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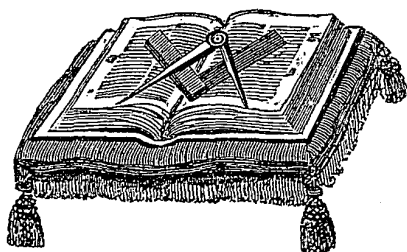
FREEMASONS MAGAZINE

AND



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THE
F R E E M A S O N S M A G A Z I N E
AND
M A S O N I C M I R R O R.

ADDRESS TO OUR READERS.

IN closing our labours for 1862, and again addressing our readers, we do so with feelings very different to those which guided our pen at the conclusion of 1861. Then the nation was mourning, with their Queen, for the loss of one endeared not only to her Majesty, by his amiable qualities and affectionate solicitude for her welfare, but we may say, without exaggeration, by all, from the most exalted to the humblest of her people, from the munificent encouragement he gave to art in all its branches—his unostentatious philanthropy, setting the example by model cottages, model farms, and model schools, of what might be done—and, notwithstanding he was born in a foreign country, the true English zest with which he entered upon our national sports and pastimes. Everything that has come to light since the lamented loss of the Prince relative to his habits and avocations have only tended to add lustre to the good name he left behind him; but time, which brings healing on its wings, has, we trust, done much to solace our afflicted Queen, and she, like her people, is now looking hopefully to the future. Two of her children have become the brides of Princes believed to be worthy companions of their path in life; and now the eldest son, the heir of the family, whom we hope some day to see numbered in the Craft—he to whom England, though we trust the period may be distant, looks up to with pleasure as their future King, believing that in him will be found the reflex of those qualities which have adorned his parents and made them the beloved of the people—is about to take unto himself a bride, of whom report speaks well, and at the same time enter upon some of those responsibilities which were so well discharged by his royal father. May all prosperity and success be his, and may Albert and Alexandra be as happy and beloved as Victoria and Albert was, is, we are sure, the sincere wish of every Englishman and every Englishwoman.

Writing at a time of the year which should bring peace to all men, and when enjoyment rules the roost, we cannot let the opportunity pass of reminding the brethren that distress of the direst kind still holds court in Lancashire and Cheshire, and that at this period, when thinking of our own comforts, we should not forget those who are stricken and afflicted through events over which they have, and could have, no control. Grand Lodge has given £1000, many private lodges have added

their mite to the exertions making to alleviate the suffering caused by the cotton famine, but that is only as a drop in the ocean, and now, as the period of the annual festivals and installations are upon us, we hope that *all* will lend a helping hand to the good cause.

Passing from subjects of general interest to those more immediately appertaining to the Craft, we have but little to report upon of moment as having taken place during the last six months. The consideration of the future appropriation of the Grand Lodge Property has been taken out of the hands of the Board of General Purposes, and remitted to a small select Committee, which we hope will ere long be in a position to lay a report before Grand Lodge acceptable to the brethren at large, and lead to our becoming the possessors of a Temple for the accommodation of the Craft, both in and out of lodge, to which we can point with pride and pleasure, and where we can assemble as often as we please without being brought into contact with those of the world who are not Freemason.

A law has been passed by Grand Lodge, under which Provincial Grand Masters are to make annual returns of the proceedings of their Provincial Grand Lodges to the Most Worshipful Grand Master—and which, we believe, will be found of essential service in promoting uniformity of procedure throughout the various provinces; checking irregularities which will, however unintentionally, creep into practice amongst any body of men when there is not sufficient supervision to check them; and bring more immediately under the notice of the Grand Master the services of those brethren who devote themselves earnestly to the business of the Craft, and thereby assist him in the distribution of its honours.

For ourselves, either as regards the past or the future, we have but little to say. We have endeavoured to act with the strictest independence and impartiality, and to expose abuses, wherever we have found them, without fear or favour. If, in doing so, we have sometimes given pain to any brother, we regret it; but public duty is paramount, and we have the proud consolation of knowing that we have been the means, in more than one instance, of directing attention to irregularities and abuses, which have met with prompt attention from the Grand Master and his Officers, and which, but for *THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE*, might have escaped notice, and been drawn into precedents in the future.

As respects our course in the volume to commence with our next number, it will be regulated by the same determination to do our duty as has guided us in the past. Beyond that we have little to say, especially as we shall shortly address the brethren throughout the various lodges a scheme for bringing *THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE* into more general and closer communion with the brethren, and thereby increasing its usefulness to the Craft throughout the world.

To those brethren at home, in the colonies, and abroad, who have supported and cheered us in our exertions, we have now only once again to express our best thanks, and to wish them the compliments of the season—a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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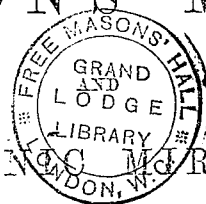
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THE
FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE

MASONIC MIRROR.



LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 5, 1862.

THE GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

According to the notice issued from the Grand Secretary's office, which appeared in our first article of last week, all brethren having plans for the arrangement of the Grand Lodge Property are to deposit them at the Grand Secretary's office on or before the 20th August next.

We presume but few brethren, excepting they be architects, would think of sending in plans and specifications for a re-arrangement of the Grand Lodge Property; and we do not imagine that many members of that profession will answer an invitation with which the majority of them are not likely to become acquainted, excepting they be readers of the *MAGAZINE*; and if there be a few enthusiastic enough to occupy their time, without any probability of reward, in preparing plans in order to benefit the Craft by increasing the usefulness of its property and adding to the comfort of its members, that number must be limited by a want of knowledge as to what the Craft at large really requires—a subject to which the Board of General Purposes should have directed itself before preparing the scheme which it lately introduced to Grand Lodge, in so crude a state that it appears a difficulty has already arisen in the preparation of its plans; and it would therefore seem that we are very little, if anything nearer to the carrying out of any arrangement than we were previous to the report of the Board of General Purposes being delivered, as it cannot be expected architects will devote their time to the preparation of designs without knowing how far the Craft are prepared really to go, whether, in short, the amount to be expended is to be £18,000 or £80,000, for such at present appears to be the difference between the extreme propositions, or whether any intermediate sum is not more likely to be wanted in order to make such arrangements as will be satisfactory to the Craft.

It is clear that nothing definite can be arrived at—that no satisfactory plans can be prepared—until Grand

Lodge has first determined on one or two general principles, the first and most important of which is, shall the tavern and new hall, or shall the building required for the exclusive use of the brethren, be erected on the property recently acquired, to the west of the present hall. That question being settled, the next will be the ascertaining the cost of that portion of the plan, and the repair and ventilation of the existing hall, for upon that must, in a considerable measure, depend subsequent alterations and modifications of our present buildings, whether they be retained as a tavern, or whether they be devoted to Masonic purposes; and until these questions be settled, we hold it will be utterly useless to consider any given plans which may be produced.

These questions being settled, however, no difficulty need impede the works any longer than the forms of Grand Lodge render absolutely necessary. For, on the first point being settled, a small committee of the Grand Lodge should at once be appointed to report upon any plans which may have been deposited, or to receive any others in accordance with the resolution of the Grand Lodge, always bearing in mind that any plans to be received or considered must be prepared, with the view of the buildings of the Craft—whatever their destination—forming only integral parts of one design, hereafter to be completed, which, not only in the way of accommodation to the brethren, but in an architectural point of view, shall be a honour to the Craft.

CLASSICAL THEOLOGY.—LVIII.

X.—VESTA AND DECEMBER.

It is uncertain whether Psyche had ever heard, that by boldly facing an enemy, the mind is dispossessed of all its imagined terrors: but to ascertain the worst that was likely to befall her, she encountered the enraged goddess Venus, and at her feet beseeched her gracious forgiveness. But what forgiveness could be expected from slighted beauty to its helpless rival? Venus was obdurate. Entreaties were uttered in vain, and Psyche in dismay, heard only revengeful denouncements and orders given for her immediate punishment.

In the midst of these proceedings, as though to give a respite to the victim, a message arrived from Cupid, requesting his mother to see him at once, upon a subject of especial importance. Venus on entering the apartment in which she expected to find her son, perceived through its garden doorway, that he had gone to his bower of roses (flowers much cherished by Psyche), where she instantly joined him. "My beautiful mother," said Cupid, as he came forward to meet her, "I think I have been your patient prisoner long enough, indeed, I may say, too long. The wondrous weapon that caused my hurt, was so subtly tempered, that it almost defied my skill in the healing art, which I obtained from my brother Apollo, the sanative Spirit of Light. At least, even with my gift of miracles received from my sister Minerva, the virtual Spirit of Wisdom, I am scarcely now able to keep unopened the mortal eye to which I apprehend I have been made visible. I must go to my father. The time is nearly at hand that I should assume the attributes apportioned to me, to meet the extraordinary requisitions of this newly-created sphere—the world of promise. Whereof, as appertains to my inherent qualities, the first is the correction of sin; the second is the regeneration of life; and the third is the dispossession of death. That is, I shall divest the world of its garment of corruption, and invest it with a raiment, without stain, of incorruption. The brand must be plucked from the fire." "A fine matter of conceit to cement your qualifications with," answered Venus, "a precious building you would be erecting to tumble about your ears. How can I understand such conceit? Ought not beauty to be the mother of love? At least your father thought so! Your attributes, forsooth, who would tolerate them? Are not my qualifications the attributes for charming and giving pleasure?" "Such pleasures embrace no laws," replied Cupid, "they corrupt the heart, brutalise the mind, and degenerate the soul." "Who put such theories and notions into your head?" exclaimed Venus, "would you enslave the freewill of mankind?" "Left," replied Cupid, "the slaves of their passions and self-gratification, the strong would soon enslave the weak without mercy. Is the elder brother at liberty to kill the younger, as Cain did Abel? Jealousy is cruel." "Jealousy is cruel," scornfully repeated Venus. "Have not the goddesses taken to themselves husbands of the sons of men as the Gods have made wives of their daughters?" The God of Love was silent. "And pray, may I ask," emphatically continued the Goddess of Beauty, "for whom have you so carefully culled those fragrant roses?" The God of Love continued silent. "Oh," observed the incensed, jealous, and cruel Goddess of Beauty, "I have heard how you have become a disciple of Harpocrates! But I am your sovereign as well as your mother, and by my double authority I command that you stir not hence beyond the precincts of your own part of the palace until my return; affairs elsewhere of much moment demand my presence. I insist upon being obeyed." The lips of Cupid moved not, nor did he stir. Mute and motionless he stood during the few brief moments occupied in the hurried departure of his mother; then, with a look towards the effulgent glory of his father, his countenance shone forth in the radiance of a really sunny smile. Some spirits of light from the highest heaven, now at

a sign of the God of Love descended, with whom soon afterwards he ascended into the ærial regions. During the withdrawal of the Goddess of Beauty, some of the virtues, by whose favour, it is said, not only the *Dii Adscriptitii*, but the other deities themselves were advanced to heaven—had arrived at the Palace, as also had Iris, sent perhaps by Juno. Amongst these were the spirits *Fidelia*, *Patientia*, *Fiducia*, and *Fortitudo*, (with *Spesinia* and *Clementina*, perhaps sent by *Ceres*) greatly comforted and administered to the affliction of Psyche. The province of Iris being always that of strife and dissension, no small stir had arisen betwixt the guests in attendance on the Goddess of Beauty. Towering with augmented anger, to the increase of the confusion, Venus re-entered her Court of Audience thus disorganised, and, regardless of all restraint, flew at Psyche, and struck her several ringing blows, rent her clothes, and, some say, tore off a handful of her hair; at any rate she laid violent hands on her unfortunate rival, and forthwith had her conveyed to a granary in which was stored a large quantity of corn, millet, pease, and other seeds, all commingled and heaped together. The different grain of this pile Psyche was ordered, on pain of death, to separate in an incredibly short space of time. With feelings almost of Despair, for that spirit, though defied, would not flee from her, and Hope could but trust in Confidence, and Confidence in Fortitude, and without a more reliable and protecting support, her good spirits were thus weak and insufficient in sustaining her. On being left alone she could only sadly fix her eyes with an agonised look on the super-additional tale of work apportioned to her, like one hopeless of any chance of completing it. In this moment of deep dejection, how is it possible to depict the astonishment and joyful surprise of the unjustly punished, alone, and deserted Psyche, as a chaplet of rare-coloured and perfumed roses fell at her feet, and she beheld an innumerable multitude of large emmits removing the mount of grain, each one sorting, and bearing, and collecting it into divided heaps. Suffice it to say, that the apparently hopeless task, so maliciously devised as a refinement of vengeance, by the tyranny of Venus, entitled "the Beauty," was effected within half the time that had been imperiously imposed for its completion.

BLACK ASSIZE is the name given to an assize held in the old town-hall of Oxford in 1577, on account of an extraordinary and fatal pestilence which broke out during it. It is said that judgment had just been passed upon one Jencks, a bookbinder, for sedition, who was sentenced to lose his ears, when there arose such an infectious damp or breath among the people, that many were then smothered, and others so deeply infected, that they lived not many hours after. Above 600 sickened in one night; and, from the 6th of July to the 12th of August, 510 persons are said to have died in Oxford and the neighbouring villages. It was popularly regarded as a Divine judgment on the cruelty of the sentence; but it was probably owing to the filthy condition of the neighbouring gaol where the prisoners had been kept. A similar pestilence is said to have broken out at Cambridge during an assize held there in 1521.—*Ref. Anthony à Wood's "History and Antiquities of the University of Oxford."*—*Beeton's Dictionary of Universal Information in Science, Art, and Literature.*

KABBALISM, SECRET SOCIETIES, AND FREEMASONRY.

In the *Christian Remembrancer* of April there is an article relative to Kabbalism and Secret Societies, as a review on two works recently published, which we reprint, feeling that it cannot be otherwise than interesting to the speculative Mason, and though we are not prepared to endorse all that the writer says relative to our order, we are bound to admit that there is much in his observations which is perfectly true, whilst, where we disagree with him, we think it not less interesting to know what others say and think of us, as well as what we say and think of ourselves, but at the same time we are bound to admit that we can by no means endorse much that has been published by so-called Masonic writers, and which will not bear the test of investigation. The two works referred to are, 1. *La Kabbale, ou La Philosophie Religieuse des Hébreux*. Par ADOLPHE FRANCK, Professeur Agrégé à la Faculté des Lettres de Paris, Professeur de Philosophie au Collège Royal de Charlemagne. Paris. 2. *Etudes Orientales*. Par ADOLPHE FRANCK, Membre de l'Institut. Paris, 1861. Taking these works for the text of his article, the author says—

‘The question that Pilate put to our Lord—without, however, expecting an answer, from his belief in the impossibility of its being answered—has been the question that all great thinkers and philosophers have ever been proposing in all countries, and in all ages of the world—What is truth? What is the *rationale* of my own being, my beginning, my end, the purpose of my existence? Who and what is that Being whom we call God, and what is my relation to Him? Finally, what is the origin of the universe, and what will be its end? To solve these mysteries, the philosophers of Greece and Rome addressed themselves; with what success our classical readers well know. Without a direct revelation from Heaven, the attempt was, and proved itself to be, impossible; though they had glimmerings of a belief in the immortality of the soul, and of a judgment after death, yet, ignorant of the doctrine of the Fall and the Redemption, they could never realise the great truth of a state of probation, and so they sunk down into a condition of Atheism, believing in a God, but denying His Providence. The glimmerings of light, scintillations from traditions of Eden, made many of them believe that there was a time when man was unfallen, and lived without war or lust, contented with his own;* but this failed to help them to truth, because they were ignorant that the loss of this state resulted from the temptation of a being external to man, and was to be repaired by another, at once man, and man's Creator. Human nature could not remain content with this negative state, priests and priestesses would lose credit with the lay people, if they who had been, as it were, taken into the confidence of their Deity, could account no better for the condition of mankind, than to confess that they knew nothing about it. An esoteric theology was therefore invented, into which the initiated only were admitted, while an exoteric one, of types and symbols of the esoteric, was published to the generality; among the initiated alone was the truth; a knowledge to be attained only at the cost of study and self-discipline, in some cases of mortification, which, by subduing the flesh, was supposed to purify the spirit. For purification of the spirit so as to become Divine, and perhaps, as in Pantheistic Asia to be absorbed into the Deity, was probably the final ‘truth’ that these mysteries taught. Egypt, according to

Jamblicus, was the parent of religious mysteries—at least, those of Europe and Western Asia; perhaps India may claim an equal, if not a superior, antiquity for hers; but it may be safely doubted whether the Eleusinian, Samothracian, and other mysteries had not also an independent origin; in other words, whether a ‘mystery’ be not an almost necessary accompaniment of all religious; from the elaborate systems of Egypt and Eleusis to the witch-doctors of Greenland and of Equatorial Africa.

It is not, then, to be expected that a religion which alone possessed a Divine origin, should lack its esoteric mystery, especially one like the Mosaic, which was essentially a ‘shadow of things to come.’ Full of types, figures, dark and obscure prophecies, which, until fulfilled in their antitype, were almost an impenetrable mystery, the Old Testament presented to the mind of the student the richest storehouse from which to frame a mystery. Accordingly there arose that stupendous monument of patient investigation and learned invention—the KABBALA: an edifice carefully planned and laid out at first, and receiving additions from the intellectual Jew of the golden age of Jewish literature, in the schools of mediæval Spain and France; founding a science which far overflowed its original boundaries, for it infected largely the Christianity of that time; and, as we shall afterwards prove, has its imitators among religious writers of our own day, and in our own country. The Kabbalists would persuade us that their science is the oldest in existence, nay, that it preceded the creation of this world, for it was taught by God himself to the angels; that after the Creation, they communicated it to Adam, and to certain favoured ones of his posterity; that the writings of Moses and the Prophets contain the exoteric form suited for the generality, while the initiated were Divinely instructed in the esoteric; by it they not only knew heavenly mysteries, but that they acquired supernatural powers; they commanded the aid of good angels, and brought evil ones into subjection; they controlled the forces of nature, and made the elements of the world subservient to them. In King Solomon was centered the utmost extent, as well as the highest perfection, of Kabbalistic wisdom; by Kabbalism he penetrated the secrets of the universe, understood the language of birds and beasts, and made them obey him; nay, he reduced to slavery demons and genii, and made them execute his commands. His body is supposed to be yet sitting on a throne in the tomb of the kings, holding that awful sceptre with which he ruled all creation; this sceptre is to be the inheritance of the Messiah, who shall, like his ancestor, hold universal sway.

“Passing from the extravagances of oriental imagination, and coming to more sober history, we inquire when and how did Kabbalism arise? The answer must be, to a certain extent, based on a weighing of probabilities; the Book of Jetzirah, attributed to the Patriarch Abraham, but written in the first century, and the Book of Zohar, composed a little later, were the first works on Kabbalism; but we must give the science itself a far greater antiquity.

“It seems, then, most probable that Kabbalism arose after the return from Babylon, when a great and lasting change took place in the religious habits, thoughts, and manners of the people. We hear no more of that once besetting sin of idolatry; we find an attachment to the Divine law and worship, contrasting most remarkably with its former neglect; an attention to the minutiae of the Commandments, which was not long in growing into Phariseeism. Whether intercourse with a more polished and intellectual people during the captivity, whether the severity of the lesson they had received, or whether the germ of moral and intellectual powers long lying dormant in their half-savage youth, were now developing into civilized manhood, similar to other ancient nations, like Greece and Rome, is to account for the phenomenon, we shall not stop to inquire; the fact remains evident, that the Jew after the return was eminently superior to

* ‘Etiam tum vita hominum sine cupiditate agitabatur; sui cuique satis placebant.’—Sallust, *Catullina*, ch. ii.

his fathers before it. The long captivity, and the very general previous neglect, had, no doubt, rendered it a difficult matter to follow accurately the requirements of the law; besides, the loss of many parts of the Divine furnishing of the Temple necessitated a certain adaptation to circumstances, not experienced before; all this gave birth to a study of the law, such as had been unknown to older Israel: orders of scribes, doctors, and rabbins, now begin to appear, and learning to be valued. Again, an impression was gaining ground that the law was a perfect system of theology, and had the promise of eternal life attached to it; that, being a Divine revelation, it contained the whole cycle of Divine wisdom: this latter, not to be found in the mere bare command, was to be sought out by intense study; that then God would open the eyes of the student to 'see the wondrous things of His law;' added to this, that the Jew probably brought back with him a knowledge of astronomy, perhaps astrology; of magianism, perhaps of magic; and we see sufficient materials, as well as sufficient predisposition, to create Kabbalism. Viewed in this light, it appears as the spontaneous growth of a people who now acknowledged the Divine injunction to study their religion, aided by the feeling so strong in human nature, to find out the mystery of one's own being.

Another element of equal, if not superior importance to the former, was introduced by the Alexandrian Jews; this colony, founded by Alexander the Great, enlarged by Ptolemy Lagus, soon lost all knowledge of their own language, and spoke only Greek; with the latter language flowed in also a knowledge of Greek philosophy.

"From this period there can be no doubt that the doctrine of the Jews was known to the Egyptians; and, on the other hand, that Pagan philosophy was known to the Jews. Grecian wisdom, corrupted by being mixed with the Egyptian and Oriental philosophy, assumed a new form in the Platonic school of Alexandria. This school, by pretending to teach a sublimer doctrine concerning God and Divine things, enticed men of different countries and religions, and, among the rest, the Jews, to study its mysteries, and to incorporate them with their own. The symbolical method of instruction, which had been in use from the most ancient times among the Egyptians, was adopted by the Jews; and it became a common practice among them to put an allegorical interpretation upon their sacred writings. Hence, under the cloak of symbols, Pagan philosophy gradually crept into the Jewish schools; and the Platonic doctrines, mixed first with the Pythagoric, and afterwards with the Egyptian and Oriental, were blended with their ancient faith in their explanations of the law and the traditions. The society of the Therapeutæ . . . was formed after the model of the Pythagorean discipline: Aristobolus, Philo, and others studied the Grecian philosophy, and the Kabbalists formed their mystical system upon the foundation of the tenets taught in the Alexandrian schools."^{*}

The first community that adopted a "mystery" was that of the Essenes: these recluses, of whom we first find mention in the times of the Maccabees, appear to have had their origin in Egypt, from whence they drew their peculiar opinions; they then came and settled in the hill country about Jordan: they enforced celibacy, had a community of goods, and practised great austerities, especially on the Sabbath. To be admitted into their society the candidate had to undergo two years' probation and instruction within the college; after this, he was received as a brother, with a solemn oath to conform to the discipline and observe the rules of the community; to guard its sacred books, and the names of the angels, and not to divulge its mysteries. Another class of these recluses is mentioned by Philo under the name of Therapeutæ; their religion was essentially contemplative, and their interpretation of Scripture allegorical. It was from these various elements that Kabbalism arose.

"The system may be described as philosophico-religious, professing to enter into and explain the mysteries concerning God, angels, demons, man—both soul and body—his origin, his end; in a word, very similar to the

speculations of Plato and other heathen philosophers, only that the Kabbalist had actually, which was wanting to them, a Divine revelation to rest upon. His grand mistake was, that he looked upon the Old Testament as a final and complete revelation, and as containing an entire system of philosophic theology. We shall see presently that he not only supplemented Divine revelation with other systems, but that he actually founded his idea of creation on the theology of Zoroaster, and, by adopting the doctrine of emanations and metempsychosis, rendered Pantheism the inevitable result of his system. Assuming, as we think we may safely do, that Kabbalism developed itself after the return from Babylon, we can easily imagine how, when the conquering arms of Persia introduced the religion of Zoroaster, which probably supplanted the older idolatry of Babylon, the captive Jew would imbibe something of a religion which concurred with his own in rejecting idols, and approximated to the Mosaic account of the creation; and how he would be inclined to look at it, not as a thing of heathen invention, but as being the recovery of a long-lost tradition. No Kabbalistic book was, however, written before the first century; whatever had been taught before that, had been like the Mishna, merely oral. The two oldest are the *Sepher Jetzirah* (Book of the Creation), and the *Sepher Zorah* (Book of Light). The exact date of these books is uncertain. *Jetzirah* is mentioned as a well-known book in both the Talmuds. Kabbalists tell us that it was written by the Patriarch Abraham; most probably it was composed by the Rabbi Akibah. *Zohar* is commonly attributed to Simeon ben Jochai, who, living at the time of the destruction of Jerusalem by Titus, and by him condemned to death, concealed himself in a cave, when he was visited by the Prophet Elijah, who, instructing him in Kabbalism, enabled him to write the book. The early date of this book is doubted by Franck* because it is not, like the *Jetzirah*, alluded to in the Talmud, nor, as he declares, until the thirteenth century. Into this investigation we do not intend to enter; we are, however, sure of one thing, that, whatever may be the date of the first Book of *Zohar*, the present book has received very considerable additions.

(To be continued.)

ART AND MANUFACTURE.

When any object of use or luxury is frequently demanded, the making of it begins to assume that regular and systematic form which we call manufacture. Articles that are seldom wanted, or which have some peculiarity of their own, are usually said to be made, while those which, like soldiers' uniforms, are made in large numbers, and of certain specified sizes, are said to be manufactured.

This broad distinction between making and manufacturing is one that we do well to bear in mind, because the application of art to handiwork is governed by two essentially different principles, according as the work to be done is or is not a piece of manufacture. In the one case the handicraftsman must be an artist, in the other it is the maker of the original pattern, and not the actual handicraftsman, in whom the feeling and skill of an artist are required. Let us, for instance, compare ornaments in wrought and cast iron. The workmen engaged upon a piece of ornamental wrought iron work may or may not have originated the entire design. He may or may not work from a sketch, a drawing, a model, or even a completed piece of iron work. In any case, however, the character of the completed work depends not a little upon his artistic feeling and skill. If he have an original in the same metal before him, the degree in which he will catch its spirit and reproduce it depends entirely upon his skill and cunning.

With cast iron, however, the workman has a very subordinate part to play. A pattern is put into his

* Entfield's History of Philosophy, book iv. chap. i.

* De la Kabbale, p. 91, et seq.

hands, and all he does, or can do, is to take a very accurate impress of that pattern in sand, and then to pour molten metal very steadily into the mould. The pattern that came into his hands is the circumstance which influences the character of the ornament produced, and so long as he can mould neatly and pour steadily, any number of castings may be produced, each like the other, and quite independent of the workman's possessing or wanting artistic sense and taste.

That the difference here pointed out obtains between all articles manufactured in quantities, and all those made singly, will probably be admitted without hesitation. We admire the art of the carver, when we examine a cornice carved in stone or wood; but when we admire an enriched plaster cornice, though we may praise the workmanship of the plasterer, we admit the art of the original modeller. The painter gives the impress of art to a picture, of which he with his own hand lays the colours on to the canvas; but in an engraving we owe the beauty and value of the work, not to the printer who spreads the ink on the plate and passes it through the press, but to the engraver, whose cunning cut into the plate those original lines.

Just as there is higher art in painting than in engraving, in sculpture than in plaster casts, in beaten work than in metal work; so there always will and must be the highest excellence in those productions in which the same mind which originates guides the hand that executes. Though this be true, there is an absolute necessity for the adoption of the principle of manufacture in meeting the wants of a populous and civilised country. Hence it comes to pass, that in executing works even of an ornamental nature, we are obliged to be content with only seldom employing artistic handiwork, and to resort to rapid methods of manufacture.

This necessity being admitted, it remains that, while we should jealously guard against the infringements which manufacture is likely to make upon the legitimate domains of art, we should at the same time exert ourselves strenuously to ensure the assistance of the best art available for forming the patterns and originals of all manufactured goods. We have been of late exceedingly desirous to extend the application of art manufactures, and have succeeded wonderfully well; we have also done a great deal within the last few years to improve the taste and skill of the designers of all sorts of ornamental articles and objects. It is, however, to be feared that we are by no means equally on our guard against the danger of allowing manufacture to usurp the place of handiwork, in even the highest departments of art; and it is principally with a desire to draw attention to this danger that the subject is now considered.

The ordinary architecture of the day (and architecture is generally the truest exponent of the state of popular taste) is one admitting of as wearisome a repetition of the same pattern time after time, as any which can occur in the manufacture of wall-papers, or table-cloths, nor is the state of Paris in this respect much better than that of English cities. In short, a vast majority of our buildings may be compared to the Latin and Greek verse produced by the hundred lines at public schools, constructed upon a definite form, supplied with metaphors, similes, and epithets, from a supply carefully classified, and alphabetically arranged in the "Gradus ad Parnassum."

The very fact that symmetrical repetition of equal and similar features, is one of the main sources of effect in all the classical styles, and that the classical styles or corruptions of them have been, since the Reformation, the only ones generally popular in this country, has induced a strong inclination to promote the endless repetition of those small details where carving or other handiwork might have been happily introduced, to stamp an individual character upon a whole building or portion of a building; and it is indeed fortunate that the Gothic revival has at last come, and drawn attention to the value

of the opposite principle, that of endless variety and individual character, both in features and in buildings.

While good Gothic work will always command and require the labours of original artistic workmen, in many branches, we cannot but see that the manufacturer has been called in, not only to aid the architect by the production of simple, and necessarily manufactured articles, such as tiles, window quarries, or crestings, but even to supplant the art-workman in portions of the building, which can ill afford to lose the characteristic touch which the individual workman alone can give.

There is nothing so truly living and artistic about a building, as the carving on its nooks and corners, its angles, pinnacles, and bosses; yet we have carving-works, where the work is performed wholesale by machinery, and if we do not also carve stone by a similar process, it arises more from the intractability of the material than from an indisposition to subject it to the steam-engine and the drill. But metal work illustrates, far more than any other work, the danger of allowing the wholesale manufacturer to invade the domains of the artist. Nothing affords finer scope for the display of original design, and of good artistic feeling in the workman, than the ornamental hinge fronts on the face of a Gothic door, and the beaten finials which mark the highest points of the roofs, or crown the summits of spirelets, dormers, or other small features; yet how seldom is the hand of an artist—an original worker—discernible in these features, particularly in the hinges! We get the pattern-book of one of the manufacturers of such articles, and having satisfied ourselves about the price, the discount, the extra charge for carriage and packing cases, and the length of credit given, we order a pair of hinges, No. 25, or No. 50; and a ring, No. 12, and latch No. 2, just as if an ornamental feature on the level of the eye, and exhibited with every advantage of contrast, of colour, as well as proximity, were not as worthy of the best design and original handiwork as the bosses that stop the label which shelters the doorway, or the tender garland of spring flowers which twines and curls in the deep hollow running round it not twelve inches away!

It is of course true that, but for the artistic and inexpensive way in which such articles are now manufactured, they would be omitted altogether from very many economical buildings to which they form an agreeable ornament, at an almost nominal expense; but this is no excuse for adopting cast hinges and cast-iron finials in places where the funds exist for original work. Where the character of the work rises to that of pure art, the importance of avoiding manufactured ornaments, and replacing them with wrought ones, is very great.

Such a work as the Hereford screen at the International Exhibition, purely ornamental in intention, rich in design, lavish in decoration, and especially beautiful from the variety of its colouring, presents, in its smallest parts, an amount of repetition which would not have occurred in a mediæval work of the same value. True, the middle age workmen would have wrought upon it for more years than the "Skidmore Art Manufactures Company" have done months; but it is thus only that a great piece of purely ornamental work ought to be produced, and thus alone that it can be rendered instinct with life and beauty, to the tip of every tendril and the heart of every feature and leaf, and thus alone that it can thoroughly merit the place of a work of the highest art.

We have chosen this illustration, because this repetition of minor features in a work of confessedly very high merit, coupled with the ominous title assumed by the well-known makers of the screen, and with the still more ominous praise showered upon those makers for the speed with which the work was done, argues unfavourably for the course in which we are going; and will even compare unfavourably with the best examples of renaissance work, where the temptation to abandon all attempts at

individuality of workmanship is far stronger than it can possibly be in any work of Gothic character.

One thing must not be altogether passed over, and that is the possibility of adding nobility to almost any article of artistic manufacture by employing design in the use of it. For this purpose the articles themselves usually require to be simple, or they will not lend themselves well to the duty required of them; employed by an artist, the most simple coloured tiles, arranged in a good pattern, will surpass in merit the most elaborate manufactured pavement; the plainest glass quarries, well used, will outshine the most brilliant embossed window; and the simplest geometrical mosaic will give more real pleasure, and show more true art, than the most elaborate piece of machine carving untouched by the chisel of the workman.

For these purposes art-manufactures are good, but as a substitute for real original art they are bad; and plentiful, cheap, and specious as they are, it will require all our watchfulness, especially in this age of haste and inattention, to prevent their being adopted for uses which they cannot properly subserve, and exalted to positions which ought either to be occupied by something better, or honestly left vacant.—*Building News*.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

BROILED BABY.

A former querist asks from whence is the story of Freemasons supping off broiled baby derived? In professor Robison's *Proofs of a Conspiracy*, 4th edition, 1798, note m., page 584, is the following, which I take to have been the origin of the report:—"In two or three places of the Religions Begebenheiten, I met with an account of some strange practices in which human blood, fresh drawn, is made much use of. A German nobleman passed a year in Paris, in order to attend these researches in one of the lodges of the Amis Reunis. The narrator, a German, and also the editor, form many conjectures, about it, and of something that was connected with it which they call the mystery of *hominum factio*—they somehow consider it as obscene and filthy, and reprobate it on this account. But it was something very serious.—Infants, bought from the profligate canaille of Paris, had been sacrificed to these mysteries. The police got notice of these shocking practices, and were proceeding to take strict cognisance of them; but they were stopped by M. Turgot, and the researches went on under his protection." I have no doubt at all, in my own mind, that from this paragraph the broiled baby story was invented. It is much to be desired that correspondents, generally, would not consider a query which has appeared some time, and remains unanswered, as old and out of date, but when they come upon any elucidation of such, they should send at once, as I have done in this case.—Ex. Ex.

AULD'S HISTORY OF MASONRY.

Several catalogues of Masonic books mention Auld's *History of Masonry*, which passed into a third edition and was printed at Edinburgh in 1772. Where is a copy to be seen.—Ex. Ex.

READING THE MARKS.

From the very excellent series of Masons' Marks appearing in the FREEMASONS MAGAZINE I cannot but suppose there was a meaning attached to them and I am fortified in this opinion by the following in Lawrie's *History of Freemasonry*, page 412, where it is stated:—"The points of the several forms [of Masons Marks] were also used to indicate a kind of secret language, regulated by certain rules, whereby instruction was imparted in a popular manner, and is known amongst Masons as

'Reading the Marks,' of which the following is an illustration:—How many points has your mark got? Three points. To what do they allude? To the three points of an equilateral triangle. Please demonstrate it as an operative Mason? A point has position, without length, breadth, or thickness—a line has length without breadth or thickness, and terminates in two points; and three lines of equal length, placed at equal angles to each other, form an equivalent triangle,—which is the primary figure in Geometry. Please to explain this figure as a speculative Mason? The equilateral triangle represents the Trinity in Unity. The Great Architect of the Universe having no material form, exists, pervading all space; the Creator of all things, governor of all animate and inanimate nature, the Fountain of Wisdom: whose greatness, perfection and glory, is incomprehensible and whose loving-kindness and tender mercies are over all His works." Now, however correct these formulas may be, they in no way apply to the method of deciphering Masons' Marks and it must be admitted that the marks were placed on buildings for some purpose more than to point out each Craftsman's labour. But, if so, what was the purpose? Can an alphabet or dictionary of them be formed by which we can arrive at their meaning? I well remember when St. George's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Southwark, was being built, in order to increase the funds, persons could have bricks with their names, initials, monograms, or arms, built into the walls upon payment of a certain scale of fees and, supposing a case in point, if some few centuries should elapse and that structure be pulled down what curious conjectures will be formed when bricks marked with any of the before mentioned devices come to light? I do not throw this hint out as analogous to Masons' Marks, but I want a theory to explain why they are there, and what they indicate by being placed in such positions. The subject is one worthy of enquiry and I shall feel obliged to any of my brethren who will give me either authoritative data or conjectural information on the point.—A MARK MASON.

THE FREEMASONS MELODY.

Who compiled a book of songs called the *Freemasons' Melody*?—H. H.—[The brethren of Prince Edwin's Lodge (No. 209), Bury, Lancashire; and in their preface they acknowledge the assistance of Bros. Utley, No. 574; Foster, No. 111; Sharp, 644; Platt, 642; and the Rev. Dr. Oliver, W.M. 554, and Prov. G. Chaplain for Lincolnshire].

PROFESSOR BUBLE.

Where can I obtain a life of Professor Buble, a German writer against Freemasonry?—W. CURRIE.—[In Kloss, or any German Encyclopædia. He was a well known man, having been a professor of Philosophy at Gottingen and Brunswick. We must decline either inserting, or answering your other query].

POPE PIUS IX. AND FREEMASONRY.

Out of an old piece of a newspaper desperately cut, torn, wounded, stained, and ill-treated I rescued the following:—" * * * should ever be grateful for the services rendered to the head of the church. Pius IX. owes, under Providence, his life to a Freemason, who communicated to the Grand Lodge at Paris the intention of a person to administer poison to him through his cook. If he will refer to the columns of public journals some few years ago he will find a public acknowledgment of this service in frustrating the designs of the would-be assassin." In what public journals is this to be found? Which of my brethren will tell me anything about it? If it is not a *canard* it will be very useful to me to obtain an authentic account of it, as I have long been in correspondence with a very dear old friend, a Romish priest, on the sins (he says) and the virtues (I say) of Freemasonry.—Ex. Ex.

BRO. DUNCKERLEY'S APPOINTMENTS.

In one of the warrants granted to the Royal Gloucester Lodge, No. 152, Southampton, dated 5th of August, 1792, Thomas Dunckerley, Esq., is described as Prov. G.M. for the counties of Dorset, Essex, Gloucester, Somerset, and Southampton; the latter is the legal title of Hampshire, commonly so called, and included the Isle of Wight, now masonically separated from the province of Hampshire, and constituted into a province of itself.—J. RANKIN STEBBING.

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

The Life and Times of Sir James Graham, by Mr. W. Torrens M'Cullagh, is announced.

Mr. Russell, it is said, is preparing for publication his American letters in the *Times*, supplemented by passages from his diary and later reflections.

Messrs. Parkers have printed an epitome of Walker's *Sufferings of the Clergy during the Great Rebellion*, a book originally published in 1714.

The Louvre has just been enriched by a magnificent full-length portrait of Phillip IV. of Spain, by Velasquez. A large grey dog reposing at his feet, and the background is a landscape. This picture, which cost 23,000*fr.* is placed near the famous "Beggars Boy," of Murillo.

The common answer of the publishers to our (*Critic*) inquiry for news is, that they will bring out no books until October. They say they never knew a duller season for many a year, and though such complaints are often a matter of course in the summer months, we yet believe they are well grounded at the present time. What is the cause of this state of stagnation in the world of books we cannot imagine, unless, indeed, it is that reading is largely set aside for visits to the International Exhibition. Of course, some good books will come dropping out between this and the end of autumn, but there is little doubt that they will be few and far between.

M. Alphonse Esquiros, whose papers on English society in the *Revue du Deux Mondes* have made him so famous, writes an article about Frenchmen in London in the new number of the *Cornhill*. The *Cornhill's* yellow covers are henceforth to be swelled by an additional article—a review of the literature, science, and art of the month.

The *Family Paper* contains the opening chapter of the prize tale, for which £250 have been awarded by Lord Brougham, Mr. Matthew Devonport Hill, the Recorder of Birmingham, and Mr. Cassell. The main object of the story is to inspire the youth of our country with a desire for a moral and intellectual self-improvement.

Mr. Colman Burroughs is persevering with his scheme of the *London Correspondent*, a newspaper in which all the events of the week are to be narrated in the form of letters "tersely and vigorously written." The prospectus of a joint stock company for the purpose has been issued.

A series of interesting minutes upon Education in India, from the pen of the late Lord Macaulay, has been discovered in Calcutta.

A grant of a £100 per annum from the Civil list has been made to the widow of John Cross, the painter.

Baron Marochetti, it is stated, is to be entrusted with the execution of the Albert Memorial to be erected at Aberdeen. The monument is to consist of a colossal statue in bronze; and the site is near Union Bridge, in the principal thoroughfare of the city.

The second part of Mr. Blanchard Jerrold's *History of Industrial Exhibitions*, has appeared. It is mainly concerned with the history of foreign exhibitions.

The following gentlemen have been elected Fellows of the Royal Society:—Messrs. G. Bentham, H. W. Bristow, Captain A. R. Clarke, J. W. Dawson, F. J. O. Evans, J. B. Hicks, M.D.; the Very Rev. W. Farquhar Hook D.D.; G. Rolleston, M.D.; C. W. Siemens, M. Simpson, B. Stewart, T. P. Teale, Sir J. E. Tennant, I. Todhunter, and C. G. Williams.

Turner's pictures and drawings, bequeathed to the nation, are estimated by the *Quarterly Review* at £400,000.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—It appears to me with regard to the Craft Property in Great Queen-street, that there are two chief points for consideration, on which the brethren are divided in their opinions. The first is what alterations should be made, for that some are required, is, I believe, allowed by all; the second is, whence the money should be obtained, which would be required for such alterations. On the first of these points I do not wish at present to make any observation; on the latter, I should be glad if you will allow me to offer a suggestion.

It has been said that the present buildings are a disgrace to the Craft; they may be, but it would indeed be a far greater disgrace if it should ever be said, "See that magnificent range of buildings; that is the Hall of the Freemasons. It was erected by them with funds originally intended for the distressed, the widow, and the orphan." I would therefore not touch a farthing of the funds now devoted, or likely at any future time to be devoted to charitable objects. The fund of general purposes amounts I believe, to about £18,000, and if the building would take five or six years for completion, as it probably would, Grand Lodge might well vote £20,000 for the work, and still have a balance in hand, sufficient to meet any extraordinary calls on its benevolence, similar to the grants to the Crimean and Indian Relief Funds. Could not another such sum be raised if Grand Lodge were to pass a bye-law, that for this purpose a small extra quarterage (say sixpence per head), should be contributed from every lodge in England and Wales. This should be fixed for five or six years only, and not allowed to become a permanent institution. It might be left to each lodge to determine whether this extra quarterage should be paid out of its general funds, or by each member individually. I do not think that any Mason would object to so small a sum, and—provided only that a plan be determined on, generally acceptable to the brethren, and really worthy of the Craft—I have no doubt that many who have the means, would willingly add donations to this building fund.

I hope that if this suggestion meets the approval of any who possess the confidence of Grand Lodge, they will make a proposition on the subject at the next Quarterly Communication. Of course details would have to be carefully considered, but I think that the principle is correct. We should in this way be enabled to erect a building, which might be in all respects fitted for our requirements, and worthy of the high position held by the Craft, without trenching too much on money which might be wanted for general purposes, or diverting, from their proper channels, funds which should be appropriated to the assistance of the disabled, the relief of the indigent, or the education of the fatherless.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

H. C. LEVANDER, P.M., 915, 961, 90,
Petersfield, July 2nd, 1862. Prov. G.S.D., Wilts.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent will be held at Chatham on Wednesday next.

Meetings are to take place at the Grand East of the Supreme Grand Council of the 33°, in order to receive foreign brethren duly qualified, from Tuesday until Friday next, to which all English brethren in possession of the 18th and higher degrees are admissible.

METROPOLITAN.

LODGE OF JUSTICE (No. 172).—This old-established lodge held an emergency meeting on Wednesday, June 11th, at Bro. Roe's, Royal Albert Tavern, New Cross Road, Deptford; Bro. Caveil, W.M., presided. Bro. Chapman being a candidate for the third degree, was properly introduced, and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason by Bro. G. Bolton, P.M. The propriety of moving the lodge was discussed, and the brethren were unanimous in favour of meeting at some other house. The business being ended, the brethren separated.

WELLINGTON LODGE (No. 805).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, June 11th, at the Clarendon Arms Tavern, Upper Lewisham Road, Deptford. The business of the meeting was to ballot for and initiate Mr. E. Skinner. The lodge was opened by Bro. Bentley, W.M., assisted by his officers. The ceremony of initiation was done by Bro. Welsford, P.M. After the lodge was closed, the brethren sat down to a substantial banquet. This was the first time the lodge met at this house. We believe the lodge will increase and prosper here, the house being much better adapted for a lodge than their old meeting house. We congratulate the brethren on their choice, and hope once more to see this lodge restored to its former strength. We were glad to see the return of some of the old faces. There were one or two visitors present.

ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 1173).—This select lodge held its usual monthly meeting at Bro. Stevens's, Royal Oak Tavern, High-street, Deptford, Kent, on Wednesday, June 25th. There not being any business before the meeting of importance, the brethren adjourned early to a cold collation.

PROVINCIAL.

CUMBERLAND.

CARLISLE.—Union Lodge (No. 389).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge took place in their Masonic rooms, Barwise's Court, English-street, on Tuesday evening, 24th ult. There was a good muster of the brethren. The lodge was duly opened with prayer, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Dees, after having answered the necessary questions, was raised to the sublime degree of a M. M. Bro. Wheatly having acquitted himself as an industrious E.A., and rendered everything pertaining to that degree with great credit, was passed so the degree of a F. C. The ceremonies were conducted, and performed by the worthy P.M., Bro. F. W. Haywood, in an efficient and impressive manner, which could not be surpassed, assisted by Bros. Ritson, S.W.; Hodgson, J.W.; George Haywood, S.D.; Gilkerson, J.D.; Bro. Fisher, Sec., Milburn Southan, I.G. and Stary, Tyler. Bro. Milburn proposed a candidate for initiation, which was submitted to the lodge, and met with a unanimous approval. The lodge being closed in due form and solemn prayer, the brethren adjourned to the ante room for refreshment, and the sociality of the festive board was much enhanced by the vocal powers of Bros. Hodgson, Pickering, Wheatly, and Milburn. The Tyler closed the entertainment with his usual Masonic toast. The brethren then departed at an early hour, after having spent a most pleasant, convivial, and harmonious evening. There was present, as a visitor, Bro. F. Graham, from Niagara Falls, Canada.

Instruction.—The Lodge of Instruction attached to the above lodge held a meeting on the 7th inst., when the brethren

assembled in good numbers. The lodge was opened in the first degree, and everything pertaining to that degree was well practised. It was then opened in the second degree, and the practice resumed. It was pleasing to see the young brethren display such an eager desire to be made perfect as they advanced, and also gratifying to witness the very creditable manner in which each acquitted himself. Bros. F. W. Haywood, Lecture Master; G. Haywood, W.M.; Milburn, S.W.; Blacklock, J.W.; Ritson, S.D.; Gilkerson, J.D.; Hodgson, I.G.; Story, Tyler; Tester, Sec. The lodge of Instruction meets every Tuesday, excepting on that devoted to the regular lodge. Each brother takes office in his turn, and the various brethren examine each other in the testing.

ESSEX.

COLCHESTER.—Angel Lodge (No. 59).—The annual festival of this old-established lodge of the ancient fraternity of Freemasons was held on Wednesday, June 25, in the Lodge Room, Cups Hotel. At a previous lodge meeting Bro. Adolphus Edgar Church, solicitor, was unanimously elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, and was duly installed in that office by Past Master Bro. Pattison. On the same occasion also the officers of the lodge were appointed and invested as follows:—Bros. T. Collier, S.W.; N. Gluckstein, J.W.; W. Slaney, Treas.; W. Williams, Sec.; J. Hum, S.D.; E. S. Beau (Mersea), J.D.; H. Darken, I.G.; Witten, Tyler; Croydon (Mersea) and H. T. Waterworth, Stewards. At the festival the Worshipful Master presided, supported by the whole of his officers. There were present as visitors Bros. Capt. Pender, 5th Fusiliers, Worshipful Master of the Colchester United Lodge (No. 998); Rev. W. Westall, Chap. to Lodge 998, P.G. Steward, 27, P.M. No. 356 (Warwick), and P.Z. No. 7 and No. 356 Chapters; J. H. Bridges, Lodge of Perfect Friendship (No. 522), Ipswich; and J. Webb and W. Coppin, Lodge of Hope (No. 627), Brightlingsea; Members—Pattison, P.M.; Bland, P.M.; Ellisdon, P.M.; W. Griffin, P.M.; H. Miller; T. Ralling, &c. The very excellent and sumptuous repast provided by host Salter having been done justice to, the Worshipful Master proceeded to give the loyal toasts, followed by the "Health of the Grand Master of England, the Earl of Zetland;" the latter being drank with Masonic honours. With the toast of the "Army, Navy, and Volunteers," were coupled the names of Captain Pender and Sergeant Griffin, both of whom returned thanks. —Bro. PENDER proposed "The Deputy Grand Master, Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the rest of the Grand Lodge Officers," and begged to connect with it the name of Bro. Westall, who was a Mason of long standing, having taken perhaps more degrees than any brother present, and who had been kind enough to undertake the Chaplaincy of the Lodge of which he (Captain Pender) was Master. (Applause.) —The Rev. Bro. WESTALL said, as a Past Grand Steward merely, he was scarcely entitled to rank as an Officer of Grand Lodge. The position of Steward was an intermediate one, but the duties attaching to it were sufficiently arduous, as any one who had served it could testify. He had had, too, the privilege of assisting in Grand Lodge, and it was upon his motion that country lodges were put upon the same footing as London lodges, in being allowed to be represented in Grand Lodge, by a Past Master, in the absence of the Master of a lodge, which he believed had proved to be a useful arrangement. (Applause.) Bro. GRIFFIN proposed "The Health of the Prov. G. Master for Essex, Bro. Bagshaw," and was sure it would have been a great pleasure to the members of the Angel Lodge if the Prov. G.M. could have made it convenient to attend their festival. (Hear and Applause.) The SENIOR WARDEN proposed "The Deputy Prov. G.M., Major Skinner, and the past and present officers of the Grand Lodge," connecting with it the name of Bro. Pattison, Past Prov. Grand Treasurer, who returned thanks. Bro. PATTISON said he had the very great privilege of offering the next toast, and they would readily anticipate that it was the health of the chief of their lodge. (Applause.) That Bro. Church had been placed in that office with the entire and cordial approval of the Lodge he need not here repeat; but he did so in one respect under circumstances of extraordinary character. It was not merely that he happened to stand next in order for the chair that he had been chosen for that high position, but mainly because he had qualified himself for it by an exemplary fulfilment of the inferior offices in the lodge. (Hear, hear.) He held that to be the strongest possible ground upon which a Worshipful Master could possibly be chosen; and he

(Bro. Pattison) was sure he should not only be speaking the sentiments of every member of the lodge over which Bro. Church had been chosen to preside, but also of the kind friends who had favoured that lodge with their presence to-day, in wishing him a successful year of office, and in promising him, as far as lay in their power, any assistance he might desire in carrying out the duties attached to it. (Drank with honours.)—The W.M. said he should be doing violence to his own feelings were he not to acknowledge that he felt a great deal of pride in returning thanks as W.M. of the Angel Lodge. (Applause.) He felt very much obliged to Bro. Pattison for the kind manner he had been pleased to speak of him, and was sure he was not the man to say what he did not mean; but nevertheless he could not but feel and fear that his qualities for that office had been very much overrated. (No, no.) Be that as it might, the honour conferred upon him was the same; in one's native town it was something to be chosen Master of a Freemason's lodge; he hoped he might accept it as an indication that he had in some measure obtained the good opinion of those around him; and he was sure he should remember to the latest period of his existence that the first public or festive occasion which he ever presided over in Colchester was as W.M. of the Angel Lodge. (Applause.) He could not help thinking that everything augured a happy and a prosperous year. He believed that Masonry in general, and this lodge in particular, were flourishing; and there was no wonder that an institution should flourish which was so peculiarly adapted to bring and bind together the various classes of society. Whether they took it upon the lower ground of maintaining good feeling and good fellowship, and making men good citizens, or whether they took a higher view of it, as embodying the great principles of charity, its claims to respect could hardly be disputed. In former days the administration of that charity was not so enlightened and systematic; but now they had institutions for the widows of those aged brethren whom it should please Providence first to remove; asylums in old age for those against whom the wheel of fortune might turn adversely; and schools of a very high character for children bereaved of their paternal stay. (Hear, hear.) It was a strong fact in favour of Freemasonry that it had stood the test of ages; for where an institution was founded upon unsound or improper principles, however strongly it might be supported in the first instance, it was certain, sooner or later, to come to naught. But Masonry could not only appeal to antiquity; at the present day it numbered in its ranks men who were swaying the destinies of the nation; some of the most eminent and distinguished divines; very many of those who occupied a foremost place in the walks of literature and science; and the approval and sympathy of the great middle class of the country. (Hear, hear.) In this as in every rank of life, even to the highest, some few here and there might forget themselves; but this ought not in any way to detract from the general character of Freemasonry as a most honourable and useful institution; and for his own part, as he said at the commencement, he should deem himself devoid of feeling did he not value very highly the honour of being chosen Worshipful Master of a lodge like this. (Applause.)—The W.M. next proposed "Success to the Colchester United Lodge," with the health of its Worshipful Master, for the third time.—Bro. Captain Pender. (Applause.)—Br. PENDER returned thanks, and said he was sorry that himself and the reverend Chaplain were the only members of that lodge present; but there was this to be said in explanation—that, as a military lodge, it was necessarily extremely fluctuating; those belonging to it were here to-day and gone to-morrow, and it was often extremely difficult to say who really did belong to it. He was sorry to say he was himself about to depart; indeed he was already stationed elsewhere, and was only here for a few days on leave. He assured them he quitted Colchester with very great regret.—(hear, hear.)—since he had been in Colchester he had met with nothing but kindness; and during the seventeen years he had been in the service he had never left any place with so much regret. (Hear, hear.)—The W.M. proposed "The health of the Visiting Brethren;" for which Bros. BRIDGES and WEBB returned thanks.—Bro. BLAND proposed "The health of the Wardens;" both of whom acknowledged the compliment, and expressed their devotion to the principles of Freemasonry.—The health of the Treasurer, Secretary, and other Officers of the lodge was next drunk, and duly acknowledged by Bros. SLANEX and BEAN.—Bro. WESTALL said as one of the visitors it devolved upon him to propose "Prosperity to the Angel Lodge," and in connection with it the health of the Past

Masters. (Applause.) As an old working Mason he well knew that no lodge could prosper without the aid of its Past Masters; and he had seen over and over again that they were the most valuable portion of any lodge. (Hear, hear.) Masonry might be exemplified in a great many ways: there was its brotherly feeling and the charity that it showed; and, although that charity might sometimes be bestowed upon unworthy objects, its happy effects in very many instances were not to be reckoned by money. This he had often witnessed himself, and in one particular case a tradesman, above 60 years of age, who had been over forty years a Mason, having fallen into misfortune was enabled with a gift of £20 from the Benevolent Fund to recommence business and once more obtain a good livelihood. (Applause) That was a specimen of what Masonry did; and prosperous as he hoped they all were, a similar necessity might some day fall upon any one of them. (Hear, hear.) They might want assistance for themselves; they might want an education for their sons or daughters; and he could say of both schools that the education there given was of a very high order—in many instances above the position in life of those who sought its advantages; but, as he once heard it remarked, the mere fact of being a Mason made a man a gentleman; and it was upon that principle that the managers of the Masonic schools acted, and he hoped would continue to do so. (Applause.) Bro. ELLISDON returned thanks for the Past Masters of the Angel Lodge. The W.M. proposed "The Town and Trade of Colchester," with the health of Bro. Miller, who returned thanks, and compared the position of the town, in a business point of view, at the present time to what it was forty years ago, attributing the improvement in some measure to the military establishment, but mainly to the advance in agriculture, upon which Colchester was chiefly dependent.—The W.M. proposed "The Press," expressing his belief that Freemasonry had been better understood by the public generally, and many prejudices against it removed, through the publicity of late years given by the press, to the business and festive proceedings of the Order, both in Grand Lodge and also those of the provinces. (Hear, hear.) He would couple with the toast the health of Bro. Ralling of the *Essex Standard*.—Bro. RALLING returned thanks.—Bro. GRIFFIN proposed the concluding toast—"Success to the Masonic Charities," and mentioned that at the present time six children from Colchester were enjoying the advantages of either the Boys' or Girls' School. The brethren separated about ten o'clock.

HAMPSHIRE.

WINCHESTER.—*Lodge of Economy* (No. 90).—Meetings of this lodge took place at the Masonic Rooms, adjoining the Black Swan Hotel, on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, the 25th and 26th ult. At the first-named assembly, the business was only of a routine character, but on the Thursday night there was a good attendance of brethren, whose interest was excited by the expectation of a further discussion in the lodge upon the "Grand Lodge Property" question, one to which many influential brethren of the province seem to be devoting considerable attention. The lodge having been duly opened, a candidate for initiation (Mr. P. B. Hunt) was balloted for, elected, and admitted to the first degree. The following brethren were present in the lodge during the subsequent discussion:—The W.M., Bro. A. Smith; Bros. J. R. Stebbing, V.P. E.G.P.; W. Hickman, Prov. G. Sec.; Webb, P.M. 462; R. S. Hulbert, W.M. 995; Past Masters Hasleham, La Croix, Naish, C. Sherry, and Jacob; Huggins, Sec.; E. Carter, J. Waterman, S. Adamson, E. Sherry, &c. Some communications having been read, the lodge proceeded to re-discuss the matter of the

GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

The W.M. said they had not a very large meeting that evening, and very likely the subject for discussion had not yet created that interest in Hampshire which would produce a numerous gathering. But for the reason that the subject was as yet little known, it became their duty to diffuse information and create interest, and he hoped the province of Hampshire would not be found behindhand in the performance of its duty. A plan of the Craft Property in London had been sent down to them, and from that larger plans had been reproduced, so that any brother might gain a full understanding of the nature of the property, and the practicability of measures of improvement proposed. A communication from Grand Lodge informed them that that body would not meet in order to decide on the matter until next September, so that now there was no particular hurry, and plenty of time for the provincial brethren to acquaint themselves with the subject. The three chief points for determination were

these:—1st. Whatever the improvement should cost, should it be of such a nature as to allow of Masonry being kept apart, and distinct from any other purpose? Second, should the present disgraceful premises be so altered, extended, and improved as to make the Masonic home something worthy of the Craft? and third, shall the expense not exceed £18,000, the sum at present in the hands of the Board of General Purposes? Of course it was requisite they should be guided by prudence, and a due regard for the charities and institutions. They should not entirely forget how far speculative building might be made to answer, or if there was not some way of laying out their money in a profitable investment. He would now call on Bro. Stebbing to continue the subject from where they left off at their last discussion.

BRO. STEBBING said he had taken great interest in this subject, one of great financial importance, and he had already urged his views on Grand Lodge. It was his intention to put a notice of a resolution on the agenda paper, for the next meeting in London to the effect that it was desirable that a not larger sum than £18,000 should be expended for the improvement of, or addition to the Grand Lodge Property, that being the amount of the fund in hand for general purposes, and he should arrange his motion that the future should be bound by the terms of the resolution. He was quite of opinion that all the plans hitherto submitted, for the alteration or improvement of their property in Great Queen-street, were calculated to very seriously exceed the sum mentioned as being in hand. He did not care how sure persons might be of success, if they speculated with other funds of the Craft, those funds might never be replaced. Each particular department of their funds should be strictly guarded, and used for no purpose whatever but that for which they had been accumulated. He most urgently opposed any proposition that might in the slightest manner jeopardize their charity funds. Then, if they resolved to borrow money, it would be an undignified proceeding, the results uncertain, and likely to involve them in future difficulty. He would go as far as to admit that £18,000 might be wisely spent, and their premises thereby vastly improved, but even were it necessary, and he did not know that it was, to devote a larger sum in order to secure greater accommodation, they were not justified in borrowing funds. It had been urged that as they had an excess of income of £2000 or £3000 a year, they might spend that for improvement purposes. But the Craft might want the surplus arising at the present time in many ways. There was always the liability of extra and unforeseen expenditure, and it was incumbent upon them at all times to secure as large a sum in excess as they could over the amount ordinarily calculated, as the expenditure they would be required to meet. Anyone who ever had had anything to do with building, knew well that they were sure to be led to spend more than they first intended, and generally the sum outlaid was twice as much as originally calculated. As he had already said, any little yearly surplus might at any time be swallowed up by unexpected expenses, therefore it would be unwise to touch that. But there were other reasons why he strongly objected to their determining on the expenditure of a large sum of money in this matter. If, for instance, they were to agree to pull about and alter, and attempt to improve the present buildings, they would find that they were rendering their revenue less, and their expenditure considerably more. It was never satisfactory to patch up old buildings. He saw that the brethren had ground plans of the Masonic property before them. He directed their attention to that portion of the property on the west end; they would see some of it described as "vacant space." There were four general divisions of main area, the hotel, temple and offices, hall, and tavern, and the vacant space so called, partly now occupied by some ruinous tenements which, if not quickly pulled down, would fall down; and then there were two private houses fronting to Queen-street. In his opinion, the most reasonable thing they could do would be to build all the extra accommodation they wanted in the vacant space alluded to, and that in front of it. They possessed £18,000 and a piece of land 46ft. by 200ft., on which there was certainly room to build everything they could possibly require. Though, with a greater sum they might build a truly palatial erection, they had not a greater sum, nor did they want a larger erection. If this were done, which he recommended, there would be no occasion for the present income arising from the hall and tavern to be touched, and the tavern could be benefited by having the additional accommodation of the present offices to be given up, and use the Temple for large lodges and chapters, and they would thus be spared the necessity of pulling about old premises and check-

ing the business of the tavern. He was very much disposed to oppose any speculative outlay whatever; he would leave nothing to speculation. They knew that they now had an income or rent of £1000 per annum, and they should still make sure of that untouched and unaffected; go on with that, and, as he suggested, build what they wanted besides on the vacant space of ground. If hereafter larger premises should be necessary, in consequence of increased numbers and greater Masonic business, they could then purchase more of the premises bounding their present property on the west, and put the whole on such an improved footing as the importance of the Masonic Craft and means hereafter at disposal, might justify. He objected to entering into an expenditure the end of which no man could foresee. If the Craft were going to start a new property altogether, they would perhaps be warranted in going to work in a different way; they might enter upon a general appeal for help to the whole of the Craft, and efforts might then be made to raise a place well worthy of the importance of Freemasonry, like as they found abroad in other countries, the most stately edifices marked the assembling places of the Masonic Craft. But they were not in that position; they were not required to make a commencement in providing building accommodation. They already had something to go on with, but which, it was thought, required an extension. Yet he must confess that he did not object to grandeur as grandeur alone. If the Masonic body would decide on building for themselves a stately edifice in London, if the brethren wished it, then let them put their hands in their pockets and pay for it. A general appeal would not be made in vain. They might all individually put their shoulders to the wheel, and do their utmost. For himself, though but of comparatively small means, he could not refuse such an application. He should be exceedingly happy over a period of time to contribute his £150, or it might be more, for a commensurate object. (Hear.) The idea must be carried out in that way alone, if it was desired to be carried out at all. They must all make some sacrifice to mark their personal interest in the welfare of Masonry. He had no objection to the raising of the necessary funds in this manner, and it would be a good plan to appoint a committee, in order to see what might be done. He had an idea that some £50,000 might be raised in the way he hinted, and that too in the course of a very short period. If one hundred men only gave £500 each or 200 half that sum, that amount would be immediately raised; and it must be recollected that in the Craft there were a great many of the highest standing and the greatest means, and who could easily do this. But, at any rate, don't let them touch the funds belonging to their charities, or begin to borrow money. (Hear.) The W.M. had just now alluded to some other brethren, who had not made their appearance at the meeting. It must be remembered that their annual provincial meeting was coming on very shortly (the 8th of July, at Havant), and perhaps many brethren chose rather to put off until then the expression of their opinions, as most likely the subject would be brought on for discussion at that assembly, and this might account for there not being a more numerous response to the W.M.'s invitation to attend the lodge that evening. He should be exceedingly glad, if it was in his power, to represent the matter before the Board of General Purposes. The recent Grand Lodge had gone rather wide of the subject, and it stood postponed to the meeting in September, when the proposition would be made for appointing a special committee to consider it. He hoped the Craft generally would be induced to adhere strictly to this, not to enter upon any speculative undertaking whatever, nor to spend any money accumulated for charitable purposes; and not to pull about the old building. If, then, they resolved to have a stately edifice of their own, let the suggested appeal be made to the united Craft to come forward liberally with assistance, and in case they did not so come forward liberally, nothing more had better be said on the matter than merely meeting absolute necessities with the monies actually in hand.

BRO. LA CROIX, P.M., had been at a loss to understand what occasion there was of hurrying over the matter of the building improvement.

BRO. STEBBING:—The fact is, that of late years there has been a growing disposition that our lodges should not meet in taverns. Efforts had been made in the provinces to build, and there was a general tone pervading the Craft tending to add to the temperateness, the solemnity, and the dignity of their assemblies. A bad example seemed to be at the head of the Craft, while Grand Lodge itself met in a place that was in fact a tavern. Masonic lodges assembling in such places tended to set

the brethren down in the minds of the general public a merely as body meeting for feasting and social purposes. There was an endeavour making to disconnect Grand Lodge with the Freemasons' Tavern; the wish had been strongly expressed that it should not be so connected. Truly, at Freemasons' Hall, under present regulations, there was a curious mixture of purposes—for there were transacted the business proceedings connected with Masonry, religion, architecture, the drama, and other interests sometimes jostling on the same night. This had struck many men's minds, and there was a visible growing determination to get rid of the tavern connection with the Craft. It was now four years since a resolution had been agreed to by the Grand Lodge, directing the Board of General Purposes to take this subject in hand. Nothing practical had been done for three or four years, and now there was a strong revival of the feeling to get rid of all tavern connection, and do it out of hand.

Bro. JACOB, P.M., had not the least doubt that a sufficiency of money could be obtained by voluntary contribution if an appeal were made, and good plans brought forward.

Bro. LA CROIX, P.M., advocated the policy of dissociating, as far as they could, Masonry and taverns. The progress of Masonry had undoubtedly been checked by that unfitting connection, and the importance of the Craft lessened in the minds of the general public.

Bro. SHERK, P.M., said he had already paid a great deal of attention to this subject, and formed an opinion and proposal of his own. He could not lose sight of the important fact that, in connection with any improvement and extension of a public property, it was right to infer that the larger the sum laid out the larger was the increase to be expected to follow. In his proposal he did not anticipate any very great outlay; he only wished to go to about £36,000 instead of the £18,000, and with that extent of outlay he considered the Craft could carry out the plan put forward by Bro. Wilson; the plan of that brother, however, did not include a large room for them to dine in, and so far it was deficient. There was no reason for borrowing money from any source whatever; according to Bro. Wilson's statement, the plan could be perfected in about four years, in which time £12,000 would be gained to the fund in hand. They had a right to suppose that their revenue would increase. Their charities were going on very well, and a great amount of money had been voluntarily collected last year. They would have the means of paying for a new and improved building, before it was completed, by means in the holding of the Board of General Purposes. Bro. Wilson's plan was the most feasible he had seen. He did not know why the Temple and all the existing premises should not be thrown into the improvement proposed; though they might not pull all down, they might convert it. He agreed with what Bro. Stebbing had said, that what new buildings they wanted should be on the West side. The tavern now produced £800 a-year, and it required a little more accommodation. Let the Craft enter into this, and then Bro. Shrewsbury or any other tenant would gladly pay them seven per cent. for their money. He hoped the subject would be carefully and calmly considered; and as it was likely the question would be alluded to at their coming provincial meeting at Havant, he hoped the brethren would show more interest in this important matter than they appeared to do at present. He most decidedly objected to the plan put forward by the committee of the Board of General Purposes.

Bro. HULBERT, W.M., 995, said the question with him was how far they could trespass on the Funds of General Purposes. He agreed with Bro. Stebbing as to the appropriation of the £18,000 in hand, and that it would be wrong to entrench upon the charities. Yet to carry out a suitable improvement they were quite capable of spending another £18,000; and if they did want more money, let them go to the Craft and see if they could not get it. It was always much better to at once effect a thorough good improvement instead of patching up for a time. He was anxious the Craft should stand well with the outer world, and should therefore like to see a building raised worthy of and consistent with the position of Masonry, and befitting the English Masons as those of the first nation. The Craft, he was sure, would only be too glad to come forward and show what love they had for their Order. If he was asked, really he should be ashamed to take a foreigner over their Grand Lodge property. Were it not for the words written up, he should take the place to be some auction rooms, or something of that kind. He thought they ought not to stop at £18,000, and to obtain more he felt convinced that every province in the kingdom would lend a hand.

Bro. LA CROIX, P.M., spoke to similar effect. He saw the impolicy and impropriety of patching up old buildings, but there was no occasion to hurry to a conclusion; he hoped the subject would be well discussed, and the different points thoroughly brought before the Craft.

Bro. HASLEHAM, P.M., entirely endorsed Bro. Stebbing's opinion, as far as in what they spent nothing should be taken from the charities. If the Masons of the country wished to see their home property of a more attractive appearance, let them loose their purse strings.

Bro. STEBBING, in the course of a further address, said he should make a point of writing to some of the leading brethren of London, and suggest the appointment of a committee, and he thought it would not be made in vain. It would be much better to make a general appeal to the Craft than attempt to spend more money than they possessed. He was at issue with Bro. Sherry as to spending the excess of their income. They were always sure to require all the money they could possibly get in any way for the purpose of benevolence and charity. They occasionally augmented their charitable funds by grants from the income they derived for the Fund of General Purposes. Henceforward he expected there would be a necessity for a great increase of their benevolent funds. They were called prosperous in that department now, but they did not elect all the applicants nor relieve all those in want. They did not elect more than one out of two or three applicants either in the Annuity Funds or the Schools. And what would be the case thirty years hence? They were at present supporting the obligations of a past generation; the wants of persons who went into Masonry from a quarter to half a century ago. They would have four times the number of children and old men in another thirty years time, and they might not then find Masonry so flourishing as it was at the present time. It was appalling to think what might be their requirements then. The number of lodges attached to the Craft had doubled since 1833, and there were now coming into them all grades of society. Opinions varied much—all human institutions were unstable—and instead of being doubled again, there might be less in another thirty years. They should therefore take the greatest care of their funds now, and what so glorious was there to apply them to as to charity? It might be requisite to distribute funds among many now prospering in their lodges, but who might be differently situated in years to come, and children (yet to be begot by those who were now Masons) would have to be taken care of. If they did not have the care and forethought he impressed upon them, they would be like a man with £500 a-year and a large family to maintain, suddenly losing his position and salary, and becoming helpless. He urged upon the Craft to be content with comfort and respectability of appearance in their buildings, and not waste a large amount in seeking to carry out gaudy decoration and palatial views. If there was that liberal feeling to do what was suggested by voluntary subscription, well and good; but he deprecated the idea of taking a single shilling from their excess of income over expenditure, or their charity funds. Grandeur, he must admit, was a noble thing, but well-educated children and old men and women in comfortable quarters, was a more stately thing to contemplate than to have even twenty of those gaudy edifices put together, if the poor and destitute remained in want and uncared for.

After some further discussion, the W.M. said he thought he might assume two positions to have been sufficiently arrived at by the lodge on the subject under discussion:—First that it was not expedient that more than £18,000 should be spent out of the funds in hand; and, secondly, that if any greater sum should be required to carry out an approved plan on a superior scale, that the additional money should be supplied by voluntary subscriptions from the Craft. They had still left out one important item, that was, the comparative merits of the plans already suggested. There were different suggestions, including that of Bro. Wilson, the Board of General Purposes Committee, and that promulgated by the MAGAZINE. They could not go further into the discussion that night, but he hoped it would be continued another time. There was no hurry; perseverance and energy were most required, and he believed Hampshire men had no lack of that. He must say he had the greatest possible respect for Bro. Stebbing and his opinions, but perhaps he could not exactly follow him in the details of his argument. Bro. Stebbing had laid it down that any alteration of the old premises was unadvisable. He thought they were in a better position than if they were going to start with a new erection. They already had property of value, and a respectable income arising from it. He

agreed with Bro. Stebbing as to not touching their excess of income, but he joined issue with him as to no possibility of benefit arising from an extended outlay, because the greater the expenditure on improvement, the larger in proportion would be the increased income they had a right to expect. He hoped no plan of subscription would be commenced at once. Ere particulars were decided he should like to know what Grand Lodge would do upon the question. The lodge would now adjourn for refreshment, and after that the question could be further talked over. He hoped notice would be given for the discussion of the subject at the coming Provincial Grand Lodge meeting at Havant.

The lodge then adjourned for refreshment, but subsequently the usual loyal and Craft toasts were duly proposed and honoured, and the sitting was pleasantly passed in conversation upon the Grand Lodge Property subject, and other points of Masonic politics interesting to the period.

KENT.

CHATHAM.—*Lodge of Antiquity* (No. 20).—The regular monthly meeting was held on the 18th ult., at six o'clock in the evening, at the Sun Hotel. The W.M. proceeded to pass to the Fellow Craft Degree Bros. Taverner and Carter, also to raise to the sublime degree of Master Mason Bros. Hart, Smith, Howell, and Ransom, also to elect as a joining member Bro. F. Seabrook, of Lodge St. Clair (No. 349), Edinburgh. Several matters connected with the forthcoming Provincial Grand Festival were gone into; also respecting a testimonial to Bro. Chas. Isaacs, P.M. of this lodge, and Prov. G. Sec., voted some time since to express the approbation of his services to this lodge, as well as to Masonry in general. It was proposed that the testimonial should be presented at the Grand Festival, which will be held at Chatham on the 9th inst. The lodge voted £25 to the fund, to be made up by the members individually. After which the lodge was closed in due form. The brethren then proceeded to an excellent banquet. The visitors were, Bros. T. J. Everist, P.M. No. 91, P. Prov. G.A.D.C.; Blakie, 216; B. Aston, W.M. 216. The evening was enlivened, after the Masonic and other toasts had been given, by Bros. Thos. Everist, Hart, Strong, Travers, the W.M., and other brethren. The brethren having enjoyed a very pleasant and Masonic meeting, parted in real good fellowship.

LANCASHIRE (WEST.)

WARRINGTON.—*Lodge of Light* (No. 173).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 30th ult., at the Blackburn Arms Inn, Warrington, present Bros. James Hamer, P.M., Prov. G. Treas., as W.M.; Shaw Thewlis, P.M.; H. B. White, S.W.; J. Bowes, as J.W. and Sec.; S. M. Webster, J.D., and several other brethren. Mr. George Aston was ably initiated into Freemasonry by Bro. Hamer, the working tools being presented and the charge delivered by the S.W. Bro. White proposed, and Bro. Bowes seconded, Bro. the Rev. James Nixon Porter as a joining member of the lodge. There being no other business the lodge was closed in harmony about half past nine o'clock.

THE MASONIC RELIEF FUND.

The following are the rules of the Masonic Relief Fund for this province:—

1. That the committee shall be called "The Masonic Relief Committee," having for its object the relief of poor and distressed Freemasons, their widows or children, and shall consist of the Prov. G. Secretary, and two Prov. G. officers, together with the W.M. and Wardens; or three delegates from such lodges, to be appointed annually by the lodges subscribing to this fund.
2. That the committee shall meet at the Masonic Temple, 22, Hope-street, every Friday, at six o'clock p.m., and no other business except in connection with relief shall come before the same.
3. That a Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, and Secretary shall be appointed annually on the first Friday in July. At each meeting the minutes of the last meeting shall be read and passed.
4. That three members shall form a quorum, and they shall have power to deal with any case not being brethren of lodges belonging to Liverpool, except in case of extreme distress, when temporary relief may be granted until the meeting of the Parent Lodge, of which notice shall be sent under cover to the W.M.
5. That no petition for relief shall be presented to the com-

mittee without a certificate, or the petitioner being duly vouched for satisfactorily to the committee; nor shall any petition be read unless the petitioner attend in person, except in case of sickness or deep distress, when the case shall be visited, and if found worthy shall be relieved in any sum not exceeding £2; nor shall relief be granted to any person beyond the amount of £2 at one time without the consent of the lodges subscribing to this fund.

6. That the Secretary and Treasurer shall have power to relieve any case of extreme distress between the days of meeting, on satisfactory proof of the same, in the sum not exceeding five shillings.

7. That when the fund of this committee be reduced to the sum of £5, a call shall be made on the lodges and chapter for further funds.

8.—That a special general meeting may be called by requisition, signed by seven or more members of the committee.

THOMAS MARSH, *Secretary*.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—*John of Gavat Lodge* (No. 766).—The annual festival of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall on the 24th June. The lodge having been opened by the W.M., Bro. Sheppard, and the minutes of the previous lodge read and confirmed, the chair was taken by the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Kelly, who proceeded, according to ancient form, to install the newly-elected W.M., Bro. William Johnson, into the chair, who was proclaimed and saluted in the several degrees. The following were appointed as the officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. H. J. Davis, S.W.; J. Spencer, J.W.; Bithrey, Sec.; Barwell, S.D.; Green, J.D.; Bolton, I.G.; Bembridge, Tyler. The Treasurer, Bro. Bonkart, P.M., having made a favourable report of the finances of the lodge, and expressed a desire to retire from the office on account of other engagements occupying his time so fully, a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to him for his past services, and the election of his successor was postponed until the next meeting. The D. Prov. G.M. proposed Bro. Charles B. Martin, J.P. (late of this county), of the Royal Boyne Lodge, Bandon, County of Cork, Ireland, as a joining member, and a gentleman was also nominated as a candidate for initiation. A vote of thanks having been passed to the retiring W.M., Bro. Sheppard, during whose Mastership the lodge had flourished greatly, and a grant having been made from the funds for the immediate relief the widow and family of a brother of the Marquis of Granby Lodge, Durham, and a committee appointed to take any steps which might be thought desirable in the case during the recess of the lodge, the brethren adjourned to the banquet, at which the newly installed W.M. presided.

SUSSEX.

CHICHESTER.—*Lodge of Union* (No. 45).—This Lodge celebrated the festival of St. John the Baptist, on Thursday, June 26th. The W.M., Bro. G. Collins, presided, and was well supported by his officers. The business consisted of three initiations, and was gone through in a very creditable manner. One gentleman was proposed for initiation at next lodge, and two brethren as joining members. The banquet, as usual, was in Bro. Purchase's best style, and ample justice done to it by the brethren present. Among the visiting brethren were Bros. M. E. Frost, P.M. 717; C. Powell, 726; H. Holdaway, 717; and J. Farrenden, formerly P.M. 45. During the evening Bro. Molesworth read a letter from the W.M. of the Holmesdale Lodge (No. 1176), stating that a former member of No. 45 had recently died at Tunbridge Wells, leaving a widow in straitened circumstances. The sum of three pounds ten shillings was subscribed, and directed to be handed to Bro. Brayne, the W.M. of 1176, with thanks to that brother for the interest he had taken in the case. Some capital speeches from Bros. Frost, Joy, Hogg, Powell, and others, aided by the mellifluous warbling of Bro. Gambling, caused the evening to pass away apparently too quickly, and the brethren to look forward with pleasure to their next merry meeting.

YORKSHIRE (WEST.)

DONCASTER.—*St. George's Lodge* (No. 298).—The brethren of this lodge held their monthly meeting at the Town Hall, on Friday the 27th ult. There were present Bros. Smith, W.M.; George Brooke, as S.W.; Acaster, J.W.; Rigby, P.M.; Bentley, S.D., &c. Bro. J. A. Cooper, and Geo. May were passed by the

W.M. to the second degree in Masonry; and Bro. A. J. Adams was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, the W.M. being assisted by Bro. Rigby; and the historical portion and the working tools given by Bro. G. Brooke. Bro. Fisher, of Leeds, was proposed as a joining member, and will be balloted for the next lodge night, which will be on the last Friday in the present month.

SCOTLAND.

(From our own Correspondent.)

AYR.—*Ayr Kilwinning Lodge* (No. 124).—The annual summer festival of St. John was celebrated by the brethren of this lodge by a dinner in the Kilwinning Hall, Ayr, on Thursday, the 26th ult. Depute Master McGaan and the Senior Warden, Bro. Robert Ferguson, held the chairs of President and Vice respectively, and were supported by a large number of the members of their own lodge, besides representatives from Mother Kilwinning and other Ayrshire lodges, among whom we observed Bros. D. Murray Lyon, R.W. Prov. J.G.W. of Ayrshire; G. Good, P.M.; Andrew Glass, P.M.; Bros. J. S. McIlwraith, John Love, J.W., J. Mc C. Williamson, R. Chambers, D. C. Wallace, David Spence, G. Smith, Thompson, Bone, Young, Muir, &c. Whatever in the Baptist's life ancient Craftsmen saw to admire, one thing is apparent, that those of modern times do not, like their eminent patron, live on "locusts and wild honey," but on the substantialities of the kitchen; and from the elaborate preparation of Ayr Kilwinning's *chef de cuisine* to administer to the creature comforts of his constituents, one would almost have been forced to the conclusion that the brethren of that thriving body were more of "knife-and-fork" than "speculative" Masons. But such is not the case; for under the very able guidance of its Past Master, Bro. Good, all that is ancient and orthodox in the Masonic system is taught and exemplified under the charter of No. 124. Bro. Good has devoted no inconsiderable amount of time and labour in the acquisition of the Prestonian work, and the very correct and painstaking manner in which he goes through the ceremonial of every degree, has been the means of raising Ayr Kilwinning to the position of a model lodge. But with this digression we had nearly forgotten the dinner. Grace having been said by Past Master Glass, ample justice was done to the good things provided by the Steward, Bro. David Love, and in due time the cloth was removed, and after-dinner speechifying indulged in. *En passant* we may remark that, taking a leaf from the book of their English brethren, the opening of the lodge and exhibition of the symbols and paraphernalia of the Craft during refreshment was on this occasion dispensed with. There is so much sameness in the manner in which the usual routine of toasts are given, that one is hardly justified in doing more than the bare mention of them; indeed we shall content ourselves without further alluding to these standing toasts, than to say that they were duly pledged. The chairman in proposing "The Craft," in a few concise and well strung sentences traced the progress Masonry had made in the town and County of Ayr during the last ten years. He congratulated Ayr Kilwinning on its prosperity, and endeavoured to impress upon the minds of the brethren the necessity for their ever keeping steadfastly in view the noble and philanthropic principles, in the perpetuation of which all of them were leagued in an everlasting covenant. "The Masonic Press" came in for a special meed of attention, and was introduced most ably and most appropriately by Bro. Good. It required, he said, an increasing amount of knowledge to enable one to arrive at even a moderate degree of eminence in the solution of the mysteries of the Craft, indeed, without instruction and exercise no one could be skilled in the work. Neither without much application and brotherly counsel, could the young Mason become acquainted with the beauties and true value of the lectures of the Craft degrees. Of course, what is exoteric in Freemasonry can be learned through one channel only; but in the elucidation of what is exoteric in our system, no intelligent Mason would deny that the Craft is much indebted to those who have devoted themselves to the service of the Order, through the medium of the all powerful and highly honourable medium, of the Masonic Press. And he was glad to learn that many brethren in their own lodge were rapidly acquiring that thirst for Masonic reading, which if

gratified and legitimately administered to, would tend in a very high degree in moulding their Masonic character in strict accordance with the true genius of the Order. Bro. Good then adverted to another advantage the Craft possessed, in having periodicals devoted to the special service of Masonry; and the opportunity they presented for exposing and denouncing all attempts at Masonic tyranny, over either lodges or individual brethren, and of pointing out and guarding against the innovations which ignorantly-presumptuous and self-important tinkers of the Craft were not slow to introduce. Foremost among Masonic Journals, ranked the London FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, and in its columns would be found many admirably written papers, which were well calculated to clear up intricate points involved in the jurisprudence of the Order, to improve our morals, to elevate our religious feelings, and to impart much and general useful knowledge of the past and present of the Craft throughout the world. He knew there was a prejudice entertained by many old Masons against Masonic publications, but that antiquated notion was rapidly dying out, and the demand now existing for such publications was a proof of it. With the Masonic Press he begged to couple the name of Bro. Lyon, whose graphically written reports had met with the flattering approval of the Office Bearers of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, through the pages of their last published "Reporter," and many of these notices had also found admittance into the pages of Bro. Warren's FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, a publication which he again begged to recommend to the favourable patronage of the Craft.—Bro. WILLIAMSON in proposing "Mother Kilwinning and the Provincial Grand Lodge of Ayrshire," expressed his regret that hitherto as a body, the Provincial Lodge had been contented with a "name to live," and had it not been for the energy displayed on more than one occasion lately by the Provincial Junior Grand Warden, Ayrshire, as a province, would only have existed in the memory of the brethren as a thing of the past. He sincerely trusted that the Mother Lodge would bestir herself, and have the Prov. Grand Lodge put upon a more effective footing, and then would an end be put to the many irregularities which were known to obtain in the important Masonic district of Ayr.—The "Absent Brethren of Ayr Kilwinning" were entrusted to the care of the PROV. JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN, who endeavoured to give the younger portion of his hearers some idea of how numerous and widely-scattered were the sons of their mother lodge, and by naming a few of them who had shone as bright lights of the Craft in days gone by, to awaken the memories welling up in the bosom of its older members. Among the benefactors of the Lodge Ayr Kilwinning, whom Bro. Lyon mentioned as now absent from their meetings, and far, far beyond reach of their personal greetings, the name of Past Master James Mills, held a prominent and highly honourable place. That brother's name and Masonic deeds in connection with the Ayr Kilwinning Lodge bore a fragrance which the lapse of time could not dissipate, nor the breath of calumny contaminate; and well would it be for the lodge if Bro. Mills' successors followed in the foot-prints he had left behind him. He had now gone to another hemisphere, and had taken the initiative in collecting the scattered brands of Scottish Masonry, and binding them together under a charter issuing from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, calling into existence the Lodge "Otago Kilwinning."—The SENIOR WARDEN, Bro. Fergusson, whose care for the *jewels* of the lodge is proverbial, seemed to regret that the wording of the previous toast had excluded a very important section of "absent friends," for he was sure there were none more friendly to the Craft than the ladies, and the cheerfulness with which they relinquished the society of husband or lover when the call of a brother necessitated their repairing to the lodge, well entitled wives and sweethearts to the kind remembrances of the Craft in their hours of festivity. It had been suggested to him that no one could more appropriately or more effectively reciprocate the brethren's kindness than *Love* herself. In the absence of the goddess, Bro. J. LOVE, J.W., thanked the brethren for the attention they had bestowed upon the fair ones, and kindly bespoke for them a continuance of the same. And thus abruptly must we close our report, seeing we have already encroached upon the space devoted to the chronicles of the Crafts' merry-makings.

MAUCHLINE.—*Lodge St. Mungo*.—New blood and consequent vitality is being infused into this lodge, and it is to Bros. Dr. Fowlds and R. Mathieson that the members of the Order are indebted for the new state of things here. The Doctor is indeed proving himself a skilful physician in more than one sense of the word; for scarcely six months have elapsed since Masonic death seemed to threaten with extinction the Lodge St.

Mungo, and nothing but the persevering and well-directed efforts of the worthy Doctor and a few kindred spirits, followed by the blessing of the G.A.O.T.U., could have averted the impending blow. But so it is; a lodge of instruction has been formed in connection with "Mauchline St. Mungo," and the ancient work is being revived in this well-known village with much success. We shall "report progress" in a future number of the MAGAZINE.

Obituary.

At a meeting of St. John's Woodhall, held at Holytown, Scotland, on 21st June, 1862, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:—

Whereas it has pleased the Grand Master of the Universe in the fulfilment of his just and holy purposes, to remove from us by the hand of death our Bro. James Wilson, a member of the St. John's Operative Rothes (No. 193), and a member by affiliation of St. John's Woodhall (No. 305), who was endeared to us by the fraternal ties of our beloved Order, therefore,

Resolved, 1st, That in this visitation of Divine Providence in the removal of our lamented brother, we are most solemnly admonished of the vanity of life and the certainty of death, and are also reminded of the necessity of being ready at the call of the Grand Master above, to leave the lodge below for the lodge "eternal and in the heavens."

Resolved, 2nd, That our kindest sympathies flow towards the afflicted widow and children of our departed brother; and we would desire for them that support and consolation which their sorrows demand. And may they, though bereft of a husband and father's counsel, look for guidance and protection to Him who "tempers the wind to the shorn lamb," who has promised to be a husband to the widow and a father to the fatherless, and who suffers not a sparrow to fall to the ground without His notice.

Resolved, 3rd, That a page of the minute-book be dedicated to his memory with his age and date of his death recorded thereon.

Resolved, 4th, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the widow and family of the deceased under the seal of the lodge.

Resolved, 5th, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the London FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, *Airdrie Advertiser*, *Airdrie Star*, and *Hamilton Advertiser*, for publication.

WILLIAM MACMURDO, W.M.

JAMES BALLANTYNE, S.W.

JOHN BROWN, J.W.

JOHN LINDSAY, Secretary pro tem.

COLONIAL.

TRINIDAD.

PHENIX LODGE.—(No. 1213).—On Wednesday, the 30th April, 1862, this lodge was consecrated, according to ancient form, by the R.W. Bro. Daniel Hart, Prov. G.M. There were 119 brethren present, and the ceremony was one of the most imposing we have witnessed for some time. The Prov. Grand Master addressed the brethren at some length in his usual impressive manner. After the lodge was closed the brethren sat down to a banquet, the Master of the new lodge presiding. The music added greatly to the proceedings. The toasts drunk were, "The Queen;" "The M.W. the Grand Master the Earl of Zetland;" "The Prov. Grand Master;" "The Master of the Phoenix Lodge;" "Visiting Brethren;" and "Masons all over the World." The lodge was beautifully illuminated.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

DEVONSHIRE.

PLYMOUTH.—*Loyal Brunswick Encampment*.—The regular quarterly convocation of the above Encampment was held in the Freemasons' Chapter Room, St. George's Hall, on Wednesday, the 18th of June, 1862. The following were present:—Sir Knights Evens, E.C.; Dowse, P.E.C. and P.G.H.; Rodd, Mills, Triscott, Thomas, Harfoot, Dupré, Rodda, Blight, Harvey, &c.

The Encampment was opened in due form under the command of Sir Knt. Evens, at four o'clock p.m. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The E.C. then called on the Sir Knts. to prepare to receive the Prov. G. Commander, the Rev. Eminent Sir Knt. Huyshe, who entered in due form, accompanied by Sir Knt. Dick, Visiting Frater of the Provincial Grand Encampment of Dorset, and was received with the honours due to his rank. The E.C. then requested the Prov. G. Commander to assume the command of the Encampment, which he graciously declined, on which the business of the evening was proceeded with. A ballot was then taken for Comp. Richard Rowe, of the Royal Arch Chapter, St. John, No. 83. The same proving unanimous, and he having signed the required declaration, he was introduced in ancient form, and duly installed a Sir Knt. of the Royal, Exalted, Religious, and Military Order of Masonic Knights Templar. At the conclusion of this ever interesting ceremony, the Prov. G. Commander was pleased to express the pleasure it gave him to have an opportunity of witnessing the masterly manner in which the ceremony and the duties of the Encampment were performed, which, with the appropriate style of its equipments, he considered placed it in the position of one of the best in the province. There being no further business before the meeting, the Encampment was closed in solemn form, with prayer, at six o'clock.

YORKSHIRE WEST.

SHEFFIELD.—*De Farnival Encampment*.—The annual meeting of this Encampment was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, on Friday, the 27th ult. Sir Knt. William White, jun., E.C., A.G. Dir. of Cers., and Prov. G. Herald, occupied the throne. The Encampment having been opened, and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed, the E.C. elect, Sir Knt. Graham Stuart, was ably installed by Sir Knt. William Roberts, of Rochdale, who is a P.E.C. and Prov. G. Officer of both Yorkshire and Lancashire. The Knights having made homage to their new E.C., the following were invested as the officers for the ensuing twelve months, viz.:—Sir Knts. J. Rodgers, Prelate; H. Webster, 1st Capt.; E. Drury, 2nd Capt.; H. J. Garneth, Chancellor; Walter Reynolds, Exp.; W. R. Parker, Capt. of Lines; R. Martin and T. Turton, Standard Bearers; and A. G. Heeley, Herald. When the Encampment was closed, the Sir Knts. partook of an elegant repast in the banquetting hall. Sir Knt. Garnett, who acted as Steward on the occasion, ably fulfilled his duty, and a most agreeable evening was spent.

MARK MASONRY.

METROPOLITAN.

KEY-STONE LODGE (No. 3).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 26th June, at the Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street. Bro. Lavender, the R.W.M., presided, and the minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Lavender having resigned the chair to Bro. Dr. Jones, G. Treas., presented the Rev. Bro. J. G. Wood, W.M. elect, for installation, and he was inducted into the chair with the accustomed ceremony. The W.M. then appointed Bros. Stock and Spratt his Wardens, and invested Bro. Dr. Barringer the Treasurer, the other offices are to be filled at the next meeting. Bros. F. Binckes and J. How were visitors. After the business of the day was disposed of the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was of a most agreeable character.

NEW CONSTITUTION.

HAMPSHIRE.

WINCHESTER.—*Lodge of Economy* (No. 52).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms adjoining the Black Swan Hotel, on Tuesday, 10th of June; Bros. W. W. W. Beach, M.P., W.M., in the chair; Alfred Smith, S.W., and Frederick Binckes (G.S.) as J.W. A brother from Trowbridge was ably advanced in the presence of a goodly number of the officers and brethren, after which the lodge was closed and adjourned, the majority of the members having to attend the meeting of the Craft Lodge held on the same evening.

ALDERSHOT.—*Aldershot Lodge* (No. 54).—This lodge, established to meet the requirements of a large number of military brethren, many of whom had experienced in certain of our colonial possessions the advantages of the Mark degree, and appreciated its beauties, was formally consecrated and opened at the Royal Hotel, Aldershot, on Monday, 9th ult., by V.W. Bro. Frederick Binckes, Grand Sec., by whom the W.M. was afterwards installed, and five brethren advanced as Mark Masters, ten others having been advanced at a preliminary meeting by the W.M. designate, Bro. Iras G. Irwin, P.M. of the Gibraltar Lodge of Mark Masters, No. 43, under whose auspices the Mark degree attained great success at the "Rock," who has been mainly instrumental in organising the lodge now under consideration. At the conclusion of the various ceremonies, the W.M. proceeded to the appointment and investiture of the officers, the Wardens named in the Warrant of Constitution being Bros. Fraser, of Aldershot, and H. J. Thompson, of London, both of whom rendered material service in conducting the business of the evening. The lodge having been closed, the brethren, to the number of nearly thirty, adjourned to refreshment, a most excellent banquet having been provided, which in quantity and quality reflected great credit on the worthy host, Bro. Tilbury. The customary loyal and Masonic toasts were all duly honoured, and the evening, enlivened by a variety of songs, was passed in a truly, harmonious, and agreeable manner, the proceedings being characterised by a heartiness and *bon-homme* peculiar to our brethren in arms. The company separated at a late hour, all evidently pleased that another key-stone had been that night properly and successfully raised to its place.

OXFORDSHIRE.

OXFORD.—*University Lodge* (No. 55).—To the seat of learning so pleasantly situate on the banks of the Isis, Masonry is under great obligations for the support extended to it by the alumni of the University, and by a large number of the leading residents of the city, regard being had to the former especially, on account of the opportunities afforded them to disseminate its tenets and principles in their various careers in after life. We question if in any other locality a K. T. Encampment, R. A. Chapter, and Craft Lodges can be found in a more prosperous condition than those established under the shadow of the "Academic groves" of Oxford. To many earnest members of the Craft, and particularly to those in any way associated with jurisdictions, by whom the Mark Degree is recognised as an integral and valuable part of Ancient Freemasonry, it has long been a matter of regret that they should be debarred from the means of acquiring a knowledge of its teaching and mysteries, and accordingly steps have recently been taken with a view to remedy the want complained of resulting in the application to the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters for a warrant of constitution. The application having been granted, Friday, 27th ult., was fixed for the inauguration of the lodge, which took place at the Masonic Rooms, Alfred-street. The ceremony of consecration was performed by R.W. Bro. W. W. Beach, M.P., Prov. G.M. Hants and Berks, who was subsequently installed as W. Master by V.W. Bro. Frederick Binckes, G. Sec., and proclaimed and saluted in ancient form. The Wardens nominated in the warrant, Bros. Rev. G. R. Portal and Wm. Thompson, were duly placed in their respective chairs, and the other officers appointed and invested. Fourteen brethren were advanced as Mark Masters, viz.:—Bros. Viscount Newry, Rev. J. T. Ravenshaw, Bruce Gardyne, George Cary, T. J. Dallin, E. R. Everington, H. Jones, O. Lodge, A. J. Mellier, J. H. Arathoon, Newton Davis, W. Ramsay Ramsay, W. Savile, and J. G. Sebright, all of the Apollo Lodge (No. 460). The following brethren were admitted as joining members:—Bros. Rev. R. W. Norman, W. E. Gumbleton, and A. H. Pearson. The proceedings were necessarily protracted, and it was somewhat late when, the lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet. After the cloth had been removed, the W.M. rose and gave the first toast, "The Queen and Mark Masonry," which having been duly honoured, was followed by that of the "M.W.G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon," in connection with which the W.M. alluded to the recently-announced resignation by the noble Earl of the office he held amongst them, regretting, as he felt sure they would all do, the loss of his services, but at the same time bearing testimony to the consistency of conduct which had mainly dictated his lordship's resignation; his views with reference to a long duration of high office in the Order being well known, viz.:—

that from its tendency to defeat that emulation in the attainment of preferment, which was a legitimate object of ambition, many brethren of position and influence held themselves aloof who would otherwise afford them their active co-operation and assistance. In reply to the toast of the "Deputy Grand Master, Viscount Holmesdale, M.P., and the Grand Officers," whose zeal and attention the W.M. warmly eulogised, with which toast he coupled the name of the Grand Secretary, who was present with them that evening,—Bro. BINCKES said that he could assure them positively of the desire by which the Grand Officers were animated to do all in their power to promote the prosperity of the Order, and of the earnest and hearty spirit with which they had this year undertaken the duties of their respective posts. It was with feelings of considerable pride and gratification that he found himself participating in a work which he could not but regard as one of the most important events which had occurred in connection with Mark Masonry since the constitution of the present Grand Lodge of Mark Masters—the founding a lodge in this university where everything associated with Freemasonry was held in such high estimation. He had great regard for the Mark Degree, and the more he knew of, the more he investigated it, the more at a loss was he to understand the circumstances under which it was lost to English Masonry at the union in 1813. Under their present organisation, however, he trusted it would gain more than its former importance, as an earnest of which he looked upon the establishment of the University Lodge. After expatiating at length upon the object of their meeting, and upon matters interesting to Mark Masons, Bro. Binckes resumed his seat, but rose again almost immediately to propose, by permission, the next toast, which they would readily anticipate. Grateful as he felt for the kind reception just accorded him, he should feel disappointed if the subject of the present toast did not receive an enthusiastic welcome, however imperfectly he might acquit himself in commending it to their notice. In Bro. Beach, their present W.M., he honestly believed were united all the qualifications requisite for the satisfactory performance of the duties of the office to which he had been nominated. In this country Bro. Beach was extensively known as a most zealous and accomplished Mason—nowhere, perhaps, better known or more appreciated than in that and neighbouring counties. In a distant land, too, his name was honoured as a worthy, though unofficial, representative of English Masonry. He was confident that no more sure guarantee could be found for the prosperity and efficiency of the University Lodge of Mark Masters than that its destinies were entrusted to the care of Bro. Beach. He felt that the graces of oratory were not needed to induce such a welcome as he wished to the name of one so universally respected, believing that its mere mention would be sufficient to ensure their rapturous applause. He proposed to them "The Health of their first W.M., Bro. Beach." Bro. BEACH, who on rising received a most hearty demonstration of merited favour, returned his best thanks for this most kind and flattering testimony of regard in a locality with which so many of his Masonic associations were entwined. He hailed with great pleasure this establishment of a lodge connected with a branch of the Order, to the interests of which he was warmly devoted. Bro. Beach then detailed the circumstances under which the present Mark Grand Lodge was established, arising out of the failure of the attempt made some few years since to induce the United Grand Lodge of England to recognise the degree, and communicated his own experience of the estimation in which the Mark degree was held in other countries, concluding an elegant address by urging the members present, to use their best exertions in developing the prosperity of the body to which they had just united themselves.—To the toast "The Officers of the Lodge," the Rev. G. R. PORTAL, S.W., responded, reminding his brother officers of the importance of speedily acquiring a knowledge of their duties, and of the responsibilities they had all undertaken. For his part it was his full determination to do everything in his power to assist their W.M., in perfecting the work they had so auspiciously commenced. The remaining toasts were proposed, separate and special mention being accorded to Bro. W. Thompson, by Bro. Dalbin, in a speech replete with the kindest and most thoroughly deserved compliments, for his exertions in connection with the establishment of the Lodge, and with grateful acknowledgment of his indefatigable labours for the good of Freemasonry generally, and in promoting the comfort and happiness of all with whom he is associated in his various spheres of usefulness, to which Bro. Thompson replied by stating the unalloyed pleasure he always

derived in furthering in any way the interests of an Institution to which, in all its branches, he was so deeply attached. The brethren then separated.

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

OXFORD.—The members of the Apollo University Lodge (No. 460), gave a grand ball at the Town Hall, on Monday night, June 30th, under the patronage of the Prov. G. M. for Oxfordshire, Lieut. Col. Atkins Bowyer. The arrangements were under the direction of a board of Stewards, of which Viscount Adare was president. The stewards were sixty in number, and included Viscount Ingestre, *M.P.*; Viscount Hamilton, *M.P.*; Earl of Lincoln, Viscount Newry, Lord Skelmersdale, Hon. A. J. Morgan, Hon. W. H. North, Sir M. Hicks Beach, *Bart.*; Sir R. J. Buxton, *Bart.*; Sir G. Macpherson Grant, Mr. W. W. B. Beach, *M.P.*; Sir J. R. Bailey, *Bart.*, Mr. J. W. Malcolm, *M.P.*, &c. Five hundred invitations were issued and accepted, and as the hall was decorated in the same style as when the Prince of Wales attended the Masonic ball during his residence at the university, and the brethren appeared in full Masonic costume, the effect, heightened by the splendid dresses of the ladies, was brilliant in the extreme. The company began to arrive between ten and eleven o'clock, and it was nearly one o'clock before all were set down. A spacious pavilion was erected in the Town Hallyard as the supper-room, and at about two o'clock the company withdrew there, and found an elegant entertainment awaiting them. Everything was on the most liberal scale, and it was very evident that the Apollo Lodge were determined to maintain the reputation they have acquired of carrying out in the most spirited manner everything which they take in hand. Weippert's band was engaged for the occasion, and the company, which consisted of the principal visitors now in Oxford, and the *élite* of the county and university were highly gratified with their night's enjoyment.

MANCHESTER.—The members of the Caledonian Lodge (No. 247), Manchester, and their friends to the number of hundred and thirty, paid a visit on Wednesday, June 25th, to Studley Park, near Ripon. The party started by special train from the Lancashire and Yorkshire station at eight a.m. and arrived at Ripon at eleven. They visited the seat of the Earl de Grey and Ripon, the Grand Master of West Yorkshire, at Fountains Abbey, where they spent a pleasant day, returning to Manchester at 10 30 p.m. The arrangements of the railway company gave very general satisfaction.

NOTES ON MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

"Israel's Deliverance from Babylon," the Oratorio by Herr Schachner, founded on Moore's Sacred Melodies, which has been performed more than once in Germany, is to be performed at Exeter Hall on the 30th of the month, with a strong cast of singers, a chorus of four hundred voices, and Mr. Mellon to conduct—for the benefit of the British Columbia Female Emigration Society.

Some statistics, furnished on authority, will form a fitting pendant to the great commemoration of the Handel Festival. The orchestra, now a permanent addition to the Crystal Palace, has cost, we are assured, no less than £12,000. Although it may be, as to exact detail, premature to calculate the receipts of the present festival, it will probably not be far wrong to place them at about £25,000. In 1857, the receipts were £23,372. For the Commemoration Festival in 1859 they were £34,912; making a total receipt from the three festivals of nearly £74,000. Of this sum the Sacred Harmonic Society will have received as surplus, beyond their expenditure, from £9,000 to £10,000, besides the acquisition of a considerable stock of music. The Crystal Palace Company carried into account as profit from the Handel Festival of 1857 the sum of £8,700, and in 1859 £11,500. They will probably have a surplus from this festival of from £7,000 to £8,000, subject to the cost of the roof of the orchestra, which, assumed to be £5,000, will leave a cash surplus of from £2,000 to £3,000.

The *Athenæum* says unexpected discoveries of a very interesting character have been made in excavating the site of Shakspeare's New Place. Not only have the entire foundations of the house, as altered by Sir Hugh Clopton early in the last

century, come to light, but portions of the basement of Shakspeare's own residence towards the east and south have been discovered, the latter intersecting the more recent design. It seems that Shakspeare's house extended a few feet into the present Chapel Lane at the corner opposite the Guild Chapel, its frontage in Chapel-street being about fifty-four feet, taking in a small part of what was lately Dr. Rice's residence. When Sir Hugh Clopton re-built New place, he diminished it a little on the north side, the adjoining house thus gaining a small space, in the inside of which, as was discovered by Mr. E. Gibbs, still remain distinct traces of the gable end of the old New Place. We can thus attain a pretty tolerable idea of the dimensions and form of the poet's last residence. More interesting still, in the opinion of many, will be Shakspeare's original well, which has been discovered, with its ancient stone quoining, at the back of the site of the house.

M. Fechter (says the *Illustrated Times*) is making occasional trips to the principal provincial towns, looking out for promising recruits for the Lyceum company. When the list of that company is published it will be found to contain two or three names, not merely good, but of first-rate reputation, whose coalition with M. Fechter is little expected.

Rumours regarding coming theatrical changes are still current. Among them are Mr. Webster's proximate retirement; Mr. Wigan's occupancy of the Princess's; and a division of the company at the Strand, some of whom—notably Mr. Rogers and Miss Marie Wilton—it is said, are, with the aid of Miss Oliver, about to establish themselves at the Royalty.

Mr. Benjamin Webster announced a new drama, "Joseph Brown," for immediate production at the New Adelphi.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

MADAME TUSSAUD'S.

From the number of foreigners who have visited this gallery, during the last six weeks, it may be inferred that the reputation of Madame Tussaud and her representatives is European, and what is much in favour of its fame is, that they all appear well satisfied with what they see and are continually renewing their visits. The Napoleon room, and the vast number of historical mementoes, records, and various remains of the republic, the monarchy, and the empire attract peculiar attention, and they deserve to be minutely examined. Few things will fix attention, and illustrate events better than these historical accessories. The "Chamber of Horrors," has not by any means lost its attractions. Those who delight in "model" villains can here be gratified to their utmost content. The effigy of Dumollard is but of a foreign catiff, who has claimed kindred with the monsters home bred of this island, and had his claim allowed without hesitation or cavil.

JULIA PASTRANA.

At the Burlington Gallery, 191, Piccadilly, are being exhibited the most extraordinary specimens of humanity ever seen. Julia Pastrana (now embalmed), about four years ago astonished all London with her close resemblance to a gorilla about the head, whilst her body and limbs were as symmetrical and graceful as possible. The lady died in confinement about two years ago, in Russia, where her body, together with her child, were embalmed, to such perfection, that they may now be seen standing as if alive; the features retaining all their life like appearance, as when breathing. This exhibition is certainly interesting, and in a scientific point of view, most successful.

ALHAMBRA.

At this establishment in Leicester-square the most extraordinary feats imaginable are nightly gone through. Mr. Wilde, the proprietor, has certainly catered for the public amusement in a manner seldom, if ever, surpassed, and the public are well rewarding him for his spirited and enterprising perseverance. The place is nightly crowded, and the day performances which take place on Wednesday and Saturday are attended by some of the first families in the land, one of the great attractions being the wonderful little artiste, Nathalie, whose marvellous feats are of the most astounding character ever witnessed. Mr. Steve Ethair goes through a most elegant and graceful performance; a family called the Fine Little Vokes are very entertaining; and the graceful little Miss Batson is nightly *encored*. Then there is Mrs. Brian, whom they designate a bulbo singer, keeps

the audience in roars of laughter by her assumption of Young England, most toppishly attired, drawn to the life; the Brothers Shapcott, and the smallest drummer in the kingdom; the four marvels of Peru, whose feats are second to none of the same character; and Victor Julien, on the flying trapeze, equal in every sense to the renowned Leotard. Respecting the musical department of this establishment too much cannot be said in its praise; the selections are executed in a manner leaving nothing to be desired, and Mr. Bartleman must feel himself amply rewarded for his exertions by the universal approbation he meets with for his excellent and judicious management.

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

If varied amusements constitute a claim to public support, certainly Professor J. H. Pepper, the manager, has well merited it. He is now giving "What I saw at the International Exhibition; or Half-an-Hour's Advice to Intending Visitors," which is highly interesting and instructive, and was listened to with the most profound attention. In order to relieve any monotony which might be felt (though that is scarcely possible when this popular lecturer discourses) the audience are kept well amused by means of a highly-finished series of dissolving views, which portray the various countries represented in the courts of the International Exhibition. In the evening the panorama of Japan is not shown, but its place is supplied by an interesting series of beautiful dissolving views of London and Paris. Then there is the concert of the Brouil Family; Herr Susman's remarkable imitations of birds and animals; Philosophical lectures by Professor Pepper; George Buckland's serio-comic history of Blue Beard; the splendid illuminated and chromatic fountain; lecture on Curiosities of Science by Mr. J. L. King, &c., &c. This certainly is the cheapest shilling's-worth of rational entertainment in London, calculated as it is to amuse and instruct children of the larger growth. Professor Pepper has also just brought out another lecture on the chief *scientific specialities* of the International Exhibition.

DRURY LANE THEATRE.

Mr. Dion Boucicault, into whose hands this establishment has now passed, inaugurated his new enterprise, on the 23rd ult., with "the great Irish sensation drama,"—as it is curiously designated in the bills,—of "The Colleen Bawn; or the Brides of Garryowen," which was produced with unusual splendour. The external charms of the piece were set off to the best advantage in new scenery, dresses, and appointments, and the Water Cave in particular, which has been newly painted in Mr. W. Beverley's best manner, elicited the usual demonstrations of delight. But the true attraction of this piece dwells less in its pictorial effects than in its poetic sentiment and its dramatic development of character and incident; and these merits are brought out very conspicuously in the representation, the acting being for the most part excellent. Mr. Boucicault, in his original character of Myles-na-Coppalleen, acts with his customary skill, sings his Irish ballads with as much drollery of tone and manner as ever, and takes his old "header" into new waters in gallant style. Madame Celeste appeared as Mrs. Cregan, and performed with all the fervour and impassioned characteristic of her style. Eily O'Connor found a gentle and interesting representative in Miss Sara Stevens, an actress who as yet is new to the London boards, but who promises well. Miss Jessie McLean, from the Royal English Opera, sustained the part of Ann Chute with grace and vivacity. The house was crowded to excess in every part.

BLUE-STOCKING is a name given to a female who gives herself up to learning and literature, to the neglect of her womanly duties, and makes a show of her acquirements in a pedantic manner. The name originated in London about 1780. It was much the fashion at that time for ladies to have evening assemblies, where they might mingle in conversation with literary and other distinguished men. An eminent member of these societies was a Mr. Stillingfleet, who always wore blue stockings; and such was the excellence of his conversation that, when absent, the ladies were wont to say, "We can do nothing without the blue stockings." Hence these societies came to be called Blue-Stocking Clubs.—*Ref. "Boswell's Life of Johnson."*—*Beeton's Dictionary of Universal Information in Science, Art and Literature.*

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Crown Prince of Prussia and the Duke of Saxe-Coburg arrived at Osborne on Monday, in order to be present at the marriage of the Princess Alice. Several members of the family of the Prince of Hesse-Darmstadt having previously arrived. On Tuesday the marriage of the Princess Alice and Prince Louis of Hesse was solemnised at Osborne. The Archbishop of York, assisted by the Dean of Windsor, officiated; the Queen, the young princes and princesses being present. In consequence of the shadow that has fallen upon our Court, the ceremony was performed with the utmost privacy; no guests were invited except the members of the respective families of the bride and bridegroom and some of the high officers of state. After the breakfast, which followed the ceremony, the Royal party broke up, and the newly-married couple proceeded to St. Clair—a charming retreat near Ryde.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—On Thursday, the 26th ult., in the House of Lords, a discussion took place on the question of the national defences—Lords Airlie and Grey impugning the judgment of the Defence Commissioners, and urging an entire suspension of the works proposed or actually in progress. Lord Airlie approved the principle of fortifying our dockyards, but he thought we ought to pause in order that we might derive the full advantage of the numerous experiments being made. Lord Grey seemed to consider fortifications wholly useless, and he complained of the amount of our naval and military expenditure. The policy of the Government was defended by Lord De Grey, the Duke of Somerset, and the Duke of Cambridge.—On Friday, in reply to Lord Chelmsford, the Lord Chancellor stated that he would give immediate orders for the cancelling of Mr. Edwin James's patent as Q.C. He added that this step had been delayed only because Mr. James had intimated his intention of appealing to the Judges against the sentence of disbarment passed upon him by the Benchers of the Inner Temple. Several measures were advanced a stage.—On Monday, a number of bills received the Royal Assent by Commission. Lord Brougham offered a few remarks on the American war. He felt it was impossible for Her Majesty's Government to interfere, but expressed an earnest hope that the Americans themselves would recognize the suicidal character of the conflict, and come to some arrangement before they entirely alienated from themselves the respect and affection of civilised Europe. Lord Berners moved the second reading of the bill he introduced the other night, for the purpose of empowering the police to search persons suspected of poaching. The avowed object of the measure was to protect gamekeepers, and not to preserve game, but Lord Granville said he could not assent to the bill on account of the "extremely objectionable" character of many of its clauses. Lord Derby said these could be amended in Committee, and gave his support to the motion for the second reading. After some further discussion, the bill was withdrawn, but it was understood that it would be re-introduced in an amended form. Several measures were then advanced a stage.—On Tuesday, the House got through a considerable amount of work, pushing forward a number of bills of more or less importance. Lord Brougham uttered another protest against the civil war in America, but his remarks did not lead to any discussion on the subject.—**IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,** on Thursday, the 26th ult., Mr. Layard stated, in reply to Colonel Sykes, that it was intended to supply the Chinese Government with warlike stores at cost price. Two of the bills relating to the transfer of land passed through committee, and the House was soon afterwards counted out.—On Friday the House had a morning sitting, which was entirely occupied with the discussion of the clauses of an Irish

bill. At the evening sitting a long list of "notices of motion" was gone through. These miscellaneous proceedings included a discussion on the strength of the European army in India. Mr. Burton considered it excessive, while Mr. Vansittart, Mr. Kinnaid, Lord Stanley, and Sir Charles Wood argued that the force could not with safety be reduced.—On Monday, Lord Palmerston, in reply to Mr. Hopwood's question, "whether, on various considerations, Government intend to take any steps to endeavour to put an end to the civil war in America?" paid a warm tribute to the heroic patience with which the operatives of the cotton manufacturing districts had borne their privations, but submitted that any interference on our part between the Northern and Southern States might produce no other effect than an aggravation of their sufferings. The Governments of England and France would be delighted to offer their mediation if they saw any prospect that such a step would be welcomed on the other side of the Atlantic; but, for the present, he could only say that if at any future time there should be a fair opening for friendly counsel, it would be the duty of the Government, as well as a great pleasure, to take advantage of it.—On Friday night, Lord R. Montagu caused some amusement by stating that Mr. Cowper, as Chairman of the Thames Embankment Committee, had addressed a copy of the evidence taken before the committee to Mr. Higgins, the well-known "Jacob Omnium" of the *Times*, but that the packet was delivered, by mistake, to another Mr. Higgins—Lord Chelmsford's son-in-law. Mr. Cowper justified his conduct by pointing out that the evidence before the committee was given in a perfectly public manner, and that, therefore, no violation of secrecy was committed; while Mr. Higgins, in a letter which appeared in Monday's *Times*, asserts that Mr. Higgins, No. 2, has informed him that he never authorised Lord R. Montagu or anybody else "to mention the circumstance of his having opened an envelope which was not intended for him, or to make use of the knowledge thus acquired of its contents."—On Monday Lord R. Montagu reintroduced the subject, and read a letter from Mr. W. F. Higgins, showing that Mr. Cowper had accidentally addressed the packet to him instead of Mr. M. Higgins, which he had, on finding the mistake, returned; and though he had mentioned the circumstance to other parties, he had not authorised the bringing of the subject before the House of Commons. The result was an apology from Lord R. Montagu, after some conversation in which everybody denied having had anything to do with the matter. This little episode was followed by another long debate on the fortifications question, resulting, as usual, in nothing definite.—On Tuesday the House held a morning sitting, which was devoted to two Irish bills. When the Speaker took the chair at six o'clock, only thirty members were present, and an immediate adjournment, therefore, took place.—On Wednesday Mr. H. Berkeley moved the second reading of the Ballot Bill. Sir George Grey, as the representative of the Government, said half-a-dozen sentences in opposition, and though Mr. Newdegate, Mr. Potts, Mr. Locke, and Mr. Lysley each made some observations, they spoke amidst continuous interruptions. When the bell rang for the division a crowd of members came in, and the bill was defeated by 211 votes to 126. In five minutes after the numbers had been announced there were scarcely twenty members in the House, and after rejecting the Irish Marriage Bill, they were occupied for some time in discussing the Metropolis Local Management Acts Amendment Bill. Eventually the bill passed through committee, and other bills were advanced a stage.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The revenue return for the last quarter and the last four quarters has been issued. Upon the year there is a serious deficit of £2,177,305. As three of these quarters, however, were disposed of at the last budget of the

Chancellor, we may confine our attention to the return for the quarter, which is the first of the present financial year.—Her Majesty's Government have declined to accept the proffered cession of the Fiji Islands. When the offer was made some time ago, Colonel Smythe, R.A., was commissioned to examine the islands as to their alleged capabilities for the growth of cotton, and that officer has reported that, whether by natives, or by the white planters with native labourers, the supply of cotton from the Fiji can never be otherwise than insignificant. The result of his inquiries relative to other matters was equally unsatisfactory, and the Government have determined to leave the Fiji islanders to themselves.—It will be remembered that the London Court of Common Council resolved some time ago to present the freedom of the city to Lord Canning. The premature death of the noble Earl rendered that act of homage impossible, but it was decided on Thursday week to forward a resolution, recognising his eminent services, to his sister, Lady Clanricarde, and also that a bust of the lamented statesman should be placed in Guildhall.—The annual prize meeting of the National Rifle Association was opened at Wimbledon on Tuesday. It appears, after all, that the two Houses of Parliament have arranged a friendly joust on Wimbledon Common, though the event will lack the interest and excitement of a match between the Lord Chancellor and the Speaker. The Upper House, it is announced, will be represented by the Duke of Marlborough, and Lords Abercorn, Airlie, Bolton, Ducie, Somers, Londesborough, Lovat, Suffield, Vernon, and Wharfedale; the Lower House by Lords Elcho, Grosvenor, Grey de Wilton, and Bury, and Messrs. W. E. Forster, Dillwyn, Leslie, Hastings Russell, Talbot, Vivian, and H. Wyndham.—On Wednesday the shooting for the Queen's Prize at the meeting of the National Rifle Association at Wimbledon took place. Mr. Edward Ross, who won the chief prize two years ago, competed for it, but only made fifteen points, several other gentlemen making larger scores. The proceedings generally were of the most satisfactory nature.—An out-door meeting of the operatives of Blackburn was held, on Saturday, to discuss the question whether our Government, singly or conjointly, with France, should or should not step in between the Northern and Southern States of America, with the view of putting an end to the civil war. "Union sentiment" prevailed,—the meeting declaring almost unanimously against any interference beyond an effort to induce the Southerners to acknowledge the sway of President Lincoln.—The celebrated Dundonald peerage is unfortunately the subject of fraternal litigation in its most unpleasant form, a younger brother impeaching the legitimacy of the elder, and this while the mother of both is still alive. The old hero, the Dundonald, never did anything like ordinary men, and there was an irregularity even about his marriage; but the present inheritor of the title, whose right to it is disputed, pleads that the ceremony gone through is provided for and sanctioned by the elastic marriage law of Scotland. The question has been opened before the House of Lords, and adjourned its further consideration.—During some experiments at Shoeburyness, on Thursday last, a wrought-iron shot, fired from the 150-pounder smooth-bore Armstrong gun, which was charged with 50lb. of powder, made a hole right through Mr. Scott Russell's target. The range was 200 yards, and the shot is stated to have struck the strongest part of the target, the plates of which are thicker than those of the famous target representing a section of the *Warrior's* side.—Wednesday was commemoration day at Oxford, and amongst others upon whom the honorary distinction of D.C.L. was conferred was Lord Palmerston. His lordship appeared to be a great favourite with the undergraduates, who cheered

the mention of his name right lustily. Sir E. W. Head, Sir James Outram, the Solicitor-General, the Brazilian Minister, Dr. Jeremie, and others, had also the degree of *D.C.L.* conferred upon them. After the ceremony an address was presented to Lord Palmerston at the Town-hall. In replying to it his lordship paid a very high compliment to his colleagues in office in the Government, making special allusion to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mr. Cardwell.—Saturday was the last day of the existence of the Insolvent Debtors' Court, the business being now transferred to the new Court of Bankruptcy. The extinction of the court was attended with little ceremony, but the senior barrister present thanked the presiding judge for the courtesy he had shown to the bar during their intercourse together.—It is stated on authority that the special commission which at present stands adjourned to the 1st of July, will not resume its sittings, but that the cases it was appointed to try, and which have not been disposed of, will come before the ordinary assizes. The people of the city of Limerick are indignant at their town as well as the county being "proclaimed" by the Irish Government; but it is admitted by many persons that it would be of no use to proclaim the county if the city were left free.—A dreadful crime was committed early on Saturday morning, at Smallshaw, near Ashton-under-Lyne. Sergeant Harrop and Police Constable Jump, of the Lancashire constabulary, encountered in a field a gang of seven or eight men, masked, and carrying bludgeons and fire-arms. They were at once challenged. A struggle followed, and Jump received two bullets in the breast, while Harrop was wounded in the face. Jump died before medical assistance could be procured. It is suspected that the lawless ruffians concerned in this fatal outrage were unionist brickmakers. Two men have been taken into custody at Manchester on suspicion of being concerned in the murder. They were found in a house in Butler-street, occupied by a maker of brickmen's shovels. The policemen had to be very cautious in order to gain admission. They only expected to find one man, but to their surprise came upon two. The fellows were at first disposed to resist, but, finding themselves outnumbered, yielded quietly.—Mrs. Vyse has been committed to Newgate on the charge of murdering her two children. She is still very weak.—There seems to be a mania for suicide just now. On Tuesday, three or four cases of attempted self-murder were brought before various police magistrates in London. On Wednesday two very shocking suicides unfortunately were accomplished. In one case on oil and colourman, named Shoveready, was found hanging dead in his bedroom. He appears to have been led to the commission of suicide by an execution for rent having been put into his house. The second case is that of a domestic servant, who hung herself while labouring under delusions arising from religious enthusiasm.—An inquest has been held on the body of Thomas Raynor, a carriage examiner who was lately killed on the South Eastern Railway in the performance of his duty. A verdict of accidental death was returned, and the jury strongly recommended that no repairs, however slight, be done to carriages on the line upon which carriages are to be shunted, unless notice be previously given to the shunter.—A fatal collision has occurred off Hastings, between a barque and a brig that were both proceeding down Channel. The brig foundered almost immediately; the captain and two of the crew perishing in the ship. The barque, which picked up the rest of the brig's crew, was so seriously injured that she was obliged to put back.—It will be remembered that a veterinary surgeon named Anthony, was tried by a court-martial at Dublin, a few weeks ago, on a charge of having—under circumstances of great provocation—given the lie to a cornet, in the 11th Hussars, and struck him. The sentence has now been promulgated from the Horse Guards. The Commander-in-Chief confirms the finding of the Court, which was that the prisoner be dismissed the service.—A short time ago one of our police magistrates, fined the keeper

of a refreshment-house in the West-end, for harbouring prostitutes in his house, under the plea of supplying them with refreshment. The decision was appealed to the Court of Queen's Bench, where it has been argued, and on Saturday Mr. Justice Wightman delivered the judgment of the Court. He fully admitted the right of degraded women to call for, and receive, refreshments in these houses; but the keeper of the house was not to be allowed, under that pretext, to harbour them in his house, and convert it into a house of call. It was for the magistrate to decide upon the evidence before him whether that was so or not, and as this was all the magistrate had done in the present instance his judgment was affirmed.—A singular case occupied the Court of Common Pleas for two days. Mr. Gore brought an action against Sir George Grey, the Secretary of State, for authorising his removal from the Queen's Bench Prison, where he was confined for debt, to the Bethlehem Hospital, though there was no pretence for alleging that he was insane. The action was also brought against the authorities of both the prison and the asylum. After the case for the plaintiff had been heard, and that for the defence had proceeded a little way, the jury stopped the trial and found for the defendants on the ground that they had reason to believe in plaintiff's insanity.—Mrs. Thomas, a domestic servant, who had invested her savings in the Bank of Deposit, has brought an action against Lord George Paget, who was for several years one of the directors of that disreputable and ruinous concern. She claims the sum of £60, the amount of her deposits, and the case came on in the Court of Common Pleas. An arrangement was, however, come to by which a verdict was taken for the plaintiff, subject to a special case for the opinion of a superior Court.—Catherine Wilson has been re-examined at the Lambeth Police Court, on Friday, on the charge of poisoning Mrs. Atkinson, of Kirkby Lonsdale. The prisoner, it will be remembered, was tried at the Central Criminal Court, but acquitted, on a charge of attempting to poison a Mrs. Cornell. It was now stated that she was some time ago in the service of a gentleman in Lincolnshire, who was seized with a violent illness, and died soon after he had made a will, securing to her property to the amount of about £80 a-year; and that afterwards she went to nurse a lady, who died suddenly, after having, at the instigation of the prisoner, drawn £150 from a bank. This money could not be found, but "the prisoner got off, owing to no irritant poison being discovered in the body." Wilson was again remanded.—The action for libel brought against Mr. Walker, a brother-in-law of Major Yelverton, by Mrs. Theresa Yelverton, was tried in the Court of Session, Edinburgh, last week. The libel was contained in a letter addressed to the Hon. W. Yelverton, of Whitland Abbey, South Wales, who had invited the pursuer or plaintiff to his house. Mrs. Yelverton was described as a "degraded woman," and her reception at Whitland Abbey was denounced as an act which brought dishonour on the Avonmore family. Mr. Walker subsequently expressed his regret at having written this letter, and offered to withdraw the statements he had made in it, but the apology was deemed insufficient. The jury, by nine to three, gave a verdict for the pursuer. Damages, £500.—The cattle and agricultural implements show at Battersea Park closed on Wednesday. The influx of visitors kept increasing from day to day while it lasted, and the last was not the least attended of all. The exhibition has been a necessary adjunct to the International Exhibition, on the other side of the river, and has completely shown that, however foreigners may in some departments rival, and even surpass, our manufacturers, they have no chance whatever in competition with our farmers, breeders, and graziers.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The French Senate have voted the budget, and the session of the Chambers has therefore fully closed, the Corps Législatif having concluded their labours some days back.—The news from Mexico is the great topic of the day at Paris, and is scanned with eager interest by all parties. The *Moniteur* has published the official dispatch of General Lorencez. It gives the details of the French attack on Guadalupe on the 5th May. General Lorencez says he was deceived as to the strength of the fortifications, and though the vigour and courage of his troops was admirable, they were obliged to retreat. The general then waited on the plateau of Amozoc, until the 11th of May, for his Mexican allies, but learning that General Zuloaga had made arrangements with Juarez to hold the army of Marquez in check, he at once retreated on Orizaba. Here Marquez, at the head of about 2000 Mexicans, attempted to join him, but was overtaken by a body of Zuloaga's troops, under General Tapia, who so vigorously attacked the troops of Marquez

that but for the timely arrival of 2000 French, the whole of them would have been killed or captured. The French attacked with great vigour, and General Tapia was obliged to withdraw, with the loss of a flag, 1200 prisoners, 150 killed, and 250 wounded. The French then quietly entrenched themselves at Orizaba, and had succeeded in opening their communications with Vera Cruz. Almonte is bitterly accused of deceiving the French, who it is supposed will entirely cast him off. He has sent an agent to Paris to plead his cause. It is hoped that General Larencez will be able to maintain himself at Orizaba till the month of October, when the sickly weather will have passed, and the reinforcements now in readiness, can be dispatched in safety, and vigorous operations recommenced.—In the Legislative body, M. Billault explained and defended the Emperor Napoleon's policy in Mexico. He declared that it was impossible to treat with President Juarez, but that when the French flag floats over the city of Mexico, the Mexicans, like the Italians, will be summoned to "express their intentions." There was no desire to impose any form of government on the Mexicans, and their choice would be respected.—About 4000 French Legitimists have been present at a gathering of the party convoked by the Count de Chambord, at Lucerne. The Count continues to urge his adherents to refrain from attempting to enter the Legislative Body or the public service under the present Government, described by him as "a monstrous system which seems to counteract the wants and instincts of France at its good pleasure, which substitutes cynicism for moral sentiments, electoral intimidation and servility of votes for liberty, the miserable shams of a lying constitutionalism for the fruitful realities of a representative Government."—The recognition of the kingdom of Italy by Russia is now an accomplished fact. The Russian envoy, bearing the official recognition, has arrived in Turin.—The Italian Government has suppressed a military training school for Polish refugees, which had been for some time in existence in Genoa. The suppression is believed to have been made in consequence of a demand of the Russian Government, and as a condition of the recognition of Italy by Russia. A letter from Signor Ratazzi to the director of the school acknowledges that the suppression takes place in order to save the Government from political embarrassment. The pupils of the school accepted the decree with great consideration and good humour, admitting that they had always received much kindness from the Italian Government.—Garibaldi, after a short visit to Capri, has appeared suddenly in Sicily. His reception at Palermo was a very enthusiastic one. He addressed the people, advising concord between families and parties. He warned them to be on their guard against Muratism, Papal rule, and Bourbonism, which, he said, were the three open wounds of Italy; and strongly denounced the late meeting of the prelates at Rome.—A letter from Rome announces the departure of the ex-Queen of Naples for Marseilles, on board a Spanish vessel of war. The Pope has recovered from his late indisposition.—The King of Portugal in person closed the Cortes. His Majesty announced that his marriage would shortly take place, but, to the great disappointment of the curious, did not announce the name of his intended consort. It is stated, however, that the hand of the Princess Pia, daughter of the King of Italy, has been formally demanded for the King.—General Luders, Military Governor of Poland, who, it appears, is severely suffering from the effects of a pistol-shot wound he lately received at Warsaw, has returned to St. Petersburg, and has been relieved of his command. The accounts received from Russia of the conflagrations are very distressing. They are described as spreading throughout the provinces; and in most of the chief towns numerous houses and churches have been destroyed. The greatest terror prevails, and the losses at St. Petersburg are estimated at many hundred millions of roubles.—The *Patrie* announces that the ambassadors of the great powers at Constantinople are about to assemble in conference, with a view to settle the affairs of Servia. It is added that the accounts which have appeared of the shops of foreigners being plundered in Belgrade and throughout Servia are altogether unfounded. In the meantime order had fortunately been restored at Belgrade by the arrival of the Turkish Commissioner, who was commissioned to institute inquiries into the cause of the disturbances. Two more battles are reported between the Turks and Montenegrins, both of which were in favour of the Turks.

AMERICA.—The *Persia*, with news to the 18th June, from New York, brought the intelligence that "all was quiet in front of Richmond;" but that, on the 14th instant, a large body of

Confederate cavalry and artillery "made a bold dash round the right flank of General McClellan's army, cut the telegraph wires, damaged the railway from West Point, destroyed some tents and forage, and safely retired with a number of prisoners. There was a report that General Fremont's army was distressed for provisions, was "in a very dangerous position" in the Shenandoah Valley, and was retreating towards Mount Jackson, whence it had so lately pursued the Confederate General Jackson. General Beauregard's army was said to be in the neighbourhood of Columbus and Alalona; but the same time we are told that 65,000 Confederates, who must have formed part of his forces, were encamped at Grenada. There had been "several severe fights" in the neighbourhood of Baton Rouge, in Louisiana, and likewise on James Island, in front of Charleston; but no detailed accounts of them had been received. It was believed that Congress would pass the bill authorising an additional issue of 150,000,000 dollars. The bill abolishing slavery in the territories of the United States had been passed by the House of Representatives, as well as by the Senate.—The *North American* brings news to the 21st June: the Confederates at Richmond continued to display great activity, and were daily assuming a more menacing attitude. Some serious skirmishing had taken place; and a battle appeared so imminent that New York was in a state of wild suspense, and agitated with clashing rumours of the success and defeat of the Federal forces. The last published report of General McClellan states that his preparations are progressing well, and that the Confederates had opened fire with some heavy guns. An engagement was also expected in the valley of the Shenandoah, as General Fremont was advancing to Newmarket. General Pope had relinquished his pursuit of Beauregard, who was at Okalona, with 80,000 men. The Confederates have been largely reinforced at Mobile, and were making great efforts to prevent the capture of that city.—A telegram by the *Georgia*, dated New York, June 23, announces that there had been a terrible battle before Charleston, with great loss on both sides.

CHINA AND INDIA.—There is nothing of striking importance in the Calcutta journals to the 22nd May, brought by the overland mail. Great regret was felt at the loss of the services of Mr. Laing, who comes over with the mail. The supposed Nana Sahib was at Calcutta, but as doubts still existed as to his identity, he was to be sent to Cawnpore, the scene of his atrocities. The news from China is merely limited to accounts of attacks on the rebels. The latter had been severely handled by our troops in the vicinity of Shanghai, and the country people were returning to their homes. At Ningpo all communication between the foreign settlement and the city had been cut off. The rebel chief was strongly inimical to foreigners, saying it was now time to eat them up, and had offered a reward of 1000 dollars for the head of Consul F. Harvey, and 100 dollars for every other European head. A blue book has just appeared, containing the correspondence of the Secretary of State for India with the Indian Government, on the subject of the finance of that country. It turns out that Mr. Laing's view of the Indian revenue does not correspond with the realities of the case. Acting upon a too implicit reliance on these expectations, the Government in India have reduced taxes and increased expenditure in such a way as if carried out will land the Government in a deficit next year of more than £800,000. Sir Charles Wood admits that they cannot reimpose the remitted taxes, but he expressly notices the increased expenditure, and enjoins a still more stringent economy in the existing expenses so as to make the two ends meet.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

HERMAN FRITS.—Your note has come to hand, and will receive proper attention.

C.N.—If you require it,—yes; but you had better say nothing on the subject at present.

DEVIZES.—It is too nice a practice; either way is legitimate.

* *.—Rose Croix, not Rose Crucis; the brother who informed you of the latter is incorrect.

P.M.—We never heard of any such practice—nor do we believe it ever existed in England.

H. H.—In most countries all officers of Grand Lodges are elective; England is the exception to the rule.