

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1862.

GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

(Continued from page 63.)

In conclusion it is not only to complain of the past that we have drawn up this manifesto, it is also, and especially, to prepare a safeguard for the future.

As for the past, we ask our Foreign brethren, whether they approve our conduct or not,—we should rather say the conduct of those who have been subjected to the Masonic authority; let them say on which side, up to the present time, right and justice, loyalty and fidelity have been found. We await their answer and submit, in anticipation, to their decision.

As for the future, since it inspires us with fears, since Masonry in France seems to us to be menaced, we believe that it ought to awaken the attention of Masonry all over the world.

It is well known that although Freemasons profess the greatest tolerance with regard to parties and sects, these parties and sects do not return the compliment, but seek at all times, and by every means, the destruction of our Order.

The Order of Jesuits, for example, has never tolerated the Order of Freemasons. Not being able to obtain its suppression in France, the allies of Jesuitism hoped to undermine its influence by depriving it of its character of high and universal morality, which is the source of its strength and its glory. Masonry has been, up to the present time, a social institution, shedding light every where, favouring progress, and preparing the world for the reign of peace and universal brotherhood; they would make it simply a charitable association, rather than a brotherhood, according to their custom. They thought to succeed by requiring them to convert their lodges into mutual aid societies. These societies could have retained the Masonic forms and a certain unity by means of a Central Administration, of which the seat would be held at the hall of the Grand Orient; and by an honorary and supreme presidency which would be entrusted in the hands of the actual Grand Master of French Freemasonry. The spiritual would thus be reduced to the minimum, or rather would pass to the hands of those who ruled all fraternities and all communities, but they would retain the temporal, and it is to that they hold. ¹¹

¹¹ The situation was, nevertheless delicate. The lodges are co-proprietors of the hall of the Grand Orient, which is valued at more than a million francs. How were they to conduct themselves with regard to lodges which were constrained to separate themselves or were dissolved? Who would benefit by the following acts of these lodges? And at the same time in the actual state of affairs, the situation of the Grand Master is such that its delicacy may change each instant to be very embarrassed. Prince Murat, as Grand Master, could dissolve a lodge. But, a lodge which ceased to exist, ceased at the same time to be a shareholder. The civil society, therefore, profits by the sum that the dissolved lodge had invested in its name. Thus, Prince Murat, as shareholder, and director of all the acts of the society, benefited by the suppression of share-holding lodges that he thought fit, as Grand Master, to suppress. The Prince is incapable of abusing his rights, certainly! but it is not the less true that such a situation is false. There is a society which is composed of great and small. The lodges, as a whole body, could not, according to the French law, possess delegate powers; and

The project which we speak of—we do not know by what means it is to be realised, but we are convinced that the worthy and intelligent among Masons will be repugnant to it,—is that the greater part of the Masons should desert their lodges, and that the battle should terminate from want of bellegents. It is not new, however, and it has already shown itself in different propositions, which would tend to the realisation of it. But attempts of this nature, although produced under the patronage of the Grand Master, who clearly did not understand the object and could not, therefore, see the consequences, have always been defeated by the great majority of French Masons. If such should be accomplished, it could only be done by surprise, or by the intervention of an extra-Masonic authority; but then our foreign brethren will doubtless join with the Masters of French Masonry, in advising all the lodges of France to lay dormant; which course will at least, reserve them from an odious mutilation and transformation, which the enemies of Masonic light and of social progress alone could profit by.—*Sint ut sunt aut non sint!*

Whatever may be the trials reserved for our Order, they can but end in a suspension of the working, and a provisional cessation of the meetings. Masonry cannot disappear unless it gives up everywhere, at once, its character of tolerance and universality, which, thank God, is impossible. It may for a moment, and in a certain place, be forced to break itself up or dissolve; but since it is the only institution which can realise universal brotherhood, and since humanity cannot be turned from its course, from this cause Freemasonry is immortal.

No one will be astonished, nevertheless, that in the presence of a common danger, a certain number of Masters, or representatives of lodges have believed they ought to take the responsibility of this supreme appeal. Perhaps the moral support of their brethren of foreign Orients, and above all the public testimony of their sympathies will suffice to dispel the danger.

In any case such testimony will be to us a sweet recompense and a great consolation.

POSTSCRIPT.

The preamble that we have read was in the press when the political journals brought us the news of the resignation of Prince Murat, at the same time that his letter of the 29th July last appeared. This letter does not speak of resignation. The Prince, Grand Master, only announces there that he has provisionally given the charge of current affairs to a commission, but that he reserves to himself the right to interfere in important cases. As for the members of this commission, they are not stated in the letter, since there is only one expressly mentioned, and that one is the certain representative—always the certain representative!.....But then has he changed his situation? This situation, however, could not be prolonged.

Three months have now passed away since the Grand Master suspended provisionally Masons who believed themselves in the exercise of their electoral rights, and who, far from thinking themselves guilty of any offence, have the testimony of their conscience to having accomplished a duty. These Masons, how-

their Grand Master is at the same time, the director of the society, the greatest and most important shareholder, that is to say having, as such, the distinct interests of those of each lodge.

ever, should be judged by their brethren, unless the authority acknowledges that it is in error, and recalls its decrees. An authority to do wrong and confess it! that was never seen. We should be fortunate if Masonry gave such an example to the profane world. It will not do it, and is so much worse for it.—In the meantime the working of the lodges was suspended, and will be so, in most cases, until their officers, dishonoured by the decree, have either been reinstated by a solemn reparation, or excluded by regular judgment. It is customary not to defer longer than thirty-three days the judgment of Masons accused on account of an offence or crime. This legal limit has long since passed; more than a hundred days have elapsed since the first decree, and the suspended brethren still await the reparation which is their due.

This situation, alike vexatious for the Presidents of the lodges, and painful to the lodges themselves, is likely, if prolonged, to weaken the respect for Masonic authority. After showing itself prompt to accuse and to dishonour, it ought not to be slower to prove the evil which it has proclaimed, or less negligent to repair the wrong it has done. It is not by such actions as this that they will restore to Masonry the prestige which they have caused it to lose. They are poor advocates who would maintain authority on all occasions, and who do not know how to respect it themselves. They are like children who wound themselves with the weapons they brandish! Authority is a force, which, like other forces, depends upon itself, and perishes if it is not revived. It is from the terror, from the faith, or from the hearty respect it inspires in its representatives, that it can draw the elements to maintain itself. Terror is not found in the minds of everyone; faith only belongs to those who are elected; as for respect, upon consideration, it goes to those who deserve it. But if you have drained the source of it, your authority, deprived of sustenance, is very quickly exhausted. Then the will of those who exercised the power could no longer have any influence.

And now a few words on the letter of Prince Murat.

This circular-letter reproduced those vague accusations of disobedience to the law, and revolt against authority to which we have sufficiently answered. It is known now on which side justice and legality are to be found. We shall not return to it. One word about the idea of rendering Masonry the owner of its Temples, which, from its origin, so occupied the brain of the Grand Master that he seemed to have made it the only object of his mission.

"In a few years more," said he to the Freemasons, "the Temple in Rue Cadet would have belonged to you for ever." It is a pity, but the facts are a contradiction of these alluring promises.

We read, in the last report to the stock-holders, that of the original price of 450,000fr. which the estate cost, there is still due, 407,000fr., and that the work of building is nothing like paid for. We read there that the capital of the society rises to 834,000fr., but of which there are only 151,000fr. of shares subscribed for. The difference between 834,000 and 151,000 represents the amount of the society's debt. It is not a trifle we see. It is true that the estate represents a greater value, and that it could now be sold for more than a million francs, thanks to the enormous increase in the value of ground in Paris, and especially

in the *quartier* in which the hall is situated. But it is not less true that the Administration of Rue Cadet only kept itself up for four or five years by means of the circulation of bills, signed by the cashier, endorsed by the certain representative, which they negotiated with obliging discounters, who very often renewed them upon their falling due. All this is well-known to every Mason in Paris, who long lamented it. In last May the majority of the Representatives of the lodges would, doubtless, have assembled to alter it, but the premature dissolution of the Assembly, and the adjournment for five months of the meetings of the shareholders, at the instance of the civil authorities, has prevented and hindered every measure of this kind.

We now go on to the end, since Prince Murat forces us to take this ground, which we would have avoided. The resistance of the Administration to the wishes of Masonry; its illegal struggle against the Masonic Legislative Assembly; its violent measures against those deputies who could have thrown a light on the state of affairs; its disloyal attacks against the character and intentions of the opposition; its systematic denunciations; its persistence to the last in representing, as a conspiracy, what was only the simple and lawful expression of the views of the electors, the wants of the administrators, and the rights of the shareholders, are explained by the necessity in which they find themselves placed, in order to gain time to redeem bills scattered about with the greatest profusion.

And now, they tell us that, during several years, French Masonry has been free from debt. How so, since the expenditure of the society exceeds its income? But, in any case, is it strange that the Administration should have to find itself excuses for not having done a number of things required by Masons long since. During several years, they have told us, "Masonry, freed from debt, would have been able to build a hospital, to establish schools, libraries, &c., in short, to show to the profane world what was its mission." But this programme that they bring before us, who would believe that it is the debts of the civil society which have hindered the realisation of it on the part of the Grand Orient? The lodges, when their fraternal devotedness is addressed, have inexhaustible resources; but they must be convinced that the funds which they consecrate to truly charitable, social, and religious works, will not be turned from their proper use by speculation or absorbed by wants of another kind. They speak of a hospital. But a hospital has been founded several years ago by the gifts of Masonic charity. What has become of it in the hands of the Administration? What service has it rendered with the resources placed in its hands (about 15,000 francs in 1860)? Does it still exist? And what has become of it, at the time we are writing? ¹²

¹² We read in the pamphlet of Bro. Hayman this statement, the only thing that we have been able to procure from this establishment: "The report of Financial Committee says nothing of the hospital which, nevertheless, leaves an opening for hard and serious criticisms. In fact, under the pretext of benevolence, they deprived the lodges of half their funds for the relief of the poor; they have employed their funds in buying stock, which this year rose to 7,300 francs, when, during the winter, and from enquiry made by a Parisian lodge, they have delivered 772fr. 80 cents. in charitable gifts to the hospital."

"Masonry," said Prince Murat to us, "did not offer ten years ago any allurements to personal ambition. Since then it has yearly increased." Whose fault if it has excited envy and cupidity? Masonry, ten years ago, knew nothing of high salaries; its functions, purely honorary, could awake emulation, satisfy some vain persons; but, at least, does not excite base appetites. Who, then, has introduced into it the allurements of large salaries; or on whom falls the responsibility of new vices, which follow as a matter of course? It has grown great do they add? All that has grown great is the expenditure, the offices, embarrassments of every kind; but what has not grown great is the number of Masons. The calendar of the Grand Orient shows that the number of lodges has diminished. In 1852 the Order possessed 325 lodges; this year there are only 269, according to the returns of 1861. Thus, the purely gratuitous affirmations are totally contradicted when figures are brought to bear upon them.

There our task is easy. But what shall we say to our Grand Master when he re-echoes anonymous imputations based on such statements as these? What shall we say to him if it is he only who injures us? What is more sad than to see the chief of our Order innocently repeat perfidious accusations, and to give to base denunciations the support of his name and character.

We do not know whether Masons wish to form a new dogma. In any case we should not see much evil in it. It is the right of every man to do what he believes right, and it is not within the province of the Masonic brotherhood, in this age of religious tolerance, that they ought to take upon themselves to contest this right, recognised by a positive law in every civilised country. But what we affirm is that never has any Mason, owing obedience to the Grand Orient, striven to "attach Masonry to any of those secret societies which the Revolution has spread over the surface of the globe." We declare it to be an unworthy falsehood, and we have been very much grieved and surprised to find it in a letter signed with the name of Prince Murat. Such denunciations against Masons would not be of any importance coming from the enemies of Masonry; they write according to their wishes. But, set forth by those whom Masons have chosen to represent them, they acquire a singular importance. Thus, at the same time that we protest against these accusations in the name of all those who side with the present *memoire*, we summon Prince Murat to depart from those generalities which, by the vagueness of their expression, include every one, and call upon him to positively designate by name—to Masonry first, to the civil authorities afterwards, if he thinks proper—the persons of whom he intended to speak. So far we leave with him the moral responsibility of an act which, out of respect for his name and quality of Grand Master, we should abstain from qualifying, in order that public conscience would appreciate it.

Perhaps we may be excused from bringing to light again other errors, less serious without doubt, but very much to be regretted, nevertheless, in a letter signed with a name and title. Why say that *they* excite bad passions? Who are *they*? and why? and for what reason? Do they believe that respectable men abandoned their own affairs, sacrificed their time and money, and exposed themselves to all kinds of

unpleasant consequences in order to excite *bad passions*; and against whom, in the name of God?

Besides the serious differences which separate us from his Administration—differences which we have sufficiently made known—there exists between the Grand Master of French Masonry and those who have refused him their votes, a misunderstanding that it grieves us to make public.

The most illustrious Grand Master resembles here the Emperor of China, who, cheated by the reports of his mandarins, faithfully believed they had exterminated the barbarians of the West, when their army was already under the walls of Peking. The Grand Master tells us he will consent "to be indulgent to every brother who asks his pardon, recognising the wrong he has done in infringing the Constitution which he had sworn to observe."

If the Grand Master were aware of what has passed, if he had read other things than the reports of his mandarins, he would know that it is they who have used his name, and who have violated treaties; that we wish to maintain the constitution; and that it is he himself who has been beaten, very quietly thank God, and without the least disorder, on the days of the 22nd and 23rd of May, by all French Masonry, united in Masonic convention or electoral Assembly.

We believe, besides, we are faithful interpreters of French Masonry in affirming that, conquerors or conquered, we have done our duty in freely expressing our regrets and excuses, if we think we have given a single example of the violation of Masonic law.

But the misunderstanding exists here, since the Grand Master thinks that we have disobeyed the Constitution, and we affirm that it is his Administration which has violated it.

This is why we can well, having seen the solidity which unites all the brethren, consent to humiliate ourselves, and to put on ashes and sack-cloth for Masonry, the faults of the Scribes and Pharisees of but we cannot ask forgiveness offered to us. Not being guilty of any fault, we cannot accept it.

And yet, that our readers may pardon us these explanations, we will express our regret at having given perhaps too much time to personal questions. "Doubtless, as Pascall well says, it is troublesome to stoop to trifles, but there are times for trifling." And we promise never more to return to it. They have done us at least this justice, that it is not we who have caused Masonry to descend from the heights of philosophy that it loves to inhabit, to train it in the arena of brutal passions and doubtful speculations. But we are too much impressed with the importance of our mission not to desire that it may soon, purified from every stain, resume the rank which it held, and so recommence, with new force, its holy work of pacific progress, of brotherly benevolence, and of universal conciliation.

SECOND POSTSCRIPT.

"We have not spoken of a pamphlet honoured by the patronage of the Grand Master, and published without the author's name, under the title: *Une sédition au sein de la Maçonnerie*. We have only mentioned it that may be placed on record as a portion of our Masonic literature. The author of this pamphlet, whose incognito we wish to respect, is not a common mind, and might have been a distinguished philosopher. Unfortunately, his character

is not always shown by the brightness of his talents; unfortunately also, he does not possess, between ways and means, that nice balance which renders independence easy. We shall not be severe with this fallen brother, out of regard for philosophy, we shall respect the flight under which it is wisely covered; we abstain at the same time from qualifying his work, that he may regret it some future time.

But we cannot pass over in silence a letter written by the certain representative of the Grand Master on the occasion of a false interpretation given by the journals to the circular of Prince Murat, a circular which they had mistaken for a resignation, and which, in fact, signified nothing like it.

We see that the representative of the Grand Master continues to denounce as agitators, anarchists, as insurrectionists, those Masons who no longer wish to support his proceedings.

Whilst finishing these lines, we understand that the Lodge le Temple des Amis de l'Honneur Français has decided (unanimously) to bring an accusation against Bro. Reyès, member of the Lodge. The representative thus finds himself provisionally suspended, by the terms of the statutes, from his Masonic rights.

MASONIC FACTS.

(Continued from page 67.)

46. The celebrated Gates of Somnauth were made in the 9th century. They are made of sandal wood, and had formerly twenty-four double equilateral triangles carved upon them; now there are but eight perfect ones, with the scroll work inside; ten imperfect ones, and six entirely obliterated. All the centre designs differ from each other, and are extremely beautiful.—(Fig. 9.)

The Temple of Somnauth in Guzerat is considered by the Hindoos the holiest in India. The idol was supplied twice a-day with fresh water from the Ganges, distant above 1000 miles. The Temple is built of hewn stone, the lofty roof is supported by fifty-six pillars, carved and set with precious stones. It was destroyed by Mahmood of Ghuzni in 1025; after its destruction, the gates were carried by Mahmood to Ghuzni, where for 800 years they adorned the entrance to his tomb. In October, 1842, they were carried away by General Nott, and crossed the Sutlej with the army on December 23rd, and on January 17th, 1843, they were moved in procession to be restored to the Temple of Somnauth. They are 11ft. high, and 9ft. wide; the upper portion is still perfect. Surrounding them is the door case torn from the tomb of Mahmood.—*Archæologia*, vol. xxx., p. 174.

47. A law of Edgar (959-975) ordained that "every priest, to increase knowledge, shall diligently learn some handicraft."—*Willk. Leg. Ang. Sax.* p. 83.

48. John de Sais or Siez, Abbot of Peterborough, 1114 to 1125, laid the foundation of a new church there in 1117.—*Britton's Architectural Dictionary*.

49. Marco Juliano, architect of the general hospital at Venice in 1120.—*Filibien Recueil Historique de la Vie et Ouvrages des plus célèbres Architects*, p. 195. Paris, 1687.

50. The foundation-stone of Waverley Abbey laid November 24th, 1128.—*Archæological Journal*, vol. iii., p. 88.

51. The Abbey of St. Denis was commenced in 1137 by Abbot Suger, who was an accomplished mason, and greatly skilled in architecture. The foundations were laid on Sunday, 14th June, 1140. The king and a vast number of prelates and nobles assisted in laying the first stones. They descended into the trenches with the sacred relics, singing the lxxxvi Psalm, "Fundamentum ejus in montibus sanctis;" and it is related that while they were chaunting the verse, "Lapides pretiosi omnes muri tui," many of the company took off their rings and cast them into the foundations. The work was pushed on with unexampled rapidity; it was finished and dedicated June 11th, 1144.—*Historie de l'Abbaye Royale de Saint Denis en France, par Dom Michel Felibien, Religieux Benedictin de la Congregation de St. Maur*, lib. iv., pp. 7 and 8.

52. Buono, a skilful architect, built the tower of the Church of St. Mark, at Venice, in 1154.—*Felibien, Recueil Historique de la Vie et Ouvrages des plus célèbres Architects*. Paris, 1687. p. 195.

53. Adam, a monk of Fountains Abbey, celebrated for his knowledge of ecclesiastical architecture, presided at the building of Woburn Abbey, and also of Kirkstede. He selected the site of Meaux Abbey, in the East Riding of Yorkshire, founded in 1150, and was the first Abbot. Adam came originally from Whitby.—*Dugdale's Baronage*, vol. I., p. 62.

The foundation stone of the new church of the Abbey, was laid on 15th April, 1207, being Palm Sunday, by Abbot Alexander.—*From the Meaux Abbey Chartulary, in the possession of Mr. Smyth, of Heath*.

54. Peter of Colechurch, Priest and Chaplain, rebuilt London Bridge in 1163, of timber.—*Walpole's Anecdotes of Painting, &c.*, vol. I., p. 124.

55. Hildubrand, a Benedictine monk, employed about 1170, by Foulcher, Abbot of St. Père, at Chatres, to rebuild the church of his convent.—*Felibien*, lib. iv., 200.

56. William, the German, was engaged with Bonnano, in 1174, to build the Bell Tower, Pisa.—*Felibien*, p. 197.

57. Ancient MS. descriptions of the erection of our Mediæval buildings are extremely rare. There is, however, a most valuable one amongst the Cotton MSS. in the British Museum, by Gervasius, a Benedictine monk of Canterbury, which gives an account of the original structure; the fire of 1174, which destroyed the glorious choir of Conrad; the appointment of Master Masons; and of the rebuilding of the destroyed portion of the Cathedral. It is an extremely graphic description, and of great value to Archæological and Architectural science. The chronicle has been translated by Professor Willis, and published by him in his history of the Cathedral, 1845. Portions interesting to Masons are herewith given:—

Gervase, after describing the fire which took place on Sept. 5, 1174, says that "The Brotherhood sought counsel as to how and in what manner the burnt church might be repaired, but without success; for the columns of the church, commonly termed the pillars, were exceedingly weakened by the heat of the fire, and were scaling in pieces, and hardly able to

stand, so that they frightened even the wisest out of their wits.

"French and English artificers were therefore summoned, but even these differed in opinion. On the one hand, some undertook to repair the aforesaid columns without mischief to the walls above. On the other hand, there were some who asserted that the whole church must be pulled down if the monks wished to exist in safety. This opinion, true as it was, excruciated the monks with grief, and no wonder, for how could they hope that so great a work should be completed in their days by any human ingenuity. However, amongst the other workmen there had come a certain *William of Sens*, a man active and ready, and as a workman, most skilful both in wood and stone. Him, therefore, they retained, on account

of his lively genius and good reputation, and dismissed the others.

"And he, residing many days with the monks and carefully surveying the burnt walls in their upper and lower parts, within and without, did yet for some time conceal what he found necessary to be done, lest the truth should kill them in their present state of pusillanimity.

"But he went on preparing all things that were needful for the work, either of himself or by the agency of others. And when he found that the monks began to be somewhat comforted, he ventured to confess that the pillars rent with the fire, and all that they supported, must be destroyed, if the monks wished to have a safe and excellent building. At length they agreed, being convinced by reason, and

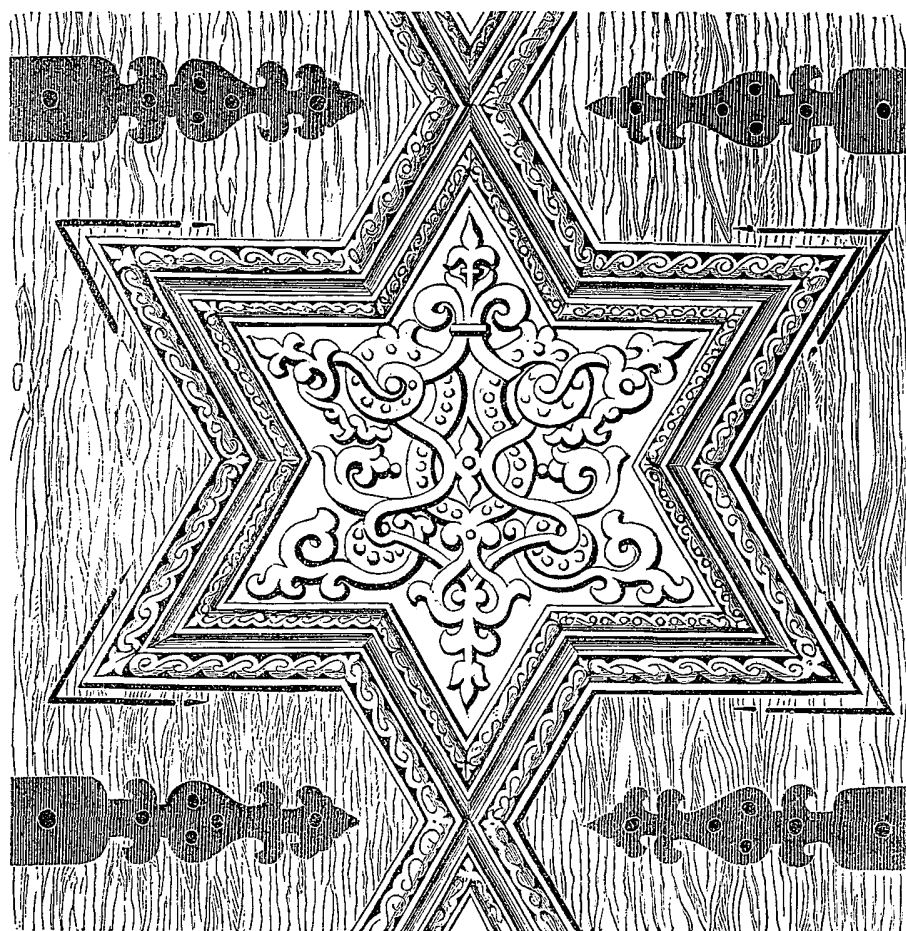


FIG. 9.—Gates of Somnauth, 9th century.

wishing to have the work as good as he promised, and above all things, to live in security.

"And now he addressed himself to the procuring of stone from beyond the sea. He constructed ingenious machines for loading and unloading ships, and for drawing cement and stones. He delivered molds for shaping the stones to the sculptors who were assembled, and diligently prepared other things of the same kind. The choir, thus condemned to destruction, was pulled down, and nothing else was done in this year."

* * * * *

After giving particulars of work done every year, and writing of 1178 he says :—"In the summer of

which, commencing from the cross, he erected ten pillars, that is, on each side five, of which the two first were ornamented with marble columns to correspond with the other two principal ones. Upon these ten he placed arches and vaults. And having, in the next place, completed both sides, the triforia and upper windows, he was, at the beginning of the fifth year, in the act of preparing with machines for the turning of the great vault, when suddenly the beams broke under his feet, and he fell to the ground, stones and timber accompanying his fall, from the height of the capitals of the upervault, that is to say, of 50ft. Thus sorely bruised by the blows from the beams and stones, he

was rendered helpless, alike to himself and for the work, but no other person than himself was in the least injured.

"Against the Master only was this vengeance of God or spite of the devil directed.

"The Master, thus hurt, remained in his bed for some time under medical care, in expectation of recovering, but was deceived in this hope, for his health amended not. Nevertheless, as the winter approached, and it was necessary to finish the upper vault, he gave charge of the work to a certain ingenious and industrious monk, who was the overseer of the Masons; an appointment whence much envy and malice arose, because it made this young man appear more skilful than richer and more powerful ones. But the Master reclining in bed, commanded all things that should be done in order.

* * * * *

And the Master, perceiving that he derived no benefit from the physicians, gave up the work, and crossing the sea, returned to his home in France. And another succeeded him in the charge of his works; William by name, English by nation, small in body, but in workmanship of many kinds acute and honest. He in the summer of the fifth year (A.D. 1179), finished the cross on each side, that is, the south and the north, and turned the ciborium which is above the great altar, which the rains of the previous year had hindered, although all was prepared. Moreover, he laid the foundation for the enlargement of the church at the eastern part, because a chapel of St. Thomas was to be built there."

* * * * *

"The convent was ejected by the fire from the choir, even as Adam from Paradise, in the year of the world 1174, in the month of September, on the fifth day of the month, and about the ninth hour. They remained in the nave of the church five years, seven months, and thirteen days. And returned into the new choir in the year of grace 1180, in the month of April, on the nineteenth day of the month, at about the ninth hour of Easter Eve.

"A.D. 1180, our Craftsman had erected the choir of the four altars, where the bodies of the holy Archbishops were deposited, as they were of old, and as we have above described."

Gervase says that in the old capitals the work was plain, in the new ones exquisite in sculpture. There the arches and everything else was plain, or sculptured with an axe and not with a chisel. But here almost throughout is appropriate sculpture.

The date of the introduction of the chisel at Can-

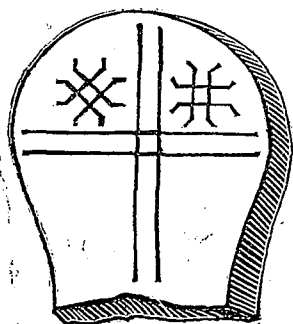


FIG. 10.—Tombstone at Bakewell, Derbyshire, 11th century.

terbury is thus fixed to be somewhere about 1175, though there is reason to suppose that it was used before his time at York.

58. Monuments or tombstones of Masons of mediæval times are not common, there are a few in existence in this country; on the continent there are several inscriptions, which will be given in due order.

The late Mr. Bateman has figured various ancient tombs, which were found a few years ago at Bakewell Church, Derbyshire; amongst them is this one (Fig. 10), with the marks of the departed Mason incised upon it.

The custom of sculpturing the Mason's marks on tomb stones is still in force in Denmark, Schleswig-Holstein, &c.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

THE GAVEL.

What is the correct form of the Gavel used in lodges? —H. J.—[It is a stone-hammer, which is frequently confounded (by Freemasons) with two other implements used by working masons, namely, the mallet and the settling-maul, or beetle. In the English and American lodges the term gavel is applied to the emblem of power, used by the Master in governing his lodge, and which is shaped like a sculptor's or stone-cutter's mallet. In the French lodges, it is termed "le maillet," and in the German, "der hammer." It has been contended that the word gavel is derived from "gable," and that the instrument should be shaped like the gable of a house. In the frontispiece of a well-known book, we find depicted both the setting-maul and the small hammer, the latter being shaped somewhat like a pick-axe; although in the text the words "gavel" and "setting-maul" are used as synonyms. In Webster, the word "gavel" is derived from the Welsh *gavael*, a hold, a grasp, tenure, signifying, also, the gable of a house; and *gavelock*, Saxon, an iron crow. Bailey defines "gavelock" as "any kind of warlike instrument, malleolus, also a pick-axe." The Master's gavel (so called) should be in shape "a stone-cutter's mallet," and the gavel proper, or stone-hammer, is the appropriate working-tool of the Entered Apprentice, used, by the operative mason, to prepare the rough stone for the application of the square of the Fellow Craft, and symbolically, by the speculative Mason, to divest his heart and conscience of the vices and superfluities of life, in order to fit his mind for the reception of eternal truth.]

FREDERICK II. OF PRUSSIA AND THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED, OR SCOTTISH, RITE.

There are as many Masons averse to the high-grades in America as else-where and it is the object of some of them to decry the power and importance of those rites which they do not understand. On the *New York Dispatch* one of these antagonists is regularly engaged, showing certain leanings against all but what he terms *blue* Masonry! One of these articles is so interesting, from being partly correct and partly in error, that it is hoped it may find a place in the "Masonic Notes and Queries." The writer commences in the following strain:

"There appears to be a strange infatuation on the part of many members of the Ancient and Accepted, or Scottish, Rite, who persist in ascribing to Frederick II., King of Prussia, the authorship of the so-called Grand Constitutions of 1786, and the institution of the 33rd degree. Bro. Raymond, Grand Commander of one of the rival Supreme Councils, sitting at Boston, in an address delivered on the occasion of the last communication of that body, (see Transactions. 1861, p. 63) very coolly tells us, that 'The constitution, as it came from Frederick, the founder of the Order in its present form, permitted that there should be but two Supreme Councils in this country, &c.' And again 'It is well known to you that the 33rd and last, or governing, degree,

as well as the Supreme Council itself, was established by Frederick II., King of Prussia, just before his death in 1786, and the Constitutions as revised by him, which we are all bound to support and maintain &c.' The first authentic document in which we find any mention of Frederick II., as chief of the Rite, is the *Circular* published at Charleston, by Frederick Dalcho, Dec. 4, 1802, and issued for the purpose of 'explaining the origin and nature of the high and sublime degrees of Masonry.' In this remarkable document it is stated, that

"In 5761 (1761) Lodges and Councils of the Sublime degrees, existed all over the continent of Europe, His Majesty, the King of Prussia, who was the Grand Commander of the Order of the Royal Secret, was proclaimed as Chief of the Sublime, and ineffable, degrees of Masonry for the two hemispheres. * * On the 1st May, 1786 the constitution of the 33rd degree, called the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, was finally ratified by his Majesty the King of Prussia who as Grand Commander of the Order of Princes of the Royal Secret, possessed the Sovereign Masonic power over the whole craft."

"Dalcho, in his *Orations* p. 94, in explanation of this fact, says that 'by the Constitutions of the order, which were ratified at Berlin, on the 25th October, 1762, the King of Prussia was proclaimed as Chief of the eminent degrees, with the rank of S.G.I.G., and Grand Commander.' Now the fact is, that these constitutions of 1762, make no mention whatever of the King of Prussia, nor is there the slightest proof that they were ever ratified at Berlin, or anywhere else.

"In the '*Extraits du Livre d'Or du Suprême Conseil pour la France, &c.*' of 1806, 1807 and 1808, we find these facts incidentally alluded to without going into any particulars.

"On the 5th March, 1813, the Duke Bernhard, of Saxe Weimar, and his friend Count Albert Edling, having previously received the degrees, from the 18th to the 31st, by communication, were initiated into the 32nd degree at Paris, by the Grand Commander Cambacères. On this occasion Pyron, the Grand Secretary of the Holy Empire, delivered a discourse 'on the history of Freemasonry and of the Supreme Council of the 33rd,' which was published in the *Extrait du Livre d'Or du Suprême Conseil pour la France, &c.* Séance du 5, 1, 5813, Paris, 1813, and in the course of which he asserted, that 'Charles Edward, the last descendant of the Stuarts, was Chief of Ancient Modern Masonry. He appointed Frederick II., King of Prussia, as his successor and Grand Master. At that time the Ancient and Accepted Rite consisted of only 25 degrees, of which the Prince of the Royal Secret was the last. On the 1st May, 1786, Frederick revised the high degrees and Constitutions of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, added eight degrees, to the twenty-five already recognised in Prussia, and formed a Supreme Council of the 33rd degree, the laws of which, he drew up himself in eighteen articles."

"Kloss, in his *Gesch der Freimaureri in Frankreich*, alluding to this discourse, says that it must have been a source of national pride to the Prussians, that the French masons at any time prior to the battle of Jena, should have adopted the Conqueror of Rosbach, as their Supreme Masonic Chief.

"In the *Abrégé historique de l'organisation en France des 33 degrés du Rit Ecossais ancienne et accepté*, Paris, 1814 (by Pyron), we find the following account:

"In 1786, Frederic II., King of Prussia, Sovereign of Sovereigns, of the Ancient and Accepted rite, and Grand Master, successor of the Kings of Scotland and of England, foreseeing that his days would not be of long duration, desired to consolidate for ever the Ancient and Accepted Rite, for which he had an especial affection. He wished to invest it in each state or empire, where it might be practised, with the necessary power to free it from the clogs which it might sustain on the part of that brutal ignorance which alters everything, from the ambitious pretences of other systems, and from a destructive pre-eminence reproached by the principles of universal equality, and of the reciprocal system of toleration, which should make of the different masonic systems one union, as emanating from the same stock. Consequently, on 1 May, 1786, Frederic II., presiding in person over the Supreme Council, through which he ruled and governed the Order, increased to 33 degrees of the hierarchy of the 25 degrees ordained by the Grand Constitutions of 1762."

"Vassal, in his *Essai historique sur l'institution du Rit Ecossais &c.*, Paris, 1827, p. 19, alluding to the various impositions of De Grasse, Tilly, and others, says:

"They had recourse to fraud, and, in order to impose with more safety, it was declared that these Constitutions had been

granted by Frederic II., King of Prussia, who in granting them, instituted the 32nd and 33rd degrees on 1 May, 1786; and in order to give color to this fable, it was asserted that Frederic was Grand Master of the universality of the Scotch Rite; and we will add that he could not have been Grand Master of the Scotch Rite, because, since 1750, only reformed Masonry was professed in Prussia. We know that the King of Prussia protected the Order, but he was never Grand Master; and, had he been that prior to the 1 May, 1786, he was afflicted with an apoplexy, which was followed by paralysis, and which deprived him of a portion of his intellectual faculties. This malady continued eleven months without intermission, and he died in the course of this year, from whence it follows that he could not create the 32nd and 33rd degrees, and still less sign the pretended Grand Constitutions on 1 May, 1786. The opinion which we express is the more precise, for if we consult vol. iii. of the *Histoire de la Monarchie Prussienne*, published by Mirabeau in 1788, we find the following passage: 'It is a pity that Frederic II. did not push his zeal to become Grand Master of all the German lodges, or at least, of all the Prussian lodges; his power would thereby have been considerably increased and many military enterprises would have resulted differently if he had never embroiled himself with the heads of this association.' (Note.—A consideration which cannot have escaped even the least observant masons, is, that if the 32nd degree had been created by the King of Prussia, this degree would, at least, have retained some analogy with the reformed masonry which was practised in Prussia; while, on comparing this degree with the 25th degree of Herodim, we find so perfect an identity between the two degrees, that they contain the same doctrines, the same ritual, and the same historical points; whence it results that the Prince of the Royal Secret, is nothing but the 25th deg. of the Rite of Herodim, which has been transposed to the 32nd degree.) These documents demonstrate that the King of Prussia was never Grand Master of the Scotch Rite, and that in 1786 he was physically unable to create any degrees, or to institute these pretended Grand Constitutions; and we regret that the authors of the circular of the Grand Orient of 1819 should have entertained an erroneous principle by recognising that Frederic II., had given Grand Constitutions for the Scotch Rite. Notwithstanding this formal assertion, we persist in believing that these Grand Constitutions never existed. Brother de Marguerites has gone even further, he asserts, in a memoir published in 1818, that a Scotch knight had in his possession the original of these Constitutions, signed *manu propria* by the great Frederic, King of Prussia. We may observe that the Knight must have been of high birth to have been so intimately connected with the great Frederic, that this monarch should have confided to his care the grand constitutions signed by his own hand, and that he must have been well advanced in years, because he must have been a 33rd in 1786, in order to be entrusted with a document which was inherent to the Cahier of this degree. * * * We can also affirm that since 1814 the Grand Comistory of Rites in France has conferred the 33rd degree upon many Prussian officers who were old masons, and none of them had any knowledge of the existence of a Supreme Grand Council at Berlin. Therefore, if the 33rd degree and the Scotch rite are actually unknown at the place where they were created how can it be asserted that the great Frederic instituted this degree and gave a Masonic charter, which other kingdoms should enjoy and his own be deprived of?

"In the 'Official Proceedings of the Centennial Celebration of the Initiation of Frederick the Great King of Prussia, into the Fraternity of Masons, by the Grand National Lodge of the Three Globes, Berlin, 1838,' the orator of the occasion endeavoured to correct the assertions advanced in regard to Frederic, by several French systems of Masonry, and positively declared that he never actively participated in any work except in that of the real Masonic degrees, and that he was opposed to the high degrees.

"Lanning, in his *Encyclopadie*, gives the following information concerning Frederic:—

"Frederic II. third King of Prussia, known as Frederic the Great, born in Berlin Jan. 24th, 1712, died at the Chateau of Sans Souci, August 17th, 1786. He was made a Mason at Brunswick on the evening of August 14th, 1738, by a Masonic deputation from the lodge "Absolom" at Hamburg, consisting of the Barons Von Oberg, Von Bielfeld, Von Lowen, the Count of Lippe-Bruckeburg, and some others. On the death of his father in 1740 he ascended the throne of Prussia, and in June of the same year we find him presiding as Master over a

lodge at Charlottenburg, in which he initiated several eminent persons. In regard to his supposed connection with the Scotch rite, all well-informed persons are aware that during the last fifteen years of his life Frederic, neither directly, nor indirectly, occupied himself with Masonry. It is far more likely that he always was a declared enemy of the high degrees, because he, like many other respectable brethren of Germany, had learnt to regard them as the root of all corruption in the Masonic fraternity, and as the seed from which sprang the schisms between orders and systems.

"The genuineness of the constitutions of 1786 was first attacked in a discourse delivered before the Sovereign Scotch Chapter Père du Famille, at Angers, in February, 1812, and published in the *Hermes* vol. 1 p. 296." The author states that before the 1st May, 1786, Frederick had had an attack of apoplectic asphyxia; that his sickness lasted eleven months without intermission or improvement, and he died in 1786. For this he refers to *L'Histoire Secrete de la Cour de Berlin*, 1789, vol. 1. p. 215.

"Chemin Dupontes, in his *Memoire sur l'Ecossisme* says, 'Frederic the Great protected Masonry, but neither he nor his Council amused themselves with making degrees, and if they had done so, we should recognize their work. Besides, Frederick died 17th of August, 1786, after a painful illness of eleven months. He could not, therefore, on the 1st of May, of the same year, have made or approved any Masonic regulations.'

"Clavel, in his *Histoire pittoresque*, says 'that from the year 1744 until his death, Frederic in no wise concerned himself about masonry, that on the 1st of May, 1786, he was dying, and absolutely incapable of attending to any business whatever, that he was the declared enemy of the high degrees which he considered an injury to masonry, and that there never was a Council of the 33rd degree in Prussia, where previous to 1786 the rite of Perfection had been for the most part abandoned.'

"Schlosser, in his *History of the Eighteenth Century*, says, 'Frederic II., himself, continued to belong to this Order till after the Silesian War. He ceased to be a member shortly before the commencement of the seven years' war at the very time when these orders began to be abused for every species of deception; and he also commanded such of his Ministers of State as belonged to the order to desist from visiting their lodges.'

"Mitchell, in his *History of Masonry*, p. 116, gives a letter from the National Grand Lodge of the Three Globes, which says, 'All that is rumoured among you about the prescriptions and ordinances of Frederick the Great and of a superior Senate stands on no ground whatever.'

"Albert Pike in his address to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, in Feb., 1858, says, that 'he does not believe Frederick the Great had anything to do with these degrees.'

"From all which the critical mind is directed to the following irresistible deductions:

"1st. That Frederick II. was not the founder, nor did the 33d degree exist during his time.

"2nd. That to the present generation should all credit (if any) attach for the creation of this (so-called) highest grade of Masonry.

"3rd. That the highest (?) officer in this work is mistaken in his data, and hence as a corollary, erroneous in his conclusions.

"We commend these suggestions to all the SS. GG. II. GG., adding the simple remark of Confucius, that 'it is in thy power to break the bands which join thee to thy offence, and to subdue the obstacles which hinder thee from walking in the paths of virtue.'

Such is a very curious attack on the high-grades and it is still being carried on. Should this extract cause any brethren to wish for further examples I have more, among my notes, which are at your service.—Ex. Ex.

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

The *Literary Gazette* says—In the wilds of Canada a gentleman has just produced a little volume of considerable interest. It is no other than a collection of the poems published by Tennyson in 1830 and 1832, which have been suppressed by him in later editions. Only a limited number of copies have been

privately printed; indeed, the volume could not very well have been published, owing to the provisional enactments of the present copyright law, and a few, we understand, are on their way to this country for distribution amongst "genuine admirers (we quote our Canadian friend's precise words) of the poet." These extra poems have all been collated, and the different readings 'also of those merely altered are given, so that the little book forms a supplement to the present edition. It has been stated that Tennyson is very much adverse to the republication of these earlier poems, although competent critics aver that he has no reason whatever to be ashamed of them.

We learn from the *Athenæum*, that the French Minister of Public Instruction, M. Rouland, having proclaimed, as a new discovery, that the renowned fortress, mentioned by Julius Cæsar as the last refuge of the Aduatici, was situated on the elevated plains of Falice, near Huy, on the Meuse, a Belgian officer, M. Bocquet, states that the same assertion was made with the greatest decision in 1858, by an aide-de-camp of the Grand Duke of Baden, M. de Goler, in a work on Julius Cæsar. M. Bocquet has surveyed the locality strictly according to the hints of Cæsar, and agrees most decidedly with the hints of M. de Goler. On the plain, which measures about 175 hectares, the whole nation of the Aduatici found plenty of room.

Mr. J. Russell Smith is about to issue a reprint of the book published in 1745, containing the names of the Roman Catholics, Non-jurors, and others who refused to take the oaths to King George I., together with their titles and places of abode, the parishes and townships where their lands lay, the names of the then tenants, and the annual value of them as returned by themselves; collected by Mr. Cosin, the Secretary to the Commissioners of the Forfeited Estates.

Life and Adventures in the South Pacific, by a Roving Printer. Published by Harper, Brothers, New York, is founded on the adventures of the Author in the whale fisheries in the South Pacific. It is in common with most sea-novels, somewhat profuse in long yarns, but some scenes in the great waters are well depicted. The following sketch on board a whaler, on first sighting sperm whales, is one of the best:—
"The morning of the twenty-second commences with light breezes from the north-east; pleasant weather. Suddenly, about 9 a.m., the monotony is broken by the welcome cry from masthead. 'T-h-e-r-e she b-l-o-w-s! T-h-e-r-e she b-l-o-w-s!' 'Where away?' 'Four points off the lee bow, sir.' 'How far off?' 'About two miles, sir.' 'What does it look like?' 'Sperm whales, sir.' 'Ay, Ay: sing out every time you holler.' By this time the captain was aloft, and, on taking a view with his spy-glass at the 'spouts,' sings out, 'Sperm whales! Call all hands; bear a hand there, and get your boats ready.' 'Ay, ay, sir,' is the reply. All hands are called, and the different crews stand by their respective boats, 'all eager for the fray,' and expressing their determination to capture a whale before returning to the ship, taking for their motto, 'A dead whale or a stove boat.' 'Lower away the boats!' shouts the captain, as he descends to the deck. They are instantly lowered, followed by the crews, and now comes the tug of war. Each boat sets her sail, and the men pull in good earnest. Whale they are skimming the waves the whale is still spouting, and all are anxious to reach him before his 'spoutings are out.' It frequently happens, when in pursuit, that, just at the moment the boat-steerer 'stands up' to strike the whale, he suddenly descends; but experienced whalers can generally tell the direction they take while down, by the position of the 'flukes' when going down. The boats are then pulled in the direction the whale is supposed to have taken. They also judge of the distance the whale will go under water by the velocity of the animal when last seen. After the boats have pulled what is judged to be the proper distance, they 'heave up' or cease pulling. A large whale when not 'gallied,' or frightened, generally spouts from sixty to seventy times before going down, and remains down from fifty to seventy minutes. The boats have now got close on. Those left on board the ship are watching with breathless anxiety,

occasionally exclaiming, 'Oh pull, boys! do pull!' Meantime the men in the boats are bending back to it, but the bow boat has the advantage; she is the head boat. Mr. K., is jumping up and down in the stern, crying, 'Once more, my hearties; give it to her! a few more strokes, and we have him; pull my children! why don't you break your backbones, you rascals? so! there you are now; that's the stroke for a thousand pounds; start her, but keep cool; cucumbers is the word; easy, easy; only start her! why don't you snap your oars, you rascals? bite something, you dogs! easy now, but pull; oh you're all asleep! stop snoring, and pull; pull, will ye? pull, can't ye? pull, won't ye? pull, and start your eyes out! that's it: now you start her.' Thus, one moment coaxing and the next scolding; but no one heeds him, as all are bent on taking the whale. 'Stand up!' shouted he; and the boat-steerer rose to his feet, grasped his iron, and, as the boat neared the monster, 'Give it to him!' is the next cry, and 'chock to the socket' went the first iron, followed as quick as thought by the second. One deafening cheer, and the cry resounded over the waters, '*We are fast! we are fast!*' The sea, which but a moment before lay still and quiet, with scarcely a ripple to break its even surface, is now lashed into foam by the writhings of the whale. 'Stern all!' shouts the officer. The boat is immediately backed, and removed from present danger; the officer takes the head of the boat, and the boat-steerer takes the steering oar to manage the boat; the whale is sounding, and the line is running through the 'chocks,' or groove in the head of the boat, with the rapidity of lightning, and as it passes round the loggerhead it ignites from the heat produced by friction, but the tub-oarsman is continually dashing water upon it in the line-tub. The whale sounds deep, and the line is almost out; a signal is made to the other boats, which are coming down. They come near enough, and bend on their lines; but presently it ceases running out and slackens; the whale is coming to the surface again. All hands now commence to 'haul in line' as fast as he rises, and the boat-steerer coils it away, as fast as hauled in, in the stern-sheets. He soon breaks water, and the boat is gradually hauled up to him. Another boat now fastens, and he again attempts to sound; but, being weakened by loss of blood, he is soon at the surface again. The boats now draw alongside, and the officer of the first boat fast, prepares his lance. He darts it for his vitals (just behind the fin), and the first one proves fatal, for in a moment more he shows the 'red flag;' the blood flows freely from the spout-hole in a thick, dark stream; the sea is stained for some distance, and the men in the boats are coveted with the bloody spray, but glory in it."

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

PROVINCIAL GRAND CLOTHING.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—May I ask you to reconsider your reply to "A Brother." In your last number you say: "A Provincial or Past Provincial Grand Officer is not entitled to wear his collar in lodges out of the province of which he is or was an officer." Now, on reference to page 50 of the *Book of Constitutions* I find the rule in reference to Provincial Grand Officers to be as follows:—"They are not by such appointment, members of Grand Lodge, nor do they take any rank out of their district though they are entitled to wear their clothing as Provincial Grand Officers or Past Provincial Grand Officers in all Masonic meetings." Now, Mr. Editor, if they are allowed to wear their clothing as Provincial Grand Officers I cannot see by what authority they are not to wear collars; it is very possible you are right, but, as W.M. of a lodge the question, was asked me and I interpreted the Constitutions in a different way, and I will of course correct it at our next meeting; but I know you are asked so many questions that I thought you may have answered it with the meaning "that the collars gave rank" out of the district, which it is quite clear no Provincial Grand Officer has out of his district, although it would

appear he is entitled as a matter of courtesy to wear his clothing, and I think that this permission includes the collar.

I am, dear Sir and Bro., fraternally yours,
P.M. OF TWO LODGES.

[In reply to the above, and other correspondents on the same subject, we may observe—in stating last week that a Prov. G. Officer was not entitled to wear his collar out of his province, we were, perhaps, a little in error. We should have said it is not usual; and though the *Book of Constitutions* says that such officers "are entitled to wear their clothing in all Masonic meetings," they would not be admitted into the highest Masonic meeting (Grand Lodge) without the simple blue collar of their lodge. In all Provincial Grand Lodges it is but a mark of respect to wear the collar as well as the apron. Even the Past Grand Officers of England, when visiting lodges other than Provincial Grand Lodges as a rule dispense with wearing the collar.]

THE HARTLEY COLLIERY DISASTER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

SIR AND BROTHER.—There can be no doubt that universal sympathy is deeply felt for the survivors of the recent melancholy disaster at the Hartley Colliery. In a case like this Freemasons surely will not stand by when one of their most cherished principles, Relief, is so urgently called into action? I propose, then, a method which will, if readily adopted by the brethren at large, raise a very considerable sum for the benefit of the widows and orphans. You, my dear brother, have often gone out of your way to assist the distressed, and to you I look on this occasion.

Our organisation is so perfect that we can, without the aid of Committees or Trustees, at once apply ourselves to the task of alleviating misfortune, and the method I would suggest is the following:—

The nearest town to the fearful scene, in which there is a Masonic Lodge, is South Shields; there the brethren of the St. Hilda's Lodge (No. 292) meet, and through that lodge the subscriptions of the brethren all over the country, might be dispensed. The operations may be of the most simple character—merely the donation of one shilling's worth of postage heads each from the large body of Freemasons in this country would amount to a sum not to be despised, for your shilling is a very potent agent. Let, then, the scheme stand thus:—Every brother Mason, willing to help in so good a work, may address to Bro. HENRY GEORGE WARREN, at the Offices of your MAGAZINE, a note enclosing his own, and as many more shilling's worth of postage stamps as he can procure. Then you can forward the same to the W.M. of 292 (I do not know a brother of that lodge, but I have that faith in my Masonic brethren that I feel they would gladly undertake to be the almoners of such a bounty), and the thing is done. You might announce it amongst your Masonic Mems. thus: "Received postage stamps for the Hartley subscription up to this date £ s. d., forwarded to the W.M. of the Lodge of St. Hilda £ s. d. up to the same day;" the space would not be grudged by you, I am sure, in such a work of charity, and I think you would rejoice to be made the medium of doing so much good.

I enclose my own stamps to commence with, and I am inclined to think so easy a method will be available, and promptly responded to by every one who can feel for the stricken objects of this dire calamity.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, one of your Fraternal admirers, believing in the power of numbers, each contributing

ONE SHILLING.

[The shilling enclosed has been received.]

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

A new lodge, to be called the De Grey and Ripon Lodge (No. 1207), in compliment to the Deputy Grand Master, will be opened at the Angel Hotel, Great Ilford, on the 24th of next month.

Another new lodge is also in the course of formation to be called the Royal Albert Lodge, and held in private rooms in Gerrard-street, Soho.

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The annual festival in aid of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows, was celebrated on Wednesday evening, the R.W.D. Grand Master, the Earl de Grey and Ripon, presiding, supported by Bros. Stephen Blair, Prov.G.M. East Lancashire; Captain Bowyer, Prov.G.M. Oxfordshire; Sir Thomas Hesketh, *Bart.*, P.G.W., and D.Prov.G.M. West Lancashire; Sir Hedworth Williamson, Prov.S.G.W. Durham; Rev. J. Senior, *L.L.D.*, Grand Chaplain, and Prov.G.W. West Yorkshire; McIntire, G.D., President of the Board of General Purposes; Roxburg G.Reg.; Woods, G.D.C.; Tomkins, G.Treas.; Clarke, G.Sec.; Perkins, P.G.W.; Slight, Patten, Wilson, Potter, Wheeler, P.G.D's.; Evans, Bridges, Spiers, P.G.S.B's.; Farmer, G.Purst.; Smith, P.G.Purst.; L. Ormerod, Prov.G.D., East Lancashire; L. Newall, Prov.S.G.W., East Lancashire; Aldrich, Prov.G.D. Suffolk; Stewart, Prov.G.W. Essex; Rev. J. B. Phillips, Prov.G.Chap. East Lancashire; Banister, Prov.G.D.C. West Lancashire, and about 150 other brethren.

At the conclusion of the dinner, which was very elegantly served under the personal direction of Bro. Shrewsbury and Elkington,

The D. GRAND MASTER said that the brethren were well aware of the first toast which he had to offer them. It was one always received with favour in every assembly of Englishmen—especially Freemasons—and one which, at the present moment, called forth peculiar and deep feelings. For when he asked them to drink the health of their most gracious Sovereign, it would at once bring back to them, should it for a moment have been absent from their minds, the deep affliction with which Her Majesty had been recently visited by the inscrutable decrees of Providence, and which more than ever bound her to her people. In times of joy they had shared with Her Majesty her joys; in times of prosperity, they had partaken of the prosperity, and now in her affliction they deeply sympathised with Her Majesty, and were partakers of the sorrows of the Royal family. He would now ask them to drink to the health of Her Majesty in solemn silence, as was only fitting the occasion—feeling assured that they would add a heartfelt prayer that it would please Almighty God to support the Queen in her affliction, and give to her mind that consolation which His power alone could give. The toast having been drunk in silence,

The D. GRAND MASTER next gave "Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." They were all cognizant of the void which had lately been made in that family; but after the way in which the younger members had been brought up, he could not doubt that they would follow the example of their illustrious parents, who, on every occasion, had consulted the interests and welfare of the people. It was satisfactory to know that the Prince of Wales had already given proof that he was likely to walk in the footsteps of his distinguished father, and that on his recent visit to the North American provinces, his conduct had been marked by that royal and true English feeling, that not only showed the stock from which he sprung, but had had a most beneficial effect in conciliating the good opinions of all with whom he came in contact. (Cheers.)

The D. GRAND MASTER said he had now to ask them to drink a Masonic toast. Hitherto they had been discharging their duties as good citizens, and now they had to discharge their duties as good Masons. He would, therefore, give them "The Health of the M.W.G.M., the Earl of Zetland." (Cheers.) He knew that that toast was always received with satisfaction and enthusiasm by the Craft, who were happy to testify their approval of his lordship's services to Masonry, and of the brotherly feeling

which he had always evinced towards them. But that night they had not only to regard him in his capacity of M.W.G.M., but as president of the institution, the prosperity of which they were met to promote. (Cheers.) At a later period of the evening, it would be his duty to address them a few words on the character of that institution, and the claims which it had upon them for support. He would not anticipate what he should then have to say, but he might observe that the institution had always received from the Earl of Zetland the warmest support (cheers), and under his auspices one of its most important branches had been developed, and the institution rendered worthy of the Craft. (Cheers.)

The toast having been drunk with all the honours,

Bro. Sir THOMAS HESKETH, *Bart.*, P.G.W., said a most easy and grateful task had fallen to his lot, viz., to propose the health of the noble Earl who then presided over them. (Cheers.) He was sure that they would all agree with him, that very few words were required to recommend the toast to their notice. (Cheers.) When they considered the various official duties the noble Earl had to perform—services of great importance to the country—they could not be too grateful for the manner in which the noble Earl discharged his Masonic duties. (Cheers.) They regretted the absence that evening of the Earl of Zetland, but he was sure that the duties of the chair could not be more ably performed than by the Earl de Grey and Ripon, who devoted the time which he could spare from his official duties to the promotion of the interests of the Craft. (Cheers.) With the name of Earl de Grey and Ripon, he would couple the other officers of Grand Lodge, who, he was sure, were always anxious to show the aptitude and promptitude with which they discharged their arduous duties. (Cheers.)

The D. GRAND MASTER, on rising, was received with repeated plaudits, which prevented his being heard for some time. He said that having had the programme of the toasts before him, he was glad to find that his task was a comparatively easy one, as he had not to return them thanks in his individual and personal capacity. The toast of the Deputy Grand Master was coupled with the other Grand Officers, past and present, a zealous and able body of brethren, who devoted their talents and ability to the service of the Craft. (Cheers.) He felt that as far his personal attendance to his duties was concerned, he was the worst person to represent the officers of Grand Lodge—(no, no)—but his honourable friend had truly stated that his official duties so occupied his time that he could not give such attention to those of his position as D. G. Master, as he could wish. He was satisfied, as regarded the other Grand Officers, that they consisted of a body of pure and conscientious brethren, with abilities and devotion to Masonry second to none in any Masonic body throughout the world. (Cheers.) It was impossible to speak too highly of a body of brethren—unsurpassed in this or any other society—upon whose conduct in the zealous discharge of their duties, so much of the prosperity of the Craft depended. (Cheers.) If the Craft was singularly flourishing at the present moment they owed it to three circumstances—first, to the sound and noble principles on which the Order was founded; secondly, to their charitable and social position; and thirdly, to the influence which was given to the Craft by the character and standing of their Grand Officers. (Cheers.) In his own name, and that of the other Grand Officers past and present, he returned them his sincere thanks for the compliment they had paid him. (Cheers.)

The D. GRAND MASTER had now to propose the health of a body of brethren to whom the Craft owed some obligations. In doing so, however, he was well aware that he was placed in a somewhat delicate position. He was aware that when a person undertook to preside at a public dinner he must, to some extent, leave his modesty at home (laughter); and certainly it had been necessary for him to do so, for he was about to propose his own health (cheers and laughter), or something very like it, as he was going to ask them to drink the health of the Prov. Grand Masters. (Cheers.) He was sure that to do justice to the toast he must endeavour to forget for the moment that he was one of the body. He could not, however, forget those who had gone before him, and had set him such bright examples of the manner in which he should perform his own duties. He was confident that they would agree with him that on the zeal, tact, and sound hearty feelings of the Prov. Grand Masters depended, to a great extent, the prosperity of Freemasonry. (Cheers.) Their duties were important and onerous, and the manner in which they discharged them was best shown by the prosperity of Freemasonry throughout the kingdom. (Cheers.)

He was happy to find that on this occasion he was supported by two Prov. Grand Masters (Bro. Stephen Blair, East Lancashire, and Captain Bowyer, Oxfordshire), who had come up from a distance, no doubt at some inconvenience at this period of the year, when few parties were in town, to discharge their Masonic duties by supporting the Institution which had called the brethren there that evening, and show the great interest they took in the Masonic Charities. (Cheers.) He should, in proposing the toast, avail himself of the opportunity of coupling with it the name of Captain Bowyer, whom every brother in that room must know as a constant attendant at Grand Lodge, and a most zealous supporter of the Masonic Charities. (Cheers.)

Bro. Captain BOWYER, Prov. G.M. Oxfordshire, trusted they would believe him when he said that it was with grateful feelings that he acknowledged the toast which had been so kindly proposed and cordially received. He scarcely knew how properly to express his thanks for the kind manner in which the toast had been proposed, and the importance of their duties as described by the noble Lord. He trusted the brethren were all convinced that the Prov. Grand Masters were anxious to promote the interests of the Craft to the best of their ability (Cheers); and he could assure them that on all occasions when he could do anything to promote the interests of the Charities, or of Freemasonry in general, it would be his greatest pride to do so. (Cheers.)

The D. GRAND MASTER had now to ask them to drink to the success of the noble Charity which they had that evening met to support, and he must at the same time beg their attention for a few minutes whilst he explained the objects of the Institution and the claims which it had upon their support. (Cheers.) In doing so he hoped he should not be employing their time unprofitably, as he looked upon the Institution as a most important instrument in carrying out that Charity which was the glory of the Craft. (Cheers.) The Royal Benevolent Institution for the relief of Aged Masons and their Widows had been established, and carried out the duty of assisting their poorer brethren, on which the foundation of their Order rested. Charity was one of the first duties which their sacred religion taught them to perform in their earthly pilgrimage, and so also was it the first duty enjoined by Freemasonry, which was founded on religion. (Cheers.) They could never forget that that was the first duty imposed upon them on their entrance into Masonry, and if it was the duty of every Mason in his individual capacity to give assistance to his brother Mason in distress, how much more so was it their duty in their collective capacity. He had no doubt that every Mason found plenty of claims on his individual charity; but to give wisely and well it was necessary and desirable that they should do so with discretion, and that inquiry should be made into the position and character of those who made claims upon them. (Cheers.) That task could not be performed so well and so efficiently in any other manner than through the machinery of an Institution like that whose claims he was then advocating; neither could any individual do the same amount of good by himself as he could by associating with his brethren. (Cheers.) The Freemasons of England had long been aware of this, and considering how important was the education of their children, had founded two schools, one for girls and the other for boys, which he was proud to believe were amongst the first of their kind in the kingdom. (Cheers.) But it had been felt by their late illustrious Grand Master (the Duke of Sussex) that it would be but right that they should go further, and not to leave to individual charity the duty and the burden of supporting the aged and distressed. (Cheers.) It was an admitted fact in all civilised, and he believed he might add in uncivilised, communities that the aged were entitled to respect and succour, (Cheers) and that those were possessed of health and vigour were bound to support those who needed aid in the decline of life; and it would ill become Freemasons to forget that duty which was acknowledged throughout the civilised world. (Cheers.) Therefore, it had been thought right by their late Grand Master, that an institution should be established for the relief of aged and decayed Freemasons. (Cheers.) Since the establishment of the Institution it had afforded relief to upwards of 200 aged Masons. (Cheers.) And the amount of good thereby conferred could not be overated. But not content with this, as years rolled on, and under the auspices of the present Grand Master the brethren had determined to add another branch to the Institution, and consider the claims of those nearest and dearest to the brethren whilst living—the widow (Cheers); affording them consolation and assistance

in their bereavement, and carrying out that charity which was the living principle of the Craft. (Cheers.) Should it be said that such an Institution having such noble objects in view was wanting in support? He felt confident that it never would, and that the necessary funds to support it would be always forthcoming. But they must recollect that however much they had yet done, there still remained more for them to do. (Cheers.) They must never think they had done enough, nor in the slightest withhold their hands; they must never check the liberality of their nature, being always sure that they would find plenty of opportunities of displaying and exercising their charitable feelings. (Cheers.) He was happy to see so many brethren present zealously engaged in supporting this Institution, and he trusted they would evince their feelings with regard to it by filling to overflowing the subscription lists which had no doubt been placed before them. Freemasons, were always alive to the wants of the distressed, and at present the word widow spoke to them with double force—at a time when the whole nation was sharing the sorrows of an illustrious widow, who even in the midst of her own affliction had shown how deeply she sympathised with the sorrows of others, by daily seeking information relative to the chance of saving the lives of the sufferers by a late fearful accident—the fatal results of which now filled the minds of the English people. (Cheers.)

The toast having been drunk,

Bro. BINCKES, at the request of Bro. Farnfield, the Secretary of the Institution, read the lists of subscriptions, which the noble chairman subsequently announced amounted to £1,986 4s., with seventeen lists yet to come in.

Bro. STEPHEN BLAIR, Prov. G. Master East Lancashire, would ask them to fill bumpers, as it was a bumper toast he was about to give. He was not going to propose the health of the D.G. Master, though it was something very like it, as he was going to ask them to drink to the health of the Chairman. (Cheers and laughter.) He was sure he might, in the name of the brethren present, return thanks to the noble Earl for the kindness with which he had presided over them that evening. (Cheers.) He was sure they had all listened to the remarks of their noble Chairman with regard to the charity with great pleasure, and that they would agree with him that it was a duty incumbent upon them all to assist their poor and distressed brethren to the utmost of their ability. He was afraid, however, that the claims which this Charity had on their support were not so well known in the country as they should be, and he thought the Prov. Grand Masters should endeavour to make them known as much as possible. He intended to do so himself, and though East Lancashire had sent them up a fair list of subscriptions that evening, he looked upon it as only an earnest of what they intended to do in the future, and he hoped that next year East Lancashire, over which he had the honour to preside, would come forward in a manner to show how highly they appreciated the value of the Institution. (Cheers.)

The D. GRAND MASTER begged the brethren to receive his grateful thanks for the manner in which they had been pleased to receive the toast so kindly proposed by the Prov. G.M. for East Lancashire. He was happy to have had the opportunity of occupying the chair on that occasion, and when it was first proposed to him to undertake the duty he felt that he could not refuse to do so, though, as he had stated in the early part of the evening, his time was much occupied with his official duties. He was always happy to have the opportunity of evincing his appreciation of the value of their Masonic Charities (Cheers); and if the brethren were of opinion that in filling the chair that evening he had been of any service, he could but feel highly gratified. (Cheers.) He agreed with the Prov. G. Master for East Lancashire that this Charity was not so well known in the provinces as it ought to be; and he was satisfied that if its objects and the claims which it had on the support of the Craft were made more generally known, it would receive it. They must recollect that much was expected from Masonry, even from those unconnected with the Craft, and that much, it was their duty to show, was not neglected. (Cheers.)

The D. GRAND MASTER next gave "The President, Vice-Presidents, Committee and Auditors of the Institution." No Institution could flourish without it was looked after by a Managing Committee, and he was sure they were deeply indebted to the brethren who so well conducted the offices of the Institution.

Bro. GEORGE BARRETT, Vice-President, returned thanks, and expressed the deep obligations which the Committee felt to the noble Earl for presiding over them that evening.

The D. GRAND MASTER was sure they would not think it right were they to separate without drinking to the prosperity of the other Masonic Charities—their two schools in which they took so deep an interest.

Bro. BINCKES, Secretary to the Boys' School, had great pleasure in acknowledging the toast—and he was sure they were all indebted to the noble Earl for presiding over them—and gratified at the results of that evening. As regarded the other Charities, he felt that the one with which he had the honour to be connected, the Boys' School, was at present the most in want of assistance; for the Girls' School was sure to be nobly supported as it had ever been. The Boys' School was comparatively new, and much yet remained to be done to establish it on a sure foundation. Much he felt would be done in March, when the Boys' festival would take place, and he was proud to say that he already had upwards of 100 Stewards for it. (Cheers.) Much more too, he expected, would be done in 1863, when he anticipated the pleasure of seeing the noble Earl, who then occupied the chair as its President (cheers), having been already in communication with the noble Earl on the subject. (Cheers.) He again thanked them on behalf of the Charities, and trusted he should again meet them at the Boys' Festival. (Cheers.)

The D.G. MASTER next gave "The Ladies," which having been drunk with loud applause was followed by "The Stewards," to whom the brethren were much indebted for the pleasures of the evening.

This was briefly acknowledged by Bro. Jos. SMITH, P.G. Purst., and a most happy evening brought to a close.

The musical arrangements were conducted by Bro. Donald King, who was assisted by Bro. Lawler, Bro. Carter, Miss Wilkinson, Miss M. King, and Miss Lascelles; Bro. Kingsbury presiding at the pianoforte. The procession ushering in the D. Grand Master was introduced by Bro. Matthew Cooke playing a march on the organ.

METROPOLITAN.

MOUNT LEBANON LODGE (No. 87).—This celebrated, old, and flourishing lodge met as usual at the Green Man Tavern, Tooley-street, Southwark, on Tuesday, 21st January. Bro. Baker, assisted by all his officers, opened the lodge, and in due form passed one brother to the degree of F.C. Bro. P.M., Dr. Dixon, in an excellent manner installed Bro. R. Slade, as W.M., and the following brethren were appointed by him as his officers: Bros. Walters, S.W.; Newsome, J.W.; Davies, re-elected Treas.; Harris, Sec.; Levy, S.D.; Moore, J.D.; Suffield, I.G.; Aldhouse, re-elected Tyler. A very handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. H. G. Baker, in acknowledgement of his services as W.M., and the prosperity which had attended his year of office, which was subscribed for him by the members of the lodge without touching the lodge funds. Bro. Baker, in a neat and appropriate speech, returned thanks for the jewel, with which he was invested. The brethren then retired to an excellent banquet prepared in Bro. Cathie's well-known superior style. Visitors: Muggeridge, P.M. 227; Collington, P.M. 164; Hollins, P.M. 198; Welsford, P.M. 805.

PRUDENT BRETHREN LODGE (No. 169).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday last, Bro. Hooper presiding. After the ordinary business had been concluded, Bro. Kirby, P.M., assisted by a full board of P.M.'s very ably installed Bro. Graygoose into the chair. The new W.M. appointed as his officers Bros. Exall, S.W.; Sharp, J.W.; Carter, S.D.; E. Loewenstark, J.D.; and Brown, I.G.; and also reinvested Bro. Warren, Treas.; Blackburn, Sec.; and Rice, Tyler. At the conclusion of business the brethren adjourned to a very excellent dinner, over which Bro. Graygoose most efficiently presided; and a very pleasant evening was passed, assisted by the musical exertions of Bro. Geo. Carter, Bro. Exall, and other brethren. There were several visitors present, including Bros. Hewlett, J. W. Adams, G. Carter, Caulcher, Clendinning, and Tompkins. In the course of the evening Bro. Graygoose presented his immediate predecessor, Bro. Hooper, with a P. Master's Jewel as a gift from the lodge, in acknowledgment of his services, and stated that he had so economically managed the affairs of the lodge that the receipts had exceeded the expenditure by several pounds. Bro. Hooper is about to make the lodge a Life Governor of the Girls' School.

ST. GEORGE'S LODGE (No. 164).—At a meeting of this lodge, at the Globe, Greenwich, on the 15th inst., Bro. Collington, W.M., in the chair, Bros. Mourilyan, S.W.; Scott, J.W.; Smyth, J.D.; Bros. Badger, and Havers, were passed to the second degree. Bro. Majors was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. Bro. Mourilyan was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The whole of the ceremonies were performed in the most careful and impressive manner by Bro. Collington, which elicited from the brethren generally expressions of the highest satisfaction. Previously to the lodge adjourning to banquet, a P.M.'s jewel was unanimously voted to Bro. Collington, for the excellent way in which he had conducted the duties of the chair, £1 being added by a visiting brother. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet supplied by Bro. P.M. Moore in his usual excellent manner, and subsequently a most agreeable evening was spent. The working altogether was most admirable, and a credit to any lodge. The officers appointed for the ensuing year are:—Bros. Mourilyan, W.M.; Scott, S.W.; Smyth, J.W.; Bonachchi, S.D.; Hubbuck, J.D.; Badger, I.G.; Booth, P.M., Steward; Ryder, P.M., Treas.; Robinson, P.M., Sec. The visitors were:—Bros. Laing, D. Palmer, Vinton, Seaton, and Houghton.

LODGE OF JUSTICE (No. 172).—This lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Wednesday, 8th January. This being the installation night of the lodge, Bro. J. Cavell, the W.M. elect, was duly installed in a very able manner by Bro. Farmer, A.G.P. The brethren afterwards partook of an excellent banquet together, peace and harmony reigning throughout the evening.

LODGE OF TEMPERANCE (No. 198).—On Thursday, January 16th, the regular monthly meeting of this lodge took place at Bro. Holman's, Plough Tavern, Plough Bridge, Rotherhithe. Bro. R. Moore was installed W.M. of the lodge by Bro. Farmer, A.G.P., in his usual excellent and impressive manner. The W.M. appointed Bros. S. W. Brown, J.W.; Tibbles, Sec.; J. Searle, S.D.; Deavin, J.D.; Turnbull, I.G.; and Holt, re-elected Tyler. After the ceremony, the W.M. proceeded to initiate one gentleman into the secrets and mysteries of the Order in a style that augurs well for his year of office. The lodge being closed in due form, the brethren sat down to a banquet replete with every comfort, for which Bro. Holman received a vote of thanks. Among the visiting brethren we noticed Bros. Farmer, A.G.P.; Anslow, P.M. 165; Walters, J.W. 87; Moore, I.G. 87; Palmer, W.M. 1044, &c.

WELLINGTON LODGE (No. 805).—The members of this lodge met as usual at the Lord Duncan Tavern, Broadway, Deptford, on Tuesday, 14th January. The new W.M. elect, Bro. R. Bently, was duly installed by Bro. Anslow, P.M., in a most impressive manner. The W.M. appointed Bros. Bagshaw, S.W.; Wakefield, J.W.; Raraty, Treas.; Bumstead, Sec.; Liddiard, S.D.; Savage, J.D.; Smith, I.G.; and Crouch, re-appointed Tyler. We were sorry to find the new W.M. passed over more than one efficient officer who had served the lodge zealously and faithfully last year, but we hope it was more an error of the head than the heart. At the conclusion of the business the brethren supped together. Visitors: Anslow, P.M. 165; Bolton, 172 and 198; Cavell, W.M. 172, &c.

BRITISH OAK LODGE (No. 1133).—The first anniversary meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, January 27, at Gurney's Hotel, Stratford Bridge. Bro. Robert Fairbairns, W.M., presided. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed; the report of the Audit Committee was also read and adopted. The report showed a satisfactory state of the lodge, which, during its first year, had initiated into the Order thirty-two members. Bro. Goodwin was then raised to the third degree, and Mr. Robert Heads was initiated. The W.M. then rose, and referring to the fact that he had terminated his year of office, before he resigned the chair he tendered his grateful thanks to the officers and members for the support he had received in the lodge; and feeling assured the same kindness would be extended to his worthy successor, he cheerfully relinquished the chair. Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson then assumed the chair, and Bro. Norton, W.M. elect, being presented by Bro. Fairbairns, was installed in the presence of several visiting P.M.s, among whom were Bros. E. G. Knibb, No. 203; G. H. Taylor and E. Sillifort, No. 264; W. Rule, No. 227; G. Yabsley and Blichfeldt, No. 1083, &c. The W.M. then appointed and invested the officers: W. Mitcheson, S.W.; H. Bradley, J.W.; R. Burrell, re-elected Treas.; W. Rule, Sec.; C. Hekell, S.D.; R. H. Wright, J. D.; T. Thompson, I.G.; J. Bretz, Steward; Hoare, Tyler. The brethren afterwards

adjourned to a banquet, at which nearly forty were present. The progress the British Oak Lodge has made in its first year's existence proves the requirement of a lodge in the neighbourhood, its members being all in some way connected with the commerce particularly attached to the mercantile marine. Much praise is due to the founders, Bros. Fairbairns, Mitcheson, and Norton, for its success.

ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 1173).—This select lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday 22nd January, at Bro. Stevens, Royal Oak Tavern, High-street, Deptford, Kent. In the unavoidable absence of Bro. Dr. Dixon, W.M., Bro. H. A. Collington, P.M. 164, a member of this lodge, opened the lodge in his usual excellent and impressive manner, assisted by the officers, Bros. Scott, S.W.; Wilton, J.W.; Smyth, S.D.; Stahy, J.D.; Weir, I.G., who were all well up in their work. Ballots were taken for two gentlemen, who were candidates for Freemasonry, which were declared to be unanimous in favour of their admission, but they were not present, so the ceremony was deferred until the next lodge meeting. Bro. Dr. Dixon, W.M., then took the chair, and in his usual well known, efficient manner, passed Bro. Bantz to the degree of a F.C. Bro. Wm. Scott, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year; Bro. Stevens Sen., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer. The business being ended, the brethren adjourned to refreshment, and spent a very pleasant evening together. Visitor, Bro. Eli Perry, No. 2, S.C.

PROVINCIAL.

DEVONSHIRE.

PLYMOUTH.—*Lodge of Charity* (No. 270).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, Jan. 21st., at the Masonic Hall, Union-street. The Lodge being opened in due form by the W.M., Bro. Aaron Woolf, the minutes read, &c., Mr. James Spry was initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, the ceremonies being performed by Bro. P.M. Browning in the most impressive manner. The lecture on the first tracing board was ably delivered by Bro. P.M. Pollard, P.Prov.G. Treas. The attendance of brethren was unusually large, and nothing could exceed the unanimity of feeling that prevailed, and a most pleasant evening was spent.

KENT.

CHATHAM.—*Royal Kent Lodge of Antiquity* (No. 20).—This lodge was opened at the Swan Hotel, on Wednesday, the 22nd ult., in due form with the usual solemnities, and Mr. Field initiated to the mysteries of the Craft. After which the ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Cooley, the W.M. and P.Prov.G.D. Kent; who installed his successor, Bro. George Arthur Everist, the W.M. elect and P.Prov.G. Purs. of Kent, to the Master's Chair, in a very impressive manner, in the presence of the following distinguished brethren:—Bros. Ashley, P.M. 20, and P.Prov.D.G.M.; Wm. Saunders, P.M. 20, Prov. G. Treas.; Chas. Isaacs, P.M. 20, Prov.G. Sec.; Gifford, P.M. 20, P.Prov.G.D.C.; J. Gardner, P.M. 709, P.Prov.J.G.W.; J. J. Everist, P.M. 91, P.Prov.G.A.D.C.; Fred. White, W.M. 709; Cruttenden, Sen., P.M. 741, P.Prov.G. Reg.; Pearson, P.M. 741, P.Prov.G.D.; Page, W.M. 741, together with about thirty of the brethren of the Lodge. After the ceremony was completed the W.M. appointed his officers in the following order, Bros. Solomon, S.W.; Sly, J.W.; W. Saunders, Treas.; Skiller, Sec.; Radley, S.D.; E. Mudd, J.D.; Kappee, I.G.; Isaacs, D.C.; Thomas Everist and Jones, Stewards; after the proclamation the lodge was duly closed. The brethren then proceeded to an excellent banquet supplied at the lodge hotel, when about forty of the brethren sat down and enjoyed themselves in a really happy and Masonic manner. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M., and duly responded to by the brethren. The evening was enlivened by some excellent songs from Bros. Everist, Thos. Barnes, Pearson and several of the brethren. This social evening then ended very much to the satisfaction of all who were present.

GRAVESEND.—*Lodge of Freedom* (No. 91).—The above lodge was opened for business on Monday, at the Town Hall, on the 20th inst., Bro. Nettleingham presiding. After the usual minutes and business was completed this lodge was closed. The Lodge

of Sympathy (No. 732), Bro. Frederick White, W.M., was opened in the same hall, and the minutes of the previous meeting was confirmed and proclaimed. This Lodge was also closed, after which the brethren of both lodges retired to a very excellent banquet, supplied by Mrs. Doughty, of the Prince of Orange Hotel. The brethren were presided over by Bro. Dobson, the Treasurer of both lodges, who is also the D.Prov. G.M. Kent. After the cloth was removed the usual Masonic and loyal toasts were drank. The evening was enlivened by some excellent songs from Bro. Thos. Everist of No. 20, a visitor, and also by several of the brethren. The proceedings were conducted in a most satisfactory manner to all concerned.

LANCASHIRE (EAST).

NEW CHURCH IN ROSENDALE.—*Lodge of Tranquility* (No. 341).—The annual festival of this well-conducted and truly admirable lodge, came off on Wednesday, the 22nd inst., when upwards of forty brethren assembled round the festive board, which was amply supplied with the good things of the table by our hostess of the Boar's Head. The lodge being opened for the dispatch of business between the hours of four and five, Bro. Lawrence Ormerod, Prov. G.S.D., presented to the W.M., Bro. Henry Lord, a donation of £5 (collected by Mrs. Lawrence Ormerod, wife of the presenter) to the Freemasons Widows' Fund. Bro. ORMEROD, when presenting the donation, stated that it gave his wife great pleasure at all times, when the opportunity presented itself, whereby she could assist by her humble means the Masonic Charities, especially the Widows' Fund.—Bro. LORD, W.M., said the example set by a worthy lady, wife of a worthy brother, could not fail in producing a benignant and laudatory effect in East Lancashire, and, further, he conceived it to be the duty of the brethren of No. 341 to add another £5 to the sum so handsomely presented. There were present the Prov. G. Chap., Bro. Rev. J. B. Phillips, M.A.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

LIVERPOOL.—*Downshire Lodge* (No. 864).—This lodge was opened in the rooms at the Crown Hotel, on Thursday, Jan. 23rd, 1862, by the W.M., Bro. J. B. Hughes, P.G.S., assisted by the officers of the lodge. The minutes of the last meeting were read over and confirmed. Bro. Read being desirous to take the third degree, was examined in the former to shew his progress, and being satisfactory, was raised to that degree by Bro. Shepherd, P.M., the W.M. acting as S.D. Bro. C. J. Banister advocated the cause of the Royal Benevolent Institution, when several sums were given to him to advance the list of Sir Thomas Hesketh, as Steward to that laudable institution. Several visitors were present, including Bros. James Hamer, Prov.G. Treas.; C. J. Banister, P.G.D.C.; and Bro. John Pepper, P.G.A.D.C. West Lancashire. Business of the lodge over it was closed in due form and with solemn prayer.

LIVERPOOL.—*St. George's Lodge* (No. 35).—This lodge was opened on Wednesday 2nd, at the Adelphi Hotel, by the W.M. Bro. C. Sherlock, assisted by his officers and a full Lodge. Visitors Bros. S. Blair, R.W. Prov.G.M. East Lancashire; Captain Inglefield of H.M.S. the *Majestic*, stationed at this port, Moss, P.Prov.J.G.W., of Gloster and Cheshire; H. R. Hodges, P. G.S. of Dover; Stephens, P.Prov.G.J.W. Cheshire; S. P. Platt, Prov.G.S.D. Cheshire; Fenton, P.Prov.G.S.D. Cheshire; J. Hamer, Prov.G. Treas. West Lancashire; Brabner, P.Prov. G.S.W. West Lancashire; C. J. Banister, Prov.G.D.C. West Lancashire, P.Prov. G.S.D. Durham; Younghusband, P.M. 294; Bros. Atherton, Newlands, Maugens, Rogers, P.M.'s of Lodge 35. The minutes of last meeting were read over and confirmed. Four brethren were advanced to the F.C. degree by the W.M. Bro. L. J. Starkie, S.W., son of the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, was then presented for installation, being the W.M. elect, by Bros. Atherton and Newlands, to Bro. Cornelius Sherlock, who performed the ceremony with great precision. After the W.M. had been saluted and proclaimed, he invested Bros. Glyn, as S.W.; Jefferson, J.W.; Stoddart, Treas.; Cutten, Sec.; Blair, S.D.; Marsh, J.D.; Mosley, I.G.; Coatsworth, D.C.; Smith, Tyler. The business of the lodge over the brethren were called off for refreshment. The banquet was served in Bro. Radley's very best style, consisting of all the delicacies of the season, the chair was taken by L. G. N. Starkie, Jun., W.M., on his right were Bros. S. Blair, R.W. Prov. G.M., East Lancashire; Blair, S.D.; Moss, P.Prov.G.S.W., Chester and Gloster; Capt. Inglefield, Capt. Hay, C. J. Banister, Prov. G.D.C., &c., on his left were Bros. C. Sherlock, P.M.; Newlands, P.M.; Atherton, P.M.; Fenton, P.Prov.G.S.D. Cheshire;

Delarue, Stephens, P.Prov.G.S.W. Cheshire, &c. After the cloth was drawn, the W.M. proposed "The Health of her Majesty" in suitable terms, alluding to her bereavement. "Albert Edward Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family." "The M. W. Grand Master," and "The Deputy Grand Master," "The Prov. Grand Master of West Lancashire and his Deputy," Bro. S. Blair, R.W. Prov. G.M., East Lancashire, in responding to his health stated that he had long wished to visit this province, and when he knew that his old friend's son was to be installed W.M. of Lodge 35, he accepted the invitation with pleasure, and in the course of his speech stated that he was glad to see that their R.W.D.G.M. Sir Thomas Hesketh, Bart, was a Steward for the Royal Benevolent Institution for aged Freemasons and their Widows this year, and hoped to meet him on the 29th at the Festival, which would be a great gathering. He heard that the province of West Yorkshire were supporting their R.W. Prov. G.M., Earl De Gray and Ripon, in a true Masonic spirit, East Lancashire intended to do all they could, and he hoped that the great Masonic Charities were now better understood by the brethren of the provinces, concluding an excellent speech by wishing the W.M. a happy and prosperous year. Bro. Captain Inglefield, R.N., responded to the toast of the Army and Navy. Bro. C. Sherlock, P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M." The W.M. responded in a brief speech, promising to do his best for the good government of the lodge. He then proposed "The Visitors," responded to by Bro. Moss, P.Prov.G.J.W. Cheshire and Gloucester. On the last toast being proposed Bro. C. J. Banister, Prov.G.D.C., called the attention of the brethren to support Sir Thomas Hesketh, Bart, who was acting as a Steward, by their contributions to his list. Nothing being proposed for the good of this lodge it was closed in due form.

LIVERPOOL.—*Merchants' Lodge of Instruction* (No. 294).—This flourishing Lodge of Instruction, instituted in January, 1859, now numbers nearly 100 members. It has held its meetings with unabated energy on every Tuesday evening in the month (except the second) at the Masonic Temple, Hope-street, at half-past five o'clock. At the meeting of the 28th inst., the lecture of the third degree was worked in sections, the questions being put by Bro. Captain Mott, after which it was moved by Bro. Preceptor Younghusband, P.M. and M.E.Z. 294, seconded by Bro. Dr. McGeorge, J.D. 294, and carried unanimously, that a donation of fifteen guineas be made to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, which, with a previous donation of five guineas, will constitute the Preceptor for the time being a Vice-President of that excellent Charity, with twenty votes at his disposal. This from a Lodge of Instruction, with a subscription of only six shillings per annum, may serve as an incentive to the regular lodges of this province, with their large incomes, to go and do likewise.

MIDDLESEX.

UXBRIDGE.—*Royal Union Lodge* (No. 536).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge, on the 20th ult., when there was a very large assemblage of the brethren. Bro. Newall, W.M., was ably supported by Bros. W. Smith, C.E., S.W., G. T. Carter, J.W., and the rest of his officers. The business comprised one passing, one raising, and three initiations. This being election night, the J.W., Bro. Carter being unanimously elected as W.M. for the ensuing year, in consequence of Bro. W. Smith, C.E., S.W., having been elected to the chair of another lodge. Bro. M. Levinson was unanimously elected Treas., and Bro. Daly Tyler. After the appointment of auditors and other business, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to one of Bro. Line's capital banquets. The usual routine toasts were given and received, Bro. SIRR returning thanks for the Grand Officers.—Bro. WEEDEN, P.M. and Sec., proposed the health of Bro. Newall, W.M., in very neat and complimentary terms.—Bro. NEWALL, W.M., was much obliged for the very kind way in which his name was always proposed and received, and he hoped it would always be the same. During his year of office, he had had nothing but hard work, but was about to pass into a station of comparative retirement. In conclusion, he begged them to do full justice to a cake which he had ordered to be put on the table.—The W.M. had the most pleasing duty to propose the health of three initiates, Bros. Lee, Chigrum, and Comfort. No one could blame them for entering so valuable an Order, and he hoped they would not regret having chosen the Royal Union Lodge, which held a very good status in the Craft.—

Bro. COMFORT returned thanks.—The W.M. said that 536 held it an especial duty to be hospitable, and few visitors had honoured them with their presence, without becoming joining members; he should, therefore, couple the toast with the names of Bros. Radford, 25, and Chambers, 53.—Bro. CHAMBERS said he had enjoyed himself very much, and though it was his first visit, yet it should not be his last.—Bro. RADFORD was equally well pleased. He had been promised a pleasant evening, and although such promises generally failed on that occasion, they had been more than realised.—The W.M. next gave the P.M.'s and Bro. Weedden.—Bro. WEEDEN, P.M. and Sec., had been Secretary of that lodge many years. About two years since, he used to issue but ten circulars to the members, whilst on the Monday previous to their meeting, he had sent out forty-four. This was owing to the excellent working of their W.M. and his indefatigable perseverance; and although it entailed additional time and trouble, yet he should not care if he had to double his present labours. On his own behalf, and the absent P.M.'s, he expressed his thanks.—The W.M. next addressed them, saying it was with a vast amount of pleasure he approached the next toast. No one had been better supported by his officers than himself, and he took credit to himself for his selection. He had selected those who, he believed, would work; and although few W.M.'s might have had sufficient impudence to do so, yet he had found it work well, for they had done a large amount of creditable and prosperous work. Each officer had done his duty, and he felt bound to return his thanks to all separately, and collectively, for their support. It was to be regretted that circumstances did not allow them to elect Bro. W. Smith, their S.W., as W.M.; but as he was about to attain that honour elsewhere, he would not suffer in that instance. The W.M. then proposed the health of the officers and Bro. W. Smith, S.W.—Bro. W. SMITH, C.E., begged to be allowed to return thanks for the very handsome way in which the officers' healths had been received. For himself, although he was not elected to preside over them next year, yet he should always do his utmost to promote the interests of the lodge.—After one or two other toasts, the brethren dispersed.

SUFFOLK.

The following is a copy of the Address of Condolence from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Suffolk (Colonel Shafto Adair, R.W.Prov.G.M.), to Her Majesty the Queen, upon the lamented death of His Royal Highness the Prince Consort:—

"*Most Gracious Sovereign*.—We, your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Provincial Grand Master, officers, and brethren of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of Suffolk, in open lodge assembled, and in the name of the brethren of the Masonic Order in that Province, desire to express to your Majesty our earnest and sincere sympathy and condolence under the afflicting bereavement with which it has pleased the Most High to visit your Majesty, your illustrious family, and your people. Independently of the deep sorrow which has, as subjects of your Majesty's Imperial Crown, we feel at the early loss of so great and so good a Prince, we have the melancholy duty of recording our gratitude for, and our appreciation of, the benevolent and enlightened wisdom with which his late Royal Highness the Prince Consort patronised and encouraged those pursuits which we, as Free and Accepted Masons, are taught to cultivate and to hold in honour—namely, the liberal arts and sciences, and the practice of every moral and social virtue. Most devotedly we pray the Father of Mercies and the God of all Consolation to support and sustain your Majesty under the weight of this severe affliction, and to grant that your Majesty may derive comfort from the knowledge that the tears of a sorrowing people, from the highest to the lowest, mingle with those of your Majesty and the Royal Family, for the loss of a Prince whose virtues and exemplary career afford a lesson of high precept and glorious example, which cannot fail, by God's blessing, to be useful alike to ourselves and to our latest posterity."

IPSWICH.—*St. Luke's Lodge* (No. 272).—On Wednesday evening, January 22, Col. A. S. Adair, Prov. G.M. of Suffolk, visited the Lodge of St. Luke, held at the Coach and Horses Hotel, and partook of supper with the brethren. There were many visitors from the Lodge of Perfect Friendship who joined the party. About forty gentlemen sat down to a well-served repast, provided by Bro. C. W. Goodball. A most agreeable evening was passed.

WARWICKSHIRE.

BIRMINGHAM.—*Leigh Lodge of Rifle Volunteers* (No. 1189).—One of the most interesting ceremonies connected with Freemasonry took place, on Friday last, at the Masonic Rooms, New-hall-street, on the occasion of forming and consecrating a new lodge in connection with the Rifle Brigade. The lodge is called the Leigh Lodge of Rifle Volunteers (No. 1189), the Lord Lieutenant himself being the first Worshipful Master. The beautiful ceremony was most successfully conducted by Bro. Chas. W. Elkington, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, assisted by Bros. W. R. K. Bedford, G. Chap.; Kittoe, Prov. G. Chap.; Capt. Briggs, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; J. H. Bedford, Prov. G. Sec.; and Capt. Machen, of Leamington, Prov. G.S.B. An extremely good choir, under the conductorship of Bro. J. A. Baker, made the musical portion both attractive and imposing. Bro. J. A. Beaumont also assisted at the harmonium. An oration upon the Order was delivered by Bro. Bedford, after which Lord Leigh was regularly installed into the chair. He then proceeded to appoint Capt. Hebbert, S.W.; Lieut. Turner, J.W.; Capt. Ratcliff, Treas.; Capt. Briggs and Lieut. Phillips, Secs.; Capt. Cheshire and Capt. Everitt, Deacons; Lieut. McInnis, M.C., &c. Bro. Elkington then initiated Col. Mason, Dr. Hill, and Lieut. Salt. Other business was then completed, and the company proceeded to an elegant banquet, provided by the lodge. Lord Leigh took the chair, supported on his right by Bros. Chas. W. Elkington, D. Prov. G.M.; Capt. Bowyer, Prov. G.M. Oxfordshire; Rev. W. R. K. Bedford, G. Chap.; Captains Hebbert, Briggs, Molesworth, Royal Dragoons; Vaughton, Muletin, Munchen, Ratcliff, Cheshire, Dr. Burton, D. Prov. G.M. Staffordshire, Capt. Mole and Malins, and on the left by Col. Mason, Dr. Bell Fletcher, P.D. Prov. G.M.; and W. L. Smith; Revs. J. Coddington, Kittoe, Prov. G. Chap., Ray, Dickens (Warwick); Dr. Forteth, and Mr. Calwell, Royal Dragoons; Capt. Haddo, H.M.L.A.; Ensign Elkington, H.M. 91st. Reg.; Dr. Nason, Lieut. Edwards, Salt, Bullock, Malins, McInnis, Ensign Edwards, Sir John Ratcliff, Jones, Roberts, King, of the Yeomanry, Bros. C. A. Lingard, Overill, Prov. G. Wardens, and the following Prov. G. Officers: Read, Astley, B. W. Goode, Pursall, Weiss, Roberts, Blake, J. H. Bedford, Wyman, H. Mulliner, and Bros. J. A. Baker, J. A. Beaumont, W. H. Beaumont, Thomas Bragg, John Bragg, George Jones (W.M. 857), Glydon, John Jones (Worcester), Savage, Chandler, Vaughan (W.M. 88), David Malins, jun., &c.—“The Queen and the Craft” was ably given by Lord LEIGH, who alluded in a most feeling manner to the painful loss so recently sustained by our beloved Queen, and the kindness exhibited by Her Majesty in the fearful colliery accident at New Hartley; “The Prince of Wales;” “The Most Worshipful the Grand Master;” “Earl de Grey and Ripon;” and “The Grand Lodge,” acknowledged by Bro. BEDFORD, G. Chap.—Bro. ELKINGTON proposed “The Health of Lord Leigh as Lord Lieutenant, Prov. Grand Master, and Worshipful Master of the Leigh Lodge,” and spoke of the great zeal Lord Leigh had always shown in all he undertook, how well he had earned the high esteem of every class in the county, and how much he was beloved by his brethren in Masonry. Bro. Elkington alluded to the services rendered to the Volunteer movement, Yeomanry, Militia, and Rifles, by the noble Lord as Lord Lieutenant. The toast was given with all the honours.—Lord LEIGH thanked his good brother on his right for the manner he had introduced his name, and he thanked the brethren from the bottom of his heart for the way they had received the toast. He could assure them how much pleasure it gave him to meet them there that day, and upon such an occasion. He was much gratified by the beautiful ceremony he had witnessed in the lodge, and by the oration which Bro. Bedford had delivered, and which he hoped to have printed.—Lord LEIGH gave “The Army, Navy, Yeomanry, Militia, and Rifle Volunteers,” in a truly military speech, and called upon Captain Molesworth, who responded for the Army, Captain King for the Yeomanry, Captain Vaughton for the Militia, and Colonel Mason for the Rifle Volunteers.—Lord LEIGH then proposed “The Health of Bro. Charles W. Elkington, D. Prov. G.M.,” and congratulated him upon the success of the proceedings; it was only one more to the many instances of his assistance to Freemasonry.—Bro. ELKINGTON thanked them for all the many kindnesses he had received, he called upon them to aid the Boy’s School in March next, and thanked all those who had rendered such services to him that day.—“Captain Bowyer, P.G.M., Oxon,” and “The Visitors,” was responded to by the gallant Capt. and Bro. Dr. Barton, D. Prov. G.M., Staffordshire.—At this period the Prov. G.M. was obliged to retire, having to return to

return to Stoneleigh, and the chair was taken by Bro. ELKINGTON, who proposed “Bros. Hebert and Turner, the Wardens, and the other officers of the Leigh Lodge.” He was sure the lodge would be a prosperous one from the manner it has been taken up and carried forward by Bro. Hebert, assisted as he was by Bros. Turner, Briggs, and Charles Ratcliff. They had done well to name it after their excellent Prov. G.M., and still better in obtaining Lord Leigh to take the chair.—Bro. HEBBERT made a suitable reply, and some most appropriate remarks upon Masonry.—Bro. FLETCHER then proposed “The Initiated Brethren,” Colonel Mason, Dr. Hill, and Lieutenant Salt, responded. Bro. Elkington proposed “Bro. J. A. Baker and his choir, with the Bros. Bragge.” Bro. Thomas Bragge and Bro. Baker, replied. “The Health of Bro. Charles Ratcliff,” was next given. Bro. Ratcliff had travelled 1200 miles to be present, and in replying made some feeling allusions to his travels, and to the interest he took in this lodge. Bro. Captain Briggs, proposed “The Ladies,” which was responded to by Captain Ratcliff. The Tyler’s toast concluded this most enjoyable day. We must not omit to say the pleasures of the evening were much increased by some excellent singing, under the arrangement of Bros. Piersall, Prov. G. Org., and J. A. Baker.

YORKSHIRE (WEST.)

BATLEY CARR, DEWSBURY.—*St. John’s Lodge* (No. 1129).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the lodge-room on Monday evening, the 20th ult., under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Abraham Wilson, it being the first regular meeting since his installation. He proved himself duly qualified for the position by initiating in a very efficient manner Mr. Richard Hewitt, after which Bro. R. R. Nelson, P.M., gave the explanation of the working tools, and Bro. John Armitage, Hon. Sec., the lecture on the tracing-board. Two gentlemen being proposed as candidates, and other general business being transacted, the lodge closed with solemn prayer, when the brethren adjourned to refreshment; after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and severally responded to, and the brethren adjourned to their respective homes with the full assurance that the lodge was in a fair way to become a prosperous one.

SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW.

GRAND MASONIC FESTIVAL.

The annual festival of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, supported by all the lodges in the province, was held in the City Hall, on the 24th Jan. The various lodges being pretty largely represented, and the Festival being open to their friends, the large hall was quite filled, nearly 1200 being present. Surmounting the platform was the banner of the Provincial Grand Lodge, while above the west gallery hung the flag of the Glasgow Freeman St. John’s; and the banners of the other lodges were suspended round the hall. Altogether, the spacious room presented an appearance brilliant and animated beyond what is the case on the occasion of ordinary soirées or festivals. By the permission of Lieutenant Colonel Middleton and officers, the excellent band of the 2nd Regiment of Rifle Volunteers was in attendance, and while the company was assembling played a variety of pieces in capital style.

It was confidently expected that the chair would have been taken by Sir Archibald Alison, Bart., P.G.M.; but business engagements prevented him from carrying out his original intention. This was announced before the soirée commenced by D.P.G.M. Donald Campbell, who, after expressing his extreme regret at the unavoidable absence of the Provincial Grand Master at the Sheriff Criminal Court, read the following note which he had received from him:—

“Glasgow, Jan. 23, 1862.

“My dear Sir and Brother,—I cannot tell you how much I regret that, owing to my having some heavy cases to try to-morrow, which will, I fear, extend to late in the evening, there is every likelihood of my being deprived of the pleasure of attending your soirée to-morrow evening.

“If the cases should conclude in time I will come to your meeting with pleasure; but if I am kept in court, I trust the brethren will forgive the absence of one whose heart will be with them, and is only prevented from coming by persons who are not Freemasons.

Ever yours faithfully,

“A. ALISON.”

Bro. Dr. PRITCHARD moved that D.Prov.G.M. Donald Campbell should take the chair, which he accordingly did. On the platform we observed Bros. D. Campbell, D.Prov.G.M.; Dr. Pritchard, R.W.M. No. 102; John Davidson, Prov. G.S.W.; David Sutherland and Walter Lambert, Prov. Grand Treasurers; Hutcheson Campbell and John Boyd, Prov. Grand Deacons; James Dunbar, P.G. Sec.; C. M. Donaldson, P.G. Marechal; William Lawson, Thomas S. Clark, Wm. Gunn, Henry Marshall, J. A. Newlands, Robert Robb, M. Shiels, James Campbell, Allan McKenzie, Robert Walker, P.G. Stewards.

Besides the Prov. Grand Lodge, who occupied the platform, deputations were present from the following lodges:—St. John's Dumbarton, Kilwinning (No. 18); St. Mungo (No. 27); Thistle and Rose (No. 73); Thistle (No. 87); St. Mark's (No. 102); Union and Crown (No. 103); Royal Arch, Rutherglen (No. 116); St. Mary's, Partick (No. 117); St. James's, Old Monkland (No. 177); Star (No. 219); Shamrock and Thistle (No. 275); Duntocher and Faifley (No. 332); St. George's (No. 333); Caledonian Railway (No. 354); Commercial (No. 360); St. Clair (No. 362); Clyde (No. 403); and Athole (No. 413).

At a few minutes past eight o'clock, Bro. C. M. Donaldson asked the brethren present to prepare to receive the Grand Lodge, when the band of the 2nd Regiment of L.R.V. struck up the Mason's Anthem, accompanied by the orthodox "fire" from the brethren in the audience, upstanding.

A sumptuous tea having been served up by Bro. James Walker, of Glassford-street,

The CHAIRMAN then rose, and after a few remarks as to the regret which he in common, he was sure, with the rest of the brethren, felt at the absence of the G.M. said that, considering the shortness of the notice he (the chairman) had received, the brethren would not expect any lengthened address from him. He then briefly adverted to the principles of Freemasonry, which, he said, tended to develop all the good and moral qualities of humanity in the brotherhood. (Applause.)

Bro. Dr. PRITCHARD delivered an interesting address on the antiquity of Freemasonry. It was now 734 years ago since Freemasonry was introduced into this country by the artisans who built the noble structures of Kelso and Melrose Abbeys. King James I. was the first monarch who recognised the Grand Master elected by the brethren of Scotland, and that Grand Master was ever since recognised by Royalty. He trusted that the time was now coming when they would be able to hail again a Royal person at the head of the Freemasons in this great Empire. (Cheers.) He hoped that the star of England's glory—he meant the Prince of Wales—would imitate the examples of his uncles, for no less personages than the Duke of Sussex and the Duke of Kent were known in the ranks of Freemasons, as was also his uncle George IV. They were not so certain about the late lamented Prince Albert, but it was believed that he was made a Freemason in Germany; however, for some political reasons, best known to himself, he never made it known to the brethren of these Islands. They had to lament the loss among themselves here of Dr. James Miller Nichol, the great astronomer, and over the border Sir James Graham and the Duke of Devonshire. After having served for sometime as Master himself, they might imagine that he became enamoured of the science of Freemasonry; and he looked upon the advance it had made in this country as perfectly marvellous. Within the last three years Scotland had added forty lodges to the grand roll, England 154, and Ireland only twelve. In 1859 he had the good fortune to visit that country whence they derived the symbols of their Order, and they might imagine the delight which filled his bosom when he traced the Masonry where the Dionysians, that great order of artisans, originated among themselves those symbols and emblems which they used in the present day. Freemasonry had indeed outlived imperial Rome, ancient Greece, and mighty Carthage. He stood forward there as the champion of Freemasonry. There was nothing in it which was calculated to make any one Atheistical or Deistical, or undermine in any way the glorious principles of Christianity. Dr. Pritchard then mentioned that from Egypt he proceeded to Italy, where, through being possessed of the signs and symbols of Freemasonry, he was introduced to one of the brightest geniuses of the day—Garibaldi. (Cheers.) He concluded an eloquent speech amid loud applause.

On the motion of Bro. John Davidson, a hearty vote of thanks was awarded to the Chairman, who replied, when the assemblage broke up.

During the proceedings, some excellent music was performed

by a full band, and a party of glee and other singers, Bro. Julian Adams presiding at the pianoforte.

About 11 o'clock, a full-dress assembly of about 600 was opened by a Grand March. The dancing was kept up with spirited interest till an early hour in the morning under the direction of Bro. H. D. Willock, Master of Ceremonies, who ably discharged his duties.

The proceeds were in aid of the Provincial Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund.

GLASGOW.—*Lodge St. Mark*.—On Monday, January 20th, this influential and highly distinguished lodge was visited officially by the Office Bearers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow. Bro. Dr. Pritchard, *M.R.S.E.*, occupied the Chair, whilst Bros. Wm. Scott and Robert Smith efficiently discharged the duties West and South. The R.W.M. in a most impressive manner initiated Messrs. Alexander B. Dick and Hugh Reid into the mysteries of the Order. The deputation from the Provincial Grand Lodge consisted of Bros. Donald Campbell, Depute Prov. G.M.; James Cruikshank, Substitute Prov. G.M.; John Davidson, Prov. G.S.W.; David Sutherland, Prov. G. Treas.; Hutchinson, Campbell, and John Boyd, Prov. G. Deacons; James Luth, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; George McPherson, &c. Visiting Deputations were present from several of the lodges in the province, viz., from the Shamrock and Thistle (No. 275), headed by Bro. Pollock, S.W. The Caledonian Railway Lodge (No. 354), by Bro. John Laurie. The Commercial Lodge (No. 360), by Bro. Dingley. During the evening both at the initiation and the reception of the Provincial Grand and the other Lodges Bro. Duncan Keith discoursed excellent and appropriate music on the harmonium. The Books having been inspected, Bro. Sutherland, the Prov. G. Treas. complimented the lodge on the excellent condition and the beautiful manner in which he found the cash book to have been kept; while Bro. Cruikshank did the same in favour of the minute book—every page of which displayed a beautiful specimen of calligraphy. The most interesting book of the lodge, however, was the roll book, containing a chrono-

IRELAND.

CORK.

THE MOUNT CALPE LODGE, attached to Her Majesty's 12th Regiment of Foot, opened lodge in Barracks on the 25th, presided over by the W.M., Bro. Reed, assisted by the P.M., Bro. Desanges. Among the visitors we noticed Bros. J. Wright, J. T. Archer, and some brethren of the 96th Regiment, who had embarked for Canada, but through stress of weather put back. After closing lodge a most social evening was spent, enlivened with wit and anecdote of military life, interspersed with songs and glees, added to which we had the rich comic effusions of Bro. Doctor Caster Murphy, to the great entertainment of the civilians. In conclusion, we congratulate the officers of this lodge on their correct work and strict accordance to the English ritual.

THE THIRD LODGE OF IRELAND.—A lodge of Emergency was summoned for the 27th January, for the purpose of initiating into the Order Mr. Bullen, which ceremony was most impressively given by the W.M., Bro. F. Guy, the officers of Mount Calpe, 12th Regiment, took this opportunity of visiting No. 3. The lodge being duly closed, the brethren adjourned to the Commercial Hotel, where they were agreeably and unexpectedly visited by Bro. Wm. Topham, the celebrated tenor from Dublin, who is engaged to sing with Madame Rudersdorf, at the musical festival for the county of Cork. We need not dilate upon the pleasure of the evening; suffice it to state each brother congratulated himself on parting, of having the opportunity of being present at so great a musical treat. logical and tabular list of all the members from the year 1766. Amongst those may be named Lord Wm. Paget (the late Marquis of Anglesey), who was, in 1787, R.W.M. of the lodge. At this period it might, although stationary, be called a military lodge, for the roll book shows that five out of every sixth member were officers in the British army. Several years, thereafter, appears the name of the daring aeronaut, Vincent Lunardi. Again, in 1817, appears the name of Edmund Kean, the distinguished tragedian, with several of his supporters in the histrionic art. It would, however, be impossible to

give more than a faint idea of the inestimable value of a book of this nature, wherein have been recorded the names of nearly 2000 members of the lodge within a century, and with perhaps a trifling exception in their own holography. Among them appears, in a fine bold hand, the name of "Zachary Macaulay," presumed to be the father of the late Lord Macaulay. Unfortunately, in this case neither the profession, residence, nor age has been given. Having spent about an hour in a harmonious manner, interspersed with an abundance of vocal music, sentiments, and toasts, all separated shortly prior to 11 o'clock. We may here remark that this is the 14th visitation which the Depute Prov.G.M. and his Office Bearers, have made to the lodges in his province since October, in each of which they met with a most flattering reception, except in one lodge, which led to its suspension for six weeks. These visitations have been the means of spurring on the Office Bearers to a more active discharge of the duties of their respective offices, and greatly advanced the prosperity of the Craft in the province.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

CYRUS CHAPTER (No. 21).—A convocation took place at the London Coffee House, Lindgate-street, on Tuesday, January 28th—present: E. Comps. J. Watson, Z.; G. Lambert, H.; Rev. J. R. Wood, J. After the minutes of the preceding Chapter had been confirmed, a conclave of Installed Principals was opened, consisting of Comps. Marillier, Barringer, White, Lavender, How, and Banister, when Comp. Lambert was installed M.E.Z.; Comps. Wood, H.; and Spratt, J. Comp. T. R. White was invested as Scribe E.; Comp. Levison, Scribe N.; Comp. Harrison, P.S. Comp. Marillier was re-invested as Treasurer, and Comp. Barringer as Steward. Comp. Barringer rose and said, that before the Chapter was closed, he desired to claim the sympathy of the members in behalf of the families of the miners lost by the recent dreadful calamity in the Hartley colliery, and asked for a contribution of three guineas in aid of the subscriptions being raised; the vote being duly seconded, was carried unanimously. Two brethren were proposed for exaltation, and another for joining. The Comps. adjourned to the banquet, there being twenty present. The visitors were—Comps. Muggidge, (of No. 7), Banister, (of No. 267), Watts, (No. 218), and How, (of No. 769.)

POLISH NATIONAL CHAPTER (No. 778).—A convocation of this Chapter was holden at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Thursday, the 23rd ult., when Bro. Nowakowski, J.W., of lodge (No. 778), was exalted. Comps. Sharman, M.E.Z.; Boyd, H.; Watson, J.; Matthew Cooke, E.; Geo. States, as P. Soj.; Shrewsbury, Michalski, and others were present, and a most agreeable evening was spent.

ROBERT BURNS CHAPTER (No. 25).—A meeting of this chapter was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday last, Comps. Harrison, Z.; Collard, H.; and Allen as J. A duly qualified brother having been exalted into the Order, the election of the officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with, when Comps. Collard was elected Z.; Farmer, H.; and Le Gassick, J. A P. Principal's jewel was voted to Comp. Harrison, and all being ended, the companions adjourned to refreshment.

LANCASHIRE (WEST.)

LIVERPOOL.—*Merchants' Chapter* (No. 294).—This chapter was opened on Monday, 20th Jan., at the Temple, Hope-street, by M.E.Z. Comp. Youngusband, Z.; P.M.E.Z. Comp. James Hamer, as H.; M.E.Z. Comp. C. J. Banister, as J.; Comp. Jacob, S.E.; Comp. Bull, S.N.; Comp. Mott, P.S. The minutes of last meeting were read over and confirmed. There being no business before the Chapter, instruction was given by the M.E. principals, and the chapter was closed in solemn form.

MARK MASONRY.

THE SOUTHWARK LODGE (No. 11).—This lodge will hold its next meeting at Bro. Stevens's, Royal Oak Tavern, High-street, Deptford, Kent, on next Monday, February, at 7 precisely, in consequence of the numerous applications of the brethren in this neighbourhood who are anxious to be advanced to the sublime degree of Mark Master in their own locality.

INDIA.

(From the *Indian Freemason's Friend*.)

GENERAL BOILEAU.

The *Calcutta Englishman* has the following announcement:—
"Our Masonic readers will be interested to know that the Provincial Grand Mastership of the District of Bengal has been offered to Major General Boileau, of the Engineer Corps."

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, CALCUTTA.

In accordance with intimation previously given, the Officiating Provincial Grand Master paid a visit of ceremony to St. John's Lodge, on Friday, the 8th November. He was attended by R.W. Bro. J. B. Roberts, Offg. D.Prov.G.M.; R.W. Bro. F. Jennings, S.G.W.; R.W. Bro. H. Sandeman, J.G.W.; and R.W. Bro. W. Clark, Past S.G.W. The Officiating Provincial Grand Master was received with the usual ceremonies, and it was not till about the close of the evening that the object of the visit was disclosed. It was to confer the rank of a Past Warden of the Grand Lodge on W. Bro. John W. Brown, who is now the J.D. of the Grand Lodge, Past Master, and Officiating Worshipful Master of Lodge St. John's. This act was a thoughtful, just, and graceful recognition by the Officiating Provincial Grand Master of Bro. Brown's high Masonic character, and a fitting tribute to his devoted zeal and active services in the cause of Masonry, which is highly acceptable to the whole Craft. The pressing claims of other candidates for preferment, and a variety of circumstances, have apparently prevented the Officiating Provincial Grand Master from advancing Bro. Brown in the Grand Lodge as he could have wished, and as Bro. Brown deserved, but he has now fully compensated for any disappointment which may have been felt on the subject. Whenever Masonry requires assistance in any department, Bro. Brown is about the first person thought of, and although all he does is in a modest, retiring, diffident manner, yet it is always most effectually and satisfactorily accomplished. The announcement of the intention of the Officiating Provincial Grand Master was received with marks of approbation by the Lodge, and there is not one dissentient voice throughout the whole Craft in the province as to the propriety of the measure, since Bro. Brown has fairly earned the high distinction conferred on him.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Eastern Archipelago, R.W. the Rev. Dr. Smyth, was present, and was especially greeted in the lodge. He made a very appropriate and eloquent speech in returning thanks for his health being drunk at the supper table, in which he dilated on the principles of Freemasonry, showing their elevating and ennobling character, and expatiated on the elements of durability and universality which are inseparable from its peculiar spirit and constitution. There were other very interesting addresses throughout the evening, especially those delivered by the Officiating Provincial Grand Master and his Officiating Deputy, and by the Junior Grand Warden.

ALLAHABAD.

The brethren of Lodge Independance with Philanthropy (No. 550), held a special meeting on Wednesday, the 31st October, for the purpose of greeting Bros. Wm. H. Hoff, and W.M. Benwell, members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bengal, and several other brethren, visitors at the station, most of whom were from Lucknow. The Master, W. Bro. C. G. Sim, after opening the lodge, and formally acquainting the brethren with the special object of the meeting, closed it, and led the way to the supper-room. The hospitality of the lodge was fully appreciated. After the usual toasts, the W.M. proposed "The Health of the Visitors," of "The Officiating Provincial Grand Master," and also of "The Provincial Grand Secretary," who was present, and who looked profoundly amazed under the formidable obligation of having to return thanks for three distinct toasts, each of which had been received with hearty cheers. He stated that, although at that time only a sojourner at the station, he was not a stranger to the lodge, having been one of its P.M.'s in 1858, and that, many years before, his father, R.W. Bro. J. J. L. Hoff, had also been a member of it. He congratulated the Lodge on the improvement which had taken place in its condition from the time that it had been placed under the hiram of its late Master, our lamented Bro. Colonel Knollys. He assured the brethren that the Officiating Provincial Grand Master would be gratified to learn that the members and guests of the Allahabad Lodge had so unanimously and harmoniously

pronounced him to be, in plain Saxon, a "jolly good fellow." The health of the Master, W. Bro. C. G. Sim, was proposed by Bro. L. E. Rees of Lucknow, and was drunk with great applause.

DALHOUSIE CHAPTER—LUCKNOW.

Owing to the paucity of Royal Arch Masons at Lucknow, and the expected departure of some of them from that place, which would have created difficulties in establishing the Order of Royal Arch Masonry there, a reference was made to the Officiating Provincial Grand Superintendent for permission to open a R. A. Chapter at once. This authority was granted by letter and telegram, dated the 12th October; and on the 22nd, Chapter "Ramsay," named after the Provincial Grand Superintendent, Major-General Ramsay, was opened under very promising and encouraging circumstances. Four brethren were on that evening exalted to the degree, and the fees were reduced for the period of a month as a significant hint for others to join. Altogether the aspect of affairs is bright for Royal Arch Masonry in Lucknow.

PUNJAB CHAPTER, LAHORE.

The Punjab Chapter, attached to Lodge Hope and Perseverance at Lahore, opened on Monday, the 28th October. There were present M.E. Comps. W. E. Ball, H. J. Wabab, and J. B. Hide; E. Comp. R. E. Egerton, Comps. J. G. Forbes, H. L. Oertel, R. Trotter, W. W. Doddam, G. Hutchinson, and W. Claxton. The routine business having been got through, the ballot was taken for the admission of the undermentioned Master Masons, which proving unanimously favourable, they were admitted and exalted to the Degree:—Harris, member of Lodge Hope and Perseverance, C. R. Crommelin, member of Lodge Faith Hope and Charity at Roy Barceilly. A set of 12 new banners just received from England adorned the Chapter or the first time, and the Companions resolved that 100 Rupees should be remitted home for additional fittings for the Chapter. E. Comp. Egerton addressed the Comps. as follows:—

"Companions,—In all probability this is the last occasion on which we shall have our M.E. Companion Hide amongst us, as he leaves for England next month, and I do not think we should allow him to leave us without our placing on record how much the Chapter is indebted to him. He was one of the founders of the Chapter, and has from the commencement been one of its most zealous supports. He has attained in it the rank of P.Z., and in that high office has worked as few, even had they the requisite leisure, could do. His labours for the other degrees have been equally great and valuable, and I doubt not will be suitably acknowledged in the Craft lodge, where all will have an opportunity of testifying the esteem they feel for him; but I think the Chapter should give some sign recognising his worth and services, and therefore beg to propose that these remarks (which I have written down for the purpose) be entered on the minutes, and a copy be furnished to our M.E.Z.; and further, that, with his permission, we retain his name on our books as an honorary member." The proposition was put to the meeting and most cordially approved. There being no more work before the Chapter, it was closed in peace and amity at 9 p. m., when the Companions adjourned to an excellent repast provided by Comp. Claxton, and finally separated at 11 p. m.

KOTREE, SCINDE.

The brethren at this station, having received a warrant from the Grand Lodge of England, opened the new Lodge Industry on the 28th September, with the assistance of the Master and Past Master of Lodge Union, and one of the Past Masters of Lodge Hope, who, together with a number of other brethren from Kurrachee, had gone by train to the Port of the Indus. After the Master of the new lodge had been duly installed, the brethren adjourned to a banquet on board the Railway Flotilla Steamer *Stanley*.

NEGAPATAM.

Our Madras Correspondent sends us the following:—"Since writing my last, a new lodge has been opened in this Presidency. It works at Negapatam, under the name of Emulation. I believe it has been got up by the staff of railway officials employed on the Grand South of India Railway, which is to run between Negapatam and Trichinopoly. I must try and write up and get a list of its members and so forth. Its Secretary is Bro. R. O. Fraser, C.E. It is now working under a dispensation from Colonel Macdonald; but application has been sent home for a warrant from the Grand Lodge of England."

Obituary.

BRO. ROBERT ANGELL.

[From the *Kurrachee Herald*, 17th August 1861.]

One of the most remarkable men in this station has passed away. Last evening saw the mortal remains of Robert Angell consigned to where he would "shake hands with dust and call the worm his kinsman." When living, he was more than remarkable: he was a celebrity. His character stood out in bold outline, distinct from any thing known of all other men here. His individuality was something almost tangible; it separated him from most others (or from the common herd as G. P. R. James would have said), procured him enemies who feared, and friends who warmly admired him. Altogether he was a man so widely known, so much observed, and so greatly respected, that his loss has now left behind a sense of voidness not commonly felt on the occasion of the death of one in his sphere of life.

When speaking of Bob Angell, it is difficult to repress the desire to give some account of him, as the last that will be said of one who has had a large circle of friends scattered throughout India, more especially among Freemasons. Who of the Craft have not at some time or other heard of him? The history of his early life is identified with the progress of Freemasonry in India. He it was who at Seringapatam assembled the first accredited Lodge in the Empire; and after bringing it into a high state of efficiency, he proceeded to establish the lodge at Cannanore. The Armenian Lodge at Madras, owes him a heavy debt of gratitude for his eminent services in its behalf, and doubtless when they all now hear of his death, they will greatly deplore it. To him the Craft owes the successful opposition of the Past Master as a distinct degree, and for which service he received a Jewel from the Grand Lodge in England. He was himself the possessor of every known degree of the craft, of all the chivalric orders, was an Orangeman and Oddfellow; and only halted at the altar of Priesthood (represented by the *Mitre* in the chart published by Broderick), which he could not get for reason of his ignorance of his letters. His attachment to Freemasonry amounted to devotion, the peculiar system of its cosmopolity having impressed him with a veneration superior to anything else, both religious and secular. Latterly he became haunted by a desire to purge the Craft in India of suspected schismatical tendencies, and many might remember that he published a challenge in 1856 to the *Illuminati* of the Craft in Bombay to confer on the matter, undertook a journey to the Presidency, and successively met the brethren, beginning with the Templars, and ending with the M.M.'s Lodge, with profit to the whole of them.

And Robert Angell, who accomplished all this, and much more besides, was a man wholly destitute of learning; or to use his own words, he was "no scholar, my friend, and did not know the alphabet from the gable end of a house." The solace and instruction of a book were therefore beyond his reach; but nevertheless, scarcely any man among us more emphatically realized the *Rusticus abnormis sapiens, crassaque Minerva*, as Robert Angell did. Perhaps it was to the absolute necessity of making his memory the custodian of his knowledge, that we should ascribe his marvellous recollection of things; and we might take a hint from this fact, that if a man does really put faith in his memory, it will respond to his confidence, and save him the mortification of confessing that his knowledge lies mainly in his library.

In other respects also, the life of Robert Angell would read a valuable lesson of what may be achieved by energy and labour unaided, as in his case, by the advantages of the most elementary book-learning. After settling in Belgaum in 1842 (he was present at its capitulation 25 years before) as a Queen's pensioner, and with nothing besides the very limited resources of such men, he set about acquiring a competence, without which he instinctively held with Junius, no man can be happy or even honest. People in those days used to see a sturdy European personally assisting in the building of a house; and later he would be seen digging by himself a well in the compound of it; whatever he could do himself he never asked another to do; nor did he ever defer it till to-morrow if it could be finished to-day. It is entirely beyond my power to convey a notion of the look of honest pride which would light up his face, as in answer to the question "Who built these houses of yours, Mr. Angell?" he would stretch out his brawny arms and exclaim:—"These two poor hands, my lad—these two poor hands!" There was no

doubting it when your eyes met the firm expression of the man who habitually overcame difficulties; whose self-reliance had become a proverb; or scanned his massive proportions surmounted by a singularly well-formed head, a glance at which latter infallibly impressed one with the belief that had he but received a liberal education, Robert Angell would have been a very famous man.

Many an evening he entertained me and others by his extraordinary conversational powers; drawing freely from his equally extraordinary memory stores of anecdotes of his past life, ranging from the days when he was with the allied forces when they occupied Paris in 1815, to the present hour. And, making every allowance for the hyperboles which (although in his accounts must have been exceedingly few) are yet an ingredient in an old soldier's autobiography, the events of his chequered life would read like a romance, and most instructive romance too, for it would inculcate the most beneficial of all doctrines—that of the Dignity of Labour.

When I think of those times with him, and reflect that the poor fellow is now under hatches, I can scarcely avoid applying to him in my mind these lines of Tom Bowling, which are set to an air which Keats would have called so "mournful wild" like Peona's song—

"His form was of the manliest beauty,
His heart was kind and soft,
Faithful below he did his duty
But now he's gone aloft."

NOTE—The above affords a proof that Masonry, like the Christian religion, is suited to the humble as well as to the great in mind and station.—Ed. *Kurrachee Herald*.

THE WEEK.

The Queen and family still remain at Osborne. Her Majesty sent daily telegrams to Hartley during the suspense in trying to save the victims of the late Hartley Colliery accident.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The mortality of London rose to a very high pitch last week. This is the more remarkable, as the deaths in the previous week had shown a considerable decline, the numbers that week being 1391; last week 1569, or an increase of nearly 200. Compared with the corrected average of the last ten years, the increase is 148. The severe cold we had at the beginning of the week had, doubtless, something to do with these results. It appears that the diseases more than usually active were the various forms of typhus fever. The births have also fallen off this week, the numbers being 1801, against a corrected average of 1973 births.—Lord Palmerston has issued the usual circular to his supporters, reminding them that Parliament meets on the 6th February, and requesting their attendance that day, as "matters of considerable importance" await the consideration of the Legislature.—Lord Lyons has been created a Grand Cross of the Bath—in recognition, no doubt, of the tact and ability he displayed in the performance of the delicate duties recently devolving upon him as Her Majesty's representative at Washington.—The question of improving the approaches to the Great Exhibition has been vexing the authorities for some months past. There has been more trouble about these approaches than there was about the erection of the building itself. It is now, however, we understand, determined that a road shall be made across Kensington Gardens, constructed in such a way as not to interfere with the convenience of the public, and to be paid for by those who require its use in the form of a toll.—An interesting discussion on the subject of single-shaft collieries took place at a meeting of the Manchester Geological Society, on Tuesday. The speakers included two colliery inspectors and other gentlemen of experience in mining matters; and the opinion was unanimous against the system of sinking only a single shaft and relying upon the precarious expedient of brattices. Great satisfaction was expressed at the step taken by Sir George Grey in directing an inquiry to be made into a question of such vast moment to so many thousands of our labouring population. The end of all the exciting and dangerous efforts that have been made for the last ten days at Hartley New Colliery has at last been reached. The bodies of the suffocated men and boys have all been reached, brought up to the surface of the earth, confined, and identified by their mourning relations. This termination is very different from that which was hoped for a week ago, when, at the peril of their own lives, the hardy miners ventured into the cavern

while the stones were still falling, animated by the hope that they would yet be in time to save their comrades from the most horrible of all deaths. That hope has been disappointed, and nothing remains to these brave men but the consciousness that they have done their duty, and that England, with the Queen at its head, applauds their generous devotion. For the bereaved sufferers all that can be done we are satisfied will be done. Her Majesty has sent a donation of £200, and several thousands have been subscribed in the locality; while in the metropolis also a large sum has been raised.—In the central Criminal Court Henry Wells Young, a solicitor, charged with forging powers of attorney for the transfer of stock, has been convicted, and sentenced to twenty years' penal servitude. A man named Quigley was tried for murder, but the jury brought in a verdict of manslaughter, and he was sentenced to twenty years' penal servitude. A similar sentence was passed on a person named Crane, for an attempt to murder his brother under peculiar circumstances.—Sheffield has obtained of late an unenviable notoriety among the towns of the kingdom. The latest crime imputed to one of its inhabitants is not the least atrocious, though it has nothing to do with the trade outrages which characterised the other atrocities. In this case a man is charged with attempting to poison his wife and child. The couple had been living on bad terms of late, and on Monday morning the man rose early and left the house. His wife rose afterwards and made tea for her breakfast, which had a peculiar taste; she put a portion away in a bottle, threw the rest away, and then made some other tea, which was free from harm. The man has been apprehended and committed on remand; but there is a bitterness about the woman in her mode of giving evidence which would render it desirable carefully to examine her testimony.—At the close of last week a heavy storm raged in the Irish Channel, causing great damage to shipping—attended, we regret to have to add, with much loss of life. One of the most painful of the disasters recorded is the wreck at Annetstown, on the Waterford coast, of a large ship, believed from the papers washed ashore, to be the *Indian Ocean*. This vessel belonged to Messrs. Baines, of Liverpool, and was bound for Sydney, New South Wales. She had no passengers, but her crew numbered twenty-five men and boys, all of whom have perished. Two other fatal wrecks are reported from Waterford,—one of them having occurred near the spot where the *Indian Ocean* went to pieces. From Milford we have the melancholy intelligence that two large ships foundered with all on board, while making for the Haven; that a barque had gone ashore and become a total wreck; and that a fourth ship, lying close to the docks, was in great danger.—It will be remembered that the English and French Ambassadors in China demanded the payment of £200,000 as a fine for the treacherous butchery by the imperial troops of a party of European officers, soldiers, and civilians, in the year 1860. The money has been paid, and our Government has allotted to the legal representatives of Captain Brabazon, Lieutenant de Norman, Lieutenant Anderson, and Mr. Boulby, £15,000 each; to the representatives of Private Phipps, of the 1st Dragoon Guards, £2,400; and to the families of the eight Sikhs who were murdered, £12,000. Messrs. Loch and Parkes, who were subjected to much ill-treatment and the grossest indignities, take £8,000 each.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The French Chambers were opened on Monday by the Emperor in person. As anticipated, his Majesty's speech was particularly pacific, and was remarkable for the absence of any allusion calculated to alarm or create distrust to foreign powers. His relations with foreign powers, the emperor said, gave him the most entire satisfaction, and he alluded to the visits he had received from several Sovereigns, particularly from the King of Prussia, which he said had contributed to confirm the amicable relations at present existing. The civil war in America, his Majesty said, had seriously affected the commercial interests of France, but as the rights of neutrals had been been respected, they could only hope for its speedy termination. After a slight reference to the late war in China, and the present operations, in conjunction with England and Spain, against Mexico, to protect the national interests, and to suppress attempts against humanity and the law of nations, his Majesty passed on to the consideration of the financial condition of the empire, the means proposed for meeting the present immense deficit, and the measures to be adopted for preventing similar results for the future, on all which subjects our readers are already well informed. His Majesty takes the same view of the deficit as M. Troplong, and considers the glory attained in

war, and the vast improvements in every direction that have been effected, are fully worth the immense outlay they have cost. No reforms in the constitution are promised, though his Majesty takes credit for having taken the initiative whenever any useful reform has been proposed, and for having maintained intact the fundamental bases of the constitution, which he says have assured to the state ten years of order and prosperity. The French Chambers are open, but as yet are only engaged in the constitution of their *bureaux*. Count de Morny's announcement, that he will not permit the reading of written harangues, will undoubtedly both accelerate and enliven the progress of the debates. The Count de Morny referred to the fact, that the English Parliament, "whose experience and practical spirit are undeniable," prohibits the reading of written disquisitions; and emphatically declared that he would not have long essays read out to a deserted Chamber.—The *Moniteur* has published the bill for the optional conversion of the Four-and-a-half per cent. Rents, which it declares to be not an expedient contrived to meet the temporary wants of the Treasury, but a measure conceived in the interest of public prosperity.—In replying to the address of the new Papal Nuncio, who had his first audience on Thursday, the Emperor Napoleon said that "he should always seek to ally the duties of a Sovereign with his devotion to the Holy See.—The Emperor Alexander has removed some of the restrictions yet imposed on the Jews of his empire. Henceforth Jewish merchants will be permitted to reside in any part of Russia; and Jews who have obtained academical degrees are to be admissible to the public service.—According to accounts from Rome, the Pope has declared that he will not send a nuncio to St. Petersburg until the Emperor Alexander shall have liberated the Polish priests now imprisoned at Warsaw, add shall have recalled those banished to Siberia.—A telegram (arriving from Milan) states that Monsignor Ciuffa, President of the Civil Tribunal at Rome, has been assassinated. The assassin, a person named Farroni, has been arrested. From the same source we receive a report that the Pope has been attacked with illness.—The Danish Chambers were opened on Saturday. The King in his speech, which was read by the President of the Council, stated that the negotiations in reference to the constitutional affairs of Holstein were being continued, and expressed a hope that the interest which foreign powers had in the maintenance of the independence of Denmark would lead to a satisfactory solution of the question. He also stated that the credits for the current year would be exclusively contributed by the kingdom and by Schleswig. This exemption of Holstein from compulsory taxation removed one of the principal impediments in the way of a satisfactory arrangement with the Federal Diet. The King also announced his intention to grant to Schleswig provincial estates, to be established on a popular basis, as soon as the issue of the conflict with the Federal Diet shall ensure it against foreign intervention.—The insurgents in the Herzegovina having definitively rejected the amnesty offered them by Omar Pacha, Dervisch Pasha had commenced active operations against them, and advanced on Polizza, from which the insurgents withdrew, having first set fire to the houses.—A letter from Berlin states that the Catholic clergy of the province of Posen have been stirring up so strong a Polish agitation that the Prussian Minister at Rome has been charged to solicit the intervention of the Pope, who, it is added, is to send a special Nuncio to Berlin for the purpose of obtaining information on the subject. In Posen, the strongest feeling prevails against the Germanising efforts of the Prussian Government. The Polish members, as a body, declined to attend the coronation of the King at Konigsberg; and the antagonism of national feeling seems to grow stronger every day.

AMERICA.—The principal intelligence brought from New York by the *Asia*, is the announcement that General Burnside's expedition had actually sailed from Hampton Roads. Its destination was not publicly known in the North, but in the South it was thought to be intended for an attack on Norfolk. Mr. Cameron, the Federal secretary of war, had resigned his office, in which he had been succeeded by Mr. Staunton. Mr. Cameron was to proceed as Envoy to St. Petersburg, whence Mr. Cassius M. Clay was to return for the purpose of assuming a command in the Federal army. Secretary Seward, in his report to Congress respecting the consular service, stated that, in consequence of the attempt to introduce arms from England into the South by way of the West Indies and the British American provinces, and of the intercourse carried on by the rebels with Europe through Canada, paid consuls had been

appointed at Bristol, Cardiff, St. John's, Prince Edward's Island, Quebec, and Gaspé Basin. In each house of Congress there had been a singular display of petty spitefulness, in consequence of the surrender of the Confederate Commissioners. The Senate had rejected a motion to take into consideration the bill appropriating the sum of £200 to compensate the owners of the British ship *Perthshire*, for her illegal detention by a Federal cruiser, Senator Hale observing that "England ought to be satisfied with what America has already done—at least for the present." In the House of Representatives Mr. Lovejoy, saying "It is enough for us to have been humbugged, dishonoured, and disgraced by England," opposed the passage of the bill granting funds to defray the expense of conveying American goods to the Great Exhibition in London.—Lord Russell's reply to Mr. Seward's recent dissertation on international law appears in the *Gazette*, of Tuesday. The noble Earl combats the theory that the persons taken out of the *Trent*, and their despatches, were contraband of war, and points out that, if the doctrine laid down by the Federal Secretary of State were to be acted upon, any packet ship conveying a Southern agent from Dover to Calais, or from Calais to Dover, would be liable to seizure; while a Confederate war vessel would be equally justified in capturing a Cunard steamer which might have despatches from Mr. Adams to Mr. Seward on board. He declares that England could never submit to the seizure of a merchant ship under circumstances similar to those of the *Trent* case, and that the gravity of the offence would not be diminished by taking the prize into port for adjudication before a regular legal tribunal. Lord Russell alludes to Mr. Seward's assertion that if Messrs. Slidell and Mason had been worth keeping, they would never have been restored, and remarks that "Great Britain could not have submitted to the perpetration of that wrong, however flourishing might have been the insurrection in the South." A despatch from Lord Lyons, stating the substance of a conversation with Mr. Seward on the subject of the destruction of the Southern harbours, also appears in the *Gazette*. Mr. Seward informed His Excellency that the measures which had been adopted were intended to assist the blockade, and that the obstructions would be removed when the war was ended. At the same time, he was not prepared to admit that the permanent destruction of an enemy's ports was unjustifiable as an operation in war.—Messrs. Mason and Slidell, with their secretaries, arrived at Southampton on Wednesday morning, in the West India steamer *La Plata*. Their original destination was Halifax, but owing to stress of weather the *Rinaldo* made for St. Thomas, where the Confederate Commissioners arrived in time to obtain a passage on board the *La Plata*.—The Mexican Commander-in-Chief had apprised the French and English Ministers that he would attack any force proceeding out of Vera Cruz. From this we infer that for the present the Mexicans will not interfere with the occupation of Vera Cruz by the Spaniards.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Miss F. is thanked. We are glad to find we have so many lady correspondents.

NON MASON.—We dare not answer such a question.

MILITARY.—Military lodges are always held at the head-quarters of the regiments.

SENEX.—We agree with you, it is quite time to revise the numbers of the various lodges. It is ridiculous to go on creating lodges with high numbers whilst there are something like three hundred vacancies. A period should be fixed for revising all the numbers, and in the meantime new charters might be issued without numbers until the revision.

OLD MORTALITY.—The communication has been consigned to the waste paper basket, where any further communications on the same subject are likely to go.

H.G.H.—Still on sale at Bro. Spencer's.

S.S.—The Grand Organist is we believe in Australia. We do not know who is likely to be his successor.

J.W.—Had better ask the Grand Master himself. We are not in the noble lord's confidence.

J.B.N.—The question regarding the Royal Arch shall receive due attention.