

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1862.

CANDIDATES FOR INITIATION AND JOINING.

The periodical influx of members being beneficial to lodges in a pecuniary, as well as in social point of view, it behoves us all to exercise the greatest circumspection and forbearance in our recommendations and approvals, lest by an indiscreet haste or partiality we become instrumental, or acquiescing, in the election of unworthy candidates. Proselytism being wisely eschewed by our predecessors in the Craft, we profess and are supposed to discountenance the practice. Indirect, equally with direct, advice, is at variance with our Masonic obligations; relations, intimate friends, and persons on whose probity and honour may be placed the firmest reliance, are informed we cannot advise, but leave the question of initiation to their own choice and their minds totally unbiassed by imprudent persuasion; everything connected with the history or customs of the Order that may be revealed to non-masons is, however, freely communicated, and enquirers are given to understand that, in the event of regretting admission into the Craft, attendance at subsequent meetings and continued membership of a lodge, are acts purely voluntary.

How preferable this system to an indiscriminate beating up for recruits; the latter may be a good remedy for empty coffers, but, in the long run, will assuredly redound to the discredit of the lodge that sanctions such a course of procedure.

Assuming, however, that candidates have presented themselves of their own free will and accord, lodges have yet most important and responsible duties to perform, viz., to ascertain and determine the fitness for membership. To commence with persons proposed for initiation, the lodge in which an initiate sees the light, is responsible to the entire Craft for the introduction of the new brother. Under the constitution of England the initiation fee is generally of sufficient amount to deter candidates from offering themselves when actuated solely by motives of curiosity, the minimum being fixed at Three Guineas (exclusive of the registering fee) though there are few lodges, comparatively, where the fee is as low. The vast spread of Masonry in America may be chiefly attributed to the non-existence of a similar restriction, admittance with the Craft in that country being obtainable on the payment of a very few dollars. Naturally where the fees are low a greater number of candidates is required to support the existence of lodges and those provident asylums, which Masons of every clime delight to establish for the relief of their distressed and aged brethren. We can afford looking upon the matter in a pecuniary light only, to exercise much greater circumspection than our transatlantic fellow-labourers; our lodges can exist, and our charities flourish, without the indiscriminate acceptance of aspiring candidates. A good old rule, alas! too seldom enforced of late years, was the necessity of a month's delay after application, before the petitioner could be admitted, and that under ordinary circumstances proper enquiries relative to the candidate's fitness could be instituted, even though his place of abode was far distant; the

revival of this custom is suggested, to be evaded only in cases of great emergency. An objectionable practice prevails pretty extensively, which is to invite candidates to attend the lodge on the evening they are balloted for, when, should rejection befall them, the slight is harder to be borne, happening publicly, than were the intelligence imparted at a more opportune moment.

Let us consider what peculiarities of character and disposition disqualify for participation in Masonic pursuits, reflecting before so doing, how few amongst us come up to our nominal standard of worth, but, without too literal a rendering of the ancient criterion, it will be conceded that where tendencies either to immorality or drunkenness are prominently displayed, or where an ungovernable temper betrays itself, there is no fitness for membership; an applicant may be what is termed a good fellow, but how many lodges owe their decadence to their want of foresight in admitting persons of this stamp? It frequently happens that people whose stay at a particular town is a mere question of days or weeks, propose to join the Masonic Order prior to departure and their aspirations are seldom thwarted by delay or elaborate investigation; in fact, by many lodges the initiation of these birds of passage is regarded as a godsend to their funds, the lodge gaining all the pecuniary benefit accruing therefrom, without incurring any permanent liability—there is thus a clear gain of the initiation fee without the drawback of an additional resident member. In many parts of Great Britain, more especially the seaport towns and military stations, lodges are to be met with three-fourths of whose members change annually, whilst a select few of the resident brethren, maintained at a certain strength, monopolise the offices and are regarded as patriarchs in the science by the ephemeral majority; emergent meetings occur as often as regular ones, yet with all this energy the work is ever in arrear, all three degrees are given at each assembly, and, notwithstanding the amount of business transacted and consequent number of initiates received, the cry is “still they come.”

In the colonial dependencies of England, more noticeably at the large garrisons, the same practice obtains; and during the Crimean war, when military removals were almost daily, several lodges found it impossible to keep up the connection, and so lapsed into abeyance; whilst others, with funds in a more flourishing condition, bided their time, and on the settling down of the soldiers at the termination of hostilities, reaped most remunerative harvests of fees. In this class of lodge the only thing necessary to ensure initiation is assent on the part of a non-mason. A great deal of the milk of human kindness is here to be met with, as well as a profound contempt for conventional antipathies. Is the candidate a drunkard, a notorious evil liver? The lodge replies, “We will reclaim him.” Is he a man of turbulent passions or suspected probity? “Our pure example and moral inculcations will purge him of these objectionable characteristics.”

With regard to the election of candidates for joining, few lodges are exclusive—all are fish that come to their net; and it has come to be considered a churlish act to refuse membership to a brother so soliciting. There is a faint line of demarcation between the Mason and the cowan, but none whatever between the subscribing and non-subscribing brother. In nineteen cases out

of twenty no candidate is even asked to produce his clearance certificate from his last lodge; yet what avoidance of an element of discord may hinge upon this formality being insisted upon. On no other account than distance or surrender of charter should a Mason be permitted to join a lodge without submitting his clearance certificate for inspection. Has he lost it? Let him write for another. But through waiving this objection a candidate may be elected who, in less time than his real character could have been obtained from the last lodge to which he subscribed, will have irremediably ruined your community.

Does the experience of any reader afford an instance of a proposition relative to the initiation or joining of a candidate, brought forward unexpectedly by a member of a lodge, falling to the ground through lack of a seconder, even though the person on whose behalf the proposition was made was completely unknown to all but the solitary friend who suggested his admission? Statutes and regulations, general or particular, are powerless in preventing such laxity; verbose fulminations and theoretical precautions are behind the age. The only practical way of inducing the requisite circumspection is by appealing earnestly to the Craft to reflect, that a sweeping acceptance of candidates not only lowers our society in the estimation of the outer world, but, by the inevitable influx of unfit persons, paves the way to still greater evils. In several lodges the following by-law is rigorously enforced:—"Proposers and seconds are to be particularly cautious in their recommendations, as no one can be initiated in, or join this lodge, *unless well known by two or more members.*" This, though occasionally ineffectual, is a step in the right direction, and may suggest improvement on the prevailing custom in the minds of Masonic reformers.

The object of these remarks will be fully attained if they have convinced any member of the Order that the subject herein handled, is deserving of greater attention than it has yet met with.

III

THE THREATENED SECESSION FROM THE SUPREME GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF SCOTLAND.—No. VII.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Undeterred by the firmness and unanimity with which Supreme Grand Chapter decline acceding to their demands, the committee of the Western Companions seem determined upon the vigorous prosecution of the crusade against the authority of Supreme Chapter upon which they have so madly entered; and with that view have addressed the following circular to every Companion within the district:—

"DEAR SIR AND COMPANION,—The Committee of the Royal Arch Masons of the Western Districts having received no answer from Supreme Committee, or Supreme Chapter, to the resolutions adopted by the Companions at the general meeting held on the 12th of September last, the Committee have to intimate that a general meeting of the Royal Arch Masons of the West of Scotland will be held on Thursday, 13th inst., in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, to determine the final steps to be taken by them in the matter of the dispute between them and Supreme Chapter. The attendance of all the members of the several Chapters is specially requested;

if inconvenient to be present, they will please send a deputation to represent their Chapter at the meeting, or forward to me in writing, previous to the day of meeting, whether the Chapter adheres to the resolutions agreed to at the meeting of the 12th of September.

"I am, dear Sir and Companion, yours fraternally,
"ROBT. WALLACE, Int. Secy.

"Glasgow, 3rd Nov., 1862."

That by a majority of their members a number of the Chapters in the west will withdraw their allegiance from Supreme Chapter is now stated to be quite certain; but granting this to be the case, it by no means follows that these Chapters will be lost to Supreme Chapter. It is not unreasonable to suppose that in the greater number of the seceding Chapters a remnant will be left uninfluenced by the spirit of insubordination, and both able and willing to work the Charters in connection with the body by whom they were granted. By the secession, Supreme Chapter may suffer a slight diminution of numbers, but otherwise her position will remain impregnable. We understand that the arrangement of Supreme Chapter for the maintenance of her authority are in a high state of forwardness, and that the expulsion of the ring-leaders of the movement has been determined upon. On the other hand, the secessionists are very sanguine as to the success of their plans and the advantages to Royal Arch Masonry, that will result from their accomplishment. Whatever be the immediate issue of the dispute, we cannot believe that the contemplated division can have a permanent existence, for the Supreme Chapters of England and Ireland must look upon the temporary triumph of the schismatics as in no small degree derogatory to the dignity of the Order, and tending to weaken the authority and jeopardize the very existence of all properly constituted Supreme Masonic bodies in this country.

Had the secession been to escape from the systematic oppression and mis-rule of their superiors, there might have been some justification of their conduct. But the reverse is the case: and it is because of Supreme Chapter's repudiation of the tyrannical proceedings of their inferiors that the schism is threatened. That the grounds upon which the secessionists rest their claim to be recognised as an independent Grand Chapter will be narrowly scrutinized by all sister Supreme Chapters, we may be assured of, and it may be taken for granted that their verdict will be condemnatory of the conduct of that small section of the Order in Scotland who have, by the engendering of strife and dissension, done so much to lower our noble institution in the eyes of the neutral world, and whose latest acts have been of such a character as to draw down upon them the marked and unanimously expressed censure of the Supreme Chapter of Scotland.

Alfred the Great is said to have compiled the laws contained in the Dom Boc, or Dome Book. The general opinion has long been that Alfred was the framer of these laws; but, according to Dr. Pauli, in his life of that monarch, he created no new laws; his aim was simply to restore, to renovate, to improve. In every part of his dominions he met with existing laws which required revision, alteration, or arrangement, and to this duty Alfred addressed himself, assisted by the advice and co-operation of the wisest and best men of the time. Everywhere throughout this code is the character of Alfred's own mind shown much more than that of the age in which he lived.

LANDMARKS OF FREEMASONRY.*

In order to ascertain what is the real tendency and end of Freemasonry, it will be necessary to clear the way by a brief examination of the Landmarks, which denote certain standard principles in the general laws, usages, customs, and language of the Order, and were originally established by our ancient brethren to preserve its identity, and prevent innovation. It has ever been considered essential to the integrity of Masonry that they should remain intact, because, if its leading tenets were subject to periodical changes at the will and pleasure of the Fraternity in every successive generation, its distinctive character, in process of time, might perchance be destroyed; in which case the institution would be denuded of all its fixed and determinate principles. It was fenced round with Landmarks, therefore, to preserve its integrity, and prevent the introduction of unauthorised novelties, which would affect its peculiar claims to consideration in the eye of the world.

In a disquisition on the rise and progress of Freemasonry, it is usual to trace it by means of certain presumed Landmarks through the dark ages, including the patriarchal and Mosaic dispensations, particularising the era of the Dionysiacs, who built the Temple of Solomon, and the Collegiæ Fabiorum, both of which were strictly operative; and after noticing the establishment of a Speculative Grand Lodge at York in the tenth century, the theorists proceed to the presumed institution of what is termed on the Continent of Europe the Rite of Ecossais, or the Order of H.R.D.M., the origin of which, from tolerably correct evidence, is assigned to King Robert Bruce, as the consummation of the battle of Bannock Burn, which was fought on St. John's Day, 1314. In the course of this inquiry the fable of Osiris and other practices of the heathen mysteries are incidentally mentioned, together with the traditional period when religious rites were first introduced as a speculative feature in the operative Craft.

The genuine Landmarks of Masonry, however, are of a different character, and are susceptible of division into twelve distinct classes, which may be arranged under the following heads:—1. Elementary; as in the opening and closing, the preparation and admission of a candidate, the ballot, &c. 2. Inductive; as in the badge, meeting and parting, the qualification questions, &c. 3. Ritual; as in the floor and covering of the lodge, the when and where, the ornaments, furniture, and jewels, labour and refreshment, the porch, dormer, and stone pavement of the Temple, &c. 4. Personal; as the signs, words, and tokens, the principal point, hole and conceal, of, at, and on, the working tools, &c. 5. Landmarks connected with the Cardinal Points; as the form, extent, and situation of the lodge, the pillars, the lesser lights, the deiseal, hailing from Jerusalem, &c. 6. Scientific; as in Masonic labour and refreshment, Geometry, numbers, the visica piscis, the universal language, worldly possessions, &c. 7. Historical; as the alliance of Solomon and Hiram, the building of the Temple, Jacob's vision, the deliverance from Egyptian bondage, passing the Red Sea, wandering in the wilderness, crossing the Jordan, &c. 8. Typical; as the legend of the third Degree, darkness visible, the Shekinah, the Cherubins, &c. 9. Doctrinal; as the qualifications of the W.M., oral communication, &c. 10. Practical; as in the powers of a Grand Lodge, the O.B., moral duties, &c. 11. Obsolete; as free by birth, Abraham and Hagar, illegitimacy, the fixed lights, age of candidate, the original parallels (according to the English system), H. XII. &c.; and 12. Spurious; as the facultie of Abrac, the Preadamites, the cost of the Temple, the amount of wages paid to the workmen, the

precious stones in the foundation, &c. Under such a classification a Landmark may be recognised with tolerable accuracy.

The strict inviolability of a Landmark is somewhat problematical. There are certain obsolete particulars in Masonry which were formerly esteemed to be Landmarks, but have undergone alterations in a greater or lesser degree. It follows, therefore, that if the old Landmarks cannot, by any possibility, be removed, then we incur the unavoidable conclusion that these never had a claim to any such distinction. In all existing constitutions, however, there is a prohibitory clause, which pronounces the Landmarks, like the laws of the Medes and Persians, to be unchangeable;* but we shall find that in practice it has been occasionally violated, and therefore inapplicable to all the contingencies that may arise in practice.

To persist, then, in asserting that the Landmark cannot be altered, with an array of positive facts against the hypothesis, is indefensible and absurd, because it places the society in a false position. It is well known, that whenever it has been found expedient to expunge a Landmark, the means of accomplishment were never wanting. The letter of the law is stern, but the spirit is feeble. Practice is more than a match for it, and beats it on its own ground. *Salus populi suprema est lex.*

Now, before I proceed it must be distinctly understood that I neither justify nor condemn the practice of modifying a Landmark to meet a new condition of society; my intention is merely to record historical truth. The question resolves itself into a matter of expediency, of which however the policy is somewhat doubtful; because if that be a sufficient pretext for the renunciation of a single Landmark, who knows but our successors in the course of a very few ages may witness the abolition of them all on a similar plea? The restrictive law of Landmark bears some resemblance to the fiction that the Pope has no authority or jurisdiction in these realms, which, *de jure*, is correct enough; but yet everybody knows that he regularly exercises both with perfect impunity, by the appointment of cardinals, legates, and bishops; and in effect he allows no important ecclesiastical affairs to be transacted in the United Kingdom, without his approbation and consent.

The true state of the case is, that in the actual business of Freemasonry, as it is now understood and practised by the whole Masonic community in all parts of the world, progress is the text, and improvement the commentary. The Grand Lodge, like the British Parliament, is all powerful; for it is a representative institution in which every brother is present by delegates elected by himself, and there is consequently no appeal against its decisions, even if a majority were to agree on a general sweep from the system of every existing Landmark, whether of ancient or modern imposition. Other Masonic communities might protest against the innovation, but the English Fraternity would be utterly powerless either to prevent it or to apply a remedy. It is true such a comprehensive measure is very unlikely to occur: yet it cannot be denied that the Landmarks appear to be considered merely as a series of arbitrary boundary lines, which, when they obstruct the overflowing current of

* But the question is, in what sense we are to understand the immutability of these ancient laws. Dr. Clark has a judicious observation, which I quote, as bearing in some degree on the subject under discussion. "I do not think," he observes, "that this law is to be understood so as to imply that whatever laws or ordinances the Medes and Persians once enacted, they never changed them. This would argue extreme folly in legislators in any country. Nothing more appears to be meant than that the decree should be enacted, written, and registered according to the legal forms among the Medes and Persians, and this one to be made obsolete for thirty days. The laws were such among this people that, when once passed with the usual formalities, the king could not change them at his own will. This is the utmost that can be meant by the law of Medes and Persians that could not be changed." If we substitute Grand Master for king, this may, perhaps, be the utmost latitude to which the Grand Lodge of England assigns to the word "unalterable," as applied to the Landmarks of Masonry.

* From the *Freemasons' Treasury*, by Dr. Oliver, now in the press.

progress, are to be levelled in detail, if expediency suggests the necessity of their removal. And so they might disappear, and become obsolete one by one, till the fraternity of another generation would forget that they ever existed.

General laws, as I have already had occasion to observe, are inviolable, and reputed in theory to constitute impervious Landmarks, because they enforce the observance of some moral virtue, while particular and local laws admit of alteration and revision when necessary; but if in carrying out these principles, any Grand Lodge for the sake of expediency does actually proceed to the *ultima thule* of removing one Landmark and altering another at its own will and pleasure, why retain a prohibition on the Masonic Statute Book, which may thus be violated with impunity whenever a majority shall so ordain? A great deal might be said on this subject if it were necessary, but I have some doubts as to the propriety of entering on a field of argument when the object of these lectures is simply to make a plain statement of facts as they are connected with the existing system of practice. It is a general opinion amongst the Craft that in the present state of Masonic progress, it ought not to be impeded by hypothetical obstructions; and many worthy brethren contend that the Order would be benefitted by a free and ample discussion of first principles, unshackled by imaginary precedence in any possible form. "Let it once be understood what are Landmarks and what are not," they say, "and all objections will be for ever silenced. But until some such general agreement amongst the several Grand Lodges of the world be accomplished, we are grovelling in darkness, and all our boasted accessions of light are no better than the glimmerings of reason compared with the full blaze of divine revelation."

If there be anomalies, these brethren urge, let them be swept away; but to persist, with such pertinacity, from age to age, in the fiction that Landmarks are unalterable, with certain irrefragable facts before us to repudiate the assertion, is unworthy of a great institution. We live in an age of reform, and if there be anything in Freemasonry that needs excision, the sooner the Grand Lodge take the bull by the horns the better. *Malus usus abolendus est.* H.R.H. the late Grand Master, whose authority on this subject will scarcely be questioned by any living Mason, contended that "obedience, however vigorously observed, does not prevent us from investigating the inconvenience of laws which at the time they were framed may have been prudent, and even necessary: but now, from a total change of circumstances and events, may have become unjust, oppressive, and useless. Justinian declares that he violates the law who, confining himself to the letter, acts contrary to the spirit of it."

If the above reasoning be sound, these conclusions will be clearly deducible from it. Freemasonry is evidently in a state of transition. If what are usually esteemed Landmarks offer an obstacle to its onward progress; if they clog and imperil the institution, or apply solely to another phase of society, there is no valid reason, in the opinion of the late Grand Master, why they should not give way when the interests of the Craft require it. And it is evident that the Fraternity in the last century entertained a somewhat similar opinion. It will not do to be continually tinkering; stopping one hole and making two. A comprehensive scheme of reform is of more value than a thousand pieces of patchwork. Let the question be settled at once and for ever. Either wholly draw aside the veil or let it not be touched. Name the Landmarks that are unalterable, and make it penal to violate them; and then it may be truly said, that "it is not in the power of any man or body of men to make any alteration or innovation in the body of Masonry." In such case we may have some chance of avoiding litigation, for our own time at least.

THE BENDING OF WOOD.

The applicability of bent wood for an increasing variety of purposes is both surprising and instructive. Here in this great lumber country, and many others, it is used in all departments of business and pursuits of life wherever man and his products are known. It is as ancient as history, and is found among the artifices employed in the rudest state of barbarism. Little is known of the most ancient devices for bending wood, but the oldest patented in England has now been practised for nearly a century, and is yet used there for some purposes. In 1813, at Woolwich Navy Yard, England, floor-timbers, 16 inches square, for a man-of-war, were bent over an arc of a circle with a radius of 4 feet. All these devices, as well as almost all others subsequently used, restrained, in some degree, that tendency found in wood to elongate its outer curve when under the operation of bending, the same as is now claimed to be done in apparatus brought as near the state of perfection as the nature of wood and the change of position the particles undergo will admit. The organic structure of all woods of the endogenous or internal growths, and the exogenous or external growths, are similar, and possess the qualities of cohesiveness and compressibility, more or less, differing most in the degree or quantity of these two qualities, which make and determine the amount or degree of flexibility or elasticity in any wood. These qualities, with a structure that will admit any fluid agency to thoroughly penetrate and soften its tissue, indicate a wood that may be made to assume any curvilinear shape required for practical use. The only ordinary skill and judgment would be required to operate on good wood—bending successfully, without any loss occurring from breakage of the wood under the operation of bending; but where the wood has not been seasoned, a trifling loss will occur from breakage, caused by the shrinkage that all woods are subject to in the process of seasoning. And in the case of unseasoned bent wood, this shrinkage acts upon the fibre of the outer curve, which is always at the point of tension, it not in an actual state of severe tension, for the reason that in deflecting any substance, but particularly wood, either with or without partial restraint, to oppose tension, the wood is acted upon by two forces—the one a crushing force that foreshortens and contracts the lesser or inner curve, with a tendency to rupture it laterally, the other a tensile force that stretches and elongates the greater or outer curve, with a tendency to fracture it transversely and lift the fibre, which is the most hurtful, and of the more frequent occurrence. These two forces are divided by a neutral line, more or less moved from either curve. When nearest the inner curve the best result is obtained, because all tension, however little, is injurious to the structure of the wood, arising from separating and drawing out the fibre, which can never be made to unite again, as in ductile and malleable substances, and because the crushing or compressing force improves the wood by forcing the interstices or cells, and by interlacing and interlocking the fibre, the product is obtained nearly resembling the knot or knurl, which is difficult to split or cut, even when rupture is indicated.

In order to get the best result from bent wood, it is recommended that the crushing force alone be used. And this can be, if the fibre of the wood be left free to move into a new position in more than one direction from the point of bending, by beginning the curve in the middle of it when the wood is made to assume a long curve first, before taking the shorter curve of the mould, which long curvature starts the fibres throughout, and makes more, if not every particle of the wood, accessible to the influence of the softening agent already in it, and consequently more yielding to the action of the crushing force. This force should be produced and governed by fixed immovable restraint that should not compress the wood while in its straight form. It should also prevent end expansion, and preserve the exact length on the other curve.

This would give a product uniform in density and rigidity throughout its whole length, with the fibre undisturbed on the outer curve, to resist any tendency to change the shape produced. The long curve gradually adapting itself to the curve of the mould, would amount to double on successive manipulation, if unrestrained; wood has been compressed into one-third of its primary bulk, with every quality improved to resist decay and wear in use. Nothing can be reasonably urged in support of the popular belief of the necessity to produce or permit tension and elongation in successful wood bending. Tension and elongation are required or permitted only in consequence of the uses of imperfect apparatus—elongation is positively indispensable in machines that bend from one end, or in one direction from the point of bending, and that press the wood against the mould with such power as to prevent all movements of the fibre, producing in advance of the point of bending a wave-like movement among the fibres of the wood, held rigidly confined and straight, until suddenly made to take the curve of the mould. The movement in advance of the bending gradually accumulates a power that resists compression thus attempted, and before the completion of the process, and in order to save the machine or the process, relaxation of restraint is required, and is followed by elongation of the wood, however small it may be. Tension acts upon the fibre, giving a product uneven throughout its whole length, and more liable to change the artificial shape. It is obvious that any augmentation of restraint during the process must give such results, and that the machinery in use for the bending of wood is far from having reached perfection. There can and will be machinery constructed to bend large timbers for marine and other structures, over any arc or curve that will not require a reduction of its bulk, by the compression of the inner curve, to less than one-half its lateral size. Past experience has shown that wood-bending machinery is most profitably employed in the production of similar articles, for which there is an unlimited demand that will continue, because of the suitableness and superiority of bent wood for these purposes.

Iron or jointed structures are generally used on a large scale; but there can be no doubt that timber of the most imposing dimensions can be bent into many convenient forms, with considerable increase to its strength, and the appearance of the structure in which it is employed. The subject is well worthy of the attention of inventive mechanics. Steaming wood, previously to submitting it to a bending force, is now employed.—*Journal of the Board of Arts and Manufactures, Canada.*

INDIA CIVIL SERVICE.

The following regulations for examinations for the Civil Service of India, which has been officially forwarded to us, may be of interest to many of our readers who have sons or other relatives wishing to enter the Civil Service of India:—

1. In June or July, 1863, an examination of candidates will be held in London. Not less than — candidates will be selected, if so many shall be found duly qualified. Of these, — will be selected for the Presidency of Bengal, — for that of Madras, and — for that of Bombay.* Notice will hereafter be given of the days and place of examination.

2. Any natural-born subject of her Majesty, who shall be desirous of entering the Civil Service in India, will be entitled to be examined at such examination, provided he shall, on or before the 1st of May, 1863, have transmitted to the Civil Service Commissioners, Dean's Yard, London, S.W.—

(a) A certificate of his birth, showing that his age on the 1st of May, 1863, will be above eighteen years and under twenty-two years;

(b) A certificate, signed by a physician or surgeon, of his having no disease, constitutional affection, or bodily infirmity, unfitting him for the Civil Service of India;

(c) Satisfactory proof of good moral character;

* The number of appointments to be made, and the number in each Presidency, will be announced hereafter.

(d) A statement of those of the branches of knowledge hereinafter enumerated in which he desires to be examined.

3. In any case in which a doubt may arise as to the eligibility of a candidate is respect of age, health, or character, such inquiries as may be necessary will be instituted by the Civil Service Commissioners.

4. The examination will take place only in the following branches of knowledge:—

	Marks.
English Language and Literature—	
Composition.....	500
English Literature and History, including that of the Laws and Constitution	1000
	1500
Language, Literature, and History of Greece.....	750
“ “ “ Rome	750
“ “ “ France.....	375
“ “ “ Germany... ..	375
“ “ “ Italy	375
Mathematics, Pure and Mixed	1250
Natural Science; that is, (1.) Chemistry, (2.) Electricity and Magnetism, (3.) Natural History, (4.) Geology, and (5.) Mineralogy	500
* * No Candidate will be allowed to be examined in more than three of the branches of knowledge included under this head, and the total (500 marks) may be obtained by adequate proficiency in any three.	
Moral Sciences; that is, Logic, Mental and Moral Philosophy	500
Sanskrit Language and Literature	500
Arabic Language and Literature	500
	7375

5. The merit of the persons examined will be estimated by marks, and the number set opposite to each branch in the preceding regulation denotes the greatest number of marks that can be obtained in respect of it.

6. No candidate will be allowed any marks in respect of any subject of examination unless he shall be considered to possess a competent knowledge of that subject.

7. The examination will be conducted by means of printed questions and written answers, and by vivâ voce Examination, as may be deemed necessary.

8. The marks obtained by each candidate, in respect of each of the subjects in which he shall have been examined, will be added up, and the names of the — candidates who shall have obtained a greater aggregate number of marks than any of the remaining candidates will be set forth in order of merit, and such candidates shall be deemed to be selected candidates for the Civil Service of India. They shall be permitted to choose, according to the order in which they stand, as long as a choice remains, the presidency to which they shall be appointed.

9. In June or July 1864, a further examination of the selected candidates will take place in the following subjects:—

	Marks.
1. { Sanskrit.....	500
{ Vernacular Languages of India (each)...	350
* * Each candidate may name one or two languages. If he name one only, he must name either Sanskrit or a vernacular language current in the Presidency which he has selected.	
2. The history and geography of India.....	500
3. The general principles of jurisprudence and the elements of Hindu and Mahomedan Law.....	1000
4. Political economy.....	500

In this, as in the proceeding examination, the merit of the candidates examined will be estimated by marks, and the number set opposite to each subject denotes the greatest number of marks that can be obtained in respect of it. The examination will be conducted by means of printed questions and written answers, and by vivâ voce examination, as may be deemed necessary.

* It should be understood that candidates are at liberty to name at their pleasure any or all of these branches of knowledge (subject only to the restriction above mentioned as to natural science), and that no subjects are obligatory.

10. No candidate will be permitted to proceed to India until he shall have passed the further examination, or after he shall have attained the age of twenty-four years.

11. The selected candidates who at the further examination shall be found to have a competent knowledge of the subjects specified in Regulation 9, shall be adjudged to have been passed, and to be entitled to be appointed to the Civil Service of India.

12. The seniority in the Civil Service of India of the selected candidates shall be determined according to order in which they stand on the list resulting from the further examination.

13. No person will, even after passing the further examination, be allowed to proceed to India unless he shall comply with the regulations in force, at the time, for the Civil Service of India, and shall be of sound bodily health and good moral character. The Civil Service Commissioners will require such further evidence on these points as they may deem necessary before granting their certificate of qualification.

11. Applications from persons desirous to be admitted as candidates are to be addressed to the Secretary to the Civil Service Commissioners, Dean's Yard, London, S.W.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

DEFOE'S TOUR THROUGH GREAT BRITAIN.

The following answer to the inquiry of an East Kent brother, is forwarded by his desire to the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE. His informant's recollection of my copy of Defoe's *Tour through Great Britain*, is somewhat imperfect, which is not surprising, very many years having, it seems, elapsed since he inspected it. The four volumes are in the state in which they were when purchased by me at Oxford, whilst an undergraduate about 1811. The memoranda are all in the same handwriting, and principally occur in the fly-leaves of vol. i. With few exceptions they relate to Kent, one of the counties contained in it. The earliest date is 1753, the latest 1790. There is no memorandum that a Masonic sign, opportunely made, saved the writer from an untimely end, in the Medway, to which some drunken sailors, part of a man-of-war's crew, were pursuing him. A story of that kind was, as I remember, told by an octogenarian brother, once a Thames pilot, at the banquet of some one of the Kentish Lodges, visited by me a few weeks after my installation as Provincial Grand Master. But my correspondent has been misled if he supposes that there is a jotting of the sort in my Defoe, unless, indeed, it be the following memorandum:—"At Chatham, *Norwich*, 74 guns, dined aboard. *Somerset*, 60 guns, dined aboard. Mem.—Very near flung overboard because I said I was a lawyer." This memorandum has no date. The memorandum immediately ensuing is dated 1st July, 1760, and contains a very brief general description of the Isle of Thanet, succeeded by a special notice of Margate, the "commodious umbrellas" of whose machines for bathing are much lauded. None of the memorandums, in my judgment, furnish evidence that the writer was a member of the Craft. Here this communication would have terminated, had not a brother a *Littérateur* of this department, and occasional correspondent of the *Monde Maçonnique*, proceeded with amusing *persiflage* to comment upon some of the memoranda, and infer that the individual penning them plainly possessed: 1st. Perception of female beauty. 2nd. Observation as a traveller. 3rd. Church zeal. 4th. Wit; all of which, our brother, with continued gravity added, he had uniformly met with in those initiated in our mysteries, who have the advantage of being born on the English side of *La Manche*. His suggestion that I should subjoin four of the memoranda, is made in so pleasant a way, that I cannot refuse to adopt it. However the extracts can be used, or not, as the Editor of the ably-conducted periodical to which they are sent, shall think proper. "1st. Isle of Wight at Newport, 20th August, 1753. My landlord's daughter the finest girl I ever saw, very civil, stayed a week." Here our brother hummed some lines of a Vandois' version of the Entered Apprentices' song. "2nd. At Dover, August, 1761. The sea wonderful to

behold. Dover Cliff much improved by Shakespeare. North Foreland, on the top of it is the lighthouse, a strong building of flint and brick. On the top of the lighthouse is an iron grate, quite open to the air, in which is made a blazing fire of coals every night to direct ships in their course, that they may keep clear of the Goodwin Sands. The wind keeps the coals constantly alight, and the higher the wind, the greater the blaze. The lighter-man told me the farmers fetch away the ashes for their land, and pay him sixpence a month. 3rd. Cathedral Canterbury, Sunday, 28th August, 1763. The choir handsome. N.B.—Only two Prebends at Church. 4th. Castle Dover, 20th September, 1763. Roman bricks much harder than stone, but not so hard to digest as the Dover wafers."—CHARLES PURTON COOPER, Chateau Frampas, 30th October, 1862.

COWANS.

I lately met with the following definition of a Cowan. "In Scotland when an operative Mason has not been initiated, or has not been regularly apprenticed to the trade, he is termed a cowan?"—P. T. A.

ANCIENT AND MODERN MASONS.

Please to give some short summary of Ancient and Modern Masonry and oblige.—A CONSTANT READER.—[The schism amongst English Masons having terminated, by the Act of Solemn Union, in 1813, no longer interests us otherwise than as an historical question, or as a caution against the danger of disputing about trifles. The denomination Ancient Masons, assumed by the schismatic brethren, yet continues to cause misapprehension in some minds and deserves some slight consideration. The facts appear to be these:—At the decease of G.M. Sir Christopher Wren, Freemasonry in England lay in a languishing condition, and would probably have died out had not Dr. Desaguliers, Antony Sayer, J. Lambert, J. Elliott, George Payne, J. Cordwell, T. Morris, T. Hobby and Richard Ware succeeded in reviving it, in 1717, when they formed the first Grand Lodge. Several years elapsed and then divisions broke out; the real courses of which do not appear, but the abandonment of some old forms was the asserted reason. Bro. Millikin, an old Irish Mason, writing in 1748, says, speaking from his own observation of the working of both systems,—"that the differences in the working of the two bodies were trivial and not such as to perpetuate or justify a division." This opinion is endorsed by many old Masons, and where the old style of the ancient Masons is carried on it confirms the writer's conclusions. Milliken gives it as his opinion that the reason of the omissions of the moderns was, that Dr. Desaguliers and his friends attached more importance to the "science" "than the mere forms that conveyed it," and adds, that "they retained all the essentials, such as the secrets, history and cements." He also renders honorable testimony to their merit by expressing his "conviction that to the moderns" we are indebted for the present prosperity of the Craft." It is pleasing also to find the latter display the same consistent disregard to mere terms when peace was at stake. In 1813 the "moderns" treated with the "ancients" under the title the latter had chosen to adopt and, sinking all difference of opinion, drew lots with them for precedence.]

EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTE BOOKS OF THE ST. PAUL'S LODGE, BIRMINGHAM.—Continued from page 350.

December 27th. Bernard Sheppard Henton installed W.M. The St. Alban's Lodge sent a message that they chose, this time, to dine by themselves. All honours were paid to the W.M.

1789. January 2nd.—Sketchley ordered to contrive a piece of furniture to hold the regalia instead of boxes, and so relieve the Tyler's room from being over-crowded.

January 16th.—Proposed that, in the cases of charitable subscriptions in London, the members of the lodge do not contribute private, but, as a body, through the lodge.

March 6th.—The death of Bro. Lauder on the previous day communicated to the lodge, and Bro. Timmins requested to study and deliver a funeral oration. The deceased brother was buried on the 9th, in Moseley Chapel Yard. The members to meet the next night in mourning, and the lodge to be all clothed in black.

March 11th.—The manner of drinking toasts was to give one, or a sentiment, each one in his turn. There were but very few practised, as the system was only just gaining ground with Masons. Those proposed on this occasion were "Our Royal Brothers," "The Visitors," "The Duchess of Cumberland and Success to the Cumberland School."—[Our present Girls' School, then under the patronage of her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cumberland, and called after her].

March 20th.—The funeral solemnity and oration delivered by Bro. Timmins, with an elegy set to music, by Bro. Cresshull.

April 3rd.—A Steward appointed to keep account, by tickets, of the reckoning, both in the lodge and the supper-room.

April 10.—The 4th By-law dispensed with on that occasion in order that two candidates of unexceptionable character and well known by many present, "so they were elected at once and made," as was also the Rev. E. Lawrence, curate of St. Philips' Church, Birmingham. James Rollason, printer, dead. "Departed this life in hope of an eternal one." Solemnity ordered.

April 13th.—Three brethren, each, passed and raised the same evening. Birmingham visiting brethren were to pay their share of the expenses on solemnities at the death of a brother.

April 17th.—A solemn stated lodge. Lectures in the three degrees and Oration by Bro. Timmins. The Elegy performed as a solo, followed by a chorus, and the whole *encored*! The lodge was ordered to remain all the next morning for ladies and gentlemen to see it. Bro. Sketchley and the Tyler to be in attendance. The Rev. Bro. Lawrence appointed Chaplain. A paragraph on the solemnity ordered to be drawn up and sent to the newspapers.

May 1.—The Chaplain declared free from payment of his subscription.

June 12th.—The Rev. S. Meer, (?) Vicar of Yardley, made. Dinner ordered for anniversary at half-a-crown each, and then to adjourn to Wilday's Bowling-green at the Shakespeare. Resolved to invite the St. Albans lodge again.

September 3rd.—The lodge was called, specially, in order to give Bro. Ruspini, and others, from London, opportunity of attending. [The Chevalier Ruspini was the founder of the Cumberland, or Girl's School.]

December 4th.—A lodge certificate was agreed to. The ornamental border of it was left to the decision of a committee.

December 18th.—Bro. J. Timmins elected W.M., and Bro. Heaton appointed Deputy.

1790, January 15th.—The health of the candidates elected drunk with hearty good wishes, *after* which the lodge was closed.

June 4th.—The King's birthday. The officer in command of a recruiting party, in Birmingham, out of compliment to the lodge, ordered the fife and drums to play the Entered Apprentice Tune, he being both a Royal Arch and Super-Excellent Mason. One third of the members required to be present to dispense with the 4th by-law.

June 25th.—Dinner at Vauxhall. Bro. R. Covell, P.M., Royal Arch, Rose Croix, &c., present.

July 2nd.—The lodge again patronised Bro. Banks at the theatre,

September 24th.—Bro. Sketchley, the publisher, presented a copy, bound in red Morocco, of *The Sufferings of John Coustos, for Freemasonry, in the Inquisition in Spain*. The lodge was ordered to go into mourning, and remain so as long as the public mourning

lasted, for the death of H.R.H. the G.M., the Duke of Cumberland. The brethren to appear in mourning. Lectures on the 1st 2nd and 3rd steps. An Elegy performed. On oration delivered, and a hymn sung. The room hung with black cloth, a pall, &c. One brother passed and raised that night.

November 29th.—H.R.H. the Prince of Wales elected Grand Master.

December 3rd.—Arrears ordered to be paid.

December 17th.—Bro. James Timmins re-chosen "to fill Solomon's chair." Bro. Walker, Deputy Master.

1791, January 7th.—Officers installed and "homaged." List of the members ordered to be sent to Bro. W. White. [Our present long-lived and respected P.G. Sec.]

February 18th.—The lodge room ordered not to be given up on lodge night for the use of any meeting, either by order of the Master or any individual, but only by the unanimous consent of the lodge.

June 3rd.—Anniversary dinner ordered. Invitations to be sent only to the present and former members of the lodge. The W.M. to see each of them, and no advertisement to be inserted in the newspapers. Dinner for eighteen. Wines and spirits to be delivered into the Tying-room in bottles. Arrears to be paid.—NOTES BY AN OLD P.M.

IRISH MASONIC PERIODICALS.

Are there any Irish Masonic periodicals published of a similar nature to THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE?—A.G. —[We are not aware of any now. There was one formerly called *The Sentimental and Masonic Magazine*, containing plates and portraits, in seven vols., 8vo. Dublin, 1792-95].

LODGES AT STRASBOURG.

What lodges formerly existed at Strasbourg? That city was, so I am told, one of the great centres of Masonry eighty years ago.—S.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SUSSEX.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Can you be kind enough, in your next publication to inform the Sussex brethren when they are to have the pleasure of reading the speech, &c., of the V.W.D.G.M., as promised in your journal of October 4th last. We should like to know, Mr. Editor, where the blame lies. It seems that some counties—one, for instance, that of Bucks and Berks, which took place so lately as October 28—can have a full report of speeches, sermon, &c., the same week: but the brethren of Sussex are compelled to wait more than a month before they can have even the D.G.M.'s speech reported. Is the fault that of those who reported the meeting as far as published could not get a copy, or is it that those who have the management will not let them have it, but like to keep the Sussex brethren in suspense—"Masonic Hall," to wit?

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
OBSERVER.

[We were officially promised a copy of the address in question, but have not yet received it.—Ed.]

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It may not be generally known that the Scottish Templars decline to fraternise with those of that degree who have received the same

under the English or Irish Constitution, but such is the case. A member of an encampment meeting in Oxford, was recently proposed for affiliation into the Priory of Ayr, but as there existed in the minds of some a doubt as to whether that could be constitutionally done, I felt it to be my duty to apply to the Secretary of the Grand Priory of Scotland for direction in the circumstances. In reply to my query, that Sir Knight, who is also Registrar to the Chapter-General, most unhesitatingly stated that no *Masonic* Knight Templar was admissible as a member of any encampment holding of the Chapter-General of the Religious and Military Order of the Temple, and that as both the English and Irish Grand Conclaves of Knights Templar were *Masonic* bodies, no one dubbed in their encampments could be admitted by affiliation into a Scottish Priory. The Office-bearers of the Ayr Priory had therefore, to reject the applicant referred to. Great dissimilarity exists, I am told, between the ritual used in the Scottish Encampments and that employed by those of England.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

D. MURRAY LYON,

Priory of Ayr Priory, No. 4.

Ayr, October 23rd, 1862.

BRO. ROB. MORRIS, OF KENTUCKY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It is with feelings of the deepest regret we learn that the intestine hostilities in which America is so lamentably engaged have at length caused our dearly beloved friend and frater, Rob. Morris, to drop his *Masonic* pen, which has been so prolific of good to the Craft, and grasp the sword in defence of the principles his conscience has led him to espouse. The Confederates having invaded Kentucky, that State is now the scene of indescribable ruin and bloodshed. Many of its inhabitants have fled from the homes so dear to them; others have felt it their duty to remain, and give proof of their devotion to the cause of the Union, by dedicating themselves to military service. Foremost among these we discover Rob. Morris, who has been entrusted with the command of a regiment of the State Guard. While it is gratifying to know that our distinguished brother has attained to such an honourable and responsible military position, we cannot but regret that it should also be one of imminent personal danger to the holder of it. The sword of Colonel Morris has not been left long to rest in its scabbard. From the official report of a skirmish in which that officer was engaged on the night of the 27th September we extract the following:—"I moved to Newcastle on Saturday night with 120 men, to surprise Jessop's party of 150. He was forewarned by Secession spies, withdrew, got reinforced, and attacked me with 400 men under Colonel Maxwell, a regular army officer. I killed three, and wounded four of his men. I withdrew from town, took a position 300 yards east, and offered him battle, but he declined. There was no surrender, no burning of houses, nor did I have a single man killed or wounded." Colonel Morris was also present at the fight at Newcastle next day (Sunday), in which the Confederates lost 1100 killed, and 500 taken prisoners.

The critical position in which our brother is placed will be shown by the following quotation from the *Louisville Democrat*:—"We learn that during the fight at Newcastle on Sunday the grossest and most shameful treachery was manifested by the Secessionists there. They communicated, through the alleys and back yards of the town, every movement and order of Colonel Morris to the enemy, passed across the range of his guns with the coolest impudence, and expressed their disloyalty in terms as offensive as they were treasonable." That the God of battles may cover the head of our gallant brother, and preserve him amid the scenes of conflict through which he may yet have to go, must surely be the earnest wish of the readers of the *MAGAZINE*, whose pages have, in years gone by, been enriched with the contributions of his talented pen. In the last communication he addressed to us (August '62), he spoke hopefully of the future, and fully anticipated being enabled to continue the publication of the *Voice*, which had been resumed in magazine form in the month of April of this year, a copy of which he sent us. The realisation of his dream of peaceful labour in the *Masonic* vineyard, and calm repose in the bosom of his family, have, for the present been denied him, and he is now called to go forth, with his life in his hand, for the protection of home and fatherland.

In his "Salutation," addressed to the readers of the *Voice*, on its reappearance in April, Bro. Morris thus feelingly expresses himself:—"If our old friends (Heaven's blessing shield and protect them in these dangerous times!) feel a tithe of the pleasure that kindles up our countenance as we commence this Salutation, then there will be ten thousand more happy faces in the country than history gives credit for. For a thousand joyous memories throng upon us. A multitude of faces, glowing with the fervour of brotherly love, seem to look out from the page upon which we write. A multitude of cheerful voices salute our ears. Our room is crowded with shadows, whose originals are found in the five thousand lodges of the land, some of them, alas! in the silent home. Since last July we have mourned the necessity of silence. The country was too much agitated with the realities and the anticipations of war, and there was no call for *The Voice of Masonry*. The excitement of the day absorbed all attention. The things of peace—religion, science, education, Masonry—encouraged no organ; if an organ was published, it was at the heavy loss of the proprietors. We have waited, patiently abiding our time, and *our time now has come*. The end of the war seems now not hopelessly distant. The excitement and sensations of strife are beginning to pall upon the appetite. A demand has reached us from all quarters that we resume *The Voice*, and promises in abundance have been tendered of patronage and material aid. We look up, then, the old pen, refill the editorial inkstand, open the various portfolios (labelled with the old titles with which, as headings, our readers are acquainted), and proceed to indite our 'salutation.' . . . Brethren, one and all, we salute you! Refreshed by our eight months' rest and various extended journeys through the length and breadth of the land, we sit down to our old, and, we think, genial task, with a feeling of satisfaction which we cannot but deem prophetic of that which will animate those to whom our labours are given. So mote it be!"

Thinking this notice of Rob. Morris would interest yourself and your numerous readers, I have thus encrached upon your space.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

D. MURRAY LYON.

Ayr, November 6th, 1862.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEM.

We remind the brethren that the Festival of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows is approaching, and that now is the time to send in their names as Stewards. They will have a capital Chairman in Bro. Havers, G.W.

METROPOLITAN.

DE GREY AND RIPON LODGE (No. 1107).—This happy little lodge held its last meeting for the season at Bro. Ashmole's, the Angel Hotel, Great Ilford, on Monday, the 27th ult., under the able presidency of its founder and first W.M., Bro. Captain A. H. King. The business before the meeting consisted in initiating Lieut. E. S. Burnett, *R.H.A.*, which was most ably performed by the W.M. The election of W.M. and Treasurer for the ensuing year took place, and the unanimous choice of the brethren fell on Bro. Lieut. De Cetto, the S.W., as W.M., and the re-election of Bro. Captain E. Ibbetson as Treasurer. All business being concluded, the brethren proceeded to banquet, where kindness, good fellowship, and the other Masonic virtues prevailed, rendering all present happy and delighted. The brethren dispersed at their usual early hour.

PROVINCIAL.

CHANNEL ISLES.

JERSEY.—*Lodge La Césarée* (No. 860).—At the regular monthly meeting held in the Masonic rooms on Thursday, October 30th, the lodge was opened in the first degree by Bro. John Durell, W.M., assisted by his Wardens, Bros. Philip Le Sueur and Clement Le Sueur, upwards of fifty of the members being present. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Messrs. Alexander Muller and Joseph Levy Hanan, after ample testimony had been warmly given by several brethren as to their honour and character, which in the latter case was confirmed by numerous authentic certificates. In both instances the result was declared unanimous in their favour. A petition for relief from a distressed brother was met by a vote of a donation of £5. Three candidates then offered themselves for the second degree, Bros. F. N. Giraudot, John Manger, and — Gibaut, Lieutenant in the 73rd Regiment of the English Army, and member of the Royal Alfred Lodge (No. 1179). The lodge being opened in the second degree, they were duly passed as Fellow Crafts. The lodge having been resumed in the first degree, Messrs. Muller and Hanan were introduced, and initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Order, after which they expressed their desire to become subscribing members of the lodge. The W.M. was complimented by the brethren on the ability with which he had conducted the ceremonies. A letter from Bro. Rondeaux was read, but the lodge, considering itself incompetent to deal with the question to which it referred, declined the consideration of it. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren retired to the banquetting-room for refreshment and an hour's social intercourse. A translation of the letter of Bro. Rondeaux, the author of the address which appeared on page 261 of *THE MAGAZINE*, is, with his permission, appended, since it involves a question which rarely arises and of no great importance in itself, excepting inasmuch as it shows a defect or want of explicitness in the *Book of Constitutions*. It is unnecessary to relate the circumstances, which are sufficiently explained in the letter. It can scarcely be doubted, that if the views of the esteemed brother who wrote it do not infringe on the letter of the law, they are not in harmony with its spirit. Perhaps the Editor may be induced to express his ideas on the matter.

"Worshipful Sir and Brother,—I have pleasure in returning to you the *Book of Constitutions* you kindly lent me. I have not found anything therein relating to foreign Masons. With regard to the jewels, you will find the law in the chapter on regalia, page 107. The first paragraph refers to the clothing and insignia, the second to the jewels. But that is written by

the Grand Lodge for Masons who are members thereof, and for those who are initiated in lodges under its jurisdiction. There is not a word in the general statutes concerning foreign visitors, which may be interpreted as an indication that the Grand Lodge desires to allow to private lodges perfect latitude in regard to them. Tradition and general custom must be our guide in such a matter. You know that the Grand Orient of France is bound to the Grand Lodge of England by the closest ties, these two authorities having respectively representatives, the one with the other. Lodges under the Grand Orient are authorised to receive foreign Masons. The English lodges receive them in accordance with custom, thus paying homage to fraternity. Moreover, and this deserves especial notice, the representative of English Masonry at the meetings of the Grand Orient does not wear the insignia of French Masonry, and the same rule is observed in England by the French representative. Is the question changed when a French Mason presents himself as a joining member? I think not. He pays his fees for enrolment to the Grand Lodge, just as on initiation, but it is not the latter, but the former, which leads to a recognition of him by the Grand Lodge, giving to this joining member all the privileges resulting from his registration. The act of the lodge which admits him does not confer upon him the title of Mason, but gives him the rights of a Mason *holding under the Grand Lodge*. He becomes a Mason under the Grand Lodge, but he does not cease to be a Mason under the Grand Orient. If French Masons are received with their insignia as visitors, can they not be received as joining members with the same insignia? This is, excuse the expression, a *peurle* objection. The W.M., it is said, does not know if these insignia or jewels are Masonic. If the W.M. be not a Royal Arch Mason, does he know if the jewel worn by so many of the brethren is that of the Royal Arch? It may be answered, that this jewel is given and engraved at the end of the *Book of Constitutions*, be it so, but all the Masonic decorations and jewels of all the rites are engraved and printed in Masonic works; ignorance or the want of information on the part of a W.M. cannot furnish a reasonable motive. When I presented myself to Lodge La Césarée two years ago for affiliation, I was obliged, in conformity with article twenty-five of the by-laws of the lodge, to produce my certificate of Rose Croix, as it is written at length in the article.* It cannot be argued, then, that Lodge La Césarée does not know this grade, since it requires the title of those who possess it before admitting them among the number of its members. In my long Masonic career I have met in the Grand Orient of France brethren belonging to the Grand Lodge of England, and I am not aware that it has ever occurred to the mind of any one to say, "Your titles are regular, but your jewels are not; if you desire to join in our labours, clothe yourself as a French Mason." At your last meeting, some moments after I quitted it, a member of the lodge addressed a few words to you with a view to prevent my appearing on future occasions wearing my badge of Rose Croix. The lodge, animated by a sentiment of kind feeling, for which I offer my thanks, went on to other business, declining to entertain the matter in my absence. I confess, Worshipful Sir, that it is repugnant to me to take part in a debate which concerns myself alone, and it is with a view of avoiding a discussion that would occupy much of your precious time that I have thought it well to address this note to you, with a request that it may be read to the lodge. Lastly—and in order to express my full conviction on the matter—if a proposition, having for its object to deprive me of the insignia of my rank, should be again made, I think that Lodge La Césarée has no alternative but to declare itself incompetent to decide, since this is a case not provided for by the Constitutions, and that it will be necessary to send the question to the Grand Secretary for solution, so that it may in due course be submitted to the Board of General Purposes and to the Grand Lodge. Pray accept, Worshipful Sir, every expression of fraternal regard.—RONDEAUX.

"To the W.M. of Lodge La Césarée (No. 860)."

[Bro. Rondeaux is mistaken. There is no exchange of representatives between the Grand Lodge of England and the Grand Orient of France. A foreign brother joining an English lodge must obey the Constitutions of England, and cannot therefore wear the jewels of the high degrees in a Craft Lodge.—E.D. F. M.]

* The article referred to runs thus:—"If a foreign brother presents himself, he is required to produce the diploma or warrant in which his rank is stated, and the certificate of the lodge of which he is a member. In case these documents, or one of them, be not in his possession, or are no longer in existence, admission cannot be permitted till after inquiry by the W.M."

DEVONSHIRE.

PLYMOUTH.—*Lodge Harmony* (No. 182).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held on the evening of Monday, the 3rd inst., for the raising of two brothers, the passing of one, and the initiation of Mr. John Sutton. The latter ceremony was performed in the most beautiful style by the W.M., Bro. Rowe. One candidate was proposed for initiation at the next regular lodge. The festive board was graced by visitors from Nos. 185 and 83, who returned thanks for the courtesy that had been shown them. The newly initiated brother also in a neat speech said he felt proud indeed in being initiated in a fraternity that he had long had an inclination to join. The brethren, after most heartily having shown their appreciation of the talents of their W.M. by drinking his health, adjourned at half-past eleven.

DURHAM.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Provincial Grand Lodge met at Wetherall's Assembly Rooms, North Bailey, Durham, on Tuesday, 28th October, 1862, at two o'clock. Bro. John Fawcett, jun., R.W. Prov. G.M., in the chair, assisted by Bros. Henry Fenwick, *M.F.*, R.W. D. Prov. G.M.; Sir Hedworth Williamson, *Bart.*, S.G.W., and Prov. S.G.W.; Wilson, Prov. J.G.W.; and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers, also the Stewards of the Province, Bro. Heavood, Lodge 56, Bro. Gilmore, 111, Bro. Thos. Jopling, 114, Bro. Wooler, 246, and Bro. Henry Hedley, 292. The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form. The minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge were read and confirmed, also the transactions of the Fund Committee, which met at 12 o'clock, granting donations amounting to nearly £100 to distressed applicants in the province. The Treasurer's accounts were also passed, showing a good balance in his hands, and a steadily increasing fund in Government securities, which now amounts to nearly £2000, the interest of this amount is given to the Masonic Charities every year.

The roll of lodges was then called, and each W.M. gave the annual report, which was most satisfactory, and showed that most of the lodges were in a very flourishing condition. St. Hilda's Lodge (No. 292), was complimented by the R.W. Prov. G.M., for having commenced building a Masonic Hall, and each report was acknowledged by him and approved by the brethren of Provincial Grand Lodge.

After a pleasing address from the R.W. Prov. G.M., he proceeded to invest the following Prov. Grand Officers:

Bro. Henry Fenwick	D. Prov. Grand Master.
" Rev. Du Pledge	Prov. S.G. Warden.
" R. J. Banning, <i>M.D.</i>	Prov. J.G. Warden.
" Rev. — Shafto	Prov. G. Chaplain.
" Rev. — Cundell	Prov. G. Treasurer.
" Thomas Jones	Prov. G. Registrar.
" W. H. Crooks	Prov. G. Secretary.
" R. Rutherford	Prov. S.G. Deacon.
" D. Clarke	Prov. J.G. Deacon.
" J. Tilman	Prov. G. Supt. of Works.
" Benjamin Levy	Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.
" — Gilmore	Prov. G. Sword Bearer.
" — Hemmingway	Prov. G. Organist.
" — Roddam	Prov. G. Pursuivant.
" — Sangster, Lodge 95	Prov. G. Steward.
" J. Davies, 123	"
" J. B. Temple, 749	"
" B. R. Hartley, jun., 774	"
" — Thorman, 859	"
" G. Kirk, 1066	"

Business of the Provincial Grand Lodge over, it was closed in due form.

THE BANQUET

was held in the new Town Hall at four o'clock, when about ninety sat down, presided over by the R.W. Prov. G.M. Bro. Fawcett. On his right were Bro. Henry Fenwick, *M.F.*, D. Prov. G.M.; Rev. — Cundell, Prov. G. Treas.; Rev. O. Shafto, Prov. G. Chap.; Bros. Thomas Jones, Prov. G.S.D.; John Tilman, Prov. G.S.W.; D. Clarke, Prov. G.J.D.; R. H. Rutherford, Prov. G. Reg.; Levy, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; W. H. Crooks, Prov. G. Sec.; Roddon, Prov. G. Purst., &c. On the left of the chairman were Bro. Sir Hedworth Williamson, *Bart.*, S.G.W. of England; Bros. Rev. Du Pledge, Prov. G.S.W.; R. J. Banning, *M.D.*, Prov. J.G.W.; Large, Prov. S.G.D. of Staffordshire; Brignall, P. Prov. G. Reg.; Alfred Davies, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; C. J.

Banister, P. Prov. S.G.D. and Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. of West Lancashire; Hemmingway, Prov. G. Org.; H. A. Hammerbon, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; A. Gillespie, Prov. G. Reg. of Northumberland, &c.

Grace being said, the brethren did ample justice to the good things provided by Bro. Ranson, of the Commercial Hotel.

After the cloth was drawn, the R.W. Prov. G.M. proposed "The Health of the Queen," which was drunk in true English style, and the National Anthem followed, beautifully given by the brethren from the choir of the cathedral. The remaining loyal toasts followed from the chair in appropriate terms.

Bro. Sir HEDWORTH WILLIAMSON, *Bart.*, returned thanks for the Grand Officers in a spirited speech.

The D. Prov. G.M. then proposed "The Health of the R.W. Prov. G.M.," which was received with acclamation by the brethren and drunk with full Masonic honours; and on his rising to respond to the toast, was received in a truly Masonic spirit.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. gave the brethren excellent advice.

The D. Prov. G.M.'s health, the Provincial Grand Officers, the Visitors, the Masonic Charities, and the W.M.'s of the different lodges in the province brought a very delightful evening to a close. Bro. Alfred Davies acted as Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., and retired, after holding the office several years, with great credit to himself and satisfaction to every member of Provincial Grand Lodge.

SUNDERLAND.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 95).—The first meeting of this lodge, at the house of Bro. Shiel, Queen's Hotel, Fawcett Street, was held on the evening of Tuesday, October 14th. The lodge was opened in due Masonic form by Bro. David Clark, W.M., supported by his officers, and Bros. G. Welford, M. Douglass, W. H. Crookes, A. Hislop, and T. Elwen, P.M.'s. The following visitors were present:—Bros. G. R. H. Gilmore, W.M. of Phoenix Lodge (No. 111), and J. Glaholm, P.M.; Bros. Thomas Hanson, W.M. of Palatine Lodge (No. 114), with B. Brooks, B. Levi, E. Evans, and F. H. Rahnn, P.M.'s; several of the brethren of the above two lodges, respectively, were also present; Bros. J. N. Buckland, P.M. of St. Hilda's Lodge (No. 292); J. Wilson, 190; S. S. Stallard, 766; Gray, 65, Scotland; Ritchie, 317, Scotland; Heading, 95, Cork. Mr. Simon Wansall became a Mason in the first degree. The initiation was in the care of Bro. M. Douglass, P.M., who performed the duties in his usual able and efficient manner, and the charge was most impressively given by the W.M. Bro. W. H. Crookes, P.M., nominated Bro. John Graham, S.W. as W.M. for the ensuing year. The lodge was then called from labour to refreshment, and after the usual toasts were given expressive of our loyalty to the Queen and our fealty to the Craft, an original song was sung by the Secretary, containing a grateful *souvenir* of the Phoenix Hall, where, for some time past, the St. John's Lodge had held its meetings. The visiting brethren were then honourably considered by toasting, in due succession, with the health and prosperity of the officers and brethren of their respective lodges, which elicited many an able and hearty speech from their representatives on the occasion. The proceedings were agreeably enlivened and diversified with some excellent songs and recitations, and a most interesting and harmonious evening was spent. The lodge after being called to labour, was closed in due form.

GATESHEAD.—*Lodge of Industry* (No. 56).—Monday, October 27th, being the regular night of meeting this lodge was opened at the Grey Horse Inn, by the W.M., Bro. R. J. Banning, assisted by Bros. C. J. Banister, P.M.; J. Heaward, S.W.; A. Clapham, P.M., as J.W.; J. E. Emmerson, Sec.; Michelson, J.D., and the rest of the officers. The minutes of the last regular lodge were read and confirmed. Bro. Drake wishing to take his second degree was examined, duly presented and passed to the degree of F.C. by the W.M., in a very impressive manner. He also delivered the lecture on the tracing board, and Bro. C. J. Banister explained the working tools. Business over the lodge was closed with solemn prayer. At refreshment an agreeable hour was spent to the satisfaction of all.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER.—*Royal Lebanon Lodge* (No. 724).—The festival of St. John was held in this lodge on Tuesday last, the 4th inst., on which occasion Bro. W. B. Stocker, W.M. elect, was duly installed in the chair of K.S., according to ancient usage, in ample form. The ceremony was excellently performed by the retiring W.M., Bro. J. G. Wilson, Prov. J.G.W., assisted by Bro. E. S. Cossens, W.M. 1202, Prov. G. Supt. of Works. Bro. Stocker has, during the rule of Bros. Wilson and Nicholson, evinced such

zeal to promote the best interests of the Craft, and during the last twelvemonth has exhibited such proofs of his proficiency in the art, that the Royal Lebanon Lodge bids fair to be one of the best working lodges in the province, the new officers being well up in their work, shows the fitness of the appointments. This argues well for Bro. Stocker's sovereignty. The following brethren were duly invested:—Bros. W. F. Brown, S.W.; T. Skinner, J.W.; —Tombs, J.D.; Cramp, *pro tem* I.G.; Shenston, (P.M.), Sec.; the remaining appointments being for the present left open. During the business of the lodge the poverty of a visiting brother was brought to the consideration of the brethren, and the brother being present, he was recognised by Bro. Cossens as one of those vagrant gentlemen who solely exist on the charitable subscriptions of the Craft, and who, Bro. Cossens, had whilst Almoner in another province, twice relieved *en route*, the applicant repeating the same tale about Belper near Derby on each occasion, but who on the third application departed from the third grand principle, and was allowed to depart with a caution. As a necessary consequence, the W.M. very properly required the applicant to withdraw. Bro. Cossens called the W.M.'s attention to the sudden bereavement which the R.W. the Prov. G.M. was now labouring under, the decease of the late Lord Sherborne, a nobleman of whom he had had the felicity to be known for the last fifty years; a most honourable nobleman, charitable without measure, a liberal subscriber to all the institutions of the county, and one who had lived respected by every person with whom he had, during a long life, been known to—and, dying, he is deeply regretted. The W.M. following Bro. Cossens's intimation, proposed that an address of condolence should be presented to the R.W. Prov. G.M., who had shown such unequivocal marks of his patronage to the Royal Lebanon Lodge since its resuscitation, which was seconded by Bro. Dr. Smith, and carried unanimously. The brethren retired to refreshment, when they partook of a most excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Daniel Smith, the proprietor of the Lower George Hotel, reflecting the utmost credit on Bro. Smith for amply providing the brethren with so much of everything that was good; indeed, there was sufficient for twenty more if room could have been found for them, proving that he has not forgotten the good old style of feasting, for which Gloucester was at one time so reputed. Harmony prevailed amongst the brethren until the proper time, when they retired to their more serious and proper duties, highly gratified with the ceremonies, works, and the banquet and its appurtenances.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

LIVERPOOL.—*Merchants' Lodge of Instruction* (No. 294).—This lodge continues to meet every Tuesday evening (except the second) with unabated zeal. At the meeting held on the 28th inst., Bro. Preceptor Younghusband brought forward the motion of which he had previously given notice, that five guineas be presented by this lodge to the fund for the relief of the distressed operatives in the manufacturing districts. He explained that he had been appointed by the Prov. Grand Lodge to make application to every lodge in the province to contribute to this fund, and he trusted that in this respect the Lodge of Instruction would not be found wanting. The motion was seconded by Bro. McConnan, W.M. 294, and carried unanimously. Four new members were proposed, and the lodge was then closed with solemn prayer by the W.M. for the evening, Bro. Dr. McGeorge, S.D. 294.

WARRINGTON.—*Lodge of Lights* (No. 173).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, October 27th, at the Blackburn Arms Hotel, at 7 o'clock. Bros. James Hamer, Prov. G. Treas. of West Lancashire, W.M.; H. B. White, S.W.; W. K. Walmsley, J.W.; John Bowes, Sec., and a number of other brethren. The lodge was opened in solemn form, and the minutes of last meeting confirmed. Bro. Bowes, as Treasurer to the Ferrars Testimonial Fund, reported that he had received a handsome sum and had applied it as indicated by Bro. Harrison Ferrars. Bro. Hamer then vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Houghton, P.M., and proceeded to deliver a most interesting and instructive lecture on the tracing boards of the first and second degrees, at the conclusion of which a hearty and unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to the lecturer, for past as well as present favours. A long discussion then took place as to the desirability of removing the lodge to private rooms, and it was ultimately and unanimously resolved that a lodge of emergency be called to hear and decide the question, to meet on Thursday evening, November 6th, at seven o'clock. The treasurer reported that the lodge funds

were in a favourable condition. Mr. William Wood was proposed as a fit and proper person to be made a Mason. Bro. Hamer informed the lodge that the Prov. G. Sec. hoped to arrange for the Provincial Grand Lodge to meet at Warrington, in 1865, to assist at the celebration of the centenary of the Lodge of Lights, he also gave notice that at the next regular lodge he should move that the lodge consider the question of subscribing to the distress fund, now being organised by the Freemasons of West Lancashire. There being no further business the lodge was closed with prayer and the brethren separated in harmony at 9 o'clock.

GARSTON.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 267).—November 3rd. This being the regular night of meeting, the lodge was opened at the Wellington Hotel, by P.M. Bro. James Hamer, Prov. G. Treas. as W.M.; Bro. C. J. Banister, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. as P.M.; Bro. Charles Leedham, S.W.; Bro. Hodgson, as J.W., and the rest of the officers. Visitors, Bros. W. R. Walmisley, Lodge 173, Talby and Hodgson, 864, H. Wrethoff, 111, Belfast, and a good muster of brethren. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. Bromdath and Ammerstine were passed to the second degree. Notice of motion was given by Bro. C. J. Banister, that at the next regular meeting he would propose that five pounds be given to the Lancashire Relief Fund. Business over, the lodge was closed in solemn form. At refreshment the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. Bro. Walmisley responded for the visitors, and the brethren separated after a very happy evening, enlivened by songs from Bros. Wilmer, Williams, Hodgson, Hamer, &c.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

NEWCASTLE.—*Newcastle-on-Tyne Lodge of Instruction* (No. 24).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Blackett-street, on the 28th ult. The lodge was opened by Bro. C. J. Banister, as W.M.; Bro. Reed, as S.W.; Bro. Smith, as J.W.; Bro. Heaword, Sec.; Bro. H. A. Hammerbom, as Lecture Master; Bro. James Symington, P.M.; Bro. Marshall, of Lodge 774; Bro. Michalson, as I.G., and the rest of the brethren. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. H. A. Hammerbom worked the sections in first and second divisions. Bro. A. Gillespie was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously as Lecture Master for the next fortnight. After the other business was over, the lodge was closed in solemn form at half-past nine.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

A Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Assembly Rooms, Nottingham, on Thursday, the 30th of October. Before opening the lodge Bro. Edmund Percy, D. Prov. G.M., announced to the brethren present, that owing to the serious and sudden attack of illness (bronchitis), his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, Prov. G.M., who had arrived in Nottingham the previous evening with the full intention of presiding at the lodge, was totally unable to attend, being at that moment confined to his bed, at the George Hotel, where he (Bro. Percy), had just had an interview with His Grace, who had expressed his very deep regret at his being unable to perform the duties the office he had accepted required of him, but that he sincerely trusted to be enabled to meet them on some more auspicious occasion. The Provincial Grand Lodge was then opened in due form, the D. Prov. G.M. in the chair. The reports of the several lodges were brought up, read, and received, and we are happy to say with only one solitary exception, were all of a satisfactory character. The Treasurer's accounts were duly received, audited, and passed with the gratifying announcement that all the accounts were paid, and a handsome balance left in hand, a circumstance which elicited a well-earned accord of thanks to the worthy Treasurer Bro. J. Close, followed by a unanimous resolution. It was also resolved that the Provincial Grand Lodge of Nottinghamshire, become annual subscribers to the Boys' and Girls' Schools, in compliance with a recommendation from the Newstead Lodge.

The following gentlemen were then appointed on the nomination of the Prov. Grand Master, Grand Officers for the ensuing year, and were duly invested by the D. Prov. G.M.

Bro. R. Allen	Prov. G. Secretary.
„ Dr. Lory Marsh	Prov. S.G. Warden.
„ J. C. Nixon	Prov. G.J.W.
„ Dr. Robertson	Prov. G. Registrar.
„ John Watson	Prov. S.G. Deacon.

" J. C. Neale	Prov. J.G. Deacon.
" James Carter	Prov. G. Supt. of Works.
" M. Vowles	Prov. D.G. Pursuivant.
" W. Richards	Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.
" E. M. Kidd	Prov. Asst. G. Dir. of Cers.
" S. R. P. Shilton	Prov. G. Sword Bearer.
" Rev. — Jackson	Prov. G. Chaplain.
" Rev. J. L. Prior	Prov. A.G. Chaplain.
" — Barwell	Prov. G. Tyler.

A letter was directed to be written by the Prov. G. Sec. to the Prov. G.M., expressive of the respect and sympathy of the members of the Grand Lodge with his Grace in his sufferings, and their sincere hope that he would soon be restored, under the blessing of Divine Providence, to his usual health. The lodge was then closed in the usual form and the brethren adjourned to the number of nearly forty, to the banqueting-room, where an excellent and well served repast awaited them, which reflected the highest credit on the venerable host, Bro. John Mee, under whose personal superintendence the whole of the arrangements were conducted.

Upon the cloth being removed,

The D. Prov. G.M. gave "The Queen."

Bro. CLOSE, Prov. G. Treas., gave in a speech descriptive of the appearance of his Royal Highness's affianced bride, "The Prince of Wales."

The D. Prov. G.M. gave "The Earl of Zetland, Grand Master of England."

The Prov. G. CHAP. gave "The Prov. G.M., His Grace the Duke of Newcastle."

The D. Prov. G.M. gave, in a neat and complimentary speech, "The Army and Navy, connected with the health of Bro. Captain Jenkins, P.M., 8th Royal Irish Hussars." He alluded at some length to the services of that officer in the Crimea and Indian Mutiny, and also as a Mason.

The toast was responded to by Captain JENKINS, who trusted that the Army and Navy would appreciate the benefits of true Masonry more than they had done; that although there were many worthy members of the Masonic body in both services, yet a wider dissemination of the principles of true Masonry would prevent a recurrence of the recent untoward and unhappy events which had brought more than one distinguished regiment prominently before the public. He begged to return thanks in the warmest manner for the way in which the toast was proposed and received.

The Prov. G. CHAP. gave the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Edward Percy. He alluded to the valuable services of that brother in the province, and trusted that he might long be spared to occupy the position he then held.

Bro. PERCY returned thanks. He regretted the absence of his Grace the Prov. G.M., and said that as long as it was in his power he would continue to render that assistance to the Provincial Grand Lodge, which it had been his happiness to have been able to afford.

Bro. BARNETT, W.M. of the Commercial Lodge, proposed "The Health of the Prov. G. Chap., Bro. Jackson," reminding the brethren that the connection which had always existed between the priesthood and the Craft as proved by reference to various passages in the Old Testament was to the mutual advantage of both parties.

The Rev. Bro. JACKSON, in acknowledging the toast, expressed the great gratification it gave him to be of any service to the Craft, and his willingness still to render all the aid in his power which his increasing years would permit him to do.

The D. Prov. G.M. next proposed health and happiness to the several lodges in the province; these toasts were well received and duly acknowledged by the respective Masters and Officers.

Bro. DANKS, P. Prov. S.G.W., then gave "The Healths of the Visitors," observing that hospitality to strangers was one of the duties imposed on the members of the Craft, and that he was certain that the brethren of the province of Nottinghamshire would willingly join him in giving a hearty welcome to their brethren from a distance.

The toast having been duly honoured,

Bro. THOMAS JENKINS, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., Berks and Bucks, expressed the pleasure it had given him of witnessing the workmanship and regular manner in which the business of the Provincial Grand Lodge had been conducted, contrasting most favourably with the way in which he had seen it performed in another Provincial Grand Lodge. He was pleased also to find that they had taken the Masonic Schools into their consi-

deration, and that they had resolved to become annual subscribers to both of them. It did not become him to presume to give them advice how to be successful in electing any candidates they might have, but perhaps he might be permitted to tell them how other provinces succeeded. It was by getting all the lodges in the province to subscribe, concentrating their votes upon one or two particular candidates, and then sending a deputation to London with plenty of money in their pockets to buy as many more votes as might be required to ensure success.

Bro. RICHARDSON, from the province of West Lancashire, also added a few words in answer to the toast; shortly after which, the time for the departure of the train by which several of the principal officers had to return to their homes being announced, the brethren departed in peace and harmony to their respective destination.

WARWICKSHIRE.

BIRMINGHAM.—*St. Paul's Lodge* (No. 51).—The first meeting of the season took place on Monday, the 27th ult., a large attendance of members being present. An initiation and a raising was ably performed by Bro. Bell, W.M., and Bro. Stillman, P.M. After the business the brethren partook of an excellent banquet in Bro. Machin's best style. Amongst those present were Bros. Charles W. Elkington, D. Prov. G.M., J. C. Cohen, Curzon, Lewis Cohen, Stillman, Machin, P.M.'s, A. W. Suckling, Sec., Foster and Spaeson, Wardens. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to and a very pleasant evening was spent.

SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW.—*Lodge of St. Mark* (No. 102).—The R.W.M., Bro. Dr. Pritchard, delivered his second lecture on Monday evening, the 3rd inst., entitled "Rambles amongst the Ruins of Egypt," with illustrations and relics. The worthy doctor, in the course of his remarks, gave an interesting account of the interior of a grotto situated on the east bank of the Nile, near Antinoë, on the walls of which were depicted the colossal statues being moved. The Colossus was placed on a sledge, which a number of men were dragging with ropes, and is one of the few paintings that throw any light on the method employed by the Egyptians for moving weights. It is, no doubt, the statue of the person of the tomb, though the stone has been hewn at a distance—the event commemorated happened during the lifetime of Thothôtp. The importance of this individual and his power is fully shown, not only by the fact of his having the colossal statue, but by the employment of so many foreign captives in moving it, and an important proof is obtained by the last mentioned circumstance of the conquests of the Egyptians over Asiatic people at the early period of Amun-in-he II. and Osirtasen II., or 3882 years ago, in whose reign the owner of the grotto lived. One hundred and seventy-two men, in four rows of forty-three each, are yoked to the ropes, fastened to a ring in front of the sledge, and a liquid, perhaps grease or water is poured from a vase by a person standing on the pedestal of the statue, in order to facilitate its progress as it slides on the ground, which appears to be covered with a bed of planks. Some of the persons engaged in this herculean task seem to be Egyptians, others are foreign slaves, who are clad in the costume of their country, and behind the statue are four rows of men, in all twelve in number, representing either architects or Masons. Below are others carrying vases apparently of water, and some machinery connected with the transport of the statue, followed by the task masters with their wands of office. On the frame of the figure stands a man, who claps his hands to the measured cadence of a song to mark the time and ensure the their simultaneous draught, for it is evident that in order that the whole power might be applied at the same instant, a sign of this kind was necessary, and the custom of singing at their work was common to every occupation in Egypt as it now is in that country, in India, and many other places. The height of the statue appears to have been twenty-four feet including the pedestal, and it is stated in the line of hieroglyphics behind the picture to be thirteen cubits or 22-370 feet. It was bound to the sledge by double ropes tightened by means of long pegs, inserted between them and twisted round until they were completely braced, and to prevent injury from the friction of the rope, a compress of leather, lead, or other substance, was introduced between them and the

stone. Before the figure a priestly scribe is presenting incense in honour of the person it represents; and at the top of the picture are several companies of men marching in an opposite direction, they are probably the relief for dragging the statue. Beyond are men slaying an ox, and bringing the joints of meat before the door of the building, to which the statue was conveyed, and below this the person of the tomb is seated under a canopy. Boats and other subjects are figured under the compartments of the colossus and on the opposite wall are an agricultural scene, potters, a garden with a vineyard and women working thread. The last subject is remarkable for a kind of loom and the mode of reeling off thread from balls turning in a case. The tombs of the kings near Thebes was then dwelt upon by the lecturer, and many relics obtained there by himself were exhibited to the meeting, and some bearing especially on the Masonic symbols explained, leaving no doubt of the connection of Freemasonry as far back as Rameses II, or 3173 years ago. The lecturer was frequently interrupted by applause, and terminated amid general acclamation, having occupied an hour and a half in delivery, being extemporaneous, lucid, and learned, and illustrated with excellent drawings. The elegant hall of St. Mark was well filled, and many eminent brethren from a distance, as well as the numerous lodges in the province of the Western District of Scotland, assembled on the occasion.

IRELAND.

TESTIMONIAL TO BRO. W. S. TRACY, R.M., D. PROV. G.M. BELFAST AND NORTH DOWN.

On Tuesday evening last a Masonic banquet and testimonial were given to W. S. Tracy, Esq., R.M., the R.W.D. Prov. G.M., on the occasion of his leaving Belfast. At half-past five o'clock a large concourse of the leading brethren of the mystic tie in Belfast and the province assembled in the Ulster Hall, at which an address was presented to Mr. Tracy. Among those present we noticed:—The Ven. Archdeacon Mant, P.G., R.S., K.H., P. Prov. G.M. in Belfast, &c.; Charles Lanyon (Mayor of Belfast); Richard Davison, Dickey, Hugh Mercer, Lodge 134, Lurgan; W. C. Cunningham, 155; William Emerson, 40, P.M., P.G.R.C.; W. G. Barre, 154; J. A. Henderson, 154; Jasper Macaulay, 10; William Grimshaw, P.M., 10; Charles J. Kinahan, 10; C. Duffin, 10; William J. Johnston, P.G.R.C., P.M., 154; Dr. Strange, 18; James McCracken, 609; James Hamilton, 40; William Macoun, P.M., 134, Lurgan; Courtenay Newton, 9; Thomas Cunningham, 51; James Robertson, W.M., 10; M. L. Coates, P.M., 10; G. A. Whitla, P.M., 10; F. McCance, 10; H. H. Bottomley, 10; Robert Kelly, 675, Donaghadee; M. Baldwin Mulligan, 40; A. Talbot, 4, Dublin; W. R. Kamcke, P.M., 40; J. M. Pirrie, M.D., 10 and 40; J. Loewenthal, 40; Martin Jaffé, 40; Henry Murney, P.M., The Prince of Wales' Own, 154; Henry Seeds, 154; W. H. Cooke, 154; E. W. Lee, P.M., 154, Belfast; Francis D. Ward, P.M., 154; James Girdwood, P.M., 154; Gustavus Heyn, P.M., 40; George M. Wethered, 111; John Finlay, P., 40; Ross Sautler, 154; John O'Neill Higginson, P. Prov. G.M. North Antrim, 431, Ballymena; Plato Oulton, 154; James Henry, P.M., 154; John Bell, 513; T. B. Johnson, 40; John Oulton, 154; William Seeds, 88; John Taylor, 609; Robert Macaulay, 10; Charles Murend, 86; Frederick Kinahan, X.; William McGee, M.D., 10; W. Edward Kinahan, 148; Andrew Lyle, 10; J. G. Smith, 10; Major Mackenzie, 10; John W. Higginson, X.; George A. Carruthers, P.M., 40; P. Broughton, 341, England; William Girdwood, 154; Jonathan Cordukes, Prince of Wales, 154; Samuel Black, 19 and 154; Frederick Ogle, P.M., 154; H. H. Hannay, 40; Thomas C. Hamilton, 40; Richard Conway, P.G.B.X., P. Prov. D.G.M., Belfast and North Down P.M., Lodges 10 and 40, &c.; William Parr, 46, Comber; James Macartney, 609; James Hughes, 609; Hugh Park, 609; Robert Atkinson, W.M., 150; David Sloan, 609; Samuel Teirney, St. Patrick, 195; Alexander Hobson, J.W.; James Rutherford, 51; John Johnston, 51, originally 154; S. Bankin, 46; William Gibson, 97; Andrews, 46; Matthew Harloe, 111; Alexander Johnston, 97; Thomas Bell, 97; Joseph H. McCreehy, 97; Alexander K. Burk, 97; J. E. Richards, 111; W. B. McMaster, 97; Thomas Craig, 97; Edward Smyth, 97; William Saunderson, 447; John Smyth, 989, Sligo; William Nelson, 195; John Henderson, 195; James King, 272; Henry Boyd, G.M.L.; James S. Boyd, X.; Robert Russell, 46; William Napier, 46;

Robert Braithwaite, 46; James Hyndman, 46; W. Carson, 40; C. K. Domville, 40; G. Gerald Bingham, 40; Henry Campbell; John Young, P.M. 431, Ballymena. W. A. Pollick, W.M. 10; John Orr, 40; James Ritchie, 134; John James Dugan, 431; William E. Fleming, P.M. 59; William P. Heyn, 40, Liverpool; Robert Leathem, 609; Hugh Taylor, 88; Edward H. Gaaraway, 10; G. M'Callough, 106; Samuel Vance, P.C.R. 40; J. W. Boyd, 10; John Adrian, 272; Alexander Faulkner, 111; John Reid, 88, P.M. 112 and 178, and P. Prov. G.J.W.; John T. M'Ilveen, 88; William Dobbin, 10; William Chew, 29; John Charley, 40; John Emerson, 40; Thomas J. Cantrell, 40; Robert S. Reddy; I. Julius Weinberg, 40; Thomas M'Cummon, 40; A. T. Dickey, Prov. G.M. North Antrim, 431, Ballymena; F. A. Mathews, D. Prov. G.M. North Antrim, P.M. 431, Ballymena; David Moore, M.D., 40; Thomas Gerrard, St. John's Lodge, 675.

Bro. S. G. GETTY, P.M., addressing Bro. Tracy, said the manufacturers of the testimonial had not had time to complete the workmanship, so that on that occasion they were obliged to be content with showing the drawings of it. (Bro. Getty then exhibited to Bro. Tracy and the assembled brethren a sketch representing three Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian columns, typing the the three degrees in Masonry, which are intended to be executed in solid silver. They will stand ten inches and a half high, and spring from a triangular base, with sub-plinths carrying the working tools of the three degrees of blue Masonry in relief. The spaces between the columns are intended to be filled in by three steps, and the columns supported by a rich entablature radiating to the centre, corresponding with the triangular base, the whole surmounted by an epergène. The designer of this handsome emblem is Bro. W. J. Barre. Bro. Getty added that the testimonial would soon be completed, when it would be handed to Bro. Tracy. Bro. Getty next read the following address.

"To Bro. Wm. S. Tracy, P.G.R.C., K.H., &c., D. Prov. G.M. of Belfast and North Down.

"RIGHT WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER,—Having heard with deep regret that your personal interests have obliged you to apply for a change of district, we, the members of the Masonic Order in Belfast and North Down—amongst whom you have laboured for a period of nearly fourteen years—cannot allow you to leave Belfast without expressing our sorrow at being deprived of the counsel of one whom we have at all times looked on as a friend and a brother.

"We have ever found you most ready and willing to aid us with your long experience of our Craft and knowledge of the world, and have always recognised in you a genial and kindly disposition, and that greatest of Christian virtues—charity.

"In addition to the numerous private appeals to your benevolence, which have always met with a generous response, we feel that it specially becomes us to allude to the deep interest you have taken in the Masonic Female Orphan School, and your hearty and successful advocacy of its claims; indeed, until the rules and excellent management of this most valuable institution were brought under our notice by you, many of us were unacquainted with the admirable character of the home provided for the children of our deceased brethren, while some were scarcely aware of its existence.

"Not alone satisfied with the field presented for your labours in the cause of charity among your brethren, we would point to the deep interest you have taken in the prosperity of the Sailors' Home, the General Hospital, and the recently-established Institutions for the Reformation of Juvenile Offenders.

"For the past six years you have occupied the position of D.G.M. of this Province, in which exalted office you have endeared yourself to us by kindness, adherence to the Laws and Constitution of our Order, and unwearying assiduity in the cause of truth.

"We ask your acceptance of the accompanying pieces of plate, in testimony of our warm appreciation of your great worth. Representing, as they do, emblems of our Order familiar to all Freemasons, we trust they will remind you of those brethren with whom you have been so long associated, and who will look back on your administration with pride and affection.

"In conclusion, we trust that the Great Architect of the universe will grant you long life and happiness to contribute to the comfort of your family and the more extended development of the great principles of Masonry—Brotherly Love, Truth, and Charity."

Bro. TRACY said he had prepared a written reply, which, in

consequence of a severe cold, he was unable to read, but he would ask Bro. Lanyon to do so for him.

Bro. LANYON then read the reply of Bro. Tracy, as follows:—

"To my dear Brethren,—I have read your Address with feelings to which I have no language to give utterance, and for the fraternal kindness of which I cannot find words to express my most grateful acknowledgments.

"To say that I am about to separate from you with the deepest regret—perhaps for ever—but poorly tells how much I sorrow for that separation; whilst, at the same time, I am greatly consoled by the conviction that our remembrance of each other will remain, uninfluenced by either time or distance, and that you will receive with all the warm friendship of other days whenever it may be my good fortune to come amongst you again.

"I rejoice at your approval of the manner in which I have discharged the high office entrusted to me for many years past by our noble Provincial Grand Master; and I am proud to acknowledge the high terms of satisfaction in which his lordship has kindly sanctioned your award in my favour.

"For your allusion to my services in the sacred cause of charity, I would be more thankful than I am if I could think myself entitled as a principal to your eulogium; but knowing that I have been but little more than the dispenser of other men's bounty, I must not lay claim to any praise on the subject, and I therefore freely tender it to those to whom it is most eminently due.

"It is true that I have been a warm advocate of the interests of our invaluable Female Orphan School; and, in the names of the widows and orphans of our Order, I heartily thank you for your generous support of that interesting and excellent institution.

"Our long and intimate connexion having been distinguished by the most affectionate and uniform kindness on your part, it needed not the magnificent gift you purpose presenting to me to fix that kindness in my grateful memory for ever. That gift, though formed of sterling silver, is still not without alloy, but the chain which links us to each other is formed of nature's purer metal—the product of the heart—and is, therefore, above all price.

"For the former, I beg you to receive my sincerest thanks; and that the latter may long unite us in the bonds of brotherly love is my most ardent prayer.

"I thank you from my heart for your confidence in, and kindness to me during the long period that we have acted together in the works of Freemasonry; and I now reluctantly, but affectionately, bid you farewell!"

The brethren then adjourned to

THE DINNER.

Bro. SAMUEL GIBSON GETTY, M.P., ex-D. Prov. G.M. occupied the chair, with the guest of the evening (Bro. Tracy) on his right, and Bro. Lanyon on his left. Those present at dinner were almost entirely the same as those in attendance at the presentation, so that we need not repeat the names. The dinner, which was supplied by Mr. Linden, Corn Market, was of the finest description, and the wines were of the choicest vintage.

The cloth having been removed, a very fine choir which was in attendance sang, in excellent style, "Nos nobis Domine."

The CHAIRMAN, after giving the usual loyal toasts, said: Brethren, I ask you to charge your glasses. I have now the honour to propose that you drink to the health of the head of our Order in Ireland, his Grace the Duke of Leinster (Hear, hear.)—Ireland's only Duke." He has thought fit to preside for years over our society in Ireland, and it certainly would, I am sure, be a source of gratification to him to preside here to-night—to see such a number of true-hearted Masons as are now around our board to do honour to a guest such as ours, associated as he is with him by his position in this province. (Hear, hear.) I am convinced that if his Grace the Duke of Leinster, the head of our Order in Ireland, were present to-night, he would be highly gratified. (Hear, hear.) I give you "The Health of the Duke of Leinster." Long may he hold his position among the Masons of Ireland, and long may he retain the position he has always maintained among the Craft throughout the world. (Loud applause, the fire being given in true Masonic style.)

The chairman proposed "The Health of the Grand Master of Scotland, the Duke of Atholl; and the Grand Master of England, the Earl of Zetland, and their respective lodges," which was drunk with appropriate honours. Then followed the "Health of the Provincial Grand Master of Belfast and North Down."

The chairman then proposed the toast of the evening—"The Health of our worthy and esteemed and respected friend, Bro. Tracy." (Loud cheers.)

The toast was received with full Masonic honours, cheerings, waving of handkerchiefs, and other marks of respect.

Bro. TRACY on rising to respond, was received with most enthusiastic applause, renewed again and again. When the applause subsided, he said—in consequence of severe indisposition he was obliged to ask a kind brother to read his reply to their address that evening, and he now stood up to make a fruitless attempt to express what he felt, because he was appraised that, both by want of words and ability to express himself fully, he could not say what he felt that evening from their kindness. Bro. Tracy went on to say that he had every expectation he would have been received kindly, but he did not expect such a reception as had been then given him as the completing honour offered to him. When he first came to Belfast he came with a good report of it from the Masonic inhabitants of other parts of Ireland. The brethren of Belfast took him on trust, and he was proud to say that, by the acclamation with which his name had been received that evening, the brethren of Belfast asserted that they had not found him wanting. (Applause.) In their address presented to him that evening, so flattering beyond his deserts, they had done credit to his services in the cause of charity. He had been long an almoner of their bounty, and whenever he asked they generously gave—and at a time when very frequently local claims were pressing upon them. On this subject he would confine himself to one simple fact. In reference to their very valuable school, erected to maintain and support the children of their deceased brethren, he had this year transmitted from his brethren £150. (Applause.) This he had done through their assistance, in addition to many other contributions which they had placed in his hands for the purpose of aiding the distressed, and drying the tear from the widow's cheeks. (Applause.) He could, if so disposed and if time permitted, state to them many details of the benefits which Masonry had conferred in addition to what he had already stated. Often and often in their limited meetings he had proved that he was not a trained speaker, and now, when he saw such a crowd of brethren around him, and many of them from afar, he felt the greatest difficulty in expressing what he wished to communicate; but this he would say, that, during his long connection with the body here and elsewhere, he had never seen anything in Masonry which he did not approve of, and, after forty years' connection with it, if he had his life to commence again he would join the Masonic order. After referring to his successor in the office of D. Prov. G.M., he called upon them to drink the health of his predecessor, Bro. Getty (their chairman). He proposed his health very much on public grounds; still they would pardon him if he expressed how much he felt honoured in Bro. Getty coming the whole way from London to be present at the meeting (applause), and he wished he could do something to return the favour conferred upon him. He had only one word more to say, and that was with respect to their beautiful testimonial. He should ever preserve it, and he would hand it down to his sons after him, the eldest of whom was a Mason, and the others, he hoped, would soon follow his example. (Applause.) From his heart he again thanked them for the honour they had conferred upon him, and would conclude by wishing them all the health and happiness this world could afford. (Loud applause.)

The CHAIRMAN, having briefly responded, again rose and said that on the printed programme of toasts there was what appeared to him to have been an oversight on the part of the committee—the remembrance of a brother who had done in his day and generation perhaps as much for Masonry as any other man in the North of Ireland. He meant Archdeacon Mant, whom he would call upon.

Archdeacon MANT, in responding, said he had been taken completely by surprise in being called upon to make a speech. He came there that evening for the purpose of paying a deserved mark of affection which the brethren had also paid to an old and respected friend and brother. Of all persons—of all brethren among them—perhaps there was no one who should less properly be absent from such a ceremonial or such a testimonial to Bro. Tracy than he (Archdeacon Mant), for he had known him longer than any one present, and was united to him in the closest bonds of Masonic fellowship before ever he came to Belfast. It was gratifying to him, imbued from his earliest years of manhood with the principles of Freemasonry, to see how the society had established itself there, and he was rejoiced to see that the society over which he had presided for seven or

eight years held its position, and was holding a higher position than it ever did in his time. They might not feel at first that the place of Bro. Tracy could be as well supplied by another, but they might depend that, in course of time, it would. (Applause.) After some further remarks, Archdeacon Mant concluded by again thanking the brethren for the manner in which they had received the toast.

The CHAIRMAN next proposed "The Health of the Visiting Brethren," which was responded to in an appropriate manner by Bro. DICKEY, Prov. G.M. of North Antrim, and Bro. SMITH, of Sligo.

The CHAIRMAN proposed "The Health of our Bro. the Mayor of Belfast," and, in doing so, referred to the position which he had been selected by the Prov. G.M. to fill.

Bro. Charles LANYON, in rising to respond, was received with great cheering. He said that the manner in which the toast had been proposed by the Worshipful Master, and the kind way in which it had been received by his brethren, had given him a great amount of pleasure and satisfaction. He felt that the toast was one which had a double meaning—first, they drank his health as occupying the civic chair of Belfast—a position which he felt proud in occupying. He was not going to refer to civic honours and civic dignities, because he felt that, on this occasion, he should refer more particularly to those honours and those dignities which become the office of a Freemason. (Applause.) It was only that afternoon that he had heard of the great honour which the Worshipful Prov. G.M. had conferred, or offered to confer, on him. He felt that he was unworthy of that honour. (No, no.) It was one that he did not anticipate, and did not expect. He regretted that he had not been as good a Mason as he ought to have been, but he hoped the confession of his past shortcomings would be to the brethren an earnest of future improvement. (Applause.) In conclusion, he (Bro. Lanyon) would thank them most sincerely for the very kind way in which they had received the toast. (Great cheering.)

The CHAIRMAN, in an able speech, proposed the sentiment, "Our Poor and Distressed Brethren all over the Globe," wishing success to all Masonic charitable institutions, particularly the Female Orphan School of Ireland, to whose funds the offerings made would be presented. Bro. Tracey would kindly transmit the money for the benefit of the institution.

A collection was then taken up, after which

The CHAIRMAN said that, on behalf of the Female Orphan Asylum in Dublin, and as something that ought to go forth to the public, he had now the pleasure of putting in the hands of Bro. Tracy the sum of £8 16s. for the benefit of the institution referred to.

On the suggestion of Archdeacon Mant,

It was agreed that Bro. Tracy be requested to sit for his portrait, a copy of which every one of the brethren would wish to have in their possession.

The other toasts were:—"Bro. Dr. Pirrie," proposed by Bro. Lanyon; "Bro. Dr. Murney," proposed by Bro. Tracey, responded to by Bro. James Girdwood; "The Gentlemen of the Committee," proposed by Bro. Lanyon, responded to by Bro. Girdwood; and "Bro. J. A. Henderson," proposed by Bro. Braithwaite, of Comber.

"Our next Merry Meeting" having been honoured. The company separated.

INDIA.

From the Indian Freemasons' Friend.

ACCIDENT ON THE RIVER AT CALCUTTA.

By one of those accidents on the river which, although not always so publicly known, are not uncommon at this time of the year, when the strength of the current renders small craft difficult of management, Bro. H. Mead, editor of the *Hurkaru*, and two others have met with an untimely end. Considerable sympathy has been felt for Mrs. Mead, and the Masons have not been behind others in actively showing it. When we first heard of the accident, we were in anxiety for a valuable colleague, Bro. J. B. Roberts, who, we were told, although he had escaped by a miracle, was in a precarious condition. But on the following day we were gratified to find that he had got over a smart attack of fever and congestion of the lungs, and was attending to his duties, feeling, except in grief for his poor lost companions, little the worse for the fearful accident from which he had been rescued.

LANCASHIRE RELIEF FUND.

The following letter has been written by Bro. Peter Andersen, Past Prov. J.G.W., to Mr. Murray Gladstone, forwarding contributions towards the relief of the distressed Lancashire weavers:—

"DEAR SIR,—I have the honour to remit herein the under-mentioned first of exchange for £60, payable on demand to my order, and by me endorsed to you. I forward it as a contribution to the fund for the relief of the distressed Lancashire weavers, from the following sections of the Masonic body here, viz. :—

From the District Grand Lodge of Bengal.....£50 0 0
From the Sepulchre Encampment of Knights

Templar..... 10 0 0

and I have to request the favour of your handing the amount, when realised, to the treasurer of the fund in your city, giving me an acknowledgement for the same at your convenience.

"In connection with the subject, I forward to you by this mail a copy of the last proceedings of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal, which, I trust, will explain why we have taken upon ourselves to trouble you in this matter. It was the unanimous opinion of the members of the Grand Lodge that their contribution to the fund should be sent direct to the locality where its application was required, and they coupled your name with the subject, knowing—from your influence at home and your associations with this place—that you would take care that the trifle should not be misapplied.

"The Sepulchre Encampment of Knights Templars does not publish a report of its proceedings, but it will suffice to mention that the destination of its gift in your direction was proposed by Sir Knight F. G. Mouat, and unanimously approved of.

"In conclusion, permit to express the satisfaction felt by myself in having been selected to address you on the subject, and the regard with which, I am,

"Dear Sir, your faithful servant,

"P. ANDERSON.

Calcutta, 22nd August, 1862.

Murray Gladstone, Esq., Messrs. Gladstone, Latham and Co., Manchester.

CALCUTTA.

LODGE HUMILITY WITH FORTITUDE (No. 279) met on the 18th August, when Bro. Risely, Organist of St. Paul's, who had been initiated in Bristol, was passed to the 2nd degree by Bro. Knight. The pension of a widow was renewed, and an application from another widow, a resident of Agra, was reserved for further information. After supper there was some good music. A few humorous recitations, although an unusual, were an agreeable, addition to the amusements of the evening.

LODGE COURAGE WITH HUMANITY (No. 551) held a regular meeting on the 14th day of August, Bro. J. H. Linton, W.M., in the chair. Three gentlemen were initiated, three brethren were passed, and one brother was admitted a joining member. Bros. Simmonds, Gomes, Anderson, and Liebenhals, having served their time as Craftsmen, were, after due examination, raised to the sublime degree of M.M. by Bro. John William Brown, Hon. P.M., who had been specially requested to attend for the purpose. The meeting was a very full one. An emergent meeting of the same lodge was holden on Thursday, the 21st August, for the purpose of initiating four candidates, passing one brother, and raising one brother. Bro. J. H. Linton, W.M., presided in the outer hall, while Bro. John William Brown, Hon. P.M., conferred the Third Degree on Bro. Captain Lowther.

LODGE SAINT JOHN.—A regular meeting of this lodge was holden on the 15th of August, Bro. John William Brown, P.M., presiding. W. Bro. Charde, late of Lodge Freedom and Fraternity, was elected to membership. Mr. Andrew Yule and Lieutenant Rooke, 25th Punjab Infantry, were elected by ballot as candidates for initiation. Andrew Yule, being present, was initiated by Bro. Brown, P.M., who also advanced Bro. F. Newham to the Second Degree. Bro. L. E. Rees, of Lucknow, who had received the Third Degree in this lodge some years back, was proposed a joining member. The death of Bro. Alexander Holmes Ledlie, P.M. of the lodge, was announced by Bro. Brown, and the deep sorrow of the lodge was recorded.

CHAPTER HOPE (No. 126).—A convocation of the Holy Royal Chapter Hope, attached to the Worshipful Lodge Industry and Perseverance (No. 126), was held on the 16th day of August. Present:—F. Jennings, M.E.C., P.L.Z.; Doctor John Smith, M.E.C., P.L.Z. of Chapter Kilwinning in the East,

and a member of Chapter Hope; V.E. Comp. John B. Roberts, P.P.H.; John William Brown, V.E.C., P.H. of the Chapter; E. Comps. Thomas Dickson as S.E. and T.; W. G. Baxter, S.N.; William Clark, C.E., Pl. Soj.; C. T. Davis and Captain Brooks Parlyby, Assist. Soj.; Daniel, Jan.; Bros. J. C. Parker; C. K. Dove, of Lodge True Friendship (No. 265); J. Hoffman, of Lodge Star in the East (No. 80); A. Davies, of Lodge Humility with Fortitude (No. 279); D. T. Halli, of Lodge Excelsior (No. 1127); E. Symonds, of Lodge Humility with Fortitude (No. 279); and William Parry Davis, of Lodge Industry and Perseverance (No. 126); were candidates for exaltation. These brethren, Master Masons, having been approved by the ordeal of the ballot, were exalted to the Royal Arch Degree. The lecture of the First Principal was delivered by Comp. Jennings, Z. of the Chapter, and the Historical and Symbolical Lecture was given by Comp. John William Brown, Second Principal of the Chapter. E. Comp. Pittar (Barrister-at-Law), a member of a R.A. Chapter working at Glasgow, was elected a joining member, and the like privilege was extended to E. Comp. Alcock. E. Comp. Peter Anderson was proposed by the Pl.Z. as successor to E. Comp. John Martin, the Third Principal of the Chapter, who had proceeded to Europe. E. Comp. William Clark, C.E., Prin. Soj., seconded the proposition, which was adopted. E. Comp. Thomas Dickson was proposed by M.E. Comp. Z. as scribe E. and Treas. of the Chapter, in succession to E. Comp. Bowerman, who had proceeded to England. He was duly elected. E. Comp. Dickson is a member of the Worshipful Lodge Industry and Perseverance (No. 126).

DUM-DUM.—*Lodge Saint Luke.*—A regular meeting of this lodge was holden on Wednesday, the 3rd of September, Bro. John William Brown, Hon. P.M., presiding. The business before the lodge was to ballot for Bros. T. Henvey and R. H. Wilson, of Lodge No. 1127, as joining members. These brethren were duly elected by ballot. Bro. Robert Thompson Hobart, passed on the 6th of August, was raised to the M.M. Degree by Bro. John Wm. Brown. Bro. Doctor Frank Powell, Sec. of the lodge, was elected Treasurer, in succession to Bro. Forbes, who had resigned the office. The portrait of W. Bro. Captain David A. Patterson, the First Master of the Worshipful Lodge, was exhibited to the brethren. Bro. Patterson had been solicited to sit for his likeness at the commencement of the year, that is, as soon as he had announced that he was about to leave Dum-Dum for the purpose of joining his new appointment at Gonda, in the Province of Oudh. The portrait represents Bro. Patterson clothed as the Master of a lodge. The photograph has been executed by Bro. Baker with his usual skill. The picture is to be placed in the refreshment room attached to the lodge.

FYZABAD.—*Lodge Light in Ajoodhya,* in Fyzabad, is at present temporarily under the charge of Dr. F. A. Turton, of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. The Master, Capt. T. N. Young, of the same corps, was obliged some short time ago to apply for sick leave; the S.W. Capt. Shaw, Deputy Commissioner, had to leave the station about the same time on duty, while the J.W. had proceeded to Cashmere on leave for six months. Under these circumstances, and there being no P.M. present, the late Prov. G.M., R.W. Bro. Boileau, permitted Bro. Turton to preside over the lodge and transact ordinary business, such as receiving applications from those wishing to join, and working the three degrees for instruction, but not on any account to confer the degree. The Prov. G.M. was at that time in correspondence with the authorities in England, on the subject of an opinion expressed by the Grand Secretary, in a letter to the Lodge at Singapore, dated the 24th December, 1849, that a Master elect not having the means of being immediately installed, or a Warden, where no installed Master or Past Master is present, might confer the degrees, rather than that the lodge should come to a full stop. The late Prov. G.M., however, protested against such a ruling, although it appears to us that without some such concession, the wisest course would be not to permit the establishment of lodges at isolated stations in India, where it is not without the greatest difficulty that a Master elect can get himself installed.

SIMLA.—We are glad to learn that Lodge Himalayan Brotherhood at Simla is getting on well. "At the commencement of this year," says a correspondent, "we had thirteen members. By exclusions, this number was reduced to eleven at the end of June. We now have thirty-five members, with several applications for joining and initiation. On Monday, the 18th instant (August), there were thirty-seven Masons in lodge. After the work of the evening was over, the whole sat down to dinner, and

a most pleasant evening was spent, enlivened by the presence of our minstrel brethren from San Francisco. We met again on the 2nd proximo (September), when, I hope, we shall have a fuller attendance than at our previous meeting, to witness the initiations of Capt. McGregor and Lieut. Vincent. I may also state, that the work of the lodge necessitates an emergent meeting every week. This day week Bros. Boulderson and Hill will be raised to the third degree. The Chapter at Simla, Chapter Dalhousie, is also not idle. On the 15th Aug., M.E. Comp. Thos. Wood was elected to the chair of Z. for the current year, M.E. Comp. Colonel Sarel, being at the same time elected to the chair of H., and E. Comp. Henry to the chair of J. There are five candidates for exaltation at the next meeting.

SINGAPORE.—A brother a Singapore has written as follows:—"No changes here of late, except the following in Lodge Fidelity (No. 1042), when the installation of Officers took place on the 24th of June:—W. Bros. W. C. Hannay, W.M.; G. C. McClelland, P.M.; E. Walker, S.W. and Treas.; A. McAlister, J.W.; A. Duff, Sec.; J. P. Noren, S.D.; W. Turnbull, J.D.; H. M. Hammer, I.G.; W. Stuart, Tyler. "A Special Convocation of Dalhousie Chapter was held last week, when M.E. Comps. R. B. Read and W. C. Hannay were installed as Second and Third Principals, on M.E. Comp. J. C. Smith's resignation of office and membership in consequence of ill health. M.E. Comp. W. H. Read continues in office as Principal Z. He is, and ever has been, the chief stay and prop of the Chapter, the chief *vousoir* of our Arch; and, I trust, he will be long spared for its support."

ROYAL ARCH.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The Quarterly Convocation of Grand Chapter was held in the Temple, on Wednesday. Present—Comp. Hall, as M.E.Z.; Comp. Pattison, as H.; Comp. Evans, as J.; Comp. Perkins, as N.; Comp. Clarke, E.; Comp. McIntyre, G. Reg.; Comp. Potter, as P. Soj.; Rev. Comps. Hynsbe and Bedford, Asst. Sojs.; Comp. Bradford, Dir. of Cers.; Comp. Ladd, St. B.; and the following Past Grand Officers:—Comps. Havers, Col. Brownrigg, Bridges, Lloyd, T. R. White, Smith, Gole, Wilson, Symonds, Wheeler, and Captain Creation. The only companions present below the dais were J. R. Stebbing, Goddard, Gath, Nunn, F. Binckes, Tyrrell, Lambert, Earle, Spencer, Meymott, H. G. Warren, Farnfield, and Buss.

The usual preliminaries having been gone through, a warrant was granted to the chapter to be attached to the Sun, Square, and Compasses Lodge (No. 138), Whitehaven, to be called the Sun, Square, and Compasses Chapter, to meet at the Masonic Hall, Whitehaven, on the second Friday in every month, with Comps. William Robert George Key, as Z., Joseph Fletcher, as H., and Henry Spencer, as J.

* Comp. PATTISON, H., moved that in consequence of the numerous alterations and additions that have been made to the laws since the last edition of the Regulations was printed in the year 1852; the General Committee be directed to revise the existing regulations, and prepare a fresh edition, embodying the various alterations and additions already made, and to introduce therein such other alterations and additions for the consideration of Grand Chapter, as such committee may deem necessary for better defining the laws and regulations for the government of the sublime degree, and to submit the same, when ready, to Grand Chapter, for consideration.

Comp. EVANS, J., seconded the resolution. It was necessary to have a new edition of their Constitutions, and it was, therefore, a favourable opportunity to revise them, and explain anything which might appear doubtful in them.

Comp. STEBBING suggested that when the alterations were agreed to by the committee, they should be printed and circulated with the report of the committee, in order that the members of Grand Chapter might be fully informed with regard to them, before being called upon to take them into consideration.

After some conversation, in which the Rev. Comp. HUXHIE suggested that the regulations ought to be so modified as to induce a greater number of the brethren to take the degree than now did do, the resolution was agreed to, with the understanding that the suggestion of Comp. Stebbing would be acted upon.

METROPOLITAN.

POLISH NATIONAL CHAPTER (No. 778).—This Chapter held its usual meeting at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Thursday, the 23rd ult., when the following Companions were present—John Boyd, M.E.Z.; E. J. Williams, H.; Louis Lemanski, P.Z. and Treas.; Matthew Cooke, E.; Geo. States, N.; R. L. Harris, P. Soj.; H. L. Dixon, First Assist. Soj.; C. Bryant, Sec. Assist. Soj.; W. Watson, J. Michalski, and E. Johnstone, P.Z.'s, with Comp. S. Nowakowski. The visitors were Comps. J. Emmens, W. Stuart, H., Crystal Palace, and W. Platt, J., Lily Chapter. The business consisted in exalting Louis Mercik, J.W. of the Polish Lodge (No. 778), and other routine matters. After the Chapter was closed, the Companions adjourned to the banquet, which, having been disposed of, the M.E.Z., Comp. Boyd, liberally supplying the champagne, gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts in a very felicitous style. The M.E.Z. had very great pleasure to see the brethren of the Polish Lodge gradually creep into the Chapter. Its senior member had been exalted that night, and it was a proof that the Lodge and Chapter were one in identity. He was glad to see Comp. Mercik, a Pole, as a Royal Arch Mason, and it was with gratification that he still saw the Poles muster in their National Lodge and Chapter. He then proposed the health of Comp. Mercik, their newly-exalted companion.—Comp. MERCIK said he was not a speaker, but it did not require to be one to say how warmly he thanked them for his kind reception that night, and could express but one wish that of seeing the Polish National Chapter flourish.—Comp. BOYD, M.E.Z., felt he was not competent to discharge the duty properly, because he was not so well acquainted with the position of their visitors as he ought to be. Still it was with very great pleasure to himself, and every companion of the Chapter, that they had honoured them with a visit, which he hoped would not be the last. He then gave "The Health of the Visitors."—Comp. PLATT, on his own behalf, was very much obliged for the toast, and their kind hospitality.—Comp. STUART felt as fully at home as if he were at his own chapter, for he saw many around him he had met before. His own first principal had insisted on his visiting them, and when Comp. States ordered it was his duty to obey.—Comp. EMMENS was quite a stranger to almost all present but he was much gratified with the Polish Chapter, in its working as well as its welcome.—Comp. LEMANSKI, P.Z. and Treas., was glad it fell to his lot to propose the "Health of Comp. Boyd," their M.E.Z., and he was sure it was an equal pleasure to all the companions of the chapter to express, through him, how much they respected their First Principal. For years they had all known him to be one of their greatest supporters and what he (Comp. Lemanski) could say in his praise would be superfluous because he was so well known to every one of the members of the chapter. They all liked him for he was a pillar of strength to them, and his good-will was always with every lodge, chapter, or any body, with which he was connected. As the lodge had prospered under his rule, so no doubt the chapter would, and as it had such an admirable guide, he hoped the companions would join him in a full glass to the health of Comp. Boyd, their M.E.Z.—Comp. BOYD, M.E.Z., was very much obliged for the handsome manner in which Comp. Lemanski had proposed his health and they had responded to it. He felt their kindness. His ambition was to go through his duties well, but he felt he had been wanting in the chapter for not having been in Royal Arch Masonry during the last five or six months, he was as rusty as it was possible to be, and he must plead that as his excuse. But however imperfect he was, he had on his left Comp. Watson, who was all that could be desired, either in lodge or chapter. He, and the companions, were much indebted to Comp. Watson who was ever ready to work a ceremony, entrust a candidate, carry the ballot box, or sit still. For himself he had always met with so much kind indulgence from his Polish companions and brethren, that he knew he might reckon on the same for that occasion.—The M.E.Z. Comp. BOYD rose to propose the healths of the Past Principals of the Polish National Chapter, Comps. Watson, Lemanski, Michalski, and Johnstone. Four worthier men or companions were not to be found. The first was a host in himself—able, willing, and ready at all times to assist, lead, or direct. Comp. Michalski had filled the chair most effectively, and was esteemed by every one in the chapter. Comp. Johnstone was treasured in their hearts for his sympathy with the Poles: he, likewise, had performed his duties with great credit. Their P.Z. and Treas., Comp. Lemanski, was too well known there to need a word from him (the M.E.Z.), but he could not refrain from saying that he had never found a better man.

(Cheers.) He had opportunities of knowing how much he was respected, having succeeded him in the lodge, the chapter, and the higher degrees. It was with great pleasure he called upon the companions to drink the toast of "The P.Z.'s of No. 778."—Comp. WATSON tendered his thanks for the toast. The P. Principals each loved the chapter and all its companions. The chapter was a bantling of his own, and very many happy hours he had spent in the Polish National Chapter. They were all anxious for its prosperity, and it had their good-wishes, both individually and collectively.—Comp. LEMANSKI, P.Z. and Treas., was sure they, the Past Principals, were most anxious to forward the prospects of the chapter. All of them were Comp. Watson's children, brought up under his direction, and exalted to Royal Arch Masonry by him. For his own part he was often, and that day more particularly, worn out by business, and had not expected to have been present; but he thought if he could spare an hour he knew nowhere more pleasant to spend it than in his own chapter, surrounded by the cheerful faces of so many friends (loud cheers), and as long as he was spared to be of use to the chapter it should have his best services. (Hear, hear). He congratulated them upon their good position, and hoped to see it continue prosperous.—Comp. JOHNSTONE had only one matter to correct; he could not take upon himself all the credit their M.E.Z. had given him, for although he did all the other offices in the chapter he was never a good First Principal.—Comp. MICHALSKI was better off than any of the others, inasmuch as he freely acknowledged his entire innocence of the duties he had gone through. (Laughter). How Comp. Watson had brought him through he did not know; but everyone said they were pleased with him, and he could truly say he was as much pleased with them.—The M.E.Z. then gave "The Health of their Second Principal, Comp. Williams," who was well known in the chapter for his punctuality and the manner in which he performed his duties.—Comp. WILLIAMS H., addressed the chapter in a very humorous speech, in which he highly complimented Comp. Watson; he said he felt great reluctance in returning thanks, for he had left his work to be done by Comp. Watson. Indeed, he believed Watson did, and could do, everything. Comp. Watson was the great rock on which they all split. He was such a master of Maonsry, and was so willing, that it was no uncommon occurrence to leave all to him. Supposing, for instance, Comp. Watson was to be taken ill and unable to attend, what a pretty mess they would be in! He (Comp. Williams) was quite as bad in that respect as anyone else; but he did think they ought all to rely more on themselves. He was ashamed to think what a pretty figure they must cut before a candidate who saw that one companion did all the work, while the real officers sat there in state like so many lay figures. He strongly urged every member to render himself perfect in the ceremony, and not to trust to Comp. Watson. (Loud laughter and cheers.)—The M.E.Z. then gave "The Officers of the Chapter," which was suitably acknowledged, and the meeting broke up after having spent an agreeable evening.

DURHAM.

GATESHEAD.—Chapter de Burgi (No. 614).—This chapter was opened on the 23rd ult., by M.E.Z. Comp. A. Clapham, M.E.Z. Comp. H. G. Ludwig, and M.E.Z. Comp. A. Gillespie, assisted by Comps. R. J. Banning, E.; George Lambton, N.; W. Bryden, P.S. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. This being the night of installation, Comps. A. Gillespie, was installed H.; R. J. Banning, J.; by Comp. Anty. Clapham; Gillespie, E. Business over the chapter was closed in form and with solemn prayer. At the banquet the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly responded to. Comp. C. J. Banister, responded to the Masonic charities, and hoped that the companions would subscribe to them this year and also find a working Steward for one at least, and promised to help them in the good work. The evening was spent in love and harmony.

NORFOLK.

NORWICH.—Cabbell Chapter (No. 1109).—The companions of this flourishing chapter held their quarterly convocation at the Freemasons' Hall, St. Stephen's, on Thursday, 23rd of October, under the able Presidency of the Principal Z., Comp. Henry John Mason, supported by P.Z. Henry Underwood, as H., and Capt. Harry L'Estrange, J.; Comp. A. F. Morgan, P.S.; Comps. D. Penrice and J. Deacon officiated as Assistant Sojourners. The first business was to exalt to the supreme degree Bro. Philip Back,

of Union Lodge, No. 60, the whole of the ceremony being most efficiently performed. Comp. H. J. Mason announced the time had arrived to elect the principals and officers for the ensuing year, and thanked the companions of the chapter for the great kindness evinced towards him during his year of office as first principal. He had now the greatest pleasure to announce that Comp. A. F. Morgan, H. of the chapter, was unanimously elected as their M.E.Z., Captain H. L'Estrange, J., as H., and George E. Simpson, N., as J. A pleasant evening was then spent by the companions. The installation of the three principals and officers is fixed for Thursday evening, January 8th, 1883, at the Freemasons' Hall, St. Stephens, Norwich. This chapter now numbers 36 members, most of whom have been exalted within the last twelve months, the chapter only being consecrated in March last.

MARK MASONRY.

NEW RAILWAY VIADUCT NEAR DUNKELD.

The newspapers have mentioned that the Duke of Athole, Grand Master Mason of Scotland, assisted by the Freemasons, recently laid the first stone of a new bridge across the Tay, in connexion with the Inverness and Perth Junction Railway. On that occasion a stone cup or bowl was presented to the Duke on the part of the navvies. The cup bears carved Masonic emblems on the exterior, and in the bottom the arms of his Grace are neatly carved. The cup is of Ayrshire stone, about 7 inches in depth, and about 12 or 13 inches in diameter; it was cut by G. Gunn, one of the overseers on the line. The cup was furnished with a Masonic base of black marble, executed by Mr. Brodie, sculptor, and presented by the architects. It bears the following inscription:—"Presented to His Grace the Duke of Athole, K.T., by the navvies employed on the Dunkeld contract of the Inverness and Perth Junction Railway." Bro. Gowans, one of the contractors, in presenting it at the request of the of the men, said that Gunn, who had cut out the cup, was a good Mark Mason—a thing which he was sorry to see was rather lost sight of in their Craft. Referring to Mark Masonry, Bro. Gowans said that he had given the subject a good deal of study, and he found that the Masonic marks which were on the base now presented produced the whole of those lines of architecture which had been admired from the time of the Egyptians, through the Roman and Grecian periods and Middle Ages. Mark Masonry was excellent study, because it brought out the fact that truth, whether in form or anything else, was immutable. Beauty was a true thing, and anything that was founded on a true figure must produce beauty. That was a secret which had been handed down to the Masons, and he had shown it on this base to tell that they had not altogether lost sight of that portion of their Craft. He concluded by remarking that on this occasion he could not well say what he felt, and he knew he could not well say what the men felt. It was a blessed thing that they had bright spots in their lives. When they came into this part of the country they found the Duke of Athole to help them forward with the undertaking, and he begged to thank the Duke in the name of the men. In acknowledging the gift the Duke said, "I can assure you, navvies, that nothing could have been more gratifying to my feelings than to receive this tribute. When we first heard of the railway coming through this part of the country many people were much alarmed at what the navvies would do. (Laughter.) However, when they came, I was so much pleased, on the whole, with their conduct that I have endeavoured, I hope to my interest, to be good friends with them. (Cheers.) All parties connected with me have given me a good report of them. They have done as little damage to my property as possible (laughter), and on the whole have behaved themselves remarkably well. (Cheers.) They have treated the people of the country in a friendly manner, and, if they quarrel a little among themselves, it seems to me that they rather like it. (Laughter.) I see among the faces before me some that I saw lately when I visited the huts. I endeavoured on that occasion to give them a short lecture, but I am afraid they have not profited much by that. (Laughter.) Mr. Gowans has told us how kind the navvies are to their brethren. This is no doubt true, but I have been also told that so long as a navvy has a shilling in his pocket he won't do a day's work. (Laughter.) When I visited the huts I advised them not to spend their money so fast, but I'm afraid they won't take my advice. Their conduct, however, towards the country people has been exemplary, and, if now and then there is something wrong, the navvies I believe are not to blame, for there are people going

about the country who are not navvies at all, but who commit deeds for which the navvies are blamed. (Cheers.) In conclusion, I will say that I value this gift more than I can tell, and I hope that it will be handed down as an heirloom in my family, to show the kindly feelings that have led the navvies to present it to me." (Loud cheers.)

DEVONSHIRE.

DEVONPORT.—*Lodge Friendship* (No. 16).—A Warrant of Confirmation, signed by Lord Carnarvon, M.V.G.M. of M.M.M., has been received by the brethren of the above lodge, and a meeting for installing the Master on the evening of the 13th inst. has been convened by the Secretary, Bro. Murch.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

NEWCASTLE.—*Northumberland and Berwick Lodge*.—Wednesday, October 22nd, being the regular night of meeting, the lodge was opened in Freemasons' Hall, Newgate-street, by the R.W. Bro. H. G. Ludwig, assisted by his officers. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. This being the meeting to elect the R.W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. A. Gillespie, S.W., was unanimously elected to that office. The rest of the business over, the lodge was closed in solemn form.

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

NEWCASTLE.—*Royal Kent Chapter, S.P. Rose Croix, II.R.D.M., K.D.S.II.*—This Chapter, held under the warrant from S.G.C., 33°, was opened at Freemasons' Hall, Newgate-street, on Friday, October 24, in due form, by the M.W.S.C. J. Banister, 30°, assisted by his officers. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. S.P. A. Gillespie, First General, was unanimously elected to the office of M.W.S. for the next year. H. A. Ludwig, Treasurer, and J. Trotter, as Guard Without. Business over, the Chapter was closed in solemn form. At refreshment the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were done justice to, and after spending a happy hour, the Sovereign Princes departed.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The *Gazette* contains an official notice that the Queen has declared her consent to a contract of matrimony between his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and the Princess Alexandra Caroline Maria Charlotte Louisa Julia, daughter of Prince Christian of Denmark. From other sources we learn that the young lady is coming to England on a visit to her future mother-in-law. The Queen and younger branches of the Royal Family remain at Osborne. The Prince of Wales and the Crown Prince and Princess of Prussia arrived at Malta on Thursday, the 30th ult. On that day and the next they held receptions, and on Friday attended a review of the troops in garrison.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The health of London improved in the course of last week. The deaths declined from 1221 in the previous week to 1184, which is 31 less than the last ten years' average, after allowing for the increase of the population. The births during the week were 1883, or 27 more than the last ten years' average.—At a court held at Osborne on Saturday, Parliament was further prorogued to Jan. 13.—Sir Chas. Trevelyan has been offered the post of Finance Minister of India.—The International Exhibition was closed on Saturday, with no ceremony beyond the singing of the National Anthem, "Rule Britannia," and the French national air, by the members of the Sacred Harmonic Society. On Monday the building was thrown open as a bazaar for the sale of the goods exhibited, and in a fortnight it will be closed again, to allow the cleaners and others to proceed with the task of preparing it for the grand closing ceremony in January next, in which the Prince of Wales will take the leading part. It appears that the total number of

visitors to the Exhibition has been 6,116,640, or 77,445 more than visited the Hyde Park Palace in 1851; but, had the supplementary season just brought to a close not been resorted to, there would have been a difference of upwards of 700,000 in favour of the original World's Fair.—A meeting was held on Saturday night, at the rooms of the Social Science Association, in Waterloo-place, to bid "God speed" to Miss Rye, a lady well known for her exertions to provide employment for women, and who is now about to proceed to Australia, in charge of 100 women, of whom 8 are governesses, 32 factory operatives, and 62 domestic servants. Miss Rye proposes to establish an organisation for the emigration of women of an educated class, and it is to make the arrangements at the other end of the voyage she now proceeds in charge of the present number. An animated discussion took place on the lady's plans, in which Mr. Kinnaird (the chairman), Mr. Monckton Milnes, Mr. Chadwick, and others, took part, and a resolution was agreed to fully approving Miss Rye's plans.—The Duke of Somerset (First Lord of the Admiralty) was among the speakers at a county meeting held at Exeter, on Friday, for the purpose of devising measures for the relief of the operatives of Lancashire and Cheshire. The noble duke, in the course of his speech, remarked that next year they might hope for a larger supply of cotton from India than was deemed probable a few months ago. He placed little faith in the substitutes brought forward by inventors, observing that "if there were any substitutes for cotton, the manufacturers were the people most likely to find them." On the subject of the American war he spoke with official prudence. The Government would be but too happy to proffer its advice and assistance in bringing about a settlement of the dispute, if they could see their way clear to do so; but the whole case was surrounded with difficulties, and an offer of mediation might be received only with resentment.—In his usual annual letter to Lord Radnor, Lord Brougham expressed a strong hope that the Federal government will abstain from exciting a servile insurrection, "the only aggravation whereof the deplorable contest is capable." Such a calamity, he says, is more to be dreaded by the friend of the negroes than by those of their masters, "for the chief sufferings would be theirs. The noble lord looks anxiously to the future, when this war shall have ceased. "Armed men in hundreds of thousands will remain, inured to slaughter, incapable of subordination, impatient of peace; their own government will be less secure than ever, and all colonies will have a bad neighbour."—Mr. Farnell reports that on the 25th ult. 208,621 persons were receiving parochial relief in the twenty-four unions affected by the present crisis. The average per centage of pauperism on population in these districts is 10·8, but, while 10·8 is the average per centage, the per centage in the union of Ashton-under-Lyne is 20·7; in that of Preston, 17·8; in that of Blackburn, 17·1; in Manchester, 15·6; in Glossop, 14·3; in Haslingden, 13·1; in Todmorden, 12·8; in Stockport, 11·5; in Rochdale, 11·2; and in Burnley, 11·1. The Preston and Blackburn Guardians have resolved to take advantage of the act passed last session, which enables them, under certain conditions, to raise loans on the security of the rates; but the Stockport board has gone a point further, and is making arrangements for applying for a parliamentary grant. Increased local efforts are being made in various districts in Lancashire to meet the distress which is darkening down upon the district. In this respect Wigan sets a good example to the neighbouring towns, and Lord Lindsay has announced, on the part of his father, the Earl of Crawford, whose property and residence adjoin the town, that he will give £100 a week for the next five months, to be

distributed in food and clothing to the unemployed, and to subscribe at once £500 to the fund for redeeming the property the poor people may have pawned, and providing them with clothing and bedding and the means of paying their rent.—Lord Russell in reply to the resolution adopted at the late City Garibaldi meeting, requesting him to use all the means within his power to obtain the withdrawal of the French troops from Rome, observes that the only thing he can do is to make friendly representations on the subject to the French government. This has been already done, and "similar representations will be made whenever it may seem necessary or expedient to make them."—A body of the colonists of British Columbia have sent a petition to her Majesty, praying for a resident governor who shall be unconnected either with Vancouver Island or the Hudson's Bay Company, and for a system of responsible government similar to that which exists in Canada. They make serious complaints against the present Governor, and protest against the incorporation of Vancouver Island with British Columbia,—"a measure they feel confident would only find remedy in final separation."—At a meeting of the Canterbury Diocesan Education Society, held at Canterbury, Mr. Gathorne Harey, M.P., made a speech on the subject of education. Incidentally noticing, in order to condemn, the misty and metaphysical views on religion which were put forward by certain clergymen, and Church dignitaries, he proceeded to contend for definite religious teaching in our schools, and in that respect expressed his dissent from the opinion favourable to secular education which Sir J. Pakington put forward at Edinburgh.—An interesting match has taken place, in the neighbourhood of Shorncliffe, between four brass muzzle-loading Whitworth 12-pounders and two of Sir W. Armstrong's breech-loading iron guns of the same nominal calibre. The result appears to have settled the superiority of Mr. Whitworth's pieces, both as to accuracy of shooting and rapidity of fire. It was also observed, in a test of 100 consecutive rounds, that while "the Armstrongs were fired with lubricating wads, and were washed out, and changed their breech pieces as often as they became disabled by being overheated, the Whitworths all completed their 100 rounds without being washed out at all, and without using any lubricating wads."—Monday being the first day of Michaelmas term, the Lord Chancellor received the judges—not at his private residence, as was heretofore the custom, but at Middle Temple Hall. The Lord Mayor elect was presented to the Lord Chancellor.—That extraordinary affair, the Yelverton marriage case—the Penelope's web of the legal tribunals—has commenced a new career in the Edinburgh Court of Session.—In the Court of Queen's Bench, in the case of Thomas v. Shirley (breach of promise of marriage), a rule for a new trial was refused.—At the Central Criminal Court, Samuel Gardener was put on his trial for the murder of his wife, in Northumberland-alley, in the city. It will be recollected that the coroner's jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against both the prisoner and a young woman who lived in the house as a servant, with whom Gardener carried on an adulterous intercourse. The magistrates, however, thought there was no evidence against the woman, and at the trial she was admitted as a witness, and of course denied that she knew anything of the murder till she went into her mistress's room in the morning, and found she was stepping in her blood. Mr. Lubbock addressed the jury for the prisoner. He put two points before them—first, whether it was clear beyond doubt that the deceased woman had not committed suicide; and next, if they were convinced she was murdered, whether it was not more probable on the evidence that the murder was committed by the servant Humbler than by the prisoner. The jury deliberated for an hour and a half on their verdict, and returned into court finding the prisoner guilty, but recommended him to mercy, on the ground of a belief they entertained—of which, however, there was no evidence—that there had been a quarrel between the prisoner and his wife on the night previous to the murder, and that he had committed the crime in passion. The Chief Baron, in passing sentence, held out to the prisoner no hope of mercy.—At the Central Criminal Court on Saturday two Germans, named Braun and Kortoske, were convicted of fraudulent bankruptcy. The case lasted over parts of three days, and involved a good deal of technicality; but in substance it was that after conducting business respectably for some years, they in 1861 increased their dealings, and obtained goods from their creditors to the extent of £51,000, nearly the whole of which was lost. The sentence pronounced was imprisonment—Braun to two months, and Kortoske for one year.

—The magistrates at Ilford were engaged on Saturday in examining into one of those shocking cases of cruelty at sea, where, as is alleged in the evidence, the master of a ship conceives a prejudice to one of the crew, and broods over it till it becomes a mania. In the present case a workhouse boy was bound apprentice to the owner and master of a Barking smack. His habits were offensive, and probably he was not of much use on board. The master repeatedly beat him in an inhuman manner, and at times kept him without food for twenty-four hours together. The boy died on his voyage home; but as his death arose from natural causes, the only charge against the prisoner is for feloniously wounding. The case was remanded, and the prisoner admitted to bail.—The man Kilsby, who shot a grocer, named Cook, at his own shop door, in Battersea, some two months ago, has been committed for trial. His victim, who has partially recovered almost by miracle, was present, and gave his evidence. The attempted assassination arose out of a feeling of what appears to have been unfounded jealousy.—The six prisoners charged with stealing Bank of England paper from the mills at Laverstoke and forging notes were brought up at the Mansion House on Wednesday. One of them, a female, calling herself Ellen Burnett, was released from custody, at the instance of Mr. Freshfield, the solicitor for the prosecution. Against the other prisoners a good deal of evidence was taken. One of them, James Griffiths, was apprehended at Birmingham while printing forged Bank of England notes. The evidence against the other prisoners was that of a man named Henry Brown, who had been employed as a carpenter at the paper mills at Laverstoke. He gave a circumstantial narrative of how he was asked by the prisoner Burnett and the woman who lived with him as his wife to get some paper from the mills; how he refused at first, and afterwards consented; how he was met by the prisoner Brewer, on one occasion while bringing some paper away, and was advised by him to take it back; and how afterwards Brewer himself stole paper, and gave it to him to carry to Burnett. He also gave a particular account of Burnett's visits to different people in London, including another of the prisoners, Buncher. At the close of Brown's evidence, the prisoners were remanded to Friday.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The Vienna Cabinet have settled the dispute between the Chambers in the truly constitutional way, by accepting the vote of the Lower Chamber striking 60,000 florins for diplomatic services out of the Budget.—According to a telegram from Turin, a letter praying the Pope to renounce his temporal power has been published by a portion of the Italian clergy.—Seventeen surgeons including Professor Partridge and Dr. Nelaton, have held a consultation respecting the state of Garibaldi's wound. They were unable to discover the ball, though they believed it to be still in the wound, which must again be probed in order that the shot may be found and extracted if it can be safely done. The illustrious patient's general state of health was deemed satisfactory, and the surgeons were of opinion that no important surgical operation will be requisite.—The *France* and other Paris papers concur in asserting that England, France, and Russia, have agreed to abstain from all interference in Greek affairs. The *Presse* adds—that the new provisional government has already given to the foreign envoys at Athens assurances "that the revolution will be confined to Greece," or, in other words, that no attempt will be made to kindle an insurrection among the Greek subjects of the Ottoman Sultan.—The Portuguese Cortes were opened on the 4th by commission. The speech did not contain any passage of political importance. By telegram from Lisbon, we hear that the Island of Fayal has been desolated by a succession of earthquakes extending over 19 days, in consequence of which all who could were quitting for other islands in the American group.—The official journal of Warsaw declares that the Russian authorities have discovered a revolutionary committee, under General Mieroslawski's presidency. This committee's principal purpose was to assess and collect contributions in Poland for revolutionary purposes. The Emperor of Russia is expected shortly at Warsaw. That city, according to the last advices, is still in a very agitated state, and several of the working-classes have been arrested.—A telegram from Madrid announces that the Brazilian Government has paid the eight millions which it owed to Spain. The creditors of Spain would be delighted if the Spanish Government would follow the example of Brazil, and pay its debts.—General Mitre has been elected President of the Republic of Buenos Ayres, and Dr. Marcos Paz Vice-President. The former was elected unanimously, not a single dissident being registered. The President of Pataguay died on the 10th

of September. He is succeeded by his son, General Francisco S. Lopez.

INDIA AND CHINA.—There is nothing very important in the news brought by the India and China mail. The Governor General had abandoned his intention of visiting Madras and the Neilgherries, and will remain in Calcutta to the end of the cold season, and then repair to Simla. Rumours were current that Lord Elgin's stay in India will be short. The subscription to the Lancashire Relief Fund was going on all over the country, and large sums had been subscribed. The Ameer of Cabool had proffered terms for a settlement to Ahmed Jahn, which the latter had rejected, emboldened, it is supposed, by the arrival of a Persian general with a large body of troops and two guns to his assistance. There had been no more fighting. Telegrams, anticipating the advices brought by the Overland Mail from Calcutta, China, and Australia, contain no political intelligence of any interest. The Taepings had quitted the neighbourhood of Shanghai, and that city was consequently tranquil; but a "serious conspiracy" to burn the city of Canton, and slaughter the principal mandarins, had been discovered by the Chinese authorities.

AMERICA.—New York despatches of the 25th ult. have been brought by the *City of New York*, which arrived yesterday, at Queenstown. No military operation had been undertaken in Virginia. General Buell had been deprived of the command of the Federal armies in Kentucky, and had been replaced by General Rosenerantz, the victor of Corinth. General Buell's disgrace was caused by the indignation felt by the Northern government and people, because he had not prevented the Confederate army's retreat from Kentucky. The Confederates, under General Bragg, had, it is stated, retired out of Kentucky through Cumberland Gap into East Tennessee, and their pursuit had been relinquished by the Federals. The communications of Nashville with the North were entirely intercepted, although the Federal garrison had defeated a small body of Confederates who had crossed the Cumberland river and encamped seven miles north of Nashville. According to Southern accounts, the Federal troops had evacuated Corinth and Bolivar. It was reported that the Federal forces had occupied an island in Galveston Bay, Texas. The overseer of a plantation near New Orleans had been killed by the negroes, but the revolt was subsequently quelled by a party of Federal soldiers after several of the blacks had been slain. The Washington authorities were it is said, about to offer a reward of 500,000 dollars for the capture of the *Alabama*, or one of 300,000 dollars for her destruction.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

IN ANSWER to Z. H. J. as to whether the whole secrets of a Royal Arch Principal are known to a Z. before he vacates the chair of a First Principal, we should say yes, if he ever knew them at all.

BIRMINGHAM.—They will be continued from time to time as space permits.

D. Y.—No.

VINE.—Transplant yourself to another lodge.

S.—Send the pamphlet, we have not seen it.

A LONDONER.—As a Master Mason you can only visit a Prov. Grand Lodge by courtesy. You have no right to enter it because you are a brother. Very few, if any, Prov. Grand Lodges would exclude you, but you cannot claim any *locus standi*, as the law which relates to visiting brothers applies to private lodges, and not Grand or Prov. Grand Lodges.

HENRY W.—Can't say, there is no deciding such very nice points. What does it matter who *should* be most obliging? Try and think less of your rights, and act more in the spirit of true politeness.

MEMO.—Next week.

R. S. T.—We do not know to whom or what you allude.

A BROTHER.—We shall not go out of our way unnecessarily to attack any one, especially on such facts stated. A little more charity towards others will not detract from "a brother's" position.

E. S. (Manchester).—We will endeavour to comply with your wishes at an early day.