

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1863.

## CLASSICAL THEOLOGY,—LXIII.

XI.—JUNO AND JANUARY.

Many of the most conspicuous pagods in the groups of the most ancient Hindoo temples, are decorated with the Zennar, or sacred cord distinctive of the order of Brahmins, and consequently indicative of the early establishment of caste in India.

Previous to the most remote era of authentic history (and Hindoo records assign to tradition the separation of ranks and professions had been instituted in India), the whole native body was divided, as they still are, into four classes. The first, or Brahmins, deemed pre-eminently sacred, cultivated the study and principles of religion, and the occult sciences. They were the hereditary priesthood, both the instructors and philosophers of the nation. The second had the administration of the government; and were the rulers and magistrates in times of peace, and the directors, commanders, and generals in times of war. The third comprised merchants and agriculturists, and the fourth was composed of artisans, labourers and servants.

None of these members enacts the Ayceen Akbery (111. 81. &c. on the Indian code), can ever disunite themselves from their own caste, or be admitted into another. This inviolable demarcation is not only enforced by civil authority, but decreed, sanctioned, and held so confirmed by religion, that each order or caste is believed to have been derived and appointed by Supreme Divinity; and to commingle or confound them in any manner would be by each resisted as an actual profanation, and an act of the utmost impiety. All, individually, of the four different tribes, follow the professions and occupations of their forefathers, and from one generation to another adhere to the same uniform position of life.

Philosophical ideas conform to the law of absolute necessity. The wants of the Hindoos are small in comparison with our own. But, however repugnant a system of stationary castes may be to our mode of thinking, the early Indian legislators strove to secure for one and all the maintenance and happiness of a whole people. In their several spheres, the Hindoo, of either caste, seems intuitively to know, as though imbibed with his mother's milk, that he is destined from his birth to an allotted station and avocation, so inexplicably associated with his existence as to constitute a co-ordinate organism of his nature. Thus his mental or manual occupation continues to be easy and pleasing, undeviating and still more perfect, to the end of his useful days. The permanence of their institutions, and the immutability of highly civilised manners, is peculiar to the Hindoos. The violence of their Mahomedan and European conquerors effected little more than a coerced and evanescent alteration amongst them, and they are in their hearts even now much the same as they were found; and with Christian teaching, to the honour and agreement of Christianity, they might well be left as they are. Can we safely say that, by adhering to the mechanical practices of their ancestors, the spirit of Hindoo invention has been checked? They attained perfection in the manufacture of many Indian

commodities, which exhibit such experienced and delicate execution that the combined sciences and arts of Europe, with all their chemical superiority and geometrically constructed machinery, have failed to surpass, or even equal them. Example, fashion, and the sword convert to changes, and, in India, civil and domestic conditions have changed; but the precepts of religion and the distinctions of society have struggled with unabated tenacity to survive the mighty glory of former dynasties. The Brahmins, in accordance with an anachronism, if we may so phrase it, extend the longevity of primitive manhood to thousands of years, and trace back their historical events through an indeterminate succession of ages, apparently incredible; but they assert that, in times past, Asia at large, from the entrance of the Indus, on the west, to the borders of China, on the east, and from the mountains of Thibet, on the north, to the promontory of Comaria, or Cape Comorin, on the south, comprised one vast empire of extensive sovereignties, ruled by hereditary princes or rajahs, under the sole sway and supreme dominion of one mighty monarch.

India has supplied all nations with her merchandise, and in all ages her traffic appears to have been the same. Her articles have varied, as they vary, to meet the tastes of the world; but what Pliny observed is still observable to our neighbours, that it is a gulf into which flows the wealth of every other country, to be swallowed up never, again to be returned. "Hindustan," says an Asiatic author, "has been frequently plundered by foreign invaders, and not one of its kings ever gained for it any acquisition of wealth; neither has the country many mines of gold and silver, and yet Hindostan abounds in money, and every other kind of wealth." This abundance is doubtless owing, as Khoich Abdul-kureem further relates, "to the ready money in exchange for the manufactures and natural productions of the country."

There are two truly beautiful proofs of very early and exceeding civilization respecting the political constitution and system of government as practised, not in theory, amongst the Hindoos, resembling the Christian and Masonic principle of our own political economists, who contend that the product of land and all private merchandise, life and property, should be held sacred and secured by a government of nations, based upon the greatest efforts of that divine and human philosophy whose wisdom inculcates freedom, humanity, honesty, and mildness. It is recorded, "it was not unusual, while two armies in hostile array were fighting a battle in one field, the ploughers or reapers in some adjoining field were left unmolested, and might be seen working and abiding in perfect tranquility." Indeed, the ancient Greeks and Romans, finding themselves disappointed in the forms of their own governments and institutions, discerned and admired the humanity and mildness of the Hindoo policy, and likened the Rajah to a father presiding over a numerous family, more than a sovereign surrounded by the subjects he ruled, whose solicitude was for the happiness of his people, and who, in return, were attached to him by the most tender and steadfast duties of affection and fidelity. In the record of the other proof, it is to be remembered, that in the commencement of the thousandth year of the Christian era, Mahmud of Ghazna, styled the

Desolator, whose dominion included the ancient kingdom of Bactria, invaded Hindostan; each step of his progress being identified by blood, havoc, and ruin.

The most magnificent Pagodas, the ancient monuments of gentoo veneration and grandeur, were despoiled and demolished, the priestly ministers massacred, cities and populations given to the flames, and with indiscriminating vengeance and ferocity the whole country was plundered and consigned to desolation. About 400 years after, Tamerlane, another Mahomedan conqueror, named, for his cruelties, the "Destroying Prince," as we find recounted by Gibbon and Orme, with irresistible arms, and even still more ruthless severity and animosity, devastated and subjugated the entire territories of Hindostan. What we are about to bring forward admits of such serious consideration, that we again pause, the more effectually to continue it in future articles.

#### MASONIC SAYINGS AND DOINGS ABROAD.

**WINTER FETE AT ROUEN.**—The lodges and chapters of all rites had a very brilliant meeting at Rouen, when brethren were present from La Perseverance, Couronne, La Verite, La Constance Epreuve, Les Arts Reunis, and others from Havre, Vernon, Dieppe, Paris, and Vincennes. The members of the Supreme Grand Council mustered in full force, and were received with the accustomed honours. A very interesting oration on the objects of Freemasonry was delivered by Bro. F. Deschamps, W.M. of La Verite, and a very handsome banquet concluded the proceedings.

**VICTOR HUGO ON CAPITAL PUNISHMENTS.**—This celebrated brother has written a letter addressed to M. Robert de Tilleur, barrister-at-law, in which he advocates, as a Freemason, the discontinuance of capital punishments. It is a very eloquent appeal, compressed in a few pithy sentences, showing that the Craft has ever discountenanced both legal execution and affairs of honour.

**THE COTTON DISTRESS IN LYONS.**—There have been several meetings of the brethren in the various departments of France, for the purpose of ameliorating the distressed condition of the cotton operatives in that country. As far as we can learn at present, the amount which has been subscribed by Freemasons in their lodges, chapters, &c., is somewhere about 17,794*l.* (£711 sterling).

**MEDAL IN HONOUR OF BRO. VIENNET, M.P., SOV. G. COM. 33°.**—At the Central Grand Lodge of France, held lately, a medal, commemorative of the services of the Ill. Bro. Viennet to the Rite Ecossaise, was to have been presented to that brother, but whose health prevented his being present, and accordingly it was entrusted to Bro. Guiffrey, Lt. G. Com. 33°, to convey to his superior. Bro. Viennet wrote a very kind and grateful letter to the brethren, thanking them for this mark of their confidence and esteem, in which he recapitulated some of the most material points connected with the suppression of the Supreme Grand Council. The members present made various speeches on the position of Freemasonry in France, which is of such a generally unsatisfactory character

that we withhold any lengthened account of what was said and done, feeling that which is true to-day may, by a stroke of the Imperial pen, be false to-morrow, and Freemasonry itself may cease to exist (legally), *i.e.*, by order of the Government, at any moment. The meeting in question was followed by a banquet, after which a collection was made in aid of the cotton distressed districts.

**FREEMASONRY IN ALGIERS.**—The lodge Enfants de Mars gave a ball for benevolent purposes, at which the citizens of Phillipville attended with great enthusiasm, and the decorations were of the most pleasing kind. The various costumes of the civil, military, naval, and Masonic individuals present, together with the elegant attire of the ladies, who mustered in very strong force, made the occasion quite a fairy scene, and very much delighted several of the swarthy sons of the desert, whose picturesque dress in no way diminished the spectacle.

**THE PYRAMIDS.**—Some few adventurous brethren, of more than one nationality (so says *La Presse*), recently determined upon holding a Masonic lodge in the great pyramid; but, owing to some unforeseen accident, they were compelled to confine their operations to one of the smaller pyramids, where all preparations having been made, they carried out their intention, but suddenly came to grief from several bats and other flying animals putting out their lights, and leaving them to grope their way unaided from the scene of their labours, save by the reflection of that pure light which burns in every Freemason's bosom.

**LODGE BENEVOLENCE.**—The Lodge Septentrion, of Gand, has contributed to the municipal authorities of that town, a sum of 12,000 francs, for the benefit of the distressed operatives residing amongst them.

**INTOLERANCE OF THE ROMISH PRIESTHOOD.**—A talented, but modest artist, M. Victor Lejeune, has recently died at Verviers, and having been a Freemason for many years, was interred by what is termed a "civil" funeral, the priesthood refusing, on account of his not renouncing the errors of Freemasonry, to celebrate the rites of the church for him. This being known was an occasion for a very numerous assembly of his townsmen, who, to show their respect to the deceased, and their detestation of the narrow-mindedness of the clergy, turned out, not in scores or hundreds, but by thousands to witness the interment. Several highly gifted brethren pronounced orations over the grave, and the large concourse of spectators expressed their sympathy for the artist's family, and their indignation at such intolerance.

#### FREEMASONRY IN FRANCE.

The Paris correspondent of the *Morning Post*, says:

The poor Freemasons are about to share the fate of their fellow-citizens, by losing even the shadow of a claim to their title. When Prince Murat presided over the Eleusinian mysteries of the mystic corporation he advanced some money to the Grand Orient Lodge, which he now claims. The lodge hesitates, Prince Murat most unmasonically menaces; he threatens to seize the premises and furniture belonging to the lodge in the Rue Cadet. Marshal Magnan, the President appointed by the Emperor, summons the

lodge to meet in solemn conclave. He proposes that the Grand Orient premises should be sold to pay the debt, as they are partly occupied by the Casino; but the Freemasons object, they like to be able to join in the dance with the merry mercenaries after their mystic banquets. The Marshal then proposed that they should borrow the money to pay off Prince Murat from the Credit Foncier. M. Fremy, the manager, refuses to lend to any society which is not declared to be of "public utility." The Council of State is called upon to decide; they hesitated, even with their disposition to oblige, to pronounce the Masons of public utility; but their hesitation vanished on learning that by thus assimilating the Freemasons to other societies the Prefect of Police would have the right to send his *mouchards* and agents to all the Masons' meetings, and to appoint all the principal officers. The ladies are in raptures, as they think that they will now be able to worm out of the police those secrets of the Craft which are withheld from them even by their lovers.

Another Paris letter says:—

The Freemasons, of whom little has been heard since the *coup d'état*, which forced them to accept Marshal Magnan for their Grand Master, about a year and a half ago, are in trouble again. They fear to lose the few privileges of a free association, which that sinister event left them still in possession of. It appears that the former Grand Master, Prince Murat, lent some money to the Craft for the repair and decoration of the Grand Lodge, in Rue Cadet. His conduct in opposing the election of Prince Napoleon, and thus producing the disorders and scandal which afforded the Emperor an excuse for taking the election of a Grand Master out of the hands of the brethren, rendered Murat hopelessly unpopular among Freemasons. He now calls in his money. The Committee of the Grand Lodge, in order to pay him, has applied to the Credit Foncier for a loan upon a mortgage of the premises in the Rue Cadet. The Credit Foncier, actuated, it is supposed, less by business considerations than by a hint from high quarter, objects that the security will be insufficient so long as the Freemasons are not a society recognised by law as one of "public utility." Thereupon the Grand Master, Marshal Magnan, in order to meet the objection, applied to the Council of State to recognise Freemasonry. A number of Masonic conscript fathers—"Past Masters Wardens, and Deacon,"—have protested against this step of a Grand Master, as manifestly tending to make the Craft still more subservient to the government than it is already. The dissentients argue that if Masonry is to be made a "society of public utility, recognised by law," its statutes must be approved of by the government, and can never be altered without government permission. Mr. Eugene Delattre, a Paris barrister, has very energetically supported this view of the case. Marshal Magnan, who it must be admitted, has from the first done all that was possible to mitigate the original vice of his nomination, and has, with really extraordinary tact, succeeded to a great extent in identifying himself with the Craft, swears, "by his sword," that he will cause the inherent rights of Masonry to be respected, and will resign if they are infringed. These assurances, though probably well meant, failed to inspire the Craft with confidence.

Putting this and that together, they are led to fear that a vital blow is aimed against them at the present moment. Freemasonry has always been detested by the Roman Catholic clergy. It is rumoured that the Empress has been set against the institution, and made to believe that its adepts are all atheists and miscreants. Under these circumstances, many leading Masons talk of retiring rather than pass under the yoke.

#### ANOTHER LADY MASON.

A ROMANCE OF THE AMERICAN WAR.

(Correspondent of the *Chicago Tribune*.)

Among the many scenes of the war which have passed under my observation, my recollection enables me to give you an account of one of the most mysterious and strange adventures which I have ever heard of.

During the month of August in 1861, while our Iowa regiment was stationed at Rolls, in Missouri, our company was detached from the regiment and sent to guard the railroad bridge at the Mozeille mills, which it was rumoured the guerillas of that neighbourhood were preparing to destroy.

We had been upon the ground but a few days when there appeared in camp early one morning a very old, decrepid mule, which made direct for the door of a stable that adjoined the captain's quarters, from which it appeared he had recently been stolen by a guerilla and carried away as a pack animal. Upon approaching the mule, a letter was discovered secured to the throat-latch of the bridle, which, being addressed to the captain, was immediately handed into his quarters. Upon opening the letter, its contents (written in the delicate handwriting of a female) consisted of the following singular announcement:—"The Temple of Jerusalem was destroyed on the first Friday before the full moon." The captain professed to understand it, and said, "The guerillas will attack the bridge to-night," and immediately ordered the company to be mustered, and informed them of the imminence of an attack which might be looked for at any moment. Ammunition was ordered to be distributed, the guards were doubled, pickets thrown out, and every precaution taken to guard against surprise. At the close of the day a drizzling rain set in, which continued until the next morning, causing the night to be intensely dark.

Three picket stations had been thrown out into the country about half a mile from the opposite end of the bridge, where the main guard was posted behind a pile of railroad ties. It was our lot to be one of the six that composed the midnight guard at this station. We had been upon our post about an hour when one of the men observed, "I hear footsteps." We listened, and presently heard the footsteps of several persons approaching us, apparently with great caution, through a dense undergrowth that skirted the opposite end of the road. The darkness of the night was so great that we could not see them even when they were within forty feet of us; but we could distinctly hear one of them observe in a petulant but suppressed tone, "Jim, hold up that gun of yours; that's twice you've stuck that bayonet in me." At this moment we opened upon them with all our guns. There was no gun fired in return, but we could distinctly hear them for some time rushing with receding steps through the thicket, in the direction of a cornfield, in which stood a log cabin, occupied by a woman and two children, the husband and father of whom was a Union soldier in one of the Missouri regiments.

The firing of our guns, which overshot the enemy, had aroused the entire command, and brought in the picket guard, when the log cabin alluded to was discovered to be on fire. Believing it to be the incendiary work of the

guerillas, the captain immediately ordered a command of twenty men to double quick through to the house and endeavour to rescue the family, if in danger. Upon reaching the vicinity of the opening that surrounded the cabin, we discovered that a quantity of hay had been placed against the door and fired; and near the building a party of eight or nine guerillas, armed with guns, were grouped together, apparently listening to a speaker. Our party, which had divided at the edge of the corn with the view of surrounding the cabin, now rushed in upon them and succeeded in capturing three of their number.

We had arrived too late to render any assistance to the inmates of the cabin, which had already sunk down into a smouldering heap, beneath which the mother and her children had perished. After securing our prisoners with a portion of a clothes line hanging from a branch of a tree, they were conducted to camp, where the captain immediately summoned a drum-head court martial to try them upon the charge of murder, assuring them that if they were found guilty they would be shot at sunrise, as a warning to their guerilla comrades. One of the party, a short thick fellow, with a bushy head of red hair, and bloated expression of countenance, when asked by the court martial if he had anything to say, sneeringly turned away, refusing to make any answer. The second prisoner, a tall, slender person, of dark complexion, with one eye concealed beneath a handkerchief that was tied diagonally around his head, while his face was scratched and scarred with fresh wounds, apparently the result of some bacchanalian brawl with his comrades, observed—"This shooting a felleparter he's a prisoner for fighting for the freedom of Missouri, and agin the Obelitioners, aint accoden to law."

Here a member of the court martial asked him "If the murdering of a helpless woman and her children at the midnight hour, by burning them to death while sleeping, was fighting for the freedom of Missouri?" The fellow turned away from this question with a dejected look, muttering that "her husband was a — Obelitioner." The third person was a young man or boy, apparently about sixteen years old. From his dialect, and the nationality of expression on his countenance it was easy to discern that he was of Irish descent. He was well dressed, and appeared to be greatly distressed at his situation as a prisoner. He observed, with much alarm expressed in his countenance, that he was an Irish boy, and that he had been in the United States but ten weeks, and had taken no part in the war; that the men who had burned the house had called upon him that evening and asked him to join them in a coon hunt, and it was not until they were fired at upon the bridge that he was aware of the character and object of the party. He would have left them there, but the night was dark, and he did not know his way home.

Here one of the court arose and informed him that his story partook of the character of all guerilla pleas of innocence, and that it availed him nothing. He had been caught with others in the very act of committing this cruel and unfeeling murder, and that it only remained for him to say that the court found all three of them guilty of murder, and sentenced them to be shot at seven o'clock the next morning.

The prisoners were then ordered to the guard house—a log dwelling—and placed in the cellar beneath the building. The remainder of the night was devoted to the making of coffins and the digging of a grave of sufficient dimensions to hold them side by side. When the morning returned the rain ceased—the clouds had passed away, and soon the sun rose with a warm and genial glow. All nature seemed refreshed with the murky shower of the night, while all around the blades of grass, the lilac bushes, and forest leaves drooped under the sparkling rain drops that glittered on their folds, and the birds carolled wild and loud their morning matins. All felt that it was a day to live, and not to die in. The drum was beat at early dawn, mustering the company under

arms to witness the punishment; and a detail of twelve men was made as executioners, under the command of a corporal. As the time drew near for the execution, it was discovered that two of the prisoners had made their escape by forcing a passage through the partition wall of the cellar into the cellar of an adjoining house.

The boy, however, was still a prisoner, and all were determined he should be made an example of. Accordingly about eight o'clock he was brought out to be conducted to the place of execution. Upon seeing the soldiers drawn up to receive him, he commenced wringing his hands, crying, and calling to the captain, saying, "Oh, captain, I am not guilty. Do not let them kill me. Don't captain, you can save me. I will give you my watch. My sister will give you money. Oh, God, oh, holy Mother! oh, captain, speak to them quick, they are taking me away." With a soldier upon each side of him, he was now led by the arms towards the place of execution, still calling upon the captain to save him. When he discovered the coffin and the grave that had been prepared for him, he gave a wild frantic scream, and then seemed to realise for the first time that in a few minutes he would be no more among the living; for in a moment after he was calm, when, turning to the officer of the guard, he requested him to ask the captain if he would give him time to write to his mother in Ireland.

The captain, who was standing on one side of the hollow square of soldiers that surrounded the prisoner, hearing this request, immediately answered, "Yes, let him have writing materials," which were immediately brought, when he kneeled down, placing the paper on the coffin lid, and as his pen dashed off the words "dear mother," tears fell upon the paper, which, in brushing away with his coat sleeve, erased the words he had written; when, springing to his feet, he commenced wringing his hands, saying, "I cannot write, I cannot write; oh, soldier, will you write for me?" addressing the corporal of the guard.

At that moment there arose upon the stillness of the scene the wild, piercing shriek of a female, as she burst through the ranks of the soldiers, and swept out upon the hollow square, in the direction of the prisoner. It was an Irish girl, apparently about eighteen years old, without bonnet or shoes, her dress bespotted with mud, and her long dark hair streaming in the wind as she rushed forward with a wild, heartrending scream, saying, "He is my brother! he is my brother!" In a moment she had crossed the square, and clasping her brother in her arms she continued with an agonising scream, "Oh, soldiers! oh, holy Mother! gentlemen! for the love of Jesus, do not kill him! He is innocent! He is my brother!"

I never wish to look upon a scene like that again; and many a hardy hunter from Iowa's border, while gazing on it, felt the involuntary tear course down his manly cheek. But we were surrounded by murderers and assassins. The hand that had received pay from a soldier for a draught of water had been known to strike him in the back with a dagger as he turned away; and our officers had determined to make an example of the first murderer that fell into our hands. The girl at length was ordered to be removed. When two soldiers advanced and unloosed her grasp upon her brother, her screams, her appeals to all for mercy were terrible.

They had dragged her but a short distance from him, when looking back and seeing a black handkerchief already tied over his eyes, with one wild, frantic scream she flung the soldiers from her, and bounding back to her brother she tore the handkerchief from his eyes and again enfolded him in her arms. As the soldiers were again removing her, the coat sleeve of one of them was torn during her struggles, and her eye fell upon a breast pin that he had fastened upon his shirt sleeve, perhaps for concealment and safety.

In an instant all her physical powers were relaxed. In a calm, subdued, and confident tone of voice, she observed,

as she pointed to the pin, "Soldiers, let me make one more effort for my brother." The soldiers, startled at the strangeness of her manner, unloosed their grasp upon her, and in a moment she bounded away to her brother, shielding his body again with her person at the very moment that the guns were descending to receive the word "fire." Turning her back to her brother, and facing the file of soldiers, she stood forth a stately woman. There was no scream, no tear, no agonising expression, but, calm and erect, she swept the field with her eye, and then advancing three steps, she gave the grand hailing signal of the Master Mason. None but Masons among those soldiers observed it, and there were many of them in that command who now stood mute with astonishment at the strange and mysterious spectacle before them. There was a captain who came forward, and in a loud voice said "that, owing to the distress and interference of the young woman, the execution would be postponed until nine o'clock the next day." The guard was then ordered to be doubled, and a strict watch kept over the prisoner during the night.

Notwithstanding this precaution, it was discovered in the morning that both the boy and the sister had made their escape. In what way they accomplished it has been a mystery with the company from that time to this. During the early part of the evening there was a meeting of the Masonic members of the company at the captain's head-quarters, when the girl was examined, and found to have passed all the degrees in Masonry, to that of a Master Mason.


Where or how she acquired these degrees she declined to say. She and her brother had been in the United States but about ten weeks, having gone from Ireland for the purpose of purchasing a farm, intending, when they had done so, to send for their mother and younger brother. The boy did not know that his sister was a Mason, and only knew his father, when living, was master of a lodge in their native town in Ireland.

### MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

#### OPERATIVE FREEMASONRY.

In the usual Masonic histories I find the following regulations were adopted at an assembly held in 1663, Earl St. Alban, elected G.M., who appointed Sir John Denham his deputy, and Messrs. Wren and Jebb his Wardens. "That no person, of what degree soever, be made or accepted a Freemason, unless in a regular lodge, whereof one to be a Master or Warden in that limit, or division, where such lodge is kept, and another to be a craftsman in the trade of Freemasonry. That for the future the fraternity of Freemasons shall be regulated and governed by one Grand Master, and as many wardens as the society shall think fit to appoint at the annual general assembly." I see no reason to disbelieve the foregoing, but what does it mean? It is clear that this claims to be the first general assembly in recent times; it is also clear, to me, that non-operative lodges had been held, but that the operative from this time commenced to lay claim to the accepted degrees. I can see no connection between the old ceremonies of the latter and Operative Masonry. Is it not probable that the parade of the operative constitutions, mentioned by Dr. Plott and others, was a mere blind to mislead the authorities? It also appears from regulation four, as given by Preston, that every effort was used to unite the whole of the Operative and Accepted brotherhood, which latter designation, according to old York Masonry, was applied more particularly to the third degree. If these "general assemblies were regularly held until 1691, it is evident that Sir C. Wren's acceptance," was when he took his 3rd degree, and we have an acknowledgment, in the very manner of conferring the degree, that it was not originally part of their system. I shall be glad to have the opinion of Masonic students in this point.—Δ.

#### THE MYSTERIES, LOTUS FLOWER, AND SPRIG OF ACCACIA.

The chevalier Ramsay, in his *Travels of Cyrus* (2nd ed., 1727-8), quoting from the Greeks, shews that the ancient Brachmans, held that the second person of their trinity was formed from this flower, he also states that the death and resurrection of Osiris (by whatever name known) was typical in every country of a Saviour. Every Master Mason can apply this for himself. These vols. are remarkable for the manner in which  are represented. Those acquainted with the Master's degree and the *vere-adeptus* will, I think, find little difficulty in tracing the lesser and greater mysteries, as shadowed out by Virgil and others. Faber shews that all the mysteries were the same. Hutchinson states that the Druids existed in France as a recognised association in 1140. In England, after the introduction of Christianity, the Arch Druids of York, London, and Carlisle, became archbishops, and St. Augustine a presumed Grand Master of our rite, and whose rule the Templars followed, professed to reform the Pagan rites and slaughtered 1200 of the descendants of the British Druids (who had many customs similar to our own), in their white robes, and burnt a magnificent library at Bangor. The Essenian, a precisely similar association, existed down to the 5th century; the Gnostic sects and the Roman mysteries down to the 8th, all probably being celebrated long after this in secret. The Egyptian, Persian, &c., ceremonies are yet practised by the Mohammedans. Are we to imagine that in Europe only this mass of ceremonies have passed from existence? In some cases they were sworn to transmit them. Wm. of Malmesbury speaks of Rose Croix emblems in the church of Glastonbury (one of the oldest in the world), as of ceremonies which he understood; here King Arthur is said to have been interred. Faber thinks Merlin and Arthurs' knights are a myth referring to the mysteries. We are informed by our Bro. Campbell that the Royal Order of Scotland, connected by Bruce with the Templars, claims a Caldee origin, and that it consists of Master and Rose Croix. The York ceremonies were precisely similar to this, but they appear to have added at some period a second part to the latter claiming its origin from the chivalric Knights Templar; the Rose Croix traces being erased from the whole ceremony by authority in 1851. I may find a difficulty now in giving my authority for the whole of these statements, but they are I believe, indisputable. To what result does this lead us? When will the writers of Masonic history let us have the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.—Δ

#### ROSICRUCIANS NOT MASTER OR R.A. MASONS.

There is, I am informed, proof that Dr. Oliver is in error in this assertion, will any brother communicate it.—Δ

#### OLD YORK WARRANTS.

Is it known whether the Grand Lodge at York ever granted Craft warrants? In 1786 we find them granting a warrant to Manchester, to admit chivalric Knight Templars by their known and secret methods; Dunckerley acknowledging the encampment in 1795. The lodge warrant from which the encampment worked was granted by the Athol Grand Lodge in 1796, yet it is registered No. 177, 1765, and they shew a document bearing date 1777, but their first minute-book commences in 1802, and Craft, Arch and Templar, are jumbled together like 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degrees. Can any brother enlighten me on this point by analagous cases or otherwise.—Δ.

#### THE CRAFT IN THE SEVENTH CENTURY.

Bro. Tweddell, in his *Bards and Authors of Cleveland and South Durham*, has the following foot-note:—"In the year 670, Egfrid succeeded Oswy in the kingdom of Northumberland, which comprised the area now known as the six northern counties—Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmoreland, Durham, Yorkshire, and Lancashire:



It was in the fourth year of Egfrid's reign (in 674) that Biscop obtained a grant of sixty hides of lands at Wearmouth, where he built an abbey, and dedicated it to St. Peter. He did much for the civilisation of the north of England by the introduction of Freemasons (the Craft being then, of course, operative as well as speculative), glaziers, painters, and singers, 'to the end,' says Bishop Lambarde, 'that his buildings might so shine with workmanship, and his churches so sound with melody, that simple sounds ravished therewith, should fantasy [fancy] of them nothing but holiness! In this jollity continued these houses,' he adds of Wearmouth and Jarrow, 'and others, by their example, embraced the like, till Hinguar and Hubba, the Danish pirates (A.D. 870) were raised by God to abate their pride, who not only fired and spoiled them, but also almost all the religious houses on the north-east coast of this island.' A difference of creed must not prevent me from stating that Bishop did much more for the cause of progress than many bishops like Lambarde, but I like not the spirit in which the above extract is written."

## SCOTTISH TEMPLARY.

Under the charters granted by the Grand Priory of Scotland, subordinate priories are permitted to form themselves into Masonic encampments or chapters of Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, Knights of Malta, with the preceding degree called the Knights of St. Paul or Mediterranean Pass, and confer these degrees, as also that of the Priestly Order of the Temple; but no one can be admitted to these degrees until he has been recorded as a Templar on the roll of the Grand Priory. The K.T. degree consists of two parts, but there is a probationary degree (Esquire) of two steps, viz., Pilgrim, and Novice-Esquire. The ceremonial of the first step is a very simple one, in which the candidate is conducted through the outworks into the presence of the Commander, the conductor answering the challenge of the guards; in the second step the postulant is interrogated, obligated, and receives the passwords, signs, and tokens. In the first part of the degree of Knight, the novitiate is introduced girt as an Esquire, is questioned, takes the vow of Profession, and is dubbed a Knight: being in the second part of this degree further obligated and instructed in the signs, countersigns, &c., he is consecrated and dedicated to the service of the Temple, and created a Knight of the Temple and a member of the fellow soldiers of Christ. Then there are the honorary grades of Knight Companion, Knight Commander, and Knight Grand Cross, for each of which the Grand Master's patent is necessary. There are also "Men-at-Arms" and "Serving Brethren," who must be Royal Arch Masons, and take an O B, but do not require to go through any ceremonial. No fees are exigible from members of these inferior grades, neither can they be present in the Chamber of Reception during the admission of a candidate.—D.M.L.

## OSSOROOK MASONRY.

I have occasionally called attention to Dervish Masonry, on which W. Bro. the Hon. J. Porter Brown, P.G.J.W. of Turkey, is still closely employed. My attention has been called to another kind of native Masonry. In our provinces we have a class of nomades called yorooks, who are not of the orthodox sect of Turks, but are Kazzilbashs of a separate form of the sect of Ali. They have peculiar separate meetings and passwords, and their chief, learning that I was the head of the Masonic Order in this part of Turkey, has applied for an interview with me, which I hope will result in some interesting information.—HYDE CLARKE.

## MYSTICISM AND FREEMASONRY.

Is there any mysticism in Masonry, and how shall I know it?—C. R.—[There is. Freemasonry is essentially mystical, but if you cannot see this for yourself, it would be useless for us to attempt to tell you, even if we could put such proofs in print. In all ages of the world mys-

ticism has been popular, because it is a branch of the fanciful, and its direction is so marked, its chief tenets are so well understood, or, rather, so specific, that there is little difficulty in recognising it wherever we meet with it. Fancy may find its congenial sphere in the mere interpretation of the letter, but mysticism goes beneath the letter, and takes new views of the nature of things. A mystic claims an inward spiritual sense, some peculiar divine endowment, some clue to the unseen and the heavenly beyond that which other men enjoy. Perhaps the highest type of modern mysticism is Swedenborgianism, whose disciples find arcana, secrets, mysteries, double meanings, and hidden truths everywhere. Mysticism is, in relation to belief or knowledge, romance founded on real events and coloured by a peculiar school of thought, more allied to a religious poetical enthusiasm than anything we can describe. Notwithstanding all this, some of the greatest mystics have been Freemasons, and Freemasonry without mysticism would be a nullity.]

## E.A.'S SONG.

I once heard the following verse sung in the Entered Apprentices' Song, but never having heard it before or since, am doubtful if it is part of the original. Please inform—N. S.

The verse is—

"How great was my maze when I first saw the blaze,

When struck with mystic occasion,

When knowledge I gained, when the lodge was explained,

Of a Free and Accepted Mason."

[It never formed part of the original production of Bro. Birkhead. Such rank nonsense as the second line must have been penned by one who was hard up for a rhyme. We have seen the verse in print, and know your quotation is correct. No doubt it was thus sung in the West of England lodges before the Union.]

## DOCTOR DESAGULIERS, G.M.

Where was Doctor Desaguliers buried? In Cawthorn's poem, *The Vanity of Human Enjoyments*, the following lines occur:—

"Can Britain, in her fits of madness, pour

One half her Indies on a Roman—,

And still permit the weeping muse to tell,

How poor neglected Desaguliers fell!

How he, who taught two gracious kings to view,

All Boyle enobled, and all Bacon knew,

Died in a cell, without a friend to save,

Without a guinea, and without a grave."

From which I infer he died in prison. The year of his death is stated to have been 1749.—EX. EX.

## THE GREGORIAN CHANT.

The Gregorian Chant, as well as the more elaborate music of the mass, has been corrupted. The *canto fermo* suffered from the barbarous taste of the middle ages. In its primitive state it was a musical recitation, in which the notes were regulated by the quantity and accent of the words; as is still the case with the chants employed in the psalms. But in many of the hymns a single syllable is drawled out in a long succession of unmeaning notes, not only intolerable to the ear, but destructive of the very object of chanting, that of making the words distinctly audible. This evil exists almost everywhere, and we need not go farther than our own Catholic chapels to be sufficiently sensible of it. But it is in France that the performance of this part of the service is most supremely barbarous. The late M. Choron, one of the most learned and enlightened French musical writers, gives the following account of it:—"After having received from St. Gregory the Roman Chant, that valuable remnant of the Greek music, and having, by degrees, made great alterations in it, it was at length totally abandoned for absurd plain chants, composed at the period when the art was most depraved in France. It is relatively to the counterpoint (or harmony) on the plain chant, that the French school is greatly defective. They have no writings on the subject, which is not

surprising, as the French chapel-masters understand so little of the plain chant, that I have seen the most experienced of them (in their own opinion) mistake the tone of the chant. And besides, writing this sort of music is not taught in France, but they practise instead, in the cathedrals, an extemporaneous harmony, which is called *chant sur le livre*. To give some idea of it, imagine fifteen or twenty singers of every description of voices, from the bass to the highest soprano, singing as loud as they can bawl, each according to his own fancy, without either rule or method, and making every note in the scale, both diatonic and chromatic, heard at the same time with the plaint chant, which is performed by harsh and discordant voices: you will then have some idea of what is called in France *chant sur le livre*. But what will be thought still more incredible is, that there are choral precentors and chapel-masters, who are so depraved in their taste as to admire and encourage this horrid mockery of music in their churches." In Italy, of course, where the people are of a more delicate musical organization, things are not so bad; but Eustace says, that even there "the Gregorian chant is encumbered with an endless succession of dull unmeaning notes, dragging their slow length along, and burthening the ear with a dead weight of sound." The purity of the Gregorian chants, too, has been corrupted by the false refinement of our own times, as well as by the barbarism of our ancestors. By the introduction of sharps and flats, inadmissible into the ecclesiastical modes, and other embellishments, these ancient melodies, as they are now frequently performed, lose their distinctive character, and assume the appearance of ordinary modern airs: and the disguise is completed by the florid and chromatic harmony with which they are clothed. They are treated in the same way as an old Scottish tune, prepared for the use of a fashionable stage singer; it is rendered spruce and polished, but deprived of the expression it derived from its rude simplicity. In the papal choir these innovations are carefully guarded against. The ancient music of the Church is preserved in its purity; and the modern compositions which are admitted on stated days, and under certain circumstances, are in the proper ecclesiastical style. No organ is ever allowed there: Voices only are employed; and, as the singers are numerous, of exquisite skill, and concealed from public view, their harmony is ravishing and celestial. The papal choir still preserves its excellence, though its voices are no longer procured by the means resorted to in a less enlightened age; and it might be expected that, in regard to the purity of its musical service, the Catholic church would pay more attention than it does to the example which is set by its head.—*Dublin Review*.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

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

### ENGLISH MASONIC CHARITY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In the *Monde Maçonnique* for the present month, I find an article, of which the following is a translation, reflecting upon the conduct of an English lodge.

"We have so often had occasion to speak of the charity of English Masons with the praise which it deserves, that we may be permitted to compare their public display of beneficence with the manner in which the unfortunate are treated in some lodges in their private sphere.

"An English brother, father of a numerous family, was reduced to poverty by the unfavourable termination of a law suit which, according to English law, rendered invalid the purchase of a freehold, in which he had invested his all. Bowed down by sickness, without friends and without means, in his extremity he applied for assistance to the lodge in which he had been made, and to which he had paid for initiation fees and subscriptions

about £7 10s., the receipts for which we have seen. In answer to his application for relief to meet his immediate necessities, the lodge addressed to the unfortunate brother the following letter signed by the Secretary:—

"This is to certify that Bro. — has been a subscribing member of this lodge (in which he was initiated), as long as his means permitted. Through unforeseen circumstances he has been unable to continue his subscription, and, therefore, unfortunately is not qualified to relief from the Board of Benevolence (*commission de bienfaisance*). We have known him when he was in a respectable position, and we believe that his distress has been caused by misfortune and sickness."

"In the place of fraternal assistance, the unfortunate brother receives a certificate of mendicity, to be used in foreign lodges. What a contrast between this cruel denial of relief—this cold refusal, and the pompous beneficence—the public subscriptions of thousands of pounds which we have ourselves several times recorded. However we know too much of our English brethren to hold them all responsible for the acts of any amongst them, and we hope that upon this unfortunate affair coming to the knowledge of our respected contemporary in London, he will not fail to express his disapprobation as we do, of this unmasonic proceeding upon the part of some lodges, if the facts are as we have related; but we hope for the honour of English Masonry that they will meet with denial."

In the first place, dear Sir and Brother, I would remark to Bro. H. Kirsch; whose signature is appended to the article, that, although he hopes for a denial of the statement "for the honour of English Masonry," he does not give either yourself or any of your correspondents an opportunity of enquiring into the correctness of the statement, of the unfortunate brother who, by the bye, says nothing about what relief he may have received from the private funds of his lodge, or from the subscriptions of the brethren, leaving us in doubt whether the lodge had really done its duty in the matter or not. The name of the lodge issuing the certificate should have certainly been given.

It seems to me very improbable that any lodge of English Masons, who hold charity to be their brightest jewel, should recommend any brother to foreign lodges for that relief which they decline to afford themselves.

I now learn for the first time, and wish to know, dear Sir, whether it be true, that a brother, unable through misfortune to continue his subscription, is debarred from relief by the Board of Benevolence. It would seem to me that if he can afford to subscribe to a lodge, he cannot be in very necessitous circumstances. If such however be the case, the sooner the law is altered the better for "the honour of English Masonry."

I would also ask you if it is not unusual for a lodge, holding under the Grand Lodge of England, to give "certificates of mendicity." In Scotland, I believe, certificates of various kinds are given, but I have always been under the impression that the Grand Lodge certificate was the only one required by an English Mason.

Hoping that Bro. Kirsch will give, through your columns, an opportunity for the brethren to vindicate "the honour of English Masonry."

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

J. H. G.

[Every brother who has subscribed two years to any lodge, no matter at what period of his life, is entitled to relief from the Board of Benevolence. From the amount stated to have been paid, we should doubt whether he had so subscribed, but still his lodge should have assisted him to the best of its ability. We should like to be informed, privately of course, of the name of the brother holding the certificate, and the number of the lodge, in order that we might inquire into the circumstances under which it was given. Sure we are that it was not to enable the brother to become a medicant to foreign lodges.—ED.]

## THE MASONIC MIRROR.

### METROPOLITAN.

GRAND STEWARDS' LODGE PUBLIC NIGHT.—Wednesday last was the Grand Stewards' public night, which was held in the Temple at Freemasons' Hall. The members of the lodge present were Bros. Nutt, W.M.; W. Watson, as S.W.; John Gurton, J.W.; R. Spencer, S.D.; J. Bennett, J.D.; and P.M.'s Hewlett, Henry George Warren, and Dr. Hinxman. Amongst the visitors were Bros. W. Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec.; W. H. Farnfield, J. A. Farnfield, W. H. Warr, Dr. Leslie, E. F. Frances, H. Robinson, J. Coutts, Chas. Payne, Archer, P.M. 166, Dr. Hume, 1130, and some twenty other brethren. The first lecture was most admirably worked, every one endeavouring, and succeeding, in being perfect. The sections were thus distributed, Bro. Nutt, W.M., putting the questions most carefully:—1st sec., Bro. John Gurton; 2nd sec., Bro. W. Watson; 3rd sec., Bro. Hewlett; 4th sec., Bro. Watson; 5th sec., Bro. Hinxman; 6th sec., Bro. Watson; 7th sec., Bro. Henry George Warren; Bro. Watson having the lion's share of the work, owing to the unavoidable absence of two of the brethren appointed to give sections. At the close of the business, Bro. W. Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec., moved a vote of thanks to the members of the Grand Stewards' Lodge for the treat the visitors had received, and for the very able way in which the whole of the working had been carried out. This was seconded by Bro. Dr. W. M. Hume, of the St. John's Lodge (No. 1130), Graham's Town, Cape of Good Hope, and carried by acclamation. The W.M., Bro. Nutt, thanked the mover, seconder, and the visiting brethren for the very kind way they had received their endeavours. The Grand Stewards' Lodge had a very important position to fill, and it had hitherto done much to extend the knowledge of Freemasonry. The members felt it was a great inheritance and most distinguished privilege, and were each determined it should not fail whilst they were connected with it. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated. Bro. Matthew Cooke presided at the organ.

MOUNT LEBANON LODGE (No. 87).—This select and flourishing lodge held its usual monthly meeting at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, on Tuesday, March 17th. The W.M., Bro. Frederick Walters, assisted by Bros. Davies, P.M.; Harris, P.M.; Baker, P.M.; Levy, S.W.; Moore, J.W.; Goody, I.G., &c., opened the lodge. The first ceremony was the initiation of Mr. F. T. French into the secrets and mysteries of ancient Freemasonry. The next was the passing of two brethren to the Fellow Craft degree; finishing with the raising Bros. Hopton, Hurrell, and Denyer to the sublime degree of Master Masons. The sum of ten guineas was unanimously voted to the Girls' School, and ordered to be placed on the Steward's list of the lodge, Bro. C. N. Levy, S.W., being the Steward. The business being ended the brethren immediately separated, as there was no banquet on this occasion. There were several visitors.

JORDAN LODGE (No. 237).—The ordinary monthly meeting of this lodge took place on Friday evening, the 20th inst. The lodge was opened in due form, when Bros. G. Carter and G. B. Wheeler passed the preliminary examination before being passed to the second degree, which, the lodge having been opened in that degree, was very ably conferred by the W.M. These two newly-made Fellow-Craftsmen were then requested to attend the examination of Bros. T. Reay, W. Greaves, and T. Morris, all of whom were candidates for the honours of the third degree. The progress of these brethren having proved satisfactory, and the W.M. having opened the lodge in the higher degree, they were admitted to a participation of the mysterious secrets of M.M.'s, the W.M., Bro. Jeffery, performing the ceremony with great precision and effect. The extent of the two ceremonies having already deeply infringed upon the time, the W.M. determined to dispatch the routine

business as speedily as possible, and close the lodge for the banquet, at which he proposed to present the immediate P.M. with the jewel voted him by the lodge for his efficient and valuable services during his late year of office. The Secretary, however, in bringing under the notice of the W.M. the communications he had received, elicited from him an expression of sincere regret that among them was one from Bro. F. H. Goldsborough resigning his membership of the lodge, in consequence of being suddenly, and almost unexpectedly, called upon to take a long voyage from his mother country, and his mother lodge, to the distant colony of Australia, where he could not say how long business might detain him. The W.M. said the brethren would participate in the regret he felt at the loss of so genial a brother and promising a member of the lodge. He was just on the eve of taking office, and while they wished him health and happiness in his voyage to the antipodes, and a speedy return to his native country and to them, let us (said he) secure his early services on his return by electing him a country member. The J.W. seconded the motion, which was put by the S.W., and carried unanimously. The W.M. was also sorry to learn that Bros. Mapp and Goff, two old members of the lodge, of much earlier date indeed than any now holding office, had found it necessary to resign their membership. Bro. John Hammond, as the next senior member, was requested to fill the office of I.G., which Bro. Goff had lately accepted. We ought not to omit to state that among the papers submitted to the lodge by the Secretary were several copies of the prospectus of THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, which were handed to brethren who might be desirous of becoming shareholders in the company, or subscribers under its new auspices. The scheme seemed comprehensive, and the undertaking worthy of patronage. There could be no doubt of success; the shares were limited to 3000, of £1 each, and the price of the periodical was to be reduced to threepence, while its acknowledged usefulness to the fraternity would be enhanced. At the banquet, which was provided on the usual liberal scale by Messrs. Elkington and Shrewsbury, the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts with commendable dispatch, travelling out of the ordinary route only to refer to the interesting event which had taken place since the brethren last assembled. A hearty response was reciprocated from every one present, when the W.M., in glowing terms, hoped that the auspicious marriage would afford solace to her bereaved Majesty, happiness to the royal pair, and add even greater solidity to the throne and constitution of this country. Bro. Udall, P.G.D., responded for the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, past and present. He spoke in high praise of the various Grand Officers, and made special reference to the D.G.M., whose high position in the country, and deserved respect in Masonry, were the natural results of an estimable character and benevolent nature in a great, good man. In proposing the P.M.'s of the lodge, the W.M. referred to them individually in their order of seniority. Those present were Bros. E. H. Patten, P.G.S.B.; J. R. Sheen; E. Spooner, Sec.; H. M. Arliss, M.C.; R. Watts, Treas.; J. Robinson, D.M.C.; Dr. T. W. J. Goldsborough, J. Dyer, and C. Swan. With reference to the last-named brother, the W.M. said,—It is my pleasure as much as my duty to present our immediate P.M. with the jewel which has been unanimously voted to him by the lodge, for his efficient services as Master of this lodge. I may remark that his successful efforts in support of the charities during his year of office were such as to command the approbation of the brethren of the Jordan Lodge, and, indeed, the esteem of the Craft. In attaching this jewel to our brother's breast, I feel assured that it is not the last honour he will earn in the cause of charity; that beneath is a heart which, blessed with the means, will ever induce a ready hand to dispense a solace to the widow and the orphan.—Bro. SWAN acknowledged the toast; first, on behalf of the P.M.'s, and, secondly, in terms of grateful appreciation of the honour conferred by the presentation of the jewel.—In giving the visitors' toast, the W.M. said that although on this occasion they were not numerous, they were by no means insignificant representatives of the Craft. There was Bro. Udall, who held an influential position in Grand Lodge, and is a valued patron of the Charities; there was Bro. Goring, a veteran in Masonry, and a P.M. of one of the largest lodges, the Robert Burns (No. 25), Bro. Buss, P.M. of another old lodge, the Egyptian (No. 29), and Bro. Dawson, of the Old Concord (No. 201).—Bro. BUSS replied, he was gratified to see the excellent working of the Jordan Lodge, in praise of which so much had been lately said, and the wide



reputation of which was admirably sustained in the person of the present Master. The Masonic Charities were connected with the name of the Secretary, Bro. Spooner, principally, who was the representative of the lodge at the Festival of the Girls' School; but the Jordan possessed, fortunately, many whose names could, with great propriety, be connected with one or more of the Masonic Charities.—Bro. SPOONER replied, thanking the brethren for the support they had already extended to him, urging others to follow so good an example, and persuading all who had not seen the Girls' School in operation to pay it a visit at Wandsworth to see how it was managed, and how the children were cared for—no appeal half so strong could be made to secure support.—Some reference having been made to the late Festivals, Bro. ROBINSON, P.M., remarked that the results in the case of the Boys' had proved most exhilarating; a very large number of Stewards had been present, and the gallery contained no less than 150 ladies, a sight unprecedented in a Festival for the boys; more than this, one lady alone handed in a list of over 200 guineas, while the gross amount had reached the sum of £4500. He thanked the brethren for the support they had given him, and for having made him their representative at one of the greatest treats he had ever witnessed. In bringing the names of the officers before the brethren, the W.M. remarked at some length on the working of some of his officers. The S.W. in reply, referred to the perfect working of the W.M., and said how difficult it was to satisfy a perfect Master's expectations. His officers were happy in having such a principal to emulate, and he trusted in future they might deserve his approbation. The Tyler's toast having been drunk, the brethren terminated a very pleasant evening, the enjoyment of which had been much increased by the vocal ability of several of the brethren whose names usually appear in the musical department of the banquets of the lodge.

NEW CONCORD LODGE (No. 1115).—The anniversary meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, March 20, at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton. Bro. A. Swinnock, W.M., presided. The lodge was called for half-past three o'clock, and at the time appointed there was a very full attendance, amongst whom were several visitors, including Bro. Thompson, P.M. No. 78, and G. Supt. of Works for Herts; Bro. Jabez Hogg, W.M. 201; Bro. Punt, 53; and about twenty other visiting brethren. The lodge having been opened and the minutes confirmed, a ballot was severally taken for Mr. J. J. Fordham, Mr. Thos. Bartlett, Mr. William Bailly, and Mr. Robert Vernon, and it being unanimous in their favour, they were, in a most able manner, initiated by the W.M. into the secrets and mysteries of ancient Freemasonry. The chair was then taken by Bro. Emmens, P.M., who proceeded with the ceremony of installation. Bro. Osmond, the W.M. elect, having been presented, he was in due form installed as W.M. for the year ensuing. The new W.M. then invested his officers as follow:—Bros. Estwick, S.W. and Treas. Baker, J.W.; the Rev. J. W. Laughlin, Chap.; Nightingale, Sec.; Boyce, S.D.; Spratt, J.D.; Main, I.G.; and Sinclair, Dir. of Cers. The customary honours having been given, Bro. Emmens delivered the usual addresses, and in a manner which elicited the approbation of every brother present. The W.M. said the first duty he had to perform was a very pleasing one, and that was to present their immediate P.M. with the jewel voted to him by the lodge, as a mark of their esteem, and as a testimony of the able manner in which he had discharged his duties, and the courtesy they had all received from him as W.M. during the past year. The W.M. having affixed a P.M.'s jewel to his breast, Bro. Swinnock thanked the brethren most sincerely for the emblem which they had voted to him, but thought the W.M. had spoken of him in too favourable a manner. As regarded the duties which had devolved upon him, he had endeavoured to discharge them to the best of his ability, and if he had given the brethren satisfaction, he was amply repaid. In conclusion he thanked them most kindly for that mark of their favour. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, the W.M. presiding. The banquet was served up in Bro. Stannard's best style. After the cloth had been drawn, the formal toasts, with an extra one in honour of the Prince and Princess of Wales, were given and responded to. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was most gratifying to every Master of a lodge, as it was "The Health of their newly-initiated Brethren." On the present occasion they were honoured by four gentlemen; and he was sure all must feel gratified that they had selected that lodge to be admitted into Freemasonry. The New Concord Lodge had

been recently formed, and its great success was mainly owing to the way in which Freemasonry had been worked out under the superintendence of Bro. Emmens, P.M., seconded by his officers, who were all desirous of propagating the true principles of the Order. He was much pleased on his first night to have four gentlemen come amongst them as initiates to join their honourable society, and he trusted that they would, by attending to lodges of instruction, in due time arrive at the proud position which he then occupied. He gave them all a hearty welcome, and he felt assured that the more they knew of the them better would they be satisfied with the principles of Freemasonry.—The toast was cordially drank, for which Bro. Fordham returned thanks.—Bro. EMMENS, P.M., said the W.M. had permitted him to propose the next toast, as many of the visitors would be compelled to leave, being a long way from home. The toast he had to propose was that of "Prosperity to their Masonic Charities," and he reminded the brethren that they had a benevolent fund connected with the lodge, which could be used for the advantage of any brother of the lodge who, from unforeseen circumstances, might fall into difficulties, so that his distress could be at once relieved without the necessity of going to the Lodge of Benevolence. They have a good sum in the hands of their Treasurer, and it was steadily progressing, and having adopted the principle of the Old Concord Lodge, he hoped that it would be carried on for many years to come. In a few years they would have a large sum to be used for the benefit of any brother who might require assistance. They were all aware of the excellence of their Masonic institutions, and in proposing the toast he should take the liberty of coupling with it the name of Bro. the Rev. J. Laughlin. He gave them "The Masonic Charities and the Benevolent Fund of the New Concord Lodge."—The Rev. Bro. LAUGHLIN said he had only a few words to say in disposing of that part of the toast which applied to himself, and to say how delighted he was to be amongst them that evening, and although he had not been so often present as he could have wished, it was not his fault, but he had then made arrangements by which he hoped in the future to be with them more frequently. For the kind manner in which they had drunk his health, he begged to return his sincere thanks, but that was not his main object in rising to address them. Although their Masonic charities, in him, would be very inefficiently represented, he could assure them that no one had a higher opinion of them, or a more sincere desire to promote their prosperity for the future. There was nothing that so much struck the outer world with the importance of Freemasonry as their charities, not supported by any spasmodic effort, but progressing year after year, the continued exertions of the Craft being the great secret of their prosperity. Since their Bro. Binckes had become Secretary to the Boys' School, its prosperity had been truly astonishing, and of all the bodies of their country none of them made a better provision for their members than Freemasons, but in that they were only doing their duty in carrying out those great fundamental principles upon which their Order was founded. Those principles were brotherly love, relief, and truth—they felt it to be their duty as Masons to love one another as brethren, and by scripture they were especially enjoined "to love the brotherhood." They were told by God's word to do good to those who were of the household of the faith, and he should look upon him as a bad man who would refuse to relieve a brother in distress, as he would be altogether unworthy to be a Mason. He might say to their junior members that as they went through life that if a man was a Mason they might depend upon his honour, truth, and justice; and he congratulated them upon having joined the Order of Freemasons. They had joined a good thing, and he advised them to obtain all the knowledge they could as to its principles, and although they might witness the ceremonies in the lodge room, if they wanted the key to those ceremonies, they must go to lodges of instruction, where the particular meaning of the principles inculcated would be fully explained. He considered they were fortunate in joining the lodge on the night of the installation of the W.M., for they thus had an opportunity of seeing how the work was divided, from the W.M. in the chair to the Tyler; and he congratulated them on having joined the New Concord Lodge, where they would meet with true brotherly love, and a sincere desire to make them happy. He had never seen any unpleasantness in the lodge, nor did he believe that any ever would in a lodge of which Bro. Emmens was the founder. He felt assured, as long as the G.A.O.T.U. should spare Bro. Emmens, that prosperity would attend it, for he was not only zealous for Freemasonry, but carried out in his private life and

conduct those great principles upon which Freemasonry was founded. He hoped their W.M. would have a prosperous year of office, and he thought he had acted wisely in only advancing a brother according to merit and ability, as it was most essential that in the different offices every man should be able to do his duty; for, if that were not to be so, their initiates would say that those who had to perform those duties cared nothing about them. He might say that he had never seen anything in Freemasonry which would induce him for a moment to hesitate to introduce any brother to his own family; and, as a Mason of some years' standing, he could say to their initiates the more they went on the more desirous would they be to rise from the great to the greater, until they arrived at the sublime degree, and taking the symbols of what they found in the lodge as the guide of their duties, they would in time be fitted for that Grand Lodge above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for ever.—The W.M. next gave "The Health of the Visitors," for which Bro. J. HOGG, W.M. of No. 201, Old Concord Lodge, returned thanks.—Bro. SWINNOCK, P.M., in appropriate terms, proposed the health of the W.M.—The W.M., in acknowledging the compliment, hoped the brethren would look over any shortcomings on his part, and his determination to carry on the duties of the lodge so as to give the brethren satisfaction.—The W.M. said the next toast was that of the "P.M.'s of the lodge," and he passed some warm eulogiums on the assistance derived from Bro. Emmens.—Bro. EMMENS on behalf of the P.M.'s of the lodge said he really believed the installation of their W.M., was calculated to confer great benefit upon the lodge, and every officer was present, and able to perform his duties. As far as he was concerned, he should always be ready to do anything and every thing for the welfare of the lodge. As every officer was desirous and anxious to perform his duties, he trusted the New Concord Lodge might continue to flourish, that it might go on in the happy manner they all wished, and in accordance with the laws of Freemasonry. As long as he had health and strength he should always feel an interest in the New Concord Lodge, and would be most happy to attend to any of the brethren who might require assistance. Some other toasts were given and responded to. The pleasures of the evening were greatly enhanced by the musical abilities of Bros. Wollams and Hart, and the brethren were highly delighted with a very witty extempore song by Bro. Charles Sloman, of the Robert Burns Lodge, who very happily introduced the names of the greater part of the brethren present.

CITY OF LONDON LODGE (No. 1203).—This small but select lodge held its last meeting this season on Monday, March 16th, 1863. There were present Bros. Sisson, W.M. (Bro. Collier, S.W., being absent); S. Osmond, J.W., took the S.W.'s collar; Lean, J.W.; C. G. Smithers, S.D.; W. A. Higgs, J.D.; and Salisbury, I.G., and a numerous muster of brothers and visitors. The lodge was opened in due form. Mr. Scott and Mr. Bamfield were balloted for, which was unanimous in their favour. Mr. Scott was then duly initiated into the Order, and Bro. Ambrose Griffiths was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. Bro. Lean proposed that Bro. Rawlings, of the Commercial Lodge, Glasgow (No. 360), become a joining member, which was carried in his favour. Bro. Rawlings having returned thanks, and as nothing further offered for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was called off to refreshment, and the brethren, thirty in number, sat down to an excellent banquet, which was replete with every comfort, being provided by Bro. Salisbury in his well-known excellent style. On the removal of the cloth, the W.M. said the first toast he would have them drink was to do honour to the Queen; that when they met a twelvemonth back her Majesty was in mourning for her much beloved Prince, and they deeply sympathised with her in her afflictions, which showed how deeply she possessed the affections of her people. As true Masons they shared in her sorrows, and now they partook of her joys; and he called upon them to drink the health of the Queen, the Craft, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and might their union be happy, which was responded to with great applause.—The W.M. said, having drank the health of her Majesty, he would next propose the health of the Earl of Zetland and the Grand Officers. During the time the noble Earl had presided over the Craft, Freemasonry had made enormous strides both in numbers and importance. He would not say all was due to the G.M., but it could not be denied that it had been a great advantage to the Craft to be presided over by so straightforward and right-minded a nobleman as the Earl of Zetland. (Cheers.) He did not wish to disparage others, but he did not believe they could

have selected in the whole peerage a nobleman more eminently fitted by his talents and courtesy than the Earl of Zetland for G.M. (Cheers.) He asked them to drink the health of the noble Earl, Grand Officers, and Provincial Grand Officers, which was nobly responded to. Bro. H. I. THOMPSON, P.M., Lodge 229, Prov. G. Supt. of Works, Herts, responded in a most able manner, and called the attention of the brethren to the Masonic Charities. He stated, if any of the brethren would only pay one visit to the Girls' School, it would be a great source of pleasure to see how well they were provided with everything to make them fit members for the first society in the land; there have been over one thousand girls brought up in that school, and he was proud and happy to say not one was known to deviate from the right path. He further said that the Countess of Zetland took great interest in the Girls' School, and through her inexhaustible exertions, numbers of the girls had entered the service of noble families. The subscription list was passed to the brethren, and was met with good support, the City of London Lodge voting the sum of five guineas in addition.—Bro. FARTHING then said he had a pleasing duty to perform, in asking them to drink the health of the W.M., who was evidently held in high esteem, and he might add, throughout the Craft. When the City of London Lodge was beset with difficulties and danger, Bro. Sisson stood boldly forward and rallied round him a little band of supporters, and showed to them what good Masonry could do by united efforts. He had conciliated the esteem of all who had come in contact with him, and when it was proposed to give him a presentation to the Charities, he had with true modesty and dignity, declined the compliment; and their confidence was not misplaced, for he was sure they had the right man to preside over them, therefore he proposed the health of the W.M., and his presiding officers, which was drank in a truly Masonic manner.—The W.M. rose and returned his heartfelt thanks for the flattering terms in which his name had been proposed, and thanked them for the kind manner his health had been responded to by the brethren.—The health of the officers having been given, Bro. OSMOND, the presiding S.W., rose, and was received with loud applause. He said he was unable properly to return thanks for the kind manner in which he and his brother officers had been received, not only on that evening but on every occasion. As Bro. Collier was absent that evening he must walk in his footsteps; he called the attention of the visiting brethren to their pretty little lodge of instruction, he was deeply grateful for manner in which they had received him, and he owed all his knowledge to that lodge of Instruction, and no man could become a good working Freemason unless he had a good Master, and no better could be found than in the City of London Lodge of Instruction. They could hardly find, if indeed they could find, a man more kindly, more patient, or more adapted to impart instruction to the brethren, than Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson. In a society which depended so much in oral tradition for their working, it was most important that they should have brethren preceptors of their lodges of Instruction, from whom they could obtain their ceremonies with accuracy and precision. He gave them "The Health of Bro. S. B. Wilson." It was proposed by Bro. Farthing and seconded by Bro. Salisbury, that a handsome testimonial, beautifully engrossed in gold on vellum, be presented to Bro. S. B. Wilson, which was unanimously agreed upon, and Bro. J. A. Gibson was directed to proceed with the same forthwith. The evening was brought to a close amidst good humour, good cheer, good song, good words, and good wishes.

#### INSTRUCTION.

ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 1173).—This most excellent and flourishing lodge of instruction was opened on the 20th November last, at the Royal Oak Tavern, High-street, Deptford. It now numbers more than forty members, and it is highly creditable to the lodge that, at their meeting on Thursday, the 19th inst., the sum of £3 2s. was voted to the several Masonic charities. In the short period of four months since, its establishment, it is astonishing how well this lodge has succeeded; its rules are precisely the same as its sister Lodge of Temperance, held at Victoria Tavern, Deptford; the working in each lodge is strictly the same and the best feelings exist between the members of each. It is hoped that this brief account of genuine Masonry may stimulate many other lodges to subscribe to the charities and avoid banquets at lodge of instruction when their funds accumulate. [We do not know if any lodge of instruction which has banquets at the expense of the lodge.—ED.]

## PROVINCIAL.

## CHANNEL ISLES.

**JERSEY.**—*Lodge La Césarée* (No. 860).—A lodge of emergency was held on Thursday, March 12th, when the business was restricted to a reconsideration of the proposed new code of bye-laws. Another emergency meeting was held on Tuesday, March 17th, when about forty brethren attended. At half-past six p.m., the lodge was opened in the first degree. A ballot was taken for Messrs. François Bondier and John Hamilton, proposed at seven days' notice, as they were on the point of leaving Jersey, which was unanimous in their favour, evidence having been given of their worthiness for the privileges of Freemasonry. A letter was read from the Secretary, resigning his office in consequence of his numerous other avocations. Bros. the Rev. de la Mare, Ste Croix, Oatley, and Ahier were severally examined and raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons by Bro. Durell, W.M., assisted by his Wardens, Bros. Philp and Clement Le Sueur, and in the latter part of the ceremony by Bro. Schmitt, P.M. The lodge was resumed in the first degree, when the gentlemen who had been balloted for were introduced, and the benefit of initiation was conferred upon them. As the latter one had but little knowledge of the French language, it was proposed to give the ceremony in English. The general feeling, however, appeared to be that such a variation was not desirable, or even admissible according to the bye-laws and the spirit of the warrant. The candidate was, therefore, willing to undergo the ceremony in French, provided that such parts as he might desire should be translated to him. Accordingly the obligation and one or two other portions were repeated in English by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M. 51. The lodge was closed at about ten o'clock.

## DURHAM.

**GATESHEAD.**—*Lodge of Industry* (No. 56).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Grey Horse Inn, on the 23rd inst. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. R. J. Banning, M.D., assisted by the officers of the lodge. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. This being the day to install the W.M. elect, Bro. John Heaward, he was presented by Bro. C. J. Banister, P.M. and P. Prov. G.S.D., Durham, Northumberland, West Lancashire, &c., to Bro. Banning, the W.M., to receive from him the benefit of installation as his successor in the ancient chair of the lodge, and the ceremony was performed with great care. The following officers were appointed and invested: Bros. R. J. Banning, P.M.; T. C. Emmerson, S.W.; R. S. Bagnall, J.W.; W. Bryden, Treas.; H. Poole, Sec.; H. A. Bagnall, S.D.; G. A. Allen, J.D.; J. Nixon, I.G.; Trotter, Tyler. The following P.M.'s were present at the Board of Installed Masters: H. Hotham, P. Prov. J.G.W.; G. Lambton, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; A. Clapham, P. Prov. S.G.W.; C. J. Banister, P.M.; W. Bryden, P.M.; W. Morrow, P.M.; Rev. R. Thompson, Prov. G. Chap. of Scotland; F. P. Iown, P. Prov. S.G.D.; Smith, G.L.; Harrison, 24; Ross, 586; Watson, 24; Bagnall, 24; and a full attendance of members. Business of the lodge over, it was closed at 5 o'clock. The banquet was served up in the hall, and was everything that could be desired, presided over by the W.M.; on his left, Rev. R. Thomson, F. P. Iown, Cummings, J.P., &c.; on his right, Bros. Dr. Banning, Morrow, Clapham, &c. Bro. C. J. Banister occupied the S.W.'s chair, and Bro. Lambton, the J.W.'s. The W.M. gave in rotation the health of the Queen; Albert Edward Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the Royal Family; the M.W. Grand Master and his Deputy—each proposed in suitable terms. The Grand Masters of Scotland and Ireland, &c., was responded to by the Rev. R. Thomson, Prov. G. Chap., in a truly fraternal spirit; the Prov. G. Master and Deputy of Durham, responded to by Bro. Dr. Danning; Prov. Grand Master and Deputy of Northumberland, responded to by Bro. Lambton. Bro. Banning, in a truly Masonic speech, proposed the health of the W.M., which was drunk in bumpers and with full honours, and responded to in a neat speech, proposing the health of the immediate P.M.; also the health of his old and valued friend and Bro. Banister, who first impressed him with the beauties of Freemasonry, wishing him health and prosperity, and every blessing this world can give, for he was ready to help all who wished to improve in the knowledge of our ancient and honourable institution; drunk with enthusiasm. Bro. Banister, in responding, gave the brethren excellent advice. Bro. W. Morrow returned thanks for the P.M.'s of the lodge; Bro. Bryden for the Officers; and Bro. Lambton for the Visitors. The last toast being pro-

posed, brought to a close one of the most delightful evenings ever spent; song, sentiment, and good fellowship prevailed over all, and ample justice was done to the good things provided, and the brethren separated at 9.30, happy to meet again.

## LANCASHIRE (WEST).

**LIVERPOOL.**—*Ancient Union Lodge* (No. 245).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Temple on the 19th inst. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. C. Rowson, assisted by all his officers. P.M.'s present:—Bros. Crawford, Colborne, Ellis, Young, Bromley, Banister, Shepherd, 864, and a full attendance of brethren and visitors. The minutes of last lodge were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Messrs. F. Wall, R. Powles, John Sargeant, and John Clarke, and these being present, they were initiated by the W.M., Bro. Crawford, P.M., explaining the working tools, and the S.W. delivering the charge to the initiated. The business of the lodge over, it was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. The brethren of this lodge have given up their monthly banquets, to enable them to appropriate their funds to the Charities—a laudable example, and worthy of imitation. The refreshments, therefore, are of a light description eight nights out of the twelve, and to the credit of the members the attendance on these nights is quite equal to the banqueting nights. The evening was spent in love and harmony.

**WARRINGTON.**—*Lodge of Lights* (No. 173).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic rooms, Sankey-street, on Monday evening last. Bros. H. B. White, W.M.; Captain Knight, S.W.; John Bowes, J.W. and Sec.; James Hamer, Prov. G. Treas., and a goodly number of members being present. Bro. Pierpoint, of No. 267, was also present as a visitor. The lodge was opened in solemn form, when the minutes were read and confirmed. The W.M. then called upon Bro. Sec. to read the "warrant of confirmation" which had been received from Grand Lodge since the last regular meeting, which was read accordingly. The W.M. then presented to Bro. James Hamer a copy of the by-laws, printed in gold and elegantly bound, having the following inscription on the first page:—"Presented to Bro. James Hamer, Prov. G. Treas. West Lancashire, and honorary member of the Lodge of Lights (No. 173), Warrington, by the members of the above lodge, as a trifling mark of their esteem and gratitude for many favours conferred." Bro. Hamer in acknowledging the compliment assured the brethren that his services were at their command at any time they might require them. Bro. Blackhurst having given satisfactory proof of his proficiency in the first degree according to ancient custom, was passed to the degree of a F.C. by the W.M. with his usual ability. The working tools were presented by Bro. Bowes, J.W. The W.M., on the conclusion of the ceremony, delivered the lecture on the second tracing board, which was listened to by every brother present with marked interest and attention. At the request of the W.M. the Rev. Bro. Porter gave some further explanations and illustrations of a most interesting character. The lodge having been closed in the second degree, a discussion ensued with reference to the old K.T. warrant now in possession of the lodge, and at its conclusion Bro. Sec. proposed, the Rev. Bro. Porter seconded, and it was unanimously resolved, "that the old K.T. warrant, now in the possession of the lodge, be ceded to Bro. Yarker, as E.C. of the Jerusalem Encampment of Knights Templar at Manchester, that encampment, as it appears, being best entitled to it." It was further arranged that the Rev. Bro. Porter, being a K.T., should be the bearer of the relic to Manchester on the occasion of the next meeting of the encampment. Bro. Sec. was requested to record the fact that on the occasion of the marriage of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the lodge room was illuminated. The following is a description of the device, taken from a local newspaper:—"The Lodge of Lights (No. 173), of the ancient fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, exhibited at the Masonic lodge room in Sankey-street, which have lately been fitted up at considerable expense, an emblematic device of a very chaste and pleasing description. It was cut out of sheet iron, filled in with stained glass, and illuminated from the back. The device consisted of a square and compass of variegated white glass in the centre, enclosing the number of the lodge (which has been established nearly a century) in crimson. On the corners at the top were five pointed stars, also in crimson, and underneath the words 'Lodge of Lights' in deep blue. The illumination was designed by the W.M. of the lodge, Bro. H. B. White, Solicitor."

## NORTHUMBERLAND.

NEWCASTLE.—*Newcastle Lodge of Instruction* (No. 24).—A meeting was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Blackett-street, on the 24th inst. The lodge was opened by Bro. J. Heaward, W.M. Lodge 56, assisted by Bro. C. J. Banister as Lecture Master, and a full attendance of members. The ceremony of the first degree was worked, Bro. Mann acting as the candidate, Bro. Loades, as Deacon. Bro. Smith delivered the charge and the W.M. performed the ceremony, for the first time, very creditably. Bro. Banister explained the whole of the ceremony to the brethren, and expressed a hope that the P.M.'s who assisted him, as founders of the lodge, would give their aid in the good work by delivering lectures at stated periods. The lodge was close in due form.

## SHROPSHIRE.

SHREWSBURY.—*Salopian Lodge* (No. 328).—On Monday, the 9th inst., this lodge, held at the Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury, during the business of the evening, presented Bro. Brightwell with a costly jewel of office, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented by the brethren of the Salopian Lodge (No. 328), to Bro. W. Brightwell, P.M., P.Z., and P. Prov. S.G.W., as a mark of their high esteem for the zealous performance of his duties as Treasurer during the past five years, 9th March, 1863." The jewel was presented by Bro. B. Owen, W.M., in a very complimentary speech, to Bro. Brightwell, as to the manner in which he had performed the duties of all the offices he had passed through up to the present period. Bro. Brightwell then replied—"Worshipful Master, Bros. Senior and Junior Wardens, and Brethren, I receive this splendid proof of your esteem and regard with sentiments of the deepest gratitude. I regret I have not the command of language sufficiently adequate to express my feelings for the very high and distinguished compliment you have this evening paid me, the remembrance of which, I assure you, brethren, will never be effaced from my memory. The consciousness of having diligently fulfilled a duty is, in itself, a very satisfactory compensation to every man, more especially to every Mason, and is too frequently the only reward; but I, brethren, have been more fortunate, as it is my privilege to learn, from this testimony of your fraternal respect, that my well intended exertions have been accepted in the true Masonic spirit in which they have been offered. It is now nearly twenty years since I was initiated into Masonry, and had the distinguished privilege of becoming a member of Lodge 328 during the membership of Bro. Samuel Woolf, to whom the lodge was much indebted both for the able and efficient manner in which he conducted the ceremonies and the Masonic instruction which he imparted to the initiates. The duties of the various offices to which I have had the honour of being appointed, from that period to the present time, I have endeavoured faithfully and zealously to discharge to the utmost of my exertions, and I am happy to find that my efforts have been crowned with the approbation of the brethren of my mother lodge, by the presentation of this handsome jewel, which shall travel life's journey with me, and be forgotten only at the brink of the grave; and should adversity ever overtake me, this will prove the green spot to cheer and comfort me. Brethren, with every sentiment of Masonic respect I again express my grateful acknowledgments for this token of your favour and kindness." Bro. Brightwell is one of those old Masons who had the advantage and pleasure of sitting under the mastership of that good old Mason, Bro. Groves (one of our late Mayors for the borough), and to whose family the lodges presented his portrait in his Masonic costume a short time ago, in consideration of the eminent services he rendered to the lodge during the many years he took a very prominent part in conveying the Masonic knowledge to the brethren generally. The jewel was manufactured by Bro. Rd. Spencer, Great Queen-street, London, and a more beautiful specimen of Masonic art it is impossible to imagine. The lodge was closed in brotherly love and harmony.

## SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW.—*St. Mark's Lodge* (No. 102).—On Monday evening, March 16th, this lodge held its ordinary bi-monthly meeting in their own hall, 213, Buchanan-street. This being the occasion of the annual visitation of the Prov. Grand Officers, there was a very full attendance of members and visiting brethren; indeed, the magnificent lodge-room, spacious as it is, was filled to overflowing. Deputations were received from Lodges

Nos. 3½, 27, 103, 117, 125, 275, 333, 354, 360, and 419. Nos. 5 and 8, Edinburgh; 125, Dublin; and 426, England, were also represented by visiting brethren. After the usual business of initiating, &c., the Provincial Grand Lodge deputation was received with the customary ceremonies, especially as this was the first *ex officio* visit to this lodge of Bro. Cruickshanks, the newly-elected D. Prov. G.M. As this evening was the first meeting of the lodge after the marriage of the Prince of Wales, the W.M., Bro. Pritchard, proposed his health, and that of the Princess, in happy and elegant terms. The toast was most enthusiastically received, the National Anthem being played on the harmonium, and cake and wine being plentifully provided. Bro. Cruickshanks, D. Prov. G.M., addressed the brethren, commenting upon the exceedingly satisfactory condition of the lodge, and praising the regularity of the Treasurer's and Secretary's books. He dwelt upon the lofty position of the lodge, and concluded by wishing it as illustrious a future as its past. Bro. Duncan Campbell then gave his lecture on John Milton, and the remainder of the evening was spent in a most cordial and harmonious manner.

## INDIA.

(From the *Indian Freemasons' Friend*.)

## TESTIMONIAL TO BRO. J. J. L. HOFF.

It had been announced in the Agenda Paper that the presentation of a testimonial from the Masonic brethren of Bengal to Bro. J. J. L. Hoff, P. Dep. Prov. G.M. and P. J.G.W. of the Grand Lodge of England, would form a part of the business of the District Grand Lodge on St. John's Day.

Bro. Hoff being ill and unable to attend, the Prov. G.M., Bro. Sandeman summoned Bro. William H. Hoff to the eastern pedestal, and addressed him as follows:—

"Bro. Hoff,—It is with feelings of great regret that I find myself unable to address your excellent father on this occasion, especially because his absence is in consequence of severe sickness. Had he been here, it was my intention to receive him with Masonic honours suited to his high position and long services in the Craft.

"It was as you are aware, recently announced in this room, that R. W. Bro. J. J. L. Hoff had resolved to retire from active connection with the Craft, and also that a scheme had been set on foot to prepare for his acceptance a substantial testimonial, which, although not forming any fair representation of the esteem in which he is held by his brethren in Freemasonry, might still enable him to carry into his retirement an outward and visible sign of their affection, as well as of their high regard for his irreproachable character, both as a man and as a Mason.

"You will remember, Very Worshipful Sir, that the announcement of your father's retirement was received by the brethren in District Grand Lodge with profound regret, as was the proposition to ask him to accept of a testimonial received with acclamation. The Committee which has sat to receive communications on the subject has been formed solely of the principal Officers of the District Grand Lodge—Masons of high standing and experience, and possessing wisdom to appreciate the difficulties which beset the path of a Masonic ruler in the impartial performance of his duties, which your father has practically performed in this Province for a number of years with untiring energy, assiduity, and care. The Committee, having been requested to prepare a testimonial with all speed, in order that it might be presented to our R. W. Bro. on this, the greatest Masonic day in the year, have very fairly pleaded that the shortness of time has not enabled them to obtain a more elaborate offering for his acceptance; but at the same time, they feel (and I heartily concur with them in the feeling) that this is a matter as much for congratulation as for regret, for they are aware that Committees may not always be quite felicitous in their selections, because the rules of etiquette forbid their communicating with the person whom they intend to honour as to his wishes and his taste, and they might consequently be unwittingly presenting to him a very valuable, yet, comparatively speaking, useless gift.

"They have therefore requested me to ask R. W. Bro. Hoff, which I now do through you, to accept of this flagon and salver, suitably inscribed, as an immediate souvenir of the many happy years during which they have been associated with him in the Craft, and also of this purse, already amounting to about £250, but not yet closed, owing to the continual influx of fresh subscriptions from his many admirers in Freemasonry.

"I will not, on this occasion, Very Worshipful Sir, enter in to any retrospect of the services which your father has rendered to Freemasonry. His conscience will bear him witness how that he has laboured long and energetically for the good of the Craft, while the Grand Lodge of England has acknowledged his services by conferring upon him a very high and honorary rank; and the brethren in Bengal have, on many occasions, evinced to him their high appreciation of his endeavours on their behalf. Personally, I have much to thank him for: it was he who first took public notice of me in Masonry; it was he who conferred upon me rank in this Grand Lodge; and from him, as Dep. Prov. G.M., I always found ready and cheerful assistance and support while ruling over private lodges.

"Accept, then, Very Worshipful Sir, on behalf of our dear brother, this testimonial from his fellow-craftsmen. It is offered to him with sincerity and good-will: it is offered to him as a token of affection and esteem; it is offered to him in recognition of lengthened and meritorious service, which the brethren feel it their pleasure to acknowledge, and their duty and desire to emulate; and if, as I have said before, it is not valuable in proportion to their sense of his merits and their regard for him, it will, they trust, form to his family and to himself a lasting memento of their good-will, their confidence, and their love. Accept it, also, with the expression of a fervent hope from every true-hearted Mason in Bengal, that it may please the Most High Creator to spare him to enjoy the blessings of that retirement which he is voluntarily seeking, and which is so justly due to him after a life of toil and labour. May He also bless him with renewed health and strength, and, after a life of credit to himself and usefulness to his fellow-creatures, give him an abundant entrance into that Grand Lodge above, to which Masonry, like Christianity, teaches us, as it has our forefathers from the earliest generations, to look with humble confidence but with fervent hope!"

The testimonial, made by the firm of Messrs. Allan and Hayes, jewellers to the District Grand Lodge of Bengal, and consisting of a magnificent solid silver-gilt claret jug, with a beautifully modelled elephant top, and a shield enriched with heavily embossed scrolls, was then handed to V.W. Bro. William H. Hoff for presentation to his father. The jug bears the following inscription:—"Presented to Right Worshipful Brother John Jacob Louis Hoff, Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Bengal, and Past Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of England, by the Freemasons of the province of Bengal, Burmah, and the north-west provinces of India, as a token of their sincere respect and fraternal regard, and of the high esteem in which they hold his Masonic character, as exemplified and illustrated during a career of thirty-seven years in the service of the Craft. St. John's Day, 1862."

V.W. Bro. W. H. Hoff read the following reply, which, he stated, contained a faithful expression of his father's own sentiments. It was at his father's particular request that he conveyed this assurance to the brethren:—

"R.W. Grand Master and brethren all! From the bed of sickness, by the voice of him who is now my representative in the Craft, my son, the present Provincial Grand Secretary, I tender you my heartfelt thanks for the handsome token of your good-will towards me with which you have this evening presented me.

"I thank you, R.W. Grand Master, specially, for the noble address with which you have offered this gift to me. I know that, although as yet an untried ruler of the Craft in this province, you have unquestionably that which is the basis of every good and great action performed by a ruler in Masonry, viz., a thorough love of the Craft, and an anxious desire to do your duty faithfully. It is my earnest hope that the interests of Masonry may be greatly advanced under your Hiram; and if I should live to see the day when the Craft in this province is flourishing far beyond what it did under my humble efforts (for, as you have said in your address, the province was virtually ruled by me for some years), God forbid that I should view your success with envy! No; it will be to me a matter of joy, and I shall look upon you as a faithful labourer in the same field in which I have toiled. I can truly say that, forgetting self, I have laboured solely for the good of the Craft; to it I have devoted my best energies, perhaps more than it was right for me to do; and, next to my love of my Maker, it has held the uppermost place in my heart; indeed, so far as earthly things are concerned, I may say it has been my ruling passion! And I have been cheered in my journey by much sweet and pleasant companionship; many a

fast friendship have I formed with men of the very highest worth—Grant and Ramsay and King, and many others who were truly as brothers to me. To the brethren now present, also, I have been much indebted for the truly Masonic and loyal spirit in which they have always supported me. I have sometimes come to this hall when some important question was to be brought forward, which I had seen in all its bearings, and, after incessant labour, I have been fatigued in body and anxious in mind, and doubtful as to the result. But in almost every instance, I found that where I expected difficulty or opposition, I received support. I remember one very remarkable demonstration a few years ago, to which I need not more particularly allude, but it convinced me more than anything else, that our great lexicographer was wrong when he said that it is natural for men to rebel. Even those who sometimes opposed me in District Grand Lodge, showed me, by friendly acts in private, that they had not withdrawn their regard for me. Now that our relative position has been changed, I can only remember my brethren in Masonry with undisturbed feelings of love,—for a love of everything Masonic has, after all, been at the foundation of even my severest acts!

"But I fear that, on this festive occasion, I am trespassing too much on your time with my reminiscences of the past; and I will, therefore, conclude by again thanking one and all for your handsome gift, which will be an heir-loom in my family, and for the kind manner in which you have offered it to me. I thank you, R.W. Grand Master; I thank you, brethren of the District Grand Lodge; and I thank my brethren in the country lodges, with whom I have ever maintained a cordial fellowship. God be with you all! Farewell!"

#### CALCUTTA.

##### TESTIMONIALS TO BRO. JOHN WILLIAM BROWN.

At a meeting of Lodge St. John (No. 715), held on the 26th December, an address, a costly piece of plate, and a full-length coloured photograph of Bro. Brown, by Bro. Baker, were presented to R.W. Bro. Jno. W. Brown. Before reading the address, the W.M., Bro. Paul, presented the testimonial, which consists of a richly embossed solid silver salver, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to R.W. Bro. John William Brown, P. Prov. J.G.W., P.M. Lodge St. John, No. 715, by the brethren of the Sister Lodges St. John, No. 715, and Industry and Perseverance, No. 126, in grateful acknowledgment of his Masonic zeal and virtues, and of his services to the Craft in general, and more especially to those two lodges. Calcutta, 26th December, 1862."

On the border of the salver is engraved the P.M.'s jewel, and the numbers of the following lodges, of which Bro. Brown is a member, viz., of Nos. 126 and 1150 of England, Nos. 401 and 371 of Scotland, and Nos. 551 and 715 of England.

Bro. Brown replied as follows:—"Worshipful Sir, Officers, and brethren,—I cannot this evening pretend to have been taken by surprise (as I was the other day in Lodge St. Luke, at Dum-Dum, when an address and an expensive present were given me) at the presentation you have made me, because a W. Brother informed me of your intention early in December. I then said to him, and subsequently to others, and now repeat, that I did not think it necessary for the brethren to put their hands into their pockets to give me a valuable present. If you have thought well of my services in this lodge, and in Lodge Industry and Perseverance, during the last four years, a short paper writing of itself (even that was not necessary) would have amply compensated me for anything I may have done. I have done nothing but what any other P.M. would have more efficiently performed. As you have thought fit to present me with this address and testimonial, I beg to tender you the assurance of my sincere thanks, and can only hope, as in the days that have passed away, so, in the unknown future, we may continue to live together in harmony, and may God speed the prosperity of the lodges."

The testimonial alluded to by Bro. Brown as having been presented to him by Lodge St. Luke, Dum-Dum, is a large chased massive silver cheroot case, displaying on one side, in frosted silver, the device and name of the lodge, and on the other side the following inscription within a wreath, "Presented to R.W. Bro. J. W. Brown, by Lodge St. Luke, No. 150, as an acknowledgment of Masonic services rendered during the year 1862."

##### TESTIMONIAL TO BRO. W. H. ABBOTT.

LODGE EXCELSIOR (No. 1127) met on the 16th December, to witness the presentation of a testimonial to Bro. Abbott.



There was a very numerous assemblage, and among the guests were the Prov. G.M., Bros. Clark, D. Prov. G.M.; Anderson, Prov. J.G.W.; W. H. Hoff, Prov. G. Sec.; E. K. O. Gilbert, P. Prov. S.G.D.; the W.M.'s of nearly all the Calcutta Lodges, and many other distinguished brethren in the Craft. On the Prov. G.M. entering the lodge, the W.M. descended from the dais and offered the Hiram to him. The Prov. G.M., after complimenting the W.M. on his successful administration of the lodge, requested him to resume the Hiram, which he had so ably held for the past two years. After the appointment of officers, Bro. Fergusson, in a very neat and appropriate speech, requested the W.M. to accept the testimonial offered by the brethren of the lodge, and read an address. The W.M. replied in very feeling terms, and then the lodge closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The testimonial is a very beautiful solid silver presentation set, consisting of a salver, a jug, and a pair of goblets, of pure Grecian outline, and embellished with chased classical figures and groups. The whole centre of the salver is taken up with the following inscription: "Presented to Bro. William Henry Abbott, by the brethren of Lodge Excelsior (No. 1127), as a mark of their kindly feeling and regard, and as a slight recognition of his services for the two past years, during which he has held the Hiram of the lodge: 16th December, 1862." The inscription is surmounted by Bro. Abbott's crest and motto.

#### LUCKNOW.

##### TESTIMONIAL TO BRO. E. R. MONEY.

An address and testimonial was lately presented to R.W. Bro. E. K. Money. The testimonial is a solid silver claret jug of Pompeian design, engraved with the following inscription: "Presented to R.W. Bro. E. K. Money, *R.H.A.*, as a farewell token of esteem and regard, by the undersigned members of Lodge No. 810 and brethren at Lucknow." Then follows a list of the names of the thirty donors in full.

#### CALCUTTA.

##### ST. JOHN'S DAY.

(From the *Englishman*.)

The day opened unpropitiously for a procession. There was a drizzling fall of rain at intervals during the morning, till about nine o'clock; and although the rain held up then, it left the roads in such a state of mire and slush, as to make the wading through them destructive to polished leather boots and the nether garments of the pedestrians, to say nothing of the attempts made to tread lightly and avoid the pools of water which had gathered right in the path of the procession, which made the line of march swerve in "serpent curves," not unlike the course of the River Nile, to which we afterwards heard Masonry compared in the sermon, in respect to its rise and progress through past ages. Nothing daunted, however, the whole body, consisting of nearly 200 Masons, led by their intrepid Grand Master, braved the inconveniences that stood before them, and dashed into the miry path with a magnanimity and obedience to orders worthy of themselves.

On reaching St. John's Church from the Freemasons' Hall, preceded by the band of the 92nd Regiment playing the Masonic March, the banners were dipped as directed, a street was formed by the brethren dividing on either side of the road within the Church enclosure, and the Prov. G.M. and District Grand Lodge walked through into the Church, followed by the different lodges in reverse order, leaving the banners of the lodges, with great propriety, outside at the entrance.

Presently, the service commenced; the Rev. Bro. Dr. Mazuchelli intoned the prayers, a very full and efficient choir chanting the responses in beautiful style under the management of Mr. Bennett, the talented organist of that church. In the intoning of the service, we are bound in candour to say, that a variety of keys were tried, and occasionally a few were found to fit. The choral part of the service was, in every respect, excellent, and left nothing to be desired. The *Amens* and responses were given with a precision that might well be compared to the harmony drawn from a rich-toned and well-attuned accordion. The Psalms were chanted alternately by two sections of the choir, with correct and clear enunciation, and the *Te Deum* and *Jubilate*, both written by Mr. Bennett, the former for the occasion, introduced that gentleman to the public as a composer of no ordinary ability, and were admirably performed by the choir, the solos and leading parts of the single voice concerted passages being sustained by Miss Clinger, who, with a rich and melodious voice, rendered them with most impressive

effect. But the anthem by Wesley, written on the 3rd and some following verses of the 1st chapter, 1st Epistle of Peter, "Blessed be the God and Father," was the greatest effort of the choir. The solo, with the sub-chorus on the words, "See that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently," was a charming performance; and the burst of voices in the concluding chorus, "For the word of the Lord," producing a stirring effect. The music selected on this occasion was very appropriate, and although the attempt to produce it was ambitious, the effort was rewarded with a full measure of success.

The sermon by the Rev. Bro. J. Cave-Browne was founded on the text of the 15th verse of the 13th chapter of Nehemiah. The rev. gentleman seemed to feel that he was treading on uncertain ground when he traced the origin of Masonry to the Middle Ages; but the sermon, on the whole, was eminently Masonic and eloquent, referring to the practical purpose to which Masonry was applied in former times, as the teacher and builder of the people, and that to which it was now found to devote itself as the almoner for the poor and needy, in the active exercise of the sacred grace of charity. It is to be hoped that the rev. gentleman will permit his sermon to be published, as affording a faithful exposition of the true spirit and genius of Freemasonry. The collection for the Fund of Benevolence was somewhat smaller than in former years.

After the service, the brethren returned to the Hall, winding cheerfully through the mire as they came, and then separated till the evening.

#### BENGAL.

##### DISTRICT GRAND LODGE.

A communication of the District Grand Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Calcutta, on St. John's Day, the 27th December, 1862, at 6½ p.m. The Prov. G.M., Bro. Sandeman, presided.

The exclusion of certain members of Lodges Excelsior and Marine, Calcutta, and of Lodge Morning Star, Lucknow, for non-payment of dues, was announced.

The Hoff Testimonial was presented.

The next motion on the agenda paper was, "that R.W. Bro. J. J. L. Hoff be elected an honorary member of the District Grand Lodge, under No. 8 of the bye-laws." The Prov. G.M. proposed the election.

The motion was seconded by Bro. Howe, and carried.

The report of the finance committee was read. The balance in hand of the District Grand Lodge Fund amounted to Rs. 2559, and of the Fund of Benevolence Rs. 2989.

The purchase of a complete set of plated-ware, including a handsome set of candelabra, was confirmed.

The question of the rate at which Lodge Marine (No. 282), should pay rent from the month of April, 1861, for the use of Freemasons' Hall, was taken into consideration, and the recommendation of the finance committee was adopted, that the lodge should be assessed at the rate of 8 annas per mensem for each subscribing member from the above period, according to the present mode of computing rent payable by private lodges.

An allowance to the Prov. G. Sec. for office establishment was sanctioned.

The finance committee had recommended that, "to meet emergency cases of distress, subject to the confirmation of the committee of the Fund of Benevolence, 100 Rs. a quarter from that fund be placed at the disposal of the Prov. G.M., the Prov. G. Treas., and the Prov. G. Sec." After a discussion as to whether it was competent for the District Grand Lodge to adopt the suggestion of the committee, and whether the power to do so did not properly rest with the committee of the Fund of Benevolence, the proposition was negatived.

Bro. Abbott moved, in pursuance of notice, "that in future the use of Freemasons' Hall be not given for religious purposes." He referred to unpleasant circumstances which had occurred several years before, arising out of the permission given to a certain religious sect to meet in the hall for the performance of Divine Service. He had therefore felt regret at seeing that the use of the hall had again recently been allowed for religious purposes, and he made his proposition with a view to prevent the recurrence of such unpleasantness as that to which he had referred.

Bro. Roberts stated, with regard to the recent occurrence referred to, that, previous to the appointment of a successor to the late Prov. G.M., he, as a custodian of the building, had taken upon himself the responsibility of allowing some Wesleyan ministers to have service in the hall; but his permission had been given with great reservations, and on the distinct under-

standing that it would have effect only until the appointment of a Prov. G.M. Immediately on the accession of Bro. Sandeman to the Hiram, he (Bro. Roberts) had obtained his sanction to the arrangement.

The Prov. G.M. stated that the motion appeared to him to be out of order, as it infringed one of the prerogatives of the Prov. G.M. The hall, when it was not required for Masonic purposes, had always been at the disposal of the Prov. G.M., who, so long as there had been a lease, had been personally responsible for the rent, while the lodges had met there as sub-tenants. He would, however, not insist upon his prerogative, but would allow the brethren, if Bro. Abbott wished it, to come to a decision on the point.

A motion counter to that of Bro. Abbott was then made by Bro. Clark, seconded by Bro. Jennings, and being put to the vote, was carried by a majority. The original motion, which had been seconded by Bro. Æneas Perkins, and put to the vote, was lost.

Bro. C. T. Davis, P.M. of Lodge 126, moved, in pursuance of notice, "That our Scottish brethren be recognised as brethren in Masonry." Bro. Davis observed that he had not expressed himself very exactly in his notice of motion: what he considered very desirable was, that there should be an official recognition of the Scottish brethren in Calcutta by the Prov. G.M. and that they should be invited to join in our processions. Having heard it questioned whether those brethren had a right to wear the description of Masonic clothing which they had chosen, Bro. Davis proceeded to read the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Scotland on the point.

Bro. Judge observed that, being himself a P.M. of a Scotch Lodge, he thought it was to be greatly regretted that a system of mutual communication of Masonic punishments was not established between the English and the Scottish brethren in Calcutta. He remembered the case of a person expelled from Masonry by the District Grand Lodge being nearly allowed to enter a Scotch chapter, solely because the members of the latter were not aware of the position in which that person stood.

The Prov. G. Master observed, that there was no point of discussion before the District Grand Lodge, as Bro. Davis had endeavoured merely to prove a negative. He (the Prov. G.M.) had reason to believe that our Scottish brethren, like any other Masons, were duly recognised as fellow-craftsmen in Calcutta. They were in the constant habit of visiting English lodges, and of entertaining English brethren, and he could point to several instances at the present moment of brethren holding responsible posts both under the English and the Scotch Constitutions.

As regarded the procession to church, had any of the Scotch lodges expressed a wish to walk with the English lodges, their wish would have been attended to, and instructions issued to the Grand Director of Ceremonies to assign to them places in the procession.

No objection could apparently be made to the clothing used by the private Scotch lodges in Calcutta, provided that it was in conformity with the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge under which they held their warrants.

He (the Prov. G.M.) could see no cause of justification in any lodge, whether English, Scotch, or any other nationality, admitting expelled Masons upon the plea of ignorance as to facts. It was the duty of the proposer and seconder of any brother wishing to join a lodge, to ascertain whether he was in the full possession of his Masonic privileges, and it was equally the duty of the W.M. to ascertain such a fact before permitting a ballot to take place. Lodges should therefore protect their own interests, and any wilful infringement of Masonic laws, in such an important point as the admission into any private lodge of a brother who was known to have been expelled from the craft by any Constitution, would, if reported to him (the Prov. G.M.), be promptly dealt with. Cases of exclusion were different, it being optional with any lodge to accept a brother as a joining member, although such brother might be under exclusion from another lodge. Cases of this kind were therefore left entirely to the discretion of Masters, who, however, he thought were bound to acquaint the brethren of their lodges of the position in which the candidate stood before permitting a ballot. The subject then dropped.

Bro. J. G. N. Pogose, P.M. of Lodge Good Hope, No. 1058, Dacca, verbally gave the following notice of motion, "That all sentences of exclusions passed by English lodges, and confirmed by the Prov. G.M., be communicated by the Worshipful Masters to the Scottish Lodges in Calcutta."

The P.G.M. observed that the motion should be made in writing and submitted to the P.G. Secretary.

The P.G. Treasurer reported that the collection in Church, exclusive of blank cards, amounted to Rs. 365, and that a contribution of Rs. 100 had subsequently been received from Messrs. Allan and Hayes.

R. W. Bro. Anderson read the following extract from a letter addressed to him by Mr. Murray Gladstone, dated London, the 14th October:

"I have received your note, accompanying a remittance of £60 from the District Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Bengal £50, and from the Sepulchre Encampment of Knights Templars £10,—for which an acknowledgment has probably been sent, but until my return to Manchester, it is impossible for me to say if in official shape. The money is applied in the way you desired, through the Central Relief Committee, and you may assure your Brother Masons that their wishes are carried out, I hope, nearly as well as if they had been themselves on the spot to see their funds distributed."

All business being ended, the D.G.L. was closed in due form, and the Brethren proceeded down to the second floor to refresh themselves with "all the delicacies of the season," and with the lively music of the Town Band.

## COLONIAL.

### BRITISH COLUMBIA.

VICTORIA.—*Victoria Lodge* (No. 1085).—The installation of the W.M. and officers of this lodge took place a short time since in their tastefully fitted up lodge room in Langley-street, Victoria, Vancouver's Island. There was a very large number of the brethren present at the interesting ceremony, which was performed in an able manner and with due regard for the ancient usages and customs of the Order. In the evening the members of the lodge held their annual festival, and after spending a most agreeable time in social intercourse, the meeting broke up at an early hour with the harmony and mutual concord which always characterise Masons on such occasions. The Victoria Lodge is in a highly flourishing state, and we are satisfied that under the auspices of its newly-elected and highly esteemed Master, it will lose none of its prosperity and respectability during his term of office. The following is a correct list of the officers for the current year:—Bros. Robert Burnaby, M.P., W.M.; T. Harris, S.W.; R. Lewis, J.W.; M. Sposborg, Treas.; William H. Thain, Sec.; Kady Gamlitz, S.D.; Lumley Franklin, J.D.; J. Malowanskyh, I.G.; Lewis C. Sheppard, Dir. of Cers.; Rev. Thomas Lowe, Chap.; G. Parkes, P.M.; G. Creighton, Tyler.

## CHINA.

### From our own Correspondent.

SHANGHAI.—*Meridian Lodge*. (No. 1045).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place on Monday evening, the 19th January, at the Masonic Hall. Present: Bros. W. E. Adams, W.M.; A. Mitchell, S.W.; P. Shannon, J.W.; G. Hamilton, Treas.; R. F. Gould, P.M., Sec.; B. T. Giraud, S.D.; C. Aires, J.D.; A. Ewing, I.G.; T. Donovan, A. Gammell, G. Jury, F. Harbor, C. C. McIntyre, S. Deacon, J. Adair, J. McGusk. Visitors: R.W.P. Prov. G.M., S. Rawson, (Prov. G. Supt., R.A.) Bros. C. Thorne, P. M., 832, L. G. Dunlop, P.M. 832, M. Taylor, P.M. (Lodge Hope, Kurrachee), Hardy, 832, Leesly, 832, Govan, 27, Didford, 832, Johnstone, 832. The minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, Bro. A. Mitchell, S.W., on presentation by the retiring W.M., was installed according to ancient custom, Bro. Gould, P.M. acting as installing Master. The following distribution of office was then notified from the chair:—Bros. Hamilton, S.W.; Giraud, J.W.; Adams, P.M., Treas.; Gould, P.M., Sec.; James, S.D.; Bayley, J.D.; S. Deacon, M.C.; Ewing, I.G.; Taylor, Tyler. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to the Northern Lodge of China, No. 832, for the use of the lodge room and furniture, and after a few complimentary remarks from R.W. Bro. Rawson, which were listened to with marked attention, the lodge was closed.

## KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

SHANGHAI.—*Celestial Encampment*.—The opening meeting of this encampment was held on January 12th, under the presidency of Frater S. Rawson, P.E.C. Present: Fraters R. F. Gould, P.E.C.; A. Gammell, H. Murray, H. Warden, and W. E. Adams. The warrant of Constitution having been read, the Sir Knights proceeded to elect an E.C., their choice falling with pleasing unanimity upon Frater H. Murray. The following resolutions were adopted *nem. con.*: That the regulations of the Mount Zion Encampment, Bombay, should be considered in force until abrogated by the passing of a distinct code; that a petition to the M.E. and Supreme G.M. be prepared for signature, praying that Frater Rawson, (Prov. G. Supt. R.A.) be nominated Prov. G.C. of China. A second meeting took place on Tuesday, January 20, at the Masonic Hall, when Frater H. Murray, E.C. elect, was duly inducted to office by Frater Rawson, P.E.C. Six R.A. Comps. of Chapter Zion, No. 832, being in attendance, were introduced and installed, the ceremony deriving more than usual *clat* from the masterly working of the E.C., Frater Murray possessing in no slight degree the advantages of a retentive memory and an impressive delivery. The following appointments to office were notified.—Fraters Warden, 1st. Capt.; Markham, 2nd. Capt.; Louveiro, Registrar; Parker, Expert; Vernard, Capt. of Lines. All business being concluded, the encampment was closed in due and solemn form, and the Sir Knights separated, highly gratified at having taken time by the forelock in petitioning for an encampment during the accidental residence at Shanghai of a sufficient number of Knights to open with legality.

## MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

## DEVONSHIRE.

## PLYMOUTH.—MASONIC BENEFIT TO BRO. NEWCOMBE.

The Theatre Royal, Plymouth, was well filled by a highly respectable audience on the evening of Wednesday, the 18th instant, for the purpose of witnessing the presentation of an address to Bro. J. R. Newcombe, the able and spirited lessee of this popular place of amusement, under circumstances which are set forth below. The performance was under the patronage of the Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, P. Prov. G.S.W. for Devon, and the Worshipful the Masters, the officers, and brethren of the eight lodges of Plymouth, Devonport, and Stonehouse, viz., St. John's (No. 83), Fortitude (122), Harmony (182), Brunswick (185), Sincerity (224), Friendship (238), Charity (270), Fidelity (280). In the dress circle was a large number of the brethren, and as they all wore the emblems of their Craft, the appearance of this part of the house was exceedingly gay. The entertainment commenced with the drama of *Not a Bad Judge*, in which Bro. J. R. Newcombe took the character of John Caspar Lavater. Although the part itself does not require any very marked ability, Bro. Newcombe played it in admirable style, and at the conclusion was called before the curtain and loudly applauded. At the close of the first piece, the orchestra, under the able direction of Bro. H. Reed, performed the Danish National Anthem and the Masonic March.

The curtain then rose upon a most effective scene. In the centre of the stage was a table, on which the address was placed, and near it Bro. Dowse, chairman of the meeting of the W.M.'s, by whom the benefit and presentation was arranged, Bro. J. Honey, W.M. of Lodge No. 224, of which Bro. Newcombe is a member, and Bro. R. Rodda, W.M. of Lodge No. 122. A large number of the brethren formed a semi-circle at the back of the stage.

Bro. Dr. Dowse walked towards the footlights, and said,—Ladies and gentlemen, in consequence of [the absence, through illness, of the Worshipful the Mayor, who is W.M. of Lodge 270, and the unavoidable absence of the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, who, in a letter received from him, very much regrets his inability to attend, I am called upon unexpectedly to appear before you this evening, and I therefore hope you will grant to me that indulgence and consideration which you have always shown to the diffident and nervous performer on a first appearance. (Applause.) I am deputed by the W.M.'s of the Freemasons' lodges of the three towns, to present to our worthy Brother Newcombe an address expressive of their sympathy for the serious loss he sustained by the late disastrous fire at the theatre, their high estimation of the fortitude he displayed on that trying occasion, and their admiration of the unparalleled

exertions he made to restore and reopen the establishment, so as not to throw out of employment many who otherwise must have suffered severely from the calamity. (Applause.) The high estimation in which Bro. Newcombe is most deservedly held by all classes of this community cannot be enhanced by anything I could say, even had I the eloquence of a Cicero—which truly I have not—therefore with your permission I shall read the address:—

"To Bro. John Reilly Newcombe, of Lodge Sincerity, No. 224, and Lessee of the Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

"The undersigned W.M.'s of the Freemasons' Lodges holden in Plymouth, Devonport, and Stonehouse, having, on behalf of their respective members, agreed to patronise a performance at the Theatre for your benefit, desire to record the motives by which their brethren have been thus influenced.

"Your brother Freemasons heard, with deep regret, of your heavy loss, occasioned by the recent disastrous fire at the Theatre; they saw with unfeigned admiration the skilful and energetic manner in which you restored and re-opened the building. In this they recognised a call for the expression of their fraternal sympathy, and an opportunity for honouring in your person those principles which, in their lodges, they have been taught to respect and admire—viz., fortitude in adversity and perseverance in surmounting difficulty.

"On your consenting to accept this expression of their fraternal regard, they solicited and obtained from the M.W.G.M. of England, the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, a dispensation for the brethren to be on this occasion present in Masonic costume in the theatre. The document containing such permissions accompanies this. From the former you will learn that the solicited concession was granted in consideration of the circumstances under which it was sought.

"For the result of their efforts, in this instance, the undersigned, adopting the motto of a former Grand Master of England, the architect of that grand poem in stone—St. Paul's, London—say, *Circumspice*.

"Your brother Freemasons, while they ask your acceptance of this token of their sympathy and esteem, pray—

"May joy, substantial, all your steps attend;  
May calm content your happiness increase;  
Your hours of pleasure, may they know no end,  
And your success in life be perfect peace.

"(Signed)

"J. S. PHILLIPS, St. John's Lodge, No. 83.	
"RICHARD RODDA, Fortitude "	No. 122.
"THOS. R. YEO, Harmony "	No. 182.
"PETER JAMES, Brunswick "	No. 185.
"SAM'L. CROCKER, Friendship "	No. 238.
"JOHN HONEY, Sincerity "	No. 224.
"WILLIAM DERBY, Charity "	No. 270.
"E. JOHNS, Fidelity "	No. 280.

"Plymouth, 18th March, 1863."

The address was very beautifully written in English and Latin by Mr. R. H. Rodda. It formed one of the best pieces of penmanship we have ever seen. In the upper corners were the figures of Justice and Fortitude, and in the centre the All Seeing Eye, underneath which were the Masonic arms. In a very artistically designed scroll were the words, "Brother John Reilly Newcombe, Lodge Sincerity, No. 224, Lessee of the Theatre Royal, Plymouth," the crest of Bro. Newcombe being introduced in the centre. We have stated that the address was written in two languages, which were divided by three pillars representing the styles of architecture similar to a Mason's certificate. At the bottom was a pretty grouping of Masonic emblems. The frame was very handsome. It was in blue and gold, with ornamented corners, the design being in tendrils and lotus leaves. It was made by Mr. Hall, carver and gilder, Bedford-street.

The following is a copy of the dispensation referred to:—

"Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

"February 26th, 1863.

"Sir and Brother,—I have the honour to inform you that the M.W. Grand Master has taken into consideration your letter of the 17th inst., and having regard to the peculiar circumstances of the case, his lordship has been pleased to grant permission to the Masters, Wardens, and members of the several lodges in Plymouth, Stonehouse, and Devonport, to wear Masonic clothing and jewels at the Theatre, on the occasion of its

being opened for the benefit of Bro. Newcombe, the manager. The Masters of the different lodges being held responsible for the orderly conduct of their respective members.

"It is, however, to be understood that the permission now granted is not to be drawn into a precedent, as it is contrary to the usages of the Craft to appear in public in the badges of the Order, unless when employed in assisting in laying the foundation-stone of some building for pious or charitable purposes, or when attending Divine service, or at the interment of a deceased Master Mason.

"You will take the necessary steps for communicating the substance of this letter to the Masters of the lodges on whose behalf you wrote.—I have the honour to be your faithful servant and brother,

"WM. GRAY CLARKE, G.S.

"To. Bro. William Hunt, Secretary of the meeting of Masters of Lodges, St. George's Hall, Plymouth."

Bro. Newcombe, addressing Dr. Dowse and the Freemasons, said:—Worshipful Sir and Brother Freemasons,—Though my words be few, believe me I am deeply grateful for to-night's benefit, and for this handsome record of your kindness. As a Freemason, I am sensible my devotion to the Order has been far too small to merit the applause of my more zealous brethren. Had I, like many of the brethren present, been devoted to my lodge duties, and always burning with zeal for the good of the Craft, to have been honoured with the sympathy and the help of the brethren would not have been remarkable, for under such circumstances I might have felt I had some sort of Masonic merit, some claim to fraternal notice. As however, this is not the case, I cannot but feel all the more grateful for your consideration and kindness. You, brethren, have been good enough not to look at my shortcomings as a Freemason, but you have looked to the manner in which I have discharged my duty as a member of that great lodge "Society," and have been pleased to think I have acted my part on the stage of the world so as to deserve your good will and your praise. Some seven years ago you applauded me for doing acts of kindness and succour to some who were then under the hands of sore affliction, and now you praise me for fortitude in adversity, and for perseverance in surmounting difficulties. When the disaster happened, out of which this benefit has arisen, I endeavoured to do what under the circumstances I deemed to be my duty to myself and to others. At the worst and most trying moment I did not despair, and happily I was enabled to take such steps as prevented the calamity becoming much more serious to many persons connected with me by promptly putting the Theatre in a condition which admitted of its being re-opened. The result has shown that so, far, I was "Not a Bad Judge," since in doing what I considered to be right I have met with your approbation, and the approbation of the highest authority in Freemasonry. I will not longer detain you. I thank you for giving me the opportunity afforded by the presentation of this address and dispensation to preserve a memento of your kindness, for which I am profoundly grateful. (Continued applause.)

At the termination of the gratifying ceremony the entire company testified their respect and good will for Mr. Newcombe by loudly applauding him.

The performance then proceeded, the next piece being, *I couldn't Help it*, in which Mlle. Johanna Claussen took the principal character. The orchestra then played "God save the Queen," all present rising. After a ballet, the drama of *Blue Jackets* concluded the evening's entertainment.—*Western News*.

## KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

### YORKSHIRE (WEST.)

SHEFFIELD.—*De Furnival Encampment*.—A meeting of this encampment was held in Freemasons' Hall, Surrey Street, on Saturday, 21st inst. Sir Knight, Graham Stuart, E.C., presided, and was assisted by Sir Knights, William White, Jun., P.E.C. and A.G.D.C. of England; Joseph Rodgers, 1st. Capt.; E. Drury, 2nd. Capt.; H. J. Garnett, Registrar; Walter Reynolds, Expert; Robert Arnison, Capt. of Lines; J. C. Thomson, Equerry, &c. Comp. Gilbert Wilkinson, of the Minerva R.A. Chapter No. 311, Hull, having been duly elected, was ably installed by the E.C. and his officers.

## Poetry.

### TEARS.

BY THE LATE BRO. DR. JOHN TAYLOR, A.M.

How vain is each sorrowing tear,  
Though in bitterness oft it will start;  
Can it bring us back a friend once dear,  
Or give strength to the fainting heart?  
Can it chase one harrowing thought away,  
Or gild Hope's car with a brighter ray?  
Can each crystal drop that flows  
E'er stifle memory's power?  
To the beating heart can it bring repose,  
Or lighten one weary hour?  
Will it blot one line from affliction's page,  
Give enjoyment to youth, or repose to age?  
Can it gladden the heart?—Ah, no!—  
Or brighten the fading cheek,  
Where the scalding drops, with their silent flow,  
In lasting furrows speak?  
Like the rivulet's course down its rocky bed,  
They but cut the deeper the more we shed.  
Some say they're a pleasure; but I  
Have wept till my eyes are dim,  
These fountains of grief have long been dry,  
Yet still is the sorrow within;  
No draught of forgetfulness have they brought,  
No rescue from pain, no release from thought.

## THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty, with the Prince and Princess of Wales, and other members of the family still continue at Windsor. Her Majesty takes daily exercise, accompanied by one or other of the members of the family. The addresses from the Corporation of London, Dublin, and Edinburgh were received by the Queen on Thursday, at Windsor Castle. The reception was not a state one. According to announcement the Prince and Princess of Wales held a reception at St. James's Palace on the evening of Friday, the 20th. There was a brilliant assemblage—in fact quite a *furor* was created in aristocratic and fashionable circles to be present at the first reception of their Royal Highnesses, and to offer to the exalted lady who has now become a member of the reigning house their congratulations. The Prince and Princess looked extremely well. Prince Christian of Denmark, with his family and suite, left England on Tuesday for the Continent. They embarked at Dover on board the Admiralty packet *Fivid*, and proceeded on their voyage to Calais. Previous to embarkation the corporation of Dover presented a congratulatory address, to which the Prince made a suitable reply. He arrived at Brussels on Wednesday. Prince Alfred has left Malta for Marseilles, where he is expected to arrive on Saturday (this day) on his way home.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the HOUSE OF LORDS on Thursday, the 19th inst., the Union Relief Aid Act Continuance Bill was read a third time and passed. Lords Dalhousie, Taunton, and Overstone urged the amalgamation of the Metropolitan and City police "forces;" but Lord Granville said he could make no promise on the part of the Government with reference to the subject, as the incidents of the 7th and 10th instant were in course of investigation. The Duke of Cambridge stated that he offered the services of a body of cavalry to assist the City authorities in maintaining order, but that the offer was declined.—On Friday there was no business worthy of notice.—On Monday Lord Stratheden delivered his often-postponed

speech in favour of recognising the Southern Confederacy. Earl Russel, in reply to the noble Lord, reiterated the arguments which he had previously employed in support of the present policy of her Majesty's Government. He submitted that there was no parallel between the position of the insurgent South American colonies of Spain when their independence was recognised by England, and the present situation of affairs in the Southern States. The Spanish republics were not admitted into the family of nations until they were perfectly free of European troops, and had proved clearly for a number of years that they had established their independence. It was not so on the North American continent at the present moment. The war was still being carried on with vigour on both sides, and the North held a considerable expanse of territory which was claimed by the government of Richmond. With regard to mediation he could only repeat what he had urged before. There was not the slightest prospect that an offer of the kind would be favourably received; on the contrary, he believed that any such interference would only tend to postpone what they all so strongly desired, the termination of this war, with all its attendant horrors. —On Tuesday, in answer to the Earl of Shaftesbury, Earl Russell said that the only information he had received as to the arrest and delivery of certain Poles by Prussia to the Russian authorities was contained in a despatch of Sir Andrew Buchanan from Berlin, in which he stated that ten Polish students had been arrested in Prussia and demanded by Russia, but as the French Ambassador had claimed them as naturalised subjects of France, it was hoped that they would not be delivered up. —In reply to Earl Grey, the Duke of Newcastle said that the applications made for the formation of distinct colonies in Australia were so numerous that it would be impossible to comply with them all until the different districts should become more settled and more populous. The progress of exploration, however, had of late been so rapid that he believed it would in a short time be desirable to create the territory to the south of the Gulf of Carpentaria into two new colonies, one on the Albert River, and the other on the Victoria River. But in the meantime one of those districts would be annexed to Queensland, and the other to South Australia. —On Friday, Lord Palmerston promised Mr. Busfield Ferrand every facility, as soon as possible after Easter, for bringing on a discussion on the question of the cotton supply. —In reply to Sir John Pakington, Lord Clarence Paget stated that the experiments at Shoeburyness, on Tuesday last, proved conclusively that 5½-inch iron plates could easily be pierced by Armstrong and Whitworth guns, but at the same time the Admiralty saw no reason to alter their opinion as to the relative merits of iron and wood in the construction of ships of war. —Mr. Baxter moved a resolution declaring that the House was not prepared to sanction a renewal of the Galway subsidy; but, after an animated discussion, the proposition was rejected by a majority of 14. —Mr. Whiteside having called attention to the fact that Hayes, the murderer of Mr. Braddell, was still at large, Sir Robert Peel stated that every possible effort had been made to secure the assassin. It was rumoured that Hayes was in America, but Sir Robert believed that he was still in Ireland, and, although there was reason to suspect that he was sheltered and protected by the peasantry, there was some ground to hope that he would ultimately be brought to justice. —On Monday, Lord Palmerston, in reply to a question from Mr. Seymour Fitzgerald, stated that her Majesty's Government were favourable to the principle of the convention proposed by President Lincoln for the adjustment of complaints of the violation of of neutral rights. The two governments differed in points of detail, but he was not without hope that they might yet be

able to arrive at an understanding on the subject. —Mr. Hennessy made another speech on the Polish question, in which he strongly censured what he called the "mean" policy of Lord Palmerston. He maintained that the defeat of Langiewicz did not amount to a defeat of the cause of Poland. Numerous bands were still in existence, and he submitted that a moral obligation rested upon England to interfere in behalf of the Poles. Lord Palmerston, in a speech of some length, explained the nature of the obligations imposed upon this country by the Treaty of Vienna, and defended the policy of the Government. He assured the House that representations had been made, and were still being made, to Russia on behalf of the Poles. The House then went into Committee of Supply. —On Tuesday Mr. Hubbard moved that the incidence of an income tax touching the products of invested property should fall upon net income, and that the net amounts of industrial earnings should, previous to assessment, be subject to such an abatement as may equitably adjust the burthen thrown upon intelligence and skill as compared with property. The gentleman having reviewed at some length the objections which had been raised against his scheme, adduced a number of cases to show how unequally the burden fell upon intelligence as compared with property, and urged that the time had arrived when the House ought to give its approval to some simple basis upon which an income tax should in future stand. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said that it was not possible to devise an income tax that should not be full of injustice and irregularities. Any alteration such as that proposed by Mr. Hubbard would not only be contrary to the authority of the most experienced financiers that had ever sat in that House, but would merely substitute inequalities that were novel for those that were well known, and on that account borne with less discontent. He objected to relieve one class of the community at the expense of another, and to putting his hand into the pocket of one man for the purpose of placing its contents at the disposal of another. It might be urged that a surplus revenue might enable the matter to be adjusted, but he held that when a surplus appeared it should not be employed in exempting industrial incomes from taxation, but in doing justice to all classes who contributed to the public revenue. The motion was negatived by 118 to 70. The Partnership Law Amendment Bill which is to extend the principle of limited liability to private Partnership was read a second time by 56 to 39. —On Wednesday, Mr. E. Potter gave notice of his intention to move for a select committee to inquire into the condition of the distressed operatives in the cotton districts, the modes adopted of relieving them, and the policy of emigration as a means of relief. The rest of the afternoon was occupied in discussing the Irish Salmon Fisheries Bill introduced by Mr. McMahon. Speech after speech was delivered about it until a quarter to six o'clock, when, in accordance with the standing orders, the debate was adjourned.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The mortality of London continues to increase. The number of deaths last week amounted to 1626, whereas the corrected average was only 1416. The excess of 208 above the average is very unusual. The diseases that play the most important part in the mortality of this week were of a pulmonary character. The births for the week were 2231, which was about 250 above the average. —A Court of Common Council was held on Monday, at which a graceful and touching letter from the Princess of Wales (signed by her Chamberlain) was read. The Princess apologises for her silence on the occasion when the Lord Mayor presented the address and the magnificent present from the corporation, which she attributes to her inability at the time to find words to express



her gratitude both for the warmth and splendour of her reception in the metropolis and for the jewellery then presented. She trusts that she will ever prove herself worthy of the attachment then lavished on her, which she is well aware is due to the virtues of the illustrious family of which she has now become a member.—The new Bishop of Gloucester and the new Bishop of Goulburn, a colonial diocese lying between Melbourne and Sydney, were consecrated on Wednesday, with all due ceremonial, in Canterbury Cathedral.—The funeral of Sir James Outram took place on Wednesday. The body was interred in Westminster Abbey, near to the grave of the late Mr. Robert Stephenson.—Another addition has been made to our fleet of iron-clads, the *Ocean*, a converted line-of-battle-ship of the *Royal Oak* class, having been launched at Devonport.—The formation of a park for Finsbury continues to meet with great opposition at the Board of Works. At their weekly meeting Mr. Doulton called attention to the circumstance that in 1859 the board passed a resolution to the effect that they would not make the park till they had other monies in their possession than they then held. But to this day they have no such other monies. He proposed, therefore, to take the opinion of counsel whether they were not bound to rescind that resolution of 1859 before they carried out the resolution to construct the park which they came to a few weeks ago. After some discussion this motion was agreed to.—We regret to learn from Staleybridge that serious rioting has taken place in that town. It commenced on Friday, the 20th, the great cause of complaint being an alteration in the mode of distributing relief—the Committee having decided to substitute tickets for money. Several other changes were introduced, but the outbreak appears to be almost entirely traceable to the adoption of the ticket system. The outrages committed on Friday and Friday night were of a most disgraceful character. Property to a serious amount was pillaged or destroyed, and for a time the town was completely at the mercy of an infuriated mob—composed, to a large extent, we regret to say, of women. Eighty-two of the rioters were apprehended, and brought before the Magistrates on the following day, when 29 of them—all, with one exception, Irishmen—were committed for trial. The disturbances were renewed on Saturday, after it became known that the Committee refused to submit to the dictation of the mob, and would for the present at least adhere to the obnoxious arrangement. The authorities had secured the assistance of a troop of Hussars, and a considerable body of the county police; but, notwithstanding these precautions, the rioters resumed their operations, and baffling the military and police, either sacked provision shops or overawed tradesmen into compliance with their demands for food.—On Monday there was a renewal of the disturbances at Staleybridge, and riots at Ashton, Dukinfield, and Hyde. At the latter places, however, it seems pretty clear that the mischief was done by the turbulent fellows with whom the outbreak at Staleybridge originated. Mr. Baron Martin, in his charge to the grand jury at Liverpool, referred to the total absence from the calendar of offences which could be traced to the existing distress; and we cordially join with Mr. Farnall, in the hope he expressed at the meeting of the Central Committee “that the benevolent people of England will not conclude that the portion of the workpeople of Staleybridge, who have been misled, represent the operatives of the cotton districts.” The Central Committee have passed the following resolution:—“That whilst deeply lamenting the late disturbances, they entirely approved of the reduction in the scale of relief, and the distribution of that relief by ticket—a plan calculated to prevent the irregularities which have been complained of, and which

must be for the obvious advantage of the families of the recipients of relief.”—A special meeting of the Mansion House Relief Committee was held to consider the urgent application for relief made to them from Staleybridge. The Rev. Thomas Floyd, a clergyman of the town, attended, and to some extent explained the causes of the outbreak. There had been causes of irritation existing for some time; and though the rev. gentleman would not condemn the change in the mode of relief, from money to tickets, still he thought the time selected for the change was injudicious. The committee voted £500, to be distributed in money by the local relief committee, if they would take charge of it.—A terrible affray occurred at Blackwall, on Thursday night, the 19th inst., between the marines and sailors of the Peruvian corvette *Arica*, who are temporarily accommodated on board the hulk *Venus*. It is stated that the marines had an old grudge against their officers, and that on Thursday night, while many of them were in a state of intoxication, they broke out into open mutiny. The officers called upon the sailors to assist them in restoring order. The summons was complied with, and a fearful encounter took place between the seamen and the mutineers. Four of the latter were killed, three were dangerously wounded; and an officer of marines either jumped, or was thrown overboard, and perished. In addition to these, a large number of the combatants on both sides received injuries more or less serious, and one or two of the crew who scrambled through the portholes during the *mêlée* are missing. There seems some doubt about the jurisdiction to which the mutineers are amenable; as serving on board a Peruvian man of war they are liable to the martial law of their own country; but an inquest has been held on the dead bodies by the coroner for the east of London, and a verdict of manslaughter against a marine returned.—James Stephens, charged with the murder of Emma Bottomley, at Batley Carr, near Dewsbury, has been committed for trial.—A verdict of wilful murder has been returned against John Green, charged with that crime at Whittlesea, and he has been committed for trial.—Noah Austin, convicted of the murder of James Allen at Heyford, has been executed at Oxford Castle.—An inquest has been held on an old woman who has died in one of the cellars in Gray's Inn-lane, discloses a frightful state of affairs in that dirty and densely-crowded locality. She died of bronchitis and pulmonary affection.—A most deserved punishment was inflicted on a fellow named Annett at Tunbridge, on Tuesday. The brute had treated a bull in an atrociously cruel manner, the poor creature dying in agony in a few minutes. The bench before whom Annett was brought sentenced him in effect to three months' imprisonment.—A sad accident took place on Saturday morning at Accrington, by which five men have lost their lives. A co-operative society in the town had begun to build a cotton mill—we presume before the famine overtook them. Six men were engaged in plastering the walls of the building when one of the floors fell in. One of them had a narrow escape, as he was just entering the building, and had time to get out. One man has been taken out dead; the others were, by the last accounts, lying crushed and buried under the heavy beams of iron and wood and the other *débris* which the fall of the flooring brought with it.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The Dictator of Poland, Langiewicz, has been defeated by the Russians, and compelled to take refuge in Galicia, and his followers completely dispersed. On Wednesday, the 18th, the insurgents under Langiewicz were attacked by the Russians near a place called Gagoscie or Zagoscie, and the engagement lasted the whole day—a Russian account stating that the Polish loss amounted to 400 killed. Their

cavalry and waggons were dispersed; but on Thursday the foot retreated to Wilica, or Vislitz, where Colonel Smechowski rallied their remains. On Friday, they were again attacked by the Russians, and were dispersed, some seeking refuge in the Austrian territory, and others flying to the neighbouring forests. Langiewicz entered Galicia on Friday, and gave himself up to a detachment of Austrian hussars, who conveyed him to Tarnow. The central revolutionary committee at Warsaw have issued a proclamation announcing the resumption of their functions in consequence of the Dictator being a prisoner, and calling on every Pole to take his place in the national ranks. Langiewicz has also issued a proclamation resigning his office, and warning his brethren against yielding to party spirit. The insurgent chief Czechowski seized on Kreszow on the 20th, and took possession of the Government Treasury. The Russians retired without showing any resistance. Intelligence received from Kalisch reports a very important incident in the Polish insurrection. On the 21st a severe engagement took place between the Russians and the insurgents at Konion, in the north of the division of Kalish, and towards the Prussian frontier—far indeed away from the scene of Langiewicz's exploits—and that the Russians were completely routed, losing several officers, and leaving Prince Witgenstein a wounded prisoner in the hands of the Poles. There is also a report of the advance of a Polish legion through Bessarabia, and of the Russians having sent a force to meet them. A secretary of Prince Napoleon is stated to have passed through Cracow to one of the insurgent camps—the bearer, it is said, of important communications. Telegrams from Lemberg speak unfavourably of the progress of the insurrection in the regions bordering the Austrian frontier. Langiewicz has been conducted to Gratz, and will not, it is stated, be permitted to leave the town. *La France* publishes an article entitled, "A Congress for Poland," in which it is asserted that Prince Metternich is the bearer of assurances authorising a hope of a satisfactory settlement of the Polish question, and that the probable course to be followed will be the assembling of a Congress, comprising all the powers which signed the treaty of Vienna. The Paris papers again contradict the assertion, precise and detailed as it was, that Russian troops had actually traversed the Prussian territory, for the purpose of operating against the Polish insurgents.—Signor Farini—in consequence, it is said, of the state of his health—has resigned the premiership of the Italian ministry, and has been succeeded by Signor Minghetti.—The Greek Legation in London has been broken up—the Legislature at Athens having, from motives of economy, it is said, decided to abolish the missions which have hitherto been maintained at the principal capitals of Europe.—The Prussian Ministry has once more formally declared that it will not allow the term of military service to be limited to two years, and that the Crown will not assent to any compromise with the Chamber of Deputies upon the question. In replying to a deputation of the Prussian Chamber of Deputies, which presented the customary address on the royal birthday, King William said that "pending questions might meet with a solution within the current year, as he knew that the country and its representatives had always been faithful to the King."—General Forey has issued a proclamation in which he announces his intention of speedily attacking Puebla, and declares that the Mexicans will be left to choose the form of their government, but that the French army will "remain long enough in Mexico to aid the government in proceeding on the path of liberty and progress." It is rumoured in Paris that demands for a fresh reinforcement of 6000 men have been sent home from Mexico; and it is asserted that the Mexicans will probably abandon Puebla, and even the city of Mexico, but will devote themselves

to interrupting the communications and intercepting the convoys of the French.

AMERICA.—The news is up the 14th inst. A little life had been given to the dull monotony of the armies on the Rappahannock by another of the dashing raids for which the Confederates are celebrated. On the morning of the 9th instant the troops at Fairfax Court House were surprised by the sudden irruption of a Confederate force, who captured Brigadier-General Stoughton, with his head-quarters, guard, and fifty-five horses, and cleverly managed to convey their prize in safety to their camp. From Tennessee the news is obscure. Van Dorn's forces are said to have retreated south; another account says that a large Federal force had moved against the Confederates at Spring Hill, and that a battle was imminent; and then follows a rumour that Von Dorn had been defeated. On the 7th the Federal cavalry appear to have made a successful attack on the Confederate camp at Unionville, near Murfreesboro. There was a rumour that the Federals had obtained a victory on the Yazoo River, and had captured 7000 prisoners and eight transports; and there was likewise a report that the Confederates had taken Fort Henry, on the Tennessee river, and Fort Donnellson, on the Cumberland river; but it seems very doubtful whether there was any foundation for either rumour. The Confederates were said to have assembled great forces in Tennessee; but we are now told that General Longstreet had not proceeded to that State—as we were previously assured that he had—and that he was at Petersburg, Virginia, at the head of 18,000 men. No operations had been commenced against Charlestown or Savannah, up to the 8th inst., and the Federal iron-clad vessels had fruitlessly bombarded Fort Macallister, on the Ogechee river. Brigham Young had been apprehended at Salt Lake City, under the provisions of the Polygamy Act, had been released on bail. It was expected that in the course of a few days President Lincoln would order a levy of recruits, and enforce the Conscription Act. The officers and crews of three American vessels destroyed at sea by the Confederate steamer *Alabama* have landed at Southampton. They had been put on board the *Washington*, a Northern ship, which was seized by the Southern cruiser on the 21st February, but released on the captain giving a ransom bond.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

BETA.—Though we publish in another column the romance of the American War, to which you allude, we do not attach any credence to it. On the Continent and in America there are lady Masons, but the signs and ceremonies are very distinct from those of the Master Mason.

M.M.—1. All members of a lodge at the time of the granting of Centenary Jewels are entitled to wear them. 2. They may be worn on all occasions when other Masonic jewels can be worn. 3. A lodge to obtain the right to wear these jewels must petition the Grand Master, accompanying the petition with a design of the proposed jewel. Any Masonic jeweller will furnish you with designs.

A KNIGHT TEMPLAR will find all the information he requires in the *British, Irish, and Colonial Masonic Calendar and Pocket Book*, edited by Bro. Donald Campbell, P. Dep. Prov. Grand Master of Glasgow, and published by Bro. Davidson, of Glasgow. It is the most complete work of the kind published, and great care has been evidently bestowed upon its compilation. It is specially dedicated, by permission, to the M.W. Grand Master of England. Bro. Spencer, of Great Queen-street, is the agent for London. It is published in different forms, and prices varying from 1s. to 4s.

S.W.—Never.

BRO. THOS. B. HARRIS (Hamilton, Canada West).—Thanks. The post office order only to hand for the amount to 31st December, 1862.

R.A.—The present R.A. ritual was arranged somewhere about 1834 or 1835.