

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1861.

HONORARY PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

We consider the following letter to treat upon a subject of so much importance as the well-being of the Craft and the dignity not only of the Order but of the M.W. Grand Master, that we hesitate not to give it a more prominent position than we usually accord to communications from our various correspondents.

PROVINCIAL GRAND OFFICERS.

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

SIR AND BROTHER.—As one of your *own* honorary correspondents I am desirous that any error in reporting by any of my honorary colleagues may at once be rectified, especially when such mistakes may call in question the acts of a ruler in the Craft. But before I wrote you on the subject I thought it better to get an explanation from our mutual friend who generally reports for that district. The explanation satisfied me that it was a mistake; however, as others may ask the same question as was put to me on that report, I thought it as well to call your attention to it, and request your reply to some of them as soon as you can give them.

The error is in the report of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire; therein it is stated that the Prov. G.M., "in consideration of the valuable services which Bro. Brabner had done as Treasurer to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, had appointed him as P. Prov. S. G. W."

The report thus written made one suppose that the Prov. G.M. had, *by his own prerogative*, granted this worthy brother Past Rank. Whereas, the Prov. G.M. only did what the G. Master of England, and other Prov. G. Masters occasionally did, viz., desirous of recompensing valuable services, "proposed to Provincial Grand Lodge his intention of conferring the rank of P. Prov. S. G. W. on Bro. Brabner, provided such honour met with the approval of the Provincial Grand Lodge." Such approval having unanimously been signified, the Provincial Grand Past Rank was conferred.

From this incident arises the following questions:—

1. Has the Prov. G.M. the power of conferring such Past Rank with the consent of Provincial Grand Lodge?

2. The G. Master of England having received from Grand Lodge the power of rewarding meritorious services, by conferring Past Rank without previous consultation with Grand Lodge as heretofore, does a similar power devolve on Prov. G. Masters in their provinces? Or must the Provincial Grand Lodges confer such a power on the Prov. Grand Master, or must such power be only granted to the Prov. G. Master by the G. Master of England?

3. If this privilege can only be granted by the G. Master of England, must it be specially applied for in each case, or does a Prov. G.M., *ipso facto*, in any change of the law, have the power to exercise in his province all those privileges that the Grand Master has conferred to him by the United Grand Lodge of England?

As in some offices, such as the Prov. G. Sec., Treasurer, Reg., Dir. of Cers., it is advantageous that these officers, while giving satisfaction in their different offices, should be changed as seldom as possible, while it would be unfair to such meritorious brethren that because of their usefulness in a certain office they should be prevented from being promoted to a higher rank, it is thought that in wise hands the power occasionally to reward such brethren, by Past Rank of a higher office, would be advantageous, especially where provinces are large, and the new offices vacated yearly are insufficient to give to good and zealous brethren a chance of obtaining the Purple in turn by filling up an office in Provincial Grand Lodge, which otherwise the desire of the Prov. G.M. and their merits would legitimately entitle them to.

Your answer will oblige many of your country friends.

I am, Sir and Brother, Yours faithfully,

A COUNTRY CORRESPONDENT AND P.M.

As we have reason to believe the various points raised in the above letter are at the present moment under consideration of the constituted authorities of Grand Lodge, we give our opinion under some disadvantage; but we do so, nevertheless, with not the less confidence as to the real intent of the laws.

1st.—The Prov. Grand Master has no power, either with or without the consent of Prov. Grand Lodge, to confer past rank on brethren, and when it has been done it has been so in violation of the law—the power under the Constitutions being specially reserved to Grand Lodge alone—and it being enacted (p. 53) that the Prov. Grand Lodge emanating from the authority vested in the Prov. Grand Master "possesses no other powers than those specified," and the granting past rank is not one of these powers.

2.—The power lately given to the Grand Master of granting past rank is restricted to him alone—and does not confer any additional power on the Prov. Grand Masters—notwithstanding, the *Book of Constitutions* says, that they "are invested with a rank and power in their particular districts *similar* to those possessed by the Grand Master"—it never having been the intention of Grand Lodge to swamp the Order with honorary Past Grand Officers, and when the new law comes to be introduced into *The Book of Constitutions*, it must be sufficiently guarded to prevent such a contingency. The Grand Master has not the right of conferring on Prov. Grand Masters the power of creating Past Prov. Grand Officers.

3.—Our answer to No. 2 will be a sufficient reply to this question.

In conclusion, we cannot agree with our correspondent that it is at all desirable that because of the usefulness of brethren in one office they should have the past rank of another, nor is it unfair to them not to give it them. Here, at least, we know we are supported by the expressed opinion of Grand Lodge, which refused to Bro. Thory Chapman, as good and conscientious a Grand Officer as was, appointed the past rank of an office he had never held, even on the recommendation of the M.W.G.M., though it did not refuse to acknowledge and reward those services by voting to Bro. Chapman a distinctive jewel in appreciation of them.

Would our provincial brethren claim the right to have four Grand Directors because that number is to be appointed in Grand Lodge? If they should, and it is to be acted on, in some provinces every Mason of six or eight months' standing will be Prov. Grand Officers. There are even now lodges where every brother wears the purple, excepting, perhaps, two or three but very recently initiated.

We look upon the power recently given to the M.W. Grand Master as a means by which he may reward brethren who have distinguished themselves by their exertions to promote the interests of the Order throughout the country, either as D. Grand Masters or otherwise; and to extend the power to Prov. Grand Masters

would be only the means of rendering the honours of Masonry so cheap as to render them unworthy the acceptance of anyone who values his own self-respect.

As knighthood is now being constantly declined by men of eminence in the world, from their scientific or other attainments, so will past honours then be declined by every Mason who truly understands the dignity of the Order and his own position in the craft.

THE CONSTITUTIONS OF FREEMASONRY.

At a period when the means of communication between the three sections of the United Kingdom, England, Scotland, and Ireland, have become almost as easy as a few years since existed between two adjoining counties; and when pleasure trips from the one to the other are almost as common as a visit to Ranelagh or Vauxhall to our ancestors; and when, therefore, the Brethren of one country has so many more opportunities of visiting the lodges of the others than was formerly the case, we believe we need enter into no apology for calling the attention of our readers to a comparison of the laws under which the brethren hailing from the three sister Grand Lodges are governed—and in doing so we shall, for the sake of regularity, and for more ready reference to the various points, adopt the form as laid down in the *Book of Constitutions* of the Grand Lodge of England.

In the first place we will premise that the Grand Lodge of England declares that “pure and antient Masonry consists of three degrees and no more, viz., those of Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, including the *Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch*,” though the latter is placed under separate government from the Craft. In Scotland, Grand Lodge takes even a more limited view and “recognises no degrees of Masonry but those of Apprentices, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, denominated St. John’s Masonry.” On the other hand, the Constitutions of Ireland includes the whole of the degrees of Freemasonry to the thirty-third, there being four governing bodies, Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, Grand Conclave of K. H. T., and Grand Council of Rites, but all having a connection one with the other.

In England the Grand Officers, and Past Grand Officers, Provincial Grand Masters, the Masters and Wardens of all private lodges, and the Past Masters of such lodges so long as they continue subscribing members of any lodge, constitute the Grand Lodge.

In Ireland, the same brethren form the Grand Lodge, Past Masters, however, having the option either of “being subscribing members of any lodge, or subscribing to the Grand Lodge funds the sum of £2 annually”—and there being a special provision in favour of “the members of the Grand Master’s Lodge who had obtained the third degree previously to the 9th of June, 1837, so long as they continue to be subscribing members of that

lodge.” The members of this Grand Lodge have the power of appointing proxies when unable to attend themselves, such proxies being Past Masters of the lodges they represent; and Grand Officers may be represented by proxies even when present themselves—but the proxies have no votes.

In Scotland the privilege does not extend to Past Masters—but the country lodges may be represented by Proxy Masters and Wardens not being otherwise members of Grand Lodge, no Proxy Master or Warden being allowed to represent more than one lodge at the same time—and the privilege of sitting in Grand Lodge was only extended to Provincial Grand Masters in 1849.

The Grand Officers consist of in

ENGLAND.	IRELAND.	SCOTLAND.
Grand Master.	Grand Master.	Grand Master.
Pro Grand Master.*	Dep. Grand Master.	Gd. Master Depute.
Deputy Gd. Master.	Two Grand Wardens.	Substitute G. Master.
Two Grand Wardens.	Grand Treasurer.	Two Grand Wardens.
Two Grand Chaplains.	Grand Secretary.	Grand Treasurer.
Grand Treasurer.	Two Gd. Chaplains.	Grand Secretary.
Grand Registrar.	Two Grand Deacons.	Grand Clerk.
Grand Secretary.	Grand Organist.	Two Grand Chaplains.
Two Grand Deacons.†		Two Grand Deacons.
Grand Supt. of Works.		Architect to G. Lodge.
Gd. Dir. of Ceremonies.		Grand Jeweller.
As. Dir. of Ceremonies.		Grand Bible Bearer.
Grand Sword Bearer.		G. Dir. of Ceremonies.
Assistant Grand Sec.		Grand Bard.
Grand Organist.		Grand Sword Bearer.
Grand Pursuivant.		Grand Dir. of Music.
Assistant G. Pursuivant.		Two Grand Marshals.
Eighteen G. Stewards.		Out and In-door Gd. Tylers.

In England there is a Grand Tyler, and in Ireland a Deputy Grand Secretary, Grand Pursuivant, and Grand Tyler, though not published in the list of Grand Officers, none of them being members of Grand Lodge; and there are likewise Grand Stewards in Scotland.

We have given the above list in the order of precedence, but we should observe that in England and Scotland the Provincial Grand Masters rank immediately before the Grand Wardens, where, as in Ireland, they do not take rank until after the Grand Deacons, who even take rank preceding the Past Grand Masters and Past Deputy Grand Masters, who are followed by the Provincial Grand Masters and the representatives of foreign Grand Lodges—who are succeeded in their turn by the Past Grand Wardens and other Past Grand Officers.

The first clause in the English *Book of Constitutions*, after that defining the qualifications of those who constitute Grand Lodge, is one declaring that “Brethren of eminence and ability who have rendered service to the Craft may, by a vote of the Grand Lodge, duly confirmed, be constituted members of the Grand Lodge, with such rank and distinction as may be thought proper”—and which power has been lately extended to the Grand Master, irrespective of Grand Lodge, and which some of the Prov. Grand Masters now, we believe, claim to exercise,

* When the Grand Master is a Prince of the Blood,

† In future to be Four.

though it would appear to us without a shadow of right.

In the Irish Constitutions we do not find any such power; nor in the Scotch, until February, 1851, when it was enacted, "It shall be in the power of Grand Lodge to confer the distinction of 'Honorary Member of the Grand Lodge of Scotland' upon sovereigns or other distinguished brethren known to be famed in the Masonic Craft;" but, at the following Grand Lodge in May, it was thought desirable in some measure to modify this law, and it was declared that "the nomination of Honorary Members is vested in the Grand Master alone, each nomination being subject to confirmation by Grand Lodge." These honorary members do not receive any further distinctive title, such as Past Grand Wardens, Deacons, &c., as with us, but take "precedence in Grand Lodge immediately after the Deputy Grand Master, and before the Substitute"—the honorary members having "no vote in Grand Lodge."

The next clause in the English *Book of Constitutions* declares that no member of the Grand Lodge "shall attend therein without his proper jewel and clothing, nor shall he be permitted to wear in the Grand Lodge, or any private lodge, any jewel," &c., belonging to any order or degree "not recognised by the Grand Lodge of England"—he, of course, being permitted to wear the jewel of the Royal Arch which is acknowledged, though somewhat in an awkward manner. In Ireland, where every degree in Masonry, as we have already stated is acknowledged, no jewels are allowed "belonging to any order or degree beyond that of Master Mason," in which that of Past Master "is considered to be included;" moreover all brethren attending Grand Lodge are compelled to appear in evening costume with "full dress apron, and collar, and jewel (if any) belonging to the respective stations they represent." In Scotland too, the brethren are forbidden to wear, either in Grand Lodge or private lodges, any jewel or decoration, except "those appertaining to St. John's Masonry," which is alone recognised and acknowledged. Our brethren visiting Scotch and Irish lodges must, therefore, remember that the Arch Jewel is not permitted to be worn in those lodges.

We have sufficiently indicated the nature of the task we have undertaken in comparing the laws of the three Grand Lodges, and shall for the present, hold our hand, reserving to ourselves the right of recurring to the subject as opportunities offer.

CLASSICAL THEOLOGY.—LI.

X.—VESTA AND DECEMBER.

Ritter, in his *History of Ancient Philosophy* (i. 327), describes the ethics of Pythagoras as being of the most lofty, refined, and spiritual organisation. And Aristotle has himself asserted that the Pythagoreans were the first who resolved anything in moral philosophy. With them we are told virtue was a social combination that

should as much as possible represent the unity and harmony of the super-celestial deity. The duty of man was to master his passions, that the mind might purify the heart; and thus by the purification of the body, the offering of sacrifice and adoration of the gods, he should in reality be the type of cleanliness, humility, and sincerity.

Besides the doctrine of transmigration of souls, the system of Pythagoras embraced a very pure system of religious and political morality. He thought a perfect state of society depended on sound religion and philosophy as much as on the principles of politics, but that therein action as well as perception was as requisite for the subject as for the government; that, as it were, on the scale or balance of the universal plan—strength, beauty, and agreement—they might be organised into conformity, and sustained by regulating laws. In the science of numbers Pythagoras imagined he could discover the equipollent principle and special arrangement of all organisation in the *Monad* or unity of God as the soul of the Universe; by which distribution of the original unit was formed the development of the entire creation.

By the gradual dissemination of his more enlightened opinions, Pythagoras became a beneficent legislator and time-honoured reformer of his country. Much has been recorded concerning the priestly dignity, the majestic appearance, the persuasive and commanding eloquence of this philosopher, whose mode of living was very devotional and abstemious. Pythagoras believed and asserted that he could remember the different bodily existences in which he had lived in the world before he became the son of Mnesarchus. Thus he declared that his soul had animated the body of Euphorbus Panthoides, the Trojan, slain by Menelaus at the siege of Troy, through the transmigration of whose soul he himself was re-born. On this account he considered that the consciousness of the past was still present in us, and therefore most earnestly exhorted his disciples not only to improve to the utmost their own course of life, but to extend the example by carefully attending to the education of their children.

As with Freemasons, divers opinions are strung together, like the jewels of a carcanet, to display their contrast in the estimation of their intrinsic value; so with the Pythagoreans, the subjects of controversy, however at variance, were to be discussed with hearty candour and calm attentiveness, which in no way should give rise to any personal enmity, however warm the challenge. The pure doctrine of Pythagoras as regarding the metempsychosis was, as the word itself implies, the re-embodiment of the soul after the demise of the flesh by its passing from one body into another. That is, supposing a person at his death was brutally ignorant, his soul would remain totally ignorant; or, had he died wisely merciful, his soul would remain wisely merciful. In this case of its probation, it was eventually raised amongst the gods; whereas, in the other respect, it sank to or stagnated in its own level. There was no assigned period for the soul's assumption of its human birth, but the event was considered to take place in the natural manner of the conception, in which it worked out for itself the formation of the embryo. In course of time the philosophers who accepted this idea of the Crotonian sage, adhered to the ancient belief of a sort of purgatorial chastening for the evil deeds done in the flesh; and at length the Pythagorians taught that there were higher orders of beings than mankind, whose souls were compelled to enter into human bodies as a punishment for their delinquencies, such souls being emanations from the Supreme Being; a doctrine, be it

observed, distinctly adverse to that of the Talmud, which asserts that the soul was forced to take up its humanity as a consequence of its welfare, doubtless resting on the promise of a saviour—whilst with the Pythagoreans, human life itself was seriously viewed as a penal bondage, more or less severe, in accordance with the soul's previous guilt. Nor did this servitude terminate unredeemed here, excepting in the working out of its freedom, by a well spent life. As regarded by some it descended into brutes; it was lowered into insects; and even degraded into plants—whence, from its apportioned penalty, it might aspire to re-ascend in the scale of creation from the mere vegetable to the human being, and in this latter stage even aspire to the perfection of a deity.

It has been said that this description of the soul's chastisement was always recognised by the Pythagoreans as temporary, or having a termination, and that consequently there were final limitations to its purgatorial transits. Yet still, although Pindar may have represented this sort of transmigration of the soul as a condemnation at least thrice required before its positive discharge from its mortal prisonhouse, and its entrance into the celestial dominions of the blessed; this doctrine is so opposed to logical reason, and adverse to knowledge, that it must be considered as belonging more to the conceits of Ovid's metamorphosis. In evidence of this, we have certain holy authority in the account of the casting out of devils, as given by St. Mark in the fifth chapter of his Gospel, which will show these spirits as doomed to the exorcism of the Holy Spirit, and at the same time having the sense and power to extricate themselves from transmigration and embodiment:—

“And he answered, saying my name is Legion, for we are many. And all the devils besought Him, saying, send us into the swine, that we may enter into them. And forthwith Jesus gave them leave. And the unclean spirits went out, and entered into the swine; and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea (they were about two thousand); and were choked in the sea.”

ARCHITECTURE AND ARCHEOLOGY.

ARCHITECTURAL STUDY AND ARCHITECTURAL PROGRESS.*

After numerous perils and vicissitudes, the Architectural Association is now about to enter the sixteenth year of its existence, and we may fairly hope that it will now prove to have outgrown most of those youthful disorders which have more than once (with the assistance, perhaps, of friends and doctors), brought it very nearly to a premature end. It will be our own fault if it does not continue year by year to enlarge its sphere of usefulness, and to satisfy more fully a want which, I have no hesitation in saying, would even now be keenly felt by a considerable circle in the event of its dissolution.

We have heard an encouraging report of the proceedings of last session, and I need scarcely remind you that in the year before us we shall have rich opportunities of observation and study in the forthcoming Great Exhibition, which cannot fail (if we use our time properly) to produce a good effect in developing what I apprehend to be the great end and object of this Association, viz.: “Mutual assistance and improvement in prosecuting the study of Architecture as

an Art.” I lay stress on this word *art*, because I feel that into some of our discussions too much of what I may call the business elements find its way, to the no small detriment of that artistic progress which ought, I think, more exclusively to occupy our attention as students. I must not, of course, be understood by this to undervalue the business element in its proper place, nor to deny in any way its indispensable necessity to every architect in practice. But as a body we are not in practice, and whether in practice or not we are still young, and the majority of us at least have that time now to devote to artistic self-improvement which each successive year will render it more difficult to find. It seems to me that in an Association of this kind, composed of students (for we are all students, and for the most part young students), more real practical good would be done by the members uniting as one man in trying to understand thoroughly, and help forward honestly, the development of true principles of art, than in discussing questions which might well be left to those whose opinions when published are likely to carry weight and authority. The nearer, in fact, we approach the character of a juvenile debating society, in which the most difficult political questions of the day are gravely discussed and decided by an assembly of beardless youths, the further shall we be from reaching any useful result. Banded together and firmly united in a common honest purpose, as art students determined to carry out true principles at any cost, we may and must work out great and lasting effects on the progress of architecture, this, to my mind, is our proper province, and as it is a point that has perhaps been rather lost sight of in the last few years, I purpose this evening to address myself more directly than is usual on these occasions to the members of this body.

During the past session a very great deal has been said, and I believe something has been done, towards the settlement of that long-mooted question, the establishment of an Architectural Exhibition. The subject has naturally excited much interest amongst ourselves, more especially as I believe it was by the Association that such a proposal was first started. Many—I believe I may say a large majority—confidentially foretold that such an examination, when fairly set going, will have the effect of raising the standard of the profession, and of excluding ignorant and incompetent persons from practising as architects. This result is, no doubt, much to be desired; but, as I have already stated my opinion, with the reasons for that opinion, and found myself in a small minority, I will not enter on the subject now. I cannot help noticing, however, that in the course of the various discussions which I have read and heard, several theories have been alluded to as acknowledged truths, which have struck me with extreme surprise. For instance, I have heard it casually stated, as a matter of course, at one of these discussions, “That a young architect should study every style, in order to be ready to meet the possible wishes of his client. Now, of course, in pronouncing this theory to be simply monstrous, I have no wish to set a limit (especially in this direction) to the study of all that is great and good in art of every period and every clime; but the idea of attempting to carry out the theory of practising every known style, to me, I must confess, suggests nothing so vividly as the conjuror's inexhaustible bottle, which is always ready with a modicum and that sufficiently bad, be it remembered) of any liquor that may be asked for. The counter theory is that a man must be full of one style, just as a bottle must be full of one wine to give it really good.

The rapid and apparently perfectly natural and easy change from one style to another of totally opposite principles will to some minds smack more of the dexterity of the charlatan than of the sober earnestness of purpose of the true artist. But we are told that “we ought to be ready to meet the wishes of our client—to bow to his choice of style.” Our client, on the contrary, if we were united in purpose, as we ought to be, or, in other words, if ours were an age of true art, should have absolutely no choice as to style. A patient does not tell his physician what medicine to give him—he tells his symptoms, and the doctor prescribes; so your client should tell you his requirements, the money at his disposal, and so forth, and these you should

* Read by Mr. W. A. Bloomfield at the opening *Conversazione* of Architectural Association on the 25th ult.

scrupulously attend to; but have no self-doctoring on his part, no interference in your especial province; here the artist should reign supreme.

It may well be doubted whether architects, as a class, do not tell their clients, the public, too much about the names and outward characteristics of various styles in an easy, smattering manner, which leads them to believe that they not only may, but are invited to choose for themselves, as the caprice or fancy of the moment may dictate. It is ten to one that when we hear an old gentleman in public or private discussing the relative merits of Classic and Gothic (a subject of which he is most likely profoundly ignorant, and for which he really cares not a straw), he is making use of hackneyed terms and threadbare descriptions which we architects have put into his hands, and which he flings about as intelligently and usefully as a boy throwing stones in the street. No doubt, one of the most formidable difficulties a young architect can have to encounter in commencing his career is to make people (particularly friends who only think about his "getting on") understand clearly that he has such a thing as a principle, which prevents him from attempting to practise a variety of styles; and the sooner he faces this difficulty boldly and grapples with it, the better for the public and the better for him. Let him, by all means, study good art of every description, but the style which he woos and wins,—which he can swear to love, honour, and obey,—must be one and one only.

If it were possible for us, as a body, to agree on this point, our progress would, indeed, be certain and immediate, but I know very well that the vision is Utopian; such a thing is, at present, at least, an impossibility. Perhaps one of the greatest obstacles to anything like unanimity on this subject is the intolerable rage for so-called originality in our day. Each young architect seems to think himself bound to outdo every one else in broken-backed windows, or in some diseased form of chamber; but the worst stage of the malady is when we hear a complete new style talked of. The very mention of the Victorian style is enough to make one's heart sink within one, and tremble for the prospects of art. Such a thing as the creation of a new style would be so complete a falsification of all history and all analogy, that we may at once safely disabuse our mind of any such expectation. In architecture, at least, if in nothing else, the development theory is the true one, and that development must be gradual, and, to a certain extent, almost unconscious. As in the human frame, the various vital processes are carried on unconsciously to himself in the healthy man, and any continued introversion of thought directed to a particular organ most surely causes derangement and disease,—so we may well fear lest any attempt to force the natural development of our art by a morbid straining after originality may have the most disastrous results. This very fault was one of the chief causes of the decline of Mediæval art. Let us guard against it now, and remember that the man who, from selfish motives of vanity and caprice, attempts to force himself to the front by extravagant sallies and inflated attempts at originality, is no true benefactor to art, but rather the reverse.

On this point I cannot resist quoting an admirable passage from an address delivered nearly a hundred years ago by the first President of the Royal Academy:—"It is evident," says Sir Joshua Reynolds, "that a great part of every man's life must be employed in collecting materials for the exercise of genius. Invention, strictly speaking, is little more than a new combination of those images which have been previously gathered and deposited in the memory; nothing can come of nothing; he who has laid up no materials can produce no combinations. A student unacquainted with the attempts of former adventurers is always apt to overrate his own abilities, to mistake the most trifling excursions for discoveries of moment, and every coast new to him for a new found country. If, by chance, he passes beyond his usual limits, he congratulates his own arrival at those regions which they who have steered a better course have left behind them; and the productions of such minds are seldom distinguished by an air of originality. They are anticipated in their happiest efforts, and if they are found to differ in anything from their predecessors, it is only in irregular sallies and trifling conceits. The more extensive, therefore, your acquaintance is with the works of those who

have excelled, the more extensive will be your powers of invention, and, what may appear still more like a paradox, the more original will be your conceptions. But the difficulty on this occasion is to determine what ought to be proposed as models of excellence, and who ought to be considered as the properest guides."

The difficulty which Sir Joshua found on that occasion will probably be felt to be much the same on this, but the discussion of styles is one of which we are all rather tired; and as my own views are, I believe, pretty well known, I shall not attempt to apologise for what may seem the exclusiveness of my advice on this point.

I address myself to the young student who has chosen what I believe to be the true foundation for his efforts, and who subscribes to Sir Joshua's dictum, that the greater part of his life must be spent in collecting materials, and that the more extensive his acquaintance with works of excellence, the more likely is he to be original in his own conceptions.

To him I say, begin at once; let your sketch-book be constantly in your hand; never lose an opportunity of examining, measuring, and sketching Mediæval buildings for yourself, and learning their uses and the principles which guided their architects; and in sketching them take care to sketch intelligently, not always with a view to picking up little bits here and there to make use of afterwards (that is not the way to collect materials), but with a leading purpose of understanding some principle, or of illustrating some phase or development hitherto new to you.

I recollect once seeing a young architect spend about two hours in tracing the profile of a cluster of vaulting ribs on an Early English cap. When he had finished with great labour, the drawing was quite correct, I believe, and very neat, but it was perfectly useless and unintelligible. If he had made a little plan of a bay of the vaulting, with a perspective sketch, and added a section or plan above the point where the ribs parted, his sketch would have been complete and useful, and he would have carried down his ribs and got the profile on his cap in a few minutes. I mention this anecdote merely to illustrate what I mean by intelligent as distinguished from unintelligent sketching, and it is much to be wished that many amongst us who have plenty of ability, could be led to feel the fascination as well as the use of this manner of collecting materials.

(To be continued.)

THE NEW POST-OFFICE BUILDINGS AND INDUSTRIAL MUSEUM AT EDINBURGH.

H.R.H. the Prince Consort has just laid the foundation-stone of the new post-office, on the site formerly occupied by the Theatre Royal, and Shakespeare-square. The edifice will be more or less seen on all sides, the north, west, and south elevations being particularly conspicuous. Of these three, however, the north and west may be considered the most important—the one facing the Register House, and the other, or side elevation, extending along North Bridge-street, opposite what is called the New Buildings. The south end, which will be seen very prominently from the North-bridge, is also an important and difficult feature, and the architect seems to have handled it very successfully. The frontage towards Princes'-street will extend to about 150ft., and that towards the bridge about 180ft. The style of architecture adopted is the Italian. The two chief façades present a broken outline, the central portion being of two stories, while the ends rise with something of tower-like effect into three stories. The cornice of the building will be on a level with the top of the domes on the corner towers of the Register House. The southern and eastern elevations, necessarily from the nature of the ground, each exhibit six stories. The main entrance, that to the public lobby, is from Princes'-street, and consists of three large open archways. The principle of design throughout on the basement floor is a succession of deeply-recessed arched windows, with

rusticated piers—carved masks forming the keystones. The second and third stories of the elevations towards Princes'-street and North Bridge form a composition of coupled and single (relieved) Corinthian columns and pilasters, between which are placed windows ornamented with varied pediments and architraves, the great extent of line being effectively broken up by pediments, and the whole surmounted by an enriched frieze, cornice, and balustrade. The other frontages present generally the same design; the front facing the railway, however, being ornamented with artistic effect by a handsome balcony, which marks and gives effect to the sort of double elevation of the building—that above and that below the level of the North Bridge. The open entrance-hall at the north or Princes'-street front, is about forty feet square; the Money-order Office, nearly of the same dimensions, is on the one side, and the bar for the Paid-Letter Office on the other. Entered from the lobby is a corridor ten feet wide, extending the full length of the building, with officers' rooms on either side. The letter-carriers' and sorting offices are each about 100ft. in length by 35 broad, and 35ft. in height, and are approached by separate entrances. The upper apartments will be approached by a principal staircase placed immediately off the public lobby, and communicating in the same manner by corridors with the public departments. The interior fittings will be of a plain and substantial description. The new building comprises all the improvements suggested by recent experience, and care has been taken that the accommodation to be provided will amply meet all the requirements of the office for many years to come.

The first portion only of the Industrial Museum building is now being proceeded with. When completed, the edifice will exceed in magnitude any other public building in Scotland. It is upwards of 400ft. in length and 200ft. in breadth, with an average height of 90ft. The site includes the space covered by the property which belonged to the Trades' Maiden Hospital and Dr. Alexander's church, and also the whole south side and west end of Argyle-square, now in course of being acquired under an Act of Parliament passed last session. This bill, it may be mentioned, provides that the new building shall be connected, by a bridge across West College-street, with the present Natural History Museum in the College.

The design adopted for the new building was one upon which we believe there has been considerable diversity of opinion. That now approved of by Government is of a Venetian character, and will be ornamented with stone of distinctive colour, selected from various quarries in Scotland. Practically, this feature will in itself form a geological museum. The principal elevation, facing the north side of Argyle-square, is composed of a central colonnade and two wings. In the façade, a large surface of plate glass is presented; the windows are round-headed, and divided by columns and pilasters. The approach is by a flight of steps leading to three grand central archways, surmounted by sculptured embleatic groups. Cornices, covered with richly tinted bronze-coloured tiles, form an effective finishing to the wings. The whole of the Museum departments will be under a glass roof.

The west elevation, and a portion of the front, will be seen to much advantage from George IV. Bridge, across Brown-square, and will be an imposing addition to the architecture of that rapidly-improving thoroughfare.

The lower floor of the east wing will contain a lecture hall for upwards of 700 persons. In this hall it is intended to have lectures delivered to artisans upon the principle adopted at the Kensington Museum—namely, to issue tickets for admission at 6d. each for a course of six lectures. What may be termed the actual museum portion of the building will include several departments or sections; and in addition to the large area of the principal floor, intended for the reception of specimens, there will be two galleries surrounding each section, each from 10ft. to 15ft. broad.

The portion of the edifice now in course of erection is that adjoining the college, containing the lecture room in the east wing, and three large halls—one about 200ft. in length, and 60ft. broad; another 100ft. in length and 70ft. broad; the third 70ft. long and 50ft. broad; each hall is approached through the front colonnade.

GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL INTELLIGENCE.

A new hospital for women and children has been opened at Leeds by the Bishop of Ripon and the Earl of Carlisle. For the purpose, Springfield Lodge was purchased, at a cost of £3000, and alterations and additions have been made at a farther outlay of about £1400. The hospital is capable of accommodating fifty to sixty patients, and is situate a little to the north of St. George's Church, on elevated ground. The old building (the front part of which was two stories high, and the back three) was not pulled down, but the roof was taken off, so as to give greater height to the chamber floor, over which an additional story has been added. A lantern tower, rising considerably above the roof, marks its character as a public institution.

Plans have been prepared for a proposed "Devonport, Stonehouse, and Cornwall Hospital," to be erected on an elevated site at the head of Newpassage-hill. Miss Nightingale, Sir J. Liddell, Dr. Sutherland, and Captain Galton, R.E., are said to have been consulted in reference to the building. The intended building will consist of a centre and two pavilion wings, situate within ten minutes' walk from the station. The central block has a basement appropriated for the general offices. On the ground-floor is an entrance-hall, with a reception room for dispensary or out-patients; also a dispensary, a reception-room for the medical officers and managers, and a matron's room. On the first-floor are two special wards adapted for thirteen beds, proposed for reception of children and patients enabled to pay a weekly sum on the principle of the Mount Edgcumbe Ward at Plymouth. On the second-floor are two special wards, adapted for six beds, which it is proposed to appropriate as an eye infirmary. The fall of the ground has made it available for a basement under the western pavilion wing; part of this is appropriated for additional offices, and the remainder (all of which is above the surface) for a casualty ward, with eight beds. The first-floor of this wing will have sixteen beds for male patients, and the second-floor the same number of beds for female patients. The eastern pavilion wing has no basement, but contains two floors for sixteen beds each, to be appropriated, with a separate entrance-hall, staircase, and airing ground, exclusively as a female lock ward.

The new church lately erected at Kingstone (Stafford), to replace the old dilapidated parish church, was consecrated by the Bishop of Lichfield on the 21st ult. It is designed in the Early English style of Gothic architecture, and consists of a nave, apsidal chancel, south aisle (divided from the nave by an arcade of five arches), and a vestry; and at the east end of the aisle is a tower and spire to contain five bells; but at present the three removed from the former tower only are used. The benefice is in the gift of the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, and the church has been erected at his expense, with the aid of grants from the Lichfield Diocesan Society and the Incorporated Society for Building Churches. The walls are constructed of stone from the Hollington quarries, in random work; and the dressed stonework of the windows, doors, buttresses, and copings is from other beds of the same quarries. The floors are paved with Messrs. Minton's encaustic tiles, of varied designs; and under the floor of the vestry a crypt has been provided for warming the church. The open-timbered roofs, resting on richly-carved corbels, are covered on the outside with Staffordshire tiles, and the spire with circular and square tiles of a similar description.

The church of Offenham has been renovated and enlarged at a cost of about £1800. Besides a nave and chancel, the church now includes a north aisle and vestry, and the porch is on the south instead of the north side; although the tower arch is no longer obscured by an unsightly gallery, there are seventy-seven additional sittings, in all nearly 200. The old tower (at the west end) has been preserved. Early Decorated is the style adopted. The length of the nave is 45ft.; chancel, 25ft. 6in. The old tower opens into the church with a pointed arch, having a square-headed moulding, ornamented with the Tudor flower, and the spandrels filled with a carving like a ribbon pattern. A lady (whose name is unknown except to the incumbent) has presented a

window for the east end of the chancel; it is of three lights, with circular head. The large circle in the head of the window contains a representation of the Saviour walking on the Sea of Galilee, with the legend, "It is I: be not afraid." It was wished that this should be the prominent subject in the window, and hence the unusual shape of the head, where tracery would have otherwise been inserted. Below, and extending across the three lights, is represented the Feeding of the Five Thousand, the miracle which immediately preceded the above-named event. The lower compartments are occupied by the Last Supper, the Crucifixion, and the Breaking of Bread at Emmaus. The window was designed by the architect, as also were two smaller windows in the aisle, the one representing Moses and Joshua, this being a memorial to the late Captain Preedy, and the other containing the figure of Elias, the gift of the architect. The chancel has been laid with encaustic tiles. Oak stalls with carved ends are placed in the chancel, and the nave and aisle are filled with seats of stained deal. There is an alabaster pulpit, of an elongated graduated shape, supported by small shafts of red Devonshire marble, with carved caps.

The parish of St. Michael, Dundry, has been re-opened, after having been to a great extent rebuilt. The tower, which is a celebrated landmark—as, from a great height (being built on the summit of a high hill), it can be seen for a considerable distance out on the Atlantic—has been allowed to stand, and has been restored internally, and a new ringing loft provided. The church, which was in a ruinous state, has been entirely taken down and rebuilt on an extended scale. The Rev. D. Bloutflower, chaplain R.N., gave, it is said, £600 towards the rebuilding; and the remainder (except about £100, which has yet to be procured), has been raised by rate and by voluntary contributions. The cost entailed has been £1500. During the demolition of the old church some interesting relics were discovered. The ancient stone pulpit was found embedded in the wall; and a statue, 3ft. high, supposed to be a statue of St. Michael, much discoloured, was buried in plaster; some old coins were also picked up, among which was a Bath farthing of ancient date. The old church was supposed to have been erected in the twelfth or thirteenth century. A new aisle has been added on the south side, with piers and arches corresponding with the old ones on the north side, which have also been taken down and rebuilt. Such of the old windows as were in good character have also been repaired and reinserted in new walls, with a new east window in the chancel. The floor of the church has been raised 2ft. The roofs are open, and of red deal, stained and varnished, with carved ribs and principals, filled in with tracery, and supported on carved brackets, representing angels with different musical instruments. Open benches of pitch pine, varnished, have been substituted for the old sleeping boxes. The west gallery has been removed, and the fine tower archway restored and thrown open to the church. A new vestry has been built on the north side. The pulpit is octagonal, and of Bath stone, with red Devonshire marble detached shafts, and carved brackets representing two archangels. The roof of the chancel is polygonal, of red deal boarding, stained and varnished, with moulded ribs and bosses at intersection, the latter facsimiles of some old ones found in taking down the old roof. The font has been cleansed of innumerable coats of whitewash, and is placed near the south porch. A new organ has been placed at the east end of the north aisle, and the church warmed by Messrs. Haden's apparatus. The altar rails, brackets, and standards for candles, are of wrought iron and brass foliage.

Previous to the recent reopening of the Market Oneston Church, Lincolnshire, the gallery at the west end of the church against the tower was taken down, and the Norman arch thrown open; the door in the tower closed up, and a small two-light Second Pointed window inserted, the gallery in south transept swept away, so as to throw open the south transept window (Middle Pointed); a new Decorated window put in south transept in lieu of the old one, which was much mutilated by having all the cusps cut off; a new roof of oak over the south transept; the interior of the church refitted with pitch pine bench ends; a new pulpit and reading-desk

of oak, the former on a stone base; a new roof over porch, and the masons' work restored. The works, without the heating apparatus, will cost between £500 and £600.

The Rev. T. A. Maberly has issued notice, urging the necessity of erecting a new church at Hayward's Heath, Cuckfield, stating that the accommodation afforded in the school-room, which was never intended to be more than of a temporary character, is not sufficient; and that the time has come to extend it. He states that Mr. Sergison will give the site for the church, and he will himself subscribe £100 towards the building. The sum required, he says, will be £3,000; and as soon as that sum is promised it shall be commenced.

St. Mary's church, South Luffenham, was reopened last week, after having been closed about six months for repairs. The church consists of a chancel, nave, two aisles, a tower at the west end, and a south porch. The north aisle, which is the oldest part of the present structure, has Norman pillars, with rich capitals. The south aisles are early first Pointed, each capital being enriched with a band of the nail-head ornament. The chancel was repaired by the Rev. Dr. Scott, Master of Balliol, the late rector of the parish, about nine years ago, when a Decorated east window was placed there, Mr. Street being the architect. At the same time the chancel walls were repaired and the roof raised, by Messrs. Roberts, of Stamford. The alterations made lately consist mainly of a new arch cut through a block of masonry which had been built round the old staircase of the rood loft. The church has been re-seated with open benches of Memel pine, stained and varnished; a new circular pulpit of Clipsham stone has been erected, the old altar table has been enlarged and repaired, the chancel floor raised and laid with Minton's encaustic tiles, and the chancel supplied with oak fittings and prayer-desks. The bases of the pillars have been repaired, the tower arch thrown open, the walls of the church cleared of plaster and pointed.

The ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of a new church near the Tyne Docks, South Shields, was performed on Tuesday afternoon. The edifice, which is to be called St. Mary's Church, is built for the use of the seamen and others frequenting the Tyne Docks; and it will be the church of a new parish which has been formed by the division of the parish of Holy Trinity, South Shields. The church, which is in the Gothic style, was commenced in May last, and is now nearly ready for being covered in. It will be the largest in South Shields, except St. Hilda's, and will be 102ft. 6in. in length, 49ft. 4in. in width; the superficial area, exclusive of the area of the tower, being 5,862ft. It will have middle and side aisles, a vest or organ gallery, and 400 sittings are to be entirely free. The present plans leave the tower to be finished at a future time, but there is no doubt that funds will speedily be raised to complete the work. The subscriptions amount at the present time to £2,525; and it is calculated that to defray the cost of lighting, warming, enclosing the church, and finishing the tower, a total sum of £4,000 will be required, leaving about £1,500 yet to be obtained.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

GLOUCESTER PASCHAL CANDELABRUM AT THE BRISTOL EXHIBITION.

There has been going round the country papers the following account, which originally appeared in a Bristol newspaper. Before offering a comment thereon I will give the extract entire:—

"The above candelabrum has just been sent from the South Kensington Museum as an additional attraction to the exhibition at the Fine Arts Academy, Clifton. This renowned work, after the vicissitudes of centuries, now returns at length, in this city, to the episcopal diocese where it was originally produced. It was executed in the reign of our Henry I., surnamed Beauclerc, about the year 1115, by the command of Peter, then abbot of the nunnery or monastery of St. Peter, the site of the present Gloucester Cathedral. Dugdale, in his great work, says, 'The church of

the monastery having been rebuilt, it is easy to suppose that Abbot Peter would busy himself with the furniture, and our beautiful candlestick was one of the objects of art due to the devotion of himself and his 'gentle flock.' It appears that in less than a century later, this work, which was a marvel for the age in which it was produced, came into the treasury of the Cathedral of the city of Evreux, Normandy. Afterwards falling into neglect, it passed into a private family, and ultimately found its way into the famed collection of Prince Soltikoff. As a great and unique work of a remote period, as a national relic illustrative of English History, the Government authorities at South Kensington had long desired once more to reclaim this lost treasure to its native land. On the dispersion of the Soltikoff collection a few months since, in Paris, an opportunity fortunately occurred; and Mr. Robinson, the superintendent of the Art Museum at South Kensington, with a promptitude and tact so often brought by him to the service of art, has now once more made the Gloucester Candelabrum the possession of the English nation. Its value is supposed to be one thousand pounds.

"The material of this work is bronze, thickly gilt, with here and there pieces of silver inlaid in the manner of the Italian niello; the eyes of monsters, and some other points, filled with dark enamel. It was cast in three pieces, and the moulds appear to have been wrought with so much accuracy as to necessitate but little retouching from the graver. The intricacy of the design, and the elaboration of the detail must have presented no small difficulties of execution, and the work, making due allowance for the period of its construction, redounds to the honour of the early English artisan. The style of art will be recognised on comparison with other treasures in the Exhibition, as peculiar and marked in character. The amount of detail, and the interwoven ornamentation, would indicate Byzantine influence; the other elements, especially that of the grotesque, bespeak a northern origin, corresponding with Norman decorations and enrichments.

"The candelabrum, at the foot, and at the calixlike summit, has three sides, each somewhat corresponding to the others—with a variation. The form is graceful. Closer examination will show an infinity of detail; arabesque stems and foliage interwoven with human heads, figures, and fantastic animals. In this tangled mass, it is said, may be counted *nine men* and forty-two monsters struggling together, biting, and devouring one another.

"The whole is redeemed by a spiritual allegory. These monsters represent the wicked victims of vices personified. *The candle and candlestick*, on the other hand, were the fitting emblems of *light giving truth*, and "*the duty of lights*," says one of the three Latin inscriptions, "*is the practice of virtue*. *The luminous doctrines of the Gospel engages man to fly from the darkness of vice*." Accordingly this lesson is further enforced by the presence of the emblems of the four Evangelists, the *Angel*, the *Winged Bull*, the *Winged Lion*, and the *Eagle*, ranged around the stem, proclaiming good tidings of light and of truth to the four quarters of the earth, and dispelling from the world darkness and discord.

"Analogous ideas and subjects will suggest themselves in the realms of poetry, paintings, and architecture. The oft-repeated temptations of St. Anthony, the saint in the midst of hideous monsters, the gargoyles at the roofs of churches, driven out by the good spirits within, and the seven-fold *L'Inferno* of Dante given up to cruel monsters. These are all examples of that conflict of good with evil symbolised by the Gloucester candelabrum: '*the light shined in darkness, and the darkness comprehended it not*.'"

The italics are mine except in the last paragraph, where Dante's work is quoted. I have italicised these words for the purpose of drawing attention more prominently to them, believing that they are of great importance to all Royal Arch Masons, as showing the early knowledge of Arch Masonry in the Mediaeval Church. It is worthy of remark that this candelabrum has three sides: I presume a triangle. Amongst the men nine are to be counted, the proper number to constitute an Arch Chapter. The candle is too well known a symbol to need a remark. Not doubting the translations of the Latin inscriptions, it would have been more satisfactory if they had been quoted as they stand, but sufficient is to be found in the sentence to show certain Royal Arch principles. The emblems of the four evangelists are not so. Christian symbolism does not appoint these emblems in the manner indicated, but the Royal Arch Mason knows from whence they come and to what they allude. I must not be more explicit, but I think if a photograph could be obtained of this work of art it would add considerably to our knowledge of how far Masonry was understood at that time, for it is evident in the last words of the article, that as it was then the symbol of light and knowledge to the spectator, so it is now to those who

are not Royal Arch Masons, a mysterious allegory expressing great truths, but in their case only imperfectly comprehended for "*the light shined in darkness and darkness comprehended it not*."—MATTHEW COOKE.

THE LONGEST TENURE OF OFFICE BY A W.M.

What is longest tenure of office that the W.M. of a lodge has held?—C. N.—[Such a question is not easily answered. The Duke of Sussex was for many years W. M. of the lodge of Antiquity, and, being a Royal Prince, was empowered to appoint a Deputy W.M., which he did, and several well-known Masons served the latter office, but, in their case, they could not sit for more than two years at a time. Perhaps some of our readers may be able to furnish other instances within their own knowledge.]

PAST MASTER'S JEWEL.

Why is the 47th Theorem of the 1st Book of Euclid adopted as the jewel for a Past Master. Euclid says:—"In any right angled triangle, the square which is described upon the side subtending the right angle, is equal to the squares described upon the sides which contain the right angle." What has this to do with a Past Master that it should be devoted to him only?—S.S.

ANCIENT LANDMARKS.

What are the landmarks of the order?—Y.

HENRY O'BRIEN A MASON.

A correspondent enquired if Henry O'Brien, B.A., author of an essay *On the Round Towers of Ireland*, was a Mason. He introduced into that performance the seventh verse of the following song, which is of considerable antiquity and was very popular among the brethren. O'Brien generally had several copies of this hymn about him, and, on meeting with any of his antiquarian friends who were not Masons, was in the habit of thrusting it into their hands telling them that if they understood the mystic allusions it contained they would be in possession of a key which would unlock the pyramids of Egypt! The air to which it is sung is peculiar to it and of a solemn plaintive character:—

Come all you Freemasons that dwell around the globe,
That wear the badge of innocence, I mean the royal robe,
Which Noah he did wear when in the ark he stood,
When the world was destroyed by a deluging flood.

Noah he was virtuous in the sight of the Lord,
He loved a Freemason that kept the sacred word;
For he built the ark and he planted the first vine;
And now his soul in heaven like an angel doth shine.

Once I was blind, and could not see the light,
Then up to Jerusalem I took my flight,
I was led by the evangelist through a wilderness of care,
You may see by the sign and the badge that I wear.

On the thirteenth rose the ark, let us join hand in hand,
For the Lord spake to Moses by water and land,
Unto the pleasant river where by Eden it did run, (*Sic!*)
And Eve tempted Adam by the serpent of sin.

When I think of Moses it makes me to blush;
All on Mount Horeb where I saw the burning bush;
My shoes I'll throw off, and my staff I'll cast away,
And I'll wander like a pilgrim unto my dying day.

When I think of Aaron it makes me to weep,
Likewise of the Virgin Mary who lay at our Saviour's feet;
'Twas in the garden of Gethsemane where he had the bloody sweat;
Repent, my dearest brethren, before it is too late.

I thought I saw twelve dazzling lights, which put me in surprise,
And gazing all around me I heard a dismal noise;
The serpent passed by me, I fell unto the ground,
With great joy and comfort the secret word I found.

Some say it is lost, but surely it is found,
And so is our Saviour, as is known to all around;
Search all the scriptures o'er and there it will be shown
The tree that will not bear no fruit must be cut down.

Abraham was a man well beloved by the Lord,
He was true, as was found, to great Jehovah's word
He stretched forth his hand and took a knife to slay his son,
But an Angel appearing said, the Lord's will be done!

O, Abraham! O, Abraham! lay no hand upon the lad,
God sent him unto thee to make thy heart right-glad;
Thy seed shall increase like stars in the sky,
And thy soul into heaven like Gabriel shall fly.

O, never, O, never will I hear an orphan cry,
Nor yet a gentle virgin, until the day I die;
You wandering Jews, that travel the wide world round,
May knock at the door where truth is to be found.

Often 'gainst the Turks and infidels we fight,
To let the wondering world know we're in the right;
For in heaven there's a lodge, and St. Peter keeps the door,
And none can enter in but those that are pure.

St. Peter he opened, and so we entered in,
Into the holy seat, secure, which is all free from sin;
St. Peter he opened, and so we entered there,
And the glory of the temple no man can compare.

—EX. EX.

THE LILY AS AN EMBLEM.

Is the lily used as an emblem amongst Masons? It was one of the principal ornaments of Solomon's Temple.—P.A.
—[See Dr. Oliver's *Signs and Symbols*, page 107.]

WHEN EARTH'S FOUNDATION.

Who wrote the words of the hymn sung at the consecration of lodges, beginning—

"When earth's foundation first was laid,
By the Almighty Artist's hand,
'Twas then our perfect laws were made
Establish'd by his strict command."

—ARTHUR TRUELOVE.

LABOUR AND REFRESHMENT.

Did not the old lodges cease labour and go to refreshment in the middle of their work, similar to our system of calling off, and if that was their method, did they close the lodge and dine or sup afterwards, as we do?—CHANCY.—[In Scotland and in some places in England to the present day, the lodge is called off and light refreshment served in the lodge room.]

NOTES ON LITERATURE SCIENCE AND ART.

Dr. Challice, in his *Secret History of the Court of France under Louis XV.*, thus relates the presentation of the Chateau de Meudon to Madame de Pompadour:—"One fine day in the month of May, when the Marquise was driving from Sevres with the King to the Chateau de Meudon, where they were staying, to be in the vicinity of the works, she caught sight of a wooded height crowned by a heath. Having ascended, she clapped her hands, and with the spontaneousness of quick appreciation that was part of her artistic nature, cried out, 'Oh! the beautiful view!' This view extended over the Seine, St. Cloud, Versailles, and even to St. Germain's. The King marked her delight, and was not slow to execute a plan that placed the 'beautiful view' at her own disposal; and upon the upland heath there soon arose that fairy-palace, which was known, before the Revolution, as '*Belle Vue*.' It need not be said how, to do justice to the King's chivalric gift, the Marquise convoked the best of those architects, painters, decorators, and landscape-gardeners she had assembled in France. The King himself had never shown such enthusiasm in any work as in this he designed to her honour, and she as the *chef-d'œuvre* of his kingdom. The building commenced the 30th of June, 1748, and was finished, under royal auspices, in 1750. The interior of the chateau was wonderful for its marbles, pictures, and statues, its music-gallery, &c. When finished, the Marquise invited the King to visit her there. She prepared a *fête* for his reception."

The *Critic* remarks:—"Tom Paine's name has curiously cropped up again, and in such a manner as to do the author of *The Age of Reason* no discredit. A visitor at the South Kensington Museum, whom we have little difficulty in classing among the 'unco guid,' received a rude shock the other day, when, after contemplating for some minutes with much pleasure the features of an elderly gentleman of a peculiar benevolent cast of countenance, he referred to his catalogue. The murder was out at once. The benevolent-looking gentleman was no other than Tom Paine. Of course we need hardly say that, as soon as the visitor made this discovery, he

also found that he had read the lines of the face in the said portrait quite erroneously. Examined more closely, the benevolent smile was clearly cynical, and under the apparent frankness of countenance was cloaked an amount of artfulness more than Jesuitical. We need hardly say that the outraged visitor rushed hastily into the reading-room, purchased a sheet of note-paper and a stamp, and wrote forthwith to the editor of the *Record* newspaper, suggesting that the portrait should be instantly removed, and that of Mr. Spurgeon (painted by subscription) be placed in its stead. On investigation, however, the matter turns out to be as follows: Tom Paine's portrait was placed in the Museum of Patents at South Kensington (marked No. 10), because, amongst other things, he was the inventor of iron bridges and arched structures, he having caused to be wrought, as an experiment, a malleable iron arch of 33ft. 6in. span about the year 1790, which was subsequently used in the construction of the bridge over the Wear at Wearmouth. Thus Tom Paine's right to a place in the Museum of Patents was incontestably proved. It seems, too, a matter of doubt how far Mr. Spurgeon's portrait is admissible to the same room, seeing that he had not made any notable discovery, save, indeed, the way to attract overflowing congregations to his church, chapel, or tabernacle."

Sir Ralph Abercromby's first presentation at a levée is thus described by his son, the late James, Lord Dunfermline, in a recently-published life of the brave and honest soldier:—"When Sir Ralph returned to London he naturally presented himself on the first occasion at the King's levée. The attendance at levées was then so limited that the King walked about and spoke to those who were present in such order as he chose. Several times the King came very close to Sir Ralph, and always turned aside, so that Sir Ralph began to think that the King did not intend to notice him. At last, however, the King came and addressed these words to him: 'They have used you very ill in Ireland, and you are now going to Scotland, where they will know how to respect you, and treat you better.' When the King retired into his closet, he said to one of his ministers, 'I watched my opportunity, when certain Irish politicians were within hearing, and I took good care that they should be in no doubt as to my opinion of Sir Ralph and his conduct.'"

Mr. F. G. Delamotte's *Medieval Alphabets and Initials for Illuminators*, just published, contains an introduction by Mr. J. Willis Brooks, who says:—"There is a normal or typical form for every letter—a form which may be turned and twisted, expanded, contracted, ornamented, and enriched in fifty different ways, but which is still, in essence and principle, the same. This ought to be more especially borne in mind in a work like the present, treating chiefly of initials. Were this principle more kept in view by modern illuminators we should not have the windows of some artists' colourmen's shops disfigured by dislocated productions at which common sense revolts and good taste shudders, and which remind one strongly of the remarkable composition introduced by the country parish clerk as 'an hymn of mine own composing.' The right way to acquire an acquaintance with this normal or typical form of each letter is to collate and compare specimens taken from different periods from the tenth to the fifteenth century. As, however, such a process involves, in many instances, a greater devotion of time and attention than is at every one's disposal, care has been taken in the present work to select that class of character which tends most directly to develop the normal form. At the same time an endeavour has been made to choose with judgment. With all our respect for mediæval taste, we utterly repudiate the not uncommon theory, that whatever is old is good. There were faults of drawing and colour in old days as now, and the facile daubers of the nineteenth century had their counterparts in the vulgar, flashy, tasteless spoilers of good vellum in the sixteenth. For our selection our own taste is responsible. In the large majority of instances the letters have been literally copied from works of ascertained authority; in some, the principles deduced from many years' study of such works have been made the basis of original design. The specimens selected begin with the ninth and tenth centuries, when it seems to have been more the custom to deal with the initial letter itself, and, whilst preserving its normal form, to expand, prolong, and develop it into graceful convolutions of foliage or other ornamentation, treated conventionally. As we progress, it will be found that the letter gradually resumes its simplicity of form, and that the ornamentation is bestowed on its background, or *entourage*. It will be observed that as early as the fourteenth century the initial had begun to assume the character of a simple outline laid on a rich background, rather than that of a form contorted and developed so as to become in itself an ornament. From this date down to the close of the era of true art in illumination the tendency appears to have been steadily in this direction, though occasional outbreaks of excellent—not to say exquisite—taste are still from time to time to be detected, especially in the Italian school, which bestows an

artistic composition on the initial itself; some specimens of such treatment will be found in our illustrations. The illustrations for the most part speak for themselves; the earlier ones will be found to exhibit all that strength and freedom of outline, combined with an almost quaint and very characteristic treatment, which distinguish the Anglo-Saxon era in England and the Caroline in France. They will be found useful studies to beginners, whose hands have hardly acquired the lightness and delicacy of touch necessary for the styles of later periods."

Mr. George Catlin, whose *Notes of Travels amongst the North American Indians, &c.*, made him a world-wide reputation, has now produced "a book for youth," entitled *Life amongst the Indians*, in which he thus relates his first sight of a Red Indian:—"Just at this cool moment the deer came gliding through the bushes and into the lick again, much nearer than before. One little chill began; but by gritting my teeth tight together, I succeeded in getting a more steady aim, when—bang! went the crack and the flash of a rifle, a little to the left of me! and the deer, bounding a few rods from the pool on to the left of an elevated bank, and tumbling upon the ground quite dead, showed me that I was too late!—My head and the breech of my rifle were instantly lowered a little more behind my stone breastwork, and then, oh, horrid! what I had never seen before, nor ever dreamt of seeing in that place—the tall and graceful form, but half bent forward, as he pushed his red and naked shoulders and drew himself over the logs and through the bushes, of a huge Indian! trailing his rifle in his left hand, and drawing a large knife with the other, from its sheath in the hollow of his back, as he advanced to the carcass of the deer, which had fallen much nearer to me than it was when it was shot! His rifle he leaned against a tree, and the blade of his bloody knife, which he had drawn across the neck of the deer, he clenched between his teeth, while he suspended the animal by the hind legs from the limb of a tree to let it bleed! 'Oh, horrid! horrid!—what—what a fate is mine! what am I to do?' No length of life could ever erase from my recollection the impression which this singular and unexpected scene made upon my infant mind, or the ease, the composure, and grace, with which this phantom seated himself upon the trunk of a large and fallen tree, wiping his huge knife upon the moss and laying it by his side, and drawing from his pouch his flint and steel, and spunk, with which he lit his pipe, and from which it seemed, in a few moments, as if he was sending up thanks to the Great Spirit, in the blue clouds of smoke that were curling around him. Who will ever imagine that the thoughts that were passing through my youthful brain in these exciting moments; for here was before me, the first time in my life, the living figure of a Red Indian! 'If he sees me, I'm lost; he will scalp me and devour me, and my dear mother will never know what became of me.' From the crack of that rifle, however, I had not another chill, nor a shiver; my feeling now was no longer the ebullition of childish anxiety, but the awfully flat and stupid one of dread and fear; and every muscle was quiet. Here was 'perhaps death in a moment' before me. My eyeballs, which seemed elongated as though they were reaching halfway to him, were too tightly strained to tremble, and I could then have aimed at the devil himself without a tremor. An instant thought came to me, when his naked back and shoulders were turned towards me: 'My rifle is levelled, and I am perfectly cool; a bullet would put an end to all my fears.' And a better one followed when he turned gently round and moved his piercing black eyes over and about the ledge where I was sitting, and the blue streams were curling upwards from his mouth and his nostrils, for I saw then (though a child), in the momentary glance of that face, what *infant* human nature could not fail to see, and none but *human* nature could express. I saw *humanity*. His pipe burned out; the deer, with its fore and hind legs tied together, and slung upon his back, and taking his rifle in his hand, he silently and quietly disappeared in the dusky forest, which at this time was taking the gloom of approaching night."

A very appropriate memorial of the estimation in which the parishioners of Thirsk held their late parish clerk has just been erected in the form of a stained glass window in the fine old Gothic church where he had officiated for forty years.

In the *Marvels of Pond Life*, by Mr. Henry J. Slack, F.G.S., just published, is the following description of *Floscularia ornata*, a "tubicular rotifer," to be found in English ponds on fine leaved water-weed:—"Knowing that the Floscules live in transparent gelatinous tubes, such an object was carefully looked for; but in this instance, as is not uncommon, it was perfectly free from extraneous matter, and possessed nearly the same refractive power as the water, so that displaying it to advantage required some little trouble in the way of careful focussing, and many experiments as to

the best angle at which the mirror should be turned to direct the light. When all was accomplished, it was seen that the Floscule had her abode in a clear transparent cylinder, like a thin confectioner's jar, which she did not touch except at the bottom, to which her foot was attached. Lying beside her in the bottle were three large eggs, and the slightest shock given to the table induced her to draw back in evident alarm. Immediately afterwards she slowly protruded a dense bunch of the fine long hairs, which quivered in the light, and shone with a delicate bluish green lustre, here and there varied by opaline tints. The hairs were thrust out in a mass somewhat after the mode in which the old-fashioned telescope hearth-brooms were made to put forth their bristles. As soon as they were completely everted, together with the upper portion of the Floscule, six lobes gradually separated, causing the hairs to fall on all sides in a graceful shower, and when the process was complete they remained perfectly motionless, in six hollow fan-shaped tufts, one being attached to each lobe. Some internal ciliary action, quite distinct from the hairs, and which has never been precisely understood, caused gentle currents to flow towards the mouth in the middle of the lobes, and from the motion of the gizzard, imperfectly seen through the integument, and from the rapid filling of the stomach with particles of all hues, it was plain that captivity had not destroyed the Floscule's appetite, and that the drop of water in the live-box contained a good supply of food."

God and Man is the title of a volume of poems recently issued by an anonymous author. Hope being a cardinal Masonic virtue, the following passage may interest our readers:—

"Hope is the lamp of mercy; far above,
From heaven's high tower, she sheds her faithful light,
To guide earth's 'nighted wanderers on their road;
Oh, by her radiance seek the narrow way,
Or e'er the curtains of her window, closed,
Shut out the world to darkness, death, despair—
In that dread outer darkness there shall be
Weeping and wailing, gnashing of fierce teeth,
And rending groans from agony's wrung heart.
When the dead everlasting morn shall rise—
Shall from its glorious bed burst blinding forth,
And down the dazzled clouds with radiant flood
Stream on the naked secrets of all hearts,
Dragging the marbled, prostrate criminal,
Conscience-condemned, to justice and to judgment,
Who will choose then what he has chosen now?"

The office of Conservator of the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons of England is now vacant.

A course of twenty lectures on Political Economy has just been commenced by Professor Waley, at University College, London.

Mr. James A. Wade, in his newly-published *History of Melrose*, informs us, that at the latter part of the thirteenth century, "The convent possessed more than one hundred saddle horses, and as many more for agricultural and other purposes, and threefold the number of both in outlying mares and foals. The monks had two thousand acres of arable land, and one thousand acres of meadow in cultivation, under their own surveillance. They had also fifteen thousand acres of forest, common, and pasturage lands. They had herdsmen, hinds, and labourers, at hired rates from a penny to twopence per day, besides a numerous staff of lay brethren. They had two hundred cows, three thousand head of oxen, eighty bulls, nearly as many calves under one year old, and upwards of twenty thousand sheep. They had also deer, swine, capons, and other poultry. At this time they bought, sold, and exchanged lands. They advanced money by way of mortgage, on the security of lands or buildings. They bestowed lands on their brotherhood or those of the same order. They had access, free of tollage and dues, to markets all over the kingdom. They bred, bought, and sold horses, cows, oxen, sheep, and pigs. They sold fish, fruit, and grain of all kinds. They exported from Berwick twenty thousand fleeces of wool, or three thousand sacks, in a single year, the produce of their own flocks. They made butter and cheese, and sold both. They had fishings in the principal rivers, and even on the sea-coast. They had potteries and tile-works, public mills and ovens or bake-houses; church livings and benefices in all directions. They had forty granges and herd-houses situated in various localities: private property in distant counties." The following also is of interest:—"The three monasteries of Melros, Melrose, and Dryburgh were built of red sandstone obtained in the district, known in ancient times as the quarry of Dryburgh. Its chief peculiarity was, that it cut soft in the bosom of the strata, but afterwards, on exposure to the atmosphere, became so hard (not brittle), as to preserve indelibly the severe and artistic lines of the sculptor's chisel, and even now exhibits but few traces of decomposition, after the lapse of centuries. The ancient quarry is no longer worked. In the

tenth century the wages for lifting this stone was only one penny per man per diem. The Pinnacle and Eildon quarries now supply the neighbourhood."

The death of Mrs. Pye, relict of the late Henry Pye, reminds the world of a former poet-laureate, who was so little of a poet that his very name is almost forgotten.

The *Westminster Review* thus hits the selfishness which is currently taught in the present day:—"If there is one thing more certain than another, it is, that the large majority of mankind must always live by the labour of their hands. In the eyes, therefore, of the political philosopher, whatever concerns labour is of paramount importance. To give the labouring class such habits and such opportunities as may tend to raise it as a whole, is the object he has most at heart. Increased production, extended commerce, political liberty, the progress of science, he regards with indifference if they have not this tendency. For without pretending to assign any limits to human progress in a far-distant future, we must sorrowfully admit that the lot of the working man, as far as we see at present, cannot but be one of comparative hardship. It is as a workman that he must be improved—not as something else. One would have thought that the educated class, whose position and habits of thought are most favourable to broad and general views, would have been the first to recognise this truth; while the thoughtful working man, who is most dissatisfied with his lot, might have been expected to be most individual in his views, most bent on extricating himself from the struggling mass, careless what might become of his fellows. The reverse is the fact. The upper classes—the so-called philanthropists most actively of all—preach this selfish doctrine to him; but he stops his ears. Get on in the world—this is their first and great commandment. It is as though Davy, instead of inventing the safety lamp, had persuaded a miner here and there to take to some occupation in the upper air. Who are the heroes of Dr. Smiles and the *British Workman*? 'Self-made men,' as the cant phrase is, men who have raised themselves from the position of labourers to that of capitalists. Such are the models proposed to the proletariat for his imitation! Such is the out-look offered him from his painful drudgery! Now, the best working men see the combined folly and meanness of such counsel as this. The reply—It is a mockery to tell us of this or that individual who has risen from indigence to wealth. The Government which amuses its miserable subjects with lotteries, is thought to have reached the lowest depth of baseness. This is a lottery which you offer us, and one with remarkably few prizes. All of us have known hundreds of steady, industrious men, who have tried in vain to better themselves in life. Besides, you, the respectable classes, frequently find the pushing, money-making men, deficient, if not in honesty, yet in those finer qualities which command respect and affection. So do we. Why should you set such a type before us as a model, when you sneer at it in your own rank of life? But further than this, if you overlook the interests of society, we do not. We, the vast majority of the community, are overworked and underpaid, and are otherwise in a very unsatisfactory state. How are we the better—how is society the better, because one of our number has become a capitalist? You have still before you the miserable, discontented mass, as great a difficulty and scandal as before."

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.

"BRO. G. M. TWEDDELL AND FREEMASONRY IN AMERICA."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

"Why, Hal, 'tis my vocation, Hal; 'tis no sin for a man to labour in his vocation."—*Henry IV.*, Part I., Act I., scene 2nd.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The words of Falstaff came to my mind when I read the letter of H.N., under the above head, at page 329 of your Magazine; and I also thought of Falstaff's men in buff, when I found your correspondent charging me with having "twice attacked him" for his assertion that "Masonry in America is, at this time, virtually defunct." I shall briefly reply to your correspondent, after which I shall cease to appear in your "Correspondence" until I can express a difference of opinion with Masons with the same toleration as I have been accustomed to receive amongst the outer world, who are not Masons. First, then, dear Sir and Brother, I did not attack H.M. twice, and I fancy the imagination that can transform my communica-

tion at page 311 into an attack, must be a fertile one. Secondly, the "attack," if such it must be considered, which I *did* make at page 175, was not on H.M., but on "the startling statement" which he had been weak enough to make, of which I then said: "This strange assertion appears to me so utterly opposed to the great Masonic virtue, truth, that I charitably hope the writer, if he be a Freemason, has not expressed what he meant to have done." Now, however, that he has returned to the attack, and imputed base motives to the whole American brotherhood, and to myself for simply defending, as in duty bound, the characters of my absent brother Master Masons, the same as though they were present, the only course left me is to withdraw the charitable hope which I had expressed concerning him.

I will pass by the assertions your correspondent has given expression to, that am making Masonic capital out of it, as utterly unworthy of reply. I remember, one Saturday afternoon, accompanying my friend Thomas Wright, the prison philanthropist, through the cells of the New Bailey at Salford. On returning at night by the train, to the Industrial School in which I was then engaged, I was speaking to an acquaintance of the assiduity with which my friend had devoted himself through life to his benevolent labours, when another person in the carriage, who had been listening to the conversation, very innocently asked—"But how does he make it pay?" He had no idea of martyrs dying at the stake for conscience sake; of patriots enduring years of exile or of slavery for their country's redemption; of John Howards, and Mrs. Frys, and Thomas Wrights, devoting their lives to visiting and endeavouring to benefit the fallen brothers and sisters of the human race when in prison; and it needed but few questions to draw from him sufficient evidence to prove that *his* highest conception of good was "getting on in the world." But from us Masons, who, before we were allowed to take upon ourselves our solemn obligations, were obliged solemnly to declare that we "are prompted to solicit those privileges from a favourable opinion preconceived of the institution, a general desire of knowledge, and a sincere wish to render ourselves more extensively serviceable to our fellow-creatures!"—from us, who are taught to overlook all differences of creed, country, and party, in one common brotherhood; for us, last of all men, ought uncharitable surmisings and unkind speeches and letters to spring. I am sorry, therefore, that your correspondent's letter should breathe throughout the spirit which it does; and I would not have condescended to answer it, had he not charged me with having done him an injustice in not making sufficient allowance for the word "virtually."

Now, dear sir and brother, I cannot see how this mends his position. Better, by far, that Freemasonry was totally defunct, if such a thing were possible, than that it should be virtually so. H.N. kindly treats me to Dr. Johnson's definition of the word. I am obliged to him for doing so; I have great respect for Dr. Johnson for the noble manner in which he produced that dictionary without the Chester-fields of the day. But if it be not heresy (and it really does seem very dangerous to hazard an opinion in your pages), I think Walker's definition is a better, because a plainer, one than good old Johnson's; and Walker defines virtually to mean "In effect, though not formally." If, then, Freemasonry in America be "virtually defunct," it is the same with our American brethren as with those false servants of God mentioned by St. Paul, in the Second Epistle to Timothy, who, instead of being "vessels unto honour, sanctified and meet to the Master's use and prepared unto every good work," are "lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affections, truce-breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God, having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof." If our American brethren are such-like persons as these, then is our holy Craft "virtually defunct" amongst them, however they may play with its glorious symbols and bedeck themselves with its trappings. But if, as the letter from our New York brother eloquently affirms, "at no previous time has Masonry been in so flourishing a condition in America as at present, nor were ever the sublime principles which it inculcates more sincerely practised than

at this time, when the country is plunged into the midst of a civil war, and the hands of brethren, North and South, wield the sword instead of the trowel," if, as our gifted brother writes, "Not a day passes but some instance is brought to my notice where the remembrance of 'that hieroglyphic bright, which none but Craftsmen ever saw,' has conduced to lighten the evils and horrors of war," if this be true, and time will prove whether it be "all bosh" or not, then, though the communication between state and state may be for a time unfortunately interrupted; though never a lodge throughout the whole of America should be able to open and close for years; though brother may be called upon to take arms against brother, as in the whole of our wars they were compelled to do—a thousand proofs will be given that Masonry still lives in the hearts of the Craftsmen and is not confined to the lodge-room, any more than religion is to the synagogue, the church, or the mosque. When our brethren of a past age laid the foundations of that great Republic to whose fate no true Mason can be for a moment indifferent, English Masons in the army and navy fought against them, and no one ever thought of asserting that "Masonry was virtually defunct" on either side; for the uplifted sword was sheathed and the pointed bayonet turned aside at the Masonic signal. And so will it turn out, even in the present struggle; there, as here, some will be found false to an obligation they are incapable of keeping, and ought never to have been trusted with; for it is not every man who can, even if initiated, become a Freemason in my sense of the term. But when the storms of war are once more hushed, and there is calm sufficient for our American brethren to speak and write their experiences—

—“Of most disastrous chances,
Of moving accidents by flood and fields,
Of hair breath 'scapes i' the imminent deadly breach,”

and of all those horrors which war brings upon mankind; then will it be found whether H.N. or myself have been in error with regard to American Masonry. Whether I view the present juncture from a Northern or Southern, a Federal, or a Confederate point of view, I can see higher objects for our brethren engaging in the strife than the illogical reasoning, or rather unreasoning, of H.N. that "blood seems to be the only aim and end of both sides." The savages who murdered Captain Cook, and are said to have eaten him, had higher aims!

Your correspondent asserts that I have "lugged in neck and shoulders," the extract from the letter "to gratify" my own "antagonism against the higher degrees." I fear he judges of the motives that actuate me by those which move himself; as we say in Cleveland, "he measures my poke by his own sack." I can assure you, dear Sir and Brother, that had the letter not thanked me for my answer to H.N., and had it praised the "higher degrees" instead of disparaging them, I should have communicated it just the same. You can best judge of the truth of my assertion when I state, that since I became a Mason I have been in the regular habit, as a literary man, of communicating to the Magazine everything that I met with in my readings that might be likely to particularly interest my brother Craftsmen. "'Tis my vocation," as Falstaff says, "it is no sin for a man to labour in his vocation." For the future, whatever letters and papers I may receive on Masonic matters, I shall not communicate them to be vilified for my pains. I thought I was doing both the Magazine and its readers a kindness.

I shall carefully preserve H. N.'s insinuation about the cooking up of "a sensation Masonic book," and not forget to reproduce it on a future occasion, with the other beautiful illustrations of Masonry which it has been my fortune occasionally to meet with. It may possibly preserve others from meeting with the same treatment; but when I do want to produce (or, as your correspondent elegantly expresses it), to cook up "a sensation Masonic book," I will not cross the Atlantic to do it. I will find no lack of materials ready for the work at home.

Though I blame you, Bro. Editor, for inserting letters imputing evil motives to those who differ in opinion from the writers, yet I freely give you credit for having done so merely from a wish to afford every member of our widely-spread fraternity a full opportunity of stating his views. For myself, I have neither time nor inclination to engage in

paper wars where abuse is substituted for argument, and "Masonry is virtually defunct." I have other and higher objects for my pen. I have long thought of writing a history of our beloved Craft in the style of my book on "*Shakespeare, his Times and Contemporaries*." Such a work will require the labour of years to collect the necessary materials, and to arrange them as in the work I have named. To it I shall devote the labour of my leisure hours for years to come, instead of fretting away over the puny disputes in which some of your correspondents would engage me. Wishing every prosperity to THE MAGAZINE, its conductors, and readers, and trusting they will excuse my trespassing on their space, I sign myself for the last time in your correspondents' columns,

Very fraternally yours,
GEORGE MARKHAM TWEDDELL.

Stokesley, Yorkshire, November 5th, 1861.

[With the above we close the correspondence; but we cannot do so without, with all deference to Bro. Tweddell, expressing our conviction, founded on very many letters from the most distinguished brethren in the United States, that for the present Masonry is virtually extinct in those states, and the number of brethren, hailing from Grand Lodges of the Union, at present in London seeking assistance from their English brethren goes far to prove it. In conclusion we would recommend Bro. Tweddell not to devote his time to preparing a history of Freemasonry until he is far above the wants which require to be supplied by the sweat of the brow.]

PROPOSED MASONIC HALL AT BRIGHTON.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—In 1859, the Brighton Masons seemed really alive to the importance of a Hall, as the following report, then presented by the joint Committee, plainly shows. Permit me to ask through your Journal, if the proposal is abandoned, or if there is a probability of their meeting shortly?

Yours fraternally,
ARGUS.

Nov. 5, 1861.

At a Meeting held at the Town Hall, on Thursday, the 20th day of October, 1859, V.W. Bro. Henry Verrall, Prov. G. Registrar in the chair, it was

Resolved—That it is desirable that steps be taken for the erection of a Masonic Hall in this town.

The joint Committee arrived at this determination for the following reasons:—

1. The precarious and uncertain tenure of the rooms at present used by the lodges and chapters of the town.
2. The more certain attainment of that privacy essential to the preservation of Masonic secrets, and the observance of that proper decorum and due solemnity in the working of the various ceremonies in Freemasonry, affording, as they do, some of the best lessons to the initiate, upon whom it is desirable that a forcible and lasting impression should be made.
3. The centralisation of all Masonic influence, where members of the Craft may assemble for the purposes of instruction or the society of their brethren.
4. The formation of a Masonic library and a museum for the reception of objects possessing interest to the Craft.
5. The Freemasons of Brighton will possess their own distinctive place of resort, and no longer remain open to the imputation of being without a Masonic Hall. Moreover, they will remove all grounds for the prejudice which many now entertain against Freemasonry by its necessary association with taverns and public-houses.
6. The annual income which would result from the use of the Hall, estimated upon the present expense of the lodges and chapters for the hire of rooms, would suffice, at no distant period, to reimburse the outlay upon the building, and, as a happy consequence thereon, the funds of each lodge and chapter disposable for charitable purposes would be increased.
7. That the building may be constructed in such manner as to afford facilities in itself for supplying the banquets of the lodges and chapters in a suitable and appropriate manner.

The joint Committee further resolved—That this Committee are of opinion that if the lodges and chapters adopt the above resolutions there will be no difficulty in obtaining the requisite funds for effecting the object. And the joint Committee are strongly of opinion that the Hall, if built, should be devoted exclusively to Masonic purposes.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

The Prov. Grand Lodge of Warwickshire is appointed to be held on the 27th inst., in Birmingham—in connection with the Faithful Lodge (No. 695)—when the jewels voted by the Prov. Grand Lodge to Bro. Chas. W. Mington, D. Prov. G.M., will be presented by the R.W. Prov. G.M. The brethren are to attend divine service in St. Philip's Church.

The annual festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement is appointed to take place on the 29th inst., when our R.W. Bro. Viscount Holmesdale, M.P., Prov. G.M. for Kent, has consented to preside.

The Rev. G. J. Gill the master, and Mrs. Gill the matron of the Boys' School having resigned their appointments, the Committee have elected Mr. Fred. Russell, B.A. of Cambridge, second master of the Grammar School at Brentford, and Mrs. Russell, to succeed them.

METROPOLITAN.

NEPTUNE LODGE (No. 22).—The regular meeting of this long established lodge, held on Thursday, October 31st, at Radley's Hotel, was well attended. Bro. Alfred Pratt, the W.M., and his Officers being in attendance, the lodge was opened, and Bros. J. H. Lilley, C. Gould, and F. How were raised to the third degree. Bro. J. Dyer was then passed to the degree of F.C., and Messrs. Joseph Howard and George Fredrick Masterman initiated. A petition from a former member of the lodge for assistance was responded to by a grant from the funds, and a subscription to the Boy's School was also voted. The W.M. then stated that during the recess he had devoted his leisure to a research into the history of the lodge; the records were, he regretted, but meagre, as the result of his investigation would show. The warrant was issued in July, 1759, but by the records it appeared that the lodge was in existence in 1753, six years before the date of the warrant. The Neptune Lodge, like every other institution, had passed through many trials and difficulties, and the institution of Masonry itself at the time mentioned, and indeed long after, was subjected to much difficulty by the schism that prevailed between the two bodies termed the Ancient and Modern Masons. At its earlier period the members of the lodge appeared to have been working men or mechanics. In 1757 the fee for initiation was 25s., which, a few years afterwards, was raised to 32s. 6d. The bye-laws of this period enacted that no one who was not in respectable circumstances and able to earn an honest livelihood was admissible. To show that coercion was necessary, there were fines for offences against good behaviour, that no member should come disguised in liquor; swearing was punishable by fine, and one member who had been fined and refused to pay, was ejected, and it is recorded he swore again. Two degrees were occasionally given on the same evening, but there was no records of the whole three having been conferred on the same night. It would appear that the members were not of the wealthy class, for it is recorded as an uncommon event that one member "paid his whole subscription at once, and stood a five shilling bowl of punch." Charitable donations—although but of small amount—were mentioned, and on one occasion the entire contents of the charity box four shillings and two pence was awarded to a distressed brother. The lodge appeared to have been in abeyance for a considerable period, until the year 1849, when the warrant was discovered by Bro. Muggeridge to be in the possession of a Bro. Cook. Measures were adopted to resuscitate the lodge, which was effected by the co-operation of Bro. Osborne, Townsend, Holden, Partridge, Sturch, Wilcox, Clark, and Goodwin. To Bro. Muggeridge, especially, the lodge was indebted for his zealous aid and instruction in bringing it to the high position it holds in the Craft. Bro. Pratt, in his review introduced several judicious remarks on the institution and compared the

present with the Freemasonry of the past, and enforced the necessity of each and all the Brethren sustaining in his own person the character of the lodge. A vote of thanks to the W.M., moved by Bro. Farren, P.M., and seconded by Bro. Wilcox, was carried by acclamation. The W.M. having acknowledged the compliment, the lodge was closed. The banquet which followed was attended by forty brethren. In acknowledging the health of the visitors, Bro. Masterman, P.M. 11, said that the satisfaction of that evening would never be forgotten, as his own brother, who in a few days would leave his native land for South America, had by the Neptune Lodge received the Light of Masonry, and he had been deeply impressed by the admirable manner of the W.M. The health of the W.M. was proposed by Bro. Farren, P.M., who referred to Bro. Pratt's admirable and correct manner of conducting the business, and also on his historic memoir of the lodge. The W.M. in responding, said he must repeat what he had said before, that whatever merit he was supposed to possess, for it he was indebted to Bro. Muggeridge.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE LODGE (No. 1003).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich, on Wednesday, the 6th instant. There were present Bros. Kincaid, W.M., Thompson, S.W., Hassall, J.W., *pro tem.* Colonel Clerk, and Carter, P.M.'s, Laird, Treas., Boddy, Sec., Farnfield, S.D., Little, J.D., and Major Field, I.G. Bros. General Tulloh, Capt. Harris, Bailey, Taylor, Lyons, Matthew Cooke, Church, Blanchard, and other members, were in attendance. The visitors were Bros. Samuel Hill, P.M. 955, Page, S.W. 1002, Lodge, 13, and Bentham, 593. Bro. Carter, jun., was passed, and Mr. Hare initiated. By unanimous vote of the lodge the day of meeting, which was found to clash with Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, was altered to the first Tuesday in the month. The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to Bro. De Grey's, Freemasons' Tavern, and partook of refreshment, spending the evening in that pleasant intercourse of friendly feeling which is so eminently one of the charms of the Woolwich meetings. The working was good, the refreshment capital, and the brotherly fellowship displayed beyond all praise.

PROVINCIAL.

DEVONSHIRE.

DARTMOUTH.—*Hauley Lodge* (No. 1099).—This lodge met last Thursday evening (still under dispensation), under the presidency of Bro. H. Bridges, P.G.S.B., D. Prov. G.M. Somerset, &c., who is the W.M. named in the warrant. Owing to the delay in meeting—a twelvemonth having elapsed—only a few brethren were present; but a very instructive evening was spent. Bro. Henry Winsor was passed, and Bro. Way raised. The arrangements for working these degrees in the new lodge room, produced an excellent effect, and were pronounced highly satisfactory by the experienced W.M. The little lodge, with its connecting arrangements, is quite a tit bit, and will repay any brother the trouble of a visit. It closely adjoins the town church, and has been fitted with very great care, in a novel mode, at great cost.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

HINCKLEY.—*Knights of Malta Lodge* (No. 58).—The first meeting of this lodge after the summer recess was held at the Town-hall, on Wednesday, the 30th ult., on which occasion the D. Prov. G.M. (Bro. Kelly) paid a visit to the lodge, accompanied by Bros. Pottifer and Gibson, P.M.'s of St. John's Lodge (No. 348) Leicester, and P. Prov. G.W.'s, and presided during the proceedings of the day. The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting in July, including the election of the W.M., having been read and confirmed, a F.C.'s lodge was opened, and Bro. John Atkins, the W.M., having been presented to the D. Prov. G.M., he was in ancient form installed into the chair of the lodge. Bro. J. S. Cotterell, the senior P.M., was elected Treasurer, and the following brethren were appointed and invested as the officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Charles Watson, S.W.; Thos. Goudby, J.W.; Samuel Preston, Sec.; T. Worthington Clarke, S.D.; Samuel Davis, J.D.; J. Marshall Goude, I.G.; George Clarke, Tyler. The business of the lodge being completed, the brethren adjourned to the George Hotel, where an excellent banquet was provided. After the cloth was removed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. The thanks of the brethren were warmly expressed to the D. Prov. G.M. for his visit, and for his former services in the revival of the Lodge, which is now in a prosperous state.

NORFOLK.

THE NEW MASONIC HALL.

The first meeting of a lodge at the assembly rooms since they were purchased as a Masonic Hall, by Bro. B. Bond Cabbell, Prov. G.M., was held on Thursday evening, the 31st ult., when the Cabbell Lodge, (No. 1109), held its usual monthly meeting there under the presidency of Bro. G. W. Minns, W.M. The interest of the occasion attracted a numerous attendance of the members and of visitors from other lodges. Bro. J. Worman, was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, the first raising in the new Hall. Another brother was passed to the second degree, and the lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned for refreshment to the card-room. The provision made by Bro. Woods, the keeper of the rooms, showed that there is no need for the brethren to apprehend, under the new régime, any curtailment of the convivial *agrémens* which they enjoyed when they met at a tavern.—After the principal loyal and Masonic toasts had been duly honoured, the W.M., Bro. MINNS, proposed "The health of the R.W. Prov.G.M., of Norfolk. Bro. B. Bond Cabbell," to whom the lodges of the city of Norwich were so much indebted for having enabled them to remove from inns, by munificently purchasing these premises for their accommodation.—Bro. MINNS, said he had always believed that there was a sacred character attaching to a lodge which rendered it unbecoming for it to meet at an inn (hear, hear), and he believed this day would inaugurate a new era in Masonry in Norwich, not only as regarded Masonry itself, but with respect to the opinion entertained of the craft by the outer world. (Applause). The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm, with the usual Masonic honours.—The W.M., then proposed "The Health of the Prov. Grand Officers, of Norfolk, cloupled with the name of Bro. A. F. Morgan, Prov. J.G.W.," who, in responding, referred to the movement set on foot a year ago by the Masonic Hall Committee, for procuring accommodation for the lodges of the city, and the difficulty which the Committee encountered in carrying out its project of purchasing these rooms as a Masonic Hall. Bro. Bond Cabbell had stepped in with his characteristic munificence, and solved those difficulties at once by purchasing the building. (Cheers.) The brethren were under a deep debt of gratitude to that generous brother for conferring such a service on the Order; and they were also under a debt of gratitude to the Great Architect of the Universe for having given ample means to a brother who had so large a heart, and for having prompted that heart to so kind and graceful an act. (Cheers.) Bro. Morgan congratulated Bro. Minns on being the first Master to hold a lodge in the building, and expressed a hope that from the foundation laid that evening might be raised a superstructure perfect in all its parts, and honorable to its builder. (Applause.) He trusted, with Bro. Minns, that this might be a new epoch in Masonry, and that the brethren would be stimulated to increased efforts, and that the bonds of brotherhood would be drawn still closer under the new system, and that if there had been any such thing as jealousy between lodge and lodge—of which he was not aware—all such feelings would be wiped out and obliterated. He hoped also that the brethren would show to the world that it was only their ceremonies that they kept secret, but that they would exhibit everywhere those elevated principles of morality of which those ceremonies were merely symbols and illustrations, and that the world would see in the conduct of Masons to one another and to those who did not belong to the Order, that they had in view something nobler than the pothouse revelry which some had imagined, mainly from the circumstance of their meeting at inns, to be one of the great ends of their meetings. Bro. Morgan concluded by proposing the health of Bro. Minns, the W.M., who, he observed, was not only respected among the brethren as a very old Mason, but was respected by all his fellow-citizens for his earnestness, integrity, straightforwardness, and assiduity in public business. Bro. Minns's health was drunk with great cordiality. In acknowledging the compliment, Bro. MINNS said that though he had been suffering from indisposition, he felt that he would not only be wanting in his duty as Master of the lodge if he were absent, on such an interesting and eventful occasion, but that he should lose an honour which would hereafter be always a source of gratification and pride to him—that of having presided over the first lodge which had met in this building. Bro. Minns then proposed the health of Bro. the Rev. S. Titlow, P.Prov. G. Chap., to whom he was indebted for his initiation into Masonry a great many years ago, when that respected brother filled the chair in Lodge 60.—Bro. TITLOW said he felt a degree of gratification on this occasion, which he believed no brother present was able to share with him, for he was initiated into Masonry in this very building more than forty years ago. It was not altogether, therefore, to him a new era upon which the lodges of the city were about to enter, but it was a return to the good old times. (Cheers.) He would not express an unqualified censure on the brethren for having

met at inns, because it had not been easy for them to get suitable accommodation elsewhere, and it must be admitted that the inns or hotels they met at were the most respectable ones in the city, and that they were well treated there. (Cheers.) It was, however, infinitely better that the connexion between Masonry and inns should be dissolved, and it gave him great pleasure to know that the rising generation of Masons would walk in the path which he was able to follow himself when he was first initiated. (Applause).—The W.M. next proposed the health of Bro. J. Laffan Hanley, in connexion with the FREEMASON'S MAGAZINE.—Bro. HANLEY, in responding, remarked that it was practically appropriate that the Cabbell Lodge, though the youngest in the city, should be the first to meet in a building which had been purchased for the order by its own magnificent patron. (Cheers.) It was appropriate for another reason—that the W.M. of the lodge, Bro. Minns, was one of the most active members of the Masonic Hall Committee, which had first agitated the subject of the removal of the lodges from hotels, and of which he (Bro. Hanley), had the honour of being Secretary. It was not detracting in the least degree from the merit belonging to Bro. Cabbell, for his great generosity to ascribe to that committee the credit to which it was entitled, not only for arousing attention to the subject, and awakening among the brethren a strong desire for amendment, but in obtaining all the information respecting the purchase of this building which afterwards induced Bro. Cabbell to endorse their opinion that it was the most suitable one that could be obtained, in point of accommodation, situation, and cost, and not only to adopt what the Committee had done, but do what they had scarcely hoped of being able to do—to pay the money for purchasing the premises. The enquiries as to the nature of the property and the negotiations for its purchase, necessarily involved considerable labour; and but for the services of Bro. Minns, who, with Bro. Simpson, took the chief share in the negotiations, happening to be peculiarly well informed in all the details which the Committee wished to learn, it was highly probable that the scheme would never have been put in such a tangible and business-like shape as to enable Bro. Cabbell to step in at once, as he did, and take up the Committee's duties just at the point that they were unable to go on through the want of those means which Bro. Cabbell was so largely endowed with, and which he was always ready to devote to the service of Masonry and every good work. (Applause.) Bro. Hanley took occasion also to express a hope that when all the lodges were brought under one roof, they would combine for the purpose of providing for the lodge room the very best furniture and appliances which they could procure, instead of each lodge continuing to use its own furniture. (Hear, hear.) The best parts of the present furniture might be retained, and the rest disposed of towards raising a fund for purchasing permanent furniture of the best and most complete character. There would then be no invidiousness between different lodges, and furniture could be obtained which would be suitable to the handsome room in which the lodges would in future meet. It would, moreover, be a great facility for the establishment of new lodges (hear, hear), and he had, no doubt, that the time would come—indeed it almost had come—when the Cabbell Lodge, like the Social Lodge, would have increased its numbers so far that it would be desirable, in fairness to those members who wished to advance themselves in Masonry, to construct a new lodge out of it in the same way as the Cabbell Lodge had been constructed out of 258. (Cheers.) It was not reasonable to expect that the brethren would improve themselves without a chance of preferment in the Craft, from which they were at present shut out by the numbers qualified for office who had a prior claim, whilst the only remedy—the establishment of a new lodge—was put out of their reach mainly by the expense of providing furniture. (Cheers.) Some other toasts were duly honored, and the brethren separated at an early hour.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

DUDLEY.—*Harmonic Lodge* (No. 313).—On Thursday, the 31st ult., a very agreeable reunion took place at the Freemasons' Tavern, Dudley. Bro. William Sheppard, P.M. of the Harmonic Lodge (No. 313), an old and highly respected inhabitant of the town, entertained a party of his Masonic friends to a sumptuous banquet, to celebrate the event of his having attained his fiftieth year as a Freemason. The cloth being drawn, and Bro. Sheppard, as founder of the feast, having given the usual loyal toasts, the vice-president Bro. Dennison, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W., Worcestershire, and W.M. No. 313, proposed in eulogistic terms the health of Bro. Sheppard, P.M., and expressed the great satisfaction he and the brethren of the Harmonic Lodge (No. 313), generally felt in seeing a Mason of upwards of fifty years standing able to attend the meetings of his lodge in the regular way he, Bro. Sheppard, continued to do, and hoped that he would still live many years to

come among them. The toast was received in true Masonic form. Bro. Sheppard, in acknowledging the toast, referred to the fact of his having been initiated in the Royal Cornish Miners' Lodge (No. 175), (under the old constitutions), at Dover, in Kent, on the 13th day of July, 1811 (which lodge is now extinct), and he produced his Grand Lodge Certificate; that from various circumstances he was prevented for nearly twenty years after his initiation attending a Masonic Lodge, as among other things he was engaged in the Royal Navy during the latter period of the continental war. After giving an interesting account of his somewhat varied and chequered life, he expressed the very great pleasure he felt in being at length, though at a late period in life, in a position to call himself a Past Master of the craft. He felt particularly happy in seeing so many of his Masonic friends around him to celebrate his Masonic jubilee, and hoped the G.A.O.T.U. would spare him to meet them on many future occasions. The health of Mrs. Sheppard was proposed and duly honoured, as was also that of many of the brethren present, including the W.M. and P.M.'s of the Harmonic Lodge (No. 313), and an evening which will be long remembered among the craft in Dudley, was brought to a close about eleven o'clock. The following brethren were present on the above occasion:—Bros. Sheppard, P.M., in the chair; Dennison, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W., W.M. 313, in the vice chair; Masefield, P.M. 313 and 730, P. Prov. S.G.W., Prov. G. Treas.; Bristow, P.M. 313, P. Prov. J.G.W., Prov. G. Sec.; Morris, P.M. 313, P. Prov. G. Supt. Wks.; Patterson, P.M. 313, P. Prov. G.D.; Dr. Cooper, P.M. 313, P. Prov. G.D.C.; Rolinson, Hanson, Geo. Smith, Geo. Stevenson, Roberts, Peters, and Geo. Wilkinson. At a regular meeting of the members, held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Dudley, on Tuesday, 5th November, the R.W. Bro. M. Dennison, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W., W.M. in the chair, the R.W. Bro. Bristow, P.M. P. Prov. J.G.W., Prov. Grand Sec., in pursuance of notice given by him at the previous regular meeting, proposed that the sum of ten pounds be given from the funds of this lodge in aid of the Female Fund of the Royal Benevolent Institution, which was carried unanimously.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST RIDINGS.)

STOKESLEY.—*Cleveland Lodge* (No. 795).—On Monday evening last, the usual monthly meeting of this flourishing lodge was held at the Golden Lion Inn.—Bros. John Hepburn Handyside, P.M. and P. Prov. S.J.W., W.M.; Richard Watson, S.W.; George Markham Tweddell as J.W.; John Rowntree, S.D.; — Smith as J.D.; — Turner, I.G., and William Harrison, Tyler. The lodge being opened to the third degree, Bros. Cooke, Wrighton, and Terry, having previously passed a creditable examination were raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons; the ceremony being ably performed by the W.M., and the explanation of the tracing board given in his usual impressive manner by Bro. William Martin, P.M., and P. Prov. G.S.B. The lodge was then closed, and the meeting adjourned until the first Monday in December.

COLONIAL.

GIBRALTAR.

LODGE OF FRIENDSHIP (No. 345).—The members of the above lodge met on Tuesday, the 22nd October, 1861, for the purpose of crafting Bros. the Rev. Chas. J. Hort, Chaplain to the Forces, Lieut. Thos. Lyster, Royal Engineers, and Lieut. F. Wm. Ramsbottom, Rifle Brigade; also to meet the W.M., Major Middleton, and partake of an entertainment given by the members of 345 to that distinguished Mason and officer, on the eve of his departure for Malta, to which island he had been appointed on the staff of Major General Bates. The meeting was fully attended; amongst the visitors we noticed Col. B. S. Stehelin, Commanding Royal Engineers, a Master Mason of 1822, and of Col. Paulett Somerset, C.B., Royal Fusiliers. After the business of the lodge was concluded, the brethren adjourned to the refreshment-room, and partook of an excellent supper provided in its usual sumptuous style by our worthy Treasurer, Bro. W. Weis. After supper the W.M., Bro. Middleton, gave "The Queen," which toast was received with great applause. The healths of the Grand Masters of England, Ireland, and Scotland were also warmly received. The Senior Warden, Lieut.-Col. Dunn, V.C. 100th Reg., then gave the toast of the evening, "The Health of the W.M.," was received with rapturous applause. He dwelt on the many advantages for which Lodge 345 was indebted to the W.M. in his indefatigable

endeavours for the good of Masonry, and prayed that the Grand Geometrician would abundantly crown him with success in all his undertakings. The W.M. suitably acknowledged the kind manner in which the toast of his health had been given and received. Since he had had the great pleasure of taking charge of the lodge, it had been his earnest wish to promote the interests and welfare of the Order, in the best manner he could. He felt gratified with the expressions of feeling which had been made, and returned his best and heartfelt thanks to the officers and brethren of the lodge, who had so ably assisted him in his duties—he would take this opportunity of drinking to their healths. After many other toasts were drunk and responded to, the lodge proceeded to harmony, and at an early hour separated.

TURKEY.

CONSTANTINOPLE.—*Oriental Lodge* (No. 988).—The first monthly meeting after the recess was held at the lodge room, High-street, Pera, on Friday, the 18th October, Bros. H. Pulman, W.M.; G. Lawrie, P.M.; Brackett, S.W.; Mountain, J.W., and Bro. J. P. Brown, Secretary of the U.S. Legation, was elected a joining member. Bro. Twiney, Barrister Supreme Court, and Bro. Harmen were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The Secretary read a notification from R.W. Bro. Sir H. L. Bulwer, of the appointment of D. Prov. G.M. The R.W. Bro. Hyde Clarke, D. Prov. G.M. of Turkey and Greece, was then announced and received with honours. He stated to the brethren by the command of his excellency, that the Provincial Grand Lodge would be held on the 28th. In the evening a banquet was held, when the usual Masonic toasts, and "The Health of the D. Prov. G.M.," which was responded to by him, were duly given.

ROYAL ARCH.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The quarterly convocation of Grand Chapter was held on Wednesday, there being present Comps. Hall presiding as M.E.Z.; Ll. Evans as H.; Sir Lucius Curtis as J.; Havers, N.; Clarke, E.; Rev. Dr. Senior, P. Soj.; McIntyre and Le Veau, Asst. Sg.; Roxburgh Reg.; Symonds, D.C.; Bridges, Pullen, Wilson, Matthews, Gole, Wheeler, and about a dozen other companions.

The Chapter being opened, the report of the Committee of General Purposes published in the FREEMASON'S MAGAZINE of last week, was presented and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

Comp. EVANS moved a resolution approving that portion relative to the right of Grand Chapter to grant charters for Chapters to be attached to lodges in Canada, holding under the Grand Lodge of England, which was seconded and carried unanimously.

Comp. EVANS then moved that the petition from the Chapter of Harmony (No. 387), praying for permission to remove the Chapter to Fareham, in consequence of the Lodge of Harmony, to which the Chapter is attached, having been removed to that town, be agreed to.

The motion having been seconded,

Comp. STEBBINGS opposed it on the ground that it was at variance with the law for Grand Chapter to give that permission, unnecessarily putting a cumbrous machinery into motion, and an interference with the privileges of the Grand Principal Z. He contended, that under the Royal Arch regulations, though Grand Chapter recommended the granting of charters for new Chapters, they were in the words of the charters issued by the three Grand Principals with "the consent of Grand Chapter;" and that as the dispensing power was always in the hands of the first principal, and as, under the laws of the Craft, lodges could only be moved with the consent of the Grand Master on the recommendation of the Prov. Grand Master, so in Arch Masonry the Chapters could only be moved by the consent of the Grand Z., on the recommendation of the Grand Supt. He thought that the laws ought to be strictly adhered to, and therefore moved that the recommendation of the Committee of General Purposes for the removal of the Chapter, being an interference with the privileges of the first Grand Principals, and the Prov. Grand Supts, it be not adopted.

Sir LUCIUS CURTIS, as Prov. Grand Supt. for Hampshire, seconded the amendment, and complained that the Royal Arch regulations were very defective, especially with regard to the duties devolving

on the Prov. Grand Supts. who had nothing to guide them in conducting the business. He, however, thought the Chapter ought to be removed, as otherwise the brethren of the Lodge of Harmony would be deprived of the opportunity of completing their degrees.

Comp. ROXBURGH, Grand Registrar, referred to the regulations of the Royal Arch and the *Book of Constitutions* of the Craft, to show that, whereas in the latter the power to issue warrants for new lodges was vested solely in the Grand Master, the power to allow their removal rested wholly with him; so in the Arch, as the warrants for Chapters were only issued on the vote of Grand Chapter, that body was the only proper one to decide on the propriety of their removal. He also referred to several cases, to show that the power had been always exercised by Grand Chapter, the last case being in Nov., 1860, when the Tiverton Chapter was removed to Devonport.

After a few further observations the amendment was negatived, and the original motion carried with two dissentients.

Chapter was then closed, and the convocation broke up.

METROPOLITAN.

POLISH NATIONAL CHAPTER (No. 778).—A convocation of the members of this chapter was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 21th ult., Comps. Sharman, M.E.Z.; Boyd, H.; Watson, as J.; Lemanski, Treas.; M. Cooke, E.; States, as P. Soj.; and many other companions being present. Visitors, Comps. Clarke and Rowland. The business before the meeting was chiefly official, and after its completion the companions adjourned to banquet. The usual loyal and peculiar toasts of the degree having been given and duly responded to, Comp. Lemanski proposed the health of the M.E.Z. in very kind terms, and spoke of the pleasure they all felt by having one so able to preside over them, and who carried out that bond of friendship and amity, which had ever distinguished the chapter, to its fullest extent.—The M.E.Z., Comp. Sharman, wished to express his grateful thanks for Comp. Lemanski's very kind manner in proposing his health, and their reception of it. He was exalted in that chapter by Comp. Lemanski, and the Polish National Chapter he had ever found the happiest and most genial of all Masonic reunions. It had always enjoyed an uninterrupted harmony never exceeded by any other lodge or chapter, and it was his intention never to disturb such a pleasing sight. He felt sorry he could not put in a claim for efficient services, but no one but those connected with the press knew the inconveniences under which members of that profession laboured, and he thought it also due to himself to explain that he was not in a good state of health, and, therefore, not so likely to be as efficient as he wished. Still his cordial appreciation of the chapter had induced him to come a distance of 150 miles that day, to be in his place, and so long as he remained a member he would do his utmost to promote the efficiency and prosperity of No. 778 Chapter. Again thanking them for their kindness, he resumed his seat.—The M.E.Z. said there was no toast more cordially given and received in the Polish National Chapter than that of the visiting companions, and he hoped they would never be backward in inviting those who belonged to other chapters. He coupled the toast with the names of Comps. Clarke and Rowland, and wished their respective chapters the same amount of harmony and numbers than they saw there.—Comp. CLARKE was very happy to respond to the toast. He was a great admirer of Royal Arch Masonry, and he was so pleased with the Polish Chapter that he should visit it again.—Comp. ROWLANDS said, this was his first visit to any chapter, and it had afforded him very great pleasure; indeed, he might say he had been more gratified than he should have been if the companions had met more numerously.—The M.E.Z. said the healths of the Past Principals came next, and he felt very inadequate to do them justice. Any observations that he could make would fall far short of Comp. Watson's merits. But for him they would often have been at a standstill. His humility was such that he was always ready to be employed in any office, and never better pleased than when officiating in the lowest as well as the highest place. Whilst he did the work they often took their pleasure, and to him they were under a deep debt of gratitude for his ready and valuable assistance. Comp. Lemanski deserved from himself many thanks, for he could not but remember that he was exalted by that companion. As Treasurer he had rendered them very useful service, more particularly as the balance had generally been on the wrong side. Comp. Johnstone was entitled to their thanks for his courtesy, kindness, and ability. Indeed he, the M.E.Z., might say that a more happy trio could not grace their board, where he hoped for many years they would all be found.—Comp. JOHNSTONE deeply felt the amount of gratitude they owed to the chapter. For his own part his merits were small in comparison with the two others who stood by his side, yet he felt the necessity to keep up that spirit of cordiality which had ever been their pride, and to express,

on his own behalf, his thanks for the honour done him.—Comp. LEMANSKI thought the compliment unnecessary in his own case, for he tried to do his duty to the best of his power in everything that concerned the welfare of the chapter. It was true that they now had but two Poles present, and the nationality of the chapter was not so marked as heretofore. It was one of the things worthy of remembrance that in that chapter when the Poles sought the kind assistance of English companions to keep it flourishing, the response was quick and hearty. They were all approaching their end, where many of their number had departed to waite their recompense, and feeble mortality indicated that their energy and exertions could not last always, but as long as they did last they would do their utmost for the Polish National Chapter. The Polish elements of the Chapter were under peculiar circumstances just now, there being but few of his countrymen present. He could not express his own strong feelings on that point. As Poles the Chapter had been to them a place of peculiar sanctity. In its bosom they felt they were free and had the generous sympathy of their English companions. Poland and Russia were more unknown to Englishmen than China, and he deeply lamented this, for there were ready means of access to all who wished to know more of those countries. He appealed to his English companions, as a favour, to show their sympathy with a country under persecution and to contradict the misrepresentations of the Germans. He did not wish to trespass on forbidden ground, but he could not help alluding to the late massacres in his native country and he was sure they all felt for such misery. The gratitude of the Polish coms. to their English Royal Arch brethren for their support was very deep. Although himself growing old he went to the Chapter because in every comp. he saw a friend, and he hoped to be able to meet them as long as he had health and ability to support the Chapter.—Comp. WARSON must say a few words on that, the 13th anniversary of the consecration of the Chapter. He was the only one present of the petitioning members, and he could not but congratulate the Chapter on its prosperity. He founded the Chapter thirteen years since and had installed all its principals for that time, and although they were all getting older yet he thought they were as anxious as ever to prove to the Poles how deeply they commiserated their position, how they respected their bravery and honour, and hoped to perpetuate their names. He was sorry to see the Poles diminish in number amongst them for the English coms. felt warmly in their behalf, and the more the Poles were tried by misfortune the more sympathy would they enlist in that Chapter. On that their anniversary he was grateful for having his health proposed, and hoped to see the Chapter continue to prosper, and the nation, from whom it took its name, restored to honour and peace.—The M.E.Z. had to propose the next toast in honour of Comp. Boyd, H.; and Williams, J. They all knew the earnestness and sincerity of the former, and appreciated the latter, who, no doubt, would have been present but for professional engagements.—Comp. BOYD, H., on behalf of himself and his absent brother J., returned his sincere thanks for the manner their healths had been toasted. As far as the Poles were concerned, his feelings had always been with them. He had joined the Polish lodge, and gone through every office in it, as well as the Chapter up to where he was. He was never more happy than in the Polish Chapter, for he gave the preference to that over the lodge, and in both he met Poles who were gentlemen, and men in a higher station of life than himself, yet he had ever experienced the greatest kindness from them. For the toast he had to return thanks.—The M.E.Z. then gave the health of the officers, coupled with Comp. States' name.—Comp. STATES had asked, as a favour, to be exalted in that Chapter, and he was very proud of his membership. Three years since he was admitted, and had found that he had joined the society of gentlemen, some of whom were Poles of rank and influence—men of generous hearts and sympathies. That evening their treasurer, Comp. Lemanski, had shown his sympathy with an English companion. Instead of paying himself, he had handed over the five guineas voted towards the Watson fund to him (Comp. States), when, in strict justice, he should have paid himself first. This he, (Comp. States), looked upon as an act of true generosity, and on his own behalf he should ever remember it and consider himself greatly honoured by remaining a member of that Chapter, which could boast so much of mutual sympathy and support.—The proceedings then terminated.

MARK MASONRY.

SHEFFIELD.—*Britannia Lodge* (No. 53).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, on Monday, 4th inst. Bro. Wm. White, jun., W.M., and J.G.D., who had been unanimously re-elected to fill the chair, was

installed, and appointed the following officers, viz. :—Bros. E. Drury, S.W. ; G. Smart, J.W. ; G. Moseley, Sec. ; H. Webster, S.D. ; R. Waterhouse, J.D. ; H. J. Garnett, I.G. ; and A. Moore, Steward. Bros. E. A. Heeley, F. W. Primrose, S. Smith, and Robt. Arnison, were severally advanced to this degree. We are glad to find that this lodge is in a flourishing condition and all its officers manifest a very praiseworthy attention to their duties. We trust their example will shortly be followed by other brethren in the large towns of West Yorkshire. The clothing and other appointments of the lodge are of a first class order, and reflect great credit on the zeal and liberality of the Sheffield "blades."

Obituary.

In the Magazine for October 19th, we briefly noticed the death of our much-respected Bro. Thomas Weatherill, P.M. of the Cleveland Lodge (No. 795) and of the Zetland Lodge (No. 820), and P. Prov.G. Standard Bearer for the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire. His remains were interred, on Thursday, October 17th, at Seamer in Cleveland, and the local papers thus describe the proceedings :—"On Thursday afternoon this usually quiet little agricultural village was the scene of considerable excitement, in consequence of the late Mr. Thomas Weatherill, of Newton-under-Roseberry, being interred with military honours from the Stokesley Rifle Corps, of which he was a member. The funeral procession, consisting of the hearse containing the corpse, and of the widow and numerous friends of the deceased in carriages and on horseback, having reached Stokesley, the minute bell was tolled, and the members of the Rifle Corps, who were ready assembled under the command of Captain Marwood, fell into their place in front of the hearse, and proceeded, at a slow march with arms reversed, to the place of interment. On arriving at Seamor churchyard, the volunteers presented arms, whilst the corpse and mourners passed between their ranks. Many members of the Masonic body, of which deceased was an earnest and beloved brother, were present, one of whom—as the clergyman pronounced the words 'in sure and certain hope of the resurrection of eternal life'—dropped a sprig of Acacia (the *Shittim wood* of Scripture) upon the breast-plate, that being, in the words of an able Masonic writer, 'one of the most beautiful and suggestive symbols of the Master's degree; it is an emblem of our faith in the immortality of the soul, and by it we are reminded that we have an immortal part within us which shall survive the grave and which shall never die.' The solemn ceremony concluded by the Rifle Corps firing three volleys over the grave of their brother volunteer, whose memory will be long cherished by a very wide circle of friends, for his intelligence, kindheartedness, and integrity. We ought not to omit to state, that the orderly manner in which the whole Rifle Corps executed their part of the ceremony elicited the warm approbation of all present; the only drawback being the lack of 'The Dead March in Saul,' which the band have neglected to practise, and consequently were unable to perform. The grave, which was walled with brick and cemented, was much admired for the workmanlike manner in which it was finished."

KING JAMES'S LOVE FOR FIELD SPORTS.—King James was exceedingly fond of field sports, but he often carried them to such a violent excess that he led his poor courtiers, who were not equally fond of them, a weary life. One of them, in a letter that has been preserved, makes heavy complaints of being obliged to ride with him in heat and cold, dry and rain, from eight in the morning till four in the afternoon. James built a small hunting palace at Newmarket, and established horse-races there—the first, we believe, that were established in England. He had also another hunting seat at Royston, and when he and his attendants were there they consumed all the provisions in the place, and made such a bustle, that the quiet inhabitants of the town were driven to their wits' end; and the old chroniclers tell us that one day the king's favourite hound, Jowler, was missing, and, when he re-appeared, he came with a paper tied to his collar, on which were written these words :—"Good Mr. Jowler, we pray you speak to the king (for he hears you every day, and so doth he not us), that it will please his Majesty to go back to London, for else the country will be undone: all our provision is spent, and we are not able to entertain him any longer." Fortunately, the king was not angry, and the matter was treated as "a reasonable pretty jest."—*Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine*.

NOTES ON MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Among other announcements is Mr. Martin's, who, on behalf of the National Choral Society, states his intentions of giving concerts at Exeter Hall during the winter to audiences exclusively composed of military officers and soldiers, who must all appear in regimentals—the explanation of the step stated being a desire to promote a taste for choral music in the army.

A letter from Signor Rossini, published in the French papers, confirms the rumour of the coming "Titan;" The composer addresses M. Royer, the manager of the Grand Opéra, and begs for the loan of four bass singers—MM. Belval, Cazaux, Faure, and Obin—who are to execute the composition in unison. Signor Rossini describes it as a simple chant, "with a Titanic rhythm," out of the common style,—and pledges himself that it contains neither trill, *arpeggio*, chromatic scale, nor roudade.

A new ballet-opera, "Le Neveu de Gulliver," by M. Lajarte, has just been given at the Théâtre Lyrique of Paris,—without success. M. Jules Lefort, the well-known singer of French romances, made his appearance on the stage, after having left it many years ago.

Herr Ernst, whose health continues in the melancholy state which has long been a matter of grave concern to his friends, has, nevertheless, it is said in the *Gazette Musicale*, composed a small opera, which is to be produced next season at Baden.

Mlle. Artot, who has taken the place of a first opera favourite in Germany, is about to sing a part at Prague in the Czech language.

A "Minima" organ has been invented and patented by Messrs. G. F. and J. Stidolph, of Ipswich. It is said to retain, within the size of the ordinary piccolo pianoforte, every requisite for the performance of organ music, and to adapt itself to the sphere of the drawing-room. It is in fact a pedal organ, with 16ft. open diapason and a commensurate swell, within a space of 7ft., and with, in some instances, double feeders for the feet, so that it may be blown by the performer.

A discovery of the utmost importance, says the *Leipsiger Zeitung*, is said to have been made in America, viz., the artificial formation of any kind of human voice. The discoverer is said to be a physician of the name of Potsdoll. This gentleman, it is said, has succeeded in producing, at pleasure, bass, baritone, tenor, or soprano voices, in the human larynx, by means of a simple operation, quickly performed, without pain or danger; and in a week, or a fortnight at farthest, those whose have submitted to it acquire great musical powers, however inharmonious their voices may have been previously. A tenor or soprano voice requires a somewhat longer time, because a tendency to hoarseness is apt to follow the operation. We need hardly say that the story of this invention must be received with very considerable caution. [The above is going the round of the musical journals, and we repeat "it must be received with very considerable caution," and we think with a better ground than our musical contemporaries, as we have met with something of the kind before in a satire on the Logier system of music, then somewhat popular, published in 1818, and for the information of our contemporaries we give them the title of the work, omitting only the bookseller's names :—

"*Joel Collier Redivivus, an entirely new edition of that celebrated author's 'Musical Travels'; containing, among a variety of interesting particulars, a faithful account of his many ingenious experiments, valuable discoveries, and inestimable inventions, for the improvement of Students, and the advancement of Science in this country! Dedicated, without permission, but with the most profound respect, to that great luminary of the musical world, J. B. L—g—r.*

"Collier, to science and to memory dear,
Returns again, renew'd in great L—g—r."

At page 39 of this satire, we find a musical enthusiast describing his new saytem to the hero, Mr. Collier, who says—

"After I had sufficiently complimented him upon his work, and told him that I thought the ode would be wonderfully improved in his hands, we discoursed upon many other subjects, relative to music, particularly upon a curious operation he informed me was frequently practised at Naples, of *cutting the glands of the throat, when so inflated or big as to obstruct the free passage of the voice*. This anecdote has given my friend a hint of greater improvements: we are too sparing, says he, of the knife, and frequently think the voice is as perfect as art can make it, but we stop short of perfection. There are other things to be done, the tongue itself might well be spared, which only serves to articulate sounds in speaking, but is an incumbrance to a fine singer. Do me the favour, sir, to sing one air with this ivory bit in your mouth, to keep down your tongue, and you will be surprized at the difference it makes in the mellowness of the tone, and the roundness of the volume of voice. Saying this, he fetched an ivory instrument out of his drawer, which he fixed in my mouth, and fastened round my head. * * * * * Here I endeavoured to interrupt him, for I found the bit very painful, but not being able to articulate, he thought I was attempting to sing, and cried out, stay a moment, my dear friend,

just let me put two plugs into your nostrils to prevent the air from issuing out at those apertures. I was resolved not to endure this, and looked round for the door, in order to secure a retreat, while he thus went on:—I always wear plugs when I sing, but I have a great notion that if holes were bored at proper distances along the side of the nose, it would make no bad flute. Now, sir, give me leave to show you how much farther the jaws ought to be distended by the lancet, and where the glands should be cut.—Saying this, he drew a pen-knife out of his side pocket; but as *I had all this time been sideling towards the door* (being now fully convinced he was rather more disturbed in the faculties than a good theorist ought to be) out I flew, and never once looked behind me 'till I was fairly out of sight of the house."

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

DRURY LANE THEATRE.

Miss Avonia Jones, a lady who had acquired considerable distinction in Australia, on Tuesday evening made her first appearance before an English audience as Medea, and achieved a genuine success. The part which she selected for her *début* is, indeed, a trying one. Of all female characters in the whole range of the drama, that of Medea is the most difficult to impersonate. To say that Miss Jones plays to absolute perfection, were to award higher praise than the occasion warrants; yet it may be asserted with perfect truth that she sustains that most arduous of characters with remarkable skill and power, and that she frequently succeeds in awakening the cordial sympathy of her audience.

Miss Jones's personal advantages are greatly in her favour, her face being handsome and thoughtful, her figure more than usually tall and well moulded, and voice melodious, and well adapted for the utterance of tragic emotion. Her Medea is somewhat deficient in those qualities of grandeur, majesty, and terror which Madame Ristori associates with the character; but it is instinct with poetic grace, fraught with tender sentiment, full of poignant sorrow, and most eloquently and touchingly expressive of maternal love. Her gestures are appropriate and impressive, and her attitudes have a spontaneous significance and a sculptural beauty of design which greatly enhance the effect of her performance. She was summoned before the curtain no fewer than five times in the course of the evening, and on the last occasion was accompanied by Mr. E. T. Smith, whose reception was such as expressed the satisfaction of the audience on finding that he had secured the services of so accomplished an artist.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

Mr. Edmund Falconer has succeeded in keeping open the Lyceum Theatre during the dulles: period of the year, with substantial profit to himself and entire satisfaction to the public. The crowded audiences which have filled the theatre nightly since the commencement of the season have not been drawn together by any flimsy or meretricious attraction. The magnet has been a sterling English Comedy, played for the most part in a style of first-rate excellence. As the author of "Woman," Mr. Falconer has been in a double sense the creator of his own success, which has resulted alike from his good management and his good writing. Seeing that he has thus not only given remunerative employment to a company of very clever artists, but at the same time afforded a rich intellectual treat to the lovers of our native drama, he certainly deserves the cordial support of the public. A new and original drama, also from the pen of the lessee, entitled "Peep o' Day, or Savourneen Deelish," and strongly cast, is to be produced on Monday evening.

A BLACK ORACLE.—"One example, Rough," said the raven to the terrier, "will let you into the entire secret as to how this fortune telling dodge was worked. Say, the customer is a spooney youth, wanting to know if he is at all likely ever to get a sweetheart; if so, how, and when, and where? He whispers the question to Mrs. Bosco, who repeats it to me behind the curtain. 'Impsiwheeze,' says she, 'answer—YES or no?' 'Yes.' 'Will she be tall or short?' 'Short.' 'Will she be handsome, do you know?' 'No.' 'Good gracious!' ejaculates the young man, turning paler than ever. 'Will she be poor or rich?' 'Rich.' 'How long will it be before he meets her?' Now, it was an understanding that when I didn't get any clue from the question, I was to utter the first nonsense that came into my head. 'Chuckster toll-bar-binks,' replied I. 'That is Hebrew,' explained Mrs. Bosco to the astonished youth—'a tongue which the bird sometimes mixes with ours. I, however, can interpret it: fifteen months and a quarter is the time mentioned by the sage bird. Is that RIGHT, Impsiwheeze?' 'Right' replied I. That terminated the interview, the silly fellow taking his departure, assured that he had received ample worth for the half-crown he had paid."—*Boy's own Magazine.*

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—On Friday, the 1st, the Queen formally inaugurated the new order of knighthood, the creation of which will tend to illustrate her reign—The Order of the Star of India. The creation of this order, we need hardly remind our readers, is intended to commemorate the direct extension of the British sovereignty over India, and is open both to distinguished natives and to those Englishmen who have signalised themselves by civil or military service in the Indian field. Among those who received the honour at her Majesty's hands were Lord Gough, the Maharajah Duleep Singh, Lord Harris, Lord Clyde, Sir John Lawrence, and others. The Prince Consort and the Prince of Wales were made extra knights of the order. Lord Canning had previously conferred the order on some distinguished natives and European officers in Calcutta. Her Majesty and the larger part of the Royal Family still remain at Windsor. The young Prince Leopold, who is in his eighth year, has gone to Cannes, in the south of France, to spend the winter, in consequence of delicate health.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The weekly return of the births and deaths in London continues to be greatly below the ten years' average. The number of last week was about 100 below that which the average would have made it, while the births are as high above it. The only disease at present approaching to an epidemic is scarlatina, which is making rather serious attacks on young children. —The Smithfield Club, which for many years has rented premises for their annual cattle show in Baker-street, now feel confidence enough in the resources and stability of their society to determine on the erection of premises of their own, and the foundation stone of the new building was laid on Tuesday at Islington, by Lord Berners. The premises will be spacious, fitted up with all conveniences for the purposes to which they are destined, and the architecture, where architectural decorations can be introduced, will be elegant and tasteful. The cost of the building is estimated at £30,000, and we understand it has all been subscribed. —The autumnal exhibition of fruits and flowers took place in the Horticultural Gardens on Tuesday. The show was admirable, and attracted a large number of visitors. —Some time ago, the Hanley Town Council passed a resolution thanking Mr. Cobden for his services in connection with the Commercial Treaty. The reply of the hon. gentleman has just been published. He urges that some vigilance must be exercised to ensure the enjoyment of the "moral fruits" of the Treaty; for, at the very moment when the two peoples are invited to extend to each other the hand of friendship, the two governments are constantly increasing their preparations for war. He does not attempt to cast exclusive blame upon either party for a state of things which "is both repugnant to reason and offensive to public morality," but an effort at least must be made to effect a beneficial change. —The annual dinner in aid of the Warehousemen and Clerks' schools, took place last week at the London Tavern. Lord Brougham occupied the chair; and about 320 persons sat down. The whole affair was most successful. The right honourable chairman expressed his approval of the manner in which the charity had been managed, and a hope that even increased success would attend it in future. At the close of the proceedings the subscription lists were sent round, and about £1500 were subscribed. The charity is an excellent one, and well deserving of even more support than it has hitherto obtained. —A fresh effort is about to be made to establish telegraphic communications with India. Our readers will remember the failure of the cable laid down by the Red Sea Company, and all the correspondence that took place with the Government before the company could obtain the payment of the guarantee which the Government had in the first instance promised them. It appears that fresh negotiations have been going on, and the shareholders have been called together to consider the propriety of handing over their shares to a new company, on the Government engaging to relieve

the old of responsibility, while they converted the original guarantee into an annuity of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. To this the Chancellor of the Exchequer appended a condition that the Government should have power at any time to redeem the annuity on payment of a fair equivalent. The directors rejoin to this that the equivalent should be fixed at such a sum as would enable them to buy another annuity of equal value for the years their then unexpired period of guarantee would have to run. The meeting unanimously agreed to this interpretation of the proposition.—We continue to receive painful accounts of the distress prevailing in many districts of the West of Ireland; and the *Freeman's Journal* assures us that "there is no exaggeration whatever in even the strongest statements which have been placed before the public." It is stated that Sir Robert Peel intends to visit Connemara and Mayo, in order too see for himself the actual condition of those who are represented to have suffered most from the failure of the potatoe crop.—The east and west coasts alike were on Saturday visited by terrible storms, which we regret to see have resulted in a loss of life. At Scarborough Lord Charles Beauclerk lost his life by the swamping of a boat; at Hartlepool there was also great damage done, and a loss of life; while at Flamborough Head a ship went down with all on board, and several fishing craft are missing. The lifeboats of the National Institution rendered valuable service, at the loss, we regret to observe, of human life—a very unusual, if not unparalleled, circumstance.—A fearful explosion has occurred in a coalpit at Shevington, near Wigan, causing the death of ten colliers, and serious injury to five others. Among those who perished were a man named Ashcroft and two of his sons, and two brothers named Culshaw. The wife of one of the men injured is also stated to have died suddenly on receiving intelligence of the disastrous occurrence. The cause of this explosion will, no doubt, be made the subject of inquiry; but the current rumour is that it arose from that terrible source of danger to pitmen—the use of a naked light.—On Sunday morning, the dead body of a man named Lewis, bearing numerous marks of violence, was discovered, near Cosley, in Staffordshire. The deceased's pockets had been turned inside out, and there appears to be reason for believing that plunder was the motive of his assailant.—A gamekeeper, named Davies, was murdered near Otley, on Monday morning. Just before his death, Davies stated that he encountered a notorious poacher, named Waller, who was ranging Hawksworth Spring Wood with a double-barrelled gun. Davies pursued; and as he was gaining upon Waller, the latter turned and discharged both the barrels of his piece at him. He died a few hours after he received his wounds. Waller has disappeared.—A cab driver, named Riley, has been remanded on bail by the Rochdale magistrates on a charge of committing an outrage similar in its nature to that on which Curran was convicted the other day at Dublin. The complainant, a Mrs. Sharp, did not appear.—The two young ladies who were recently committed for trial on a charge of stealing books in the Strand and elsewhere, have been tried at the Middlesex Sessions and sentenced to four months' hard labour. Their names were not allowed to transpire.—Another letter-carrier has been brought under the official notice of the police magistrate. One of the letter-carriers in Ratcliffe highway, under the influence, we suppose, of the genius of the place, had got drunk by ten o'clock on Saturday morning, and went about bargaining with the inhabitants for additional liquor before he would give up the letters addressed to them. It ought to be known that drunkenness on duty subjects a letter-carrier to a fine of £20, though in the present case the magistrate exacted only a tenth part of the penalty.—An extraordinary court-martial has just been held at Chatham. A person named Henry Warner, who appeared in the garb of a sailor, was charged with having deserted from the 17th Lancers, at Kadakoi, in the Crimea, so far back as the 8th of August, 1855. The prisoner admitted the fact of the desertion, but attributed it to a temporary aberration of mind. He further stated, that on

giving himself up as a deserter, he was placed in irons by the captain of the ship in which he had taken service, but on the matter being referred to the Horse Guards they disowned him. The captain was examined with reference to these circumstances, but he was unable to recollect whether they had occurred. The issue of the trial will not be known until the proceedings have been laid before her Majesty.—Dr. Lushington gave judgement, on Saturday, in the long-pending suit of *Burder v. Heath*. Some time ago, the Rev. D. I. Heath, vicar of Brading, Isle of Wight, published a collection of sermons, in which, it was alleged, views were propounded on the atonement and "justification by faith" totally at variance with the teaching of the Church on those two cardinal points. His diocesan, the Bishop of Winchester, deemed it right to promote a suit against him in the Ecclesiastical Courts, and the judgment delivered on Saturday will be regarded with deep interest, bearing as it does upon another and more important case which is about to be heard in the Court of Arches. The learned judge found Mr. Heath guilty of the charges preferred against him, but allowed him time to consider the alternative of retraction still open to him. "It might be," observed Dr. Lushington, "that some would think that his judgment recognised too severe restrictions on the clergy, and shut the door against inquiry and disquisition which might tend to elucidate the truth. But if there were bonds which pressed heavily on the clergy, as to which he expressed no opinion, the Legislature imposed them, and the Legislature alone could remove them."—The Court of Queen's Bench has granted an application for a rule calling upon the Attorney General to shew cause why a new trial should not be had in the case of Mr. J. D. Charlesworth, of Wakefield, who was some time ago convicted of bribery. It was alleged in behalf of the defendant that Mr. Baron Martin had misdirected the jury who tried the case at the York assizes.—The judges on Tuesday gave judgment in the Court of Exchequer in the case of Mr. Hatch. They ordered the rule to be discharged, which was moved for and obtained, by Mr. Chambers, on behalf of the plaintiff, to enable the plaintiff to recover the costs of the action which he brought against Mr. Lewis, his attorney, when the jury gave him 40s. damages. This finding was unanimous, and the Lord Chief Baron himself vindicated the course he had taken. The rev. gentleman will, therefore, have to pay his own costs.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The *Moniteur* announces that the convention by which France, England, and Spain agree to act in concert in Mexico, for the purpose of conjointly obtaining redress for the grievances of their respective subjects, was signed in London on Thursday the 31st ult. The *Paris Debats* gives an account of the stipulations contained in the Convention, of which, however, it does not guarantee the authenticity. The united Powers are, according to this version, to occupy Vera Cruz, and all necessary points along the sea-coast, and then address their joint demands to the Mexican authorities. The occupation is to be in the name of the three Powers—England, France, and Spain. These Powers engage not to occupy any portion of territory permanently, and to leave Mexico wholly free to choose her own form of government. England, according to the *Débats*, at first wished to have a clause inserted in the treaty binding the three Powers not to accept the throne of Mexico for any of the princes of the reigning families; but this clause, it is significantly observed, has been renounced. If the monarchical form of Government should triumph, the three Powers engage themselves not to employ their intervention to the profit of any particular prince.—After seizing by military force the disputed territory in the Dappes Valley, the French Cabinet is now, according to the *Paris journals*, prepared to negotiate with the Swiss Federal Council upon bases which will fully secure the neutrality of the valley. It is said too that M. Thouvenel has been instructed to refer to a mixed commission the investigation of the recent squabble on the Savoy frontier, which led to a formal demand of satisfaction by the French government. The Swiss government has addressed a note to the French government, demanding satisfaction for the violation of their territory by French troops in the valley of the Dappen.—The prospects of a favourable conclusion to the projected treaty of commerce between France and Prussia are stated by the *National Gazette* of Berlin to be sadly diminishing. It is even said that the French Commissioner is to return to Paris in the course of the present

week.—The elections for the Prussian Chamber of Deputies will take place, the primitive on the 19th of this month, and the constituent on the 6th of December. The King has addressed to the authorities at Potsdam some remarks, intended, it is said, to destroy the impression produced by his speech at Königsberg. He said that he would ever remain faithful to the constitution, and he hoped that the people would do the same, and would give him new proofs of it in the result of the approaching elections. Similar language was used by his Majesty to a deputation of students, to whom he observed, "I am for reasonable and moderate progress, and I intend to adhere to it."—The Italian Parliament will, it is announced, be convoked to meet on the 20th inst.; and we may therefore expect that in its debates some light will soon be thrown on the nature and results of the recent negotiations between Victor Emmanuel's advisers and the Emperor Napoleon respecting the Pope's temporal sovereignty.—The official journal of Vienna has been ordered to declare "a pure invention" the report that a "foreign power" had entered into negotiations for a cession of Venetia. It has likewise been instructed to announce that, as Austria refrains from interfering in the domestic affairs of other states, no power can think of making proposals to her respecting Hungary.—The Emperor of Austria has informed the Chancellor of Hungary this is not a time when he can comply with his request to visit Pesth. The opposition of the Hungarians to the Government is increasing, and most of the public bodies are refusing to aid in the recruiting for the army. The Tavernicus has also resigned.—The Vienna papers announce some important alterations in the government of Hungary—alterations which evince the determination of Austria to hold Hungary with a firm hand.—General Comte Palley is to be appointed Governor of Hungary; all the lords lieutenant of counties are to be superseded; and all local assemblies are to be dissolved—the task of administration being entrusted to imperial nominees. Courts martial will be established throughout the country, and will try all persons who may be accused of treason, or of resistance to the imperial authorities.—According to Russian intelligence published in Berlin, a combination had been found to exist among the students of all the Russian Universities, those of Kieff having alone remained quiet. At Moscow, as well as St. Petersburg, military force was employed to disperse the students; and at Kasan the Rector's house was destroyed by his insubordinate scholars. But the statements which most significantly show the relaxation of government authority are assertions that the Director General of the Political Police is about personally to tender his resignation to the Emperor Alexander, and that a petition, praying for the release of the arrested students, and for the grant of a constitution to the empire, has already received 17,000 signatures.—An imperial decree accords to Count Lambert, the governor of Poland, "leave of absence to travel in foreign countries until his health shall be restored," and replaces him in his office by General Liders, who is commonly supposed to be a man likely to enforce the sternest repression with all the military rigour of the strictest martinet.—The King of Greece has returned to Athens, where it is stated he met with an enthusiastic reception.—The King of Portugal had been suffering under a slight attack of fever, but was better. The news of the vintage is again extremely satisfactory, and the yield of wine in the Province of Alemtego is described as immense. Preparations were being made for a political demonstration on the anniversary of the expulsion of the Phillips from Portugal against the Iberian party, who are in favour of the union of Spain and Portugal.—The semi-official journal of Madrid announces that in opening the Cortes Queen Isabella will promise constitutional reforms of the most liberal character. There has been another abortive attempt at insurrection in the south of Spain, at Medinaceli. The leaders of the revolt, which is said to have been instigated by the Republican party, have been arrested; and the Queen's officials are declared to have been able to suppress the disturbances without resorting to military force.

AMERICA.—Advices from New York to the morning of the 23rd ult. have been brought by the *Asia*, which arrived yesterday at Queenstown. The New York journals, we are told, generally approve the language of Secretary Seward's letter to Lord Lyons, which "repudiates as an unwarrantable interference any British interpretation of the Federal Constitution." There is no military intelligence of any importance, except a repetition of previous statements that Confederate batteries command the Potomac at every point below Washington, so that the navigation of the stream is "considered to be effectually closed." We are assured that that there are "signs of a general engagement immediately;" but the assurance has been so often repeated that everybody will disregard it. General Fremont will—according to the *New York Tribune*—be removed from the command of the Federal army in Missouri, in which state the Federals are said to have re-occupied Lexington, and to have "routed the forces of the Confederate

General Jefferson Thompson, capturing four guns from him.—An action in the neighbourhood of Leesburg, in which Senator Baker was killed at the head of a Federal regiment, seems to have been more important than at first supposed. It is now stated that the Federal troops, which were commanded by General Stone, and which were compelled to fall back into Maryland, sustained a loss of 600 killed and wounded. The great expedition for the Southern coasts, which is said to be composed of 80 vessels, mounting 500 guns, and carrying 30,000 to 40,000 troops, was to sail from Hampton Roads on the 27th ult.

INDIA.—The Bombay mail brings intelligence as scanty as anticipatory telegrams had induced us to suppose. Sir George Clerk was about to retire from the Governorship of Bombay, and was to precede the Governor General in his return to England, as Lord Canning was expected to remain in India until March next, when Lord Elgin will assume the arduous and dignified office of Viceroy of India. The cholera was expected not to spread further in India, but it had made its appearance in Afghanistan, and it was said that in eighteen days 8,000 persons had died in the city of Kandahar alone. The prospects of the coming harvest were generally favourable throughout the whole of India.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

With last week's *MAGAZINE*, a beautiful Steel Engraving of the Right Hon. the Earl of Dalhousie, K.G., P.D.G.M., in full Masonic costume, was presented gratuitously to every subscriber to the *FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR*.

The Engraving has been executed in the highest style of art, by Posselwhite, from a photograph by Mayall.

A few copies for framing (suitable for lodge and other presents) may be had as follows;—

India Proofs, before letters (which must be ordered immediately)	7 6
India Proofs (after letters)	5 0
Large Plate Paper	3 0

A few proof impressions of the Right Hon. Earl of Zetland, G. Master, may still be had: India paper, 5s.; large plate paper, 3s.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

TO SUBSCRIBERS AND OTHERS.—All remittances by cheque, post-office orders, &c., are to be made payable to the Proprietor, Mr William Smith, C.E., 19, Salisbury-street, Strand.

COMMUNICATIONS for the EDITOR to be addressed to H. G. Warren, Esq., 19, Salisbury-street, Strand.

ALL ORDERS or Communications with respect to the publishing department to be addressed to the Publisher, 19, Salisbury-street, Strand.

SEC. 162.—The controversy must now terminate—but we cannot refuse you the opportunity, "to assure Bro. Peter that next to the pain I should feel at inflicting injury or pain on anyone, is that of being considered capable of such an act by any true brother," and here we must stop.

NOTES ON LITERATURE &c.—In the "making up" last week, our printer has, unfortunately, transposed a portion of the Notes on Literature &c. Our readers will therefore oblige, by reading from the last line but 5, on the first column of page 346, to line 48, on the second column whence he will proceed to line 27, in the first column of page 347, after which, he will revert to the 5th line from the bottom of the first column of page 346, and proceed accordingly.

SIGMA.—The cut has not been received.

R. L.—The late Earl of Eglinton was a Freemason, hailing from Scotland.