

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1861.

CHARITY.

There has been, during the last few weeks, so many claims on the charity of all men, whether Freemasons or not, that we cannot but reflect with pride, how well they have been responded to, as the columns of our daily contemporaries have evidenced. During the late severe weather the distress in the metropolis was almost unexampled, and the public used every exertion to alleviate it—and it was with pride that we noticed the continual appearance of the names of distinguished Freemasons, and even of lodges in their corporate capacity, appearing in the lists of subscriptions so published.

At the same time, our noble brother, Lord Leigh, has been heading a committee of Warwickshiremen—not a few of whom are Masons—to raise a fund for the relief of the distress which prevails in Coventry—not so much through the rivalry of French manufactures, as some believe, as the change in fashion by which hats have to a large extent superseded bonnets, and ribbons become an almost obsolete article of adornment with the *belles* of society. Most gratified have we been to observe the efforts made to relieve that distress, and wishing the promoters of the movement every success, we cannot conceal from ourselves that any real amelioration of the condition of the ribbon weavers can only be permanently looked to from a large portion of them being drafted into other employments. The endeavours now making to induce ladies to purchase Coventry ribbons, to obtain new patterns, &c., are all laudable in their way, but can only prove palliatives of the distress, whilst the effects of such measures cannot be permanent. A similar movement was a few years since made on behalf of the metal button makers of Birmingham, only to end in disappointment; and a gentleman is now scarcely ever met with a metal button on his coat, excepting he be one of the few remaining beaus of the reign of George the Third, who adhere to the old costume because they do not like innovations.

In Monmouthshire, our Newport brethren are using their best exertions to assist in relieving the distress of fifty-one widows, suddenly deprived of their natural supporters—of fourteen old and infirm parents, who were dependent solely on the labour of their sons—and of one hundred and twenty children, all made orphans by the same calamity—an explosion of fire-damp at the Risca Colliery, on the 1st of December. The miner at all times lives in an atmosphere of danger, and yet how few of us think of that when sitting by our fireside—and what we should do without their labour it is impossible to say, especially in weather such as that which we have recently experienced. When, therefore, our attention is called to that danger by such a catastrophe as that which has just occurred, it is the duty of all to do their best to alleviate the misery of those thus thrown helpless on the world. The brethren of the Silurian Lodge, to whom be all honour for having undertaken to appeal

to their brother Masons to assist the noble efforts of the public of Newport to provide for these people, needed no apology, that, though the poor men were not Masons, they felt assured the brethren would assist them. And we do not apologise to the brethren for drawing attention to the claims of such deserving objects to commiseration and relief. We therefore hope that the appeal of the Isca Lodge will be liberally responded to, and that many a Post-office Order will find its way to Bro. Williams, Silurian Lodge, Newport, Monmouthshire.

But it is especially gratifying, whilst these numerous claims upon the sympathy and purses of Masons are being made, and we think we may add, nobly responded to, that our own Charities are not forgotten—as was amply proved by the splendid list of subscriptions and donations, amounting to no less than £3,000, announced at the Festival of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows, on Wednesday last—an amount exceeding by nearly £900 the subscription of last year, and which was of itself one of the, if not the largest ever made for the institution. Viscount Holmesdale, the Provincial Grand Master for Kent, presided, and well may he be proud of the noble manner in which he was supported by the brethren. To the provincial brethren, too, who acted as Stewards, great thanks are due for the manner in which they have roused their respective provinces to action. A few years since it was a too true complaint, that whilst the greater part of the benefits derived from the charities went to provincial brethren, nearly the whole of the money came from London. The provinces were at first piqued at the complaint; but having upon inquiry found the statement to be founded on fact, have nobly set about the work of giving their full share in aid of the different charities; and upon this occasion upwards of one-third of the subscription came from three provinces, West Yorkshire sending £500, Kent £300, and East Lancashire nearly £230; the latter being, we are informed, only an earnest of what they intend to do in future. A few more such festivals as that of Wednesday, and we shall be in the proud position of being able to boast that an aged Mason or his widow never has to ask for a pension in vain.

MASONIC SYMBOLISM,

WITH REFERENCE TO THE MEANING AND ORIGIN OF THE WORDS "FREEMASON" AND "COWAN."

PART V.

(Concluded from page 23, Vol. IV.)

The newly-initiated having been duly enlightened, is now enabled to proceed with his allotted task, and derives knowledge and delight from the various emblems which surround him.

Symbolically, a Mason's Lodge is a representation of the world. "Its cloudy canopy," says a writer in THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE, "is an emblem of those mansions of unutterable bliss where the Grand Master of the Universe for ever reigns; whose all-seeing eye beholds with unceasing complacency the efforts of His creatures to do His will." To that abode of the blessed the Mason is taught to aspire, while the path is indicated by the

theological ladder, whose principal rounds are Faith, Hope, and Charity. The sun—the eternal fountain of light, the unwearied ruler of the day shines in the lodge, a bright exponent of the great Creator's power, while the moon, the glorious orb of night, repeats the lesson of Divine munificence. Here, too, we are taught that the vast universe over which this Omnipotence presides was no work of chance, but that its foundations were laid in Wisdom, supported by strength, and adorned with Beauty. And as the presence of the Almighty illuminates with refulgent splendour the most distant recesses of the universe, so is the lodge enlightened by the presence of His revealed will. And hence the Bible, as it is of all lights the most pure, is to the Mason most indispensable; and, finally, as this world, vast in its extent, and complicated in its motions, is governed and regulated with unceasing concord and harmony, so is the lodge controlled and directed by the same spirit of peace, which, emanating from the exercise of Brotherly Love, Relief, and truth, reaps its fruits in universal charity." Such is the glorious spectacle of a Freemasons' lodge, and such—the words scarcely suffice to render their full meaning—the noble precepts which the mute emblems depicted around us continually teach. "A Mason," says Hutchinson, "sitting as the member of a lodge, claiming these emblems as the testimonies of his Order, ought at that instant to transfer his thoughts to the august scene which is there initiated, and remember that he then appears professing himself a member of the great temple of the universe, to obey the laws of the mighty Master of All, in whose presence he seeks to be approved." As the operative Mason derives his name from his profession, so in like manner does the free and accepted or speculative Mason derive his name; the operative builds visible, material edifices; the Freemason, invisible, heavenly ones. The one builds palaces for the reception of kings of the earth, the other a temple for the reception of the King of Kings—"a temple not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens." "As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy; and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly; and as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly" (1 Cor. xv. 48, 49). "*La première idée qu'a fait naître l'aspect d'un sage, a été celle d'un homme libre et maître de lui-même; et toute institution qui tendait à faire des sages est devenue un art de liberté et de royauté*" (Ragon). The greatest of all victories is that which a man gains over himself. He who can confidently affirm that he is perfect master of his passions is a greater victor than the mightiest warrior earth ever saw; he only is truly *free*—"celui dont le cœur est esclave servirait jusque sur le trône; celui dont le cœur est libre reste libre jusque dans les fers." Well replied the ancient oracle that those will be free who have acquired the knowledge necessary for controlling themselves. And Horace also, in his picture of a wise man, well sustains his character for the knowledge of human nature:—

"Ad summum sapiens uno minor est Jove, dives,
Liber, honoratus, pulcher, Rex denique Regum."
—*Epist. l. i. 106.*

A true Freemason, then, is one who, by walking according to the precepts laid down for his guidance in the Volume of the Sacred Law, has been enabled to free himself from the bondage of sin and his own unruly passions, —has risen superior to the vain glitter of this world, and who, freeing his soul from the dominion of pride and prejudice, with a heart filled with awe and love of his Creator, and charity and brotherly love towards mankind, views in every son of Adam a brother of the dust. Every

object that he beholds speaks to his heart. There is nothing in nature from which he does not learn a lesson. In everything he recognises the presence of the great Creator, and perceives that His being passes through and supports the whole frame of nature—that every part of creation is full of Him—that He is lodged in our very essence, and is as a soul within the soul to irradiate its understanding, rectify its will, purify its passions, and enliven all the powers of man:—

"With aspect mild and elevated eye,
Behold him seated on a mount serene,
Above the fogs of sense, and passion's storm;
All the black caves and tumults of this life,
Like harmless thunders breaking at his feet,
Excite his piety, not impair his peace.
Earth's genuine sons, the sceptred and the slave,
A mingled mob! a wandering herd he sees
Bewild'ed in the vale; in all unlike!
His full reverse in all! what higher praise?
What stronger demonstration of the right?
He sees with other eyes than their's; where they
Behold a sun, he spies a Deity.
They, things terrestrial worship as divine!
His hopes, immortal, blow them by as dust
That dims his sight, and shortens his survey,
Which longs in infinite, to loose all bound."

—Young.

Such are the precepts that are taught, and such should be the character of every man who has been accepted or received into Freemasonry.

Turn we now to the Cowan. If the operative Mason termed those who were not of their craft base fellows, dogs, Cowans, what must one of the Royal Arch do? We call them Cowans, dogs, since it is the name which ancient custom has bestowed upon those who belong not to our Order; but it is *not* that a Mason is puffed up with pride at being a Mason, and therefore considers everyone who is not a brother a dog or Cowan! Far from him is such a thought. It is not the spirit of Freemasonry to revile or persecute. A Mason has no enemies; not because all love him, but because he knows how to make a gain of malice. "Cowan was," says Bro. Oliver, "a term of exclusion amongst the early Christians. Before the service of the Church commenced, a deacon proclaimed aloud, 'Sancta sanctes, Foris canes'" (Greek, *κυνες*; French, chiens, Cowans).—"Holy things for holy persons. Dogs or Cowans, evil persons, begone." In the Epistle to the Philippians, ch. iii. 2, we read, "Beware of dogs; beware of evil workers." And in Revelations, xii. 15, "Without are dogs." In both passages the word *κυνες*, from *κύνων*, is used. In the former passages the expression is applied to the false apostles on account of their impudence and greedy love of gain. David, in Psalm xxii. 16, calls by the same name persecutors—"For many dogs are come about me, and the counsel of the wicked layeth siege against me."

Solomon and the apostle Peter compare sinners who continually relapse into their sins to dogs returning to their vomit. In all these several passages it must be observed that the same word *κύνων* is used, and always in a bad sense. There ever has been and must be ever a distinction, not only in character but also in name, between the upright man and him whose ways are unequal; as in the early ages of the world the Noachidae were called the children of light, as opposed to the children of darkness; the sons of men, as opposed to the sons of God or light, so now the brethren of the mystic tie are termed Freemasons as opposed to Cowans. If then we consider the meaning of the word Freemasonry symbolically, or in the language of speculative Masonry, it will appear that it is primarily the appellation bestowed on a peculiar sect or craft of workmen, whose chief work

consisted in building terrestrial temples sacred to the Deity, while the Cowan or Lowen or loon was an inexperienced, ignorant knave, who, not having been initiated and probably instructed in his art or craft, marred the beauty of the design by his uncouth attempt at the work; and being justly driven away in disgrace, urged on by envy and malice did all he could to hinder the true Masons, and thus revenge himself upon them. This I take to be the origin of the terms; but speculative, or Freemasons, using the terms of the art and applying the tools symbolically in a moral meaning, adopted the two denominations of Cowan and Freemason; by the former implying everything that a Cowan is, and that a man should *not* be; by the latter, signifying a man of mature age and judgment, upright in his dealings and character, and of good morals; one who, by adhering to that straight and undeviating line of conduct laid down for his pursuit in the Volume of the Sacred Law, endeavours to free his soul from the dominion of pride and prejudice—to bend with humility and resignation to the G. A. O. T. U.;—to dedicate his heart, thus purified from every malignant passion, to prepare for the reception of truth and wisdom, to His glory, and the good of his fellow creatures—in a word, to do his utmost to prepare his body as a fit “temple of the Holy Spirit” (1 Cor. vi. 19), and thereby avoid the punishment mentioned by the Apostle, when he says (1 Cor. iii. 16, 17), “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.” And here, methinks I hear the reader exclaim, “What! do Freemasons allege that all who belong not to their Order are the converse of the above description?” Far from it: such in olden times, and in days of peril and persecution, may have been the character of some Cowans, and indeed still is now of some, but happily such men are rare; the name has descended side by side with that of Freemasonry, and the Masons of the present day merely use it as a generic term for such as do not belong to the Order. Let us, then, who are brethren of the Royal Art, endeavour to act up to our profession, and be worthy of the name of Freemason; let us maintain in their fullest splendour those three great principles of the Order, Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, and endeavour by our conduct and example to promote the glory of God and the good of our fellow creatures, so that by square conduct, level steps, and uprightness of life and actions, we may hope to ascend to those immortal mansions from which all goodness emanates, and where the world’s great Architect lives and rules for ever.—So mote it be. R. B. W.

MASONIC NOTES.

(From *The Canadian Freemason*.)

BY V. W. BRO. C. P. L.

The relation as Masons we hold to each other and to society is a theme which has employed more able pens than I can wield; yet its exhaustless and instructive field is open to all, although my jottings may open nothing new to the readers of your very valuable publication.

From the commencement of the world we may trace the foundations of Masonry; ever since symmetry began, and harmony displayed her charms, we have reason to believe our Order has had a being; during many ages and many different countries it has flourished. No art, no science preceded it; in the dark periods of antiquity, when literature was in a low state, and the rude manners of our forefathers withheld from that knowledge we now so amply share, Masonry diffused its influence. This science unveiled, arts arose, civilisation took place, and the progress of knowledge and philosophy gradually dispelled the gloom of ignorance

and barbarism. Government being settled, authority was given to laws, and the assemblies of the Fraternity acquired the patronage of the great and good, while the tenets of the profession diffused unbounded philanthropy.

Abstracted from the pure pleasures which arise from friendships so wisely constituted as that which subsists among Masons, and which it is scarcely possible that any circumstance or occurrence can erase, Masonry is a science confined to no particular country, but extends over the whole terrestrial globe. Wherever arts flourish, it flourishes too. Add to this, that by secret and inviolable signs, carefully preserved among the Fraternity, it becomes an universal language. Hence many advantages are gained; the distant Chinese, the wild Arab, and the American savage will embrace a brother Briton, and know that besides the common ties of humanity, there is still a stronger obligation to induce to kind and friendly offices. As all religions teach morality, if a brother be found to act the part of a truly honest man, his private speculative opinions are left to God and himself. Thus through the influence of Masonry, which is reconcilable to the best policy, all those disputes which embitter life, and sour the tempers of men are avoided: while the common good, the general object, is zealously pursued.

From this view of our system, its utility must be sufficiently obvious. The universal principles of the art unite in one indissoluble bond of affection men of the most opposite tenets, of the most distant countries, and of the most contradictory opinions; so that in every nation a Mason may find a friend, and in every clime a home. If the secrets of Masonry are replete with such advantage to mankind, it may be asked, why are they not divulged for the general good? To this it may be answered—were the privileges of Masonry to be indiscriminately dispensed, the purposes of the institution would not only be subverted, but our secrets, from being familiar like other important matters, would lose their value and sink into disregard.

It is a weakness in human nature, that men are generally more charmed with novelty than with the intrinsic value of things. Innumerable testimonials might be adduced to confirm this truth. Do we not find that the most wonderful operations of the Divine Artificer, however beautiful, magnificent, and useful, are overlooked, because common and familiar? The sun rises and sets, the sea ebbs and flows, rivers glide along their channels, trees and plants vegetate, mankind pass onward in their daily course, yet these being perpetually open to view are unnoticed. The most astonishing productions of Nature, for the same reason, escape observation, and excite no emotion, either in admiration of the great cause or of gratitude for the blessing conferred. Even Virtue herself is not exempt from this unhappy bias of the human frame. Novelty influences all our actions and determinations. What is new or difficult in the acquisition, however trifling or insignificant, readily captivates the imagination and ensures a temporary admiration; while what is familiar or easily attained, however noble or eminent, is sure to be disregarded by the giddy and the unthinking.

Did the essence of Masonry consist in the knowledge of particular secrets or peculiar forms, it might, indeed, be alleged that our pursuits were trifling and superficial. But this is not the case; they are only the Key to our treasures, and having their use, are preserved; while from the recollection of the lessons they inculcate, the well-informed Mason derives instruction, he draws them to a nearer inspection, views them through a proper medium, adverts to the circumstances which gave them rise, and dwells upon the tenets they convey. Finding them replete with useful information, he prizes them as sacred; and being convinced of their propriety, estimates their value by their utility. Among the various societies of men, few, if any, are wholly exempt from censure; friendship, however valuable in itself, and however universal may be its pretensions, has seldom operated so powerfully in general associations as to promote that sincere attachment to the welfare and prosperity of each other, which is necessary to constitute true happiness.

This may be ascribed to sundry causes, but to none with more justness than to the reprehensible motives which too frequently lead men to a participation of social entertain-

ments. If to pass an idle hour to oblige a friend, or probably to gratify an irregular indulgence, be the only inducement to mix in company, is it surprising that the important duties of society should be neglected, and that in the quick circulation of the cheerful glass, the noblest faculties should be sometimes buried in the cup of ebriety.

It is an obvious truth that the privileges of Masonry have sometimes been prostituted for unworthy considerations, and hence their good effects have been less conspicuous. Many have enrolled their names in our records for the mere purposes of conviviality, without inquiring into the nature of the particular engagements to which they are subjected by becoming Masons. Several have been prompted by motives of interest, and many introduced to gratify an idle curiosity, or to please as jolly companions. A general odium, or at least a careless indifference, must be the result of such conduct. But the evil stops not here; persons of this description, ignorant of the true nature of the institution, probably without any real defect in their own morals, are induced to recommend others of the same cast to join the society for the same purpose. Hence the true knowledge of the art decreases with the increase of its members, and the most valuable part of the institution is turned into ridicule, while the dissipations of luxury and intemperance bury in oblivion principles which might have dignified the most exalted characters. But if some do transgress, no wise man will thence argue against the institution or condemn the whole Fraternity for the errors of a few misguided individuals. Were the wicked lives of men admitted as an argument against the religion which they profess, the wisest and most judicious establishments might be exposed to censure. It may be averred, in favour of Masonry, that whatever imperfections are found among its professors, the institution countenances no deviation from the rules of right reason. Those who violate the laws or infringe on good order are kindly admonished by secret monitors; where these means have not the intended effect, public reprehension becomes necessary; and, at last, where every mild endeavour to effect a reformation in their conduct is of no avail, they are expelled from the lodge as unfit members of the society. Vain, therefore, is each idle surmise against the plan of our government; while the laws of the Craft are properly supported, they will be proof against every attack. Men are not aware that by decrying any laudable institution they derogate from the dignity of human nature itself, and from that good order and wise disposition of things, which the Almighty Author of the world has framed for the government of mankind, and established as the basis of the moral system. Friendship and social delights can never be the object of reproach; nor can that wisdom, which hoary time has sanctified, be a subject for ridicule. Whoever attempts to censure what he does not comprehend, degrades himself; and the generous heart will pity the mistakes of such ignorant presumption.

Charity is the chief of all the social virtues, and the distinguishing characteristic of the Mason. This virtue includes a supreme degree of love to the great Creator and Governor of the universe, and an unlimited affection for the beings of His creation, of all character and of every denomination.

Beings who partake of one common nature ought to be actuated by the same motives and interests. Hence to soothe the unhappy, by sympathising with their misfortunes, and to restore peace and tranquillity to agitated spirits, constitute the general and great ends of the Masonic system. This humane, this generous disposition, fires the breast with manly feelings, and enlivens that spirit of compassion which is the glory of the human frame, and which not only rivals, but outshines every other pleasure that the mind is capable of enjoying.

All human passions, when directed by the superior principle of reason, tend to promote some useful purpose; but compassion towards proper objects is the most beneficial of the affections, and excites more lasting degrees of happiness, as it extends to greater numbers, and alleviates the infirmities and evils which are incident to human existence. Possessed of this amiable, this godlike disposition, Masons are shocked at misery under every form and appearance. When they behold an object pining under a distressed body and mind, the healing accents which flow from the tongue

mitigate the pain of the unhappy sufferer, and make even adversity in its dismal state look gay. When pity is excited, the Mason will assuage grief, and cheerfully relieve distress. If a brother be in want, every heart is moved; when he is hungry, we feed him; when he is naked, we clothe him; when he is in trouble, we fly to his relief. Thus we confirm the propriety of the title we bear; and convince the world at large, that brother, among Masons, is *more than the name*.

Though our ears are always open to the distress of the deserving poor, yet charity is not to be dispensed with a profuse liberality on impostors. The parents of a numerous offspring, who, through age, sickness, infirmity, or any unforeseen accident in life, may be reduced to want, particularly claim our attention, and seldom fail to experience the happy effects of our friendly associations. To such objects, whose situation is more easy to be conceived than expressed, we are induced liberally to extend relief. Hence we give convincing proofs of wisdom and discernment; for though our benevolence, like our laws, be limited, yet our hearts glow principally with affection towards the deserving part of mankind.

As useful knowledge is the great object of our desires, the good Mason diligently applies himself to the practice which it inculcates, and does not permit the difficulties that he has to encounter check his progress, or damp his zeal; but at all times strives to recollect that the ways of wisdom are beautiful, and lead to pleasure. Knowledge is attained by degrees, and cannot everywhere be found. Wisdom seeks the secret shade, the lonely cell, designed for contemplation. There enthroned she sits, delivering her sacred oracles. There let all seek her, and pursue the real bliss. Though the passage be difficult, the further we trace it the easier it will become.

Union and harmony constitute the essence of Freemasonry; while we enlist under that banner the society must flourish, and private animosities give place to peace and good fellowship. Uniting in one design, let it be our aim to be happy ourselves, and contribute to the happiness of others. Let us mark our superiority and distinction among men by the sincerity of our profession as Masons; let us cultivate the moral virtues, and improve in all that is good and amiable; let the Genius of Masonry preside over our conduct, and under her sway let us perform our part with becoming dignity; let us preserve an elevation of understanding, a politeness of manner, and an evenness of temper; let our recreations be innocent, and pursued with moderation; and *never* let irregular indulgences lead to the subversion of our system by impairing our faculties, or exposing our characters to derision.

In conformity to our precepts, as patterns worthy of imitation, let the respectability of our character be supported by the regularity of our conduct and the uniformity of our deportment; then, as citizens of the world, and friends to every clime, we shall be living examples of virtue and benevolence, equally zealous to merit as to obtain universal approbation.

ARCHITECTURE AND ARCHÆOLOGY.

THE STONE OF THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

The following statement appears in the Rev. John Raine's *History of Blythe*, in the counties of Nottingham and York,—a quarto volume, just published:—

"It is known to most of my readers that from the quarries of the Duke of Leeds and of Charles Wright, Esq., adjoining the village of North Anstam, in the West Riding of the county of York, and touching each other, was obtained the stone with which the new Houses of Parliament were built, and that it is beginning to perish. Mr. Wright gave me recently, on the spot, the following explanation of this fact. In the first place, the contractors took stone, from quarries of the duke, which was visibly unsound and of inferior quality, although soft to work. 2. They won stone too near the *hasslet-edge*—to use Mr. Wright's own expression—that is, they won it from the surface forwards, driving, so to speak, the quarry before them, instead of working deep from the first. And 3. The quarries of the Duke were, in

several instances, marked by fissures, which had become filled with soil; and the consequence was, that the stone in contact with these fissures was soft and bad. Mr. Wright's quarries were deep, perfect, and sound, and the stone thence taken good. This explanation of a practical man, in itself interesting, will, I think, answer the purpose for which I give it, and elucidate the word *berset*, *basset*. It must mean *sloping*, and this interpretation corresponds with the actual character of our Bassetlaw."

Mr. Raine had previously remarked that Bersetlaw, the Berset hill, is the most remarkable feature of the limestone district of North Nottinghamshire. It gives name to the Hundred of Bassetlaw.

GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL INTELLIGENCE.

Monday, the 21st ult., was the day chosen for the consecration of the Clayton Memorial Church, which has been erected to the memory of the late Rev. Richard Clayton, incumbent of St. Thomas's Church, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The foundation-stone was laid on the 28th of October, 1859. The church is handsome and commodious, and consists of nave and north and south aisles, communion recess, tower, and south porch. The style of architecture is the Geometric Gothic, and contains a most beautiful east window of five lights. There are also north, south, and west galleries, which are very well lighted from gable windows, thereby avoiding an undue height of wall. The length of the building is 110 feet, width 54 feet, height from floor to apex of roof 54 feet, height of tower to top of pinnacles 100 feet. There are 849 sittings on the ground floor, and 491 in the galleries, making a total of 1340 sittings, of which 453 are free. The church is well warmed by hot-water pipes, and otherwise well provided for the accommodation and comfort of the congregation. The nave and galleries are lighted by sun-lights, suspended from the roof, and containing 81 burners. The cost of the site and building is about £6700.

St. Paul's Church, in the northern district of Maidstone, has been consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury. A separate district, formed from the parish of Holy Trinity, will be assigned to it. The original estimates were £5000 for the church, £1000 for the parsonage, and £4000 for the endowment—£1200 still remains to be provided before the parsonage and endowment can be carried out. The church will accommodate 800 persons, 400 free. The plan of the edifice consists of nave, with clerestory, north and south aisles, chancel, vestry, south porch and tower. The aisles are gabled, being divided into five bays, with three-light windows in each. The tower is at the north-west angle, and consists of three stages, the upper portion being octagonal, with canopied pinnacles at top of buttresses. On the cardinal faces are large three-light windows, with cornice over, from which will rise the spire (the erection of which has been delayed by the weather). Internally the nave is divided into bays by arches rising from carved columns. The chancel is separated from the nave by an arch springing from carved capitals, supported by sculptured angels. The east and west windows are in geometrical tracery. The roofs are of lofty pitch, and formed with curved ribs and ornamental tracery, the principals being supported by columns, with carved capitals and corbels. The church is fitted for gas, with standards of brass.

It has been resolved to enlarge High Harrogate Church. Starting at the corner on the east side, it is proposed to throw out transepts on the north and south sides, and thereby gain fourteen commodious pews on one side and sixteen on the other. Each pew will be three feet wide and seven feet six inches long, and accommodate five persons. Next, it is proposed to throw back the east end as far as the boundary wall of the churchyard, which will give a chancel measuring within the communion-rails 48 feet; and from the nave to the chancel will be 21 feet. It is also intended to improve the entrance into the galleries; and, instead of the present cramped and dangerous spiral staircase, to erect a commodious one on the zig-zag principle. The free sittings will be altered. There will be in all 240 new sittings, and the entire cost will be £1400. The ceiling will be removed, and the church opened to the roof.

It is proposed to erect Wesleyan day-schools in Erskine-street and Prince Edwin-street, Liverpool, each building to

accommodate between six and seven hundred children, and to cost, inclusive of the land, about £4500, or a total of £9000.

The Wicker Congregational Church Schools, Sheffield, have been opened. They were erected at a cost of £2000, of which £1750 had been contributed at the time of opening. The schools, backed by the church, form a group. The principal front, towards Gower-street, is 138ft. long, and the flanks at either end, forming the gables, are 36ft. wide. The end next the church, fronting to the Barnsley-road, presents three two-light windows of simple design, extending from the ground to the upper floor, the intervening space being filled with tracery panels. In the lower portion of one of these windows, a door is introduced, which opens into a porch giving access to the vestry of the church. The length of the Gower-street front is relieved by a gable, broken up into the roof at the junction of the schools, with bed-rooms for the chapel-keeper, whose house is placed there. The windows on this side are plain, of two lights, except those to the house, which are ornamented with cusped heads. The end towards Ellesmere-road is plain, being only broken by one window, with tracery head. The schools are arranged to fit the peculiar shape of the ground. On the basement story is the lower day-school, for 400 children. Immediately over this room, and entering from Gower-street, is the principal school-room, about 60 feet long, with accommodation for 400 children in classes. From the same entrance the lecture-room is approached, with room for 250 scholars. There are also four class-rooms for about 150 scholars.

St. James's New Schools, Bradford, erected by the patron of St. James's Church, have been formally opened. They consist of three principal rooms,—viz. boys' and girls' schools, each 60 feet by 20 feet; infant school, 30 feet by 20 feet; and three class-rooms, one to each school, 15 feet by 14 feet. The schools have separate entrances, cap and cloak-rooms, and lavatories. There is also a special entrance, 24 feet by 20 feet, communicating with the different school-rooms by separate doorways. The roof is constructed of principals formed by a circular arch with collar-beam over: the principals carry rafters and purlins in the usual way. All the internal wood-work is stained and varnished. The principal front is 140 feet long. The principal entrance in the centre projects 4 feet before the main walls, terminating with a gable, and having a bell turret 44 feet high. The style of architecture is Gothic. The whole cost of the buildings, with playgrounds, and conveniences, will be about £3000.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

FREEMASONRY AND THE ASSASSINS.

What have the Assassins, or Ismaelites, to do with Freemasonry?—HARRY.—[They were a link connecting Ancient and Modern Freemasonry. Originally a sect of Mahomedans having an organisation similar to the Knights Templar and Teutonic Knights, being at once both a religious and a military association, and, like the Jesuits, scattering their members over very extensive countries.]

MUSICAL BRETHREN.

Are any of the great singers, more particularly the Italians, brethren of our Order?—C SHARP.—[Yes, many. Our correspondent's signature points to one celebrated for his C sharp, viz., sig. Tamberlik, who is a brother.]

BANK OF ENGLAND LODGE PORTRAITS.

I know no one in the Bank of England Lodge, but I am told they have what is termed "A Book of Portraits" of members of that lodge. Will any brother who is a member favour me with a list of those representations that make "The Book of Portraits," and oblige—T. A. T.?

THE "ASTREA."

The *Astrea* is a foreign Masonic periodical. Can any one inform me in what country it is printed, whether it still exists, or how long it has been discontinued? I am inclined to think it was a Swiss publication, but am not sure, as only a solitary page ever came under my inspection. No doubt some of your readers know it, and will inform me.—J. DE B.

OLD MARK JEWEL.

What is the old-fashioned jewel of the mark degree like; or was there, until of late years, any jewel at all attached to it?—A MARK S.W.

THE DUKE OF KENT.

Where can any account of the Duke of Kent's Masonic career be found?—A LOYALIST.—[We do not know. His Royal Highness found a biographer in our Bro. the Rev. Erskine Neale, who published *Memoirs of Edward, Duke of Kent*.]

BRO. PETER THOMSON.

Wanted, a biographical notice of Bro. Peter Thomson; where can I see one?—TELL.—[See Bro. Havers's resolution in Grand Lodge of March 9, 1851, and the report of the admirable eulogium delivered on the occasion by that W. Bro. given at pp. 73-78 of vol. ii. of *The Freemasons Quarterly Magazine*.]

CRIMES OF THE TEMPLARS.

What were the particular crimes which caused the suppression of the Order of Knights Templar? Every conceivable iniquity is hinted at, but nowhere, that I can find, positively charged against them. Is any thing really known as to these accusations?—FRATER G.—[You may as well consult Von Hammer's *Essay, Mysterium Baphematis Revelatum*, for all that can be gathered on the subject. Von Hammer was an industrious compiler, and has left no source of information unexplored; but he is a narrow-minded and bigotted partisan, who seems only to have written to please the *Court of Austria*. In reading Von Hammer you may rely upon his information, but should carefully consider his remarks and deductions, a course that will show his utter unworthiness to be trusted farther than his documentary evidence bears him out.]

AMERICAN NAVAL MASONS.

We have had several of our most distinguished naval commanders who belonged to our society. Can any one add the names of any celebrated American naval Masons?—EX. EX.—[Yes; we will throw one stone on the cairn, in the hope that some of our correspondents will enlarge the list. Paul Jones, the Commodore of the United States, was a brother.]

WASHINGTON'S INITIATION.

The question has long been set at rest that Washington was a Mason, although many Americans, in their hatred of Masonry, at one time denied it; but still it would be useful if we could refer to the exact date and place of its occurrence?—SPES.—[The information has been repeatedly given; but we will repeat it once more. George Washington was initiated in Fredericksburg, Virginia, No. 4, November 4th, 1752, passed March 3rd, 1753, raised August 4th, 1753.]

WHO WAS THE AUTHOR?

A scrap of paper has fallen out of a book I purchased at a second-hand dealer's; on it is written—

"Perhaps thou wert a Mason, and forbidden
By oath to tell the secrets of thy trade;—
Then say what secret melody was hidden
In Meunon's statue which at sunrise played?
Perhaps thou wert a Priest—if so, my struggles
Are vain; for priestcraft never owns its juggles."

What does it allude to?—TOM.—[It is part of Horace Smith's *Address to a Mummy*.]

CALIGRAPHIC QUERY.

[A letter has reached us, bearing a London district post-mark, with what we presume is intended for a Query, but it is such an extraordinary series of hieroglyphics that neither we, nor any one we have shown it to, have been enabled to find sufficient legible letters to form a single word. We are always ready to give any information we can, but it is absolutely necessary that all communications asking it should be readable.]

COUNCIL OF RITES.

Abroad there are Councils of Rites. Their duty is to marshal the different degrees of the various orders each in its proper class. Why have we not one for England and Wales? The necessity of this is the more apparent, seeing that the 30° was originally part of the Templar Rite, but has become, by some means, attached to the Ancient and Accepted Rite, to which it does not at all appear to belong. Can any brother give a hint how to counteract this anomaly?—T. A.

MASONS' MARKS.

Has any complete list been formed of the buildings on which Masons' marks are yet preserved?—HARRY G.

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

The Royal Horticultural Society, at their grand show on the 5th of June next, will award prizes of £10, £5, £3, and £2, for the best groups of three baskets of flowers; the prizes to be awarded by a jury of ladies. We are glad to learn that beautiful arrangement is to be the test of merit; valuable flowers or fruits not being demanded.

The author of *Hints and Helps for Every-day Emergencies* referred to by us last week, says—"A thorough contempt for your audience is the surest way to shake off nervousness and to engender confidence." We fancy that the anonymous scribbler must have felt "a thorough contempt" for his readers before he could send such rubbish to the press. Certainly such advice will not serve "to engender confidence" in any "hints" as likely to be really "helps" from one who seems to be void of all notion of the high mission of the literary man.

Messrs. Stuart, Keckwick, and others, have now discovered that South Australia is much better watered generally than has for some years been supposed to be the case. We trust that the interior of Australia will ere long be thoroughly explored, and that railways will be formed wherever necessary to develop the resources of the colony.

Mr. James Blackwood has the following works in preparation:—*The Mouted Farm*, by Thornley Grant. *The Bank Parlour; or, Experiences in the Life of a late Banker*, by A. B. Blackie.

Professor Pole is to commence a course of lectures on Civil Engineering at University College, London, on Monday next.

Mr. William West, commonly called "Waterfall West," has just died at Chelsea, aged sixty years. His views of Norwegian scenery and waterfalls in various parts of the north of Europe are well known. In the seventh volume of *Supplementary Despatches, Correspondence, and Memoranda of Field Marshal Arthur, Duke of Wellington, K.G.*, edited by his son, the present Duke, recently published, is a letter written by the gallant officer in January, 1811, to the Earl of Liverpool, in which he thus characterises the Brunswick Corps:—"I am not very fastidious about troops; I have them of all sorts, sizes, and nations; but Germans in our army in the Peninsula pass for Englishmen, and it is really not creditable to be supposed to be a soldier of the same nation with one of these people."

The one hundred and second birthday of our immortal brother, Robert Burns, was celebrated at Middlesborough-on-Tees, on Friday evening, January 25th, by a public banquet. The principal speakers on the occasion were Bro. George Markham Tweddell, of Stokesley, and Mr. Henry Heavisides, of Stockton-on-Tees.

Pycroft, in his *Ways and Words of Men of Letters*, relates a case of a printer who said—"Really, gentlemen should not place such unlimited confidence in the eyesight of our hard-worked and half-blinded reader of proofs; for, I am ashamed to say, that we utterly ruined one poet through a ludicrous misprint." "Indeed! and what was the unhappy line?" "Why, sir, the poet intended to say,—

'See the pale martyr, in a sheet of fire,'

instead of which, he was made to say,—

'See the pale martyr, with his shirt on fire.'

Of course, the reviewers made the most of a blunder so entertaining to their readers, and the poor gentleman was never heard of more in the field of literature."

The injured hero of the Basque Roads is having justice done to him after years of cruel persecution. He just lived long enough to see all the calumnies against him dead and buried, and then himself was summoned to his rest. The committee for raising the Dundonald statue, with Lord Brougham at their head, already number in their ranks the Dukes of Cambridge, Bedford, Rutland, Hamilton, and Wellington; the Marquises of Lansdowne, Townsend, Breadalbane, and Hedfort; the Earls of Shrewsbury, Scarborough, Erroll, Harrington, Hardwick, Fortescue, Fife, Durham, and

Bective; Lords Raynham, Beauclerk, John Manners, Ebrington, Paget, Saltoun, Napier, Broughton, and Belhaven; Sir John Pakington, M.P.; Right Hon. T. Milner Gibson, M.P.; and several officers of high standing in the Navy, mayors of large places, and other influential persons.

The Rev. Hugh Hughes, D.D., Rector of St. John's, Clerkenwell, and Lecturer of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, has in the press a new and revised edition of his work, *The Female Characters of Holy Writ*.

A new serial, by Mr. Anthony Trollope, entitled *Orley Farm*, is about to be issued in monthly parts.

Mr. William Landells has recently published a volume entitled *True Manhood*, in which he very modestly says—"Should the critic be offended by the structure of his sentences, he is sincerely sorry—though more for the critic's sake than his own and while he bows to the merited censure which his style is likely to elicit, he begs to say, in extenuation of his fault, that his mission is not the construction of sentences whose balance and rhythm shall please the critical taste. Such a poor ambition seems to him scarcely consistent with, and, he believes, would not prove conducive to his loftier aim." We have always considered the adage a good one which teaches us, that "Whatever is worth doing at all, is worth doing well;" and as Mr. Landells' treatise on *True Manhood* is intended as "a book for young men," we really think that such flippant, presumptuous language as the above will not do much to elevate the rising generation. Why does Mr. Landells rush into print if writing be not only "not his mission," but (in his own conceit) so far below it? Shakspeare, Milton, and Wordsworth did not consider authorship beneath their dignity; but then possibly they might not possess the "true manhood" of Mr. William Landells.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

"THE VOICE OF FREEMASONRY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In your impression of the 19th inst., at page 50, article "Voice of Masonry," you have printed a portion of Bro. Morris's letter in *italics* (thus drawing the attention of your readers to the clause); after which you append your remarks. In the first clause you seem to ignore the existence of such an arrangement in the British Post Office, which assertion I have reason to believe to be incorrect.

That newspapers having the subscribers' names written, either in pencil or ink, are liable to be charged letter rate of postage, is a fact which I know from personal experience, having been mulcted of the sum of 2s. 6d. and 3s. 4d. on two several occasions; and after a lengthened correspondence I could obtain no redress whatever.

Another case of a more grievous nature, which caused a loss of £1 11s. 3d., I was compelled to suffer; viz., a work on Freemasonry, which I had ordered from Philadelphia, U.S. I received a letter apprising me of the work having been sent off per the same mail, with the same address. The letter came inside of a fortnight; the book came to hand six weeks later, with £3 4s. of postage to pay, which I refused, and it lies at present in the Dead-letter Office, Edinburgh.

Regarding the *Voice of Masonry* "never being presented even with a demand for postage," this may be; but I have known letter-carriers, when they had newspapers with an extra charge, who did not present them, because they knew the parties would refuse to take them. Perhaps the dead-letter officials in London may be able to throw some light on the subject.

From the tenour of your remarks on Bro. Morris's letter, I think they are tinged with unmasonic feelings. We are taught by the principles of our Order to bear with one another. From what I have heard of Bro. Morris, I am

convinced he will faithfully perform his obligations to the Fraternity.

I would have written to you earlier, but it was Wednesday night before THE MAGAZINE reached me.

I remain, thine fraternally,

PETER MACKINNON, R.W.M.,
Old Monkland, St. James Lodge, A.F. and A.M.,
No. 177, G.L.S.

Rosehall Colliery, Coatbridge, near Glasgow,
25th January, 1861.

[Bro. Mackinnon has altogether mistaken us. We never meant for one moment to insinuate that Bro. Morris would not honourably carry out all his engagements, as we believe he will. We only meant to express our belief that, if such a practice as that alluded to existed, it must be in the Post Office at the other side of the Atlantic; in this country it being a common practice to direct newspapers from one part of the kingdom to the other on the paper itself, and no objection is made by the Post Office—if, indeed, the practice is not rather encouraged by that establishment. Indeed, so late as Thursday last we received a newspaper, directed as described, from St. Kitts, without any extra charge being made, and shall be happy to send the direction to Bro. Mackinnon. Of course we can know nothing of the cases referred to by Bro. Mackinnon, but should imagine that something more than the mere addresses were written upon the papers. As regards the book, a somewhat similar charge was made upon us; but, upon appealing to the Post Office, we were informed that the ends of the book not being open, it had been charged letter postage; but upon allowing the authorities to convince themselves it was only a book, we received it at the book postage.—Ed. F. M. and M. M.]

THE STRANGE PROCEEDING AT BATH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I regret that a simple statement of facts should have proved so unpalatable to Bro. Wilton, *quondam* W.M., now P.M. of No. 48. I regret still more that he has thought it necessary to defend the "strange proceeding" reported in your valuable journal of the 19th inst.

I seek no concealment; I desire no "dignity of martyrdom;" and if I craved the latter, I have yet to learn that a mere disappointment is to invest a brother with so high an honour. I do not deny having received a letter from Bro. Ashley, in reply to a private communication from me, in which he intimated that the Worshipful Bro. Wilton was about to forbid the meeting of the 16th, so that I might please myself about going to Bath; but this was no official communication. On the 15th I had Bro. Wilton's and Bro. Bagshawe's circulars. Which was I to believe? Both came authoritatively!

This, however, I do maintain, that the brother who entered his protest against the installation on the 16th was actuated by something very like *pique*, when he deferred making his protest until so few hours were to elapse ere the appointed installation and banquet were to take place.

I fear, Sir, that feelings of this nature, and no Masonic ones, are at the bottom of all this disturbance at Bath. Bro. Moutrie was elected by the majority of the brethren of this lodge; will any Past Master, or even our "Master Mason" himself, presume to say that, if Bro. Moutrie had consented to submit to the appointment of his officers according to the P.M.'s wish, and contrary to his own judgment; if he had proposed the banquet to be where the P.M.s wished it, and contrary to his own desire, we should ever have heard of the illegality of the summons for the 16th? Bro. Moutrie, however, was steady and firm in principle, and refused to act contrary to the dictates of his conscience:—*Hinc illa lacrymae*.

Had Bro. Bagshawe been equally as firm, the installation would have taken place on the 16th instead of the 24th.

I hope that this letter will close a correspondence which can only engender strife and unmasonic controversy.

I have the honour to remain,

Yours fraternally and obliged,
H. J. HIGGINSON, W.M. 1120; P.M. 48;
Prov. G.D.C., Monmouthshire.

Abergavenny, January 28th, 1861.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

The committee appointed by the brethren of Staffordshire to carry out the publication of the portrait of the Past D. Prov. G.M., Pro. Thomas Ward, announces that they have completed their labours and have in hand, after paying all expenses, £15 15s., which has been devoted to Masonic charity, as follows, viz.:—Ten guineas to the Masonic Boys' School, and Five Guineas to the Masonic Girls' School.

Bro. Henry Bridges, P.G.S.B., has been appointed by the G. Reg. D. Prov. G.M. for Somersetshire. We congratulate the brethren of the Province in having so able a brother to superintend their interests, whilst the office of Prov. G.M. is held in commission by the G. Registrar.

The Temple Lodge Annual Ball will take place on Thursday next, the 7th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall. The low price of the tickets, the judicious arrangements of the stewards, aided by the inspiring efforts of Bro. Adams' band, and Bro. Frampton as M.C., will, we trust, secure a large assemblage of the brethren and their friends, so that a large surplus may be left towards the Masonic charities; the company thus, while enjoying themselves, contributing to the happiness of those who are incapable of helping themselves.

Bro. Wyndham Portal, P.G. Warden, is a candidate for the vacant seat in the direction of the South Western Railway, caused by the death of the late Matthew Uzielli, Esq.

The Mount Sinai Chapter of Instruction (No. 49) will in future be held every Saturday evening at Comp. J. W. Adams', Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street.

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED MASONS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

The anniversary festival of this excellent institution was held at the Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday evening, under the presidency of the R.W. Viscount Holmesdale, who was supported by Bro. Blair, Prov. G.M. for East Lancashire; Bros. A. Perkins, J.G.W.; L. Crombie, S.G.D.; W. W. Whogler, J.G.D., V.P.; W. Gray Clarke, G. Sec.; W. A. Woods, G.D.C.; H. Bridges, G.S.B., D. Prov. G.M. Somersetshire; J. Havers, P.G.D.; W. P. Scott, P.G.D.; Potter, P.G.D.; L. Evans, P.G.S.B.; Patten, P.G.S.B.; Jennings, P.G.D.C.; J. Smith, P.G. Purst.; Farmer, Asst. G. Purst.; Dobson, D. Prov. G.M., Kent; Newall, Prov. S.G.W. East Lancashire; Tunnah, Prov. G. Sec. East Lancashire; Gibbons, Prov. G.D.C. East Lancashire; Bannister, Prov. S.G.D. Durham; R. R. Nelson, Prov. G. Sec. West Yorkshire; Jno. Batley, P. Prov. G. Reg. West Yorkshire; Jos. Batley, jun., P. Prov. G. Reg. West Yorkshire; Leonard Hicks, P. Prov. G. Warden, West Yorkshire; Thos. Darley, P.M. 373, West Yorkshire; W. White, W.M. 162, West Yorkshire; Saml. Freeman, S.W. 384, West Yorkshire; Chas. Isaacs, Prov. G. Sec. Kent; Adlard, Prov. G.D.C. Essex; P. Matthews, P. Prov. G.D.C. Essex; Geo. Barrett, V.P.; John Symonds, McEntire, C. Beaumont, V.P.; Vincent Wallace, and nearly two hundred other brethren; whilst the gallery, enlarged for the occasion, was graced by the presence of upwards of one hundred and fifty ladies.

On the removal of the cloth,

The noble Viscount said that, according to custom, the first toast he had to propose was "The Health of their beloved Queen;" and he was sure it would not be the less cordially responded to, because it was in some measure a routine toast. (Cheers.) It was their good fortune to live in a country governed by a lady, who, whilst she set a bright example to the sterner sex by the manner in which she performed her public duties, was a pattern to her own of domestic virtue. (Cheers.) Not a breath of slander had ever touched her, and even the wildest of republicans had expressed their admiration of her virtues; and it could not be denied that under her mild and constitutional government the country had increased in happiness and prosperity. It could not be otherwise than matter of congratulation, that whilst old dynasties were crumbling into dust, and even the United States, from innate faults in their constitution, appeared to be bursting asunder, that the people of this country could feel assured against civil war, and that they must continue to advance in prosperity. (Cheers.) Though the health

of the Queen was always cordially received amongst Englishmen, he was sure there were none more loyal than those

Who aprons put on,

To call themselves one,

With a Free and an Accepted Mason. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN said, the next toast he had to propose was "The Prince Consort, the Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family;" and though none of them had taken the vows of the Order, he was sure they would not drink the toast with less loyalty. (Cheers.) When they recollected that the Prince Consort came amongst them as a stranger—though as the husband of their beloved Queen—it was no small praise to say, that he had made himself thoroughly at home in all that affected the prosperity of the nation. He need hardly refer to the liberal support which his Royal Highness had ever given alike to the science of agriculture and the fine arts—to the interest he had taken in social matters affecting the prosperity of the people—and how ready he was at all times to come forward in the cause of benevolence. (Cheers.) As regarded the heir apparent—and long might he continue so—he regretted he was not a member of the Fraternity, but he hoped he had formed a favourable opinion of the Order from what he had seen of their loyalty and devotion in Canada, though the Government officers had not allowed them to take that prominent part in a Masonic ceremony which they desired. Then, as regarded his younger brother, Prince Alfred, at the Cape of Good Hope, he had mixed freely with the Craft, had joined with them in a Masonic ceremony, and would doubtless in good time show his appreciation of the Order. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN said he had now to propose "The Health of the M.W. Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, the President of the Institution." All who had had the pleasure of coming in contact with the noble Earl must acknowledge the ability and courtesy with which he presided over the Order, whilst those who had only seen him presiding in Grand Lodge, without having had the pleasure of coming into personal contact with him, could not but admire the manner in which he conducted the business, which was daily becoming more arduous and important. But on this occasion he had a higher claim upon their gratitude as the President and constant supporter of the Institution (cheers); and he would venture to say that no one had done more to serve the interests of the institution than the M.W. Grand Master (cheers), whose health he proposed. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN had now to propose "The Health of the Right Worshipful the Earl of Dalhousie, D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers." Their Deputy Grand Master was better known to them under the name of Lord Panmure; and he was confident, now that his lordship had been called to a higher title, that he would not be the less assiduous in the discharge of his duties, or the less honoured by the brethren. Earl Dalhousie was, indeed, one whom they might well be proud of having amongst the rulers of the Order; he having, from the time he first entered the public service as Mr. Fox Maule, displayed abilities of the highest character, which had always been at the command of his country. Of the other Grand Officers he hardly knew what to say. It was a constitutional axiom that the king could do no wrong—and the responsibility rested on his ministers. Now, the Grand Officers were the ministers of the Earl of Zetland, and they were fortunate ministers of whom nobody complained. (Laughter.) Now, as none of those present showed any dissatisfaction with the ministers, he took it for granted they were generally acceptable, and performed their duties to the satisfaction of the brethren. He would, therefore, propose the toast, coupling with it the name of the R.W. Bro. Perkins. (Cheers.)

Bro. ALGERNON PERKINS, J.G.W., could assure the brethren that the Grand Officers were at all times pleased to receive the support of the brethren, and they considered it a high honour that their health had been so cordially drunk in so large an assembly of the brethren. On the present occasion that compliment was enhanced by the object which had brought them together, not merely for social enjoyment, but to evince their sympathy with their poorer brethren, and show that they did not forget the duty which devolved on them, under their Masonic obligations, to relieve the wants and conduce to the comforts of those who were less fortunate than themselves. (Cheers.) He congratulated the noble lord on this, the first occasion of his presiding at a charitable festival since his appointment to the distinguished office he held in the Craft, on being supported by so large a number of the brethren, showing how they appreciated his kindness in lending his influence to aid the charity; and he hoped to see at a later period of the evening that they had not only supported him with their presence, but that their united efforts would tend to the advantage of the institution.

The CHAIRMAN said that he had some diffidence in proposing the next toast—"The Health of the Provincial Grand Masters"—as, holding the office he did, it was something like proposing "Our noble selves." (Laughter.) In a society like their's, in order to ensure good government, there must be some to take charge of the respective provinces; and the worthy brother on his right had for

many years presided over East Lancashire with excellent results. (Cheers.) He only hoped that in his (Viscount Holmesdale's) future career, he might resemble in his rule that which he had heard of the rule of Bro. Blair (cheers), whose health he now proposed in connection with the Provincial Grand Masters. (Cheers.)

Bro. BLAIR, Prov. G.M., East Lancashire, returned thanks on behalf of the Provincial Grand Masters for the manner in which the toast had been drunk, and the kindness with which his name had been coupled with it. It gave him great pleasure to meet so many brethren on so good an occasion. He had been many years a Freemason; indeed, he had grown grey in the service, and always held the Order in the highest estimation; but there was nothing which recommended it more to his consideration than the fact that it had, for its foundation and basis, charity. He regretted that their excellent institutions were not so well known and appreciated in the provinces as they should be; but they were becoming known, and he felt assured would be liberally supported. He had the honour to preside over a province containing 1800 Freemasons; and when he proposed to come to London to support this institution, he found there was plenty of brethren to come to support their Grand Master, and at the same time evince the interest they took in the charity; and he felt assured that what would be done that day by the brethren of East Lancashire was only an earnest of what they intended to do in the future; and he hoped that their funds would so increase that there should be no poor brother in distress but would at once find relief and support. (Cheers.)

Bro. BLAIR next proposed "The Health of the Chairman." The noble lord was a young man, but he had seen a great deal of service, having fought the battles of his country in the Crimea. (Cheers.) He had since come home sound and unhurt, and taken upon himself other duties, having offered himself and been elected as member for West Kent, since which he had also accepted the office of Provincial Grand Master of Kent; and having fought the battles of the country abroad, he was now amongst them to fight the battles of charity at home. (Cheers.) They knew how well the noble lord had presided over them that evening; and he, therefore, had great pleasure in proposing "The Health of Viscount Holmesdale, Prov. G.M. for Kent." (Cheers.)

Viscount HOLMESDALE, who rose amidst loud applause, had the pleasing duty to perform of acknowledging the kind manner in which his name had been received by the brethren, and the kindness with which his health had been proposed by the R.W. Bro. Blair. He could assure them that if, in taking the chair that evening, he had been of the least service to the charity, he was amply repaid for any trouble he had taken, and right glad was he to be among them. (Cheers.) He hoped and trusted that their meeting would be advantageous to this charity, and he trusted further that, without egotism, he might be allowed to thank the large number of brethren by whom he was surrounded for the support he had received. When he was requested to take the chair, he consented to do so with a great deal of pleasure, feeling that whatever anyone might say in depreciation of Freemasonry, that they need only point to their noble charities as evidence that at least they tended to do some good to their fellow-men. (Cheers.) He now came to the toast of the evening, "Success to the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows." (Cheers.) This institution was somewhat younger than their other charities, the Boys' and the Girls' Schools, but it was growing so rapidly that it would soon equal, if not outstrip, those institutions. The Fund for Aged Masons was only established in 1842, since which they had dispensed in relief £15,688 amongst their distressed brethren. That fact alone spoke strongly in favour of a body which, after all, formed but a small section of the people of England, and reflected no slight credit on the management. It proved that the time bestowed by the brethren on the charity had not been thrown away, and that their money had not been thrown into the gulf, which appeared to be the case in more general institution less economically managed. He was happy to say that their funds were increasing from year to year, and would doubtless continue to do so while the institution was so well managed. They had now no less than seventy-two aged Masons on their funds, receiving amongst them £1596 a-year. They must recollect that this arose principally from the voluntary contributions of the brethren, though Grand Lodge gave them £500, and Grand Chapter £160 a-year. He also found that the dividends from funded property now amounted to £402. That last item was most satisfactory, as it showed that to that extent they had a firm and solid foundation for the future support of their aged brethren, whilst each year they found numerous brethren anxious to serve as stewards, and assist by their liberality their noble charity. The Widows' Fund was founded only in 1850, since which fifty-two widows had become recipients of their bounty, and £3190 had been paid to them. He would now call their attention to the present position of the institution. There were now twenty-two candidates for admission on the Male Fund, and seventeen for admission on

the Widows'; and it had been calculated that if all the members of the Order subscribed but 5s. a-year to the institution, there would be enough and to spare to take all the candidates on to the funds; and he hoped and trusted they would carry that with them to their lodges, and impress it on the brethren. Doubtless there might be some in the Order to whom even 5s. a-year was a considerable sum; but then, there were the wealthy and the noble amongst them whose contributions ought to make up for the shortcomings of their poorer brethren. Five shillings per annum was but a small sum with which to make happy their poorer brethren, and he trusted before they left that room they would have given evidence of their determination to support the institution so as greatly to increase its usefulness. He wished not only to appeal to their pockets, however, for the present, but so to rouse their benevolence that they would secure the prosperity of the institution in the future. It would be always most gratifying to him to be enabled to assist them in the support of their charities, and with these few imperfect remarks he would leave the toast and the interests of the charity in the hands of the brethren. (Cheers.)

The toast having been duly honoured, Bro. Farnfield proceeded to read a list of subscriptions, which included £500 from West Yorkshire, £300 from Kent, £227 from East Lancashire, £20 from the chairman, £20 from Lord de Tabley, &c.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the subscriptions amounted to £2982, with five lists to come in. Last year the subscriptions announced in the room were £2096, showing an increase on the present year of £886. (Cheers.) The noble lord then proposed "The Health of the Right. Hon. Lord Southampton, Past President, the Trustees, Vice-President, Treasurer, Committee, and Officers of the Institution." Lord Southampton had, he believed, been for more than twenty-five years a Freemason, and had been one of the first to assist and foster this institution. They all knew how valuable was assistance in the early stage of any institution, and how comparatively easy was the work of those who followed in the footsteps of the founders. The duties of vice-presidents were generally looked upon as not very onerous—but in this institution they had at least the duty which they had well performed, of giving it pecuniary support; and if in other institutions they did the same, they would not see constant appeals to the public to pay off large debts of institutions, with long lists of noble and titled vice-presidents. (Cheers and laughter.) He would couple with the toast the name of one of the staunchest friends of the charity, Bro. Barrett, Vice-President.

Bro. GEO. BARRETT returned thanks, and expressed the gratitude of the Committee for the liberal support given to the institution, which he trusted would soon be in possession of £20,000 funded property. The results of that evening were, indeed, most gratifying to those who, like himself, had laboured hard for the establishment of Annual Festivals, and proved the correctness of their arguments, that the more they asked for money, the greater would be the response, if they only succeeded in showing, as he believed they had done, that they fairly dispersed it for the relief of their necessitous brethren, and their widows.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed "Success to the other Masonic Charities." If it was their duty to support their poorer brethren, it was no less their pride and duty to impart knowledge to their children, in order to prepare them for after-life. He begged to remind them that the Boys' School Festival would take place on the 13th March, and that of the Girls' School on the 8th May; and he trusted that every brother then present would also lend his aid, and be present on those occasions. He would couple with the toast the name of Bro. Crew, the indefatigable Secretary of the Girls' School, regretting that Bro. Thiselton had been obliged to leave early, in consequence of failing health.

Bro. CREW thanked the noble lord for so kindly remembering the other charities. He sometimes, when he went around that hall, followed by eighty little girls, the inmates of the school, almost fancied them his own children; but they were, indeed, the children of the brethren who so liberally found the means for their support. The Boys' School, perhaps, stood in greater need of aid at present than the Girls', that having a *prestige* of sixty-six years to aid it, which the boys' school stood in need of. But delightful as was the task to educate the young, there was no institution more important than that which they had met to support that evening—to cheer the closing days of their distressed brethren, or the widows of those with whom, perhaps, they had enjoyed many happy hours in their lodges; and when he had been asked if he thought this institution would not injure the schools, he had always answered in the negative, feeling assured that those who supported the aged would not forget the young. (Cheers.)

The noble Chairman next gave "The Ladies," which was humbly acknowledged by Bro. Jennings, P.G.D.C.

Viscount HOLMESDALE had another pleasing duty to perform, that of proposing "The Health of the Stewards," to whom they were

indebted, not only for the trouble they had taken in providing for the comfort of the brethren and their ladies, but for a large portion of the handsome subscription of that evening, they having given, as was proved by the reading of the lists, not only their time, but their money most liberally. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Crombie. (Cheers.)

Bro. CROMBIE, S.G.D., acknowledged the compliment. He had heard it said there were too many Stewards, but he thought that evening contradicted the assertion, for if in a multitude of counsellors, there was wisdom, the subscription lists showed that in a multitude of Stewards there was money. (Cheers.) He thanked the noble Chairman for so kindly presiding at that festival, and took the opportunity of correcting an error in which Bro. Blair had fallen. The noble Viscount did not return from the Crimea unhurt, but was wounded in the throat by a bullet; and that so severely, that he was returned in the list of mortally wounded. He had, however, happily recovered, and no persons more rejoiced at it than his brother Freemasons. (Cheers.)

The brethren then separated, highly pleased with the proceedings of the evening, and the very elegant entertainment provided by Bros. Shrewsbury and Elkington.

Before the meeting broke up, the subscription list had been increased to upwards of £3000.

The musical arrangements, under the direction of Bro. Ganz, were excellent, he being well supported by Bros. George Perren, Nappi, and Hermann, and the Misses Eyles, Bankes, and Wilkinson.

METROPOLITAN.

INSTRUCTION.

ALBION LODGE (No. 9).—This lodge held its usual meeting last Sunday evening, at Bro. Hartley's, the Red Horse, Old Bond-street, Piccadilly. It being the last time of the lodge meeting at Bro. Hartley's, a great number of the brethren assembled on that occasion. The meeting was presided over by Bro. Reily, of the Belgrave Lodge, who worked the ceremony of passing in a very efficient manner. After which the lecture of the second degree was worked in sections by the brethren. Bro. Thoms was elected W.M. for the ensuing Sunday evening. That brother having appointed his officers, a proposition was unanimously carried that a vote of thanks should be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Hartley, for his kind attention to the brethren during the time they have met at his house. The lodge was then closed in due form, to meet next Sunday evening at Bro. Fellows', the Berkeley Arms, John-street, Berkeley-square, where the meetings of the lodge will, in future, be held.

GLOBE LODGE (No. 23).—This old red-apron lodge met at the Freemasons' Tavern on Thursday, the 17th ult., when the following members were present:—Bros. H. H. Collins, W.M.; Thos. A. Adams, G. Purst., S.W., and W.M. elect; F. Hill, J.W.; Hewlett, Treas.; Matthew Cooke, Sec.; G. Smith, M.C.; J. H. Nappi, J.D.; R. Gibbons, I.G.; W. Watson, Brandon, and M. T. Humphreys, P.M.s; Bros. L. D. Phillips, W. Kirby, E. J. Page, P. D. Collins, James Burton, and W. Platt. The visitors were Geo. States, P.M., 166; Charles Hart, P.M., 169; J. B. Newall, W.M. (elect) 536; and J. D. Caulcher, P.M., 1055. The business before the lodge consisted in initiating Mr. Tunstall into the Order, installing Bro. Thomas A. Adams as W.M. for the ensuing year, and presenting to the retiring W.M., Bro. H. H. Collins, a P.M.'s jewel, which had been previously voted him by the unanimous consent of the brethren. The business being ended the brethren proceeded to the banquet, which was served in Messrs. Elkington's best style.—The W.M., after the cloth was removed, gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts; and business of importance requiring his personal attendance, compelled him to relinquish the chair to the immediate P.M., Bro. H. H. Collins.—The W.M. said it had been the unanimous election of the lodge to place in the chair of K.S. that day one of the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of England; and he, the W.M., was quite sure that nothing but business, which imperatively demanded his presence, could have called upon him to vacate his seat so early, and which he did with great regret.—The W.M. said they had, that evening, four visitors—Bros. States, Hart, Newall, and Caulcher—all of whom were affectionately regarded in the Craft. Bro. States was everywhere welcome for his good company; and where he had been once there they were sure to wish to see him again. Bro. Charles Hart was endeared to most of them. Bro. Newall, who was there as the invited guest of the lodge, was the representative of the Globe Lodge of Instruction, which his zeal and untiring assiduity had raised until it was one of the very best of the numerous lodges where the working of Freemasonry could be learned. If any one wanted to judge of Bro. Newall, he, the W.M., advised him to attend on some new lodge of instruction, or at the resuscitation of an old one, where, if others did not come

forward to help, it would not surprise him, the W.M., to find Bro. Newall taking the chair, performing all the ceremonies, and working the whole fifteen sections all by himself. Bro. Caulcher, too, was another enthusiastic young Mason, and the founder of a lodge. With such visitors, he called upon the brethren to drink their health, and give them that hearty reception that the Globe Lodge always offered to those who deserved well of the Craft. The toast was drank with enthusiasm.—Bro. STATES, on behalf of the visitors, expressed their thanks for the hospitable and kind reception they had met with. For himself, he had once before visited the Globe Lodge, and for some time wished to become a joining member of it; and as he had been proposed as such that evening, if elected, he could assure them that anything they required of him for the benefit of the lodge, he should be most happy to undertake. Again thanking them for the visitors' and his own reception, he resumed his seat.—The W.M. said, in all lodges, if more ample justice was done to one toast more than another, it was to the health of initiates. It was at all times a pleasure to receive them; and he, therefore, proposed "The Health of Bro. Tunstall," the initiate of the evening.—Bro. TUNSTALL was, of course, new to the usages of Freemasonry, but he trusted, on better acquaintance, to be more conversant with the system, which he liked, and he hoped to grow on the kind feelings of the brethren. He was an entire stranger to all but one or two, yet he would take care he brought no discredit on the lodge, and would strive to do all that he could to be a worthy Freemason, and a good member of the Globe Lodge.—Bro. W. WATSON said it gave him great pleasure to comply with the usual custom, to propose "the health of the Master," who, during his year of office, had been assiduous in his duties, and as the representative of their W.M., Bro. T. A. Adams, was an admirable *locum tenens*. Bro. Watson then proposed "The Health of the W.M.," wishing him many years to enjoy his rank among the P.M.s of the Globe Lodge.—The W.M., in reply, stated that he had been called to fill the chair by an unforeseen circumstance, and he trusted that he might, before he departed from the active work of Freemasonry, give utterance to his feelings. There were no hours he had passed so pleasantly as those in the Globe Lodge; and he felt, if possible, more happy than at his installation, because he had now arrived at that station where the duties of the lodge were not so responsible. He thanked them for their kindness in responding to his health so promptly, and asked them to fill their glasses bumpers to "The Health of their new W.M.," Bro. T. A. Adams. (Cheers.)—The W.M. then said the P.M.s of the lodge had always been looked up to as a column of strength. Their oldest P.M.s were Bro. Brandon; Bro. Watson, the high priest of Masonry; Bro. Hewlett, their excellent Treas.; and Bro. Humphrey, whose kindness none could dispute. Bro. Brandon's common sense was of the greatest value to the welfare of the lodge; and he believed the P.M.s, as a body, were worthy of example.—Bro. BRANDON, in replying, was sorry to find his name coupled with the toast; still, he believed the P.M.s and the lodge were necessary to each other. If any dissension arose in the latter, the former stopped it; and as for a long series of years that had been their custom, so he hoped it would always remain, and for his own part, as well as the P.M.s around him, the lodge might be assured he would do all in his power to continue the good feeling.—The W.M. said the Treasurer was always ready to temper a helping hand, and they were particularly fortunate in having such a one in that office. The toast, then, was, "Bro. Hewlett, the Treasurer, a Volunteer in every good Cause."—Bro. HEWLETT said he had to recur to an oft-told tale, and state that no member of the lodge was more anxious than himself to do all he could to enhance the prosperity of the lodge. He was always met with good feeling and brotherly love, and was happy, in returning thanks, to congratulate the lodge on its prosperous condition.—The W.M. said, if they wished the lodge to grow in prosperity, it must be obvious that they ought to be careful in the selection of their officers, and appoint those members who were best calculated to ensure its good. None, he was happy to say, was more deserving of promotion than Bro. Hill, their S.W., who would lend a lustre to the lodge, and greatly add to its efficiency by his appointment. The J.W. was a well-known Mason, and although imperatively absent, was zealous for the good of the lodge. Bro. Page, with a commendable feeling, had refused the office of I.G. and accepted the lower one of M.C., because he felt himself unequal to it this year. Bro. Phillips, who had accepted the office of I.G., was certain to be an ornament, seeing it was his mother lodge; and by his attention he, the W.M., was sure he would rise to the highest position. Happily they were well officered this year, and he looked forward hopefully to an hospitable and friendly year under the rule of the present W.M. and officers, whose health he then proposed.—The S.W., Bro. HILL, said, in rising to return thanks for the officers, he should be very brief, and say that, having accepted the collars from the W.M., they would cheerfully do their duty to the utmost. They would be punctual, and strive to emulate their W.M., who had an arduous

task before him, but he, the S.W., hoped to make such exertions that they would meet with their W.M.'s approval and bring credit on the lodge. In the name of himself and his brother officers he begged to return thanks for the toast.—Bro. HEWLETT, the Treasurer, called attention to the case of the son of Bro. Rebbeck, late a P.M. of the lodge, asking the brethren to support him in his election for the Boys' School, and stating that he was anxious to stand Steward for that charity when the lodge should be pleased to authorise him.—The W.M. said there was one more toast, neither the last nor the least, their Bro. Secretary, Matthew Cooke, who had undertaken the duties of that office after a series of great neglect, and who, he believed, was zealously endeavouring to bring their books into something like order.—Bro. MATTHEW COOKE felt much obliged by the notice taken of his incipient labours. He asked them to bear and forbear with him until he felt he had overcome the difficulties which he saw before him, and assured them, if diligent application and zeal could effect a more desirable state of things, he should not shrink from using both. He might be a little crotchety, but it was only to gain a perfect insight into their affairs, and for the good of the lodge, which should ever have his warmest wishes. The lodge was then closed in peace and harmony.

OLD KING'S ARMS LODGE (No. 30).—This lodge met at the Freemasons' Tavern on Monday, January 28. It being the day of installation, Bro. Marzetti was placed in the chair of K.S., according to ancient custom, which ceremony was ably performed by Bro. Marsh, P.M. of the lodge. Bro. Rea was appointed S.W. Bro. Nisbett, J.W. Bro. Paas was invested as Treasurer, Bro. Jaques, Sec., and Bro. Woolcott was appointed I.G. The brethren then proceeded to partake of an elegant banquet. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given; and on that to the Deputy Grand Master and the rest of the present and past Grand Officers, the W.M. congratulated the lodge on having the presence of Bro. Patten, P.G.S.B., so much distinguished for his liberal support of the Masonic charities, and also for his strict attention to the interests of Masonry, it having accidentally come to his (the W.M.'s) knowledge that Bro. Patten had only been absent from the duties of his lodge four times during a period of thirty-six years.—Bro. Paas, in proposing "The Health of the W.M." alluded to his (the W.M.'s) regular attendance to his Masonic duties in all the offices he had already passed, and felt assured that, in his present high position, he would do everything in his power to promote the interests of the lodge.—The W.M., in returning thanks, assured the brethren that he would exert himself to the utmost to further the interests of Masonry; and in proposing "The Health of the Past Masters," thanked them individually and collectively for their great assistance and support to the lodge, and especially thanked Bro. Marsh for the able manner in which he had performed the ceremony of installation. He then proposed "The Health of the Visitors," Bro. Patten, P.G.S.B.; Bro. Austin, 11; Bro. Symonds, 21; Bro. Gurney, formerly 30; Bro. Natuch, 54; Bro. Clutton, 19; Bro. Moses, 113; Bro. Venal, 196; Bro. Powell, 225; Bro. Mullins, 275; Bro. Ellis, 574; and Bro. Binckes, W.M. 1090, and thanked them for the high compliment they had paid him in the lodge by their attendance. In proposing "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge," including the Treasurer and Secretary, he thanked them, particularly the two latter, for the very able manner in which they had discharged their duties. The harmony of the evening was very greatly increased by the excellent singing of Bros. Young, Perrin, and Edney.

LODGE OF PEACE AND HARMONY (No. 72).—The annual meeting of this old red-apron lodge was held on Thursday, 24th January, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. Bro. Kennedy, W.M., presided, and raised to the third degree Bros. Jackman and Slaughter. Bro. Wm. Young, P.M., after paying a due meed of compliment on the worthy brother's attainments, presented Bro. Isidore Levison, W.M. elect, for installation, when he was duly inducted into the chair by his predecessor, Bro. Kennedy. The W.M. then appointed and invested his officers:—Bros. T. Parker, S.W.; Tucker, J.W.; William Young, P.M., Sec.; J. N. Garrod, S.D.; T. K. Kent, J.D.; Ellwood, P.M., D.C.; J. W. Pearce, I.G.; Gilson and Rope, Stewards. Bro. J. N. Tomkins, P.M., the Treas. elect, and Bro. Rice Tyler were also invested.—The W.M., having presented to the lodge a set of ivory mauls for the Master and Wardens, Bro. Tomkins moved, "That the thanks of the lodge be given to the W.M. for his elegant gift, and that the resolution be entered on the minutes." This being duly seconded, it was carried unanimously. All business ended, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. Among the visitors present were—Bros. Haward, P.M. No. 108, and P.G.Stew.; Morris Levison, P.M. No. 9; Rev. J. C. Woodward; Maney, P.M. No. 201; Harvey, S.W. No. 229; and others. The cloth having been removed, the W.M. briefly proposed the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," and "The M.W. Grand Master." In the next toast in due course, that of "The Deputy G.M. and rest of the Grand Officers," the W.M. said was included one of their own members—

Bro. Tomkins, P.G.D., initiated in the lodge several years ago; and, independent of his being the Treasurer, one of the most esteemed brethren in the Craft.—Bro. Tomkins briefly acknowledged the toast.—Bro. KENNEDY then asked the brethren to join him in the toast of the evening. They had all opportunities during his Wardenship of seeing the skill with which Bro. Levinson had discharged those duties, and the manner in which, as W.M., that evening he had given further proofs of his attainments in investing his officers. His ability and courtesy gave high promise of a successful year; his generosity had been displayed in the elegant present, and hence he (Bro. Kennedy) was sure of a hearty greeting to "The Health of the W.M."—The W.M. expressed himself much gratified with the kind reception of his name. It was his earnest desire to maintain the integrity of Masonry in the lodge, and he felt confident in having the support of the lodge that, so long as he was in the chair, peace and harmony would prevail.—The W.M. said, the next toast was always pleasing to the Master, to give a warm welcome to the visitors. Some were of Masonic fame, and hence well known, and satisfied as he was from personal knowledge, they were heartily welcome to the Lodge of Peace and Harmony.—Bros. HAYWOOD and WOODWARD acknowledged, on behalf of the visitors, the reception and hospitality they had received.—The W.M. then proposed the health of the Past Masters of the Lodge. These worthy brethren might be compared to the ancient pillars of a stately edifice, which supported to the structure, as to the Past Masters they at all times looked for assistance and advice.—Bro. KENNEDY said, although the P.Ms. on that occasion were but few, all were desirous to uphold the lodge, and as spokesman for himself and the rest, he hoped they should be spared to witness many more celebrations of their annual festival.—The W.M. then offered the name of their excellent Treasurer, who had been so many years a valued member, and whose merits had been a few years recognised by the P.Ms.—Bro. TOMKINS acknowledged the compliment.—The W.M. next gave "The Health of their excellent Secretary," who not only did his own duties, but that of others who might unavoidably be absent.—Bro. YOUNG said, when he accepted the office, it was but to supply the place of the place of Bro. Kennedy on his going to the chair; but as they were pleased with his services, so long as they might desire and he could attend to the duties, he would comply with their wishes in retaining it. "The Officers," "The Charities," and the Tyler's toast, ended a most joyous meeting.

St. GEORGE'S LODGE (No. 164).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday week, at the Globe Tavern, Greenwich.—Bro. G. W. Edington, W.M.; Collington, S.W.; J. H. Greatrex, J.W. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and Bros. Bennett and Ward raised to the sublime degree of M.Ms. The next business was the installation of Bro. Collington as W.M., which ceremony was ably performed by Bro. S.E. Nutt, P.M. 32, and the usual salutes having been given, the W.M. appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Mourilyan, S.W.; Scott, J.W.; Ryder, Treasurer; Robinson, Secretary; Chevalier, S.D.; Smyth, J.D.; Bonacich, I.G.; each of whom were invested with the insignia of their various offices. The Tyler was also re-elected. It was proposed by Bro. Ryder, seconded by Bro. Robinson, and carried unanimously, that a Past Master's jewel be presented to Bro. Edington, the retiring Master, for the punctuality and zeal displayed by him during his year of office. Some new bye-laws were read and agreed to, and the lodge was closed in ancient form. The brethren retired to an excellent banquet. The cloth having been removed, and the customary loyal and Masonic toasts given, the W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was "The Health of the Visitors." He was pleased to see so many distinguished brethren around him, especially Bro. Nutt, of the Grand Steward's Lodge, who had so efficiently performed the ceremony of installation, to the delight of all who had the good fortune to witness it, and he thanked him, in the name of the lodge, for his kindness in coming so great a distance to oblige one of its members. There was also Bro. Hinxman, of the Grand Steward's Lodge, who was at all times ready to assist in any Masonic undertaking, and to afford instruction to all who might require it. He could assure the visitors generally that the lodge felt honoured by their presence, and hoped to have the pleasure of entertaining them upon many future occasions.—Bro. NUTT said he always felt great pleasure in coming to the St. George's Lodge, as he was well aware that the hand of good fellowship was there always extended towards a visitor, and the manner in which they had been received on the present occasion proved it. He considered it his duty to render what assistance he could in Masonry, and if he had done anything to merit the approbation of the brethren, he was amply repaid in having pleased them. He thanked them on behalf of himself and brother visitors, and wished health to the brethren, and prosperity to the Lodge of St. George.—Bro. ROBINSON, P.M., then proposed "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Collington," in a complimentary manner.—The W.M., in returning thanks, said he felt very proud of the distinguished position in which the brethren had placed him, as Master of

the lodge; he had not accepted that office without being perfectly conversant with its important duties. He was never more happy than he was in Masonry, and the prosperity of the St. George's Lodge was one of his greatest wishes. He should endeavour to uphold the dignity of the Lodge by performing those duties they had entrusted to him ably and conscientiously, with credit to himself, and he hoped with satisfaction to all; so that, when his year of office had expired, he might retire with their good wishes, without ever causing them to regret the choice they had made on the present occasion.—The W.M. said the next toast he should ask them to drink, was “The Health of the Past Masters of the Lodge.” They were its principal support; but where all had done well, it was difficult to particularize any. He should, however, take this opportunity of congratulating Bro. Edington on the success which had attended him during his year of office. The energy, zeal, and ability with which he had managed the concerns of the lodge, reflected the highest credit upon him. Bro. Robinson had likewise done good service in the lodge, and was this evening appointed Secretary; of Bro. Ryder, their worthy and respected Treasurer, too much could not be said to his praise; to Bro. Hogg also the lodge were deeply indebted, and last, though not least, was Bro. W. O. Leigh, the oldest member, and might be called the father of the lodge, as he had been Master upon eleven different occasions, commencing as early as 1815, and it was entirely through his exertions the lodge was still in existence. He hoped he might be spared for many years yet, to take his seat with the P.M.s of the lodge.—Bro. EDINGTON thanked the brethren and said, they should still endeavour to promote the interests of this lodge, and be happy to render any assistance that at any time might be required. The next toast was “The Health of the Officers of the Lodge,” the W.M. impressing upon them the importance of regular attendance and good working; which was responded to by Bro. Smyth. The Tyler's toast having been given, the brethren departed at an early hour, the evening having been spent in an agreeable manner.

LODGE OF ISRAEL (No. 247).—The members of this lodge met on January, 8th inst., at the London Coffee-house, for the purpose of installing the new Worshipful Master, &c. Bro. Wertheimer was passed to the second degree. Mr. A. J. Phasey, and Mr. Solomon Myer de Vries were next regularly initiated into Freemasonry. Bro. Henry A. Isaacs, P.M., having kindly consented to perform the ceremony of installation, Bro. Henry Solomon, the W.M. elect, was duly presented, and installed. This beautiful ceremony was performed in such an impressive manner as to elicit the applause of all present. The W.M., Henry Solomon, then appointed his officers as follows:—Bro. Henry Morris, S.W.; Bro. Engel, J.W.; H. J. Lyon, S.D.; J. M. Harris, J.D.; H. B. Barnard, I.G. Bro. Joseph M. Isaacs, P.M., was re-elected Treasurer; Bro. Theodore E. Ladd, P.M., Secretary, and Bro. Isaac Isaacs, the Tyler. Bro. Ladd, in the name of the members of the Lodge, presented the retiring Master, Bro. Hyman A. Abrahams, with a handsome Past Master's jewel, which honour he gratefully and feelingly acknowledged. Bros. Abram Hoffman and Henry Cohen were raised to the third degree. The brethren then retired to a sumptuous banquet. The lodge being called to labour, Bro. Henry A. Isaacs was re-elected President of the Benevolent Fund; and in a very able speech, in which he enlarged upon the rise and progress of that fund, he appealed to the brethren to support it, which was responded to in a very liberal manner, no less a sum than £32 15s. 6d. being collected. Bros. Freeman and Ladd, Past Masters, were elected Vice-Presidents of the Benevolent Fund, and the following brethren members of the Committee, viz., Henry Morris, Engel, Joseph Raphael, John Jeffree, Samuel Joseph, and Hyman A. Abrahams, P.M.; Bro. Joseph M. Isaacs was elected Treasurer; Bro. Benjamin Hart, Trustee, the other Trustees being re-elected. A letter was received from Bro. W. Biggs, P.M., who was elected an honorary member, acknowledging the honour.

TUSCAN LODGE (No. 14).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place on Tuesday, the 22nd ult., at the Freemasons' Tavern. The business before the lodge on that occasion was the admission into Freemasonry of two gentlemen, the installation of W.M., and the presentation of a handsome P.M.'s jewel to Bro. Freeman, the immediate P.M. The principal officers for the ensuing year are Bros. W. J. Meymott, W.M.; H. Cuzenove, S.W.; and M. Cattley, J.W. The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to an elegant banquet, which reflected the greatest credit on Bros. Elkington and Shrewsbury. After the cloth had been cleared, Bros. Geo. Perren, Nappi, and Hermann, under the direction of Bro. Ganz, sang grace, and afterwards contributed by their abilities to the pleasures of the evening.—The W.M., Bro. Meymott, in a terse but glowing speech, proposed “The Health of the Queen and the Craft,” which was received with that enthusiasm it ever meets in a lodge of Englishmen. —The W.M. proceeded to give the toast of “The M.W.G.M., the Earl of Zetland,” and paying those deserved compliments to his Lordship, incidentally

said, to those who were attendants at Grand Lodge, the earnestness of the M.W.G.M. in the cause of Freemasonry was well known; and those who had not yet attained that honour must take the fact for granted. The toast was received with every demonstration of respect.—The W.M.'s next toast was that of “The D.G.M., the Earl of Dalhousie, and the Present and Past Grand Officers.” They were happy that evening in having two Past Grand Officers among them, Bro. Herbert Lloyd, who was always at his post, and Bro. Slight, who favoured them with his company as a visitor.—Bro. HERBERT LLOYD returned the sincere thanks of the Grand Officers for the toast. He had hopes that the Prince of Wales might be made a Mason next year, and that they might look to him as their future M.W.G.M. For himself he had not been at Grand Lodge of late, for he did not like attending where there were such differences of opinion, but he believed that the Grand Officers were actuated by one spirit—to do all they could for the benefit of Freemasonry—yet he felt they were in want of young and new blood amongst them; and if the Prince of Wales did honour the Craft by becoming a member, he was sure it would do great good to Freemasonry, and become the fashion to follow his example.—Bro. Freeman, immediate P.M., had to apologise for his hoarseness. It would, he said, be superfluous in him to say anything for the W.M., as he was sure the next year would be a credit to the lodge.—Bro. Meymott had, for a long time, its interests at heart; and, in proposing “The Health of the W.M.,” he would add, may long life, strength, and happiness be his lot. (Cheers).—The W.M. rose and said, if he was able to make as good a speech as the song which had just been sung by Bro. Hermann, it would not be a higher compliment to his brethren than they all deserved, for they had received his health in the warmest manner. What the P.M. had said of him they must take all upon trust, for he was, as yet, an untried man by them; but they might rest assured it would be his study to do his duty to his own satisfaction, and he was by no means a lenient critic when his own acts were to be examined. He hoped that he had given satisfaction in his appointment of officers, and looked forward with considerable pleasure to be, by virtue of the badge he wore, their Grand Steward of the year, as well as hoping to represent the lodge as a steward at the Girls' and Benevolent Fund Festivals, on which occasions he desired that the lists he should hand in would be worthy of the lodge and himself. To return to the toast, for its eulogistic terms let him say it was an incentive to do his duty, and deserve the thanks of the brethren, which they seemed so willing to accord him.—The W.M. then had the pleasure of bringing before them a toast they had always received with the highest honour—that of their P.M. and Treas., Bro. Stephenson, who for fifteen years had always done his duty kindly, zealously, and efficiently.—Bro. STEPHENSON, the Treas., returned thanks for the honour done him. He was accustomed to receive the toast in that lodge in strong terms. He had been for a quarter of a century among them, and he felt sure that the applause they were kind enough to greet him with came from the heart. His hope was yet to live many years, and spend them all among them. (Cheers). The W.M. claimed their attention for the next toast, as it was an important one, no less than that of “The P.M.s. of the Lodge.” They had a goodly array of them, and there was not one amongst them but what did his work with ability, zeal, and kindness. The W.M. went through the whole number, individualising each, and concluded with a warm commendation of his predecessor, the immediate P.M.—Bro. FREEMAN did not expect, so early in his career as a P.M., to have to speak for all, but he might add, on behalf of those with whom the toast was associated, that whatever good things the W.M. had said in their praise, they deserved it. P.M. Freeman then gave an interesting reminiscence of his initiate days, and concluded by repeating his obligation for the handsome jewel they had presented him with, and stating his intention ever to cherish it as a memorial of their kindness to himself.—The W.M. said the Tuscan Lodge was not second to any in its performance of the duty of hospitality. They were always happy to see visitors, and they strenuously endeavoured to do the best to welcome them. It gave the lodge great pleasure to have Bro. Slight, a P.G.D. amongst them; and with the utmost cordiality they drank “The Health of the Visitors,” coupling the toast with Bro. Slight's name.—Bro. SLIGHT said it afforded the visitors great gratification to be present. None were insensible to the entertainment they had seen placed before them. In the chair presided a very excellent friend, brother, and gentleman; and the way in which the lodge ceremonies had been performed was truly admirable. The visitors had experienced a most agreeable evening, both in lodge and at the banquet; and in their behalf he begged to thank the brethren of the lodge for its hospitality.—The W.M. said the next was not a mere formal toast, but was one always well responded to by Freemasons who were proud of their initiates. He hoped they would not take their tone from what they had seen that evening, and think it meant eating and drinking only, for it was a vast deal more useful

to society; and as they advanced so they would see for themselves, and be impressed with the importance of the step they had taken.—Bro. BATEMAN modestly returned thanks for himself and his Bro. Initiate.—The W.M. said the officers must not be forgotten. The lodge had accepted them upon credit, and he believed they would do their work well and punctually. He hoped to find both the wardens attend in their places in Grand Lodge, and closed with a few words of advice to the junior officers.—The S.W. expressed their thankfulness for their appointments, and stated that each in his sphere of usefulness would strive to do his work with credit. “The Health of the Secretary” followed, for which Bro. Davis returned thanks, and the Tyler’s toast brought the meeting to an end.

FITZROY LODGE (No. 830).—The installation festival of this military lodge was held on Friday, January 25, at the head quarters of the Honourable Artillery Company, Finsbury. The lodge was opened and presided over by Bro. Peter Matthews, P.M. Bro. Mercer on was raised to the third degree, and Bro. H. G. Sharp passed to the second. Bro. J. W. Figg, S.W., the W.M. elect, was then presented by Bro. Eglese, P.M., and installed into the chair. The W.M. then appointed and invested as his officers Bro. May, S.W.; Bro. Jackson, J.W.; Bro. Joseph Eglese, P.M., Sec.; Bro. Helsham, S.D.; Bro. Wilson, J.D.; Bro. Newton, P.M., Musical Dir. of Cers.; Bro. P. Matthews, the Treas., and Bro. H. Holt, the Tyler, were also invested. The addresses to the Master, Wardens, and brethren were delivered by Bro. Eglese.—The W.M. called the attention of the lodge to a matter he had already mooted. It was the practice in nearly all lodges to present to the brethren who had presided over the lodge as Masters, some testimonial of their services, and he considered the Fitzroy ought not to omit so great a duty. He therefore proposed that a testimonial be at once presented to each of those worthy brethren who continued members of the lodge; but inasmuch as the two founders had done a greater amount of service, and had performed the onerous duties of treasurer and secretary to discharge, and as they had seen, that day, the heaviest share of the business was done by Bros. Matthews and Eglese, he thought the reward should be the greater. Bro. Capt. Rough, absent that day through illness, was a most useful member, and well-earned any reward that could be bestowed upon him. Bro. Newton, also, member and visitors alike acknowledged by his courtesy and attention to their comforts, was entitled to some mark of recognition of his services. Therefore, seeing the funds were ample for the purpose, he proposed that testimonials to the value of ten guineas each be given to the founders, and to the value of five guineas to each of the other Past Masters. The motion was seconded, and on the question being put, carried unanimously. After the completion of the routine business, the lodge was closed, and the brethren removed to the banquet-room. There were several visitors, and among them we noticed Bro. Lieut. Col. Henry Clerk, P.M. No. 1008; Bro. Rev. J. W. Langhlin, W.M. No. 201; Bro. Horsley, of No. 38, &c. The dinner ended, the brethren removed, as is the custom of the lodge, to the board-room, where the dessert was spread; and after honouring the usual loyal and Masonic toast, Bro. Matthew rose and said that, in proposing “The Health of the W.M.,” he might congratulate the lodge in having again a brother accomplished in Masonry to preside over them, and who, by his skill and ability, was equal to directing the proceedings of the lodge, and maintaining its high reputation in the Craft. The W.M., in responding, said that although he could not lay claim to all the attainments that Bro. Matthews gave him credit for, he should use his best exertions to deserve the praises of his brethren.—“The Health of the Visitors” and other toasts were drunk, and the company separated, delighted with the events of the evening, the pleasure of which was much enhanced by the courtesy and kindness of Bro. Newton.

PROVINCIAL.

BERKSHIRE.

WINDSOR.—*Etonian Lodge* (No. 252).—The annual festival of this flourishing lodge was held on Tuesday, 29th January, at Bro. Dangerfield’s, the New Inn, Windsor. The lodge was called for two o’clock, when a numerous assemblage of the brethren met together. There were also present, as visitors, Bro. Vansittart, M.P. for Windsor; Bro. Best, W.M. of the Camden Lodge, 1006; Bro. Little, J.W. of the Castle Lodge, Windsor; Bro. Sim, of No. 3, Fidelity; and Bro. Holden, of the Castle Lodge. The business before the lodge was the initiation of Mr. George Smith, and the raising of Bros. Kay, Gibbon, and Schroeder, and the installation of Bro. Sharp as W.M.—The W.M., in a most feeling manner, stated to the lodge that he had received a communication from the W.M. of the Silurian Lodge, Newport, Monmouthshire, upon the melan-

choly explosion at the Risca Colliery, and soliciting a subscription in aid of the unfortunate relatives of those who lost their lives upon that occasion, and the lodge voted the sum of two guineas from their funds. It was also voted that the sum of fifty pounds of the funds in hand be invested in the Windsor Savings’ Bank, in the joint names of the Treasurer, Bro. Clode, and two Past Masters, Bros. Pullen and Stacey. The W.M. then resigned his collar to the visitor, Bro. Best, W.M. of the Camden Lodge, who ably initiated Mr. George Smith into the mysteries of Freemasonry. There not being a sufficiency of time, the raisings were allowed to stand over until the next meeting of the lodge. The ceremony of installing the W.M. elect was then proceeded with, and P.M. Bro. Lambert ably installed the new W.M., Bro. Sharp; after which the W.M. closed his lodge down, and the brethren saluted the new W.M. with the usual tokens. The W.M. then proceeded to appoint and invest his officers:—Bros. Powell, S.W.; Strange, J.W.; Wm. Johnson, S.D.; Whittaker, J.D.; and Henry Johnson, I.G. The immediate P.M., Bro. Pullen, kindly undertook the office of Secretary in the place of Bro. Strange, the appointed J.W. Bro. Clode was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Brudenell, Tyler. Lodge was then closed in perfect harmony, and the brethren (to the number of thirty-six) proceeded to the banquet, prepared by the worthy host, P.M. Bro. Dangerfield. The cloth being removed, the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, regretting that they had not a Prov. G.M. yet appointed in the place of the late Prov. G.M. the Marquis of Downshire. The next toast was that of “The Members for the Royal Borough of Windsor,” to which Bro. Vansittart, M.P., made a most eloquent reply, expressive of the great pleasure he felt at being among so many of his Windsor brethren and constituents, and to see the harmony and prosperity of the lodge. “The Visitors” were next given, and Bro. Holden replied in a short speech. The W.M. having entrusted the gavel to Bro. Pullen, the immediate P.M., his health was proposed and received with all the enthusiasm it so well deserved; to which the W.M. replied that he would do all in his power to sustain and promote the welfare of the lodge, as, indeed, he had always done while in the subordinate offices; and he hoped for a continuance of the support he had at all times received at their hands. “The P.M.s. and the Officers” was then given, and received in the same cordial manner. The next toast was that of “The Press,” to which Bro. Banks (connected with the *Royal Standard*) made a most eloquent reply, setting forth the great privileges Englishmen enjoyed as compared with their Continental neighbours as regarded the Press. It being now 10.30, Bro. Vansittart, M.P., and Bro. Best departed for the train to return to London; the remaining brethren spent a most happy and agreeable evening.

CHESHIRE.

BIRKENHEAD.—*Zetland Lodge* (782).—The brethren of this lodge held their usual monthly meeting at the Park Hotel, on Wednesday, 16th January, on which occasion many distinguished Provincial Grand Officers and Past Masters were present, amongst whom we especially noticed, Bros. E. J. Willoughby, Prov. J.G.W. for Cheshire, and P.M. 782; S. Moss, P. Prov. J.G.W. for Gloucestershire, and Cheshire, and P.M. 701; J. P. Platt, Prov. J.G.D. for Cheshire, and P.M. 782; W. Bulley, A. Stephens, and E. Samuelson, P. Prov. J.G. Deacons for Cheshire, and Past Masters 782; C. Sherlock and C. Rampling, P. Prov. G.S. of W. for Cheshire, and Past Masters 782; H. Bulley and R. Anderson, Past Masters 782; T. Lewin, Past Master, 701; G. Agnew, W.M., 701; and E. Mengena, P.M. 181. The lodge being duly opened, and the minutes of the last regular meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. P.M. Henry Bulley proceeded with the ceremony of installation of Bro. Thomas Platt (late S.W.), as W.M. for the ensuing year, which ceremony he performed in a very effective manner. The W.M. appointed and invested the following principal officers, viz., J. B. Hignett, S.W.; Jas. Morison, J.W.; Jno. Harold, Secretary. The business of the evening having been completed, the lodge was adjourned to banquet, and separated at an early hour.

DERBYSHIRE.

RIPTON.—*Royal Sussex Lodge* (No. 446).—The anniversary of the above lodge was celebrated on Monday week at the Masonic Tavern. The lodge was opened at half-past three p.m., when Bro. P.M. Henchley proceeded to install Bro. Richard Bayliss as W.M. for the ensuing year, as successor to Bro. H. Carson. The ceremony was impressively performed in ancient form. Among the visitors were Bros. J. Gadsby, P. Prov. G.W.; Stone, Prov. G. S.W.; German, Prov. G.D. of C., and W.M. (1033); R. Wilnot (W.M. elect of the St. Oswald Lodge, Ashbourn); Giles, P.M. (315); W. Cantrill, J. Smith, T. Frost, &c. The W.M. appointed the following as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Prince, Jun., S.W.; Abrahart, J.W.; Seth Smith, Treas.; Peach, Sec.; Mayor, S.D.: Drewry,

J.D.; Turner, I.G., and Hanson, Tyler. After the lodge business had been transacted, it was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet.

HAMPSHIRE.

BOURNEMOUTH.—*Hengist Lodge* (No. 230).—This lodge met on Thursday evening, the 23rd ult., in the Masonic Hall, and after disposing of the usual routine of business, Mr. J. H. Caseley was ballotted for, and having been unanimously elected, was initiated into the first degree of the Order. After which the lodge being opened in the second and third degrees, Bro. W. B. Rogers was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony of installation being performed by Bro. J. Sydenham, of the Lodge of Amity, 160, Poole. After the ceremony of installation, the W.M. appointed his officers for the year, as follows:—Bros. P. Tuck, S.W.; J. Macey, J.W.; E. Crosby, S.D.; W. M. Bill, J.D.; J. Briggs, I.G.; J. M. William, Sec. The lodge having been closed, the brethren sat down to supper in the hall, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and drunk with true Masonic honours.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

HUNTINGDON.—*SOCRATES LODGE* (No. 511).—**INSTALLATION OF THE DUKE OF MANCHESTER.**

On Tuesday, the 23rd ult., there was a very large gathering of Freemasons at Huntingdon, on the occasion of the installation of His Grace the Duke of Manchester as Worshipful Master of this lodge. A lodge of emergency was opened at three o'clock, when there were present—Bros. Cluff, Ingram, Dr. Ward, C. Maile, Vesey (Chaplain), G. M. Fox, Burton, Marson, Wilson, G. N. Woolley, Worsop, E. C. Bull, Smith, Carver, Pearce, Bodger, Bird, Ekin, Allen, Knights, Margetts, and Cooper. The visitors were T. L. Fox, of No. 19; H. P. Rooper, of Godmanchester; R. Carter, of Houghton; and the following from Peterborough: T. G. Buckle, J. Briddle, J. S. Bays, G. Cattel, Robert Waite, G. Harrison, and J. W. Swallow.

His Grace was unanimously elected Worshipful Master on the retirement of Bro. Cluff, who has very ably officiated during the past year. The Installing Master on the occasion was Bro. T. L. Fox, P.M. of the Royal Athelstone Lodge (No. 19).

After the ceremony, the brethren proceeded to the George Inn, where they sat down to a sumptuous banquet. The Worshipful Master, the Duke of Manchester, presided, and in addition to the brethren whose names are given above, the company were joined by Bros. Provost and W. J. Mellor.

On the removal of the cloth, the brethren drank "The Queen and the Craft," with the loyalty so characteristic of Masons.

The **WORSHIPFUL MASTER** then proposed "The Health of the Earl of Zetland, the M.W.G.M." It is unnecessary, said his Grace, that I should take upon myself to describe all the merits of the Earl of Zetland, for they are known to every member of the Craft. You are all aware that the Most Worshipful Grand Master succeeded the Duke of Sussex in the office eighteen years ago, and that during this long period he has fulfilled the duties in a manner that has given universal satisfaction. I therefore propose to you "The Health of the Earl of Zetland, the M.W.G.M. of England."

The toast was very heartily responded to, as was also that of "The Earl of Dalhousie, the D.G.M., and the Present and Past Grand Officers."

The toast of "The Most Noble the Marquis of Huntley," the Prov. G.M., and "The Past Provincial Grand Officers" was next proposed by the Worshipful Master, and responded to by

Bro. G. M. Fox, the Senior Past Provincial Grand Officer present, who said, I feel assured that every brother present regrets the absence of the Provincial Grand Master. He is aware of this assembly to-day, and I have no doubt would have been present with us if his health permitted him. We, the members of the Socrates Lodge, have reason to be proud of our Provincial Grand Master, from the fact that he was for many years a member of our lodge, and for one year he officiated as Master. (Applause.) With regard to the Provincial Grand Officers, I feel justified in saying that, having attended the meetings of many lodges, the manner in which the officers conduct their business is highly creditable. It is now many years since I became an officer, and having taken a warm interest in our Masonic charities, I may be permitted to refer to them on this occasion. Our province, though a very small one, ranks high with respect to Masonic charities. Not only are most of the lodges in our province governors of various charities, but we have in this province an admirable one, as well as in the Grand Lodge of England. (Applause.) We have also funds amounting to £300, belonging to charities in the Provincial Grand Lodge, constituting Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire. It must be evident, therefore, that as a small province, we have all

reason to be proud of the position which we occupy in connection with the Provincial Grand Lodges of England. (Loud applause.)

The **WORSHIPFUL MASTER**: I have now very great pleasure in proposing to you "The Health of our Visitors, and making special mention of Bro. Thomas Lewis Fox, the Installing Master of this day." (Applause.) As this is the first time I have had the honour of meeting you in your lodge, I feel more like a visitor than a member; but I am sure I speak the feelings of every brother of the Socrates Lodge, in expressing the sincere pleasure we feel at the presence of our brethren who have come from a distance. (Applause.) For myself, I cannot speak in terms too high of the ability displayed by Brother T. L. Fox, in the performance of his duties to-day, as Installing Master. (Applause.) This being the first time I have witnessed the ceremony, I was probably more impressed with it than others; but I am sure that even the oldest member of the Craft present will agree with me that the duties could not have been more ably performed than by Bro. Fox. (Loud cheers.) I therefore propose to you with sincere pleasure "The Health of the Visitors and of Brother Fox, the Installing Master."

Bro. THOMAS LEWIS FOX, P.M. of the Athelstone Lodge (No. 19), on rising to respond to the toast, was most cordially received, and assured the brethren that it had been a source of great pleasure to him to come to Huntingdon on the present auspicious occasion. Whenever he was in the neighbourhood he should be all times most willing to render any assistance in his power, either in the public lodge, or in giving private instruction to those who required it. (Applause.)

Bro. Dr. WARD, P.M., Mayor of Huntingdon, next proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master, His Grace the Duke of Manchester." I am sure, said Dr. Ward, that the majority of the brethren present are quite aware that I am not in the habit of saying what I do not mean, and that I generally say what I do mean. There is an axiom among Masons, in the truth of which you will all agree, that a good Mason cannot be a bad man. (Applause.) I may say, therefore, conversely, with the same truth, that a good man cannot make a bad Mason. (Hear, hear.) If this be so, I am sure we must all feel considerable pleasure at the ceremony which has taken place to-day in the installation of the noble duke. I think I may safely say that it is impossible for a nobleman to be better known or more highly esteemed than the Duke of Manchester. (Loud cheers.) He lives so much amongst us, and is so much seen by us, that we have every possible opportunity of judging of his character. I therefore feel the utmost confidence in proposing the noble duke's health in an assembly of those who know him. Of his Grace's Masonic qualifications I am unable to speak, but from the virtues which he displays in private life, we must all have the greatest confidence that he will perform the duties of the office in which he has been installed to-day to the utmost satisfaction of every member of the lodge. The brethren, I am sure must feel proud, not only in having a Master of the rank and station of the noble duke, but one who will be a good and worthy Mason. (Cheers.) I, therefore, without further observation, propose to you "The Health of the Worshipful Master."

The brethren drank the toast with full Masonic honours.

The **WORSHIPFUL MASTER** acknowledged the toast by assuring the brethren of his sincere wish to deserve the confidence which had been expressed towards him. He confessed he could not claim much proficiency in Masonry; but he had an earnest desire to obtain a more complete knowledge of it. During his year of office he would do his utmost to that end, and hoped that on his retirement the brethren would not think less favourably of him than they did at the commencement. (Applause.)

Bro. INGRAM, S.W., said, the privilege had been accorded to him of proposing the next toast, "The Health of their esteemed Treasurer and Secretary, Bro. G. M. Fox." To every one who knew Bro. Fox, whether in his Masonic capacity or as a private individual, this toast would be exceedingly welcome. He (Bro. Ingram) never knew a better Mason than Mr. Fox. He was esteemed by the members of the Socrates Lodge, not only as their Treasurer and Secretary, but as the Father of the lodge. (Applause.) He could certainly say this of Bro. Fox, that he knew no man who carried Freemasonry more into his private life than their excellent Secretary and Treasurer.

The brethren drank Bro. Fox's health with all the Masonic honours.

Bro. Fox, in returning thanks, said, that before he became a Mason, his ideas respecting the Order were anything but favourable to it; but when he found what it was, he conscientiously adhered to it, and had derived more pleasure from it than he could from any other Order in the world. (Applause.) He would particularly impress on the members of the lodge the necessity of attending the meetings. For his own part he considered himself as strictly engaged on the lodge night, and he was convinced that in nine cases out of ten, the brethren, by a little management, might be able to make their duties at the lodge subservient to their other avocations.

(Applause.) He should wish his brother Masons to follow his example, and consider Masonry as a paramount engagement, unless it interfered with family affairs. When the Master attended the lodge, he of course expected his brethren to come around him. He (Bro. Fox) did not wish to preach a sermon to them, but he could not let this opportunity pass without telling the members of the lodge that it was their duty to attend when the Master called them. (Applause.)

Bro. CARVER proposed "The Health of the Past Masters," coupled with the name of Past Master Bro. Cluff.

Bro. CLUFF, P.M., after the toast had been most cordially received, returned his acknowledgments. If the duties he had performed during his year of office had been satisfactory to his brethren, he could assure them that it was a source of gratification to him. He sincerely thanked many of the Past Masters for the assistance they had rendered him. He also hoped that in the coming year their lodge would increase in numbers, and that their Masonic charities would continue to be well supported, for he knew of no Order that had charity so much at heart as Freemasonry. Benevolence was undoubtedly the predominant feeling of the Freemason's heart, and the benefits which Masonry had conferred on mankind were almost inestimable. (Cheers.)

Bro. S. P. EKINS proposed "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge," a toast which was very cordially received.

Bro. INGRAM, S.W., returned thanks, and congratulated the brethren on having been fortunate enough to secure the presidency of their present Worshipful Master. (Applause.) He trusted that this circumstance would be productive of prosperity to the lodge; and that during the coming year they would all work with that harmony and good feeling that should ever characterise a Freemasons' lodge. (Cheers.)

Bro. the Rev. F. G. VESEY, Chaplain, proposed "Success to our Charities," and in doing so, expressed the hope that the members of the lodge in relation to the charities would be not merely speculative, but operative Masons. The great object of Masonry was to bind men together in true friendship, and he knew of no society which could accomplish this object so well as the Masonic Craft. He had before him the box for contributions to their charities, and he need scarcely say that the best response they could give to the toast was to pass it round, and liberally contribute to the charity funds.

The box was then passed round, and a liberal contribution was made by every member present.

Bro. BUCKLE, of Peterborough, next proposed "Success to Freemasonry and the Lodges of Huntingdonshire and Northamptonshire." In this province there were eight lodges, and having been at most of them, he had no hesitation in saying they were working in an admirable manner. The Socrates Lodge, he believed, stood second to none, and though he was not a member of it, he hoped it would long continue to maintain its position. One of the objects of Masonry was not only to make good men Masons in the Lodge, but to induce them to practice out of the lodge what they heard in it. He therefore called upon his brethren to drink prosperity to the lodges compiled in the province of Huntingdonshire and Northamptonshire.

The Secretary's toast was next given; after which the Worshipful Master, the Duke of Manchester, gave up the chair to Bro. Cluff, and retired.

Brother T. L. FOX proposed "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," which was responded to by Bro. Margetts for the Mounted Corps, and Bro. Ingram for the Infantry Volunteers.

The brethren next drank "The Health of Bro. Worsop," with a degree of cordiality which evinced the warmest esteem for him on the part of the lodge.

Bro. WORSOP, in acknowledging the compliment paid to him, expressed the warm interest he took in Masonry, and his regret that he was unable, from his advanced period in life, and from the distance at which he resided from Huntingdon, to attend the lodge and take the active part that he did some years ago. (Applause.) Whenever he went into a lodge, he generally found himself the oldest. He never failed, however, to enjoy himself, and he could scarcely remember an occasion that had afforded him more sincere gratification than the present.

A few other toasts were drunk, and the evening's labour and amusement brought to a happy close.

KENT.

GRAVESEND.—*Lodge of Freedom* (No. 91).—A very numerous attendance of the brethren of this lodge took place at the Town Hall, on Monday, Jan. 21, Bro. J. J. Everist, W.M., in the chair, when Messrs. J. Tildon, jun., M. A. Troughton, and G. Adams were most ably initiated into the mysteries of the Order by the W.M., who also passed Bro. Everingham to the Fellow Craft's degree. Bros. Wood and Sheen were then raised to the sublime

degree of M.M. by P.M. Bro. Wm. Hills, in a style that rivetted the attention of the brethren, by the very impressive manner of his delivery of that beautiful ceremony. Upon the usual proclamation by the W.M., the brethren voted the sum of £10 for the funds of the Aged Freemasons and their Widows. After the closing of the lodge, the brethren, to the number of forty-two (including Bro. Philcox, W.M. of the Dartford Lodge), sat down to an excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Woodford, at the old Falcon Hotel, and spent a very pleasant evening, presided over by the D.P.G.M. for Kent, Bro. W. T. Dobson, when the usual toasts were given and responded to, and the evening enlivened by some capital songs by the brethren, who separated highly satisfied with the whole of the proceedings.

LANCASHIRE (EAST).

BURY.—*Lodge of Relief* (No. 50).—At the monthly meeting of this lodge, at the Hare and Hounds, on Thursday, January 24th, Mr. Thomas Mitchell was duly initiated into Freemasonry by Bro. John Parks, P.M.

St. John's Lodge (No. 226).—The brethren of this well-regulated lodge held their annual festival at the White Horse, on Wednesday, the 23rd ult. The lodge was opened by Bro. Richard Barlow for the despatch of business, when Mr. James Whitehead and Mr. Thomas Openshaw were admitted and initiated, in a very impressive manner, by the W.M. Bro. C. Hanley. After labour an excellent dinner was served by the worthy host. The usual toasts were drank with honours. Songs and recitations were well executed, and the brethren separated at high twelve.

MIDDLESEX.

UXBRIDGE.—*Royal Union Lodge* (No. 536).—This lodge held its first meeting in new and more commodious rooms at the Chequers' Hotel, Uxbridge, on Wednesday, the 23rd ult. Where regularity and order prevail, there are invariably good results; and this was never better exemplified than in the punctual assemblage of a large number of the brethren, who met at the Paddington station in order to be present at the installation of Bro. Newall, the W.M. elect, he having apprised them of all the necessary information, and prepared for their comfort and travelling together. On the arrival of the train at Uxbridge there was such an unusual number of individuals going to that quiet town, that the bystanders were quite astonished, and amused the visitors by inquiring of several of the brethren, "Where the fight was to take place?"—a question certainly not very complimentary to the well-clad and cleanly appearance of the craftsmen, but intimating what was the most stimulating subject of cogitation in the bucolic mind. Even the little urchins at play under the market house, were struck with astonishment as they counted the brethren pass, and exclaimed, "Thirty-four, thirty-five, thirty-six, thirty-seven, and a whopper!" Arrived, however, at the hotel, all was order and decorum, and the W.M. determined that as the time was not too long, they should proceed to business at once; so lodge was opened, and the installation followed, the board of P.M.s numbering, amongst other W.M.s and P.M.s whose names could not be readily ascertained, the following well-known Masons:—Bros. W. Watson; Bennett, 25; Platt, Hewlett, Gd. Stewards; Cottebrunne, 1035; Purbrook, M. Levinson, Collard, Dickie, T. Allen; and Eden, Pratt, and Weeden, of No. 536. After the installation, six candidates for initiation were ballotted for and unanimously elected, three of whom, Messrs. Lyne, Pileher, and Brown, being in attendance, were admitted into the Order by Bro. Newall, the new W.M., who performed the duties of his office like a veteran in the Craft. The following were the officers appointed: Bros. W. Smith, C.E., S.W.; Claisen, S.D.; Gurney, J.D.; Stephenson, I.G.; Watson, D. of Cers., and Matthew Cooke, Org.—There were, also, several propositions for joining members, and the lodge was closed. The brethren then adjourned to a substantial banquet, under which the tables groaned; but, after the fierce onslaught, were considerably relieved of the superincumbent weight. The cloth being withdrawn, the W.M. said, for the first time, at a banquet, it had become his duty to propose the toast of "The Queen," and Freemasons were no exception to the rule of being loyal Englishmen—drank with all the honours. He next said "The M.W.G.M. the Earl of Zetland" followed in the hearts of every true Mason; and no eulogium that he could pronounce would do justice to his lordship's well-merited place in the affections of the Craft. This toast was also well received and honoured. The W.M. went on to state that, ten or twelve years ago, he went on a visit to Winchester, and being there on a Sunday, looked in at a chapel, where they were holding an early prayer-meeting; and one thing he heard he had since remembered, which was that an individual requested them "to

pray short and to the point," a practice he intended to carry out; and therefore he proposed "The Health of the D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers."—A brother, whose name we could not catch, said it appeared to him that their course that evening was to be summed up as "brevity being the soul of wit," and as he felt himself in a somewhat false position, being a Grand Officer of a sister Grand Lodge, he could not properly return thanks for the Grand Officers of England, but hoped to see a Prov. Grand Lodge for Middlesex shortly, and then he should be in a different position.—The W.M. said it was with more than ordinary gratification that he proposed "The Healths of the Initiates." They would find that they were never likely to regret the step they had taken, and by acting strictly up to the dictates of the Order, must be both wiser and better men.—Bro. LYNE was anxious to express his thanks for the manner their health had been proposed. He should make it his business to attend to their wants and provide for their comfort.—The W.M. said he had a series of pleasures that day. He had around him a very large number of visitors, and he received them with the most hearty welcome. Such a concentration of Masonic talent was a high honour to any W.M., and the full board of Masters who had attended made him feel it as a mark of respect which he had tried to deserve. He should couple with the toast the names of Bro. Hewlett, who was an intimate friend, and also Bro. Bennett, of the Robert Burns Lodge, who had initiated, passed, and raised him.—Bro. HEWLETT intended to be witty by being brief. It gave him great pleasure to see Bro. Newall installed as a W.M. He was held in very high estimation by all who knew him, and it would have been a serious loss to him (Bro. Hewlett) to have missed the opportunity of paying him that respect which he so richly merited. (Hear, hear.)—Bro. BENNETT believed it was understood they were not to make long speeches. It was gratifying to them all to hear the kind expressions which fell from the W.M., and likewise the good opinion entertained of him by the visitors. The W.M. was a man for whom he (Bro. Bennett) entertained as much respect as it was possible for one man to do for another. His work, as evidenced by the day's initiations, was of no mean ability, and he believed he might, in the name of the visitors, congratulate the members on having such a W.M., who bade fair to render the lodge a model of propriety and success. For his own part, he had spent such an agreeable evening, that he did not care how soon he repeated it. (Hear, hear.) In the name of the visitors, he hoped the W.M. and the lodge would be good enough to accept their best thanks.—Bro. PRATT, immediate P.M., said that anything he could say in praise of their W.M. would only darken the remarks already made. He had great feeling for the W.M., and knew him to be a most worthy, true, and trusty brother. He had begun well. Great praise was justly his due, and might he long be blessed with health and prosperity to continue his career, so well inaugurated. (Loud cheers.)—The W.M. returned thanks for the handsome way he had been spoken of, and for the P.M. Pratt's terse manner. No one was less afraid of hard work than himself, and he should try not to be wanting. He had risen rapidly to his present position, only having been two years and five months a Mason. He was taught that honours were bestowed according to merit and ability; and if he could not lay claim to either of those qualifications, he had won his by labour and perseverance, and hoped that the brethren would have no cause to regret, at the close of the year, placing him in that position.—The W.M. next proposed "The Health of the P.M.s." The Master of a lodge's duties were onerous, but unless supported by his P.M.s., he might almost as well not be in the chair. None were better entitled to respect than the P.M.s. of the Royal Union Lodge, Bros. Pratt, Eden, and Weedon, to each of whom the W.M. paid a distinct and marked compliment.—Bro. PRATT rose to say, their study was to promote the interests of the lodge, and he had himself done his best to raise it, as it had been on the decline for some time past; but now a new era of prosperity had set in, and it might fairly said to be on the highway to success. He felt sorry whenever he heard of an old lodge going to decay, but had done his best to avert it. Bro. Pratt then incidentally alluded to an event which had befallen himself many years before on the field of battle. He saw a soldier defended and saved from death by giving a sign—that sign was well known to him now, but was not then. This it was that determined him to become a Mason, and give to Masonry his heartiest support, such support as the P.M.s. would afford their new W.M. in his efforts to maintain the Royal Union Lodge.—The W.M. knew the next toast would meet with their approbation. It was "The Officers of the Lodge." Supported by such officers, he was sure the lodge must prosper, and with Bro. W. Smith as S.W. must work well.—Bro. W. SMITH begged to be allowed to tender the thanks of the officers for the toast. It afforded him a great pleasure to see their W.M. surrounded by such a number of visitors drawn together by his eminence in the Craft. He, on behalf of the officers, thanked them very sincerely, and trusted they would not be behind any other lodge in efficiency.—The W.M. next proposed "Health and Pros-

perity to the Carnarvon and Crescent Lodges," who had joined the Royal Union as petitioners to the M.W.G.M., to constitute them into the province of Middlesex.—The W.M. said they must not omit one health, that of "The Installing Master, Bro. W. Watson." It was personally very gratifying to him to have such a brother to perform that duty, and his readiness and zeal must endear him to all.—Bro. WATSON begged leave to accept the toast in its full measure of kindness. It was always one of the most pleasing duties to place a zealous working Mason in the chair; and he was highly gratified to have fulfilled that duty towards one so widely respected as their W.M.—The W.M. said one more toast he must crave, "The Masonic Press." He had hoped to have seen Bro. Henry G. Warren present that evening, for he considered him to be no bad exponent of the Craft, as set forth in the pages of THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE. In the absence of Bro. Warren he, the W.M., would couple the toast with the name of Bro. Matthew Cooke.—Bro. M. COOKE, in reply, said his principal, Bro. Henry G. Warren, would have been present, but was unavoidably detained in town. For the kind mention of the FREEMASONS MAGAZINE, he begged to return thanks, and on behalf of the Editor, Bro. Warren, he would say, that so long as the Craft set any store by his labours, so long he was ready to labour for the Craft.—The Tyler's toast then brought the meeting to a close, and the brethren returned to town under the same thoughtful management that had planned their visit, Bro. Newall proving himself not only one of the best respected members of the Craft, but to have an aptitude for business, and an attention to the little conveniences of life, that go far to make up the great sum of human happiness.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

BATH.—*Royal Cumberland Lodge* (No. 48).—This lodge assembled, by adjournment, at the Corridor Rooms, on Thursday, the 24th January, for the purpose of installing Bro. T. B. Montrie, W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony was performed by Bro. T. Wilton, the retiring Master. We are reluctantly obliged to express our regret that the installation was not entrusted to one better acquainted with our Masonic constitutions, and able to perform the ceremony—orally. The W.M. appointed the following brethren:—Wilkinson, S.W.; Hillier, J.W.; Becket, S.D.; Wood, J.D.; Turner, I.G.; May and Payne, Stewards. The brethren, to the number of forty, afterwards adjourned to Bro. Amery's Hotel, when a most splendid banquet awaited them; and amongst those present we noticed the newly-appointed D. Prov. G.M. Bridges, and G.S.B.; Scott, W.M., 886; Bell, W.M., 408; Marshall, W.M., 420, and Prov. S.G.D. of Wilts; Commans, W.M., 61, Prov. J.G.D. for Wilts; Bartrum, W.M., 528; Oliver, P. Prov. G.S.W.; Mercer, P. Prov. S.G.W., Bristol; Whiting, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Biggs, Prov. G. Reg. of Wilts; Thompson, &c. On the removal of the cloth, after the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been drunk, the W.M. proposed the health of their newly-appointed D. Prov. G.M., and thanking him for his kindness in paying them his first official visit.—Bro. BRIDGES, D. Prov. G.M., thanked them for the very flattering reception given him that day. He could assure them it would be his most anxious care to do what he could for the good and prosperity of the province, and expressed his determination to visit, as soon as he possibly could, every lodge that was situated within it.—The W.M. then gave "The Past Grand Officers and Bro. Oliver, P. Prov. S.G.W."—Bro. OLIVER had hoped that this toast, like the one to the memory of their late Provincial Grand Master, would have been passed over in silence; he could not forget that grey-headed old man—he could not forget the pleasure he experienced in meeting him, nor the regret they felt when parting from him. He could not forget the happiness they had all felt when under the presidency of so able a chief; neither could he forget their highly-esteemed D. Prov. G.M. Randolph; and he must say he deeply regretted to see him now placed amongst the Past Grand Officers; still he hoped the rising sun might shine as brightly as the one so recently set.—Bro. MERCER, P. Prov. G.S.W., then proposed "The Health of their newly-elected Master, Bro. Montrie," the announcement of which was received with great applause, hoping that all minor differences might cease in the lodge, and that each brother would strive not for his own individual advancement, but for the general good of the Craft. Since 1829 he had seen many unpleasant matters transpire; but he was proud to say their Order was placed on too solid a foundation to be disturbed by them; for there was always a spirit amongst the brethren, by a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether, to overcome any differences; he, therefore, hoped that Bro. Montrie would have as pleasant a year of office as he could wish himself.—The W.M. thanked them all for their kindness shown him, and hoped, at the termination of his year of office, that they should be again all united under one banner; that all differences would have then subsided; and as he hoped to be supported by the brethren in his endeavours to promote

the interests of the Royal Cumberland Lodge, he trusted he should receive the same approbation at the close as he had at the commencement of his year of office. He concluded by proposing "The P.M.'s of the Lodge and Bro. Bagshaw," who briefly returned thanks.—"The Visiting Lodges of the Province," were then severally given, and responded to by Bros. Commans, Bartram, and Marshall.—"The R.W. Prov. G.M. of Wiltshire, and Prov. Grand Officers," to which Bro. Biggs, Prov. G. Reg., responded.—Bro. BAGSHAW, P.M., had great pleasure in proposing "The Health of the oldest Mason in Bath," and, in fact, he thought he might say the oldest in the Province, he having been initiated nearly 60 years ago.—Bro. WHITNEY thanked them for the honour they had done him by drinking his health as a member of such an ancient and honourable society as that of Freemasons, tracing, as we do, its existence from time immemorial; and honourable, inasmuch as it has been considered by the wise and greatest of all nations; for we find that emperors, kings, dukes, and lords have at all times ranked amongst its members, and honoured this society with their particular patronage and support; and I am proud to say they had never thought it a disgrace to call the poorest of its members brothers and fellows, if they found them worthy. In our intercourse with the world, brethren, we have often heard different opinions by those who are ignorant of our institutions, and the motives that induce us to enter this society; but I hope and trust that the solemnities which accompanied our initiation into them, have ever led us to believe they are such as may deservedly employ the attention of the wisest and best of men. I perceive around me many junior members who are but in their infancy with respect to Freemasonry, and who must necessarily be strangers to all its sublime science, which nothing but a regular progress through its several parts and degrees can open to their view. Their attendance at the lodge must be absolutely necessary for their own improvement, and to seek instruction where it is most properly given. In a well-conducted lodge of Freemasons we have no other contention than this—he that can work best for the good of his lodge, and the welfare of his fellow man. Freemasonry may not, therefore, be inaptly termed the Daughter of Heaven; and the only means to obtain a knowledge of our sublime mysteries is integrity, perseverance, and ability, together with a uniform practice of all our moral and religious duties. These are the necessary qualifications; these are the steps by which men ascend to the summit of Freemasonry; and while we adhere to these principles, we not only secure to ourselves the esteem of every able brother, but the warmest approbation of our own hearts. Let us remember, brethren, to be ever ready to lend such assistance to a poor brother that may not be detrimental to ourselves or families, for to love charity and universal benevolence are the grand characteristics of Freemasonry. Therefore, to be good Masons, it necessarily follows we should be good men in the whole compass of our duty, in whatever things are just, pure, and perfect. Thus, my brothers, may we entertain a well-grounded hope that the good effect of our works will follow us when we rest from our labours; and when the sun shall be for ever darkened, and the moon and stars no longer give their light, we shall all be found as duly and properly prepared candidates, and received into that Grand Lodge above not made with hands, eternal in the heavens; where the Supreme Grand Master presides, whose eyes are more pure than to behold iniquity, and who will reward or punish as we have obeyed or disregarded his divine commands.—We need not remark that our venerable brother's address was listened to with the most profound attention.—"The Masonic Charities and Bro. Payne," together with many other toasts, followed, the comforts of the evening being enlivened by very many excellent songs.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

HANLEY.—*Menturia Lodge* (No. 606).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Town Hall, Hanley, on Tuesday, January 1. Nearly forty brethren were present. Among the visitors were the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Dr. Burton; P. Prov. S.G.W., Bro. John Hallam, 674; P. Prov. J.G.W.; Bro. George Baker, 660; P. Prov. S.G.D., Bro. William Dutton, 674; P. Prov. S.G.D.; Bro. Charles Davenport, 115 and 660; P.G.D.C.; Bro. Frederick Lees, 115; P. Prov. G. Reg., Bro. G. Sergeant, 606. There were also present several of the present and past Prov. Grand Officers of Staffordshire, and past Masters of the Lodge. Bro. J. C. Daniel, W.M., opened the lodge, and after the usual business was transacted, the W.M. requested Bro. John Butterworth, P.M., to proceed with the ceremony of installing Bro. W. Large, W.M. elect. The W.M. elect, being presented by Bro. J. C. Daniel, P.M., was installed and proclaimed in the several degrees. The following are the officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. C. Daniel, P.M.; J. S. Crapper, S.W.; George Bradford, J.W.; T. Simpson, Treasurer; J. M.

Peake, Secretary; T. Chantrey, Organist; John Butterworth, M.C.; A. M. Dix, S.D.; C. Turner, J.D.; W. Hales, I.G. At the conclusion of the business, the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet at the Saracen's Head Hotel, over which the W.M., Bro. Large, presided, being supported on his right and on his left by the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Dr. Burton, Bro. G. Baker, Bro. F. Lees, Bro. W. Dutton, Bro. J. Hallam, Bro. C. Davenport, and a number of past and present grand officers and visitors. "The Queen and the Craft," "Prince Albert and the rest of the Royal Family," "The Earl of Zetland, G.M. of England," "Marquis of Dalhousie, D.G.M. of England," "The R.W. Prov. G.M. Bro. Col. Vernon," having been toasted, the W.M. called upon Bro. C. Davenport to propose the next toast, which was "The D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Dr. Burton," who by his presence that day showed the interest he took in Masonry. Dr. Burton, in the high office of D. Prov. G.M., would prove a worthy successor to Bro. Ward. He had known Dr. Burton for many years, and he, by his excellent qualities, had endeared himself to the brethren of the Craft, and he congratulated the province in having one who he knew enjoyed the respect and love of the brethren. The toast having been drunk with Masonic honours, the D. Prov. G.M. Bro. Dr. BURTON said:—Brethren, I am, indeed, very much obliged to you for the welcome you have given me on this occasion. It is at all times gratifying to receive the congratulations and the assurance of goodwill and respect from any large body of men, but other feelings than those of mere personal ambition have stimulated me in my desire to fill the position I now hold. It is very natural for an individual after years of toil to look forward to a short season of tranquillity and ease; but societies can never afford to cease from their labours; and if as the old members drop off—those old members who by their vigour and wisdom have gained for the society the reputation it enjoys—there be no younger brethren to step into their places and guide the state of affairs with the same energy and discretion, that society, instead of enjoying honourable repose, will sink into a state of decay. He said this much to stimulate his younger brethren in the Craft, and he trusted that they would ever uphold Masonry in its integrity. He hoped to visit every lodge in the province, and trusted that he should see as good working as he had seen in the lodge that day.—The D.G.P.M. Bro. Dr. BURTON again rose and said that he had been entrusted by the W.M. with a pleasing duty, and that was, to present, on behalf of the lodge, a very elegant P.M.'s jewel to Bro. J. Butterworth, P.M., as a mark of high appreciation the lodge had for his services. He trusted that it would not diminish his zeal for the future welfare of the lodge of which he was a member, and that it would prove an incentive to the other brethren of the lodge.—The W.M. Bro. LARGE, in supporting the gift, spoke highly of Bro. Butterworth's services; he was sure that all the brethren could bear testimony to his worth in connection with the Menturia Lodge.—Bro. BUTTERWORTH, in reply, could scarcely utter, in language, what he really felt on that occasion, and he could not but appreciate the kind manner in which the lodge entertained for him, and he should ever devote himself energetically for the welfare of the Menturia Lodge. One of the great advantages of the glorious combination of which they were connected was in promoting harmony, peace, and goodwill to all men. The great object of Masonry was to benefit those who could not benefit themselves—to bedew the widow's face with smiles—to cherish the orphan—to comfort the sorrows of affliction, and to soothe the feelings of death, to seek to promote happiness and comfort all around us. He accepted the jewel, not for what it was worth in itself; the inscription was more valuable, and he should ever wear it on all occasions in the lodge, and should always look upon it with feelings of gratitude. The jewel bore the following inscription, "Presented to Bro. J. Butterworth, P.M., P. Prov. G.S.D., by the brethren of the Menturia Lodge (606), as a mark of the high esteem in which he is held as a man and a Mason, January, 1861." The D. Prov. G.M., in proposing the W.M. Bro. Large, trusted that he would pass through his year of office with credit to himself and the lodge. He did not fear but the W.M. would do his best in carrying out the objects of the lodge, and that he would be well and ably supported by his Wardens and officers.—Bro. LARGE, in reply, thanked the brethren for the very kind manner in which they had responded to the excellent remarks made by the D. Prov. G.M. He should ever remember the good advice he has thought fit to give him, and he trusted that at the end of his year of office he should have fulfilled the duties of the office in which he was placed to the satisfaction of the brethren, and hoped to see that brotherly love amongst them which was one of the grand principles on which Freemasonry rested. A variety of other toasts followed, including "The Health of Bro. James, Secretary," for his valuable services for the past three years. The evening was interspersed with songs from several of the brethren, and was much enhanced with the skill and ability of Bro. Chantrey on the piano-forte. The business being over the brethren separated well pleased with the proceedings of the evening.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

BAILDON.—*Airedale Lodge* (No. 543).—A lodge was held on Wednesday, January 23rd, when the new officers proved themselves efficient. The sum of £10 was voted to the Royal Masonic Male Amnity Fund, for the purpose of making the lodge life-governors of the institution. A proposition for a ball was carried. Stewards, Bros. J. C. Read, Jeremiah Ambler, G. M. Wand, and J. Reynard; to be held at the Angel Inn, February 8th. The lodge closed at nine.

ROYAL ARCH.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The following report of the Committee of General Purposes will be presented to the Supreme Grand Chapter at the meeting of Wednesday next. The Committee of General Purposes beg to report that they have examined the accounts from the 16th October, 1860, to the 16th January, 1861, which they find to be as follows:—

Balance, 16th October, 1860 . . .	£214	6	0	
Subsequent Receipts . . .	129	10	6	
			<hr/>	343 16 6
Disbursements			128	3 3
Leaving a Balance of			<hr/>	£215 13 3

which balance is in the hands of Messrs. Willis, Percival, and Co., bankers of the Grand Treasurer.

The Committee have also to report that, in accordance with the instructions of the Grand Chapter on the 7th November, 1860, they summoned Companion Jeremiah How, P.Z., of the Grove Chapter (No. 593), Ewell, for the purpose of investigating the circumstances that led to the circulation of lithographed letters, signed by him, requesting Companions to attend in their places in Grand Chapter to support the prayer of the petitioners for a new Chapter proposed to be attached to the Britannic Lodge (No. 38), London. Companion How admitted that the letter referred to the Committee was signed, but was not put into circulation by him.

The Committee, after an attentive consideration of the case, pointed out to Companion How the impropriety he had committed in thus endeavouring to influence the opinions of Companions. Companion How at once expressed his regret at what he had done, and declared his intention of not again repeating the offence.

The Committee therefore warned him to be more cautious for the future, and now respectfully recommend that no further action be taken by the Grand Chapter in this matter.

The Committee have further to report that they have received the following petitions, viz.:—

1st.—From Companions James Whittall, as Z, Cornelius Thorne as H, John Laughlan Maclean as J, and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Northern Lodge of China (No. 832), at Shanghai, to be called "The Zion Chapter," to meet on the first Friday of every quarter.

2nd.—From Companions Richard Leeworthy as Z, John Alexander Mathews as H, Watson Wilson as J, and seven others for a Chapter to be attached to the Robert Burns Lodge (No. 1119), Sydney, New South Wales, to be called the "Robert Burns Chapter," to meet at the Freemasons' Hall, York-street, Sydney, on the third Monday in the months of February, April, June, August, October, and December in each year.

3rd.—From Companions John Hale Younghusband as Z, William Vernon Kearne as H, Joseph Mawdesley as J, and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Merchant Lodge (No. 294), Liverpool, to be called "The Chapter of Friendship," and to meet at the Masonic Temple, No. 52, Hope-street, Liverpool, on the third Wednesday of every month.

4th.—From Companions Stephen Barton Wilson, jun., as Z, Edward Charles Hayward as H, John Sylvester Pembroke as J, and nine others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Wellington Lodge (No. 1086), Deal, to be called the "Wellington Chapter," and to meet at the Walmer Castle Hotel, Deal, on the first Tuesday of every month.

5th.—From Companions Francis Atkinson as Z, Henry Thompson as H, John Peter Hornung as J, and seven others, for a Chapter to be attached to the North York Lodge (No. 876), Middlesborough, to be called the "Marwood Chapter," and to meet at the Freemasons' Hall, Middlesborough, on the third Thursday in the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November in each year.

These petitions being regular, the Committee recommend that the prayers thereof be respectively granted.

They have also received the following petitions, viz.:—

From Companions Daniel Gooch, as Z, John A. D. Cox as H, George England as J, and eight others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Britannic Lodge (No. 38), London, to meet at Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's, London, to be called the "Britannic Chapter," and to meet on the second Friday in the months of January, April, June, and October in each year.

From Companions John Dennis Caulcher as Z, James Josiah Hardy as H, Edward John Fraser as J, and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Prince Frederick William Lodge (No. 1055), to be called the "Prince Frederick William Chapter," and to meet at the Knights of St. John's Hotel, Queen's-terrace, St. John's-wood, on the first Wednesday in the months of January, April, July, and October in each year.

These two petitions are in all respects regular; but the committee having upon former occasions offered their opinion that the number of Chapters in London is sufficient to serve the interests of the Order, and their opinion continuing the same, Resolved—That these petitions be submitted to the consideration of the Grand Chapter without further observation.

The committee have likewise to report that they have investigated a complaint preferred against Companion John Lizar, of the South Australian Chapter, No. 853, Adelaide, South Australia, for designating himself P.Z. of the Leinster Chapter, No. 266, under the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Ireland. From the evidence laid before the committee, as well as by the admission of Companion Lazar, it appeared he never occupied either of the chairs, or filled any office in that chapter; but the committee, having regard to the length of time that has elapsed since the circumstances upon which the complaint is founded occurred, did not consider it necessary to pass any censure upon Companion Lazar, further than to point out to him the irregularity he had committed in assuming the title of P.Z. of a chapter in which he had never been installed or elected as a Principal, and to direct him to discontinue calling himself P.Z. of such chapter.

The committee beg to recommend that the following words be added to Article 2, page 14, of the regulations after the word *signatures*, in the eleventh line; viz., and the names and numbers of the lodges in which the principals recommended have served the office of Master.

The committee beg also to recommend that the following chapters which have made the returns prescribed by the regulations be removed from the list of chapters who are summoned to show cause at the convocation to be holden on the 6th February next, why they should not be erased, viz.:—Chapter of Emulation, (47), Hastings; Doyle's Chapter of Fellowship (99), Guernsey; Cana Chapter (133), Colne; Magdalen Chapter (298), Doncaster; Chapter of Wisdom (352), Haslingden; Chapter of Charity (405), Stockport; Wakefield Chapter (727), Wakefield.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—*Chapter of Fortitude* (No. 348).—A special meeting of this chapter was held at the Freemasons' Hall on Thursday, the 24th January, when the following Companions were present:—W. Kelly, P.Z. and Prov. G.H.; B. Clephan, P.Z.; R. Crawford, P.Z.; W. J. Windram, P.Z.; W. Pettifor, P.Z.; H. Kinder, H.; Capt. Bankart, J.; A. Cummings, E.; Capt. Brewin, M.D.; Bithrey and Marris, A.S. A conclave of installed principals having been opened, Comps. Kinder and Bankart were duly installed in the respective chairs of H. and J. by Comp. Kelly, Prov. G.H. The M.E.Z., Comp. Underwood, not being present, his installation was postponed. The other Companions having been admitted, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, a dispensation granted by Earl Howe, Grand Superintendent, for the exaltation of the hall-keeper, Bro. Charles Bembridge, as a serving-companion was read; after which a ballot was taken for Bros. John Sloane, M.D., and Thomas Herbert, also for Bro. Bembridge, all of St. John's Lodge (No. 348), who were declared duly elected, and Bro. Bembridge was exalted to the degree. Comp. Kelly, Prov. G.H., proposed Comp. Captain Dawson, of Launde Abbey, late of St. Andrew's in the East, R. A. Chapter (No. 68), Poona, India, as a joining Member; and Comp. Brewin, P.S., proposed Bro. G. F. Lloyd, of the John of Gaunt Lodge (No. 766) as a candidate for exaltation. Comp. Windram, P.Z., gave notice of motion for altering the day of meeting from the third Monday to the second Thursday in the months of February, May, August, and November. The chapter was then closed in solemn form, and the Companions adjourned to refreshment.

Obituary.

BRO. THE REV. RAYMOND B. SMITHIES.

At Brighton, on the 19th of January, in his 37th year, the Rev. Bro. Raymond B. Smithies, M.A., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and Assistant Master of Rugby School. He was a member of the Lodge of Rectitude, No. 739, and served the Office of Master in 1857.

BRO. DR. ROWE.

This well-known and popular brother expired suddenly, at his house, on Thursday, the 24th ult. We have prepared a short biographical account of him, but from pressure of matter must postpone it until next week.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty and family still remain at Windsor. The Prince of Wales has been out hunting in Cambridgeshire. The fourth dramatic performance of the season has taken place at Windsor Castle, the piece ordered on the occasion being Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton's *Richelieu, or, the Conspiracy*. The invitations were numerous.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—Although past and gone in the meantime, the late extreme cold is still manifesting its effects in a largely increased bill of mortality. For the week ending Saturday last the number of deaths in the metropolis was 1785, or an excess over the average of 453. There is, however, something of a decrease on the returns of the preceding week. The births of 1978 children were registered—1034 boys and 944 girls. In the City there were 90 deaths and 70 births registered for the same period.—Dr. Letheby, the medical officer, in his report to the City Court of Sewers, represent a great increase in the amount of diseased meat exposed for sale. This may properly be called something alarming; but it is also highly unreasonable that people who are poisoned against their will should be compelled to pay for the poison that destroys their life.—A deputation of shipowners connected with the port of London waited upon Lord John Russell, on Friday, to ascertain whether the Government proposed taking any steps upon the report of the committee appointed to inquire into the laws respecting reciprocity and belligerent rights. Having urged the special points urged by the deputation, his lordship stated that he could not of course give them an immediate reply on a question of so much importance, but he assured them that her Majesty's Government would bestow upon it their most serious consideration.—Worcestershire and Herefordshire are following in the wake of Kent and Sussex in regard to the hop duties repeal movement. On Saturday a meeting of the planters of these two counties was held at Worcester, when a resolution maintaining the necessity for immediate repeal, and a petition to the House of Commons on this subject, were adopted. A district committee was also formed to co-operate with the central one. Sir J. Pakington, and other gentlemen who were not present on the occasion, expressed by letter their concurrence in the relief sought.—Messrs. Scholefield and Bright have addressed a large assemblage of their constituents in the Town Hall, Birmingham, presided over by the Mayor, Mr. Arthur Ryland. The fruitful subjects of taxation and national expenditure were commented upon, and the propriety of effecting a reduction in the army and navy departments suggested.—Mr. Buxton, M.P., has addressed his constituents at Maidstone, upon the disruption of the United States, and its probable effects upon the supply of cotton to this country. Having traced the rise and progress of slavery in America, he urged that the present crisis, though it might seriously affect the existing commerce of the country, would, in the end, prove beneficial, by rendering us less dependent upon the United States, and opening out other fields for the production of the raw material in India, Africa, and our colonial possessions.—The veteran member for Coventry, the Rt. Hon. Edward Ellice, has made known his intention of retiring from the representation of that borough at the next general election. Present ill health, with a sense of the propriety of allowing the constituency an opportunity of securing the services of a more juvenile and vigorous representative, are the reasons assigned by the right honourable gentleman for this determination.—The annual dinner of the Berkshire Farmers' Club was held

at the George Hotel, Reading, on Saturday.—The Lancashire Artillery Volunteers have taken a spirited step, by the formation of a limited liability company to provide a parade ground in the vicinity of Liverpool, with all the requisite appurtenances, the ground covering an area of 42,300 square yards, capable of accommodating at one time two regiments of 500 men each.—In consequence of the opposition made to his appointment by the Protestant Alliance and other associations, Mr. W. B. Turnbull has sent in his resignation of the Calendarship of foreign state papers, to which he was nominated in August, 1859. His resignation has been accepted.—On Monday afternoon the down train to Portsmouth, when a short distance from Wimbledon, met with a disaster which threw from the line a tender and four carriages, producing most dreadful results. One passenger was killed instantaneously, and some others were very seriously injured. A lady, the daughter of General Power, of Southsea; a Mr. Fellingier, belonging to Farnham, Surrey, and one of the collectors. on the railway, named George Mail, are lying at St. Thomas's Hospital, suffering to a greater or less extent.—The gentleman killed has been identified as Dr. William Baly, M.D., Physician to her Majesty. Dr. Baly had been telegraphed for to attend a patient, and was on his way when he came to so terrible an end.—In the Court of Queen's Bench, the mystery of the Road murder has been once more stirred up by cause being shown against the rule *nisi* granted for a writ of *ad melius inquirendum*. Sir F. Kelly, in showing cause against the rule, reviewed at great length the arguments of the Attorney-General, and maintained that the rule should not be made absolute on various grounds. The Lord Chief Justice then gave his decision, which was concurred in by the other learned judges. His lordship said it was to be regretted that the coroner had not examined Mr. Kent when he offered himself for that purpose; but this was merely an error in judgment, and accordingly the Court would refuse to grant the writ. And thus there will be no re-opening of the inquest.—Mrs. Ryves, who conducted her petition in the Court of Probate, claiming to be the granddaughter of William Frederick, Duke of Cumberland, Brother to George III., in right of her mother, has had judgment given in her favour. The parish register of St. Nicholas Church, Liverpool, containing the record of birth, was produced by the clergyman, and satisfied the Court of the accuracy of the copy. After hearing the evidence of a witness as to identity, the judge pronounced a decree affirming all the thirteen propositions undertaken to be established by the petitioner.—At the opening of the sessions of the Central Criminal Court, the Recorder congratulated the grand jury on the lightness of the calendar, and the absence of many charges of a serious nature. The learned Recorder thought this was the more satisfactory, considering the vast amount of distress that had prevailed in the metropolis for some time past. On the evening of the 26th a collision took place at sea off Whitby, followed by very painful results. The brig Magyar, commanded by Captain Beer, was run into by the Rouen steamer, and sunk almost immediately after, carrying with her the master, mate, and four of the crew. The remainder of the crew were providentially saved.

GENERAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The system of warnings in France has not been long in abeyance. The *Moniteur* announces that a first warning has been given to the *Courier du Dimanche*. The letter of Count Persigny explaining the reasons for this decision says:—"I should betray the interests of the state in tolerating discussion on the principle of the Imperial Government, and still more that this principle should be outraged."—The *Moniteur* announces that the committee for examining the *Senatus Consultum* on the publication of reports of the sittings has decided that these reports must consist either in a full reproduction of the debates, or in an account of the sittings drawn up under the authority of the President of the Senate.—The Paris authorities were apprehensive of a political demonstration on Monday on the occasion of the funeral of M. Caussidiere. Caussidiere was at the head of the police at the time of the Revolution, and retained the office till, leading a deputation got up by him and Ledru Rollin, he invaded the Constituent Assembly, when the National Guard mustered in great force, and dispersed him and his followers. He was included in the amnesty of last year, but only returned to Paris a few days previous to his death. Some 2000 people attended his remains to the ceremony, but all passed off quietly.—A very curious revelation was made by M. Allou in his speech in the Paterson-Bonaparte case. As a proof that such marriages could be annulled he instanced that of the Duke de Berri with a Mrs. Browne. The duke married Mrs. Browne in England with the consent of Louis XVIII., and lived with her for ten years. After the restoration, however, he discarded his humble wife and married the Princess Caroline of Naples. This statement, if correct, affects the legitimacy of the Count de Chambord.—Opinions touching the French occupation of Rome are very conflicting. At Turin an impression prevails that

the evacuation of the Roman States has been finally arranged between the French and Sardinian Governments. On the other hand, it is stated that reinforcements for General Goyon's army were dispatched from Marseilles as late as Saturday last.—A telegram from Naples, dated the 28th ult., informs us that on the previous day a flag of truce was sent from Gaeta to the fleet, and that an Italian steamer thereupon proceeded to the fortress, when the firing ceased on both sides. It may be reasonably supposed the object of the besieged is to treat for the surrender of the place. The elections to the Italian Parliament have proved decidedly in favour of the Government and the policy of Count Cavour. Bertani has lost his election at Milan, and Guerazzi has been defeated at Lucca. The party of action, in fact, have been sorely defeated. Naples, to its honour, has returned the martyr to constitutional Government, Poerio, and their gallant liberator, Garibaldi.—The *Independence Belge* says it has received a confirmation of its statement that Prince Metternich had verbally informed M. Thouvenel that an attack by Garibaldi upon any part of the Austrian territory would be considered by Austria as a *casus belli*; and adds that M. Thouvenel, in reply, observed that if, in the eventuality referred to, Austria employed Federal contingents, France would consider that act a violation of the principle of non-intervention.—According to the *Independence Belge* the objects which General de la Marmora is endeavouring to promote at Berlin are to reassure Prussia as to the intentions of Piedmont with regard to Germany; to induce her to recognise the possession of Venetia as a necessity for Italy and a danger for Austria and Germany; to promote, as representatives of constitutional liberty, relations of friendship between Piedmont and Prussia; and, lastly, to show that if these overtures are rejected, Italy will be forced to unite herself closer than ever to France.—The Council of the Russian Empire is about to assemble under the presidency of the Emperor, to settle definitively the terms of the Imperial manifesto for the abolition of serfdom. While engaged in this vast and good work the Emperor is no less alive to the disturbed state of the frontiers, and has ordered the formation of three armies—one to march to the Pruth, the second to the frontiers of Poland, and the third to be ready for any other destination.

THE CAPE.—The Cape mail has arrived with dates to the 22nd ult. Governor Grey was on his way to the frontiers to adjust matters in British Kaffraria. The vine disease had again appeared, and great loss was anticipated in consequence. The *Pioneer*, one of the vessels belonging to Dr. Livingstone's expedition, was in Simon's Bay, and was to leave shortly.

INDIA AND CHINA.—The news from Calcutta received by the overland mail contains nothing of particular interest, except the report of a public meeting to adopt a petition to Parliament praying for publicity of accounts, restraint upon the Secretary of State for India with regard to spending Indian funds, the opening of the Legislative Council, &c. The grant of Sir Charles Wood to the Mysore Princes was of course the immediate cause of the proceeding. The meeting was remarkable for the great unanimity of feeling it elicited from all classes of the community. Fully one-half of those present were natives, a fact that was alluded to by several of the native speakers as being a pledge of reunion between themselves and their European brethren, and a termination of the bitterness of feeling or antagonism of race which has existed since the mutiny. The Europeans also showed their willingness to let bygones be bygones, by assenting to the sentiment by loud cheers. The China papers do not afford much intelligence. The *Overland Trade Report* alludes to a rumour that our troops at Tien-tsin were menaced by large hordes of Tartars, and that Mr. Adkins, who was left in charge of the British embassy at Peking, has been murdered, but adds that the rumour is not generally believed, and assigns, as a tangible proof of its incorrectness, that the first portion of the indemnity had been paid by the Chinese authorities. The rebellion is stated to be on the increase, but the rebels had not ventured on any further attack on Shanghai. Nothing more has been heard of the reported rebellion in Shensi. Trade is reported as good at all the ports. The Chinese have paid the first instalment of the indemnity, and all remained quiet at Peking. The weather is described as intensely cold, but the troops were very healthy. Lord Elgin and Sir Hope Grant had left for Japan.

AMERICA.—By the arrival of the *Australasian* we have news from New York to the 16th inst. At that time there was no retardation of the onward course of the disunion movement. South Carolina had dispatched Colonel Hayn to Washington to demand the surrender of Fort Sumter, and had informed Captain Anderson of their intention to capture the fort if not quietly surrendered. A somewhat unlooked-for circumstance is reported from New York—viz., an enthusiastic demonstration of working men in that city against coercing the Southern States.

NOTES ON MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

MR. HULLAH.

It is with pleasure we observe that a grand morning concert is to take place at the Royal English Opera, Covent Garden, on Monday, February 4, in aid of the Hullah Testimonial Fund, which we have no doubt will be liberally supported by the Craft. Mr. Harry Chester thus writes to the Editor of the *Society of Arts Journal* :—

Mr. Hullah's singular success in teaching "the masses" to sing, and the happy results which were evident in the conduct of those taught, had a great effect in breaking down the narrow barriers within which it used to be the fashion to restrict the education of the poor, and in reconciling old-fashioned persons to the modern system of Mechanics' Institutes and Athenaeums for the instruction and amusement of adults; and in this point of view I am convinced that we should do him scant justice if we attribute to him an influence for good exclusively in connection with music.

Some persons have supposed that Mr. Hullah received large sums from the Government. This is quite a mistake. The Committee of Council on Education gave to him their "sanction," *i. e.*, their patronage; and received from him, in return, an immense increase of their popularity and of facilities for carrying out their views; and when his classes at Exeter-hall were producing a profit which, if he had been unhonoured by the "sanction" of the Privy Council, would have gone into his own pockets, he had to forego that profit in order that it might make good the deficiency occasioned by the other classes of "method" for drawing, writing, and arithmetic, which were held "under the sanction of the Committee of Council" in connexion with his classes.

Having seen abundant instances of his disinterestedness, of his postponement of his own interests to those of his great object—viz., to naturalise in the United Kingdom the power of singing at sight, I feel no surprise at learning that his success in the service of the public has not been attended by sufficient pecuniary receipts; and now that the fire at St. Martin's Hall has produced a crisis, there is naturally a general desire to offer to him some encouragement and help in a substantial form.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THOS. HUGHAN must write to a bookseller. His name does not appear on our list.

J. S.—The late Daniel O'Connell was a Freemason.

MARK MASON.—Write to Bro. Frederick Binckes, 40, Leicester-square.

WEBB'S LECTURES.—We consider them useless to the English Mason. They are only an American edition of Preston. Were we about to visit the United State, we should study them.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER is thanked for his criticism. It shall not be lost upon us.

BRO. PEAKE is thanked for his kind promises.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.—The proceedings of Grand Conclave and various encampments are unavoidably held over.

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.—The pressure upon our columns this week prevents our publishing Masonic Festivities until next week. The publication of various other articles of interest is also unavoidably postponed.

J. W.—Respectfully declined, with thanks. Unsuitable for our columns.