

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 1862.

THE GRAND LODGE AND "THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE."

We have received a "first warning" from the Grand Master, and our Editor has been personally threatened with the terrors which await him from the indignation of Grand Lodge—and for what? Has he been committing treason against the Grand Master? Has he been attempting to undermine the Constitutions of Freemasonry? Has he violated any of his Masonic obligations? No; but he has had the audacity to publish a letter, signed by a member of the Board of General Purposes, in his own name, impugning a report issued from that august body, from the conclusions contained in which the writer dissents, and this, too, in a column which is expressly headed by a statement that "the Editor does not hold himself responsible for the opinions of his Correspondents." On moving the reception of the report of the Board of General Purposes, the Grand Registrar, somewhat indiscreetly in our opinion, called attention to the letter of Bro. Meymott, which appeared in our impression of last week, and denied the accuracy of its statements. Bro. Meymott replied, and defended what he had written, when Bro. Jennings (whose conduct is somewhat reflected upon in the letter), in terms neither polite nor Masonic, declared the whole of the statements of Bro. Meymott to be "a tissue of misrepresentations." Upon this the Grand Master interposed, and stated that if the Editor of the publication were a member of Grand Lodge he was amenable to that body for publishing anything which took place in the Board of General Purposes. Taking the hint, Bro. Jennings called up Bro. Warren by name, and asked him if he was the Editor of THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, a fact which he could not well deny whilst his name is weekly printed on the front page of our journal, to show that we are not afraid to accept the full responsibility of our position. To any other questions, unless they had come from the Grand Master, Bro. Warren would have refused to reply, but none others were put, the Grand Master proceeding to promulgate the following *brutem fulmen* :—

"To make known what took place in the Board of General Purposes was contrary to the laws of Masonry ;

and the editor of any publication, if a member of Grand Lodge, who published anything relative to what took place in that Board, was deserving of and ought to receive the severest reprehension from Grand Lodge."

We expected to hear that, following this, some vote of censure would be moved—we fancied that we saw the sword of Damocles dangling over our Editor's head, which might bring destruction upon him. But no; the matter was allowed to drop, and we were sorry for it; for we know that, had the resolution been proposed, Bro. Warren would have been prepared to defend himself, having no fear of what would have been the result of an appeal to Grand Lodge, whilst he would have been enabled to tell some home truths, which cannot well appear in this magazine.

We deny that we are under any obligation to conceal anything which takes place in the Board of General Purposes, whilst it is written by the members themselves, and is the topic of conversation at every street corner, and in every assembly of Masons which we enter, whether it be in our own tavern or elsewhere. Besides, we know nothing of any obligation taken as regards the proceedings of that body—and if we did we have never taken it, or been allowed the opportunity of doing so—the only brother connected with this magazine, who ever sought the honour of being a member of that Board during the last eight or nine years, having been persistently opposed by the Grand Master's friends, who, regardless of all honour, did not hesitate to unite with a party in Grand Lodge who were known to wish to replace the Grand Master by another, in order to effect the object of excluding that brother from the Board. We are amongst those who wish to let bye-gones be bye-gones; but we shall not tamely submit to threats or warnings without resenting them, and maintaining the position we have obtained amongst the brethren. But let us ask how the party—with whom the Grand Officers, led by Bro. Jennings, then united—have repaid the confidence placed in them? Have they attended to their duties in Grand Lodge, or have they spurned any approach to conciliation, whilst they have been conspicuously active in other Orders of Freemasonry where the Grand Master does not rule? Some years since we, in common with many other brethren, were dissatisfied with the manner in which the Craft was governed, and Bro. Warren took the only legitimate means of expressing that dissatisfaction by giving notice of

his intention to place another nobleman in nomination for the office of Grand Master in opposition to the Earl of Zetland, well knowing it was only a protest against the then government, as also against a noble brother which another section of Grand Lodge wished to set up for Grand Master. A change of the executive shortly afterwards took place, since which period, though occasionally disagreeing with the policy pursued, we deny that any brethren have given the Grand Master and his advisers a more loyal and independent support than have the conductors of THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE. Of late, however, we fancy we have seen indications of old influences again tightening around the Grand Master, and we shall not hesitate to speak freely upon all points in which either the privileges of the Grand Master are interfered with, or the independence of Grand Lodge menaced or attempted to be controlled, whilst we well know how to maintain the even tenour of our way, regardless of all threats or "warnings," which we had thought were now confined to the other side of the channel.

THE GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

The whole question regarding the future arrangement of the Grand Lodge property is now likely to be brought under the consideration of Grand Lodge, the M.W. Grand Master having consented to call a special Grand Lodge on or about the 16th of July, when not only the report and plans of the Board of General Purposes, but all other plans and estimates which may be deposited at the Grand Secretary's office before the end of June, are to be taken into consideration, and, we hope, ultimately lead to the adoption of a scheme generally acceptable to the brethren, and not too costly. That that conclusion can be quickly arrived at we have no hope, especially if the lawyers are to be allowed to disport themselves as they did on Wednesday evening, when something like two hours were wasted fighting with shadows, and showing the difference between tweedledum and tweedledee; and that, too, on a motion which everybody who had read the *Book of Constitutions* knew could not be put to Grand Lodge.

We have long been of opinion, and often expressed it, that the best tribunal to carry out any scheme for the re-arrangement of the Grand Lodge property would be an independent Committee of

Grand Lodge, and not a fluctuating body like the Board of General Purposes; but we have never been blind to the fact that, to enable Grand Lodge to appoint such a committee, the present law must be altered, it declaring in terms not to be mistaken:—

"The Board has the direction of everything relating to the buildings and furniture of the Grand Lodge and may suggest any alterations or improvements. * * * It shall also give orders for all the usual and ordinary articles which may be requisite for the Grand Lodge, but no extraordinary expense of any kind shall be incurred without the previous sanction of the Grand Lodge."

Until that law is altered, it is clear that no committee can be appointed to interfere with the management of the Grand Lodge property; and yet Bro. Herbert Lloyd, a distinguished member of the legal profession, proceeded to move the appointment of a committee, with the view of getting rid of the report of the Board of General Purposes altogether, and at once launched into another point of law, viz., that the Freemasons, not being an incorporated body, could not sell or lease any portion of their property, inasmuch as nobody would lease or purchase from them, they not being in a position to give such a title as anyone would accept; that they could not enforce the carrying out of any contract, as they could neither sue nor be sued; and, further, that Freemasonry being a fluctuating body, a contract entered into by one Grand Lodge might be revoked by another, without the parties with whom they contracted having any remedy against them. Now, there is a great deal of legal truth in all this, and the lawyers revelled in it to the utmost, altogether disregarding the fact, that though we cannot give such a title as every lawyer would approve, though we *cannot sell or lease* any portion of our property, we *have done both*, and parties have been found to take a title from us with all its defects. We some years since sold a portion of our property to the Wesleyan body, and they have erected schools thereon at a considerable cost, no attempt ever having been made by the Grand Lodge of one year to upset the proceedings of a previous year. Again, more recently, we did grant a lease for an hotel, on condition that £8000 should be expended upon it. That lease has been carried out, the lessee is still in possession, and the report of the Board of General Purposes, presented on Wednesday last, expressly acknowledges that lease, by proposing to buy up the remaining interest in

it. Again, the present proprietors of the Tavern, and their predecessors have had a succession of leases without the bugbear that they could not be enforced ever arising. After this subject had been discussed *pro* and *con.* for some considerable time it was allowed to drop, on the understanding that it would be time enough to combat the difficulties when they arose. But the lawyers were not satisfied; and upon the Grand Master proposing to insert in the circular or advertisement convening the special meeting a notice of motion for altering the law so as to enable a committee to be appointed to carry out such plans for the re-arrangement of the Grand Lodge property, as may be agreed upon by Grand Lodge, another legal objection was started, this time by the Past and Present Grand Registrars, that the legal notice had not been given under Rule 8, regulating Grand Lodge, which says:—

“It being essential to the interests of the Craft that all matters of business to be brought under the consideration of the Grand Lodge should be previously known to the Grand Officers and Masters of Lodges, that, through them, all the representatives of lodges may be apprised of such business and be prepared to decide thereon without being taken by surprise, a general committee, consisting of the Present and Past Grand Officers and the Master of every regular lodge shall meet on the Wednesday fortnight immediately preceding each Quarterly Communication, at which meeting all reports or representations from the Most Worshipful Grand Master, or the Board of General Purposes, or any board or committee appointed by the Grand Lodge shall be read; and any member of the Grand Lodge intending to make motion therein, or to submit any matter to its consideration, shall, at such general committee, state in writing the nature of his intended motion or business, that the same may be read. No motion or other matter shall be brought into discussion in the Grand Lodge unless it shall have been previously communicated to this general committee.”

It is perfectly clear that, in order to prevent the brethren “being taken by surprise,” a notice of all business to be brought under the consideration of a Quarterly Communication must first be given at the General Committee or Board of Masters, to be held a fortnight before each Quarterly Communication. But how stands the case with regard to Lodges of Emergency where no such committee is to be previously held? Rule 10 says:—

“The Grand Master—in his absence the Pro Grand Master, in his absence the Deputy Grand Master, or in his absence the Grand Wardens—may summon and hold Grand Lodges of Emergency, whenever the good of the Craft shall, in their opinion, require it. The particular

reason for convening such Lodge of Emergency shall be expressed in the summons, and no other business shall be entered upon at that meeting.”

Under this law we maintain that the Grand Master has only to decide that, in his opinion, “the good of the Craft” requires an alteration in the law to enable him to call a Lodge of Emergency to consider it; and if he has not this power, neither has he the power to call a Lodge of Emergency for any other purpose, unless notice of the motions to be brought forward has been previously given at the Board of Masters, and at least nine-tenths of the Grand Lodges of Emergency which have been held since we have been Masons have been illegal.

ANOTHER IRREGULARITY.

The proceedings of the last four Quarterly Convocations of Grand Chapter, have just been forwarded by the Grand Scribe E., to the various chapters of the Order. Now, as these communications profess to be transcripts of the minutes of the Quarterly Convocations of the Order, they should be so literally, without reference to any thing which may take place out of Grand Chapter, after the convocation has been closed in “ancient and solemn form;” we maintaining that not even the G.Z. himself has the power of altering the minutes, prior to their being issued to the various chapters. But how have the minutes of the Grand Chapter been dealt with? Under the regulations (or in other words the constitutions) of Grand Chapter at the convocation in May, the Committee for General Purposes (answering to the Board of General Purposes in the Craft, only with much less to do), has to be appointed, six being elected by Grand Chapter, and three nominated by the Grand Z. The election duly took place on the 7th ult., and those nominated by the Grand Z., were Comps. Pattison, President; Jno. Ll. Evans, and Abraham A. Le Veau.—Comp. Pattison being present, and accepting the appointment, or at least not raising any objection, he having filled the position for several years. It appears, however, that Comp. Pattison took offence at some observations of Comp. Stebbing with regard to the disrespectful manner in which Comp. Farnfield was spoken of by the Committee of General Purposes, “as one of his clerks,” in that part of their report recommending an increase to the salary of the Grand Scribe E., Comp. Clarke, and accordingly, subsequent to the regular closing of the Grand Chapter, Comp. Pattison declined to hold the office to which he had been appointed, which we submit he had no power to do; but supposing he had, the minutes ought to have notified his

appointment; instead of which the name of Comp. Richard W. Jennings is inserted in the published minutes as President, without the slightest allusion to Comp. Pattison whatever, thereby leading the Companions who were not present to believe that he had been regularly appointed in Grand Chapter, according to the regulations of the order. We are not going to dispute the power of the Grand Z. to fill up a vacancy amongst those he has nominated, if it regularly occurs, which we deny that in this instance it has; nor have we any personal objection to Comp. Jennings, but we must protest in the name of the whole Craft against the entering upon the minutes that which really does not take place, and suppressing that which does. At least if the G.Z. has the power of substituting one name for another—which we feel assured he would not attempt as Grand Master in Grand Lodge, after the close of that lodge—it would have been but respectful to have published the minutes correctly, and then explained what had subsequently taken place.

As members of Grand Chapter, we shall feel it to be our duty to oppose the confirmation of any minutes brought before the next convocation, should they tally with the printed documents now issued by the Grand Scribe E., and we hold that the other members of the Committee of General Purposes will be wanting in that respect due to themselves, and will be sacrificing the dignity of Grand Chapter, if they do not refuse to act under Comp. Jennings until his appointment has been regularly announced to them in Grand Chapter; nor would we, were we in the position of Comp. Jennings, attempt to assume the chair, until that had been done. Indeed, we shall be much disappointed in the estimate we have formed of the independence of that respected Companion if he does not himself, on consideration, take the view we have here enumerated.

MASONIC FACTS.

(Continued from p. 423).

231. Durham Abbey. Indentura Petri Dring pro *Dormitorio construendo*.—Hæc indentura facta inter Johannem Priorem ecclesiæ Dunelmensis et ejusdem loci Conventum ex una parte, et Petrum Dryng, cementarium ex altera, testatur, quod prædictus Petrus promisit et manucepit, ac se firmiter obligavit, per præsentem, ad edificandum et de novo construendum muros Dormitorii infra Abbathiam Dunelmensem situati; incipiendo a muris jam de novo constructis usque ad ecclesiam Dunelmensem antedictam; ita decenter fortiter, ac melius, sicut sunt, prædicti muri jam de novo constructi; videlicet quod murus occidentalis erit in fundamento spissitudinis sive latitudinis duarum ulnarum, cum scarciammentis bonis sufficientibus, prout sunt in muro occidentali jam constructo; et faciet in eodem muro de novo construendo,

sub volta, quinque fenestras, consimilis formæ, vel decencionis vel melioris, sicut est media fenestra in Domo Communi; et unum parvam fenestram in le Wolle-house; secundum avisamentum consilii Prioris; ac eciam tot hostia competencia et honesta quæ voluerint dicti Prior et Conventus construi in opere antedicto. Item, pro singulis lectis monachorum faciet idem Petrus in utroque muro fenestras correspondentes, cum securis archevoltis supra se, secundum modum quo prima fenestra in prædicto muro de novo jam facto in altero fine Dormitorii prædicti; supra quas fenestras lectorum monachorum faciet in muro occidentalis prædicto tres fenestras, vel plures, si necesse fuerit; et in muro orientali quator consimilis formæ, sive melioris, cujus sunt fenestræ superiores modo factæ in novo opere prædicto.

Et supra ipsas fenestras superiores faciet in utroque muro ailours et bretissementa batelata, de puro achiler, secundum exemplar prædictorum murorum jam factorum in novo opere prædicto; quod opus novum erit in omnibus exemplar murorum de novo construendorum.

Et erunt dicti muri de puro achiler exterius, et de rogh wall interius, cum bono calce bene et sufficienter mixto cemate competenti. Item caminum jam in Domo Communi prædicta existenti sufficienter et honeste salvabit et perficiet, prout eisdem Priori et Conventui melius visi fuerint expedire.

Et erit le beddyng cujuslibet achiler ponendi in isto opere longitudinis unius pedis de assyse, ad minus; cum latitudine competenti. Et fiet unum ascensorium, vocatum vys, in campanili propinquiori Dormitorio prædicto secundum avisamentum Prioris et Conventus prædictorum, pro ascendendo supra Dormitorium antedictum.

Et erit hoc opus finaliter completum citra festum Omnium Sanctorum quod erit in Anno Domini millesimo ccc^{mo}, quarto. Et prædictus cementarius warrantizabit et sustentabit voltam infra prædictum Dormitorium nunc existentem, in adeo bono statu sicut est in die confeccionis presentium, absque aliqua deterioracione ejusdem.

Et idem cementarius franget quareram, ardebit calcem, et inveniet omnia et omnimoda caragia quomodolibet oportuna, ac instrumenta ferrea et lignea, alia quoque vasa quæcumque, cum scaffalds, seyntres et flekes, aliisque omnimodis necessariis oportunis, suis sumptibus propriis et expensis; exceptis quarera, tam pro lapidibus, quam pro calce, meremio, ac virgis pro dictis scaffalds, seyntres, et flekes; quæ dicti Prior et Conventus assignari facient eidem cementario infra spacium trium miliarium a Dunelmo distancium. Idem quoque Prior et Conventus, cum consilio et deliberacione dicti cementarii, muros antiquos in eodem Dormitorio nunc existentes prosterni facient; et eorum fundamenta pure mundari, pro novo opere incipiendo: quæ fundamia erunt incepta et posita per consilium et deliberacionem disctorum Prioris et Conventus. Et habebit idem cementarius omnes lapides et cementum de muris antiquis ejusdem Dormitorii prosternendis, et novos lapides pro eodem Dormitorio de novo excisos et ordinatos, ad suppletionem operis supradicti. Ita tamen quod faciat omnes fenestras antiquas et lapides de novo renovari, pro decore et confirmacione dicti operis. Habebit eciam dictus Petrus cementarius, durante termino infrascripto, omnia aisiamenta, tam in batello quam in

viis et simitis, cum introitibus et exitibus; prout Johannes Middleton cementarius habuit pro tempore suo. Dabunt insuper prædicti Prior et Conventus eidem cementario, a die confectionis præsentium, Anno Domini M^oCCC^o, primo usque ad festum Omnium Sanctorum ante dictum, quolibet anno quo præfatos Priorem et Conventum contigerit liberationem panni facere generalem unum garmamentum de secta armigerorum ejusdem Prioris ac etiam quolibet die a festo sancti Cuthberti in Marcio quod erit Anno Domini M^oCCC^{mo} 11^o usque festum omnium Sanctorum prædictum unum panem album et unam lagenam servisiæ, ac etiam unum ferculum coquinæ, sicut armigeri Prioris prædicti tunc temporis percipiunt. Dabunt itaque prædicti Prior et Conventus cementario supradicto pro qualibet roda operis prædicti quæ continebit sex ulnas et dimidium unius ulnæ squar, tam sub terra quam supra terram, decem marcas argenti; unde ad incepcionem operis supradicti idem cementarius percipiet præ manibus XL libras argenti, et postea, cum perfecit sex rodas operis supradicti, alias XL libras; et sic XL libras tocies quociens perfecit sex rodas modo supradicto; donec prædictum opus fuerit plenariè consummatum.

Proviso semper quod nec scaffaldes, seyntres, flekes, nec alia feoda quomodolibet veleat vendicare. Et erit prædictus cementarius et aliæ sufficientes personæ obligati dictis Priori et Conventui in una obligacione per consilium dictorum Prioris et Conventus facienda in XL libris singula vice qua XL libras in forma prædicta idem perceperit, solvendis eisdem Priori et Conventui aut eorum successoribus, in casu quo idem cementarius defecerit per ficere pro singulis decem marcis summæ prædictæ unam rodam operis antedicti sub forma et condicione superius memoratis.

Et ad perficiendum opus prædictum, in forma prædicta, citra festum. Omnium Sanctorum prædictum prædictus Petrus se obligat, hæredes et executores suos, per præsentis, prædicto Priori et ejas successoribus in centum libris solvendis, si defecerit in perficiendo opus prædictum citra festum Omnium Sanctorum prædictum.

In cujus rei testimonium præsentibus indenturis tam dominus Prior quam dictus Petrus cementarius sigilla sua alternatim apposuerunt.

Data Dunelmi, in festo purificationis beatæ Mariæ, Anno Domini M^oCCCC^o primo.

Willielmus Lameton	} Apparently bondsmen.
Willielmus Jalkar	
Thomas Forster	
Willielmus Melode	

Petrus Drynge, cementarius,	} Apparently bondsmen.
Dominus Willielmus Benet,	
vicarius de Meryngton,	
Robertus Daynwell, cementarius,	
Willielmus Landes, cementarius,	

(A mem. at the foot of the contract).—xij balkes de xij pees et j firste pece et j ches e convenable pour corbell deni notre park dkl Haynpng.

Hist. Dunelm Scriptorum Tres., appendix p. clxxvii. —A contract (now in the possession of the Dean and Chapter of Durham) was made in 1398, with Johan de Middleton, to rebuild the dormitory from the ground, which for some reason or other he did not complete. He constructed a portion of the groining of the roof beneath the dormitory, and erected the walls to a corresponding height; when in 1401, the

above contract was entered into with Peter Dryng, to finish the work. The contract contains a many peculiar words relating to masons' craft; the work was to be finished before All Saints' Day, 1404. Dryng was to receive a suit of clothes, such as were worn by the Prior's esquires, yearly; and daily a white loaf, a flagon of beer, and a dish of meat from the kitchen, of the same quality as that prepared for the esquires' table. He was to be paid 10 marks for every rood of masonry containing 6 ells, and half-an-ell square, 40 pounds of silver to be paid in advance, and £40 on the completion of every 6 roods.

The social position of the Master Masons of those days may be inferred, when we consider the relative position of the Prior's esquires.

"The Armigeri, or esquires of the Prior of Durham were numerous, and many of them were highly connected in the country. They resided within the walls of the convent, and gave their personal attendance to the Prior when on a journey from home. The system of young men of family attaching themselves to persons of rank and dignity prevailed among the laity also, and continued to a comparatively modern period."—*The Priory of Finchale, Glossary* ccccxviii., by the Rev. J. Raine.

231. The altar screen of Durham Abbey was constructed in 1380 at a cost of 800 marks—£533 6s. 8d. It was executed in London, out of stone brought from France. It was conveyed from London to Newcastle by sea, at the cost of Lord Neville, and thence to Durham at the charge of the convent. Prior Berrington employed seven masons for a whole year upon its erection, at its own cost.—*Raine's Durham*, 1833.

232. The following is the commencement of the indenture for the tomb of Anne, Queen of Richard II. in Westminster Abbey. It is dated 1395; the tomb was to be finished within two years, to cost £400, £100 to be paid in hand, £100 at Easter following, &c.

"Ceste Endenture fait parentre le Tres excellent et tres puissant Seigneur, notre Seigneur le Roy Richard, qi Dieux garde, d'ume part, et Henry Yevele et Stephen Lote, Citein Masons des Londres, d'autre part, &c.—*Gough's Sepulchral Monuments*, 1786, vol. ii., p. 186.

233. In a Roll of Expenses, 44 Edward III., 22nd April, 1370.—William de Wynneford, "cementarius," was sent to various parts to retain divers masons, to be sent over in the retinue of the King, beyond the sea, by command of the Chancellor.

THE LANDMARKS OF FREEMASONRY.

The following is the essay by Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, P.G.D., on "The importance of maintaining the Ancient Landmarks of the Order, the incompatibility of innovation, and the rise, progress, and design of our lectures,"—read at the Emulation Lodge of Instruction on Friday, May 30.

BRETHREN,—From the circulars which have been issued, it will be expected that I should, on the present occasion, deliver to you an essay on the importance of maintaining the ancient landmarks of our order, the incompatibility of innovation, and the rise, progress, and design of our lectures.

To enable me to do this I have found it necessary to refer to various authors, from whom I have culled, with the greatest attention and care, such information as will, I hope, in some measure be instructive to you all.

It may, perhaps, be as well for me here to observe that from certain hints which I have received I am led to believe that there are brethren present who imagine that I shall indulge in some strong animadversions on the so-called "higher grades;" I beg, therefore, to state to those brethren, if any there be, that I have not the slightest intention of doing so, nor shall I even allude to the adoptive or androgynous degrees, but shall, on the present occasion, confine my observations solely to pure Craft Masonry, as it was designated and recognised at the Union.

Having made these preliminary observations, I should have been happy to proceed with the essay, but finding that my throat is in a very relaxed state, and having recently undergone an operation, I am under the necessity of claiming your indulgence, and requesting that you will allow me to call on Brother Dollman to read the notes which I have jotted down, and which I hope will prove as pleasing and edifying as they would have been had I delivered them to you myself.

Nothing is more offensive to the true Freemason than any innovations on the ancient usages and customs of the order. It is in consequence of this conservative principle that Freemasonry, notwithstanding that many attempts have been made to alter, or as it was supposed, to amend it, is still essentially unchanged, and remains the same as it has always been from time immemorial.

In ancient times it was the custom to mark the boundaries of land by means of stone pillars, the removal of which would have occasioned much confusion, men having no other guide than those pillars, by which to distinguish the limits of their property. To remove them therefore was considered a heinous crime. "Thou shalt not" says the Jewish law (as we find in the 19th Chapter of the fifth Book of Moses, called Deuteronomy, and the 14th verse) "Thou shalt not remove thy neighbour's landmark which they of old have set up in their inheritance." Hence, those peculiar marks of distinction, by which we are separated from the popular world, and by which we are enabled to designate our inheritance as Freemasons, are called landmarks of the order.

The universal language and the universal laws of Freemasonry are landmarks.

The Masonic laws are of two kinds, local and universal.

The local laws are those enacted by the Grand and subordinate lodges for the government of their members; these of course, may be altered or annulled, at the pleasure of the bodies who originally framed them.

The universal laws, are those handed down by universal consent from time immemorial, and which govern the fraternity throughout the world;—these are irrevocable, for they constitute a part of the ancient landmarks.

I will give an example or two of each kind.

The rule regulating the amount of the fee to be paid on the admission of candidates into the order, and the contributions of the several members to a

lodge, is a local law, and varies, not only in every country, but also in many lodges under the same constitution? But the law which declares that no woman can be admitted into the order, is universal, and controls every lodge on the face of the globe.

There are, moreover, certain forms and regulations which, although not constituting landmarks, are nevertheless so protected by the venerable claim of antiquity that they should be guarded by every good Freemason with religious care from alteration. Every Master elect, previous to his installation, pledges himself to submit to and support the ancient charges and regulations, and further, that it is not in the power of any man or body of men to make innovations in the body of Masonry.

To attempt, therefore, to remove the sacred landmarks of our order, or to alter those forms and regulations by which we examine and prove a brother's claims to share in our rights and privileges, is one of the most heinous offences that a Freemason can commit.

Ancient Craft Masonry consists of three degrees, viz., Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason.

Each degree of Freemasonry contains a course of instruction, in which the ceremonies, traditions, and moral purposes appertaining to the degree are set forth. This arrangement is called a lecture. Each lecture, for the sake of convenience, and for the purpose of conforming to certain divisions in the ceremonies, is divided into sections, the number of which has varied at different periods, although the substance remains the same.

There does not, however, seem to have been any established system of lectures, such as now exists, previous to the revival of Freemasonry in the beginning of the eighteenth century. In 1720 Bros. Desaguliers and Anderson, the compilers of the *Book of Constitutions*, arranged the lectures for the first time in a catechetical form, from the old charges and other Masonic documents that were then extant. Of this system, Bro. George Oliver informs us that "the first lecture extended to the greatest length, but the answers were circumscribed within a very narrow compass; the second lecture was shorter, and the third, called 'The Master Mason's part,' contained only seven questions, besides the explanations and examinations." The imperfection of these lectures loudly called for a revision of them, which was accordingly accomplished in 1732 by Bro. Martin Clare, a man of talent, and afterwards a Deputy Grand Master. Bro. Clare's emendations, however, amounted to little more than the addition of a few moral and scriptural admonitions, and the insertion of a simple allusion to the human senses, and to the theological ladder.

Subsequently Bro. Thomas Dunkerley, who was considered the most intelligent Freemason of the day, extended and improved the lectures, and amongst other things, first gave the theological ladder its three most important rounds.

The lectures thus continued until 1763, when Bro. Hutchinson gave them an improved form, which was still further extended in 1772 by Bro. Preston, whose system remained for a long time the standard. (These lectures have lately been very ably set forth by Bro. Henry George Warren.) According to Bro. Preston,

the lecture of the first degree contained six sections; that of the second degree, four; and that of the third, twelve. But at the union of the two Grand Lodges of England, in the year 1813, Bro. Samuel Hemming was appointed by his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, the Grand Master, to collect the scattered elements of Freemasonry, and to arrange the ceremonies and lectures in order to carry out the resolution of the Lodge of Reconciliation, viz.:—"That there shall be the most perfect unity of obligation, of discipline, of working the lodges, of making, passing, and raising, instructing, and clothing the brothers, so that one pure unsullied system, according to the genuine landmarks, laws, and traditions of the Craft, shall be maintained, upheld, and practised throughout the Masonic world, from the day and date of the said union, until time shall be no more;" but although he commenced the undertaking, he never finished it, for after a long delay his mind failed. Bro. William Williams, the Prov. Grand Master for Dorsetshire, was then appointed. He undertook and completed the task, and organized and established the system disseminated by the late Bro. Peter Gilkes, and which is used in this Emulation Lodge of Improvement, and now practised by most lodges under the English constitution.

The lecture in the first or Entered Apprentices' degree, according to Bro. Williams' system, describes the proper method of initiation, supplies the means of qualifying us for our privileges, rationally accounts for the ceremonies peculiar to this degree, and of testing the claims of others, explains the nature and principles of our institution, instructs us in the form and construction of the lodge, and furnishes some important lessons on the various virtues which should distinguish a Freemason.

The lecture in the second or Fellow Crafts' degree, recapitulates the ceremony of passing a candidate, directs the candidate to an attentive study of the liberal arts and sciences, describes the construction of King Solomon's Temple, and gives an account of the ancient division of our institution into operative and speculative Masons.

The lecture in the third or Master Masons' degree, illustrates the ancient or proper method of raising a candidate to the sublime degree, the traditional history of the order, exemplifies an important instance of Masonic virtue, and explains the various emblems of this degree.

These constitute the simple text of Freemasonry, whilst the extended illustrations which are given to them by an intelligent master or lecturer, and which he can only derive from a careful study of scripture, of history, of the liberal arts and sciences, and of the works of learned Masonic writers, constitute the commentary, without which the simple text would be comparatively barren and uninteresting. These commentaries are the philosophy of Freemasonry, and without an adequate knowledge of them no brother can be entitled to claim our technical title of a "bright Freemason." In relation to this subject the following remark in the *Freemasons' Quarterly Review* deserves particular attention, viz.:—

"Our Masonic society has to this day many interesting symbols in its instructions; when properly explained by a scientific lecturer, and not garbled by ignorant pretenders, who by dint merely of a good memory and some assurance, intrude themselves on a

well informed assembly of brethren, by giving a lecture not composed by themselves, but taught them *verbatim*."

A brother of skill and intelligence, entrusted with the task of instructing the lodges in the proper method of work, in the ceremonies, usages, legends, history, and science of the order, is called a lecturer. It is a most important office, and he who undertakes it ought to be perfectly acquainted with Freemasonry, and not only have received a liberal education, but ought also to possess the true spirit of oratory. His orations or lectures ought to produce an impression on the minds of his hearers. He has something more to do than merely recite the ritual; he ought to be enabled to teach the brethren Freemasonry, or the bearing of moral truths upon the science, in an agreeable and instructive manner, and not in mere mystical forms; he will then be willingly listened to by the brethren. Some discourses are appropriate to certain seasons, but even these the lecturer ought to be able to make interesting, in order that they may not appear as mere repetitions. The appointment of a lecturer should always emanate either from the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge, or the Board of General Purposes.

I have now concluded this essay, which I have curtailed in order that it might not prove tiresome, but I hope that the little which has been said, will convince you of the importance of maintaining the ancient landmarks of our order, the incompatibilities of innovation, and in a slight degree, instruct you in the history and designs of our lectures.

ARCHITECTURE OF PALESTINE FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES TO THE CRUSADES.

Continued from page 427.

Period of Constantine.

When the accession of Constantine the Great to the throne had secured the triumph of the Cross, Palestine witnessed a vast architectural movement, and a number of churches were erected in localities rendered celebrated by the evangelical mission of Our Saviour (and which had been moistened with His blood). From this cause, in the fourth century, Jerusalem attracted the special attention of the Christian monarch and his pious mother: and here was erected a basilica which silver, art, and precious materials combined to render worthy of their piety and magnificence. I will first describe the Basilica of the Resurrection, and then proceed to other monuments, the work of the first Byzantine emperor. It will, I think, be interesting to my hearers if I give some description of the Sepulchre of Christ, over which Constantine erected the Temple. I cannot stop to consider all the objections brought against the authenticity of the tomb, but will merely observe that the tomb exists, and that I have seen it. In the neighbourhood of the city, particularly on the north and east, tombs cut in the rocks may still be seen. Many are in a ruinous condition, others are more perfect. They are composed of two divisions: the vestibule and the sepulchral chamber; the latter closed by means of a stone of elliptic form. The Evangelist St. Matthew (xxvii. 60) describes an occurrence which may be witnessed in the present day in the same locality: "And Joseph laid the body in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.

Christ's sepulchre, as at present existing, is divided

into two compartments; the vestibule, in which the guard of soldiers was placed, and the tomb itself, which has a small door of the same construction as those of the Sepulchres of the Kings and of St. Pelagia on the Mount of Ascension. The religious Greeks, Armenians, and Latins assert that the whole monument of the present sepulchre is rock, beneath the marble facing. I could not discover this, nor do I believe it. Even if it withstood the destruction which befell the city under Titus, and the occurrences of Hadrian's time, we know from history that it was greatly mutilated by Chosroes II. in 614, and by Hakem, caliph of Egypt, in 1010. But I am quite certain, beyond all doubt, that I saw and touched the rock in the pavement, which rises at the distance of 21 feet to the west of the sepulchre and in the sepulchre itself, by the longitudinal cutting which is here exhibited. It is essential to remark that all the sepulchres of antiquity are of the same length and breadth, the former 6 feet, the latter $2\frac{1}{2}$; and in this respect the sepulchre of Christ forms no exception to others. The disputes would never have arisen if Constantine had not been guilty of the religious Vandalism of separating the sepulchre from the rock on the western side, in order to inclose the sepulchre within the temple, and the further barbarism of adapting the sepulchre to the temple, and not the temple to the sepulchre.

The present Church of the Resurrection retains none of the elements of the grandeur of Constantine. They disappeared when the invasions of the Persians and Saracens covered Palestine with ruins. The successive repairs to which such portions as escaped have since been subjected, have deprived the structure of the characteristics of the fourth century, with the exception of the north wall and the wall and pilasters of the great cupola, which are primitive. The Crusaders, who found the sanctuaries separated, reunited them; and it is their work which is now seen. From their time to the present, no change of importance has taken place. On the 12th October, 1808, a part of the rotunda and the Calvary, also a portion of the south wall towards the west, were destroyed by fire. The absurd and unintelligent repairs of the Greeks in many points completed the devastations begun by the flames; and numbers of interesting details of Gothic or Byzantine art disappeared, thanks to the degenerate sons of Constantine the Great. The precious marbles which ornamented the Basilica of Constantine were taken by the Mussulmans in the seventh century to adorn their mosques, especially Koubbet-os-Sakharah. Hence, among the ruins recently removed from the eastern side of the sepulchre, shafts of columns have been found formed of beautiful marble and granite, with capitals in form precisely like the gilded capitals of the mosque. It cannot be supposed, because these precious relics are found there, that the remains of the mosque, which was never destroyed from the period of its erection, had been carried and placed round the sepulchre and in the vicinity of the south. I am, therefore, compelled to conclude that it is not in the Temple of Resurrection, but elsewhere, that we must seek the elements of the period of Constantine.

Let us now turn to Bethlehem. The Basilica of the Nativity at Bethlehem was begun by St. Helena, and terminated by her son Constantine, between the years 327 and 333 of the Christian era. Some authors have attributed the erection of this monument to Justinian; but a very cursory inspection will suffice to prove that it presents none of the characteristics of the architecture of the sixth century, and that this opinion must consequently be erroneous. It is the oldest and best authenticated monument of Christian art in Palestine. The eye embraces five naves at a single glance. The centre nave is larger than both the two together on either side of it. They are of great length, and formed by four rows of Corinthian monolithic columns, and are composed with eleven intercolumniations. The transept is as wide as the centre nave. The north and south extremities terminate

each in a semicircular apse, with a radius of 14 feet. These apses project beyond the exterior walls of the building. On the east, on the side of the transept, separated by a wall formed by the Greeks, the five naves reappear, and form the choir of the church. The centre nave is composed of two intercolumniations and a semicircular apse, equal with those which terminate the transepts. The two which succeed, right and left, are terminated by a straight wall, which commences at the choir. Owing to this arrangement of the lower sides of the basilica, the upper portion of the cross is symmetrical in relation to its lateral arms. The width of the great centre nave is 30 feet; the first lateral nave, 12 feet; the second, 10 feet; so that the total width of the five naves is 74 feet, while the entire length of the centre nave is 180 feet.

The monolithic columns forming the divisions of the naves are 17 feet 3 lines in height: their capitals are Corinthian; that is to say, the proportions demanded by the rules generally observed in the time of the Roman empire. In fact, the column is short relatively to the diameter of the base, which measures 2 feet 6 lines. Besides this, it presents no very distinctive characteristics, but shows signs of the decadence, reposing as it does upon a plinth which measures 3 feet 2 lines on each side. This want of proportion has been supposed, by some, to have been owing to the inability of the calcareous bed from which the columns were derived to produce monoliths of greater height; but as the quarries still exist, and I have carefully examined them, I cannot admit the explanation; but rather opine that it is simply the result of the decadence of art. As I have already stated, the diameter of the base of the column is 2 feet 6 lines; the height of the shaft, comprising the base and capital, is 17 feet 3 lines; and, consequently, the latter is short in proportion to the former. Further, the base has no very decided character. It rests upon a rectangular plinth, measuring 3 feet 2 lines on each side. I may further add, that the total number of entire columns is forty-six, of half columns eighteen, and that the latter are inserted in the pilasters on the wall, where the rows of columns terminate. In the abacus, all these are ornamented with crosses in relief. In the lateral naves (side aisles?) architraves support the [framing of the] roof. In the central naves, the walls, which are 30 feet high, are also supported by the architraves on which rests the great *armatura* of the roof. The roof is not vaulted, but composed entirely of wood. In the upper part the walls contain circular-headed windows corresponding with each space between the lower columns. The spaces between the windows, and all the rest of the surface of the walls, in the twelfth century, were ornamented with mosaic work. The present roof dates from the seventeenth century, and the Greeks alone claim the right to repair it. I conclude then this is the only complete work of Constantine which remains to us after the lapse of 1529 years. This alone has survived every destructive influence, and maintained its ancient characteristics. It is a very striking specimen of Roman genius. The venerable aspect of the edifice, the harmony of its combinations, and its original conception, all arouse admiration. It is indisputable that the general plan of the church produces an impression of beauty, not only from its dimensions and the simplicity of its outlines, but because it is the embodiment of an intelligent phase of religious architecture, and thus cannot fail to satisfy the taste and please the eye.

Other remains of the period of Constantine and of his mother, Helena, are met with in many parts of Palestine, but they consist simply of walls, heaps of stones, shafts of columns, and mutilated capitals. I shall, therefore, pass them over without special mention. The buildings erected subsequently to Constantine are mere cemeteries of stones, mutilated by Mussulman fanaticism.

(To be continued.)

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

When was the term "chapter" first applied to a convocation of Royal Arch Masons?—P. Z.

BRO. J. JOHNSON.

Who was Bro. J. Johnson, the editor of the song book known as *The Masonic Minstrel*?—F.

BRO. MATTHEW GARLAND'S SONGS.

Are the Masonic Songs of Bro. Matthew Garland in print?—A.

COSTUME OF KNTS. TEMPLAR.

Any hints as to the various costumes adopted by the Knights Templar of different countries would be acceptable to J. B.—[On the occasion of laying the foundation stone of a Masonic Temple, on St. John's Day 1860, at San Francisco we are told:—

"The Knights Templar presented a Grand and brilliant appearance, being all in full regalia and mounted on black horses. They numbered forty-five. The main body of the procession was on foot to the number of 635, making a total of 680. Throughout its progress the long and handsome line, containing a large number of our most prominent citizens, who was the cynosure of all eyes. The streets were thronged with spectators who failed not to express their pleasure at the display, and at the laying of the corner stone even the tops of the houses in the vicinity, affording a view of the scene, were crowded with lady occupants who appeared deeply interested.

We are inclined to think Knights Templar on horseback are the exception to the rule.]

THE BALDWIN SCHISM.

The Baldwin Templars certainly very largely promulgated their schismatical existence and sent circulars all over the world, one of which, cut from an American journal, will show the extent to which they went. The document is as follows:—


TEMPLARISM, &c. IN ENGLAND.—We have received a "Circular" Letter of the Supreme Grand and Royal Encampment of the Masonic Knights Templars, &c. H.R.D.M., K.D.S.H., from time immemorial, of England and Wales," announcing the revival and re-establishment of the above styled body, and the reasons for the same. Its seat is at Bristol.

The origin of the Baldwin Encampment of Masonic Knights Templar of Bristol is unknown, it having been in existence from a very remote period. Among its records is to be found evidence that in 1780 the then existing encampments were, and had been previously, under the authority of a Supreme Grand and Royal Encampment. In its archives is a document engrossed on parchment, and bearing the seals of the orders of Knights Templar, Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, and Knights of Malta, of the Knights Rosae Crucis, and of the Grand Elected Knights of Kadosh, dated from "our Castle at Bristol, on 20th day of December, 1780," which refers to a previously existing document, called therein a Charter of Compact. This document contains twenty clauses or articles for the government of the said Supreme Grand and Royal Encampment, and its subordinates. Under this Supreme head, the Encampment of Baldwin, at Bristol, and of Antiquity, at Bath, continued for many years. It is known that Encampments of Masonic Knights Templar, styling themselves, like those at Bristol and Bath, "From Time Immemorial," existed also at London, York, and Salisbury.

The Encampment at London at one time styled itself a Grand Encampment, but afterwards, as early certainly as 1809, adopted the title of Grand Conclave of Masonic Knights Templar, and made an effort to assume an authority over the other Encampments. The Encampments at Bristol and Bath always refused to acknowledge this claim.

In the year 1812, H. R. H., the Duke of Sussex was elected Grand Master by the Grand Conclave at London. At a later period Baldwin Encampment proposed to H. R. H. to acknowledge him as their Grand Master, upon which he allowed himself to be proposed as a member of the Baldwin Encampment, and he became by election, its Grand Master, and was during his lifetime acknowledged as such. The order of Masonic Knights Templar was not favored by H. R. H., the late Duke of Sussex, and from the year 1820 to 1844 (24 years), no com-

munication of any kind took place between the Grand Conclave of London and the Baldwin Encampment at Bristol, the former being during the whole of that time in a state of abeyance. During the same period no communication was received by the Bristol Encampment from the Grand Master, nor was any act of authority exercised by him, and the authority and privileges of the supreme Grand and Royal Encampment, neglected by the Grand Master, gradually merged in the individual Encampment of Baldwin, which during the whole of that period acted independently, under the control of Grand Commanders and Superintendents elected from its own body.

On the death of the Duke of Sussex in 1843, the Grand Mastership of the Grand and Royal Encampment became vacant. The Grand Conclave at London, which had been lost sight of for 24 years, assumed the title of the Grand Conclave of the Masonic Knights Templar of England and Wales, and elected Col. Tynte their Grand Master in 1844. In this election the Encampment at Bath took no part, and that at Bristol refused to concur. These Encampments having received large accessions of members, and being in active and prosperous existence, were desirous of uniting in fraternal union with the other Encampments in England, holding under the London Grand Conclave, and with this view in the early part of 1857 made overtures for a reconciliation and Union with that body. The Grand Conclave required that the Encampments at Bristol and Bath should appear before them as humble petitioners for recognition and admission to their ranks, which the latter indignantly refused to do, and have now revived the Ancient Supreme Grand and Royal Encampment. It has under its jurisdiction six subordinate Encampments. The orders conferred in them are Knights Templar, Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, Knights of Palestine, (Red ) Knights of Rhodes, Knights of Malta, and Knights of Rose Croix of Heredom. In the supreme body is conferred the degree of Grand Elected Knights of Kadosh.

The officers are D. W. Nash, Supreme Grand Master; S. E. Taylor, Dep. Grand Master; J. A. Page, Broad St., Bristol, Vice Chancellor and Recorder.

THE QUAKER MASON.

It is contrary to the discipline of the society of Friends to allow any of their members to join the Masonic Fraternity. Nevertheless, not a few of that persuasion have at different times and places entered the Order. Among others, there was once a Quaker preacher in the State of Rhode Island, who had six sons, all of whom were Freemasons. By some means, Levi, for that was his name, finally found his way into our mystic pale. The friends found it out, and sent a committee of two, Abraham and Joseph, to express their concern to the erring brother, and secure from him an assurance of fidelity to the articles of discipline. Abraham called with his associate on Levi, when, as it is reported, something like the following dialogue took place:

"Abraham, the spokesman, after having stated that they had come as a committee from the friends, said,

"Levi, we understand that thou art a Freemason."

"I have had that reputation for twenty years."

"But wilt thou tell us, Levi, whether thou art a Mason?"

"No, Abraham, I will not tell thee whether I am or not."

"Shall we tell the meeting, Levi, that thou dost renounce Freemasonry?"

"No, Abraham, I will not. I will see thee condemned first."

The committee left him and reported to the meeting; but Levi continued to preach and was no more molested after that.

SAILORS' LOVE FOR THE LAND.—The ship neared gradually, and, when almost close to the reef, a boat was lowered. This, pulled by four stout oarsmen, entered the narrow opening in the reef, and now moved swiftly across the smooth lake that always lies between the reefs and the firm land. The sailors, who had for so long been chewing salt meat and hard biscuit aboard, and had seen nothing but the wide, wide sea, turned their heads longingly over their shoulders to refresh the eye once again with the bright verdure of the trees—once again to behold women and children, and hear the rustling and whispering of the wind in the foliage.—*P. Gersticker, in the Boy's Own Magazine.*

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEM.

Bro. J. W. Newton, P.M. No. 25, has become the proprietor of Willis's Rooms, Brewer Street, St. James's, which are well adapted for balls, assemblies, lectures, &c.

GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication took place in Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday last, the Right Hon. the Grand Master presiding, supported by Bros. the Duke of St. Albans, Prov. G.M., Lincolnshire; Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M., Warwickshire; Sir Lucius Curtis, Prov. G.M., Hants.; Sir Hedworth Williamson, S.G.W.; Havers, J.G.W.; Rev. W. K. R. Bedford, and Rev. John Huyshe, G. Chaps.; Tomkins, G. Treas.; McIntyre, G. Reg.; Clarke, G. Sec.; Evans and Dobson, S.G.D.s; Blake and Creaton, J.G.D.s; Dankes, G. Supt. of Works; A. W. Woods and N. Bradford, G.D.C.s; Empson, G.S.B.; Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec.; Stimson, G. Org.; Farmer, G. Purst., and Dickie, Assist. G. Purst. There were also present Bros. Dundas and Perkins, P.G.W.s; Rev. Sir Warren Hayes and Rev. Dr. Senior, P.G. Chaps.; Roxburgh, P.G. Reg.; Hervey, Crombie, Giraud, Savage, N. Tomkins, Gregory, Scott, Lloyd, Udall, Hopwood, Potter, Slight, Phillips, Wilson, and Wheeler, P.G.D.s; Jennings, P.G.D.C.; Spiers, Pocock, Elkington, Le Veau, Pullen, and Walmisley, P.G.S.B.s; Smith and Adams, P.G. Pursts.; the representatives of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, and many other lodges.

The GRAND SECRETARY read the minutes of the last Grand Lodge.

The GRAND MASTER put the motion that the minutes be confirmed, with the exception of those parts of them referring to the erasure of certain lodge, and the appointment of a trustee of the Grand Lodge property, there being a slight informality, in consequence of the proper notices not having been given.

The minutes of the Grand Lodge Festival were also read and confirmed.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES AND COLONIAL BOARD.

Four Scrutineers having been nominated, Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of members to form the Board of General Purposes and Colonial Board, but the report of the Scrutineers was not presented until a later period in the evening.

THE LATE GRAND PURSUIVANT.

The GRAND MASTER said, at the next meeting of Grand Lodge, it was his intention to move that Bro. Thos. Alexander Adams do take the rank and wear the clothing of Past Grand Pursuivant, and in the meantime he had given him permission to take rank and wear such clothing.

ERASURE OF LODGES.

The PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES, (Bro. E. J. McIntyre), said it now became his duty to move that the lodges named on the agenda, ordered at the Grand Lodge in September, 1861, to be summoned to show cause against their being erased, and having neglected to make any return, or take any notice of such summons, be now erased. (These lodges were enumerated in last week's FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.) As many of them had ceased to work, he should, in accordance with the practice of Grand Lodge, move that they be erased from the list.

Bro. STEBBING seconded the motion; being glad that Grand Lodge was about to do that legally, which had been carried out last Grand Lodge, notwithstanding his protest.

The GRAND MASTER said that the motion he had to put was, that the large number of lodges which appeared on the business paper be erased. The motion was agreed to.

GRAND LODGE TRUSTEE.

Bro. MCINTYRE said that there was a vacancy in the office of Trustee of the Grand Lodge Funded Property, and he should therefore move that the Right Hon. Earl de Grey and Ripon, Deputy Grand Master, be elected to that office, in the place of the Earl of Yarborough, deceased.

Bro. STEBBING willingly seconded the motion, although on a former occasion he had taken exception to their R.W. brother being elected, when he considered that they were about to commit a breach of Masonic law.

Bro. HORWOOD said that unless their Deputy Grand Master was willing to accept the trust, their election would be useless.

It being intimated that the noble Earl had consented to serve, the motion was put and agreed to.

REPORT OF THE COLONIAL BOARD.

On the next item on the paper being read, to bring up the report of the Colonial Board of the 19th February, 1862,

The PRESIDENT OF THE COLONIAL BOARD (Bro. Evans), said as they had now two reports from the Colonial Board, the former one not being received at the last meeting of Grand Lodge, and was standing over, he would suggest that both reports should be taken together, as they were both upon the same subject.

Bro. SAVAGE said it seemed to him that if they allowed both reports to be taken together that they would thereby be giving the new report of the Colonial Board a precedence over the report of the Board of Benevolence, which he feared would have the effect of setting a most dangerous precedent.

Bro. EVANS said if Bro. Savage objected, and he was right on the point of order, he (Bro. Evans) would not insist upon it, and he would therefore now move that the report of the Colonial Board of the 19th of February be taken into consideration, but at the same time he should like to ask the Grand Master whether both reports could not be taken together.

Several brethren expressed their wish that the reports should be taken together.

The PRESIDENT OF THE COLONIAL BOARD (Bro. Evans) said that with reference to the report of that Board which had stood over from last Grand Lodge, he had thought it might save time, inasmuch as there was a further report in the paper of business, which had also been printed and circulated, if both reports, which related mainly to one subject, were taken together, more especially as no action was proposed to be taken thereon, and this being agreed to, he said there was one subject which occupied much space in both reports, the complaint of the St. Lawrence Lodge, Montreal, against certain resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Canada, prejudicially affecting that lodge. Grand Lodge was bound to support the rights of all regular lodges holding under its allegiance. So long as they retained Masonic colonies, they were bound to protect them. The two reports would show what was the present position of this matter. The question at issue was, whether the warrant of a lodge could be surrendered by the Master so as to legally extinguish the lodge, unless it be with the unanimous consent of all the members. In this case, although it was probable the Master intended to compromise his lodge by delivering up his warrant, yet it was pretty evident he had not the sanction of all the members, and, therefore, according to the *Book of Constitutions* of Canada, p. 49, art. 35, the warrant remained the property of those brethren who did not secede from the lodge, and it would not have been competent for the Prov. Grand Master for Montreal to have refused to deliver the warrant to those brethren on their demanding it. There would appear to be an impression on the minds of the authorities of the Grand Lodge of Canada that there existed in the Grand Lodge of England an antagonistic feeling against that body of Canadian brethren who established the Grand Lodge. He (the President) was sure Grand Lodge would go with him, when he declared emphatically that there was no foundation, in fact for this impression. Grand Lodge accepted the fact of the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Canada in all frankness and loyalty, and had no other desire as regarded it than that Masonry should flourish under its auspices, and wish it God speed. They desired most fully the treaty and convention made when the independence of the Grand Lodge of Canada was recognised, but were bound to protect the lodges holding under this country, making regular returns and payments as was the case of the St. Lawrence Lodge from what he verily believed to be an act of injustice. The President said there was another matter which perhaps Grand Lodge would allow him to mention, though not included in the reports. Some time back it came to the knowledge of the Grand Secretary that certain brethren in Bombay were applying to the Grand Lodge of Ireland for a warrant for a new lodge. He communicated with the Grand Secretary in Dublin, and pointed out the objections there were to erecting a third Masonic independent jurisdiction in the province there being already two. The result was that the Grand Lodge of Ireland had officially

notified that they had refused to grant the warrant. He was sure Grand Lodge would receive this communication with the greatest satisfaction as evidencing the truly Masonic spirit which actuated the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and as tending to preserve the intimate and friendly relations which happily subsisted between the Grand Lodges of Ireland and England. (Cheers).

Bro. GIRAUD, P.G.D., said if both reports were to be taken into consideration that evening, it was impossible that they could come to any conclusion or resolution upon them, until those reports had been read. At the former Grand Lodge they had on the paper of business a report from the Colonial Board, which it became necessary to defer in consequence of the hour, and therefore he held that it would be most inexpedient that both reports should be taken into consideration together, or was it of such importance that they should depart from the regular order, and give precedence to the report of that day. The report of the 19th of February was before them, but he had not heard it read.

The GRAND MASTER said it had been suggested that if they took both reports together, it would save a great deal of time. The report of the Colonial Board stood in regular order, and he had no doubt that if both reports were taken together, it would be a saving of time.

Bro. GREGORY, P.G.D., said there was no doubt as to the regularity of their proceedings. The notice to receive the report of the Colonial Board, of the 19th of February, appeared on the first page of the agenda paper. That report was not only presented, but it was printed *in extenso*, and ought to be in the hands of every member of Grand Lodge.

The GRAND MASTER:—It was at the last meeting of Grand Lodge.

Bro. GREGORY said as his lordship had pronounced that the report was printed, and in the hands of members at the last Grand Lodge, that was sufficient now to make it in order to proceed with it.

Bro. HAVERS, J.G.W., begged permission to offer a few words in justification of the Colonial Board, and he must say that the report had been printed, and sent to the houses of every Grand Officer, and at Grand Lodge every member had been furnished with a copy, and if that did not give any brother a full opportunity of making himself acquainted with the contents of it, he really could not tell what more the Colonial Board could do. Every Master of a lodge had also had one sent to him, and he did hope that they would adhere to the common practice, that this report should be taken as read, as it had already been printed *in extenso*, and that they should, without more loss of time, at once proceed to business.

Bro. EVANS said he would move that both reports of the Colonial Board be received, adopted, and entered on the minutes.

Bro. WOODS, G.D.C., seconded the motion, which was put and adopted.

AUDIT OF THE GRAND LODGE ACCOUNTS.

The report of Bro. C. P. Harding, auditor of the Grand Lodge accounts for the year 1861, was brought up, which was received and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

This report showed the receipts for the Fund of General Purposes to be £7120 11s. (including £287 8s. 9d. from the last account), and the expenses (including £2996 10s. invested in 3 per cent. annuities), £6557 11s. 11d., leaving a balance in hand of £562 19s. 1d. The receipts on account of the Fund of Benevolence (including £581 8s. 10d. from the last account) was £4195 1s. 6d., and the expenditure (including investment in Consols, £1378 2s. 6d.), £1063 11s. 6d.

THE BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The report of the Board of Benevolence for the last quarter was brought up, which, after stating the sums with which petitioners had been relieved at three meetings of the board, made recommendations to Grand Lodge, that the following further sums should be granted.

	£	s.	d.
Bro. J.S., of the Royal York Lodge (No. 394), Brighton	30	0	0
„ S.W., of the Lodge of Harmony (No. 509), Budleigh Salterton	40	0	0
„ T.S., of the Wellington Lodge (No. 426), Rye	30	0	0
„ S.J.T., of the Southern Cross Lodge (No. 1095), Tarrangower, Victoria	30	0	0
The Widow of the late Bro. W.R., of the Royal Athelstan Lodge (No. 19), London.....	30	0	0

The Widow of the late Bro. T.D., of the Lodge of Felicity (No. 66), London 30 0 0

After a few observations from Bro. Tomkins,

The GRAND MASTER said he would, to save long speeches, read the names of the brethren to whom these grants were recommended, and if any brother had any objection to any of them, he could express it when he read the name.

The whole of these grants were unanimously agreed to.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

The GRAND REGISTER (Bro. McIntyre), said he had now to move that the report of the Board of General Purposes, as printed on the business paper, be taken as read.

The GRAND MASTER put the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

The PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES then moved that the report be received and entered on the minutes. In agreeing to the motion that the report be received and entered on the minutes, he wished to say that by so doing, the Grand Lodge would not be pledged to adopt the report of the Board of General Purposes in its entirety, or any part of it, and that when the proper time arrived when it was proposed to take action upon it, any amendments could be moved to it which were receivable under the *Book of Constitutions*. The Board of General Purposes, to whom this subject was referred, had appointed a sub-committee to investigate the state of the property, and to make a report to Grand Lodge, and having performed that duty, they were only waiting for the favourable consideration of the members. That committee had held many meetings on the subject, and the result of those meetings was the report which was then laid before Grand Lodge, which they now recommended, not for their adoption, but for their favourable consideration. Before he proceeded further he could not refrain from expressing his surprise, he might almost say the dismay he felt when on looking over the ordinary channel of Masonic information, he saw a letter signed by one of the committee of General Purposes, in which he stated that the report was not agreed to by the committee, that it was produced already printed, and forced down the throats of the committee, and adopted by the Board of General Purposes. Now he, as President of the Board of General Purposes, most distinctly denied that such was the case, and although the report was printed for the general convenience of the members of the committee, it was fully discussed, and many amendments were moved and alterations made in it, and the brother who had been pleased to write the letter to which he had referred, was not the least eager to move amendments, although those amendments were not adopted. They then had a further long meeting to consider the report as amended, and then it was adopted. The report was again printed, and was now before the Grand Lodge. He had felt it to be only his duty to make this statement, in consequence of the attack which had so improperly been made upon the committee, and, in conclusion, moved that the report be received and entered on the minutes.

Bro. ROXBURGH, P.G. Reg., seconded the motion.

Bro. HERBERT LLOYD, P.G.D., wished the M.W. Grand Master would give them a special day to consider this report, as the recommendations in it were so important. It proposed to pull down that tavern with all the buildings connected with the Grand Secretary's office, and to level the ground for building purposes. When such propositions as these were made, they ought to have ample time to consider them.

Bro. STEBBING said he rose most unwillingly to call Bro. Lloyd to order. It was then most inconvenient to discuss the merits of the report or the motive for its adoption. When action was about to be taken, then would be the proper time to discuss its merits, and not on the motion for the reception of the report.

Bro. H. LLOYD thanked Bro. Stebbing for his observations, but he was wrong in supposing that he was about discussing the merits of this report, for in it he found there were recommendations that their property should be offered to responsible persons on building leases. Now he said distinctly that Grand Lodge had no power to grant these leases, and as this was a matter of great importance he did hope that his lordship would appoint a special day upon which they might fully consider it. The report raised a question which involved a total alienation of their funded property, and if carried out the whole of the funds of Grand Lodge might be entirely dissipated. He suggested, in conclusion, that his lordship should propose a special day for its consideration.

The GRAND MASTER said he understood that Bro. Lloyd had given notice of a motion on the appropriation of the premises, but this being a preliminary objection that could not refer to the reception of the report, as he would have another opportunity of discussing the merits of it. He had suggested the necessity for the appointment of another day to discuss the report, and he (the Grand Master) should be most willing to call a special Grand Lodge for that purpose, but at the same time he did not think his notice interfered with the motion that the report should be entered on the minutes.

Bro. MEYMOTT said as he had been referred to by the Grand Registrar as the writer of the letter which had appeared in the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, he might say that whether that letter should or should not have appeared did not depend upon him, but upon the editor of that paper. (Oh, oh.) As far as he was individually concerned he felt that he was justified in writing that letter, and the editor felt justified in inserting it and he presumed that he would not have done so had the reasons for writing that letter not appeared evident on the face of it. That letter was an expression of his opinions, and he was prepared to maintain them at the present moment. The facts, however, were not as the Grand Registrar had expressed them, and he would state what really occurred. The Committee of the Board of General Purposes had had four meetings, and at each of those four meetings he objected to the report and he said that the report, as proposed, would prove unacceptable to the Craft on account of its uncertainty, its expense, and that the alterations would be upon too large a scale. At the fourth meeting the report was brought up without its being shown to the Committee.

Bro. JENNINGS, P.G.D.C., said the Board of General Purposes had brought up the report, had adopted it and were responsible for what had been done, and it was not for any individual member of the sub-committee now to express any opinion as to the merits of it.

Bro. GREGORY said while fully agreeing with Bro. Jennings, that it would not be desirable to go into the merits of this question, and that they ought not then to be discussed, as a brother had been attacked, he did not say whether rightly or wrongly, he submitted that the Worshipful Grand Master should stretch the limits of order as far as he could, to enable Bro. Meymott to explain the attack which had been made upon him.

The GRAND MASTER said he had not seen the letter, or did he often see the paper to which their brother had alluded, but as a member of the Board of General Purposes, he was included in the acts of of that Board, although individually he might not concur in them.

After a few words from Bro. Tomkins, G. Treas.,

Bro. MEYMOTT said all he wanted was to defend himself, as far as he was able from the attack which had been made upon him, and he would refer any brother to that letter, and having read it, they would see it expressed no more than what was true. In that letter he had said the report was not the unanimous report of the committee, although it had been said to be so. He (Bro. Meymott) said that was not so, that he dissented from it, and more than that that he was not the only dissident. He maintained that the report when it was reprinted ought to have been shown to the committee of which there were seven members. He was not one of those who agreed to the report, and he knew that the Board of General Purposes were not unanimous in agreeing to the report of the committee. He did not concur in it, and therefore as one of the committee he felt that he was justified in saying that he had not agreed to it, and he believed that not more than two thirds of the committee had done so.

Bro. JENNINGS said he was sorry that a meeting of Grand Lodge should be made the arena to discuss personal matters, but he would adopt the mildest language he could and would declare that this letter was a tissue of misrepresentations. (Oh, oh.) He declared that the letter was couched in such terms that it conveyed to Grand Lodge a complete misrepresentation of the facts.

Bro. MEYMOTT. It does not. It is not a communication to Grand Lodge at all.

Bro. JENNINGS said the letter had been inserted in a publication which was circulated amongst the members of the Craft.

Bro. GREGORY said in a matter of this kind which was not properly before them, he thought that such terms as "a tissue of misrepresentations," were rather unmasonic.

The GRAND MASTER said as the letter referred to had been

written to a public paper, and had not been communicated by authority, it could not be properly quoted in Grand Lodge, but the brethren were competent to call upon the Editor, if he was a member of Grand Lodge, to say upon what authority he inserted that letter.

Bro. JENNINGS said that Bro. Warren the Editor was a member of Grand Lodge, and he would ask him if he was the Editor of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.

Bro. WARREN: I am.

Bro. JENNINGS was about to put some further questions, but there were such unmistakable expressions of dissent as to any such catechising, that he pursued it no further and sat down.

The GRAND MASTER said to make known what took place in the Board of General Purposes, was contrary to the laws of Masonry, and the Editor of any publication, if a member of Grand Lodge, who published anything relative to what took place in that Board, was deserving of, and ought to receive the severest reprehension from Grand Lodge. (Cheers and laughter.)

The subject then dropped, and the report of the Board of General Purposes was received, and ordered to be entered on the minutes, with two dissentients.

Bro. MCINTYRE then moved that the Board of General Purposes do prepare plans and estimates requisite for the appropriation of the property, as suggested by the report, and that such plans and estimates be open for the inspection of the brethren, at the Grand Secretary's office, fourteen days before the next Grand Lodge. The R. Worshipful Brother then by means of sections on the wall, pointed out how the property was to be disposed of, stating that some of the newly acquired property in Queen's-place, was in a very dilapidated condition, and without a large amount of money spent in reparation, could not be rendered valuable to the Craft. Therefore the Board of General Purposes were of opinion, that this portion of the property might advantageously be appropriated to Masonic purposes. With respect to section 2 of the plan, that also in process of time was intended to be devoted to Masonic purposes, and was only now thrown out for consideration. The plans and estimates were in preparation, so that the brethren might see them in the Grand Secretary's office, when they would be able to form an opinion, whether they would accept the plans in their entirety, reject them in their entirety, or adopt them with such modifications as might be required. It was, however, necessary, that those plans should be placed before their eyes, so that the Craft might know what they were to have.

The GRAND MASTER said it did appear to him to be impossible now to discuss this question, as they would have to consider many things, and it would therefore be much better to fix at once a special meeting of Grand Lodge, to take them into consideration.

Bro. HAYERS said as Bro. Herbert Lloyd had a motion on the paper on this subject, perhaps it would be desirable for his lordship to ascertain from him, how far he would meet the view of Grand Lodge.

The GRAND MASTER said he understood that Bro. Herbert Lloyd did not intend to move his amendment.

Bro. HERBERT LLOYD said, the Most Worshipful Grand Master was misinformed, for he should most certainly do so, as he believed a greater sacrifice of their property had never been brought before Grand Lodge. There was no doubt that gentlemen had designs of their own, and wished to see the revenues expended, in order to gratify their wishes; but they would leave nothing behind after those tastes and fancies had been indulged in. Had his lordship not have named a day to consider it, he should have opposed the reception of the report, because he believed it was fraught with the greatest destruction to their property they had ever experienced. He had not abandoned his motion, and should move an amendment to the report of the Board of General Purposes on the subject of the appropriation of the property of Grand Lodge:—"That inasmuch as the Board of General Purposes is constantly changing its members, being an annually elected body, it is expedient that Grand Lodge appoint a permanent committee, of not more than seven members, to be called 'The Building Committee,' to whom the whole question of the appropriation of the Grand Lodge property be referred, with the view of providing increased accommodation for the Craft and its Charities, enlarged space for the Annual Festivals, the comfort and convenience of the brethren, by the establishment of a coffee and reading room, and such other tavern accommodation as may be deemed necessary for the Craft." He admitted that they wanted increased accommodation, but he said advisedly they had sufficient accommodation

for all the offices of Grand Lodge. They did not want a suite of rooms for the Grand Tyler, robing rooms for the Grand Officers, and robing rooms for other officers, and believed that the plan as contained in the report involved a large and needless expenditure.

Bro. SAVAGE, P.G.D., rose to order. He wanted to understand whether they were entering upon the discussion that night, how far they were to go, and where they were to leave off for the special Grand Lodge?

The GRAND MASTER thought it would be better to allow Bro. Lloyd to proceed.

Bro. LLOYD resumed, and said the Grand Lodge had no power to grant building leases. That subject had been considered years ago, and a committee had come to the resolution that they had no power to grant such leases. No person would be foolish enough to accept their leases when the power of granting them was so very doubtful, and they could get no one to purchase the property in which they had invested their money.

Bro. GIRAUD seconded the amendment, believing the question to be one of the greatest importance. How was it possible that they could dispose of their property, when they had got a Board of General Purposes, which was a constantly-changing body. He was in favour of the appointment of a committee of seven members to consider the subject, and to report to the next Grand Lodge as to the best course to be adopted. He knew the practical difficulty which great numbers had in doing what a few would do very well, and if they got seven respectable men (laughter)—he did not mean to insinuate that any of the brethren were not respectable (laughter)—but if they got seven good Masons, who knew what the Craft required, with talent to deal with the question, and report to the next Grand Lodge, that would be the best tribunal to which they could refer this question.

Bro. HORWOOD said there would be a great difficulty in carrying out the views of the Board of General Purposes, for he could not understand how they could grant leases or deal with the Grand Lodge property. They were not vested with the power to do so; they were not a chartered body, and they were only represented by trustees, to whom conveyances were made for certain purposes, and when they died off, others were nominated. The report required a large amount of earnest consideration, and this matter ought to be vested in persons and individuals able judge of it, and given an opinion which should be a guide to the general body.

Bro. MEYMOTT asked the Grand Lodge seriously to consider, whether they would be justified in adopting the report, or whether they ought to adopt the amendment of Bro. Herbert Lloyd, that the subject be referred to a committee, especially as the report was not the unanimous report of the Board of General Purposes. He should support the amendment of Bro. Lloyd, because he proposed the only proper tribunal that could deal with the subject. As the Board of General Purposes, was a continually changing body, if the report was sent back to them the matter might drag its slow length along for another 12 months, and nothing would be done, and on that ground he said that the committee was a better tribunal to deal with it than the Board of General Purposes. There were other serious questions, such as, law and finances, which they must bear in mind; and there should be in the committee, brethren who would seriously attend to the important duties which would devolve upon that committee, which would be a far more competent body than the Board of General Purposes to deal with the matter which had been elected that night.

Bro. SARGOOD opposed the amendment but said that as they had got a report from the Board of General Purposes, and the whole question was in their own hands they should discuss it. He did not wish to see it sent back to any other tribunal. They had it in their grasp and the sooner they set to work and dealt with it the better it would be for the Craft.

The GRAND MASTER said he was desirous of giving his own opinion at that moment, and especially so as he thought it might shorten the discussion. He was sorry to say that on reference to the *Book of Constitutions* at page 107, he found he could not put the amendment of Herbert Lloyd. (The Grand Master here read the law which we have given in another part of the Magazine.) That law prevented him from putting the notion of Bro. Herbert Lloyd as it took the matter out of the hands of the Board of General Purposes and put it into the hands of a committee. He was of opinion with Bro. Herbert Lloyd that it would be desirable that the alterations of their buildings should be put into the hands of the committee instead of the Board of General Purposes, but to do so they must first alter the laws. Therefore he proposed to call a special Grand Lodge for the 16th of July, and at the same time he would take care that proper notice were given to enable the Board of General Purposes to appoint a Committee to carry into effect the decision of Grand Lodge. If they agreed to that alteration of the law, the quarterly communication in September might confirm that alteration, and they could set to work immediately after. If Grand Lodge agreed with him, he would take care to act in accordance with the law, and not in contradiction of it. He had mentioned the

16th of July, as being a day about half-way between this and the next Grand Lodge, but he could not then positively fix it. He would, however, in the meantime take care to give notice, so as best to consult the convenience of brethren; it would be in the week either before or after the 16th of July.

Bro. SARGOOD suggested that they should meet at an earlier hour than 8 o'clock.

The GRAND MASTER said he would consider that. He might say it was desirable that great care should be exercised in the selection of the Committee, and if they were seven they should take care to have practical men upon it, whose minds were not biased by personal feeling, but would enter fairly and impartially into the consideration of the report of the Board of General Purposes.

Bro. GREEN.—Will the special Grand Lodge take into consideration the alteration of the *Book of Constitutions*.

The GRAND MASTER said he would give notice to take into consideration the alteration of the *Book of Constitutions*, in addition to the report of the Board of General Purposes.

The GRAND REGISTRAR having made a communication to his lordship,

The GRAND MASTER said he wished to make one correction in what he had stated. His attention had been called by the Grand Registrar to the *Book of Constitutions*, and he found by reference to page 22, that at a edge of emergency they could not make any alteration in the laws of the Order. Therefore that rule precluded him or any other brother from proposing an alteration in the law at any meeting of emergency of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. HAYERS said he had listened most attentively to his lordship's ruling, and having taken some pains to study the *Book of Constitutions*, he was totally at variance with the Grand Registrar in the advice which he had given to his lordship, as he did not find it to be the true interpretation of the *Book of Constitutions*. He knew it was the law they must give notice to the Board of Masters of any business to be discussed at their regular meetings. At the late special Grand Lodge, however, no such notice was given to vote an address of condolence to her Majesty, and if the Grand Registrar's ruling was correct, that vote was illegal, as notice of it had not been given to the Board of Masters. That, however, was a subject which did not press at the present moment, and might be determined at his lordship's leisure. Before he sat down he wished to say that he had observed with great pain the strong feeling expressed by brethren in discussing questions upon which there ought to be none. They ought to take up subjects and deal with them as intelligent Masons, and not allow their judgment to be warped; and at the next meeting of Grand Lodge he hoped they would hear every individual who had a plan to submit, so that they might adopt that one which was the most practicable, the most feasible, and the least expensive. Having been President of the Board of General Purposes he said that if that body should not be considered the best qualified to carry this object into effect, and that it could be better entrusted to a committee, then he expressed a hope that they would not place on that committee those who were wedded to a particular scheme; that they would not put on that committee those who by thoughtless extravagance would spend a large sum of money which ought to remain in their own hands for the purposes of charity. He must also take occasion to say that he thought some of the brethren had rather unwisely set forth that it was not in their power to sell or lease their own property. Now he was not a lawyer, but a man of plain common sense, and when he knew that they had leased and sold land, not to an individual but to a public body, who had erected a building on it, it was absurd to say that no one would buy of them. They had sold land to the Wesleyan body upon which they had erected their schools, and he had no reason to doubt but that they were perfectly satisfied with their title. As regarded the reference of this subject to a committee it was impossible that they could have seven men who would all take the same views, and each one must be prepared to give and take upon it. He thought it would be unfair to the Board of General Purposes, who had worked so hard if Grand Lodge refused to receive the plans they had prepared, and he trusted that they would receive them at their next meeting. He would say not the plans of the Board of General Purposes only, but of any other brother, so that by sifting them at their next meeting they would determine what was good and what was bad and enable them to come to a satisfactory conclusion. He wished before he sat down, although he knew that he was treading on dangerous ground, to refer to what had taken place that evening. In the heat of the moment they might be led to use hasty words, but without waiting for which should be first, let every one withdraw them before they parted and then they would meet at their next meeting as better friends.

Bro. ROXBURGH wished to draw the attention of Grand Lodge to the *Book of Constitutions*; which required that there should be no alteration of a law without a notice of motion had been given to a Board of Masters, and he submitted that the Grand Master had no more power to propose an alteration of the law than any other member of Grand Lodge.

The Scrutineers having been introduced, delivered their report as follows:—

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.—ELECTED.

Masters.

Bro. Coulcher, John D. (No. 25).....	169
" Fenn, Thos. (188).....	158
" Biron, Robt. J. (125)	141
" Parkinson, J. C. (212)	98
" Maxwell, Wm. (8).....	90
" Cazenove, Henry (14).....	86
" Oldfield, George T. (259).....	85

Past Masters.

Bro. Stebbing, J. R. (152)	167
" Adlard, F. (7).....	163
" Newall, J. B. (536)	142
" Savage, John (19).....	117
" Young, W. (72).....	101
" Wilson, S. Barton, jun. (70).....	94
" Pullen, John S. (54).....	91

NOT ELECTED.

Masters.

Bro. King, Augustus H. (1207).....	84
" Abbott, James (9).....	75
" Graydon, John (1215).....	64
" Kincaid, J. D. (1008).....	62

Past Masters.

Bro. Cox, Ed. (955)	84
" Price, George (680)	80
" Stewart, R. W. (663)	75
" Sherry, Chas. (90).....	67

The M.W. Grand Master, then appointed the following brethren as members of the Board:—Evans, President; McIntyre; W. H. White; S. B. Wilson, sen.; Creaton; Blake; Woods; Le Veau; Jennings; Symonds, and Jos. Smith.

THE COLONIAL BOARD.

The undermentioned brethren were elected on the Colonial Board:—

Bro. Baker, Brackstone, W.M.	21
" Bradford, Nicholas, P.M.	54
" Creaton, John, P.M.	2
" Head, Benjamin, P.M.	5
" Mason, James, P.M.	168
" Smith, R. Horton, P.M.	1010
" Western, Col. James R.	2

The M.W.G.M. appointed Bro. Hopwood President; Woods and Jos. Smith. Col. Western was appointed Vice-President.

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTE.

The under-mentioned brethren were elected on the Committee of Management of this Institution.

Bro. Cox, Edward, P.M.	955
" Davis, Edward W., P.M.	112
" Dickie, Thomas G., P.M.	53
" Gale, Samuel, P.M.	19
" Harvey, William C., P.M.	229
" Head, Benjamin, P.M.	5
" Lee, Charles, P.M.	9
" Maney, Charles, P.M.	201
" Symonds, John, P.M.	21
" Thompson, Thomas W., P.M.	203

The debate on the previous question having been resumed,

Bro. GREGORY, after a few observations, inquired if at the special Grand Lodge it would be competent for them to discuss the original motion and the amendment.

The GRAND MASTER said he had decided that the amendment could not be put. He should put the original motion.

Bro. GREGORY said he had formerly been in favour of the Board of General Purposes dealing with this question, but as an honest man he must say that he had changed his opinion, not as to any doubt he entertained of its intelligence or integrity, but on account of its fluctuating character. On that account he considered that a committee would be the best tribunal to consider this question.

Bro. STEBBING rose to order. Bro. Gregory was not speaking to the question.

The GRAND MASTER said he agreed with Bro. Stebbing, that Bro. Gregory was out of order, and all they had to do was to adopt or reject the resolution proposed by the President of the board.

Bro. STEBBING urged that at the special Grand Lodge, they should not only consider the plans submitted by the Board, but any plans which would best elucidate this matter, so that every brother might have a fair chance of explaining his views. He did not expect they would get through the discussion in one night; they had not approached it yet, and had occupied two hours in discussing technicalities. They would have to consider other plans and questions, and more especially the question of finance. All that they

wanted was a proper home for the Craft and what was good for Freemasons.

Bro. GOLF wanted to know whether a lease could or could not be granted.

The GRAND MASTER said, he concurred in the observations of Bro. Stebbing that time should be given to the Board of General Purposes to prepare their plans to be exhibited in the Grand Secretary's Office, and that was the reason why he should call a special Grand Lodge, for it would take some time to consider this question. As to the alteration of the law, he had great doubts whether that could be done by a special Grand Lodge.

Bro. STEPHEN BARTON WILSON suggested whether plans could not be produced, which would not cost half the money as those propounded by this scheme. The plans exhibited faithfully showed the Grand Lodge the property they already possessed. The tenure of some of Mr. Mann's property, would expire in 1883, and why should Grand Lodge throw away more money on that property, as they did not want it, and especially as there was sufficient, at the present moment in the hands of Grand Lodge, to carry out the object required.

The PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES said he was willing to alter the resolution, so as to enable any brother to deposit any plan in the Grand Secretary's office he might think proper, which must, of course, be done at his own expense.

Bro. WIGGINTON suggested that the financial part of the question should be first taken into consideration.

The resolution having been amended by Bro. McIntyre so as to admit any brother to deposit a plan,

The GRAND MASTER put the motion and it was almost unanimously adopted.

Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form, and the brethren separated soon after eleven o'clock.

METROPOLITAN.

INSTRUCTION.

EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT (No. 318).

A special meeting of this lodge was held in the Temple, adjoining Freemasons Hall, on Friday, the 30th ult, under the presidency of Bro. S. B. Wilson, P.G.D., supported by Bros. Havers, J.G.W.; McIntyre, G. Reg.; Clarke, G. Sec.; Woods, G.D.C.; Dankes, G. Supt. of Works; Savage, P.G.D., and a good muster of other brethren. The lodge having been duly opened, the first lecture was most admirably worked in sections by the following brethren:—1st section by Bro. F. Dollman, P.M. 188; 2nd W. C. Harvey, W.M. 229; 3rd J. R. Thompson, S.W. 1008; 4th C. A. Murton, P.M. 7, D. C. 1124; 5th T. Fenn (Sec.), W.M. 188, 98, 324; 6th H. Empson, G.S.B.; 7th F. Mead, J.W. 275.

Bro. WILSON then rose to, according to notice, to deliver a short essay "On the necessity of maintaining the ancient landmarks of the order, the incompatibility of innovation, and the rise, progress, and design of our lectures," and having apologised to the brethren, that he was unable to proceed, owing to indisposition handed over his MS. to Bro. Dollman, who proceeded to read it. [The essay will be found in another part of our MAGAZINE.] At its conclusion.

Bro. HAVERS, J.G.W., rose and expressed the satisfaction which all must have felt in listening to the reading of the interesting essay, prepared by their worthy Bro. Wilson, who he regretted to see in ill health, as well as with the general working of the evening. In conclusion he proposed that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Wilson.

Bro. EVANS, S.G.D., fully concurring in what had fallen from Bro. Havers, seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Bro. WILSON having briefly acknowledged the compliment,

Bro. MEYMOTT, P.M., proposed a vote of thanks to the seven brethren who had assisted Bro. Wilson in the working for the very intellectual treat afforded to the brethren that evening.

Bro. MUGGERIDGE seconded the motion, having never heard better working in any lodge.

The resolution having been carried unanimously,

Bro. DOLLMAN, S.W., returned thanks and assured the brethren they always felt it a pleasure as well as a duty to support Bro. Wilson, to whom they owed so much, in working the lectures, and maintaining the credit of the lodge.

Bro. BINCKES, P.M. No. 11, wished to submit a proposition which he hoped would meet with the approbation of the brethren and of the brother who filled the chair. There was much in the essay just read, short though it was, of great interest, and which

he felt was not generally known by the Craft. He hoped, therefore, Bro. Wilson would allow it to be printed in a neat form, and published at a small price, for the benefit of the lodge, or in such manner as might be thought proper.

Bro. WILSON said he highly appreciated the proposed compliment, but the essay of that evening was only a mere sketch of what he intended to lay before the brethren. In the course of long readings he had jotted down many notes on Masonic matters, which would be sufficient for six or seven essays on different subjects, which he proposed some day to publish in a collected form, and to hand any profits arising from the publication, to the Boys' and Girls' schools. As however, there might be something in these essays which it might not be considered desirable to publish, he proposed before doing so to consult the Masonic authorities, such as the Grand Master, the Grand Registrar, and the Board of General Purposes, how far he could do so, but as regarded the essay of that evening he did not think it would be desirable to publish it in a separate form, though he had little doubt it would be again brought before the brethren.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated at an early hour.

PROVINCIAL.

DEVONSHIRE.

The foundation stone of the Devonport, Stonehouse, and Cornwall General Hospital, is to be laid with Masonic honours, on Tuesday, the 17th inst. The ceremony will be performed by Bro. the Right Honourable the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, P. Prov. G.S.W. of Devon; and the sermon preached by the Right Worshipful and Rev. John Huyshe, M.A., G. Chap. of England, and P. Dep. Prov. G.M. of Devon.

On Friday, the 30th ult., a meeting of the Devonport Board of Commissioners was held, when the following amusing scene, as reported in the *Western Daily News*, took place:—

The chairman read an invitation which he had received from Mr. J. W. W. Ryder, Mayor of Devonport, and chairman of the procession committee, inviting him and the Commissioners to join in the procession on the occasion of placing the memorial stone of the Devonport, Stonehouse, and Cornwall General Hospital. He said he should be glad to attend, and would be happy to be joined by as many of the Commissioners as would make it convenient to be present.

Mr. Rundle objected to the Masonic part of the business, for he disliked the tomfoolery which the Freemasons exhibited in their processions. He was not a Mason himself, he didn't know the principles on which they worked, nor did he wish to know. But this he would say, that whilst the Freemasons confined themselves to their dark lodges, their secret conclaves, and whilst they kept their lodges guarded by swordsmen, it was all very well; but he did not like the look of their absurd processions.

The chairman reminded the speaker that he was at liberty to look in an opposite direction.

Mr. Rundle objected to men, in this age of enlightenment, dressing themselves up as "Guys." The Freemasons pretended that the origin of the order was very remote; but he thought that they didn't strictly carry out their principles. When Adam was driven forth from the Garden of Eden, to find a home and seek a living for himself, he appeared in fig-leaves, and if Freemasons would but follow the example of their illustrious progenitor, and appear in fig-leaves during their processions, he had no objection to see them. (Laughter.)

The Chairman said the Masonic would only be one department in the large procession; and he believed the reason why the stone was to be laid with Masonic honours was that the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, who was to place it, was a Freemason, and they expected great assistance from the Craft. He then read the order of procession.

Colonel Russell said, as a Freemason, he could not sit quietly and listen to Mr. Rundle's remarks without making a few observations. He knew the value of the Institution, and could say that the Freemasons were a most charitable body of men.

The Chairman: I believe so.

Colonel Russell was of opinion that there was quite as much tomfoolery in wearing robes civil as robes masonic. Let them suppose that on the day named Mr. Beer, their clerk, was to appear in that procession in his capacity as Captain of the Devonport Volunteers, and that his partner, Mr. Rundle, who objected so much to Freemasonry, was to represent Mr. Beer on that occasion as clerk to the Commissioners, and wore Mr. Beer's gown, what possible difference could there be between Mr. Rundle's robes and the robes of the Freemasons? (Hear, hear.) He hoped that before long they would enrol Mr. Rundle among the craft. (Laughter.)

He had an opportunity of seeing the advantages of Freemasonry abroad, and could only say that it was a most useful institution. It relieved the distressed in many ways, and he wished all the world acted as charitably as did the Freemasons. (Cheers.)

The Vice-Chairman supposed that Mr. Rundle's great objection to Freemasonry lay in the application of the hot poker. (Loud laughter.) Mr. Rundle repeated that he disliked their public processions.

The following reply, attributed by many brethren to a very zealous and esteemed brother, a P. Prov. Grand Officer, has appeared in the *Western Morning News*, and is exciting some attention in the neighbourhood.

To the Editor of the *Western Morning News*.

MR. RUNDLE AND FREEMASONRY.

SIR,—The report of the meeting of the Devonport Commissioners on Friday last, containing as it does some strictures on the order of Freemasonry by Mr. G. H. E. Rundle, affords me an unexpected opportunity of offering a few remarks in its defence.

Mr. R. "objected to Freemasonry because he disliked the tomfoolery exhibited in their processions." This is so vague an accusation, and applies so generally to all ceremonies where symbols are introduced, that the same objection will equally lie against the letters of the alphabet, which are only symbols of sounds, and therefore, according to Mr. R.'s logic, "tomfoolery."

For Masonry is a peculiar system of morality, veiled in allegory, and illustrated by symbols. One is compelled to descend of the *reductio ad absurdum*. Shall we reject the teaching of the Christian Religion because her greatest mysteries are taught by symbols?

But the next sentence is still more amusing, when he said "he was not a Mason; he didn't know the principles on which they worked, nor did he wish to know." Thus is Mr. R.'s ignorance of the matter about which he was speaking proclaimed by himself—the very best proof of his inability to judge at present, and his perspective fitness equally uncertain.

"Where ignorance is bliss, 'twere folly to be wise."

So sweeping an accusation against a body of men, of whose proceedings he is ignorant, and about whom he desires no instruction, shows at once his presumption to sit in judgment, having arrived at a foregone conclusion, and therefore the worth of his statement must be taken *quantum valeat*, for when put in the balance, it will be found like some of the other children, "deceitful upon the weights, and altogether lighter than vanity itself."

"Thus fools rush in where angels fear to tread."

But again, Mr. R. says, "Whilst the Freemasons confined themselves to their dark lodges," &c. The privileges of the owl thus accorded to the Masons, to shun the light of day and appear only by night, proves how excellent a handle for a reply may be unwittingly furnished by an objector; for the owl sits conspicuous on the helmet of Minerva, and was adopted by the most polished nation of antiquity—the Athenians—as their badge. I am tempted to say with Gratiano, "I thank thee, Jew, for teaching me that word."

But the last paragraph contains the conclusion of the whole matter, "that he did not like the look of their absurd procession," showing that the speaker laboured under the hallucination of a confusedly ignorant and undefined prejudice against an order of whose principles and practices he knew nothing.

The question of costume was so unanswerably disposed of by our Brother Colonel Russell that nothing more is left to be written on the subject; for it would be as Dryden's song of the king,

"Thrice he routed all his foes,
And thrice he slew the slain."

But, as Mr. Rundle does not desire to know, I have no wish to intrude this letter on his notice, for

"A man convinced against his will
Is of the same opinion still."

But I desire to address a few remarks to your more unbiassed readers, to show what Freemasonry does—putting Mr. Rundle into the "dark corner" altogether. Her charity is universal. She knows no distinction of nation, colour, nor creed. She teaches us to regard the errors of mankind with compassion; to free the soul from the dominion of pride and prejudice; to look beyond the narrow confines of particular institutions; and to view in every son of Adam a brother of the dust. By this means the horrors of war have been mitigated, the wants of the poor prisoner in his dungeon relieved. The widow who has lost "her dearer self, the partner of her life," has found comfort and relief. The orphans have been brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and the path of the aged and decayed Mason has been smoothed and made less toilsome by kind support in his time of need, ere the silver cord be loosed. The writer has himself been the means of practically bringing these benign influences to bear through Masonic channels in all these forms.

But our institutions speak for themselves. We have annuities for aged and decayed Masons, annuities for the widows of Masons, a boys' school and a girls' school for Freemasons' children who are orphans, and an asylum for such as will avail themselves of its hospitable roof.

And the basis on which these good works rest is the irrefragible pedestal of *Truth*. Faith is the volume of the sacred law of God; the record of His divine will; the very keystone of the Arch. Our meetings are never held but with that Holy volume open. Prayer for blessings on all our lawful undertakings is our first employment. Our Alpha and our Omega is thanksgiving for all mercies received at our close.

There is no nation where Freemasonry has not planted her standard. The whole earth is girt with lodges as with a net work. Our own favoured Isle is thickly studded with them and the number daily increasing; it is her pride and her boast that none claiming brotherhood but is entitled to the sympathy and support of her children, without distinction of nation, or sect, or colour. Of the various other societies for lessening the aggregate of human misery and vice, without disparaging any, it may be truly said that they do not dispense their aid in the profession of such a simple faith. The Athenians know what is good, but the Lacedaemonians practise it.

I remain, yours truly,

A CRAFTSMAN.

Devonport, June 1st, 1862.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

BERKELEY.—*Lodge of Faith and Friendship* (No. 509).—At the regular meeting of this lodge, which meets at the Berkeley Arms Hotel, on the first Monday in the month, the W.M., (Bro. Partridge) presided with his usual great skill and ability. Mr. John Whetmore and Mr. Joseph Bennett having been, at a former lodge, regularly proposed, balloted for, and approved, were, after the due preparation, permitted to participate in the secrets and mysteries of the first degree in ancient Freemasonry. Bro. E. S. Cossens, W.M. 1202, P.M. 1907, &c., was the visitor, and the W.M. took that opportunity of soliciting the assistance of Bro. Cossens, who with great kindness filled the offices, interchangeably, of P.M., O.G., I.G., J.D., and W.M., that the brethren might receive the benefit, *par exemple*, of his working. Nothing could excel the harmony that prevailed upon the occasion, every brother, including the initiates, paying great attention to the working of the W.M. and the communications of Bro. Cossens, who addressed the brethren and the initiates, and exhorted them to acts of Masonic zeal, and led them by anticipation to that high, honourable, and important office the W.M. had the pleasure now to occupy, whilst he also communicated to the officers and brethren several matters of Masonic jurisprudence highly esteemed by them.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was held at Newport on Friday, May 30th, under the presidency of Bro. J. E. Rolls, D. Prov. G.M., supported by Bro. Hy. Bridges, D. Prov. G.M. Somerset, Bros. Bernardi, Lyne, Walls, Nicholas, Roberts, King, Williams, Pickford, Higginson, and other brothers. The same officers were appointed, as at the last Prov. Grand Lodge. The following sums were voted to the Masonic Charities. £5 5s., to the Boy's School; £5 5s. to the Girl's School; £5 5s. to the Institution for Freemasons; £5 5s. to the Institution for their Widows. Thus constituting, with sums formerly voted, the Prov. G.L. life Governors. The Prov. Grand Lodge was afterwards marshalled by the Dir. of Cers. and joined by the Silurian Lodge 693, and the Abergavenny Lodge (No. 1120), the Isca Lodge was only represented by two or three of its members, and the Loyal Monmouthshire Lodge (No. 671), was similarly situated.

The rain, which had all day been steady and refreshing, now began to come down in torrents; but with the enlivening strains of the Band of the third Monmouthshire Rifles, under the able leadership of Mr. Dorley, the brethren marched, (or rather waded) to Stowe Church, where they were amply rewarded by the impressive manner in which the service was performed; and one of those delightful Sermons by Bro. the Rev. Geo. Roberts, for which he is so generally known and appreciated by the Craft at large. On this occasion the appropriate second lesson enabled the Rev. Bro. to choose for his text, "Charity never faileth," and with his usual delicacy of sentiment and extraordinary eloquence, he enlarged on this Masonic gem.

When the service was concluded the Brethren returned to Lodge, and at its close, adjourned to the King's Head Hotel, where Bro. Lloyd had prepared one of the *recherché* banquets, for which he is so justly celebrated. Covers were laid, for 80 to 100; but it is a matter of regret that only 43 sat down; of these nearly one fourth were from Abergavenny Lodge, which, considering the state of the weather, and the

journey, was on all sides allowed to be a good muster from the youngest lodge in the Province.

The usual loyal and masonic toasts were given. The D. Prov. G.M. made one of his agreeable speeches. In returning thanks for his health, the Prov. G. Chaplain eloquently appealed to the Newport brethren to take a fresh start in Masonry and not let their energies collapse. The toast of the visitors was coupled with the name of Bro. Powell, the son of the oldest Mason in Monmouthshire. The Rev. W. Powell, Vicar of Abergavenny, was ably responded to. Bro. Lyne responded for the Prov. G. Officers; Bro. Harrison for the Silurian; Bro. Greeves for the Isca; and Bro. Higginson for the Abergavenny Lodges, and although few in numbers the brethren spent a happy and social evening, hoping that on the next occasion the Fraternity would flock round the Prov. G. Lodge Banner with double their usual strength.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

GATESHEAD.—*Lodge of Industry* (No. 56).—May 26th being the regular night of meeting, the lodge was opened at the Grey Horse Inn by the W.M., Bro. R. J. Banning, assisted by Bro. J. Hansard, S.W.; Bro. C. J. Banister, as J.W.; and the rest of the officers. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Neilson wishing to take the second degree was examined as to his proficiency, which being satisfactory he was passed to that degree by the W.M. in a very correct and impressive manner. Business of the lodge over, it was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. The brethren adjourned to refreshment and spent a happy hour.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—*Lodge of Instruction* (No. 24).—This successful lodge was opened on the 27th ult. by Bro. Rodenbergh, as W.M., assisted by Bro. C. J. Banister, as P.M.; Bro. Janson, as S.W.; Bro. Oliver, as J.W. Bro. Smith, Sec., in the absence of P.M. Bro. J. Synington. In the early part of the evening, Bro. Banister acted as Lecture Master. P.M. Bro. Loades, kindly acted as candidate, and Bro. Rodenbergh, S.W. of Lodge 614, performed the ceremony of initiation, to the satisfaction of the brethren. Bro. Micalson acted as J.D. A donation of books was received from Bro. Swithenbank, and a vote of thanks recorded on the minutes to him for the present. P.M. Bro. A. Clapham was elected Lecture Master for next meeting. Business over, the lodge was closed in due form.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

KEYNSHAM.—*Royal Albert Edward Lodge* (No. 1208).—The dispensation having been granted to open this lodge (it being thought desirable to postpone the consecration for the present) an emergency meeting was held on the 29th May, at the Lamb and Lark Inn, when a numerous attendance of neighbouring brethren favoured the petitioners with their presence on the occasion, amongst whom were several Past Prov. G. Officers from Bristol, including Bros. P.M. Evans, P. Prov. S.G.W.; P.M. Dimoline, P. Prov. S.G.D.; W. H. Scott, P.M., Colston Lodge, Bristol, &c. The lodge was opened under the presidency of Bro. T. B. Moutrie, P.M. 48, Bath, Prov. S.G.D. Somerset. The dispensation having been read empowering the brethren to meet for the purpose of transacting Masonic business, also the summons calling the meeting, the ballot was taken for a gentleman, who, being duly elected, was regularly initiated into the mysteries of the Craft. Several propositions having been received of brethren for joining, and one for initiation, and a vote of thanks being passed to the visitors, to which Bro. Evans, P.M., responded, expressing the gratification he had felt at the admirable manner in which the business of the lodge had been conducted, and wishing the brethren every success. The lodge was then closed in perfect harmony, and the brethren retired to refreshment. The next meeting will be on June 11th, at half past four.

YORKSHIRE (WEST.)

SHEFFIELD.—PRESENTATION.

On Saturday last, the 31st May, the Brethren of the Britannia and Brunswick Lodges, 162 and 373, and the companions of the two R.A. Chapters attached to those Lodges, joined in paying a well merited tribute of appreciation and esteem to Bro. Thomas Danby, P.M. of both Lodges, P.Z. of both Chapters, by the presentation to him of the Jewels of a P.Z., and P.M. respectively. The meeting took place in the Freemasons Hall in Surrey-street, where the Brethren partook of a splendid dinner, provided under the superintendence of

Bros. Garnett and Armison, the energetic Stewards of the Britannia Lodge. The chair was taken at 5 o'clock, by Bro. M. de Bartolomé, M.D., Past Prov. S.G.D., P.M., 162, 373, P.Z., who was supported on the right by the guest of the evening Bro. Danby, Brothers H. Harrison, W.M. 373, Hay, W.M. 162, Webster, W.M. 1206; Arden, S.W. 162; Waterhouse, S.W. 1206; Stuart, P. Prov. G.O., Sec. 373; and on the left by Bros. Eadon, P.M.; Wood, P.M.; Buxton, P.M.; E. Harrison, P.M.; Drury, J.W. 373; Garnet, Armison, Hornby, and many others. Bro. Longden, P.M. 162, 373, P.Z., and G.A.D.C. in the Prov. G. Chapter of West Yorkshire, ably filled the Vice-Chair.

After doing ample justice to the delicacies of the season—and, on the removal of the cloth, proving themselves loyal men and Masons by their enthusiastic reception of the toasts of the Queen and their Masonic Governors, the M.W.M. of Grand Lodge and the R.W.M. of the province—the brethren were called upon to fill bumpers in response to the Chairman's next call.

In presenting the jewels to Bro. Danby, the Chairman prefaced his remarks with an explanation that Bro. Eadon, who was Senior P.M., having declined the task, because he felt he could not do it with satisfaction to himself, it had fallen to him as the next oldest P.M. He then, with true Masonic feeling and with that flowery eloquence for which he is noted amongst his Sheffield brethren, recapitulated the claims of Bro. Danby to the esteem of the brethren, admirably keeping the medium which, on such occasions, is so difficult in the presence of the individual, between being too fulsome, and, on the other hand, omitting to give the full meed of praise which it is but bare justice to record. In giving the origin of the testimonial he also eulogised Bro. Garnett, who, though but a young Mason, had put into a practical form what had long been the wish of many older brethren, and in placing the jewels upon Bro. Danby's breast, in the name of the brethren and companions of Sheffield, trusted that he would not the less value them, beautiful as they were in themselves, from the fact of the offering being of so spontaneous a character, and of the subscriptions having been limited to five shillings. The brethren joined in an hearty wish that Bro. Danby might long be spared to wear the jewels, and to be an ornament to the Craft.

Bro. Danby in returning thanks to the brethren, was much affected by the expressions of good will, and hoped that any brother who might at any time wish for instruction, would confer on him the additional favour of allowing him to impart that knowledge which it had been his good fortune and pleasure to acquire, through a series of years, and which he should be at all times happy to give, from the E.A. degree, up to the installation of a First Principal.

We may mention that Bro. Danby is known and appreciated, not only in his own town, but in the province, and in London, where he has several times served as Steward at the festivals of the different Masonic charities, of all of which he is a life governor.

Two jewels were here handed round; they are beautiful specimens of locket jewels, supplied by Bro. Spencer, of Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, of massive gold and enamelled, and have each an appropriate inscription upon the back.

The healths of the Past Masters, W.M.s, of the two Sheffield lodges, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Bro. Garnett, the organizer of the testimonial, and his coadjutor in the labour of love, Bro. Hornby, &c., having been duly honoured and responded to, the brethren retired, after a very pleasant evening, about ten o'clock.

DONCASTER.—*St. George's Lodge*, (No. 298).—The brethren of this lodge assembled on Friday last, in their room at the Town Hall, Bro. Theophilus Smith, W.M., in the chair. Bro. Adams was passed to the second degree; and Mr. George May was initiated as an E.A.P. in Masonry. Bro. Brooke, P.M., was re-invested with the Secretary's jewel, the W.M. expressing his regret that that ceremony had been accidentally omitted at the last meeting. Bros. Nicholson and Rigby, were also appointed as Stewards, in order more particularly to examine and take charge of the property of the lodge. It was agreed, in consequence of a pressure of business, and for the purpose of maintaining the lodge in working order, that the brethren should assemble during the summer months; and not remain in abeyance until September or October, as has generally been the case.

ROTHERHAM.—*Phoenix Lodge* (No. 1206).—The brethren of this lodge held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday evening last, when three brethren were added to the roll, one of them being the newly-elected Tyler, and serving brother who was initiated under dispensation from the Prov. G.M. of West Yorkshire. Bro. the Rev. R. W. South was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M., and afterwards appointed and invested as Chaplain of the lodge. The ceremonies were impressively performed by the W.M., Bro. Webster, supported by his several officers, and assisted by a distinguished visitor, Bro. Hiram Williams, P.M. 30, and Past Grand Steward, and by Bro. Arnison, a visiting brother from Britannia Lodge (No. 162), Sheffield.

ROYAL ARCH.

HAMPSHIRE.

LYMINGTON.—*New Forest Chapter* (No. 401).—A convocation of this chapter was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Lymington, on Monday, the 2nd inst., M.E.Z. Dr. Bradshaw presiding. The ballot was taken for the three Principals:—Hickman, Z.; Hayward, H. and Stebbing, J., which having proved unanimous, M.E. Comp. Stebbing was installed to the Third Chair by M.E.Z. Bradshaw. The first and second principals were then installed in their respective chairs by M.E.P.Z. Stebbing, the ceremonies being conducted in a most impressive manner. Comp. T. P. Payne was appointed P.S.; G. P. Perkins, E.; Milner, N.; Lobb, Janitor; Hayward, M.E.H. was elected Treas. Companions joining the chapter were then balloted for, and two brothers proposed for exaltation at the next chapter.

SCOTLAND.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

(From a Correspondent.)

A special meeting of this august body was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, on the 23rd of May last. As important principles were involved in the matters named for consideration, there was an unusually large attendance of members of the Supreme Grand Chapter. The Most Excellent First Grand Principal, Lord James Murray, presided, Sir P. Arthur Halkett, *Bart.*, and William Belfrage, Esq., acting as Second and Third Grand Principals. Among those present we observed Comps. Dr. Walker Arnott; Lindsay Mackersy, G. Scribe E.; Alex. James Stewart, G. Treas.; Alex. Hay, Grand Recorder; William Mann, Grand Chancellor; Dr. F. D. McCowan, 3rd Grand Sojourner; Andrew Kerr, Charles S. Law, A. Robertson, D. Murray Lyon, P. Cowan, John Laurie, W. Muir, &c.

To render the proceedings intelligible to brethren at a distance, it may not be out of place to give a succinct sketch of the circumstances which led to this meeting. In the month of February last, Comp. Major Thornton, Principal Z. of Chapter No. 80, and several other leading Royal Arch Masons, resident in Ayr, petitioned the Supreme Grand Chapter to disjoin Ayrshire from the Provincial Grand Chapter of the Western Districts, and to erect it into a province. This the petitioners did on the ground that the distance they had to travel in order to attend Provincial Grand Chapter at Glasgow was inconveniently great; and also because of the inroads being made upon Royal Arch Masonry by a rival body, who, as the petitioners expressed it, were "monopolising nearly all the business in Royal Arch Masonry, and are being joined by a numerous body of respectable men, gathered from among the membership of the lodges in this province." This petition came under the consideration of the Grand Committee on the 3rd of March, when it was unanimously agreed to recommend Supreme Grand Chapter to grant the prayer of the petition. Previous to this meeting, and when the proposal to disjoin Ayrshire from Glasgow was first mooted to the Prov. G. Supt., Dr. Arnott, that companion was known to have expressed a very decided opinion that "Ayrshire ought to be separated" from the western districts; but before fixing on the *modus operandi* for effecting the disjunction prayed for, Dr. Arnott signified his intention of consulting Comp. Donald Campbell, of Glasgow. That companion declared against the disjunction of Ayrshire, and at the Quarterly Meeting of Grand Chapter, held on the 5th of March, moved "that the prayer of the petition be refused." It was moved as an amendment by Comp. Alex.

Hay, seconded by Comp. McCowan, "that the decision of the Committee be affirmed;" and it was moved by Comp. Wm. Ramsay, seconded by Comp. Cannon, "that the matter be continued till next Quarterly Communication, and that, in the meantime, Comp. Walker Arnott be requested to give a report as to the statements in the petition, and what he would recommend to be done in the circumstances." Comp. Hay having withdrawn his amendment in favour of Comp. Ramsay's, that amendment was put to the meeting against Comp. D. Campbell's motion, and declared carried by a large majority, the proposer and seconder only voting for the motion, and the Grand Scribe E. declining to vote.

Thwarted in their endeavours to have the petition for disjunction quashed, a plan was concocted by certain parties in Prov. Grand Chapter, whereby the petitioning Chapter might be tripped up and rendered powerless in their opposition to Glasgow rule. The sympathies of another Ayr Chapter, No. 18, which were known to be favourable to the position taken up by Comp. Donald Cambell, were now openly and actively operated upon;—and a special meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter summoned to meet at Glasgow, on the 28th of March. At that meeting, it was determined to seize the books of the young and independent Chapter which had dared to petition to be relieved from Glasgow domination, and the Prov. Grand Scribe E. was accordingly next day despatched to Ayr, armed with the written authority of the Provincial Grand Superintendent (Dr. Arnott), to obtain possession of the minute and cash book of Ayr Kilwinning, No. 80. The temporary absence from Ayr of Comp. Major Thornton seemed to favour the designs of Provincial Grand Chapter upon the petitioning Chapter, and the firm footing they had among their supporters in No. 18, encouraged them in their reckless course. The bearer of Dr. Arnott's bull having reached Ayr and fraternized for a brief period with certain of those who, judging from their actions, wished to encompass the destruction or effect the disgrace of their next neighbours, accompanied by the doorkeeper of No. 18, set out upon the honourable business for the execution of which he had been commissioned. Having introduced themselves to Comp. George Good, the 2nd Principal of No. 80, Provincial Grand Scribe E. presented his order to get immediate possession of that Chapter's books. At first, Companion Good refused thus summarily to give up the books, and in this he was firmly supported by the Treasurer of the Chapter (Comp. John Park) and its First Sojourner (Comp. William Young), who quite accidentally happened to be present during the interview. Seeing the hesitation of Comp. Good to comply with his demand, Provincial Grand Scribe E. stated that the refusal to deliver up the books demanded would certainly be followed by suspension of the party refusing. Under pressure of this threat and not willing to run the risk of having his Chapter brought into trouble, Comp. Good relinquished possession of the books, which were then carried off by Prov. G. Scribe E. The news of what had befallen Chapter No. 80, spread like wildfire over the town amid the exultation of the Prov. Grand Chapter supporters in No. 18, who thought they saw in this act the downfall of their rivals.

Irritated at the indignity which had thus been offered to their Chapter, the members of No. 80 held a special meeting on the evening of the 31st March, and having heard from the lips of their 2nd Principal, a full statement of what had transpired, they unanimously resolved to present a petition and complaint to the Supreme Grand Chapter, against the illegal seizure of their books, which had been effected by the party acting under the express instructions of the Prov. Grand Supt., Dr. Walker Arnott.

The petition and complaint adopted by Chapter No. 80, contained the following paragraph:—"That the petitioners learn from cap. 10, section 4, of Supreme Grand Chapter Laws, that a Prov. Grand Supt. is empowered to visit subordinate chapters, to inquire into irregularities, &c.; and sec. 12 of same chapter, shows that a Prov. Grand Supt. is also empowered, in case of Masonic complaint or irregularity, respecting chapters or companions in their district, to summon the office-bearers, &c., to appear before them, and to produce the charter and books, &c.; but your petitioners have yet to learn that the Supreme Grand Laws sanction or authorize the seizure of the books of any subordinate chapter in the manner complained against." The petition and complaint were presented on the 1st of April, and on the 7th April, the Supreme Grand Committee having met, and carefully considered it, as also letters from Major Thornton,

Principal Z. of No. 80 Chapter, and Dr. Arnott, Prov. Grand Supt., of the western district, sustained the relevancy of the principal articles of the said petition and complaint, and called up Dr. Arnott to lodge answers thereto; in which answers the learned Doctor claimed for himself and the Provincial Grand Chapter, "the same powers within the province, that the Supreme Chapter has over Scotland generally;" and that these powers gave the Prov. Grand Supt. "free right to call for the Treasurer's and minute books of any chapter, whenever he pleases, so that he may see that the laws of the Supreme Chapter are obeyed, and that without incurring any charge of irregularity against the chapter." Dr. Arnott further stated that it was necessary that he should obtain possession of the books of No. 80 in the way he did, in order to his reporting on the petition for disjunction which had been remitted to him by the Supreme Committee. On the 28th April Grand Committee met and having resumed consideration of the said petition and complaint, with answer thereto by Dr. Arnott, found that the seizure of the books of Ayr Kilwinning Chapter (No. 80) in the way admitted by the Prov. Grand Supt. was a proceeding uncalled for in the circumstances, and unauthorized by the laws of the Supreme Grand Chapter. To this finding Dr. Arnott objected and appealed to the Supreme Chapter, asking that body to reverse Grand Committee's decision, and to consider whether Companions D. Murray Lyon and George Good "ought not to be deprived of Royal Arch privileges" for having dared to sign a "minute" adopted by Chapter No. 80 in support of the position they had assumed, and in defence of themselves from certain imputations contained in a communication addressed by Dr. Arnott to Supreme Chapter.

On Friday, the 23rd of May, after a sederunt of about five hours, on the motion of Companion Mann, seconded by companion Hay, the Supreme Chapter unanimously confirmed Grand Committee's decision, and dismissed the appeal of Dr. Arnott; and having heard Dr. Arnott, and also D. Murray Lyon on the Doctor's proposal to suspend Companions Good and Lyon, on the motion of Companion Sir Arthur Halkett, Bart, seconded by Companion Mann, the Supreme Grand Chapter unanimously found the proposal to suspend the 2nd and 3rd principals of Ayr Kilwinning Chapter (No. 80) to be incompetent. Whereupon, in consequence of these decisions Dr. Arnott resigned the office of Prov. Grand Supt. of the Western District, and withdrew from the meeting.

A vote of thanks having been accorded to Comp. Lord James Murray for his conduct in the Chair, the meeting broke up.

Few have done more for Royal Arch Masonry in Scotland than Dr. Arnott has accomplished; and it is to be regretted that in the evening of his Masonic career he should have permitted himself to be used as the scape-goat of the real instigators and promoters of the late attack upon the liberties of subordinate chapters.

MARK MASONRY.

MALLET AND CHISEL LODGE (No. 5).—A meeting of this lodge was held at Bro. Harriss', Three Tuns, Bow, on Wednesday, May 28th, Bro. Harris W.M. Present: Bros. Pickering, Hayworth, Barrett, Trebeck, Promtia, Thompson, Sleeman, Weisenburger, Turner, Hon. Sec. Visitors: Bros. Binckes, G. Sec.; Goring and Cottebrune. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. Charles Southall and John Deportu were balloted for as candidates for advancement, and duly elected. The before-mentioned brethren being present were advanced, the ceremony being worked by Bros. Binckes, G. Sec., Goring and Cottebrune, assisted by the W.M. and the officers of the lodge. It was proposed by Bro. Thompson, and seconded by Bro. Trebeck, that Bro. Binckes be admitted an honorary member of this lodge; carried unanimously. It was proposed by Bro. Turner, and seconded by Bro. Thompson, that the lodge furniture be insured for £25. It was proposed by Bro. Trebeck, and seconded by Bro. Hayworth, that Bro. George Dyer be admitted a candidate for advancement at the next lodge meeting. The dues having been received, and the wages paid, the lodge was closed in ancient form. There was no banquet, and the lodge then separated. The lodge will re-assemble on the fourth Wednesday in July.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen has returned from Scotland. Accompanied by the younger members of her family, who were all with her at Balmoral, she left her Highland residence on Monday, and arrived at Windsor at nine o'clock on Tuesday morning. It is gratifying to be able to add that her Majesty and the Royal children were in perfect health, and appeared to be invigorated by their Scotch sojourn. The *Times* states that the marriage of the Princess Alice will take place at Osborne on the 1st July.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—Thursday, the 29th ult., being Ascension Day, the House of Lords did not meet.—On Friday, Lord Granville moved the third reading of the Customs and Inland Revenue Bill, defended at some length the policy of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He was followed by Lord Cairn. The debate was continued by the Duke of Newcastle, the Duke of Argyll, Lords Derby, Overstone, Grey, and Russell. The bill was then read a third time and passed.—On Monday, some discussion took place on the motion for the commitment of the Mersey, Weaver, and Irwell Protection Bill. Lord Stanley of Alderley, and the Lord Chancellor objected to the power granted under the bill, and Lord Camperdown moved that it be committed that day six months. Lords Derby, Grey, and Redesdale supported the bill, and Lord Camperdown having withdrawn his amendment, the consideration of the measure was postponed for a fortnight. In reply to a question from Lord Ravensworth, the Duke of Somerset stated that the Government did not at present intend to take any steps for carrying into effect the recommendations of the Select Committee on floating breakwaters.—On Tuesday, Lord Brougham, referring to the case of the Nightingale, urged the importance of bringing in a bill to prevent the fitting out of slavers at Liverpool. The Marquis of Clanricarde called attention to the recent assassinations in Ireland, and expressed his belief that these crimes were the acts of isolated individuals and not the result of an organised Ribbon conspiracy. Lord Lifford differed from the noble Marquis and asserted that he had proofs of the existence of a secret organisation extending over the whole of Ireland. After some further conversation the subject dropped. The royal assent was given by commission to the Customs and Inland Revenue Bill, and thirty-eight other measures.—In the House of Commons, on Thursday, the 29th ult., Lord Palmerston explained the present position of the Afghan "difficulty," and stated that there was no reason to believe that Persia was at all mixed up in the matter. He added, however, that "if the Shah of Persia invaded Herat, it would be for the British Government to consider what steps must be taken." The noble lord acceded to a request made by Mr. Lindsay, that a return of the iron-cased ships built or building for the British navy, together with any information possessed by the government as to what France had done or was doing in the same direction, should be laid before the House. Mr. Lindsay then gave notice that, on the 27th of next month, he should call attention to the state of our relations with the Federal and Confederate States of North America.—On Friday, Sir de Lacy Evans moved a resolution to the effect that the command of regiments should no longer be purchasable, and that the promotions to that rank should be regulated by selection, upon the responsibility of the Commander-in-Chief. Sir G. C. Lewis opposed the motion.—A long discussion followed, and on a division the resolution, was rejected by a large majority.—On Monday, the four bills dealing with the question of the transfer of land, which have passed through the House of Lords, were, after some discussion, read a second time.—Various notices of motion having been given pledging the House of Commons to economy and a reduction of natural expenditure including one by Mr. Walpole agreed to on Monday, at a meeting of the Earl of Derby's supporters when they came on for discussion on Tuesday. Lord Palmerston announced that he regarded Mr. Walpole's amendment on the subject of the national expenditure as a party move, intended to decide the question "whether the gentlemen on the Ministerial or those on the opposite side of the House were best entitled to the confidence of the country." That being the case he appealed to Mr. Horsman, Lord Robert Montagu, and Darby Griffith, who had given notice of amendments, to waive their privilege of precedence, and permit the House at once to proceed with Mr. Stansfeld's resolution, his (Lord Palmerston's) amendment to that resolution, and Mr. Walpole's amendment to his proposition. Lord Robert Montagu expressed his regret that such an issue should be placed before the House. Mr. Horsman disclaimed, on his own part, any spirit of hospitality to the Government, and submitted that Lord Palmerston had placed the House in an unfair position. Mr. Walpole declared that if his amendment "had been intended as a vote of want of confidence in the Government, he should certainly not have been the man to move it." Mr. Bright repudiated the party issue which had been introduced; and submitted that it was the duty of the House to take that resolution which most clearly expressed their feelings upon the question of the national expenditure. The members to whom Lord Palmerston addressed his appeal having agreed to waive their right of precedence, Mr. Stansfeld moved:—"That, in the opinion of this House, the national expenditure is capable of reduction without compromising the safety, the independence, or the legitimate influence of the country." Lord Palmerston then brought forward his amendment, and repeated his former assertion that if the amendment of Mr. Walpole were carried, he could only regard it as a vote

of want of confidence. He defended the course which the Government had hitherto pursued, and expressed his perfect readiness to propose retrenchment whenever the aspect of affairs would warrant such a course. Mr. Disraeli and other members followed; and, on a division, Mr. Stansfeld's motion was rejected by an overwhelming majority, the numbers being 65 for, and 367 against, the resolution. Mr. Walpole's amendment was subsequently withdrawn.—Wednesday being Derby Day the House did not meet.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The Board of Trade returns for April, which have just been published, bear testimony to the industrial paralysis which has befallen the country, and the privation and distress which must in consequence be the lot of the working classes. In two years the declared value of our exports has fallen off in that one month to the extent of 3½ millions; and in the first four months of the year the decrease has been 5½ millions.—Captain Galton, of the Royal Engineers, has been appointed Assistant Under Secretary for War. The Under Secretaryship vacant by the death of Sir Benjamin Hawes, will not be filled up, and thus—on the supposition that Captain Galton will receive the same salary as the late Mr. Godley—a saving of £2,000 a year will be effected.—The *Gazette* announces the retirement of Colonel Bentinck, of the 4th Dragoon Guards, on half-pay, and the appointment of Colonel Shute, late of the 6th Dragoons, as his successor.—The Government, while declining to afford the Atlantic Telegraph Company any pecuniary assistance, have granted the use of ships for the purpose of making a more complete survey of the line between Ireland and Newfoundland. Soundings, it is stated, will be taken every mile, instead of at the wide intervals deemed sufficient when the project was originally started. Government ships will also be detailed to assist in the submersion of the cable.—The managers of St. Thomas's Hospital have altogether failed in making terms with the directors of the South Eastern Railway. Notwithstanding the warnings they have had, notwithstanding that it was at their own instance the railway shareholders were compelled to purchase the whole hospital when they only wanted a slice of its grounds, it seems that they have not yet been able to determine on the site where the new hospital shall be erected, and now the time is at hand when they must remove their patients. Various offers and counter offers have been made by the two bodies as to the terms on which the present patients might be allowed to remain, but no agreement has been come to, and it is now settled that the existing patients are to have room made for them in the already crowded hospitals of the metropolis for the next three or four years; therefore, we fear, one of the greatest blessings to poor sufferers on the south of the Thames will be practically blotted out of the charities of London.—The state of the Haymarket and its neighbourhood has long been the scandal of London. A deputation, headed by Lord Calthorpe, has waited on the Home Secretary, to call his attention to the subject with a view to some measures being devised to abate the nuisance. Sir George Grey reminded them that any steps they could take would only touch the outside of the evil, and repudiated the idea of introducing into this country the continental licensing system, but intimated that the whole system of regulating public-houses, refreshment rooms, &c. (where the prostitutes must congregate), must come under the revision of Parliament in the course of next session.—A deputation from several of the metropolitan parishes waited, on Saturday, on Mr. Villiers, President of the Poor-law Board, to state objections to certain clauses in the parochial assessments law. At present each parish not only makes its own assessments, but makes it at its own valuation, so that while one parish assesses on three-fourths of the value of the property the neighbouring parish assesses on two-thirds only. This is of no consequence so long as each parish assesses for its own poor; but it is different when two or three unite to support the poor that are charged to the union. The burden then falls more heavily than it ought to do upon the more highly-assessed it may be, but not necessarily the richer, parish. It is to remedy this evil that the bill was brought in, to which the deputation objected, chiefly on the ground that it may interfere with parochial independence. Mr. Villiers informed them that the bill was now under consideration of a select committee, where doubtless many of the objections then made would be removed.—The coroner's inquest on the body of a man named Driscoll, who was thrown from a girder on the Metropolitan Railway, a distance of fifty feet to the ground, in a struggle with a fellow workman, has been held, when it was clearly shown that a quarrel which the deceased had with another labourer named Gregory, ended in the latter throwing him from his position on the girder, which caused his death. A verdict of manslaughter was returned against Gregory.—The intelligence from Ireland still tells of outrage and violence. The latest information is that Mr. Brown, the agent on the Ponsonby estates in the neighbourhood of Youghal, has received a threatening letter on account of some judgement decrees obtained against tenants on the estate. An investigation is going on. A special commission will be opened at Limerick on the 16th June.—An irruption of water occurred at the Bradley Colliery, Bilston—the property of Messrs. Thorneycroft and Co., on Friday, when four men and three boys perished.—An extraordinary affair is reported from Sheffield. The sexton of the Wardsend Cemetery has been charged with the exhumation and mutilation of bodies. An examination of the cemetery resulted in the discovery of some remains in a

state which gave countenance to the charge, an excited mob assembling round his house first broke the windows, and then set it on fire. It was entirely destroyed.—An inquest has been held on the body of Pierre Dumesnil, whose death was occasioned by the alleged improper administration of chloroform. The verdict, however, is—"That the deceased died from the effects of chloroform administered at his own request, and that his death was caused by misadventure."—The man Lemon, who was apprehended on the charge of murdering the woman with whom he cohabited, was brought before the magistrate at Bow-street on Saturday; and as it was satisfactorily proved that the tale he first told was true, namely, that the woman had, whilst in a state of excitement, swallowed some poison used by him in the fabrication of base coin, he was discharged from custody.—Taylor and his wife were brought up for final examination at the Manchester Police Court, on the 30th ult., when the scientific evidence as to the cause of the deaths of the three children was taken. It was clearly established that in none of the cases was death the result of natural causes, but neither the surgeons who made the *post-mortem* examinations, nor the analytical chemists to whom the stomachs and viscera were submitted, were able to form a definite conclusion as to the means by which death had been produced. Professor Taylor, like the other professional witnesses, could only hazard a speculation, and that was, that the children had been either suffocated or destroyed by some poisonous vapour, such as that of chloroform. The two prisoners were committed for trial on the charge of murdering Mr. Meller, the Stipendiary Magistrate adding:—"The depositions upon the charges will be sent up, and any course which the authorities may think requisite, will be taken hereafter in reference to them."—William Miller, a Russian, who was charged with being concerned with Reichberg and others in a forgery on the Russian Bank, has been again brought up at the Mansion House. Reichberg and his companions, it will be remembered, were convicted a short time ago of the attempts at forgery, and the evidence now given tended to show that he was an accomplice. He was committed for trial.—The spring tides have passed over, happily without causing further mischief in the inundated Fen districts. The works devised for stopping the progress of the flood, and preventing the recurrence of such a disaster as that from which the Marshland farmers are now suffering, are being carried on with great energy. The most important of these is a huge coffer dam, the framework of which was completed on Saturday.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—If reduction is a step to total withdrawal of the French forces from Rome, that step, we learn from the *Moniteur*, has been taken, the corps of occupation having been reduced by an Imperial decree, to a single division, consisting of three divisional brigades, under the command of General Montedello. M. Fould, it is said, has obtained a promise from the Emperor of a further reduction of 30,000 men in the effective strength of the French army.—Public attention in Italy was directed to the re-assembling of Parliament, which was fixed for Tuesday. It was thought that the budget would be immediately laid before the Chambers, but the greatest interest is attached to the discussions which will arise relating to the frustration by the Government of the attempt of the Garibaldians to invade the Austrian territory. Garibaldi will not be present; he left Turin on Tuesday for Belgerate. An attempt to negotiate a clandestine Bourbon loan has been discovered at Naples. Garibaldi has addressed a letter to the President of the Italian Chamber of Deputies in reference to the recent arrests at Brescia and Bergamo. He denies distinctly that there was any intention to attempt an invasion of the Tyrol, or to take any step which had not met the approval of Victor Emmanuel. He states that when the Ministry approved the plan of forming national rifle clubs it was proposed to raise two battalions of Genoese Carbineers, and many young men hastened to enrol themselves. For some reason the project failed, and some hundreds of young men who were to have joined in it associated themselves together in Lombardy for the purposes of armed drill. The Government looked on their movements with suspicion, and accordingly ordered the arrests which have since taken place. This is Garibaldi's explanation of the whole affair.—The *Gazette* contains a notice that the Government of Denmark has signified its intention no longer to require Englishmen visiting Denmark to produce passports.—One advantage at least will be derived by the taxpayers of the Reichsrath. The government, in consequence of the remonstrances of the Finance Committee, has consented to reduce considerably the military establishment proposed to be maintained during the present year; and the Committee is still engaged, with what success we shall soon learn, in urging a further reduction.—The Russian Council of the Empire have unanimously adopted the proposed new fundamental rules for the administration of justice. Under these important regulations no one can hereafter be condemned, except by the proper tribunals; all judicial proceedings must be conducted in public, and trial by jury is to be introduced.—It is asserted that the intelligence of the Grand Duke Constantine's appointment to the viceroyalty of Poland has been received with much satisfaction at Warsaw. Probably the Poles think that no change can be for the worse.—The Ottoman troops have not only entered Montenegro, but have defeated the Montenegrins in an engagement which cost the vanquished some 1500 men, have burned several villages, and are preparing to prosecute their advance into the country.

AMERICA.—The latest intelligence is up to the 24th ult. The published despatches of the 23rd and 24th ult. contain no intelligence whatever respecting the campaign in the South-west, except uncertain rumours that the Confederates had evacuated Fort Wright, and had retired further down the Mississippi to Fort Randolph, and that General Beauregard had relinquished the command of his army to General Bragg, and had himself proceeded to Richmond. From Southern accounts it appears that a Federal flotilla from New Orleans had ascended the Mississippi to Vicksburg without encountering any opposition, and was believed to have already left Vicksburg for Memphis. General McClellan's army had crossed the Chickahominy river, partly at Bottomsbridge and partly at Newbridge, within eight miles of Richmond. The Confederates, who had retired to a point within five miles from Richmond, had not made any serious efforts to check the Federal advance; but all accounts represented that they would offer a vigorous resistance at Richmond. The Confederates were pressing General Banks's corps, in the Shenandoah Valley, and had driven a detachment under Colonel Bentley from Fort Royal, after the Federals had sustained a considerable loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners. The War Department at Washington had made a fresh call for volunteers, to the number, as it was said, of 50,000. The British steamer *Labuna*, which was seized by a Federal cruiser, at Matamoras, on the Rio Grande, had been released, the Prize Court having declared her seizure illegal. The British steamer *Circassian* had been captured, near Key West, by a Federal man-of-war.—Some of the Paris journals state that the French Consul at New Orleans protested in the strongest terms against the occupation of the Consulate by the Federal General Butler's orders, and that the French Envoy at Washington has already been instructed to demand reparation.

COLONIAL.—By a telegram from Montreal we learn that the Canadian Parliament has been dissolved in consequence of the defeat of the Ministry on the Military Bill. We have intelligence from the Cape of Good Hope to the 21st of April. The Parliament was to meet on the 24th. The question of the separation of the eastern provinces, it was expected, would be early brought forward, but there was a rumour that the Governor hoped to settle the difficulty by holding the Parliament alternately at Graham's Town and Cape Town. The relations between the South African republic and the border states were more satisfactory than for some time past. Great progress was being made towards the completion of the railways in execution, and several new lines were contemplated. British Kaffraria had taken the important step towards conserving personal liberty by adopting the principle of trial by jury. The Volksraad had also come forward in defence of Christianity, by enacting punishments against persons uttering slanderous comments upon the Christian Church.—From Melbourne we learn that Sir George Grey was gradually restoring the Queen's authority in New Zealand, and creating a loyal feeling among the natives. Gold to the amount of 133,510 ounces had been shipped since the departure of the last mail.

INDIA AND CHINA.—News from Bombay, announces that the troubles in Afghanistan are ended, Dost Mahommed and the Persian Government having agreed to a compromise in reference to Furrak.—Mr. Laing was to leave Calcutta for England on the 21st May. At Shanghai the rebels had been twice defeated, with great slaughter. At Nankin the Taepings were receiving large reinforcements, and the Imperialists do not appear to have ventured to attack them.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- P. S.—1. The Principals of a Royal Arch Chapter wear robes. The First Principal should have a crown, though it is rarely worn. The Scribes and Sojourners do, as a rule, wear surplices; the academical caps but rarely.
2. In the Grand Stewards' Lodge all the members wear red aprons, as they must all of necessity be P.G. Stewards. There are eighteen lodges called red apron lodges; but the junior members wear the ordinary Craft apron, those brethren only who have served the office of Grand Steward being allowed to assume the red. These lodges are Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 14, 21, 23, 27, 30, 54, 66, 72, 108, 116, 233, 324.
3. Bro. Hyde Pullen is the Acting Grand Secretary of the Supreme Grand Council 33°.
4. The duties of the Assist. Sojs. and the Standard and Sword Bearer in a Royal Arch Chapter are merely nominal.
- GENERAL.**—1. At very regular meeting of a lodge the first business to be performed is the reading and confirmation of the minutes, and no other business can be regularly proceeded with until that is done.
2. A Master being incompetent to perform a ceremony cannot call upon a visitor to do it for him in the presence of a Past Master of the lodge, of ability and experience.
- Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson's scheme for the arrangement of the Grand Lodge Property, though in type, is unavoidably postponed until next week, as are also other articles.
- R. E. X. shall have a reply next week.