

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1865.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF MASONIC
EVENTS DURING 1864.*(Concluded from page 414.)*

ITALY.—In this country, a very large number of lodges have been established during the last few years, when prohibitive measures and persecutions were no longer resorted to to suppress Freemasonry. Few lodges, however, seem to be imbued with the genuine spirit of Freemasonry, and a mania for high degrees is exhibited in a most alarming manner. At a meeting of many lodges, Garibaldi was, most improperly, proclaimed Grand Master, which appointment, however, he resigned soon afterwards. It is to be hoped that the fermentation that still prevails in Freemasonry, will soon subside. A few of the lodges are working on a true Masonic plan; some have founded popular libraries in Naples—a most excellent means of enlightening the people who have been, hitherto, in dire penury of all and every intellectual cultivation.

FRANCE.—Here there exists two Masonic supreme authorities, viz., the Grand Orient and the Supreme Council; the Grand Master of the first named is Marshal Magnan*, who was originally “octroyé,” but afterwards freely elected. He has hitherto performed his duties in a most creditable manner. In the Grand Orient, the high degrees are still vegetating, many signs being continually exhibited of a better and sounder intelligence and appreciation of the real spirit of Masonry. Thus, *e.g.*, a Masonic library has been erected under the auspices of the Grand Orient, and thrown open for the use of all brethren—an example that certainly courts imitation. A revision of the fundamental constitution is proposed. Many schemes and projects have been set forth by the various lodges, but it is perfectly incomprehensible why they do not mean to adhere to the original wording of the first clause, containing the definition of Freemasonry. The high degrees have been abolished by several lodges. A lottery in favour of a brother in distress had been proposed, but the scheme was rejected, because, it was stated, “lotteries are in contradiction with the principles of Masonry;” but other appropriations were made towards the relief of the poor brother. From

* Our readers are aware that Bro. Magnan died a few weeks ago. He has not yet been replaced in his functions. Ed. F. M. and M. M.

Lyons we hear that a relief fund has been established, and a series of scientific “conferences” started. On the other hand, the election of a German President of the Havre Chapter was cancelled, as contrary to the statute, he being neither born nor naturalised in France. It is to be greatly regretted that the principles laid down in the “statute” are in such glaring contradiction to the principles of Freemasonry itself. Besides these, there are most incongruous and adventurous ideas on Masonry to be met with in many congregations. Thus, in one of the Paris lodges a resolution was carried, by which it is declared that, on principle, women also may be admitted within the precincts of the Craft. A Rouen Lodge has lately hit upon a curious means of securing the attendance of the brethren at its meetings. Penalties had hitherto been enforced against the absentees, but without success; but now it has been determined to award recompenses in cash to those who attend. This lodge, it seems, is utterly unable to afford any mental or intellectual enjoyment to its members, or else it would never resort to such un-Masonic and reviling remedies like pecuniary rewards as an inducement to attend at its gatherings; no doubt, the latter will hardly prevent its final collapse, so richly deserved. A zealous Mason, Bro. Rebold, the author of a “History of Freemasonry in France,” lately published, has made some proposals for a reform in Masonic institutions, and submitted them to the Grand Orient. He asks for return to the simplicity of the organisation of primordial Masonry, and especially the immediate abolition of the most glaring malpractices, that clash with the original principles of equality in Masonry. Thus far his demands are perfectly reasonable and practical; but he furthermore asks for the erection of institutions for the education of orphans on a large scale, and likewise for the foundation of an universal Masonic union, comprising all Grand Lodges and the 8,200 working lodges of the globe. Such schemes are altogether impracticable, at least, for many years to come; nothing but a very small portion of them might be realised, *e.g.*, a gradual approach by means of mutual representation in the several Grand Lodges, but even this very first step toward a universal fraternisation is opposed by the French Grand Orient.

ENGLAND.—In most parts of this country Freemasonry is perfectly ossified and crystallised (*verknöchert*), and very peculiar views are adhered

to by the Grand Lodge itself. Whilst on one hand provincial rights are claimed with respect to those brethren who, in the Channel Island of Jersey, have submitted themselves to a French Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge is oblivious of the fact that it has under its authority a lodge at Frankfort, which belongs to the province of the Eclectic Grand Lodge, and that it keeps up the best understanding with the Grand Orient of the Netherlands, although the latter has erected lately a number of lodges at the Cape of Good Hope. In England also the malpractices of the high degree system are most glaring, and there are but few lodges that have commenced to emancipate themselves of this useless appendage. Thus, the German Pilgrim Lodge, of London, has been working very satisfactorily; at a few places libraries have been opened that had been entirely wanting hitherto. On the other hand, it appears that most peculiar ideas and schemes are harboured in many heads. A brother has lately started the project of founding a lodge whose members are to have, all and every one of them, equal religious, christian views. The Provincial Grand Master of Huntingdonshire, Bro. the Duke of Manchester, has proposed to introduce in the lodges discussions on religious subjects, in order to remove the palpable contradictions existing between the facts of revelation and those of science, and to reconcile both together. This, he thinks, is the real object of Masonic gatherings. We should advise the illustrious brother above all things to peruse the constitution of the association, in order to become equal to the duties of his high office.

A great obstacle to the wholesale development of Freemasonry in England is the absence of special halls and meeting houses. In most instances the brethren are sitting together in the public houses, smoking cigars, drinking ale, and listening to the performance of the ritual, and this will make up the whole of Masonic life in this country. Thus, the following occurrence will be easily accounted for:—One Mr. Williams was to be received in a Cardiff lodge, when a brother who was present stepped forward and observed that there must be a mistake in the matter, as he himself initiated this man, when he was Worshipful Master of an Aberdeen lodge, three years before, and the astonishment of the brethren increased when the adept corroborated this statement. Nevertheless, the Worshipful Master ruled that, as Bro. Williams was not in possession of a regular certificate of

initiation, his reception, which he had applied for, must be proceeded with. Many of the brethren, dissatisfied with this decision, left the lodge, when the re-initiation took place without any hindrance. It seems that the Worshipful Master has heard of the old German proverb, that "twice sewn will hold better." Query: Is the acquisition the lodge made, of a brother who after three years had forgotten his initiation, really worth contending for?

IRELAND.—The author has observed, in a former paper, that in all probability there exist up to the present day, among the working Masons of England, secret societies having peculiar signs and usages of their own. This opinion has not, as yet, been corroborated by any reliable facts; still, it has become known, of late, that in some counties of Ireland the working stonemasons have a peculiar language (slang) which they are most anxious to preserve intact and secret. They pretend that the original Freemasons, whose descendants are those constituting the Craft now-a-days, have stolen their tools from them, hundreds of years ago. It is well known that similar charges have been preferred against the Freemasons in Germany by the so-called Grussmaurers.

AUSTRIA.—The Government of Austria, though now a constitutional monarchy, has persistently opposed the re-opening of Masonic lodges. Endeavours have been made, of late, to establish some lodges in this country, under the auspices of the Hamburg Grand Lodge, but they were attended with no success, as the preliminary conditions, as required by that Grand Lodge, could not be acceded to. A statement was published recently according to which there are several lodges, devoid of political elements, in existence in Hungary; but nothing tends to corroborate this statement.

THE LEVANT.—In Greece, notwithstanding the rotten and fragile political state of the country, several lodges have been formed, and the erection of a Grand Lodge is contemplated. In Turkey, also, Freemasonry is progressing; even in Smyrna, where the Catholic party are very powerful, a lodge has lately been established. In Constantinople, there exist Italian, English, and French lodges, also a German one, styled Germania am Goldenen Horn. In the latter, lectures and conferences take place on Masonic subjects, especially history. A remarkable sign of the times is the initiation of many Turks, among whom are a cer-

tain number of Dervishes and other clergymen of distinction.

ASIA.—Freemasonry has commenced to thrive in this quarter, especially in the British dominions, notwithstanding some incomprehensible false steps on the part of Masonic authorities. Thus, great excitement and indignation have been aroused in the Indian lodges, through a decree of the Provincial Grand Master of Bengal, by which natives are disqualified to be received within the Craft. In other parts of India, the natives muster rather strong in Masonic congregations—one of the Bombay lodges consists almost exclusively of Hindoos, especially Parsi. The Masonic brotherhood in India seem to be in a high state of respectability and mental cultivation, to judge by some articles that have appeared for some time past in the *Freemasons' Friend*, for India.

AFRICA.—Here the most remarkable fact is the initiation of the celebrated insurgent chieftain Abd-el-Kader in a French Masonic lodge of Alexandria (Egypt).

NORTH AMERICA.—Freemasonry has suffered considerably through the quadrennial fratricidal war, but has not yet overcome the vulgar prejudices prevalent in that country. In the United States, the Craft does not recognise as a brother the citizen of African descent. Various occurrences during the past year tend to show that the American Masons are not yet equal to the spirit of the age. We need but allude to the reprehensible conduct of several United States naval officers at Antwerp, who left the lodge during the performance of the ritual, on account of a coloured man, a native of San Domingo, having been admitted; to the unfraternal manner in which the New York Grand Lodge behaved towards the Hamburg Grand Lodge and its eminent Grand Master, Bro. Buck, this lodge having laid itself open to the charge of admitting men of colour, and having granted constitutions to two German lodges in New York. Of late, however, a better animus has prevailed, and more fraternal feeling exhibited towards the despised race; and it is to be hoped that Bro. King's (the New York Grand Master) words may be realised "that Freemasonry which affords balm to the suffering, solace to the despairing, relief to the poor and distressed, may, after the re-establishment of peace, become the great centre of radiation of life and light over the whole land, to soothe wounded hearts, to bring both concord and quietude to the dwellings of all

men, to re-unite with those whose communication has been severed, and to accelerate the time when heart and mouth will co-operate to further mutual love and general welfare."

Previous to the outbreak of the civil war, there existed in the United States a Masonic university, at Lagrange, Kentucky. This establishment was closed for some time, but according to the latest news it has been re-opened. Nothing, however, is stated as to the character and organisation of this institution.

SOUTH AMERICA.—We are informed that in spite of violent persecutions from the Spanish authorities, Masonry is flourishing in Cuba, the pearl of the Antilles. Numerous lodges are in operation in Brazil, Venezuela, Peru, Chili, Uruguay, and other South American States. In Brazil a German lodge has been erected under the auspices of the Hamburg Grand Lodge. It is to be regretted that this lodge also is labouring under the high degrees mania.

AUSTRALIA.—A number of lodges in the province of Victoria have resolved to establish an independent Grand Lodge of their own. This resolution, however, was not agreed to by the Grand Lodge of England, some of the Australian lodges not having acceded to the project.

In conclusion, we may state that King Kamehameha II., of the Sandwich Islands, died in the course of last year. He was reported to be a zealous adept of Freemasonry.

EXCAVATIONS AT OSTIA.

The excavations begun more than ten years ago, at Ostia, have been rewarded of late by the most interesting results, and are now being prosecuted by the labours of about sixty convicts, who inhabit the picturesque old castle, built by Sangallo in the latter years of the fifteenth century, within whose half-ruinous walls stands the wild little village that alone gives shelter to modern life, in the place of the antique city, on this desolate fever-stricken sea-coast.

After a walk of about a mile along the uncultivated fields around this village, we reach a street of tombs leading to the threshold of a principal gateway, and lined by the substructure-walls of sepulchral chambers, several of which contain the usual rows of niches for cinerary urns, a few having remnants of mosaic pavement (in black and white), with designs, birds, a biga drawn by two horses, &c., or a simple ornamental pattern; and in one instance, are such architectural details (for the tomb, singular) as a double doorway and large window jambs, lintels, and framework of travertine.

Beyond the ample threshold stone, sole remnant of the gateway, stand the ruins of a large mansion supposed a military station or guard-house. We have hence in view a long perspective of paved street flanked with houses, now but low and roofless, among which lie strewn fragments of sculpture and of marble architecture; but no conspicuous front rises, no characteristically designed elevation attracts the eye. One more imposing ruin, however, is that of a palace, in whose chambers are pavements of geometric designs in mosaic, and others of the richest coloured marbles inlaid in cubes.

A walk across the fields brings us to a more interesting ruin-group (opened shortly before our last visit), presenting several tombs, now roofless interiors and corridors lined with masonry, still firm and solid, partly in brick, partly in reticulated work of tufa,—the plan of this whole structure complicated, several of its interiors containing files of niches in which the terra cotta *ollee*, for ashes, still occupy their places; and other large recesses are seen, evidently for sarcophagi,—proof of the contemporaneous practices of interment and cremation; the former further attested, by numerous skulls, found here and elsewhere, among the Ostian sepulchres. Within one of these recesses, under a vaulting, is a painting of a banquet-scene, with large couch, table, garlands suspended above; but no guests introduced. In one chamber are figures of animals, painted with some skill, on a stucco surface of deep red. These remains are far surpassed in interest by a superbly-decorated tomb, into whose vaulted interior we descend from the level below which it had been buried; measuring 12 ft. 8 in. by 11 ft. 3 in., with walls and vault entirely painted over,—the chief colours red and yellow,—the floor sloping upwards to a level centre occupied by a marble sarcophagus (now in a magazine of such relics at the village); ample niches, with their *ollee* along a single file on the lateral walls; at the end wall, a kind of *adricula*, with painted pilasters and cornices, containing four larger arched recesses, and surmounted by ornamental painting, under the springing of the vault, rich and graceful in style. Upon the ceiling a row of griffins and candelabra forms a species of frieze, in white on a yellow ground: animals and a few human figures, much defaced, are here and there recognisable on the warm-tinted walls. A single funereal slab set into the masonry, near the entrance, gives the name of a child—Sicia Semina, deceased in the second year of her age. Returning within the area of the city, and proceeding in the direction seaward, we reach the last and by far the most important group of buildings, which covers a considerable extent, divided into numerous interiors, now presenting a vast labyrinth, amidst whose complications it is most difficult to form anything like a ground-plan to the mind's eye, or to determine the specific appropriation of every part.

One fact, however, is certain, and serves as guide for the apprehension of this great aggregate—that we have here before us three systems, distinct, but in communication: a temple of Mithra's, with forecourt and other sacred purlieus; the residence of the priesthood who here officiated; and *thermae*, that may have belonged to the same sacerdotal body, no doubt wealthy and powerful whilst this once fashionable Oriental worship prevailed under the Empire. These ruined structures are all alike roofless, divided either by partition walls at different height, some reduced very low, or by massive brick pilasters, among which lie several shafts of marble, green-veined Carystian (*cipollino*), or other kinds. We first enter a spacious quadrangle, entirely paved with black and white mosaic, designed in a graceful ornamental pattern (without figures), like carpet-work. From this centre opens, to the left, a series of quadrate chambers, various in size, at once recognizable as baths, all containing mosaic pavement; and two provided with terra cotta flues, for admission of hot air from a hypocaust, into which we can look, stooping low, from a lower area of ruins still encumbered with soil and weeds. The mosaics in these interiors are curious and varied; in one example (where a series of diamonds and borders is adorned with a species of braid, like intertwining ribbons), coloured; the others, in black and white, their designs including several figures of spirited character,—athletes combating with the cestus, or holding the palm of victory; one in the act of crowning himself with a ponderous diadem-like wreath; a little Cupid mounted on a dolphin, which he drives with a long whip; a bull terminating in a monstrous dragon, &c. From these pavements one of the finest specimens in coloured mosaic has been recently transferred to the Vatican; the central of five panels, in its design presenting a beautiful group of birds and flowers, the subordinate detail consisting of foliage, meanders, &c.

Leaving these baths, we enter the principal court, an ample quadrangle surrounded by parallel chambers and the temple buildings; the pavement of this court presenting a very curious design in black and white mosaic, intended for a kind of palm of the city and its port; in the centre a rude representation of a lighthouse with flame at the summit; around this the moles and inclosures of a harbour; beyond, the wider extent of fortifications and gates round the city, whose streets are simply indicated by black and white squares in chess-board style. Off one side of this quadrangle opens a series of halls, oblong and parallel to each other, all in a very ruinous state, with the lower flight of a staircase nearly at the centre; one of these interiors containing mosaic pavement (geometric) and two square elevations, that probably (as seems indicated by the pipes carried through one side of each) served for fountains, as perhaps required for lustrations in the Mithraic worship. At one extremity of this

series, to the right, is the cella of the Mithraic temple, a narrow oblong, terminating on the western side in a flight of six marble steps, on the lowest of which stands a small plain stone altar, with a cavity at the summit for libations, and the legible epigraph in front, *C. Caelius Hermeros antistes hujus loci fecit sua pecunia*. At each side, apparently for communicating with the platform above the altar, are narrow corridors, lateral to the staircase, and now more ruinous than the other parts. On the floor are the words, inscribed in mosaic, repeated along two borders,—*Soli Invict. Mit. DD.F. Agruis Colendis*. The several other chambers adjacent to this fane, now reduced to a state of scarce-intelligible ruin, are so connected with it that one may fairly suppose them to have served for its priesthood or other purposes pertaining to its rites. At some distance from these excavations stands the most conspicuous of the Ostian antiquities, the cella of a temple supposed (though without reliable evidence) to be that of Jupiter, and, at all events, one whose character must have been imposing, and art decorations splendid; its area ample; its walls of lateritious brickwork, still lofty and well preserved; though of the roof remains nothing, and the front has also vanished. Along the side opposite the entrance is a wide extent of massive stonework, in which we recognise the remnant of a large altar and platforms; the rich marble pavement (mentioned as extant several years ago, in Nibby's "Contorni di Roma"), has disappeared, all but an immense threshold-stone of fine African breccia; and in the midst open two yawning cavities, one filled with soil, the other allowing a glimpse into a dark subterranean. The posticum, on its outer side, is perforated with cavities at regular intervals, probably for the pivots by which a marble incrustation was fastened; and on the ground-floor, below that part of the cella where stood the altar, we enter by an arched ingress (lately opened) into the outer compartment of a system of crypts, where, under a high-hung vault, lie a profusion of marble fragments, some pertaining to richly-chiseled architecture, which we can only inspect in dim light admitted from the doorway. From this chamber is communication with the inner *penetralia* not yet cleared out, but soon to be so, from which further continuance of the works in this temple we may expect valuable results. Around the outer walls are portions of pavement, in very ample white marble slabs, numerous fragmentary shafts and cornices in the same material, the latter presenting fine examples of dental and egg-moulding. Seeing the extent of area over which these marble remnants are strewn, we may conclude they belonged to the sacred enclosure (*peribolos*), that must have been ample in plan, and majestic in architectonic character. It is evident from the elevation of ruin-masses, that a flight of steps must have led to the entrance of the cella, whose front was hexastyle, of the Corin-

thian order, as inferrible from its remains, and the colonnade round the enclosing court seems to have been of smaller shafts in the same order. Gell gives the measurement of the whole area as about 270 Roman palms in length, by 120 in breadth. The wild solitude amidst which it stands enhances the effect of mournful grandeur in a ruin not otherwise of extraordinary character, as to either dimensions or artistic claims. The recent directing of the excavators' labours to this centre has been judicious; but we were sorry to hear of the removal of several great marble shafts from these interesting ruins, to "St. Peter's" as the custode reported, but we conclude, by mistake,—St. Paul's on the Ostian Way being, in all probability, the church for whose restorations they are destined. Besides the above-named, other noticeable discoveries on this site are the substructures of a granary and another public magazine, in whose spacious area are still seen files of enormous terra-cotta amphoræ, embedded in the ground up to their necks, mostly filled with clay, instead of the oil they were probably destined for. The wide-spanning arch of a ruinous gateway, seaward, forms one of the conspicuous features among these relics of a vanished city, once peopled, it is said, by 30,000 souls, but left to decay so early as the sixth century of our era.

As to the style of these Ostian ruins generally, we observe indications of a good, but rarely those of the best, period in Roman masonry—the *opus reticulatum* frequently seen, and quite compact; the brickwork, in some examples, with broad layers of cement, such as characterise the period of decline.

Soon are to be commenced other works on this site among the hitherto neglected ruins of a theatre, only a single arcade of which stands in intelligible form beside other vague piles of brickwork. Out of proper regard for the health of the poor *galleotti* (condemned prisoners) the Ostian works are suspended from the 10th of June till a period in the autumn. The deposit of antiques in the village contains sarcophagi, epitaphs, lamps, terra cotta ornaments of tombs, amphoræ, &c., the most valuable to be eventually transferred to Rome's Museums; the most remarkable among those objects still left here is a recumbent female figure, headless, naked down to the waist, but for the rest draped, with a fine character of execution in the nude, and in the drapery retaining the red tint, much faded, in which the whole of that portion has been painted.

Recently have been brought to Rome a fresco of Orpheus and Eurydice from the painted sepulchre above noticed; and a mosaic, of a priest offering sacrifice at the flaming altar, now in the Lateran Museum. Another mosaic, covering a very large area, was transferred from Ostia to the Vatican some time ago, and is now laid in the hall where Podesti is painting a great series of frescoes to illustrate the dogmatic proclamation of the

Immaculate Conception; this last, from the thermæ pavements, being an example of the geometric and decorative without figures or other design.

Apart from the interest of antiquities severally, there is, in the level uncultured waste, the serpentine windings of the Tiber between low banks and underwood, the frowning old castle, the fortified but desolate village (now three miles from the retreating sea), the aggregate of ruins strewn over the solitary, memory-haunted coast, at Ostia, a solemn mournfulness and strikingly marked character that impress and fascinate—disposing for such musings as would require poetic language for their just expression.

FAMOUS SEATS.

THE subjective association of people with their accustomed places leads us to look upon various objects with interest which would, perhaps, have little charm for us but for this relationship. After the houses in which celebrities have lived, and the clothes or trinkets they have worn, we seem to feel this association of idea in its greatest intensity when we look upon their vacant seats. Beranger gave expression to this feeling in his "Songs of the People," when he caused the village crowd to exclaim, as his "old and hoary dame" related her reminiscences of Napoleon's visit to her house,—

"Mother, and was that the chair,
Mother, was he seated there?"

As might be expected, we have several chairs and seats preserved as relics of departed celebrities, although their number is not so large as we could wish. A gallery of famous seats would be at once instructive and attractive in the now frequent exhibitions. We throw out the hint for the benefit of those concerned in organizing the most recently proposed of these.

Applying the theory of development to furniture, the first stage of a seat is a stool; the second, a chair; the third, a throne; the highest, a canopied throne raised on a dais. Perhaps, the three-legged stool was the precursor of the four-legged one; but, whether this was the case, or *vice versa*, we are never likely to ascertain. We can see, however, how the addition of a back to a stool made it into a chair; and the further addition of arms developed it into an arm-chair; and the adoption of a large scale and costly materials exalted it into a throne.

We need not trust entirely to the illuminations of Saxon MSS. for information concerning early seats, for we have actual examples. There are Saxon fridstols, or stone seats of peace, preserved at Hexham, Beverley, and Sproughton. The last of these three is but little known, but an illustration of it may be seen in a little volume recently published by the Rev. Scott F. Surtees, entitled "Waifs and Strays of North Humber History." Besides these stone seats we have an early wooden chair preserved in Jarrow, which is said to have been used by the Venerable Bede. This consists of a seat, having three planks, reaching from the ground to a convenient height, to form the back and sides. The boards forming the sides are sloped away from the front of the seat till they die into the

top of the back. Although there is nothing distinctly indicative of Saxon workmanship about this seat, there is nothing that negatives the assumption of its great antiquity.

The Glastonbury chair has a reputation of interest. It was the property of Horace Walpole for some time, and formed one of the attractions among his curiosities at Strawberry Hill. At the dispersion of those objects at the memorable sale, it was bought by Mr. Smyth Pigott, of Brockley Hall, Somersetshire, for £75. It was again sold in October, 1849, to Mr. Brackenridge, of Clevedon, this time fetching only £49. The following is the account of it given in the catalogue of the sale in which it changed hands.

"351. A very ancient chair of oak which came out of Glastonbury Abbey; on it are carved these sentences:—'Johannes Arthurus, Monachus, Glastonie—Salvet enim Deus Da Pacem Domine, Sit laus Deo.' This chair, from its authenticity, shape, and extreme comfort, has been repeatedly copied, particularly for the late Earl Bathurst. It belonged to Sir Robert Walpole, and was purchased by Mr. Pigott, at Strawberry Hill sale."

Another famous seat is preserved at Dunmow, an illustration of which is given by Dr. Chambers in "The Book of Days." It is used in the ceremonies attending the award of the fitch of bacon to contended couples.

At Bedford, in the vestry of the new Baptist chapel, erected on the site of the "old meeting," is preserved a chair for the sake of its owner, John Bunyan, the enrapt writer of the "Pilgrim's Progress." This is illustrated in "Pilgrimages to English Shrines," by Mrs. S. C. Hall.

The coronation chair in Westminster Abbey, in its intimate association with our successive kings and queens, may be called the seat of honour. The Woolsack is another famous seat; although, perhaps, not available for the exhibition we have suggested. Ducking-stools would be, however, a curious branch of the subject. These were terrible realities in their day; and our museums possess several forms of them. As a contrast to the scolding, screaming dames, and the noisy scene of the execution of the ducking sentence, it is composing to remember that some famous seats have had a reputation only, but no existence; Miss Eliza Cook's "Old Arm-chair" being a case in point. Where, for instance, could our collectors look for the "seat of the scorners," or the "stool of repentance?" And that others have had both reputation and existence, but the former only survives, as in Canute's chair, from which he bade the waves retire. Sedan-chairs would be a further appropriate variety. The chairing of members of Parliament is intended, perhaps, has a simple honour only; but it is interesting to trace the observance of a similar mode of showing respect to Rome, where the Pope is always carried on men's shoulders in a gorgeous chair, on ceremonious occasions; and to take the two facts together, and see an adaptation of a rare custom to every-day convenience in the sedan-chair. To be invited to take the chair, and be the chairman at a public meeting, is another form of the same intention to pay respect.

We leave the suggestion of collecting all our identifiable and historical chairs that are available for the purpose into one group, with a catalogue of a few scattered curiosities not available:—The Queen's Bench, London; King Arthur's Seat, Edinburgh; Cader Idris, North Wales; the civic chair; and a country-seat.—*Builder*.

THE LATE MR. WILLIAM DENHOLM KENNEDY.

It has been observed, more than once, that the world which receives delight from the productions of men of genius, little wots of the anguish that sometimes attends upon the work, or of the amount of effort wasted that there is behind the presented scene. If anything could be wanting to urge the Government, the nation, and the Royal Academy, to terminate the unsatisfactory state of things which is represented by the arrangement of the works of art in the galleries in Trafalgar-square, and the rejection of pictures that are of great merit, it would be afforded by the relation of facts such as from time to time come to light. Each year we hear of an increased number rejected, of works that, it is not disputed, as well deserved place as those which are exhibited; whilst also we see a considerable portion of the pictures placed where no picture can be appreciated, or so that their exhibition is productive of as much pain as advantage to their authors. Not long since, an artist of great excellence, Muller, dying, spoke of the treatment which he felt he had received at the hands of the Academy, and to which his death was ascribed; and last week there was another melancholy instance of effects that may be produced through the condition of affairs administered to the best of the means and ability of the Academy, acting upon a peculiarly sensitive mind, such as is often that of an artist.

In the present exhibition of the Academy, in the North Room, numbered 588, and placed next the ceiling, where it is impossible to discover the beauty which we believe the work has, is a picture to which is attached the title in the catalogue,—“The Land of Poetry and Song,” together with the quotation,—

“Ah, monarchs! could ye taste the mirth ye mar,
Not in the toils of glory would ye fret;
The hoarse dull drum would sleep, and man be
happy yet.”

It is the last principal exhibited work of one William Denholm Kennedy, who might be ranked with some of the first of English painters, or those who have been the brightest ornaments of the Academy, whose chief honours in the schools he gained. He lived to feel himself neglected and passed over; for, though more than once within one vote of his election as an A.R.A., he never gained that distinction—perhaps because he was too proud to solicit it; and anxiety about the reception or treatment of the work which we have named, and some mortification at the actual result, acting upon a diseased frame, and coupled with grief at a severe bereavement, have sufficed to terminate his life. He had himself observed that his anxiety on the subject of his picture would “kill” him; and when the exhibition opened, and it was seen where the picture was hung, his friends made the same remark, and dreaded answering his inquiries. He was found dead on Friday morning, the 2nd inst., at his rooms in Soho-square; and though the inquest has shown that the disease from which he had suffered might have been the primary cause of his death, it is probable that had the system of the Academy allowed better acknowledgment of his talents, his life would have been prolonged and his end have been somewhat different. The writer of these lines met him two evenings previously to the sad event; and another

friend was with him on the evening before his death, when he appeared well, as he had for some weeks. He had been painting on the day before the night of his decease.

His principal works represent Italian scenes, and combine great beauty of landscape-painting with a treatment of figures resembling that of Etty, with whom he was a favourite, and in some measure a pupil, and from whom he derived great love of colour. During the last few years his pictures have not been so conspicuous in Trafalgar-square, as were his earlier works; and some of them were wanting in finish; but one who knew him well, and has the capacity for appreciating a good picture, says that he never painted better than during the two years of his illness. He produced a multitude of small works that never went to the Exhibition. One dealer, we believe, sold in two years £2,000 worth of them. In one side of his character he might be said to resemble James Barry; and the neglected state of his rooms helped to keep up the idea of a similarity. For several years he had not visited the galleries of the Academy. With his intimate friends, however, by whom he was sincerely esteemed, he was remarkable for great kindness and sociability, coupled with a charming politeness “of the *old school*,” as he also was for humour and anecdote. A certain fraternity to which he belonged will miss him.

He was born in Dumfries on the 16th of June, 1813. Thus, at his death, he had very nearly completed his 52nd year. He received his early instruction in drawing, at the Edinburgh School of Art; came to London about the year 1830, where he became a student of the Academy; and at length gained the gold medal, and afterwards the travelling studentship. He went abroad, with Mr. Elmore, we believe, and was in Rome about the year 1830. He had exhibited previously to this time. A list of his works would perhaps be beyond the scope of our pages; but we may mention, as amongst the number, a picture to which were appended the words, “The last of all the bards was he,” &c.; “The Italian Goatherd,”—a very fine work, but injured lately through his having been induced to paint out the principal figure;—“Sir Guyon and the Palmer;” “Gil Blas;” “I must say that Italy’s a pleasant place to me;” and “The Warders;” of which works, the two last are still amongst his effects. At one time he assisted Mr. Willement with designs. The windows of the Church of St. Stephen, Walbrook, are from his cartoons. He was a clever *connoisseur* of engravings, of which he had a choice collection. One of his pictures is now in the collection at the Crystal Palace.

His brother, Colonel J. D. Kennedy, who had served in India, died about a fortnight ago, and this loss, together with the peculiarly distressing disease, dropsy, from which he suffered, were, rather than any treatment of the Academy, the causes of his death. Still, so far as this case may be illustrative of the sad effects of the indecisive position in which the Academy is, or is left by the Government, it deserves to be recorded here. What is quite clear, is that no picture that deserves to be hung should be placed where it cannot be seen, or where otherwise its effect may be falsified. The position of sculpture, as well as architecture, is too obviously discreditable to the Academy, or the country, to require present remark.—*Builder*.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

CITY COMPANIES AND FREEMASONRY.

Does not the fact of there being Worshipful Masters, Prime Wardens, Senior Wardens, Master Wardens, Junior Wardens, Second Wardens, &c., in various city companies show where Freemasonry took the idea of its principal lodge officers?—W. G. C.—[If you advocate that most visionary of all fallacies, the Guild theory of the origin of Freemasonry, there may be something in the similarity of names but beyond the bare likeness of such titles there is no reason to suppose any identity between them. We know Freemasonry to be older than any existing guild, or "art and mystery" of trade. Perhaps the very words "art and mystery" will lead you to infer there must be a greater resemblance than many suppose; this, however, is not the fact. In the middle ages every handicraft was reckoned an art and it was likewise a mystery because it was secret, or confined to those who had learned it by regular apprenticeship, and when that period had expired and the aspirant could show proofs of his proficiency he was advanced to the dignity of a master, on his own account, and declared free of his craft. Now Freemasonry in the middle ages was nothing of the kind. It was a secret society having political, religious, and social development for its particular object. Then it was called Love. The doctrine of Platonic love turned the heads of half the schoolmen in Europe, and that was the Freemasonry of the times before guilds or companies existed. The resuscitation of the Craft in 1716 was opening it to the middle classes. These middle classes were interested in the trading communities represented by the city companies—the successors of the trading guilds—and as Freemasonry knew no such officers as Wardens, in its earlier career in England, it is not improbable that Anderson, Payne, Desaguliers, &c., being men of standing, were often at city festivities, if some of them were not actual members of existing companies, and that they remodelled Freemasonry so as to make it assimilate with the middle-class institutions of their day. We know they used the language of some of our British classics in the revised ritual and what so likely to be their plan as to borrow titles familiar to the condition of life from which many of the Freemasons, of the eighteenth century, were chosen.]

NO CYPHER.

You are reckoned good at reading cyphers. A brother has given me the following. Please unriddle it, and favour—J. B.

AR..VBBI...NGS...TO...NE...F...ORA...SS...ES.

[The above is no cypher. Tell the brother who gave it you we never require such a stone. The length of his ears may render it invaluable to him.]

THE THREE DEGREES. A LANDMARK.

The three degrees are one of the ancient landmarks of the Craft. The English Grand Lodge says the three degrees including the holy Royal Arch. The Grand Lodge of Scotland excludes the Royal Arch. The Grand Lodge of Ireland also excludes the latter. The Grand Orient of France does not know the Royal Arch, but includes seven degrees. Some German Grand Lodges adopt three and no more, others include a variety of degrees. Which is right, and who breaks one of the landmarks?—*.*.*

GREEN.

Is green a Masonic colour?—SPES.—[All colours are Masonic under various rites. Green, red, and white composed the symbolic prism by which the early Freemasons were wont to recognise their opponents.]

INSTALLED MASTER.

There are several opinions afloat as to the modern origin of the degree of an Installed Master. Without offering any conjecture of my own, I should be glad if some of your readers would tell me when was the degree of Installed Master of a lodge first instituted?—*.*.*

HIGH PRIESTHOOD.

"Past Z," at page 208, Sept. 17, 1864, asks is the High Priesthood a Royal Arch or a Knight Templar degree? In the Royal Arch chapters of other rites than the English, the First Principal is the High Priest, and the order of High Priests consists of those who have held this office. Where the rite is fully observed the order of High Priests has its own ritual, and the installation takes place by High Priests, as in the Craft lodges the W.M. is installed by Installed Masters. In the United States, where there are many High Priests, chapter of High Priests are common. It is often called a side degree of the Royal Arch, but it is an essential part of the American ritual. It becomes a side degree when, as in some cases, it is given abusively to companions who have not been elected to the first chair of a chapter.—H. P.

ITALIAN MASONRY.

What rite is worked by the lodges of the Grand Lodge of Italy? Is it alleged to be a modification of the Rit Ecossais. Is it the fact that this Grand Lodge lately sent round a circular to all its lodges requesting subscriptions for the insurgents of Friuli? Has it constituted a Grand Lodge for Hungary, of the Hungarian refugees, with General Turr as G.M.? Does it celebrate Masonic baptism?—QUERIST.

AUSTRIA.

Some short time ago there was a remark in the FREEMASONS MAGAZINE that a German Kalendar of Masonry said nothing of lodges in Austria. The reason is that Masonry has been under the ban since the reign of Joseph II., and that there is no regular jurisdiction. Masonry is, however, kept up chiefly by the action of the members of the higher degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, exercising their functions, and by the numbers of Austrians initiated abroad, wherever there is an opportunity. There are known to be lodges in Vienna, Pesth, Prague, and Trieste, but the proceedings are kept very secret on account of the bitter hostility of the police, civil and ecclesiastical. It will be interesting to know what is the present condition of Masonry in Russia. Many Russians have, of late years, been initiated abroad.—A. AND A.

KNIGHTLY NOTES.

In the old FREEMASONS MAGAZINE, for 1794, are the two following very characteristic letters which ought to be remembered by our present K.'s T.:—
"Extract of a circular letter from the Grand Master of the religious and military Order of Knights Templars in England, to the chapters of that confraternity.

"Dear Brother and Knight Companion,—As the nation is preparing to guard against an invasion from our enemies, if they should have the temerity to make an attempt, it is become my duty, at this important crisis, to request and require that such of you as can, without prejudice to your families, do hold yourselves in readiness (as Knights Templar) to unite with and be under the command of the officers of the military corps stationed in your respective counties, as may be most convenient, taking the name of 'Prince Edward's Royal Volunteers.' When the important moment arrives, I shall offer my service in the navy or army; and whenever I have the honour to be received, shall inform you of my address; and although we are prevented, by adverse circumstances, from assembling together where I might have had the honour and happiness of commanding in person, yet our hearts will be united in the glorious cause, in conformity to the sacred obligations we are under. Let our prayers be addressed to the throne of grace; that as Christ's faithful soldiers and servants we may be enabled to defend the Christian religion, our gracious sovereign, our laws, liberties, and properties against a rapacious enemy. Let the word of the day be the will of God; and let us remember that a day, an hour, of virtuous liberty is worth a whole eternity of bondage.

"The Knights Companions are required to wear the uniform of the corps in which they serve as volunteers, with the cross of the Order of Knights Templar on a black riband between two button-holes on the breast of the waistcoat.

"Your faithful Brother and Knight Companion,
"THOMAS DUNCKERLEY, G.M.

"Southampton, April 11th,
"A.D. 1794, A.O. 676."

The following is the copy of a letter from Redruth in Cornwall, in answer to the preceding:—

"Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master,—Agreeable to your desire, signified to me by your esteemed favour of the 11th ultimo, I held a conclave of the Order of Knights Templar in our field of encampment at this place, on Monday, the 28th ultimo, where I laid your letter before the Knights Companions.—I have the happiness to inform you that I found them steadfast in their religious principles, and unanimous in their loyalty and patriotism to their king and country. Two of the Knights Companions are officers in the Penryn Volunteers Corps, and will follow your directions in wearing the cross of the Order, &c.—The rest of the companions residing at a distance from any established corps, will be ready on any emergent occasion to unite with them; and they have entered into a subscription (as Knights Templars) to be applied towards the defence of the country; and as there is a general subscription at Bodmin, for the county, and several volunteer corps on the coast for local defence, we beg your opinion and advice how to apply the money we have subscribed. I am (M.E. and S.G.M.),

Your faithful and affectionate Brother and Knight Companion,

"J——— K———.

"Redruth, 3rd May, 1794.

"Thos. Dunckerley, Esq., Hampton Cour Palace." And in the same volume, under the heading of "Masonic affairs," is this entry:—

"Manheim, June 1.—The elector of Cologne, Grand

Master of the Teutonic Order, has, by a proclamation, called on the Knights of the Order who have not as yet fulfilled their military engagements, to repair, at the call of religion and honour, to their duties against the French Jacobins, and have sworn to destroy all the bonds of society."—EXPERT.—[We printed Grand Master Dunckerley's letter about four years ago, but as "Expert" is very desirous it should appear, to oblige him we have inserted it again.]

OUR MASONIC CREED.

I have long been in pursuit of a little book, which a brother tells me was once popular about Newcastle, on the *Creed of Masons*. Do you know anything of it?—HILDA.—[There was a chap-book published in Newcastle, a rare place for such publications, one page of which contains a rhyme called "the Masons Creed," but it is sheer nonsense. If you are in search of what is a true Freemasons creed, it may be summed up in a few words, *viz.*, the three theological and four cardinal virtues.]

THE MYSTERIES.

Are the subjoined lines descriptive of the greater or lesser mysteries?—E.

"The dismal situation waste and wild,
A dungeon horrible on all sides—
No light, but rather darkness visible,
Serv'd only to discover sights of woe,
Regions of horror, doleful shades, &c."

[Neither. They are by Milton. If you like to apply them to the system of Eleusinian initiation no doubt they do come somewhat near it, but they were not written with that view.]

MASONIC VARIETY.

"There were no less than fourteen different varieties of Freemasonry; some of which were alchemical, astrological, astronomical, religious, irreligious, refined, vulgar, and political." Who is the author?—W. G. C.

TRUE GREATNESS.

(Written for the Old FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.)

In Heavenly synod once arose
A wondrous strong debate,
The mighty secret to disclose,
What makes a mortal great?
Mars bluster'd forth, that love of arms.
Enrich'd the daring soul;
While Bacchus swore the brightest charms
Flow'd from the sparkling bowl.
That he who, fill'd with generous wine,
Could frolic, laugh, and sing,
Was far more rich, was more divine,
And greater than a king.
Apollo vow'd with music's pow'r
None others could compare;
When Jove produc'd his golden show'r,
And fix'd true greatness there.
Pallas, to wisdom ever dear,
Heard gravely what had pass'd,
The goddess came prepar'd to hear,
And silence broke at last.
Your show'r, said she, will melt away,
Your music loose its charms,
Your sparkling bowl will all decay.
And rust o'erspread your arms.
But heav'n-born Masonry knows no change,
No time dissolves her state,
To blest eternity she'll range,
'Tis she makes mortals great.

SAM. PORTER,

P.M. of St. John's Lodge (No. 492).

Kenly-in-Arden, Warwickshire, June 7, 1794.

—EXPERT.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

The R.W.P.G.M., his Excellency Sir H. Bulwer, has consented to preside at a banquet of the lodges of all jurisdictions at Constantinople on St. John's Day. The D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Hyde Clarke, will do the same at Smyrna.

Bro. C. K. Kemeys-Tynte has resigned the appointment of Provincial Grand Master for the Eastern Division of South Wales. Although highly and deservedly esteemed in private life, his retirement from the Masonic world will be little felt by the province. Indeed, should the Grand Master confer the patent upon the excellent and accomplished "brother of eminence and ability in the Craft" who has for some time virtually ruled the province, the withdrawal of the nominal head will be a positive gain.

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED MASONS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

At a meeting of the Committee of Management, on Wednesday last, the 14th inst., it was announced that—

Fourteen male annuitants, elected on the 19th May last will receive in the aggregate per annum.....	£3 10
And one Bro. H. Martin, aged 86, who had stood four elections, was placed on the list of annuitants, in accordance with article 34, page 11, of the Rules and Regulations	30
Six female annuitants, elected 19th May last, will receive in the aggregate per annum.....	135
And Mrs. Sarah Dixon, aged 81, who had stood five elections, and Mrs. Betty Partington, aged 86, who had stood four elections, were placed on the list of annuitants, in accordance with article 34, page 11, of the Rules and Regulations, for £25 each	50
Sarah, the widow of the late Bro. Joseph Pearson, of Blackburn, was granted half her late husband's annuity of £20, in accordance with article 20, page 15 of the Rules and Regulations	10
Making the total addition to the annuities already payable £565.	

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

A circular has been issued relative to the approaching inauguration of the new school-house, which says:—The new building in process of erection for the accommodation of one hundred and fifty boys, is so far advanced towards completion as to justify the committee in opening it for the reception of the pupils and staff in the course of the ensuing summer. The building, when completed, will have cost—say, £30,000 as a maximum sum, the committee confidently anticipate the favourable testimony of all who may inspect it as the justification for the outlay. Space, light, and ventilation have been carefully studied, and educational requirements properly attended to; while as to style and character the object has been to produce a structure handsome without extravagance—with materials and workmanship of the best description—such a building as shall be an honour to the Craft, and a proof that in the pursuit of "Speculative" Masonry, the appreciation of the "Operative" Art has not been lost. The whole of the funded stock has been sold, and the produce, with special donations and assistance from the General Fund, has enabled them to pay to the contractors £17,400, and for minor contracts

and architects' commission and charges £1,040, together £18,440, the difference between which amount and the total cost £30,000, is the sum remaining to be provided (or say £12,000.) Large as this sum may appear, there exists no apprehension as to its realization. Of the 25,000 Freemasons, contributing members of lodges, less than 3000 are supporters of this institution; and if those who have already contributed will exert themselves to induce those to contribute who have not hitherto done so, the task will be one of very easy accomplishment.

PROVINCIAL.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

KENDAL.—*Union Lodge* (No. 129).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Friday evening, June 9th, by permission of the Worshipful the Mayor, at the Town Hall. The chair was occupied by the W.M., Bro. E. Busher, Prov. G. Sec. of Cumberland and Westmoreland, supported by Bros. Captain Whitwell, S.W.; Titus Wilson, J.W. and Treas.; John Bowes, P.M.; Sam. Gawith, jun., J.D.; A. K. Woods, I.G.; William Wilson, ex-High Sheriff of the County; Robert Gibson, Henry Cragg, Robert Butterwith, Thos. Busher, William James, J. Ottley Atkinson, Edward Medcalf, jun., Thos. J. Carlisle, Matt. Redhead, and Thos. Atkinson. The lodge was opened in solemn form, according to ancient custom, when the customary routine business was transacted. The W.M. then intimated that Bros. Thos. Busher and W. James were candidates to be passed. The chair was now assumed by Bro. J. Bowes, P.M., and the lodge duly opened in the 2nd degree, the candidates were passed to the degree of F.C.'s. Bro. Butterwith was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason by Bro. Bowes. The silence which prevailed during the entire ceremony added to its solemnity, and proved that it was duly appreciated by all present. The lodge was then closed down to the 1st degree, when the W.M., again took the chair. The remainder of the routine business was then transacted. The W.M. announced that he had received the warrant for the new Royal Arch Chapter to be attached to the Union Lodge, and to be called the Kendal Castle Chapter, and that he expected some distinguished brethren from London to assist the consecration. The W.M. also announced that they would be in possession of the new lodge rooms in a few days, and that no time would be lost in fitting up the premises, and the next meeting of the lodge, the last Thursday in July, would be held in their new abode. The W.M. further announced that the new by-laws had received the necessary sanction, and would come into force at once. Three gentlemen were proposed as candidates for the mysteries and privileges, and the lodge was closed in harmony soon after eight o'clock.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

WALTHAM CROSS.—*Gresham Lodge* (No. 869).—This lodge held its second meeting this season on Saturday, the 10th inst., at the Four Swans Hotel, Waltham Cross. The lodge was opened by Bro. Harcourt, W.M., assisted by Bros. E. S. Stillwell, S.W.; J. E. Ponder, J.W.; Lean, S.D.; Beyramjee, J.D.; Watts, I.G.; and several others. The visitors were Bros. J. Udall, P.G.D.; E. H. Patten, P.G.S.B.; E. Sisson, W.M. 101, and P.M. 901; H. J. W. Thompson, W.M. 65 and 898; Lemare, P.M. 22. After the confirmation of the minutes (which was, however, ineffectually opposed, in order, if possible, to deter the W.M. elect from being installed), Bro. H. J. Thompson, Secretary, and P. Prov. S.G.W. Herts, was, according to ancient custom, placed in the chair of the lodge. He appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. E. Farthing, S.W.; C. Rook, J.W.; Walter Lean, Sec.; Robert Mitchell, S.D.; E. Fox, J.D.; Watts, I.G. The duties of installing Master were ably performed by Bro. C. Swan, P.M. and P. Prov. J.G.D. Herts. Business being ended, the brethren sat down to banquet, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

MAN stands with bandaged eyes beneath the sword of incomprehensible Destiny, and listens with pleasure to the whizzing of the stroke before it falls.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

CONSECRATION OF THE PANMURE CHAPTER.

A charter having been obtained from the Supreme Grand Chapter, the Panmure Chapter (No. 720) met, for the first time, at the Loughborough Hotel, Brixton, on Whit Monday, the 5th of June. A conclave of P.Z.'s having been formed, viz., Comps. William Watson, as Z.; E. H. Patten, P.G.S.B., as H.; and Joseph Taylor, as J.; the chapter was opened, after which the following companions were admitted:—John Read, James Stevens, and Joseph Nunn, the respective Z., H., and J. designate; T. Sedgwick, H. 180; Matthew Cooke, J. 534; T. Simpson, N. 180; Comps. Cranswick, Shaw, and others. Comp. W. Watson then proceeded to consecrate the chapter, Comp. Matthew Cooke assisting by performing the music and acting as E. After the consecration, a board of Installed Principals was formed, and Comps. Read, Stevens, and Nunn were severally installed into the chairs of Z., H., and J. The board being closed, the companions were re-admitted, and the following petitioners were unanimously elected to office:—John Thomas, P.Z.; Scribe E.; Cranswick, Scribe N.; David R. Farmer, P.Z. and P.G.S.B., Treas.; Shaw, P. Sojourner; and Bradley, Janitor. The M.E.Z. proposed, and J. seconded, that Companion Watson, who had so cheerfully come forward at a very short notice, and had so efficiently consecrated the chapter and installed the Principals, be elected an honorary member, which, upon being put, was carried by acclamation. Comp. Thomas, E., proposed Comp. N. W. Hodges, of the St. Wulstan Chapter, Worcester, as a joining member. The following brethren were proposed and seconded as candidates for exaltation:—Geo. Oxford, Royal Jubilee Lodge (No. 72), proposed by J., seconded by H.; Bro. King, of the same lodge, proposed and seconded by J. and H.; Bros. George Wells, R. R. Gardner, and Jas. Heydon Gates, of the Panmure Lodge, proposed by Z. and seconded by H.; Bro. Shuttleworth Oswin, also of the Panmure Lodge, proposed by H. and seconded by J.; Bro. Kirwin, of the United Pilgrims, proposed by J. and seconded by E. A committee of the three Principals with the Scribe E. were empowered to frame a set of by-laws, and to submit them for approval at the next convocation. There being no further business to transact, the chapter was closed in ancient and solemn form.

After a very excellent banquet had been done substantial justice to by all present, the M.E.Z. proposed the toasts of the "Queen;" "The Grand Z.," and that of "The Grand H. and Grand J.," coupling the same with the name of Comp. E. H. Patten, P.G.S.B.

Comp. PATTEN said every one knew the value of the Grand H., and sympathised with the Grand J. in his late bereavement. For his own part he was very much obliged for the honour they had done him in coupling his name with the toast of the Grand officers of Supreme Grand Chapter.

Comp. W. WATSON had much pleasure in proposing a toast for the first time in that chapter, as it was very gratifying to an old Royal Arch Mason like himself to see young companions, of more ability than usual, pass through the chair of their own lodge, and so qualify themselves to succeed to the higher position of Principals of a chapter. It was less than a twelve-month ago that their First Principal was in the chair of his lodge, and it showed, however difficult Craft Masonry might be, that, by industry and perseverance, the youngest might succeed. When he heard old chapters grumbling and growling he thought it was mostly their own fault, because they did not carry out their principles with zeal. In Freemasonry, the only way to preferment was the old beaten track of hard study, no royal road having yet been discovered. In his younger days the study was more difficult than at present, because there were so few teachers, but now there were more teachers than learners. He congratulated the Panmure Chapter on its commencement in having for a First Principal so zealous and careful a companion, who had, in the Craft, given a good earnest that he would do his duty ably and conscientiously. Comp. Watson knew they could depend on Comp. Read, their first M.E.Z., to work the chapter and discharge his duty to their satisfaction, and he had the gratification to propose "The Health of Comp. Read, the First Principal of the Panmure Chapter."

Comp. READ, M.E.Z., rose to reply for the very kind manner in which his health had been proposed and received. The companions did him the honour to place him in that high posi-

tion, and aware, as he was, of the very important duties he should have to discharge, more especially on the formation of a new chapter, he trusted to do his best so as not to neglect them. If, however, he should make any slips, and no one was perfect, he should trust to their fraternal feelings to set him right, as he was always most happy to receive instruction and endeavour to profit by it. They would have the aid of several old Royal Arch companions to guide and assist them, and it would be his most anxious care to seek trusty councillors and never to disgrace the honour with which he had been that day invested.

The M.E.Z. had a very pleasing official duty to perform in proposing for their acceptance the next toast—that of Comp. William Watson's health. They owed him a very deep debt of gratitude for coming forward at so short a notice to consecrate the chapter. He could not undertake to say how other companions might perform such a ceremony, but he was sure that no one in Freemasonry could have done it better. He was sorry not to be able to say all he could wish, but he was sure every one would join with him in drinking Comp. W. Watson's health, and thank him for the kindness in which he had gone there to set them going that day.

Comp. WILLIAM WATSON was very much obliged for the honour they had done him—first, in electing him an honorary member of their chapter, and, secondly, for the manner in which his name had just been received by the companions. It was, he considered, not only a great pleasure, but a great honour, to be called upon to consecrate a lodge or chapter. He had been frequently asked for a programme but he never issued one, because if they all knew what was coming the interest of the rite was destroyed. It was a ceremony that did not often take place, and where it did was sure to attract those who had never seen it, and if programmes were issued they were often preserved and got about in a neighbourhood where, should a new chapter be inaugurated, all those adjacent did not come to see the consecration and hence it was detrimental to each new lodge or chapter. The M.E.Z. had been pleased to compliment him on the way he had performed the ceremony, and he might say, without egotism, that it was no slight tax on the memory to go through with it, particularly when it would be remembered there were several degrees and installations to be kept separate and distinct. It was a ceremony not performed every day, and he could point to many first-class masons who never had an opportunity of going through it in the course of their lives. As to the matter of Instruction which they had spoken of, if they chose to attend on the second and fourth Wednesdays he would be there to meet them, but he would candidly tell them that he should expect the regular attendance of the whole of the officers, and then if they did not learn their duties the fault would be theirs, and not his, and for all their good wishes and kind expressions he tendered them his best thanks.

Comp. JOHN THOMAS, P.Z., Scribe E., said he was unable to give his time regularly to teach, and he thought they ought to be very grateful to Comp. Watson for his kindness, and take care to rally round him, and not let his time be thrown away, but benefit to the utmost by his skill and ability.

The M.E.Z. next came to the toast of the "Visiting Companions." They had there but a few, but they were some of the most distinguished. There was Comp. Patten, the worthy and zealous secretary of the Girls' school. Joseph Taylor, Z., of the Mount Sinai Chapter, whose work in Craft and Arch Masonry was perfection. Comp. Sedgwick, H. of No. 180, of whom the M.E.Z. hoped to know more. Comp. Hodges, a Past Provincial Grand Officer of his county, Comp. Matthew Cooke, who everybody knew, and Comp. T. Simpson, of No. 180, a friend known to several.

Most, if not all, the visitors were called upon to reply, and the burthen of their remarks was to wish success to the Panmure Chapter.

The M.E.Z., in very flattering terms, proposed the healths of the H. and J., Comps. Stevens and Joseph Nunn, who each, for himself, returned thanks, and promised to do their best in their new stations for the good of the Order.

The M.E.Z. proposed the toast of the Scribes E. and N. and the Principal Sojourner. Comps. Thomas and Shaw responded. The former said he hoped the chapter would be an honour to the Order, and flourish in that district. The Principal Sojourner, Comp. Shaw, spoke very earnestly and good-humouredly of his pleasure at being appointed to that office, and quoted several Persian proverbs, which, as our reporter

did not understand the language, nor our office contain the requisite type, cannot be added here.

Some other toasts brought the evening to an end, and, from this commencement, it is fair to augur a very steady and prosperous career for the Pannure Chapter, which will gratify both the members and every companion visiting them on that auspicious occasion.

ROSE OF DENMARK CHAPTER (No. 975).—The second convocation of this chapter was held on the 3rd inst., at the White Hart, Barnes, Surrey. In the unavoidable absence of Comp. Brett, the M.E.Z., the chapter was opened by Comp. Cottebrune, P.Z. 177, assisted by Comps. Little, H.; Hubbard, J.; Buss, P.Z. Treas., and other companions. The following brethren were exalted:—Bros. Henry Goodall, of Lodge 975; G. Powell, W.M. 142; R. Tanner, 177; W. Turner, J.W. 1056; and F. F. Dubois, 142. Comps. D. Green, of 145, and T. H. Foulger, 177, were elected joining members. The ceremony was ably rendered by Comps. Cottebrune, as Z.; Little, H.; Hubbard, J.; Wilson, N.; and Oliver, P.S. The chapter having been closed, the companions sat down to the banquet, under the presidency of Comp. Buss, P.Z., and a very pleasant evening was spent. Comp. Cottebrune responded for the visitors; Comp. Oliver for the subordinate officers; and Comp. Powell for the newly exalted companions. The visitors were Comps. J. Smith, P.G. Dir. of Cers.; Cottebrune, P.Z. 177; Watson, P.Z.; Muggeridge, P.Z. 145; Cockcraft, &c.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

SUFFOLK.

IPSWICH.—*The Royal Plantagenet Encampment.*—On the 25th ult., being Ascension Day, Sir P. M. Colquhoun, Knight Grand Chancellor, assisted by Sir Knt. H. J. Thompson, P.E.C. of Mount Calvary Encampment, attended at the Golden Lion Hotel for the purpose of consecrating the encampment. There were present the following Sir Knights:—Rev. R. N. Sanderson, Prelate and Expert; John Head, 1st Capt.; Edward Dorling, 2nd Capt.; Henry Thomas, Reg.; W. W. Towse, Acting Expert; John Alloway, Treas.; E. C. Tidd, Almoner; J. A. Pettitt, Herald; W. W. Westgate, 1st Standard Bearer; J. T. Helms, 2nd Standard Bearer; E. G. W. Raud, Thomas Bayes, &c. Sir P. Colquhoun presided as acting E.C., when the encampment was opened with prayer in due and ancient form. The Grand Chancellor then directed the warrant of constitution to be read, which having been done was approved and ordered to be recorded on the minutes of the encampment. The list of officers appointed at the conclave held on the 16th of January was read and confirmed. The encampment was then constituted and consecrated with great solemnity, the imposing ceremony being most ably directed by the Grand Chancellor. In the absence of the E.C., Sir Knt. Charles T. Townsend, who on the previous day had met with a most serious accident, the Grand Chancellor requested Sir Knt. Sanderson to take the chair. The minutes of the last conclave having been read and confirmed, and other matters disposed of, Sir Knt. Sanderson called upon the First Herald, Sir Knt. Tidd, to proclaim the consecration and constitution of the encampment, and Sir Knt. Westgate, as Second Herald, to wish the conclave prosperity, which was done in the manner usual amongst Knights Templar. Afterwards, the degree of Knights Hospitaller of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes, and Malta, was conferred upon Sir Knts. Head, Sanderson, Thomas, Towse, Westgate, Alloway, Tidd, Helms, Pettitt, Bayes, and Rauds. The imposing ceremony pertaining to this degree was most efficiently and solemnly performed by the Grand Chancellor, ably assisted by Sir Knts. Thompson and Dorling. The Prior elect is Sir Knt. C. Townsend. The ceremony of installation having been performed, and the priory closed, Sir Knt. Sanderson resumed the chair. Sir Knt. Head, in feeling terms, then moved a vote of condolence to the respected E.C., Sir Knt. Charles T. Townsend, which was seconded by Sir Knt. Bayes, and most cordially agreed to, and ordered to be entered upon the minutes. Sir Knt. Dorling proposed Comp. J. H. Bridges for installation, which was seconded by Sir Knt. Sanderson. The encampment was then closed with solemn prayer. The Sir Knights, at seven o'clock, sat down to a *recherche* repast, provided by Mr. John Garrod. Sir Knt. Dorling presided, supported on his right by Sir Knts. Patrick Colquhoun, V. Chancellor, Thompson, &c. About sixteen Sir Knights partook of the banquet.

INDIA.

(From the Indian Freemasons' Friend.)

RANGOON.

CONSECRATION OF A NEW HALL.

On St. John's Day, 27th December, 1864, the brethren of Lodge Star of Burmah (No. 614), and Lodge Victoria, in Burmah (No. 832), headed by the band of the 28th Regiment M.N.I., marched from the rooms of the latter lodge to the new Freemasons' Hall at Rangoon, the property of Lodge Star of Burmah.

The lodge room having been prepared in the usual way, with a small table in the centre covered with a fair white cloth, a reading-desk on the left, and a pedestal with the working tools, &c., on the right, encompassed by three lights in lofty golden candlesticks, the warrant, jewels, &c., and the consecrating elements, consisting of the cornucopia of corn, the chalice of wine, the ewer of oil, and the censer, were placed on the table, the brethren marched round the room, two and two, three times, to solemn music; after which, the following anthem was chanted, Bro. J. N. Simpson playing the harmonium:—

"All hail to the morning that bids us rejoice!
The Temple's completed, exalt high each voice;
The cape-stone is finished, our labour is o'er;
The sound of the gavel shall hail us no more.
To the power Almighty, who ever has guided
The Tribes of old Israel, exalting their fame,
To him who hath governed our hearts undivided,
Let's send forth our voices to praise His great name."

The officers of the lodge then took their respective seats, and the W.M. addressed W.P.M. Captain Newmarch, informing him that permission had been received from the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master, to consecrate the new hall on that date, and requesting that he (Bro. Newmarch) would assist in the ceremony by officiating as presiding officer. Bro. Newmarch having signified his assent, the hiram was handed to him, and the lodge was opened in the three degrees. As Bro. the Rev. John Clough was not present, the W.M. Geo. O'Donnell, was requested to officiate as Chaplain.

The Architect, W. Bro. GEORGE O'DONNELL, took up the three degrees and the plan, and said,—Worshipful sir, when the foundation stone of this building was laid this day, two years ago, these implements were placed in my hands by Worshipful Bro. Dickinson, with an injunction that I would superintend the erection of this hall, and see the work diligently, carefully, and faithfully performed. This I have done to the best of my ability, and I hope that my humble efforts will meet the approbation of the brethren. I now resign the trust and these working tools into your hands. To this the presiding officer replied,—All the brethren must acknowledge, Worshipful sir, that your zeal and energy have been ably devoted to their service, and they are greatly indebted to you, for this splendid building is a lasting memorial of your taste and their liberality. I return you the working tools, in the firm conviction that, as you have so ably made use of them to erect this hall, they cannot be in better hands than yours, as Master of the lodge, to deduce from their practical use the hidden morals they contain.

The tools and plan having been replaced on the pedestal, the presiding officer requested the officiating Chaplain to open the proceedings with solemn prayer.

This having been done, and 1 Kings, viii., 22, 30, read, the brethren sang,—

"Hail universal Lord, by Heaven and earth adored!

All hail! Great God!

Before Thy name we bend, to us Thy grace extend,
And to our Prayer attend.—All hail! Great God!"

The presiding officer then took the censer with burning incense round the lodge, the officiating Chaplain reading Exod. xxx., 7, 8, when he arrived at each of the corners of the building, solemn music being played in the intervals.

On the presiding officer and the Chaplain arriving at the East they halted, and the Chaplain read the following prayer:—"Great Architect of the Universe, Maker and Ruler of the world, deign from Thy celestial temple, from realms of light and glory, to bless us in all the purposes of our present assembly. We humbly invoke Thee to give us, at this and at all times, wisdom in all our doings, strength of mind in all our difficulties, and beauty of harmony in all our communications. Permit us, O Thou Author of life and light, great Source of love and happiness, to

erect this lodge, and now solemnly to consecrate it, to the honour of Thy glory.

Chant.—“Glory be to God on high!”

Response.—“So mote it be.”

The brethren then sang—

“Behold, how good a thing it is, and how becoming well,
For brethren, such as Masons are, in unity to dwell;
On Friendship’s altar rising here, our hands now plighted be
To live in love, with hearts sincere, in peace and unity.”

After this the brethren formed in procession, two and two, the P.M. and Wardens carrying the elements of consecration at the head, and solemn music being played. On completion of the first circuit the J.W. presented the cornucopia to the presiding officer, who sprinkled the building with corn, whilst the Chaplain read Ps. lxxii. 16, and the presiding officer then said,—In the name of the Great Jehovah, to whom be all honour and glory, I do solemnly dedicate this hall to Masonry.

Chant.—“Glory be to God on high!”

Response.—“So mote it be.” (Grand honours.)

The third circuit being completed, the P.M. of the lodge presented the cwer, when the presiding officer sprinkled the hall with oil, whilst the Chaplain read Exod. xxx. 25, 26, and the presiding officer said,—In the name of the Great Jehovah, to whom be all honour and glory, I do solemnly dedicate this lodge to universal benevolence.

Chant.—“Glory be to God on high!”

Response.—“So mote it be.” (Grand honours.)

The CHAPLAIN read the following prayer:—“Grant, O Lord our God, that those who are now about to be invested with the government of this lodge may be endued with wisdom to instruct their brethren in all their duties. May brotherly love, relief, and truth always prevail among the members of this lodge, and may this bond of union continue to strengthen the lodges throughout the world. Bless all our brethren, wherever dispersed, and grant speedy relief to all who are either oppressed or distressed. We affectionately commend to Thee all the members of Thy whole family; may they increase in the knowledge of Thee and in the love of each other. Finally, may we finish all our work here below with Thy approbation, and then have our transition from this earthly abode to Thy Heavenly Temple above, there to enjoy light, glory, and bliss, ineffable and eternal.”

Chant.—“Glory be to God on high!”

Response.—“As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.”

The presiding officer then dedicated the lodge. “To the memory of holy St. John, we dedicate this lodge! May every brother revere his character, and imitate his virtues!”

Response.—“So mote it be!”

The brethren then formed in procession, and passed in front of the eastern chair, saluting the presiding officer by bowing, and with their hands crossed upon their breasts; after which the presiding officer said,—“In the name of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bengal, and on behalf of the Provincial Grand Master, I now constitute and found you, my good brethren, Masters and fellows, into a regular lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. I henceforth empower you to act as such, in conformity to the rights of our venerable Order, and the charge of our ancient and honourable fraternity; and may the Supreme Architect of the Universe prosper, direct, and counsel you in all your doings.”

Response.—“So mote it be!”

The brethren then sang the 4th anthem.

Glory to God on high! Let heaven and earth reply!

Praise ye His name! Masons His love adore,

“Tiled in their mystic lore. Praise him for evermore!”

The Chaplain read Ps. xc., 17:—“The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us; O prosper Thou our handy work.”

Chant.—“Glory be to God on high!”

Response.—“So mote it be!”

The 5th anthem was then sung.

“Great Architect of earth and heaven,

By time nor space confined,

Enlarge our love to comprehend

Our brethren, all mankind!

With Faith our guide, and humble Hope,

Warm Charity and Love,

May all at last be raised to share

Thy perfect Light above!”

The presiding officer then observed that, since the foundation stone of this building had been laid, another foundation stone had been laid in Masonry by the initiation of the elder son of our revered sovereign, herself the daughter and niece of Masons, that, from the time of Alfred the Great, our Order had been supported in England by kings and princes of the blood; and we had now the hope, once more, of seeing our Grand Master on the throne, when it shall please the Great Architect of the Universe to translate our present sovereign to the Great Lodge above. He therefore called upon the brethren present to testify their loyalty and complete this ceremony by singing a beautiful adaptation, by their worthy and Worshipful Master, of the anthem “God bless the Prince of Wales.”

Bro. Newmarch then restored the hiram to Bro. O'Donnell, and stated that as he had already been installed as a Master of a lodge, it was unnecessary to go through that ceremony a second time; but it was right and seemly that the brethren should do homage to the Master whom they had re-elected to rule over them, and he called upon them to salute him as Master Masons. This was accordingly done, and the W.M. having lowered down the lodge to the second and first degrees, the F.C.'s and E.A.'s were admitted, and the W.M. was saluted in each degree.

The W.M. then thanked Bro. Newmarch on behalf of the lodge for the extremely able manner in which he had conducted the proceedings of that morning, and also for the ready and cordial way in which he invariably offered his assistance when his services were needed. He congratulated the lodge in having so long possessed Bro. Newmarch as an honorary member, and expressed his regret that ill health was about to deprive them of the advantages they had thus enjoyed, but hoped that his return to his native land would result in the removal of the illness under which this brother laboured, and that what was their loss would be his gain.

The brother gracefully acknowledged the compliment that was paid him and the W.M., calling on W.P.M. Nanabhoy Burjorjee to step forward, addressed him thus.—Worthy and Worshipful brother,—On behalf of myself, the officers, and the brethren of Lodge Star of Burmah, I desire to give public expression before all the brethren present, to the high sense of regard and esteem in which we hold your Masonic character. You may be truly denominated the main pillar of this lodge; your aid and assistance have been ever ready, your advice and counsel have enabled us to meet many difficulties, and it is greatly due to your liberality that we have met this day to consecrate a Temple worthy of our Order. In the name of this lodge, I present you with this Past Master's jewel, as a token of our brotherly love and esteem. May the Great Architect of the Universe long spare you to wear it, and to adorn your Order by your example; and when it pleases Him to remove you from this sublunary sphere, may you enter that Grand Lodge above where he reigns supreme.

Bro. NANABHOY BURJORJEE, P.M., returned thanks for this, to him, entirely unexpected honour that had been conferred upon him, and hoped that he would, in his future career, be more deserving than he had been of the regards of the brethren and the high encomiums of the W.M.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren dispersed at a little after nine o'clock, to re-assemble together in the evening at a ball in the Assembly Rooms, where about 180 ladies and gentlemen kept up the dancing till nearly four o'clock the following morning.

The ball was managed by a committee nominated by Lodges Star of Burmah and Victoria in Burmah, and was a decided success in every sense of the word. The brethren appeared in Masonic clothing, and the variety which the different costumes of the Blue degrees, the Royal Arch, and the Knightly Orders afforded, was a great improvement upon the almost universal black of ordinary full dress. Perfect peace and harmony prevailed throughout the evening, and many will long remember the enjoyment they felt at the Masonic ball on St. John's Day 1864, at Rangoon.

DEEDS.—Deeds are greater than words. Deeds have such a life, mute but undeniable, and grow as living trees and fruit trees do. They people the vacuity of Time, and make it green and worthy. Why should the oak prove logically that it ought to grow, and will grow? Plant it, try it; what gifts of diligent, judicious assimilation and secretion it has, of progress and resistance, of force to grow, will then declare themselves.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.

The representation of "Twelfth Night" on these boards must be considered a purely experimental essay, testing the general ability of a company collected for a very different purpose, and probably only undertaken for the sake of ascertaining how far the playgoing public would accompany a management diverging so unexpectedly from the path originally indicated. The comedy of "Twelfth Night," with its fable full of fancy, and its dialogue replete with pleasantry and poetry, may be acknowledged as the most likely selection from the works of the dramatist to suit the frequenters of the theatre, whilst the strongly marked characters of the play are such as might seem best suited to the capacity of the performers. It must, however, be doubted whether a change of this kind in the nature of the performances will receive that sustained approval from the patrons of the theatre which would vindicate the prudence of the management in thus deviating from the course originally laid down. By doubling the parts of *Viola* and *Sebastian*, Miss Kate Terry renders, of course, more complete the remarkable similarity of face, figure, and dress which is supposed to exist between the sister and her twin brother; but the result is evidently bewildering to those who are not thoroughly conversant with the text, and little is gained by this mode of helping the illusion compared with what is lost by the perplexity in which it involves the majority of the spectators. To the actress, however, this dual impersonation affords the opportunity of displaying a greater variety of emotion, and the deep feeling with which *Sebastian* refers to the loss of his sister, and the earnestness of his encounter with the swaggering *Sir Toby* afterwards were points of the performance which the audience evidently would have been sorry to lose. Miss Terry's *Viola*, as would be expected from such an accomplished actress, has been thoughtfully studied, and is gracefully personated. Every word and look are made to bear their due significance, and the mingled gaiety and sadness of the character are exhibited in well contrasted light and shade. Recognised as a clever and highly intelligent performance, it was warmly applauded by the auditory, and it cannot be said that the frequent compliments bestowed were wholly undeserved. Something more, however, than a slight mantle is requisite to assist the eye to distinguish the difference between the brother and the disguised sister; and the introduction of a mute representative *Sebastian* in the last scene, when the two meet for the first time, involves some not altogether defensible mutilation of the text. Miss Lydia Foote presents a lively *Maria*; but Miss A. Bowering lacked one rather essential qualification for the effective assumption of the youthful Countess *Olivia*. Vivacious enough, but not sufficiently Shakspearian, was the *Clown*, personified by Miss E. Farren, who closed the comedy with the quaint epilogue song; and the roystering *Sir Toby Belch*, played with hearty humour by Mr. R. Soutar, and the fatuous *Sir Andrew Aguecheek*, carefully enacted by Mr. Horace Wigan, maintained the merriment which those wonderful examples of the comic genius of the poet never fail to excite when fairly placed before us. Mr. G. Vincent is not exactly the *Malvolio* old playgoers would identify as corresponding with the impressions left in their earlier days of theatrical life; but he had the decided merit of originality, and gave an additional proof of a general intention to beat out a new track through the comedy, without paying any attention to the footprints left by a histrionic generation. Miss Kate Terry was again warmly greeted at the fall of the curtain, and the principal characters crossed the stage two and two, in accordance with an absurd modern custom.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

HANDEL FESTIVAL.

The musical arrangements for the Great Handel Festival at the Crystal Palace may now be said to be complete. The country chorus, selected from the chief provincial societies and the cathedral choirs, have all been engaged for several weeks past; and the superintendents of the Sacred Harmonic Society have been recently occupied in tours of inspection in the various provincial districts. The trials which have been made show the existence of a much greater degree of efficiency than on any similar previous occasion. The instrumentalists have also all been engaged; these include nearly the entire bands of both the Italian Opera companies, and the most talented English and foreign performers available. Some idea of the extent of the orchestra may be formed when it is stated that there will be upwards of 400 performers on stringed instruments alone, including 75 double basses.

As already announced, there will be a grand rehearsal on Friday, the 23rd inst. This will include both solos and choruses, and the pieces selected will present great variety as well as popularity, the object being to make the rehearsal day an epitome of the three days of the festival. The first day of the festival will be Monday, the 26th, the "Messiah;" the second, on Wednesday, the 28th, will comprise a selection from Handel's best known and most popular works; and the third, on Friday, the 30th, will be "Israel in Egypt."

The selection on the 28th will present many attractive features. Amongst other pieces it will comprise a selection from "Saul," commencing with "How excellent," and including the chorus, with Carillon's accompaniment "Welcome, welcome, mighty king," the chorus, "Envy, eldest born of hell," (which created so much sensation at the last Festival) and the famous "Dead March." This day's performance will also include the Nightingale Chorus from "Solomon," "May no rash intruder," and as the 28th inst. is the anniversary of her Majesty's Coronation, the great anthem "Zadok the Priest," written for the coronation of George II. in 1727, will be appropriately introduced. A selection from "Judas Maccabæus" will also be given, concluding with the popular chorus, "See the conquering hero comes." Mlle. Adelina Patti will sing "Let the bright seraphim" (trumpet obligato, Mr. Harper), and "From mighty kings." Besides "Sound an alarm!" Mr. Sims Reeves will sing the great song in Joshua, and Madame Sainton-Dolby, Mr. Santley, and other well known artistes, will take part in this and the other performances. It will thus be seen that the solo department at this Festival will be of an unusually high order.

Towards the close of the last season at the Crystal Palace some experiments were made on the Great Orchestra, which resulted in the construction of a concave front, thus bringing the principal vocalists more under the centre of the roof. This has been found to be attended with such beneficial results at the Opera Concerts, that it will be adhered to in the forthcoming Festival. In addition to this, large screens will be placed on each side of the great transept, transforming the transept into a complete concert hall. These additions and alterations, together with the throwing back of the corner galleries, will, it is confidently anticipated, afford to the entire audience, however numerous, a much better opportunity of hearing the principal vocalists to advantage than heretofore.

The Shakespeare House, which for the last twelve months has excited so much interest, will be removed, and raised seats placed at the end of the great transept. These seats will be exceedingly eligible, both as to sight and sound. They are lettered S and S S. In the gallery above them a Royal box is being placed in the centre, and on either side thereof a series of smaller private boxes, which, being in the best possible position for appreciating the great musical effect, will possess the advantage of communicating with the outer corridor over-

looking the entire grounds and gardens of the Palace. The upper galleries have been set apart for the representatives of the press, who have been invited from all parts of the country and abroad; these galleries are especially adapted to afford their occupants the greatest facilities for the discharge of their important functions.

Two hundred gentlemen have undertaken to act as Stewards, and on each day, as heretofore, conduct visitors to their allotted seats in the respective blocks. Some months ago the directors entered into contracts for 10,000 additional chairs, which have now nearly all been delivered at the Palace.

Permission has been graciously accorded for the exhibition at the Crystal Palace, during the festival, of Handel's own MS. score of the "Messiah," from the Royal library, at Buckingham Palace. Connected with this will be a very curious and interesting collection of the numerous printed editions of the sacred oratorio; and it is expected that the display of these will prove the immense popularity of this immortal work in a manner which the general public little suspect.

A marked feature in the arrangements for the present Festival is the facility which will be granted for access to London by the leading railway companies. The managers of all the great lines entering London have agreed to issue return day tickets for the rehearsal, for distances between thirty and one hundred miles from London, at such low fares (including admission to the Palace on the rehearsal day) as will place the Festival within the reach of thousands who have hitherto been debarred from being present. Similar tickets for excursions, available for three days, will be issued for distances exceeding 100 miles from London. Return tickets, extending over the whole of the Festival, *i.e.*, from Saturday to Saturday, will also be issued. The directors of the Festival have issued notices to the above effect, but coupled with the announcement that residents in the country will do well to consult the special time bills and scales of fares of the companies in their respective localities.

Considering the great influx of country visitors who will swell the numbers attending on the rehearsal day, the directors have stopped the issue of any more admission tickets for that day at 5s. The second issue for the metropolis, at 7s. 6d., is now on sale, and the price will shortly be raised to 10s. 6d.

That persons at a distance and abroad may form some conception of the Great Orchestra (double the width of the dome of St. Paul's) when filled with performers, a photograph in various sizes, ranging from 3ft. to 2in. in length, has been circulated in London, in the country, and on the continent, by hundreds of thousands.

The sale of tickets up to the present time has been considerably more than was anticipated, and as the alteration of the side galleries, with other improvements, have rendered available many thousand additional seats in eligible situations, there is every prospect of a highly successful pecuniary result flowing from the coming Festival. It is, moreover, satisfactory to note, that the Festival has in no wise interfered with the usual run of prosperity at the Crystal Palace. In the report of the directors for the last half year, just issued, it is stated that the sale of season tickets has been greater than it has been for some years past, and that the number of visitors generally up to the present time has been in excess of any former year.

It may be well to remind intending visitors that no more than the four day's performances can possibly be given. Extensions have often been suggested, but the arrangements necessary for assembling so vast a number of persons, at a distance from their homes and the interruption of their ordinary avocations, renders this impossible. The rehearsal on the 23rd, and the performances of "Messiah" on the 26th, the Selection on the 28th, and "Israel in Egypt" on the 30th inst., are, therefore, the only occasions on which this unparalleled

assemblage of musical ability can be again heard, until another Triennial Festival (if ever undertaken) draws a similar musical force together again.

ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION.

The season of the Opera di Camera has been brought to a successful close with the performance of "The Soldier's Legacy," and the last effective and melodious novelty, "A Fair Exchange." A new Opera, however, taken from the French, and adapted by Mr. GERMAN REED, will inaugurate a fresh campaign in about a week or a fortnight. Although the new Entertainment by Mr. BROUËR, called "A Peculiar Family," fills the Gallery to an overflow, Mr. PARRY is, we hear, about to give us a new descriptive song. The representations therefore of "Mrs. Roseleaf by the Seaside" are limited, and only extend over a few more nights.

NOTES ON MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

A new tragedy is spoken of as in course of publication. The author is W. C. Russell, son of the famous composer, Henry Russell, whose knightage has recently been discussed in the newspapers. Mr. Walter Montgomery, well known as an actor, has, we believe, purchased this drama with a view to its production very shortly on the boards of one of the London theatres.

Two unpublished comedies by Talma, entitled "La Méprise" and "L'Erreur Agréable," were recently sold at the book auction rooms in the Rue des Bons-Enfants. They are in reality but one, for the names of the personages constitute the only difference between them. It is said that a perusal of these works would satisfy any one that Talma acted wisely in remaining a tragedian instead of turning author.

Meyerbeer's posthumous opera "L'Africaine" is in active preparation at Covent Garden, and will be produced the last week but one of the season. There will be numerous "cuts" in the second and third acts, and great scenic alterations in the third act, the celebrated "sensation ship" having proved a failure in Paris.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean, on their return to this country, will perform first of all at Edinburgh, and afterwards at the Princess's Theatre, in London.

LITERARY EXTRACTS.

THE SMALL TRADES OF LONDON.—The metropolis is a wonderful hive of work and wealth, where, though there are numerous drones, the labouring bees are far in excess, and queen bee Industry is the recognised mistress of all. We worship capital. Can anything be done without it? Much! Many thousands rise from their flock or straw beds every morning to toil for food, and to win it, whose capital is restricted to a few poor coppers, and yet battle with their difficulties without a murmur. Nor are these despised members of society useless. Each in his turn contributes something to the general good; and not seldom, while starving himself, increases the full abundance of the rich. We hardly class the costermonger's trade in fish and vegetables with small trades, for probably two-thirds of all the fish and vegetables brought to market is distributed to the countless consumers by them. When the choicer specimens of cod, turbot, and salmon are appropriated by well-to-do dealers—when the carefully pulled peas, beans, and broccoli have found buyers—Bob and his donkey, Bet and her basket,

Tim and his truck, come into play; and all the cheaper second-rate articles are carried off. When there is a glut of mackerel or herrings, when strawberries are dead-ripe, or cherries a penny a pound, there is gladness in costerdom—capital fish-dinners for thousands of poor families, and luscious fruit puddings, that need no sugar, for half the ragged-schools within the bills of mortality. Without these rough but patiently-enduring and hard-working ministers of trade, a large portion of the people would never taste fresh fish, fruit, or vegetables.—*The Old City, its Highways and Byways.*

FREDERICK THE GREAT AND HIS GRANDCHILDREN.—The king was fond of children; liked to have his grand-nephews about him. One day, while the king sat at work in his cabinet, the younger of the two, a boy of eight or nine (who died soon after twenty), was playing at ball about the room; and knocked it once and again into the king's writing operation; who twice or oftener flung it back to him, but next time put it in his pocket and went on. "Please your Majesty give me it back!" begged the boy—and again begged; Majesty took no notice; continued writing, till at length came in the tone of indignation. "Will your Majesty give me my ball, then?" The king looked up, found the little Hohenzollern planted firm, hands on haunches, and wearing quite a peremptory air. Thou art a brave little fellow; they won't get Silesia out of thee!" cried he laughing, and flinging him his ball.—*Carlyle's History of Frederick II.*

OLD LONDON.—In no English history have we ever seen any explanation why the Romans chose the present site of London for the foundation of an important mercantile city, but in an old French folio, published at Paris in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, a clear explanation is fully given. The French writer says that the Romans built a city on the present spot because it is at the highest point up the river to which the trading ships could ascend in those days. It is just below the point at which the river became fordable, and it presented high ground, elevated above the marshes on the east and south. It was also sufficiently remote from the sea to be secure from the fleets of pirates that infested the coasts, not only in the Roman times, but for centuries afterwards. When the Roman city of London arose it began to absorb the population of great cities then existing near it. The indications of the ruins of three great cities are found on the south side of the Thames, and the Roman name of one of them, Noviomagus, is preserved, but the society of Noviomagians could never discover to which of those cities the name applied. On the north, the population of St. Alban's gradually melted away, to the great indignation of the remaining inhabitants, who are said to have threatened to come and destroy the rising city of London, until the Londoners advanced as far as Hamstead-health, where they entrenched themselves, and prepared to offer battle with their usual valour in defence of their homes. It does not appear, however, that any battle took place, and though the remains of the entrenchment are yet pointed out, the inhabitants of St. Alban's submitted to the melancholy process of decay, until their once great city, with its palace and temples, became what it now is—little more than a country village. Thus, at least four great cities that subsisted by the agriculture of the country around them were absorbed by the young commercial city that prospered by introducing the new element of foreign trade, in consequence of the policy of the Roman merchants and their government—in the same way that Rome itself absorbed the populations of the Etruscan cities, whose walls yet remain upon the summits of hills.—*New Monthly.*

Poetry.

MASONIC PROCESSION.

I saw a band of brothers move,
With slow and solemn tread,
Their hearts were joined in ties of love,
In charity were wed;
And types of lights illumed the ray,
Shone on the chastening rod,
And in the midst, wide open lay,
The Gospel of our God.

I asked a man of fourscore years,
Why after them he ran,
He said—and melted into tears—
They feed the poor old man.
He said—I once was sick and sad,
My limbs were racked with pain,
They came, they comforted and clad,
The old man rose again.

I asked a weeping widow why
She followed those before;
She said—and wiped her weeping eye—
They came unto my door:
They came when all the world beside,
Had turned from me and fled—
They came my wants and woes to hide,
They gave my children bread.

I asked an orphan boy why he
His eager footstep bends;
He said—They smile on all like me,
They were my father's friends;
Before he died they clothed and fed,
And all our gifts they gave,
And when we wept for father dead,
They threw gifts in the grave.

And such I said are Masons all,
Friends to the needy poor;
They never view a brother's fall,
They never shun his door.
And though 'tis said they are not "Free,"
Virtue and love are twins,
And the blest grace of charity,
Hides multitudes of sins.

They worship in the Lodge of God,
Secret and solemn there;
They bow beneath his sacred rod,
And breathe a heartfelt prayer.
Freemasonry, like a woman's love,
Is taught by private rules;
So deep that should it public prove,
It would be sport for fools.

THE PASS OF DEATH.

It was a narrow pass,
Watered with human tears,
For Death had kept the outer gate,
Almost six thousand years.
And the ceaseless tread of a world's feet,
Was ever in my ears,—
Thranging, jostling, hurrying by,
As if they were only born to die.

A stately king drew near,
This narrow pass to tread,
Around him hung a gorgeous robe,
And a crown was on his head;
But Death with a look of withering scorn,
Arrested him and said,
"In humbler dress must the king draw near,
For the crown and the purple are useless here."

Next came a man of wealth,
And his eye was proud and bold,
And he bore in his hand a lengthy scroll,
Telling of sums untold;
But Death, who careth not for rank,
Careth as little for gold—
"Here that scroll I cannot allow,
For the gold of the richest is powerless now."

Another followed past,
And a book was in his hand,
Filled with the flashes of burning thought,
That are known in many a land;
But the child of genius quailed to hear,
Death's pitiless demand—
"Here that book cannot enter with thee,
For the bright flash of genius is nothing to me."

Next came a maiden fair,
With that eye so deeply bright,
That stirs within you strange, sweet care,
Should you meet on a summer night.
But Death, ere the gentle maid passed through,
Snatched away its light—
"Beauty is power in the world," he saith,
"But what can it do in the Pass of Death."

A youth of sickly mien,
Followed in thoughtful mood,
Whose heart was filled with love to God,
And the early brotherhood;
Death felt he could not quench the heart,
That lived for other's good—
"I own," cried he, "the power of love,
I must let it pass to the realms above."

ADDITIONAL MASONIC VERSES TO "GOD SAVE THE QUEEN."

Hail! mystic light divine,
May'st thou ne'er cease to shine
O'er this land.
Wisdom in thee we find,
Beauty and strength combined,
Masons are ever joined,
In heart and hand.

Come, then, ye sons of light,
In joyous strain unite,
God save the Queen.
Long may Victoria reign,
Queen of the azure main,
Masons, resound the strain,
God save the Queen.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen and other members of the Royal Family remain in Scotland. Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales is rapidly approaching convalescence, and the young prince is quite well. The royal infant is to be christened Albert Christian Emanuel, and known as Prince Christian. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales dined with the Fishmongers' Company on Saturday, and was at Ascot Races on Tuesday and Thursday.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the HOUSE OF LORDS on Monday Lord Derby called attention to Lord Russell's letter withdrawing the belligerent rights which had been accorded to the Confederate States. When that letter was issued, he said, General Kirby Smith still held territory and ports west of the Mississippi. He further directed attention to a passage in a proclamation recently issued by President Johnson, in which it was intimated that persons attempting to trade with certain ports would be treated as pirates. He thought that proclamation ought not to be allowed to pass unnoticed, and he asked

Lord Russell whether any protest had been made against it. Lord Russell having defended his letter respecting the withdrawal of belligerent rights, said President Johnson's proclamation was "certainly a very curious document." Sir Frederick Bruce had asked for explanations but had received none, and he (Lord Russell) was of opinion that the threat was merely one *in terrorem*. Lord Derby rejoined that her Majesty's Government ought to protest against such an illegal threat. —Lord Granville moved the second reading of the Unions Chargeability Bill, and the motion was seconded by Lord Brougham. The Duke of Rutland moved that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee, but the amendment was negatived and the Bill read a second time. —On Tuesday, a Bill prohibiting railway companies from locking both doors of passenger carriages was read a first time, on the motion of Lord St. Leonards. —An address was agreed to, congratulating her Majesty and the Prince and Princess of Wales on the birth of the young Prince. —A short conversation took place on the deplorable situation of the English captives in Abyssinia, Lord Russell pointing out the difficulty of reaching the petty tyrant who has so long defied the Government of this country. —The Bill amending the Public-house Closing Act passed through Committee, and the Bill extending the limited liability principle to private partnerships, was read a second time. —The HOUSE OF COMMONS re-assembled on Thursday, the 8th inst., after the Whitsuntide recess. The Serjeant-at-Arms announced that he had executed the Speaker's warrant against two of the men concerned in getting up fictitious petitions in favour of Azeem Jah, but that Mitchell, the chief offender, could not be found. A petition was presented from the two men in custody, and in which they stated that they erred in ignorance, and offered an humble apology for their offence. On the motion of Mr. Hennessy, the men were discharged, and excused the usual fees on account of their poverty. —In reply to Mr. Whiteside, Sir George Grey said Her Majesty would be advised to grant a licence to Convocation to alter the canon relating to clerical subscription—without, however, acknowledging the sanction of that body as necessary to a change of the law. —On the motion of Sir George Grey, seconded by Mr. Disraeli, it was agreed to present an address to the Queen, congratulating Her Majesty on the birth of another prince. The House then went into Committee of supply. —On Friday the House held a short morning sitting, at which the clauses of the Prison Bill were disposed of in committee. At the evening sitting, Mr. Darby Griffith again introduced the case of Colonel Dawkins, and asked whether an official notice would be taken of the reply made by that officer to Lord Hartington's speech. The answer was, of course, in the negative. Short conversations took place on the recent railway accidents and the treatment received by prisoners at the hands of the Irish constabulary. —On Monday, the consideration of the clauses of the Roman Catholic Oaths Bill was proceeded with. Sir Hugh Cairns moved the insertion into clause one of words pledging the persons taking the oath not to do anything to disturb the Established Church or the Protestant Government of the United Kingdom. Mr. Hunt opposed the amendment. Mr. Disraeli followed in the speech, we presume, which an attack of gout prevented him from delivering at an earlier stage of the bill's progress. The right hon. gentleman reminded the Whigs of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, and asked the Roman Catholics what they had gained from their alliance with English Liberalism. One result of that alliance was the kingdom of Italy and the downfall of the temporal power of the Pope. He favoured the proposal of one uniform oath instead of the declaration proposed in Mr. Monsell's bill. The measure was

one which he must oppose on various grounds, and he should therefore vote for the motion of Sir H. Cairns. After some discussion, the Committee divided, when the amendment was rejected by a majority of 19, and the bill went through committee.—On Tuesday the House held a morning sitting at which several bills were pushed forward a stage. At the evening sitting, Mr. Layard, in reply to a question, said the United States Government had positively declined to make any compensation to the widow of Mr. Gray—one of the officers of a British merchant ship—who was shot by one of the lieutenants of a Federal cruiser near the Cape of Good Hope some time ago. Mr. O'Reilly raised another discussion on the Belfast riots and the conduct of the local authorities during the disturbances, which led to nothing.—On Wednesday Mr. Goschen moved the second reading of the Tests Abolition (Oxford) Bill, which, he explained, was identical with the measure of last year, which had been defeated by a majority of two only. It was not the object of the bill to admit dissenters to the governing body of the University, although it might lead to that result eventually, but to enable degrees to be conferred without reference to religious tests. The motion was seconded by Mr. G. Duff, and opposed by Lord R. Cecil, who moved as an amendment that the bill be read a second time that day six months. The noble lord observed that the changes proposed would injure the University and degrade it to the level of those German institutions where there was metaphysical learning in abundance but an absolute dearth of religious belief. He could not agree to separate education from religious principles, although he had no objection to allowing dissenters to obtain the degree of Master of Arts. To admit them to the governing body of the University, however, was a proposition to which he would never give his assent. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said he could have no hesitation as to the course which he ought to adopt on the present occasion, because he stood upon a different ground from that which he occupied last year when the subject was before the house. For the promoters of the bill openly avowed their desire to separate education from religion, and that was a principle to which he was resolutely opposed. Several other hon. members having addressed the House a division took place, when the numbers were—For the amendment, 190; against it, 203: majority for the second reading, 16. The bill was then read a second time.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The mortality of the principal towns of England rose last week to the rate of 24 in the thousand. London was below the average, or 22; Liverpool was highest, 34; Birmingham lowest, and very low indeed, only 15. The rate is usually much lower in Salford than in Manchester, though it is difficult to explain the reason, as the two towns are practically one; last week, however, Salford was higher than Manchester, the rate being 26 for the former and 25 for the latter. The total number of registered deaths was 2,637, of which 1,289 took place in London, which is no less than 115 in excess of the estimated average. The total births were 3,876, of which 1,956 were in London, a return also above the average.—The Prince of Wales was entertained at a banquet by the Fishmongers' Company on Saturday night. Mr. James Spicer, the prime warden of the company, occupied the chair; and the Duke of Cambridge, the Duchess of Sutherland, Lord Brougham, Lord Ebury, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and other distinguished personages, were present on the occasion. The dinner was entirely a complimentary one; but in the course of it Lord Clarence Paget stated that it had been agreed, at the suggestion of the French Emperor, that the English iron-clad fleet should visit the coast of France, and the French fleet the coast of England, and that the two fleets would be in

conjunction off Plymouth about the middle of next month.—The Langham Hotel was opened to a widely extended list of friends of the directors on Saturday. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, with the Prince of Leiningen, visited the building in the course of the day, and between three and six o'clock the hotel was thrown open to about 2,000 people; and it may give an idea of the colossal style of this addition to London hotels if we say that even this large crowd were able to move about the apartments without crowding or inconvenience.—The conservators of the River Thames lately applied for an injunction against the corporation of Kingston to restrain them from constructing a new scheme of drainage which would carry the whole sewage of the town into the river. This the conservators contended would create a nuisance. The corporation pleaded the prescription of twenty years, and denied that the comparatively small volume of Kingston sewage discharged into the Thames would constitute a nuisance. Sir Page Wood has given judgment that the town had no such prescriptive rights as it claimed, but thought at the same time a nuisance had not yet arisen, though he thought it would arise in time, and then the case might be brought forward again. He therefore dismissed the case, but without costs.—A series of interesting meetings in connection with the Freedmen's Aid movement were held in Birmingham on Tuesday. Sir T. F. Buxton presided at the day meetings, and speeches were delivered, both at them and in the Town Hall, by American gentlemen of ability and position. The cause of the emancipated slaves has been taken up with great zeal in Birmingham, money and goods to the value of several thousands of pounds having been forwarded to the United States. No doubt the demonstration of Tuesday will be attended with the best results in the midland counties.—The *Morning Post* assures us that the negotiations between Canada and the Home Government are about to be brought to a satisfactory conclusion. With regard to the political and commercial relations between the colony and the mother country, an understanding has been arrived at which is calculated to have a most favourable influence on the future destinies of British North America. The question of the defence of Canada has been arranged on this basis. Canada will undertake the whole of the western fortifications, will maintain an efficient militia, and probably deepen the canals. The Imperial Government, on their part, it is understood, have agreed to furnish the necessary armament and material for the whole of the defensive works, and to guarantee a loan for the purpose of constructing the inter-colonial railroad. The North-west Territory, which has so long been in dispute, will be made over to Canada. As to the confederation scheme, the question is put whether, in spite of the course taken by New Brunswick, the Imperial Parliament would not be justified in passing a measure at once to consolidate the provinces of British North America, giving them such local legislatures as might be desirable.—We regret to have to announce the death of Sir Joseph Paxton. Born in humble circumstances, Paxton at an early age found employment in the gardens of the late Duke of Devonshire, where he soon made himself conspicuous as a landscape gardener. To the general public, however, he was a stranger until his design for the Exhibition building of 1851 made his name known in every quarter of the globe.—A curious case has been heard in the Sheriff's Court at Preston. A London firm had sold some goods to a Liverpool tradesman, and by-and-by sent a lawyer's letter for their money. A post-office order was forthwith transmitted, 6*d.* being deducted from the sum demanded on the ground that an overcharge to that amount had been made in the invoice. The post-office order was returned, and pro-

ceedings were commenced for the recovery of the full amount. It was subsequently admitted by the plaintiffs that the 6d. was rightly deducted, but the singular plea was put in that a post-office order was not a legal tender. The defendant's counsel, however, pointed out that when the order was returned the objection was not as to the legality of the tender, but as to the amount represented by the order, and, that being the case, he submitted that the plea could not be sustained. The Under Sheriff took the same view, and a verdict was entered for the defendant. The solicitor for the plaintiffs announced his intention of carrying the case before a superior Court.—A man named Reilly, was apprehended on Monday, for threatening Mr. Baron Martin, who had tried a case which went against the prisoner. Reilly, it seems, has frequently followed and annoyed his lordship, whom he has accused of having acted unjustly towards him. The man was brought before the Bow-street Magistrate, and was ordered to be bound over to keep the peace.—About a month ago a banker's clerk lost a case from his person containing about £8,000 in bills and cheques, together with some bank notes. No trace was had of them till the other day, when one of the bills was presented at the London and Westminster Bank, where it was identified as one of the missing documents. It was traced to a tailor in the City, on whose premises the rest of the missing notes were found. The tailor is in custody.—The charge of robbing Messrs. Prescott's bank by one of the porters employed there, while a man named Carman was charged with receiving the stolen property, has been further investigated before the Lord Mayor. From the evidence then adduced it appeared that a portion of the booty, about £60, contained in a black bag, had been taken to the house of the prisoner's father, and by him entrusted to a public-house keeper, named Michie, who hid it, but afterwards gave about £50 of the money up to the police. Both these persons were examined before the Lord Mayor, and while they both admitted they knew the money was stolen they seemed to throw upon each other the blame of having appropriated the missing £10. The prisoners were remanded, the Lord Mayor intimating his opinion that more persons than the prisoners ought to be in the dock.—The two accidents on the Great Western Railway have been quickly followed by a deplorable disaster on the South Eastern line. The tidal train which left Folkestone at half-past two o'clock on Friday week, on the arrival of passengers from Boulogne, had proceeded as far as Staplehurst, when, in crossing a bridge, the engine left the rails. The train broke into two parts, and several of the carriages plunged into the stream below, and were shattered into fragments. Ten of the unfortunate passengers were killed, while a large number of others were more or less seriously injured. Mr. Charles Dickens was in the train, and had a very narrow escape. There would seem to be little doubt as to the cause of this calamity. As at Rednal, platelayers had been at work on the bridge, and it is affirmed that the engine was thrown off its course by a loose plate. The inquest has been opened, but stands adjourned for evidence. The terrible nature of the accident was alluded to at an adjourned meeting of the company held on Monday for another purpose, by the chairman, the Hon. Mr. Byng, in feeling terms, and all present appeared to share with the chairman in poignant regret for the accident and the misery it had spread through so many families.—The Rednal inquest was brought to a close on Saturday, the jury returning a verdict of "Accidental death," but at the same time strongly censuring the officials of the Great Western Railway Company. Anderton, the driver, of one of the engines, is dead. This increases the number of deaths to twelve.—The Rev. E. S. Abbott, a beneficed clergy-

man, in Dublin, shot himself on Monday. The rev. gentleman officiated on the previous day in his usual health, but he returned from the Bank of Ireland next morning in a state of great depression, though he assigned no reason for it, and soon after committed the rash act.—There was an inquest on the body of a man named Newton, who poisoned himself in Finsbury on Monday. It appeared that he some time ago had his fingers taken off in the course of his trade, for which he received a sum of money by way of compensation, but fancying he could obtain no other employment he resolved to live upon the money as long as it would last, and then to destroy himself. This purpose he carried out with great deliberation. The jury, however, returned a verdict of "Insanity."—An inquest has been held on the body of a man who was killed by the falling of the lift at the Grosvenor Hotel, on Tuesday evening. Several witnesses described the working of the machinery, but no one professed to be able to explain the cause of the accident. The inquest was adjourned.—On Monday afternoon a shocking suicide took place in a first-class carriage of a train proceeding from Victoria Station to the Crystal Palace. As the train was passing through the tunnel close to the station a lady and gentleman, seated in a first-class carriage, were startled by hearing a report, as of a fog-signal, and on the train emerging to the light they discovered that a respectably-dressed young man, who happened to be in the same compartment with them, had shot himself, and was quite dead. He appeared to be a foreigner.—A man named Kelly murdered his wife at a small village in the neighbourhood of Rochdale, on Sunday morning. It seems the man had been for some time a teetotaler; but within the last few days he relapsed into his old habits of drunkenness. So far did this go that delirium tremens set in, and the wretched man in his frenzy appears to have attacked his wife, and after a violent struggle, to have murdered her by cutting her throat. He was taken into custody the same day, when he was still under the influence of delirium.—A costermonger named Bowyer is in custody on a charge of attempting to murder. The circumstances under which the crime was committed show a singular state of society. The prisoner, though only eighteen, is a married man, and he went about in his neighbourhood bragging that his wife would fight any woman there. Mrs. Masters came before the magistrate, and said she offered to fight the wife; but in the meantime the prisoner attacked the landlord of the house where he was lodging, and finding he was getting the worst of it, took the knife and stabbed him in nine different places. The man is still in danger, and his assailant is in custody.—An inquest was concluded on Monday on the body of a man named Webb, who met his death in a fight with another man named M'Coy. It appeared that the two men were walking together, when they met an old man, whom the deceased began to insult, while M'Coy interfered for the old man's protection. This led to a fight, when M'Coy knocked Webb down, and he broke his neck in the fall. The coroner, in summing up, said M'Coy's kindness of intention would not save him from the charge of manslaughter, and the jury returned a verdict accordingly.—Mr. Baron Martin was engaged at the Central Criminal Court during the whole of Wednesday and Thursday, trying the brothers Barry, and three of their servants, on the charge of having attempted to defraud the insurance-offices, by representing that a quantity of goods stored in their warehouses at their wharf in Rotherhithe had been destroyed by a fire which took place there, when in point of fact a large portion of that property was preserved. Several witnesses were examined, whose evidence did not materially differ from that given at the preliminary examination at the Mansion House. A verdict of not guilty was returned, upon

which the prisoners were put on trial for obtaining money under false pretences.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—A very favourable impression has been produced in France by the closing act in the Empress's present term of regency. A decree in the *Moniteur* nullifies all warnings given to the press during the last two years. The Emperor arrived in Paris at five o'clock on Saturday evening, and was welcomed by crowds of people who thronged the streets and cheered him as he passed along from the railway station. There was a partial illumination of the city at night in honour of his return. The Paris races came off on Sunday, and the Emperor was present. Gladiateur won the great prize, and won it easily by three lengths. Count Lagrange received the Emperor's congratulations upon the success of his horse. A decree in the *Moniteur*, signed "Eugenie," confers upon the talented artist, Rosa Bonheur, the Cross of the Legion of Honour. Prince Napoleon met with an accident on Saturday, while driving an American phaeton. The horse, taking fright, ran off, when his Imperial Highness was thrown out, and one of the wheels of the vehicle passed over his leg. It is said that the injuries sustained are fortunately not of a serious character. The *Moniteur* has published a circular dated the 5th inst. in which the Minister of Marine announces to his subordinates that France no longer recognises the Americans as belligerents, and that vessels under Confederate colours are no longer to be admitted into French harbours. A hostile meeting has taken place between two general officers of the French army in Algeria—Lieut. General Deligny and Major General Legrand—to decide some affairs of "honour." The weapons were swords, and General Deligny was mortally wounded. The Tribunal of the Seine has decided against the claims made upon the insurance companies by the children of Madame Pauw, who it will be remembered was poisoned some time since by La Pommerais. The French papers talk of a wonderful new machine which has been tried at Toulon, and is immediately to be tried again, and which can destroy an enemy's fleet in an instant without even requiring actual contact. If this marvellous engine only fulfil half the expectations which are raised it seems likely to render naval warfare an obsolete business. The strongest ironclad is stated to be as powerless against its flash as the tiniest shallop. An approaching and hostile fleet, in fact, is to disappear instantaneously and altogether at a given signal.—The Spanish Government has issued a decree announcing that it ceases to extend belligerent rights to Confederate war vessels. Signor Vegezzi has had two conferences at Rome with Cardinal Antonelli, and his negotiations with the Papal Government seem likely to terminate successfully. The Pope assembled the Cardinals and informed them that his proposals respecting the the Italian episcopacy had been favourably received by King Victor Emmanuel, General Della Marmora, and Signor Lanza, but were opposed by Signor Natoli.—Despatches from Vienna report that the Anglo-Austrian commercial inquiry is meeting with such strong opposition that it is likely to be adjourned for the present. We do not yet know, however, whether there is sufficient ground for supposing that the delay is anything more than formal and temporary. Undoubtedly the commercial difficulties to be overcome in Austria are still very great.—The Emperor Francis Joseph is said to have been well received by his Hungarian subjects; and it seems to be that his visit to Pesth will be a prelude to a reconciliation between the Magyars and the imperial government, and to his formal coronation as King of Hungary.—The King of Greece opened the National Assembly on Friday, the 9th inst., in a speech from the throne. Among other matters His Majesty announced that his Government was engaged in any arrangement for the payment of

the loan of 1832, guaranteed by the powers.—According to a letter from Tiflis, the Russian General Evdokimoff had been defeated with considerable loss by the forces of the Khan of Kokan at a place called Tchimeketti.—The Paris papers are full of roseate and enthusiastic accounts of the defeat and dispersion of Juarist bonds in Mexico.

AMERICA.—The *Cuba*, from New York, has brought a confirmation of the intelligence that General Kirby Smith had surrendered his forces to the Federal General Canby, upon terms similar to those granted to the armies of Generals Johnston and Lee. The surrender included all the Confederate troops to the west of the Mississippi, and the war is now ended. President Johnson had issued a proclamation granting an amnesty, and restoring rights of property—excepting in slaves and in estates which have already been seized under the confiscation laws—to all persons engaged in the "rebellion" who will take an oath to support the Federal Government and all laws and proclamations in reference to emancipation. But from the benefits of this amnesty are to be excluded all civil and diplomatic officers of the Confederacy, all governors of states, all officers of the Confederate army above the rank of lieutenant, all persons educated at West Point or the Naval Academy, all who treated prisoners otherwise than as prisoners of war, all persons whose taxable property exceeds 20,000 dollars, all persons "who left the national lines to aid the rebellion," and all "pirates" and "border raiders." The excluded persons may make special applications for pardon to the President, "when such clemency will be liberally extended to them as may be consistent with the facts of the case and the peace and dignity of the United States." All persons sentenced by military tribunals to imprisonment during the war had been discharged. President Johnson had appointed Mr. Holden provisional governor of North Carolina, and had empowered him to convoke a "re-construction convention," to be chosen by "loyal persons." General Thomas had superseded General Halleck, who had been appointed to command the Federal troops in the Pacific department; and it was positively asserted that Mr. Stanton was about to be dismissed from the Secretaryship of War. Several persons had been arrested at San Francisco for alleged complicity in a conspiracy to seize a steamer, and put to sea with her as a Mexican privateer. A frightful calamity, attended with enormous loss of life and property, had occurred at Mobile. The "ordnance depot magazine" had been blown up by some unknown cause; and the explosion had killed 300 persons, besides an "immense number" injured and buried beneath the ruins. Eight "blocks" of building and 8,000 bales of cotton were destroyed; and the total loss of property was estimated at many millions of dollars. The *Moravian* brings three days' later news from America, that is, to the evening of the 3rd inst. Notwithstanding the surrender of Kirby Smith, a large expedition had been dispatched by the Washington Government to Texas. Mr. Jefferson Davis had been transferred to the Capitol Prison at Washington, preparatory to his trial for high treason. The passport order had been rescinded. Mr. Wendell Phillips, the well-known Abolitionist orator, had made a speech vehemently denouncing President Johnson's proclamation for the reorganisation of North Carolina, and declaring that a refusal of the suffrage to negroes would be tantamount to a surrender of the results of the war. The Senate of Tennessee had passed a bill declaring that all voters in that state must be white male citizens, twenty-one years old, and excluding from the suffrage all persons more than twenty-one years old who had "aided the rebellion."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. R.—We have not heard of the brother alluded to for some time past. We believe he is in Australia.

J. W.—Any Past Master will inform you.

S. S.—X.—Not since the death of the late Duke of Richmond.

ROSE CROIX.—No connection whatever.

B.—The Royal Degree is confined to Scotland. There are, however, several English members. The ceremony is in quaint old rhyme.

JURUS.—We would, if we could, give you any information on the subject.