

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1860.

MASONIC LIBRARIES.

(FROM A COLONIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

"Is lazy apathy let stoics boast
 Their virtue fixed; tis fixed as in a frost;
 Contracted all, retiring to the breast;
 But strength of mind is exercise, not rest."—POPE.

THE inviolable secrecy so essential to the partial diffusion of the genuine tenets of Freemasonry amongst good men and true, precludes other than an oral revelation of those rites and profundities considered of primary importance; but, on the other hand, the legends, traditions, and statistics appertaining to our ancient Order require diligent and accurate compilation as well as serious and attentive perusal.

Are these requirements provided for, and is the press prolific in works of a Masonic character? Both queries will meet with a negative response, though it may be urged in contravention of the applicability of such a reply to the latter, that many books are obtainable replete with Masonic lore; but, in common fairness, can merit be ascribed to the vague surmises and wild chimeras at present constituting the literature which is ordinarily placed at our disposal by the few writers on Masonic subjects? Quality, not quantity, is the demand, which is replied to in a spirit of contradiction by our literary brethren, who, as a general rule, take greater pride in the production of ponderous volumes than in the applause of a discriminating circle of readers.

The supineness of the legislature, unincited to vigorous measures by the total absence of a pressure from without, is occasioned by the dormitive condition of the public mind; and until some potent spell shall rouse the slumbering energies of the mass, aught but lethargy or inertness will be hopelessly anticipated. It is not to be inferred from the preceding remarks that Masonry is wholly without its instructive literature, there being some works purchasable, exclusive of periodicals, from whose perusal may be derived considerable benefit.

Regarding periodicals, a few words of commendation will not be ill bestowed. As a medium for the interchange of ideas and exposition of perilous fancies, the hebdomadal appearance of the *Freemasons Magazine* is eagerly looked for, as well by exponents as by disciples, by colonial as well as metropolitan and provincial brethren. It is esteemed by such as are enabled to scan its pages with regularity, as a faithful chronicler of passing events, and an enduring rather than an ephemeral record of the sayings and doings of both predecessors and contemporaries; indeed without an occasional perusal of a recognized and accredited organ of the Craft, uninfluenced by party or other unworthy motives, a brother is completely out of the Masonic world.

Of the component parts of the one thousand one hundred Lodges which owe allegiance to England, how many enjoy a regular perusal of the *Magazine*, and have ready access to a selection (however small) of Masonic works?

Pope, who was evidently imbued with Masonic ideas, as his writings will abundantly testify, in one of the most beautiful didactic poems in our language, the *Essay on Man*, from whose elegancies has been selected for this article what is deemed an appropriate inscription, says:—

"Yet poor with fortune, and with learning blind,
 The bad must miss; the good, untaught, will find;
 Slave to no sect, who takes no private road,
 But looks through nature up to nature's God."

And in the *Essay on Criticism*, the following lines occur:—

"A little learning is a dangerous thing;
 Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring;
 Mere shallow draughts intoxicate the brain,
 And drinking largely sobers us again!"—

which latter opinion, in these enlightened days, will be pronounced a most delusive notion, and calculated to mislead, for of all of us is required a certain good in our generation, and an active rather than a passive existence. How has the in-

formation, possessed by the most learned members of our Order been attained? In nearly every case by fragmentary portions, piecemeal as it were, and by dint of indefatigable research. Now had these brethren been deterred from taking slight sips at the fountain of knowledge from a dread of the perils presaged to ensue upon a merely moderate draught, would the opportunity ever have been afforded them of quenching their thirst for instruction by the unrestrained enjoyment of a brimming measure?

Our chief want is a concentration of Masonic talent in the immediate vicinity of every Masonic body, and thus available to all working members of the Order.

A neophyte frequently retires from a Lodge before his Masonic education is completed, and joins another, where the requirements are less severe; if all were conducted in a satisfactory manner, he would gain nothing by his secession, but as at present constituted, indolent and apathetic brethren experience little or no difficulty in suiting themselves with convenient Lodges.

It is hypothetically offered that a library should be established in the metropolis, in which should be contained, as far as practicable, every Masonic publication extant; the reference which so complete a repository of information would afford must not be lightly estimated; members of regular Lodges, Chapters, Encampments, &c., in the capital, in fact Masons of every denomination who belong to bodies working under charters from recognized authorities, to enjoy the option of becoming subscribers, and country or colonial brethren sojourning briefly in London, to be allowed, on satisfactory reference, to pay in a like ratio during the period of their continuance in the metropolis.

That every Masonic hall should possess a Masonic library, in fine, these two essentials to become synonymous terms; the publications that should compose the instructive literature at these places to vary of course with the exigencies of the case; where many Masonic bodies are in the habit of assembling, there would be no difficulty in arranging the necessary preliminaries.

That Lodges remotely situated, isolated, and without the advantages of a Masonic hall in close proximity, should establish small and select libraries, the expenses to be defrayed by fees of honour, or voluntary subscriptions, according to the idiosyncrasies of particular Lodges. That advantages are likely to accrue from increased facilities for mental culture will hardly be denied; and whilst the enthusiast perfects himself in a knowledge of those general doctrines and inculcations second only in their moral tendency to Christianity itself, the Craft will be directly, and the outer world indirectly, benefited by the happy and lasting effect which such a course of study is calculated to produce. When a Mason is entitled to the display of silver tassels and triangular rosettes; in other words, when his third degree has been attained, he may be likened to a carefully weeded field that is in immediate readiness for the reception of good seed; his education hitherto, comprising the mystical and occult, but omitting what has been termed our lay knowledge—that is to say, the usages and customs, anecdotes and statistics of the Order from the earliest ages, through the dark periods of mediæval barbarism which, by their corroborative testimony, stamp the legends and traditions of oral delivery with authenticity. Scepticism invades the minds of the worthiest pupils, who are puzzled to conceive how through such a lapse of years the mysteries of Freemasonry can have been handed down in their original purity, and doubts as to the genuineness of certain startling assertions must of necessity arise; a well directed course of study is calculated to remove this lurking unbelief. Carefully collated passages from Holy Writ, and extracts from the writings of inspired and learned notabilities bearing directly upon the information that is so hard of comprehension, and from which is deduced the divine origin and consequent successful progress of Masonry, effectually supply the links in the chain of evidence that are

wanting to stamp the entire revelation with a tone of perfect veracity. So much is connected with the science of Freemasonry, that other than a passing notice of many of its most important doctrines and examples is precluded, by the length of time it would occupy to recount and explain them thoroughly, not to mention that in but few instances would the expounder of our tenets be equal to the task. The newly raised Master Mason ought to enjoy every facility for rendering himself thoroughly conversant with these ancient records, and it is attempted to be proved that for this purpose our existing arrangements are insufficient.

It is an indisputable fact that the system of oral instruction is by far the most agreeable and impressive one; brethren will listen with delight to the impassioned oratory and vivid declamation of an able lecturer, whereas the same matter placed before their eyes in print would excite little or no attention. This is a pardonable weakness and is most strongly exemplified amongst the poorer classes of society, many members of whom will travel miles to listen to an *ex tempore* sermon, whilst the matured and written pleadings of the most eloquent preacher in the immediate vicinity of their abodes fall unheeded on their ears. A *ried voce* discourse, by the uneducated, is considered as little less than direct inspiration, and however the more erudite amongst us may ridicule the fancy, we are nearly all more or less imbued with a like notion: in reality an unpremeditated oration, from its want of connection, must appear in unfavourable contrast to the carefully prepared and written opinions of the same author, though the excellence of *ex tempore* preaching or lecturing is determined in a majority of instances by the amount of time devoted to its consideration. A good, practical, and well blended address, however spontaneously it may appear to flow, has generally been attentively composed and laboriously committed to memory; to speak and lecture well, without the aid of notes, a man must of necessity be endowed with an extremely retentive memory; scholastic and other adventitious props are mere adjuncts to this great essential. If books are to be disregarded by Freemasons, then annoyances are multiplied, it being then imperative that a quantity of our learning should be handed down to posterity in its original purity of diction with the sole aid of the willing and capable possessors of retentive memories. Without the slightest wish or intention to derogate from that inherent veneration which should always be felt for the royal art, by a comparison with pursuits of a profane nature, it may be observed parenthetically that the lovers of chess, draughts, cricket, whist, billiards, and other amusements, sedentary as well as ambulatory, learn first the moves or the nature of the game they admire, and then perfect themselves in it by laborious study. Surely the votaries of Freemasonry, that great and glorious science, coeval with man's appearance upon the world when divinely formed from chaos, will not any longer allow the adepts in profane pastimes to exceed them in the impetus afforded to the objects of their solicitude. Masonry has a higher mission than the increase of convivial assemblies and the proselytism of unheeding persons; let it be shown by our acts that a state of chronic apathy has given place to one of determined vigour.

Here and there, at wide and well marked intervals, a Lodge may be met with possessing amongst its members one who, from a great exactness of memory and repeated service in all and every office, as well as former access to Masonic records, is regarded by his less favoured brethren as little less than an oracle, and imparts cheerfully and effectively the knowledge he has acquired to the rising generation. Under such tutelage the Lodge advances, and looking through a vista of years, numerous are the brethren who, therein graduating, have reflected in after times the greatest possible credit upon their parent Lodge; but such cases are of sufficiently rare occurrence to awaken, when brought to our notice, the warmest feelings of respect and congratulation. It is not saying too much, to assert that in by far the

majority of instances, a comparative ignorance—or occasionally even worse—a perverted notion of those parts of our Masonic system, attainable only by deep research, prevails: as all things are in their nature liable to decay and corruption, so the knowledge of Masonic tradition, restricted to a few, must tend to misconception and confusion, when by them revealed in infinitesimal doses to greedy listeners. Johnson says, "The mass of every people must be barbarous where there is no printing;" an insufficient or unobtainable supply must conduce to a calamity of a similar nature, though perhaps in a mitigated form. The golden age of Masonry is yet looming in the future, and as the votaries of the ancient and universal art increase in number and wisdom, so will its blots and defects become more and more apparent; it will be a glorious time for enthusiasts when every Mason has ready access to a goodly supply of Masonic records and literature, and is dependent upon nought but his own ability and application for a perfect insight into the advanced learning of the Order.

Judging from the numerous quotations in the *Freemasons' Magazine* purporting to be derived from various American Masonic publications, our Transatlantic brethren are entitled to liberal commendation and congratulation, both on account of the unvarying excellence of the choice extracts culled for our benefit by the unwearying staff of our accredited English organ, and the number of periodicals that the Craft supports in America. The frequenters of Masonic libraries, (if such there be), would reap considerable benefit from a regular perusal of these publications in their natural and uncurtailed form, and the visionary societies, whose claims are now being advocated, in the event of future existence, should possess, as speedily as is consistent with funds and opportunity, some one or more of these periodicals for the information of their supporters. It is a doubtful point whether or not the generality of our colonies are capable of maintaining Masonic journals of their own; two adverse circumstances militate against so desirable a state of affairs—a paucity of subscribers and an insufficiency of matter, mere local gossip being inadequate to the task of supplying this latter want; the columns of the journal published at Masonic headquarters must of necessity be their chief dependence. The experiment has been tried on a small scale in India, but with what success is unknown, the mutiny of 1857 reducing all things to a chaotic state, and unfortunately not sparing the literary efforts of Calcutta enthusiasts, but completely annihilating them in its ruthless path of destruction.

Although it may have been desirable in the remote periods of antiquity and subsequently in the days of monkish domination, when the arts of reading and writing were greatly circumscribed, to restrict the knowledge of our more advanced mysteries to a select few, who were at liberty to reveal such points as they deemed suitable to the clouded understandings of their then less fortunate brethren, in these days of rapid progress and extended civilization Masonic records and periodical literature should be sealed books to no member of the Order. That all are in a position to reap benefit from these advantages may be reasonably concluded; the Constitutions enjoining, as a *sine qua non*, that every candidate for admission into the Order shall previously read a certain formula, and sign his name in token of approval—grossly illiterate persons being thereby effectually debarred from participation in our secrets. It cannot be maintained with the faintest semblance of credibility, that brethren are justified in remaining in a state of passive indifference with regard to so important and neglected a feature in Masonic progress; many there are, who, whilst acquiescing in the expediency of the general establishment of Masonic libraries, will be loth to further so desirable an end by personal endeavours, entertaining no objection to the formation of a library in connection with the Lodge or hall of their belonging, but extremely averse to anything like individual toil in the matter; should such be the general feeling, what a lamentable prospect for these visionary institutions! But it is suggested that every

member of the Masonic Order who in his heart believes that the carrying out of the project herein set forth would be conducive to future prosperity, and to a higher appreciation of the society he professes to support, is called upon to afford his countenance and aid to the furtherance of such desirable objects. Let the experiment be ventured upon; no harm can possibly ensue, and a very great deal of good will not be an unlikely result. Colonial Masons are deeply interested in this matter, more so, perhaps, than any other class of the Order, distance and expense precluding them from the advantages which are at the disposal of a majority of the brethren in the mother country, who, if ever so unfavourably located for the enjoyment of Masonic instruction, can obtain it by proceeding to the metropolis; not that such is the general practice, provincial Masons are far too content with the limited supply to be extracted in the vicinity of their dwellings to undergo the exertion of a metropolitan course of study. But still, to the aspiring, this mode of acquiring information is practicable and plainly marked out. Colonial brethren are very differently situated, and, unless by means of books chosen at haphazard, enjoy but few opportunities of perfecting themselves in a knowledge of our traditions by attentive study. Next to total ignorance, an undirected course of reading is the most pernicious, it being almost more difficult to eradicate erroneous impressions than to instil truthful ones in a mind that has lain fallow.

A Mason of repute, Bro. F. Binckes, has elsewhere advocated the establishment of a general Masonic library, and—if memory can be depended upon in the absence of the reported speech of our distinguished and able brother, which is unfortunately not at hand—he adduced in support of his proposition very excellent and convincing evidence of its probable utility. To Bro. Binckes, who, in a recent controversy with the editor of the *Freemasons' Magazine* has evinced reasoning powers of a high order; indeed, the slight differences of two such staunch upholders of the Craft, have evoked, to all appearance, a mutual feeling of respect—

"That stern joy which warriors feel
In foemen worthy of their steel,"

—to Bro. Binckes is due our thanks for having mooted the subject; and should he be inclined to undertake the trouble and responsibility of preparing and submitting to the Grand Lodge, for its countenance and advocacy, a scheme for the general establishment of Masonic libraries, there will be none to aver that so important a trust could be reposed in a more capable person.

III.

ANCIENT BRITISH HISTORY.

THE following admirable lecture, which, from the research displayed and the soundness of the arguments brought forward, cannot fail to excite deep interest, is well deserving the careful attention of our readers. It is from the pen of Bro. GEORGE H. WHALLEY, M.P. for Peterborough, and was delivered by him at the London Mechanics' Institute, on Monday, the 5th instant, to a crowded audience.

I SHALL not detain you by apologies for my deficiencies as a lecturer. The literary tastes of the members of this institution could doubtless enable them to find more instruction or amusement from the resources within their daily command than I can bring to their service; and the only compensation is to give to the scrap of literature which I lay before you some practical applications to matters of daily interest and importance to every one.

When Franklin by a simple contrivance brought down the lightning from the clouds, and commenced for us that practical process of putting as it were upon the elements that harness which has made them servants to mankind, he was engaged in a somewhat similar process to that which I would endeavour to imitate in reference to our early British history.

History, it is said, is philosophy teaching by example; that is to say, that from the vicissitudes which the story of every nation or collection of people present for our examination, we should frame such rules for future government as shall tend to avert the

disasters and to repeat the triumphs and prosperity of the past; and the historian who is equal to his task, performs the same office for the guidance of the statesman that the scientific chemist performs for the practising physician; and, as every man in England is called upon to act the part, or to control and direct the duties of national government and statesmanship, no subject I submit to you can be more appropriate, either for amusement or instruction, than the history of our own country.

The portion of British history to which I call your attention under the name of "Early British History," I shall limit by the Norman conquest; and I venture to assert that there is no instance on record of any nation or people having been deprived (by their course of scholastic and literary teaching) of that national credit which is justly their due from the historic achievements of their ancestry—to the same extent as our own.

The school books out of which children are taught English history generally dispose of this early period in two or three pages; the substance of which is—that the Romans having discovered this island about the commencement of the Christian era, occupied it for about four hundred years, and having made roads, worked mines, built villas, and thus to some extent civilized the inhabitants, the Saxons came over, and for about another four hundred years not only occupied the country, but organized codes of laws, and originated various institutions to which we are to this day taught to look up with pride and reverence, as having enabled us to withstand the shock, and finally to throw off the burdens imposed by the Norman conquest.

Now, before I tell you some truths of this matter, which I have no doubt will be to many of my hearers novel and unexpected, I wish you to understand that I am not speaking to you as a Welshman; nor am I about to claim for the ancient Britons one iota of honour or credit that does not attach to the English nation. We are still emphatically the British nation, and ever have been so—in blood, race, and language—subject to such modifications as have resulted from the influx of strangers to our shores. I shall not to-night have time to show you that our English language, though so different in sound from the ancient British, which is still spoken in Wales in its original purity, is, as to at least three parts out of four of the words in the most ordinary use, based upon the British—that the laws, customs, and institutions, which we revere for their antiquity, and which are commonly attributed to Saxon origin, were as fresh and influential a thousand years before the Saxons were heard of as at this day; and, as to the question of race and origin, it would be almost as reasonable to call us Italians, Dutchmen, or Frenchmen, as Saxons; for it is an undoubted fact that the admixture of Saxons, and subsequently of Normans, in our British population, has exercised far less influence on the population than that which has been since effected by the continuous pacific immigration of foreigners. The difference, in fact, between the Welsh and the modern English, is this: occupying in common with Cornish men on the south, and Cumbrians on the north, that portion of our island least exposed either to pacific or warlike incursions, they have, in those rugged retreats of Wales and the western country, preserved, with extraordinary purity and devotion, the ancient language and traditions of the entire island. And, speaking as an Englishman, I shall be borne out by facts, when I state, that for us to turn our backs upon, or to be indifferent to the history of our British ancestors, would be to deprive ourselves, as a nation, of the strongest claims we possess to that preeminent position which, as a nation, we hold in the face of the world.

Assuming then that we, as Englishmen, are by race and otherwise entitled to sympathize and take an interest in British history—as distinguished from that which recounts the adventures of such Romans, Saxons, Normans or other foreigners, as in comparatively later times have contributed to make up the English character—let us proceed to compare a few of the facts of that history with the sketch which I first gave you from our current school books.

Passing over the earlier traditions of the country, the first historical fact to which I will draw your attention is the colony brought to this country by Brutus, the grandson of Æneas, one of the heroes of the siege of Troy, and the progenitor of the Roman people. This was about one thousand years before the Christian era; and, as distinguished from the subsequent invasion of Romans, Saxons, Danes, or Normans, was in every sense of the word pacific. The city of Troy was the great centre of the Druidic religion in the east, as this island was of the west; and, therefore, upon the destruction of Troy by the Greeks, the Trojans naturally sought a refuge in the island of the west; and Brutus, the leader of the Trojan hosts, was elected king of the island, which thenceforth became known by his name—Brutus's

Land—Britain—Britannia. He founded London, which, previous to its present name, was called Caer-Troia, and in a temple which he there built, called the Temple of Diana, he placed the sacred stone which was the pedestal of the Palladium of the mother city of Troy. Seated on this stone, the British kings were for centuries sworn, at the time of their coronation, to observe the laws and usages of Britain, and it was the firm belief in old times that so long as this stone remained, New Troy, or London, would continue to increase in wealth and power, but with its disappearance the city would decrease and finally disappear; and it is one of the most ancient traditions of Britain that New Troy, or London, was destined to sway the widest empire in the world. This stone may to this day be seen by passers by, imbedded in another stone, on the south side of St. Swithin's Church, in Cannon-street, London.

For one thousand five hundred years this Trojan invasion, or immigration, was never disputed or questioned, and it is not now my intention to enter into the refutation of those monkish perversions of our British history which have laboured, unhappily with success, to obscure and confound this and other events of like interest in our early annals: before I conclude I shall account to you satisfactorily, I hope, for these perversions, and in the mean time will merely quote two or three authorities who are of more weight on such a question than all the monks and priests that ever existed.

Lord Coke, the greatest authority in this or any other country upon practical jurisprudence, in the preface to the third volume of his Reports, states as follows:—"The original laws of this land were composed of such elements as Brutus first selected from the ancient Greek or Trojan institutions." And Lord Portescue, a still greater authority, inasmuch as he could have no possible object in thus instructing his royal Norman pupil, states, in his treatise on the laws of England, "Concerning the different powers kings claim over their subjects, I am firmly of opinion that it arises solely from the different nature of the original institutions. So the kingdom of Britain had its origin from Brutus and the Trojans who attended him from Italy and from Greece, and were a mixed government compounded of the regal and democratic."

The laws so introduced are still extant, as reduced into writing by a successor of Brutus, Dyfnwal Moelmud; and if time permitted of my reading to you such of the triads as have survived the continuous efforts to uproot these foundations of our independence and liberties, you would then require no aid from chief justices, or any one else, to perceive their authenticity and excellence, but would heartily concur with a distinguished writer of the present day, the Rev. R. W. Morgan, who, after quoting a few of these original laws, states as follows:—"These and other primitive laws of Britain not only rise far superior in manly sense and high principle to the laws of ancient Greece and Rome, but put to shame the enactments of nations calling themselves Christians at the present day. They contain the essence of law, religion, and chivalry. A nation ruling itself by their spirit could not be otherwise than great, civilized, and free; one of their strongest recommendations being, that they are so lucid as to be intelligible to all degrees of men and minds."

Reluctantly passing over the multifarious incidents of the thousand years which preceded the invasion of the Romans, but which Shakspeare did not think it beneath his notice to illustrate in his plays of "King Lear" and "Cymbeline," I will select but one incident, namely, the conquest of Rome itself by the two British kings, Belinus and Brennus, near five hundred years previous to the invasion of Julius Cæsar. These two kings were brothers, and engaged in civil war in Britain, and on the spot where the battle of Hastings was in after ages fought, two armies commanded respectively by these two brothers were ranged in hostile array. While waiting the signal for attack, Corwenna, the aged mother of the two sovereigns, intervened, and reaching, as the story tells, with trembling steps the tribune from which Brennus was haranguing his army, she threw her arms around his neck as he descended to receive her, and kissed him with transports of affection. She then adjured him, by every appeal a mother could address to a son, to save her from the horrible spectacle of seeing her children engaged in impious hostilities against God, the laws of nature, their country, and themselves. Pointing out the injustice of his cause, and the ease with which far nobler conquests than that over a brother might be achieved if two such armies, instead of destroying, would unite with each other, she entreated him to be reconciled to his rightful sovereign. Moved by these representations Brennus deposited his helmet and arms on the tribune, and bareheaded went with her, amidst the profound silence of both armies, to his brother. Seeing him approach,

Belinus dismounted from his chariot, threw down his lance, and meeting him half way, folded him in his embraces. The cheers of the two armies on witnessing the scene rent the skies. In a few minutes all order was dissolved; Briton and Ligurian were no longer to be distinguished; the banners were bound together; the seamen of the fleet informed of the event poured on shore; and a day which threatened to be one of the most shameful and disastrous in British annals, ended in a general jubilee of joy and festivities. Happy would it be for mankind if every mother of kings were a Corwenna—if every contending monarch listened to the remonstrances of nature and humanity with the like readiness as Belinus and Brennus.

The result of this union was, that they entered upon and accomplished the conquest of Europe. Rome was at that time an independent metropolis, exercising considerable influence in the Italian peninsula; and the battle of the Allia, fought at the confluence of a small river of that name with the Tiber, near to the walls of Rome, was followed three days after by the capture of the city, with the exception of the Capitol, which, after standing a siege of six months, was ransomed by the payment to Brennus of one thousand pounds weight in gold.

The battle of the Allia was fought on the 6th of June, four hundred and ninety years B.C., and in the three hundred and sixty-third year of the city of Rome; and, although excluded from all notice in the annals of British history as compiled by the monks, was by the Romans themselves noted in their calendar as the "black day," on which it was the custom through many centuries to abstain from business, and to appear in public in mourning vestments.

That this conquest of Rome by the Britons was not the mere raid and ravage of a barbarian force, but, on the contrary, indicates a state of British power and civilization at least equal to that of the Romans, appears from the accounts of the Roman writers themselves.

The force which embarked from Britain is supposed to have been at least three hundred thousand, composed partly of Britons, and partly of Ligurians, or Gauls; and the progress through Europe and the fertile fields of Italy of this vast host, as described by the Roman historian, reminds us of the notable characteristic of the British army under the Duke of Wellington, in the Spanish Peninsular War. "His forces," states Plutarch, "injured no man's property; they neither pillaged the fields nor insulted the towns."

And the poet Virgil, noted for his archaeological accuracy, thus describes the uniform and arms of the British host:—"Their vest was a mass of gold lace—*aurea vestis*; they wore the gold torque round their necks, a sword by the side; two javelins with heavy steel heads were their principal missiles; and strong shields, borne on their shoulders during a march, covered their whole bodies in action."

The torque alluded to by Virgil is a martial distinction quite peculiar, I believe, to the ancient Britons; and if any of my hearers would like to see a modern specimen of this ancient order of valour, as also a human specimen of such men as we may imagine the conquerors of Rome to have been, let him, the next time he is in the vicinity of the Regent's Park, in London, seek out the lodge-keeper, John Shields.

At the Llangollen Eisteddfod in 1858, a splendid golden torque was awarded to Shields, as being the bravest of the brave amongst the heroes of the Crimea; and he was selected by the Duke of Cambridge, as commander-in-chief, to receive in this character this form of Victoria Cross from his countrymen.

I have given you the Roman description of the vestments of the ancient Britons, also of their respect in the midst of war to private rights; and I shall dismiss the history of the Britons anterior to the Roman invasion by a description of their character as soldiers, in the words of Plutarch, the great Greek historian and biographer.

Comparing them with the Ligurians, or inhabitants of Gaul, who formed a part of the invading force, he says:—"The greater and more warlike Cimbri live in the Northern Ocean, in the very ends of the earth. They are called Cimbri, not from their manners; it is the name of their race. As to their courage, spirit, force, and vivacity, we can only compare them to a devouring flame. All that came before them were trodden down or driven onward like herds of cattle."

Amongst other nationalities with which they came into contact, was the Greek kingdom of Macedonia. Antigonus was then king of Macedonia; and an anecdote recorded by the Roman writer, Justin, is remarkable as indicating their own sense of superiority to this Macedonian power, which fills so large a space in classic history. "What are these Greeks? inquired the Britons of their ambassadors;" to which the ambassadors replied—"These Greeks are remarkable for two things they call positions, which have

neither moats nor ramparts, camps; and they think if they have plenty of gold they have no need of steel:” and the result of these national errors having been their entire annihilation, in conflict with the Britons, the lesson thus handed down to us is not inapplicable to the exigencies of the present day.

The period of British history of which I have just presented these isolated features is called the Trojan era, and includes about a thousand years before Christ, the event of the conquest of Rome by the British host occupying about the middle of that period. The remarkable fact connected with this portion of our history is, that although it was the period when the foundations of our present jurisprudence were laid, and when that energy of character which appears to be indigenous to the inhabitants of this island manifested itself in enterprises which, for magnitude of conception and splendour of achievement, have scarcely been surpassed even by ourselves—it seems to have been purposely excluded from our scholastic literature. When brought to light by those who prefer tracing our national pedigree to such an ancestry, rather than to such barbarians, or even savages, as these our early ancestors are in most school books depicted, it is confronted and denied on the authority of that class of monkish and priestly writers who have systematically done more to destroy the vestiges of ancient times than Goths, Vandals, or Saracens. Who can deny, on the question of jurisprudence, the authority of Lord Coke and Lord Fortescue; or, as to warlike prowess and achievement, what better testimony can we have than the Roman writers themselves, bearing witness to the chivalrous gallantry of their conquerors? And, if time permitted, I could show you by the testimony of the holy scriptures themselves, that as to our commerce, it was then comparatively as predominant throughout the world as at the present time. Read the 26th and 27th chapters of the Book of Ezekiel; you will there find that Tyre, the most famed commercial mart of antiquity, is by the prophet characterised as the “merchant of the isles afar off;” and wherever you find, in the scriptures or elsewhere, the article of “bronze” mentioned—a metal which entered greatly into the ornamental works of those days—you have evidence of British commerce and mineral productions; for in no other country in the world has tin, the chief element of bronze, been found or worked—until within quite a modern date—except in Britain.

I must now pass over five hundred years, and introduce to you some features of the Roman invasion; and, confining myself chiefly to Julius Caesar’s own account of that event, I have no doubt I shall satisfy you that up to that period at all events the British character had not degenerated. The classic authors all concur in stating that prior to Caesar no foreign conqueror had ever ventured to assail the shores of Britain; and he justifies his invasion of Britain by alleging that the Britons were the first aggressors. This is in fact confirmed by the historic triads of Britain, which record the fact that 57,000 men were sent over to Gaul to aid the people on the continent in resisting the torrent of Roman conquest. This was in the year 57 B.C., and in a little more than a year afterwards Caesar sent forth his mandate for tribute and submission; to which the British king and pendragon, Caswallon, sent the following reply:—

“We have received your letter demanding tribute and submission on the part of this island of Britain to the senate of Rome. The ambition of the Roman people we know to be insatiable; Europe is too little for them; they covet the riches of the nation whom the ocean itself divides from the rest of the world. But our possessions alone will not content them: we must cease to be free—we must become their slaves. The Britons and Romans derive their descent from the same Trojan origin: such consanguinity should be the firmest guarantee of peace and equality between them. Our alliance we freely tender to Rome; but as for subjection, we have never hitherto known the thing even by name. If the gods themselves invaded our liberties, we would to the utmost of our power defend them; much more are we prepared to do so against the Romans, who are, like ourselves, but men.”

The first invasion by Caesar accordingly ensued and took place in August 55 B.C.; and on the 23rd September following he re-embarked with his entire force, having never advanced beyond seven miles from the spot upon which he landed, lost one pitched battle, and, what had never before occurred in his career of conquest, his own camp was attacked by the victorious Britons. He himself, in his own account of this campaign, states that he saw for the first time in Britain the chariot system of Troy; and, as in contrast to those pictorial sketches of our British ancestors which rejoice in representing them as naked savages besmeared with blue and red paint, I will give you Caesar’s opinion of the military force by which he was opposed.

He states that the force as organized by Caswallon embodied the two essentials which military science seeks to combine in a perfect branch of service—the rapidity of cavalry, and the stability of infantry. The chariots were built of light well seasoned wood, many of them richly emblazoned and adorned with precious metals; they generally held two, sometimes four, combatants; they were drawn by two horses abreast, so thoroughly broken in to their work that Caesar states that in descending a hill at full speed they would, on a motion of the charioteer, wheel round and retrace their course, scarcely slackening their pace. The charioteers themselves frequently leaped from the chariot upon the pole, rearranged the harness, and returned to their place: they drove standing. From the axletrees of the chariots keen falchions of great breadth projected, inflicting the most ghastly wounds, and rendering it a matter of no small peril to attempt to attack the chariot on the flank. They drew up in divisions, each under its own commander, and all of them under the pendragon. One of the divisions commenced the action by bearing down on some given point of the enemy’s line. The spectacle of the charge itself, the shouts of the combatants, the rush of the horses, and the roar of so many wheels, mingling with the clang of arms, rarely failed, adds Caesar, before a blow was exchanged, to disorder the ranks of the best disciplined troops opposed to them.

In the second invasion, which took place on the 10th of May following, Caesar maintained his footing on our island somewhat longer; but although aided on this occasion by the treasonable complicity of a British chief, named Avarwy, he again left the island with all his forces on 26th September, A.C. 54, having concluded a treaty with the British general, as to which much controversy has prevailed. The Britons alleged that the second invasion was a more serious failure even than the first; while Caesar’s own statement to the contrary receives little confirmation from the fact that for ninety-seven years afterwards no Roman again ventured to plant a hostile foot on our island; and, to quote the words of Mr. Morgan, the Cambrian historian, “when the Roman eagle under Claudius once more expanded its wings to the stormy winds of Britain, it was when no other enemy unconquered met its eye from the Euphrates to Gibraltar, and the empire it symbolized had leisure to turn the whole of its vast forces against the sole free people of the West.”

This Claudian invasion commenced A.D. 43, and after forty-two years of incessant warfare, in which the whole force of the Roman empire—then the undisputed mistress of the world—was continuously, with three short intervals, directed against this island, again terminated by their expulsion from Britain. To enumerate the events of this period, or the heroes or heroines by whom on both sides were performed prodigies of valour and generalship worthy of British and of Roman renown, or to confer, especially upon the Britons and their leaders the laurels due to their heroic memories, does not fall within the scope of my lecture, which is merely to show that we Britons of the present day have a national pedigree worthy of our national character, and that it is for our national honour and advantage that, so far as history will justify us, we should connect ourselves by race and pedigree as well as by name with these heroic times. Tacitus, the Roman historian, says—“Britain, which was at last considered effectually conquered, was lost in an instant.” *Ferox provincia* (an untamable province is the term applied by the Latin historian to our island); and Juvenal, the great Roman satirist, suggests as the most extraordinary and gratifying news that could be received at Rome—the fall of the British king. “Has our great enemy,” he says, “Arviragus, the car borne British king, dropped from his battle throne?” And Tacitus also, speaking of the Silurian portion of Britain states, “that they could neither be coerced by any measures, however sanguinary, nor bribed by any promises, however brilliant, to acknowledge the dominion of Rome;” and when at length, after forty years of undisturbed peace, Marius, king of Britain, A.D., 114, concluded a treaty with Trajan, whereby Britain at last consented no longer to stand isolated from the rest of the Roman world, and consented to become part integral of the Roman empire, it was upon the following conditions:—that the Britons should continue to live under their own laws and native kings; that the Roman law should be confined to such cities as chose to become *municipia* or colonies; that no Briton should be disturbed in his hereditary estates; and that the three Roman legions to be stationed at Caerleon, Chester, and York, should be recruited wholly from British volunteers, and never ordered on foreign service. And from this period to the final break up of the Roman empire, it would not be difficult to prove that British influence exercised as much control over the Roman empire—and thereby again realized, though by a different

process, their former triumphs—than Roman influence exercised over Britain.

Scarcely a trace remained of Roman laws or institutions when they finally left us; nothing remained but the weakness and emasculation resulting from the fact, that the Britons had been relieved by a standing army of the ancient custom of performing, each man for himself, military duty; and here, again, we have a lesson for guidance in present affairs. I shall conclude this part of my subject, by again quoting, in confirmation of the views I have suggested, and the facts I have mentioned, the following observations of Lord Chief Justice Fortescue, in reference to the treaty by which Britain remained united with the Roman empire for nearly three hundred years. "In the time of all the different nations and kings, Britain has always been governed by the same customs as form the base of its laws at present. If these ancient British customs had not been most excellent, reason, justice, and the love of their country, would have induced some of the kings to change or alter them, especially the Romans, who ruled all the rest of the world by the Roman laws."

And Sir Winstone Churchill, in his *Dei Britannici*, says, "The Britons, whether by compact, compromise, or other means, stood, it is evident, in the matter of the enjoyment of their own laws and liberties, in a different position towards the Roman government to any other province in the empire. They certainly made such conditions as to keep their own kings and their own laws."

I now enter upon a gloomy period of our national history—accepting the general account. Unused to arms, the Britons called in the mercenary services of the Saxons; and you all know that for about five hundred years preceding the Norman conquest, the Saxons, Danes, or other foreigners, are supposed to have held dominion in England, and this race are not only supposed to be the progenitors of by far the greater portion of the English as a race, but also the authors of all that we venerate under the name of laws, customs, constitution, and liberty—that, in a word, the Anglo-Saxon character and race is our passport to posterity. One great name will at once occur to your minds in confirmation of this almost organic caste which has been given to English history—Alfred the Great; though you will hardly call to mind one other. And, it is not to be questioned that the stern, unyielding, matter-of-fact element, which has ever enabled Englishmen to rise superior to every vicissitude of fortune, to hold their own against the world, and to regain in modern times, more by their individual energy than by any accidental efforts of their governors, that preeminence among the nations of the world which was their most ancient prerogative, is due, under Providence, to the admixture with the ancient British race of the fresh vigour of the Saxons.

Beyond this fact—and also that by slow degrees in the lowlands of our island foreign influences occasioned the disuse of the ancient British language, and thus led to the formation of that new language, which, as reduced to grammatical order by Shakespeare and other men of that class, bids fair, if such be the destiny of any language, to be the universal medium of communication for the human race—I feel it a duty to say, and it is in some respect a painful one, that the less we dwell upon the character and achievements of our early Saxon progenitors the better it will be for the credit of our national history. To justify so unpopular, and perhaps so unexpected an opinion, I must quote from the pages of two as thorough Englishmen as have ever written on the subject.

Mr. Kemble, in his book on the Anglo-Saxons, states, page 290:—"England had gone entirely out of cultivation; the land had become covered with forests; the Saxons had found the ancient cities entire; their grandeur attracted the attention of observant historians, their remains yet testify to the astonishing skill and foresight of their builders; but the Saxons neither took possession of the towns, nor gave themselves the trouble of destroying them: the boards and woodwork they most likely removed; the unperceived action of the elements did the rest. Among the mountains of the Kymri, a race as little subjugated by the Romans as by ourselves, were the traces of the old nationality alone to be found." And Dr. Whittaker, whose reputation as an accurate English historian has never been impeached, writes as follows:—"The Saxon laws were contemptible for imbecility; their habits odious for intemperance; and if we can for a moment persuade ourselves that their language has any charms, it is because it forms the rugged basis of our own tongue. For the rest, independently of general history, we have no remaining evidence but that of language that such a race of men as the Saxons ever existed among us."

And to these extracts I reluctantly add, in reference to one feature in their character, the testimony of a thorough Saxon, by

name Wulfston, in his day Bishop of Worcester. "It is," he writes, "a most moving sight to see, in the public markets, rows of young people of both sexes tied together with ropes. Execrable fact—wretched disgrace! Men, unmindful even of the affection of the brute creation, delivering into slavery their relations, and even their own offspring!"

Without detaining you with the story of Hengist and Horsa, the leaders of our first Saxon allies, or wearying you with any attempt to compress into the compass of this lecture the dismal narrative of the five hundred years of battles, slaughters, and massacres,—words which do most truly indicate the efforts by which not Saxons only, but numerous races, such as Jutes, Angles, and Danes, strove chiefly with each other to obtain possession of various districts of the island,—I shall proceed at once to establish for our common country of Britain—in which all these races, with many others who have subsequently eagerly joined the glorious British union, have been for great purposes usefully absorbed—the preeminent claim of having been the first as a nation to recognize (and the most consistently of all the nations of the earth to have held firm to) Christianity as transmitted to mankind by the immediate disciples and apostles of our Saviour himself.

I do not doubt that many of my hearers are under the impression that Christianity in this island dates from about the end of the sixth century, and that it is to a monk named Augustin, sent from Rome for that purpose, that our ancestors are indebted mainly, if not entirely, for the light of the Gospel; for such is also a part of the lessons taught by our scholastic history.

I can assure you that it is from no desire to utter startling novelties, or to raise controversial questions, but simply to discharge a duty to truth and to fact, that I now state, without the slightest fear of contradiction, that neither this Augustin, nor the Pope who sent him, either intended or accomplished the introduction of Christianity amongst the ancient Britons, in any further or other sense than our talented contemporary, Cardinal Wiseman, either intends or has accomplished such conversion in the present day. Cardinal Wiseman came here, as we all know, a few years since, with a portfolio of bishops and other dignitaries, and forthwith declared that England was in a fair way of returning—so the phrase goes—to the bosom of the Catholic church. His predecessor, Augustin, in a like manner, came over with a retinue of forty monks, and being graciously received by the pagan Regulus, or king of Kent, and by the influence of Bertha his wife having obtained possession of the old British church at Canterbury, he proceeded to execute the real object of his mission,—to induce the British church, then known and recognized as the first and oldest in the world, to recognize the Bishop of Rome in his character, then quite recently assumed, of Bishop of Bishops, or Pope; in other words, the mother and mistress of all churches; and, accordingly, a grave conference was held between Augustin and his monks and the bishops of the British church. Two conferences took place under the protection of Brockwell, Prince of Powys, at Austeliff, on the Severn; and, as Leland states, the discussions were carried on, especially on the part of the British bishops, with great learning and gravity. The names of the bishops who had been deputed by the Archbishop of St. David to conduct this controversy on the part of the British church were, Dunawd Abbot of Bangor, and the Bishops of Hereford, Worcester, Bangor, St. Asaph, Llandaff, Llanbadarn, and Margam, and the conference closed by the British bishops delivering, on behalf of their church and people, the following dignified rejection of the papal claims:—

"Be it known and declared to you that we all, individually and collectively, are in all humility, prepared to defer to the church of God and to the Pope of Rome, and to every sincere and godly Christian, so far as to love every one according to his degree in perfect charity and to assist them all by word and deed in becoming the children of God. But as for further obedience, we know of none that he, whom you term the Pope or Bishop of Bishops, can claim or demand. The deference which we have mentioned we are ever ready to pay to him as to every other Christian, but in all other respects our obedience is due to the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Caerleon, who is alone under God our ruler, to keep us right in the way of salvation."

From the day that saw the close of that conference on the banks of the Severn, Augustin and his successors have used to the uttermost, even to the present day, every weapon in the Romish armoury, first to uproot and destroy this church during the six hundred years that it still continued to exist, and from 1203, when for a time it was absorbed into the Roman Catholic system, to efface and ignore the vestiges of its existence. The Roman church has had many enemies to contend with in its efforts to subjugate the human mind, and for its own pious purposes it has not scrupled to employ such means as have tried severely the very fabric of

Christianity itself; but I venture to think that the time will come when mankind will forget Spanish inquisitions and Bartholomew massacres in the contemplation of the still greater outrages which have been systematically perpetrated by the Church of Rome in the general interests of humanity, by the wilful destruction and falsification of the records, and the blotting out as it were, from the page of human knowledge, of the lessons and the heroisms stored up through long ages of human experience for the enlightenment and guidance of mankind.

When Augustin received the reply of the bishops, he addressed to them words of which the significance remains to this day, "If you will not have peace from your brethren you shall have war from your enemies; if you will not preach life to the Saxons you shall receive death at their hands." Edilfred, King of Northumbria, at the instigation of Augustin, forthwith poured fifty thousand men into the Vale Royal of Chester, the territory of the Prince of Powys, under whose auspices the conference had been held. Twelve hundred British priests of the University of Bangor having come out to view the battle, Edilfred directed his forces against them as they stood clothed in their white vestments and totally unarmed, watching the progress of the battle—they were massacred to a man. Advancing to the university itself, he put to death every priest and student therein and destroyed by fire the halls, colleges, and churches of the university itself, thereby fulfilling, according to the words of the great Saxon authority, called the Pious Bede, the prediction, as he terms it, of the blessed Augustin. The ashes of this noble monastery were still smoking; its libraries, the collection of ages, having been wholly consumed, and nought could be seen but the ruined walls, gates, and smouldering rubbish of the great University of Bangor when the British force returned to gaze upon the hallowed spot, after having all but annihilated in fair conflict the spoilers.

To convey to you some idea of the state of the British church at this time I cannot do better than quote the description given by Sir Winston Churchill, the father of the Great Duke of Marlborough:—"I take Bangor, endowed by King Lucius, to be as the first, so the greatest monastery that ever was—I say not in this island, but in any part of the world; whose foundations were laid so deep, that none of the Roman emperors in the following centuries, though for the most part violent persecutors, could undermine it, the religious continuing safe in the exercise of their religion, until the entrance of those accursed pagans, the Saxons." This description applies to this monastery long before Augustin fulfilled, as before mentioned, his own prophecies—its colleges, libraries, &c., are said to have covered a square of five miles from gate to gate; and being the national university for agriculture, theology, science and literature, where the learning and the national records of ages were chiefly preserved, it was unquestionably a master stroke of Romish policy to uproot such an institution. This was a necessary preliminary step to that systematic perversion of the early history of Britain, which the Saxon monks immediately set about, and which they and their successors have faithfully prosecuted, and with extraordinary success upheld even to the present day.

The art of printing, by which all that is worthy of preservation in the literature or history of a nation is scattered broadcast over the world, makes it impossible for us at the present day to conceive the extent of national loss which it was thus in the power of Augustin to inflict; for supposing for a moment that our contemporary, Cardinal Wiseman, after having failed in his attempt to supersede the Archbishop of Canterbury, had so aroused the popish patriotism of his friends in Ireland as to have effected, by their means, the destruction of the library of the British Museum and all the other collections of literature that he could meet with, it would still be utterly impossible for him or his successors to deny, or materially to pervert, the Protestant history of this country for the last three centuries. Such, however, was the task that Augustin and his monks boldly entered upon, and to an extent which seems almost incredible, did actually accomplish; and it is only now in quite recent times that the veil by which early British history, in common with that of the church, was thus hidden from view, has in some degree been raised and removed.

When Mr. Kemble the author of the *History of the Anglo-Saxons*, sat down to write that history, he probably entered upon the task with a patriotic desire to justify the national pride with which we have been taught to regard our Anglo-Saxon progenitors, but with that English honesty which has ever been in the long run fatal to priestcraft and its pretensions, he thus confesses his disappointment. "The more I examine the question the more completely I am convinced that the received accounts of the Saxon immigration and subsequent fortunes and ultimate settle-

ment, are devoid of historical truth in every detail;" and he further admits as the result of his investigation, that the Saxon Church was essentially the child of papal Rome; that her clergy were the emissaries of Rome, and that what we term the Saxon histories are nothing else than the writings of monks of the Roman church, animated by a spirit of intense hatred and enmity towards the British church and nationality." The Saxons themselves brought no alphabet with them into Britain, they adopted the British; most of the terms of agriculture, domestic, and civil life supposed to be Saxon are pure British, unchanged since the days of Caesar.

Resuming the analogy between the mission of Augustin in the sixth century and that of Cardinal Wiseman at the present day, it is but justice to the former prelate to observe that the difficulties which he had to surmount in his conference with the British bishops were incomparably greater than his successor has to deal with. Cardinal Wiseman, as we all know, speaks of the Church of Rome as the undoubted heir of Christ and the apostles, and that the traditions which that church offers us in lieu of the Bible have come down from Christ himself in unbroken apostolic succession; whereas, Augustin, in the sixth century, must have used arguments of a totally different and even opposite character; for he and all the world knew that the British church was in fact not only the oldest but might almost be considered the original seat of Christianity. Not only, as is alleged with good grounds for the statement, had many of the apostles themselves, but undoubtedly all the leading disciples of Christianity had for centuries been driven to this island by the persecution of pagan Rome itself; and Britain had been the sanctuary and refuge of those who were persecuted for their Christianity, as it has ever been of those who, in all parts of the world, in all ages and on pretexts the most various and diverse, have suffered persecution. Christianity was never known at Rome except as the subject of persecution until the elevation of Constantine the Great. He was a British prince, elected by the British legions of Rome in Britain to the seat of empire, and he it was who finally overthrew heathenism and established Christianity upon its ruins. True to British traditions, it was his intention to have rebuilt the ancient city of Troy and to have transferred thereto from Rome the seat of empire. Having established Christianity throughout the Roman world, he converted his new city of Constantinople into a kind of patriarchate, and there were some facts well known to all who were present at this conference which made the pretensions of the Pope of Rome to constitute himself Bishop of Bishops, or head of the church, supremely absurd and contradictory. The facts were these—A Christian prelate of Constantinople, called John the Patriarch, had a few years previously assumed this very title of Bishop of Bishops, or Pope, and this being generally protested against by the Christian church, was by none more strenuously resisted than by the Bishop of Rome; and Gregory, who was then Bishop of Rome, wrote to the said John, stating that whoever assumed this title was indisputably the very Antichrist foreshadowed in the Holy Scriptures. Shortly after this authoritative denunciation of the Patriarch John by the Bishop of Rome, one Phocas, a captain of the Roman Pretorian guard, attained the position of Emperor. The Patriarch of Constantinople refused to recognize him, and in this dilemma he applied to the Bishop of Rome, Boniface, the immediate successor of the same Gregory, who had, as before mentioned, denounced as Antichrist any one who should assume the title of Pope, and Boniface agreed at once to recognize the usurper Phocas provided he would confer upon him that identical title, which was accordingly done. It is recorded that the British bishops presented to Augustin a copy of the letter by which his master, Pope Gregory, had thus designated whoever should assume the title of Bishop of Bishops as the Antichrist of scripture, and one can therefore believe at once the statement in the Saxon Chronicle, which gives, as the only argument used by Augustin, in support of his master's pretensions, the following:—"If you will not have peace with us you shall perish at the hand of the Saxons;" and we have seen in what manner he fulfilled what the Saxon Chronicle also calls his "prophecies."

It was my wish to avoid as far as possible these theological features in our early history, but I found that they are inseparable from the subject. The existence of the British church for six hundred years before the rise of the Roman papacy being fatal to the pretensions upon which that power is based, it has ever been and still continues to be an essential point of ecclesiastical policy and teaching to repudiate and deny every fact connected with it, and this could only be successfully done by consigning early British history to oblivion.

In further explanation and confirmation of this view, I proceed

to give a short account of the rise and progress of Christianity in Britain. In St. Paul's affecting second epistle to Timothy, chapter iv, verse 21, written on the evening before his execution by Nero, he states—"Eubulus greeteth thee and Pudens and Linus and Claudia and all the brethren." Now, Linus was the second son of Caractacus, the heroic British king, who having been taken prisoner by the Romans, addressed to the senate that speech which forms a prominent feature in classic history. Claudia was his daughter, and Pudens, a Roman, was her husband; this was in the year A.D. 67. In the previous year Linus had been consecrated by St. Paul, Bishop of Rome, and the first church in Rome was the palace on the declivity of the Mons Sacer, in which Caractacus and his family resided, and which being afterwards devoted to the purposes of a church by his daughter Claudia, may yet, I believe, be seen in Rome, under the name of the church of St. Pudentiana.

When this Caractacus, after waging, according to the Roman account, thirty pitched battles against them, ultimately, by treachery, became their prisoner, the Romans believed that Britain was at length subjugated; but as in so many subsequent instances, out of our temporary trials and disasters the national character has come forth, as from an eclipse, with greater power and brilliancy. The accidental presence at Rome of this illustrious captive, and his meeting St. Paul in the Roman prison, may not unreasonably be regarded as the means appointed by the Almighty for the establishment and diffusion of Christianity. His son Linus, as we have seen, was the first Gentile bishop, and it was by his family that the first church was established at Rome, and for two centuries afterwards there maintained itself against the continued efforts of the Roman Emperors to extirpate it. Titus succeeded in extinguishing the Hebrew church by the most bloody extirpation recorded in history—the destruction of Jerusalem; and it was in Britain alone that Christianity found refuge under the royal auspices thus providentially secured for it by St. Paul himself.

It was in the year 56 that St. Paul first came to Rome, and in the following year that Bran, the father of Caractacus, Caractacus himself, and the other members of the royal family of Britain, then at Rome, were converted and baptised by him. In 59 Aristobulus, the brother of St. Barnabas, the father-in-law of St. Peter, was ordained by St. Paul first bishop of Britain, and returned with Bran Caractacus to this country, where they were visited, as it is now confidently alleged by these who are engaged in excavating this portion of our history in the following year by St. Paul himself. The first church in Britain, it is also asserted, was established by Joseph of Arimathea, namely, at Glastonbury, in Somersetshire; and tradition has preserved as the epitaph on his tomb, the following words—"I came to the Britons after I buried Jesus Christ; I taught them and rested."

These Christian influences manifested themselves in the year 155 by the formal adoption of Christianity as the national religion—this was effected by King Lucius, at a great national Council, held at Winchester, and which was conducted in strict accordance with the ancient customs and laws of the realm. Thenceforth Druidism ceased to exist; the High Druidic Courts in each tribe and county becoming so many episcopal sees, and the Archdruids at London, York, and Caerleon, accepting the new title and dignity of Archbishops.

From this period to the elevation of Constantine to supreme authority in Rome, there existed no other spot on earth, so far as is known, in which Christianity was recognized or even permitted by the temporal power; and it was by this British prince Constantine, justly known to history as Constantine the Great, Emperor of Rome and founder of Constantinople, that the Cross was permanently planted throughout the Roman world on the ruins of Heathenism. This was in the years 306-336; and referring for the career of this illustrious man to the pages of Gibbon, I will merely quote, in the words of one of his own edicts, the great objects of his life,—"We call God to witness, the Saviour of all men, that in assuming the reins of government we have never been influenced by other than these two considerations—the uniting of all our dominions in one faith, and restoring peace to a world torn to pieces by the madness of religious persecutions."

The church in England was for ages recognized by Latin historians as the "Royal Church," *Regia Domus*, or Royal Temple, being the title by which it was distinguished from all other churches; and Genebrard, an Italian historian of authority, states, "The glory of Britain consists not only in this, that she was the first country which in a national capacity publicly professed herself Christian, but that she made this confession when the Roman empire itself was yet pagan and a cruel persecutor of Christianity."

I must again apologise for detaining you with these details of our early Christian history; they are chiefly interesting as affording the only intelligible explanation of the intense hostility with which the annals of our early history have ever been regarded by the papacy and by every church which bases itself upon the pretensions of Rome. Offering to you these facts with that view, I can only hope that some of my hearers may be thereby led to make such investigations for themselves as will not only justify the earnestness with which I press the subject upon your consideration, but will strengthen their confidence and faith in those principles of Christian independence and that unyielding resistance to all other claims to authority but such as are based upon the Bible, which, known to us under the name of Protestantism, can thus be proved by our own British annals to be coeval with Christianity itself. As I approach the necessary limits of this lecture I cannot but feel the imperfection of my humble efforts in treating on so vast and important a topic, the only result which I can desire or expect being to stimulate inquiry further into our national pedigree; and for this purpose I must further ask your attention to such facts as do directly connect us as Englishmen with this early British race. For this purpose I must exceed for a few sentences the chronological limit which I prescribed for myself, of the Norman conquest.

You will remember that I commenced my narrative with the Trojan era, which terminated with the Roman invasion and commencement of the Christian era. The Romans then have our attention for four hundred years, and six hundred years more of Saxon domination and influences—hardly entitled to be called a national system of government—brings us to the Norman conquest and the Plantagenet era. This terminated in the year 1485 by the restoration of the ancient British sovereignty in the person of Henry the Seventh. During all these centuries the Welsh had fully preserved in unbroken succession, not only the ancient laws, language, and traditions of Britain, but the ancient royal race—and Henry the Seventh was its lineal representative. The history of Wales is a portion of British history which, though not essential to establish the fact that we as Englishmen inherit the honours of our British ancestry, is of great interest in connection with this restoration in the person of Henry the Seventh of the ancient British sovereignty; for it is a fact well recognized at the time, that by his victory at Bosworth Field the ancient British dynasty was restored to the throne, and the nation may thus far be said to have discarded all remains of either Roman, Saxon, or Norman dominion. It cannot but be gratifying to every lover of the existing laws, constitution, and government of our country to be certified of the fact (as undoubtedly it is) that in our present beloved Sovereign we recognize no trace of rule or dominion imposed by foreigners; that, subject to such modification as the laws of nature or the will of the people has ordained, our Queen Victoria (accidentally bearing the same name as the heroic Queen of Britain, commonly known as Boadicea), is the rightful representative of British sovereigns who reigned in this land one thousand years before the invasion of the Romans. And thus recognizing in Her Majesty the most ancient reigning dynasty in the world, we also may fairly assume to ourselves as Englishmen no small share of national honour in having braved and surmounted with national front still unbroken the vicissitudes and the trials of three thousand years.

It is due to our fellow countrymen of Wales to point out their especial claim to share in this national honour.

For one thousand five hundred years, namely, from the first invasion of the Romans to the accession of Henry the Seventh, the ark of this, our national covenant, was nobly preserved by that portion of the ancient British race, occupying as they did the natural fortresses of the western part of the island known as Wales. They there retained the ancient language in its original purity, and cherished with extreme devotion and affection many of the primitive institutions and customs of Britain, as to this day may be seen and appreciated. But I think I can answer for them that they claim no other historical preeminence amongst their fellow countrymen of England than the credit of having done justice to the common name and character of Britons, in the manner in which they rendered available during these fifteen centuries the natural advantages of their district; repelling as they did the successive waves of foreign invasion as they broke at times most heavily, but in the end, as we have seen, harmlessly, against them.

Sir John Price, an eminent Welsh historian, thus describes the views of the Welsh as to the restoration of their royal race in Henry the Seventh. "Until our race," he says, "had placed their ancient blood on the throne, there was no quiet for either themselves or the English, but since that time they have aban-

done Mars for Minerva, and turned by a wonderful alchemy, their swords into quills." The change of religion, called the Reformation, effected by Henry the Eighth, is attributed to various motives and causes, according to the bias of those who write or speak, but it was regarded at the time as being simply a return to the ancient British church. Lord Bacon, in his treatise on the Government of England, thus describes it as the revival of the ancient British church. "The Britons," he says, "told Augustin they would not be subject to him nor let him pervert the ancient laws of their church. 'This was their resolution and they were as good as their word, for they maintained the liberty of their church six hundred years after his time, and were the last of all the churches of Europe that gave up their power to the Roman beast, and, in the person of Henry the Eighth, that was of their blood by Owen Tudor, the first that took that power away again;" and it would be an interesting task, if time allowed, to trace the gradual progress which since the time of Henry the Eighth has been made towards the completion of that restoration of the ancient British church which Henry the Eighth seems rather to have commenced than to have effected.

For instance, he assumed the title of "Head of the Church," whereas Elizabeth, under the special advice of Cecil, Lord Burleigh—one of those who accompanied Henry the Seventh from Wales—rejected that title as being applicable to our Blessed Lord alone, and impious in any human being, Pope or Monarch, to assume. And we all know the efforts made by Cromwell to shake off those other remnants of popery which, in his time as well as the present day, are made subservient to the vanity of the weak or to the designs of the popish and dishonest members of our Protestant established church. Cromwell and Milton, and many other of the leading spirits of those days brought with them into England, from Wales, the uncompromising spirit which they manifested in matters as well of church as state; and the Welsh, who were never thoroughly reconciled to Rome, appear always to have regarded the formularies of the established church as retaining too much of the forms and doctrines of popery. That nonconformity which in England has the character of dissent, bears to the people of Wales the aspect rather of adherence to their ancient faith. They reject the characteristic of dissent, although the primitive church, as established by St. Paul, does certainly appear to have been episcopal in its name and character; though what the precise extent of power and authority implied by the term "bishop," and "episcopacy," was—is a fair subject of discussion. In further justice to this gallant and loyal class of our fellow subjects, I may also again quote Sir John Price, who states with truth that no differences either of race, religion, or politics, have ever left the slightest stain upon their loyalty to the crown and constitution of the realm since it was recognized by them. In their struggles to maintain their independence against the Normans, there is nothing in Greek or Roman story that surpasses the continuous and unaided efforts by which they resisted subjection; most of their native kings died upon the field of battle, and the Norman writers freely accorded to them the title of the "bravest of mankind." They ever cherished throughout the darkest reverses the belief that the throne of England was destined to be restored to their race, and the restoration of Henry Seventh was its realization. This belief was called by their bards the "lamp in darkness," and it never failed to rally them in the field around every chief that presented himself as the Arthur of their future empire. Henry the Seventh landed, as we know, at Milford, and his forces at Bosworth were almost entirely composed of the Welsh who had flocked to his standard.

"In forest, mountain, and in camp,
Before them moved 'the burning lamp';
In blackest night its quenchless rays
Beckoned them on to glorious days."

Ever true to this feeling of a common nationality, the Welsh—unlike the Scottish or the Irish, who were generally found in the ranks of England's enemies—never in any instance took arms against the common interests of the British empire. The Welsh took a leading part amongst the English forces, not only in the Crusades, but in the French wars of the Henrys and Edwards.

I will conclude this attempt to inspire you with a desire to know more of these early days and incidents of our national history, by quoting the words of a prophecy, said to be contemporary with the first event which I mentioned to you—the arrival of the Trojans, one thousand years before Christ. It must be admitted that if ever the claim to prophetic power was justified and sustained by the realization of a future far beyond the keenest vision of man's intelligence, and beyond any cal-

culations of accomplishment by mere human power, such is due to the lines I shall quote to you. Coasting the southern shore of the Mediterranean, in search of the island of the west, Brutus arrived at Melita, and there consulted an oracle as to the future destinies of his family and nation; the response of this oracle, accepted by him as Divine, was engraved in Archaic Greek, in his temple in London—it might be on that very stone to which I before called your attention, as having been the pedestal of the Palladium of Troy—and having been translated into Latin by Nennius in the third century, has been versified by Pope, as follows:—

"Brutus—there lies beyond the Gallic bounds,
An island which the western seas surround;
By ancient giants held—now few remain
To bar thy entrance or obstruct thy reign;
To reach that happy shore, thy sails employ,
There fate decrees to raise a second Troy;
And found an empire in thy royal line,
Which time shall ne'er destroy nor bounds confine."

Such, my friends, is the Island in which we dwell; and guided solely by human experience, it would demand less faith to believe in the absolute and literal fulfilment of this prophecy—"Time shall ne'er destroy, nor bounds confine," than to have anticipated the extent to which it has been already realized; and still more difficult would it be to account by mere human agency for the past progress, the present position, and the prospects yet before us—or for the more than human vicissitudes and trials through which as a nation we have attained, and at this day hold so preeminent a position amongst the nations of the world.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

RARE MASONIC BOOKS.

In reply to the inquiry of "†*†," Bro. Spencer, of Great Queen-street, has requested us to state that he wrote to his agent in Paris, to buy several important lots in the *Catalogue d'une précieuse Collection de Livres, &c., &c.*, late the property of the "Archives G. du Rit. Ecoss. Phque.," and received a letter in reply stating that the collection had been sold in its entirety. He will ascertain, if possible, who bought this valuable library.

"T. C. E." is informed Bro. R. Spencer has a set of *Moore's Boston Freemasons' Monthly Magazines* for sale, complete in nineteen volumes. Should "T. C. E." be travelling in Ireland next summer, Bro. Spencer will give him letters of introduction to two gentlemen who have complete sets in their libraries (this of course will be with a reservation). Bro. Spencer supplies this work to the Singapore Lodge library, the Nassau Lodge library, and the library of the Lodge of Hope, Launceston, Tasmania; these Lodges have each a large and valuable collection of works on Freemasonry.

Bro. Spencer also writes—"I should remark I have no time to devote to gossiping and lounging brethren. I might also mention that our American brethren are buying up all the English (old) works on Masonry they can find, and are forming Masonic libraries in the different states; private as well as in their Grand Lodges."

MASONIC SONG BOOK.

Where can I get a copy of *Masonic Songs Adapted to Modern Melodies*, by N. S. Evans, which was noticed in the *Freemasons' Quarterly Review* for 1851?—VOCALIST.

THE FRENCH CALENDAR.

Is the *Necessaire Maçonnique, Calendrier Maçonnique du Grand Orient de France* to be had in London, and at what cost?—F. ARCHER.

DEAF AND DUMB MASONS.

Before the *Freemasons' Magazine* adopted the plan of recording curious and extraordinary scraps of intelligence under "Masonic Notes and Queries," the publication of the latter name, the original *Notes and Queries*, had now and then inserted communications on the subject, one of which occurring in vol ix., first series, p. 542, I extract, thinking it worthy of being better known in the Craft. It is headed—

"Freemasonry. A Hamburg paper, *Der Freischütz*, brings in its No. 27 the following:—

"The great English Lodge of this town will initiate, in a few days, two deaf and dumb persons; a very rare occurrence."

"And says further, in No. 31—

"With reference to our notice in No. 27, we further learned that on the 4th of March two brethren, one of them deaf and dumb, have been initiated in the great English Lodge; the knowledge of the language, without its pronunciation, has been cultivated by them to a remarkable degree, so that with noting the motion of the lips they do not miss a

single word. "The ceremony of initiation was the most affecting for all present."

"Query 1. Would deaf and dumb persons in England be eligible as members of the Order? 2. Have similar cases to the above ever occurred in this country?—J. W., S.D. No. 874."

As the Junior Warden of the Lodge of Harmony, at Bradford, did not get a reply through the medium in which the above questions were put, permit me to reiterate the same in your columns. —SPHINX.

ST. SIMONIANS AND FREEMASONS.

In *Chambers's Edinburgh Journal*, No. 87, new series, August 30th, 1845, the following passage appears, extracted from *Memoirs of Lady Hester Stanhope*:—"Most of these events, too, she connected with the Second Advent, in which doctrine she was a believer, and looked upon herself as the woman desecrated by the St. Simonians and the Freemasons." Can any brother explain what is meant by this statement?—CAMBUSNETHAN.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

Will some brother be good enough to give a list of the Deputy Provincial Grand Masters of Staffordshire from the year 5830 to the present time.—H. T. B., Wintertown.

A SLIGHT CONTRIBUTION TO LODGE HISTORY.

Having frequently felt that it would be desirable to have some record of the mutations and changes of the various Lodges, I am induced to furnish a scrap of information towards such an end. Local histories and topography are generally sealed books to the general reader from their being printed at, or circulated within, a very short radius of the place of which they treat. Such I believe is the case with Lieut. Col. Harding's *History of Tiverton, in the County of Devon*, published in 1845; and as it contains an account of the Lodges formed or meeting in Tiverton at various times, may not be unacceptable in "Masonic Notes and Queries." The remarks upon the objects and antiquity of the Order I omit, because it would only be recapitulating a thrice told tale. In vol. ii., book iv., p. 110, we are informed—

"The first Lodge in Tiverton was established 2nd November, 1767, by the title of All Souls' Lodge, No. 226, in St. John's Hall, and its meetings were first held at the Vine Tavern, in Gold-street, and afterwards removed to the Phoenix, in Fore-street. It consisted at first of six brothers, which in 1790 had increased to seventeen. From some irregularity in their proceedings they lost their warrant, which was transferred to Weymouth, where it is still in existence. This transfer took place between 1802 and 1806, but the exact year I have not been able to discover.

"Another warrant was transferred to Tiverton, on the requisition of a body of gentlemen, in 1831, called the Lodge of Fidelity, No. 280, but formerly No. 405. This Lodge was instituted 2nd May, 1799, by virtue of a warrant granted by His Grace, John, Duke of Athol, at that time Grand Master of the Order, to certain brothers at Plymouth, where it continued many years; but having purchased the paraphernalia, &c., of Lodge No. 92, from Exeter, the Lodge of Fidelity was transferred to Topsham, 23rd September, 1828, and from thence to Tiverton on the 18th September, 1831.

"On its first formation it was composed almost entirely of gentlemen, but is now supported by gentlemen and many of the most respectable tradesmen in Tiverton. They have their Lodge at the Angel Inn, where monthly meetings are held, and it is considered to be one of the handsomest and best appointed in the West of England.

"In 1833 a Royal Arch Chapter was attached to the Lodge, and a Knights Templar Encampment in 1835."

Such is the account given of the Tiverton Lodge in the local history; and wishing every brother would contribute what he knows to so interesting a subject as Lodge history, I send my mite of information.—VERAN.

ANCIENT CHARTERS.

The following is a copy of the Charter of Ancient Kilwinning Freemasons, Lodge Stirling, with which we have been favoured by Bro. Dyson, P.M. :—

"David the First, by the grace of God, King of Scots, wishes health and safety to the bishops, princes, earls, barons, ministers and administrators of our law, and all good men of the whole nation, both clergy, laicks, and common people, and to all whom these shall come, greeting; Whereas, our truly and well-beloved friends, the operative Masons in the burgh and town of Stirling, health, by their petition humbly represented to us, that the inhabitants of this town has been imposed upon by a number of unskilled and insufficient workmen, that comd to work at our Abby of Cambus Rennith and ither parts o this town and neabourhood; and, also, has erected lodges contrary to the rules of Masonry; and being desirous of putting a stop to such unskilled and so unregular brothers, most humbly prays us to grant them our royal licence and protection for stopping such unregular disorders, and we being willing to give all due encouragement to so reasonable a petition, are graciously

pleased to condieend to their request; and we do, by thair presents, ordain and grant to our petitioners to incorporat themselves together into a lodge, and no ither shall offer to disturb them at their meeting, and he or they coming shall be examined annent their skill and knowledge of the Mason craft by three o the ablest o the lodge, and if he or they be found to be of cunning and knowledge to be received into the same, and each shall pay ten pounds Scots to the common funds of the lodge, and three pounds to the alter and clerk and officers' dues which the foresaid office-bearers shall albois be judges off, and other laws for the behooff of the lodge.

"Item. That the free Masons in Stirling shall hold a lodge for ever in the burgh of Stirling, and none in that shieriffdom or stuartry of Men-toith in my dominions, shall ereek a lodge untill the make application to the operative lodge in Stirling, and the considering their petition and examine their charackter and good behaviour, may pleas grant them au charter conformed to their regulations.

"Item. And that any having pour from them mentain my peace firm and stable against all other usurpers or pretenders who eneroach on me or my subjects, and you all to obey the magistrats in all things relating to my peace and the good of the town.

"Item. And that you mack, instruct, and teach the Masonry of St. John in all its parts and secrets, and as lik belted knights and cross-legged knights with armour, for the care and keeping of our holy religion and all tims of meeting, so their be no scurillity or banning among you in the lodge, and such offending shall forfett and pay five pounds Scots, the one half to the lodge, they ither halfe to the alter of Saint Mary's to say mass for their soul.

"Item. And I strickly charge and command that none tack in hand in any way to disturb the free operative Masons from being freemen or have a free lodge, to tack away their good name or possessions, or harass or do any injurie to any free Masons and petitioners, under the perill of my highest displeasure, and we order that notice be taken that due obedience be rendered to our pleasure herein.

"Declared.

"Given at our court at Edinburgh, the fifth day of March, one thousand one hundred and forty-seven years, before these witnesses,

"Prince Henry, my son.

"Earl John of Menbeith.

"Earl Duncan of Lennox.

"Herbert, Bishop of Glasgow.

"Robert, Bishop of St. Andrew.

"Gregory, Bishop of Dunkell, and

"Walter de Ridale.

"Andrew of Stonhous."

To which is affixed the king's seal, which is all defaced.

MASONIC CEREMONIES.

In the *Alhimon Rexon* (edition 1813), page 23, I find the following :—

"About the year 1717 some joyous Companions who had passed the degree of a Craft, though very rusty, resolved to form a Lodge for themselves, in order, by conversation, to recollect what had been formerly dictated to them, or, if that should be found impracticable, to substitute something new which might, for the future, pass for Masonry amongst themselves. At this meeting the question was asked whether any person in the assembly knew the Master's part; and being answered in the negative, it was resolved that the deficiency should be made up with a new composition, and what fragments of the old Order could be found among them should be immediately reformed, and made more pliable to the humours of the people."

Will any of your crudite correspondents be kind enough to inform me—1st. Whether it is true that these revival worthies were unacquainted with the third degree? 2nd. And if so, in whose custody was it preserved with such zealous care that it escaped the notice of Desaguliers, the friend of Sir Christopher Wren? 3rd. Whether the third degree is not a modern interpolation not anterior to the 17th century?—A. Z.

A NEW ORDER.—The *Masonic Chronicle*, published at New York, and edited by Bro. William H. Milner, M.D., P.G.M., says :—"A new Order has sprung into existence within the last few months, under the guidance of Bro. Dr. Horwitz. Dr. H. is a Mason of repute with us, as an intellectual member of the institution. The very fact that he is a devoted symbolic Mason, thoroughly acquainted both with tenets and ritual, gives assurance that he would be instrumental in no design calculated to injure ancient Craft Masonry. On the contrary, the doctor's great desire is to illustrate, by all the means in his power, its hidden beauties. The rite which he has organized in New York hails from Egypt, once the nurse of art and science. It is Masonic in character, elucidating to its votaries, who must be Masons, the principles which Masonry inculcates. This 'Oriental Rite' commences the work at the 34th degree, thus interfering in no way with those already established."

—[We are astonished that any Mason should recommend a new degree to the brethren, and we sincerely hope that no attempt will be made to introduce such humbug into England.—Ed.]

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

A PARAGRAPH has gone the round of the daily papers, which states that the profits of the recent amateur performance at the Lyceum Theatre amounted to £400, which will be divided between the two families for whom the members of the "Savage Club" so generously exerted themselves.

Pagnerre, the Republican Paris publisher, has brought out a fifth volume of the new and spirited French translation of Shakspeare, by François-Victor Hugo, a son of the celebrated novelist, dramatist, and poet, and who was the first translator of Shakspeare's Sonnets into French. As explained in a former publication, M. Hugo classifies Shakspeare's plays on a new principle. Thus, Vol. III. was entitled "Les Tyrans," and comprised "Macbeth," "King John," and "Richard III.;" Vol. V., the first section of "Le Jaloux," contained "Troilus and Cressida," "Much Ado about Nothing," and the "Winter's Tale." Vol. VI. will be published in the course of April.

M. Thiers has just delivered to the printer the first sheet of Vol. XVII. of the "Histoire du Consulat et de l'Empire." The third volume of the "Mémoires de M. Guizot" is to appear in a week or ten days, and will, it is said, be equal in interest to the first two.

The *Critic* is responsible for the following assertion:—"A virtual though not an express continuation, if rumour is to be believed, of Lord Macaulay's History of England, may be expected one of these days from the editor of the *Cornhill Magazine*. A History of the Reign of Queen Anne is actually talked of and written about as likely to proceed from the pen of Mr. Thackeray. Well, Mr. Thackeray has shown in his "Esmoud" that he understands the politics of Queen Anne's reign as well as its literature."

A subscription is on foot for the erection of a memorial window to Mrs. Hemans, to be placed in the church where she lies buried—that of St. Anne, Dublin. The estimated cost is £250 of which about one-fifth has been already promised to lead the subscription.

A remarkable trial has just been concluded in Leipsic, namely, that of a Dr. Lindner, Professor in the University of that town, who has been convicted of the crime of stealing and mutilating some of the books and MSS. in the public library. The sentence passed upon him is a severe one, but not disproportionate to the aggravated nature of his crime—six years' imprisonment, with hard labour! Let the delinquents in the British Museum Reading Room take warning in time by this example, since the law in this country is, we believe, fully as severe as that of Saxony with respect to such offences.

At the Royal Society's last meeting, Sir Benjamin Brodie presided as usual. A list of candidates for election into the Society was read: they amount to forty-nine. The following papers were read, "On the Electrical Phenomena which accompany Muscular Contraction," by Prof. Matteucci. "An Inquiry into the Muscular Movements resulting from the Action of a Galvanic Current upon Nerve," by Dr. Raddell. "Account of a Thunder-Storm which occurred in Brussels on the 19th of February last," in a letter from the British Minister at Brussels.

On Monday week, at the Royal Institution, the chair was taken by William Pole, Esq., the Treasurer. Thomas Farmer Baily, George Francis Brown, Joseph Brown, Stephen Busk, Charles William Franks, John Peter Cassiot, jun., Thomas Greg, Thomas John Kent, Robert Morant, John Charles Salt, Edward Woods, Esqrs., and Rev. George Godwin Pownall Glossop, A.M., were duly elected members; and Mr. Arthur Puller, John Morgan, and William Salmon, were admitted members. The secretary announced that the following arrangements had been made for the lectures after Easter: Seven lectures "On the Structure, Habits, and Affinities of Herbivorous Mammalia, with especial reference to certain Species now living in the Zoological Society's Gardens, Regent's-park," by T. Spencer Cobbold, M.D., F.L.S.; Eight lectures "On some Recent Researches in Physical Geography and Geology," by David T. Ansted, Esq., M.A., F.R.S.; Eight lectures "On some Results of the Association of Heat with Chemical Force, Practically Applied," by F. A. Abel, Esq., Director of the War Department, Royal Arsenal, Woolwich.

On the 1st instant, at the Society of Antiquaries, J. Bruce, Esq., Vice-president, was in the chair. Sir J. Hammer, Bart., and Mr. G. Gilbert Scott, were elected Fellows. Mr. S. Stone exhibited and communicated an account of the discovery of Anglo-Saxon Remains, near Witney. The Hon. R. Marsham exhibited and described some curious Stone Axes used by the natives of Brazil. Mr. J. H. Parker exhibited a series of drawings taken from wall-paintings in Charlgrove Church, Oxon, and read a description and illustration of them by Mr. William Burgess.

At the last meeting of the Zoological Society, Mr. Gould presided.

Dr. Crisp read a paper on the causes of death of animals, which have died in the Society's gardens during seven years, as deduced from post-mortem examinations made by himself, accompanied by tabulated series of the results. Mr. Selater pointed out the differences between the Punjab sheep living in the Society's gardens (*Ovis cycloceros* of Hutton), of the Sulimani range of hills, and the Shapoo of Ladakh, which he regarded as the true *Ovis vignei*. These observations were illustrated by the exhibition of a numerous series of the heads and horns of the four known species of wild sheep of Northern India. Mr. Bartlett read some notes on the breeding of bears in the Society's menagerie. The Secretary exhibited, on the part of Mr. Alfred Newton, a specimen of *Hirundo bicolor* of North America, shot in England, from the collection of the late J. Wolley, jun., Esq. Dr. Günthür communicated a paper entitled "Contributions to the Knowledge of the Himalayan Reptiles," founded principally on the large collections of reptiles made by the Brothers Schlagintweit during their travels. Among them were several interesting forms, some of which were new to science. Dr. Günthür distinguished three several zones of altitude for the division of the Himalayas according to their reptilian fauna—each of which contained characteristic species. Dr. Gray communicated the characters of a new form of snakes of the family *Boidae*, proposed to be called *Chrysocis Batesii*, after Mr. Bates, its discoverer, from the Upper Amazon. Papers were also read by Mr. W. H. Pease, on forty-three new species of shells from the Sandwich Islands; and Dr. Pfeiffer, on new land shells in the Cumingian Collection.

A committee of gentlemen has been formed for the erection of a portrait-statue of Dr. Priestley, among the distinguished men of science, in the corridor of the new Museum at Oxford. Mr. Stephens is spoken of as the sculptor. An interesting collection of all the known portraits of Dr. Priestley has been formed for the occasion at Dr. Williams's Library in Red Cross-street. They exhibit him at various periods of life, the best are, a picture by W. Artaud, engraved in line by T. Holloway, and a profile medallion by Wedgwood. A life-size sketch of the Doctor, seated, is a truly unfavourable specimen of Fuseli: it has been engraved by C. Turner, in 1836. The most pleasing and benevolent looking portrait, is one belonging to Mrs. Parkes, a copy from one by Gilbert Stuart: it exhibits him at an advanced age in his own thin, grey hair, whilst all the other pictures show him in a powdered wig with little curls, which gives a certain degree of formality. The wig seems at all events to afford certain characteristics well adapted for sculpture. Among the members of the committee are, Professor Graham, the Master of the Mint, James Yates, Esq., Dr. Priestley, Joseph Parkes, Esq., the Secretary of the National Portrait Gallery, the Rev. J. James Taylor, and Ashton Bostock, Esq., Secretary.

"At Colnaght's," says the *Press*, "we have seen a noble portrait of Tennyson, in the painting of which, we understand, Mr. Watts has had all the advantage of intimate personal intercourse. For ourselves we always desire to think of the poet as rendered in Mr. Woolner's bust of subtle sensitive lines and flowing luxuriant locks. This is our ideal. Mr. Watts has given us a more vigorous reality—somewhat the head of a patriarch and a puritan rather than the poet of Elaine and Elaine. The friends of Mr. Tennyson, however, are well pleased, and they propose to engrave the work for private distribution."

Mr. Foley, R.A., has in hand a statute of one of the Brothers in Comus: this is understood to be intended for his diploma work upon election as Royal Academician.

A sketch by Hogarth, which has never been engraved, was sold at Messrs. Christie and Manson's last week; the subject being a man stay-maker, fitting a pair of stays on a lady. Her husband and a group of persons are included in the design, which is executed in brownish colour only.

THE GAS COMPANIES AND THEIR CONSUMERS.—The complaints which arise on every side of the bad supply of this great necessary, of its inferior quality, and of the superciliousness of the companies and their agents, would perhaps be modified if consumers would take some slight pains themselves to obviate the existing evils. Many of these annoyances might be got rid of by the use of the new "gas regulator," which is the invention of Mr. Judkin, of Ludgate-street, and is the best thing of the kind brought out yet. It is easily adjusted, admitting of no variation in the pressure, securing a purer and uniform light, and effecting an average saving of from 25 to 40 per cent. The advantages over other regulators are—simplicity of construction, greater efficiency in operation, and non-liability to get out of order.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

BRO. PERCY WELLS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Can any of your readers inform me whether Bro. Percy Wells, who has recently been appointed to a high post in connection with the Mark Degree, in Australia, by Lord Leigh, be the same person who formerly resided in this province? Some few brethren here are troubled with suspicions that it may be so. I have made a few inquiries, but unsuccessfully. Perhaps you may be able to throw some light on the subject. I am of opinion, which, as Mr. Gladstone says, "amounts to a persuasion," that the Percy whom the Grand Master of Marks has delighted to honour is none other than an indigenous production of that fertile colony, and not he, formerly of Bath. This "persuasion" is not unnatural, seeing that that inestimable and never to be forgotten brother pledged himself never again to ally his sacred person to any Masonic body; and on retiring from the several orders to which he belonged in this province a collateral pledge was tendered on his behalf, by more than one of his friends, that he never should again officially join a Masonic body here or elsewhere. It may be a slight violation of the laws of probability to suppose that there should be a second Frederick Thomas Percy in Australia, distinguished alike with the remarkable personage who bore that honoured triplicate here, and who emigrated thither recently. What of that? These are days of wonders. Why should Bath alone produce its Percy? Nobody will deny or seek to ignore the peculiar coincidence; but is it so? Is the recipient of Lord Leigh's distinction our Percy? That is the question. Perhaps Bro. Ridgway could answer it.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
Bath, March 13th, 1860. AN OLD WELLSIAN.

AMERICAN v. IRISH FREEMASONRY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In a late number of your interesting *Magazine*, a brother signing himself "P. Z." seems somewhat annoyed that I should have advanced the opinion in a recent letter on the subject "Inspection of Lodges," that our American brethren conducted the Lodges more regularly, and sent forth better working Masons than the brethren of this country; and calls on me to visit the Cork Lodges, but more particularly Concord Lodge, No. 71, in refutation of my views. Before I proceed I may here state that my desire was not to land our American brethren at the expense of those of this country, as "P. Z." would give me credit for; my motive was purely Masonic. Having witnessed the Craft at work on both sides of the Atlantic, and also having repeatedly seen brethren examined from different parts of each country, I unhesitatingly and conscientiously state (as far as my experience goes) that Brother Jonathan does more justice to our beloved Order than we do. Hence my reason for introducing the subject. Bro. "P. Z." to substantiate his belief that "our American brethren have little to boast of superior to us in the knowledge and practice of genuine Freemasonry," relates the following incident:—

"An American brother from Kentucky was introduced to our Lodge by a well known brother, Past Master of one of our city Lodges, and consequently it was considered unnecessary to subject him to the customary tests; however, on being asked for his certificate from his Grand Lodge he answered that diplomas were not granted in any of the American States, except in the State of New York, and added that he would wish to be regularly tested by us the same as though he had not come to us vouchered for. Two of the brethren were then directed to do that duty: one of the said brothers alluded to, put three questions to our American brother, neither of which could he answer; and this induced our testing brother to say that if he were the Worshipful Master of the Lodge, and the tested brother unvouchered for sought admission to the Lodge, he would not admit him. In the after part of the evening the same brother, as well as other brethren of the Lodge, had to correct our American brother in several Masonic matters which he advanced; and if he had 'an ear to hear' he certainly learned that evening (in Cork Lodge, No. 71), Masonic truths he never heard before, though reported to be a well informed Mason in Kentucky Grand Lodge. I mention these facts to show that our American brethren have not the superiority over Irish brethren that some give them credit for."

Now, Bro. "P. Z." cannot possibly imagine that I meant to convey that every Mason in the States was in the "dead knowledge of everything" concerning Antient Freemasonry, or that I believed there were not Lodges in the united kingdom worked as they should be. To do so would be simply ridiculous. I candidly confess I never sat in a Cork Lodge; nevertheless, I have frequently met and conversed with brethren from the banks of the river Lee, and I really regret to say that I invariably found in them a woful lack of Masonic knowledge. The oftener I read the above extract from Bro. "P. Z.'s" letter, the more I think that the stranger (for such I must call him) without a certificate, and who could not answer either of the questions put by the testing brother, should not have been admitted; and were a brother of this country to present himself to an American Lodge under similar circumstances, I am confidently of opinion that he would be refused admittance, unless vouched for by a well known brother who had witnessed his initiation. I am curious to know, if not too much of a Paul Pry question, what Masonic knowledge the city P.M. had of this Kentucky gentleman without a certificate, and who could give no Masonic account of himself, "though reported to be a well informed Mason in Kentucky Grand Lodge."

As we shall probably hear that high toned organ again, the *Voice of Masonry*, on this subject, I shall conclude, regretting exceedingly that I should have taken up so much of your invaluable space to say so little, and beg to subscribe myself,

Dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
Skibbereen, County Cork,
March 12th, 1860. J. W. P.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

METROPOLITAN.

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

At the meeting of the Committee of this Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows on Wednesday last, it was finally resolved to issue balloting papers for the election of twenty male annuitants out of twenty-nine candidates, and twelve widows out of a list of sixteen candidates.

BROTHER DISTIN.

We have received ten shillings since our last on behalf of this brother, from Bro. Sheen P.M., No. 237.

THE BOYS SCHOOL.

THE anniversary festival of the governors and friends of this most excellent institution was celebrated at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, an excellent dinner being served under the personal superintendence of Bros. Elkington and Shrewsbury. The chair was filled by Viscount RAYNHAM, M.P., and P.M. No. 778, who was supported by Bros. Samuel Tomkins, G. Treas.; Clarke, G. Sec.; Slight, G.D.; Davies, P.G.W.; Potter, P.G.D.; P. J. Scott, P.G.D.; Hervey, P.G.D.; Hopwood, P.G.D.; H. Lloyd, P.G.D.; Fandel, P.G.D.; Phillips, P.G.D.; C. Elkington, P.G.S.B.; J.L. Evans, P.G.S.B.; Dr. Harcourt, D. Prov. G.M. Surrey; Beach, M.P.; Benjamin Head, and about one hundred and fifty other brethren.

Upon the removal of the cloth—

THE NOBLE CHAIRMAN said, that no body of gentleman could display greater feelings of loyalty than those which always distinguished Freemasons. They were proud at all times to acknowledge the obligations they were under to the illustrious lady who filled the throne, and they never met without paying respect to their beloved Sovereign—(Cheers.) He proposed "the Queen, the Patroness of the Institution." (Applause.)

THE CHAIRMAN said, the next toast he had to propose was one which they also had peculiar pleasure in drinking, as it proceeded from the attachment they bore to the family that reigned over these realms. He, therefore, proposed the healths of His Royal Highness the Prince Consort, the patron of art, and the encourager of every charitable and social institution; his illustrious son, His Royal Highness Albert Prince of Wales, whose amiability of character gave assurance that he would inherit the many virtues of his illustrious mother; His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, who was assuredly and deservedly popular throughout the country, and all the other members of the Royal Family—might they long continue to give the same support to the Craft as their ancestors had done before them. (Cheers.)

His Lordship next rose to propose the health of the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, M.W. Grand Master, whose name was so well known to the Craft, and whose zeal in promoting the interests of Freemasonry was so highly appreciated by the brethren, as to render it unnecessary for him to do more than mention his lordship's name, to ensure its being most cordially responded to. (Loud cheers.)

The noble VISCOUNT said the next toast he had to propose was the

health of Lord Paunura, R.W.J.G.M., the Prov. G. Masters, and the Past and Present Grand Officers, coupled with the name of Bro. Davis, P.G. Warden.

Bro. DAVIS, P.G.W., on the part of the D.G.M., and the Past and Present Grand Officers, begged to return his sincere thanks for the compliment paid them. He regretted that many of them, living at a considerable distance from town, were unable to attend the meetings of Grand Lodge so often as they could wish; but he could assure them that they were always ready to do their duty to the best of their ability, and he trusted that the brethren present would that evening do their duty by seconding the efforts of the noble lord who had kindly taken the chair, and render the subscriptions the largest the charity had ever received. (Cheers.)

Bro. TOMKINS, G. Treasurer, had to propose a toast which he knew would meet with a most cordial reception, it being the health of the president of the day, the Right Hon. Viscount Raynham. (Cheers.) He was sure that he need not tell the brethren that the noble viscount had carried out in his public life the great Masonic virtues. (Cheers.) His lordship had given a large portion of his time to philanthropic and charitable objects, and he had not only done all he could to support the oppressed and injured, but he was now doing all in his power to bring their claims before the public in an important periodical—"The Friend of the People." (Cheers.) He would now only call upon them to unite in drinking the health of the noble lord. (Cheers.)

Bro. VISCOUNT RAYNHAM, M.P., could not sufficiently express his obligations for the warm reception they had given the toast which had been so kindly proposed by Bro. Tomkins. He could assure them that he took too great an interest in the prosperity of the Craft, not to make it his endeavour to act up to the virtues it inculcated, to the best of his ability (cheers); and the kind reception of that evening would only afford him an additional reason for endeavouring to carry out that purpose, and to merit their future good opinion. (Cheers.) He felt that he had fallen far short in performing the duties of Freemasonry, in comparison with the interest he took in its prosperity—his public and other important duties having prevented his giving to the Craft that attention which he could have wished and which he was most anxious to do. Their kindness, however, should not be lost upon him, but he would endeavour in the future to increase his efforts on behalf of the Craft, and he could assure them that, so far as lay in his power, whenever any efforts of his might be supposed likely to be beneficial to the interests of Freemasonry, he would not be found wanting. (Cheers.)

The boys in the school having been introduced amidst loud cheers, the noble lord proceeded to present the prizes, and in giving those for history, arithmetic, and geography, to Master A. J. Crichton, he reminded him that he bore the name of one who earned the title of the Admirable Crichton. He (the noble earl) was glad to know that a similar title could be fairly bestowed in that school to the recipient of these prizes, who had received similar marks of approbation in previous years. (Cheers.) It might be in some measure due to genius that he had won these prizes, but they could not doubt that it was also in a great degree due to assiduity; and he (the noble chairman) trusted he would never be wanting in assiduity in the future, as it was sure to lead to reward in any profession he might be called upon to follow.

Other prizes having (with appropriate remarks) been handed to Masters Mellaish and Fisher, the noble lord particularly congratulated the latter on having obtained a prize for good conduct, which if continued must advance his position in after life.

Bro. HORWOOD, P.G.D., and Chairman of the General Committee of the School, begged to be allowed to bear his testimony to the excellent selection which had been made in presenting Master Fisher with the prize for good conduct, as he indeed set an excellent example to the whole of the school.

The noble VISCOUNT then said that he could assure the boys that it had given him great gratification to have the opportunity of presenting the prizes, and he trusted that all would endeavour by their attention to their studies to emulate the example which had been set them, and particularly to bear in mind the observations just made use of by the Chairman of the Committee, for they might rely upon it, that in whatever station of life they might be placed, nothing would more contribute to their advancement than good conduct. (Cheers.) He had heard from Bro. Lloyd that a short time since his attention was called to a young man who was engaged at Southampton Docks, but who had not obtained that promotion to which he thought he was entitled. Upon making inquiry he found that the young man bore a most excellent character, and that he had formerly received the first prize in this school. (Cheers.) Bro. Lloyd therefore exerted himself, and obtained for the young man the promotion he so well deserved. (Cheers.) This might appear a simple story, but he had mentioned it to show them that good character and assiduity in the performance of duty would often lead to promotion and prosperity. (Cheers.) He would now call upon the brethren to fill their glasses and drink a toast which was of no ordinary interest, inasmuch as they might be stated to have met to celebrate the opening of the institution to all the boys educated by them who wished to enter it. He considered that of great importance—though they did not thereby interfere with the fundamental rule of the institution by which they were bound to give education to others whose parents did not wish them to enter the school. Owing to circumstances consequent upon the alteration of the school, those engaged in its management had found considerable difficul-

ties to contend with; but from a visit he had that day paid to Tottenham, he felt convinced that when the alterations in progress were completed, they would contribute much to the efficiency of the establishment, and that they would have in the neighbourhood of London, a school where they could educate, clothe, and board, the pupils under the immediate superintendence of those who took an interest in it. When these alterations were completed, the committee would have the opportunity of seeing suggestions carried out, which would, no doubt, greatly advantage the institution. (Cheers.) There were those present, who he was aware well understood the advantages of the institution; but there might be others, to whom, perhaps, it would not be out of place, if he occupied their attention a few moments whilst he alluded to the great advantages the school was calculated to confer upon the Craft. To all Masons it was well known, that charity was one of the main principles of their order; indeed it was the bond of union which bound them together. (Cheers.) If charity itself appealed to their sympathy, how much more did it so when they were called upon to protect the children of their brethren—to give culture to the infant mind, and prepare for life those who were unfortunately brought under their care by the death or misfortune of their natural guardians. (Cheers.) To educate the young, and prepare them for the battle of life, was one of the most benevolent and excellent objects which any one could be called upon to fulfil, and still more was it so, when from adverse circumstances those who had filled a good position in society were rendered unable to give that education to their children as would enable them to take their proper position in life. (Cheers.) So many of the best and most eloquent men of the day had enlarged upon the advantages of education, that he should not follow the example, but call upon them to give the institution such an amount of assistance as would enable the committee to afford to their pupils an education not only creditable to themselves, but honourable to the Craft. (Cheers.) From the report presented to them, he was satisfied the committee were fairly performing their duty, and he trusted the contributions of the brethren would enable them to extend the blessings of the institution, that by degrees it might so advance as to become equal, if not superior, to any similar institution in the kingdom. He begged, in conclusion, to propose "Prosperity to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys." (Cheers.)

The toast having been drunk with loud applause,

Bro. HORWOOD, P.G.D., as Chairman of the General Committee, returned thanks, and apologized for the absence of the excellent Treasurer of the institution, Bro. Benjamin Bond Cabell, in consequence of illness, but who had evinced his continued interest in its prosperity by forwarding ten guineas, being his thirty-third donation. (Applause.) He regretted that he should have to acknowledge the toast as Chairman of the Committee, having only recently succeeded Bro. John Hervey, who had given many years attention to the interests of the school, and whose efficiency he could never hope to attain. He would, however, do his best to promote the prosperity of the institution, and he ventured to hope that the report which had been laid upon the table would show them that notwithstanding the interruptions to which they had been subjected by the alterations in hand, they were making satisfactory progress in bringing the school into a good and efficient condition. The committee had taken steps to bring all the boys under the system of their schoolhouse—and with the exception of four who from various causes still remained at private schools, they had succeeded. (Cheers.) He looked upon the emblem of charity as the brightest jewel they could wear, and whilst returning thanks to the noble lord in the chair for his kindness in presiding over the festival, he could only call upon the brethren to evince their appreciation of that kindness by the liberality of their subscriptions, assuring them that the committee would ever endeavour zealously to perform their duties with the utmost efficiency, and reminding them that it was to the assistance they received from their brethren they must look for their ultimate prosperity. (Cheers.)

The noble LORD next proposed "The vice-presidents, trustees, general committee, house committee, and auditors of accounts," coupled with the name of Bro. John Hervey, P.G.D.

Bro. HERVEY, P.G.D., acknowledged the compliment, and expressed his hope that the amount of subscriptions that evening would eclipse any former collection; reminding the brethren that they could not better evince their appreciation of the services of those on whose behalf he was then addressing them, than by following their example and becoming vice presidents or life governors of the institution. (Cheers.)

The SECRETARY then proceeded to read the lists of subscriptions, which amounted to the handsome sum of £1,061 11s. 6d., with, it was announced, six or seven lists to come in.

The noble CHAIRMAN said that, after hearing the gratifying announcement just made, he was sure they would have great pleasure in responding to the next toast, "Prosperity to the other Masonic Charities—the Royal Freemasons Girls School, and Royal Benevolent Annuity Funds," coupling the toast with the name of their excellent Bro. Crew, the Secretary of the Girls School, the annual festival in aid of which would take place on the 9th of May. (Cheers.) One great object Freemasonry had in view, and one of the great duties they as Masons had to perform was—the promotion of the happiness of others, and the assistance of all who were destitute and required relief. (Cheers.) This being their main object, he must be allowed to explain how it was that he became impressed with the conviction that it was his duty to become a member of the Craft. That conviction was impressed upon him by the example

of one whose name was honoured and respected by all who knew him—one whom he (Viscount Raynham) was proud to call a relative—the late Lord Dudley Stuart. (Cheers.) It was to that distinguished man, who was at all times ready to relieve the poor and defend the oppressed, that he was indebted for having implanted in his heart a strong desire to become a Mason, and promote the objects of the Craft; and it was to that worthy and lamented brother, who possessed the highest qualities which could adorn man, he owed his introduction amongst them. (Cheers.) He would now ask them to drink the toast, which included all the Masonic charities, to each of which he wished the utmost prosperity. (Cheers.)

BRO CREW could not but feel how difficult a task he had to perform in following the noble lord who had so well presided over that meeting, and who had most eloquently said so much in favour of Freemasonry and its charities as to leave but little for him to observe. He was rejoiced that the noble lord had so spoken, as it would show those who—like the ladies—who graced that meeting with their presence, were not habitually amongst them, that Freemasonry did not, as was too often charged against it, confine itself to the enjoyment of the luxuries of the table, for he could assure them that Masons were never forgetful of the enjoyment of others. (Cheers.) They were bound together in the bonds of fellowship to support and help their declining brother, (cheers.) and he congratulated them on the results of that evening. He did so the more especially when he recollected that only about two months since a number of brethren assembled in that hall subscribed upwards of £2,000 in aid of the Benevolent Institution for the Aged Masons and their Widows. (Cheers.) They would therefore see that they did not confine their benevolence to the children of Masons, and that they were not unmindful of the wants of old age, but that in the hour of adversity of those whom, perhaps, they had been in the habit of meeting as friends and brethren, aid was afforded by those from whom it would give them the greatest happiness to receive it. (Cheers.) If at any time they were in the neighbourhood of Croydon, they would, in the immediate neighbourhood of the railway find a handsome but unobtrusive asylum, in which many of their brethren (some of whom probably had partaken with them in the pleasure of the festive board) were happily provided for by the members of the Craft, and enjoying in their old age those comforts they so much needed. (Cheers.) Probably from his long connection with the Girls' School, it was not unnatural that he should be called upon to respond to the toast just drunk; but he felt that there were many brethren present who were more entitled to the honour, such as Bros. Symonds, Nutt, Barrett and others, who had liberally given both their money and their time in aid of the charities. (Cheers.) It was gratifying to him, however, to be enabled to respond to the toast, and when in a few weeks hence, they saw eighty innocent and beautiful girls standing where the boys had stood that evening, he trusted they would support that school as liberally as they had the other charities. (Cheers.) When he first became connected with the school, they only provided for sixty-five girls, that number was subsequently increased to seventy, and he was gratified in being enabled to state, that within two months the number had been further increased to eighty, and that the children were brought up in a manner that would make any brother proud to own them. (Cheers.) He might mention one fact, to show the value of these institutions. A short time since, a brother, who had given £10 10s. to each of their charitable institutions, or £42 in all, was cut down in the flower of life, leaving a widow and five children unprovided for. It might be asked why should he have given so much to the charities if he could not make a provision for his family? To that he would reply, he was a hale and hearty man—only about twenty-six or twenty-seven years of age, and he was earning a handsome income, such as might justly have led him to suppose that he would be enabled to provide for his family. He was happy to say, that one of the children had been elected into the Girls' School—a second was in the Boys' School, and a brother of the Lodge of which he was a member, had paid one hundred guineas to obtain admission of a third into one of their schools. (Cheers.) He again thanked them, and trusted that when Lord Methuen was in the chair presiding over the festival of the Girls' School, on the 9th of May, he would be as well supported as their noble chairman had been.

VISCOUNT RAYNHAM next proposed "The health of the Ladies, with thanks for their attendance." (Cheers.)

The Noble CHAIRMAN, in proposing the last toast, said he was sure they must have all felt how greatly indebted they were to the excellent arrangements made for their enjoyment by the Stewards, and the good order maintained throughout the evening (cheers), and it was nothing but justice that they should acknowledge their services, not only in providing for their comfort, but in obtaining such handsome lists of subscriptions as those so recently announced. (Cheers.) He therefore proposed to them "The Board of Stewards and their excellent President—Bro. Symonds." (Cheers.)

BRO. SYMONDS, in acknowledging the compliment, would not at that late hour trouble them with a lengthened speech, but only return the sincere thanks of himself and brother Stewards for the handsome terms in which his lordship had proposed the toast, and the kindness with which it had been responded to by the brethren. If the arrangements of the Stewards to promote the comfort of the brethren and the prosperity of their institution had met with their approbation, they were amply repaid for the time and trouble they had been enabled to bestow to bring about so gratifying a result. (Cheers.)

The company then separated at about a quarter past eleven.

The musical arrangements, which were of more than usual excellence, were conducted by Bro. William Ganz, who was ably assisted by Mmes. Rieder, Miss Rebecca Isaacs, Miss Eyles, and Miss Lascelles; and Bros. George Perren, George Tedder, Nappi, and Wallworth. Bro. Harker was toast master.

The following reports were circulated in the room:—

"COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT."

"In the last report, the committee referred to plans which had been prepared for the extension and enlargement of the buildings at Wood Green, so as to provide adequate accommodation for seventy boys, and they have now pleasure in stating that the erections have been completed, and sixty-six of the children received into the establishment, the parents of four only having objected to their children being admitted.

"The committee refer to the annual account of receipts and expenditure to show the cost of the new buildings, and of the furniture necessary to accommodate such a considerable additional number of inmates, including an extra master, and of course additional domestic servants, and although that cost does not exceed the estimates which were made, it amounts to a considerable sum of money.

"It will readily occur to the governors and subscribers that in the commencement of such an undertaking, the committee must have had arrangements to make of an arduous character, and requiring anxious consideration, and they are gratified at being able to state that although they are well satisfied with all that has been done up to the present time, they are proceeding with suggested improvements in regard to the system of management and education, which they have confident hopes will meet with general and unqualified approbation, and make the school second to none of its kind in the country for its excellency.

"In conclusion, the committee earnestly solicit all members of our time-honored Order to render the utmost assistance by renewing and increasing their subscriptions, and they appeal to those of their brethren who have not yet subscribed, to come forward in aid of a charity which does so much credit to the Craft, and which those who support it must feel in doing so, they are performing a sacred and pleasing duty.

"3rd March, 1860.

(Signed) J. S. S. Horwood, Chairman."

"London Diocesan Board of Education, 79, Pall Mall, S.W.

"13th March, 1860.

"GENTLEMEN,—In presenting you with the result of my recent visit of inspection to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, I must beg to call your attention to certain disadvantageous circumstances under which the examination was conducted.

"I found the school entirely disorganized in consequence of the important alterations which are being made for the enlargement and mechanical improvement of the schoolroom, and which, together with the limited time my other engagements permitted me to devote to the subject, has prevented me from reporting as fully as I could wish upon the method of instruction and the general system of management pursued at this institution, whilst from the fact of never having examined this school before, it is quite impossible that I can form a just estimate of the progress of the children.

"I have, therefore, been obliged to adopt an independent standard, and, measuring the proficiency displayed by this test, I am able to report that the boys passed a sufficiently satisfactory examination to justify me in expressing my confident opinion that, when the school is again placed in good working order, a gradual improvement may be anticipated.

"The reading, at present, is somewhat monotonous, but a few lessons, carefully given, will speedily effect a change for the better. The writing is fair, and I believe improving. Considerable attention has evidently been given to the arithmetic, with, I am happy to say, a satisfactory result. Many boys also wrote from dictation with ease and correctness.

"In the other subjects in which I examined them, namely, scripture history, geography, English grammar, and history, they acquitted themselves creditably, especially when it is borne in mind that forty boys have been in the school only six months."

"I would suggest that the Silver Medal hitherto awarded for good writing and good conduct, should henceforth be confined to the latter, and, on the recommendation of the head master, I beg to name ——— for this honourable reward.

"The other prizes I have assigned as follows:—

Arithmetic—prizes equal—A. J. Crichton and J. Mellaish.

Writing—prize—R. J. Fisher.

Highly commended—J. Mellaish, T. R. Speight and E. Bays.

Geography—prize—A. J. Crichton.

Highly commended—J. Mellaish.

Commended—A. Lang and J. McLaren.

History—prize—A. J. Crichton.

"Permit me, in conclusion, to express my earnest wish that every success may attend your anxious endeavours to render this valuable institution thoroughly efficient, and placing my services at your disposal,

"I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

"The Gentlemen of the House Committee
of the Royal Masonic Institution for
Boys, &c. &c.

CHAS. JAMES DYER, M.A.
Inspector of Schools."

ST. JAMES'S UNION LODGE (No. 211).—This Lodge held their last monthly meeting for the season at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday last, Bro. H. A. Stacey, W.M., who, having opened the Lodge in the first and second degrees, proceeded to examine Bro. Cameron as to his proficiency in the Fellow Craft degree. Bro. Cameron having answered satisfactorily the questions put by the Worshipful Master, was afterwards raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. The Lodge was closed at an early hour, and the brethren afterwards assembled at the dinner table, well and liberally supplied by Bros. Elkington and Silversbury, which having been disposed of, the Worshipful Master rose and said he would make the introduction to the toasts he might have to propose, as brief as possible; accordingly he soon came to "The Visitors," replied to by Bro. Walkley, P.M. No. 367, who, having made some general remarks on the working of the St. James's Union Lodge and the unanimity pervading all their proceedings, called the attention of the brethren, more particularly the junior members, to the notice issued by the Grand Stewards' Lodge, that on Wednesday, the 21st instant, the sections of the first lecture will be worked in the Temple adjoining the Hall, at eight o'clock, at which the brethren were invited to attend, Bro. H. G. Warren presiding as Worshipful Master. Other toasts and speeches followed, of a very spirited and interesting character. Various songs were sung, and a very happy evening passed.

PERCY LODGE (No. 234).—The annual installation meeting was held on Tuesday, March 13th, at the Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street, Bro. Tyerman, W.M., presided, and initiated Mr. Richard Litton Weeks. The W.M. then resigned the chair to Bro. D. R. Farmer, P.M., No. 25, to whom Bro. Jas. Richard Warren, S.W., and W.M. elect, was presented and installed according to established custom, and saluted in the several degrees. The W.M. then appointed and invested Bros. Tyerman, P.M.; Davis, S.W.; Charnock, J.W.; and George Lambert, Secretary. Bro. Thorn, the Treasurer, was absent through illness. Bro. Rice, reelected Tyler, was also invested. A Past Master's jewel was voted to Bro. Tyerman in acknowledgment of his services as Master during the past year. The Lodge being closed, the brethren reassembled at the festive board. The usual loyal and Masonic toast were duly honoured; and in reply to a welcome to the newly initiated, Bro. Weeks, who is in the maritime service, bore testimony to the benefits of Freemasonry which he had seen in different parts of the globe, and he was most gratified that the wish he had long entertained was accomplished, and he had become a Mason. Bro. Tyerman in proposing the health of the W.M., referred to Bro. J. R. Warren's attainments, and congratulated the Percy Lodge on having so expert a Mason to preside over it. Bro. J. R. Warren, in responding, assured the members he would endeavour to discharge the duties of the chair faithfully, and especially referred to the Lodge of Instruction which he hoped would be attended by the younger members. There were several visitors present, among them were Bros. Randall, P. Prov. G. Reg. Herts.; How, Prov. G.D.C. Herts.; John Vickers, No. 82; and Freeman, No. 90.

ZETLAND LODGE (No. 752).—This Lodge was holden at six o'clock, on Wednesday last, at the King's Arms Hotel, Kensington, when Bro. Durrant, W.M., assisted by his Wardens, Bros. Barnshaw and Wilson, proceeded with the business, the first on the paper being the initiation of Mr. Livingston. He then passed Bros. Revell and Thompson to the second degree; followed by raising to the sublime degree of M.M. Bros. Tetemeyer, Gray and Muzzard. Before closing the Lodge the W.M. announced that the Grand Stewards' Lodge would give a public night, on the 21st instant, when the lecture of the first degree would be worked, Bro. H. G. Warren presiding as W.M.; and he exhorted the younger members to attend and profit by the opportunity of hearing the lectures worked in all their purity. Masonic business being concluded, the brethren, to the number of forty, including visitors, adjourned to the banquet. A delightful evening, passed in love, harmony, and conviviality, was brought to a happy close. We will merely add that the usual toasts were given and replied to. Bro. Bohn, W.M. (No. 7), returning thanks for the visitors, among whom we recognized Bros. Dr. Nolan, W.M., No. 219; Banquard, P.M., No. 6; and Collard, P.M., No. 168.

MERCHANT NAVY LODGE (No. 1083).—At a meeting held on Thursday, March 8th, at the Jamaica Tavern, Poplar, Bro. J. E. Blichfeldt, W.M., a ballot was taken for the election of Master for the year ensuing, and Bro. Gildon Manton, S.W., was chosen to fill that office, and Bro. Blichfeldt elected Treasurer. An elegant jewel, which had been voted at a previous meeting, was presented to Bro. Manton in acknowledgment of his services as founder of the Lodge. We were pleased to find that our presentation print of the Grand Master had been provided with an elegant frame by the W.M., and presented to the Lodge.

INSTRUCTION.

GLOBE LODGE (No. 23).—At the last meeting of this Lodge of Instruction, the following members served the various offices appended to their names, viz.:—Bros. Sedgwick, W.M.; Larcomb, S.W.; Simpson, J.W.; Woodstock, S.D.; T. Allen, J.D.; Reilley, I.G.; and Jackson, P.M. There were also present Bros. Levinson, Newall, Gurton, Frances, Watson, Exall, and several others. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and a ballot taken and found unanimous, to elect the whole forty brethren who were proposed members on the first instant. Bro. Sedgwick very ably performed the ceremony of passing; and the sections of the second lecture were faithfully and intelligently worked;

the questions propounded by Bro. W. Watson. It was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that Bro. Simpson be elected W.M. for the ensuing week; also that Bro. Matthew Cooke be elected an honorary member, and that the Secretary be requested to write to him begging his acceptance of that compliment as a very small mark of the fraternal regard in which he is held by the brothers of this Lodge. A note was ordered to be made on the Lodge books of the satisfactory manner in which Bro. Sedgwick discharged the duties of the chair. It was also decided that the fifteen sections be worked early in next month. The increased accommodation which Bro. Gurton has provided will go far to render this one of the most popular and well attended West End Lodges of Instruction.

ROBERT BURNS LODGE (No. 25).—The beautiful and interesting ceremony of the consecration of a Lodge took place at Bro. J. W. Adams's, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent street, on Friday last, in the presence of seventy brethren. It was beautifully performed by Bro. W. Watson, P.M., No. 25. The ceremony of installation followed, and was performed by Bro. T. A. Adams, P.M., No. 166, in his best style. Bro. Farmer, P.M., No. 25, was the installed W.M. After the ceremony, the fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh sections of the first lecture were ably worked by Bros. Caulcher, P.M., No. 1055; Le Gassick, P.M. No. 25; W. Watson, and T. A. Adams; the solemnities were greatly enhanced by the musical abilities of Bros. M. Cooke (on the harmonium), J. W. Adams, Escalé, and Newall (who kindly lent the instrument for the occasion). Votes of thanks were unanimously accorded to Bros. Watson, T. A. Adams, Farmer, and the officers, and particularly to the musical brethren; the odes, chants, and anthems were set to music by Bro. M. Cooke. About twenty visiting brethren became members of the Lodge of Instruction, and it was very gratifying to mark the attention paid by the younger brethren, of whom the majority consisted. It is intended shortly to work the fifteen sections by members of the parent Lodge.

PROVINCIAL.

CUMBERLAND.

CARLISLE.—Union Lodge (No. 389).—This Lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Haywood, assisted by his officers, at the Old King's Head Hotel, on Tuesday, February 28th. The minutes of last meeting being confirmed, the W.M. raised a brother to the sublime degree of M.M. Bro. C. J. Banister, P.M., (W.M. of No. 56.) acting as S.D. Another candidate wishing the third degree, the W.M. desired Bro. Banister, P.M., to give it, which he did, the W.M. acting for him as S.D. This Lodge is improving, and the brethren are endeavouring to meet with a private room, indeed, they are in treaty for one; when that is decided, this ancient Lodge will become one of the best in the province.

DURHAM.

GATESHEAD.—Lodge of Industry (No. 56).—This Lodge was opened at the Grey Horse Inn, on Monday, February 27th, in due form, by the W.M., Bro. C. J. Banister, and the minutes of last Lodge confirmed. Bro. J. Heavord was raised to the degree of M.M. by the W.M. in his usual earnest manner—giving the whole of the ceremony. This being the night for election of W.M., Bro. Dobson, S.W., was duly elected. Bro. F. E. Ionn, P.M., unanimously elected Treasurer. Business being over, the Lodge was closed in due form, and with solemn prayer.

SEAHAM.—Fawcett Lodge (No. 959).—The fourth anniversary of this Lodge was held at Bro. Taylor's, Lord Seaham Inn, Seaham Harbour, on Wednesday last, the 7th instant. The business of the evening was the installation of Bro. James Ayre, the W.M. elect. In the absence of Bro. Rutherford, W.M., Bro. Naylor, P.M., presided. On this occasion the Lodge was favoured with the presence of the following brethren from Sunderland: Bros. Naylor, P.M., of this Lodge; Levy, P.M., and Rahu, W.M., of Palatine Lodge, No. 114; Elwen, W.M., Graham, and Butt, of St. John's Lodge, No. 95. The ceremony of installation was most ably performed by Bro. Levy, P.M., of Palatine Lodge, No. 114, in his usual very impressive manner. The W.M. having been duly installed in the chair, proceeded to appoint and invest the following officers for the current year: Bros. T. H. Rutherford, P.M.; Robert Thorman, S.W.; Robert Candlish, J.W.; Wm. Atkinson, Treas.; I. L. Henry, Sec.; D. G. Perkins, S.D.; Geo. Stokeld, J.D.; Wm. Brewis, I.G.; W. M. Laws, Tyler; John Brough and P. C. Mann, Auditors; John Richardson, and J. Henderson, Stewards. Bros. Rutherford, Thorman, Candlish, and P. C. Mann, were appointed and invested by proxy; three brethren, with Bro. Pallister, of this Lodge, being officers in the Seaham Harbour Volunteer Artillery Corps, were attending the levee held by her majesty the Queen on the same day. The Lodge then proceeded to refreshment, and after the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, Bro. Naylor, P.M., proposed "The health of the W.M.," in a neat and appropriate speech, in which he paid a very high compliment to the W.M. for the able and zealous discharge of his Masonic duties. Bro. Ayre had never been once absent from any meeting of the Lodge, since he was made a Mason—nearly four years ago. In that time he had filled the offices of I.G., J.W., and S.W., with credit to himself and honour to the Lodge, and he (Bro. Naylor) had no doubt he would discharge the duties of the chair with equal satisfaction. He congratulated the Lodge on having chosen such an able and zealous brother to preside over them, and one so well deserving the honour. The toast was received with the greatest enthusiasm and the W.M.

replied in suitable terms. The W.M. in rising to propose "The health of the installing Master, Bro. Levy," said he had great pleasure in doing so, not only for what Bro. Levy had done that evening, but for what he had done for the Lodge since its formation. They had always found in Bro. Levy, a brother at all times able and willing to assist them, and one whom they knew had frequently sacrificed his personal comforts to benefit the Lodge. If there was one brother to whom the efficient working of this Lodge was due more than to another, it was to Bro. Levy. Bro. Levy, in returning thanks, said that it always gave him great pleasure to further the interests of Masonry, in every way that lay in his power; he considered that in what he had done he was only discharging his Masonic duties, and he assured the Lodge that whenever they required his services he would always be found at his post. "The health of the absent brethren," coupled with the volunteer movement, was given and Bro. Gram replied. The pleasure of the meeting was greatly enhanced with several pieces of vocal music by some of the brethren. The Lodge was then closed, the evening having been spent in that peace and harmony which is so characteristic of the Craft.

HAMPSHIRE.

WINCHESTER.—*Lodge of Economy* (No. 90).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the rooms on the evening of the 29th ult., when there was a full attendance. Bro. Hasleham, P.M., acted as W.M., *pro tem.*, the Wardens and other officers being in their respective places. The quarterly communication from the Grand Lodge was read by the W.M. It comprised a programme of the business which was to be transacted at Grand Lodge on the 7th inst. Some little discussion followed upon the reading of the same, but no motion was made or exceptions taken. Bros. Conduit and Sheppard (Entered Apprentices) being in attendance, were examined by the W.M., and found worthy of further confidence, and accordingly they were advanced to the degree of Fellow Craft. The S.W., Bro. Newman, delivered the ancient charge, and the W.M. explained the working tools, &c. Subsequently explanations of the tracingboard were given from the chair, so far as related to the second degree. Bro. Jacob introduced the subject of the Boys Institution, and solicited the contributions of the brethren for the same. The festival would be on the 14th of March; provincial Masons' children had received the main benefits from the institution, though metropolitan Lodges had paid a great excess of subscriptions; therefore he (Bro. Jacob), hoped the subscriptions of the provinces would this year be more liberal. The election would be in April, and he should be glad to receive proxies on behalf of a poor boy named Sydney Robert Tritton, son of a deceased member of Gihon Lodge, No. 59. Bro. Sherry, P.M., hoped the £1 a year would be continued from the Lodge to the Boys Institution. He had subscribed £1 a year himself, and should be happy to see a goodly list sent in from that Lodge. Bro. Everett, P.M., nominated Bro. Saunders Adamson, of Hythe, Kent, as a joining member of the Lodge. The business being concluded, the Lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to the usual dinner, and spent a pleasant hour or so together in harmony and conviviality.

LANCASHIRE (EAST).

HEYWOOD.—*Naphthali Lodge* (No. 333).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday evening, the seventh instant, at the Brunswick Hotel, when Mr. William Kay was initiated as a member, the ceremony being performed by Bro. William Binns, P.M., of No. 50.

BURY.—*Lodge of Relief* (No. 50).—On Thursday evening, the eighth instant, the monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Hare and Hounds Inn, Bros. John Parks, W.M.; Thos. Fishwick, (P.M.) S.W.; and Geo. M. Tweddell, J.W. Mr. Richard Howard and Mr. Samuel Jackson, having been previously proposed, were balloted for and initiated into ancient Freemasonry; the ceremony in both instances being performed by the new W.M. in a very creditable manner.

LANCASHIRE, WEST.

ROBY.—*Alliance Lodge* (No. 965).—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, March 6th, when the attendance of members and visitors was numerous; the W.M., Bro. Wm. Witter, in the chair, and the whole of his officers in their respective stations. There being no candidates present for initiation or passing, a brother was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, in an impressive manner by Bro. G. A. Wieloposki Phillips, P.M. The Lodge was then closed to the first degree, and a brother presented himself to be passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, who, after going through the usual examination, received the degree from the W.M., after which ceremony the Lodge was closed in due form and harmony. The brethren then retired to refreshment, and after the usual toasts had been given, the W.M. said he had a pleasing duty to perform, which he was sorry had not fallen into more able hands; it was to present Bro. G. A. W. Philipps, P.M., with a P.M. jewel, as a token of the esteem and respect in which he was held by the officers and brethren of Alliance Lodge, No. 965, for the very commendable and courteous manner in which he had presided over them during the past year, and for his zeal and attention to the interest of the Lodge and of Masonry in general. Bro. G. A. W. Philipps, P.M., responded in a few but heartfelt words, expressing his thanks for the very high opinion entertained by the brethren and for the magnificent present, which he hoped to live long to wear, assuring them that zeal for Masonry and the prosperity of the Lodge would always be his study. The

jewel bears the following inscription:—"Presented to Past Master Bro. G. A. W. Philipps, by the officers and brethren of Alliance Lodge, No. 965, as a token of esteem, March, 1860." Some good singing was given by several of the brethren, and the evening spent in a truly Masonic and spirited manner.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 348).—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge took place on Wednesday, the seventh instant, at the Freemasons' Hall, when the following were present:—Bros. Cummings, W.M., in the chair; Kelly, D. Prov. G.M.; Gill, P.M., and Sec.; Dr. Sloane, J.W.; Marris, J.D.; Jackson, I.G. Visitors—Bros. Lloyd and Bithrey, of the John of Gaunt Lodge, No. 766. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Leonard A. Clarke was called to the pedestal, and underwent a satisfactory examination; after which, the Lodge having been opened in the second degree, he was duly passed a Fellow Craft. Owing to the severity of the weather, and other causes, the attendance of brethren was unusually small.

MIDDLESEX.

UXBRIDGE.—*Royal Union Lodge* (No. 536).—The above Lodge held its usual meeting on the seventh instant, Bros. A. Pratt, W.M.; J. B. Newall, S.W.; W. Smith, (C. E.), J.W.; Wright, Weedon, and Strauss, P.M.s; Gurney, Staples, and others. Dr. Hinxman, S.W. of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, visitor. The Lodge was opened in due form, minutes read and confirmed, and a ballot taken for Mr. Frederick Young, and Mr. James Stevenson, and both being present they were duly initiated in that correct and impressive manner for which the W.M. is celebrated. Too much praise cannot be given to the W.M. and his zealous and efficient Wardens for their assiduity in attending to the true interests of the Lodge, which, by their efforts, is on the high road to success, mainly brought about by the excellent temper, high character, and indefatigable zeal of the principal officers; the more rapid advance of this Lodge towards perfection would be greatly accelerated by the punctuality and cordial cooperation of its P.M.s and the resident brethren, for whilst others can come from north, east, south and west, they, on the spot, seldom appear within an hour of the time for work. After the business of the evening the brethren adjourned to the dinner provided for them in Bro. Staple's usual careful style. The healths of the W.M., the initiates, and the visitor, were drunk with enthusiasm, and replied to in due form, the initiates evincing their appreciation of Masonry, and their fitness for becoming members of the fraternity. Bro. Dr. Hinxman, both in Lodge and at the dinner, so captivated the brethren by his *naïve* manner and fund of Masonic knowledge, that they loudly expressed their regret that there was no method of coaxing or threatening the iron horse, who panted and puffed to deprive the Lodge of its town destined division, and so to have prolonged their enjoyment. Much fraternal sympathy was expressed for the absent S.D., who was prevented being present to perform his duties through illness.

SUSSEX.

TESTIMONIAL TO BRO. GAVIN E. POOCK, G.S.E.

We have sincere pleasure in directing attention to the following resolutions adopted for the above object:—

At a meeting of the Freemasons of Sussex, held at the Old Ship Hotel, Brighton, on Friday, the 9th of March, 1860, numerously attended by brethren from all parts of the province,—Bro. G. C. Dalbair, D. Prov. G.M., in the chair,—The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Bro. E. J. Furner, P. Prov. J.G.W., P.M. No. 338, proposed, and Bro. J. Wilson, P. Prov. S.G.W., and W.M. No. 64, seconded:—"That a testimonial be presented by the Masons of Sussext to Bro. Gavin E. Poock, to mark their estimation of the valuable services which he has rendered to Freemasonry, not only in discharging his duties as Prov. G. Sec. in a manner reflecting the highest credit upon the Province, but, by his untiring exertions to advance the interests of the Craft in all its branches, by his indefatigable zeal in assisting in the formation of new Lodges and Chapters, and the resuscitation of those long in abeyance, by his willingness to impart Masonic instruction to every brother who seeks his aid; and above all, by his strict adherence to the laws and constitutions, and his practical observance of the principles of the Order."

Bro. Elliott, W.M. No. 45, proposed, and Bro. G. W. King, P. Prov. G. Pursuivant, seconded:—

"That a subscription be forthwith entered into to carry out the foregoing resolution, and that the individual subscription be limited to two guineas."

Bro. Bridges, W.M. No. 390, proposed, and Bro. Curtis, S.W. No. 394, seconded:—"That Bro. Smithers, P. Prov. G.D.C., be requested to act as Treasurer."

Bro. Freeman, W.M. No. 394, Prov. G. Sup. of Works, proposed, and Bro. Hart, S.W. No. 64, seconded:—"That Bro. John H. Scott, Prov. S.G.D., P.M. No. 338, be requested to act as Secretary."

Bro. Hart, S.W. No. 64, proposed, and Bro. H. Verrall, Prov. G. Reg., seconded:—"That to carry out the objects of this meeting a committee be appointed, consisting of the Present and Past Provincial Officers and the Worshipful Masters of the various Lodges of the province."

[No brother in the province of Sussex enjoys to such an extent the regard and esteem of those with whom for many years he has been

associated, or has more disinterestedly sought to advance the interests of Freemasonry in general, and in particular throughout his native county, than Bro. Pocock. Under his most excellent supervision as Provisional Grand Secretary, Lodges have been resuscitated, new Lodges opened, and the most valuable assistance and information accorded to those already in existence, which could only have been acquired by years of constant study and attendance. His general services have been recently acknowledged in Grand Lodge by his appointment as G.S.B., one highly appreciated in the province; and we have not a doubt that the Masonic career, private worth, unostentatious kindness and charity, and ever ready aid of Bro. Pocock, will induce among his brethren in Sussex, the warmest response to the intended testimonial.—[Ed.]

BRIGHTON.—*Royal York Lodge* (No. 394).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 6th instant, at the Old Ship Hotel, Brighton. The Lodge was opened at five o'clock, by the W.M., Bro. Moppett, and after the confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting, the W.M. elect, Bro. Freeman was duly installed in the chair, and proclaimed and saluted in the several degrees. Bro. Freeman then appointed and invested the following as his officers:—Bros. W. Curtis, S.W.; W. Marchant, J.W.; Challen, Sec.; C. P. Smith, S.D.; J. Bull, J.D.; Buckman, Dir. of Cers.; Robinson, I.G.; Russell, Steward. The Treasurer elect, Bro. H. Saunders, and Tyler elect, Bro. G. Ancock, were also invested. Each investiture was accompanied with brief but appropriate remarks from the W.M. on the services previously rendered to the Lodge by those appointed, and their new duties. The W.M. then rose and said, his first act was of a pleasing nature, that of presenting Past Masters' jewels to Bro. Moppett, the immediate P.M., and Bro. Ade, P.M., the outgoing Secretary, for services rendered in the past year. On assuming office the latter found the accounts and minutes of the Lodge in a most unsatisfactory condition, in consequence of the loose system adopted in previous years, a continuation of which must ultimately have seriously affected the financial position of the Lodge. Bro. Ade had devoted much time and labour to their adjustment, had repeatedly placed himself in communication with the Prov. Grand Secretary, and had journeyed to London, in order that at Grand Lodge existing errors might be rectified and a healthy tone given to the Lodge. He (the W.M.) regretted that certain brethren had been excluded from long arrears and noncompliance, but they had now (from an investigation into the Lodge minutes and accounts for the last twenty-five years by the Secretary) a record creditable to the Lodge. To Bro. Ade every credit was due for his great exertions, and he (the W.M.) trusted that the jewel now presented would convince their worthy brother that such services were appreciated. Bro. Moppett had laboured with the Secretary, but the thanks of the Lodge were more especially due to him, for his constant attention to the duties of W.M., and his admirable working throughout his year of office. In affixing the jewel, the W.M. expressed his belief that Bro. Moppett would look back with pleasurable feelings to the period when his exertions tended to the resuscitation of the Lodge. Bros. Moppett and Ade in suitable terms acknowledged the bestowal. The jewels were very handsome, and were furnished through Bro. Challen, silversmith, Brighton. The Board of General Purposes was then appointed. On the motion of Bro. Moppett, P.M. the subscription to the Girls and Boys Schools was increased to two guineas each. Bro. Wood (P.M., and late Secretary of Lodge No. 394,) announced to the Lodge his being a Steward for the Boys School festival, and handed in a subscription list. (At the dinner following a satisfactory response was made.) The Lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to dinner. Among the Lodge visitors, the majority of whom remained to dinner, were Bros. Pocock, G.S.B., and Prov. G. Sec.; Tatham, W.M.; J. Scott, P.M.; Rogers, Birby, and Fabian, of Lodge No. 338; and Bacon, P.M.; W. H. Hakes, Langworthy, Potter, and Legg (who presided at the harmonium), of No. 1,034; and Claxton, Low (4th dragons), &c. The W.M. presided at the repast, supported by nearly sixty members of the Craft. On the removal of the cloth the W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft," followed by the National Anthem, and "The Earl of Zetland, the G.M. of England," remarking that his reelection for many years was the most convincing proof of the regard entertained towards him. In proposing "Lord Panmure and the Grand Officers of England" the W.M. observed, that the first provincial appointment was that of Sussex, in the person of their esteemed Bro. Pocock, affording general satisfaction. "The Duke of Richmond, Prov. G.M. of Sussex" succeeded, and that of "Bro. Dalbiac D. Prov. G.M. and the Prov. Grand Officers." The W.M. alluded to the interest displayed by the D. Prov. G.M. in the cause of Freemasonry in the province, and the duties at all times cheerfully rendered by his officers. The toast met with a hearty response. Bro. Scott, Prov. S.G.W., returned thanks, and in allusion to the province, stated that he had it upon the authority of the Secretary of Grand Lodge, that no province in England was more regular in their returns, and punctual in the payment of dues, than that of Sussex, which he had reason to believe had influenced Lord Zetland in his appointments. As regarded the Prov. Grand Lodge, he was of opinion that if it had not existed, the irregularities in this Lodge, alluded to by the W.M., would not have been remedied. Bro. Moppett, having been entrusted with the gavel, proposed "The health of the W.M.," whom it was an honour to have presiding over them. The W.M. acknowledged the compliment, and in the course of his remarks referred to the number of initiations in the previous year. Great discrimination was necessary, and as they

had now much work in hand, arduous to the Master and somewhat tedious to the brethren, he hoped that for the next three months the brethren would confine themselves to the allotted work. He should be happy to receive any suggestions, but at the same time his endeavour would be to take a firm and independent course, most conducive to the prosperity of the Lodge. "The Visitors," "Past Masters," "Newly Initiated," "The Treasurer," "Officers of the Lodge," and the "Tyler's Toast," succeeded, and a most agreeable evening was brought to a conclusion. The Lodge, with an accession of members, improved management, and excellent working, is now in a flourishing condition.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

BAILDON.—*Directed Lodge* (No. 543).—At a regular meeting of this Lodge on Wednesday, March 7th, Bros. J. Denby, W.M.; F. Taylor, S.W.; Henry Smith, P.M., as J.W.; W. W. Holmes, P.M.; J. Walker, P.M., and others, being present, the Lodge was opened at seven o'clock, when Bro. John Smith was examined as a F.C. and found proficient; it was unanimously determined to raise him to the sublime degree of M.M., which ceremony was gone through by Bro. Henry Smith, P.M., at the request of the W.M. The Lodge was then lowered to the first degree, when Mr. C. Craven was initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry, by Bro. John Walker, P.M., assisted by Bro. J. Walker, P.M. Bro. Henry Smith giving the charge. The Lodge closed at nine o'clock. The subject of the Girls' School was introduced, also the Annuity Fund, and the claims of both for support set forth. A good working brother from St. James, No. 97, Edinburgh, asked and gained admission to the Lodge; it appeared, however, that his main object was to procure a list of the members of the Lodge in order to call upon them respecting subscriptions to a book; the Secretary refused to give a list, and the brother felt himself badly used. The Secretary stated, however, that the list of members was the property of the Lodge, and that no private member had any right to take it away without a unanimous vote in open Lodge, and in this case the Lodge was closed, and most of the brethren had retired.

ROYAL ARCH.

PROVINCIAL CHAPTER.

BRADFORD.—*Chapter of Charity* (No. 379).—At a regular meeting held on March 12th, for the purpose of appointing officers for the ensuing year, there being present Comps. W. Gath, M.E.Z.; H. Smith, H.; W. Mawson, J.; Farrar, P.Z.; Thos. Hill, P.Z.; and other Companions, it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that Comp. H. Smith be installed in the first chair. Comps. W. Mawson was chosen H.; C. H. Taylor, M.D., J.; T. Woodhead, S.E.; I. Gaunt, S.N. The Treasurer and P. Soj. were reappointed to their respective offices amidst the greatest enthusiasm. The M.E.Z. elect then returned thanks in a few words, expressing a hope that his office in another place would not disqualify him; if however it should prove otherwise, it would not lessen the honour they had done him, and his services would be equally at their command in any capacity. The Chapter being closed, the Companions retired to refreshment.

GARSTON.—*Chapter of Harmony* (No. 267).—This Chapter was opened at the Wellington Hotel, in due form, by Comps. J. Walmsley, P.Z., as Z.; James Hanner, as H.; C. J. Banister, as J.; assisted by Comp. Hess, P.Z., on Thursday, March 8th, 1860, and a full attendance of the Companions. The three lectures were given by the three chiefs, and the business of the Chapter over, the Companions adjourned to refreshment. After registering another brother for exaltation, May 10th was fixed for the next regular meeting.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

PROVINCIAL ENCAMPMENT.

LIVERPOOL.—*The Encampment of Jacques de Molay* was opened in due form by the E.C., Sir Knt. Hayes, assisted by his officers, at the Temple, in Hope-street, on Friday, March 9th, instead of the regular, day, which fell on the Sunday. Sir Knt. C. J. Banister, 1st Captain, was unanimously elected E.C., and Sir Knt. H. S. Alpass, P.E.C., Treasurer for the ensuing year. The rest of the business over, the conclave was closed in due form and with solemn prayer.

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

PROVINCIAL CHAPTER.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—*Royal Kent Chapter of Rose Croix*.—This Chapter met on Monday, February 27th, when it was duly opened by the M.W. Sov., John Barker, 31°, and other officers. On the minutes being confirmed, the M.W. Sov. proceeded to install as his successor the 1st General of the Chapter, III. Bro. Henry Bell, who had been unanimously elected at a previous meeting. After the installation, the M.W. Sov. Henry Bell appointed the following as his officers for the ensuing year: Henry Hotham, as 1st General; C. J. Banister, as 2nd General; Wm. Punsheon, as Prelate; Andrew Gillespie, as Treasurer and Grand Marshal; Wm. Berkley, Raphael; H. G. Ludwig Recorder;

James Dees, Captain of the Lines; I. S. Trotter, Equerry. At the conclusion of the ceremonies the illustrious brethren dined together under the presidency of the M.W. Sov., who had on his right the Ill. Bro. John Barker, 31°; and on his left the P.M.W. Sov., Wm. Berkley, Grand Master of the Red Cross; and other brethren from Scotland and this Chapter; amongst the latter we were glad to perceive the father of the high degrees in the north, the Ill. Bro. Wm. Punsheon, as hearty as ever. The loyal and Masonic toasts of this high portion of Masonry were duly given and responded to very appropriately by those present, and at an early hour the brethren separated, highly pleased with the festivities of the day.

SCOTLAND.

ROYAL ORDER.

A Special Meeting of the Council of the R.S.Y.C.S. of H.D.M. of K.L.N.G., was held in Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, on Tuesday, the 13th instant, when Bro. James Glegg, W.M., of one of the London Lodges, and Companion of the Edinburgh R.A. Chapter, No. 1, was, on the recommendation of Sir Knight Alexander James Laurie, duly balloted for, and having no opposition, received the degree of H.R.D.M., and was thereafter raised to the distinguished degree of the R.S.Y.C.S.

LEITH.—*Trafalgar Lodge.*—This Lodge, which has been causing so much discussion in Grand Lodge concerning its No. on Grand Lodge Roll, gave a dinner to their R.W. Master on the 28th ultimo, in the New Ship Hotel, Leith. Most of the W. Masters of the Edinburgh Lodges were present to pay their respects to so good a Mason as Bro. Pearson. During dinner, a handsome P.M. jewel set with brilliants was presented to him, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented by the Brethren of the Lodge Trafalgar, No. 223, to Bro. Thomas Pearson, W.M., in testimony of their appreciation of his unwearied exertions in reconstituting the Lodge, 28th February, 1860." The jewel was in the shape of a medallion, having in the centre of a circle of brilliants an enamelled plate, with a square and compass in brilliants upon it. The credit of the design is due to Bro. Francis L. Law, one of the partners of the firm of John Law and Sons.

STIRLING.—*Lodge Stirling Ancient (No. 30).*—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, the 6th instant, in their Lodge Room, Stirling. Deputations were present from various Lodges in the province. During the meeting the W.M. presented a very handsome P.M. jewel to Bro. Adam Dyson, P.M., in token of the esteem in which he was held by the members of the Lodge during the three years he presided over them.

MASONIC BALL AT PERTH.

The annual Masonic ball at Perth came off on Friday last, when upwards of three hundred of the brethren and as many "Fair Maids" of that famed city attended. After the ball had been opened, a deputation from Grand Lodge were ushered in with Masonic honours. The deputation consisted of the M.W. Grand Master, his Grace the Duke of Athol; Bros. Sir George Beresford, Bart., W.M., No. 291, acting Dep. Grand Master; Colonel Hunter, W.M., 44, Senior Grand Warden; Charles Stuart Law, W.M., 48, Junior Grand Warden; Alexander James Stewart, Grand Clerk; Reid, MacLise, Finlayson, Grand Stewards; and Bro. W. M. Bryce, Grand Tyler. His Grace's piper was in attendance and played an excellent accompaniment to the reels and strathspeys. Dancing was kept up till six o'clock, when his Grace drove off for Dunkeld amidst the enthusiastic cheering of the assembly.

INDIA.

BOMBAY.

POONA.—*Lodge Orion in the West (No. 598).*—An emergency meeting of this Lodge took place on February 4th, the following brethren being present:—Colonel H. Forster, W.M.; A. F. Dawson, R. F. Gould, J. Stirling, R. Bythell, G. Hamilton, A. Mitchell, F. Y. Cassidy, J. Harcourt, G. Morris, J. Collins, J. Collynd, B. T. Giraud, A. C. Gow, and G. Goodfellow. The business, consisting of a passing, being concluded, the Lodge was closed in due and antient form, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, where the customary toasts met with loyal and fervent response.

COLONIAL.

GIBRALTAR.

GIBRALTAR.—*Inhabitants' Lodge (No. 178).*—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, February 6th, at Glynn's Buildings, Bro. Gorham, W.M., presiding. Bros. Jackman, S.W.; Wilkinson, J.W.; Irwin, P.M.; and about sixty brethren were present. The Lodge was opened in due form at eight o'clock precisely, and the minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the brethren proceeded to ballot for Mr. Miles and Mr. Frolick as candidates for initiation; the ballot proving satisfactory, the W.M. ordered them to be prepared and proceeded to initiate them into the mysteries of the Order, the charge being delivered most impressively by Bro. Irwin, P.M. The W.M. then rose and said, that the discharge of his Masonic duties always gave him

pleasure, but that on this occasion there fell to his lot the pleasantest task that it had ever been his duty to perform. He need scarcely tell the brethren that it was that of presenting Bro. Irwin, their respected P.M., with a Past Master's jewel, as a slight token of the esteem in which they held him, and their gratitude to him for his untiring energy and unflinching attention in the discharge of his duties as Master during the past year, to which was doubtless mainly to be attributed the present flourishing condition of the Lodge. The W.M. then produced the jewel, which had been provided by Bro. Spencer, of Great Queen-street, London, and was executed in his usual masterly style; on the reverse was the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. Irwin, P.M., by the members of Inhabitants' Lodge, No. 178, Gibraltar, on his retiring from the Mastership, December 24, A.L., 5859." The W.M. in stating that it had been thought best that but few words should be inscribed on the jewel, begged to assure Bro. Irwin that his name was inscribed in the hearts of the brethren, and treasured there amidst a crowd of happy associations and pleasant reminiscences of the many cheerful Masonic gatherings at which, under his able guidance, they had received so much pleasure and instruction. He concluded by expressing a wish that the G.A.O.T.U. would grant Bro. Irwin many years of health and happiness to wear it among them. Bro. Irwin, who appeared very much affected, briefly returned thanks to the brethren, and said that his success was chiefly owing to the hearty support that every brother had afforded him; that he had not done all he had hoped to do, but that he was consoled by the knowledge that their present W.M. was doing his best to complete the works that he (Bro. Irwin) had commenced. He assured the brethren that he valued the jewel they had presented him with, far beyond its intrinsic value, and that he would part with it only with his life. He resumed his seat amidst the acclamations of the brethren. A statement of accounts was then read by the Secretary, by which it appeared that all debts had been paid and a balance of more than two hundred dollars remained in the hands of the Treasurer, while a very large sum was due to the Lodge for subscriptions, &c. The Lodge was then closed in due and antient form and with solemn prayer, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk, as also that of "Bro. Irwin, P.M." Bro. Miles returned thanks on behalf of the new initiates, saying, "that he had been twice overpowered that night, first with fright, and secondly with kindness." Bro. Onetti, a Spanish gentleman, returned thanks on behalf of "The Visiting Brethren," in an eloquent Spanish speech, which was translated to the brethren by Bro. Gorham. He said he had been a Mason thirty years, and had not been in a Lodge for ten years, but that he prized the Order as much as ever; he expressed his regret that the Spanish government do not allow Lodges in Spain. After a few excellent songs from some of the brethren, the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings, and the brethren separated in love and harmony.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

SYDNEY.—The installation of Brother G. Thornton as Provincial Grand Master, under the Irish Constitution, took place on Tuesday, Dec. 27th, at Bro. J. Clark's Assembly Rooms, Elizabeth-street North, Sydney. The members of the different Lodges commenced to meet soon after twelve o'clock, and in about half an hour the brethren present must have numbered nearly 200. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master and officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of England and the Provincial Grand Master and officers of the Grand Lodge of Scotland were present, as well as most of the Masters and Past Masters and other officers of the several Lodges under the constitutions of England, Ireland, and Scotland. The ceremony, which was of a very interesting and solemn character, was performed by Bro. Williams, D. Prov. G.M., assisted by the general officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge of England. The Rev. Bro. Macarthur officiated as Chaplain. The Lodge being opened in due form, the D. Prov. G.M. read the patent appointing Brother Thornton to be first Prov. G.M. under the Irish constitution, and the ceremony of installation was then proceeded with, and Brother Thornton having been sworn in, and taken the chair, returned thanks to the brethren for their attendance to witness the honour which had been conferred on him. The Prov. G.M. (I.C.) then, under the powers vested in him by his patent, selected the following brethren to serve as his officers in the Provincial Grand Lodge of Ireland: Brother Lovecraft, Deputy Provincial Grand Master; Brother J. Clark, Senior Warden; Brother Callaghan, Junior Warden; Brother Aitken, Treasurer; Brother Guise, Secretary; Brother Watt, Senior Deacon; Brother McLean, Junior Deacon; and Brother Creighton, Inner Guard. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated. At half-past four o'clock, about one hundred of the members of the different Lodges sat down to dinner. The chair was taken by the Prov. G.M. (I.C.), and on his right was the D. Prov. G.M. (E.C.), and on his left the Prov. G.M. (S.C.). The vice-chair was occupied by Brother Lovecraft, D. Prov. G.M. (I.C.). After justice had been done to the entertainment, the Prov. G.M. (I.C.) proposed the "The Health of the Queen." He knew they were all loyal subjects, and Masons in particular were always noted for their loyalty. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm and three times three cheers. The Prov. G.M. (I.C.) proposed "The three Grand Lodges." This toast he said required no eulogium, but he trusted the day would soon come when they would all be united under one head. The toast was drunk with the usual Masonic honours. Bro. Macfarlane, Prov. G.M. of Scotland, proposed "The health of the Prov. Grand Master of the Irish Constitution." He paid a high tribute to Bro. Thornton, who had just been installed as their

first P.G.M., and felt assured that he would do all in his power to advance and promote the interests of the order. The toast was drunk with Masonic honours. Bro. Thornton returned thanks. He felt grateful at the presence of so many of the brethren, and assured them that he had been deeply impressed with the ceremony, and trusted that he would fulfil the high responsibility he had taken upon himself to the satisfaction of all Masons. There was no honour which he coveted closer to his heart than the position he had been elevated to, and whatever little ability he possessed would be devoted to the advancement in this colony of Masonry. The Prov. G.M. (I.C.) then proposed "The health of the Provincial Grand Master and Deputy Provincial Grand Master and officers of the English Constitution." He believed that if it had not been for the presence of Bro. Williams, D. Prov. G.M., and the brethren who assisted him, the ceremony would not have been so efficiently performed as it had been. The toast having been drunk with Masonic honours, the D. Prov. G.M. (E.C.) responded to it, and said, in performing the ceremony he believed he had only done what was his duty, and what every Mason would be perfectly willing to do to another. He assured them that he came there, with all sincerity and friendship, to assist them, and trusted that the Grand Lodge of Ireland would meet with success. Bro. Williams, D. Prov. G.M. (E.C.) then proposed "The health of the Provincial Grand Master and Officers of the Scotch Constitution." The toast was drunk with Masonic honours, and responded to by Bro. Macfarlane, Prov. G.M. (S.C.). The next toast was "The health of the Deputy-Provincial Master and Officers of the Irish Constitution," which was proposed by Past Master Murphy, and responded to by Brother Clark, on behalf of Brother Lovcraft, D. Prov. G.M. (I.C.). The chairman proposed "All the Fraternity round the Globe." This toast was drunk with the usual Masonic honours. Bro. Clark proposed "The health of the Brethren who have honoured us by co-operating in the formation of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Ireland in New South Wales." The toast was drunk with Masonic honours. The next toast "Our Absent Brethren," was proposed by the chairman. Brother John Clark proposed "The health of Masters, Paymasters, and Officers of the Lodges under the English constitution in this colony." This toast was drunk with Masonic honours. The healths of the Masters, Past Masters, and officers of the Lodges under the Scotch constitution in this colony, was proposed by the Prov. G.M. (I.C.) and responded to by Bro. Allen. This toast was drunk with Scotch Masonic honours. Bro. Gordon proposed the healths of the Masters, Past Masters, and officers of the Lodges under the Irish constitution, which was drunk with Scotch honours, and responded to by Bro. Smith, W.M. of Lodge 260. The Prov. G.M. having left the chair, the brethren departed, after having spent a very pleasant evening.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Our record of the movements of the royal family this week may be confined to a very small compass. Her Majesty remains in strict retirement at Osborne, the only visitors being the Prince and Princess Liningen. The Prince of Wales has gone back to Oxford, and it has been officially announced that he will visit Canada in a month or two. The Duc de Montpensier has arrived in this country on a visit to the Queen, and his to banished relatives.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the HOUSE OF LORDS, on Monday, Lord Normanby said that, shortly after leaving the house the other night, he had received a letter from Italy, with respect to which he had been questioned during the debate. He handed one to the Marquis of Clanricarde, which he said would convince the noble lord and others that they were entirely in error in the statements made on Thursday night. A message was brought from the Commons requesting a conference with their lordships on the subject of the commercial treaty with France. Their lordships were informed that the Commons had agreed to address the Crown on the subject. Lord Taunton gave notice that on Thursday next he should move that their lordships should join in agreeing to a similar address. On Tuesday, Lord Chelmsford introduced a bill for the purpose of remedying the evils incidental to Sunday trading. Some other business was transacted, and their lordships adjourned at an early hour.—In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, on Monday, Lord John Russell said, in reply to a question from Mr. Fuller, that it was the intention of the French government to impose an export duty upon rags as soon as the existing prohibition shall have been removed, but that he could not state the exact amount of the proposed duty. The noble lord added that the government had taken steps for obtaining a free export of rags from other countries in which the export is now either prohibited or restricted by heavy duties. Lord John Manners asked the Foreign Secretary whether he had received any further information from Paris with regard to the intentions of the French Emperor respecting Savoy. Lord John Russell could only add that he had no doubt that the opinion of the great powers of Europe would have due weight with his Imperial Majesty. Mr. Disraeli then asked the government what course her Majesty's ministers intended to pursue with reference to Mr. Kinglake's motion; whereupon Lord John Russell replied, that the second reading of the reform bill was fixed for the 19th instant, and that he did not choose to give way in order to give precedence to Mr. Kinglake. Mr. Kinglake moved the adjournment of the house, and complained of something like a breach of faith on the part of the government, as he had only consented to post-

pone his motion, at the instance of the Foreign Secretary, upon the understanding that a government night was to be devoted to the subject. Mr. Disraeli insisted upon the necessity of a discussion on the Savoy question, and said that the policy of the government was involved in great mystery and required explanation. Lord Palmerston attempted to intimidate the opposition by stating that it should be clearly explained whether those who wished to bring the question of Savoy before the house did so with the view of expressing censure on the conduct of the French Emperor, or of asking the house to pass a vote of censure on her Majesty's ministers. Sir J. Packington denied that Mr. Disraeli had in any way intimated a desire to pass a vote of censure. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said that government was fully prepared to meet any discussion relative to their conduct in relation to Savoy. Mr. Gladstone then moved the second reading of the Paper Duty Repeal Bill, whereupon Sir W. Miles moved his amendment, to the effect that as the repeal of the duty will necessitate an addition to the income-tax, such repeal is, at the present time, inexpedient. Sir W. Miles delivered an elaborate speech, in the course of which he argued that the repeal of the duty would not cheapen literature, and that it was a mistake to suppose that paper of good quality could be made of substances other than rags. Mr. Banks Stanhope seconded the amendment; and Mr. Norris then delivered a forcible speech in favour of repeal. In the debate which followed, Mr. Mill, Mr. Black, Mr. Maguire, Lord Robert Cecil, and Mr. Gibson took part. Sir J. Packington implored the House not to decide without considering the condition of the working classes, and persons with small fixed incomes, for whom the budget did nothing. He understood that the paper duty produced last year £1,300,000 and there was a rumour that it would yield £1,500,000. He asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether those statements were correct? The Chancellor of the Exchequer said he knew nothing of the rumour about a million and a half. The House then divided, when there appeared—For the second reading, 245; Against it, 192; majority, 53. The result of the numbers was received with cheers. The bill was then read a second time. On Tuesday Lord John Russell took the opportunity of laying on the table further papers on the state of Italy. He said all he desired was that the Italians should be allowed to manage their own affairs. An interview with a Tuscan agent had so completely convinced him of the impossibility of restoring the grand dukes, he had no alternative but to recommend that the Italians should have their own way. Ministers had exerted all their influence in order to preserve the peace of Europe, and if in doing so they had contributed to the independence of Italy, he for one was not ashamed of the part he had taken in bringing this about. Mr. White-side argued that this country had no business to interfere with the interfere with the internal affairs of foreign countries. He thought, however, that the despatches on the table were very meagre with respect to the annexation of Savoy. The prime minister himself had been absolutely silent. Lord Palmerston denied he wished to stifle discussion. He excused the silence of the British Government as to the annexation of Savoy, from July to December, on the ground that a congress was then expected to assemble, where the question would be naturally discussed. But when it became clear that there would be no congress the Foreign Secretary had addressed a strong remonstrance to the French Government. It was admitted that England ought not to go to war in defence of Savoy; and he thought that to stir up hostile combinations on the continent would only tend to irritate France, and make it a point of honour with her to insist on the annexation. He thought that the annexation of Savoy was not in accordance with the imperial declaration at Bordeaux, that the empire meant peace. He considered this annexation as dangerous to Europe in general, and to Switzerland in particular. The noble lord concluded by stating that Government had received information to the effect that Tuscany had now voted her annexation to Sardinia, and that he believed the French Emperor would be satisfied to gain more from disarming the suspicions of Europe, than from the possession of Savoy. Mr. Disraeli complained that Lord John Russell had not replied to the observations he had made the other night. The crisis most perilous, and it was astonishing that in such a position of affairs the Government should urge the house to abstain from discussion; and if Europe were now to be torn by convulsions, a heavy responsibility would rest on the minister who had encouraged the French emperor in the prosecution of his ambitious projects. Mr. Kinglake denied that he intended to stir up war, and objected to Lord John Russell's despatches that there was a want of reality about them which made them disregarded by the French Government. Mr. Kinglake was followed by Mr. S. Fitzgerald, who commented strongly on the practice of corresponding by private letters. Mr. Osborne abused everybody except the French emperor, and after a few words from Lord John Russell, the papers were laid on the table, and the subject dropped. On Wednesday the House was engaged in discussing Mr. Locke King's Religious Worship Bill. The object of that bill is to enable clergymen of the Church of England to preach in any public hall or other unconsecrated building, without having previously obtained the permission of the incumbent. Mr. Walpole opposed the bill on the ground that it would create "confusion" in parishes, and override the canon law. Lord Robert Cecil protested against the bill as an insult to the Jews. This was resented by Sir F. Goldsmid, who, in a brief speech, advocated religious liberty, and stated that he was as anxious for the free preaching of the Christian as of the Jewish faith. Mr. Gladstone advised the withdrawal of the bill,

and drew a terrible picture of the results of opposition services being introduced into the same parish, a state of things which he contended the bill would be calculated to promote. Sir G. C. Lewis thought that the bill would produce discord and confusion, but he said that he would not be disinclined to take charge of a bill, provided that an efficient way of accomplishing its object could be pointed out. Mr. Newdegate suggested that the Court of Queen's Bench should be enabled to compel bishops to hear complaints against clergymen, and that the expenses of these investigations should be met by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. After a lengthened discussion, which occupied nearly the whole of the sitting, the house divided, and the vote was as follows:—For the second reading, 131; against it, 168; majority against the bill, 37.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—On Tuesday morning the Earl of Elgin left town for Paris to consult with the French government preparatory to taking his departure for China. The noble earl is not likely to be detained beyond the end of the week in the French capital, when his lordship returns to London. It is not expected that the noble earl will leave for the east before the close of this or the first week in the ensuing month.—At St. George's-in-the-East, the animosity between the two sects continues with unabated virulence. The "Low" Churchmen and "roughs" obtained summonses last week against the Rev. Bryan King and the Rev. Thomas Dove, who had ejected these gentle religionists from the temple with more force than discretion. Mr. King was fined forty shillings, the warlike Dove got off with ten. It is but common justice to Mr. King to say that by going to the reading-desk last Sunday, as well as by his general conduct of the services, he has shown every disposition to make concessions; but it is plain from the conduct of the persons who ordinarily form the congregation that nothing in the way of concession will be accepted. Mr. King has commenced an action against Mr. Herbert, the chief constable of the parish, in the Court of Common Pleas for trespass. He has also caused five other persons to be served with writs. Under these circumstances, there appears to be very little hope that the excitement which has so long prevailed in this unfortunate parish will be abated.—On Tuesday, the Hon. Judge Watson, one of the Barons of the Exchequer, while on circuit at Welshpool, in Montgomery, was seized with apoplexy in court, and died almost on the bench. Immediately after charging the grand jury, the learned baron was observed to put his handkerchief to his face, and a smelling bottle to his nose. He leaned back in his chair, and it was evident that something more than a fainting fit had seized his lordship. He grew gradually worse, and was conveyed to his lodgings, close at hand. He had scarcely reached there when he breathed his last. The baron's son happened to be attending his lordship upon circuit, and was in attendance upon him when he expired. The shopkeepers in the town put up a portion of their shutters, and blinds were drawn down in almost every private house in respect to the departed judge.—The ship *Commodore Perry*, for whose safety much uneasiness has been felt, arrived off Portsmouth on Tuesday.—Mr. Cobden some years ago was presented with an enormous sum of money as a recompense for his exertions in the cause of free trade. This money has been lost in an unfortunate investment. He has since that been employed by the present government to negotiate a commercial treaty between France and England. One thing Mr. Cobden has done well. He has made a compact with France which is expected to favour the Lancashire manufacturers at the expense of every other class in the community. It does not, therefore, surprise us to learn that the member for Rochdale is about to be presented with a second fortune by the men whose interests he has served so faithfully. Nearly £40,000, we are informed, has already been subscribed, and we mention this fact as a convincing proof of the truth of everything we have said as to the real tendencies of Mr. Cobden's commercial treaty.—On Saturday last at the York Spring assizes, before Mr. Justice Blackburn, the Rev. Harry Lloyd Bickerstaffe pleaded guilty to marrying Anna Campbell, his former wife being alive. It was intimated to his lordship that the present proceedings were not instituted by the young lady herself. The learned judge said he looked upon the offence as one of the most aggravated nature. The prisoner was a clergyman of the Church of England, and a man of education, yet he had wilfully married a young lady, well knowing at the same time that his former wife was still living. He had committed a deep injury to the young lady, and an outrage to society. He then ordered Bickerstaffe to be kept in penal servitude for three years.—At Southampton, Carman, a man of colour, has been examined before the Southampton magistrates, on a charge of having poisoned the captain and chief mate of the troop ship *Accrington*, from Calcutta. The two deceased persons are represented to have behaved with the greatest brutality to the crew, and even the women on board did not escape violence at their hands. The evidence altogether is of a very painful character. The magistrates considered the evidence insufficient, and discharged the prisoner.

FOREIGN NEWS.—On Sunday last the *Moniteur* published the Treaty of Commerce concluded between France and England. It would have been much more satisfactory if the official organ of the French government could have informed us that the Emperor Napoleon had so far yielded to the public opinion of Europe as to give up his projects for the annexation of Savoy. In presence of the contradictory rumours which reach us respecting the foreign policy of the French Emperor, it is almost impossible to arrive at any distinct conclusion as to the probable solution of the diplomatic difficulty of the day. There is some reason to

believe that the programme contained in the imperial speech had been agreed upon between Louis Napoleon and Count Cavour, and that the defiant tone of the Sardinian Ministers' despatches is merely assumed, in order that both France and Sardinia may recede with dignity from their original pretensions. The *Courier des Alpes* publishes a supplement, announcing, upon information obtained from an official source, that Savoy will not be dismembered, but will form two departments, and will preserve the Court of Appeal at Chambéry. Of course no reliance can be placed on the accounts given in the French journals of the state of feeling in Savoy. For instance, the Paris papers publish the following, dated Antibes, 12th March:—"The attempted Italian manifestation in Nice has failed. Only five hundred persons were present; nearly all of whom were Italian *employés* and children. The annexation to France is impatiently awaited." It is asserted in Berlin that England supports the demand of Sardinia to ascertain the wishes of the populations of Savoy and Nice by universal suffrage.—Whatever may be the opinion of the Imperial Master of France, the populations of the Italian duchies appear to be unanimous in the expression of their wishes as to their annexation to Piedmont. At Sienna, Pisa, and Leghorn, the number of persons inscribed on the list is 45,218. Not less than 38,359 votes were recorded, the numbers being 38,026 in favour of annexation to Piedmont, and 333 in favour of a separate kingdom. In Florence, no doubt, the result will be equally decided. The result of the vote in the city and suburbs of Bologna is as follows:—For annexation to Sardinia, 21,694; for separate kingdom, 2. The whole army voted for annexation.—The reply of the holy see to the last proposals of France has arrived here. The pope declines the proposition to confine within an exclusive political compass a question which, as it concerns the integrity of the patrimony of St. Peter, is intimately bound up with the independence of the Church.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"W. B."—It is the usual custom in Lodges of Instruction to give the ceremonies in full.

"R. B."—Write to the Grand Secretary.

"F. W. M." Ballarat—

1. If a brother, who has served the office of W.M. in an Irish or any other foreign Lodge for the full space of one year, becomes a subscribing member of a Lodge working under the English constitutions, he *does* retain his rank and is entitled to all the honours and privileges belonging to him as a P.M.

2. Such a brother is eligible to be elected W.M.

3. A Brother having been duly installed as W.M., no Prov. Grand Master or Grand Lodge has power to declare him ineligible for the office, unless there has been some gross infraction of Masonic law.

4. Past Wardens of foreign Lodges, having served the office for twelve months, are eligible for election to the chair of any English Lodge of which they are subscribing members.

5. No Prov. Grand Lodge can prevent the Master of a subordinate Lodge from accepting an appointment under a foreign Prov. Grand Lodge—though it would probably be better for him not to do so.

6. There is no power vested in either the Prov. G.M. or Prov. Grand Lodge to disqualify any brother from holding office in a subordinate Lodge under the English constitution, because he holds office in a foreign Prov. Grand Lodge.

MASONIC PORTRAIT OF EARL HOWE, Prov. Grand Master of Leicestershire.—The committee appointed by the Prov. Grand Lodge to procure a portrait of the Prov. Grand Master, for the decoration of the new Masonic Hall at Leicester, have resolved upon having the portrait engraved and a proof impression presented to each of the subscribers.

"J. W., Ramsgate," will please accept our thanks for his communication.

"L. L."—We know nothing of the Order alluded to, excepting that it has no connection with Freemasonry.

THE GRAND MASTER AND THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.—In our report of Grand Lodge last week, our reporter, by the omission of a few words in the process of condensation, apparently makes us give an opinion that the M.W. Grand Master, on his reelection, returned thanks in very inadequate terms. The words were those of the G.M., and not ours. We should have stated that "the Grand Master begged to express, *though he felt he could only do so* in very inadequate terms, the high sense which he entertained of the honour conferred upon him in electing him their Grand Master." The words we have italicised were, however, omitted, thereby giving an apparent meaning to the sentence which it was never intended to convey, and for which we have to express our regret.