royal Sussex (123), Freemasons' Hotel, Portsea, at 7; Thursday, 16th, Southampton (555), Freemasons' Hall, Southampton, at 7.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—Friday, June 17th, Provincial Grand Lodge, Freemasons' Hall, Watford.

ISLE OF WIGHT.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Wednesday, June 15th, East Medina (201), Masonic Hall, Ryde.

KENT.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, June 13th, Royal Naval (621). *Instruction*.—Shipwright Arms, Ramsgate, at 7; Tuesday, June 14th, Belvidere (741), Star Hotel, Maidstone, at 7; Wednesday, 15th, Royal Naval, Royal Hotel, Ramsgate, at 7.

RAMSGATE.—*Royal Navy Lodge of Instruction* (No. 621).—The weekly meeting of this Lodge took place on Monday, May 30th, at Bro. P. M. Hodges's, Shipwright Arm's Tavern. Bro. Hodge, P.M., officiated as W.M. *pro tem.*, supported by Bros

Snowden, S.W.; and Thos. Rolfe, J.W. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then performed, Bro. Harrison being the candidate, who was afterwards examined and entrusted. The Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Harrison went through the ceremony of passing, which ceremony (by consent of the W.M.) was performed in a very able manner by Bro. Wm. Ellenor. The Lodge was closed down to the first degree, when it was proposed by Bro. Stevens, W.M., No. 621, and seconded by Bro. Finch, "that in consequence of the busy season of the year advancing, the Royal Navy Lodge of Instruction be adjourned until the first Monday in October (emergencies excepted);" carried unanimously. Proposed by Bro. H. Cowley, and seconded by Bro. Rolfe, "that a vote of thanks be tendered to Bros. Snowden and Mourilyan, jun., for the presentation to this Lodge of a very handsome set of Masonic jewels;" which was responded to by Bro. Snowden in a neat concise speech, wishing the members of the Royal Navy Lodge of Instruction health and strength "to wear the jewels out." A proposition was then made by Bro. Stevens, and seconded by Bro. Snowden, "that a banquet be held at the Shipwright's Arms." The Lodge was then closed in due form and adjourned.

LANCASHIRE (EAST).

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Wednesday, June 15th, Lime Stone Rock (481), Brownlow Arms, Clithero, at 7; St. John's (208), Commercial Hotel, Bolton, at 6½; Friendship (344), Angel Hotel, Oldham, at 7; Faith (847), New Inn, Openshaw, at 7; Friday, 17th, Virtue (177), Masonic Rooms, Manchester, at 6. *Chapter*.—Monday, 13th, Perseverance (432), Old Bull, Blackburn, at 8.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, June 13th, Sincerity (308), Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 4; Unity (889), Searisbrick Arms, Southport, at 6; Tuesday, 14th, Merchants (294), Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 5; Royal Preston (418), Cross Axes, Preston, at 8; Wednesday, 15th, Harmony (845), Wheatshaf, Ormskirk, at 5; Thursday, 16th, Ancient Union (245), Masonic Temple, Liverpool; Friday, 17th, Mariner's Instruction (310), ditto, at 7.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Thursday, June 16th, John of Gaunt (766), Three Crowns, Leicester, at 7.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Tuesday, June 14th, Harmony (339), Masonic Hall, Boston, at 7.

NORFOLK.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Monday, June 13th, Faithful (100), Exchange Rooms, Harleston, at 7.

NORWICH.—*Perseverance Lodge* (No. 258).—The monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 17th of May, at the Rampant Horse Hotel, when upwards of forty brethren were present. Bro. James Dawbarn, W.M., presided. The Lodge was opened in the first and second degrees; Bros. S. Woolsey, and T. Wallord, were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Messrs. Martin and Durrant were initiated into the Order. Great praise is due to the W.M. for the very correct and impressive manner in which he conducted the business throughout. The customary charge was given by Bro. Cox, P.M.; and the officers were well up in their duties. The room, as well as the chairs, furniture, and regalia, having been redecorated the general appearance was very striking and effective. Bro. John Cobb, W.M., and six brethren of Friendship Lodge, No. 117, Great Yarmouth, visited the Lodge. There were present also Bros. A. J. Collins, W.M.; Colman, Nursey, Townsend, and Rarkham, of Social Lodge, No. 110; Collier, of No. 883; and Hanley, of the Witham Lodge, Lincolnshire. The Lodge being closed in due form, the brethren dined together. Bro. Cobb, in acknowledging the health of "The Visitors," expressed their satisfaction not only at the fraternal entertainment given them, but what was of infinitely more importance to them all as Masons, to witness, as they had done that night, the great precision and strict manner in which the ancient landmarks of the Order were preserved in this Lodge; which reflects the greatest credit on the W.M. and his officers. It had made such an impression upon them,

that on their return to Yarmouth, they would endeavour to imitate the working of No. 258. He hoped the day was not far distant when he should have the pleasure of welcoming all its members under the banner of Friendship, where he was sure they would be as fraternally greeted as the visitors had been under that of Perseverance. Several excellent songs were sung, and this may fairly be called one of the happiest Masonic meetings held within the city for many a year.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Monday, June 13th, Fidelity (652), Talbot Hotel, Towcester, at 8.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, June 13th, St. Peter's (706), Hope and Anchor, Byker, at 6; Tuesday, 14th, All Saints (161), Sun Inn, Wooler, at 7; De Ogle (919), St. James's School, Morpeth, at 7; Newcastle Instruction (24), Freemasons' Hall, Newcastle, at 7; Friday, 16th, De Lornie (793), Freemasons' Hall, Newcastle, at 7. *Mark*.—Wednesday, 15th, Newcastle and Berwick (111), Bell's Court, Newcastle, at 7.

OXFORDSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Monday, June 13th, Cherwell (673), Red Lion, Banbury, at 7.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Wednesday, June 15th, Brotherly Love (412), Three Choughs Hotel, Yeovil, at 6½.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Thursday, June 16th, St. Martin's (115), Freemasons' Arms, Burslem, at 6; Friday, 17th, Noah's Ark (435), Navigation Inn, Tipton, at 7; Sutherland of Unity (674), Castle Hotel, Newcastle-under-Lyme, at 7.

SUFFOLK.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, June 13th, Providence (544), King's Arms, Halesworth, at 7; Tuesday, 14th, Apollo (393), White Lion, Beccles, at 7; Wednesday, 15th, Perfect Friendship (322), White Horse, Ipswich, at 7.

SURREY.

REIGATE.—*Surrey Lodge* (No. 603).—The May meeting of this Lodge took place on Saturday, the 21st ult., Bro. Evans, W.M., and several visitors being present. Bros. East and Harris were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, and Bros. Goodhart and Sir H. Rawlinson raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. The business being ended, the Lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren assembled at the banquet. After the cloth had been removed, and the usual Masonic toasts had been proposed, the W.M. proposed the healths of Bros. Goodhart and Sir Henry C. Rawlinson, who had that day been raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. The W.M. congratulated the Lodge in having so eminent and learned a brother as Sir Henry Rawlinson, and hoped that Masonry would receive great benefit in the East by Sir Henry Rawlinson's appointment to the Court of Persia. Bro. Rawlinson briefly replied, and stated he had met with Masonry amongst the Eastern and Arab tribes twenty years ago, and it was that circumstance which in a great measure rendered him desirous of becoming a M.M., but his long residence in the East had prevented him taking so high a step in Masonry until the present occasion. Bro. Rawlinson also stated that he hoped he might be instrumental in forming a Lodge at Teheran, and concluded by assuring the members that he should on all occasions be happy to assist in developing the Masonic knowledge which he found existed amongst Eastern nations. The health of Bro. Evans, W.M., was proposed and drunk with due acknowledgments for his valuable services; and several other toasts having been proposed, the members separated at an early hour in harmony and peace.

SUSSEX.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, June 13th, Derwent (47), Swan Hotel, Hastings, at 8; Tuesday, 14th, Brighton Instruction, Old Ship Hotel, Brighton, at 7; Friday, 17th, Royal Clarence (355), Old Ship, Brighton, at 5.

WARWICKSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, June 13th, Rectitude (739), George Hotel, Rugby, at 6½; Howe (857), Masonic Rooms, Birmingham, at 6.

WILTSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, June 14th, Concord (915), Court Hall, Trowbridge, at 7; Thursday, 16th, Fidelity (961), Town Hall, Devizes, at 7.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, June 14th, Royal Standard (730), Dudley Arms, Dudley, at 6½; Wednesday, 15th, Worcester (319), Bell Hotel, Worcester, at 6½; Vernon (819), Old Town Hall, Dudley, at 7.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Monday, June 13th, Royal (926), Bellevue House, Fife, at 7; *Chapter*.—Thursday, 16th, Constitutional (371), Assembly Rooms, Beverley, at 8.

BRIDLINGTON QUAY.—*Londesborough Lodge* (No. 1,036).—The brethren of this Lodge assembled on Friday, May 20th, at a Lodge of Emergency, to witness the beautiful ceremony of placing a new Master in the chair, in the person of the Right Hon. Lord Londesborough, who had been unanimously elected, and had graciously accepted the office. The ceremony was performed in a highly efficient and graceful manner by Bros. Pritchard, *M.D.*, P.M. No. 1,036, W.M. No. 236, P. Prov. G.D.; Fox, P.M. No. 926; Knaggs, P.M. No. 926; and Spurr, P.M. No. 611, P. Prov. G.S., before a large assemblage of the brethren; after which, the brethren sat down to a sumptuous collation at the Britannia Hotel. The Right Hon. Lord Londesborough presided, supported by Bros. the Hon. W. Dennison, *M.P.*, Sir H. Boynton, Dr. Pritchard, Bros. Heyworth, Harding, Fox, Spurr, Knaggs, Cooper, Brown, Furby, Wraugham, Smith, Lovel, Hornby, Barugh, Bigby, Curtis, Hind, Woodcock, Hutchinson, Brambles, Stephenson, Sawden, Crow, Gregory, and others. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, the Worshipful Master Lord Londesborough, in reply to the toast which the brethren had so enthusiastically drunk relating to himself, observed:—"He felt proud of the Lodge over which he had been called to preside. The working reflected the greatest credit upon the brethren not only in the province, but to all England. His lordship gave a rapid sketch of passing events, and earnestly and feelingly touched upon the patriotism of his brethren—calling upon them to handle their rifles, if necessary, in defence of this island Lodge—which amid the conflict destined to Europe, might sooner or later call every man to do his duty." His lordship concluded a long and highly eloquent speech amid great and continued applause—cheers that made the very welkin ring. The health of Bros. Pritchard, P.M. No. 1,036; Fox, P.M. No. 926, and the Hon. W. Denison, *M.P.*, followed; the latter making a regular oration. It is highly gratifying to know that this Lodge only consecrated a year ago, beginning with only three resident Masons, now numbers upwards of thirty, and every prospect of progressive and steady prosperity seems held out, especially under so generous and noble a Master, who has already presented two magnificent chairs for the Senior and Junior Wardens; while his no less kind and gifted son, Hon. W. Denison, *M.P.*, has given a Past Master's chair. The *coup d'oeil* of the fittings of the Londesborough, challenge comparison among provincial Lodges. A beautifully bound volume of the *Book of Constitutions* has just been received a present from Bro. Richard Spencer, London.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Thursday, June 16th, Harmony (974), Freemasons' Hall, Bradford, at 7; Harmony (312), Masonic Hall, Huddersfield, at 7; Friday, 17th, Zetland (877), Royal Hotel, Cleckheaton, at 7; Holme Valley (937), Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth, at 7; Alfred Instruction (381), Griffin Hotel, Leeds, at 7. *Chapter*.—Tuesday, 14th, Fidelity (364), Freemasons' Hall, Leeds, at 7. *Encampment*.—Monday, 13th, Faith, Bradford; Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield.

IRELAND.

DUNDALK.

THE Freemasons of Dundalk intend inviting their distinguished brother, Lieutenant Macneill, one of the heroes of Lucknow, to a splendid banquet early in June, at which some of the first Craftsmen in Ireland are expected to be present. Lieut. Macneill was Worshipful Master of both the Dundalk Lodges previous to his entering the army.

COLONIAL.

TRINIDAD.

INSTALLATION OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

On Friday, the 6th May, according to previous appointment, the Masonic Temple on Mount Zion was filled to overflowing with brethren of the "mystic tie" to witness the installation of the R.W. Bro. Daniel Hart, as Provincial Grand Master for the province of Trinidad, Grenada, and St. Vincent. The brethren being all assembled within the Lodge-room at a quarter past seven, P.M., the Prov. G.M., accompanied by the Prov. G. Sec., preceded by the Sword Bearer, entered, the brethren all standing. The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened in due form by the Prov. G.M. and his patent of appointment from the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M. of England, read, he was then by Bro. John O'Brien, W.M. of the Royal Philanthropic Lodge, No. 585, installed according to ancient custom. The Prov. G.M. was next saluted in the three degrees, the Freemasons' march being played on the violin by Bros. M. A. Hart and F. Penco. Bro. E. Martin was then proposed by Bro. J. Black, P.M., as Prov. G. Treas., which was seconded by Bro. Malvaney; a show of hands was called for and proved unanimous in favour of that brother. The Prov. Grand Master then appointed and installed as his officers—R.W. Bro. Robert Guppy, D. Prov. G.M.; V.W. Bro. John O'Brien, Prov. G.S.W.; V.W. Bro. H. Corsbie, Prov. G.J.W.; V.W. Bro. the Rev. G.G. Dunn, Prov. G. Chaplain; V.W. Bro. John Black, Prov. G. Registrar; V.W. Bro. E. Martin, Prov. G. Treasurer; V.W. Bro. M. M. Philip, Prov. G. Secretary; Bro. S. W. Gould, Asst. Prov. G. Secretary; Bro. H. Stone, Prov. G.S.D.; Bro. J. Laughlin, Prov. G.J.D.; Bro. J. F. Feat, Prov. G. Sup. of Works; Bro. H. Van Buren, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Bro. M. A. Hart, Prov. G.S.B.; Bro. H. Redford, Prov. G. Purs.; Bros. W. T. Brereton, and C. T. Malvaney, of Royal Philanthropic Lodge, No. 585, as Prov. G. Stewards.

The Prov. Grand Master then addressed the brethren as follows:—"Brethren, I am not insensible of the high and responsible post which has been entrusted to my care by our beloved and Most Worshipful Grand Master. In assuming the duties of my office, I do so with a firm determination of impartially weighing all matters that may be brought under my notice, and of dealing with the same without favour or affection. I shall not fail to look personally into all matters connected with my province, and to listen with a respectfulness to every brother who may feel disposed to call my attention to any question touching the well being of our institution. To uphold the honour and character of our noble order, and to protect its bulwarks, will be my constant study; taking the opportunity of holding out the hands of fellowship to such as may be entitled thereto, and dealing with firmness wherever necessary. I look forward for that valuable aid and assistance which I am aware you are fully capable to afford me, and you may rest assured that you will at all times find me ready to carry out such measures for the

benefit of the institution as may seem feasible, practicable, or worthy. A steady unanimity of feeling between every brother is the sure means of advancing our Order; to effect which a strict compliance with your Lodge duties and a faithful discharge of your solemn obligations is of paramount necessity. You are not ignorant of the manner in which Freemasonry is extending in all parts of the world, and knowing such, I am confident you will not permit yourselves to be designated as "brethren in the shade," but will join hand and heart in doing all in your power to raise it in this island to that pinnacle of eminence which it so well deserves. Permit me to observe that if you work cheerfully together it is impossible to say how much good will be effected for yourselves and for others, so long as you endeavour to make progress; so long as unanimity exists, so will our noble Order expand. For myself, I am most anxious to do all I can for the extension and sustentation of the Craft under my jurisdiction; in this, however, I must ask, nay, I expect, that you will also afford me your aid, and by such a co-operation, the great moral, social, and religious advantages of the Order will become stimulated and ultimately extend; it is good producing good to the manifest benefit of all; your unanimity will tend for good; your works will be of social profit; your deeds of benevolence and charity will be acknowledged by an all-wise Providence.

"It is also necessary that your researches should be given to the past, your improvements to the present, and your provisions for the future; acts which will spread far and wide, and by which Masonry will in this island become better known and more revered.

"A strict adherence to the constitutions and the by-laws of your respective Lodges, a steady attendance to your Lodge duties, and a faithful discharge of the same, will always entitle you to that consideration which all good Masons ever meet with. In complying with your Lodge duties, you will not only strengthen the bonds of unity and brotherly love, but will tend to emulate others who have allowed themselves to fall on the bed of lethargy. You have raised superstructures, and your Masonic obligations compel you to uphold them; and in your exertions, your determination and your good will in this and all matters connected with our time-honoured institution, I rest my hope. Allow me to say, before I conclude, that I trust that this meeting, favoured as it is with the visit of Freemasons under different Grand Lodges, may be regarded as a proof of the approach of that period when not only are the principles of Freemasonry to obtain a more lasting and a more permanent place than ever they had since the days of Solomon in the hearts of mankind, but that the unanimity of feeling which has been this evening evinced, may be considered as a type of a sincere disposition to cultivate that social intercourse which is so desirable, and which must naturally tend to bind us the more in the bonds of unity and brotherly affection; and may the Most High strengthen our endeavours in the fulfilment of this great object."

The Provincial Grand Master then stated that it was of urgent necessity that a code of by-laws, for the Provincial Grand Lodge, should be drawn up without delay, and for which purpose he now appointed as a committee, to carry out the same, the Provincial Grand Secretary, the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, and the Provincial Grand Senior Deacon. The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due form, when the following benediction was pronounced:—

"May this Provincial Grand Lodge be ever the sanctuary and receptacle of virtue, universal charity, and benevolence; and may the Great Architect of the universe bless all here assembled, and all the brethren throughout the world, henceforth, and for ever."

"So mote it be."

The business of the Provincial Grand Lodge having terminated, the brethren, sixty-two in number, adjourned to the banqueting room, where they partook of a most excellent supper, the R.W. Provincial Grand Master presiding. Ample justice having been done to the good things on the table, the R.W. Provincial Grand Master gave "The health of Her Majesty the Queen," which was drunk with all the honours. The Prov. G.M. next gave "His Royal Highness the Prince Consort, and the royal family." The Provincial Grand Master then gave, preceded by a very eloquent speech, the health of "The Right Honourable the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M., and all the Officer of the Grand Lodge of England." The toast was received and drunk

with deafening applause. "The health of the R.W. Provincial Grand Master" was then proposed by the V.W. Bro. the Provincial Grand Secretary, and drunk with all the honours. The R.W. Provincial Grand Master replied in appropriate terms. "Prosperity to Bro. Warren and the *Freemasons' Magazine*" was then proposed by the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, and drunk with great enthusiasm. Several other toasts were proposed, and drunk with the usual honours. At half-past ten, p.m., the brethren separated in true Masonic order.

THE WEEK.

THE Queen and the Princesses have paid daily visits to the Duchess of Kent, whose health is much improved. On Wednesday there was a concert at Buckingham Palace, to which about 700 guests were invited. The principal vocal performers were Mademoiselle Titiens, Mademoiselle Meyer, Signori Gardoni and Belletti, and M. Zelger. The band and chorus amounted to nearly 200 performers. The Princess Frederick William on Thursday, embarked at Gravesend, on her return to Prussia, after a visit to England of twelve days. She was accompanied to Gravesend by the Queen, the Prince Consort, and the Princess Alice. Her Majesty and the Prince Consort went on Saturday morning to inspect Mr. Waterer's show of rhododendrons, in the Royal Botanical Gardens. In the evening the Queen and the Princess Alice went to the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden. The Prince Consort dined with the officers of the Grenadier Guards, at the London Tavern.—The Paris *Moniteur* is half filled with lists of nominations to the Legion of Honour, and grants of the military medal to the officers and soldiers engaged in the affair of Montebello, the former numbering 50, and the latter 70. The Sardinian General De Sonnaz is created a commander, and six other Sardinian officers chevaliers. The military medal is also conferred upon four non-commissioned officers, a trumpeter, and a private of the Sardinian army. The army of the East is immediately to be increased from 80,000 to 150,000 men. Duke Pelissier has left Paris for Nancy, the head-quarters of the army he commands.—On the 30th May, King Victor Emmanuel crossed the Sesia near Vercelli with Cialdini's division; he found the enemy entrenched, and only carried their position after an obstinate struggle at the point of the bayonet. The Sardinians took two guns and some prisoners. That night the King slept at Torrione amongst his troops, on the left bank of the Sesia. Vercelli was illuminated to celebrate the victory, and the French Emperor transferred his headquarters from Alessandria to Cassale. On Tuesday morning, the king, before he had time to strengthen his position, was attacked by an Austrian *corps d'armée* of 25,000 men. The king himself, at the head of the 4th division, aided by the 3rd regiment of Zouaves, rushed upon the enemy and defeated them with the loss, it is said, of eight guns and 1,000 prisoners. Amongst the troops who fought, the Zouaves, according to the account in the *Moniteur*, did great things: but as at Montebello so at Palestro, the Sardinians bore the brunt of the contest. The Austrians, the same evening, about six o'clock, endeavoured to dislodge the king from his position at Palestro; but again they were repulsed. The king displayed, according to his wont, that chivalrous and reckless courage for which through life he has been so famous. Como has declared its adhesion to the King of Sardinia, and the population of the surrounding country is hastening to put itself under Garibaldi's flag, who received a check from the Austrians under General Urban, and had been forced to retire into the canton Tessin. On the 30th, he was before the fort of Laveno, on the Lago Maggiore. He appears to have continued besieging Laveno in the course of Tuesday. Varese fell again into the hands of the Austrians under General Urban's command. The whole of the Valteline is in revolt; and the sub-governor of Sondrio, the town where the insurgents seem to have made their head-quarters,

had fled into the Tyrol, escorted by soldiers, and carrying the public treasure with him. The Austrians have withdrawn to the eastern bank of the Po, and have abandoned Torre, Beretti, and the surrounding country. Garibaldi re-entered Como on Thursday evening at 11 o'clock. On Thursday the Austrians advanced from Bobbio towards the French outposts, but retired again after a short fight. This movement was made to conceal the retreat of the Austrians, who had begun to evacuate Bobbio, carrying with them about 1,000 wounded. Garibaldi has surprised and beaten the Austrians at Varese, and the town is again free of the enemy. On Saturday the French crossed the Ticino, and attacked the Austrians, who, it is said, suffered a loss of 15,000 killed and wounded; 5000 prisoners having been taken. This occurred at Magenta, on the banks of the Ticino. The struggle appears to have been a desperate one. A telegram, from the French head quarters, also states that the Austrians had evacuated Milan, leaving behind them the cannon and army treasure. Up to the present time the intelligence we have received respecting the struggle at Magenta is so one-sided, that it is difficult to form an estimate of the truth. There is a difference in two accounts from Paris, of 2,000 prisoners, and 5,000 killed and wounded, which is a proof that the French have been at least somewhat hasty in their conclusions, whilst the fact that they admit the loss of one cannon, and only claim to have taken three from the Austrians, contrasts strangely with the enormous loss of 20,000 attributed to the latter. There is another item of intelligence in the imperial bulletin which throws a doubt on the completeness of the victory—the inaction of the allied army on the 5th of June, the day after the battle, “for the purpose of reorganizing itself.” Had the defeat been of a decisive character the allies would hardly have remained inactive with Milan, notoriously disaffected in the rear of the retreating enemy; but they would at least have taken advantage of the earliest success to secure the first prize of the campaign—the Lombard capital.—The Emperor of Austria is busied at Verona in completing the organization of the augmented army force, and has in the meantime ordered Field-marshal General Hess to proceed with the second *corps d'armée* to the head quarters. At Vienna, on Saturday, a great religious solemnity, with procession and public prayers, took place, imploring Heaven to bless the Austrian arms with victory. All the members of the imperial family and the ministers were present. The mass was read by Monsignor Luca, the nuncio of the Pope. A letter from the Adriatic states that Admiral Jurien de La Gravière had made as many as seventeen captures down to May 20th. One of his prizes is a fine three-masted vessel from Trieste, the *Santa Trinità*. The recently instituted council of prizes will shortly sit to judge of the validity of these captures. The municipality of Venice has requested a reduction of the loan. The president and vice-president of the chamber of commerce have resigned their official positions, as has also the Podesta Marcello. A telegram from Venice, in the beginning of the week, stated that hostilities had begun, and that the Lido forts were cannonading the French squadron.—At Berlin a government announcement was made on Wednesday, stating the conditions under which the officially ordered Prussian loan at five per cent. is to be issued. The issue is to be made in coupons of from 50 to 1,000 thalers, the payment of the interest to be half yearly, and the redemption of the debt to commence from 1863 by paying one per cent. per annum. The *Dresden Journal* pretends to be informed of a gradual approach between Austria and Prussia; but little of this is visible in the Prussian press, which pretends that the Prussian government is little inclined to wage war for the sake of Austria. It is said that the Prussian squadron before long will join the English fleet, destined to protect the Baltic, or rather the entrance thereof. The Prussian ships which are to form part of the combined squadron are to set out for Copenhagen within a few weeks.—The French government appears anxious to prove that the presence of the Emperor's cousin in Tuscany is, as it has constantly stated, caused purely by strategical considerations; and we are informed that it is about to take a step which will prove that it has no idea of establishing a French prince at Florence. According to advices from Florence, Russia, Prussia, England, and Turkey are said not to have recognized the Provisional Government of Tuscany, and the representatives of those countries are also said to have withdrawn their flags.—The

Monitore Toscano states that the Duke of Modena has carried away the money belonging to several public offices, besides 800,000*l.* which were in the treasury at Reggio, being resolved not to leave anything for the French.—The Prince of Wales is expected at Lisbon daily, and will remain some fifteen days, a telegraphic message to this effect having been received from the queen by the British minister. A meeting of the chief Lisbon merchants has been called to decide upon the best way of honouring the prince's coming, and also to frame the address to be presented to him. Doubtless the King of Portugal will do his best to make the short stay of the Prince of Wales agreeable, on account of the very friendly relations he maintains with the British court. In reply to a direct question the other day, the minister stated in the chamber of peers that, in the existing state of affairs on the continent, it is the intention of Portugal to maintain a strict neutrality.—A proclamation has been addressed to the Neapolitan people by its new king, Francis II., on his ascent to the throne. The expectations which were by some connected with this event are not realized by the proclamation. It is a meaningless document. Signor Antonini has arrived in Paris from Naples for the purpose of notifying to the French government the accession to the throne of Naples by Francis II. It is asserted that he will also go to London and Brussels for the purpose of making a similar announcement at the courts of those cities.—The late king was buried on Friday amid the most perfect tranquillity. The newspaper reports about divisions in the royal family are unfounded. Naples and Sicily are perfectly quiet.—News from Constantinople of the 20th, says that the Porte is fitting out a small squadron to cruise in the Adriatic, for observing the Montenegrins. The whole north-western angle of the Byzantine peninsula is in an agitated condition. The insurrection in the Herzegovina has broken out with renewed fury, and the Montenegrins are openly supporting it. In Servia the people show their hostile intentions against the Porte as well as Austria, in the most unmistakable way.—The American journals received by Monday's mail are occupied in discussing the outbreak of war in Europe, and the probabilities of America being involved. The failures of Messrs. Hargous Brothers and Messrs. Meyer and Stucken are announced. A collision was expected between the United States troops and those of the Utah militia. General Walker, at the head of 300 men, had landed at Acapulco.—The Brazilian legislature was opened on the 10th of May. Owing to the prevalence of very bad weather the roads had been rendered impassable, from which cause little produce had come to market. Great damage had been done by the heavy rains, and the railway also had suffered from this cause.—By the overland mail we have received advices from Bombay to the 12th ult. The embers of the revolt are fast dying out, our troops harassing the straggling parties of the rebels and dispersing them with much loss, wherever overtaken; but the wiser of them were quickly surrendering. A slight disturbance has broken out in Seinde, in the Parkur district. Troops had been sent to suppress it, and the Rana had fled. Some of the European troops late in the service of the East India Company, chiefly artillery and cavalry, stationed at Meerut, have shown mutinous symptoms of dissatisfaction in consequence of their transfer to the Crown. The dinner given by the European inhabitants of Bombay to her Majesty's 78th Highlanders, on the 28th ult., went off with the greatest success. The government of India opened the 5½ per cent. loan on the 1st ult. It has also announced the issue of treasury bills bearing interest at 2½ pies per diem. There was a fearful pressure on the Bombay money market.—The overland mail also brings us advices from Melbourne to the 16th, and from Sydney to the 10th of April. In Melbourne the Registration Act is said to be so imperfect a measure that under it the bulk of the people will be disfranchised. In Sydney the assembly had been dissolved. The new parliament will be chosen under the new colonial electoral act. There was little change in the prospects of the gold fields or the state of the labour market.—A case of defalcation by George Terry, a Leeds tradesman, has occurred. The delinquent was a Grand Master of the Odd Fellows' Provident Society, and has made away with £4,000. Trust has been extensively abused, and the result is an amount of distress among the industrial and provident poor, which is deeply to be deplored.—The Earl of Shrewsbury has brought an action for the recovery of the estates which were bequeathed by the late Earl to the infant son of the Duke of

Norfolk.—We have not, it appears, heard the last of the libel case, Yescombe, *v.* Lander. The poet having left the country without paying either the damages or the costs, further proceedings on the part of the plaintiffs became necessary. They ascertained that a valuable estate, called Ipsley Court, was held in trust for Walter Savage Lander, and appealed to the Court of Chancery for power to stop the rents until the demand was satisfied. The Vice-Chancellor ordered the rents to be impounded.—In the Court of Bankruptcy, Mr. Linklater has announced that another dividend of a shilling in the pound would be paid to the creditors of the British Bank. This dividend is quite unexpected.—The alleged poisoning case at Richmond has gone through its last stage preparatory to the trial of Smethurst. He has already been committed for trial by the magistrates, and the coroner's inquest terminated with a verdict of "Wilful Murder," against him! The race week has brought with it as usual, a considerable amount of police cases in the metropolis as well as in the country. At the Guildhall, a common councilman attended to complain of the nuisance occasioned by the betting men who crowd Bride-lane every day. The alderman had some doubts as to the power he possessed of removing or punishing the people who might assemble in the street, but expressed his determination to try the question. On the Derby night a great row occurred at Cremorne Gardens. A number of riotous persons assembled in the coffee room, and after drinking the proprietor's health, broke the tables, chairs, and glasses. They were with great difficulty ejected; and had it not been for the precautions of Mr. Simpson, some persons must have been seriously injured, and even a loss of life might have taken place. One of the rioters was examined at the Westminster Police-court. Mr. Paynter administered a severe rebuke to him, and required him to find sureties for his appearance next week.—The *Eastern Monarch*, from Kurrachee, bound to London, with 140 troops on board, invalids, besides cabin passengers, arrived at Spithead at one o'clock on Friday morning. In about an hour and a half afterwards a fire was discovered raging among the cargo. The master had rockets fired, and other signals of distress, to attract the attention of the ships of war in the harbour, which being seen, numbers of boats put off to the burning ship. With difficulty the captain succeeded in getting the invalid soldiers and the women and children into the ship boats, and they were taken on board of the nearest of the ships. At 6.30, Her Majesty's steamer *Falcon* commenced firing into the stern of the burning ship to sink her. She was then completely in flames, both fore and aft, and her masts had fallen overboard. Her loss is calculated at £80,000. Seven lives were lost.—On Tuesday the sixth parliament of Queen Victoria commenced its sittings. In the House of Lords the royal commission was read, and both houses convoked for despatch of business. The new House of Commons were summoned to the House of Peers, and on their return proceeded to elect a Speaker. Colonel Wilson Patten moved that the right hon. John Evelyn Denison, member for North Nottinghamshire, be again called to fill that distinguished office. The motion was seconded by Sir F. Baring. Mr. Denison submitted himself to the pleasure of the house, and, there being no dissentient voice, he was conducted by the mover and seconder to the chair, whence he offered his acknowledgments to the house. He was then congratulated upon his re-election. On Wednesday, the House of Commons on meeting, were summoned to the House of Peers, and, upon their return, the Speaker reported that her Majesty had been pleased to approve the choice which the house had made of him as Speaker. The swearing-in of members then commenced. On Thursday the House of Lords did not meet. In the House of Commons one hundred and seventy-four hon. members were sworn. In both houses of parliament on Monday, the business of swearing in members was continued throughout the sitting. In the House of Commons, Baron Lionel de Rothschild, and Baron Meyer de Rothschild, were present during prayers. On the motion of Lord John Russell, the resolution allowing members of the Jewish persuasion to take the oath prescribed by the act of last session, omitting the words "on the true faith of a Christian," was agreed to after a protest on the part of Mr. Newdegate. Baron L. de Rothschild, Baron M. de Rothschild, and Mr. Alderman Salemons, then took the oath and their seats accordingly.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

AN extra performance was given at the Royal Italian Opera at Covent Garden on Monday night, when the "Huguenots" was performed to an audience which, despite the sultry weather, filled every corner of the building. The opera was supported by Mine. Grisi, Mlle. Marai, Mlle. Didiée, Mme. Tagliafico; and Sigs. Mario, Tagliafico, Polonini, and Lucchesi. With such a powerful cast criticism is superfluous, and all we can do is to repeat that the delighted listeners applauded to the echo. The grand poignard chorus was never better given, and the great Costa and his forces were never more successful. At this theatre a new feature has been introduced for the gratification of the visitors, by throwing open the new floral hall as a promenade in the intervals of performance. Though yet far from finished, it was highly appreciated and its elegant proportions much admired on Saturday, when it was made available for the first time. Last evening the "Gazza Ladra" was given, Mlle. Lotti playing the heroine very charmingly and singing her best; the roguish *Pippo* found a most effective representative in Mlle. Didiée, while the pompous majesty of the *Podesta* gave scope for a free display of Ronconi's wonderful powers as a comic actor.—"Il Barbiere" was the opera at Drury Lane on Monday, and Mlle. Guarducci and Sigr. Mongini achieved a fresh triumph. Last evening was another "Don Giovanni" night, and witnessed a genuine "Don Giovanni" audience. The house was crowded with amateurs of all classes, and the vocalists did their utmost in honour of the great master. Mlle. Titiens (who is undoubtedly the finest soprano of the day) was in magnificent voice; Mlle. Victoire Balfe was pleasing as *Zerlina*; the ancient and undying Badiali was great as ever in *Il Don Giovanni*; *Leporello* being ponderously and most carefully represented by Sigr. Marini. Giuglini's delicious singing reminded us of the best efforts of Mario, and higher praise no *Don Ottavio* need desire. M. Benedict's greatest attention has been evidently bestowed upon the band and chorus, in the latter of which there is no longer any reason of complaint to be found. The time-honoured minuet was prettily danced by Mlle. Boschetti, and the chorus, "Viva la Liberté," brought down the curtain with great applause.—The present week re-commenced a new engagement at the Haymarket Theatre of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mathews; no novelty has been produced at present, "Everybody's Friend," and Mr. Mathews's well known round of characters forming the bill of fare. The three last days of this week, however, may be kept in view by the lovers of amusement, as the "Critic," with Mathews as *Puff*, is to be played on those evenings.—At the Adelphi, Olympic, and Strand, there is nothing new to report.—Mr. Kean announces the approaching withdrawal of "Henry the Fifth," never to be played again under the present management.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"LEVEL" may procure a *miniature* set of Lodge tools and furniture of any of the Masonic jewellers whose advertisements appear in our columns. We cannot recommend one to the prejudice of the others.

"Δ."—We shall be happy to hear from our brother whenever convenient. We thank him for his good wishes.

"H. H., NOTTINGHAM," will please receive our best thanks. His communication shall be attended to.

"BRO. BRAY, H.M.S. Buzzard."—Your communication has been received. We have forwarded it to the Colonial Board, where doubtless it will be promptly attended to.