

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1865.

FREEMASONRY IN THE LEVANT.

In translating from the *Freimaurer Zeitung* an interesting account from a Naples correspondent of the condition of Freemasonry in the Ottoman Empire, at page 502 of our last volume, we made the observation that we did not mean to endorse the whole of our contemporary's views, because we saw there were inconsistencies in the statement, doubtful Masonic theories put forth, and that there were statements incompatible with the facts as recorded in our own pages.

The same motives of interest attaching to the subject which induced us to take it up in the first instance, have led us to investigate it; and as we found the discrepancies were of importance, we have followed the subject up for the vindication of English Masonry, of the transactions of which the correspondent has shown himself ignorant to such an extent that, except the first line of it, there is hardly a word of truth throughout, so far as it regards English lodges or English Masons.

The fact is that in 1859 there was only one English lodge in Constantinople, and a French one had expired; but it is not true that the ambition of the English inhabitants led to the foundation of two more lodges there, with a view of establishing an English Provincial Lodge for Turkey. It is not true that the English Provincial Lodge opposed German brethren in establishing a German lodge under the Hamburg Grand Lodge—or that they put in a solemn protest—or that they set up district rights—or that the protestation was laid aside by the German lodge—or that these proceedings of the German brethren encouraged the establishment soon after of French and German lodges.

All these things, and most of the others recorded, exist only in the imagination or invention of the correspondent or his informants, and the end is befitting the beginning; for, instead of describing the condition of Masonry in Turkey, it only gives a maimed account of Masonry in Constantinople, and of the abortive attempts of Bro. Treu and Bro. Salvotti to overturn Masonry, and substitute some new-fangled crotchets of their own.

Instead of the fabric of Masonry in the Ottoman Empire being in such an unsound state, it will be found that its progress has been steady and solid; and instead of its being true that English Masons have been backward in promoting Masonry, and have not contributed to its prosperity, it will be

found they are first and foremost, and that they have led the way, while Bros. Treu and Salvotti have been projecting.

The English lodge existing at Constantinople in 1859 is the same which exists there at the present time—the Oriental, a very distinguished and flourishing lodge, and which, then and now, has taken a prominent part in promoting every effort for extending and encouraging Masonry there. It fraternized with the old French lodge and the new one—it founded the first German lodge by contributions from its own coffers—it held out the hand of fellowship to the new Italian lodge—and in this present year it promoted the formation of the first Greek lodge in the Ottoman Empire, the consecration of which was celebrated in its own lodge room on the 19th of January, and the installation of the Worshipful Master performed by old Past Masters of the Oriental.

Such is a brief sketch of the services of the Oriental in this direction, and it is almost needless to say that it has done more than any other lodge in Constantinople, for till lately there have been no lodges there to do anything. So much for the assertion that “unfortunately” the English brethren are the most behind hand in these movements. Bros. Treu and Salvotti hold forth that the English brethren “deem themselves superior to the *commun des mortels*, and keep aloof from the aspirations tending towards the redemption of the vices of the East, and will not admit that the slightest reform in the organisation of Masonry is due to the spirit of the time we live in.”

This tirade is due to the circumstance that the brethren of the Oriental and the English brethren throughout the East have refused to countenance the innovations of these new lights. How far they are chargeable with keeping aloof from true Masonic progress, we have conclusively shown; and it is easy to extend the defence to the English brethren in the Ottoman Empire at large.

While the Oriental Lodge maintained Masonry singlehanded at Constantinople, the Homer Lodge did the same good service at Smyrna, and brought the spurious Grand Lodge and its dependent lodges to a close. For some time these two English lodges were the only lodges existing in Turkey, and it has been by their efforts that Masonry has been put on its present successful basis. The Homer Lodge has directly promoted a German, a French, an Armenian, and a Greek lodge, and the new Italian lodge meets in its lodge-room.

The fact is, that English Masonry has been doing its work, and has provided lodges for Turks, Armenians, and Greeks, while Bro. Treu is still projecting; and the writer forgets to state that, if the Lodge Italia of Constantinople conferred its honorary membership on Bro. Treu for presenting a very practical project for the foundation of Greek lodges and an Hellenic Grand Lodge, which has not been carried out, and which is being worked out apart from him, and on a different basis, that lodge, as its first act on its foundation conferred its honorary membership on Bro. Sir Henry Bulwer, Prov. G.M. of Turkey, and Bro. Hyde Clarke, D. Prov. G.M. of Turkey, for what they had already done for extending Masonry in Turkey.

The extension of Masonry in Turkey has been indeed the result of a liberal and systematic policy of the rulers of Masonry in the East, worked out by the brethren on the spot, and supported at each step by the authorities at home.

To go on with details bearing on the real history of the case, we may observe that the formation of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Turkey was the result of the foundation of the German Lodge at Smyrna, which gave the third lodge. At the same time, a German lodge was formed at Constantinople, called the Deutsche Bund, for which the Oriental Lodge found the funds. Some particulars as to these lodges may be seen in Bro. Findel's "History of Freemasonry."

After the warrant was obtained, and the expense of outfit conferred, the founder, in conjunction with Bro. George Treu, determined not to work it, but to start a lodge under a Hamburg warrant—for which purpose they kept back candidates they had prepared for the Deutsche Bund, got them initiated in Germany, and, by the help of their signatures, made up the seven petitioners for the Hamburg warrant. Such is the history of the foundation of the famous Lodge Germania am Goldnen Horn, which has done so much for extending Masonry in the East, with its W.M., George Treu.

It may very well be believed that these proceedings produced great indignation, particularly among the English victims who had been supplied by the Oriental Lodge to work the Deutsche Bund Lodge, and who were responsible for the large advances. No action was taken by the English Provincial Grand Lodge, and consequently no protest was made; but the D. Prov. G.M.

threatened to apply to the Grand Lodge of England to represent the circumstances to the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, so as to obtain justice in the case; but on the promise of the parties, and at the request of the English members of the Deutsche Bund, relying on such promises, he consented not to take any further proceedings.

Since then the Deutsche Bund has been carried on by members of the Oriental, who have nearly discharged its debt.

Neither at that time, nor at any other, was such a preposterous pretence put forward by the provincial authorities, as that the Grand Lodge of England had exclusive jurisdiction in Turkey, and that no other Grand Lodge had the power to form lodges there. The Grand Orient of France has always had a lodge in Constantinople from the beginning of the century, and at the time in question the Grand Lodge of Scotland had granted a warrant for a lodge at Beyrout. So far from the provincial authorities making themselves so malicious, they have always been ready to co-operate with the other jurisdictions as they did with the Italian Lodge, and as they did by authorising the Prov. S.G.W. of 1863-4 to accept the Venerableship of the French Lodge of the Grand Orient, whereby that lodge has been restored, and put in a prosperous position.

So the Germania am Goldnen Horn went on, and from that day to this it has done nothing but maintain a bare existence to give a title to Bro. Treu for propounding his schemes for the abolition of all ancient and existing Masonry, and for which schemes the German brethren have shown as little sympathy as the English. Bro. Treu failed in playing the same game with the German Lodge at Smyrna.

The Deutsche Bund Lodge at Constantinople was followed by the Bulwer, named in honour of the Prov. G.M., Sir Henry Bulwer, who by the countenance he gave to Masonry by personally and publicly attending its celebrations, by presiding over its ceremonies in his own palace, conferred on it that protection which has rendered it safe for Turks, Persians, Arabs, Armenians, Greeks, and Jews to seek admission now into the English, French, and Italian lodges—whereas, in the beginning, Masonry was a byword in Turkey, and its lodges in danger of persecution. Nor are they yet safe should the political vagaries of the Garibaldian brethren excite the susceptibility of the Turkish authorities, when their hope of pro-

tection will not be from Bro. Salvotti or any advocates of Masonry as a new religion, but from the consistent supporters of English Masonry. In view of this, the English Masons throughout the Turkish Empire have consistently declined to compromise themselves by any countenance of Masonry being treated as politics or religion.

At the present moment, the Italian lodges, by their recruiting agents, are collecting shoals of members everywhere, ten or twelve in a drove, without any regard to their understanding the language. The result will be generally what has taken place already in Alexandria—a Masonic rabble under the tutelage of political agents, and most probably, in the end, some disagreeable incident, as already referred to.

The lodges at present existing in Turkey are:—

At Constantinople: Oriental (English), Deutsche Bund (German), Bulwer (English), Arete (Greek), working under the Grand Lodge of England. Germania (German), under Grand Lodge of Ham-
burgh. A Lodge, under the Grand Orient of France. Italia, under the Grand Lodge of Italy.

At Smyrna: Homer (English), La Victoire (German), St. Jean (French), Dekran (Armenian and Turkish), St. George (Greek), under the Grand Lodge of England; Ionia (Italia), under the Grand Lodge of Italy.

At Ephesus: A Lodge, under the Grand Lodge of England.

At Beyrout: Eleusinian (a summer lodge), under the Grand Lodge of England; Star of the Lebanon (English), under the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

At Alexandria: St. John (English), under the Grand Lodge of England; one or two lodges, under the Grand Lodge of Italy.

At Alexandria there are several irregular lodges, and two lodges are considered to have collected the scum of the Levant.

At Tunis is another irregular lodge.

The first step in a country having many nationalities and many languages was to organise the European nations. This was done by the English authorities, and by means of this organisation materials have been provided for the initiation and affiliation of national members, and afterwards for the establishment of lodges. These proceedings will now go on much more rapidly, and will ultimately produce a solid body of Masonry in Turkey and Greece, with national Grand Lodges; but it is to English Masonry and

English Masons that the laying of the foundation-stone and building of the foundations are due, and to them is honour to be given.

MASONIC DUTIES.

We commend the following address, just issued, to the attention of the brethren throughout the Craft:—

*In the name of the Great Architect of the Universe.
Amen.*

Brother Robert James Simpson, Provincial Grand Chaplain to the Brethren in Masonry, trusty and well-beloved of the Province of Berks and Bucks, sendeth greeting.

BRETHREN,—It has seemed good to our Right Worshipful (acting) Grand Master to lay his command upon me as your Chaplain to address to you a communication at this interesting and solemn season. I shall attempt to perform this duty in all sincerity—and in all humility, too, knowing well how largely imperfection must attach to it, and how much the admonitions I venture to lay before my brethren are needed by myself.

I have said this is an interesting and solemn season. Is it not a solemn one, my brethren? Another year has passed away! How many of our brethren have passed away with it, never to meet us again on this side of the grave! We are spared, by God's Providence, to see the dawn of the new year. Lift we up our hearts, then, in devout gratitude for this bounteous mercy. That year that has just gone has taken with it and registered in the book of unerring remembrance many acts, and words, and thoughts. Let us take a just estimate of these. It is this: that all the works we undertake, all the plans we lay down, all the successes we achieve, all even that we gain, are, in themselves, and apart from their influence on our condition in a future state, so many disappointments; that, do what we may and succeed as we may, it is only for a time; that all success is imperfect, and that the most perfect success gives way after it is attained, and often in the midst of its attainment, to weakness, old age, and death; that in everything we obtain of this world, so far as it is of this world only, we may be said to gain a fortune only to lose it. "We heap up riches, and cannot tell who shall gather them." "What profit," saith the great Solomon, "hath a man of all his labour which he taketh under the sun? I

have looked on all the works that my hands have wrought, and behold all is vanity and vexation of spirit." If, then, the year past has only taught us this truth, that everything we do here must have its chief value for us in proportion to the effect it will have on our happiness in a future state, it will not have gone by in vain.

But is this not an interesting season? Aye, one of deep interest. Passing over the line which divides one of the great divisions of time from another, we naturally ask, how much is still left us? Ah? Brethren, who can say with certainty that anything is left to him but to use this present hour—this present moment—to perform his allotted task while it is day?

"Act—act in the living present—
Heart within, and God o'erhead."

But among the many features of interest attaching to this period of the year, there are two which commend it more especially to the attention of Masons.

1.—It is a time of social intercourse, harmony, and goodwill.

2.—It is peculiarly calculated to open the heart to the call of charity.

3.—Yes! this is the time of mutual greetings, of the interchange of good wishes, of social gatherings, of domestic and public festivities—happy opportunity to cultivate the kindly affections of our nature, and to bind man and man. But if this be the tone of the world in general, how much more ought it to apply to the members of our Order?

Therefore, brethren, as the volume of the sacred law directs us, "let us be kindly affectioned one to another in brotherly love, in honour, preferring one to another;" "let brotherly love continue." And if amongst us, as in every community of men, differences of opinion arise, let us agree to differ in a Masonic spirit, and, while claiming the best motives for our own views and acts, attribute the same to our neighbour. Let everything approaching to censoriousness, or evil speaking, or railery be banished from our lodges; and if an angry word should drop from some hasty brother, let the "soft answer" turn away his wrath. And thus the bare mention of anything that may be disagreeable in a debate will be carefully avoided by a body of men united by special bonds of brotherhood, and bound together by the strictest ties of mutual forbearance.

Let all excess in word or deed be banished from

our festive meetings. True pleasure disclaims all connection with indecency and excess.

"Be temperate in all things." This is the golden precept of the great Apostle. Not only avoiding what is improper, but abstaining from even the appearance of evil. Thus the tongue of the slanderer will be silenced, and malevolence disarmed of its sting.

2.—And now, brethren, let me remind you of the second feature I named as suggested by this time—I mean the call of charity. This, you know, is the corner-stone of our glorious fabric—and that in the widest sense of the term; but I would now apply it only to those three great institutions which at once adorn the history and exemplify the usefulness of our Masonic body. 1. Royal Freemasons' School for Boys, at Wood Green; 2. Royal Freemasons' School for Girls, at Wandsworth; 3. Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, at Croydon. These noble and blessed institutions I commend to your warmest and best sympathies, as well as to your most bountiful consideration. They are of the very essence of Masonry. To bind up the broken-hearted, to extricate the industrious from the meshes of misfortune, to rescue the orphan from the prospect of want and ruin, to comfort the widow in affliction's hour, and to afford peaceful home to the aged and deserving in the evening of their days—these are objects worthy the regard of every Mason who values the luxury of doing good to others, the respect due to himself, and the honour of the noble Order to which he belongs. Situated as these institutions are within a very short distance of London, they are easy of access to every Mason in our province; and I do earnestly hope that the visit to the Girls' School which I ventured to propose, and which we made last year, may be followed up by many similar expeditions in this and future years. It is only by thus seeing some of the blessed fruits of our Masonic benevolence that we can truly and practically estimate the benefits and blessings of Freemasonry.

Passing events lead me to say a few words, in conclusion, about that volume of the Sacred Law on which we Masons build, and which we recognise as at once the great light of our path and the divinely revealed guide to life immortal.

The knowledge of God is the grand end and purpose of true religion, and the result to which this knowledge leads is the supreme happiness of

man. It clearly is not proposed that we should seek to become acquainted with God by mere speculation and metaphysical research, but by the contemplation of His glorious perfections, and His grand designs in the kingdoms of nature and of grace, as they stand in connection with that eternal life after which our hopes aspire. The infinity of God, the awful grandeur of Him who fills all space and governs all the works of His material and intellectual creation, must for ever transcend the limited capacities of finite creatures. An impenetrable veil is drawn before the throne of Him, whom we are yet to bound to adore as the great Author of our being and the gracious Saviour of our souls. But sufficient information is afforded to guide us to such conclusions respecting Him as may best promote our fulfilment of the duties we owe Him, and our acceptance of the blessings which He bestows on us. If He makes all his glory to pass by us, it is because we are not able to endure the sight. Let us, then, submit to this wisdom of our Heavenly Father; and without murmuring that the full light of His presence cannot be seen by mortal eye, let us use the light He has given us and walk as children of that light. Is it not suited to such a discipline of our reason and affections as may fit us for a higher world, that humility and submission to the will of our Creator should be enforced upon us now? The child that should refuse to obey the discipline of a parent time till the propriety of that discipline could be argued, would scarcely be a model of filial love or duty.

Are we not often, brethren, too ready to pamper that pride and self-conceit of human nature, and to follow the visionary fancies of our imagination rather than the steadfast word of eternal truth? Like the Syrian leper, do we seek our health and cure in the proud waters of Damascus rather than wash in the despised stream of Jordan, though appointed by a prophet's voice? Be it our duty, then, as Masons, to revere that sacred volume of revealed truth, and amidst the cavils and scepticism of the world without, hold fast without wavering the holy precepts and practice it enjoins, and the Divine authority which it claims. Thus shall we imitate the course of the wise men who came from the East to the "brightness of the rising" of the "greater than Solomon," the Prince of Peace, followed in faith over many a rugged mountain, the leading of the Star of Jacob, and rejoiced

with exceeding great joy; they "fell down and worshipped" in unfading hope the new-born King who was to be a "light to lighten the Gentiles;" and led by the Divine spirit of charity, "they opened their treasures and presented unto Him gifts—gold, and frankincense, and myrrh."

Brethren, we may seek to "go and do likewise," and then our years will not have been consumed in vanity, nor shall we, as men or Masons, have lived in vain.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

LET'S SEE OURSELVES AS OTHERS SEE US.

The following article appeared in the *Monthly Magazine and British Register* for October, 1798. It contains some items that will prove interesting now-a-days:—

"To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

"SIRS,—Agreeably to my promise, I now send you some particulars on the subject of the abuses of Freemasonry.

"From about the year 1760, this Order has greatly declined in England; I mean with respect to its reputation. Indeed, the causes of its declension may be traced somewhat further back. In the year 1739 a great breach was made in the society by the setting up of an independent Grand Lodge, the members of which called themselves Ancient Masons, and treated their brethren who adhered to the new regulations as juniors and innovators, while these again, being more numerous and more powerful, anathematized the ancients as schismatics, if not indeed as impostors. The dissension between these two societies was very bitter and unbecoming, and so continued for many years. This naturally begat in the minds of those who belonged to neither, a contemptuous idea of that extraordinary pretension to brotherly love and charity which was set up by both parties. The multiplication of lodges was the source of considerable irregularities, in consequence of which many were yearly struck off the list, and offending brethren were expelled. These things weakened the reputation of the Order very considerably, especially when it was observed that immorality was a less cause of offence being taken by the heads of the Fraternity, than a non-compliance with certain rules and orders of little moment. In the year 1747, a circumstance occurred which greatly injured the interests of the society, at least for a time. It had been usual for the Grand Lodge on their anniversary meeting to make a very pompous procession from the hall in which they met for business, and which was generally one of the city halls, to the tavern where the business of the day was concluded. About the time of the Grand Feast in that year, some disappointed Masons (as it is said) caused a whimsical procession to parade most of the streets of London, made up of an immense number of the lowest of the rabble, as chimney-sweepers, dustmen, &c., clothed with the regalia of the Order, and preceded by a numerous train of musicians, playing charmingly on salt-boxes, bullocks'-horns, with marrow bones and cleavers, &c. This motley crew, some on

foot, some in carts, some on asses, entertained the gaping crowd with various signs and other manœuvres in derision of the Freemasons. The name given to these brothers was the *Scall'd Misérables*. In consequence of the ridicule thus put upon the Order, the Grand Lodge prudently (as Anderson says) resolved to discontinue for the future the usual public procession of the society on the feast day.

"Whether this affair gave occasion to other persons to be witty at the society's expense, I know not; but it is certain that from this period various caricature prints were produced to ridicule the Order, and many publications appeared pretending to discover all its secrets. It is somewhat remarkable, that though the ingenious Hogarth was a member of the Fraternity, and actually served the office of Grand Steward in 1735, yet he could not refrain from exercising his pencil and graver in derision of the society. In his picture of night, one of the most conspicuous figures is that of a Master of a lodge led home drunk by the Tyler.

"About the year 1766, a new society sprang up and affected to assume an independence of the Grand Lodge under the name of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. Before that time every lodge conceived itself competent to improve itself to the utmost extent in Masonry; and to exercise all the higher branches of the Order, by virtue of that authority which it derived from the Grand Lodge. But now some brethren in London, thinking themselves wiser than the rest, continued to form themselves into a distinct body, and to issue out dispensations for holding chapters in this Order. One innovation begets another. The Royal Arch Chapter made a good deal of money by the credulity of the brethren at large. This prompted some other ingenious Masons to erect still higher and more dazzling initiations, as points of a more sublime nature in Masonry. The next improvement was the formation of a Royal and Grand Conclave of Knights Templars of St. John of Jerusalem, which was independent of both the Grand Lodge or the Royal Arch Chapter. It must be admitted that Royal Arch Masonry connects itself extremely well with what is called *Craft Masonry*, and suitably supplies those deficiencies which every intelligent brother must see reason to complain of in it. There is also a degree of moral eloquence, and even piety, in the degree of Royal Arch, both with respect to its lectures, ceremonies, and forms of admission, which appears to be wanting in the Craft."

The rest of the article, which is but a few lines, consists of an abuse of the Order of Knights Templars which shows either that the Order was very different at that period from its present exalted character, or that the writer, who signs himself "Z. H. T.," was ignorant of its true meaning.

THE MORGAN CASE.

In *The Engineer* of Dec. 23rd, 1864, is a notice of the life of Robert Stephenson, *F.R.S.*, &c. by J. C. Jeaffreson, Barrister-at-law, and William Pole, *F.R.S.*, from which I extract the following:—At Cartagena, on his return home, Robert Stephenson fell in with Trevithick, the original locomotist, who, with mechanical faculties apparently of a higher order than either of the Stephensons, and with worldly chances more in his favour, yet lacked the business qualities that constitute success in the art of money making.

He was not commercial, while George Stephenson was in a high degree, from the time of his early savings to his latter accumulations. There was a rude generosity—perhaps we may call it waste—about Trevithick. Conscious of power to create wealth by labour-saving machines, he thought that he could create, waste, and recreate without end, forgetting that capital was a fulcrum needful to rest his lever on; so that after a while in Peru

"Silver graithed his hooves before,
Silver graithed behind"

of the horse he rode, a change came over his fortunes, and he came, almost shoeless, on foot and footsore, to Cartagena, to be helped in his return to Europe by the silver dollars of Robert Stephenson. They sailed for New York, and fell in with dismasted hulks of vessels whose crews lived on the dead bodies of their fellows. Finally, they were themselves shipwrecked, and lost their first chance in the boat that carried the passengers ashore, on account of the mate of the vessel and some steerage passengers being Freemasons; whereupon Robert took the earliest opportunity of becoming a Freemason on reaching New York, in order not to be at a future disadvantage. Freemasonry is clanship in another form—"ourselves against the world;" and it was not long after Robert's initiation that this same body captured, in the dead of night, an offending printer, who threatened to disclose their secrets, carried him to an old building on the St. Lawrence, and finally, dreading after results, threw him over the Falls of Niagara, to seal his lips; and, in subsequent legal proceedings committed some thirty thousand perjuries to close the transactions. So ran the tale. The latter portion of the above, so far as it relates to the notorious Morgan case, is untrue as the *murdered man* lived and died in Smyrna, and was well known to the American residents here.—HYDE CLARKE, SMYRNA.

THE MOTHER OF MASONS.

I am told there is a song about "The Mother of Masons." Where can it be seen, and who was its author?—VOCALIST.—[You can see it below. It was the production of the well known Brother Thomas Smith Webb, and comprises the following three stanzas:—

"Freemasons all, attend the call,
'Tis by command, you are warned,
To fill up a bumper and have it in hand,
To drink to the *Mother of Masons*.
Let us give each the word to his brother,
To prove that we love one another:
Let's fill to the dame, from whence we all came,
And call her of *Masons the Mother*."

Chorus:

The Stewards have laid the foundations,
To prove that we love our relations,
By toasting the dame from whom we all came—
We'll call her the *Mother of Masons*.

"In days of yore, Freemasons bore
A flask of wine, of mirth the sign,
And often they filled with the liquor divine,
To drink to the *Mother of Masons*.
'Tis on these joyful occasions,
All charged stood firm to their stations,
And toasted the dame from whom we all came,
Repeating the *Mother of Masons*."

Chorus.

"Be all prepared, each motion squared,
And at the nod with one accord,
In strictest rotation we'll pass round the word—
Drink, drink to the *Mother of Masons*.
Have a care right and left, and make ready—
Be all in your exercise steady,
And fill to the dame from whence we all came—
The Mother of Masons, the lady.
Chorus.

GEN. M'CLELLAN A MASON.

Some one furnished a note to the effect that General M'Clellan is a Freemason. The name is not honourably associated with the Craft, for arising out of the Morgan excitement in the (then) United States, one Joseph M'Clellan, a repudiating Mason, having been summoned before the Senate of Pennsylvania, in 1836, was paid for—

"5 days' attendance 1 50
400 m. circular 10 40 0"

—Ex. Ex.

QUOTATIONS WANTING IDENTIFICATION.

Who is the author of, and what is the context of, the lines below?

"Their actions still by virtue blest,
And to their precepts ever true,
Th' admiring world soon made request
To learn, and their bright paths pursue."

The same inquiry also holds good with regard to—

"Chip the wood and hew the stone,
Till, by degrees, the finished fabric rose."

—P. W. P.

REVENUE OF THE KNTS. HOSPITALLERS.

In the *Standard* of Dec. 15th, 1864, it is stated—A Florence letter gives the subjoined as the annual revenue of the eleven principal religious establishments in that city:—"The barefooted Carmelite nuns of St. Theresa, 397,000fr.; the brotherhood of the Holy Annunciation, 618,000fr.; the barefooted Carmelite nuns of St. Mary Magdalen, 661,000fr.; the Dominicans of the Angiolini, 695,000fr.; the Augustins of the Holy Spirit, 478,000fr.; the Brotherhood of the Holy Cross, 402,000fr.; the Scolopians of St. John the Less, 580,000fr.; the Long-mantled Sisters of St. Mary, 624,000fr.; the Montalvians of Roponi, 850,000fr.; the Dominicans of the new Order of St. Mary, 431,000fr.; the Order of Malta, now the *Hospitaliers of St. John*, 1,200,000fr.; or in all 6,936,000fr.—ANON.

PAST MASTERS AND BIRCH BROOMS.

If they will make a pilgrimage to the West, they may discover stonecutters employing small bundles of birch, or other twigs, to remove dust and chips from the blocks on which they are operating. As to the frying-pan, if they desire information, let them send me an exact copy of the article—for which purpose I enclose my address—and I will assist them in their researches.—JUNIOR WARDEN.

THE GRAY HEAD.

Our well-known brother, Rob Morris, writes:—We enjoyed the pleasure, recently—as we have rarely done before—of presiding at the initiation into Freemasonry of an old man. He was one who had borne an active and an honourable part in the political, social, and religious business of life; had reared his

family according to principles of truth and honour; and now that his day's work of life was well-nigh closed, was enjoying the rewards of a well-spent life.

Finding himself, for the first time in his life, contiguous and convenient to a Masonic lodge, he declared that he had long entertained a favourable opinion of the Institution, based upon the perusal of a few of its publications, and, still more, upon the good conduct of the majority of its members, and had long desired initiation, but expressed certain doubts whether, at his advanced period of life, he could, with propriety, pursue his wishes. Being notified upon this head, his petition was offered and promptly accepted.

It was a treat to join in such work as that. The large majority of those who ask, seek, and knock, are young men, untried in the affairs of life, whose character for morality is undecided, and whose future is necessarily a matter of anxiety and doubt. But the venerable applicant, of whom we are speaking, had done his part, had written his history, and there was nothing to *expect* of him. Freemasonry, to him, was but a repetition of what his long and busy life had already taught him. His "trust in God" had already been proved in hours of adversity, as in hours of prosperity; and all the steps symbolised upon our carpet, or illustrated in our ceremonies, he had already taken.
—Ex. Ex.

DESCENDANT OF DR. PERFECT.

In respect to the inquiries in your paper of the 17th December, signed "Invicta," I beg to mention there is a great-grandchild, descendant of the late Dr. Perfect, Prov. G.M., residing at Town Malling, near Maidstone.—JANE PERFECT.

THE "GAY SCIENCE."

You are extremely severe in your remarks on my letter on the subject of Chaucer and Patient Grisell. This I must submit to with the best grace I can, and I do submit accordingly—to be snubbed! But do tell me what you mean by the "Gay Science?" Here we have mystery upon mystery, and at this rate Freemasonry will soon be put in the background. I say again "Expound." It may be London slang, which has not yet travelled far enough northward to have reached me; at any rate, I shall be glad to be enlightened.—G. B., of D.—[The Gay Science is a mystery, and, what is more, is a Masonic mystery. The Gay Science is the art of love. The poets of the middle ages, particularly the troubadours, were all disciples of the science. It is an allegorical celebration of Freemasonry, under the veil of love, where women in name are written of as men—where signs and symbols are made known, and where Freemasonry wrought out its glorious share in the Reformation. Freemasonry will never be put in the background by us, and this is the first time we have been rewarded—and we hope it may be the last—by having our remarks termed "London slang." We endeavour to impart knowledge, and where we find it inconsistent with our duty to do it in plain words we adopt the principle of the professors of the Gay Science; for an elucidation of which "G. B., of D." is referred to Wharton, Millot, Legeir, McCrie, and the early writers who were Lollards and Freemasons, such as Wickliff, Huss, Luther, and Melancthon.]

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEM.

The annual installation of the W. Master of the Lodge of *Economy* (No. 76), Winchester, will take place on Wednesday, the 8th inst., when Bro. E. Sheppard, the W. Master elect, will be installed by Bro. S. B. Wilson, P.G.D., at the special invitation of Bro. J. Rankin Stebbing, S.G.D., the retiring W. Master, who has invited not only the President, but several other distinguished members of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, who have promised to attend and work at those lectures appertaining to the three degrees in the Craft. The invitation is accompanied by first-class railway tickets and tickets for the banquet, which will be provided on the occasion at the Black Swan. Bro. Stebbing, being desirous of ensuring uniformity of working in the province of Hampshire, has issued 1,000 circulars to the different lodges and brethren to attend the Lodge of *Economy*, which, on this occasion, will assemble in the spacious ball-room of the George Hotel, Winchester.

GRAND CHAPTER.

The quarterly convocation of Grand Chapter was held on Wednesday, Lord Sherborne acting as Z.; Comp. Potter, H.; and Comp. Head, J. There were also present, Comps. Scott as N.; Comp. Gray Clarke, E.; Comp. Stebbing, as Prin. Soj.; Comps. Capt. Creaton, and Gole, as Asst. Sogs.; Comp. Walmsley, as S.B.; Comp. Young, D.C.; Comps. Bradford and Matthews, and about twenty companions below the dais.

The report of the committee of general purposes which we published last week having been taken as read—

Comp. SCOTT called attention to its various paragraphs. That portion relative to the Wellington Chapter, he said, contained a slight error; the words, that the Z. had left the Chapter for "eight annual meetings without any head" ought to read, "eight monthly meetings." It was not proposed to take any further action in the matter.

The first principal said they could not deprive a companion of his past rank.

Comp. BURNLEY, as representing the Wellington Chapter, said they were perfectly satisfied to leave the matter where it was. They had made the complaint, and the committee having reported in their favour, they did not wish to press the matter any further.

Comp. SCOTT next called attention to the following paragraph:—

"The attention of your Committee has been called to the law passed at the last Grand Chapter, giving to the Second and Third Principals of chapters in the colonies, similar powers to those conferred on Grand Superintendents with respect to hearing and deciding on Masonic complaints, thus virtually establishing three Masonic chiefs in each district. Your Committee believe this law was inadvertently passed in consequence of the unavoidable absence of the President, and they therefore recommend that it be rescinded."

It had been proposed to enact other words which appeared in the report; but it was believed now that they would not meet the object they had in view; and he would, therefore, only move the rescinding of the former resolution, and that the matter be referred back to the Committee for further consideration.

Comp. YOUNG seconded the proposition.

Comp. STEBBING suggested that the Committee should also

consider the propriety of allowing Grand Superintendents of provinces to appoint deputies, as he believed it would be found of great use.

Comp. MATTHEWS supported the suggestion, and, after a long desultory conversation, the motion of Comp. Scott was carried, that companion, as Chairman of the Committee, undertaking that the suggestion of Comp. Stebbing should be duly considered.

Comp. SCOTT next called attention to the following paragraph:—

"Your committee regret to have to call attention of the Grand Chapter to an irregularity, which they believe has been inadvertently committed by the petitioners for a Chapter at Otago, New Zealand. At the quarterly convocation holden on the 4th November, 1883, the Grand Chapter granted a Charter, upon petition regularly signed and recommended, for a Chapter to be held in connection with the Lodge Otago (No. 844). The promoters of the Chapter upon receipt of the Charter, (which authorised them to open and hold the same at a future date), reported that acting under a dispensation granted by the Grand Superintendent of Victoria, they had for some time been at work as a Chapter, and had exalted several companions, whose names they returned for registration. Your committee believe, as before mentioned, that the Chapter had acted inadvertently and without any intention to transgress the laws, and they therefore recommended that Grand Chapter should pass a resolution sanctioning the proceedings that took place when the companions were acting under the said dispensation, and should also authorise certificates to be issued to those companions who have been exalted."

He moved that the recommendation of the committee be adopted.

Comp. MATTHEWS seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Comp. SCOTT next moved that the paragraph on Paraphernalia, page 26 of the Regulations, be altered by introducing at the commencement, the following words, viz:—"Provincial Grand Superintendents wear collars similar to those of Officers of the Supreme Grand Chapter,—Other" And that in the paragraph in the same page commencing "the silk or satin ground of the triangle" be altered by inserting in the 5th line after the word "Chapter," the words "and Grand Superintendents of Provinces."

He explained that the object was to allow Grand Superintendents of provinces to wear collars of the same width as Grand Officers.

Comp. YOUNG seconded the motion, which was carried.

It was resolved that St. John's Chapter (No. 325), Pendleton, be allowed to remove to Salford.

Charters were then granted for the following new Chapters, to be attached to the Castle Lodge (No. 771), Windsor, to be called the Windsor Castle Chapter, to meet at the Masonic Hall, Windsor, on the third Thursday in every month; to be attached to the St. James's Lodge (No. 482), Handsworth, in the county of Stafford, to be called the St. James's Chapter, to meet at the New Inn, Handsworth, on the third Monday in March, June, September, and December; to be attached to the Mount Lebanon Lodge (No. 73), Tooley-street, Southwark, to be called the Mount Lebanon Chapter, to meet at the Green Man Tavern, Tooley-street, Southwark, on the third Tuesday in every month; to be attached to the Rose of Denmark Lodge (No. 975), Barnes, Surrey, to be called the Rose of Denmark Chapter, to meet at the White Hart, Barnes, Surrey, on the first Saturday of every month; to be attached to the Lodge of Unanimity (No. 154), Wakefield, in the county of York, to be

called the Chapter of Unanimity, to meet at the Freemasons' Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield, to meet on the first Monday in March, June, September, and December.

A Charter was also granted for a Chapter to be attached to the Lodge of Truth (No. 521), Huddersfield, to be called the Chapter of Truth, to meet at the Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield, on the third Friday of every month, subject to the approval of the lodge being obtained, that formality not having been complied with.

All business being ended, Grand Chapter was closed at about nine o'clock.

METROPOLITAN.

NEPTUNE LODGE (No. 22).—The installation meeting of this old and flourishing lodge was held on Thursday, Jan. 26th, at Radley's Hotel, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars. The business commenced at three p.m. Bro. Augustus Greatrex, W.M., presided, and initiated Mr. Henry Crawford. The chair was then taken by Bro. W. H. Partridge, P.M.; and Bro. James Allingham, the W.M., being presented by Bro. Townend, P.M., he was duly installed, and appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. James Norman, S.W.; W. Allingham, J.W.; J. Wilcox, Treas.; Edward Hughes, Sec.; Charles Marshall, S.D.; Thomas Salter, J.D.; T. M. Norman, I.G. The W.M. then most ably initiated Mr. K. H. Gough. The audit report being read, and having shown a balance of over £100, Bro. Pratt moved that ten guineas be given to Bro. Greatrex's list for the ensuing Festival for the Girls' School, which was agreed to. Bro. Pratt brought before the lodge a case of great distress in the family of a Portuguese brother, which was met by the lodge voting two guineas, and a subscription was entered into after the banquet, which produced above £3 more. The centenary jewel authorised by the Grand Master was delivered to such members as desired it. All business being ended, the lodge was closed, and some sixty brethren, including visitors, adjourned to the banquet. The Neptune Lodge was founded in 1750, and first held at the Griffin, Deptford.

MOUNT MORIAH LODGE (No. 34).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, January 26th, in the Temple, Freemasons' Tavern. Bro. Jenkins, W.M., took the chair soon after four o'clock, when the lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. Bro. Artus, P.M. and Secretary, then took the chair, when Mr. John Gould, a candidate, was introduced, and very correctly and impressively initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, when Bro. Absalom, P.M., presented Bro. Mackenzie, the W.M. elect, to receive the benefit of installation. The brethren below the chair having retired, a board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Mackenzie was in due form installed into the chair of K.S., according to ancient custom. The other brethren were then admitted, and the newly-installed Master received the customary salutes. The addresses were then delivered by Bro. Artus, with a correctness which was warmly applauded. The W.M. then appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Holman, S.W.; Scott, J.W.; Freshwater, S.D.; North Rees, J.D.; Colin Roberts, I.G.; and Artus, Sec. It was proposed that a jewel of the value of five guineas be presented to Bro. Jenkins, I.P.M., as a mark of esteem of the lodge, and for his services during the past year. There being no further business, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. After the cloth had been withdrawn, the W.M. said the first toast was that of "The Queen," and might she long be the head of a large and united family. To render that toast, however, a Masonic one, he would couple with it "The Craft." (The toast was received with all due honours.) The W.M. said the next toast usual upon such occasions was that of "The M.W. Grand Master the Earl of Zetland," and he was sure it would be well received, for they all knew how much the Craft were indebted to him, and he trusted he might long be spared to preside over them. (Cheers.) The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was that of the P.M.'s of the lodge; they were the bone, sinews, and heart of the lodge, and without them the younger hands would make a very bad show. For himself, he should be glad to avail himself of their experience and valuable

support, and it was with pleasure he proposed the health of the P.M.'s of the lodge, and couple with the toast Bro. Jenkins, the immediate P.M. Bro. Jenkins, I.P.M., said he thanked the brethren for the kind way in which they had spoken of himself, and as they had a worthy brother amongst the P.M.'s who had recently returned to this country, he should leave him to return thanks for himself. Bro. Absalom, P.M. expressed his gratification at seeing Mount Moriah in so flourishing a condition. He knew the brethren expected him to say something, and he had something to say. During his long absence he should be delighted to hear that the Mount Moriah Lodge had continued to send a steward to all their Charities. He had served as a steward for all of them, and it was with great pleasure that he found the brethren rallied around him to hand over from £60 to £70 as the contribution of their lodge. On the Wednesday night, the festival for the aged Freemasons, the large sum of £3,550 was received. The festival for the Boys' School would come next, and he hoped that the Mount Moriah Lodge would so support its stewards that they would be enabled to make a good show on that occasion. The appointments which the W.M. had made he thought were very good ones, and he felt sure the brethren would be satisfied with the way in which the officers would discharge their duties. On behalf of the P.M.'s he thanked them for the cordial manner in which they had drank their health. Bro. Jenkins, P.M., in proposing the health of the W.M., said the manner in which he had discharged his duties that evening, showing that he had fully come up to the standard which had been laid down for him, and his return to the lodge, after a long absence from them, he was sure, afforded great satisfaction to every member of the lodge. The W.M., in reply, said he felt deeply the honour conferred upon him, and he would do all in his power to render himself worthy of it. The W.M. next gave "The Visitors," expressing the gratification he felt in seeing so many round him, and said the oftener they came the better he should like to see them. For this toast Bro. Hollingsworth, of the Hampshire Provincial Grand Lodge, returned thanks, and gave the brethren a hearty welcome to any of the lodges with which he was connected in Hampshire. Bro. Jenkins gave the health of their newly-initiated Brother Gould, whom he described as a private friend, and he felt sure at no very distant period he would sincerely thank them for the honour of having been admitted amongst them. Bro. Gould returned thanks, and said he would do his best to become a true Mason. Bro. Artus, P.M. and Sec., proposed the health of the Senior and Junior Wardens, and said he had no doubt they would feel pleasure in assisting the W.M. in the discharge of his duties. Bros. Holman and Scott severally returned thanks for the kind manner in which the W.M. and brethren had behaved towards them. Bro. Absalom, P.M., proposed the health of Bro. Braun, a former member of the lodge, for which he returned thanks. Some other toasts were given, and the evening was spent in a most harmonious manner.

PYTHAGOREAN LODGE (No. 79).—This old lodge met at the Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich, on Monday, January 30th (Bro. J. Moore's). Bro. J. Hasler, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. W. R. Orchard, P.M.; Lloyd, P.M.; J. C. Peckham, P.M., Sec.; H. A. Collington, P.M.; Ward, S.W.; Vinten, J.W.; Trill, J.D.; Boncey, I.G.; and many others. Visitors:—Bros. A. H. Tattershall, S.D. 13, J.W. 140 F. Walters, P.M., Dir. of Cers. 73, 147, Sec. 871; J. Stevens, 742; and others whose names we were unable to learn. One brother was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. The ceremony was well and ably done. Bro. J. Hasler, W.M., was re-elected W.M.; W. C. Penny, P.M., re-elected Treasurer; Riley, P.M., re-elected Tyler. Two candidates were proposed for the next meeting.

ROYAL OAK LODGE, (No. 871).—At a regular meeting of this lodge held on Wednesday, January 25th, at the Royal Oak Tavern, High street, Deptford (Bro. J. Stevens,) Bro. C. G. C. Stahl, W.M., assisted by Bros. H. A. Collington, P.M., S.W.; 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, I.P.M.; J. Stevens, P.M.; J. Truelove, H. Stevens, R. Mills, W. H. Truelove, G. Holman, H. J. Wells, D. Barber, W. Andrews, A. R. Parkinson, and many others, opened the lodge. Amongst a large number of visitors we noticed Bros. M. A. Loewenstark, W.S. 73; J. Bavin, W.M. 147; J. Lightfoot, S.W. 147; C. Wall, 345; G. Gale, J.W. 548, and others. Ballots were taken for Messrs. W. T. Barber and G. L.

Tilbrook, which were declared to be unanimous in favour of their admission, and, being in attendance, were introduced separately, and initiated into ancient Freemasonry. Bros. J. and W. H. Truelove were passed to the Fellow Craft degree. Bro. H. A. Collington, P.M., S.W., was unanimously elected W.M.; J. Stevens, Sen., re-elected Treas.; S. Garret, P.M., re-elected Tyler. The lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

PROVINCIAL.

SOUTH WALES.

SWANSEA.—*Indefatigable Lodge* (No. 237).—The members of this lodge met on Tuesday evening, being the regular night. The following officers were present:—Bros. James Richardson, W.M.; Charles Bath, S.W.; L. Tulloch, J.W.; Thomas Powell, Treas.; Richard Phillips, Sec.; F. A. Hopwood, S.D.; David Williams, J.D.; Jones-Hewson, Dir. of Cers.; E. Fricker, Grg.; George Richardson, I.G.; and J. C. Manning and S. L. Jowett, Stewards. Bros. E. J. Morris, P.M., and J. Michael, P.M., together with a goodly number of the members, were also present. The lodge having been opened, the ballot was taken for Mr. John Edwards and Mr. A. Terry, both of whom were duly accepted. A letter was then read from Bro. Probett, O.G., Prov. G.T., for permission to supply brethren officially with Masonic clothing, which was granted. Some other lodge business having been disposed of, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

CYRUS CHAPTER (No. 21).—A convocation was held on the 24th ult., at the London Coffee House, when, in the absence of Comp. Spratt, Comp. J. G. Wood, presided. The minutes having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Bros. W. Shakespear Webster, of Lodge 231, and Edwin Carton, of Lodge 969; also for Comp. Charles Allen, of Chapter 820, which were unanimous in their favour. Comp. J. How was then requested to take the first chair, and Bros. Webster and Canton were admitted and exalted into this supreme degree. This being the chapter for the installation of the principals and investment of officers, Comp. T. Harrison was installed into the chair of Z. by Comp. G. Lambert, and Comp. Churchill into the chair of J. by Comp. How, Comp. T. Yarwood, who had been elected to the chair of H., not being present. Comp. T. R. White was invested as Scribe E.; Comps. Mohammed, N.; Barringer, Treas.; Williams, P.S.; Strachan and Penny, Assistants; Smith, Janitor. There was a goodly attendance of members. Comp. Key, P.Z. of the Royal York Chapter, was also present. The usual agreeable banquet followed.

NORFOLK.

NORWICH.—*Perseverance Chapter* (No. 213).—This chapter held a convocation on Friday, the 20th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall. The business of the evening consisted of the installation of the Principals and officers for the ensuing year. The chapter having been opened in due form by Comps. J. Marshall, Z.; F. Colsey, H.; and R. Whitwell, J.; the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Comp. H. J. Mason, P.Z., then proceeded, according to ancient usage, to instal the newly-elected Principals, viz., F. Colsey, Z.; R. Whitwell, H.; and J. Bayn, J. The address, &c., appertaining to each chair was most impressively given, and the signs and symbols to each were most lucidly explained by him. The new Principals have entered upon their several duties with a firm determination to restore the chapter, if possible, to that proud position it once held in the province. The sum of one guinea was voted towards the Girls' Masonic School, the quarterly meetings agreed to, and, after some discussion relative to the future working of the chapter, it was closed in solemn prayer, after which the companions passed a very pleasant evening.

SOUTH WALES (EASTERN DIVISION).

SWANSEA.—*Chapter Virtue and Hope* (No. 237).—The regular monthly meeting of this chapter was held on Monday, the 16th ult., when were present Comps. I. G. Williams, P.Z.; Edward J.

Morris, P.Z.; J. G. Hall, P.Z.; F. D. Michael, P.Z.; G. Allen, J. Mitchell, R. Phillips, J. Tulloch, H. Phipps, and others. In the absence of the M.E.Z., Comp. I. Mansel Talbot, Comp. E. J. Morris, P.Z., acted as Z.; Comp. J. G. Hall, P.Z., as H.; and Comp. O. G. Williams, P.Z., as J. After confirmation of the minutes of last meeting, the ballot was taken for Bro. Edward Stevens, of the Indefatigable Lodge, which, resulting in his unanimous election, he was duly elected to the supreme degree by Comp. Edward J. Morris, P.Z. The lectures were delivered, as usual, from the three chairs. During the last two years, the working of this chapter has steadily improved, and it has added carefully to its numbers. It is now one of the best worked and appointed chapters in the principality.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

HULL.—*Minerva Chapter* (No. 250).—A meeting of this chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, Prince-street, on Thursday evening, Jan. 19th, at which were present—Comps. Thomas Walton, Z.; A. O. Arden, P.Z., as H.; R. E. Harrison, J.; John Malcolm, Scribe E.; J. L. Jacobs, N.; Walter Reynolds, Prin. Soj.; G. W. Harrison and J. N. Scherling, Assist. Soj.; F. B. Groticum, S.B.; W. Johnson, M. C. Peck, R. Goddard, &c. Visitors—Comps. Hewson, P.Z.; Wangh, P.Z.; Clark, J.; W. Neidler, B. Oates, Martin Kemp, Humber Chapter, No. 57, Hull. The chapter having been opened in ancient form, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The M. C. Peck explaining the signs and clothing, and the Prin. Soj. giving the explanation of the sacred pedestal. The chapter was then closed in ancient form, and the companions adjourned to the banquet, and spent the remainder of the evening in harmony.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

LIVERPOOL.—*Jacques de Molay Encampment*.—A conclave of the above encampment was opened by P.E.C. Sir Knt. C. J. Banister, in the absence of Sir Thomas Hesketh Bart. M.P., E.C., at the Temple, Hope-street, on Friday, the 20th ult., at five o'clock, assisted by P.E.C. Sir Knts. H. S. Alpess and S. White, as Captains; E. Pierpoint, Prelate; Fowler, as Capt. of Lines; Hall and Melladew, Heralds; Captain Berry, &c. Comps. Dr. Barrow and E. Busher being properly prepared, were duly installed severally by the acting E.C., with his usual care, as Knights Templar, and they were proclaimed add saluted in ancient form. The election of E.C. resulted unanimously in favour of Sir Knt. Samuel White, 1st Capt. Sir Knight H. S. Alpess was unanimously elected Treas. The Almoner made his collection, which is never omitted in this encampment. Two candidates were proposed for installation. The remainder of the business being over, the encampment was closed in solemn form. A conclave of emergency was held on the 30th ult., to instal Comp. Captain Sharpe, who was leaving the province, under the presidency of P.E.C. Sir Knt. C. J. Banister, assisted by the officers of the encampment, P.E.C. Sir Knt. Edward Pierpoint acting as Expert.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

HULL.—*Antient York Conclave of Redemption*.—A meeting of this encampment was held on Friday evening, Jan. 20th, in the Masonic Hall, Prince-street, at which were present Sir Knt. Walter Reynolds, Prov. G.C.; E.C. Sir Knt. M. C. Peck, Prov. G. Chancellor, 1st Capt.; Sir Knt. G. Wilkinson, 2nd Capt.; Rev. G. O. Brown, Prelate; Sir Knt. John Malcolm, as Expert; Sir Knt. R. E. Harrison, Organist; Frater Wm. Johnson, Equerry; Sir Knts. Walton, Thos. Dale, &c. The encampment having been opened in due form, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, the ballot was then taken for Bro. F. Jackson, Minerva, No. 250, who was unanimously accepted as a candidate for this beautiful degree. Bros. John Marshall and Francis Jackson were then admitted and regularly exalted to this degree by the M.E.Z. in his usually impressive manner. Comps. Hudson, Pearl, Wray, and Jackson were then severally admitted and installed by the E.C. The business of the evening having been concluded, the encampment was closed in ancient form, and the Sir Knights adjourned to the banquet-hall, where an agreeable evening was spent.

IRELAND.

DUBLIN.

THE MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL.

The annual meeting of the friends and supporters of the Masonic Female Orphan School was held on Tuesday, the 25th ult., in the Round Room of the Rotundo, and the distribution of prizes amongst the pupils successful at the recent examinations took place before as crowded and fashionable an audience of ladies and gentlemen as ever assembled within its precincts. The room was brilliantly lighted by a circle of gas jets, which were placed around the walls near the ceiling. Festoons of evergreens and flowers were hung around the galleries, and the platform was handsomely decorated with ferns, evergreens, and flowers, tastefully wrought by some of the pupils of the institution. A profusion of flags and banners, chiefly belonging to the various Masonic lodges in the city, and bearing the emblems of the mystic Order, were suspended around the walls; and when the visitors had assembled, and the officers of the Masonic body had taken their seats on the platform, the room wore a gay and animated appearance. The brethren wore the insignia of the Order. No greater proof could be afforded of the practical good effected by this estimable society than the array of well-attired intelligent girls belonging to the Masonic Female Orphan School, who were ranged along the platform, and in whose behalf the large meeting was assembled. They were a credit not only to the respectable body who thus showed their care for the children of their deceased brethren, but to the institution in which they were being trained, to enable them by honest industry to maintain themselves in independence.

The doors were opened at seven o'clock, and from that time until the proceedings commenced the excellent band of the 84th Regiment, under the direction of Herr Brosang, played a choice selection of music. At a quarter to eight o'clock the grand officers, the representatives of foreign and provincial lodges, the Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries, and the brethren to occupy places on the platform, assembled in the Pillar Room, and, having formed in a procession, moved towards the platform, along a raised way covered with red cloth, which had been erected for the occasion.

Amongst those present were:—The Earl of Charlemont and Lady Charlemont, Mrs. S. Tracey, Rev. H. H. Westby and Mrs. Westby, W. F. Gambleton, Rev. William C. Plunkett and Mrs. Plunkett, Colonel and Mrs. Lightfoot, H. O'Reilly, Captain Frederick S. Lindesay, H. C. Hoyte, J. F. Elrington, Signor A. C. Marani, J. C. Boileau, L. H. Deering, J. Whittington, John Cottle, G. T. Whitestone, John Ringland and Mrs. Ringland, John Goddard, G. J. Eisher, Captain Gibton, H. Haffield, Geo. C. Armstrong, John Slater, J. A. Hogan, Robert H. Moore and Mrs. Moore, Captain Robinson, E. G. Barton, Gerald G. Aylmer, M. Kesting, J. H. Jessop, Thos. Fry, Charles Tarrant, John Rigby, Rev. W. G. and Mrs. Boyce, J. Tuffnell, Wm. Henny, P. C. Smyly, M. H. Colles, John A. Baker, Captain Bailey, T. A. Jones and Mrs. Jones, H. E. Chatterton and Mrs. Chatterton, Capt. Davoren, H. G. Croly, G. H. Kidd and Mrs. Kidd, W. D. LaTouche, C. P. Croker, Henry Green, Capt. Pim, W. Acheson, P. R. Patman, (P.M. Lodge 153), Edward Pardon, G. W. Maunsell, Rev. Mr. Abeltshausen, Rev. H. R. Poole, Dr. Tyner, Wade Eoott, Dr. Healy, Dr. Owens, Echlin Molyneux, Jas. J. Godkin, J. W. Casson, W. J. Sidney, W. O'Sullivan, R. J. Marshall, John Norwood, Charles H. Foot, Dr. Foot, E. Grogan, Lieutenant Townsend, R. McClure, John Thwaites, J. Wilson, D. Plunkett, Wm. Jameson, Dr. McClintock, W. H. Robinson, John Hamilton, Alexander Dudgeon, William Dobbin, Revds. James Rice, T. M. Wood, William Hopper, Thos. G. Mosse, M. G. Boyce, C. F. Hunt, C. H. Woodroffe, William Telford, James Mitchell, B. Hannan, and William Acheson.

On taking his place the Grand Master was saluted in the usual manner, and the pupils of the school, numbering forty, then entered the room, attended by Mrs. Noble, their matron, and the other officers of the institution, and were seated in front of the platform. A portion of the Hundredth Psalm was then sung, and the Rev. S. G. Morrison, Senior Grand Chaplain, having offered up prayer,

Bro. La Touche, Hon. Secretary, read the annual report, as follows:—

"The Governors of the Mesonic Female School desire to record their gratitude to the Father of the fatherless for the protection and prosperity which that institution has experienced during the past year. They fraternally congratulate their bre-

thren and the benefactors of the school upon its financial and social position and progress, and feel that its merits and wants have only to be stated and made known to be appreciated and supplied. The total revenue for the year 1864 amounted to £1,392 8s. 3d., and exceeded the expenditure by the sum of £188 0s. 8d. Of that sum £8 0s. 8d. remains to the credit of the institution, and the residue, £180, has been invested in the purchase of Government Stock. The amount of stock in Government and other securities to the credit of the school is now, £2,395 3s. 8d. The Governors confidently refer to the statement of accounts appended to the report, to show that the funds have been expended with the utmost economy, under the admirable management of their excellent matron, Mrs. Noble, and the efficient supervision of the Finance Committee. During the past year five girls have left the school. Of these, two have returned to their friends, who were able and willing to support them; and the remaining three were provided with situations suitable to their capabilities in places of business, with eligible and respectable employers. The expense of providing outfits and apprentice fees for these five girls amounted to £108 11s. 3d. During the same period seven girls have been admitted to the school; and at the last half-yearly election there were ten eligible candidates, and but four vacancies. There are now forty girls in the school, which is the largest number it is at present capable of accommodating. The progress of the pupils in education has been satisfactory and encouraging, and is best attested by the extracts from the reports of the distinguished gentlemen who examined them upon that occasion. These extracts evince not only how faithfully and conscientiously the teachers of the school discharge their onerous duties, but how earnestly the pupils endeavour to profit by the instruction they receive. The girls are educated in the great truths of religion, and in the several branches of learning which will profit them in their various walks of life, and are trained in habits of subordination, docility, cleanliness, and regularity. They are taught that they must earn their own livelihood with honest, persevering, and self-denying industry and integrity; and that they must be gentle, patient, and humble-minded. The trustees of the school have, through the blessing of Providence, enjoyed excellent health; and the governors, whilst alluding to this subject, cannot abstain from adverting to the loss which the institution has sustained by the removal from amongst them of their excellent brother, Dr. Robert D. Speedy, the kind and skilful medical attendant of the school. During the fifteen years he filled that office no death occurred, and the estimation in which he was held by his brethren has been shown by the following resolutions, unanimously agreed to at the December meeting of the Board of Governors:—"That the Governors of the Masonic Female Orphan School, feeling that by the death of Brother Dr. Robert Speedy this institution has been deprived of one of its oldest and most zealous supporters, desire to record their cordial approbation of the valuable professional services which he rendered gratuitously to the school for the last fifteen years. They further beg to express their heartfelt regret at his removal from the sphere of his usefulness, and to convey to his bereaved family the sentiments of their fraternal and most sincere sympathy in the loss they have sustained. That in order to erect a suitable memorial to the late Dr. Speedy, a subscription be entered into by the brethren of the Masonic Order (not exceeding 5s. from each subscriber), and that a committee be formed to carry out that object, with power to add to their number." In pursuance of the foregoing resolutions a considerable sum has been collected; and it has been resolved to apply the proceeds in erecting near the present school-house an infirmary, as the most appropriate tribute to his memory. The governors fraternally invite the co-operation of the brethren to carry out so desirable a project. The governors have received most satisfactory accounts of the good conduct and integrity of the former inmates of the school, both at home and abroad. Without a single exception those young girls have, by their steadiness and propriety of conduct, shown how deeply engraven upon their minds were the instructions of their youth. Many of them are now wives and mothers; and whilst their conduct as such is to be highly commended, it is no less gratifying to the governors to perceive with what affectionate solicitude they regard the home of their childhood, and the love they bear to their mother, as they still call Mrs. Noble. The governors return their sincere thanks to the friends and benefactors of meritorious and eminently practical institution, and congratu-

late them upon the great benefits they have been the humble means, in the hands of God, in providing for the bereaved daughters of their deceased brethren."

The "Orphan's Hymn" was then very sweetly sung by two of the girls, a third accompanying them on the pianoforte in excellent taste.

Sir EDWARD BROUGH, *Bart.*, Junior Grand Warden, in moving the first resolution said—In rising to propose to this meeting—"That while the thanks of the Masonic body in Ireland are due to those brethren who have assisted in augmenting the revenue and extending the benefits of the Masonic Female Orphan School, we desire to impress upon all Masons throughout Ireland the paramount claims which this institution possesses upon them for an enlarged measure of support, more especially at the present time, when, as appears from the report just read, an effort is being made to extend still further the benefits of the institution," it appears to me that I cannot do better than give you a short history of the institution whose annual public meeting meeting has brought together this large and brilliant assemblage, and to give those among you who are previously unacquainted with it some idea of its origin, as well as of its rise and progress to its present state of efficiency and prosperity. To many of those whom I am addressing, the facts I have to mention are, doubtless, familiar; but there are, also, many among you, I am sure, who would gladly learn something of the system carried out in a school which, by their presence this evening, we venture to think, they desire to encourage, and in which, we hope, they will take a permanent interest. The intention to found a school for the orphan daughters of Freemasons in this city first originated in the year 1792; but it does not appear to have been carried into effect until the year 1795; and though, in its earliest years, the institution was an humble one, and much obscurity exists with regard to its history for a considerable time afterwards, as its records have been lost, still the foundation of our school was laid some sixty years ago, and though not very flourishing, it was kept up, and was the basis on which the present solid, and I think I may say enduring, institution was framed, built, and established. (Hear, hear.) It was not, however, until about the year 1843 that any decided effort was made to place our school on a better footing than that which it had previously held, and among those whom I find most prominent in the endeavour to make it more worthy of our Order, I must mention the names of my venerated friend, George Hoyte—(applause)—our late lamented brother, William Thomas Lloyd, our justly esteemed Deputy Grand Master—(applause)—and last, though not least, Rev. H. Westby—(applause)—who threw all the zeal and energy of his nature into the good cause, and whose unremitting and finally successful exertions in behalf of these children have been deservedly rewarded by his advancement to the highest rank which the heads of our Order have it in their power to confer. (Hear, hear.) By the zealous exertions of these and other worthy brethren, a sufficient fund was at length collected for the construction of the present school-house, which was completed in the year 1852, at which period there were only fifteen—recollect that—pupils in the institution, all of whom, except one, have since left, and most of whom are comfortably provided for. In 1853 the number of inmates was raised to 21, which was not increased till 1859, when the building was enlarged to its present dimensions, so as to accommodate 40 pupils instead of 23, that being the largest number which the premises before this last addition were able to contain. The year 1856 was remarkable in the annals of our school, for two reasons. In that year the improved system of education now in force was first introduced; in that year, also, the public distribution of prizes to the pupils was for the first time inaugurated. With regard to the latter, grave doubts were at first unquestionably entertained by some of the wisest amongst us as to the advisability of this proceeding; but the result has shown us not only that no harm has arisen to the children, but that an extraordinary impulse has been given by these meetings to the prosperity of the school itself, to the general interest taken in its success, to the large increase of the funds at the disposal of the governors, and the consequent accession to the number of pupils. Without troubling you with statistics, what I have just stated will appear from the fact that whereas in the commencement of 1859 there were only 21 inmates in our establishment, there were 27 in 1861, 34 in 1862, and so on by additions in each of the ensuing years, until in the year 1865, the one in which we now address you, there are 40 girls in the school. The financial condition is equally satisfactory. The total

income available in 1852 was only £310; in 1864 it amounted to £1,400, besides a funded property of £2,600. It may here not be inappropriate to mention that as our income appears to be adequate to the support of 45 pupils, we are desirous to allocate the room now used as an infirmary for the reception of four additional pupils. A graceful occasion for carrying this project into effect has arisen out of an anxiety on the part of our brethren to pay a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Dr. Robert Speedy, whose name has long been associated with our institution, and who, for fifteen years, gave gratuitously the aid of his valuable medical services to the care of the health of the children under our charge. My late lamented friend, for so I must be permitted to call him, was always anxious to have the infirmary in a building detached from the main structure, and we are endeavouring to collect sufficient funds to carry this, his intention, into effect. Subscriptions to a certain amount have been got in, as you have just heard from my brother La Touche, and we hope that the sale of tickets on this occasion will add materially to the means at our disposal for this purpose. I venture to recommend this subject for the favourable consideration of those who may be benevolently disposed here or elsewhere. Little more remains for me to say than to give you some insight into the education the children receive, which is of the most practical character. They are not only thoroughly instructed in all the branches of a sound English education, but are likewise made acquainted with all the details of household work; and so well is this carried out, that the majority of them would be quite competent to superintend every description of household servant in the performance of their respective duties. Such as exhibit any talent for such accomplishments as French and music are taught them, so as to qualify them for the position of preparatory governess. Some people imagined that the children were taught subjects which were beyond their condition in life; but that was by no means the fact, as they found the better educated girls more willing to perform the duties devolving upon them than those less informed. (Applause.) He had great pleasure in moving the resolution.

The Rev. H. H. J. WESTBY, Past Grand Chaplain, then rose and said—I rise to second the resolution which has been so ably proposed by our brother, Sir Edward Brough, and regret exceedingly that it is not placed in more eloquent and able hands. I feel completely embarrassed by the mention of my name in the humble exertions I have made towards the establishment, or rather re-establishment, of our noble institution. I will not, therefore, trespass on your time in going over the grounds which our brother who has just sat down has so ably handled; but I shall merely state to you that in the year 1843, from the period when I first had the privilege of joining the Order, I took a lively interest in the Orphan School. I was strongly impressed with the idea that as long as we continued buried in the obscure locality we were then situated in—namely, Richmond-street—neither the interests of our institution could be benefited, nor would our funds increase. Accordingly, after advocating for some years our removal to some more favoured locality, I at last succeeded in interesting in the cause some of the influential members of the Order—amongst them our Bros. Hoyte, Townsend, and Tracy, our devoted and lamented Bros. Cooper, Webber, and Bouake. Then, with the sanction of his Grace that a more suitable situation should be produced, accordingly I set to work, consulting with our lamented Bro. Fairfield, who was agent on the Herbert estate. He, with his usual benevolence, consented to give us at a nominal rent the site of our present building; and, as every man has his own peculiar hobby, my brothers of the Order soon discovered mine to be that of brick and mortar, in which, indeed, I must acknowledge they were in some degree correct, having, by dearly-bought experience, learnt a little in that line. They did me the honour of appointing me Secretary of the Building Committee. Having set to work with heartfelt satisfaction, I endeavoured to carry out to the best of my skill and abilities the views of the governors, in which, if I succeeded, I claim no merit, as I was ably and energetically supported and assisted by the members of the Committee and the brethren of the Order, who only made me the humble instrument of their confidence and trust. Accordingly in March, 1852, we laid the first stone of our building, and in the incredibly short space of six months brought our labours to a close; and if, indeed, I take any merit to myself in the undertaking, it was, I believe, in assisting to achieve a novelty then unknown in the annals of Irish Masonry—namely, of expending the money appropriated to the object in view in an honest and legitimate

channel, and, consequently, had the great satisfaction of completing our building without owing one single fraction, or contracting any debt, and consequently opened our doors and closed our accounts by handing over to the governors a good and substantial house and a balance to their credit. I shall, therefore, merely say that, in 1843, we found it difficult to get six or seven governors to attend our board meetings, even for the interesting purpose of recording the votes for the admission of a candidate, when at our last election there were nearly 4,000 votes recorded. So much for the careful management of the governors and various committees, and the untiring and watchful care of our respected and enthusiastic Secretary, our Brother Oldham, and the maternal care of our respected and esteemed matron, Mrs. Noble. In the year 1851, previous to the commencement of our new building, our income from every available source only realised the amount of £335, and previous to that our income only realised a similar amount, with the munificent amount subscribed by his Grace—viz., £50. Now, after re-funding the stock sold out for the purpose of building, we have now, thank goodness, the goodly income of £1,400. At one time I recollect, when our cause was advocated from the pulpit, our institution was styled a little one, and from the slender means of support it met with, and from its comparative insignificance, it brought the reputation of the Order into sad disrespect, causing the name of Masonry to be sullied by the ill-natured remarks of the unenlightened, and branding the characters of the members of the Order as voluptuous and profane, and our acts as a system of sloth. But now, thanks be to God, their odious epithets have vanished and are dispelled, and, surrounded as we are to-night with the rank, elegance, and beauty of our metropolis (applause), we may feel justly proud that the true elements of Masonry are appreciated and known to be founded on a rock—the immutable rock of Gospel purity and love—and that it instructs us in the three grand principles of our religion—our duty to God, our neighbour, and ourselves—teaching us truth, unity, and concord, and teaching us to open our eyes to the wants and necessities of those innocents of our departed brethren, and to extend our hands towards them with the cup of consolation, and teaching us to give glory to God in the highest, and on earth to promote peace and goodwill towards men; while it commands us to unite in one affectionate band of brotherhood, so that everywhere under the canopy of God's heaven a Mason can find a brother, and in every clime a home. There are many and well-deserving applications from orphans whose claims we are obliged to postpone, even although our building is enlarged and our funds in a flourishing condition, till some of our present inmates are apprenticed or otherwise provided for. Although much has been done, much more can be done. Let us, then, my brethren, who have been spared by an all-wise Providence, as guardians and protectors of the daughters of our deceased brethren, who are raised up, redouble our exertions. Let us, then, I say, redouble our exertions in the support of this truly noble institution. Let us work manfully and heartily in putting the funds in such an independent position that the orphans of our departed brothers may never want a home, a shelter, and an institution in which they will be protected, educated, and brought up, placing them in a position to earn an honest livelihood, and remain an undying ornament to the gem of Freemasonry. I shall conclude by giving you a single verse of a hymn which I wish to imprint on your memory:—

Where'er the poor and fatherless
In deep distress are laid,
Soft be our hearts to feel,
And swift our hearts to aid.

(Loud applause.)

Colonel F. P. DUNNE, M.P., then said he had been entrusted with a resolution, which was of a more practical character than that which preceded it. They had heard from Sir Edward Borough and the Rev. Mr. Westby, in eloquent terms, a sort of history of this institution, and no doubt they had learned that it was their bounden duty to support the girls who were placed within it. Good feelings, good wishes, and good intentions were nothing unless these wishes were well directed and organised. They had amongst them many who were willing to support the children of their deceased brethren who had kindly feelings towards them; but these were of very little effect unless there was organisation to bring a project for carrying these good intentions out. The resolution he had been entrusted with required very little eloquence on his part,

being a resolution of thanks to the committees of the school. First, there was the Finance Committee, and it was well shown to-night how well it had managed the affairs of the school. They had shown that from small beginnings they had gone on increasing, until the institution as it at present was appeared. He would not call it a charity, because he looked upon it more as an obligation than a charity to support these children. The next committee was that of education, and the report had informed them of the success of that committee. They had been told that these girls were sent out into the world as good and useful members of society (hear, hear), and that, after having parted from the school for years, turned with a longing and loving eye to that institution, in which they had derived and learned the most profitable and useful knowledge. The third committee, in gallantry, was perhaps entitled to the first place—that was the Ladies' Committee. (Applause.) It was not less useful than any of the others. He looked upon it as the most useful of all. (Hear, hear.) Wherever they looked for a work of love and charity to be forwarded they looked for the co-operation of the female sex to support them. They were not Masons, and in the six thousand years in which Masonry was claimed to have existed there had been only one lady a Freemason. She had, however, kept the secret as well as any of the brethren. The ladies who formed the committee were the wives or sisters of Masons, and he believed that where the children to be educated were females, it could hardly be expected that their education could be successfully carried out without female co-operation. He believed there was no Mason here who would not join in a vote of thanks to the ladies who did so much for the institution. (Applause.) There was another committee called the Apprentice Committee, which was engaged in the practical work, and placing the young girls in various apprenticeships at the expense of the society. There was a striking peculiarity in this institution—it could not be called a charity. The Mason, when dying, had a right to demand support for his orphan children, and there was none of that sense of humility which was peculiar to charities. That feeling was unknown in Masonry. In Masonry they did not recognise political creeds. They made no distinctions in rank. They looked upon all as fellowmen in all the relations of life. He concluded by moving the following resolution:—"That the thanks of this meeting are due to the members of the several committees of the institution, for the zealous and efficient manner in which they have discharged the duties devolving upon them, and for the lively interest they manifest in everything conducive to the prosperity and progress of the pupils of the Masonic Female Orphan School."

Bro. the Rev. W. C. PLUNKET seconded the resolution. It was always a pleasant thing, he said, to vote thanks. It implied that some kindness had been done, and that the recipient appreciated it. It implied mutual good will and friendly feeling, and was very appropriate on the present occasion, for it bore out the spirit of the institution, the motto of which was "Brotherly Love." (Applause.) In order to appreciate the kindness of what had been done them, let them ask what it was? When one of their committees was composed of ladies they should be the more ready to give thanks, and, besides, the fact showed that the calumnious report that the ladies looked upon their association with rather a jealous and censorious eye was without foundation. (Applause.) The very existence of the ladies' committee proved that they were regarded by the ladies with more favourable eyes than was generally supposed. (Applause.) They had to thank these ladies and gentlemen for serving on the committees. He was sure he expressed the opinion of all when he said that serving upon committees was certainly not one of the luxuries of life. So far as his experience went, it was one of the dreary things which, for want of a better name, they called a necessary evil. In the first place, gentlemen who served on committees did not always agree—he purposely limited his remark to gentlemen. (Laughter.) He never had the happiness to be present at a ladies' committee; but he took it for granted that they acted in that spirit of harmony and goodwill which they would expect from the gentler sex. But gentlemen did not always agree, and perhaps it was better that they did not. But even supposing everything was in harmony, what was a committee? Possibly, after giving up some interval of leisure, or some important engagement, you went into a large and very cold room, or a small and very hot room; the chances were that your back was to the fire, or you sat in some corner where there was near your ear an open window, which dare not

be shut for fear of offending the feelings of the hot gentleman by the fire. (Laughter.) When the minutes of the last meeting were read by the secretary, as if he knew that everybody wished him to be done, then there were vouchers and complicated transactions to be gone through; and then there was the discussion on the questions, and answers, and objections, and suggestions; and, finally, you were informed by the chairman, after putting the question, that the 'Aye had it,' and you rushed away and found the train gone which had to carry you to your dinner. (Laughter.) He appealed to the experience of those who attended committees whether he had much exaggerated the picture. The fact was, however, that it was the committees who did the work of the society (hear, hear); therefore it would be unbecoming of them if they did not give their cordial thanks to these ladies and gentlemen who at great inconvenience, gave so much of their valuable time to attend to that valuable institution. He felt honoured in being called on to ask them to accord their thanks to the members of the committees. But it might be asked why he was selected to second the resolution—why that responsibility was not trusted to some more experienced member of the body, and only he holding the sacred position that he did (and he yielded to none in the estimation of his sacred profession), should have come forward to take such a prominent part? One of these apparent inconsistencies, to his mind, explained the other. (Hear, hear.) If he understood the motives of those who asked him to come forward, it was because he was a clergyman, and because they were anxious, so far as his testimony should go as a clerical Freemason, that he should bear testimony that there was nothing inconsistent between the clergyman's office and the profession of Freemasonry. On the contrary, that it was the object of Freemasonry to carry out the principles of that Divine Master whose servant he was, and whom they all there professed to serve. (Applause.) Why should not a clergyman be a Freemason? He supposed he might take it for granted that there was nothing in the peculiar garb of a Freemason that was offensive. He did not know that clergymen had any particular objection to wearing an apron. (Applause and laughter.) There certainly were circumstances under which they could get over any inveterate prejudice they might have on that point. (Laughter.) He found it very difficult to shape into any definite form the vague objections that were sometimes made to Freemasonry. Some said it was a wicked organisation. The argument seemed to be this:—Secret societies, such as the Fenians and the Whiteboys, were wicked societies; Freemasonry was a secret society, therefore it was a wicked society. He did not exactly see the logical force of that argument (hear, hear); and yet he did not know what other interpretation to put on the statements of those who, without any other reason, would class them with Fenians and Ribbonmen. (Hear, hear.) Had any of his brethren shot a landlord or burned a priest in effigy? (Laughter.) Until they had something to accuse them of, let them not call the society a wicked organisation. Some would have it that they were a gluttonous and bibulous brotherhood; in fact, that the society was one vast gastronomical culinary association—that its chief object was to facilitate the consumption of turtle soup and sparkling champagne. (Applause and laughter.) They founded this opinion on the fact that some brethren dined together in a friendly way, and with a few exceptions, in a temperate way, when part of the proceedings was to send round the plate, not for more soup, but to get more contributions for their necessitous brethren. (Applause.) In his own person he presented a remarkable disproof to this objection. He was young in Masonry, but he thought he had a right to be regarded as a good Mason (applause); and yet, if the theory he had spoken of were true, he should regard himself as a species of *Iusus naturæ*, for he was actually a teetotal Freemason. In fact, they saw in him that strange combination of a teetotaler and a Freemason; therefore now was their time to gaze on that abortion. He had never partaken of a Masonic dinner; not that he thought them wrong, but there were some proceedings which, though lawful, were not expedient, especially in a clergyman. He was permitted to state that the Grand Master was a teetotaler also, and, such being the case, certainly wine-bibbing was not an essential of Freemasonry. (Applause.) It was said by some that they were rather a foolish and useless association. Surrounded, as they were, with the accessories of the meeting, and looking at the orphans before them, he thought they were furnished with plentiful proofs wherewith to meet this objection. (Applause.) But, supposing Masonry did nothing but bring men together from every party, make them

grasp one another's hand with a firmer grasp, and look one another more confidently in the face, he would take his ground on that alone as being sufficient to show that it was not a useless association. (Applause.) But when they could show that they combined actual good—the relief of the widow and the orphan—then their brotherhood became ended with a double sanctity. (Applause.) He was glad to have the opportunity of coming forward and publicly avowing his connection with a society which was intended to make them love one another more and more, and to follow the example of their great Exemplar, whose great object was to "go about doing good;" and, therefore, he did not regret having joined himself to the association. (Applause.)

The Earl of CHARLEMONT proposed the next resolution, as follows:—"That the thanks of the brethren of the Masonic Order in Ireland are eminently due to the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, his Grace the Duke of Leinster, for the liberal and munificent support he has, for upwards of fifty years, rendered to the Masonic Female Orphan School, and the deep interest he has invariably evinced for the welfare and advancement of those who are sheltered within its walls."—After they had voted their thanks to the ladies and gentlemen who so kindly and efficiently exerted themselves towards the management of the society, they had another duty to fulfil, namely—to pass a vote of thanks to his Grace the Duke of Leinster, who had so long given them his valuable aid. (Applause.) He (the Earl of Charlemont) was only a short time in Ireland, and not much acquainted with Irish affairs, and therefore they would excuse him not entering on a subject on which he was not prepared to give any details. He was sure the meeting would adopt the vote of thanks with acclamation. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. CHATTERTON seconded the resolution, which he said needed no advocacy to ensure its warm reception. It required only to be read to be received with acclamation. (Applause.) They all met there upon a level, but that did not render them insensible of the importance of having a man of the highest position coming forward to support the Order of Freemasons. (Applause.) The Duke had been their President for a period exceeding half a century, and every year he had been necessarily submitted to the brethren, and every year unanimously elected. (Applause.) He knew his Grace felt proud of the honour, for it was an honour for any man, no matter how exalted, to be able to say that he had presided for such a lengthened period over their body. (Applause.) His Grace subscribed annually the munificent sum of £50, he always presided at their distributions, and he always acted as a tender father to the orphans. (Applause.) He asked them to give their warmest thanks to one who for so many years was their constant munificent benefactor. (Loud applause.)

A duet, entitled "The clustering roses" was then very prettily sung by two of the girls, which elicited warm applause. An encore was called for, and "The Sabbath bells" was sweetly sung.

A number of valuable prizes were then distributed to the successful pupils by his Grace the Duke of Leinster, after which the girls sang "Good-night" and the National Anthem very pleasingly.

The gentlemen on the platform again formed into procession, and marched to the Pillar Room, and the proceedings terminated.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.

ST. AUBIN'S LODGE (No. 958).—This lodge was opened at half-past seven p.m., on the 31st. ult., by Bro. Hopkins, I.P.M., who had been requested by the W.M. to take the chair in his absence, which was caused by indisposition. Two presents were made to the lodge; one consisting of a photographic view of the laying of the foundation-stone of the Masonic Hall in London, by Bro. E. C. M. de Carteret, W.M., the other of music appropriate for the degrees (as arranged by Bro. Charles Johnson), by the I.P.M., for both of which formal votes of thanks were passed to the donors. Several matters of routine were considered and settled, and there being no ceremony to perform, Bro. Dr. Hopkins, I.P.M., worked the last two sections of the authorised lecture on the first degree. The lodge was closed at a quarter to nine o'clock, the usual light refreshments were despatched, and, after an hour's friendly intercourse, the brethren retired to their homes.

LODGE LA CESAREE (No. 590).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 26th ult., at half-past seven p.m. The lodge was opened by Bro. C. Le Sneur, W.M., assisted by his Wardens, Bros. C. J. Benest and P. E. Le Sneur, and J. Durell, I.P.M. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. E. Le Gros and J. F. Picot having presented themselves to receive the sublime degree of M.M., the lodge was opened in the second degree. The usual examination took place, and the candidates were entrusted and retired for preparation. The lodge was opened in the third degree, and the ceremony was ably performed by the W.M. The lodge was then resumed in the first degree. The W.M. announced that he had complied with a request from the W.M. of the Royal Sussex Lodge to confer the second degree on two Entered Apprentices who had been initiated therein, but, being on the point of leaving the island, would not be present in their lodge for some time. As they did not understand the French language, it would be necessary to do the work in English, which was permitted, according to recent alteration in the by-laws. He, therefore, placed Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M., in the chair, who appointed Bros. Adams, P.M., as S.W.; Huard, as J.W.; Josh. Stevens, as S.D.; to assist him, the regular officers being able to discharge their duties only in French. Bros. Swain and McEnney were then introduced, and, having passed a satisfactory examination and been entrusted, retired for preparation. The lodge was resumed in the second degree, and the candidates were readmitted and duly passed. The regular officers having again taken their chairs, the lodge was resumed in the first degree. Several matters of business were arranged. A communication from the Prov. Grand Master was read, cautioning the brethren against visiting the lodge formed in Jersey under French warrant, as contrary to the laws, the violation of which might entail unpleasant consequences. The subject was enforced by the W.M. and I.P.M. The lodge was finally closed by the W.M. at a quarter to ten, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting-room. The attendance was limited to about forty, including a considerable number of visitors, owing to the previous melancholy ceremonies of the day in paying the last honours to the late Bro. Anisley, I.P.M., of the Yarrowburgh Lodge, whose sudden death had cast a gloom over the Craft. The proceedings on the occasion are recorded in another part of the pages of the MAGAZINE.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

ROYAL ARCH.

PORT ELIZABETH CHAPTER (No. 711).—This new chapter, the first ever established in the Eastern Province of the Cape Colony, was opened on Wednesday, the 23rd November. There being no possibility of obtaining the services of Past Principals, the ceremony of consecration was performed by the Chiefs named in the warrant, who acquitted themselves very creditably. The chapter having been duly opened, the Scribe E. elect presented the Principals, by whom the various ceremonies of consecration and installation were duly performed, Comp. Sir C. J. Brand, D.G. Master of the Netherlands, acting as Installing Principal. The following companions were installed as chiefs and officers for the first year:—A. Bourd, M.E.Z.; F. S. Fairbridge, H.; W. Hume, J.; S. Godfrey, Treas.; H. Mosenthal, Scribe E.; J. Duthie, Scribe N.; E. H. Solomon, P. Soj.; T. H. Harraden, 1st, and Joshua Cawood, 2nd, Assist. Sojs. A ballot was then taken, and found unanimous in favour of Bro. G. Morley, Tyler of Lodge Goodwill (No. 711), who was thereupon introduced and duly exalted to this supreme degree. The newly-exalted companion was then elected, and duly installed as Janitor. No less than seventeen brethren were proposed for exaltation, to be balloted for at the first quarterly meeting in January, as well as several joining companions; and there is every reason to hope that the new chapter will soon be in a flourishing condition. The business of the convocation being ended, the chapter was closed in peace and harmony, and the companions, to the number of fourteen, adjourned to the banqueting-room; but owing to the lateness of the hour, the social gathering soon came to an end—after the usual toasts had been proposed and most heartily responded to. Comp. Adler, in proposing the health of the newly-installed M.E.Z., took occasion to recapitulate the many and most valuable services rendered by Comp. Bourd to the cause of Free-

masonry in this place ever since the first lodge (the one to which this chapter is attached) had been established. It certainly argues well for the prosperity of the new chapter that it has been established under the presidency of so zealous and experienced a Mason as Comp. Bourd.

Obituary.

BRO. AINSLEY, OF JERSEY.

The sudden and melancholy death of Bro. Ainsley on Monday, January 23rd, has been the prevailing topic of conversation in all circles during the last few days, and the high respect which was entertained for him by his fellow tradesmen and others who were acquainted with him, led to unusual expressions of sorrow and of sympathy with his bereaved family. Though well known by most persons in the middle class of society in Jersey, and justly esteemed, his retiring and quiet habits, his close attention to business, his unwillingness to take a prominent part in matters out of his immediate sphere, all tended to put a limit in this respect; yet, sentiments of regard have been all but universal, and all parties were prepared and anxious to pay honour to his memory. His kind and courteous manner, his gentlemanly bearing, his faithfulness in his friendships, his readiness to sympathise with misfortune and to relieve distress, caused him to be fully appreciated by the influential and important body, that of the Freemasons, of which he was an active and zealous member during the last fourteen years, among whom his especial virtues caused him to be highly respected. His charitable actions, though conducted in obedience to the Grand Master's injunction, "Let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth," could not entirely escape observation, for his hand was always ready to relieve the afflicted, and in the advocacy of cases in which the Craft could render pecuniary or other aid, he was always willing to give his time and services. Often has he been known to go to England at his own expense, for the especial purpose of gaining admission into the schools for the children of deceased Masons, or of obtaining an annuity for deserving brethren who had met with reverses. Indeed, only a short time ago he expressed his intention to be in London at the proper season to be of use in the latter respect to one inhabitant of Jersey, but "man proposes and God disposes," and the Great Architect of the Universe has seen fit to shorten his earthly career and to prevent the realisation of his kind intentions. On Saturday last, Bro. Ainsley was apparently in his usual health, but towards evening complained a little of indisposition, though he wound up his weekly affairs in his usual methodical manner in preparation for the day of rest, before retiring to that bed from which he rose no more, for during the night he was seized with apoplexy, and subsequent attacks brought his life to a close early on Monday morning. He leaves a widow and two sons, who are at school in France, to revere his memory and lament his loss. Unfortunately, the poor boys could not arrive in time to be present at the last solemn rites, owing to the limited communication at this season of the year. His next nearest male relative, an uncle, came from England only an hour or two before the time fixed for the interment, and was overwhelmed on witnessing the extensive preparations for it and the prevailing marks of grief, of which he had previously no conception. Bro. Ainsley was the life and soul of the Yarrowburgh Lodge of Freemasons, of which he was Master for five years, an ample testimony of the estimation in which he was held by his brethren, and of his skill and judgment in the administration of their affairs. He was also a valued and useful member of the Mechanics' Lodge, and for one year occupied the position of First Principal of the Harmony Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, after having progressively filled all the lower offices. Not

only, however, did he excel in his attempts to promote harmony and kindly feeling, but his powers of giving impressiveness and solemnity to the peculiar ceremonials of the Craft, were such as to produce the best effect on those by whom he was surrounded. No wonder then that on this melancholy occasion the honour paid to him so repeatedly during life and health, by election to the first chair of his lodge, is repeated now that these have failed, in the desire to pay all possible respect by a public Masonic funeral, the proposition for which, as soon as the sad event became known, met with a hearty response, and the organisation of the Craft was immediately set in motion to give effect to the general desire. It now only remains for us to furnish our readers with a general outline of the proceedings.

On Wednesday the members of the Yarborough Lodge were busily engaged at the new Temple in preparing the lodge-rooms in a suitable manner, preparatory to the reception of the body at a late hour in the evening. In the journals of the island, an announcement had been made that from nine a.m. till noon on the following morning, the public would be admitted to view the preparations for the solemnities to be observed on the occasion, of which a large number of persons availed themselves. The different portions of the apparatus used in the celebration of the mysteries, were draped with crape, and festoons of black cloth were hung on the walls. In the centre of the room lay the coffin, covered with a Masonic pall, on which were the regalia of the deceased, the sacred scroll, crossed swords, an hour glass, bouquets of flowers, &c. To a great extent the light of day had been excluded, and everything around was symbolical of the "darkness of death." Faint light was afforded by three large wax tapers, at the east, south and west of the coffin, in accordance with the custom usual on such occasions. There was also a star in the east. A few of the brethren were present, and a Tyler seated at the head of the coffin, to keep watch over the remains of the deceased Freemason. It is, perhaps, needless to add, that strict silence, order, and decorum, were observed, befitting the solemn event. Out of doors, too, in the public streets, every manifestation of sorrow was exhibited. The flags on the Masonic Temple, and on other buildings occupied by members of the Order, were lowered to half-mast high. The shutters of the shops of the brethren were partially closed during the greater part of the day, and as noon approached, the sombre apparel of many of the foot passengers betokened a public calamity.

Towards one o'clock the brethren from all parts of the island began to assemble, especially those of the Yarborough Lodge, to which the deceased belonged. Bro. Symes, the W.M., opened the lodge in due form in the presence of a large number of visiting brethren. All preliminaries having been arranged a deputation was appointed to wait upon the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Officers, who had assembled in another room. The summons was promptly obeyed, the higher functionaries of the Order entered the room in procession, the Provincial Grand Officers taking their chairs of office, and the doors having been closely tyed, the usual Masonic funeral rites were proceeded with. After a voluntary on the organ, at which Bro. Lott presided, the Prov. Grand Master left his chair, and, accompanied by his Grand Sword Bearer and his Director of Ceremonies, walked round the coffin, between it and the pall bearers, who had assumed their proper positions, reciting "What man is he that liveth and shall not see death? Shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave?" The grand honours were then given by all present, led by the Director of Ceremonies. At the second round, the Prov. G.M. said, "Man walketh in a vain shadow: he heapeth up riches and cannot tell who shall gather them. When he dieth, he shall carry nothing away; his glory shall not descend after him." At the third round he said, "Naked he came into the world, and naked he must return; the Lord gave and the Lord taketh away;

blessed be the name of the Lord." During each procession, the Prov. G.M., attended by his officers, as at the first, strewed flowers on the coffin, and at the close the grand honours were repeated each time. Again taking the Sacred Roll in his hand, the Prov. G.M. said, "Let us die the death of the righteous, and let our last end be like his." The choir, consisting of Bros. Hoskins, Willson, Ashwick, Bevan, Cullanham, and others, responded, "God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide, even unto death." The Prov. G.M. restored the roll to its place on the coffin, saying, "Almighty Father, into Thy hands we commend the soul of our loving brother." The choir replied, "The will of God is accomplished; so mote it be;" and the grand honours were again given by all the brethren. The Prov. G.M. then offered a solemn prayer, at the close of which the choir sang Callcott's "Epitaph." It may be added that the music for the responses was especially arranged for the occasion by the Prov. G. Org., Bro. Lott. The Prov. G.M. then resumed his seat in the east.

On the conclusion of the suitable and accustomed forms within the precincts of the lodge, at about half-past two a procession was formed, somewhat in the following order, and took its way through Stopford-road, David-place, Bath-street, Beresford-street, Halkett-place, Pierson-place, Vine-street, Broad-street, Charing Cross, and Parade, to All Saints' Church:—

Two Tylers with drawn swords.

Band of the 1st Royals (playing the "Dead March in Saul").

Visitors (two and two).

The Military Lodge of Unity Peace and Concord (No. 316), in the following order, which was observed in each lodge in succession.

Inner Guard.

Apprentices.

Fellow Crafts.

Master Masons.

Junior Deacon.

Senior Deacon.

Treasurer.

Secretary.

Junior Warden.

Senior Warden.

Past Masters.

Worshipful Master.

Banner.

Prince of Wales Lodge (No. 1003), in similar order.

Banner.

St. Aubin's Lodge (No. 958).

Royal Alfred Lodge (No. 877).

Banner.

Lodge La Césarée (No. 590).

Banner.

Samarés Lodge (No. 559).

Banner.

Royal Sussex Lodge (No. 491).

Badner.

Mechanics' Lodge (No. 245).

The Brethren bearing in their hands sprigs of acacia and white wands; the Officers with bouquets of flowers.

Banners covered with crape.

The Yarborough Lodge (No. 244).

Tiler.

Entered Apprentices.

Fellow Crafts.

Master Masons.

Inner Guard.

Corinthian Light borne by a Master Mason.

Column of Junior Warden, borne by a Master Mason.

Junior Warren bearing the Plumb-rule.

Doric Light borne by a Master Mason.

The Junior Deacon.

Senior Warden bearing the level.

Ionic Light borne by a Master Mason.

Past Masters.

Immediate Past Masters.
 Senior Deacon.
 Worshipful Master (Bro. Symes).
 Banner covered with crape.
 Banner of Provincial Grand Lodge, borne by Col. Millar.
 Provincial Grand Organist (Bro. Lott).
 Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works (Bro. T. Gallichan).
 Provincial Grand Deacons.
 Provincial Grand Junior Warden, with Plumb-rule (Bro. Kingsnorth, acting).
 Provincial Grand Senior Warden, with Level (Brother J. T. du Jardin).
 Deputy Provincial Grand Master (Bro. R. Crosse).
 Standards of the Provincial Grand Master for the Provinces of Jersey and Guernsey, borne by Bros. Evans and Peyton.
 Provincial Grand Stewards, two and two (Bros. Wade, Le Hardie, Leigh, Mannan, Joseph Stevens, and R. Watson).
 Provincial Grand Sword Bearer (Bro. Thomas (acting)).
 The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master (Bro. J. J. Hammond), supported by Bros. Henry L. Manuel and F. le Maistre,
 Directors of Ceremonies, with Bros. Joseph Stevens and Perrot as Assistants.
 An Installed Master (Bro. Benham), carrying on a cushion covered with crape the Jewels of the Deceased as Past Master and First Principal.
 An Installed Master (Bro. Dr. Hopkins), bearing on a cushion covered with crape the Holy Bible, with Square and Compasses thereon.
 The Clergy
 (Bro. Rev. C. Marett and Rev. C. Perram).
 The Body,
 covered with a
 pall with the
 regalia of the
 deceased, sprigs
 of acacia, bou-
 quets of flowers,
 an hour-glass
 and two swords
 crossed on the
 coffin, borne in
 a hearse.
 Bro. Mann, P.M. Bro. Grimmond.
 Bro. Prosser. Bro. F. A. Godfray.
 Bro. Hastings. Bro. Le Gras.
 Bro. Baker, as Undertaker, and Assistants.
 About Forty Mourners and private personal Friends of the Deceased, in Mourning Coaches.
 Dr. Padmore, in his carriage with Mr. Ercaut.
 Provincial Grand Tyler, with drawn sword.

The number of Masons attending the funeral was about 200, and including the friends of the deceased and others engaged in different capacities, the total amounted to nearly 300. The cortège was admirably arranged by the methodical and energetic Director of Ceremonies, Bro. H. L. Manuel, ably assisted by his assistants, and soon after half-past two the order was given for the start, the band playing the Dead March in Saul alternately with other appropriate pieces of sacred music. The streets were of course crowded with persons anxious to witness the solemn procession, but nowhere was any inconvenience felt from the pressure, the line of route being long and well chosen. The police kept the centre of the streets clear without difficulty, for all seemed to respect the occasion, excepting perhaps the boys who kept near the band in the march, to whom the music was a great attraction. The windows and balconies of the houses commanding a view were occupied by spectators. Near the church a very large number had assembled, and here the prettiest effect was produced, as the brethren in the different lodges divided into two lines, leaving an avenue between them, and those of the Mechanics' and Yarrowborough Lodges crossed their wands. Under the arch thus formed the clergy, the bearers with the coffin, the friends, the Provincial Grand Lodge, and all in the rear

of the procession passed, and this having been concluded, the rest of the brethren fell into order in rotation as before and followed into the chapel. The service was read by Bro. the Rev. Chas. Marett, the responses being given by the choir, who concluded the ceremony by singing Luther's Hymn. The procession was again formed as before, to proceed to the Mont-à-l'Abbé Cemetery, but with diminished numbers, as steady rain unfortunately set in.

The march to the Parochial Burial Ground, St. John's-road, was continued with as much regularity as the state of the weather permitted, for the rain now fell heavily, while by far the larger portion of the spectators made the best of their way home. On entering the cemetery, though the rain continued to descend literally in torrents, the ceremony was truly affecting, for many of the Masons who had attained an age beyond the three score years and ten ordinarily allotted to man, and who were heard conversing on the probability that their turn would come next, walked uncovered, disregardful of personal comfort, and of the injury to their expensive regalia, with as much composure as if they had been placed in the most favourable circumstances with a cloudless sky above them.

When the Masons were assembled round the grave of the deceased, the scene was one of solemn grandeur, for all appeared to be duly impressed with the effective words of our beautiful burial service, as they were read distinctly by the Grand Chaplain—"Man that is born of a woman hath but a short time to live, and is full of tears." Both assertions were abundantly proved by the melancholy circumstances of the case, inasmuch as deceased had been hastily struck down in the prime of manhood, while his friends now stood round about weeping. The usual solemn ceremonies were then performed, concluding with a Masonic oration, most effectively delivered by the Provincial Grand Master, though curtailed under stress of weather. The brethren broke their wands, and threw them into the grave, which in like manner received the sacred scroll, the bouquets, &c. After the Masons had taken a last farewell of all that remained upon earth of their brother, the cortège returned by Rouge Bouillon, Midvale-road, and St. Mark's, to the Temple.

After the return to the Temple, the Provincial Grand Officers again assumed their chairs of office, and closed the lodge. Thus ended the proceedings connected with this solemn event, and it is but justice to remark that all concerned strove to make them as effective as possible, and that nothing occurred which interfered with the regularity, order, and decorum, suitable to the occasion. Indeed, we have never before witnessed a Masonic procession so well attended or so well regulated.

Jersey, Jan. 28th, 1865.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty and family remain at Osborne, but are expected to return to Windsor next week.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The return of the Registrar General, which now includes the ten towns of largest population in the United Kingdom, presents some curious results for the past week. The deaths in all the towns were 3469, the births were 3613. The average rate of mortality was 43 in the thousand, which is nearly double the average mean rate (17 in the thousand) in healthy localities. It is remarkable, however, that of the ten London is the healthiest of all, except Salford and Leeds, which give a return of 29 in the 1000, while London gives 30 in the 1000. The palm in the "bad eminence" of mortality must be assigned to Liverpool, which gives 42 in the 1000; but Manchester is not

far behind, which gives 40, or Dublin, which gives 39. The recent unhealthy weather has increased the deaths in London (1747) by upwards of 160 over the returns of the previous week, and by nearly as many over the ten years' average. The births were 1884, which is 90 below the average.—Her Majesty has had her attention arrested by the number of railway accidents which have lately appeared in the newspapers; and the natural tenderness of her heart has induced her, it appears, to address a representation to the directors of several railway companies on the necessity of greater caution in a matter of so much importance. It is not for herself, as her Majesty reminds them, that she is induced to interfere, as she is well aware of the extra precautions that are taken for her safety when she travels; but she expresses the hope that the same security may be afforded to her family, to the officers employed in her service, and to her subjects in general.—The weekly report on the pauperism of the cotton manufacturing districts shows on the whole a slight decline. Twelve unions have more paupers, together 850; six unions are without change; and ten show a decrease, together, 1,030. On taking the difference it is found to be in favour of the last section of unions by 180. The Bury union has 220 more paupers on its relief lists; while the Blackburn union has 100; the Haslingden union, 260; Manchester, 120, and the Preston union, 190 fewer than in the previous week. The total number of adult able-bodied paupers is now 24,100. The outdoor relief disbursed by the Guardians last week amounted to £5,943; or less by £3,500 than in the corresponding season of 1864.—The cotton supply question formed, of course, one of the most important topics in the discussion which took place at the annual meeting of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce. With regard to the prospect before us, there was some diversity of opinion, Mr. John Cheetham, for example, looking on matters more despondingly than he did twelve months ago, for many manufacturers who had been able to stand their ground were at last being compelled to give way under the continued pressure. The estimate that we might expect from any other countries than America 3,600,000 bales of cotton during this year, he characterised as absurd; and, even if a reconciliation were brought about between the Federal and the Confederate States, we must not expect the large supplies that we had had. The increase in the cultivation of cotton in various parts of the world was recognised with satisfaction by various speakers; but Mr. Ashworth complained—and in this complaint Mr. Bazley concurred—that they were not able to conclude that any large progress had been made in the improvement of the quality, or that there was any diminution to any extent worth naming in the fraudulent packing of cotton in India.—At the weekly meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works it was agreed that their engineer should make a report upon the state of the building in Westminster that fell, with such serious results to the people assembled inside. Mr. Bazalgette presented a report on the new railway schemes about to be promoted this session in connection with the metropolis. It appears that the railways projected are fourteen miles in length, and that the cost of their construction will be £17,000,000.—The vacancy on the Irish bench is at last filled up. Mr. O'Hagan, the Attorney-General, has accepted the vacant seat on the bench, Mr. Lawson stepping from the post of Solicitor to that of Attorney-General, and Mr. Sullivan to that of Solicitor-General. This is the seventh Irish judge that Lord Palmerston has appointed, and the sixth of the Roman Catholic religion.—Something like official confirmation is given to the report that Mr. Justice Williams has tendered his resignation as one of the

judges of the Court of Common Pleas. It is rumoured that the Solicitor-General has declined the vacant office, and that Mr. Lush, Q.C., will be the new judge.—The will of an old man, Smart, a pauper in St. Pancras Workhouse, who alleges, and has persuaded some people to believe, that he is heir to a large property, is exciting considerable interest among the vestrymen and guardians of the poor in that parish. Mr. Bishop, who drew up the will, refuses to produce it, and declares the vestry have found a mare's nest. The master of the workhouse, who is to benefit largely by its provisions, denies that he used any undue influence. A committee which was appointed to investigate the matter met the other day at the workhouse, when their object was baffled by the old man Smart having left the house. The committee was directed to continue the prosecution of its inquiries.—A gentleman, named Feather, has put in a petition of right, claiming compensation for an alleged infringement of a patent granted to him in the construction of what are known as "Mr. Reed's" small armour-plated ships. The case came before the Court of Queen's Bench some days since, and the Attorney-General raised the questions whether patents of improvements or inventions useful for the defence of the realm are valid as against the Crown; and if so, whether the breach of them can be the subject of a petition of right. There were minor pleas, but the real points for the decision of the Court were those we have stated. These points have been argued at great length, and the Attorney-General was yesterday informed by the Lord Chief Justice that "at present he might take it that judgment would be given for the Crown." In view, however, of the importance of the questions raised, the Court was anxious to prepare a careful statement of the grounds upon which its decision was based. The case will probably be taken to a Court of Appeal.—Some time ago a clergyman was convicted of an offence at the Middlesex Sessions. In the course of the trial his counsel called evidence to character, when the prosecution summoned witnesses to rebut it. This was resisted by the counsel for the prisoner as incompetent, and on the judge admitting the testimony, the counsel appealed to the Court of Error. The case came on for hearing on Saturday, when the Court, consisting of the whole fifteen judges, heard the pleadings and gave judgment. The judges were unanimous in holding that testimony to rebut good character, was admissible. They also held that as evidence to character must be general and not refer to special facts, so the rebutting evidence must be general also. And fourteen of the judges, while Chief Justice Erle dissented, held that the witnesses must speak as to the general opinion in their neighbourhood, not of their own knowledge. As in the case under discussion, the rebutting witnesses spoke of their own opinion, not of the opinion of the neighbourhood, the conviction of the clergyman was quashed.—Several months ago, a Mr. Thornley, confidential clerk to a Mr. Salomons, warehouseman, in Old Change, absconded, having robbed his employer, by means of forgery, to the extent of £40,000 or £50,000. A detective officer was employed to trace him, but after spending several months in the pursuit, both in Canada and the States, was obliged to return without the offender, and Mr. Salomons' solicitor attended at the Guildhall last week to report his ill success. The solicitor enlarged upon the energy, ingenuity, and assiduity shown by the detective, notwithstanding his failure; and while Alderman Lusk did not dispute it, he did not appear to be impressed with the same admiration for the energy of the pursuit in general that was insisted on by the solicitor.—Following close upon the destruction of the Edinburgh Theatre by fire, we have to record a similar catastrophe to the Royal Surrey Theatre, Black-

friars road. The fire in the present case broke out just as the performance of the pantomime was drawing to a close on Monday night; and from that circumstance probably the audience was considerably smaller than at an earlier part of the evening. Through the judicious counsels of the stage manager no panic took place, and the company retired in comparative order, and with perfect safety. A few hours afterwards—so thorough was the work of destruction—nothing of the building remained save the blackened facade and the smouldering ruins on the ground. It was in the ceiling that the fire was first observed, but from what cause has not yet been ascertained.—A collision, happily not attended with loss of life, took place last week at East Croydon, when an engine and tender standing on the line was run into by a goods train from the South Eastern Company. The engine driver alone was hurt, and he only slightly, but the trucks and their contents were much damaged, and the traffic was to some extent delayed.—A shocking case of attempted wife murder, followed by the suicide of the would-be murderer, occurred at Oldham, on Saturday. A machine joiner, named Whitehead, who from loss of work has lately been in a desponding state of mind, stabbed his wife in the face as she lay in bed after her confinement, and on the wife's nurse running into the bedroom, the poor fellow drew the knife across his throat and shortly afterwards died. A painful fatality has also occurred at Sowerby Bridge. Early on Friday morning, a fire broke out at a dwelling-house occupied by a gentleman named Wood, who, with his family of about seven or eight persons, escaped with difficulty through the doors and windows. The servant, a young Irishwoman, named Manus, tried to escape through the front entrance, but failed, and fell back into the flames. She was shortly afterwards recovered, and removed to the Halifax Infirmary, where she died a few hours after her admission.—A man named Midgley was brought before the magistrates at Todmorden on a charge of cutting his wife's throat. There had been a quarrel on the previous night, and the murder appeared to have been committed with a pocket knife. Her dress was torn and her hands were cut as if in the act of attempting to wrest the knife from her husband's hand. The case stands over for further evidence.—A few days ago the body of a child about twelvemonths' old was left at the Victoria station, and a *post mortem* examination led to the belief that a murder had been committed. Last week a young woman, said to be the mother of the child, was brought before the magistrates at Manchester, charged with the crime. The prisoner was remanded.—A serious accident occurred in Westminster, on Thursday week. About 500 people had assembled in a Roman Catholic School, to witness the drawing of a lottery, when the floor of the room suddenly gave way, and from 80 to 100 men, women, and children were precipitated into the lower part of the building. A considerable proportion of these were very seriously injured, and one of them—the matron of the Millbank Penitentiary—died on Monday from the effects of her wounds.—During the heavy gale, on Monday morning, the *Assaye*, a large ship, from Bombay, with between 6,000 and 7,000 bales of cotton on board, was wrecked on Ross Bay, near Gully Head—a point on the South Cork coast. The captain was drowned.—It having been stated that the Propaganda at Rome is about to consider the question whether Roman Catholics should still be permitted to send their sons to Oxford and Cambridge a meeting of Catholic laymen has been held in London for the purpose of memorialising the Sacred Congregation to abstain from "active interference" in the matter. The memorial has already received the signatures of Lord Castlerosse, Lord Norreys, Lord Camoys, Lord Dunraven, Mr. Monsell, Mr. J. Weld Blundell, and many other Roman Catholic laymen of

good social position.—The emigration from Liverpool during the past month was about 50 per cent. below that of the corresponding period of 1864.—The Coroner's inquiry into the fatal railway collision at Chequerbent, near Bolton, terminated in a verdict of "accidental death;" caused by the collision of two trains permitted to run in opposite directions upon the same line of rails, through the omission or misunderstanding of the signalman either at Daubhill Crossing or Hulton's Colliery siding." The jury added that a double line of rails at this point of the London and North-Western system is "imperatively required for the public safety." The inquest on the bodies of those killed in the Blackheath Tunnel has resulted in a verdict of manslaughter against the porter who turned on the wrong signal, and against the guard of the ballast train who failed to notify the circumstance that his train had come to a stop in the tunnel.—A young man, named Gray, made a desperate attack upon Jane Elliott, a girl of seventeen, in Mottram-street, Salford, on Wednesday morning. It seems that Gray had been paying his addresses to the girl, but had been rejected. This greatly irritated him, and, meeting her in the street, he stabbed her in the neck, and, knocking her down, inflicted other wounds upon her. He was disturbed in his murderous work and ran away, but was afterwards captured.—Industrial Exhibitions are becoming common nowadays. Two were opened on Wednesday—one for the working classes south of the river, at the Lambeth Baths; the other confined to the narrower range of the operative coachmakers, at the Coach-maker's Hall, Noble street, City. Both were opened with considerable spirit, and each promises, in its own way, to be very successful. The Lambeth Exhibition, which is the second of the kind in that district, was attended at the opening by the Bishop of Winchester, the Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, and several clergymen of the district. The Marquis of Lansdowne opened the Coachmakers' Exhibition.—White and Sutton, the captain and mate of the ship *Snowdrop*, were put on their trial on Wednesday on the charge of scuttling her. It will be remembered that the charge against the prisoners rests chiefly on the evidence of the carpenter of the ship, a man named Craig, who said that the vessel was run upon a reef of rocks in the Baltic, but as she did not leak he was sent down to bore holes in her bottom, which he did, and the vessel filled and went down. For the prisoners witnesses were called to discredit Craig's testimony. The case was concluded on Thursday, and resulted in a verdict of acquittal.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—A meeting of the French Cabinet and the Privy Council is about to be held, for the purpose of adopting measures to meet the epistolary and pamphlet assault, which has been made with such vigour by the episcopacy on the Government.—The Prince Imperial gave a fete at the Tuilleries to a deputation of the pupils of the colleges of Paris and Versailles. The Empress was present, and manifested the greatest kindness to the young guests. In returning thanks, the young Prince said, "I drink to my young comrades, the children of France."—In reply to a remonstrance from her Majesty's Government against the oppressive proceedings of the French Governor of New Caledonia in Lifu and the other islands of the Loyalty group, M. Drouyn de Lhuys has assured Lord Cowley the most stringent orders had been sent to prevent a renewal of the occurrences complained of, and that, so far from there being any desire on the part of the Imperial Government to discourage the labours of Protestant missionaries in the Loyalty Islands, there was every disposition to foster and protect them.—Letters from Rome report that the French Ambassador at the Papal Court has handed a note to Cardinal Antonelli, in which his Eminence is informed that as

the Pope, after every means of conciliation has been exhausted, still remains unwilling to treat with Italy, France will proceed, without further attempts at negotiation, to execute the Convention.—Spain, it appears, is willing to acknowledge the kingdom of Italy, but only when the transfer of the capital has been made, and the stability of the Government thereby proved.—The proposal to evacuate San Domingo is encountering considerable opposition in the Spanish Cortes, Marshal O'Donnell heading the malcontents, and even offering himself to undertake the task of subjugating the Dominicans.—Symptoms of discontent have been repeatedly shown within the last few days at Turin; and on Monday evening there was a popular demonstration in front of the King's place, on the occasion of a Court Ball. By the help of the National Guard the crowd was dispersed without bloodshed, and several arrests were made.—The tribunal of Grenoble has just given judgment in the notorious case of M. Armand and his servant Maurice Roux. The master, it will be remembered, was charged with attempting to murder his servant, who was found bound hand and foot, *à la Davonport Brothers*, in a cellar. It was proved to be a plot to extort money; but although Armand was acquitted by the jury, he was adjudged to pay heavy damages. From this absurd and inconsequential adjudication, he is now relieved.—A telegram from Constantinople makes the important announcement that telegraphic communication between Bagdad and India is now complete, the first telegram having been sent by the Governor of Bagdad to the Governor of Bombay on the 29th ult.—The Military Tribunal of Turin have decided to proceed against a number of the soldiers who took part in the suppression of the disturbances in that capital, on the grounds that they had gone to unnecessary excess in the discharge of their duty.—The King of Prussia, in his reply to the address of the Upper House, affirms that the policy of his Government is based upon the "fear of God," and that he must "unalterably adhere" to what he said in his speech at the opening of the Chambers. In that speech, he said, he made advances to the representatives of the people "in order that they should also make advances to him;" and he trusts that the misunderstanding which exists will soon disappear. To ordinary observers, however, there is nothing to indicate a speedy healing of the breach between the Crown and the Commons of Prussia.—Warlike reports respecting Russia reach us from Odessa. That power, it is stated, has a force of 120,000 men concentrated between the Dniester and the Dnieper; and Russian agents are busy enlisting sailors in the Greek Archipelago.—The West India mail brings the intelligence that a further force of three Spanish frigates had arrived—at the Chinchas, and that the Peruvian commanders had reported their inability to oppose the Spanish fleet. The Peruvian Minister had written to Madrid offering to make any reasonable concession to the Spanish Government.

AMERICA.—The announcement of the capture of Fort Fisher by the Federals is the chief military news brought by the Asia. After the fort had been severely bombarded by the fleet, it was assaulted on the afternoon of the 15th instant by the troops which had been previously landed under General Terry's command; and after some seven hours' fighting all the works were taken, together with the whole Confederate garrison, said to be 2,500 strong, under General Whiting. The Federal loss, which was partly caused by the explosion of a magazine, was variously estimated at 500 to 1,300 men. Fort Smith, on the opposite side of the New Inlet, was said to have been subsequently abandoned and blown up by the Confederates. Wilmington was reported to be held by 5,000 Confederates under General Hoke; and it was not known that further operations

would be immediately undertaken by the victorious Federals. General Sherman had sent part of his army to reinforce General Foster, who had occupied Pocotaligo, on the Savannah and Charleston Railway—the Confederates having abandoned their works there. It was reported that General Sherman was menacing Branchville; but nothing was, or perhaps could be, known as to the truth of the report. It was stated that a considerable body of Federals was intrenched at Franklin Mills, on the Dog river, and that serious operations were about to be undertaken against Mobile. There were rumours that General Grant's army was about to make some movement; but their truth was altogether uncertain. Mr. Blair had returned to Washington from Richmond; and it was announced that President Davis had intimated to him the Confederate Government's willingness to receive peace commissioners from President Lincoln or to send its own commissioners to Washington for the purpose of negotiation. But both the Northern and the Southern journals, we are told, "place no confidence in the result of the Blair movement." The Virginia Legislature had almost unanimously rejected a resolution "to make peace through state action." General Lee it was alleged, was urging the Confederate Government to order a conscription of negroes, and to emancipate the conscripts and their families. Both houses of the Federal Congress had proposed, and President Lincoln had approved the proposal, that notice should be given for the termination of the Canadian Reciprocity Treaty. Senator Sumner had introduced into the Federal Senate a resolution proposing that notice should be given for the termination of the Extradition Treaty with England.—The *Novia Scotian*, with dates from New York to the 21st inst., has arrived. Pocotaligo Bridge, as was previously rumoured, has been captured by the Federals with twelve guns. The Federal monitor *Patapsco* had been destroyed by torpedoes off Charleston and fifty of her crew lost. Blair is said to have returned to Richmond, and a general impression prevails that negotiations in some form are a-foot on the question of peace. In the Confederate Congress, however, a strong determination to prosecute the war is expressed. A European squadron is designed to be established by the Federal Government, to be under the command of Admiral Goldsborough. The Confederates are said to have blown up Fort Caswell, at Wilmington. One of the Canadian raiders has been declared guilty of robbery, and been adjudged to be delivered over to the Federal authorities. A writ of habeas corpus has been demanded on his behalf.

CANADA.—The Canadian Parliament met at Quebec on the 19th of January. The Governor's message announced that a bill to give the executive further powers to deal with political refugees who commit outrages on the borders, and a plan for the constitution of the Confederation, would be laid before the Parliament.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. C. M.—The Grecian Doric would be appropriate for the exterior of a Masonic lodge.

J. L.—There is no law to prevent the offices of Secretary and Treasurer being held by the same brother, though it is certainly undesirable.

P. Z.—Certainly.

BETA is thanked. We shall be glad to receive the MS.

R. S.—We never heard of the person you name; and certainly he never wrote for us.