

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1865.

GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday, and we regret to say that the Deputy Grand Master was unable to attend, as, in the necessary absence of the Grand Master, we could have wished he should have done. His place was, however, filled by Bro. Dobie, the Provincial Grand Master for Surrey, one of the best Provincial Grand Masters in the Craft, and a brother who is deservedly respected by all who have the honour of his acquaintance.

Grand Lodge was very thinly attended, and who can wonder at it, with weather such as we are now enjoying.

The minutes of the last Grand Lodge having been confirmed, Bro. Dobie moved an address of condolence to the Grand Master on the loss of the Countess, in most appropriate language, which was seconded by the Rev. Bro. Dr. Bowles, Provincial Grand Master for Herefordshire. Of course, the address was carried by acclamation—but it does not appear in the pages of the FREEMASONS MAGAZINE—that arch representative of Bumbledom and red tape denominated the Grand Secretary, and generally known as the Grand Obstructive, having refused our reporter permission to copy it, a courtesy given in every other society but that of Freemasons. We daresay, however, it will see the light in due time, *i.e.*, when the Craft and the noble Earl have alike forgotten all about it.

After some formal business and the scratching a couple of lodges, a short discussion took place as to whether the whole of the money received for the Lodge of Benevolence should be expended as received, or a portion invested. We are altogether opposed to niggardly votes, but must still think that whenever anything can be fairly saved for investment it is most desirable.

The Building Committee's report was adopted without discussion.

The annual report of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows having been received, a memorial was read from the Grand Chapter of Scotland enquiring—

1st. If the Grand Lodge of England is prepared to sanction the working of the Mark Master's degree in England.

2nd. Whether the Grand Lodge is prepared to recognise the body styling itself "The Grand

Lodge of Mark Masters of England, Wales, and the Colonies and Possessions of the British Crown" as the lawful head of the Order of Mark Masters in England.

Bro. McIntyre, the Grand Registrar, replied that the Grand Lodge could not recognise the degree, and *a priori* it cannot recognise the "body styling," &c. Had the Grand Master acted firmly from the first, and deprived of office all parties taking part in the new Grand Lodge, it must have died out. We are Mark Masons ourselves, and shall continue to report their proceedings so long as there is not energy enough at head quarters to make authority respected; but we hold the opinion we ever did, that the establishment of the English Grand Lodge of Mark Masters was a mistake—and something more. By-the-bye, how was it Grand Lodge took the trouble to consider a memorial from the Grand Chapter of Scotland, a body it does not recognise?

In reply to an appeal for support from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Victoria to the proposed formation of a local Masonic Asylum for Aged Decayed Freemasons and their Widows, a Girls' School and a Boys' School for Orphan Children, and those of Decayed Freemasons, as nearly similar as circumstances will permit to those established under the sanction of the United Grand Lodge of England, the Grand Registrar expressed his concurrence in the object our Australian brethren have in view, but moved that at present pecuniary assistance could not be given. This was agreed to. In truth, Grand Lodge derives nothing from the Colonies, and though our Colonial brethren may come on the funds of the Lodge of Benevolence, there are no funds to apply as wished. We hope, however, that some day we may have such a plethora of wealth as to be able to assist as many such schemes as can be promoted. The Provincial Grand Lodge of Victoria must set to work irrespective of England, remembering that Jove helps those who help themselves.

A memorial was read from the District Grand Lodge of South Australia, setting forth certain alleged inconveniences, and praying—

1st. That District Grand Lodges be assimilated in them functions to the Grand Lodge.

2nd. That they shall not cease to exist on the death or resignation of the Provincial Grand Master.

3rd. That they shall have the power of investigating, regulating, and deciding all matters rela-

tive to the Craft or the particular lodges, or to individual brothers, within their respective districts; which they may exercise either of themselves or by such delegated authority as in their wisdom or discretion they may appoint—their decisions in all cases to be regulated by the “Book of Constitutions,” and subject to appeal to Grand Lodge.

There being a Colonial Board to which all such questions ought to be referred, it was *appropriately* resolved that the matter should be remitted to the Board of General Purposes, from which the Colonial Board was separated some years since. As a *bonne bouche*, however, the Board of General Purposes is to have the assistance of the President and Vice-President of the Colonial Board. If these gentlemen have the slightest appreciation of the position to which they have been elected, they will decline to play second fiddle when they ought to be first.

The sum of £50 for coals and candles for the Asylum was again granted, and, wonderful liberality, it is to be allowed in future without an annual vote. What shall we have to employ our would-be orators if their annual speeches are thus ruthlessly cut away?

MASONIC DUTIES.

The following address was delivered by the R.W. Bro. LE GENDRE NICHOLAS STARKIE, M.P., Provincial Grand Master of the Western Division of the County of Lancaster, to the Provincial Grand Lodge, at the Bull Inn, Preston, on the occasion of his installation on Wednesday, the 18th of November, 1829.

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL AND WORSHIPFUL OFFICERS AND BRETHREN,—It is with unfeigned pleasure that I again meet my Masonic brethren in Provincial Grand Lodge; and I cannot allow the opportunity which it presents to me to pass without making a few observations to you, which I trust will tend to the general good and prosperity of Freemasonry. Speaking, as I am, to officers of lodges, it is needless for me to state that to you are entrusted much of the interests of Freemasonry, and I should be unworthy of the dignified station I have the honour to hold in the fraternity, did I not at all times attempt to discharge the duties imposed upon me by that station in the manner I believe to be the most creditable to myself, as well as the most conducive to the respectability and the welfare of the Craft.

Did I address myself to brethren just initiated into the sublime mysteries of the Order, it would, perhaps, be incumbent upon me to give some in-

struction in the knowledge of our art; but speaking, as I now am, to those who fill high and important stations in the fraternity—to Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, Senior and Junior Wardens of Lodges—this would be a work of supererogation. We all know that the most pure and genuine piety and virtue are taught by our emblems and in our mysteries, and knowing this, it will be well if we endeavour to act up to our profession.

I shall, therefore, draw your attention to a few practical observations, which I think, if you attend to, will be of service to you all.

1. I am afraid that the laws laid down for our guidance and instruction in the “Book of Constitutions” are not always acted up to in the manner they should be, if they are not even at times entirely evaded. Now, I need not surely remark, that a breach of the laws of any society must be very detrimental and injurious to its general prosperity; but in an institution established like Freemasonry, more especially so. You are all aware that at the initiation of every member of the institution he is charged to peruse the “Book of Constitutions;” but of what use is this recommendation unless those who do recommend this to him first set the example. As a means of obtaining this desirable end—the making every brother acquainted with the rules and regulations of his Order—I would recommend the Worshipful Master of each lodge, or some brother deputed by him, to read a portion of the “Book of Constitutions” on every lodge-night, and I will answer that the benefit which will accrue from this regulation, will be soon seen and felt by every lodge.

2. I have heard that some lodges have been guilty of initiating persons into the Order, after knowing that they had been rejected by other lodges. This is a breach of all discipline, and as far as my influence lies, I shall discountenance such most unmasonic conduct. We must remember that Freemasonry is universal, and that a person who is unworthy to be initiated in one lodge must, by parity of reasoning, be also unworthy to be admitted in another. The breach of Masonic discipline to which I am alluding has been, I am afraid, committed with open eyes; the initiating lodges well knowing that the persons alluded to had been previously rejected by other lodges, and, therefore, are left without excuse for their irregularity. Here, however, it may be asked, “is, then, a person not to be initiated into the Order by a lodge who has been rejected by another, when the members of the former are convinced that those of the latter have rejected him through misinformation as to his character, or whatever other reason there may be, when he has been well recommended to them, and when such members are convinced that he has been incorrectly rejected?” I answer, “most undoubtedly no!” except under the following case: I suppose (for the sake of the argument) a person wishes to be initiated in the Lodge of A, but who has been previously rejected in the

Lodge B; he is recommended and the Lodge of A are convinced (let us call the supposed person Mr. C. D.) that Mr. C. D. has been improperly rejected by the Lodge of B, as he is a person of "sound judgment, good morals, &c." The question, then, is this (it is a stronger case than is likely to happen)—"is such an individual to be rejected by the Lodge of A?" I will give you my opinion of the most correct manner of proceeding in such a case. The W.M. of the Lodge of A should write to the W.M. of the Lodge of B, informing him that Mr. C. D. has been "well and worthily recommended to their lodge as a fit and proper person to be initiated into Freemasonry;" but understanding that he had been rejected by the Lodge of B, certainly unadvisedly and ignorantly, he wished to know if the said lodge, upon the receipt of his communication, would object to his initiation in the Lodge of A. Should the Lodge of B object, I then think it would be the duty of the Lodge of A to apply to the Provincial Grand Lodge for guidance and instructions how to proceed; because it would be injurious to the character of the institution that any "just and upright man" should be improperly stopped from becoming a member of the Order. What I complain of is simply this, that persons have been initiated into the Order by one lodge with the full knowledge of their having been rejected by another, without the smallest communication having been made to the aggrieved lodge.

3. I have also heard that it is customary for some lodges to grant certificates to brethren for the purpose of allowing them to itinerate from lodge to lodge. Now, this is in manifold opposition to the laws of the Society as contained in the "Book of Constitutions," pages 64 and 97. If a brother be brought to distress "through unavoidable misfortune," there are many better ways of relieving him than by granting him a certificate—by the means of an application to the Grand Lodge, which never yet rejected the application of the unfortunate, or by a subscription among the more fortunate of the fraternity, who will not, I am persuaded, forget the peculiar period of their own initiation into Freemasonry, and refuse to assist their poor and unhappy brother, because, if they did so, they would be unworthy of the name of a Mason. But, to encourage itinerating, is not only against the constitutions of the Order, as well as prejudicial to the interests of the fraternity, but is also an encouragement to the idle, the dissolute, and the immoral to try and obtain initiation into Freemasonry, for the purpose of encouraging their vicious propensities and habits, and of making a gain of it.

4. I have heard it also mentioned (although some time since) that sometimes, at Masonic funerals, the solemnity and decency which should be regarded at so awful a season, when the body of a brother is about to be consigned to its

kindred earth, is not always observed. Now, how any one can make, or wish to make, an idle pageantry of the solemn ceremonies, as practised by the Order at that trying moment, or utter with levity the solemn words used in many of our sublime mysteries, is to me most astonishing. I trust, however, that this is but of very rare occurrence, and I shall notice it no further, otherwise than by remarking that solemn music, and not light and merry airs, should accompany the body of a brother "to the house appointed for all living;" and that, after the solemnities of the interment, it would be more respectful to the memory of our deceased friend to retire to our several homes, rather than to spend the remainder of the day, perhaps of the night, in intemperance.

5. I wish to draw your attention, in the next place, to the subject of "by-laws" of lodges. You will easily remember that, more than twelve months since, a memorandum was inserted in the customary quarterly communication from the Grand Lodge, ordering every lodge to send forthwith a copy of their by-laws to the Grand Lodge, and stating that, until they were approved of by it, they could not be valid. This was nothing more than a repetition of a section of the "Book of Constitutions." I hope that every lodge in this division of the country has obeyed the order. If any have not, I trust they will immediately correct their negligence. The necessity of by-laws is most essential to the sociability and regularity of a lodge; for instance, what authority has any lodge to charge more than £3 13s. 6d. (the least sum fixed by the "Book of Constitutions") for the initiatory fee of a candidate into the Order without a by-law sanctioning it? and then, as I have just observed, it is of no force unless it have received the approval of the Grand Lodge. The same thing may be said of lodge seals. They are of no use whatever. It is irregular to use them until the impressions have been sent to, and they have received the approval of, the Grand Lodge.

6. Another observation I have to make. It is this,—You all know that the profound wisdom of the Order has directed that all religious and political discussion shall be excluded from our meetings, though, at the same time, Freemasonry inculcates the strictest obedience to the laws of any country in which we may reside. Now, it is against the laws of our own which, I think, some lodges offend, when they hold their meetings on Sunday. Our meetings are usually held at inns. Now, you know that most of such places are ordered to be closed at a particular hour of the night on Sunday, as well as on certain hours during the day-time. Do we not, then, offend against the laws of our country when we hold our meetings on the Sunday? And, granted that our meetings be conducted with sobriety and temperance, yet, by holding them on the above-mentioned day, do we not give reason to those

ignorant of the purpose and design of Freemasonry to speak needlessly ill of it? Upon this point I speak delicately; but I wish you to give it your most serious consideration.

7. I think the practice is irregular in those lodges, who allow initiated members to pay their fee, due at their initiation, at many, many payments. This custom appears to me to be at variance with the law contained in the "Book of Constitutions," and I wish to see it, if so, done away with.

Lastly. I am sorry to hear that certain members belonging to a lodge have left it, without assigning any reason for their withdrawal; and I am more especially grieved to learn that such brethren have left it without discharging certain debts which the said lodge had against them. I trust such will see their very unmasonic conduct, and will do that which is right, if not for their own characters, nevertheless for the welfare and respectability of Freemasonry.

In making the foregoing observations to you, brethren, you must not think that I am finding unnecessary fault. You must all be aware that it is my duty to notice any irregularities I may know of, because if such be not noticed how can they be amended? There would, indeed, be no reason to blame at all if lodges would keep up to the Masonic rules, of "admitting worthy men and worthy men alone," to the privileges of the Order. A "little leaven leaveneth the whole lump;" and it is astonishing what one unworthy member may do to injure the Order. But at the same time that I make these observations I am happy to hear of the general prosperity of the fraternity; so far as I am concerned, I rejoice at hearing that since we last met many respectable and worthy individuals have joined the fraternity—a sure sign that it is appreciated as it ought. I trust that what I have said (as I have done so with the utmost candour and fraternal feeling) will be received with that cordiality, and acted upon with that readiness which recommendations coming from your Provincial Grand Master (however unworthily he may fill the station) should merit. I thank you for your attendance here to-day. I trust we may meet for many years to come, and that every revolving one may find us increasing not only in numbers, but in merit, worth, and respectability; practising more earnestly the sublime lessons taught in our Order, "brotherly love, relief, and truth;" and honouring all men, loving the brotherhood, fearing God, and honouring the king.

REPOSE IN ACTION.—The most difficult acquirement in action, and the most important, is that of standing still. An actor is several years acquiring the power of standing still. Repose of manner is the last acquirement of the great artist in any sphere of art, and even of the man of business. The more energetic the artist is, the more important to him is this repose. The storm is never so awful as when preceded by perfect stillness.—C. W. Smith's *Clerical Elocution*.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

A MASONIC DINNER AT NASSAU.

[A well known brother who has recently returned from Nassau has favored us with a most amusing specimen of Masonic reporting. It is really too good to be lost and may be amusing to others besides ourselves. The note that accompanies it states it was "written by a military officer, a brother Mason, present. The speech is a close parody of that delivered by the presiding W.M."]

THE MASONS.

AN EPISODE OF "NASSAUVIAN" LIFE.

(By our Arch-Correspondent.)

The Procession.

On the morning of the 27th of December, the Masons of Nassau marched in Masonic Order, with banners above, band in front, whilst aprons, trowels, compass, square, rule, and other insignia of little arch, middle arch, grand arch, and those not in the least arch, floated below.

The Masonic train stepped majestically to some mysterious music, which, by distance rendered sweet, sounded not unlike a melody of "the Dead March in Saul" and the "Wedding of Ballyporeen."

I suppose it represented some allegorical union between the days of Solomon the Wise, and the hod-men of the 18th century.

The van was composed of a number of excited bipeds, of both genders, who danced to their own song, and waved their hands to a gay and eccentric measure. The flanks were hedged in by creatures of similar conformation, and the rear closed by a considerable concourse, in various costumes, and of various ages. I am happy to say that, without an exception, the whole shouted joyously.

The scene attained the maximum of excitement, as the modern representatives of the builders of departed temples and the founders of the ancient Arch, filed with drooping banners into the cathedral; and the applause of the free and enlightened citizens for a moment drowned the resounding melody of the band, and almost startled that curious piece of workmanship supposed to represent the "Great Columbus."

The service over, and the usual signs given, the banners were again hoisted, and the band again aroused responsive echoes from the throats of the shoeless and hatless, who again danced, if not lightly, at least tolerably sprightly, to tunes of impromptu native talent as the now edified brethren departed to the hall of dining.

The simple and elegant forms of the Craft, I deeply regret, were lost to sight amid the confused crowd of arms, legs, and hands, which gesticulated frantically around.

The banners, however, were perceptible, and I well knew, by their graceful undulatory movements, that each bearer bore himself with cadenced step; and hence concluded that each wore visage worthy the solemnity of the occasion.

The welcome of the crowd was so loud and well sustained, that had I been an inhabitant of "Luna" on a Christmas visit to mother Earth, and consequently uninitiated into the habits and customs of its dusty inhabitants, I should have concluded that each limb in that particularly dark brown rag-tail assembly

had been gifted with a particular tongue, and that each tongue gave forth, with double force, "All hail, the Masons!"

THE DINNER.

The hall of the assembling Masons was graced with a considerable display of greens, gracefully arranged in star-compass and straight-line pattern, instructively and pleasingly interspersed with mottoes significant of the past and present glories of the sublime order. "Ex pede Herculum"—"Judge us by the size of our feet." "Nemo mortalium omnibus horis sapit"—"No man is at all times a fool." "In hoc signo rides"—"By this sign thou must laugh."—"Tout bien on rien."—"Go the whole hog;" and many others which we unfortunately fail to recollect.

The tables were laden with viands and vine juice in many forms, and the bitter beer of Bass was strongly represented.

The band crashed and clashed forth sonorous sounds as each emblematically-decorated brother, with quiet dignity, removed the beaver and took place at the festive board.

At first there was a little confusion as to the use of napkins. Some reasonably concluded that, as the weather was cold, many must have caught cold and, applying the cloths to nasal service, felt gratified.

Others of fiercer temperament rejected with indignation the napkins as memorials of baby-tuckers which careful mammas pin under infant chins to economise washing.

There were a few complaints not "loud but deep," at the sharpness of the knives, which, through forgetfulness, excitement, or inadvertence, performed fork duty, and cut what was not intended for carving: however, no accident occurred which could demand the attention of the coroner.

There was a slight dispute as to the utility of finger-glasses. The discussion, however, was satisfactorily settled by a learned member, who proved that such things were invented by the Masons of Pompeii and Herculaneum for the purpose of cleansing eyebrows and beard before supper, and hence held places as objects of veneration at the dining-tables of the Craft.

The entertainments of the evening were too various to be described;—too intellectual to be criticised;—too "spiritual" to be comprehended;—too harmonious to admit of fault-finding. In fact, my tendencies being Masonic, I decline to elaborate: if I would, I could not; if I could, we should not, and therefore confine myself to the address of the Grand Arch, or president.

THE ADDRESS.

Gents. and Brother Masons:—We are assembled once more, I am happy to say, to commemorate, to display, to extol the quantity and quality of our glorious Order. (Loud cheers, and hear, hear.) You respond with cheers and hear, hear. For the first I am more than grateful, but for the last I have a question to ask. (Cries of "Say it out.") You say hear, hear, but do all here know the origin, the growth, the establishment, the greatness, of the Society of which we this day are the humble representatives? (Hear, hear, mixed with shouts of "I guess we do.") The Templars were Masons, and the Templars were men of the Temple, and the men of the Temple were the children of Solomon, and therefore wise, (Cries

"Of course, of course.") The ancient Christians who fought with Julius Cæsar were Masons, for they had signs and performed wonders. ("Sartanly, sartanly.") But we go further back, gentlemen, for the signs of our great society. We go back to the subsidence of the Flood. (A general expression of awe.) After the flood, brother Masons, when King Belus built a tower, that towered so uncommonly high that no man, without the aid of an opera glass, could see the top of it; at that period, I say, you will find the history of our origin in the pages of the immortal Josephus. (Cheers, with cries of "We've read all.") At that period the confusion of tongues was so great that when the Master Mason called for mortar, the hodman rushed to the nearest chemist's shop and seized a pestle, and everything became so confused with the confab that King Belus, when he called for his matutinal coffee, was presented with bitter beer. Then, I say, was our distinctive, distinguished, and unextinguishable Craft established. (Loud cheers, intermixed with cries of "How well larn'd.") King Belus summoned the head masons and established a code of signs, by which all true masons might know mortar from pestle, and render no mistake possible between coffee and bitter beer. (Hear, hear, with cheers from excited members.) King Hiram, the head carpenter of King Solomon, who cut away all the cedars of Lebanon, was a Master Arch, and gave us, for a sign and remembrance, the compass; which means all square, or all round my hat. (Cheers, cheers, more cheers.) And Bellisarius, the great general of the greater Constantine, introduced the sign of unfortunate brethren when in search of Pabulum. (Much excitement at the profound learning of the speaker.) The accidental, intuitive, instinctive, and, I may add, instructive lengthening of the nose, by the application of the expanded digits, notwithstanding its vulgar use, is a great and wonderful sign, and traceable to days of remotest antiquity. (Cheers.) But I must conclude, gentlemen and brother Masons (cries of "I guess you ought"), with a bumper, and with earnest trust that we may at all times prove ourselves worthy representatives of our founder King Belus the confused and Bellisarius the forlorn.

The speaker, amid loud cheers, collapsed after his bumper.

(From *Young Punch*, published at Nassau, New Providence.)

MASONIC BY-LAWS.

I have in my possession the by-laws of the Emerald Lodge (No. 139), Mountmelick, Queen's County, Ireland, dated 1844, and among them I find, "No. 29. That the costume of the brethren of this lodge shall consist of a rifle-green dress coat with lodge button, white vest with lodge button, dark trousers, with black stock or cravat." Is this the custom among our Irish brethren?—T. L. J. W.

VEILED LANGUAGE.

Is there any Dictionary of Synonymes which will give me a clue to the veiled language, such as used by Lord Bacon in his *New Atlantis*?—STUDENS.—[Yes. Millott's *History of the Troubadours*. Send a note, stating where you will be sure to be found, and you shall have a private letter. If we were to print a key we should raise such a hue and cry that the consequences would be anything but pleasant to us.]

MATERIALISM AND FREEMASONRY.

A long letter on this subject lately came to hand. My answer must be short. In the last century the Materialists were, for the most part, Atheists, as La Mettrie and the Baron D'Holback. In the present century the case is, as I believe, different. Cabanis and Broussais did not exclude God from their systems. A candidate for initiation into Freemasonry, who is known to be a Materialist, ought not, in my opinion, to be rejected, unless also known to be an Atheist.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

VIRTUES.

Every virtue gives a man a degree of felicity of some kind. Honesty gives a man a good report; justice, estimation; prudence, respect; courtesy and liberality, affection; temperance, health; and fortitude, a quiet mind, not to be moved by adversity.—J. J.

Aholiab.

It is rumoured in art circles that Mr. Holman Hunt has consented to execute a picture for the series of decorations now in progress in the upper arcade of the south court, South Kensington Museum. The subject will be the figure of Aholiab, the companion of Bezaleel in the decoration of the Temple.—MAHL-STICK.

AUM.

Wanted, references explanatory of the Hindoo AUM, which appears to have an affinity to certain Royal Arch words.—*.*.—[See Higgins's *Anacalypsis*, and the Reverend C. W. King's *The Gnostics and their Gems*.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Your correspondent who signs himself "A Mason but no Knight" in the FREEMASONS MAGAZINE of the 20th inst., takes exception to the proceedings of the Royal Kent Encampment of Knights Templar on the occasion of their anniversary meeting on Good Friday last, as reported in your issue of April 22nd.

The communication in question did not emanate officially from the encampment, and, had the writer previously submitted his report to me, I should have been most unwilling for it to have appeared, as the proceedings are reported more in the spirit of the festivals of Craft Masonry than in that in which our meeting was really conducted.

The "banquet," to which so much prominence is given, was but such refreshment as the members, many of them coming from long distances, were fairly entitled to, and was partaken of in our own lodge room. The "toasts" were confined to our drinking to the good health of the chiefs of our Order and the rulers of the encampment, while the "speechifying"

was but the few words of thanks that appropriately followed.

The "harmony and good-fellowship which always," &c., was that harmony only that allows no discordant feelings to arise, and the "good-fellowship" such as naturally appears amongst members of a community who seldom meet except upon this or similar occasions. I can fearlessly assert that the Sir Knights of the Royal Kent Encampment will yield to none in their veneration for the sacred principles of their Order, or of respect for the day upon which their anniversary is held.

In conclusion, I would remind your correspondent that the "odd (not to say silly) designation Sir Knight" is the one, history informs us, that was borne by our predecessors from the foundation of the fraternity, centuries ago; and the Knight Templar of the present day can scarcely be blamed (much less held up to ridicule) if they prefer to retain it.

Trusting that you may find space for this reply,

I am, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours truly and fraternally,

ROBERT J. BANNING, M.D.,

Registrar of the Royal Kent Encampment of Knights Templar.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, May 31st, 1865.

MASONIC FUNERALS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In a few remarks on Masonic funerals, "Christian Charity" last week said a reply had been sent from Jersey to an inquiry in your number of May 6th, containing a reference to what had been done "on one occasion" which was "totally beside the point." If this correspondent will again examine the query and the reply, he will perhaps come to a different conclusion. In the latter he will find mention made of *four* occasions of Masonic funerals under circumstances which varied much, and it is conceived that in one or other of these will be found the information "Z. A. Z." required. First, he wanted to hear of some brethren who had "seen a Masonic funeral;" secondly, "to know if the Masonic burial service, when used, supersedes the beautiful liturgy of the Prayer-book;" thirdly, "if the clergyman's consent to use the Masonic ritual was obtained or not." As the trouble of examining the four references given appears to be too great for "Christian Charity," who certainly ought to look into the matter before he condemns so flippantly "H. H.," who took his pains to search out the cases, must undertake it for him, and endeavour to make the result clear to his intellect.

First, "H. H." had seen several Masonic funerals, namely, those specified. Secondly, in the case recorded at page 622, on March 30th, 1859, the deceased was a Roman Catholic, the service of his church was performed at the house in which he had resided by a priest, and with the consent of his friends, the body was then handed over to the Freemasons, who joined in the Masonic ritual, first at the lodge rooms and afterwards at the grave, which was in consecrated ground, or in the portion set apart for Roman Catholics, and therefore presumed to be so. In the second case, recorded at page 178, on March 3rd, 1860,

the deceased was a Quaker, but nevertheless desired that his body should be conveyed by the Freemasons, after the celebration of the customary rites in the lodge, to the parish church, where the first portion of the funeral service should be read by the Rev. the Provincial Grand Chaplain, and afterwards interred, in an unconsecrated ceremony, where he wished the remainder of the church liturgy to be read, and subsequently the Masonic ritual to be completed. The Provincial Grand Chaplain could not comply with the request to perform any part of the service in unconsecrated ground, for if he had done so, he would have been censured by the bishop. The rector refused admission of the body to the church under such circumstances, and the Provincial Grand Master felt that, as he had during his life dispensed with the assistance of an ordained clergyman, it would be most in accordance with his wishes to restrict the services to the Masonic ritual, the place of interment having been designated by him. In the third case, recorded on page 87, on Feb. 4th, 1865, with the consent of the friends of the deceased, no desire having been expressed by him, the body was conveyed to the Masonic Temple on the evening previous to the funeral. A portion of the Masonic ritual was given at the Temple by the Provincial Grand Master, a procession was formed to the church, where the Church of England service was read by the Provincial Grand Chaplain, and subsequently completed at the grave in a consecrated ceremony. The Provincial Grand Master then delivered the remainder of the Masonic ritual. In the fourth case, recorded at page 369, on May 13th, 1865, the Freemasons simply accompanied the body and the friends to the church and grave, and there was no service other than that directed by the Church of England, as the deceased had directed on the evening before his death. These particulars respecting the four cases furnish a reply to the second question of "Z. A. Z." The third is answered by stating that, in the first case, no Roman Catholic priest was present at the grave; that, in the second case, no clergyman of any kind took part, the deceased having been a Quaker; and that, in the last two cases referred to, the officiating clergyman was present during the whole of the proceedings, and, therefore, is presumed to have assented to them. The practice, then, seems to have been to comply, as far as possible, with the wishes of the deceased, and, where none were expressed, to adopt the provisions of the Church of England, and, in addition, the Masonic ritual.

"H. H." contents himself with thus demonstrating that his references were not "totally beside the point," and leaves to some one else to reply to the further queries of "Christian Charity," who certainly does not seem to have displayed that virtue which the title he assumes would lead us to suppose he admires.

In conclusion, an apology is due to the readers of the FREEMASONS MAGAZINE for occupying so much space with this matter, but, as the question was admitted; it is presumed that an answer is required, which "Christian Charity" might have obtained for himself had he been disposed to take the necessary trouble.

I am, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally, H. H.

Jersey, June 5th, 1865.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication was held on Wednesday last. There were present the R.W. Bro. Alexander Dobie, Prov. G.M. Surrey, as G.M. V.W. Rev. J. Bowles, D.D., Prov. G.M. Herefordshire, as D.G.M. R.W. Bros. Sir Michael E. Hicks-Beach, M.P., S.G.W.; Victor A. Williamson, J.G.W.; Lord Sherbourne, Prov. G.M. Gloucestershire; Major Alex. W. Adair, Prov. G.M. Somersetshire; Frederick Pattison, P.G.W.; John Havers, P.G.W.; Rev. J. Sedgwick, D.D., G. Chap.; Rev. C. R. Davy, G. Chap.; Sir John W. Hayes, Bart., P.G. Chap.; J. Huyshe, P.G. Chap. Bros. Aeneas J. McIntyre, G. Reg.; J. Ll. Evans, President of the Board of General Purposes; W. Gray Clarke, G. Sec.; John S. Pullen, George Cox, James Merryweather, and Chas. Beaumont, G.D.'s; Thos. Fenn, Assist. G. Dir. of Cers. as Dir. of Cers.; W. Young, P.G.S.B. as G.S.B.; W. Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec.; James Coward, G. Organist; John Emmens, G. Purst.; Thomas Lewis, Assist. G. Purst.; J. J. Blake, J. Udall, J. Savage, J. N. Tomkins, J. Nelson, G. W. K. Potter, S. B. Wilson, F. Slight, J. R. Stebbing, C. H. Gregory, J. S. S. Hopwood, Benj. Head, Henry Maudslay, and R. W. Wheeler, P.G.D.'s; Saml. E. Nutt, J. Symonds, and N. Bradford, P. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; W. E. Walmisley, R. J. Spiers, E. H. Patten, and A. A. Le Veau, P.G.S.B.'s; Joseph Smith, T. A. Adams, and D. R. Farmer, P. G. Purst.'s.

The Grand Lodge having been duly opened and with solemn prayer,

The G. SECRETARY read the minutes of the last Quarterly Communication of the 1st of March, and also the minutes of the Grand Festival of the 26th of April, which were confirmed.

ADDRESS OF CONDOLENCE TO THE GRAND MASTER.

The ACTING G. MASTER said the duty devolved upon him to bring under the notice of the brethren an address of condolence to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, on the sad affliction which had befallen his lordship by the death of the Countess of Zetland, which appeared on the paper of business for that evening. Unfortunately, that duty could not be performed by the Deputy Grand Master, from whom they had received a letter stating his inability to attend, and he greatly regretted his absence, as he would have introduced the subject with much greater eloquence than he (the Grand Master) could pretend to; but what he wanted in eloquence he would endeavour to make up for by sincerity, for after an acquaintance of upwards of forty-five years with the noble earl, this was to him anything but an agreeable duty. The noble earl had been married to the late countess for upwards of forty years, and the least Grand Lodge could do to testify their esteem and regard was, by voting such an address as would meet the feelings of the noble lord whom they all respected, and those who knew him the most, by them was he the most respected. In his domestic circle he had lost his right hand, for he was most attached to the noble countess, and he was sure that all would agree with him in an address, praying that the Great Architect of the Universe would support him, and give him strength in his severe and trying affliction, and all he had then to do was to read an address which had been put into his hands; and if any brother had any suggestion to make it more perfect, he was sure that it would be at once agreed to. He then read the address, expressing the deep regret of the Grand Lodge at the affliction which had fallen upon the

noble lord by the loss of the partner of his life, and conveying the warmest sympathy with him in his hour of affliction.

Bro. Dr. BOWLES, Prov. G.M. for Herefordshire, seconded the motion.

The G. MASTER then put the motion, the entire brethren rising, and it was carried unanimously.

ERASURE OF LODGES FROM THE LIST.

The PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES said that, as the London and North-Western Lodge of Fidelity (No. 616), Crewe, and the South Suffolk Lodge (No. 627), Sudbury, had neglected to make the prescribed returns and payments, and had been duly summoned to show cause why they had not done so, he regretted that it became his duty to move that those lodges be erased from the list.

The G. REGISTRAR seconded the motion, which was put, and carried unanimously.

PAST GRAND PURSUIVANT.

The G. MASTER said, as acting Grand Master on that occasion, he had to move—"That Bro. Thomas G. Dickie, late Grand Pursuivant, do take rank and wear clothing as a Past Grand Pursuivant. It was usual to grant this privilege, and it was enjoyed by his predecessors in office.

The G. REGISTRAR seconded the motion, which was put, and agreed to.

THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

The next business on the paper was the election of members to form the Board of General Purposes.

The G. MASTER said he had again great pleasure in appointing Bro. Llewellyn Evans to be President of that Board. (Applause.)

THE COLONIAL BOARD.

The election of brethren to constitute the members of the Colonial Board was next proceeded with.

THE ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of Management of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows were duly elected.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

On the motion of Bro. Llewellyn Evans, the report of the Board of General Purposes was taken as read; and in moving that it be received and entered on the minutes he said there was only one paragraph in it to which he wished particularly to call the attention of Grand Lodge, and that was the third, which was as follows:—

"The Board desires to call the attention of Masters and Wardens of lodges in the London district to the law in the 'Book of Constitutions,' page 76, section 7, which provides that they shall, within one month after appointment in each year, respectively sign their names in a book at the office of the Grand Secretary. The Board regret to find that the breach of this regulation is of very frequent occurrence. This is a Masonic offence resulting in great inconvenience, and the Board trust that their having called attention to the matter will insure a better observance of the law."

He thought it would be necessary to call the attention of those brethren who were present, amongst whom there might be young Masters and Wardens, to a subject which had been often neglected; for by the "Book of Constitutions" they were required, within a month after their appointment to such offices, to sign their names in a book at the office of the Grand Secretary, and the neglect of doing so had led to great inconvenience.

Bro. GREGORY, P.G.D., wished, before the motion was put,

that the President of the Board would explain the meaning of paragraph 2 in the report, which was as follows:—

"The Board have had their attention called to the want of sufficient safeguards which appears to exist in the present mode of admitting brethren to Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communications. They have consequently directed certain instructions to be drawn up for the guidance of the Scrutineers, and these, if properly attended to under the supervision of the Grand Pursuivant and his assistant, will, they trust, answer the object intended."

The PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES said there had not been a sufficient amount of care on the part of the Scrutineers in inquiring into the proper status of brethren claiming admission into the Grand Lodge, and it had been found that young Masters appointed to that office had not been sufficiently strict in the performance of their duty, and that was why the Board had drawn up regulations for the admission of brethren to Grand Lodge, which they trusted would be better observed for the future. The Board thought there should be some regulations drawn up which they could place in the hands of the Scrutineers, and if they did not observe them there would be just grounds for blaming them.

Bro. GREGORY said he was not aware that anyone had obtained admission into Grand Lodge improperly, and if there had not, then the existing rules must be deemed sufficient for the purpose. He had, however, no desire to say any more upon the subject, or did he intend to move an amendment.

Bro. CLABON, Vice-President of the Board of General Purposes, drew the attention of the Grand Lodge to a statement which had been made on a former occasion, that the Board of Benevolence was spending money too fast in the monthly grants that were made to distressed Freemasons, and it was said at one time that they only had £6 19s. 9d. in hand; but the fact was, that they had made three investments in the funds during the preceding year, instead of as in former years only one, and indeed they had funded too much, which reduced the money in hand to the sum stated; but he found that the receipts during the last year to the Fund of Benevolence were £4,100, while the expenditure was only £3,200, leaving a surplus in hand of £900. Therefore, he said, there was no ground for blaming the Board of Benevolence that they were spending too much money. He wished to ask the brethren, however, whether they were content to go on accumulating money contributed to the Board of Benevolence—(cries of "No, no!")—instead of spending it upon poor Masons who now stood in need of it?

Bro. J. R. STEBBING, P.G.D., said it appeared to him that the speech of the Vice-President of the Board of General Purposes was to induce a more lavish expenditure by the Board of Benevolence, but if a committee was appointed he was prepared to show that a good deal of the money voted by the Board of Benevolence was given away very uselessly. He hoped the time would come when the Grand Lodge would take in hand the affairs of the Board of Benevolence, when he should be able to show how the money might be applied to the benefit of petitioners, and not, as at present, when it in some cases for a few months kept the recipients from the poor-house. He hoped that Grand Lodge would concur in the appointment of a committee to consider the subject, and see how the funds could be spent more judiciously.

Bro. HAYERS, P.G.W., while giving Bro. Clabon credit for his exertions, said he had asked the brethren whether they were to go on accumulating the funds of the Board of Benevolence, and there was a cry of "No, no;" but he said "Yes, yes," for they were pledged to support their annuitants, and they ought to put something by for a rainy day, or a national calamity. When

they had done that, and made such a provision, then, and not till then, ought they to cease to accumulate.

Bro. WYNNE said he should be very sorry to see the hands of the Board of Benevolence tied, and he hoped that the remarks which had been made would induce the Board to be more generous in the next year than they had been in the last.

The report was then received, and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

To the report was subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on the 12th instant, showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £6,053 12s. 6d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash, £50. Of these sums, there belongs to the Fund of Benevolence, £1,429 11s. 8d.; to the Fund of General Purposes, £4,200 13s. 5d.; and in the Unappropriated Account, £473 7s. 5d.

REPORT OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE.

On the motion of Bro. HAVERS, P.G.W., and Chairman of the Building Committee, the report was taken as read.

Bro. HAVERS then moved that the report be received and entered on the minutes; and he said that there was nothing, as far as he was aware of, arising out of the report which required explanation, but if any questions were put to the committee he, as chairman, should be most happy to answer them.

No question being put, the motion for the report being received and entered on the minutes was agreed to.

THE ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The G. SECRETARY presented a printed book which, he said, was the annual report of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, dated the 19th of May, 1865, which was received.

THE MARK DEGREE.

The G. SECRETARY commenced reading a long memorial from the Grand Chapter of Scotland, on the subject of the Mark degree, and whether its working would be recognised by the Grand Lodge of England, when

Bro. GREGORY, P.G.D., rose to ask whether such a communication could be received; but the Grand Secretary, after a slight pause, proceeded with the reading of the document.

Bro. J. R. STEBBING then rose to order, and said, as they did not recognise the Grand Chapter of Scotland, they could not recognise anything that might spring from it, and he must press the question whether that Grand Lodge could recognise the memorial coming from the Grand Chapter of Scotland.

Bro. BRACKSTONE BAKER said he submitted, with Bros. Stebbing and Gregory, that they were not in order in receiving a memorial in the Grand Lodge of England from the Grand Chapter, which was not recognised even by the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

Bro. GREGORY said he was sure that, if a body calling itself the Grand Conclave of Knights Templar of England were to send a memorial to the Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary would not read it.

The G. REGISTRAR said that, when they received a communication couched in respectful language from a body of Masons who, rightly or wrongly, were banded together under a particular title, it was their duty to give such persons a direct and courteous answer, so that the question they put might be set at rest. He would not go into the question as to whether the Grand Chapter was recognised by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, or not, but he was prepared to submit a resolution in answer to the persons calling themselves Mark Masters, which, he hoped, would declare for ever how that Grand Lodge was disposed to receive them.

Bro. the Rev. J. HUYSHÉ, D. Prov. G.M. for Devonshire, and P.G. Chap., said he did not often address Grand Lodge, but as these documents had been sent to them by Free and Accepted Masons, it would be most uncourteous not to send them back an answer.

The G. SECRETARY then completed the reading of the documents, which contained the following questions:—

1st. If the Grand Lodge of England is prepared to sanction the working of the Mark Master's degree in England.

2nd. Whether the Grand Lodge is prepared to recognise the body styling itself "The Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England, Wales, and the Colonies and Possessions of the British Crown" as the lawful head of the Order of Mark Masters in England.

The G. REGISTRAR then said as the memorial from the Grand Chapter of Scotland, which had been read, was before Grand Lodge, it was his duty, as one of its officers, to propose a resolution; but before he proceeded with that subject, he must say that Bro. Gregory was not quite right when he said that Grand Lodge did not recognise the Grand Chapter of Scotland; for if a brother was exalted in the Grand Lodge of Scotland, he was eligible to be admitted as a joining member of the Grand Chapter of England, and to that extent it was recognised. He contended to a courteous communication they ought to return a courteous reply; but whether they could sanction the working of the Mark Masters' Degree in England, or recognise the body styling itself the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England, Wales, and the Colonies and Possessions of the British Crown, that must depend entirely upon the "Book of Constitutions;" and at page 17 of that book it was there pointed out and laid down and adopted by that Grand Lodge what constituted ancient and pure Freemasonry. That consisted of three degrees, and three degrees only—that of the Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft, and the Master Mason, including the holy Order of the Royal Arch, which was the crowning step of Master Masons of this country, and which recognised only those degrees; and until they erased the page of the "Book of Constitutions" to which he had referred, they could recognise no other. That was agreed to when a solemn union took place between the two Grand Lodges; and he concluded by moving a resolution to the effect that a reply be sent to the Grand Chapter of Scotland, stating that as the "Book of Constitutions" only recognised the degrees of Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, including the Royal Arch, that they could give no sanction to the working of the Mark Degree.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES seconded the motion, and said as the article in the "Book of Constitutions" was a fundamental law laid down on a former occasion at the union of the two Grand Lodges, it was not competent for that Grand Lodge to alter it. At the same time, he thought they ought to give the Grand Chapter of Scotland a courteous answer to their memorial.

Bro. GREGORY said he cordially supported the observations which had been made by the Grand Registrar and the President of the Board of General Purposes, and he only wished that the same courtesy had been shown to other Masons who called themselves by another name than that of Mark Masters. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. STEBBING said he would not propose an amendment to the resolution in the few observations he should make upon the subject, as it was not improbable this question would come before the Grand Lodge on some other occasion, but he was glad to find the resolution of the Grand Registrar did not answer the question whether they would sanction the working of the Mark Degree in this country. He passed that by, and

referred to the "Book of Constitutions," and it said that the "Book of Constitutions" did not sanction it. He was desirous that the time should come when Grand Lodge should discuss the question on its own merits, for it was a degree that was recognised in different parts of the world, and if the Grand Lodge of England recognised it, although by so doing it might offend a few persons, it would add largely to the funds of Freemasonry. He found that the Grand Chapter of Scotland issued commissions, and if those brethren were allowed to be exalted in the Grand Chapter of England, then the whole thing was done. With regard to what the "Book of Constitutions" said, that was compiled many years ago, and at various times it had been hacked about in a most lamentable manner; and as regards the adoption of the Mark Degree, the report of a committee which recommended its adoption by the Grand Lodge was adopted by about two-thirds, but by a principle which was better understood in Grand Lodge than anywhere else, the minutes were not confirmed. He contended that the question was not advanced or thrown back by that discussion, and he (Bro. Stebbing) did not wish it to be raised that night, but when it was raised, he hoped it would be by the Mark Masters of England, and not by the Grand Chapter of Scotland.

Bro. HAVERS said it required something for a man to address his fellow men when he wanted to say something and had got something to say, but it was far more difficult when he had nothing to say; and yet was able to make a capital speech, which was what Bro. Stebbing had done that night. (Bro. Stebbing: I am very much obliged to you.) He (Bro. Havers) was in hopes that he would have raised the question that night, but he had not done so, although he had told them one or two points he had taken from his stand-point of view. Bro. Stebbing looked at those things from one point of view, when he told them, in so many words, that if the Grand Chapter of Scotland received a courteous answer to their communications then they would recognise that body, but that was a statement which he did not think Grand Lodge was disposed to admit. Bro. Stebbing said they wished to get rid of the subject, but he (Bro. Havers) said they were always prepared to discuss it, and by the discussion of it to maintain the pure principles of Freemasonry. He had told them that Grand Lodge had appointed a committee to consider this subject, and that their report met with a general approval; but by some strange means, better understood in Grand Lodge than anywhere else, the minutes were not confirmed. The Grand Lodge received the report of the committee, but they reported that they were not prepared to say that the Mark Degree formed an essential part of Freemasonry. At the time this report was presented, he (Bro. Havers) was confined to his bed with a fever, but on his moving that the minutes be not confirmed, the Grand Master withdrew his approval of the report of the committee, and the non-confirmation of the minutes was carried by a large majority. As to what was called Christian Freemasonry, whether it was the Grand Conclave of Knights Templar or the high order of the Rose Croix, if any communication was sent he thought it should be received with all courtesy; and as regarded the Knights Templar, as the Duke of Sussex was Grand Master of that Order, he thought that they, as Masons, should wish them God speed, and that any communications from them should be received in the most courteous spirit. He hoped, however, that this discussion in Grand Lodge would not revive a feud which existed many years ago, but which now, happily, had died out. While on this subject he might be permitted to refer to their old friend Preston, who, in his "Illustrations of Masonry," written more than half a century ago, had said that which was just as applicable to the present time. The worthy brother

then read a passage from Preston in which it spoke of enthusiastic Masons endeavouring to amplify their present system or to go in search of new degrees; but while adhering to the pure original forms of Freemasonry, he said he saw no harm in their being allowed to indulge themselves in innocent amusements. There never were truer words ever written, and he saw no reason why they should interfere with brethren if they chose to play at being Grand Masters; but let them do it inoffensively and they would never complain. While they did this he thought they ought not to come to them and ask them to erase the first page of the "Book of Constitutions" on Freemasonry, for in it was found a chain which would preserve them for all time unchanged and unchangeable. (Cheers.)

Bro. BINCKES hoped that the consideration of this question, whether the Mark Degree was recognised or unrecognised, would have gone on without his taking part in it, and that nothing would have induced him to break through the rule, which four years ago, he had laid down; but after the observations of Bro. Havers, he thought he should be unworthy of the position he held, did he not bring back Grand Lodge to the subject which had been forced upon him by the remarks of Bro. Havers. Two questions, distinct and categorical, had been put to them, and with the replies proposed by the Grand Registrar to be given to them—and he looked upon his resolution as a very proper one—he thought the discussion should have been closed. Bro. Havers had said that when the committee brought up their report, they said that they did not consider the Mark Degree to be an essential part of Freemasonry, but they added that they thought it would be a graceful appendage to the second degree. With reference to the passage from Preston, that could not possibly refer to the Mark Degree, for that had been practised in the land before ever Preston was born or thought of, and, therefore, he could not have had the Mark Degree in his mind when he penned those remarks to which Bro. Havers had referred. In other parts the Mark Degree was considered to be an essential part of Freemasonry, and there might be in the colonies lodges acting under the Grand Lodge of Scotland or Ireland who wished to have the Mark Degree; but the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters never wished to place it in antagonism with the Grand Lodge of England, and in every way they hedged themselves round in the issue of any new warrant that no course should be taken antagonistic to the Grand Lodge, or subversive of its rules and regulations; but on the contrary they impressed on every Mark Master a reverend sense of the obligations that were due to the Grand Lodge of England. He had made these observations conscientiously, for he believed if he had not done so he should have been guilty of a gross dereliction of his duty.

After a few words from Bro. STEBBING, the resolution of the Grand Registrar was put and carried.

PROPOSED MASONIC INSTITUTION IN VICTORIA.

The G. SECRETARY read a copy of a report made by a special Charitable Institutions' Committee to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Victoria, with respect to the proposed formation of a local Masonic Asylum for Aged Decayed Freemasons and their Widows, a Girls' School and a Boys' School for Orphan Children, and those of Decayed Freemasons, as nearly similar as circumstances will permit to those established under the sanction of the United Grand Lodge of England; and a resolution passed thereon soliciting the Grand Lodge to support the objects sought to be obtained by a donation towards its funds.

The G. REGISTRAR said these communications had been deposited with the Grand Secretary, and for some days the bre-

thren had had an opportunity of reading them, and from them it appeared to be the desire of the brethren to found three great Masonic Charities in Victoria, similar to those in this country, and that a grant of land had been made to them of sufficient extent to enable buildings to be erected for their three great Charities. They had raised amongst themselves a considerable sum of money, but they were desirous of receiving pecuniary aid from the three Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland. He believed that such institutions would be productive of great good, and as far as the Grand Lodge of England was concerned they wished them God-speed, but with the great works they had in hand their funds were mortgaged, and they could not at present render them pecuniary aid, but he trusted at some future time the Grand Lodge of England would contribute to them, and with no niggardly hand. He moved a resolution sympathising with the object, but from the demands upon them they were at present unable to render pecuniary aid.

Bro. UDALL, P.G.D., seconded the motion.

The motion was put and agreed to.

THE DISTRICT GRAND LODGES OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

The G. SECRETARY read a memorial from the District Grand Lodge of South Australia, setting forth certain alleged inconveniences, and praying—

1st. That District Grand Lodges be assimilated in their functions to the Grand Lodge.

2nd. That they shall not cease to exist on the death or resignation of the Provincial Grand Master.

3rd. That they shall have the power of investigating, regulating, and deciding all matters relative to the Craft or the particular lodges, or to individual brothers within their respective districts; which they may exercise either of themselves or by such delegated authority as in their wisdom or discretion they may appoint—their decisions in all cases to be regulated by the "Book of Constitutions," and subject to appeal to Grand Lodge.

A letter was also read from the Provincial Grand Master of South Australia, stating that he was opposed to the prayer of the memorialists.

Bro. M'INTYRE, after a few observations, moved that the memorials be referred to the Board of General Purposes, who had already entered into the consideration of the question by the direction of the Grand Master, that the President and Vice-President of the Colonial Board should attend to render assistance, and that the Board should be directed to report with the least possible delay.

Bro. SAVAGE, P.G.D., seconded the motion.

Bro. LLEWELLYN EVANS supported the resolution, which was put and carried unanimously.

COALS FOR THE ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

Bro. JOHN UDALL, P.G.D., moved:—"That the sum of £50 be given from the Fund of General Purposes, and placed in the hands of the Secretary, to supply the inmates of the Asylum of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, with coals."

Bro. J. SMITH, P.G. Purst., seconded the motion.

Bro. STENBING supported the motion, and hoped that this would be made a permanent charge rather than an annual grant.

The motion was put and agreed to.

There being no further business, Grand Lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer, and adjourned shortly before ten o'clock.

METROPOLITAN.

CRYSTAL PALACE LODGE (No. 742).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 1st inst., when Bro. John Bertrand was installed as successor to Bro. John Smith, who vacated the chair after a most successful year of office. Numerous visitors, including Bro. John Emmens, the G. Purst., favoured the lodge with their company, and enjoyed one of the most happy meetings ever held in this popular lodge.

PROVINCIAL.

DEVONSHIRE.

SIDMOUTH.—Lodge *Perseverance* (No. 164).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 31st ult. The lodge having been opened by the W.M., Bro. Hodge, Prov. S.G.D., assisted by Bros. Pile, S.W., and E. H. Crate, J.W., with the rest of the officers, the minutes of last lodge were read and confirmed, after which the brethren proceeded to ballot for two candidates who had previously been proposed for initiation. The ballot proving satisfactory, they were separately admitted and impressively initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry, which ceremony was performed by Bro. Hodge, in his usual admirable style; the working tools being presented and lecture on the first tracing board delivered by Bro. E. H. Crate, J.W. There being no further business before the lodge, it was closed in harmony and peace. The brethren adjourned for a short time to refreshment, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed. In proposing the toast of "Our M.W.G.M., the Earl of Zetland," the W.M. took occasion to allude to the recent severe bereavement he had sustained through the lamented decease of the Countess of Zetland. In giving the toast, "The Officers of this Lodge," the W.M. complimented them upon the efficient manner in which they had that evening performed their duties, and said that it afforded him great satisfaction. Bro. Crate, J.W., in returning thanks on behalf of the officers, thanked the W.M. most sincerely for the very flattering manner in which they had been alluded to, and observed that where the W.M. was so correct in the performance of his duties, the officers ought, being influenced by his example, to strive by every means in their power, to render themselves in their various stations as efficient as their Master. Although the lodge was small in number, Bro. Crate trusted that would be no hindrance to its becoming as well worked as any lodge in the province. In conclusion, he gave them the health of their W.M., Bro. Hodge, which was received with immense applause. The W.M. suitably replied, and as it was found to be getting rather late, the brethren shortly after separated.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

TREWESBURY.—St. George's Lodge (No. 900).—A lodge of emergency was holden in the lodge room, at the Swan Hotel, on Friday, the 19th of May, when a large number of the members attended, amongst whom were Bros. Nathaniel Treasure, W.M.; Rev. C. W. Gove, Chap.; E. G. Stone, P.M. and P. Prov. S.G.W. Worcestershire; J. R. Yorke, M.P.; Dr. Devereux, T. W. Swinburne, Corndale Hall, P.M.; Captain Thwaites, S.W.; F. Harven, J.W.; W. H. James, S.D.; J. Garrison, J.D.; W. Brydges, Treas.; E. Gillman, Sec., &c. Bros. Fawler and Andrews were raised to the sublime degree of M.M., the ceremony being most impressively and ably performed. That being the whole of the business, the brethren retired to refreshment, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to with truly Masonic loyalty. The toast of the newly-raised brethren was acknowledged by both in brief but appropriate terms. Bro. STONE begged leave to propose the next toast; which being complied with, he said that he offered the toast with much pleasure—it was "The Health of their Worshipful Master." It was a proud position for any one to be raised to, more particularly as Master of so distinguished a lodge as the St. George's. It was the highest honour the Craft could bestow, and when a brother came to that high post, the duties he was called upon to undertake were by no means light. Bro. Treasure had a still more difficult task to enter upon, because he had to follow one who was duly recognised in Masonry as perfect in his duties; but from Bro. Treasure's work already performed, you and I can but very imperfectly estimate its value; and all he could say was

that their choice in selecting him to preside over them had, in an eminent degree, fulfilled their wishes, and that our Worshipful Master had hitherto been earnest in his duties to carry out the principles of the Craft. He then proposed the health of the W.M.—The W. MASTER, in returning thanks, said he certainly had an arduous task to perform, but he was determined to do his best to surmount the task before him. He considered that everyone called to the chair was bound by every principle to fulfil the office to the best of his ability. He hoped at the end of his year of office to have reached the summit attained by his predecessor, and, in conclusion, begged to return the kindly sentiments expressed towards him. The evening was spent in perfect harmony.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

WARRINGTON.—*Lodge of Lights* (No. 148).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, on Monday, the 29th ult. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. Gilbert Greenall, *M.P.*, the chair was occupied by the S.W., Bro. H. B. White, *P.M.*, supported by Bros. John Bowes, *P.M.* and Sec.; Rev. J. N. Porter, as S.W.; W. Smith, *J.W.*; William Robinson, as *I.G.*; G. Blackhurst, *W. K.* Walmsley, *W. Woods*, *W. Richardson*, and *Jos. Robinson*, *Tyler*. The lodge was opened in the first degree, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Bro. W. Richardson, being a candidate for promotion, was examined, and, proving proficient, was entrusted, and retired for preparation. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and the chair assumed by Bro. John Bowes, *P.M.*, who passed Bro. Richardson to the degree of a *F.C.*, after which he retired, and the lodge was opened in the third degree, when Bro. H. B. White, *P.M.*, in a feeling manner, drew attention to the fact of the demise of the R.W. Prov. G.M. for the province of West Lancashire. Bro. White then proposed, Bro. Bowes seconded, and the lodge unanimously carried the following resolution:—That the members of the lodge are desirous of recording on the minutes a vote of respect to the memory of their late R.W. Prov. G.M., Bro. Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie. It was further resolved—That the members of this lodge express their regret that, not having received any intimation that the remains of their late R.W. Prov. G.M. were to be interred with Masonic honours, they have not had an opportunity of testifying their respect in so satisfactory a manner as they could wish. The Secretary was requested to forward a copy of these resolutions to the Prov. G. Secretary. It was also resolved, on the motion of Bro. White, seconded by the Rev. Bro. Porter—That the members of this lodge beg to express their most respectful sympathy with the M.W. Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland, in his recent domestic affliction. The Secretary was requested to forward a copy of this resolution to the Grand Secretary. The lodge was then lowered to the first degree, when several communications were read, and among them an interesting address given by the late R.W. Prov. G.M. to the members of Provincial Grand Lodge assembled at Preston, on Wednesday, November 18th, 1829. The address was listened to with marked attention, and being of an eminently practical character, was duly appreciated. Bro. Bowes, *P.M.*, proposed a gentleman as a candidate for the mysteries and privileges of the Order. There being no other business, the lodge was closed in solemn form according to ancient custom.

OXFORDSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The annual Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the University Masonic Hall, Oxford, on Monday, May 22nd, under the presidency of the R.W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Henry Atkins Bowyer, *M.A.*, Prov. G.M. There was a large attendance of the brethren, and every lodge in the province was well represented.

Reports and returns from the various lodges were read and approved.

The following grants were read and approved:—The Boys' Building Fund, ten guineas; restoration of the Abbey Church at Bath, two guineas; Radcliffe Infirmary, three guineas; Medical Dispensary, five guineas; Blue Coat School, one guinea; Anti-Mendicity Society, one guinea; Alfred Benevolent Fund, Annuit Fund for Aged Freemasons and Widows, five guineas.

The Charity Committee reported that the province was represented at the three Masonic Festivals by Bro. the Rev. W. F. Short, for the Benevolent Institution, whose list amounted

to £53 15s. Bro. Hurford for the Boys' School, whose list amounted to £56 14s. Bro. Edward Handley, who replaced Bro. Hawkins for this year for the Girls' School, and whose list amounted to £79 16s., making a total from the province of £190 5s. The whole amount subscribed by the Craft at the three Festivals amounted to the unprecedented sum of £12,000. In accordance with the 18th by-law, Bro. Hurford is entitled to receive the charity medal from this Provincial Grand Lodge, and Bro. W. E. Gumbleton, the medal and bar. The committee have much pleasure in announcing that Henry William Floyd, the candidate for admission into the Boys' School was successful in his election, being placed second on the poll with 723 votes recorded in his favour.

The Prov. G.M. invested Bro. Hurford with a jewel in acknowledgment of his services as one of the Grand Stewards to the Masonic Charities, and, in the name of the province, thanked him for his zeal and interest in the cause of charity.

The Prov. G.M. expressed his regret that the pleasure of investing Bro. Gumbleton with a jewel and a bar for his many and valuable services to the various Masonic Charities, was obliged to be deferred in consequence of the absence of that brother.

The Prov. G.M. then appointed his officers for the year as follows, and invested them with their insignia of office:—

Bro. F. A. Cave-Brown-Cave.....	Prov. S.G. Warden.
„ G. Taunton.....	„ J.G. Warden.
„ Rev. J. H. Ranking	„ G. Chaplain.
„ Rev. Nelson Palmer	„ G. Assist. Chaplain.
„ P. A. Latham.....	„ G. Registrar.
„ Sir D'Arcy W. Legard.....	„ G. Secretary.
„ H. Churchill.....	„ S.G. Deacon.
„ C. C. Webster.....	„ J.G. Deacon.
„ G. H. Rainey.....	„ G. Supt. of Works.
„ E. J. Hartley.....	„ G. Dir. of Cers.
„ L. G. Robbins.....	„ G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.
„ J. Bradford.....	„ G. Sword Bearer.
„ W. Hobbs.....	„ G. Assist. Secretary.
„ J. G. Tetley.....	„ G. Organist.
„ Juggins.....	„ G. Pursuivant.
„ W. A. Thompson.....	„ Assist. G. Pursuivant.
„ E. A. Hardy.....	„ G. Stewards.
„ Wootton.....	
„ A. Wheeler.....	
„ P. B. Bernard.....	
„ Barratt.....	„ G. Tyler.
„ C. Pettit.....	
„ W. Stephens.....	
„ Moss.....	„ G. Assist. Tyler.

In investing the various officers, the Prov. G.M. addressed each in complimentary terms on their zeal in Masonry, and expressed a hope that they would fulfil their duties in a manner to entitle them to further distinction.

In addition to the Prov. G.M. and the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Alderman Spiers, *P.G.S.B.*, there were present at the lodge Bros. the Rev. J. Sedgwick, *G. Chap. of England*; W. F. Bennett, *Prov. G. Warden of Somerset*; E. Turner Payne, *Prov. G. Treas. of Somerset*; J. E. Gill, *Prov. G. Supt. of Works, Somerset*; J. L. Sothert, *W.M. of the Royal Sussex Lodge, Bath*; Dr. Fyrrer, *W.M. of the Apollo Lodge Alcester*; Rev. Oswoll Thompson, *P.G. Chaplain*; F. Binckes, *Secretary of the Royal Masonic Boys' School*; O. Talbot, *D. Prov. G.M. of South Wales*; Cave-Brown-Cave, *Prov. S.G.W. of Oxfordshire* and *W.M. of the Apollo Lodge*; G. Taunton, *Prov. J.G.W.*, and *W.M. of the Alfred Lodge*; Dr. Rye, *W.M. of the Cherwell Lodge*; Rev. J. H. Ranking, *W.M. of the Bowyer Lodge*; Past Masters, Rev. R. W. Norman, Rev. J. Farnborough, Har-rison, W. Thompson, F. Symonds, C. T. Hawkins, E. G. Bruton, Havers, H. Churchill, H. Houghton, Scroggs, Dr. Griffin, Bros. Rev. W. H. Marsh, H. Latham, Bruce-Gardyne, Sir D'Arcy W. Legard, C. C. Webster, G. H. Ramsey, E. J. Hartley, Robbins, Bradford, S. G. Tetley, A. E. Hardy, Wootton, A. Wheeler, Barratt, C. Pettit, P. B. Barrow, Juggins, Hobbs, Burch, Cunningham, J. Plowman, &c.

On the conclusion of the business the brethren, about eighty in number, proceeded to the Assembly-room, where a sumptuous entertainment, provided by the Clarendon Hotel Company, awaited them. The banquet was of the most liberal character, and was served up with such excellent and good taste as reflected great credit on the establishment.

The Prov. G. MASTER, with his characteristic liberality, con-

tributed an abundance of champagne, which, we need scarcely add, gave a crowning finish to the banquet.

Before and after the banquet grace was said by the Prov. G. Chap. Bro. Rev. J. H. Ranking.

On the removal of the cloth the Prov. G. MASTER introduced, in brief but appropriate terms, the usual loyal toasts, "The Queen and the Craft," "The Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family."

The Prov. G. MASTER in proposing the next toast, "The Grand Master of England, the Earl of Zetland," remarked that that distinguished brother had presided over the Order for twenty-one years, and during that time had fulfilled the duties of his high and responsible office with the utmost zeal and ability, and with the greatest possible kindness and courtesy to every member of the Craft. (Cheers.) The Grand Master had had the satisfaction of seeing Freemasonry flourish under his rule beyond all precedent, and that their Charities were increasing in strength and extending their usefulness year by year. Under his auspices Freemasonry had so flourished that his reign would not be soon forgotten, and there was but one wish with every member of the Craft, that the Grand Master might long be spared to rule over them. (Cheers.)

Bro. Alderman SPIERS, D. Prov. G.M., rose and said that the position which the Provincial Grand Master had given him as Deputy Provincial Grand Master conferred upon him certain privileges which he had much pleasure in exercising, and constituted him as a connecting link between the Provincial Grand Master and the brethren of the province. For ten years the Provincial Grand Master had presided over this province, and he could truly say that he had bound them together by a silken cord, instead of ruling them with a rod of iron. (Cheers.) In a province like this, where so many brethren who were pursuing their education at the University took a deep interest in Masonry, and shared in its labours and duties, it was most essential that their ruler should be qualified by education and position to do justice to that high station, and command the respect and confidence of the whole province. It was scarcely necessary to add that in their Provincial Grand Master they had had the good fortune to secure one who possessed all those qualifications, in addition to others which in every way fitted him to be at the head of this flourishing and important province. (Cheers.) As a proof of the interest which he took in Masonry, and more especially in that important branch—the Masonic Charities, he would state one fact which would speak for itself, namely, that the Provincial Grand Master had attended every one of the last four Masonic Festivals. (Cheers.) They had great reason to thank him for his liberality on all occasions, and for the efforts which he had made to promote their happiness and prosperity during the ten years he had so well and so ably presided over this province. (Cheers.) On those grounds he felt assured that they would cordially join in doing every honour to their chairman, the Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire. (Much cheering.)

The Prov. G. MASTER said he rose with renewed feelings of gratitude for the very kind and fraternal manner in which they had received the mention of his name on this as well as on every occasion. They had given him credit for a faithful discharge of his duties, and for a desire to advance the interests of Masonry in this province and the happiness of the brethren, and in that respect they had done him no more than justice. He sincerely thanked them for the kindness and assistance which they had rendered him ever since he had had the honour of presiding over this province, and while it had had the effect of lightening his labours, it had at the same time increased his love and regard for Masonry. (Cheers.) Their excellent Deputy Provincial Grand Master had remarked that he had bound them together with a silken cord instead of ruling them with a rod of iron, and he did not hesitate to say that he desired to rule them in no other way. He claimed no credit to himself, because he had only carried out the principles which had guided his predecessors, who had done so much towards placing this province in its present proud position. He begged to tender his grateful thanks to the Masters of the various lodges, and all who had held office in the province, for the support they had given him on every occasion, and more especially to the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Spiers (cheers), and felt assured that they would unite with him in testifying how highly they appreciated his services in promoting the interest and prosperity of Masonry in general, and in this province in particular. (Cheers.) His (the chairman's) stay in this province might be short, but whether long or short he should

never forget the friendships he had found or the kindness he had experienced; and wherever he went he hoped to meet with a Mason from Oxfordshire to shake him by the hand, and acknowledge him as a friend and a brother. (Cheers.)

The Prov. G. MASTER then gave "The Deputy Grand Master the Earl De Grey and Ripon, and the rest of the Grand Officers," and remarked that those who knew the Deputy Grand Master would testify that no brother was more devoted to the Order than he was, and that although he had many and onerous duties to fulfil as one of the Secretaries of State, he presented himself on every occasion when the interests of the Craft could be promoted. (Cheers.) They were honoured with the presence of some of the Grand Officers, and among them he was pleased to see Bro. Sedgwick, who had recently been appointed Grand Chaplain of England. (Cheers.) It was very gratifying to know that this province had at the present time no less than four officers in the Grand Lodge of England (cheers), they had great reason to be proud of that fact, because if those brethren had not distinguished themselves in their province, they could not have attained so high a position in the Craft. (Cheers.)

Bro. SEDGWICK, G. Chap., responded to the toast, and assured them that it afforded him great pleasure to see so many old friends in Grand Lodge, and that however unworthy he might be of the office of Grand Chaplain of England, he felt proud of the honour which had been conferred upon him, and would endeavour to fulfil its duties faithfully, and he hoped to their satisfaction. (Cheers.)

The Prov. G. MASTER said he felt assured that the brethren of this province were second to none in their desire to extend their hospitality to others, whether far or near. They were honoured on this occasion with the presence of several visitors whom they were very glad to see, and only regretted that the number was not larger, but various circumstances had prevented the attendance of many others who had been invited. He begged to connect with the toast the names of Bro. Payne, Provincial Grand Treasurer of Somersetshire, Bro. Fayer, W.M. of the Apollo Lodge of Alcester, and Bro. Binckes, the indefatigable Secretary to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, their visitors on that occasion. (Cheers.)

Bro. PAYNE thanked them for the kind reception they had given to the toast, and assured them that he duly appreciated the privilege of being present; and should it please the Great Architect of the Universe, he hoped to renew the pleasure on a future occasion. (Cheers.) It was not only a most pleasing circumstance to come among them, but it was very delightful to witness the unanimity that prevailed in the province, and the kindly feeling manifested towards the Provincial Grand Master, and his deputy, Bro. Spiers. They had great pleasure in welcoming Bro. Spiers among the Craft in Somersetshire, and in return for that compliment he (Bro. Payne) attended on this occasion. He thanked them particularly for the grant they had voted that day in lodge towards the restoration of the Abbey Church at Bath. As Masons, they treasured up the reminiscences of the past and were desirous of perpetuating them, more especially when they were, as in this instance, associated with Masonry. They found that the building bore external evidence that it was erected by their brethren, for the west front was adorned by Jacob's ladder, and the stones bore marks which indicated that they were worked by members of the Craft. The desire of Masons was to make an impression on the age, to retain the works of strength and beauty which had been handed down to them, and to show to the world that, instead of being a club or a benefit society, they desired to promote the material and highest interests of their brethren. (Cheers.) The restoration of the Abbey Church at Bath was not the only work they had undertaken in Somersetshire, for to that could be added the Church of Redcliffe, at Bristol, the Tower at Taunton, while in Devonshire they had founded a school for the education of children. (Cheers.) They wished to show that Masonry was for all time and all circumstances, and by their words and deeds to testify to the world that they loved and appreciated it. (Cheers.)

Bro. BINCKES thanked them for the cordial welcome they had given him as one of their honoured guests on this occasion. They had spoken of him in connection with one of their Masonic Charities, and he was glad to acknowledge that this province had given many practical demonstrations of the great interest which it took in that institution. He hoped they would all be spared for many years to enjoy this friendly interchange, and to witness the continued prosperity of this province, which could not fail to flourish under such auspices. He regretted,

however, to hear the chairman speak of his probable severance from this province; but he hoped that that day was far distant, and that he would long continue to rule over it, so that it might still remain as it was now—not only one of the first provinces, but an example for all provinces. (Cheers.)

Bro. FAYNER responded on behalf of the Apollo Lodge at Alcester, and expressed a hope that the brethren of Oxfordshire would afford the brethren of Warwickshire an opportunity of reciprocating the hospitality and kindly feeling which they had extended to them in so liberal a spirit on this occasion. (Cheers.)

The PROV. G. MASTER said he had a very gratifying toast to propose, which was "The Past and Present Grand Officers of the Province." (Cheers.) With respect to the past officers, he gratefully acknowledged the kind support they had given him on every occasion, and by that means they had promoted the unity and fraternal feeling which characterised the province. (Cheers.) In reference to the officers whom he had appointed this day, he had been instigated by their merits as Masons, and he doubted not that they would continue to discharge whatever duties might devolve upon them faithfully and conscientiously. (Cheers.) He begged to couple with the toast the name of Bro. Cave, the Provincial Senior Grand Warden and W.M. of the Apollo Lodge. (Cheers.)

Bro. CAVE responded to the toast, and said he felt assured that every one who held office was animated by a desire to do his utmost to assist the Provincial Grand Master or his deputy, who was the living ritual of Freemasonry in this province. They appreciated the honour of holding office under the Provincial Grand Master, and wherever he might remove to, they all hoped he would still continue to rule over this province. (Cheers.) He had held three offices under him, and had received so much kindness and consideration at his hands, that he should never forget it. (Cheers.)

The PROV. G. MASTER then proposed "Prosperity to the Lodges in the Province," and remarked that the Alfred Lodge was ably presided over by Bro. Taunton, and the Apollo Lodge by Bro. Cave. (Cheers.) The Cherwell Lodge was a bantling of his own, and he rejoiced to say that in point of efficiency it was second to none in the province; and while it was in the hands of so accomplished a Master as Bro. Rye, he felt assured that it would retain that reputation. (Cheers.) There was another and a very useful lodge, the Churchill, presided over by an excellent Mason, Bro. Hon. W. North. (Cheers.) The usefulness of that lodge was felt in this way; there were so many eminent Masons who could not in the ordinary way, during their short stay at the University, attain that position in the Craft which they so well deserved, but were enabled to do so now through the instrumentality of the Churchill Lodge. The Bowyer Lodge, at Chipping Norton, had been very recently established, and held out every promise of becoming a good working lodge and a credit to the province. The Worshipful Master was Bro. Rankin, and he was happy to say he was a child of the same lodge in which he (the chairman) was born. (Cheers.)

Bro. TAUNTON, W.M. of the Alfred Lodge, returned thanks, and said it was a source of great pleasure to him to hear the Provincial Grand Master speak in such high terms of his lodge, which he was happy to say was never in a more flourishing condition than it was at the present moment. He did not arrogate to himself any credit for that circumstance, but it was due to those who had preceded him in the chair. He hoped during his year of office, which had only just commenced, to carry on the business of the lodge with the same dignity and success as his predecessors had done, and that the same unanimity and good feeling which pervaded the lodge would long continue. (Cheers.)

Bro. CAVE, W.M. of the Apollo Lodge, also replied, and expressed a hope that the union and harmony subsisting between the Apollo and Alfred Lodges would continue undisturbed, for he knew that there was an earnest desire on the part of the officers of both lodges to assist each other. (Cheers.) With respect to his own officers, he was proud to say that there was not one who was not competent to fulfil the duties of Worshipful Master. (Cheers.) He thanked them on behalf of the Apollo Lodge for allowing them the honour of entertaining the Provincial Grand Lodge, and hoped that their efforts in that respect had met with their approval. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. RYE, W.M. of the Cherwell Lodge, briefly responded, and said he had much pleasure in stating that the lodge was in a very flourishing condition. (Cheers.)

Bro. the Rev. W. H. MARAH begged, in the absence of the W.M. of the Bowyer Lodge, to thank them for their kind remembrance of a lodge which had only recently been launched. He had been a member of the fraternity for twenty-three years, but for sixteen years he had taken little or no part in it; still, having been across the broad Atlantic, and settled in a distant colony, he was enabled to say that neither time nor distance affected Masonry, but that it was the same bond of union all over the world. He had mixed with Masons of all nations, and found that the same fraternal feeling bound them together as it did in this country. He hoped that the same harmony and brotherly love would always characterise Freemasonry, and, when they were called to the Grand Lodge above, they would reciprocate those feelings which bound them together upon the earth. (Cheers.)

Several officers of the Oxfordshire Militia and the Yeomanry, members of the Apollo Lodge, who had been dining together at the Clarendon, joined the party late in the evening, when the chairman took the opportunity of proposing their health, which was responded to in eloquent terms by Captain Stratton and other officers.

The military brethren who joined the party were Bros. Captain J. Stratton and Lieutenant H. C. Risley, of the Oxfordshire Yeomanry; Captain Crowden and Captain Harte, of the Oxfordshire Militia; and Captain Baskerville, of the 14th Hussars.

The parting toast, "To all Poor and Distressed Masons," brought the proceedings of this very happy and successful gathering to a close, and the brethren separated with grateful recollections of the hospitality and kindness so generously dispensed by the Apollo University Lodge.

ROYAL ARCH.

HAMPSHIRE.

LYMINGTON.—*New Forest Chapter* (No. 319).—The annual meeting of this chapter was held on Whit Monday, at the Masonic Hall, when Comp. Rankine Stebbing, P. Assist. G. Soj. of England, was elected and installed Z. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being conducted by the retiring First Principal, Comp. Hayward. Comps. Charles Bromley and John Milner were severally elected and installed H. and J., Comp. William Hickman, Z. of the Royal Gloucester Chapter, and P.Z. of 319, performing the ceremony of installation. Comp. Hayward was elected and invested as Treasurer; Comp. Doman, P.S.; Comps. Bath and Buttery, E. and N. Comp. Stebbing then proceeded to exalt Bro. Rogers to the degree of a Royal Arch Mason, in order to become Janitor of the chapter. Amongst the visitors were Comps. E. Coxwell, P.Z. of the Royal Gloucester Chapter, and Archer. Comp. Stebbing, in very feeling terms, proposed, and Comp. Hayward seconded, an address of condolence to the Most Excellent and Supreme Grand Principal, the Earl of Zetland, on occasion of his recent severe and irreparable loss in the death of the Countess of Zetland, and which was carried with every mark of respect and sympathy.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

LODGE LA CESAREE (No. 590).—At the usual monthly meeting on Thursday, May 25th, the lodge was opened at a quarter-past seven by the W.M. Bro. C. Le Sueur, assisted by Bros. Oatley and Chevalier, acting as Wardens in the absence of the proper officers. The minutes having been read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the second degree, and after the usual examination of Bros. Ph. Renouf and J. Le Goupillot, they were duly raised to the sublime degree of M.M. by Bro. Schmitt, the latter part of the ceremony being performed by the W.M. The lodge was then resumed in the second degree. The report of the Audit Committee was read and adopted, and the Treasurer's balance sheet was laid on the table for perusal, from which it appeared that the receipts for the year had been about £116, and the expenditure £104. Bro. Schmitt most feelingly delivered an eloquent and touching oration in memory of the late lamented Bro. Ph. Le Cras, P.M., whose sudden death was recorded in our Obituary on May 13. An address of sympathy and condolence to his widow was agreed upon, and the W.M. with four P.M.'s of the lodge were deputed to deliver it to her.

It was also resolved that the lodge should remain draped in mourning for three months. The lodge having been resumed in the first degree, Bro. Durell, P.M., took advantage of the unusual absence of Bro. P. E. Le Sueur, S.W., to notice the circumstance, and to remind the brethren of his zeal on behalf of the lodge, of the ability which he had displayed in passing through the several offices from that of I.G., of the regularity of his attendance, even at the lodges of instruction. He concluded by proposing the presentation of a S.W.'s jewel to him as a mark of appreciation of his services. This was seconded by Bro. Schmitt and agreed to. The lodge was closed at half-past nine, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room for refreshment.

ST. AUDIN'S LODGE (No. 958).—The anniversary meeting was held at the Masonic Rooms on Tuesday, May 16th. The lodge was opened at half-past five by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M., assisted by Bros. Schmitt and Mannan acting as Wardens. The minutes were read and confirmed. Bro. E. C. Malet de Carteret, W.M., arrived, and took the first chair. Bro. Newington was examined as to his proficiency in the first degree, and duly passed to the degree of P.C. by the W.M. The Secretary presented the Treasurer's balance-sheet for the year, from which it appeared that the expenditure had exceeded the receipts by about £7. This deficiency would, however, be partially covered by amounts still due to the lodge, and expenses had been incurred by the introduction of gas and the purchase of furniture, which would not occur again. The Secretary also read a long report which had been adopted by the Audit Committee, taking a retrospect of the proceedings of the past year, offering many recommendations as to the future, and, on the whole, presenting a favourable and hopeful view of the condition of the lodge. Bro. Dr. Hopkins having taken the chair, Bro. Kingsnorth, P.M., presented Bro. E. C. Malet de Carteret, who had been re-elected W.M., to receive the benefit of installation. Under these circumstances a portion of the ceremony was dispensed with. The obligation was taken, the salutes given, and the W.M. was again placed in his chair for a second year. The following appointments to office were made:—Bros. Dr. Hopkins, P.M. and Sec.; Orange, S.W.; Mannan, J.W.; C. Le Sueur, Treas.; Oatley, S.D.; Surguy, J.D.; Vint, Dir. of Cers.; Watson, I.G.; Bullen, Tyler. The lodge was resumed in the first degree, and finally closed at seven o'clock. The brethren adjourned to Coudray's Hotel, when nearly thirty sat down to partake of the annual banquet, after which the usual honours were paid to the Craft authorities and others. Among the guests were the Masters of several lodges in Jersey, to all of whom invitations had been sent. The proceedings of the evening were brought to a close by ten o'clock.

Obituary.

MARSHAL MAGNAN, GRAND MASTER OF FRANCE.

We have to record the death of Marshal Magnan, Grand Master of the Freemasons in France (by appointment of the Emperor), which took place on Monday, the 29th ult.

The Marshal was born at Paris in October, 1791. He studied law until the age of eighteen, when he entered the 66th Regiment of the line. In it, from 1809 to 1813, he made the campaigns of Portugal and Spain. Sub-lieutenant in 1811, and captain in 1813, he was present at the sieges of Rodrigo and Almeida, as well as at the battles of the Busaco, Fuentes-d'Onor, and Vittoria. His brilliant conduct earned him the decoration of the Legion of Honour. Entering the Imperial Guard, he continued to take part in the war in France up to the capitulation of Paris, and, after the conflict at Crone, received the Cross of Officer. Although he had fought at Waterloo, he was incorporated in the Royal Guard (1815), through the influence of Marshal Gouvion de Saint-Cyr, who had remarked him on several occasions. In 1831, when colonel, he received orders to march upon Lyons, where a dispute about wages had caused an insurrection to break out. Having reached the gates of the city, in order to avoid an effusion of blood, he commenced treating with the workmen, and was, for so doing,

deprived of his command. He then went and offered his services to the King of the Belgians, who appointed him general of brigade (1832), charged him with the investment of Maestricht, and afterwards confided to him the military division of Ghent. In 1839, when war was on the point of recommencing with Holland, he commanded at the camp of Beverloo the advanced guard, composed of 25,000 men, being one-half of the Belgian army. Peace having been signed the same year, he quitted Belgium, where he left the most favourable impression, and returned to France. He was again admitted into the service, and after having been employed in the Corps of Observation of the Pyrenees, he obtained the sub-divisional command of the Department of the Nord, and retained it nearly seven years. After the Coup-d'Etat, in 1851, from the 2nd to the 4th December, he was constantly at the head of the troops, and executed the orders of General de St. Arnaud. He afterwards obtained the baton of marshal, the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour, and a seat in the new Senate, January 22, 1852. He was invested with the office of Grand Huntsman in 1854, in place of Marshal de St. Arnaud. He was of late years at the head of the first military division, including Paris.

BRO. LE GENDRE N. STARKIE,

PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER OF WEST LANCASHIRE.

The funeral of Bro. Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie, Prov. G.M. for the western division of Lancashire, took place on Saturday, May 27th, at Padiham Cemetery. Bro. Starkie having, shortly before his demise, expressed a wish to be interred with Masonic honours, and a dispensation having been obtained from the Grand Master, a large number of Masons from both divisions of the county assembled at the residence of the deceased, Huintroyde, near Burnley, for the purpose of showing their respect for his memory by compliance with his wishes. About thirty gentlemen left Liverpool by special train at nine o'clock in the morning for Rose Grove, where omnibuses were in readiness to convey them to Huintroyde. Here they were met by brethren from Preston, Blackburn, Clitheroe, and other places, numbering altogether upwards of 150. The following lodges were represented:—

LIVERPOOL.—Lodge 32—Bros. Oulton, W.M.; C. Cotesworth, S.W.; G. Glynn, and J. A. Hall, P.M.'s; J. Smith; A. Stoddart, Sec.; J. T. Bourne; W. Allender. Lodge 155—Rev. J. Dunkley; Joseph Mawdesley; Rev. H. G. Vernon; S. P. Brabner. Lodge 673—J. A. Hambleton, J.W.; Joseph Yates, Sec.; J. B. Bunting, S.D.; W. Wadham, P.M.; H. Burrows; David Jones; W. T. May. Lodge 292—John G. Jacob; G. T. Millichap, S.D.; Alfred Stone, Sec.; H. Gambell. Lodge 823—Thomas Berry, Sec. Lodge 203—P. Ball. Lodge 680—H. S. Alpass. Lodge 241—A. C. Mott. Lodge 181—T. Armstrong. Lodge 249—John Pepper. Lodge—220—James Hamer. Lodge 594—J. B. Hughes.

BLACKBURN.—Lodge 345—Bros. Joseph Callis; William Hirst; Thomas Robinson; Henry Backhouse, P.M.; R. E. Hoyle; John N. Briggs; J. L. Hawthorn; James Houlker; Edwin Eastwood; Charles Tiplady, P.M.; Stephen Longfield; Richard Bell; Denis Baron; James Sagar; James Dean; John Stone; James Longstaff; William Unsworth; Christopher Tattersall, S.D.; Thomas Copeland; Thomas Clough, P. Prov. G. Reg.; James Pilkington, P.M.; G. P. Hartley, W.M.; Richard Radcliffe, P.M.; Richard Burrows; Frank Thomas; William Clayton; John Simpson; Thomas Birtwhistle. Lodge 269—H. Waddington; G. Little, J.D.; W. F. Townley, P.M.;

ACCINGTON.—Lodge 462—Richard Birch, W.M.; Samuel C. Thacker; Thomas Walmsley, P.M.; Wilhelm F. Scheidt; David Henderson; Enoch Crabtree; James Hindle; John Stelfox; William Boothman, Sec.; J. C. Windle; Edmund Welsh; Henry Macaulay, J.W.; John Lightfoot, S.W.; James Graham; John Sudsen; Henry Banister, P.M.

BURNLEY.—Lodge 126—John Roberts, W.M.; Wm. Burghope, P.M.; George Haslam; Richard Parker, S.W.; Thomas Vevers, J.W.; James Hudson; James Dodgson; Henry Milnes; John S. Vevers, P.M.; John Tattersall, P.M.;

Norman Knowles; Edmondson Riley; George Stuttard; Wm. Tillotson.

PRESTON.—Lodge 333—Bros. John S. Grice, John J. Myers, P.M. Lodge 183—Thomas Birchall, W.M.; A. Townley Parker, S.G.W.; G. Eastham; H. Armstrong. Lodge 314—James Hibbert, J.W.; James Byrne, J. Heath, T. M. Shuttleworth, W.M.; T. S. Shuttleworth. Lodge 343—Richard Robinson, W.M.; William Howard, S.W.; Daniel Grohes, P.M.; J. McClinchey.

CLITHEROE.—Lodge 369—William Hargreaves; Titus Welch; Thomas Brown; Henry Myers; John Pinder; J. H. Fraser; W. Whewell; George Lofthouse; John Howard; James Hornby; Robert Satterthwaite, J.W.; John Bradshaw; A. Garforth; John Hargreaves; Arthur Briggs, W.M.; Edmund Alston.

KENDAL.—Lodge 129—Edward Busher, W.M.

BLACKPOOL.—Lodge 703—Samuel Bamber, P.M.; John Cocker, P.M.

CHORLEY.—Lodge 730—Rev. A. O'Neil.

PRESCOT.—Lodge 86—Thomas Wylie.

SOUTHPORT.—Lodge 148—Geo. Hansom.

Shortly after the arrival of the Liverpool brethren at the house, Bro. Oulton, W.M. of Lodge No. 32—the senior lodge of the division, and the one to which the deceased belonged—opened a lodge, and a few of the brethren, consisting of the Worshipful Master and Senior and Junior Wardens of Lodge 32, Bro. Allender, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., Bro. Wylie, P. Prov. G. Sec., and Bro. Bourne, Prov. S.G.W., entered the room where the body lay, and after depositing the scroll closed the coffin with Masonic honours. The lodge then adjourned for refreshment, which was liberally provided in a large marquee. At half-past twelve o'clock a procession was formed in front of the house by Bro. Allender, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., assisted by Bro. Bertwistle, Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers., and the funeral cortege started shortly afterwards for Padiham Church. Two mutes carrying wands, led the way; then came the members of the Masonic body two abreast, each wearing the insignia of his degree in the Order, partly covered with black crape; two more mutes, carrying escutcheons of the family arms, followed; and, after the hearse, which was drawn by four horses, came the carriage of the deceased, five mourning coaches, and 22 private carriages.

The first mourning coach contained Mrs. Starkie, the widow of the deceased; Captain Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie, the eldest son; and Mr. J. P. C. Starkie and the Rev. Henry A. Starkie, younger sons. Second coach:—The Rev. G. Horton, Bath, son-in-law; Lieut.-Colonel Armytage, nephew; and the Rev. Canon Chamberlain, Rufford, and the Rev. Dr. Butters, brothers-in-law. Third coach:—The Venerable Archdeacon Master; James Harcastle, Esq., Firwood, Bolton; Lieut.-Colonel E. Clayton, Rowley, Burnley; and Ralph Assheton, Esq., Downham Hall, Clitheroe. Fourth Coach:—Stephen Blair, Esq., P.G.M., Mill Hall, Bolton; Rev. R. N. Whitaker, Whalley; Henry Alison, Esq., Shaw Hall, Chorley; and Mr. Fox. Fifth coach:—Mr. D. Robinson, solicitor; Mr. Hopwood, agent; and Dr. Briggs, the medical attendant of the family.

Amongst the occupants of the private carriages which followed were Lieut.-Colonel Townley, Townley Hall; Lieut.-Colonel Horton; Mr. T. N. Whitaker, the Home, Burnley; Captain White, Whalley Abbey; Mr. Lomax, Clayton Hall; Mr. T. G. Edmondson, Grasmere, near Lancaster; Mr. Dutton, Blackburn; Lieut.-Colonel Clayton; Major-General Sir James Yorke Scarlett; Major Thursby; Mr. Joseph Fielden, Whitton House, Blackburn; Mr. R. Townley Parker, Cerdon Hall, Preston; the Mayor of Burnley, &c. Closed carriages were sent by Miss Halstead, Hood House, Burnley; Mr. T. G. Parker, Browsholme Hall; Captain Clayton, Rowley; Mr. J. Hargreaves, Broad Oak, Accrington; Mr. James Dugdale, Ivy Bank, Burnley; Mr. Hindle, Sabden; Mr. W. E. Taylor, Enfield; Captain White, Whalley Abbey; and Mr. Dixon Robinson, Clitheroe Castle.

After leaving the park the procession was headed by

about 150 of the tenantry and tradesmen of Padiham. All the shops in the town were closed, and as the sad procession passed through, the streets were lined by the inhabitants, whose demeanour manifested the greatest respect and sympathy. The usual service having been gone through in the church, the Rev. Dr. Butters officiating, the cortege returned through Padiham to the cemetery, which is beautifully situated on the hill-side, a short distance from the town. There, in a new vault, the remains of Bro. Starkie were deposited with the usual formalities. The ordinary church service was performed by the Rev. Dr. Butters, the choir singing Bach's chorale, "There is a calm for those who weep," and Mendelssohn's "It is decreed."

The Rev. Bro. Dunkley, Prov. G. Chap., read the following exhortation:—

Brethren,—Here we view a striking instance of the uncertainty of life and the vanity of all human pursuits. The last offices paid to the dead are only useful as lectures to the living; from them we are to derive instruction, and consider every solemnity of this kind as a summons to prepare for our approaching dissolution. Notwithstanding the various mementoes of mortality which we daily meet, notwithstanding death has established his empire over all the works of nature, yet, through some unaccountable infatuation, we are apt to forget that we are born to die. We go on from one design to another, add hope to hope, and lay out plans for the employment of many years, till we are suddenly alarmed at the approach of death when we least expect him, and at an hour which, amidst the gaieties of life, we probably conclude to be the meridian of our existence. Let us, while in this stage of existence, support with propriety the character of our profession, advert to the nature of our solemnities, and pursue with assiduity the sacred tenets of the Order. With becoming reverence let us supplicate the Divine protection, and ensure the favour of that Eternal Being whose goodness and power know no bounds; and when the awful moment arrives that we are about to take our departure, be it soon or late, may we be enabled to prosecute our journey without dread or apprehension to that far distant country from which no traveller returns. By the light of the Divine countenance we may pass without trembling through those gloomy mansions where all things are forgotten; and at the great and tremendous day of trial and tribulation, when arraigned at the bar of Divine justice, we may hope that judgment will be pronounced in our favour, and that we shall receive our reward, in the possession of an immortal inheritance, where joy flows in one continued stream, and no mound can check its course.

The following invocations were then made by the Master, Bro. Oulton, the usual honours accompanying each:—

Master: May we be true and faithful, and may we live and die in love.—Answer: So mote it be.

Master: May we profess what is good, and always act agreeably to our profession.—Answer: So mote it be.

Master: May the Lord bless us and prosper us, and may all our good intentions be crowned with success.—Answer: So mote it be.

The Secretaries then advanced and threw their rolls into the grave with the usual forms, while the Master repeated with an audible voice,

"Glory be to God on high! on earth peace! goodwill towards men!"—Answer: "So mote it be, now, from henceforth, and for evermore."

The Master then concluded the ceremony at the grave in the following words:—

From time immemorial it has been a custom among the fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, at the request of a brother on his death-bed, to accompany his corpse to the place of interment, and there to deposit his remains with the usual formalities. In conformity with this usage, and at the special request of our deceased brother, whose memory we revere, and whose loss we deplore, we are here assembled in the character of Masons, to resign his body to the earth whence it came, and to offer up to his memory, before the world, the last tribute of our fraternal affection; thereby demonstrating the sincerity of our past esteem, and our inviolable attachment to the principles of the Order. With all proper respect to the established customs of the country in which we live, with due deference to

our superiors in Church and State, and with unlimited goodwill to all mankind, we here appear clothed as Masons, and publicly express our submission to order and good government, and our wish to promote the general interests of mankind. Invested with the badge of innocence, we humbly bow to the universal Parent, implore His blessing on all our zealous endeavours to extend peace and goodwill, and earnestly pray for His grace to enable us to persevere in the principles of piety and virtue. The Great Creator having been pleased, out of His mercy, to remove our worthy brother from the cares and troubles of this transitory life to a state of eternal duration, and thereby to weaken the chains by which we are united man to man, may we who survive him, anticipating our approaching fate, be more strongly cemented in the ties of union and friendship; and during the short space which is allotted to our present existence, wisely and usefully employ our time in the reciprocal intercourse of kind and friendly acts, and mutually promote the welfare and happiness of each other. Unto the grave we have resigned the body of our deceased friend, there to remain until the general resurrection, in favourable expectation that his immortal soul will then partake of the joys which have been prepared for the righteous from the beginning of the world; and may Almighty God, of his infinite goodness, at the grand tribunal of unbiassed justice, extend his mercy towards him and all of us, and crown our hope with everlasting bliss, in the expanded realms of a boundless eternity. This we beg, for the honour of His Name, to whom be glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Bro. Oulton, W.M., concluded by breaking the late Provincial Grand Master's wand of office and throwing the pieces into the grave.

Mrs. Starkie was then led sobbing from the grave to her carriage by her eldest son, and the brethren having cast their *immortelles* into the grave, returned to Huntroyd and closed the lodge. They then partook of luncheon, and afterwards returned to their respective homes.

The late Bro. Starkie was in his 66th year. He filled the office of Provincial Grand Master for the Western Division of Lancashire for upwards of thirty years. The deceased brother was a large landowner in East Lancashire, and a few years since he acquired, by purchase, the fine Ashton Hall estate, near Lancaster, long the property of the Dukes of Hamilton, and previously of the Lords Gerard of Bromley. Ashton Hall is the residence of the deceased gentleman's younger son, John Piers Chamberlain Starkie, Esq., and is now, we believe, his property. The Huntroyd and other large and valuable patrimonial estates are inherited by his elder son, Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie, Esq., Captain in the Duke of Lancaster's Second Militia Rifles, and who was M.P. for Clitheroe from 1853 to 1857. Bro. Starkie was the head of the ancient family of Starkie, which was seated for many generations at Barnton, in Cheshire, and which acquired, in 1464, the estates of Huntroyd and Symondstone, in this county, by the marriage with the daughter and heiress of John Symondstone, and thenceforth they made Huntroyd their principal seat, and there discharged the duties devolving upon them as country gentlemen. Lawrence Starkie, of this family, was high sheriff in 1524; John Starkie served the same office in 1656; Le Gendre Piers Starkie, in 1800; and his son, Le Gendre Starkie, elder brother of the deceased gentleman, in 1815. Nicholas Starkie, of Huntroyd, who was a captain in the parliamentary army of 1643, lost his life in a mysterious explosion at Hoghton Tower. He was despatched from Preston, after its surrender, to take Hoghton Tower, the seat of Sir Gilbert Hoghton. Having discharged a shot against the tower, a parley was obtained, which terminated in the surrender of the garrison. Captain Starkie and his company then marched into the tower, where there was a large supply of ammunition, but while they were congratulating themselves upon their easy conquest the tower blew up, whether from accident or design was never known, and the captain and the majority of his company were killed. His grandson, Edmund Starkie, was representative of Preston in three parliaments, from 1754

to 1768 (Baines and Burke say ten, but that is an error), and he was also recorder of Preston from 1767 to 1771. The late squire of Huntroyd was great grandson of Edmund, the recorder and member for Preston. Frenchwood, near this town, was the property and long the residence of a junior branch of this family, and it is still owned by its representatives, viz., Henry Bence Bence, Esq., of Thorington Hall, Suffolk, son of one of the daughters, and co-heiress of Nicholas Starkie, Esq., of Frenchwood and Captain William Travis Forbes Jackson, R.N., and Mrs. Katharine Thomas, the children of the other daughter and co-heiress. The late Bro. Starkie, of Huntroyd, was in early life intended for the church; but the death of two elder brothers (his eldest brother and predecessor in the estates dying, without issue, in 1822) placed him in possession of the large landed property of the family, and he then determined to devote himself to the duties of a country gentleman. He was a magistrate for Lancashire and for the West Riding of Yorkshire.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

ST. JAMES'S.

A new drama, in four acts, entitled "Eleanor's Victory," adapted and dramatised by Mr. John Oxenford, from Miss M. A. Braddon's popular novel bearing the same name, obtained a decided success here on Monday night. Miss Herbert, who represented with so much effect the heroine of "Lady Audley's Secret," in the dramatic version which was rendered for these boards a few seasons since, has again a part peculiarly adapted to display her power of expressing intense emotion, and her fascinating grace of style is once more exhibited in a character which has the fullest command of the emotions, if not the entire sway of the sympathies of the spectators. The story itself is too popular to need reproduction here, and therefore we shall content ourselves by omitting all reference to the action of the drama itself. It would be too much to aver that the story, as depicted on the stage, is wholly intelligible to those who have not read the novel; but the excellent acting of Miss Herbert carries the piece triumphantly through, and leaves the spectators delighted with the effect produced. The agony of suspense exhibited in the first act, where the girlish fondness for her father is so truthfully portrayed, and the expression of deep grief on the discovery of his untimely end, could not be more vividly depicted. The second act enables her to sternly display her invincible antipathy to *Darrell*, and the third and fourth afford marked proofs of her vigorous power of expressing by words, gestures, and facial by-play, the master-passion of her young life. In all the phases of the part, Miss Herbert was victoriously successful, and calls between the acts and an absolute ovation at the end bore witness to the strong impression left on the audience. The other characters are but slight. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Matthews have very little to do with the plot as the good-natured *Major Lennard* and the simple-hearted but foolish woman who is his wife, yet the excellence of their performance elevated both these parts into importance. Mr. Arthur Stirling embodied in a lively manner the faithful friend *Dick Thornton*, but the part is not quite in the actor's line. Mr. J. Johnstone, who disappears in the first act, gave due gravity to the father *Vandeleur Vane*, the broken-down extravagant gentleman of the old school. Mr. Frederic Robinson was an emphatic representation of the card-sharper *Bourdon*, and Mr. H. J. Montague, a rising young actor, thoroughly realised the character of *Launcelot Darrell*, giving a cowed expression to his face and figure, which was a touch of true art. Mr. Gaston Murray played the grave *Mr. Monkton* very carefully, and Miss Weber was a lively *Lauri Mason*.

The successful extravaganza of "Ulysses," with Mr. F. Robson, junior, as the hero, terminated the performances.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty, with the younger branches of the Royal Family, are still at Balmoral. The Princess of Wales gave birth to another son, at Marlborough House, on Saturday morning. The movements of her Royal Highness had been so active during the week that the event came upon the public as a surprise. The announcement that the illustrious mother and infant are progressing most favourably will be hailed with the greatest gratification. The Prince, accompanied by the members of his suite, proceeded by the South-Western Railway on Monday to Maybury, near Woking, where he performed the ceremony of declaring open the Royal Dramatic College, whose central hall has just been finished. The Hon. Artillery Company furnished a guard of honour for the occasion, and there was also a detachment of the 24th Surrey Volunteers, while the bands of both regiments were in attendance. His Royal Highness was received by Mr. Webster, the master of the college, and several of the governors, including some of the leading actors of the day. One portion of the ceremony was the presentation of purses by several ladies, in aid of the funds of the institution. A concert given by the leading vocalists of the day concluded the proceedings. The Prince of Wales held another *levée* at St. James's Palace on Wednesday. Notwithstanding the number of presentations at former *levées* there was again a great attendance, a principal feature in the company being the number of naval and military gentlemen who were presented on their promotion.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the HOUSE OF LORDS on Thursday, June 1, several measures were advanced a stage, including the Clerical Subscription Bill, which was read a third time and passed.—On Friday, after transacting some business of little or no general interest, the House of Lords adjourned for the Whitsuntide holidays, until Monday week.—In the HOUSE OF COMMONS on Thursday, June 1, Sir Charles Wood, in reply to a question, stated that it was intended to occupy certain posts on the Bhootan frontier, with the view of preventing incursions into British territory.—Mr. Newdegate put a question to the Government relative to the Irish lotteries, for the erection of churches and other purposes. The Attorney-General said these lotteries seemed to come within the meaning of the Act, but to ensure a conviction, it was necessary that some one should make a charge and support that charge by evidence.—Sir George Grey, in reply to Mr. Lefevre, said the Archbishop of Canterbury had been informed that, if Convocation applied for powers to alter the canons relating to clerical subscription, the requisite authority for that purpose would be granted. The Primate had accordingly sent in an application, but in such a form that he (Sir George Grey) could not comply with it until he had consulted his colleagues.—Mr. Gladstone withdrew his Bank Notes Issue Bill, intimating, however, that if an opportunity offered he should ask Parliament to deal with the subject in a broader and more comprehensive manner.—In Committee of Supply, several votes were agreed to.—On Friday, the House held a morning sitting which was almost wholly occupied with a discussion, which was left incomplete, as to whether the House should or should not go into Committee on the Writs Registration (Scotland) Bill.—At the evening sitting, Mr. Cardwell, in reply to a question, said the conferences between Her Majesty's Government and the Canadian delegates had not yet been brought to a conclusion.—In reply to some remarks from Mr. Grant Duff, Mr. Cowper stated that it was proposed to add an examination hall and a waiting-room to the accommodation at present afforded to the London University at Burlington House.—The forgery of sig-

natures to petitions in favour of Azeem Jah, was again the subject of consideration, and a motion that the Speaker should issue his warrant for the committal to Newgate of the principal offender—one Mitchell—was carried by a large majority.—Three other men were ordered to be committed to the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms. The House adjourned until the following Thursday.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The mortality in the eleven largest towns of the United Kingdom last week, amounted to 2,542, or 23 in the thousand of the population. The town with the highest rate of mortality was Glasgow; Liverpool, which usually occupies that position, being 3 below Glasgow, or 23 in the 1,000. London stands at 21; the lowest in any town is 20. It will thus be seen that the mortality in each of the towns last week was more on a level than it usually is. Of the deaths, 1,187 were registered in London, or as nearly as possible according to the average rate of the last ten years. The births in all the towns were 3,839, of whom 1,860 were registered in London, this number being also very near the London average.—Mrs. Cobden has declined a pension of £1,500, which Lord Palmerston offered as a recognition of her lamented husband's services in negotiating the commercial treaty with France. Our readers will be glad to learn, on what would seem to be good authority, that Mrs. Cobden and her family "are left in circumstances that make any provision on the part of the Government unnecessary."—The birthday of George III. was commemorated on Tuesday by the scholars of Eton. The little collegiate town was crowded with fashionable visitors, and the success of the festivities was greatly enhanced by the brightness of the weather. After the young Etonians made their speeches, their relatives and friends were entertained at dinner by the Provost, and in the evening there was a regatta and a grand display of fireworks.—It will be remembered that his Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, reviewed the different regiments of the Middlesex militia, in Hyde Park, on the 23rd of last month. The duke has since published his opinion of the state of the regiments then paraded before him, and it is satisfactory to find that he was on the whole well pleased with their discipline and equipment, and that he regarded them as capable on any emergency, and with a little additional drill, to take their place by the side of the regiments of the line.—At Panslanger, the park of the Right Hon. Earl Cowper, the Herts Volunteers went through their annual inspection by Colonel Erskine on Monday, and with the assistance of the London, the Queen's Westminsters, the St. George's, and the North Middlesex Rifle Brigades, fought a sham fight against an imaginary enemy. The gentry of the neighbourhood for miles round were present, and the weather being fine, the day was passed most agreeably by both spectators and volunteers, the magnificent park of Earl Cowper forming an excellent spot for manœuvring a body of men, numbering as they did, on this occasion, about 1,800, and for recreation when the field movements had concluded.—Monday was a general holiday among the artisans of the metropolis, and the day being one of unclouded sunshine tempted an unusual number of pleasure-seekers out of doors. Greenwich, Hampstead, Richmond, Epping Forest, and other easily accessible rural resorts, were extensively patronised, and all was holiday good humour.—At a meeting of the Court of Common Council held the other day, the architectural improvements now going on at the Guildhall were discussed. A report was brought up from the Committee who had them in charge, which recommended that £15,000 more than the sums already voted should be spent on further improvements. A member of

the Court complained that the original estimate had already been exceeded by £6,000, but the Court determined, by a large majority, to spend the £15,000 more.—The Metropolitan Board of Works held a meeting last week, when the chairman congratulated the Board on the passing of the Metropolitan Sewage Bill, and on the fact that the Prince of Wales recorded his vote in its favour. A petition to the Board to ask Parliament for powers to deal with dilapidated houses was reported unfavourably on by a committee. The Board adopted the report.—Mr. Tidd Pratt refused to certify some alterations in the rules of the United Temperance Sick and Burial Society of St. Patrick, on the ground that the circumstances under which the alterations were made appeared to him to be illegal. Application was made to the Court of Queen's Bench for a mandamus to compel him. The application was made on the ground that the registrar had no right to take into account the outside circumstances of the case; but the Lord Chief Justice, without hearing the application out, asked how the Court were to compel Mr. Pratt to change his opinion. The Court unanimously refused the rule.—Some time ago a newspaper was advertised to be issued, under the title of *The Correspondent*. On the eve of publication the proprietors received a notice that the title had already been registered by another company, and they were therefore debarred from its use. The proprietors then changed their title to *The Public Correspondent*. Even this change did not satisfy the original registrars, and they applied to Vice-Chancellor Page Wood for an injunction against the publication. The learned judge, however, considering that the publishers of *The Public Correspondent* had been allowed to advertise their publication for weeks together without any intimation that they were encroaching on the title of another, refused to interfere at this stage of the proceedings.—An ingenious fraud upon the Post-office was brought to light at Bow-street Police-office on Saturday. A man pretending to be a Post-office inspector went down to the village of Nether Stowey, near Bridgwater, got hold of the forms for granting money orders, with the corresponding letters of advice, and then forged orders for £800, a good portion of which was drawn in London. The ingenious thief has not yet been detected, but a man named Wilson was brought up on the charge of applying for and obtaining the money on the faith of these orders, and he has been remanded till Monday, when further evidence was adduced, which sufficiently identified him as one of the men who carried out the swindle, and he was committed for trial.—In the course of the last few months, several attempts have been made to break into the house of Mr. Debenham, a surgeon, residing in Commercial-road East, London. On Monday night, Mr. Debenham was aroused by a noise in the rear of his house, and on looking out saw a man near the kitchen window. He challenged him, and, having received no reply, fired at him—intending, as was afterwards explained, to frighten rather than hurt the intruder. The bullet, however, entered the man's head, killing him on the spot. Mr. Debenham at once informed the police of what had occurred, and he was brought up before the Thames magistrate, and remanded on bail. The body of the unfortunate man who was shot has been identified. He turns out not to have been a burglar at all, but a working man, who had taken too much liquor at a friend's house, not far from Mr. Debenham's premises, and who in that state had clambered over the wall. The coroner's inquest was held on Wednesday, when the jury returned a verdict that the deceased died from a pistol-shot wound, and that the pistol was discharged with the intention only of frightening the deceased.—A few nights ago a man named Brown, a coachman

was set upon in St. John's-wood and received severe injuries, of which he died. A man named Comber, a cab proprietor, was apprehended on the charge of having attacked the deceased. At the inquest it was elicited that the prisoner's wife was in the habit of neglecting her husband and children to go with the deceased, and that the prisoner, meeting them together, became enraged, and dealt him a blow which proved mortal. The jury returned a verdict of manslaughter, and censured the wife.—At the Clerkenwell Police-court a charge of a somewhat singular character was preferred against a man named Gurge, who possesses an *ailas*. It appeared from the evidence that this person was in the habit of defrauding sergeants in the metropolitan police by pretending to make discoveries of robberies which had never taken place, and to give them information concerning the appropriation of goods which further inquiry proved had never been stolen. The evidence of the police sergeants who were examined revealed great ingenuity and consummate impudence on the part of the prisoner. He was committed for trial.—A woman named Ross was tried before a Middlesex jury on a charge of cruelty to her own child. The wretch had seared it on the face and hands with an iron she had made red-hot for the purpose. The jury did agree that this was an unduly severe mode of chastisement, and found her guilty of a common assault. The judge sentenced her to three months' hard labour.—A robbery took place about a fortnight ago at the banking-house of Messrs. Prescott and Co., in the City. This time suspicion has fallen not upon burglars working from the outside but upon one of the porters, who slept upon the premises, a young man named Prendergast, who, with his uncle, was brought before the Lord Mayor on Saturday, the latter charged as a receiver. The sum stolen was £135, all in silver, and made up in bags. Part of the money is said to have been traced to the possession of the prisoners. The Lord Mayor remanded both.—The vexed question of the right of music-halls to give entertainments having resemblance to stage representations was again before Mr. Tyrwhitt, the police magistrate. Mr. Wigan, on the part of the theatre managers, some time ago applied for and obtained an order to stop a musical ballet which Mr. Strange had got up for the frequenters of the Alhambra. The Middlesex magistrates, on appeal, reversed this decision, and refused to give a case for the decision of the superior courts. A fresh summons having been taken out, Mr. Tyrwhitt now decided in accordance with the judgment of the magistrates, but intimated his willingness to grant a case that the matter might be decided by the proper authorities.—Application has been made to the Court of Queen's Bench on behalf of Mr. Waters, the late steward of the Earl of Shaftesbury, who is now charged with embezzlement, to have the case tried at the Central Criminal Court in place of the Dorchester Assizes. The grounds are the great influence which Lord Shaftesbury possesses in the county as lord-lieutenant and a large landowner. The Court granted a rule nisi.—A prosecution of three girls, for annoying the St. Mary's Hospital at Brighton, which has become so notorious in connection with the case of Constance Kent, brought out some details of the interior economy of that establishment. Miss Greame gave evidence in support of the charge against the girls, two of whom had been inmates of the hospital; and, in cross-examination, she stated that she was in the habit of confining refractory girls in a room by themselves. Two of the offenders were bound over to keep the peace; the third girl was discharged.—It was stated at the Oxford Police Court, on Friday week, that a gentleman, of military appearance, who represented himself to be in the service of Garibaldi, had been staying in Oxford, and had induced a number of young men

to enlist in Garibaldi's service. It is asserted that as many as sixteen youths have left Oxford during the past week, and that their destination is Venice. The Oxford magistrates have suggested that the attention of the Government should be called to these statements.—A shocking accident has taken place at a siding near the Birmingham Station of the London and North Western Railway. A steady and experienced breaksman stepped upon the rails for a moment to look after some waggons, when the mail train came up and mutilated him in a shocking manner. Of course, death was instantaneous.—A serious railway accident took place on the Great Western Railway on Tuesday night, at a part of the line a little above Bristol. The mail train from London to Plymouth came into collision with an up passenger train, and before they could be cleared an excursion train came into collision with the mail train. Several of the passengers were seriously injured, but we understand that in none of them is death likely to ensue.—A colliery accident took place on Monday, near Wigan, by which two men were killed, and five more severely wounded. The men were engaged in sinking a shaft, when a portion of the brickwork gave way, and they were all buried in the ruins. No time was lost in getting them to the surface. The bodies await a coroner's inquest.—Telegrams from the Baltic and the north coast of Europe, report that the gale which was experienced with some severity on parts of the English coast, has told with fearful effect in more northern latitudes. Several English vessels are reported to have been lost, nearly 50 vessels have been stranded, and it is feared there has been a sad loss of life.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—None of the morning papers were published in Paris on Whit Sunday, it having been observed as a general holiday. There appears to have been an almost universal seizure of last week's weekly papers by the authorities who decide what intelligence is proper and what improper for the French people to receive.—The journals of Paris have been instructed to contradict a rumour that 10,000 men, under the command of General Bourbaki, are about to be despatched to Mexico; but nevertheless the uneasiness felt in France respecting the affairs in Mexico, and the possibility of a rupture with the United States, seems to be little if at all abated. The Emperor of the French, when at Constantine, invited five Arab chiefs to dine with him, and took, it is announced, the opportunity to tell them that he desired to see Arabs in general become fitted by labour and education to enter upon any positions now filled in Algeria by French subjects. He also stated that he desired every individual in the army to be free to rise, if his services, intelligence, and opportunities allowed him, to fill the highest grades. At Batania, in Kabylia, he has been exceedingly well received by the heads of the tribes lately in insurrection, several of them having travelled over 200 miles to demonstrate their loyalty, and perhaps gratify their curiosity. The Emperor himself must have felt gratified as he entered the town surrounded by a mounted *cortège* of 30,000 of those children of the desert. The Emperor is represented as in perfect health, and all the better for the great fatigue he daily has to undergo. M. Eloi, the envoy from Mexico to France expresses a firm faith in the durability of the Mexican empire, which he considers to be henceforth unshakable.—An imperial decree has been issued at Vienna, ordering the elections for the Diets of Dalmatia, Croatia, and Slavonia, to be commenced. The Dalmatian Diet takes place at Agram on the 17th of July. The finance committee of the Lower House of the Reichsrath have reduced the war budget for 1866 by 15 million florins.—The Austrian Cabinet is said to have assented to the Prussian Government's proposal that the Schleswig-Holstein Estates

shall be convoked to vote an electoral law for the election of a joint Diet for the two duchies.—The Cologne International Exhibition is described as a decided success. Always beginning to be crammed with tourists at this season of the year, the Rhineland capital is literally overflowing at the present moment.

AMERICA.—No very important news has been brought by the *Asia*, from Boston and Halifax. President Johnson had issued a proclamation in which he opens to foreign commerce, from the 1st of July, all the Southern ports except Galveston, La Salle, Brazos de Santiago, Point Isabel, and Brownsville, in the state of Texas. The proclamation adds, "that if any vessel from a foreign port shall enter any of the before-named excepted ports in the state of Texas, she will continue to be held liable to the penalties prescribed by the act of Congress approved on the 13th day of July, 1861, and the persons on board of her to such penalties as may be incurred pursuant to the laws of war for trading or attempting to trade with an enemy; and I, Andrew Johnson, president of the United States, do hereby declare and make known that the United States of America do henceforth disavow to all persons trading or attempting to trade in any of the United States in violation of the laws thereof, all pretence of belligerent rights and privileges; and I give notice, from the date of this proclamation, all such offenders will be dealt with as pirates." It was still asserted that Mr. Jefferson Davis would be tried for treason by a civil court. The assassination conspirators' trial was still progressing at Washington, and the prisoners' counsel had commenced their defence. During the proceedings there had been produced a letter, stated to have been found in the Confederate archives and to have been addressed to Mr. Jefferson Davis, in which one Alston offered to rid the South of some of her deadliest enemies. It was asserted that General Kirby Smith persisted in his refusal to surrender, and that the people of Texas were arming slaves, and were determined to continue the struggle. The captain of the Confederate iron-clad steamer *Stonewall* had given her up to the Spanish authorities at Havannah. A vessel, having on board 300 "emigrants" for Mexico and a great quantity of arms, had been seized and detained at San Francisco.—By the *City of Boston*, which left New York on the 27th ult., we have a confirmation of the report that true bills for treason had been found against Jefferson Davis and also Breckenridge. Davis is very rigorously guarded, and, according to some accounts, he is even manacled. It is persistently reported that General Lee is to be arrested and indicted for treason. The conspiracy trial was still proceeding. General Hood and his staff had succeeded in crossing the Mississippi.—The London *Gazette* contains an official letter from Earl Russell, formally withdrawing belligerent rights from the ships of the so-called Confederate States. Any such vessels that may now be in British ports are forthwith to depart, and, for the last time, United States vessels that may be watching them, will be prohibited from leaving in pursuit before the lapse of twenty-four hours. If the commanders of Confederate vessels wish to divest them of their warlike character they may do so, but at their own risk.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

PANMURE CHAPTER.—Report of its Consecration next week.

ERRATA.—In our notice of the decease of the Countess of Zetland there were one or two errors taken from the daily papers. It appears Lady Zetland was the third daughter of Sir Hedworth Williamson (not Williams) sixth baronet of Great Markham, sister to the late Sir Hedworth, seventh baronet, and aunt to the present Sir Hedworth.