

LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1859.

MASONRY IN AFRICA.

IN Africa, twelve Lodges under the constitution of the Grand Lodge of England are in active existence; their number bearing but little proportion to the white population of so vast a division of the world; four of these are situated on the West Coast, and the remaining eight at the southern settlements, usually called the Cape of Good Hope. At present they are all under the direct control of the Grand Master; for though some years ago a Provincial Grand Master exercised authority in Southern Africa, the office is, and has been for a considerable period, vacant. Few of our colonial possessions stand more in need of resident Masonic government; independently of the laxity and want of discipline which is likely to occur without the constant supervision of a regularly constituted authority, the remoteness from England, more especially of the southern settlements, renders the necessary correspondence with the Grand Secretary, on every slight and unimportant subject not specially provided for in the Constitutions a vexatious and irksome task; not that the Masons in Africa would suffer by a comparison with brethren in other colonies; and as far as the Cape itself is concerned there are few countries, if any, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England where Masonry is better acted up to, either in theory or practice; if the next meeting of the British Lodge, No. 419 (Cape Town), were to be held in London, and favoured by a numerous attendance of our metropolitan Past Masters, we question, from what we hear, whether even those veterans in the Craft would discover any irregularity or deviation from the established ritual. It will however be admitted that inconvenience, to use no harsher word, occasionally arises from the absence of a local court of appeal. Dispensations, certificates for erratic brethren, warrants for new Lodges, and complaints of a Masonic nature, which will sometimes demand redress even in the best regulated communities, are causes sufficient in themselves to call for provincial government. Frequent correspondence with Freemasons' Hall, London, more particularly to brethren located in the eastern provinces of the Cape colony, is a matter of grave moment. The mail steamer leaves England on the 6th of each month, arriving at Cape Town about the 21st of the following month, returning thence with the home mail after the lapse of a few days; letters despatched to Cape Town can thus be answered by the return mail, but any addressed to the frontier towns cannot be replied to until the following month. To give an instance of possible procrastination:—let it be supposed that Bro. W. Gray Clarke, Grand Secretary, writes to the Worshipful Master of No. 987, Fordyce Lodge, (meeting at King William's Town), in the eastern frontier; the letter leaves England on the 6th of January, arrives at Cape Town on the 21st of February, and is received at King William's Town on the 26th; the Worshipful Master of No. 987 cannot transmit a reply to our Very Worshipful Brother until about the 25th of March, and the Grand Secretary is not in possession of the required information before May; so that although it may be of a very urgent nature, Bro. Clarke has nothing for it but to wait patiently the four months. On the West Coast things are not quite so bad, and though provincial government is required, the Masons there are not subjected to equal inconvenience with their more distant brethren at the Cape.

To the want of vigour which such a state must necessarily generate is to be attributed the tardy progress of Masonry in Africa; and a possible decadence looms in the future. Able and energetic rulers, vested with proper authority, and assisted as they would be by nearly every Mason in their districts, could do much to revive the drooping spirits of unsuccessful brethren, men who hitherto have laboured for the cause alone and unsupported, and naturally feel discontented at the barren result.

Africa requires two District Grand Lodges, which for the present will suffice, though in a few years the spread of Masonry may be such as to demand additional provinces. They should be called the Provinces of Western and Southern Africa; the former to comprise Nos. 867, 416, 599, and 468; and the latter, Nos. 419, 473, 545, 871, 884, 987, 1,013, and 1,040. The Provincial Grand Master of Western Africa should be resident at Cape Coast Castle, and his Deputy at Sierra Leone, the latter having authority to grant dispensations, &c., delegated to him. A Cape Town brother should preside over the province of Southern Africa, and a Deputy Provincial Grand Master ought to be by him selected from amongst the most experienced Masons living on the eastern frontier; for example, at Graham's Town, King William's Town, or Beaufort, in whom should be vested the discretionary power of granting dispensations, warrants, &c. Lodge No. 1,040, situate at Port Natal, would certainly be somewhat isolated, if these arrangements were carried into effect, though even it would profit by the change; communication with Cape Town is not a matter of many days, and when the brethren at Pieter Maritzburg and D'Urban shall have added a few more Lodges to the present roll, which will in all probability soon be done, they will be justly entitled to a province of their own. At no very distant date, it is to be hoped that Southern Africa will be divided into four Masonic provinces, viz., Cape Town, Albany, British Kaffraria, and Natal.

The establishment of District Grand Lodges would be a great boon to Masons in Africa, and our colonial brethren might then enjoy the advantages of provincial rank; and a permanent and grateful feeling of regard for the parent Grand Lodge—which, whilst vigilantly watching over the interests of the Craft in the mother country does not disdain to extend a fostering care to her far distant progeny—would be the natural consequence.

It is to be hoped that the legislators of the Craft may see the necessity of an extended system of provincial government; and in the event of such an occurrence, we trust that the claims of African Lodges will not be overlooked.

FALLACIOUS VIEWS OF THE CRAFT.

THE newspaper press of the present day, from its intrinsic literary merits, as well as from the beneficial influence which it exercises upon our social system—alternately by its fearless censure, exposure, and satire of that which is corrupt and evil, or by advice, encouragement, and praise, judiciously bestowed where they are deserved—has fairly earned the enormous influence which it undeniably possesses over the actions, and even the thoughts of a large portion of our countrymen. The daily and weekly journals of this metropolis comprise among the ranks of their contributors a body of essayists of ability and information for which we may in vain search the previous history of literature to find a parallel; the spirit of the age indeed demands this, for so improved and so extended has education become of late years that the public is now too enlightened to accept with favour the efforts of inferior writers; and any journal which omits to secure the highest talent available for its means must inevitably be thrust aside and passed in the race with so many brilliant contemporaries.

So universally acknowledged are this ability and this great power for good and for evil, that the praise, or the strictures of "the fourth estate" cannot now pass unregarded by any rank or power in the state however exalted or however strong in themselves. If it be possible to make any exception to this rule it would be in the case of our venerable Order, which from its peculiar constitution and its extended sway over the whole surface of the inhabited globe, might well look with indifference upon any expression of the opinion of the outer world, taking a local or (if that were possible) even a national form. Foremost among the principles of the brethren

of our Craft, however, are the advocacy and propagation of knowledge and enlightenment among men; and considering as we do that the press of a free country is the most powerful agent by which this noble cause can be assisted, we pay all due deference to its utterances—and receive its praises with the same equanimity with which we should regard misrepresentation or unfavourable criticism.

We have been led into these remarks by an article we have met with in a daily metropolitan journal, which while possessing the advantage of cheapness, is inferior to few, if any, of its contemporaries, in ability and information. In the *Daily Telegraph* of Aug. 3, there appeared a leader upon Freemasonry, which as many of our readers may not have seen, we reprint in its entirety. The writer, it will be perceived, while speaking of the Order in the most respectful terms has, either from want of proper inquiry into the subject, or from defective information derived from questionable sources, arrived at very incorrect conclusions with regard to Freemasonry; and while he is evidently desirous of paying a well deserved tribute of admiration to those results of the practical working of the Craft which are patent to the whole world, he greatly misconceives the principles upon which the institution is founded. While we are gratified by the expression of respect for the Craft displayed in this essay, we think that few skilled Craftsmen will feel flattered at the comparatively commonplace estimate which the writer has formed of our ancient mystery.

Our contemporary does not seem in the least degree imbued with that half curious, half incredulous notion of the mystic tie which has been the foundation of so many vague speculations, so many vulgar sneers, and so many romantic absurdities; he rather appears to incline somewhat to describe the Order as a superior kind of benefit society—a notion which we are aware is entertained by many, though (if we may be pardoned for saying so) not the best-informed among the public. The following is the article in question:—

“Organizations for friendly or charitable purposes are of very ancient date. They existed among the Greeks, especially in the free state of Athens; they existed in Rome, and from the eternal city passed down to the modern world. In the eighteenth century they assumed a very peculiar form, and aimed at producing extraordinary effects, nothing less than the regeneration of society, the establishment of universal freedom, and the diffusion of plenty and contentment throughout the world. It remains for some historian capable, by his learning and impartiality, of doing justice to the subject, to reveal what Freemasonry, which stands at the head of all friendly societies, really was during the eighteenth century and earlier. By its enemies it has been systematically misrepresented, its objects have been ridiculed, its ceremonies travestied, its sacred aim and purpose profaned. Its only real fault in those days was aiming at too much. There was a philosophy among the brethren, a philosophy lofty and expansive, which induced them to hope that, by the strict application of the law of brotherhood, all mankind might be emancipated and invested with the dignity which nature intended it to possess. The writers of the period and of that immediately succeeding, applied themselves rather to libel than to explain the design of Freemasonry and other cognate associations. It was out of the womb of charity that they sprang—it was to develop the principle of charity that they existed. They went back to the religions of old times, and found amid their fragments and ruins proofs that all men are brethren, and that the primary duty of life is to give efficacy to the doctrine of union and mutual support. Springing into activity, in juxtaposition with despotism, they found it impossible to avoid awakening the hostility of governments, and hence the ferocious persecutions which the members of friendly societies encountered in the last age. They beheld the powerful associating together for the oppression of the weak, and they laboured to induce the weak to associate for their own protection, and perhaps, in some instances, to retaliate on the upholders of the antagonist principle.

“This was the great purpose of Freemasonry on the continent; it had a grand and catholic object, it aimed at noble results; and whatever the ignorant may think, produced them, in a great measure, since the superior condition of society in these days is unquestionably traceable to the labours of Freemasonry. The

great French revolution, which performed in the moral atmosphere the duty of a mighty thunderstorm, was an application, more or less uncouth, of Masonic doctrines. These taught the equality of man, not for purposes of discord and civil dissension, but in order to procure the execution of justice indiscriminately to all members of the community. Class legislation, the privileges of particular orders, the traditional rights of individuals, they vehemently denounced, inculcating at the same time a profound reverence for genius, for virtue, for religion, for morality. Their chaotic strivings were merely meant to inaugurate the reign of enlightened and equal laws, which should raise the humble from the dust, and bring down the arrogance of the proud.

“Throughout Europe the principles thus brought forward have since been put in play, more or less completely, by the associations of Freemasons, Odd Fellows, Druids, Foresters, and so on. Their institutions may be perverted, but the system they aim at realizing is deserving of all praise. The end they would attain is the refinement and elevation of the poor and ignorant, first, by associating them with men of education; and, next, by affording to them in sickness and old age the means of escaping the most humiliating consequences of poverty. To be a pauper, is to forfeit many of the rights and nearly all the dignity naturally belonging to a man. The pauper reaps where he has not sown, devours where he has not planted. His aliments come to him not as a right, but as an alms, and are doled out to his wants with humiliating and degrading economy. Through the influence of friendly societies a man is enabled to administer to his own wants in age, in sickness, and in unavoidable misfortunes. The bread he eats by this means is the bread of honest labour—the bread for which he has himself toiled, and which he earned when he had strength, precisely that he might be able to eat it when his strength failed, and when the evil days of weakness should come upon him.

“It is the duty of civilization to look with approval on all associations of this class, which are calculated to foster the feeling of independence, and render men their own benefactors. It is not unpleasant to be beholden to the person you love; and if it be true that most men love themselves most of all, then to be beholden to themselves must be the pleasantest of all feelings. A great Pagan king said it is more blessed to give than to receive, and if asked, he certainly would have added, it is better to provide for yourselves than to be provided for by others. Friendly associations enable men to do this, while they by no means deprive them of the pleasure of giving. The man who puts by a shilling, with an eye to the future, is more likely to put by a second, than he who has never saved a penny. Real economy is never niggardly. Its hands are meant for use, for distribution, for charity. But when there exists a common fund, to which a thousand men contribute, which is watched over by a thousand minds, and known to be designed for the comfort in sickness of a thousand sufferers, a great deal more in proportion may be accomplished than could ever be effected by a thousand separate individuals acting without plan, keeping the fruits of their economy apart and aiming each exclusively at his own personal advantage.

“Freemasonry—to which we refer because it is the most perfect of all friendly associations—is animated by a really universal spirit, which abjures all distinctions of country, race, and creed. The Mahomedan, meeting on the burning plains of Asia, with a Christian foe on the field of battle, has been known to kneel by his side, to raise him from the earth, to bind up his wounds, to bear him tenderly to his own tent, and there to wait on him like a brother, because he had discovered that he was a Freemason. The Hindoo, the Christian, the Buddhist would do the same. This imparts to the Order something like a religious character, though distinct from sects and creeds. It would be well if we looked into the history of Masonry during the last age, and inquired how much of its present excellence is due to the efforts then made towards raising it into a catholic system, organized for the political regeneration of the world. Its mystery, its secret apartments, its rites celebrated in darkness or extreme gloom, the flashing of swords, the burning of incense, the jargon, the mummery, the mysticism prevailing—all these things had their use, though they might occasionally be misemployed. Society in all countries requires to be galvanized freely before it can be improved. Civilization is too often synonymous with droning vapidness, verging upon the dreaminess of Utopia. Men need to be roused, shaken, alarmed, and made to feel that all individuals are surrounded in this world by mystery—that they know not whence they came, or whither they go—that they have more duties than the church explains to them—and that among these the greatest by far is that of succouring each other in distress, without making any inquiries about beliefs, or governments, or races, or

languages. The only qualification necessary is to be a man—rank, title, distinctions, are nothing in the theory of Masonry, and it was by dwelling too exclusively on this cardinal truth that the vast secret associations of the last age drew suspicion and discredit upon themselves. Nevertheless, their aim was pure, and the philosophy which guided their aspirations and researches of the highest and noblest kind. We might learn much from our predecessors, who, on the other hand, might perhaps have envied us our enlightened diligence and practical good sense. The societies of the present day, though many in name, are but one in purpose, since they aim at nothing but bettering the condition of those classes which civil and political institutions are too apt to neglect, or sweep past in their rapid and extensive movements."

With some of the remarks quoted above we have no cause of disagreement. That the superior condition of modern society owes much to Freemasonry; and that the claims of the brotherhood are felt in every country and by every race—that the laws of the Order are observed by the Hindoo, the Buddhist, and the Mahomedan as well as by the Jew and the Christian—all this is well known and has been acknowledged by the world at large with admiration and wonder from the earliest times. Other inferences and statements of the writer, however, are based upon incorrect data, and these we will proceed briefly to notice. As far as our brethren themselves are concerned, this course is in a measure unnecessary; but we are not unaware that this journal has many readers who are not Freemasons, and we think it belongs to our legitimate province to correct any erroneous impressions which may go forth respecting the institution, especially in a case when we know that the well intentioned but unfounded statements are certain of a large circulation.

In the first place—our contemporary, throughout his remarks, considers the great institution of Freemasonry chiefly as the first in rank and the best of benefit or friendly societies. Our institution bears no sort of resemblance to these societies, for an individual joins a friendly or benefit association with the express purpose of making a provision for future misfortune, for sickness, or for old age, in which cases he has a just and lawful claim to pecuniary assistance from the institution which he has contributed to support; whereas no man can be initiated into the ancient Craft without expressly declaring that in entering the body of Masons he has no hope or expectation of gain or pecuniary reward, either immediate or remote; without a total and solemn disclaimer of all motives of self-interest no man is allowed to be made a Mason—and therefore it is not possible to show any resemblance between our Order and those provident societies which are so justly praised in the article before us. It is quite true that Masonry may be termed a benevolent society in one sense, because universal benevolence is inculcated by its precepts, but the practice of charity and good will is not to be confined to the brotherhood—the wants and the misery of the stranger should be compassionated as well as those of our own poor or unhappy. It is true that each Lodge has to pay a stated sum for each of its members annually to a Fund of Benevolence through which is dispensed to the needy brother some part of the superfluity of his more fortunate comrades, but this is given and accepted as a free brotherly gift, and the recipient has no stated claim whatever upon the fund. Within the last century also, the example of the numerous institutions for the education of the young has been followed by the Craft, who have thought fit to establish schools in which the children of decayed or deceased brethren can receive an excellent education under the supervision of their fathers' fellow Masons. In none of these can we trace any carrying out of the principle of the benefit society; and if there be any fancied resemblance, that is due to modern improvements, and has nothing whatever to do with the ancient traditions and charges upon which Freemasonry is based. Charity, in fine, is highly valued among Masons, and strictly enjoined, but this virtue is but one of the handmaids that wait in the sublime Masonic temple.

That the history of Freemasonry yet remains to be written, and of Freemasonry much earlier than the last century, we cordially agree; there being no work of extent and value commensurate with the subject in existence, as far as we are aware. Considering the number of learned and able men who have adorned our Craft, we are free to confess that we consider this as somewhat remarkable. Certain it is, however, that all we have to show in the place of a history of Freemasonry is a bald record of official transactions for less than two centuries, and the early and interesting incidents of the Craft in this country are overlooked and almost forgotten, while they are overlaid with absurd interpolations and even fictions, disbelieved by the brethren, and ridiculed by the enemies of the Order. Our contemporary should be informed, however, that "cognate" associations to Freemasonry do not, and never have existed. The royal art stands alone and unapproachable; nothing in the least degree similar has ever been known in the history of the world; nor is it probable the intelligence of man will ever produce a rival to it.

The numerous political secret societies of the last century were totally unmasonic in their bearing and in their objects, though many profligate adventurers were bold enough to make use of Masonic titles and even to incorporate some of the preliminary forms of our ritual in their short lived associations. Some brethren more ambitious than sagacious, in the time of the banished Stuart princes, endeavoured to make converts to the cause of the white rose among Masonic Lodges, in Scotland particularly, and men high in the Order known to be Jacobites, were it is said plied hard with entreaties to use their efforts to convert the Masonic organization into a political engine. This it was evident was totally impossible, and these intrigues met with their inevitable discomfiture, since the grand principles of the Order are fixed and unalterable, and the institution would cease to be Masonic as soon as its members consented to devote themselves to any other labour than that marked out for them by its ancient laws and constitutions. The great French revolution produced, doubtless, after an interregnum of bloodshed and misery, results which conduced to the progress of liberty and enlightenment; but we cannot admit herein any comparison to the doctrines of Freemasonry, which aims at the improvement of the human race by peaceful means, and is opposed to violence. Again, though Freemasonry teaches that all men are on a level as regards their common humanity, it has never interfered with social gradations of rank, nor are any rights of individuals traditional or real, interfered with by the teaching of our Craft.

A remarkable statement is made by our contemporary on the correctness or fallacy of which we confess ourselves unable to give an opinion. He asserts that the Odd Fellows, Druids, and Foresters, have succeeded in propagating the principles of their institutions throughout the Continent. We have, it is true, but scanty knowledge of these bodies, and are quite unacquainted with their proceedings; but we certainly were under the impression that their operations were confined to England and the United States. With the remarks in the article before us on the advantages to the industrious classes of friendly provident societies, we entirely concur; we should be glad to see them increased in number and efficiency.

Our contemporary's remarks upon the rites of Masonry are ingenious, and upon the whole fair enough, as a matter of theory—though such expressions as "jargon" and "mumery" jar somewhat upon our ears. As to the recommendation to inquire into the history of Masonry in the past age, we have ample reason for believing that little was done during that period to raise the character of the Order, or to extend its influence. On the contrary, we have the records of many mischievous attempts at innovation and corruption, from which insidious proceedings Masonry undoubtedly suffered at the close of the last century, and by which her

usefulness was diminished. The efforts of true and worthy brethren have dispersed those clouds of folly and prejudice, and our glorious Order now shines out in undiminished brightness for the admiration of the wise and just, and for the general benefit of the human race. D.

A TRIP FIVE THOUSAND MILES OFF.

FOR ten long weeks we had been inmates of that most secure of prisons—a ship; for seventy long days we had trodden nothing firmer than our heaving deck, nor smelt aught sweeter than the fresh sea breezes which played wild tunes among our cordage as they wafted us on our way. Once or twice we had the pleasure of seeing land, Madeira looming on us, a land of silver mist, which gradually clearing off revealed the outline of the bold hills and the soft green of the sheltered valleys where so many invalids are annually restored to health; then came Teneriffe, with its cloud capped peak, and further on the Cape Verd Islands, wrapped in the misty atmosphere that renders them so verdant, and whose neighbourhood has gained so unenviable a notoriety as a favourite haunt of pirates. But we passed them all by as fair pictures, and pursued our way diligently beneath the steady influence of the trade winds, until now, having completed our five thousand miles, we were hourly looking to see the land of our destination—the Cape of Good Hope.

At length day and it broke together on our view, where ending a chain of lofty hills, the two precipitous hummocks which form the extreme point of the southern Cape rose wild and stern and darkly defined against the morning sky, even as they met the eye of the first mariner who ploughed those seas, and even as they had stood for many thousand years before, braving the fierce storms of the vast south Atlantic ocean. Hill beyond hill, like terrestrial billows, the land spread out before us, appearing to rise yet higher as it receded from the sea; while through the transparent atmosphere the gleaming ridges of grass or rock were distinctly visible down the steep hill sides, alternating with the darker hue of the wooded ravines between them. Some thirty miles northward the hills terminated, to recommence some ten miles further down, pale and blue in the distance.

In the intervening space stretches the broad expanse of Table Bay, up which, as in an estuary, the waters of the south Atlantic roll nearly thirty miles into the land. As we sailed up the bay wider and wider it spread around us, until it resembled one of those spacious lakes that gladden the dark forests of the western continent. Grouped in front of the town some eighty or a hundred vessels lay at anchor, their sizes ranging from the noble Indianman of fifteen hundred tons to the miniature coaster of fifteen.

In honour of our arrival every vessel bore a flag, and so varied was their blazonry, it seemed as if every nation in Europe was there represented, while the stripes and stars floating from the peak of the American whaler, and the ambitious globe from that of the Brazilian trader, proved that our transatlantic brethren were not absent from the maritime congress. However, more than half the vessels displayed the flag that has "braved a thousand years the battle and the breeze," and next numerous were the horizontal stripes of Holland. Through the marine maze we threaded our way to our appointed station; then came the tremulous sensation and the welcome sound of the descending anchor, and we lay opposite the object of our thoughts and hopes—Cape Town.

What a fair scene it presented to our view! Before us rose up, nearly three thousand six hundred feet into the air, the almost perpendicular sides of the Table Mountain, with the broad flattened summit that had won it so appropriate a name. The upper part of the mountain seemed formed of layers of dark, rugged stone, then grass and heaths succeeded, while the lower half of the mountain gleamed strangely white in the sunshine beneath the quivering leaves of the beautiful

silver trees that girdled it. To the right of the mountain, and with the head rising almost to its altitude, are the two hills whose united outline bears so exact a resemblance to a lion *couchant*, that they have not unnaturally acquired the names of the Lion's Head and Rump. Smooth, verdant, and beautiful, they form an important feature in the landscape, and it is on the Lion's Rump that the telegraph is erected, to give notice of approaching vessels; the first ball announces a sail, the second indicates the direction whence it comes; and we may fancy how great is the excitement those balls occasion among the dwellers in that isolated colony as to what tidings may be coming from distant friends and relatives, and how prolonged their anxiety—for the telegraph is at work many hours before a sail can even be seen from Cape Town.

To the left a high conical hill called the Sugarloaf, flashes like an emerald in the sunlight. And there, nestling among the amphitheatre of hills, the white dwellings and green trees and gardens of Cape Town look smilingly out. Towards the west, or round the base of the Lion hill a succession of white villas, surrounded by beautiful gardens and darkly green vineyards, stretch out to Green Point, the southern extremity of Table Bay, where crowning a ridge of rocks stands a little lighthouse. In front of all roll the bright blue waters of the bay, where quietly at anchor our trusty vessel was now resting from her toils. And, according to the way of the world, those she had served so well, began to murmur at the narrow limits to which she had so long restricted them, and to be impatient to leave her for the land spread out so invitingly before them. In consequence one of the many shore boats sailing about in hopes of employment was summoned, and with infinite pleasure we watched the approach of the little cutter, her sharp bows cleaving the miniature waves as she came to bear us away to the shore.

The boat was floating alongside the ship, and her intending passengers were crowding eagerly to the gangway, when as sudden and almost as loud as the report of a cannon, a gust of wind blew over our heads, whistling menacingly through the cordage of the ship, and flapping deafeningly among her unstowed sails. Astonished at the sounds, we looked towards the land whence they came, but nothing was visible save a few specks of spotless vapour clinging here and there to the dark brow of the mountain. But those more experienced than ourselves read in those tiny cloudlets a timely warning to defer our landing, for it was the first indication of one of those frequent south-east gales that blow so furiously over that mountain plain—the first unfolding of the celebrated "devil's tablecloth" that ere many minutes we were to see spreading over the whole summit of the mountain, and curling itself in snowy wreaths far down its rugged sides; while beneath the same influence the placid waters of the bay were soon lashed into a wild tossing sea, which muttered and hissed beneath crests of surging foam as white as the cloud that shrouded the mountain.

A truly magnificent sight it was to watch those immense masses of spotless vapour, as, like crowding avalanches, they came rolling over the precipitous mountain, appearing to threaten with death and desolation the fair city below, while in vivid contrast against their intense whiteness was the brilliant blue of the cloudless southern sky. For hours the gale continued to rage around us as if the very spirit of the storm was abroad, beating furiously against our rigging, and shrieking wild threats of driving us from our anchors out into the wide ocean far to leeward, to beat back again as best we might.

At length the gale sank with the setting sun, leaving the evening calm and beautiful, and enabling us to accomplish our transit to the shore. At the Cape there is no twilight, so night fell at once, preventing us seeing aught of the South African city as we approached it; but through the clear Cape atmosphere the glorious constellations of the south shone

down with wondrous brilliancy and size, and seemed reflected in the phosphoric gleam of the yet troubled sea. A whole bevy of coolies, with their glittering eyes and straight Malay features, awaited our landing, to two of whom we entrusted our carpet bags, and then walked on through a medley of boats and houses across the Grand Parade, until we finally found ourselves in one of the large hotels in the Keizergracht opposite, and the possessors of pleasant apartments overlooking the Parade, and, as we found in the morning, the bay also.

Only those who, like us, have been long at sea, can guess how pleasant was our first dinner on shore with its fresh fish, vegetables, and fruit, especially the last. In the sultry atmosphere of less than thirty-four degrees south of the equator, fruit is prized in a way unknown in our cooler climate; but it needed no extraneous circumstance to win admiration for the exquisite apricots and peaches, and the large blushing nectarines frosted with bloom; nor for the fresh green almonds and dark glowing figs, the delicious water melons glittering when cut like rosy ice; nor, above all, for the grapes, large dewy heaps of purple and golden fruit, with the delicious pine flavour that renders Cape grapes so celebrated.

Attempts have for some time past been making to gain for the Cape wines a share of public favour. Pontac, even as they sell it at the Cape, without lengthened keeping, is a very agreeable wine, and Cape sherry is not without merit, but Cape Madeira is decidedly very inferior; certainly it sells at a very low price, thirty to forty shillings being the usual sum for eighteen gallons. Of its red and white Constantia the Cape is exceedingly proud, but they are rich luscious wines, too sweet for my taste, and always remind me of the currant wine of our own farmhouses. The Cape brandy is also an extremely inferior product, and selling at a very low price is a great cause of the intoxication so prevalent among the coloured races. But it was with a more generous liquor than any of the preceding that we flavoured our fruit on the jubilee of our arrival; and if anything farther was needed to add to the interest of the occasion, it was given by the recollection of how different from the sultry atmosphere, the glowing fruits, and the fluttering leafiness that surrounded us, were the frost and snow which were enwrapping our native land; for it was the first month of the new year, and the midsummer Christmas of the south was but lately passed.

It needed but to glance around us to remember we were in a foreign land. There was nothing in the South African city to remind us of our own country, except the broad leaves of the oak trees with which many of its streets were shaded, and the scarlet uniforms of the soldiers who wandered beneath them. The Grand Parade was so near us, that thither we first bent our way; it is a considerable arena in the centre of the town, of course intended for the exercise of the troops, but also used for other purposes, for at one end is erected a handsome suite of commercial rooms, including an excellent library, reading room, &c. In the shade of the deep border of oaks which surrounds the Parade, is the fashionable promenade, and there the inhabitants are accustomed to wander, discussing the passing news and listening to the strains of the military bands which play there two or three evenings in the week.

On other evenings the public walks appear deserted, everyone seeming to prefer the at-homeness of sitting or walking on his own *stoep*, as the stone verandas in front of houses are called; for whether raised but a single step above the pavement or built to a considerable height, all those belonging to Dutch people were occupied by family parties, and it seemed strange to an Englishman accustomed to the strict seclusion which wraps, as in an impenetrable veil, the home life of his fair countrywomen, to see ladies—uncovered by bonnet or shawl—laughing and chatting as gaily as if in the retirement of their own homes, and appearing quite unconscious that they were subject to public observation.

Many were the fair faces that met my eye during my evening walk, and many the slender forms, for though the fair skin and flaxen tresses of the distant Netherlands still prevail among the maidens of unmixed Dutch descent, the quickness with which they shoot up to womanhood in their adopted country, has given to their forms the slenderness and fragility of reeds. On the Dutchmen themselves the climate does not appear to exercise the same influence, for they are generally tall and stout of person, and florid and jovial in aspect and manner. They are generally good "burghers," and excellent men of business, and he must indeed be Yorkshire bred and born who can overreach a Dutchman in a bargain. They are at the same time the best humoured and most manageable of husbands, allowing their wives to guide everything domestic, which they do with prudence and judgment; for no whit behind her Hollandish ancestress in thrift and industry is the Cape housewife.

Cape Town generally delights visitors by its aspect of extreme cleanliness, an appearance increased by the width of the principal streets, and by the large substantial flat roofed houses being always freshly coloured, either white, drab, or yellow, while the number of gardens relieve the dazzling glare, and the long avenues of trees cast a grateful shade on the pedestrian. But, for all that, Cape Town is intensely hot, some degrees hotter than the surrounding country. Facing the burning north, and lying in a nook among mountains, no breath of air visits it unless it blow a gale, and then the wind sends such clouds of sand whirling along the streets, getting into one's eyes, and striking like burning shot against one's face that one is able ever after to comprehend the miseries of the whirlwind of the desert. The Cape people close their doors and windows against its entrance, but in vain, for its finer particles penetrate everywhere.

In the rear of the town are the Government House and gardens, the latter open to the public as a promenade. The gardens are very extensive, and intersected with broad gravel walks and long shady avenues. I believe they contain many rare plants, but I saw them at an unfavourable season, the middle of summer, when vegetation is nearly withered up; winter there being, like our own spring, the season of leaves and flowers, and then the whole land is a wilderness of greenery and bloom. At the upper part of the gardens are the stone dens and cages of a menagerie, but when we saw them they were but scantily inhabited.

Among the floating population of the Cape are numbers of the East India Company's servants, both civil and military, come to recruit their shattered health in that delightful and salubrious climate. They declare that what most especially attracts their attention on landing is the rosy faces of the children, so different from the pale little blossoms of the burning east. But what most attracts the attention of strangers from England is the constant recurrence of brown or black faces. At first to their unaccustomed eyes all seem to be of the same race, with some variety of depth of colouring; but after a while a difference begins to show itself, and they gradually discover that they are surrounded by a number of distinct races, whose only resemblance consists in their dusky skins. The slender brown Africaner, the descendant of slaves, with his straight features and flowing hair, differs greatly from the largely built jet black negro of Mozambique, or the burly Kruman of the West Coast. Occasionally a head raised above all others, and covered with little woolly knobs in lieu of hair, attracts attention to its gigantic Kafir owner, whose keen glittering eye brightens the night of his heavy countenance. Contrasting strongly with him are the light forms of the Hindoo servants of the eastern visitors, and the Chinese and Jascars so often seen in our own streets. A few members of other races are occasionally to be met in Cape Town, but the aboriginal Hottentot, I may say, never.

The Malay population alone are said to amount to upwards of five thousand. In consequence of a revolt in Malacca

many fled to the Cape for safety, some of the Malay princes being among the fugitives. The spot where they had sought temporary shelter self-interest converted into a permanent home, for they soon found Cape Town afforded full scope for their industry, and for gaining the wealth which they grasp with true Israelitish covetousness. It is this love of gain which alone induces them to stoop their haughty natures so far as to enter service, where they are to be found in many capacities, for in addition to a Malay coachman—valued on account of the sobriety his religion enjoins—nearly every family of pretension employs a Malay cook, and probably one or two others as housemaids. The Malays are the principal fishermen, and sellers of fruit and cakes; they are the laundresses, also, and both men and women are to be seen in their open sheds busily employed in ironing. Many are said to have acquired considerable wealth: we remember an old man living in a mean hut and apparently making his living by selling cakes and tarts, who was known to be the possessor of £400 per annum.

Though so long resident at the Cape, the Malays have not amalgamated with those around them, but remain a distinct people, with dress, manners, and religion of their own. They profess the Mahomedan faith, in which they are said to be bigoted, and possess five or six mosques. All the bullocks in Cape Town fall by the hands of the Malay priests, who slay them with certain ceremonies; the reason of this being that the Malays will use no meat except what is killed by their own priests, while the other members of the community are indifferent on the matter.

A Malay will not under any circumstances consent to lay aside his national costume, which has neither elegance nor picturesqueness to recommend it; and on the box of the governor's carriage I have seen a Malay sport his drab trowsers, and loose drab jacket, while over the red Madras handkerchief which bound his smooth black hair, was a conical cane hat, in shape resembling a pagoda. The women's dress is also ungraceful, for their long full shirts are tied, not round the waist, but close up under the arms, and over a bodice of another colour; however, their long hair of a brilliant black is never covered, but all drawn to the back of the head, and fastened round a silver ornament. But through all their disfigurement of attire the eye is struck by the extreme beauty of the Malay race. The lofty brow, the delicate nose, and the well formed mouth and teeth, are well nigh universal, as are the large brilliant eyes of the deepest black.

The hotel where we resided belonged to Dutch proprietors, good kindly sort of people, with whom we made great friends, and we were often amused by listening to the gentle languid tones in which our landlady lisped forth in her broken English the praises of her own colony, and all pertaining to it. Our landlord was equally amusing, though in a different style, for his English was correct in construction, though rough and broken in pronunciation, while the great object of his eulogy was his fatherland, and his inheriting an unmixed descent from which he could not sufficiently value himself.

One day we came home to find the usually calm household in a state of the utmost excitement. Mynheer, himself, was in a rage, and the vrow, his wife, in tears, while their stalwart son was walking to and fro in violent indignation. The cause was at once disclosed—Mynheer Adrian, the son, had split on his father's favourite rock and wished to marry a bride one of whose unfortunate ancestors another man had called his chattel.

"But that was his misfortune, not his fault," I remarked.

"Very likely," replied the old man, somewhat illogically, "but it is a great fault in his descendant. Carolina may be rich, and young, and beautiful, and what you like, but it does not alter the fact that her great grandfather was a slave, and her grandmother slave born. You can see our pure blood in our dazzling skins and our clear eyes, very different from an inky puddle of Africanders and Mozambiques."

"But Carolina's hair is as fair, and her eyes as blue as ours," interrupted the son.

"Very true," replied the mother, "but, pah! her skin, see how muddy that is."

But there the good lady's prejudices blinded her, for I had often seen the Carolina in question visiting her daughters, and a sweeter or prettier girl it was impossible to see. In vain I tried to reason and then rally the usually good-natured old people out of their objections, they were resolute in believing that such a marriage would bring indelible disgrace upon their house.

On mentioning the foregoing subject to some of my friends, residents at the Cape, I was surprised to learn that my host and hostess's sentiments were precisely those of the mass of their countrymen, with whom the pride of an unblemished descent transcends all others. They also assured me, and I have since witnessed the same myself, that families have frequently been shut out from the society in which they have hitherto moved, in consequence of one of their members marrying one in whose veins flowed ever so small a portion of the despised slave blood; and the fact that (thanks to the British government) all have for many years been free alike, does not tend in the least to soften their violent and cruel prejudice.

But Mynheer, my host, as long as he was true to himself—which he appeared likely to be—had no cause for fear; for in that happy land for inexorable fathers elopements are unknown, and so are secret marriages. At the Cape, though a British colony, Dutch law prevails—and that says a man must either be married by banns, or else produce to the officiating clergyman the certificate of the matrimonial court, which inquires very closely into the matter of consent.

On many points the Dutch laws—which equally affect English residents—meddle much more closely in domestic affairs than our own, but the interference is generally dictated by a spirit of far seeing prudence, and a desire to protect the interests of those unable to protect their own, though sometimes they exhibit the keen worldly wisdom of a nation of traders. Under the first category may be ranked the law which forbids man or woman contracting a second marriage until they have settled half their property, minus one child's portion, on the children of the first marriage; but decidedly we must attribute to the second the enactment that the second husband of a widow shall discharge the debts of her first husband, and many are the peaceful households to which this law has brought distress, and ruin, and bitter hatred.

Perhaps one of the most painful instances of the evil which may result from some of the Cape laws we saw exemplified in the person of an English lady to whom we were introduced. She had married an English gentleman in England, with whom she emigrated to the Cape. Her husband's temper was very violent, which led to many painful scenes between them, and in the end his unkindness drove her from him. For a time she made her living as a governess, but subsequently learning she was entitled to property in England, she went home to claim it. Scarcely were the sails of the ship in which she went below the horizon, than her husband summoned her to appear before the supreme court to answer why she absented herself from his home without his consent. The appointed time was too short for the poor lady to be even aware of the proceedings against her (whether any one appeared to explain the case I know not, if they did their explanation was not deemed satisfactory) and in her absence a divorce was pronounced against her. A few months after she returned, disappointed of the property she went to seek, to find herself without a name or a home, and her husband the husband of another; for immediately on the divorce he had married a Dutch lady of respectable family, who had done no violence to her own feelings, nor suffered loss of caste among her own nation, by marrying one whom their own laws had declared free.

It appeared somewhat strange to us, that notwithstanding the number of daring young military and naval men to be met at the Cape, we never encountered one who had even attempted the ascent of the Table mountain, on which morning after morning we looked longingly, though the weak state of our health (the hope of benefiting which had partly induced us to undertake the trip), forbade the possibility of our scaling its rugged heights. But great as the labour must undoubtedly be, we do not think it is the fatigue deters adventurers, so much as the fear of being suddenly surrounded (as many unfortunates have been) by that mysterious cloud, and blown off the mountain by its accompanying gale, or walking blindly over the edge, as has been the fate of others—and in either case perishing miserably.

But though the ascent was denied us, we resolved to mount sufficiently high to enjoy the panoramic view of the surrounding country which the shoulder of the mountain affords. Wave after wave of grassy swells we mounted, each greener and larger than the last, then through a few rugged ravines, until at length we stood under the refreshing shade of the fluttering silver trees. Despite the scorching heat of summer, it was a beautiful and fertile scene, which the wide frame of surrounding hills shut in—far spreading vineyards, with their affluence of leaves softening the light of the pale meadows of ripening hay beside them, and teeming orchards glowing in the sunlight, and gardens filled with luxuriant fig trees and flashing laurels. Here and there were villages half hidden among oak plantations, and pleasant villas and quaint old many gabled Dutch houses, dotting the spaces between; and winding slowly along, like a silvery serpent, were the shallow waters of the Salt River.

Our stay in the Cape district being on this occasion limited, we resolved to see as much of it as the time permitted, so in a few days we took our departure for the village of Wynburg, that favourite locality of wealthy Anglo-Indians, whose shadowy gardens are fluttering with the white robes of Hindoo servants, and whose unpretending looking houses are said within to rival the splendours of the Arabian Nights. Our way lay over a well made road, shaded by noble trees, and bordered by gardens and vineyards, and rose and jasmine covered villas, and old gabled houses, each standing apart within its hedge of tamarisk, or of prickly pear—that most grotesque of shrubs—with its huge massive leaves fringed round with tufts of crimson blossoms.

From Wynburg we next proceeded to Simon's Town, some ten miles further from Cape Town. For the first three miles we rode on through a continuance of the same pleasant shady avenue which had brought us thus far; but then the scene suddenly changed to a dreary barren region of naked sand hills and wild sandy flats, thinly clothed in patches with tiny ice-plants, which glittered brightly in the sunshine. Mile after mile we toiled through the arid waste, well nigh scorched and blinded by the burning sunbeams and the fierce glare of the yellow sands, and right glad were we at length to issue from them on to the shores of the vast sea-lake, entitled False Bay. Another mile along the sands, and we opened on Simon's Bay, closely shut in within its girdle of hills, most conspicuous among which are the Red Hill, famous for its rare botanical treasures, and the lofty and imposing Simon's Berg, whose brow is commonly garlanded with lily white clouds, even though there may not be one in the sky, while every breath of wind from among the hills is perfumed by the fragrant heaths which grow so thickly among them.

Had we not known it before, the number of merry, frolicsome young midshipmen scampering among the sand hills, on every description of horse, and in every variety of drag, would have apprized us that we were approaching the naval station, and now, turning the angle of the landlocked bay, we came upon a stately twodecker, with her glossy sides pierced for fourscore guns, and her lofty spars tapering into the cloudless sky, with a tiny speck of crimson bunting

fluttering at the mizen in token of a rear admiral's command. Grouped around her float the smaller ships of the squadron which happen to be in port; for the Cape is the head quarters of the pestilential West Coast station, where so many brave lives are annually expended in the endeavour to suppress the slave trade.

At the entrance of the town, in the midst of an extensive garden, stands the Admiralty House, with its vine-covered colonnade; beyond is one of the prettiest and trimmest of little naval yards; and round it and the whole bay, like a crescent, sweeps the principal street of the little town, stretching almost to the battery on the southern point, where a flag is always hoisted to give notice of approaching vessels. Above the town, perched on every little ledge of the surrounding hills, are innumerable white or yellow houses, half hidden among their bowery gardens.

The first impression of the traveller is that Simon's Town has nothing but its blue bay and bluer sky, and the outline of its hills, to recommend it, for despite its gardens, its general appearance is arid in the extreme; but when night falls, and the moon rises, the magical change we sometimes see in a dissolving view takes place in the landscape, and it becomes one of the most charming and fairylike scenes imaginable. A soft dreamy beauty seems to rest on sea and shore, on hill and white walled dwelling, as if all things were seen through a silver haze. This appearance is said to be occasioned by the glittering particles of the sand reflecting the brilliant rays of the moon, as they come flashing down through the transparent atmosphere.

It is not in this sequestered little nook of the British dominions that one would expect to find a relic of one of her greatest heroes. Yet there, at the time of our visit, occupying the ignoble post of sheer hulk, was the little vessel that in her palmy days was the *Badger* man-of-war, whose deck Nelson first trod as captain. In after days she was also the first command of the gallant Collingwood. Surely a better fate might have been found for even the decaying timbers of a vessel which calls to mind two such names.

On the opposite side of False Bay is a district entitled Hottentot's Holland. Towards the sea and bay it is bounded by a chain of mountains so high that during winter the snow lies thick upon their peaks. On a subsequent visit to Simon's Town, we ourselves saw it there flashing brightly in the African sunshine; and it is almost incredible how severely the chill breeze blowing over their frozen surface was felt by those who during winter usually enjoy a temperature similar to the most genial of our Mays.

The adage that "time and tide wait for no man," was verified in my case, for ere I had half satisfied my interest respecting Cape Town and its beautiful environs, imperative business and a ready coaster summoned me to the eastern province, and it was on a subsequent visit that I learned many items of information related in the foregoing pages.

REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

Narrative of a Walking Tour in Brittany. By the Rev. J. M. JEPHSON, F.S.A., accompanied by Notes of a Photographic Expedition, by LOVELL REEVE, F.L.S. London: Lovell Reeve.

The travellers of modern date bid fair soon to leave no spot unvisited, for in all climes and lands we have adventurous spirits who wander forth for a holiday, and returning home, give us their impressions of what they have seen and heard. Fifty years hence it will be a difficult task for an individual to select a locality, however remote, that has not been explored, and as a sure consequence, in those times, we shall be as well acquainted with the traveller's route and sights, from the numbers of visitors who will have left the story of their pilgrimage behind, as if we had visited the scenes for ourselves. But it is not the remembrances of the majority of the wanderers that will live, for travellers of the modern school are not unfrequently prosy and commonplace, cooking up a dish from John Murray's handbooks, and extracting information from the gossiping corner of the nearest local news-

paper. Hence the diary making gentry and their productions will be consigned to oblivion, while such a good-humoured and thoroughly appreciative book as the *Narrative of a Walking Tour in Brittany*, will long command respect, and afford instruction and amusement. If we retrace our steps some twenty or twenty-five years, Brittany was almost as unknown to the English tourist as the wilds of Australia, and very few of our countrymen dreamed that, within a few hours' distance from Southampton there was a race of people even more picturesque and primitive than our own Highlanders to be found across the water in *la belle France*. In the province of Brittany there are more of the remains of the mediæval French character than in any other part. In the country districts the revolution, the monarchy, and the empires, both of Napoleon I. and III., appear to have left little or no trace of events, and Mr. Jephson chose well when he selected this district for a summer's trip of enjoyment, and how capable he was of enjoying it the sequel will shew.

Our author gives some excellent reasons for choosing a holiday. He was, as a country clergyman living in the flat county of Essex, amongst marshes, fogs, and the proverbial calldom of that district, getting both out of health and spirits, and as he tells us, "little things and little people were assuming an alarming importance in his mind :—"

"The nature of my occupations did not supply an adequate counterpoise to these depressing influences. To listen to the monotonous whine and snuffle of the children in the national school as they read the sublime words of inspiration, or repeat that excellent moral poem of Dr. Watts about the "little busy bee," to be all attention while an old woman recounts the history of each particular pain and ache which racks her limbs; to endeavour Sunday after Sunday, to adapt the principles of Christianity to the dull and unpractised understandings of a peasantry to whom any but the merest colloquial English is an unknown tongue; and to sit by and keep the peace at vestry meetings while rival farmers wrangle over rates and road making—these are not enlivening, though they are useful and salutary occupations.

"It happened that, last spring, I took up a volume of Montaigne's Essays, by way of driving my mind into another channel of thought. The first passage I alighted upon was the following :—'C'est pitié d'estre en lieu où tout ce que vous voyez vous embesogne et vous concerne; et me semble jouir plus gayement les plaisirs d'une maison estrangiere, et y apporter le goût plus libre et pur.' Diogène respondit, selon moy, à celui qui luy demanda quelle sorte de vin il trouvoit le meilleur; 'L'estrangier,' dit-il. 'That is what I want,' I exclaimed."

And he then determined to change his air and locality for a time to some place where he would have no home associations break in upon his holiday to remind him of anything English, except it came to him with a tinge of fourteenth century romance; and he likewise, in casting about for this desideratum, looked for a part where his superfluous cash would not melt so easily as in many other places equally within the same distance. So he chose a five weeks' walk in Brittany, and communicating his idea to Mr. Lovell Reeve, that gentleman suggested the desirability of illustrating the journey by photographs, and started, independently of Mr. Jephson, to cover pretty nearly the same ground, taking stereoscopic views of almost every object of interest on his way. Mr. Reeve succeeded in obtaining about two hundred of these views, ninety of which were issued simultaneously with the *Narrative of a Walking Tour in Brittany*, and comprise subjects from the picturesque Breton towns, from St. Malo round by Lannion, and thence from Quimper to Rennes. These views vividly and forcibly bring before the eye the quaint Breton architecture, its pagan dolmens and Christian calveries, churches, chateaux, and illustrations of life in Brittany, and they are every way worthy to rank with Mr. Jephson's descriptions, while Mr. Jephson's descriptions are equally worthy of Mr. Reeve's illustrations.

Accompanying our author, we wish, for their intrinsic beauty, we could present our readers with some of the illustrator's handiwork, but, as we cannot, we must take leave of Mr. Reeve, and follow our author, Mr. Jephson, who writes sensibly and forcibly on the advantages of a walking instead of a riding tour; but there is one inconvenience which continually peeps out in Mr. Jephson's work, and that is, the annoyance he was perpetually subjected to as a pedestrian, for in that character he was peculiarly under the surveillance of that paternal system of government which constantly calls forth Mr. Jephson's indignation and sarcasm. An English pedestrian is a perfectly unintelligible puzzle to its agents, and a constant source of provoking bilious attacks to its sensitive administrators; and to the Englishman who determines to rough it, the livery of a gendarme becomes, at least, as unpleasant a sight as a constable in our own country is to a professional mendicant. At our author's entrance into the first town in Brittany he was, to his surprise, and in spite of a passport regularly *visé*, and by him thought irreproachable, suddenly pounced

upon and compelled to satisfy the thirst for knowledge of an inquisitive gentleman in a cocked hat, as he tells us in the following extract :—

"Having breakfasted at seven on a basin of *café au lait*, I buckled on my knapsack and set forward, intending to take another look at the principal parts of the town, which I had visited the evening before. But passing through the Grand Place, I was stopped by a cocked hatted gendarme, who demanded my passport. Now, it happened that when asked at St. Malo whither I was going, I said 'to Vannes,' because I intended Vannes to be the limit of my tour, after which I should return. The passport was, therefore, *visé* for Vannes. But now my gendarme took it into his head that having said that I was going to Vannes, it was the duty of the paternal democracy to see that I took the shortest possible road to Vannes. I was, therefore, marched through the streets, followed by a crowd of naughty little boys, to the police-office, where I was ushered into the presence of the *commissaire de police*, a grim functionary, whose countenance was suggestive of dungeons and thumb-screws. After eyeing me from head to foot, *terro radu*, the awful official asked, in a voice which was intended to send my heart into the soles of my shoes, and force the latent conspiracy against the Emperor out of my finger's ends, 'Qui êtes-vous?' This was a staggering question. I could hardly suppose that he meant to ask my name, because he had it before him in the passport. I therefore concluded that he took me for some person of great political consequence, Mazzini or Lord Palmerston, perhaps, and anxious, in my modesty, to undeceive him, I replied, 'Mon Dieu, monsieur, je ne suis personne, — I am nobody.' As I uttered this reply, its resemblance to that which a predecessor in vagabondism had returned to an equally ferocious questioner struck me, and the resemblance of the relict of the commissaire to the shaggy-browed Cyclops made me laugh. This still further excited his wrath, and he proceeded, with more awe inspiring severity than ever, to cross examine me as to the details of my birth, occupation, abode, object in coming to France, &c. When I told him that I was not come to see the Emperor, whom I was, in fact, rather anxious to avoid, and that my only object was to walk through Brittany for my amusement, he evidently discredited my story altogether. His final decision was that, having arrived at St. Brieux, I might stay there, but that the paternal government would not permit me to leave that interesting town, not even to go to Vannes."

In consequence, our traveller had the mortification of being tramped about the town, from one police office to another, for three mortal hours, before he could allay the uneasiness of the perplexed gendarme, and on this and other occasions his treatment left a somewhat bitter tinge in Mr. Jephson's mind against the "paternal government." But with the country, peasantry, priests, fellow travellers, landladies of the various inns, he formed very pleasant impressions. He liked the farming, buckwheat pancakes, the legends, gaiety of the peasantry, the wild and wayward melodies they sang, and the popular and innocent amusements of the people. There are numerous little pen and ink pictures, which, for neatness of execution, deserve to go hand in hand with Mr. Reeve's illustrations; such a one we here present to our readers :—

"The village of Carnac is a small place, but the little inn, dignified by the name of the 'Hôtel du Commerce,' is clean, and the fare good. I felt rather tired and not very well, and seeing that the hostess was a nice motherly looking woman, I called her into my parlour as to what I should have for supper. She immediately suggested a *soupe au lait*, the very thing for a weary traveller who feels faint and yet cannot eat; and I found that, as the French say, 'l'appétit vient en mangeant.' I mention this as a hint which may be useful to travellers. But the widow Gildas—for such, as I afterwards learnt, was my hostess's name—thought that a little conversation might also be of use to me, and after setting down the dessert, began to let me into some of her personal history, partly, no doubt, in expectation that her confidence would produce a similar disclosure on my part. She was tall and well favoured, with a precise mouth, out of which issued a sweet voice, tuned to a key of gentle and pious resignation. The description of the Prioress in the *Canterbury Tales* might have been written for her. She 'of hire smiling was ful, simple, and coy; hire mouth was smal, and thereto softe and reed'; she was also 'ful, pleasant, and amiable of port, and peyned hire to counterfete chere of court, and ben estatliche of manere.' Throughout the house there reigned an air of piety. The chimney ornaments were little altars; beside the bed was a *prie-dieu*; and the pictures on the walls were saints, with extracts from pious *chansons* underneath. All this was explained when Madame Gildas told me, on my saying that I had just visited the Chartreuse, that her father had been, among the unfortunate Royalists shot on the Champ des Martyrs, and that her grandmother was one of the most zealous of those who, in the first Revolution, had harboured the persecuted clergy, and arranged the midnight meetings on the ocean, when the people, like the early Christians in the catacombs, worshipped God with death and torture staring them in the face

"I remarked to my hostess on the becomingness of her costume; upon which, looking down and heaving a gentle sigh, she informed me that she was in the first year of her widowhood, and that the dress which I admired was the deepest mourning she could wear. She then proceeded to tell me that the people of Plouharnel, though living so

near, were quite different in character and habits from those of Carnac. The Poulharnelites were unsociable, disobliging, and rude; the inhabitants of Carnac, on the contrary, were fond of society, good-natured, and polite. The picture was drawn by one who could hardly be supposed disinterested; but it agreed with my experience. After giving me so much information, the widow Gildas thought that it was my turn to be communicative, and insinuated a wish to know what brought me to Carnac. I told her that I was walking through Brittany out of mere curiosity; upon which she made out the whole history in a succinct form, without further assistance from me. 'Ces messieurs,' meaning the photographers, who had preceded me by two days, 'ces messieurs font des photographes, et monsieur va à pied, n'est ce pas? Oui, oui! Et monsieur, sans doute, fera un petit ouvrage. Oui, oui!' Then, putting on her best smile, 'Et monsieur a-t-il la bonté de faire mention de l'Hotel du Commerce?' I assured her I would; a promise which I thus fulfil."

We have all heard, read, or experienced the misery of travelling with unamiable companions, and Mr. Jephson treats us to a specimen of this class, and draws the picture so capitably that few will be found who cannot say, "I met one of the same at——." He tells us:—

"Opposite to me were a married couple and their boy. French people never have more than one boy or girl. I had observed the entrance of the party. The gentleman marched in front, with his eyebrows elevated, and his nose following his eyebrows; and having hung his hat upon a peg with a defiant look, he scanned the table with an air of disgust, as if he could not find any place good enough for him to sit down at. At length, having selected chairs to his mind for himself, his wife, and little boy, he sat down, helped himself and partners with apparent loathing, and in the intervals of eating, darted looks of hatred and suspicion at the rest of the company, particularly at any wight whose eyes might wander towards the region where sat his fair one. She meanwhile displayed her ring bedizened hands, which she evidently thought handsome, and seemed not at all displeased to attract attention. He occasionally addressed her and the boy in gruff and monosyllabic words. I was determined to try what would be the effect of hearing the lion in his den, and as an experiment asked him some trivial question; upon which his eyebrows nearly touched the roots of his hair, and he replied, after a moment's pause, and in a most magnificent tone, 'Monsieur, je ne sais pas!'"

In juxtaposition, when you meet a gentleman on his travels, and that man a Frenchman, nothing can be more agreeable, as the following sketch shows, and Mr. Jephson naturally describes his twinge of remorse, which every Englishman feels, for not entering into the spirit of fraternization with as much hearty good will as your foreigner does. The close of the following extract is to the purpose:—

"Throughout my tour I was generally fortunate in my companions of travel. If I could not laugh with them, I could laugh at them. On this occasion my fellow traveller was a most agreeable and intelligent Breton gentleman. I learned, partly from his conversation and partly from the host at Auray, that having begun life with a moderate competence, he had become a timber merchant, and was now one of the richest men in the province. He certainly deserved to succeed, for I never saw a man so anxious to please. Every one seemed to know him, and he took off his hat as scrupulously to the peasant returning from work as to the gentlemen who passed us in their gigs. He was as polite to Monsieur Floriant, the *conducteur*, as if M. F. had been his equal. His fine intelligent face and flowing beard had prepossessed me in his favour, and his conversation confirmed my good opinion. He knew many Englishmen, and was about to send his two sons to school in England; I recommended Eton, but he reminded me that Bretons were Catholics, and that he must therefore look out for some Catholic school. This brought out from M. Floriant, the *conducteur*, a story of a couple of English schoolboys who had travelled with him two or three days before. They were asking him the French for different things on the road. Presently a flock of geese appeared, and they wanted to know their French name. M. Floriant told them that geese were called *des Anglais*; for, he said to me, you know they hiss and gabble like people talking English. The boys said nothing; but on seeing a pig by the roadside, they asked M. Floriant how that was called. He replied, '*un cochon*.' 'Ah,' said one of the boys, 'in England we call those animals *conducteurs*.' To do M. Floriant justice, he enjoyed the retort quite as much as the boys, though it was made at his own expense.

"The afternoon was lovely, and the country through which we passed rich beyond measure; but the recollection of that drive from Hennebont to Auray always fills me with remorse. My agreeable companion was a great connoisseur in fruit, and particularly curious in peaches. Somewhere near Landerant he had a house and gardens; and when the coach stopped to change horses, his servant came up with two remarkably fine peaches in a basket, the only ones which were yet ripe. One of these he gave to M. Floriant, the *conducteur*, and presented me with the other, which was by far the finest. I protested against leaving him without any, but he would hear of no excuse. At last I took it, but never recollected that there was a *via media*, as Dr. Hook says, between eating the whole and refusing the whole: for I might very well have divided it, and insisted on his taking half. Ever since I have been mortified be-

yond measure when I think how selfish I must have appeared. This is the sort of thing in which an Englishman fails. He is continually guilty of acts which make people set him down as selfish and brutal when in reality he is only awkward and reserved. But my Breton friend seemed to take it all as a matter of course that the *conducteur* and I should eat his peaches and leave him without any; and when we got down at the Hotel du Pavillon d'en Haut, at Auray, he left some friends to whom he was talking, to follow me into the hotel and shake me by the hand."

In taking leave of Mr. Jephson, and his *Narrative of a Walking Tour in Brittany*, we are constrained to add that the book has such an air of downright honest good humour, pleasant scenes, and graphic description, that we naturally warm into sympathy with one of so genial a disposition; and if the rather copious extracts we have given should sufficiently interest our readers to peruse the work itself, we are sure they will coincide with us in our estimate of its contents, and let us add, as a parting advice, that if it is possible to enhance the pleasure of a story well told, no one will be content without coupling with Mr. Jephson's work Mr. Lovell Reeves's photographs.

The War in Italy; with a Preliminary History of the Vicissitudes and Policy of Napoleon III. By E. H. NOLAN, Ph. D., &c. (Part I). London: John Wesley and Co., 51, Paternoster Row.

Our brother, Dr. Nolan, who has long been favourably known in the literary world by several works of importance, and especially of late by his valuable "History of the British Empire in India," has extended his labours in the field of history to a subject replete with interest, and which, he plainly shows us in the introductory chapter of the work before us, demands the serious consideration of every patriotic Englishman. It seems perhaps somewhat early to commence the relation of those hostilities which have so recently been terminated, or at least suspended for a time, by the treaty of Villa Franca, but the materials at the command of the chronicler of the present day are so ample, and to a certain extent so trustworthy, that the same lapse of time which was found necessary to sift out the actual facts of former great campaigns, seems not so imperatively required in the present instance. With regard to the other part of the subject—the previous career and probable policy of the remarkable individual whose will now constitutes the sole law of the great French nation—we can hardly imagine a theme more pregnant with instruction; and if handled in the same able manner as the matter of Bro. Nolan's former works, we may expect a treatise of no ordinary value. The past fifty years of Napoleon III. contain incidents and vicissitudes enough to stock half a dozen romances; and the success which has crowned his ambition hitherto may well cause us to think of possible contingences in the future.

The author's introductory chapter touches upon many important topics. He refers to the importance of a continental war to this country, and to the great excitement that the recent embroilment gave rise to throughout the whole of Europe. He points to the perils of the suspected alliance between France and Russia, which has had its effect already in alarming confederated Germany, and which if it prove true, is fraught with momentous consequences to England. The question as to the future of Italy (which the recent Parliamentary debates show to be, in all thinking men's minds, as unsatisfactory as ever,) will no doubt receive a just and discriminating examination from our historian, who points out some of the points most necessary for adjustment, and has some eloquent remarks upon the sympathy which ought to be—and is felt for that ill fated and beautiful country. Of the influence exercised by Louis Napoleon upon the freedom and progress of mankind, Bro. Nolan well observes:—

"Napoleon Buonaparte is undoubtedly the author and occasion of this war. When, as President of the French Republic, he attacked the new-born freedom of Rome, to re-establish the throne of the pontiff, he laid the train which his own hand *per fas aut nefas* now ignites. What shall be the future of this adventurous politician? Is he destined to shoot, like a fiery meteor, over at least this hemisphere, and then perish, his policy sinking into 'the blackness of darkness for ever?' Is he to be a new apostle of nationalities, at the same time propagating novel forms, both of freedom and despotism, as the comet, which, forming separate nuclei, ceases to be, yet propagates and multiplies itself, giving rise to new wonders?"

It is hardly fair to pass criticism upon a work of which so small a portion has been given to the public; but we have satisfaction in saying, that as far as it has advanced, it has greatly pleased us. The commencing sketch of the career and character of the first Napoleon is drawn with a firm and truthful hand, and his heartless ambition, with its wonderful results, are well depicted. It is the object of the author to show that the policy of Napoleon I. is

necessarily the same which the Second, (or, as he chooses to call himself, the Third) Napoleon must follow; and believing that to be the case, he calls upon his countrymen to take timely warning. Some trifling blemishes we notice, probably owing to haste in preparation of the first numbers of the publication; without wishing to be hypercritical, we would remark for instance, that the title "Napoleon of Peace" was not assumed or invented by the present autocrat, but was conferred upon Louis Philippe by some of the adulators of the "Citizen King."

OUR ARCHITECTURAL CHAPTER.

As we anticipated would be the case, the designs of Mr. Scott for the new government offices have been rejected, the premier declaring that if constructed as proposed, they would not only be altogether unfitted for the purposes to which they were to be devoted, but unnecessarily expensive. As Mr. Scott however was appointed by the late government to carry out the works, he is to retain the appointment, having received instructions to prepare a new design, adapting himself more to the Italian than to the Gothic style, and to provide large, light, airy apartments for the transaction of business. Mr. Scott accepts the commission, and in the meantime the House of Commons has granted the money for having the foundations prepared, in order that as little time may be lost as possible. The designs are to be submitted to the House of Commons as early after the reassembling of parliament as possible. The *Times* recommends Mr. Scott to adhere to his own designs, or to decline the commission; but this is a sacrifice that he can hardly be expected to make.

Lord John Russell, on Monday, laid the foundation of a new training school at Stockwell, which is to be open to all denominations of Christians, without regard to sect. The new building will be designated the British and Foreign School Society's Training College for Mistresses. Provision has been made in the plans for the residence and instruction of one hundred young women, apartments for a female superintendent, and the necessary teaching staff, with practising schools for girls and infants. The contract for the completion of the work is £15,572; but this is exclusive of the land and a portion of the internal fittings and furniture, for which at least £2,000 must be added, making a total outlay of £17,572. Towards this it is understood that £6,000 will be granted by the Committee of Council on Education. The preliminary list of contributions amounts to nearly £1,000. The further sum of nearly £8,000 will therefore have to be raised by subscription.

In connexion with this provision for the training of one hundred female teachers, it is proposed to adapt the whole of the present building in the Borough Road for the reception of one hundred male students.

A new Guildhall, for which designs have been invited, is about to be constructed at Cambridge. The amount to be laid out in the first instance does not exceed £6,000, but the whole plan, for which the designs are to be sent in, it is estimated will involve an expenditure of £40,000; but the works can only be gradually proceeded with as certain leases fall in. The premiums offered are £200 for the best design, and £100 for the second. The committee of selection will be composed partly of members of the University and partly of inhabitants of the town, who pledge themselves also to seek the advice of professional architects not being competitors.

We learn from the *Building News* that a very successful example of iron architecture is being carried out by Messrs. Grissell and Co., from the designs of Mr. Robert Stephenson. The building—a kiosk, which is to be fitted up with the utmost luxury—may be described as a large cross, having its internal angles filled by quadrants of circles, and its central junction crowned by a large conjoined double dome or cupola, the lower one being forty feet in diameter, and its height to the summit (which is terminated by the crescent, emblematic of the Moslem faith) about eighty feet. There will also be a

minor dome over each of the quadrantal portions of the plan to which we have adverted, which, in combination with the great central one will, as may well be conceived, give the terminating lines of the edifice a most picturesque effect as to outline "against the sky." The edifice itself, exclusive of an outer iron railing, will be comprehended within a square of one hundred and six feet six inches, and the boundary railing will extend to a square of one hundred and twenty feet. It will rest upon twenty-eight central columns, and thirty-two half-ones, the latter being external.

The strike, or more correctly speaking in the majority of cases, the "lock out" of the builders, still continues, though several attempts are being made to bring about an arrangement by arbitration, Mr. Marsh Nelson, Mr. Jackson, and other gentlemen well known both to the employers and the men having offered their services as mediators. One thing is admitted on all hands—that the declaration adopted by the masters for the operatives to sign was most ill advised, and must be withdrawn before any large body of men will re-enter the workshops. It is to be hoped that mutual concessions will soon bring the dispute to a close satisfactory to both parties.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

ANCIENT VIEWS OF FREEMASONRY.—II.

[The first paper on this subject was given in a separate form, but on consideration we think the more appropriate place is amongst our "Masonic Notes."—Ed.]

Continuing in the order of time, I find the following entries in the *Gentleman's Magazine*.

"Wednesday, April 19, 1732.—At Merchant Taylors' Hall, in Threadneedle-street, was held the annual grand feast of Free and Accepted Masons, when the Lord Viscount Montague was chosen Grand Master, who appointed Thomas Batson, Esq., his Deputy; George Rooke, and James Smyth, Esqrs., his Grand Wardens, for the year ensuing. There were present a great number of persons of quality, about four hundred brethren."

"Epilogue for the Freemasons, spoken by Mrs. Younger, at the theatre in Lincoln's Inn Fields, April 27th:—

"Well, ladies, of the art of Masonry,
Altho' I neither am nor can be free,
Some of their signs, perhaps I may have seen;
And well I know what 'tis they sometimes mean,
And, therefore, I their advocate appear,
To tell you—what you will be glad to hear.
What monstrous, horrid lies, do some folks tell us!
Why Masons, ladies, are quite clever fellows;
They are lovers of our sex, as I can witness,
Nor ere act contrary to moral fitness.
If any of you doubt it—try the Masons,
They'll not deceive your largest expectations;
They're able workmen, and completely skill'd in
The deepest arts and mysteries of building;
They'll build up families, and as most fit is,
Not only will erect but people cities;
They'll fill as well as fabricate your houses,
And found a lasting race of strong built spouses.
What's more, you'll find whenever you befriend 'em,
They've faith and secrecy to recommend 'em.
If such their parts, such, ladies is their merit,
So great their skill and strength, their life and spirit,
What female heart can be so very hard
As to refuse them their deserved reward?
Once on a time, I've heard old stories say,
Two Mason gods to Troy town took their way.
Arrived and hired to work—to work they fell;
Hard was their task, but executed well:
With more than human art these heavenly pow'rs
Raised such prodigious walls, such swinging tow'rs,
As still defy'd all Greece's open force,
Nor fell but to let in their wooden horse.
Gratis they did it, whatsoever was done,
Refused their pay by king Laomedon;
They talk of Mason kings, but surely he was none.
Well was the Craft revenged for this disgrace;
In Dryden's Virgil I can show the place,
That tells us how this god-built tower was fir'd,
And in the Masons' quarrel Troy expir'd.
Ladies, this story is well worth your learning;
O, hideous! aren't you all afraid of burning?

Let it this truth in every breast inspire,
That every workman's worthy of his hire:
And sure such virtue in the present age is,
None will defraud the brethren of their wages.
Then treat the Craft, ye fair! with kind regard;
And give them in your smiles their best reward;
Give 'em—to boast where'er their art extends,
That they and beauty, from this hour, are friends."

"Tuesday, Sept. 5th, 1782.—At a Lodge of Freemasons, held at the Royal Vineyard, in St. James's Park, were admitted a clergyman of the Church of England, two dissenting ministers, and two officers of dragoons.

The next extract for the same year records a Sunday Lodge. "Sept. 17, Sunday.—At the Rose Tavern, Cheapside, was held a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, when Mr. Edmund Rose, of the said tavern, was admitted of the fraternity, by Mr. Daniel Delvalle, an eminent Jew snuff merchant, Master, in the presence of several brethren of distinction, both Jews and Christians, for whom was a handsome entertainment.

DR. MILLER OF DONCASTER, AND DR. HERSCHELL.

In the reply to your correspondent, "No Yorkshireman," last week, you refer to Dr. Miller as being the author of a work entitled *The History and Antiquities of Doncaster and its Vicinity*. It will perhaps be interesting to some of your readers to peruse the following extract from a note at page 162 of the said history; from which it will be seen that our brother, the organist and historian of Doncaster, was the means of bringing into notice one of the greatest geniuses of this country, viz., the astronomer, Dr. Herschell. The note is as follows:—

"It will ever be a gratifying reflection to me that I was the first person by whose means this extraordinary genius [Mr. Herschell, then residing at Doncaster] was drawn from a state of obscurity. About the year 1760, as I was dining with the officers of the Durham militia, at Pontefract, one of them informed me that they had a young German in their band, as a performer on the hautboy, who had only been a few months in this country, and yet spoke English almost as well as a native; that, exclusive of the hautboy, he was an excellent performer on the violin, and if I chose to repair to another room he should entertain me with a solo. I did so, and Mr. Herschell executed a solo of Giardini's in a manner that surprised me. Afterwards I took an opportunity to have a little private conversation with him, and requested to know if he had engaged himself to the Durham Militia for any long period? He answered 'No, only from month to month.' 'Leave them, then,' said I, 'and come and live with me. I am a single man, and think we shall be happy together; doubtless your merit will soon entitle you to a more eligible situation.' He consented to my request, and came to Doncaster. It is true, at that time my humble mansion consisted but of two rooms. However, poor as I was, my cottage contained a small library of well chosen books; and it must appear singular that a young German, who had been so short a time in England, should understand even the peculiarities of our language so well as to adopt Dean Swift for his favourite author. I took an early opportunity of introducing him at Mr. Copley's concert; and he presently began

"Untwisting all the chains that tie
The hidden soul of harmony."

For never before had we heard the concertos of Corelli, Geminiani, and Avison, or the overtures of Handel, performed more chastely, or more according to the original intention of the composers, than by Mr. Herschell. I soon lost my companion—his fame was presently spread abroad—he had the offer of scholars, and was solicited to lead the public concerts both at Wakefield and Halifax."

The above account is followed by a further note, or rather a continuation of the same, in which is a humorous account of Herschell's competing for the place of organist at Halifax, and the remarks concerning him of old Retzler, the organ-builder. He seems to have obtained the situation, but told Dr. Miller that he should not stay long, for he had the offer of a superior situation at Bath, which offer he should accept. With respect to Dr. Miller I will only add, that in the chancel of the parish church at Doncaster, previous to the fire in 1853, which consumed the entire fabric, there was a tablet to the memory of Elizabeth, the wife of Edward Miller, Doctor in Music, and of her three daughters and a son, and on which was added, "Also Edward Miller, M.D., who died Sept. 13th, 1807, aged 72 years; nearly 52 years organist of this church; author of 'Improvement in Psalmody,' 'History of Doncaster,' &c., &c. After having served the world for many years, at last he strove to serve his God; and there is hope that by sincere repentance and a lively faith in the crucified Redeemer, he died in peace." This monument, with numerous others, was completely destroyed by the fire alluded to. Dr. Miller was succeeded as organist by Mr. Brailsford, and he, on his retirement, was succeeded by Mr. J. Rogers, who at present retains the office.—G. B*****, P.M., Doncaster.

Poetry.

THE ROPE WALK.

In that building, long and low,
With its windows all a row,
Like the portholes of a hulk,
Human spiders spin and spin,
Backward down their thread so thin
Dropping each a hempen bulk.

At the end, an open door;
Squares of sunshine on the floor
Light the long and dusky lane;
And the whirling of a wheel,
Dull and drowsy, makes me feel
All its spokes are in my brain.

As the spinners to the end
Downward go and reascend,
Gleam the long threads in the sun
While within this brain of mine
Cobwebs brighter and more fine
By the busy wheel are spun.

Two fair maidens in a swing,
Like white doves upon the wing,
First before my vision pass;
Laughing, as their gentle hands
Closely clasp the twisted strands,
At their shadow on the grass.

Then a booth of mountebanks,
With its smell of tan and planks,
And a girl poised high in air
On a cord, in spangled dress,
With a faded loveliness,
And a weary look of care.

Then a homestead among farms,
And a woman with bare arms
Drawing water from a well;
As the bucket mounts apace,
With it mounts her own fair face,
As at some magician's spell.

Longfellow.

FROM THE SEA.

BY H. F. CHORLEY.

"My world of storm and wave," the Ocean said,
"Mightier than earth is, with its wit and wiles.
Let Man's best ship sail forth amid the smiles
Of shouting crowds, and joyous sun o'erhead:
I have my whirlpools—can with murder spread
Strange reefs of coral—hidden quicksand isles,
That grasp a navy in their thirsty toils,
Yet spare no wreath of foam to shroud its dead!
Did ye not vaunt that land to land should speak,
An old realm to a new, with lightning tongue?
Behold, I will rebuke your science weak,
From my most hidden councils deep and strong;
Nor can your haughty vengeance do me wrong
If, in my wayward scorn, your giant spell I break."

FRAGMENTS OF SONG.

LISTEN, brother, listen!
Hear'st thou not the sound
Of his footsteps on the ground,
Coming up the fir-tree walk?
Oh, listen, listen!

Say not 'tis the ivy-stalk,
Beating against the window-pane;
Or the dead leaves whirling round,
Eddling in a broken chain—
Listen, listen!

Again! oh listen, brother dear!
A voice of one in grief and pain
Seemeth to call on me in vain—
Calling on me, to hear—
Brother dear!

Is it the bitter wind
Complaining to its kind,
As it howls across the waste?
That is all—no need of haste
To ope the door—
No one is there!
Woe is me!
No one is there,
No one there!

H. M. Rathbone.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

FREEMASONRY IN BRAZIL.

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—Being a subscriber to your interesting *Magazine*, I came across an article published in No. 18, of May last, headed "Freemasonry in Brazil," extracted from the *New York Mirror and Keystone*, the republication of which I ascribe to your very praiseworthy desire of giving to the Masonic body of England some account of Masonry in every country of the world, without being overscrupulous as to the manner of writing, style, or composition; and I therefore hope that you will grant me a similar indulgence.

Having been initiated in Rio de Janeiro in 1833, I am perfectly acquainted with the history of the Order in this country; and as the article above referred to is incorrect in many particulars, I beg to furnish you with the following short account of Masonry in Brazil, which you may publish if considered of sufficient interest.

The first organized body of Masonic authority, the "Grande Oriente do Brazil," composed of the representatives of three Lodges, especially formed for the purpose by the division of one Lodge into three, to complete numbers, was established in Rio de Janeiro in the year 1821, and recognized by the Grand Orient of France.

The Emperor Dom Pedro I. was soon after initiated in one of these Lodges, and immediately proclaimed Grand Master; but finding that the Lodges of that period were nothing else but political clubs, he ordered them to be closed in the following year, 1822. After his abdication in 1831, Masonic meetings again took place, and a new authority, under the title of "Grande Oriente Brasileiro," was established.

Some of the old members of the "Grande Oriente do Brazil," shaken out of their lethargy by this occurrence, again met and proclaimed the reorganization of this Lodge in November of the same year.

We had thus two supreme authorities of the French rite, of seven degrees, in Brazil, which mutually disputed legality with, and made war upon, each other; with this difference, that the Grande Oriente do Brazil was generally considered conservative, and the Grande Oriente Brasileiro republican, as regards politics.

Commodore Jewett, referred to in the article published by you, established a Lodge or two, but they held their charters under the Grande Oriente do Brazil, of which body Jewett became a member.

Montezuma, Visconde de Jequitinhonha, having returned from Europe, whither he had gone as Brazilian ambassador, brought out the necessary powers for establishing a Supreme Council of the 33° of Antient and Accepted Masonry, granted to him by the Supreme Council of Belgium; and executed this commission in November, 1832.

The Supreme Council thus established was duly recognized by the Supreme Council of Belgium and France in 1833; and by that of New York, in December of the same year.

The Grand Orients "do Brazil," and "Brasileiro," true to the spirit of domination which prevails in all these bodies, where-soever established, immediately commenced persecutions against the Supreme Council, granted charters to Lodges, Chapters, and higher bodies of Antient and Accepted Masonry, and even established Supreme Councils of the 33° of their own, contrary to the Constitutions of the Scotch rite.

In 1835 disturbances broke out in the legitimate Supreme Council, promoted by a few ambitious and turbulent members; party spirit ran high among the inferior Masonic bodies holding charters under its authority, and a general dispersion resulted therefrom. Some of the Lodges having proclaimed the then Grand Master of the Grande Oriente do Brazil, their Grand Commander joined this body; others followed the revolutionary faction, which having formed another Supreme Council of their own, declared the original one dissolved, and its founder and Grand Commander dismissed; the remainder preserved their allegiance to the legitimate authority established in conformity with the constitution by Montezuma, Visconde de Jequitinhonha.

The revolutionary faction of the Antient and Accepted Rite united in 1842 with the Grande Oriente Brasileiro; published a manifesto that this body had entirely abandoned the French rite;

proclaimed itself the only legitimate authority of the Scotch rite in Brazil; and by false representations succeeded in extorting a recognition from the Grand Orient of France. This accounts for the failure of Viscount Uruguay's attempts to procure a recognition of the Supreme Council of the Grande Oriente do Brazil, by the Grand Orient of France, alluded to in your republication.

This state of utter confusion amongst the higher Masonic authorities in Brazil continues, and could not but cause great dissatisfaction and a general desertion of the Lodges by the older conscientious Masons, who wished to keep aloof from politics and other antimasonic proceedings; many Lodges were consequently closed, and still remain so, and Masonry was threatened with entire extinction in this empire. Only lately it has somewhat revived on the part of the Grande Oriente do Brazil, but not, I fear, from any real zeal in favour of the true principles of the Order.

In Bahia three Lodges had been established under the authority of the legitimate Supreme Council of the Antient and Accepted Rite, by myself and other old Masons, in the years 1835 to 1838. These are the only Masonic bodies in Brazil, which, repudiating all revolutionary movements in Masonry, caused by ambitious and partly unprincipled individuals, and refraining from any political pursuits, as contrary to the spirit of the Order, have remained faithful to the authority which granted their charters, and still work under the Supreme Council founded and presided by the Visconde de Jequitinhonha; and thus constitute the only legal body of Scotch Masons in this country. Two of them now possess their own Masonic halls.

How far politics influenced the proceedings of both the Grande Oriente "do Brazil" and "Brasileiro" is proved by their original constitutions, since altered, which prohibited any but Brazilians, to become Masters in the chair, Wardens of Lodges, or members of Grand Lodge!

I am, Sir and Brother, your constant reader,

U. S., 33°,

Supr. Delegate of the Supreme Council
Bahia, 14th July, 1859. for the Province of Bahia.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEM.

THE brethren will be gratified to learn that our R.W. Bro. the Earl of Ripon, P.G.W., has been appointed and accepted the distinguished office of representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada to the Grand Lodge of England. We congratulate the brethren both of Canada and England on the appointment, feeling assured that no better guarantee could be had for the cordial working of the two Grand Lodges, than will be found in the well known business habits and talent of this young nobleman; whilst it will, we trust, secure to us the more constant attendance of the noble earl in Grand Lodge, of which we believe he is yet destined to become one of the brightest ornaments.

PROVINCIAL.

CUMBERLAND.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE AT MARYPORT.

THE annual meeting and festival of the brethren of this province was held at Maryport, on Wednesday, the 27th ult., when, although they number but six Lodges, about one hundred and twenty of the brethren assembled to celebrate the occasion. The town being situated on the coast, was an inducement for many residents in the interior to arrive the evening before, who thus had an opportunity of visiting the docks, the harbour, building yard, and the noble pier, projecting a quarter of a mile into the sea.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was opened in due form at high twelve by the R.W. D. Prov. G.M., Bro. W. T. Greaves, who stated that twelve years had elapsed since a Prov. Grand Lodge had been held in Maryport, when only two members were on the list to represent the Lodge at Maryport; last year the number was but three; but on this occasion sixteen appeared to represent its increased strength, which was a good augury that it would shortly take rank with some of the stronger Lodges of the province.

The minutes of the previous Prov. Grand Lodge meeting were then read and confirmed, and the D. Prov. G.M. having expressed his regret that the late Prov. G. Sec. had left the province without having discharged the duties annexed to his office, proceeded to appoint the Prov. Grand Officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bro. Robinson, No.

424, Prov. S.G.W.; Capt. Spencer, No. 138, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. B. Porteus, No. 424, and Rev. S. J. Butler, No. 424, Prov. G. Chaplains; M. Rimington, No. 424, re-elected Prov. G. Treas.; Lemon, sen., No. 409, Prov. G. Reg.; W. Kirkbride, No. 424, Prov. G. Sec.; Nicholson, No. 508, Prov. S.G.D.; Jackson, No. 138, Prov. J.G.D.; J. Dees, No. 138, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Hodgkin, No. 138, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Watson, No. 424, Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.; A. Routledge, No. 409, Prov. G.S.B.; Walker, No. 424, Prov. G. Org.; F. Hayward, No. 389, Prov. G. Purs.; Davis, No. 138, Prov. G. Tyler; Atkinson, No. 424, Smith, No. 138, Shaw, No. 508, Lemon, jun., No. 409, Gibson, No. 138, and Yeates, No. 138, Prov. G. Stewards.

A procession was then formed, and preceded by an excellent band from Whitehaven, the brethren proceeded to attend divine service in the parish church. Prayers were intoned by the Rev. Bro. Butler, vicar of Penrith, assisted by the accomplished organist and choir of St. James's church, Whitehaven. This part of the service was very effective, and most admirably performed. An eloquent and most impressive sermon was preached by the same rev. brother, from 1 Thess. iii., 12, 13, dilating upon the excellence of the principles of the society, and exhorting the brethren not to confine them to their intercourse with one another only, but to practise them generally with the world at large. The discourse was attentively listened to by the brethren and a large congregation from the town and neighbourhood.

The procession reformed and returned to the John-street school room, where, the Masonic business of the day being completed, the Prov. Grand Lodge was closed in antient and solemn form.

THE BANQUET.

In the afternoon the brethren reassembled at the Athenæum, and dined very comfortably. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given from the chair, followed by appropriate airs from the band, and "God save the Queen" as a trio, by brethren of the Penrith Lodge; then followed the customary Masonic toasts, which were duly honoured.

Bro. Robinson, Prov. S.G.W., having obtained permission, said—I rise to discharge a pleasing duty in proposing the next toast, which claims a bumper to do justice to the health of our worthy D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Greaves. I am no orator, brethren, and fortunately for me it needs none to obtain for the toast a cordial reception by those who are so well aware how much our Order, in this province is indebted to Bro. Greaves, for his indefatigable zeal in promoting the best interests of the society, for his courtesy and gentlemanlike demeanour in his intercourse with us on all occasions, and for the different position and feeling which now prevails amongst us as a body. (Cheers). Brethren, I will detain you no longer than to propose the health of Bro. Greaves, our D. Prov. G.M., with all the honours, and with the hope that he will long continue to hold his high office amongst us. (Loud applause).

Bro. Greaves on rising to return thanks said—This is the sixth annual festival, brethren, at which I have had the honour to preside, and I perceive that you greet me with the old familiar welcome. It is said that "practice makes perfect," but as there is no rule without an exception, so am I, as heretofore, as much at a loss adequately to express the thanks I feel for the honour you have so kindly paid me, and I must appeal again to your oft repeated indulgence in taking the "will for the deed," but I should be vain indeed did I not regard the warm reception you have given to the toast as, in a large measure, due to the flattering manner in which it was introduced to you by our old Masonic favourite, Bro. Robinson. However this may be, I have now completed the fifth year in this office; and the Romans of old, our ancient rulers, called this measure of time a "lustrum," and a lustrum signified "an age," so that by this computation I have had the honour to rule Masonry in Cumberland for an age! and the time has arrived, I think, when I should retire from the helm? (No, no). Well, brethren, you seem to differ in opinion with me upon this question, but I trust this difference will never lessen our esteem and regard for one another. (Cheers). I cannot but regard this difference as extremely flattering to me. True it is, that when five years since, I took the helm of our Masonic "Craft"—for since we are upon the coast a little nautical phraseology may serve by way of illustration—breakers were ahead and all around us, we were in shoal water, rocks and quicksands beset us, the crew were dissatisfied, and our officers were mutinous. But how is it now, brethren? Our "Craft" is in deep and smoother water, she is all "a'float" with a more numerous and well affected crew and chosen officers, her sails belling to the wind, and proceeding onwards with favouring gales to her appointed haven; and well content should I be now to salute a more efficient commander than myself, and install him at the helm to conduct her on her course. But let me cease from comparison and metaphor, and beg of you to accept my best and warmest thanks for the reception you have given to the last toast. (Loud cheers).

Bro. J. Dees, W.M. of No. 138, proposed the next toast, that of our reverend Bro. Butler, in a neat and appropriate speech, characterizing him as the chaplain and friend who never failed us on these occasions, and to whom our united thanks were due for the impressive manner in which he had conducted the service in the church to-day. (Cheers).

The Rev. Bro. Butler replied, that nothing gave him greater pleasure than being at his post in the discharge of his duty, and to render any service in his power, particularly in connexion with a society that combined such laudable objects in its working as this did, and associated, as this had done, its worship in our national church with the celebration of its annual festival (cheers). He much regretted the absence of his col-

league, Bro. Porteus, and he felt sure that nothing short of his being away from home and other important matters prevented his being present and rendering his customary aid. (Hear, hear.) He was much gratified that his services to-day, such as they had been, were thus appreciated by the brethren, and begged them to accept his best thanks for this kind manifestation of their good will towards him. (Cheers.)

Bro. Greaves then gave the health of the Worshipful Masters and brethren of the several Lodges in the province, particularizing each according to the circumstances belonging to them, especially that of Whitehaven, which five years ago numbered only twenty members, but now mustered one hundred in addition to it, and having one amongst them (Bro. Fletcher) who was this year serving the office of a Steward of the Girls School, thus reflecting great credit upon this Lodge as well as upon himself. This Lodge was also particularly distinguished by having sixty of its members embodied as a rifle corps, armed and equipped at their own expense, and officered by members of their own body. These toasts were appropriately responded to by the Worshipful Master of each Lodge, relieved by some excellent singing by brethren of the Whitehaven and Penrith Lodges, and by seven o'clock the brethren departed by train to their respective homes, thus terminating a Masonic holiday long to be remembered, enhanced as it was by a brilliant summer's day, fanned by the breezes on the western coast.

DURHAM.

GATESHEAD.—*Lodge of Industry* (No. 56).—This Lodge was opened in due form at the Grey Horse Inn, Gateshead, on Monday, July 25th, by the W.M., Bro. C. I. Banister, all his officers being in their places, the Rev. Bro. S. Atkinson being the Chaplain. The minutes of last meeting having been confirmed, the W.M. examined Bros. Emmerson, Win. Green, and Barker, and it was the unanimous wish of the Lodge that they should have the second degree conferred upon them. The W.M. explained to them the tracing board, and Bro. Wm. Morrow, P.M., explained the working tools and charge. Bro. Buckham being desirous to take the third degree, was examined by the P.M., and complimented on his proficiency. He was raised to the sublime degree by the W.M., Bro. A. Clapham, P.M., explaining the working tools, and after the business of the Lodge was completed, it was closed in due form and with solemn prayer.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

GARSTON.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 267).—This Lodge, held at the Wellington Hotel, Garston, met on Monday, August 1st. The Lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Chas. Aldrich, his officers being in their places. Bro. Leech being present, and wishing to take the second degree, was examined and passed to that degree by the W.M. Bro. Havers, P.M., Prov. G.D.C. of West Lancashire, explained the tracing board to the candidate, and delivered a very beautiful lecture to the brethren generally, which was acknowledged by Bro. Banister, P.M., for those present, in proposing a vote of thanks. The Lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to refreshments, and spent a very happy evening.

ROBY.—*Alliance Lodge* (No. 965).—The regular meeting of this flourishing Lodge was held on Tuesday, August 2nd, at the Stanley Arms Hotel. The attendance of members and visitors was not so numerous as usual, owing no doubt to the excessive heat of the weather. The chair was occupied by the W.M., Bro. G. A. Wielopolski Phillips, who opened the Lodge in the first degree, and there being no candidates in attendance for initiation, proceeded to examine Bro. Wm. C. Quiggin previous to being passed to the second degree. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Quiggin was passed to the rank of a Fellow Craft by the W.M.; the ceremony was much enhanced by the presentation and explanation of the working tools *in extenso* by Bro. Pepper, P.M., No. 310. The Lodge was closed to the first degree, when a communication from the Grand Lodge respecting the irregular Lodges at Smyrna was read by the Secretary, and entered on the minutes; and after a short discussion respecting drawings and tenders to be sent in for the approval of the Lodge at the next meeting, for the purchase of chairs for the Senior and Junior Wardens, to be in accordance with the very handsome chair selected for the W.M. last year, the Lodge was closed with solemn prayer, after which the brethren retired to refreshment, which was well supplied by Bro. Trew.

NORFOLK.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE AT NORTH WALSHAM.

THE annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Norfolk was held on Friday, the 5th instant, at North Walsham, and was attended by about a hundred of the brethren of the province—a large number, considering that there is no railway communication with the town.

Upwards of sixty brethren assembled at half-past eleven in the National School Room, where the Grand Lodge was opened by the R.W. Prov. G.M., Bro. Benjamin Bond Cabbell; Bro. Baker, P. Prov. S.G.W., officiating as Senior Warden for Sir Henry Stracey (who did not arrive till the afternoon); all the other Officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge being present.

The minutes of the last Prov. G. Lodge, at Yarmouth, were read by Bro. W. Leedes Fox, Prov. G. Sec., and confirmed.

The Prov. Grand Lodge, on the recommendation of the Finance Board, voted a donation of £10 10s. to the Boys' School, £10 to the

Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons, and £10 to the Benevolent Institution for Freemasons' Widows.

The various officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge were re-appointed by the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, and Bro. Barwell was unanimously elected Prov. Grand Treasurer. The Prov. Grand Master stated that the next Prov. Grand Lodge would be held at Lynn, and in the following year (1861) at Norwich.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was then closed in antient and solemn form.

The brethren then adjourned for a short time, and having re-assembled at the school room, formed in procession in the usual order, and walked to the parish church, the members of each Lodge being ranged under their respective banners. The service in the church was also attended by many of the inhabitants of North Walsham. The Prov. G. Organist, Bro. Norman, of Ipswich, officiated at the organ. The lessons and prayers were read by the rector and the curate, and the sermon was preached by the Prov. G. Chaplain, the Rev. Bro. Samuel Titlow, from Matthew xvi., 20, "For what is a man profited if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul; or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" The Prov. G. Chaplain enlarged on the infinitely superior value of the spiritual and intellectual part of man to his material part, as proved not only by its higher intrinsic qualities and its immortal nature, but by the immense and inestimable sacrifice made for its redemption, and the awful misery implied in its loss—not merely the exclusion from all the happiness which the soul was capable of enjoying in heaven, but the absolute punishment it would have to endure—"the certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation." Might God, who was mighty in strength and wisdom, give us understanding in all things, and establish us in every good word and work! We read in the scriptures that God granted unto Solomon "wisdom and understanding," and that Solomon determined to build "a house unto the name of the Lord, and a house for his kingdom." Among other persons employed in the great work was a man of Tyre, "a widow's son of the tribe of Naphtali," who was "filled with wisdom, understanding, and cunning (skill) to work all works in brass," and that he came to King Solomon and wrought all his work. Might God strengthen them and make them willing to help others—to help, he might say, the clergyman and other friends of the poor—in this parish—in works of faith and labours of love. "Honour and majesty are before God, strength and beauty in his sanctuary." If they ever hoped to gain everlasting life and to come before God's presence with thanksgiving, and worship him with the beauty of holiness, let them, with prayer and supplication, seek to become instrumental in the salvation of others. "Freely ye have received, freely give." An opportunity was now offered to them of benefiting the children of the poor. Their alms were asked in behalf of schools where children were instructed to love and fear the one God. In exhorting them to contribute liberally to so good a work as training up children in the way of light, he entreated them again to consider the value of immortal souls, and he hoped he might plead for these poor children in his Redeemer's name. Might they be instructed in those holy scriptures which were able to make them wise unto salvation through faith in Christ Jesus, and might the instruction of religious friends be always accompanied with prayer from the heart. Let teachers pray to Him who alone could instruct them before they entered upon the work of instructing others. In appealing to the brethren also in behalf of the District Visiting Society, the Very Worshipful Chaplain reminded them of the great principle of their Order, "relief," and observed that though they had that morning contributed a considerable sum to those charities which more especially belonged to them, and which looked up to them for help, their charity was not to be confined to any particular order of men, but should be universal as the world. The Saviour's charity was not confined, and the brethren of this great fraternity could never forget the occasions on which they were instructed to look upon every child of Adam as a brother of the dust.

The collection made after the reverend brother's earnest appeal amounted to £18 10s.

At four o'clock nearly one hundred brethren partook of an excellent dinner at the King's Arms, provided by Bro. Chapman. Several brethren were unable to obtain admission, and had to be accommodated in another room. The banquet was not restricted to Masons, though only a few strangers were present; and a good deal of dissatisfaction was expressed at the restraint thus imposed upon the brethren, and the necessity it entailed of omitting the impressive ceremonies of a Masonic banquet. From the general feeling which was evinced regarding what in a Masonic sense can scarcely be considered otherwise than an impropriety, there can be little doubt that on the next occasion the banquet will be in every respect thoroughly Masonic.

The chair was taken by the R.W. the Prov. Grand Master, the vice chair being filled by the Prov. S.G.W., Sir Henry Stracey, Bart., M.P., and Bro. H. C. Chamberlain, Prov. J.G.W. Among the company were Bros. the Rev. Samuel Titlow, Prov. G. Chaplain; Rev. F. W. Freeman, D. Prov. G.M. of Suffolk; Dr. Harcourt, D. Prov. G.M. of Surrey; W. W. Baring; the Rev. George Coleby, P. Prov. G. Chaplain; the Rev. W. French, P. Prov. G. Chaplain of Suffolk; R. S. Baker, P. Prov. S.G.W.; John Barwell, P.G. Treas.; W. Leedes Fox, Prov. G. Sec.; A. J. Collins, Prov. G. Reg.; W. Norman, Prov. G. Org.; J. Coleby, P.M.; J. Dawbarn, W.M., No. 258; — Colby, W.M., No. 117; Henry J. Mason, P.M.; W. Wicks, P.M. and P. Prov. S.G.D.; J. Howes, P.M.; R. Gidney, P.M.; W. R. Redgrave, P.M. and Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; J. Marshall,

P.M.; R. Kent, P.M.; J. Kennedy, P.M.; H. Wright, P.M.; G. Smith, P.M.; W. Smith, P.M.; C. Cummings, P.M.; &c. When the cloth was removed,

The R.W. Prov. G.M. rose to give the first toast. He said that in every society throughout the length and breadth of the land the first toast was a tribute no less of regard for her Majesty than of love and veneration for the constitution under which this country had flourished, and he was sure it was the cordial aspiration of every one present that that constitution might continue, amid the tumults of the hour, to flourish for ages yet to come—and for this plain and obvious reason, that this country was almost the only country in the world where every man, woman, and child, might say and do whatever he or she liked or pleased, without being amenable to the will or satisfaction of any other person, abiding only by his own judgment and the consequences of the conduct he chose to pursue. (Cheers). In whatever society, however, this toast might be given, he was confident that in no society was it ever drunk with greater satisfaction than in the society of Freemasons. (Cheers). Her Majesty was not a Freemason—(a laugh)—for she could not be one by the laws of the Craft, though in France they had female Freemasons (laughter), but her Majesty was the daughter of an illustrious prince who was himself a splendid personification of all those virtues which were the distinguishing ornaments of the Order. (Cheers). She had from her earliest childhood imbibed those principles, and he (the Prov. G.M.) was happy to say that she had carried them out in the administration of the affairs of this great country, and he had no hesitation in saying that the more the principles of their Order were intermixed with and carried out in the administration of the national affairs, so much the better would it be for the welfare of every individual in the country, and the greatness of our name in every part of the world. (Cheers). He would now give them, with hearty good feeling, "Her Majesty and the Craft."

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, but, of course, without Masonic honours.

The Prov. Grand Master, in giving the next toast, observed that all members belonging to any fraternity or society must feel an interest in the character of those whom their suffrages had placed at the head of their community. They had now for a long period placed at the head of Freemasonry in this country a nobleman who, he might say, acceded to that high office with some degree of trembling and doubt, knowing well that his predecessors had brought to that office all the prestige, all the influence, and all the fortification of their high position as princes of royal blood. But from the first moment that Lord Zetland acceded to the distinguished office of Grand Master, he had won the full approbation and cordial friendship and warm feeling of every brother Mason in this country—(cheers)—because he had brought to the administration of the office a thorough determination to do his duty to the utmost of his ability. He (the Prov. G.M.) believed there was no man of a more humble and conscientious feeling than Lord Zetland—no man more disposed to underrate his own abilities—and though there had been some little party feeling, it had now happily all died away, from the satisfactory manner in which Lord Zetland had met all the allegations made, and the ample proof he had given that there was no man who had a greater desire to promote the welfare of the Order, or to carry out by his personal example those noble principles on which it rested. (Loud cheers.)

The Prov. Grand Master next gave, "The Deputy Grand Master of England, Lord Panmure." Of the distinguished nobleman who held the second rank in the Craft, he (the Prov. G.M.) could say from his own knowledge, that though he had only a short time held that office, he had during that period endeavoured in every way to promote Freemasonry, and more especially the cause of charity in connexion with the Order. He had taken the chair at the meetings of the Boys and Girls Schools, and his efforts had been eminently successful in administering to the means and the resources of the different Masonic societies. (Cheers).

Sir Henry Stracey, Prov. S.G.W., who was greeted with loud and protracted cheering, said he inferred from the kind reception which had been given to him, that they anticipated the toast which he was about to have the honour to propose; but before he discharged the agreeable duty he had undertaken, he wished to demand of their excellent Prov. Grand Secretary, whether those present were all Masons. (No.) Then he should simply say, that he had a toast to propose which required little or no recommendation at his hands. Their R.W. Prov. G.M. had said that the Grand Master of England had justified the choice that was made when he was elected to that high office. Was he (Sir Henry Stracey) wrong when he said that their excellent brother, Benjamin Bond Cabbell, had justified the choice that was made when he was appointed the Grand Master of the province of Norfolk? (Loud cheers). It was evident from the feeling manifested on this occasion that the selection was a just, a right, and a proper one. And he would say this, that the position filled by Bro. Benjamin Bond Cabbell was one which required many attributes not often possessed by the same individual. He need not remind them of the uniform urbanity and genial good humour of their Right Worshipful Prov. G.M., nor above all of his exercise of that crowning quality which distinguished Masonry—charity. (Loud cheers.) No man could stand higher as a Provincial Grand Master, as a brother, or as a man, than their excellent brother, Benjamin Bond Cabbell. (Cheers.) Few ever had, perhaps, such opportunities of studying the tenets of Masonry, for he understood that their worthy brother years ago offici-

ated in the Grand Lodge of England for him who was afterwards the crowned head of England, and no one, therefore, could be better qualified for the high position to which he had since been appointed. (Cheers.) The toast was drunk with the greatest cordiality.

The Prov. Grand Master, who was enthusiastically cheered, said that on rising to acknowledge the compliment which his excellent brother, Sir Henry Stracey, had so kindly, so indulgently, and so infinitely beyond his (Bro. Cabbell's) merits, introduced to them, he was sure they would do full justice to his feelings in believing him when he said that he received that compliment most gratefully. There did not exist within the limits of their Provincial Grand Lodge, nor within the limits of England, nor he would say of the whole universe, one who had a more humble estimate of his own abilities and powers than the humble individual who now stood before them. He thought, however, that he might take some little credit—not on his own account, but in common with every brother connected with the province—that during the short period he had had the honour of presiding over Masonry in Norfolk, the number of their Order had greatly increased and was continually increasing. (Cheers.) He took no credit exclusively to himself, but he hoped he might claim his humble share, in common with every other brother of the province, in the results of their united efforts to promote Masonry to the extent of their abilities. They looked upon it as a sacred cause—not only within the limits of their own fraternity, but as conducive, from the universality of the system, to the welfare also of every individual in the country who might not have the good fortune of belonging to their Order. (Hear, hear.) Something had lately been said about many large towns in this province being without Lodges, and he hoped he might be allowed this opportunity of making one single remark on that subject—namely, that although Lodges made Masons, there must be a previous step—there must be Masons to make Lodges. (Hear, hear.) To propose to establish Lodges in places where there were at present no Masons, seemed to him to be a proposal not exactly in accordance with the ordinary line of conduct which any wise man would consider proper for the accomplishment of the object he had in view. Was it meant that brethren should travel from a distant part of the country to these places to establish Lodges in them, and not only to establish them, but to work them and carry them on? He made these remarks in the most humble manner—in the most devoted prostration of his sentiments, to those who offered dictatorial opinions on the subject—(a laugh)—but in the humblest way he would suggest that it would be more agreeable to common sense, and more likely to attain the object in view, if those who made this complaint were to have proposed how Masons were to be made in those towns where no Lodges existed. He would attempt to supply this gap in the problem which had been so ostentatiously started. He would propose that the services of some brethren should be devoted to the making of Masons in those distant places, and then when the Masons were made, the means would have been provided for making the Lodges. (Hear, hear.) He hoped he would be excused for making these remarks, because he thought the plan he had suggested was the only way of accomplishing the object which was so generally desired. (Hear, hear.) He could assure them that there was no brother in the Order who felt a more ardent determination to do everything in his power, and to the fullest extent, according to his humble ability, for the promotion of the cause of Freemasonry—(cheers)—because he thought that in the promotion of that sacred cause he was carrying out all the great behests of a kind and all merciful Creator, and doing everything he could to promote the general welfare of mankind. (Applause.) He repeated, that the more the principles of their Order were carried out in every relation of life, the more they would not only effect the good of themselves, but promote that great cause of binding together the whole human family with the ties of mutual connexion and dependence, so that every one should depend upon the good actions and kind feelings, and benevolent disposition of those around him. (Cheers.) No principles, he was sure, were more calculated to promote universal peace and brotherhood than those of the Order of Freemasonry. (Cheers.) Some remarks had also been made as to holding Lodges at other periods of the year. He might be allowed to say, that if a Prov. Grand Lodge could be held on any occasion for the welfare of the Order and the preservation of the Craft, he should be most happy to fall in with the views and wishes of the brethren—(loud cheers)—and no matter in how remote a part of the kingdom he might be—for he was in all parts during the summer—whether in the Highlands of Scotland, or the centre of Ireland, he should attend at the shortest notice, and gladly carry out their wishes, whatever they might be—(renewed cheering)—for he was sure they had all but one wish and one anxiety—to promote the welfare of the Order. (Cheers.) He assured them that these meetings were among the very happiest moments of his life, and therefore if he could have them oftener, and by that means do any more good to Freemasonry, they had only to say the word, and he should be ready at their call. (Loud cheering.)

The Prov. Grand Master soon afterwards observed that they had been honoured that day by the presence of the Deputy Grand Masters of two other provinces—Bro. Dr. Harcourt, D. Prov. G.M. of Surrey, and Bro. Freeman, D. Prov. G.M. of Suffolk, whose healths he now proposed, assuring them that the brethren of Norfolk were always as glad to receive brethren from other provinces as they were sure of being well entertained in their turn when they visited other provinces.

Dr. Harcourt, D. Prov. G.M. of Surrey, said it had been his good for-

tune, during many years of Masonic intercourse with his brethren in different parts of England, to have to return thanks for the visitors. From his position, it devolved upon him to be somewhat of a critic of the mode in which the Lodges he visited were worked, but he confessed he was not at all prepared to see such excellent working as he had witnessed that morning in this Prov. Grand Lodge. He could not help remarking, also, on the regularity with which the procession was managed, and they certainly must have some energetic and efficient officers to marshal so numerous a body of brethren without the slightest hitch or disorder. There was one point, however, which he could not but feel was open to improvement, and that was the admission of non-Masons to the banquet. (General cries of "hear, hear"). He thought the banquet ought to be part of the Lodge. The presence of non-Masons certainly did curb the tongue, and prevented many allusions to Freemasonry that would be agreeable to the majority of the brethren. (Applause.) He hoped—and indeed he had little doubt—that at the next Prov. Grand Lodge their banquet would be as closely tyled as their Lodge. (Applause.)

The Rev. F. W. Freeman, D. Prov. G.M. of Suffolk, also replied, and expressed his concurrence with Bro. Dr. Harcourt as to the propriety of restricting the banquet to brethren.

The Prov. Grand Master said the next toast was the health of a rev. brother who was pre-eminently entitled to their thanks, who was at all times ready to lend a helping hand and to give the influence of his high position in society, in assisting every good and benevolent work. He (the Prov. G.M.) should not say a word about the eloquent discourse they had had from their worthy Chaplain that morning. They would agree with him that it was to the ministry of our holy religion that we were mainly indebted for that broad stream of charity which ran through the country, visiting every scene of woe—that charity which was the grand and distinguishing ornament of our country, and which was the spontaneous offering of a free people, given without government direction, or government security, or government sanction. (Applause.) England, he believed, was almost the only country in the world where such efforts were made by the people of their own free will. He now conveyed, on behalf of the brethren, their thanks to Bro. Titlow for his presence, and would assure him that there were no individuals in any community, however distinguished they might be in position, in wealth, or in power, who were more acceptable, and capable of rendering greater services, in the cause of charity than the ministers of our holy religion. (Applause.)

The Prov. Grand Chaplain most sincerely thanked them for their expression of kindness towards him. He considered himself but an humble individual to have been selected for the honour of filling such a high and important office, and he was glad to find that the brethren were satisfied with the mode in which he endeavoured to discharge its duties. He was gratified that the brethren should have shown a true Masonic feeling in this small town of North Walsham. They had come forward most liberally in behalf of local charitable objects. They had previously voted liberal sums towards Masonic charities, and Masonic charities ought never to be forgotten by them. They knew that Masons were the happy instruments of providing the comfortable means of living for aged brethren, and for the widows and children of poor Masons. Could it be said that that man had a proper love to God who could "see his brother in need, and shut up his bowels of compassion from him?" He might ask also—could it be said that they deserved to be called by the name of Masons if they could see the aged and helpless brethren of the Craft without rendering them succour in the hour of distress? They had, however, that day shown themselves deserving of the name of Masons, by helping the children and widows of their poor brethren, and they had moreover shown that their charity was not restricted to their own particular body, for they had contributed at the church a sum of £18 10s. for the poor of the town in which they were assembled. Their excellent Grand Master, they knew, was never backward in the cause of charity, and they thanked the Giver of all good gifts that He had pleased to put it in his power, and having put it in his power, had given him the will to dispense it as a good steward. Bro. Benjamin Bond Cabbell had added to the collection at the church a sum of thirty guineas—(loud cheers)—so that the meeting of the Freemasons in this town of North Walsham had resulted in a donation of £50 to the funds of the local schools and visiting society. (Cheers.) He (Bro. Titlow) was not surprised at their expression of approbation, for he knew that the desire of promoting good dwelt in their hearts, and that in their entrance into Masonry the duty of charity was strongly inculcated upon them, and that in their progress through its various degrees, duties were enjoined and admonitions enforced, which taught them not only how to live, but how to die. Now, supposing they had not met to-day at North Walsham, where would this £50 have come from? It was the spirit of Masonry, it was the duty which Masonry inculcated, and which had incited them to show that they were not only Masons in name but Masons in practice, which had produced this contribution. He need hardly say that he was himself strongly attached to Masonry; he believed it was a cord of association between man and man. The Mason ought to be a moral and an upright man, and the moral and upright man who was engaged in doing good to others, regarded with great affection his fellow man who was influenced in the like manner. (Cheers.) None but Masons could have altogether understood certain portions of the discourse that morning. Many years ago, not long after his initiation into Masonry, he was

preaching at Ryde, and there was something in the discourse which awakened the attention of a brother in the congregation, whose wife remarked the change in his demeanour, and when he explained it by saying "The preacher is a brother," she was perplexed how her husband could have recognized him as a Mason while he was in the pulpit, not knowing that Masons could communicate with and recognize each other in the light or the dark, and that where they recognized each other there was at once a fraternal feeling excited on both sides. He felt that in order that this fraternal feeling might be indulged without restraint, it would be decidedly advantageous on these occasions for the brethren to unite more particularly as Masons (hear, hear), because they knew that in the presence of strangers they were obliged to exercise a caution which on such an occasion was not agreeable to the brethren. (Hear, hear.) He was glad to know that Masonry was making such progress in the province, and he hoped it would continue to flourish as it had done. He was sure the poor, at least of this town, would say, "God be praised that the Masons visited North Walsham!" (Applause).

The Prov. Grand Master in proposing "The Officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge," observed, that the working of a Lodge was like the working of any piece of machinery—though some works were of great importance, and some of comparatively small importance, yet the working of the greater parts depended upon the efficiency of the most insignificant parts of the machine. Though they were all equal in the Lodge, and all stood on the same level, no one could dispute the advantage of having in their Order men of high social position who brought the influence of that rank to the promotion of the welfare of the Order. He considered, therefore, that they must all highly appreciate the accession of such a distinguished member of their Order as the Senior Warden of the Prov. Grand Lodge—Bro. Sir Henry Stracey—and more especially, as they were all sensible of the very kind and affectionate way in which that brother acted, there being no difference whatever in his deportment towards the highest and the humblest members of the Order. (Loud cheers).

Bro. Sir Henry Stracey, in reply, said, no man felt more sincerely than he did the advantages and blessings of Masonry, and since he joined the Order, he believed he had carried out its principles to the best of his ability. In thanking the brethren for the compliment paid to his brother officers, Sir Henry referred to the zeal and activity of their Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. W. Leedes Fox, who, he remarked, deserved their special thanks for his indefatigable exertions.

The Prov. Grand Master having proposed the health of Bro. W. Leedes Fox, Prov. G. Sec., which was drunk with cordiality,

Bro. W. Leedes Fox, in reply, said he felt it necessary to make some allusion to that portion of an article which appeared lately in the *Freemasons' Magazine*, which stated that since Bro. Cabbell's installation no progress had been made in Masonry in the province of Norfolk, but that it had rather retrograded. This conclusion was perhaps drawn from the fact that there had been no fresh accession of Lodges for many years in Norfolk. Now he (Bro. Fox) wished, as much as the *Freemasons' Magazine*, that more Lodges were established in the province, but it should not be forgotten that Lodges were only the means to attain an end, and that while a large number of Lodges might be conducive to the convenience of many brethren, the main question was, not how many Lodges there were in the province, but how many registered Masons. (Hear.) There might be twenty Lodges in a province, and yet from the number of subscribing members, those Lodges might not be equal to ten in an adjoining county. It was true that there were but eight Lodges in Norfolk, but from the present aggregate number of their members, they were equal to sixteen average Lodges. So far from Masonry being retrogressive or stationary in Norfolk, it had materially advanced since the accession to office of Bro. Cabbell, and it was now gradually progressing. Masonry was almost a dead letter in the province till the Prov. Grand Master's installation, but since that time the number of Masons in the county had trebled. (Hear, hear.) He (Bro. Fox) could easily understand that from misrepresentations and want of accurate information, the writer of the article in question might in his zeal for the Order reflect in somewhat strong terms on the province, but these should have been confined within charitable bounds, and attempts should not have been made by innuendo and otherwise to create in the minds of the Norfolk brethren a feeling of disrespect if not of hostility to their Prov. Grand Master. (Cheers.) That worthy brother, by his benevolent actions and universal kindness, had merited the love and admiration of his brethren, and long might he be spared to rule the province! (Loud cheers).

The company then separated.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

STAFFORD.—*Staffordshire Knot Lodge*.—The brethren of the Lodge held their anniversary on Tuesday last, at Stafford, when they were joined by a large number of Past Officers from other Lodges in the Potteries and elsewhere. An excellent dinner was served up at the Shire Hall, Lieut. Col. Vernon, Prov. G.M. of Staffordshire, presiding.

SUSSEX.

BRIGHTON.—*Royal York Lodge* (No. 394).—The monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., at the Old Ship Hotel, Bro. A. Moppett, W.M., presiding. There was a good attendance, including several visiting brethren. A successful ballot was taken for Messrs. G. White and W. Hudson, and they were forthwith initiated into the mysteries of the

Craft in a most able manner by the W.M. Bro. Bull was then passed to the degree of Fellow Craft by the Worshipful Master. It is pleasing to add that this Lodge, under an efficient Master and good Officers, is enabled to perform its workings in a most praiseworthy style. Bro. Ade, P.M., as Secretary, is a great acquisition.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

PROVINCIAL ENCAMPMENT.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—*Royal Kent Encampment*.—This Encampment was opened in the Masonic Hall, on Friday, July 22nd, by the E.C., Sir Knight Henry Hotham, assisted by his officers. The Rev. Sir Knight Atkinson being proposed by the E.C., and seconded by Sir Knight C. J. Banister, was duly elected a joining member. The Encampment was then closed in due form, and the Knights dined together under the presidency of their E.C.

COSTUME OF AMERICAN TEMPLARS.

At the triennial session of the General Grand Encampment at Hartford, United States, in 1856, the following regulations respecting costume were reported by a committee, but for want of time, action upon them was postponed until the coming session at Chicago:—

"The costume of a Knight Templar shall consist of a full suit of black, dress coat, and pantaloons, white cravat, black gloves, boots, and gilt spurs, and over all a white surcoat, on the left breast of which shall be embroidered a red cross; an undress military cap, and on the front a Templar cross; a cross-lilted sword, the scabbard of black suspended from a black velvet or leather baldric, a short dagger on the left side, a black velvet apron of a triangular form, having on the centre a patriarchal cross, and on the flap a skull and cross bones, all in silver. The edging of aprons and collars shall be of gold for Grand Bodies, and of silver for Subordinate Commanderies.

"Every Knight will also be permitted to wear on all occasions the Templar's badge, namely, a patriarchal cross, enamelled red and edged with gold, suspended from the breast by a red ribbon or gold chain. He shall be permitted to wear, on the index finger of his right hand a gold ring, ornamented with the Templar cross between the letters P. D. E. P., and inscribed on the inner side with the name of the wearer and the date of his initiation. And it is recommended that the Commander present to every Templar such a ring on creation.

"The great standard of the Order is the beauséant, which consists of alternate pales or vertical stripes of black and white, with the red Templar cross over all, which must be borne in all public processions.

"All Knights Templar, when signing Masonic documents, shall prefix to their signatures the sign of the cross; Grand Officers of Grand Commanderies shall prefix the patriarchal cross; and Grand and Past Grand Officers of the Grand Encampment shall prefix the double patriarchal cross, and when this can be conveniently done, the cross shall be made with red ink.

"The jewels of the Order shall be those now used, with this regulation: The jewels of a Commandery shall be of silver; those of a Grand Commandery of gold, suspended with a double delta or triangle; and those of the Grand Encampment, of gold, suspended with a circle."

SCOTLAND.

GRAND LODGE.

The quarterly meeting of Grand Lodge was held on the 1st instant. Prior to the opening of Grand Lodge, Bro. Elisha D. Cooke, of Kentucky, had the honour of an interview with his Grace the Duke of Athol, M.W.G.M. of Scotland, and presented his Grace a letter of fraternal salutations from M. W. Rob Morris, G.M. of Kentucky, for himself and for the following Grand Masters:—John L. Lewis, of New York; Horace N. Stokes, of Ohio; J. Adams Allen, of Michigan; Solomon D. Bayliss, of Indiana; John A. W. Buck, of Illinois; L. D. Toracey, of Wisconsin; J. R. Hartsock, of Iowa; A. T. C. Pierson, of Minnesota; of which he had the honour to be bearer. The officers of Grand Lodge and distinguished visitors assembled in the Grand Secretary's rooms, and marched into the great hall, accompanied by the solemn peal of the organ. On arrival in front of the dais, the files opened to the right and left, when the Grand Master marched through, followed by his Deputy and visitors.

The dais was occupied by the Duke of Athol, M.W.G.M., on the throne, supported by Bros. J. White Melville, R.W.D.G.M.; and P. I. Gluken, from the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands; E. S. Roussy, G. Chaplain; and Elisha D. Cooke, from the Grand Lodge of Kentucky.

Grand Lodge was opened in ample form and with solemn prayer. The attendance was very small in consequence of many brethren being in the country.

There was not much business of importance before the Grand Lodge, but an unusual number of presents, most of which Bro. Laurie, G. Sec., presented on behalf of the donors. Bro. P. I. Gluken, from the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands, was then introduced, and presented on behalf of that Grand Lodge a very handsome silver medal, together with some

printed documents. Bro. Elisha D. Cooke, from the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, was also introduced, who presented a copy of the History of Freemasonry in Kentucky, with the fraternal regards of Bro. Rob Morris, G.M. of Kentucky; also a package of printed documents from that Grand Lodge. On the motion of the Grand Master, a vote of thanks was recorded to those several Grand Lodges, and also to the brethren on his right and left for the very handsome manner in which they had presented those valuable contributions to the Grand Lodge library.

The Grand Secretary then announced the death of his Majesty Oscar, late King of Sweden, and an honorary member of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The following is an extract from the letter conveying the news to the Grand Lodge:—"In the night succeeding his birthday (the 5th of July), he again suffered much from cough. His sufferings increased until the 8th, when he expired while lying on a sofa in his chamber, and surrounded by the royal family. This mournful scene was preserved by means of a photograph." The Grand Lodge ordered a letter to be written to Bro. Charles XV., the "present king," sympathising with him in the loss of his father, and congratulating him on his accession to the throne.

The Grand Secretary next announced the death of Bro. Robert Campbell, of Sydney, Prov. G.M. for New South Wales, stating that about one thousand persons attended his funeral, six hundred of whom were Masons, and presenting a petition from the brethren that some brother well skilled in Masonry might be appointed to fill his place. Some other little discussions on Lodge affairs then took place, and concluded the business of the evening. The Grand Lodge was closed a little after eleven, P.M.

CANADA.

GRAND LODGE.

At the Grand Lodge held at Kingston, Toronto, in the early part of last month, two brethren were put in nomination for the office of Grand Master, the M.W. Bro. Wm. Mercer Wilson, the immediate Prov. Grand Master, and the R.W. Bro. Thos. D. Harington, formerly Prov. Grand Master for Quebec. Bro. Wilson had expressed his intention of retiring from the distinguished position he has held since the formation of the Grand Lodge, but from the strong representations made to him that it might prove injurious to the Craft in Canada, were he to retire at present, he consented to again assume the duties if re-elected. On the votes being taken, Bro. Wilson was re-elected by a majority of more than a hundred. Bro. Harington was elected Deputy Grand Master. The Right Hon. and Right Worshipful Bro. the Earl of Ripon, P.G.W., was appointed representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Grand Lodge of England.

The following are the other Grand Officers appointed:—Bros. F. W. Barron, S.W.; Stevenson, J.W.; T. B. Harris, Sec.; S. B. Harman, Reg.; D. Croff, Treas.; Rev. Jos. Scott, Chaplain; S. B. Campbell, S.D.; J. W. Thomas, J.D.; W. G. Storm, Supt. of Works; J. L. Levey, Dir. of Cers.; T. R. Ridout, Assistant Dir. of Cers.; G. Masson, S.B.; S. D. Blondheim, Purs.; D. G. R. Fripp, Org.; A. M. Munro, Asst. Org.

The M.W. Grand Master was pleased to confirm the nomination of the following brethren as District Deputy Grand Masters for their respective districts:—Central District, R.W. Bro. G. F. Leserre; Toronto District, R.W. Bro. F. Richardson; London District, R.W. Bro. Thompson Wilson; Prince Edward District, R.W. Bro. C. Frank; Montreal

District, R.W. Bro. A. Morris; Eastern Townships District, R.W. Bro. L. H. Robinson; Ontario District, R.W. Bro. W. H. Weller; Wilson District, R.W. Bro. G. W. Whitehead; Hamilton District, R.W. Bro. Richard Bull. The rank of Prov. Grand Master was unanimously conferred on Bro. T. G. Ridout.

As no doubt Canadian certificates will shortly be seen in England, it cannot be otherwise than interesting that the various Lodges should be acquainted with the official seal of the Grand Lodge of Canada, the designing and execution of which was entrusted to Bro. Moring, of 44, High Holborn, and an engraving of which we now present. As will be seen, the form of the seal is vesica, the centre containing a figure of St. John, and the whole being edged with maple leaves.

It is beautifully executed, and reflects great credit on Bro. Moring, the impression coming up with great sharpness and relief.

COLONIAL.

MAURITIUS.

THE Masonic procession of the four Lodges of Port Louis took place on the 21st of June, and was conducted in the most satisfactory manner, and with the greatest *éclat*. St. James's Cathedral was crowded, and every one appeared to take great interest in the excellent sermon preached by Bro. the Rev. M. O'Dell. The service was further enhanced by the beautiful chanting in the choir, and the Lodges generally have to tender their heartfelt thanks to those ladies who so kindly lent their valuable aid on the occasion. The anthem, "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity," appeared especially to impress the audience with its solemn harmony. The procession was highly imposing, and all the arrangements were admirably carried out. After service the brethren proceeded to the Lodge "Triple Esperance," from whence they dispersed. The crowd that was assembled to witness the procession was one of the largest ever seen in Port Louis; there were no constables visible, and the utmost order prevailed. After the procession, the brethren of the Military Lodge (deputations from the other Lodges being visitors) met for the installation of their officers, and to present to the Rev. Bro. O'Dell a handsome timepiece as a token of their regard. After the proceedings of the Lodge were concluded the brethren sat down to a substantial repast, during which many loyal toasts were given and responded to with the utmost cordiality. Amongst the visitors were Sir David Barclay, and another eminent Mason, Mr. Bosson, recently arrived from Paris. Shortly after eleven o'clock the party broke up, and every one appeared much gratified with the proceedings from the commencement to the termination.

SOUTH AMERICA.

BUENOS AYRES.

EXCELSIOR LODGE (No. 900).—On the 19th of May last, at the sixty-second regular Lodge night, a more than usually large attendance of brethren was attracted by the circumstance of its being the last occasion of Bro. Samuel Hesse's attendance prior to his departure for England. In addition to the members of the Lodge there were several visitors present, and amongst the latter, Bros. Mariano Billingham and Santiago Albancier as a deputation to represent the native brethren working under the auspices of the local Grand Orient; and Bros. A. Villatte, S. Warda, and J. Wappers Melis as a deputation sent by the Lodge Amis des Naufragés, acting under warrant from the Grand Orient of France. The Lodge being duly opened in the first degree by the W.M., Bro. Frederick Hughes, assisted by Bros. C. P. Lunet as S.W., and G. Nuttall as J.W., the minutes of the last regular Lodge night were read and approved of. The Lodge was then raised, when Bro. Walter C. Comyns was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. by the Worshipful Master. The Lodge being lowered to the first degree, Bro. A. Dorr, by order of the Worshipful Master, read a letter from Bro. R. Fresco, asking for pecuniary assistance, when Bro. Rev. J. C. Ford, P.M. and Chaplain, proposed, and Bro. A. Dorr seconded, and it was unanimously carried, "That his letter should be handed to the Finance Committee to report upon." Bro. J. C. Ford then proposed, and Bro. L. B. Wilkie seconded, Chas. A. Wm. Jeppener, aged thirty years, native of Hanover, and Bro. W. C. Thompson, P.M., proposed, and Bro. A. Dorr seconded, George Fair, aged twenty-seven years, a British subject, as candidates for initiation. The Worshipful Master then communicated to Bro. Hesse, that as he was about to bring before the Lodge a question relating to his past services among the brethren, he would request his retirement for a few minutes while the same was being discussed. Bro. Hesse accordingly left the Lodge room, when the Worshipful Master addressed the brethren as follows:—"Brethren, I beg to lay claim to your indulgence if on the present occasion I depart from the course I had laid down for my observation at my installation, and submit to your consideration a motion from the chair of this Lodge; I do so, however, in the full conviction that it will merit your unanimous approbation and hearty concurrence. The minutes of our last meeting, which, in the earlier stage of this evening's proceedings, were read to you, announce the loss we are about to suffer in the departure for England (and that for good) of the worthy brother who first was called by the suffrages of his brethren to fill that seat in this Lodge which I have now the honour to occupy, and who proved himself therein so worthy of the confidence reposed in him, and so true to the obligations it involved. On a former occasion you testified your appreciation of the services he had rendered to the Craft in general, and to this Lodge in particular, by presenting to him a Past Master's jewel in gold. I now beg to move that the address I am about to read to you, written on parchment, be presented to Bro. Samuel Hesse in open Lodge, on this the last occasion of our meeting together in this room, as an humble memento of our affection and regard towards him. In submitting this resolution to your approval, I do so with the conviction upon my mind that your inclinations would prompt you to vote a more costly and munificent testimonial of your appreciation of the services rendered to our ancient and honourable institution by Bro. Hesse; but on the other hand I feel assured that the brother we so highly regard and love, will best esteem this simple, though truthful, recognition of his worth in the assurance it conveys, that the widow and



the orphan, the friendless and the distressed, the sick and the needy, will thus find our pockets more free to their call and more open to their claims. Brethren—I need not, I think, say more, but proceed to lay before you the address I have prepared for your acceptance." Bro. Ford then read the address, as follows:—

"Buenos Ayres, 19th May, A.D. 1859. A.L. 5859.

"To Bro. Samuel Hesse, P.M. and first W.M. of the Excelsior Lodge, No. 900.

"Worshipful Sir and Brother,—We, the Worshipful Master, Past Masters, Officers, and Brethren composing the Excelsior Lodge, No. 900, in this city, beg leave on the eve of your departure from among us, to offer you the expression of our sincere regret at the separation which will deprive us of that active co-operation and of those efficacious services which have proved so important to the welfare, so congenial to the progress, and so valuable to the support of that branch of our ancient and honourable institution first planted under your auspices in this remote region of the globe. The bright example which your past intercourse amongst us affords to the brethren in general, and to ourselves in particular, of Masonic excellence and equity, prompts our warmest gratitude and heartiest thankfulness. With feelings, therefore, of grateful veneration, and in the bonds of brotherly love, mingled with our liveliest regret at your departure, we beg you to accept the assurance of our prayers that the Divine Author of every good may long preserve you in health and in the full enjoyment of the social love and mutual affection of those nearest and dearest to you, which your safe return to your native land will, we trust, shortly afford to you. May it please the G.A.O.T.U. to water with the dew of his blessing those seeds of holiness and good which you have planted around you, that they may ripen into a rich harvest of personal blessing here, and be found laid up in the garner of heaven hereafter. With every sentiment that sincere love and warm esteem can prompt, we bid you affectionately, farewell; and subscribe ourselves, Worshipful Sir and dear Brother, your loving brethren."

Bro. J. C. Ford, P.M. and Chaplain, rose and addressed the brethren, expressing the great pleasure he had in seconding the motion put from the chair, when it was accordingly put, and carried unanimously. At the request of the brethren, a deputation from the Lodge room, composed of Bros. J. C. Ford, P.M.; Thompson, Billingham, Albancier, and A. Villatte, went out and conducted Bro. Hesse to the pedestal in the midst of the brethren all standing, when the Worshipful Master addressed him from the chair as follows:—"Bro. Hesse, it is my pleasing duty to inform you, that during your absence from the Lodge your brethren have voted an address to you, expressing their regard and affection towards you. It is with infinite pleasure that I obey their unanimous behest to present it to you, proud of the distinction it affords to me of rendering honour to whom honour is so justly due, and deeply gratified with the unmistakable demonstrations that it has called forth to prove how securely you have entwined around you the love, the sympathy, and the goodwill of your brethren of the Excelsior Lodge. As already expressed, we only render honour to whom honour is due; and recognize, though in a humble form, those services of our first Master which have so materially helped us forward within the good old landmarks of our ancient institution; and were it not for the shadow that intervenes to dim the pleasure those reminiscences afford, my satisfaction would indeed be complete. But we have also to bid you farewell—the course of human events calls you from among us, and the minutes of this evening's meeting will record, as far as we can see, your last occupation of that seat in this Lodge, so regularly filled, and so highly distinguished by your actions; but like the conqueror in a hard fought battle, you take your departure from amongst us with the laurels of a hero encircling your brow, and with the greater satisfaction, that yours has been no conflict of bloody strife and vindictive contest, but the more unostentatious, though equally difficult struggle, of good against evil, of principle against passion—of promoting and establishing true happiness around you, against the opposition offered thereto by the seductive temptations and noisy turnouts of the world beyond our quiet precincts. And now that the place which once knew you so well amongst us here, will henceforth know you no more, I trust, dear brother, myself and brethren will justly value the bright example which your good deeds offer to our imitation, and ever heed the warning voice annexed to us in the legacy you therein bequeath, saying, "Go and do thou likewise;" and thus be led to labour and to strive for that perfection, in square conduct, level steps, and upright intentions, that with you we may hope finally to ascend to those immortal mansions from whence all goodness emanates. We thank you, dear brother, for your gift, and although it is with sorrowful hearts and with mournful feelings that we now pronounce to you the words, good bye—yet we hail the soothing consolation extended to us to mitigate their bitterness, in the knowledge that although absent in the body, you will yet be present with us in the spirit, and in the assurance which fraternal confidence inspires, that in your life and actions the sacred motto of brotherly love, relief and truth, borne on our Masonic banner, will ever continue unfurled, and in its onward course will ascend higher and higher in attractive beauty, displaying alike to the gaze of men and of brethren that Freemasonry, in its perfection, is only the consummation of truth, of justice, and of virtue, demonstrated in works of mercy, and of love, and in the practice of the golden rule which bids us to do unto others even as we would that they should do unto us. Go then, dear brother, and God be with you; and while you carry with you the prayers of your brethren, that his all seeing eye may ever benignantly watch over you,

to bless, to comfort, and to guard you—let this humble, though sincere expression of their love also accompany you, as a slight memento of what they owe and feel towards you." The effect of these few words served to call forth a very visible manifestation of the affectionate regard of the brethren for the one they were about to lose, and their feelings and emotions had a powerful sympathy on Bro. Hesse, who amid the workings of surprise and agitation of mind at this unlooked for demonstration, remained for several minutes unable to speak; having partially controlled his feelings, he replied as follows:—"Worshipful sir and brethren, not being prepared for the honour now conferred on me, I am afraid that I shall be wanting in words to express my feelings. From my heart I sincerely thank you for the kind sentiment contained in this address; and assure you that I shall ever consider it as one of the most valuable tokens in my possession, for it convinces me that my conduct during the existence of the Excelsior Lodge has merited your approbation and esteem; but I must also say that it will cause me many moments of pain and regret, for whatever part of it my eye may rest upon, some name will present itself to recall to my recollection the loss of friends not easily replaced. Brethren, I am about to leave you, and it is very improbable that we shall ever meet again in this world; but let our actions throughout life be such as to inspire us with hope, that when we are summoned to the Grand Lodge above, we may again be happily united for ever and ever." Bro. I. C. Ruding proposed, and Bro. W. C. Thompson seconded, and it was unanimously carried, that the minutes of this evening's meeting should be sent to the *Freemasons' Magazine* for publication, as a further testimonial of the brethren's regard for Bro. Hesse. Bro. A. Dorr proposed, and Bro. I. C. Ruding seconded, and it was carried unanimously, that the W.M. should inform the brethren as soon as he was able to do so, of the time that Bro. Hesse would embark, on the 28th inst., that the wish of the brethren to accompany him to the mole might be thereby fully gratified. No further business offering itself, the Lodge was closed in due form at a few minutes before ten o'clock, when the brethren adjourned to the refreshment room. In the refreshment room the W.M. apologized to Bros. Billingham and Villatte for the involuntary omission he had committed in not acknowledging, before closing the Lodge, the kind and fraternal courtesy which prompted the brethren they represented, to send them as a deputation to unite with the Excelsior Lodge on the occasion of their bidding farewell to Bro. Hesse, which he could only attribute to the agitation that had so much affected him in the performance of the duties of the evening; but he would take an early opportunity of addressing to them an official communication upon the subject. Bro. Wiarda put into the hands of the W.M. the following address he had prepared for the occasion; requesting that it might be added to the minutes of the evening; as a further testimony to the esteem Bro. Hesse had so universally secured among the brethren generally in these distant parts:—"Worshipful Master and brethren of the Excelsior Lodge. On behalf of the committee appointed by the French Lodge, Les Amis des Naufragés, I am desired to express to you its unfeigned regret at being prevented from assisting in Lodge on this interesting and solemn occasion. Solely Masonic business of the utmost importance has caused the representation of the Amis des Naufragés to be delegated to a committee. As the brother whose farewell we receive this evening is too well known and appreciated amongst us to permit of his departure from Buenos Ayres without some expression, however feeble, of good feeling and brotherly love, this pleasing duty has devolved upon me. Bro. Samuel Hesse, you are about to leave us—I give to this word the fullest acceptance as extending to all the Masonic family. You, one of the leaders of the Craft, one of the chief pillars of the temple which you also contributed to erect and dedicate to the glory of the Grand Architect of the Universe—a temple whose present position does honour to the founders—to you no labour has been too great, no difficulty too discouraging during the execution of your great work; and I am here to convey the testimony of Les Amis des Naufragés that to your great Masonic qualities, prudence, and advice, allow me to say not only the Excelsior Lodge, but the entire Order in Buenos Ayres is deeply indebted. During your intercourse with Les Amis des Naufragés you have always carefully applied the square to all the corners of the edifice you proposed to raise; and by your level steps and upright actions have offered an example worthy of the imitation of all Masons. But the consciousness of the purity of heart and truth of purpose which has guided you, will constitute a pleasure far above what any estimation in which you might possibly be held could afford; therefore I will only add, Bro. Hesse, *adieu!* May the Great Architect of the Universe ever guide your footsteps, watch over and protect you, and may the brethren in your native land receive you with the same ardent feelings of regard which have dictated these few words. The good wishes of the French brethren attend you always."

AMERICAN MEMS.

CALIFORNIA.—The Craft in California are harmonious, and peace abounds throughout the jurisdiction. There are one hundred and twenty-two Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, having a total membership of four thousand seven hundred and twenty-seven.

IOWA.—The Grand Chapter of Iowa will hold its annual communication in the city of Dubuque, on the 7th of September, so as to afford the Companions the opportunity of going directly from said meeting to attend the general grand bodies at Chicago, who commence their session on the 13th of September.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Last Saturday the royal party at Osborne visited Cowes regatta in the *Fairy*; Prince Alfred's birthday was also celebrated by a dinner party. The Queen and all her children remain in good health. Visits have been interchanged between the Prince Consort and the Grand Duke Constantine of Russia, who is over here again, picking up what information he can as to our navy and arsenals. A plantation of Russian grand dukes and grand duchesses has taken root for some purpose at Torquay, where they have engaged residences for three years. Toussoun Pacha, the little heir apparent to the sovereignty of Egypt, has been taken to Osborne to pay his respects to the Queen, by Sir Moses Montefiore. Other visitors to Osborne mentioned are the Earls of Clarendon and Granville; the Princess Gauromma, and several German serene highnesses. The inevitable Phipps is of course still in head waiting—assisted by Colonel and Mrs. Biddulph and the Hon. Flora Macdonald.

FOREIGN NEWS.—Our foreign intelligence this week is scanty and unimportant. The Emperor of the French left Paris on Sunday for the camp at Chalons, and has since left Chalons for Plombières. Preparations are quickly proceeding for the Paris fêtes. A pleasing item in the news from France is that the French government appears to have abandoned its seizures of English newspapers. Paris correspondents are somewhat satirical upon the non-appearance of the expected tranquillizing article in the *Moniteur*. These pacific articles not having proved to be oil upon the troubled waters, it is hinted that the most peaceful course has been discovered to be silence. Count de Moray has, it is said, assured certain capitalists, on the emperor's authority, "that peace will be permanent." It is stated in commercial circles that the emperor has determined to reduce the import duties on raw materials. Whether true or not, the rentes rose 30c. on the report. Various articles in the French press keep up some degree of excitement, particularly in the *Constitutionnel* by M. Granier de Cassagnac, directed against England and Belgium, who sees in the repair of the fortifications of Antwerp a hostile demonstration against France. The *Siècle* has a strong article against the proposed Italian arrangements. The *Nord* exclaims against the disarmament of France (!) being met by the Naval Volunteers Reserve Bill. The state of Italy is described as very unsettled. Accounts from Bologna state that Prince Napoleon's corps is to be marched there, and, by degrees, to assume the position which the Austrians held. King Victor Emmanuel was to make his entry into Milan on Saturday, when a decree would be issued dividing Lombardy into electoral districts, and that the Piedmontese and Lombard united parliament will immediately assemble after the elections. The press also will be released from its fetters. It is sincerely to be hoped that these good intentions will be carried out. There is a gradual increase of public tranquillity in Lombardy, and it is anticipated that the proceedings of the Zurich conference will be merely of a formal character. An official message from Florence informs us that the elections have been concluded with perfect order; that the country is quiet, and the inhabitants full of confidence.—A telegram from Berlin states that symptoms of congestion of blood to the head of the King of Prussia had caused serious apprehensions.—Preparations are making for the congress at Zurich. The plenipotentiaries were to have arrived there on the 6th; the first sitting was to take place on Thursday.—Some excitement has arisen among the Servian population from various acts of the Pacha of Belgrade, the principal being the construction of a rampart round that town.—The Canada has arrived at Liverpool with advices from New York to the 28th ult. The political news is very unimportant. The news of the peace between France and Austria caused great sensation, and was the topic of the day, to the exclusion of nearly every other matter. Its financial effect was but slight. A Mobile merchant had shot his mistress in the streets of New York, out of jealousy.

INDIA.—With regard to the discontented European troops, the *Bengal Hurkari* says:—"It is not yet known how many men will avail themselves of the privilege of returning home, but we are disposed to think that the greater part will stick to their colours, and that the majority of the malcontents will remain with their regiments. A late order, for the present, excludes from the benefits offered to the Indian army in general the 5th European regiment stationed at Berhampore. A fortnight ago, about 300 men of this regiment proceeded to greater lengths than their brethren in the north-western provinces. Separating themselves from the rest of the regiment, they elected officers, appointing one Marshall as their colonel, and framed laws for their government. Marshall, it appears, is a man of ability, and maintained strict discipline. On the receipt of this news in Calcutta, a wing of her Majesty's 99th regiment and a company of the Royal Artillery were despatched by steamers to Berhampore. On the arrival of the troops twenty-four hours were allowed the men for consideration, and on the following day, with the exception of about forty men, they fell in on parade and submitted. The obstinate men have been imprisoned, and a court of inquiry will be held. The authorities have, we think, been too lenient in dealing with the Berhampore mutineers. The whole should have been sent down by steamer to Calcutta, and there tried by court martial.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The ministers have held two cabinet councils as usual this week.—The return of the Registrar General for last week exhibits a further reduction in the mortality of the metropolis,

the deaths being 1,337, while in the two previous weeks they were 1,605, and 1,419. There was a corresponding decrease of deaths from diarrhoea. The births registered last week were 1,718.—The trial of Dr. Smethurst for the murder of Isabella Banks at Richmond, is to be resumed on Monday next. It is thought that the trial will be presided over by the Lord Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench (Sir Alexander Cockburn). During the interval which has elapsed since the last trial the solicitors for the prisoner have been untiring in their exertions to get up medical evidence in opposition to that of Dr. Taylor, and they express themselves confident that they shall be able to demonstrate the fallacy of Dr. Taylor's theory, on which Smethurst was committed.—At the Bodmin Assizes, on Saturday, Stephen Bamfield Lovell Bell, a surgeon, was tried for the murder of Captain Caddy. The crime was committed at Falmouth, on the 23rd of June, and arose out of some family quarrel. A verdict of manslaughter was returned, and the prisoner was sentenced to penal servitude for life.—Joseph Warrington, a bootmaker, was examined on his own confession, at Guildhall, relative to having absconded with a cheque and bank notes to the value of seventy pounds, the property of his master, Mr. Lloyd, Newgate-street. The prisoner was committed for trial.—A shocking tragedy has just taken place at Stoke Newington. A female expired there on Sunday morning, in consequence of an attempt on the part of the man with whom she lived as his wife to procure abortion. The wretched man immediately after terminated his own existence by cutting his throat.—On Saturday, John Riley was executed at York, for the murder of his wife. It will be remembered that Riley, who resided at Hull, cut the throat of his wife, and afterwards attempted suicide, by hanging himself, but was rescued.—At the Court of Bankruptcy, on Saturday, a petition presented against the Howbeach Coal Company, and praying for a winding-up order, was dismissed with costs.—Another man, Henry Williams, or Hudson, has been apprehended on suspicion of being concerned in the late daring robbery and attempted murder in Shoe-lane. The prisoner underwent a preliminary examination before Sir R. Carden, at the Guildhall, when it was stated that a quantity of plated goods, supposed to be the proceeds of a robbery, was found at the house where Williams was taken.—A person named Hebb, described as a commercial traveller, was charged at the Mansion House yesterday with forging a transfer of £500 Three per cent. Consols, and committed for trial. He was apprehended the same morning.—A sad occurrence took place in the Channel, off the North Foreland, on Sunday morning. The steam packet *Ondine* and the collier brig Robert Garden, came into collision during a fog, when the collier was cut in two, sinking immediately, and carrying to the bottom with her four out of the nine persons on board.—The neighbourhood of Leeds witnessed a cold blooded murder on Saturday evening. An old man, named Mr. Richard Broughton, on his way to town for the purpose of transacting some business, was attacked by two ruffians armed with bludgeons, and so beaten that he died next day. The murderers are not in custody, but a reward is offered for their apprehension.—The builders' strike continues, but some of the shops that were closed on Saturday evening were unexpectedly thrown open, the "document" being withdrawn, and the men resumed their ordinary occupations. None of Messrs. Trollope's old men applied for work on Monday; and as upon the refilling of this establishment rests in a great measure the ultimate result of the contest, much interest attaches itself to this firm. The men express their determination never to "go in" unless under the nine hours' system. They were paid their strike money on Monday, the skilled labourers receiving £1, and the unskilled 15s. each.—Among recent scientific inventions we may notice a new revolver. Such of our readers who take an interest in the improvement of firearms, we would recommend to inspect the Deane-Harding revolver, just produced by Messrs. Deane and Son, of King William Street. It is a simplification of the Deane and Adams revolver, with this advantage, that it is so constructed that it can be readily taken to pieces for the purpose of cleaning, and as readily put together by the most inexperienced and rawest recruit—the whole of the functions of the revolver being performed by the cock and trigger. Notwithstanding the readiness with which it can be taken to pieces, yet its firmness and solidity when put together again is equal to that of any firearm ever produced. Another advantage is, that by the use of a new lever ramrod, attached to the revolver, it can be loaded with the utmost facility—the ramrod, which is at once simple and powerful, acting vertically on the bullet. To our military and naval brethren such a weapon must prove invaluable.—The funds yesterday were slightly weaker, but at the close symptoms of recovery were manifested, and the last price for Consols was 95½ to ½ for money and the account. The demand for assistance at the Bank was very active, but this arises from the expectation that the directors may raise the rate of discount, though it is not generally anticipated. Foreign stocks and railway shares left off with a depressed appearance, and the markets were adversely affected by reactionary sales. No bullion operations occurred at the Bank, although there was still an inquiry for remittance abroad.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the HOUSE OF LORDS on Monday, the Marquis of Normandy took occasion to enter into details upon the political complications connected with the affairs of Italy, and warned the Government not to meddle in a controversy in which, as he believed, from the antecedents of Lord Palmerston, the interference would be productive of more harm than good. Lord Wodehouse said the only communication was the transmission of the French despatch suggesting

terms of peace to the Austrian Government, and upon these terms no opinion whatever was given. On Tuesday, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe complained of the suspension of the militia ballot, and called attention to the state of the defences of the country. During the last session that had taken place they had peace and war, and peace again, and he feared that they might have the same thing over again during the recess, for he had no faith that the pending negotiations would result in the establishment of peace on a permanent basis. Lord Kingsdown thought the defences of the country would never be in a proper condition unless they resorted to something like a conscription, for they could not otherwise man the requisite defences. The Earl of Ripon said that the Government had the whole question under consideration, and no effort would be spared to place the defences of the country in a satisfactory position; but he thought it would be very injudicious to resort to anything like compulsory service. On Wednesday, several bills were forwarded a stage, but no discussion of any importance arose upon them. The House of Commons sat for some time on Saturday, for the purpose of forwarding a stage several bills, to which there was but little opposition. On Monday, Lord Elcho moved that an humble address be presented to her Majesty, stating that in the opinion of this house it would be consistent neither with the honour nor the dignity of this country, which throughout the late negotiations has preserved a strict and impartial neutrality between the contending powers and used its earnest endeavours to prevent the outbreak of hostilities, to take part in any conference for the purpose of settling the details of a peace, the preliminaries of which had been arranged between the Emperor of the French and the Emperor of Austria. The noble lord said that the conduct of the late government during the war in Italy had been strictly neutral, and he was of opinion that that neutrality should be maintained. He could not agree to consider Austria as the aggressor in the late war, which terminated because the Emperor of France found himself beset by obstacles greater than he had calculated upon on the commencement of hostilities. He believed Austria did not take the step of invading Piedmont until she knew of the extent of the preparations of France, and that, in fact, war was a foregone conclusion. Under these circumstances he could not sympathise with France and Sardinia in a war which he believed to be unnecessary. He believed it was for the benefit of England that she should abstain from interfering in this conference, for he could conceive no possible advantage as likely to accrue from it, while it was full of peril to its future tranquility. Mr. Horsman seconded the motion. Mr. Kinglake moved the previous question. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said the government were prepared to meet the motion of the noble lord with a direct negative; but as the "previous question" had been moved, the government would not hesitate to support it. The fact was that the terms of the peace could be settled by the belligerents themselves; but if a conference should take place it would not be for the purpose of settling the details of a peace, but for the purpose of considering affairs which were not merely Italian, but European. The right hon. gentleman concluded by protesting against binding down the government to a particular course of action in the way attempted to be done by the motion of the noble lord. Mr. S. Herbert said he was sure the house would not agree to the motion. Now that the war was over, it ought not to be said that England refused her sympathies with the allies in their efforts to place matters on a satisfactory footing, and to secure the peace of Europe. Mr. Whiteside said there was no necessity for a congress to settle the affairs of Italy. Lord J. Russell said that circumstances might arise which would render diplomatic intervention necessary, and he could not consent to an ordinance compelling the government to abstain from a conference at which every European power would have a representative. Mr. Disraeli defended the policy of the late government, and recommended Lord Elcho to withdraw his resolution. Lord Palmerston denied that a case had been made out for interference with the discretion of government. The motion was withdrawn. The house did not rise till three in the morning. On Tuesday, on the consideration of the East India Loan Bill, some conversation took place as to the propriety of giving the guarantee of this country for the loan about to be raised for the service of India. In the course of the discussion, Mr. Ayrton animadverted upon the political economical principles which seemed to prevail on the Treasury bench. Sir C. Wood said the question of an imperial guarantee was one of vast importance—far too important to be discussed in the last few days of the session. On Wednesday, Mr. Bright moved for a select committee to inquire into the allegations contained in the petition of Hugh C. E. Childers, Esq., respecting the withdrawal of the Pontefract petition. Mr. Overend said he was glad that Mr. Bright had made this motion, as he had every wish for the fullest investigation, but at the same time he must deprecate the use of the word "defrauding," as applied to his conduct. The hon. and learned gentleman entered into a lengthened explanation in order to show that he had left London under the impression that the scrutiny into the late election for Pontefract was to be proceeded with. Mr. Disraeli thought the house would think that Mr. Overend had at all events vindicated his honour in the transaction. It might have been better if the matter had not been brought before parliament, but as it had been it was better that the inquiry should be proceeded with. Even supposing all that was alleged by Mr. Childers should turn out to be true, he could see no remedy, for the committee could do nothing beyond reporting its opinion, for it could not enable Mr. Childers to present another petition next session. After some

further discussion the motion was agreed to. On the consideration of the European Troops (India) Bill, Sir De Lacy Evans repudiated the idea of employing foreigners, and contended that the disaffected troops in India had good ground for complaint that the promises held out to them by the First Minister of the Crown had not been carried out.

COMMERCIAL; AND PUBLIC COMPANIES.—Telegraphic advices have been received from Hong-Kong and Shanghai to the middle of June, the respective dates being the 22nd and 24th. The English accounts were to the 3rd of May. The rates of exchange had receded to 4s. 10½d., and 6s. 6d. It is stated that the export of tea was 60,000,000lbs., showing a decrease of 15,000,000lbs. Large settlements had taken place at Foo-chow at extreme rates. Silk showed an increase of 11,000 bales, the total being 80,000 bales. The market opened at 22s. to 24s. 6d. for No. 1 Tealee. In the recent advices from Hayti, it is stated that a law has been passed and confirmed by the Senate, abolishing the impost of fifths and establishing an export duty of 1½ dollars on every 100lbs. of coffee, payable on the departure of the cargo. This law was brought into effect on the 10th July. The project of a legal process against the mercantile firm of Lloyd's, for their alleged implication with the Emperor Soulouque and his associate Delva, in the coffee and mahogany frauds, occupied attention.—The dividend of the Blackwall railway, for the half-year ending the 30th June last, will be at the rate of £2 15s. per cent. on the capital stock, which is equal to the dividend of 2s. 9d. per share paid at the corresponding period of last year. The North London dividend is at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum against the same payment in the corresponding period of 1858.

PROVIDENT INSTITUTIONS.—A new Assurance Company has lately been established, which contains the principles of life Assurance with that of a tontine, dependent, however, on the death of only one of the assurers. Thus, the Company, which is called the Public, form classes of a given number of persons, at a subscription of £1 ls. each; one-fifth is placed aside for expenses of management, and the other four-fifths invested in the names of trustees for the parties assured; one-third going to the family of the person first dying, and the remaining two-thirds to the person fortunate enough to hold the next number in the list, care being taken that no one party shall hold two consecutive numbers. Thus, supposing a class of five hundred members is formed, twenty per cent. is deducted for all expenses, and the remaining four hundred guineas invested; and on one of the members dying his family will receive about £140; and the next member an endowment of £280, with any interest accruing between the time when the class was first formed and the death of the assurer. By joining two or more of these classes, a man will at all times have his life assured for the benefit of his family, and may come in for something considerable during his life. The premium once paid, no second premium is required to keep the policy in force until the class is dissolved by the death of a member.—At the Annual Meeting of the Royal Assurance Company, a report was presented which cannot be otherwise than most gratifying to the proprietors and assurers, as showing that notwithstanding the extraordinary loss by the fire at Valparaiso (upwards of £20,000), the losses still continue less than the calculated average. The premiums in the fire department have increased since 1855 from £130,060 to £196,148 per annum, or more than 50 per cent., whilst in London the business has increased from £2,150 in 1848 to £37,681, it having increased by upwards of £16,000 during the past two years; the success being attributed by the directors mainly to the exertions of the London manager, Mr. Johnston. In the life department the new premiums amounted in the last year to £12,354, against £8,850 in 1856; the total sum now assured being £387,752. After paying the dividend and bonus of 7s. per share, £30,000 will be carried to the reserve fund, which will be thus increased to £140,850.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.—The new farce, "Out of Sight, Out of Mind," by Mr. Charles Mathews, is as successful as it is possible for anything to be in the dog days when people are almost too languid either to applaud or condemn. The acting of the author in the part of *Guthrie* the absent man, is one of the drollest impersonations it is possible to conceive. Poole's farce, "A Nabob for an Hour," has been revived for the purpose of introducing "a young lady" who has never before appeared on the stage, to a London public. The fair *débütante* is, we believe, so young that she has narrowly escaped being a "prodigy." She made a hit, and we have no doubt will become a public favourite.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ROYAL FREEMASONS' SCHOOL FOR FEMALE CHILDREN.—We have been requested to correct a statement in our last week's paper, that "Emily Jane Nixon" is the "daughter of the late Bro. John Nixon." It should be "of the late Bro. Robert Nixon."

"ROBERT STUBS."—The subject shall be inquired into.

NORTHUMBERLAND LODGE (No. 1003), NEWCASTLE, NEW BRUNSWICK.—The subscription of this Lodge has been received.