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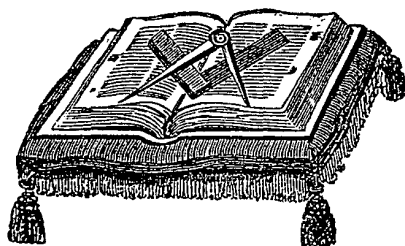
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AND

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

ADDRESS TO OUR READERS.

The first half of the year 1865 has sped, and we are called upon once more to address our readers. The last six months has been marked by but few events of Masonic importance; but it is gratifying to know that everything is prospering, and that the Order continues to grow alike in numbers and in strength, whilst our Charities are rivalling in magnitude the most important in the kingdom.

Before, however, we discourse on Masonic events, we will, as has been our wont, take a brief view of what has been, and is, passing around us in the outer world. Her Majesty, though not yet re-assuming her full sway in Court circles, nor mixing as much with the public as was her custom before her great affliction, has so far returned to the world as to hold several "Courts," which have been fully attended by the nobility—whilst her place at the "drawing rooms" has been most gracefully filled by the Princess of Wales, the Princess of Hesse, and the Princess Eleanor. The Prince of Wales has been busy not only with Court ceremonials, but with the laying of foundation stones, opening exhibitions, inaugurating new buildings, and similar occupations, thus appropriately filling the void which was left by the decease of his father.

Peace still reigns in Europe, though it is clear that uneasy must be many a head that wears a continental crown. We trust, however, all may end well.

In America, the war which appeared, when we last addressed our readers, as likely to rival in duration any of those of ancient times, has been brought to a sudden close, from the sheer inability of one of the parties to continue the contest, having been overwhelmed on every side by superior numbers. We wish we could say, however, that the Union was restored, and "fraternity" once more prevailed amongst our consins; but that we cannot do. Rancour and revenge at present appear to be the predominant feeling animating the conquerors, which it must be admitted has been not unnaturally increased by the brutal murder of the head of the State, in the very hour of victory. We trust, however, that justice and mercy will go hand in hand, and that all parties will do their utmost to efface, as far as possible, the memories of the past. In the meantime, through the confederation of our North American colonies, which *will* take place, though at present the details are far from perfected, another mighty nation is arising, of which England may well be proud. At home, prosperity appears to be increasing, and almost as we write, we hear that the Lancashire Relief Committee has adjourned *sine die*—a sure and gratifying proof that the cotton difficulty has succumbed to the patience and perseverance of the people to whom be all honour, for the display they have made of these noble qualities.

Returning to the Craft, we have to express our regret that the dark cloud of affliction at present rests on the house of our Noble Grand Master, but we hope that his lordship already sees the silver lining through the memory for her who has passed away; and the solace and balm derivable from a reliance on the goodness of Him whom we all acknowledge as the Great Architect of the Universe, and Disposer of all events.

During the past six months our new Lodge Rooms have been opened adjoining Freemasons Hall, and, with the other portions of the buildings completed, show how well the accommodation of the Craft has been considered. The Tavern is now being rapidly proceeded with, and we hope it may prove remunerative to the new company. Much will depend upon the manner in which the Craft is served in their new coffee room, which, we hope, will be opened at the commencement of the Autumnal Masonic Season. We should, however, like to hear something of the agreement entered into with the Company on the subject; for, to tell the truth, we have no confidence in the Company, excepting so far as it is bound by the most stringent of agreements.

The Charities have all had their Annual Festivals, and most nobly have the brethren responded to the calls which were made upon them,—the subscription for the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows having amounted to £3,500; for the Boys' School, £4,500; and for the Girls' School, £3,500; or, with additional lists which have since come in, an aggregate of about £12,000—a very handsome sum when it is considered how few, comparatively, of the brethren support the Charities.

One more important meeting remains to take place—the inauguration of the New School House for the Boys at Wood Green next month, and then the brethren of the metropolis will be dispersed throughout the breadth and length, not only of this, but of many other lands, where they may extend their friendships, and shake the hand of many, at present, strange brothers, to return in September or October with a keener relish to their accustomed avocations and Masonic duties. Our provincial brethren are preparing for their annual Grand Lodges, and then they will also begin to feel that “all work and no play” makes Jack a dull boy, and seek for that recreation to which their various fancies may direct, or their leisure will permit. May peace, plenty, and happiness attend them.

For our future we refer to our coming numbers.

INDEX.

Abd-el-Kader, Initiation of.....	PAGE 114	Correspondence continued—	PAGE 4	Metropolitan Lodges continued—	PAGE 239
America, Freemasonry in.....	54, 263	Killing no Murder.....	438	Prosperity, No. 65.....	64
—Lodge of Sorrow.....	225	Knights Templar.....	379	Prudent Brethren, No. 145.....	81, 164, 340
—North, Nova Scotia.....	262	— and Good Friday.....	21	Pythagorean, No. 79.....	99, 142, 361
—Outrages upon Freemasons.....	206	Templar Clothing, the New.....	99, 121	Robert Burns, No. 25.....	122, 323
—South, Buenos Ayres.....	284	Masonic Charities, the.....	438	Rose of Denmark, No. 975.....	143, 322
—Peru.....	356	—Funerals.....	358	Royal Albert, No. 907.....	6, 81, 165, 259, 380
ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE:—		—Laws.....	5	Royal Oak, No. 871.....	100
Supreme Council.....	349	Oliver, Dr.....	339	St. Andrew's, No. 231.....	5, 63
Liverpool.....	260	Polite Letter Writer, the.....	282, 302	St. George, No. 140.....	143, 284, 380
London.....	25	The Italian Supreme Grand Council of the 33°.....	475	St. James's, No. 765.....	240
Woolwich.....	478	The Ill. Bro. Hyde Clarke, S.G.I.G. 33° of France.....	475	St. Mark's, No. 857.....	182
Archaeological Items from Rome.....	253, 398	The Boys' School.....	476	Strong Man, No. 45.....	64
Architecture, the Majesty of.....	374	Wilful Damage to the Craft.....	339	Temperance, No. 169.....	323
Art, the People's Share in.....	233	Correspondents, Notices to, 12, 32, 52, 72, 92, 112, 132, 152, 172, 192, 212, 232, 252, 272, 292, 312, 332, 352, 372, 392, 412, 432, 452, 472, 484		Victoria, No. 1056.....	22, 259
Block Sinking in the East.....	34, 55	CRAFT MASONRY:—		Wellington, No. 548.....	240
Boys' School.....	473	Grand Lodge...141, 153, 160, 319, 420, 433, 439		Westbourne, No. 723.....	64
British Architects, Royal Institute of.....	268	—Property.....	173, 333	Yarborough, No. 554.....	
Buenos Ayres.....	284	Metropolitan Lodges:—			
Charities, Our.....	54	Albion, No. 9.....	142, 283	Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction:—	
Christ, the Sepulchre of.....	217	Bendon, No. 619.....	43	Stability, No. 217.....	340
Church Bells, their Antiquity, &c...294, 334, 354		City of London, No. 901.....	43		
CHINA:—		Confidence, No. 193.....	143	Provincial Grand Lodge.....	423
Freemasonry in.....	133, 175, 223, 253, 272	Crystal Palace, No. 742.....	443	Abingdon, No. 945.....	381
Shanghai, No. 510.....	263, 386	Dalhousie, No. 860.....	43	Linslade, No. 948.....	363
—No. 570.....	187, 263, 386	Domestic, No. 177.....	41, 142, 322	Newbury, No. 574.....	101
—No. 1,027.....	187	Eastern Star, No. 95.....	63, 304	Reading, No. 414.....	204
Classical Theology.....	213	Euoch, No. 11.....	41	Windsor, No. 209.....	43
COLONIAL:—		Euphrates, No. 212.....	42		
Bahamas.....	108, 187	Fitzroy, No. 569.....	104	Bristol:—	
Cape of Good Hope.....	87	Florence Nightingale, No. 706.....	143	Bristol, No. 68.....	44
Ceylon.....	106	Globe, No. 23.....	61		
Demerara.....	128	GrandStewards'.....	304	Channel Islands:—	
New Zealand.....	225, 406	Joppa, No. 188.....	42	Jersey, No. 559.....	9
Nova Scotia.....	262	Jordan, No. 201.....	100	—No. 590.....	9, 87, 168, 261, 368, 446
CORRESPONDENCE:—		Justice, No. 147.....	41, 142, 259	—No. 877.....	261
Calendar, the.....	4	Leigh, No. 957.....	380	—No. 958.....	86, 168, 261, 368, 447, 479
Caution—an Itinerant Mason.....	379	Mount Lebanon, No. 73...63, 163, 259, 340, 404			
Parthing, Bro.....	404	Mount Moriah, No. 34.....	81	Cheshire:—	
Freemasonry and Odd Fellowship.....	403	Neptune, No. 22.....	81	Birkenhead, No. 477.....	44
—in China.....	222	New Concord, No. 813.....	240, 322	Chester, No. 721.....	101
—in the Levant.....	140, 282	New Wandsworth, No. 1044.....	362	Seacombe, No. 605.....	64
—Origin of.....	160	Old Concord, No. 172.....	128	Educational Institution.....	204
—Records of Modern.....	404	Panmure, No. 720.....	240, 304, 380		
Grand Lodge Library, the.....	419	Phoenix, No. 173.....	204, 304, 404	Cornwall:—	
—Papers.....	258			Fowey, No. 977.....	6
Honorary Members, the.....	40			Hayle, No. 450.....	6
				Cumberland and Westmoreland:—	
				Carlisle, No. 310.....	259
				Kendal, No. 129.....	45, 204, 482

<i>Provincial Lodges continued—</i>	PAGE	<i>Provincial Lodges continued—</i>	PAGE	<i>KNIGHTS TEMPLAR :—</i>	PAGE
<i>Derbyshire :—</i>		<i>Surrey :—</i>		Grand Conclave.....	382
Belper, No. 787	223	Croydon, No. 463.....	44, 305	Bradford, Yorkshire	168
Derby, No. 731	143	Reigate, No. 416	68, 225	Devonport Provincial Grand Conclave	306
<i>Devonshire :—</i>		<i>Sussex :—</i>		Hull	82, 225, 366
Devonport, No. 954.....	41, 102, 143, 182, 223, 305	Provincial Grand Lodge	477	Ipswich	464
Plymouth, No. 156	6	Brighton, No. 271	477	Liverpool	82, 206
— No. 230.....	284	<i>Wales, South :—</i>		London	70, 205
Sidmouth, No. 164	22, 443	Aberavon, No. 833.....	24, 44, 104, 185, 324	Newcastle-on-Tyne	306
Stonehouse, No. 105	6	Brecon, No. 651.....	24, 144	Levant, Freemasonry in the	73
Taristock, No. 252	363	Cardiff, No. 36.....	243, 363, 477	Lifeboat Services	49
Torquay, No. 328	6	— No. 960	8, 167, 185, 476	Literary Extracts, 28, 109, 129, 146, 189, 228, 246, 267, 288, 329, 388, 403, 467, 481	
<i>Dorsetshire :—</i>		Swansea, No. 237	8, 82	Lodge, an Address to	397
Poole, No. 137	65, 144, 284	<i>Warwickshire :—</i>		Love of Money, the	260
Wareham, No. 386	305	Birmingham, No. 925	45	Majesty of Architecture	374
<i>Durham :—</i>		— No. 1031.....	128	<i>MARK MASONRY :—</i>	
Durham, No. 124	22	Warwick, No. 284.....	45	Cardiff.....	187
Gateshead, No. 48	260	<i>Yorkshire, North and East :—</i>		Carlisle	261
— No. 424	166	Scarborough, No. 200.....	9, 225, 324	Cumberland	478
Hartlepool, No. 531	7, 22, 103, 224, 286, 324, 345, 405, 476	<i>Yorkshire, West Riding :—</i>		Devonshire Provincial Grand Lodge	307
— No. 764	166	Provincial Grand Lodge	325, 348	Devonport	104, 187, 350
Seaham, No. 661	224	Baildon, No. 387	104	Hull.....	367
<i>Essex :—</i>		Bradford, No. 302.....	25, 381	Jersey	145, 307
Colchester, No. 51.....	381	— No. 974.....	186	Liverpool	167
— No. 697	345	Ecclehill, No. 1034	365	London :—	
Harwich, No. 650.....	44, 240	Huddersfield Mechanics' Institute.....	305	Southwark	25, 70, 145, 286
<i>Gloucestershire :—</i>		Sheffield, No. 139	348	Millbrook, Cornwall.....	382
Tewkesbury, No. 900	65, 122, 443	Wakefield, No. 154	185, 381	Newcastle-on-Tyne	261
<i>Hampshire :—</i>		<i>Deeds</i>	465	Truro	405
Bournemouth, No. 195.....	44	Denmark, Freemasonry in	15	Masonic Duties	76, 434
Portsmouth, No. 342	65	Educated Man	215	Events during 1864	353, 373, 413, 453
Winchester, No. 70	102, 423	Entered Apprentice's Apron, the, and Masonic Lecturing	393	<i>MASONIC FESTIVITIES :—</i>	
<i>Hertfordshire :—</i>		Excavations at Ostia	455	Bombay	237
Berkhamstead, No. 504	22	Famous Seats.....	458	London	128
Waltham Cross, No. 869	381, 462	Freemasonry in China	133, 175, 253, 272	Turkey.....	207
Watford, No. 404	127	— in Denmark	15	Masonic Mens, 5, 22, 41, 59, 80, 123, 141, 160, 223, 239, 259, 303, 319, 380, 404, 462	
<i>Kent :—</i>		— in France, the New Constitution of	33	— Prayer	18
Provincial Grand Lodge	424	— in India, Progress of	278	Sayings and Doings Abroad	293
Folkestone, No. 558	241	— in the Levant	73	Mesmer, Bro. F. A.....	53, 95
Hythe, No. 125	241	— Statistics of	16	Military Lodge, History of a	255
<i>Lancashire, West :—</i>		<i>Fine Arts</i>	269	Money, the Love of	260
Garston, No. 220	128, 205	France, Freemasonry in	33	Mother Kilwinning.....	1, 113
Lancaster, No. 1051	182	General Charges.....	214	Northumberland, the Duke of, in connection	135
Liverpool, No. 241	103	German Masonry in the United States	54	New Lodges	5
Ormskirk, No. 580	166	Glass, Ornamented and Stained... 115, 153, 414		<i>NOTES AND QUERIES :—</i>	
Preston, No. 343	23	— Painted	269	A God who is the God of English Freemasonry	474
Warrington, No. 143.....	7, 103, 183, 241, 324, 444	Grand Lodges, the Three.....	93	A Grand Lodge Archive	474
Testimonial to Bro. Hamer.....	224	Hamilton Place, London	177	Abraham Lincoln	180
<i>Middlesex :—</i>		Handel Festival.....	198, 466	Adam and the Angel of Paradise.....	40
Uxbridge, No. 382	65, 224	Hindoos as Freemasons, Admission of	193	African Lodge, the	281
<i>Monmouthshire :—</i>		History of a Military Lodge	255	Aholiab	438
Provincial Grand Lodge	65	Honorary Members	13	Ancient Patriarchal Cross	58
Newport, No. 471.....	67, 346	<i>INDIA :—</i>		— Symbolism	237
<i>Norfolk :—</i>		Bengal, District Grand Chapter.....	107	Aragon a Fief of the Templars	281
King's Lynn, No. 107	260	—	27, 206	Ark, the	139
Norwich, No. 107	103	Bombay.....	145, 168, 188, 244, 287, 326	Arne, Dr.	138
— No. 213	67	Calcutta	107, 286, 480	Ashmole Manuscript at Oxford	37
<i>Northamptonshire :—</i>		Delhi	479	Atheism no Bar to Initiation	474
Northampton, No. 360.....	184	Dum Dum	286	Attendance at Lodge	38
Peterborough, No. 442.....	9	Lucknow	266	Aum	438
<i>Northumberland :—</i>		Mhow	168, 206	Austria	460
Provincial Grand Lodge	23	Rangoon	47, 267, 285, 464	Austria	474
North Shields, No. 431	24	Simla	47	Bacon and Greens	338
<i>Oxfordshire :—</i>		Initiation of Abd-El-Kader	114	Battle of Moskowa, a Masonic Sign at the	237
Provincial Grand Lodge	444	<i>IRELAND :—</i>		the	219
Banbury, No. 550	166, 381	Armagh	27	Bibliographical Queries	474
Oxford, No. 478	405	Belturbet	261	— Query	357
— New Masonic Rooms	184	Cork	9, 46	Bielfield, Baron	357
<i>Shropshire and North Wales :—</i>		Dublin—the Girls' School	88	to the	357
Provincial Grand Lodge	241	— New Hall	429	Books of the Order	281
Lichfield, No. 1039	67	Dungannon	145	Brethren in time of War.....	356
<i>Suffolk :—</i>		Limerick	26	Bridge of Bridges, Brethren of the	97
Ipswich New Hall	166, 363	Newbliss	104, 350	Brother, my	57
		Skibbereen	367	Brown's Master Key.....	281
		Tyrone	27	Byron, Lord	358
		Kennedy, The late Wm. D.	459	Cagliostro Letters.....	281
		Kilwinning, Mother	1, 113	Cawdell, Bro. J.	418
		Knights of Constantinople	104	Chapter of Arras	180
				Charity Defined.....	378

Notes and Queries continued—

	PAGE
Charlemagne's Secret Society	237
Charleston Supreme Council of 33°	281
Charter of Cologne, the	238
Chickarouns or Templars	203
Clubs and Lodges	379
Cologne Cathedral	20
Coloured Banners	400
Cornelius Agrippa	58
Contradictory Theories	121
Convivals, the	97
Costa and Coustos	4
Cowper, Grand Secretary	138
Craft Dates	58
Crucifix, Portrait of Dr.	180, 203
C. S. B. R.	402
Cubic Pedestal	139
Deceased Masonic Celebrities	138
D'Eon, the Chevalier	317
Deformed Brethren	139
Demit or Dinit	258
Deputy Warrant, a	338
Dodd, Dr., formerly Grand Chaplain	21, 156, 236
Druids and Brahmins	202
Entered Apprentice, Extra Verse of	222
Ezekiel's "Exagogue"	20
Father of All	357
F. E. R. T.	257
Fifteen Points	377
Floral Decoration of Lodges	379
Foundations, the Three	99
Fragment, a	281
Frederick the Great, the Toast of	138
Fratres Albati or White Brethren	236
Freemason	4, 357
—Fancy Portrait of a	258, 357
Freemasonry and Buddhism	400
—and City Companies	460
—and Fatalism	279
—and Materialism	438
—and Odd Fellows	376
—and Positivism	57
—and Turks	402
—Described	57
—Infidel	418
—in France	317, 418
—Origin of	139
—Power of, for good	57
—the coming History of	220
—the Founder of	418
—York	418
Freemason's Arms, the	257
—Magazine, the	203, 236
French Masonic Authorities	20
Gay Science, the	79
"G. B. of D." and Chaucer's Craft	19
—Knowledge	402
Gems of our Craft	238
Gentleman Mason, a	21
Georgium Sidus, the	239
Gourgas, Bro. J. J.	20, 57
Grand Cross Degree	281
—Festival, the	239
—Lodge Papers	20
—Lodges	220
—Master's Labour, a	121
—Meetings	121
—Officers, Wants to be a	180
—Shocks	379
—Stewards' Lodges	79
Gray Head, the	460
Green	236
Half-yearly Elections	281
Hammer, the	460
High Priesthood	418
Hint, a	201
Hints for Learners	139
Holy Empire, the	338
Honorary Members	20
Illustrious Captain of the Life Guards	3
Inigo Jones, Christopher Wren, and Nicholas Stone	239
Initiative Societies	160
Initial Letters	460
Installed Master	239
Irish Culdees	339
Irreligious Libertine, an	460
Italian Masonry	180
It Can't be Helped	

Notes and Queries continued—

	PAGE
Jacquemin the Freemason	160
Jewish Temples, the	179
Judicial Opinion of Secresy	402
Knightly Notes	460
Kuts. Hospitaliers, Revenue of	79
Knights of Constantinople	138
—Templar Costume	177
—Query for	402
Koran, the	20
Landmarks, what are the	180
Let's see ourselves as others see us	77
Leviticon, the	20
Light and the Mysteries	258
Lilac Gloves	378
Lodge Banners	180
Lodge Trial	358
Lodges of Promulgation and Reconciliation	357
M'Clellan, General, a Mason	79
Mark Degree, Christianity of the	180
—the History of the	298
Marked, Squared, and Numbered	19
Martin Clare, Bro.	358
Masonic Arms, the Old	220
—Authorities, French	20
—By-laws	437
—Charity, the Oldest	302
—Congress of Paris	258, 279
—Cred	461
—Cyphers	38, 301
—Degree Manufactory	138
—Essays	357
—Funerals	339, 356, 418
—Geometry	237
—Jurisdiction, Another	121
—Is it	239
—Dinner at Nassau	436
—Ladder, the	379
—Literature	220
—Memorial	4
—Pocket Handkerchiefs	138
—Poetry	139
—Rules	221
—Sermon, Text for a	202
—Sign, opportunity made	338
—Sun and Moon, the	317
—Time	139
—Variety	461
—Lecturing	474
Masonry developed	97
—Hours of	38
—the Handmaid of Religion	180
Mesmerism and Freemasonry	180
Metaphysical Masonry	379
Mop and Pail, the	20
Mere Light	201
Morgan Case, the	78
Mother of Masons, the	78
Mud Huts	139
Mysteries, the	461
Name wanted	57
New Light at the Pyramids	179
Neah, the Seven Precepts of	99
No Cypher	460
Offensive and Defensive	57
Old By-laws	417
Old English Quotation	121
Old Lodges, the Four	58
Old Newspapers, Extracts from	120
Old Summons, By-laws, &c.	301, 400
Ordinances of Strasbourg, the	302
Parker, Sir Peter, Bart.	21
Past Masters and Birch Brooms	79
Perfect, Descendant of Dr.	79
Peter Jansen's Ark	21
Philosopher's Stone	400
Pilgrim's Progress, a Masonic Allegory	336
Preston's Legacy	339
Prestonian Lecture	139
Provincial Grand Masters Abroad	475
Purple, the	20
Pythagoras	316
Quarterly Communication Papers	121
Queries, a Batch of	402
Quotation	403
Quotations wanting Identification	203
Ramsay, the Chevalier	139
—and Charles II.	300
Ramsay's History of Freemasonry	281

Notes and Queries continued—

	PAGE
Red Cross Knights	378
Regard for Vows, a	58
Resuscitation of the Lewis	18
Rite of Zinnendorf	308, 356
Robinson, Professor	19
Rose Croix	97
Rosterucianism	180
Sackville, Sir Thomas	238
Sacred Architecture, the Three Kinds of	202
Sacred Numbers, the	302
St. Leger, the Hon. Miss	139
Saints John	20
Secret of the Love	258
Secret Societies	416
Second Temple, the	21
Semestral Word, the	258
Seven Stars, the	238
Seward, W. H.	281
Side Degrees	98
Sinai and Palestine	119
Song of the N. P. D.	98
Spencer's Masonic Library	180
Stephen Dilly	237
Steward's Jewel, the	222
Symbolism	20
Tau, the, and Crux Ausata	139
Telford's Lodge Fittings	19
—Mark	19
Templar Notes	38
Templary, the object of	281
The Ordinance of Strasbourg	474
Three Degrees, the	460
Thistle and Rose, the	19
Tittle-Tattle	402
To all whom it may concern	403
Tracing Board, the	19, 281
Triangulation	281
Triangular Bridge, a	3
Triple Tau, Use of the	3
Triplets	222
Triplets	474
Use of the Triple Tau	3
Valiant Princes	21
V. D. S. A.	236
Veiled Language	437
Virtues	438
Ward, Dr. Seth	258
Warden's Right to Initiate	20
Wieshaupt, Professor	97
White Clad Brethren, the	202
White Band, the	236
Williams, Bro. W., "Book of Constitutions"	257
Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty	40
Wolff, the late Dr.	279
—Dr., and Freemasonry	302
Wrens, Parentalia	180
York Sects, the	180
Notes on Music and the Drama	249, 289, 467
OBITUARY:—	
Ainsley, Bro.	87
Banister, Bro. Edmund	129
Birdseye, Bro. T. J.	169
Collins, Bro. Chas. Jas.	28
Hinxman, Bro. Henry James	480
Jefferys, Bro. Charles James	481
Le Cras, Bro. Philip	369
Loder, Bro. J. E.	287
Magnan, Marshal	447
Miles, Bro. Henry	129
Oliver, Bro. N. W.	387
Proudhon, Bro. P. J.	174
Purdy, Bro. John	189
Richardson, Bro. Thos.	407
Robertson, Bro. Alex.	40
Starkie, Bro. Le Gendre M.	447
Wadeson, Bro. Robert	109
Young, Bro. G. H. R.	28
Zetland, the Countess of	428
Olden Time, a tale of the	194
Ornamental and Stained Glass	115, 153, 414
Ostia, Excavations at	455
Painted Glass	269
Past Master's Degree, the	13
People's Share in Art, the	233
Peru	356

POETRY:—		PAGE
Adieu	129	
Alpine Hunter, the	409	
Brooklet, the	409	
Brother, my	57	
Captain, the, a Legend.....	148	
Martyrdom, a	208	
Masonic Musings	328, 388	
Masonic Song.....	246	
Massacre, a.....	246	
More Room	328	
True Greatness	461	
Volunteers, Song of the	287	
Where there's a Will there's a Way ...	268	
Prondhon, Bro. P. J.	174	
Public Amusements...49, 170, 189, 207, 228, 247,		
269, 289, 308, 328, 389, 449, 466		
Railway Passenger Assurance.....	169	
Reconciliation	1	
Rehearsal, a First.....	137	
Repose in Action	436	
REVIEWS:—		
Abbott, Barton and Co's Almanack ...	48	
Dramatic Almanack.....	109	
Hardwicke's Science Gossip	423	
Lucas's Tables of Longitude, &c.	48	
Railway, Mining, &c., Almanack	48	
Wines and other Fermented Liquors...	48	
ROME, Archaeologic Items from.....		PAGE
253, 398		
ROYAL ARCH:—		
Metropolitan Chapters:—		
Cyrus, No. 21	82, 260, 405	
Mount Lebanon, No. 73	326	
Pannure, No. 720.....	463	
Rose of Denmark, No. 975	186, 464	
Supreme Grand Chapter	69, 80, 349	
Temperance, No. 169	25	
United Pilgrims, No. 507	381	
Yarborough, No. 554	205	
Provincial Chapters:—		
Ashby-de-la-Zouch, No. 779.....	11	
Barton-on-Trent, No. 624	33	
Carlisle, No. 310	260	
Devonport, No. 954	306	
Garston, No. 220	205	
Handsworth, No. 482	306	
Hull, No. 250.....	82	
Jersey, No. 491	144	
Liverpool, No. 216	366	
— No. 249	381	
Lymington, No. 319	446	
Newcastle-on-Tyne, No. 406	286	
Norwich, No. 213	82	
— No. 807	382	
Provincial Chapters continued—		PAGE
Poole, No. 137	144	
Scarborough, No. 200	104	
Sunderland, No. 97	144	
Swansea, No. 237.....	82, 144, 366	
Wakefield, No. 495	104, 187	
Windsor, No. 771	366	
Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows.....	59, 422	
— Freemasons' Charity for Girls ...	303, 359	
— Masonic Institution for Boys, 59, 181, 223, 239, 250, 283, 304, 173		
St. Paul's, Story of a Wood Carver at	16	
Savile House; why was it burnt.....	197	
Statistics of Freemasonry.....	16	
Stebbing, Testimonial to Bro.....	170	
Three Grand Lodges, the.....	93	
TURKEY:—		
Constantinople, No. 687	104	
— Festivities at	207	
Smyrna	405	
Twenty Years, the last.....	195	
United States, German Masonry in the.....	54	
Week, the ...10, 29, 49, 70, 89, 110, 130, 149, 170, 190, 208, 229, 249, 270, 283, 289, 310, 329, 350, 370, 389, 409, 420, 350, 469 482		
Wood Carver, Story of a	16	

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1865.

RECONCILIATION.

It gives us much pleasure, in issuing our first number for the New Year, to be enabled to lay before our readers the following official communication from the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Eastern Division of South Wales :—

Margam Park, Taibach, Jan. 2, 1865.

W. SIR AND BROTHER.—I have the pleasure to acquaint you that the R.W. the Prov. G.M. of the Eastern Division of South Wales has removed the restriction which he imposed upon the lodges in this province, against reporting their proceedings to the Masonic press.

I am, W. Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

T. M. TALBOT, D. Prov. G.M.

The notification is the more gratifying because it has been unsolicited, and is accompanied by a private letter from the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, highly complimentary to us for the manner in which the MAGAZINE has been conducted. With regard to Bro. Tynte, the Provincial Grand Master, we have no personal feeling, and can tender him our thanks for the withdrawal of his restriction, though we think it was originally imposed without due consideration. We can assure the gallant brother—and in fact all the brethren—that if anything appears in the MAGAZINE to which they can take exception, we shall always be happy to receive any communication from them, and endeavour to correct it or avoid the fault in future; and had Colonel Tynte so honoured us in the first instance, we believe that he would himself have seen there was no cause for further action.

To Bro. Talbot, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, our thanks are especially due for the course he has taken in the dispute now happily brought to a close. He did us the honour to call in our office a short time since, and frankly discuss certain matters connected with his province and the laws of Masonry; and left we believe fully impressed with the feeling that we had no object in the course we had taken, other than the interests of the Craft and the assertion of our own independence, and that of our Correspondent, when we felt we were unduly attacked.

We cannot close this notice without thanking our esteemed Correspondent for the support he has rendered us both in and out of the province, and also those brethren who have kindly written to congratulate us on the withdrawal of the interdict of the Provincial Grand Master

—the sincerity of which congratulations are proved by the reports from the province, which appear in another column of this day's MAGAZINE.

MOTHER KILWINNING.

By BRO. D. MURRAY LYON, K.T., ONE OF THE GRAND STEWARDS IN THE GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

No. XIV.

During Sir Alexander Boswell's short sojourn in the Orient of the mother lodge, he was at once its Master and its Laureate; and his versatility of talent* rendered him peculiarly qualified for holding such plurality of offices, as was evidenced in his conduct of the Masonic ceremonial, as well as in the discharge of presidential duty in the conviviality which followed, on the occasion of planting the corner-stone of Burns's monument at Alloway. On his health being proposed at the St. Thomas's Day festival succeeding his resumption of the gavel, Sir Alexander begged, instead of a speech, to be allowed to give a song, which, he remarked, had never been committed to paper; and a burst of applause having greeted the sought-for permission, the genial-souled baronet sang, to the tune of "Bonnie Dundee" the following verses, which, from their flow of genuine Masonic feeling, are worthy to be rescued from the oblivion into which they have been allowed to relapse :—

Ye Sons of Kilwinning, our mother revered,
While memory lasts we shall honour her still;
And here, in her hall, to each other endeared,
The warm grip we'll give, and the goblet we'll fill.
The cobwebs of life shaken hence from each frame,
Remember'd no more, or remember'd with shame
For here, ranged all round in Masonic array,
We'll celebrate gaily St. Thomas's Day.

Though discord divide in the cankering round,
Still friendship unites where the Temple has power;
And sooner a Phoenix again shall be found,
Than one angry thought at this genial hour.
While virtue endures and fidelity lives,
We'll cherish the blessings which Masonry gives;
And here, in its spirit, and under its sway,
We'll celebrate gaily St. Thomas's Day.

It was Sir Alexander Boswell who poured the oil of consecration upon the altar of "Blair Dohy"—a lodge erected in 1821 under the auspices of Colonel Blair (the brother chiefly by whose influence was brought about the union of Mother Kilwinning with Grand Lodge); and in proof of

* No brother of such high literary standing as Sir Alexander Boswell ever having previously, or since, ruled the mother lodge, we feel a pride in recalling the fact of his being the author of the popular songs—"Jenny's Bawbee," "Jenny dang the Weaver," "Auld Gudeman ye're a Drunkan Carle," "Good Night," and "Joy be wi' ye a'," &c. A volume of his fugitive pieces, under the title of "Songs chiefly in the Scottish dialect," was published in 1803, betwixt which period and his death various other of his productions emanated from the press.

which the self-sacrificing spirit which Sir Alexander brought to the discharge of Masonic duty, it may be mentioned that, although for eight nights preceding the solemnity at Dalry his close attendance at a sick bed prevented his getting his clothes off, so soon as a "happy change" in the condition of his family relieved him from that duty, instead of seeking the repose he so much needed, he repairs to Dalry, where, after the peculiar labour of the day had been accomplished, he is found in his usual super-excellent style regulating the *refreshment* of the newly-born daughter, and celebrating her advent in the following extemporaneous effort of his muse, which he sung to the air, "The auld wife ayont the fire" :—

Our Mither's got anither wean,
A dainty wean—a sonsie wean;
Our Mither's got anither wean,
Sae push about the whisky.
Blair o' Blair its daddy is,
For BLAIR DALRY maun sure be *his*;
He'll warm your hearts, lad, till they biz,
When sloken'd wi' guid whisky.
Chorus—Our Mither's got, etc.

Here honest men thegither meet,
Their brows to smooth, their mous to weet,
An' friendship's fire to stir and beet,
Sae push about the whisky.
Our Mither's got, etc.

The compass, square, the maal an' a',
Still keep us right, and gie the law;
But fient a *pillar* e'er need fa',
For just a wee drap whisky.
Our Mither's got, etc.

Auld Babel didna mak folk dum,
Sae while a Mason can sit plum,
Let care wi' reek gae up the lum;
Sae push about the whisky.
Our Mither's got anither wean,
A dainty wean—a sonsie wean;
Our Mither's got anither wean,
An' here's her health in whisky.

The MS. of this song is attached to the fly-leaf of "The Freemason's Pocket Companion," presented to the mother lodge by the Cannongate brethren,* and bearing the following inscription, beautifully penned in Old English characters :—

"CANNONGATE, viith January, 1736, year of Masonry 5736. This day being the monthly meeting of ye Cannongate Kilwinning Lodge held at William Clark's there, They thought it their duty to Transmitt by the hands of Patrick Montgomery, Esqr., The present Right Worshipful Master of our MOTHER LODGE KILWINNING,

* Twenty years later the *bibliothèque de musique* of the mother lodge is further enriched by the gift of another tome of the social class. On their matriculation, as elsewhere referred to, certificates of membership seem to have been forwarded from Kilwinning to Bros. Elspin and Bowie—the one a Grand Steward in the Grand Lodge of Scotland, the other Master of the Stewards of St. David's Lodge at Edinburgh—and the tenour of their acknowledgment of the same, reveals how highly these citizens of "Auld Reeky" valued their admission to a seat in the Mason court at Kilwinning, and how painstaking they were to have their proffered token of "filial regard" prepared "in the genteelst manner" (they had by letter of prior date begged the acceptance of "a sett of new ribbons" for

kept at Kilwinning, This Book for the use of our said Mother Lodge,

"Is humbly presented { GEO. FRAZER, } Master.
by Cannongate Kil- { DAVID HOME, } S.W.
winning Lodge. { RICH'D. COOPER, } D.J.W."

While thus threading our way in proximity to the region of poesy, it may be pardonable in us to cull for our Masonic garland an evergreen from the effusions of certain poetically-inclined *neutrals* suggested by the untimely death of one whose memory as the beau ideal of a R.W.M. is still revered by surviving "sons of Kilwinning," whose privilege it was to fraternise with him in the bosom of the mother lodge :—

Mourn, Airshire! mourn! thy Boswell's gone—
Untimely torn from thee—
A life he counted not his own,
Is cut short cruelly.

Gone is the man of public taste—
Who patriot-like and brave
When duty call'd—that duty fac'd,
His country's peace to save.

Gone is the man of sparkling wit,
Whose unobtrusive glee,
The "table in a roar" has set,
With rapt'rous jollity.

Gone is the man of generous mind,
The friend of rich and poor;
Whose heart was free to all mankind—
As open was his door.

While humour, wit, and manly sense,
And spirit-cheering song,
And warm and easy eloquence,
Shall charm the festive throng;

So long shall Boswell's name be dear,
And thought of with a sigh,
And friends regret with pitying tear,
That Boswell *thus* should die.

the lodge jewels), agreeably to the taste, in respect to her personal adornment, discovered by their "gray-hair'd mother" :—

"Edinr., July 18th, 1758.

"Sir,—Your agreeable favour of the 7th June came duly to hand, covering our admission as members of the Most Antient Honourable Mother Lodge of Kilwinning. We, in the sincerity of massons, return the Rt. Worshipfull Dep. Master, the Worshipful Wardens, other officers, and worthy bretheren harty thanks for the honour done us, and shall on all occasions reckon it our honour to be massons, particularly members of the mother lodge, and we hope to prove faithfull sons of this venerable gray-hair'd mother. By this bearer we have sent a copeny of the New Collection of Songs, properly bound, which we hope the Lodge will accept of as a small acknowledgment of filial regard. We design to have the Ribbons made agreeable to your directions, —only, the ornament proposed upon the Master most be painted, as it would be extremely difficult to weave them in; however, care shall be taken to have it done in the genteelst manner. It is very easy to make the others with a white edge—only, as it most be shutt with green, the white will have a cast of that colour, and be what is called a chainging colour in one view—in another it will be a good enough white. . . . So soon as the Ribbons are ready, shall forward them. Please let us know if this comes to hand, and believe that we are, Good Brother, your most humble servants,

"PATRICK BOWIE.

"ALEX. ESPLIN.

"Mr. James Haddow, office of Excise, Kilwinning."

Ere the strains of this lament had died upon the ear, the mournful theme was taken up and prolonged by yet another admirer of our accomplished brother :—

The "well plum'd hearse" now is nodding apace,
And the mourners are cheerless and sad,
The dark cloud of sorrow sits deep on each face,
In the costume of mourning all clad.

"Solemn and slow," as they pace the lone way,
The plumes waving dark on the gale,
Each breast heaves a sigh, and a tear in each eye,
The fate of the brave to bewail.

The eye of the steed is turn'd wild, as it rolls
On the dusky attendants around;
The death-notes are heard from the bell as it tolls,
While all round seems to echo the sound.

Many now weep for a Master no more,
And many, a Friend that is gone;
But the centre of all, is a Patriot's fall,
And his fate all the wise will bemoan.

Thou, Scotland! lament, for thy Boswell is gane,
To thy arms shall no more be restored;
But entomb'd in affection his name shall remain,
And fame shall his merit record.

But Honour! thou fiend, mourn the deed thou hast done,

And wane in thy false borrow'd smiles;
Thou art fair to decoy, thou allur'st to destroy,
Thy embrace like a phantom beguiles.

The Genius of Kyle, with the tear in her eye,
Wails deep for the loss of her child,
On Lugar's steep banks she is heaving a sigh,
And now she looks frantic and wild.

She wraps herself deep in the gloom of despair,
Bewailing his ill-fated doom,
She screams on the pile, she laments on the aisle,
And she sits down to weep o'er his tomb.

It will scarcely fail to excite surprise, that no "In Memoriam" of Bro. Boswell has been placed upon the records of the mother lodge; and that at the public funeral which was given to his remains, the Masonic link should have been wanting in the chain of friends which then encircled his early grave.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

A TRIANGULAR BRIDGE.

In Smiles's *Lives of the Engineers*, vol. i., page 241, is a description of a singular triangular bridge, which may prove interesting from its symbolical design. The author writes :—"The first arched bridge of stone erected in England is said to have been the singular looking structure still standing in the neighbourhood of Croyland Abbey, in the Fens. As the monks were in early times the principal agriculturists, gardeners, and land reclaimers, so they were the principal church and bridge builders. This triangular bridge at Croyland, however, could have been erected for no particularly useful purpose, but rather as a curiosity; and it has been conjectured that it was reared out of the offerings of the pilgrims to the shrine of St. Guthlac, the patron of the Fens, as an emblem of the Trinity. The bridge stands on three piers,

from each of which springs the segment of a circular arch, all the segments meeting at a point in the centre. It is situated at a junction of the three principal streets of the little town, which was originally built on piles; and along those streets the waters of the Nene, the Welland, and the Catwater, respectively, used to flow and meet under the bridge. Carrying out the Trinitarian illustration, each pier of the bridge was said to stand in a different county—one in Lincoln, the second in Cambridge, and the third in Northampton. The road over the bridge is so steep that horses can scarcely cross it, and they usually go under it; indeed, the arches underneath are now quite dry. This curious structure is referred to in an ancient charter of the year 943, although the precise date of its erection is unknown. On the south-west wing, facing the London road, is a sitting figure, carved in stone, very much battered about the face by the mischievous boys of the place. The figure has a globe or orb in its hand. It is supposed to be a statue of King Ethelbald, though it is commonly spoken of as Oliver Cromwell holding a penny loaf!"—M. C.

USE OF THE TRIPLE TAU.

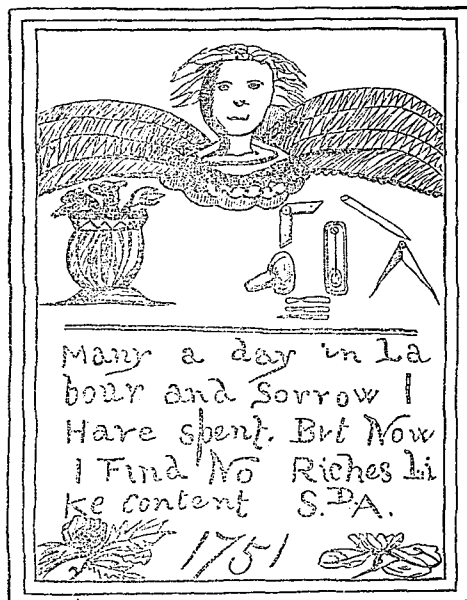
In the same volume there is a foot-note to page 104, in which the plague is spoken of, the note reading thus :—"The plague was a frequent visitor in the city. Numerous proclamations were made by the Lord Mayor and the Corporation on the subject—proclamations ordering wells and pumps to be drawn, and streets to be cleaned—and precepts for removing hogs out of London, and against the selling or eating of pork. Whenever the plague was in a house, the inhabitants thereof were enjoined to set up, outside, a pole of the length of seven feet, with a bundle of straw at the top, as a sign that the deadly visitant was within. Wife, children, and servants belonging to that house must wear white rods in their hands for thirty-six days before they were considered purged. It was also ordered, subsequently, that on the street door of every house infected, or upon a post thereby, the inhabitants must exhibit imprinted on paper a token of St. Andrew's cross, otherwise called the sign of the Tau, that all persons might have knowledge that such house was infected.—Corporation Records, 1590-1694." This is curious, as the Tau here would seem to have been used contrary to all previous examples in both sacred and profane history.—M. C.

INIGO JONES, SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN, AND NICHOLAS STONE.

At page 324 of the same work, speaking of eminent constructive skill and the wages paid to its possessors, Mr. Smiles adds in a foot-note—"Long before Brindley's time, Inigo Jones was only paid eight shillings and fourpence a day as architect and surveyor of the Whitehall banquetting-house, and forty-six pounds a year for house rent, clerks, and incidental expenses; whilst Nicholas Stowe [this is an error, it should be Stone, Grand Warden of England], the master mason, was allowed but four and tenpence a day. When the Duchess of Marlborough was afterwards engaged in resisting the claims of one of her Blenheim surveyors, she indignantly told him, 'that Sir Christopher Wren, while employed upon Saint Paul's, was content to be dragged up to the top of the building three times a week in a basket, at the great hazard of his life, for only £200 a year.'"—M. C.

MASONIC MEMORIAL.

Whilst wandering about in the Peak of Derbyshire, last summer, in search of the pre-historic remains which abound in that picturesque district, I stumbled upon an old tumble-down house at Birchover, built of stone, as all the houses thereabouts are, and bearing over the entrance a roughly-carved tablet, of which I send a faithful sketch. The house has never



been inhabited within the recollection of any of the Birchover people; but there is a vague tradition that the man who built it had sold himself to the Arch-enemy, and that his unquiet spirit still haunts the spot. This may be a remnant of the superstition which formerly attributed to our brethren a perfect understanding of the "black art," for it is evident, from the symbols of speculative, as well as operative, Freemasonry upon the tablet, that the builder was one of the Craft. I may add that the Rotor Rocks and Robin Hood's stride, those gigantic Druidical cairns, are in close proximity to this Masonic fragment.—A. W., 253.

COSTA AND COUSTOS.

A history of the sufferings of one Costa, or Coustos, for being a Freemason, is often alluded to. Which of the two was it?—P.M.—[Both. John Coustos printed a book entitled, *The Sufferings of John Coustos for Freemasonry, and for refusing to turn Roman Catholic in the Inquisition at Lisbon; when he was sentenced during Four Years to the Gallies, and afterwards Released from thence by the generous Interposition of his present Majesty, King George II. To which is annexed the Origin of the Inquisition, &c.* Svo. London, 450 pages, with plates, 1746. The other work is Costa's (Pereira Furtado D'Mendeca Hyppolyto Joseph) *A Narrative of the Persecution of the Author, a Native of Colonia de Sacramento, on the River Plate, Imprisoned and Tried at Lisbon for the Pretended Crime of Freemasonry.* 2 vols. Svo. London, 1811.]

FREEMASON.

Which is correct, Freemason or Free-Mason?—P.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

"KILLING NO MURDER."

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In the report of the last Quarterly Communication, just issued, the Building Committee take credit for having altered, by the Grand Superintendent of Works, the staircase in the Tavern. If I mistake not, they will soon take something more than credit for this performance. Not content with placing the banister beyond the edge of the stairs, and thus rendering it of less service than usual, the architect has thought proper to avoid a repetition of the square landing flag on the flight of stairs between the first and second floors, and has narrowed, to the smallest minimum of space, the turn of the stairway in its most dangerous part. Everyone who knows how customary it is for several brethren to come down together after a lodge is closed, will at once perceive the danger that threatens; those who are so descending will be entirely taken off their guard by the sweep of the handrail, and it will not surprise me if, before the end of this new year, several brethren do not meet their death, and many be disabled for life, exactly at this part of the staircase. I am told a waiter has already fallen, and been injured; and that an old gentleman has pitched over the railing of the banister on the lower flight. If this is to be the style in which our lives and bodies are to be jeopardised by the Grand Superintendent of Works and the Building Committee, it will be necessary to open a Masonic Accidental Death and Damages Company (Limited) at the Tavern, so that, by taking tickets before attending lodge meetings, we may make some provision for our wives and families in case of that death which must inevitably come to some of us before many months elapse, owing to the absurd narrowness and steepness of the stairs at the point spoken of, and the utter uselessness of the hand-rail.

I am, dear Sir and Brother,

ONE UNINSURED AGAINST MASONIC PERIL.

P.S.—Who would be responsible for the damages in an action on the death of a brother through this cause? Would it be the master of the Tavern, the Building Committee, or the Architect?

THE CALENDAR.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—You have kindly inserted in your number of this day a letter from me relative to an error in the "Freemasons' Pocket-book," after two intimations of it to the brother who is designated as the officer appointed to receive them. In the course of compilation of a local Masonic almanac for the Channel Isles, I have this week discovered several other important errors, for which I cannot account. In the list of lodges in the "Freemasons' Pocket-book," the date of the warrant of No. 84 is inserted as 1753; that of No. 168 as 1767; that of No. 243 as 1780. I have seen the warrants, and find the date in No. 84 to be 1807; that in No. 168 to be 1784; that in No. 243 to be 1810.

According to this, the second mentioned above bears the earlier date, whereas the first bears the earlier number—a discrepancy, the explanation of which I could not obtain from an old member of No. 84, who pointed out the errors to me, and kindly procured the warrants for my inspection. These cases confirm an opinion I have often heard expressed, that the accuracy of the "Freemasons' Pocket-book" is not to be depended upon.

In hope that these statements may lead to examination and more care in the compilation in future,

I remain, yours obediently and fraternally,

H. H., P.M. and Sec. of
St. Aubin's Lodge (No. 958).

Jersey, Dec. 31, 1864.

DR. OLIVER.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have read the valuable works on Freemasonry by the Rev. Dr. Oliver—works showing so much research and Masonic knowledge that every Mason should read them.

No one can deny that the Craft are greatly indebted to Dr. Oliver for having spent a long life in establishing our Order to be founded on principles at once grand, noble, and possessing all that is worth a good man's and a good Christian's respect, admiration, and love.

But I would ask, what has been done for Dr. Oliver, to whom every Mason is so much indebted? Nothing.

I now write to you to urge a move amongst the Craft to rectify this. I propose as follows:—

The Rev. Dr. Oliver is now so far advanced in age that we cannot expect to have him amongst us for many more years. I would, therefore, suggest that a subscription be raised by lodges and individual Masons for the purpose of at once securing a handsomely framed likeness of the Rev. Doctor, full length, life size, with suitable inscription at the foot of the frame; of course, in full Masonic costume, to be hung up in the new Masonic hall. I feel sure that lodges and Masons by hundreds will respond to this, so that the subscriptions need be only small—£2, or even £1, from lodges, and 1s. from individual Masons would, I think, bring a large sum; for what Mason does not love and respect the name of Dr. Oliver?

The Rev. Dr. has done much for Masons, for he has devoted his life to show the Order we all revere to be based upon all that is dear to Masons and to man; for unless this Order is what he has established it to be, would wise and sensible men belong to it. I do hope, then, that the Craft will come forward to perpetuate the name of one who has done more than any other man for our Order.

I am prepared to forward from my own lodge (No. 832), £2 and 2s. from each member, as soon as I know where the money can be paid.

I trust to some good Masons at home starting this. I think the Lincolnshire Masons should begin.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,

A. J. GREENLAW, Lieut.-Col.

Hon. P.G.S.W. of England; P. Prov.

S.G.W. for Southern India; P. Prov.

J.G.W. for Devonshire and Southern

India; and P.M. of five other lodges.

Rangoon, East Indies, Nov. 19th, 1864.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

The Robert Burns Lodge (No. 25) has just set a noble example to other lodges, having out of its accumulated Benevolent Fund voted £100 to the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows, and £52 10s. to each of the Schools. The lodge will be represented at all the Festivals.

At the Board of Benevolence on the 21st ult., twelve petitioners were relieved with various sums, amounting in the aggregate to £134.

NEW LODGES.

According to the official "Calendar," just published, warrants have been granted for the following lodges during the past twelve months:—

- 994 Rangiora Lodge, Rangiora, New Zealand.
- 995 Lodge of Furness, Ulverstone, Lancashire.
- 996 Sondes Lodge, East Dereham, Norfolk.
- 997 Southern Cross Lodge, Invercargill, New Zealand.
- 998 Welchpool Lodge, Welchpool.
- 999 Robert Burns' Lodge, Manchester.
- 1000 Priory Lodge, Southend, Essex.
- 1001 Harrogate and Claro Lodge, Harrogate.
- 1002 Skiddaw Lodge, Cockermouth.
- 1003 Prince of Wales Lodge, Jersey.
- 1004 Athole Lodge, Isle of Man.
- 1005 Zetland Lodge, Newent, Gloucestershire.
- 1006 Tregullon Lodge, Gwennap, Cornwall.
- 1007 Howe and Charnwood Lodge, Loughborough.
- 1008 Royal St. Edmund's Lodge, Bury St. Edmunds.
- 1009 Shakespere Lodge, Manchester.
- 1010 Kingston Lodge, Kingston-upon-Hull.
- 1011 Richmond Lodge, Salford.
- 1012 Prince of Wales Lodge, Bury, Lancashire.
- 1013 Royal Victoria Lodge, Liverpool.
- 1014 Dekran Lodge, Smyrna, Asia Minor.
- 1015 St. George Lodge, Smyrna, Asia Minor.
- 1016 Elkington Lodge, Birmingham.
- 1017 Montefiore Lodge, Freemasons' Tavern.
- 1018 Shakespeare Lodge, Bradfield.
- 1019 Lodge of Sincerity, Wakefield, Yorkshire.
- 1020 Grange Lodge, Hamilton, Victoria.
- 1021 Hartington Lodge, Strand, Barrow-on-Furness.
- 1022 Rising Star Lodge, Bloemfontein, South Africa.
- 1023 Namaqua Lodge, Namaqualand, South Africa.
- 1024 Lodge of St. Peter, Maldon, Essex.
- 1025 Lodge Star of the South, Calle Mayo, Buenos Ayres.
- 1026 Victoria Lodge of Hong Kong, China.
- 1027 Tuscan Lodge, Shanghai, China.
- 1028 Royal Alfred Lodge, Alfreton.
- 1029 Ascension Lodge, West Coast of Africa.
- 1030 Egerton Lodge, Heaton Norris, Lancashire.
- 1031 Fletcher Lodge, Birmingham.
- 1032 Townley Parker Lodge, Whittle-le-Woods, Lanc.
- 1033 Freemantle Lodge, Western Australia.
- 1034 Eccleshill Lodge, Eccleshill, near Bradford.
- 1035 Prince of Wales's Lodge, Kirkdale, Lancashire.
- 1036 Bowyer Lodge, Chipping Norton.
- 1037 Portland Lodge, Portland.
- 1038 Singleton Lodge of St. John, New South Wales.
- 1339 St. John's Lodge, Lichfield.

METROPOLITAN.

ST. GEORGE'S LODGE (No. 140).—This old and prosperous lodge held its regular meeting on Wednesday, December 21st, at the Lecture Hall, Greenwich. Bro. Hubbuck, W.M., presided. The business consisted of three initiations and one passing, all of which were well performed. Bro. C. L. Smyth, S.W.,

was elected W.M. for the ensuing year; Edington, P.M., Treas.; Riley, Tyler. After business the brethren adjourned to Bro. J. Moore's, Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich, where they sat down to an excellent banquet. Visitors—F. Walters, P.M. 73; J. W. Hasler, W.M. 79, and others.

ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 871).—At a meeting of this prosperous lodge, held on Wednesday, December 28th, at the Royal Oak Tavern, High-street, Deptford (Bro. J. Stevens's), Bro. C. G. C. Stahr, W.M., presided and opened the lodge, assisted by Bros. J. H. Pembroke, J.W.; F. Walters, P.M., Sec.; G. S. Hodgson, S.D.; J. S. Blomeley, J.D.; J. Rosenstock, I.G.; J. Hawker, W.S.; G. Wilton, P.M.; J. Stevens, P.M.; H. J. Wells, W. Jeffery, A. R. Parkinson, G. Holman, W. Andrews, R. Phipps, and many others. Amongst a large number of visitors we noticed Bros. T. N. Moore, 73; F. H. Ebsworth, 73; M. A. Loewensark, 73; F. W. Ward, S.W. 79; S. W. Vinten, J.W. 79, and others. Ballots were taken for four candidates, and declared to be unanimous in favour of their admission. Bro. F. Walters, P.M., by the permission of the W.M., then took the chair. Messrs. R. West, J. Truelove, and W. H. Truelove were each introduced separately and initiated into ancient Freemasonry, the W.M. rendering the ceremony in his usual impressive and painstaking manner. Bro. C. G. C. Stahr, W.M., then took the chair. The by-laws were revised, and the report of the committee appointed to alter them received and agreed to. The lodge was then closed. The brethren afterwards partook of one of those first-class banquets for which Bro. J. Stevens is now so justly celebrated. The usual loyal toasts were given and responded to. Bro. T. N. Moore and F. W. Ward replied for the visitors; J. and W. H. Truelove for the initiates.

PROVINCIAL.

CORNWALL.

INSTALLATION OF GARIBALDI'S ENGLISHMAN.

POWEY.—*Lodge Powey (No. 977).*—A meeting of the members of this lodge was held on Monday, January 2nd, in the lodge-room at the Ship Hotel, for the purpose of transacting the ordinary business of the lodge, and installing the W.M. and his officers for the year ensuing. The lodge has been formed scarcely two years, and it already comprises between fifty and sixty members, and there were one new member to be initiated and two to be raised. One of these latter was Mr. George S. Treffry, the second son of the Rev. Dr. Treffry, of Place, the present Chaplain of the lodge, who, with several others of the more wealthy of the brethren of the neighbourhood, has been a very handsome contributor to the furnishing of the lodge.

It being known that Bro. Colonel John W. Peard, "Garibaldi's Englishman," was to be installed as the W.M. for the year ensuing, more than ordinary interest was taken in the proceedings, and there was a large number of the brethren of the mystic tie present. Bro. R. R. Rodd, the Prov. S.G.W. of Cornwall, accompanied by Bro. Rodda, P.M., of Lodge Fortitude, and P. Prov. G. Reg. of Devon, attended the former to install the W.M. There were also several other visiting brethren present. The early part of the business was conducted by the W.M., Bro. Geach, of Lostwithiel, who opened the lodge. After the reading of the minutes he gave place to Bro. Rodd, who raised Bros. Treffry and Toms to the third degree, and then proceeded with the installation, being very ably assisted by Bro. Rodda, P. Prov. G. Reg., who delivered the charges connected with the ceremony in a very solemn and impressive manner. The devotional part of the services was very impressively conducted by the retiring Chaplain, the Rev. Bro. G. Ross, Prov. G. Chap.

The W.M. then appointed the following brethren officers for the year ensuing:—Bros. T. Geach, I.P.M.; Rev. G. Ross, S.W.; J. Truscott, J.W.; Rev. Dr. Treffry, Chap.; W. Hicks, Treas.; S. Thomas, Sec.; W. T. Sobe, S.D.; W. S. Slade, J.D.; W. Tonkin, I.G.; S. Nickels and P. Salt, Stewards; W. Polkinghorne; W. Betty, P. Prov. G. Org.

At the close of the business the S.W. proposed for election at the next meeting the Rev. Mr. Paull, of St. Blazey; and the Rev. Bro. Treffry stated that there had been complaints of the inconvenience of the room for their lodge meetings. He had therefore given the matter his consideration, and he was able to offer the brethren the use of the Town Hall, with suitable rooms adjacent, free of cost to the lodge; or, if they preferred it, and wished to have rooms of their own, they could have the whole

of the upper floor of "Brown's" house at a very moderate rental. A committee of the officers of the lodge, including also Dr. Treffry, was appointed to consider the matter and bring up a report to the next meeting of the lodge. The S.W. said that they were much indebted to Bro. Treffry for the interest he had taken in this matter—an expression which was very much applauded.

The brethren then adjourned to the banquet, which had been provided in another room. The W.M., Col. Peard, presided, and the S.D. acted as vice-president. The chairman was supported on his right by Bros. R. R. Rodd, R. Rodda, I. Latimer, W. Wreford, and Bale, and on the left by Bros. Dr. Treffry, Geach, Dr. Davies, &c. The dinner was in every respect a most abundant one, and considering how rarely such large dinners take place at Fowey, it reflected great credit on Bro. Frost.

After the withdrawal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and drank, and a most agreeable evening was passed.

HAYLE.—*Cornubian Lodge (No. 450).*—On Tuesday, the 27th ult., the brethren of this lodge held their St. John's festival at the Masonic Hall, when Bro. Bailey was duly installed W.M. for the ensuing year by Bro. Burall, P.M., and then appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Eustice, S.W.; Coombes, J.W.; Harvey, Treas.; Smith, Sec.; Huthnance, S.D.; James, J.D.; F. H. Pool, I.G.; Paddy, Tyler. The brethren then retired to Bro. Crotchet's Hotel, where they all sat down to a repast served up in his usual style. A very pleasant afternoon was spent.

DEVONSHIRE.

PLYMOUTH.—*Lodge Harmony (No. 156).*—This lodge held its annual banquet on Tuesday, the 27th ult., when the brethren, forty in number, sat down to a most sumptuous repast. The chair was occupied by Bro. Richard Rowe, W.M., and the vice-chair by Bro. Robert Hooper, S.W. After the removal of the cloth, the W.M. proposed the first public toast, "The Queen and Craft," which was received with honours, after which the usual Masonic toasts were proposed by the W.M., and drunk with much fervour. The health of the W.M. was proposed by Bro. Samuel Clarke, P.M., and was responded to by the W.M. in his usual humorous style—commenting upon the necessity of the whole of his officers attending to their duty, and to do it well, to ensure that success which would reflect credit upon themselves and honour to the lodge. The health of the Past Masters was then proposed by Bro. R. Hooper, S.W., in a neat speech, which all the brethren responded to with much warmth of feeling. The Senior and Junior Wardens' health was next proposed by Bro. S. Clarke, who congratulated the W.M. on the choice he had made of his officers, particularly the choice of Wardens. He could speak of the S.W. as a friend and a brother, having known him many years. The health of the two Wardens was drunk with much *éclat*. Bro. Hooper and the Junior Warden responded to the honour conferred upon them. The health of the Secretary was proposed by Bro. Hooper, who styled the Secretary as the working man or bee of the lodge. Without the Secretary the lodge would be nowhere. The speaker then referred the brethren to the state of the books, which, he said, were a credit to any lodge—in fact, no lodge could boast of a better Secretary, who was always the same kind, gentle, painstaking brother, and ever ready to do anything which would conduce to another's welfare. The Secretary briefly responded, and said he was always ready and willing to do anything which would conduce to the happiness of all. The health of the other officers was proposed and responded to in the usual style. Many other toasts were proposed and drunk with great cordiality. The proceedings were enlivened occasionally by some excellent singing and recitations, in which the W.M. and other of the brethren took part. The brethren broke up at eleven o'clock, much pleased with their evening's enjoyment. This lodge, we understand, consists of 120 members. It is one of the largest lodges in the provinces, and has a considerable amount of funds in hand.

TORQUAY.—*Lodge of St. John (No. 328).*—The installation of W.M. and other officers took place on the 27th ult., as follows:—Bros. G. Glandfield, W.M.; Bovey, S.W.; Guyer, J.W.; Browse, S.D.; Richardson, J.D.; Curtis, I.G.; Dyer, Sec.; R. Bowder, Chap. Bro. Harland acted as Installing Master. At the conclusion of the ceremonies the brethren adjourned to the Union Hotel where an excellent banquet was prepared, and a very pleasant evening spent.

STONEHOUSE.—*Lodge Fortitude (No. 105).*—The annual banquet in honour of St. John the Evangelist of this ancient,

royal, and prosperous lodge took place in the beautiful and spacious lodge-room, Prince George Hotel, Stonehouse, on Wednesday, the 28th ult., under the presidency of Bro. B. W. Stoneman, W.M. About fifty brethren sat down, amongst whom we noticed a goodly number of P.M.'s and Prov. G. Officers. The W.M. was supported on his left by the I.P.M., Bro. Thuell, and on his right by Bro. Rodda, P.M., P. Prov. G. Reg., and in the immediate vicinity of the chair were Bros. Rodd, P.M., P. Prov. G. Reg., and Prov. S.G.W. for the sister province of Cornwall; J. Rowe, P.M., P. Prov. G. Treas.; W. R. Phillips, P.M., P. Prov. G. Treas.; Chapple, P.M., P. Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Killingly, P.M., P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Chapman, P.M., P. Prov. G. Reg.; Jew, P.M., P. Prov. G. Tyler; R. Rowe, P.M., P. Prov. G. Org.; and P.M.'s Cole, Jackman, Linde, and others. The banquet was served by host Bro. Hazelwood, and the brethren seemed to do justice to the good things provided for them. The W.M. very judiciously divided the respective toasts between himself and the various Past Masters near him. The toasts were happily and fraternally given, and received very hearty and suitable responses. The toast of "The R.W., the Deputy Provincial Grand Master," which was entrusted to Bro. Rodda, was received with great acclamation by the assembled brethren. The speaker passed on that distinguished brother a very high eulogium, stating that he was an embodiment and personification of every Masonic virtue; that the brethren of the province had need to pray day and night for his health and happiness, for it would be a great calamity whenever the Great Architect of the Universe should think fit, in His infinite wisdom, to take from the hands of the reverend brother that sceptre with which he had ruled the province with such ability and justice for so many years past. "The Press," happily given by the W.M., was suitably responded to by Bro. Latimer, of the *Daily Western Mercury*, who said the columns of his journal were also open for the good of Freemasonry. He sometimes felt it a very difficult task to report the proceedings of these meetings, and he hoped that with much care he had generally succeeded in giving only such matter in connection with Masonic meetings as would be useful and interesting to the outward world, without infringing the ancient usages of the Craft. During the evening the brethren were cheered and delighted by appropriate songs, sung by Bros. J. Rowe, George Hilson, Linde, Ash, Carey, and others. The brethren separated at an early hour, greatly regretting that such *réunions* do not more frequently occur. Lodge Fortitude is the most ancient branch in the three towns. It is true that, by an accident, at the union of the York and Athol Lodges, in 1813, St. John's Lodge got a higher number, but the dates of the respective warrants will show that Fortitude is considerably more ancient.

DURHAM.

HARTLEPOOL.—*St. Helen's Lodge* (No. 531).—The annual festival and installation of the W.M. elect took place in the Masonic Hall on Wednesday, December 28th, 1864, when there was a good attendance of brethren and visitors. The installation service in its entirety was performed in a most impressive manner by the retiring W.M., Bro. Groves; after which the newly installed W.M., Bro. Dr. Moore, P. Prov. J.G.W., appointed the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—Nathan, S.W.; Siveright, J.W.; Hill, S.D.; Stockell, J.D.; Allen, I.G.; Mowbray, Tyler; S. Armstrong, P.M., Treas.; Stonier Leigh, Sec.; and Emra Holmes, Dir. of Cers. A procession was formed, and the W.M. proclaimed and saluted in ancient form in the several degrees as the lodge was closed down, the addresses to the W.M., S.W., and brethren being delivered by the Installing Master. About thirty of the brethren then adjourned to a banquet at the King's Head Hotel. The chair was occupied by the W.M., supported on his right by Bro. Groves, P.M., P. Prov. G.S.B. and Mayor; W. C. Ward Jackson, Grentham Hall, and Ingram, W.M. 612; and on his left by Bros. Dr. Kirk, W.M. 764, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Thompson, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W.; and Huntley, P.M. After the cloth was removed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to with spirit. With the Prov. G. Officers was coupled the name of Bro. Kirk, who, in reply, spoke of the Masonic Hall now building at West Hartlepool, which he hoped soon to see consecrated by Provincial Grand Lodge, and made a few remarks on the advantages of Freemasonry, which none but a Mason at heart could properly appreciate. The health of the W.M. was given and heartily responded to. Bro. Holmes next gave the health of the retiring W.M., spoke of the

benefits which Masonry in this district, and this lodge in particular, had derived from the services of that esteemed brother, who had gained the love and admiration of the brethren by his kindness of heart, urbanity of manner, and zeal for the Craft; and he hoped Provincial Grand Lodge would see fit to recognise his services by some suitable honour. The toast was most enthusiastically received. Bro. Groves briefly but feelingly thanked them, asserting that he had only done his duty, and the approbation they had testified at the completion of his third year as W.M., by presenting him with a beautiful P.M.'s jewel, was ample reward. Other Masonic toasts followed, and after spending the evening in that agreeable manner so peculiar to the Craft, enlivened by several excellent songs and recitations, the brethren separated.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

WARRINGTON.—*Lodge of Lights* (No. 148).—The regular monthly meeting of this ancient lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, on the 26th ult. Bro. John Bowes, W.M., was, on the occasion, well supported by his officers and a goodly attendance of brethren. After the lodge had been opened in solemn form, and the minutes of the preceding meeting confirmed, ballots were severally taken for three candidates for the mysteries and privileges; all proved favourable, and two being present, were duly and impressively initiated by the W.M., the charge being delivered by Bro. H. B. White, P.M. Bro. A. F. Pennington being a candidate for promotion from an E.A. to a F.C., and having given satisfactory proof of proficiency, was entrusted and retired. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Pennington being admitted, was passed by Bro. H. B. White, P.M. After the lodge had been closed down, it was adjourned till the next day, the Feast of St. John the Evangelist, when Bro. Gilbert Greenall, M.P., was installed W.M. for the ensuing year. The lodge was opened punctually at two o'clock. Bros. John Bowes, W.M.; G. Greenall, S.W.; C. Pettitt, J.W. and Sec.; W. Wood, S.D.; J. Pierpoint, J.D.; W. Aherin, I.G.; Joseph Robinson, Tyler; H. B. White, R. Chorley, R. G. Stringer, Joseph Maxfield, James Houghton, and John Pilling, P.M.'s; B. P. Coxon, Rev. J. N. Porter, James Hepherd, A. F. Pennington, Rev. J. J. Dreaper, Shaw Thewlis, P.M., Prov. S.G.D.; Geo. J. Higginbottom, Robt. Stevenson, C. N. Spinks, Major J. F. Greenall, W. H. Spring, A. Latham, John Holloway, Captain Cartwright, Peter Robinson, and Jas. Hamer, Prov. G. Treas. The visiting brethren were:—Bros. R. Townley Parker, Prov. S.G.W., West Lancashire; C. W. Banister, G.S.B. of England; Thos. Wylie, P. Prov. J.G.W. and Sec.; Rev. J. W. Newall Tanner, P. Prov. G. Chap.; Edward Busher, Prov. G. Sec., Cumberland and Westmoreland; H. S. Alpess, P. Prov. G.S.B.; Rev. F. Terry, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., Oxford; Rev. John Dunkley, Prov. G. Chap.; C. W. Spencer Stanhope, Prov. S.G.D., Oxford; J. W. Armstrong, Prov. G. Purst.; J. Sanders, Prov. G. Org.; Baldwin Latham, Prov. S.G.W., Surrey; John Muggeridge, P.M. 739; Jos. Hunt, Allen H. Beckett, 758; R. Clark, W.M. 758; P. Carter, 941; Jas. Whitton, 941; W. Tootell, 428; E. Pierpoint, P.M. 220; Jos. Wilson, 758; W. John Bullock, W.M. 979; R. Warburton, 89; W. Taylor, 897; Joseph Robinson, 897; T. Wilson, 129; C. Haswell, J.D. 216; Alfred D. Graham, W.M. 155; W. G. Bennett, 645, &c. The lodge being duly opened by the W.M. in the first and second degrees, Bro. Wylie, Installing Master, assumed the chair, and Bros. H. B. White, P.M., and Bowes, W.M., presented Bro. G. Greenall, M.P., S.W., the W.M. elect, for the benefit of installation, to whom the summary of ancient charges, &c., were read by the Hon. Sec., Bro. Charles Fettitt. The lodge was opened in the third degree, and subsequently a Board of Installed Masters were formed, when the W.M. elect was solemnly installed in the chair of K.S. The Board of Installed Masters having been closed, the M.M.'s, the F.C.'s, and E.A.'s, were successively admitted, and saluted the W.M., who was proclaimed on each occasion. Bro. W. John Bullock, W.M. 979, kindly presided at the harmonium. The W.M. then appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year, viz.:—Bros. H. B. White, P.M., S.W. and Treas.; W. Smith, J.W.; John Pierpoint, S.D.; C. N. Spinks, J.D.; W. Aherin, I.G.; C. Pettitt, Master of the Ceremonies; John Bowes, P.M., Sec.; Joseph Robinson, Tyler. Bro. James Hamer, Prov. G. Treas., delivered the whole of the charges in his usual correct manner. The W.M. then commanded the J.W. to call the brethren off for refreshment at ten o'clock. The banquet, which was served in the Assembly Room of the Lion Hotel, by Bro. F.

Thorpe, was of a most sumptuous character, and the whole expense was defrayed by the W.M. The chair was occupied by the W.M., Bro. G. Greenall, *M.P.*, while the Wardens occupied the W. and S. respectively. The W.M. was supported on the right by Bros. Banister, G.S.B.; R. Townley Parker, S.G.W.; Rev. J. W. Newall Tanner, P. Prov. G. Chap.; H. S. Alpass, P. Prov. G.S.B.; and on the left by Bros. John Bowes, I.P.M.; Wylie, P. Prov. J.G.W. and Sec.; Rev. J. Dunkley, Prov. G. Chap.; James Hamer, Prov. G. Treas.; Edward Basher, Prov. G. Sec., Cumberland and Westmoreland; Rev. F. Terry, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., Oxford. The musical arrangements were kindly undertaken by Bros. Sanders, Prov. G. Org.; Armstrong, Prov. G. Purst.; Graham, W.M. 155; and Haswell, J.W. 216. The cloth having been withdrawn, the following toasts were then drunk:—The W. MASTER gave the usual loyal toasts in a most felicitous style, which were duly honoured. The W.M. having inquired the first duty of a Master, and being satisfactorily answered, proceeded to propose in succession the M.W. Grand Master, the R.W. D. Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge of England. The R.W. Provincial Grand Master, the R.W. D. Provincial Grand Master, and the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire. The Provincial Grand Masters of East Lancashire, Cheshire, and the neighbouring provinces.—Bro. BANISTER responded for the Grand Lodge; Bro. R. TOWNLEY PARKER, for the Provincial Grand Lodge; and Bro. Rev. J. W. NEWALL TANNER, for the neighbouring provinces.—Bro. H. B. WHITE, P.M., rose with very much pleasure to propose “The Health of the Worshipful Master.” He spoke at some length on his many well-known excellences of character as a gentleman and a Mason.—The W. MASTER then proposed “The Past Masters, Wardens, and Officers of No. 148,” coupling with it the name of Bro. John Bowes, I.P.M.—Bro. BOWES, on rising, said he fully appreciated the kindness of the W.M. and brethren assembled, and sincerely thanked them for so hearty an expression of it. That they were sincere was proved by the fact that, when Masonically only two years old, he was by their unanimous voice placed in the chair of K.S. He then gave expression to the great obligation he personally, and the lodge generally, were under to Bro. H. B. White, P.M., and said the approval their working met with from the visiting brethren would act as an incentive to further advances. He then made some excellent remarks on Freemasonry. Bro. Bowes then proposed the next toast, “The Masonic Charities,” coupling with it the name of Bro. Wylie, who eloquently responded.—Bro. S. THEWLLS, Prov. G.S.B., proposed the next toast, “The Visiting Brethren.” In the course of his remarks, he said that letters apologising for non-attendance had been received from many distinguished brethren. He coupled with the toast Bro. Baldwin Latham, Prov. S.G.W. Surrey.—Bro. LATAAM responded very feelingly, and stated that he had visited many lodges, but never saw one where the various ceremonies were more effectively given. He complimented the officers and brethren generally, and acknowledged the princely hospitality of the W.M.—The W. MASTER, in very flattering terms, proposed “The Health of the Musical Brethren,” expressing the obligations he was under to them. He never listened to music with greater pleasure.—Bro. SANDERS, Prov. G. Org., responded in suitable terms.—Bro. the Rev. J. N. Porter next proposed “Our Poor and Necessitous Brethren.” Bro. Porter dilated at length and most eloquently on Masonic responsibilities.—The W. MASTER next proposed “The Ladies,” which was suitably responded to by Bro. C. W. SPENCER STANHOPE, Prov. J.G.D. Oxford.—It is needless to state that the whole of the toasts were received with the enthusiasm they deserved, and all drank with the usual honours. At the command of the W.M., the brethren went from refreshment to labour, and the lodge was closed in ancient and solemn form. The centenary of this lodge will be celebrated in November next, when the Provincial Grand Lodge will visit Warrington in honour of the occasion, and thus secure a large and influential meeting.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

PETERBOROUGH.—*St. Peter's Lodge* (No. 442).—The anniversary of St. John's Day was celebrated by the brethren of St. Peter's Lodge, on Tuesday, the 27th ult., at their new Masonic Hall in the Lincoln-road, when the brethren met for the purpose of installing the W.M. elect. There were present —Bros. J. T. Swallow, Prov. G. Purst., W.M.; Redfern, Prov. G.S.B., S.W.; Johnstone, J.W.; Wells, S.D.; E. Vergette,

J.D.; Clarke, I.G.; Porter, D. Prov. G.M.; Buckle, Prov. J.G.D.; Ewart, P. Prov. D.G.M.; Strickland, Prov. G. Sec.; and some twenty other brethren. The lodge being duly opened in the three degrees, and the minutes of last lodge read and confirmed, Bro. Redfern, W.M. elect, was presented, and the ceremony of installation most ably and impressively performed by Bro. Buckle, and in a manner which gave the greatest satisfaction to the brethren present. The W. Master then proceeded to appoint his officers, as follows: Bros. Johnstone, S.W.; Well, J.W.; E. Vergette, S.D.; Clarke, J.D.; J. Taylor, I.G.; Buckle, P.M., Treas.; Strickland, P.M., Sec.; H. Haines and Thos. Cooke, Tylers. The officers being duly invested, the brethren adjourned to banquet in their new room; presided over by the W.M. Upon the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, followed by that of “The M.W. His Grace the Duke of Manchester, Provincial Grand Master,” proposed by the W.M., most enthusiastically received by the brethren, and acknowledged by the Prov. G.M., Bro. Dr. Porter; “The Deputy Provincial Grand Master,” proposed by Bro. Ewart; “The Worshipful Master,” by Bro. Porter; “The Immediate Past Master, Bro. J. T. Swallow,” by Bro. Buckle, who spoke most eulogistically of the services rendered to Masonry in general, and to the Lodge of St. Peter's in particular, by Bro. Swallow during his year of office. “The Visitors,” given by Bro. Swallow, was responded to by Bro. Holford, P.M., who complimented the W.M. and the brethren generally, on the excellent manner in which the working and general arrangements had been carried out during the day. “The Masonic Charities,” proposed by Bro. Strickland, who made a powerful appeal on their behalf, was acknowledged by Bro. Dr. Porter, a Past Steward, who also earnestly pleaded the cause of charity. The toast of “The Ladies” brought the evening to a satisfactory conclusion, but not before the brethren had had an opportunity of testifying their gratification towards Bro. Thos. Scoley, of the Bull Hotel, for the handsome manner in which he had contributed to the comfort and enjoyment of the brethren in furnishing the banquet and wines, both of which were pronounced first-class. The harmony and good fellowship of the meeting were much advanced by the vocal exertions of Bros. Buckle, Fox, and Gibson. The lodge being closed, the brethren separated, after spending an agreeable and happy anniversary.

SOUTH WALES (EASTERN DIVISION).

SWANSEA.—*Indefatigable Lodge* (No. 237).—The brethren of this lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John on Friday last, the 30th ult., with great *éclat*. The lodge was opened at four o'clock, when a goodly number of members and visitors had assembled. After the confirmation of the minutes, and the transaction of some preliminary business, the W.M., Bro. Edward J. Morris, P.M. and P. Prov. S.G.D., proceeded to install Bro. James Richardson, S.W., as W.M. for the ensuing year. The solemn ceremony was most ably and impressively conducted, after which the newly-installed W.M. was duly proclaimed and saluted, and the following officers were appointed and invested:—Bros. Charles Bath, S.W.; Laurence Tallock, J.W.; Rev. J. D. Davies, Chaplain; Thomas Powell, Treas.; Richard Phillips, Sec.; F. A. Hopwood, S.D.; David Williams, J.D.; J. Jones Hewson, M.C.; Edward Fricker, Org.; George Richardson, I.G.; J. C. Manning and T. L. Jowett, Stewards; and John Probett, Tyler. The retiring W.M., Bro. Edward J. Morris, was then presented with a costly testimonial from the members of the lodge, consisting of a beautiful vase or jug of Egyptian design, exquisitely engraved, a superb P.M.'s jewel of solid gold with brilliant, and a very tastefully emblazoned address on vellum, framed and glazed. The jewel and address were furnished by Bro. Richard Spencer, of Great Queen-street, and reflect great credit on his skill and taste. The vase and jewel both bore the following inscription:—“Presented to Bro. Edward James Morris, P.M. and P. Prov. S.G.D., by the brethren of the Indefatigable Lodge (No. 237), in recognition of his eminent services as W.M. during the years 1860 and 1861.” The presentation was made on behalf of the members by the newly-installed W.M., Bro. James Richardson, who, in a speech characterised by the utmost taste and good feeling, referred to the services which Bro. Morris had for so many years rendered to the lodge, and to the Craft generally, services which the brethren were proud to recognise so handsomely a tribute of esteem and brotherly feeling. The D.P.G.M., Bro. T. Mansel Talbot, said he could not permit such

an occasion to pass without publicly acknowledging the great and valuable services which Bro. Morris had rendered, not only to his own lodge, but to other lodges in the province. By his zeal, ability, and unremitting efforts, especially during the past year, he had succeeded in greatly improving and elevating the prestige of this lodge. By means of most successful lodges of instruction, and assiduous personal teaching, he had greatly benefited the brethren of this and neighbouring lodges; and he, the D.P.G.M., was very gratified to have the opportunity of openly thanking Bro. Morris for his valuable aid and co-operation in every work which could tend in any way to the advancement of Masonry in the province. Bro. O. G. Williams, P.M., as one of the oldest members of the lodge, and an old friend of Bro. Morris, could not refrain from adding his word of commendation, praise, and high esteem, and after an eloquent and feeling speech, concluded by wishing that Bro. Morris might long live to be of service to the lodge, and to wear the honours he had so deservedly won. Bro. Edward J. Morris having suitably acknowledged the honours and compliments which had been showered upon him, the lodge was closed in harmony and peace. The brethren afterwards re-assembled at the Mackworth Arms Hotel, when nearly seventy brethren sat down to partake of an excellent banquet, which was provided by the hostess (the widow of a deserving brother, formerly a member of the lodge) in her best style. The proceedings were characterised by the greatest harmony and good feeling. The W.M., after the removal of the cloth, gave the customary loyal and Masonic toasts; and the speeches from the chair and from the brethren respondents were worthy the occasion, and were calculated to show the high tone which the lodge had acquired in every respect. The entertainment was enlivened by admirable singing, contributed by members of the lodge; and the brethren separated at about eleven o'clock, having passed a most agreeable evening. Among those present were Bros. James Richardson, the W.M.; T. Mansel Talbot, D.P.G.M.; John Nelson, P.G.D.; O. G. Williams, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Robert Eaton, Prov. G. Reg.; George Allen, Prov. G. Sec.; W. L. Powell, Prov. S.G.D.; Edward J. Morris, P. Prov. S.G.D.; P. D. Michael, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; A. Wastfield, Prov. G. Org. (Western Division); H. Ll. Prichard, W.M. elect No. 833; J. T. Jenkin, S. Benson, Edward Strick, J. P. Serocold (Hong Kong), Phipps, Vivian, Dyke, H. W. Williams, Tennant, Jones, Jenkins, the officers before mentioned, &c.

CARDIFF.—*Bute Lodge* (No. 960).—The regular meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Tuesday, 20th ult., when there was, as usual, a large attendance of brethren. Officers present, Bros. J. C. Thorp, W.M.; D. Roberts, P.M., W.M. 36; W. H. Martin, S.W.; Jno. Willams, J.W.; M. Davies, S.D.; T. Bell, J.D.; B. Jenkins, Dir. of Cers.; T. G. Glass, I.G.; P. Bird, Treas.; and W. H. Moreton, P.M., Sec. In accordance with a recent alteration of the by-laws, this was the night for election of W.M.; and a ballot having been taken, Bro. W. H. Martin was declared duly elected by a large majority. Bro. Philip Bird was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. J. Davies re-appointed Tyler. Bro. Master, W.M. elect, returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him, as did also Bro. Bird; and the arrangements for the installation banquet having been made, and three gentlemen proposed as candidates, the lodge was closed at 9 p.m.—On Friday, 30th ult., the brethren re-assembled for the installation of the W.M. elect, when there was again a numerous and influential gathering of brethren, including (besides the W.M. and the whole of his officers), Bros. R. F. Langley, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Hancorn, P.M. Silurian Lodge, Prov. G. Supt. of Works (Monmouth); Evans, P.M. Silurian, Prov. G.D. (Monmouth); Hunt, P.M., &c. Lodge having been opened at 3 o'clock p.m., a ballot was taken for five candidates, who were all unanimously accepted; and two of them being master mariners, about to proceed to sea, were introduced, and regularly initiated by the W.M. elect, Bro. J. C. Thorp, in his usual able and efficient manner. Bro. D. Roberts, P.M., then presented the W.M. elect for the benefit of installation, which he received at the hands of the W.M., and was proclaimed and saluted in the three degrees. The lodge being resumed, the W.M. returned thanks in a very feeling manner, and proceeded to appoint and invest his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. Jno. Willams, S.W.; Maurice Davies, J.W.; Philip Bird (re-elected) Treasurer; W. H. Moreton, P.M., Secretary; Thomas Bell, S.D.; Henry Allen, J.D.; Benj. Jenkins, Dir. of Cers.; Thos. G. Glass, I.G.; Jno. Davies (re-elected) Tyler; Elliott and Downton, Stewards. The addresses to the officers were eloquently given by Bro. Thorp, P.M., whose perfect ren-

dering of the whole of the installation ceremony brought his unprecedentedly laborious term of office to a conclusion. Lodge having been closed shortly before six o'clock, the brethren adjourned to the Globe Hotel, where they sat down to one of the most elegant Masonic banquets ever provided in this town, and which did the utmost credit to the worthy and respected host, Bro. Thomas, No. 960. The W.M. was ably and numerously supported; and full justice having been done to the sumptuous spread, the usual Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and a very agreeable evening spent. Some capital songs were sung by Bro. Gawn, Prov. G. Org., and other brethren, and good hours were kept.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

SCARBOROUGH.—*Old Globe Lodge* (No. 200).—The regular stated meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 21st ult. Bro. W. F. Rooke, W.M., supported by Bros. W. Bean, P.M.; J. W. Woodall, P. Prov. J.G.W.; J. F. Spurr, P.M.; W. Martin, P.M.; and assisted by Bros. W. B. Stewart, S.W.; H. A. Williamson, J.W.; W. Garnett, S.D.; G. Symons, J.D.; Gaspere Guarnerio, Sec. Bros. J. W. Candler and J. Gibb were each raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Mr. Daniel Fleet was initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry. Bro. W. B. Stewart, S.W., was duly elected the W.M. for the ensuing year. An address was presented to Bro. W. Bean, P.M. (who for half a century had regularly attended the duties of this lodge), proving the high estimation he is held in amongst the brethren. Bro. Bean made a suitable reply, after which the lodge was closed in harmony. The brethren then retired to refreshment, and spent a very pleasant evening.

IRELAND.

CORK.

THIRD LODGE OF IRELAND.—This lodge assembled at noon on St. John's day, in the Masonic Hall, Maylor-street, for the purpose of installing the W.M. elect, Bro. W. Stephens, the ceremony being performed by Bro. Edward Wigmore, P.M., assisted by Bros. James Hackett, I.P.M.; William A. Hackett, P.M.; and John T. Archer, P.M. Polish Lodge, London. The other officers were also invested. Bro. James Hackett presented Bro. Wigmore, Secretary of the lodge, with a very handsome and valuable Knight Templar's ring, as a token of his esteem and the zeal shown by this brother for the benefit of the lodge during the I.P.M.'s year of office. The members of the lodge dined together at the Commercial Hotel, at six o'clock, when a goodly haunch of English venison graced the board, together with the best of everything the season could afford, and in the usual elegant style of the worthy proprietor. The customary loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and having enjoyed some excellent singing by the brethren, Bro. Taylor, of the Robert Burns Lodge, presiding at the piano, members and their visitors separated, after spending a very agreeable evening.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.

LODGE LA CESAREE (No. 590).—At the ordinary meeting held at the Masonic Temple, on Thursday, December 29th, the lodge was opened at seven o'clock by Bro. C. Le Sueur, W.M., assisted by his Wardens, Bros. P. E. Le Sueur, and Chas. Benest, and Bro. J. Durell, P.M. The minutes were read and confirmed. The usual questions having been put to three candidates and satisfactory answered, they retired for preparation. The lodge having been opened in the second degree, Bros. Canning, J. F. Picot, and E. Le Gros, were re-introduced, and passed to the degree of Fellow Craft by the W.M., who closed the ceremony with the usual charge, and Bro. J. Durell, P.M., gave the lecture in explanation of the second tracing board. The lodge was resumed in the first degree. The W.M. mentioned the intention of Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M., to publish a local Masonic Almanac for the Channel Isles, and called on the brethren to give all possible support to the undertaking. Bro. Oakley presented to the lodge a handsome charity box, ornamented with Masonic carvings, for which a cordial vote of thanks was awarded to him. No other business offering, the lodge was closed at a quarter to nine, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting-room for refreshment.

SAMARIS LODGE (No. 559).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, December 27th, for the purpose of installing the W.M. for the present year, to which office Bro. F. A. Godfray had been elected. The Prov. G. Master opened the lodge in the first degree for the confirmation of minutes, and subsequently in the second degree. He then gave up the chair to Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M., who had been requested to perform the ceremony. The W.M. elect was duly presented, his assent was given to the prescribed charges and regulations, and those who had not passed the chair having retired, a board of Past Masters was duly constituted, in whose presence Bro. Godfray was installed in the chair of King Solomon. The board having been closed, on the re-admission of the brethren the usual processions took place, and the proclamations and charges were given. The officers were then named by the new W.M., and such of them as were present were invested. The lodge was resumed in the first degree. A notice of motion was given to reduce the initiation fee from twenty to five guineas, in order to make this a working lodge, which it has not been hitherto, the high charges having been prohibitory—indeed, such was the original intention, with a special object, which has not been realised. No other business offering, except a vote of thanks, which was passed to the Installing Master, the lodge was closed at seven o'clock.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen and younger members of the Royal Family are still at Osborne. The Prince and Princess of Wales are now on a visit at Holkham. Prince Alfred has arrived at Berlin.

HOME NEWS.—The recent cold weather has told severely on the health of aged people in London. The Registrar-General's report raises the list of deaths from 1,523 of the previous week to 1,697, the increase being mainly if not altogether among persons above sixty years of age, and bronchitis being the principal disease. The number of deaths is 177 above the estimated ten years' average. The births during the week were 1,956, which is about 130 above the average.—With the opening of the year we record another decrease in the pauperism of the distressed cotton unions. Mr. Purdy reports that during the past week eleven unions increased by 810 paupers, that five remained stationary, and that the others showed a diminution of 1,660, thus leaving a net decrease of 850. With one exception, the unions which have less favourable lists only experienced small increments such as are commonly felt throughout the kingdom at this season. Manchester, however, placed on her pauper register 360 additional names in the fourth week of December. The following unions reduced theirs by the respective numbers stated:—Ashton-under-Lyne, 270; Blackburn, 230; Bury, 260; Haslingden, 270; Preston, 210; and Stockport, 160. The out-relief amounted to £6,345, or £2,232 less than in the last week of 1863.—Mr. Farnall, the Metropolitan Inspector of the Poor Laws, has made a report to the President of the Poor Law Board, respecting the working of the Houseless Poor Act, passed last session. He states that all the parishes have acted upon it, the only union which has not provided separate accommodation being the West London, whose workhouse is required by a railway. In only one of these vagrant wards was admission refused in consequence of its being full. There is now accommodation for 1,400 persons. The largest number accommodated in one night, in the first week of this month, was 712, the lowest 607. Mr. Farnall recommends that in every instance the vagrants should be required to do a task of work in return for the accommodation.—Mr. Pilkington, M.P., in the course of a speech at Blackburn lately, said that although he could not take a very hopeful view of the cotton trade for the present year, "he felt certain there would be more employment than there had been in the past two years."—Lord Palmerston on Wed-

nesday presented prizes given by the Romsey Labourers' Encouragement Association. His lordship, in addressing the successful labourers, pointed out the necessity which was imposed upon them of educating their children. As to the description of education he pointed out that it should be useful and practical, and gave some lively illustrations of what he meant.—Mr. Charles Buxton, M.P., addressed his constituents at Maidstone on Tuesday evening. In the course of his speech he alluded to the plan of Reform which he promulgated a short time ago, and frankly owned that it met with general disapproval. With reference to the Royal Commission for inquiring into the subscriptions and declarations required of the clergy, he said that he believed, when its report became known, it would meet with general approval, and if acted upon would do much towards preserving the intellectual vigour of the Church.—In a speech at Oxford, on Monday, Mr. Cardwell—the Secretary of State for the Colonies—briefly referred to the case of the St. Alban's raiders, which has assumed such grave importance. He said that no men were more sensible than the Governor-General of Canada and his advisers of that which was due to the honour of the British Crown and to the "inviolable neutrality" of British territory; and it was certain that "if the present law in Canada were adequate they would carry it into execution with promptitude; but if, on the other hand, the present law were found inadequate, it would not be allowed to remain so."

—A new Exchange was opened at Birmingham, on Monday. At a luncheon which followed the formal ceremony, Mr. Bright made a speech, in which he expressed his sense of the growing importance of the great industrial interest. It seemed to him that the power of statesmen and warriors, and even of monarchs, was on the wane, while in every part of the world the influence of merchants and manufacturers, in the aggregate, was sensibly increasing. The nations of Europe maintained vast armaments, but, notwithstanding what "some foolish newspapers" might say, war was much less possible now than in bygone days. There was the strongest possible disposition among the people of Europe to preserve the peace, and he looked forward to the time when the subsidence of national jealousies would lead Governments to reduce their naval and military establishments to a point which "a moderate, peaceful, and just spirit would encourage and defend."—Mr. Gladstone, there is no doubt, is perfectly satisfied with the revenue returns for 1864. Notwithstanding the large remissions of taxation upon which the right hon. gentleman has ventured, the national income for the past year reached the sum of £70,125,374, or only £308,246 below the revenue for 1863. The Customs and income tax show, of course, a heavy falling off—over two millions and a half between them—but under every other head there has been an increase, the net result being as we have stated.

—Last year there was a marked decrease in the number of emigrants who left Liverpool for various parts of the world—the falling off, as compared with 1863, being no less than 12,537.

—Saturday night being the last night of the year, religious services were held in several churches and dissenting chapels, the congregations meeting about eleven and remaining together till the New Year came in. We believe these services originated among the Wesleyan Methodists, with whom the Watch Night is still, we believe, universal; but it has since spread both among Churchmen and Dissenters.—There is but too great probability of a strike taking place among the workmen connected with the building trades in the midland counties. The masters have agreed among themselves to give every man who leaves their employment what they call a "discharge note," and they pledge each other that no one will take a working man into his employment unless he first produce this "discharge

note" from his former master. The men regard this as a direct mode of reducing them to thralldom; they designate the note by the opprobrious name of ticket of leave, and a meeting of operatives to resist it was held on Friday evening at Nottingham, when resolutions were passed to resist the system and to appeal to their comrades throughout the country for aid.—A case of some importance was tried at the Middlesex Sessions on Wednesday. A pauper in the Greenwich Union, named John Sherman, was charged with having deserted Julia Hannan and her child. The woman was a pauper whom the guardians of the Greenwich Union desired to remove to Cork, and Sherman was entrusted with the warrant for her conveyance there. He took her on board the steamer for Cork, in the Thames, in the first week in December, and paid her deck fare, giving her very scant provision for the journey. She had only been confined of her child a month at the time, and but for the kindness of the mate of the vessel, who allowed her to go into his cabin, she must have suffered fearfully from cold and exposure. The Assistant-Judge held that the charge against Sherman, who had only obeyed the orders he had received, could not be sustained, and he was acquitted. The conduct of the guardians was, however, strongly condemned.—At the Marlborough-street Police-court on Wednesday, John Wright was charged with stealing a diamond bracelet, the property of Lady Honoria Cadogan. At the time the robbery took place the prisoner was engaged in making a valuation, at the residence of the late Earl of Cadogan. The prisoner was remanded.—A most extraordinary system of robbery was discovered last week at Huddersfield. It appears that for some time past the manufacturers exhibiting their goods in the Cloth Hall of the borough have missed portions of their goods, and so skilfully contrived was the theft that all efforts to detect the thief proved fruitless. A slight suspicion was at last excited against one of the exhibiting manufacturers, and this clue being cleverly and patiently followed up by a most ingenious contrivance the suspected individual was detected with stolen goods in his possession. His father, father-in-law, and a friend of his, are all implicated in the charge. The case is still under investigation.—Two men were tried at the Wicklow Quarter Sessions on Saturday last on a charge of violently breaking into the house of a Protestant clergyman. It appeared that the object of the men was the vulgar one of plunder; but as they had their faces blackened and administered oaths of silence to the servants, the magistrates treated the case as near akin to "Whiteboyism," and sentenced the prisoners to penal servitude for ten years.—A case of some interest was heard in the Bankruptcy Court on Wednesday. A Mr. Coleman appeared on his own petition, and it appeared that among his creditors was the celebrated Blondin, to whom he had acted as Treasurer, and whose money to the extent of £12,000 had been invested in the business. An attempt was made by some of the other creditors to prove that Blondin was really a partner with Coleman, but the proof failed, and the rope-dancer was admitted as a creditor on the estate.—An extraordinary robbery is reported from Shrewsbury. One day last week a person, who gave the name of Morgan, and said he was a constable from Carmarthen, visited Shrewsbury, and, putting himself in communication with the superintendent of police, stated that he held a warrant for the apprehension of a thief, who, he had reason to believe, was then staying at an hotel in the town. He obtained the assistance of one of the Shrewsbury constables, and proceeded to the house he had mentioned. There they found a young gentleman, whom Morgan declared to be the person he "wanted." The prisoner was searched, and his gold watch and a considerable sum of money were taken from him. He stated that his name

was Charles Ashworth, and when he was brought before the magistrates, he asked in vain that he should be allowed to telegraph to his friends in Manchester. He was remanded, Morgan representing that it would be advisable not to allow him to communicate with any one, as there was an "accomplice" at large. It was soon ascertained that Mr. Ashworth was the son of a most respectable man in Manchester, and, on inquiry, it was found that no such robbery as that stated had taken place at Carmarthen, and that no person of the name of Morgan was known to the police. When Mr. Ashworth was brought up on remand, of course Morgan did not appear. Morgan, through the stupidity of the magistrates and police of Shrewsbury, was allowed to get clear off with the booty.—The inquest on the body of Michael Harrington, who was stabbed by the Italian, Serafini Polioni, on Monday week, has been concluded. The same witnesses who appeared before the police magistrate were again examined by the coroner, and they gave the same evidence. The jury returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder" against the Italian, and he was committed to take his trial at the Central Criminal Court.—A shocking murder occurred last week in the camp at Aldershot. An artilleryman named Dumphy was in hospital suffering from insanity, and was under the charge of two of his comrades. About six o'clock in the morning he got out of bed, and grasped the poker, and on one of his keepers advancing to take it from him, he struck him on the head and brained him. He then advanced on the other, who saved his life by jumping out of the window. The unfortunate lunatic was soon after removed. His victim was quite dead.—The captain and mate of a Russian vessel lying at Grimsby were suffocated in their beds by the fumes of charcoal on Friday night. There was charcoal burning in a stove in their cabin, and the mate, before "turning in," put a cap over the funnel. In the morning both men were found to be dead.—A fire broke out in the Hanover-street Mills at Preston on Saturday morning, just as the work-people were about to commence work, which has had the effect of throwing about 200 people out of employment.—A steam-boat collision took place on Thursday week, in the Clyde, near Gourock, by which the *Earl of Carlisle* ran down the *Guy Fawkes* in mid channel, and four men were drowned. There appears to have been some misunderstanding as to the course the vessels should steer, and it is said there was also some delay in the crew of the *Earl of Carlisle* lowering their boat to pick up the drowning men.—Official accounts received at the Admiralty report the melancholy news of the shipwreck of her Majesty's steamer *Racehorse* on the coast of China, when only nine persons, including the commander, were saved out of a crew of 108. From the despatches received, it appears that the vessel struck on a rock in comparatively calm weather, but that immediately after the accident the sea rose, the vessel was broken in pieces, and though the crew to the last calmly and steadily obeyed orders, the end was that only nine reached the shore in safety.—A dreadful accident occurred at Dundee on Monday night. A great crowd had collected in front of a concert-room, which is entered by descending a flight of thirteen steps. When the door was opened, those in the rear pressed forward, and the persons who stood in front were thrown headlong down the stairs. Nineteen men and women were crushed to death, while many others were seriously injured.—A fine young girl, seventeen years of age, named Jane Louisa Antrobus, has been burnt to death through wearing greatly distended skirts. She was passing in front of the fireplace in the room of a friend when her dress swept against the grate, and in an instant her clothes were in flames. The injuries she sustained caused

death.—Captain Corbett, who commanded the *Sea King* from the time of her departure from the Thames until her arrival at Madeira, where she was renamed the *Shenandoah* and taken charge of by a Confederate officer, has been apprehended in Liverpool on a charge of infringing the Foreign Enlistment Act, by engaging a British subject, or causing him to be engaged, for service in the Southern navy. In this case the Government prosecutes, and the prisoner was examined at Bow-street on Thursday and remanded.—While eight sinkers were being lowered down a pit shaft at Wigan, on Wednesday, a portion of the brickwork, which seems to have been loosened by a blast that had just taken place, fell in, completely burying the poor fellows. Five of them, who were hurled from the skip in which they were descending, were killed; the other three, after being entombed for several hours, were brought out alive, but suffering from injuries more or less severe.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The Emperor of the French on Wednesday presided over a Privy Council at which Prince Napoleon took his place for the first time. The Emperor Napoleon, according to custom on New Year's Day, received the Diplomatic Corps, when the Papal Nuncio, in the name of that body, offered his Majesty their felicitations and good wishes for the coming year. The reply of the Emperor was couched in terms of love and peace with all the world. The receptions occupied four hours and a half. M. Baroche, the French Minister of Public Worship, has addressed a circular to all the bishops, advising them that portions of the encyclical letter of the Pope contain propositions contrary to the principles on which the constitution is founded, and therefore their publication cannot be authorised. They are further invited to recommend their clergy to abstain from observations on the document which might give rise to any unpleasantness. It appears that the Superior Council of Commerce has recommended the French Government to gradually abolish the restrictive navigation laws which impede commerce with France. All foreign-built ships are to be admitted to the French register without payment of any duty; all materials for shipbuilding are to be freed from import duty; and all differential duties on foreign ships, or on goods imported in foreign bottoms, are to cease after the lapse of a term of three or six years respectively. A Vienna paper asserts that when the Russian Government became acquainted with the nature of the Pope's Encyclical it communicated by telegraph to the French Cabinet its readiness to support France in any steps which she might think proper to take in order to repel the pretensions of the Papal missive.—The project of the new Danish constitution, arranged to meet the altered circumstances of the State, has just been published. In its principal portions it is the same as the fundamental law of June, 1849. It adopts the principle of universal suffrage for the elections of the Representative Chamber, and maintains that of full liberty of all citizens.—A circular has been issued by the Italian Minister of Commerce, cautioning merchants in their transactions with the "United States" against the constant fluctuations in the value of the American paper money.—The Prussian Chambers have been convoked by a Royal decree for the 14th inst.—*La France* states that advices received from Porto Rico lead to the belief that the prolongation of the campaign in San Domingo may even endanger the Spanish position at Porto Rico itself, and that therefore it becomes absolutely necessary for the Cabinet of Madrid to resolve on giving up the struggle.

WEST INDIES AND THE PACIFIC.—There is nothing of much importance in the news from the West India Islands. With the exception of several severe cases of small-pox in Jamaica, the health of the islands was good, and the yellow fever had

entirely disappeared at Bermuda. The news from the Pacific is of much interest. The South American Congress met on Nov. 14. Frequent sittings were afterwards held, at which the greatest harmony prevailed, the question of the highest importance being the difficulty with Spain. The Congress closed the conference on the 26th by resolving—1st. That the Government of Peru must proceed immediately to give directions for the recovery of the Chincha Islands, and to account to Congress within eight days. 2nd. That the President of Peru shall have no power to make a treaty, or enter into any terms with the Cabinet of Madrid until the islands have been given up by Spain, or have been taken by the forces of the republic. On the 27th November the President ordered all the fleet to proceed on a cruise for exercise, including the iron-clad *Loa*. While the fleet were manœuvring in Callao Bay, an American vessel from the Chinchas arrived with news that Admiral Pinzon's frigate was totally destroyed by fire at the Chincha Islands on the 25th. Much excitement prevailed at Callao, and the public impatiently awaited the orders from Lima for the fleet to proceed to the Chinchas to engage the frigate and gunboats, and to occupy the islands.

AMERICA.—No very important news has been brought by the *Canada*. Up to the 18th ult., at least, there had apparently not been any serious fighting in the neighbourhood of Savannah, though General Sherman was prosecuting his operations for the reduction of the city, and was said to have vainly summoned General Hardee to surrender. Admiral Porter's whole fleet was reported by a Confederate telegram to have been in sight from Fort Fisher, near Wilmington, on the 21st ult., and the Confederate commander, General Bragg, added, in his despatch, a confident declaration that "he could hold Wilmington." General Hood's defeated army had succeeded in passing the Duck River, in spite of General Thomas's pursuit, and it was said that pontoon bridges had been laid across the Tennessee at a place above the reach of the Federal gunboats. The Federal accounts estimated General Hood's total losses at 17,000 men, killed, wounded, or prisoners, and represented General Thomas's loss not to have exceeded 5,000 men. It was vaguely rumoured that the Confederate General Forrest was not present at the battles near Nashville, but had since been defeated, with the loss of 1,500 men, in the neighbourhood of Murfreesborough. The body of Confederates which, under the command of General Lyon, had entered Kentucky, had been "routed" by General McCook near Ashbyville. The Federal General Burbridge had found it necessary to retreat from Saltville, in Western Virginia. There was no news whatever from the army of the Potomac or from the Shenandoah Valley. A resolution for the appointment of commissioners to treat for peace with Federal commissioners had been introduced into the Confederate Congress.—The *Hibernia* brings one day's later news from New York. Hood's army was continuing its retreat, and on the 22nd ult. had reached Pulaski, seventy-five miles south of Nashville, closely followed by the Federal cavalry. He was fortunately joined by Forrest on the 20th ult. at Columbia. Savannah, according to Southern papers, was safe up to the 19th ult.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

UNITY.—Apply at the Grand Secretary's office.

J. G. is thanked.

BRO. MANNING.—We are obliged for your communication and the enclosure.

P. M.—Never by us.

M. S.—No.