

LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1865.

## FREEMASONRY IN FRANCE.

Bro. Mellinet, the newly elected Grand Master of the Order in France, immediately after his inauguration, issued the following circular :—

“The Grand Master of the Order to the lodges and Masons of the province, greeting,

“Beloved brethren,—Having been elected Grand Master by the free votes of your representatives, I am thankful for the high honour you have conferred upon me; and inspired by the gratitude, my tried Masonic heart (*cœur de vieux maçon*) prompts me to the fulfilment of the duties devolving upon me, and to a deep and incessant devotion to our beloved Order. The example that I hold as a legacy from my illustrious and ever-to-be-lamented predecessor, will be my best and safest monitor, and with a view to maintain the independence and prosperity of our Order, I need but persevere in the paths that he has trod. Besides, however arduous the important task may be that I have assumed, I shall be assisted in its discharge by the good sense that prevails in our lodges, by the enlightened concurrence of the Council of the Order, and by the most fraternal co-operation I trustfully expect from the two Deputy Grand Masters, Bros. Alfred Blanche and Lenglé. A time-honoured affection connects me with the first named, while the second is one of those a man need not know very long to permanently secure them as friends, and the votes of your late General Convention have shown to what extent both of them are possessed of your confidence. Under these circumstances, beloved brethren, though I cannot take possession of the place you have allotted to me, without the strongest palpitations of my heart, I am doing so, at least, in the hope of complying, to the best of my ability, with your free appeal. Rely on me, as I rely on you, and under the protection of our Constitution, and looking up to the Great Architect of the Universe, we shall further and promote, by our mutual efforts, the cause of true light and humanity.

“Receive, beloved brethren, the assurance of my high and affectionate consideration.

“The Grand Master of the Order,

“MELLINET.

“Countersigned by the Deputy Grand Master,

“ALFRED BLANCHE.

“Grand Orient of France,

“August 20, 1865 (v.E.)”

The *Bulletin du Grand Orient de France*, for September, from which we extract the above document, publishes also the tenor of the new constitution of the French Masons, as voted by the Convention of June 6–8. We gave in a previous number a full report of these proceedings. The new constitution, as set in force by decree of the

Grand Master, of June 10, is divided into five chapters, headed respectively—

On Freemasonry and its principles.

On Masons, Masonic Associations, and the various rites.

On Masonic powers.

On the relations with the outer world.

Supplementary article.

The most important part of this document is its first chapter, the draught of which was the subject of the most violent discussions, and we feel justified in laying it before our readers *in toto*.

*On Freemasonry and its Principles.*

“1. Freemasonry being essentially a philanthropical, philosophical, and progressive institution, has for its object the search of truth, the study of universal morals, of the sciences and arts, and the practice of charity.

“It has for its principles the existence of God, the Great Architect of the Universe, the immortality of the soul, and the mutual responsibility of mankind (*solidanté humaine*).

“It considers liberty of conscience as a right belonging to every individual, and excludes no man on account of his creed.

“It has for its motto, “Liberty, Equality, Fraternity.”

“2. In the elevated sphere in which it lives, Freemasonry respects the religious faith and the political views of every one of its members, but it formally excludes from all its meetings any discussions on religious or political topics the object of which should be either the dissertation on the various religions, or the critic of the actions and doings of the civil authority, or of the various forms of government.

“It reminds all its adepts that one of their first duties, as Masons and as citizens, is to respect the laws of the land they inhabit.

“3. Freemasonry considers the compulsion to labour as one of the most imperious laws of mankind. It imposes upon each, in proportion to his forces, and consequently proscribes voluntary idleness.

“4. As Freemasonry aspires towards the extension to all members of mankind of the bonds of brotherhood that unite Freemasons throughout the globe, it recommends to all Masons to propagate Masonry by word of mouth, by writing, and by good example.

“5. It is the Mason's duty to assist, to enlighten, and to protect his brother in every emergency, and to shield him against injustice, should he even endanger his own life by doing so.”

The last issue of the *Monde Maçonnique* contains an abundance of most valuable material. Our readers are aware that this publication is the chief organ of the cause of “positivism” (the euphe-

mistical *alias* by which atheism goes in France now-a-days) ; but apart from the erroneous principles it advocates, we must do our French contemporaries the justice to say that it is conducted in a highly creditable manner, and in reviewing more particularly its last number, we meet with a perfect *embarras de richesses*. It appears, from extracts of ultramontane newspapers, reproduced in this number, that the representatives of orthodox Catholicism are continuing as eager and active as heretofore in waging a real war to the knife against the institution of Freemasonry. The *Union Franco-Courtoise*, in an article on the subject, the writer, after having admitted that he knows nothing whatever about the character and the tendencies of Masonry, arrives at the conclusion that "the visible society ought evidently to take some measures of precaution to check the somewhat tenebrous influence of that invisible society that is called Freemasonry." To this suggestion, Bro. Caubet replies :—

"If the author of this article would only content himself with sighing at his complete ignorance of things Masonic, we should not complain of, and might perhaps feel disposed to come to his aid and tell him what is the character of the institution that seems to be a nightmare to him. But this ignorance that ought to render him more cautious and reserved, does not prevent him from impugning our institution, and piously denouncing us. Such conduct, which we need not qualify, as the author's conscience itself will judge of it, is not particularly characteristic to the *Union Franco-Courtoise*; the latter has it in common with all our antagonists, past and present, and with all fanatics."

At Rouen, a free circulation library has lately been established by the Masonic lodges of the town, and at Niort the Scottish lodge has presented six donations of 50 francs each for the poorest and most deserving pupils of the *école mutuelle* at the annual public distribution of prizes, on the 10th of August last, and the Deputy Mayor, of the town, who presided at the ceremony, tendered the thanks of the public to this lodge for its generous gift. To this the legitimist print *l'Union* observes :—

"Certainly the clergy who attended at this ceremony did not expect that they would honour by their presence the distribution of Masonic prizes, still less to witness the representative of the town, contrary to all rules of propriety, devoting the greater part of his speech to call forth applause in favour of the Freemasons, instead of availing himself, like those who preceded him, of this favourable opportunity to impress profitable truths upon the pupils and their parents."

And the Ultramontane organ *Le Monde*, still more excited at this "scandal," thinks this to be a suitable occasion to be proud enough to repeat the words addressed by St. Peter to Simon the magician—*Pecunia tua tecum sit in perditionem*. Thereupon our contemporary replies :—

"We content ourselves with putting to the pious publication the question whether it would have spoken as it did if the Masonic lodge, instead of appropriating the three hundred francs for the *école mutuelle* (a national school) had sent them to the *petit séminaire*, or to the *frères ignorants* (clerical schools)."

Bro. Abd-el-Kader has been travelling lately through France, and besides the general public the Masonic corporations of several towns have given him a most warm and fraternal reception. At Amboise he was received on his arrival by the municipal authorities, accompanied by the corps of the firemen and their band. He was led to the Hotel de Ville where he was treated to a series of speeches. He afterwards visited the castle, his former residence. In the evening deputations from the lodges of Blois, Tours, and Nantes were introduced to him. An address was read in which his generous and noble conduct during the late troubles in Syria was dwelt on, and the Emir congratulated for having recognised the equality of all creeds, and having joined the Masonic brotherhood. To this Abd-el-Kader replied—"I tender my thanks to all Masons represented by those present. I consider Freemasonry as the first institution of the world. In my opinion any man who does not belong to the Masonic Craft is but an incomplete man. I hope the day will come when the principles of Masonry shall prevail throughout the universe, and that day all nations of the earth will live in peace and harmony together."

A banquet afterwards took place at the Hotel du Leon d'or, attended by the Masonic deputations, by Abd-el-Kader, his son-in-law, and his faithful servant Kahrech. The Emir, Freemasonry, and the union of all nations were successively proposed and enthusiastically drunk.

We are indebted, also, to our French contemporary for some very interesting statistics of Masonry in France, of which the following is an excerpt :—

There are at present 230 lodges working under the auspices of the Grand Orient de France (French rite), and 70 lodges under those of the Suprême Conseil (Scottish rite), in all 300 lodges. Of these

there are 53 French and 33 Scottish, in all 86 lodges, belonging to Paris and its environs. Paris itself has a total of 73 lodges, Marseilles 13, Lyons 11, Bordeaux 9, Toulouse 5, Havre 4, Rouen 4, Lille 1, Montpellier 1. Twenty-two out of the 89 departments have not yet been "invaded" by Masonry. The most ancient of the French lodges are the following:—

	Founded in
Loge Anglaise, of Bordeaux .....	1732
Parfaite Union, of Rennes .....	1748
Parfaite Silence, Lyons .....	1762
Parfaite Union, Rodez.....	1762
Française élue Ecossaise, Bordeaux.....	1764
Cœurs-Unis, Paris .....	1765
Sincérité, Parfaite Union, Bézangon ...	1766
Parfaite Sincérité, Marseilles .....	1767
St. Jean de Jérusalem, Nancy.....	1771
Thémis, Caen .....	1772

#### SECRET SCIENCES OF THE ANCIENTS.

Among the practitioners of the magical arts, the Chaldeans were pre-eminent. They appear to have been one of the tribes or nations that made up the community at Babylon. Diodorus Siculus gives us the best account of them, and describes them as the more ancient Babylonians. After describing their varied skill in different branches of science, and their power in foretelling future events, he makes some approving observations on their method of study, stating that their knowledge was transmitted traditionally from father to son, thus proceeding on long-established rules. He says:—"As they foretold things to come to other kings formerly, so they did to Alexander, who conquered Darius, and to his successors Antigonus and Seleucus Nicator; and accordingly things fell out as they declared. They also tell private men their fortunes so certainly that those who have found the thing true by experience have esteemed it a miracle beyond the art of man to perform."

The historian is evidently very favourable in his remarks, and hence it is presumed he was a sincere believer in all the performances of the magical arts. It is, however, acknowledged that the attainments of this early people in the science of astronomy were great, but that was rendered subservient to the practice of astrology or the attempt to read the future in the aspect of the stars. Their boasted acquirements were put to the proof by Nebuchadnezzar, when he commanded them to "shew the king his dreams." (Dan. ii. 2.)

The Chaldeans in endeavouring to solve the vision of King Nebuchadnezzar failed in Babylon, as the magicians had done in Egypt under Pharaoh, to explain what was regarded as a prognostic of the future, and in both cases it was necessary to call in the aid of one who had a direct communication from heaven. The same has been the case in all attempts to explain the future, and to disclose what man was so desirous of knowing about the invisible world. All reliance on astrology, necromancy, oracles, dreams, and the revelations of the abstruse sciences, has failed. Astrology has ceased to be a science, and the stars are studied for other purposes than to disclose future events; necromancy has ceased to be a science, for no one hopes to be able to make a compact with the dead, in virtue of which they will disclose the secrets of the invisible world.

The magic of the Chaldeans comprehended all the occult sciences. The learned Moses Maimonides reveals to us that the first part of their magic was a knowledge of metals, plants, and animals. The second indicated the times when magical performances might be carried on, that is, when the system, the temperature of the air, the state of the atmosphere, favoured the success of physical and chemical operations, or permitted a well informed and attentive man to predict a natural phenomenon, always unexpected by the vulgar. The third taught the actions, postures, words, intelligible and unintelligible, which should accompany the proceedings of the thaumaturgist. Thus, the mystery of magic disappears: introduced into the sanctuary of occult sciences, we see there only a school in which the different branches of natural science were taught; and we can admit in a literal sense all that mythology and history relate respecting men and women, whom skilful instructors had invested with the possession of the tenets of magic, and who frequently showed themselves superior to their masters. It was sufficient that after having undergone prescribed trials to ascertain his discretion, the pupil devoted himself zealously to the study of the secret science, and that his perseverance and capacity allowed him to advance it; an advantage he subsequently retained for himself, or communicated only partially to the objects of his good will.

Meteorology, or the knowledge of the physical causes which affect the atmosphere, or one affected by it, was, in ancient times, wholly unknown to all but the learned few, and these were the priests

whose scientific attainments enabled them with safety to utter indications of atmospherical changes. If the European, familiar with the foreknowledge which attentive and long continued observation confers, listen with astonishment to the predictions of the American savage, and persons unaccustomed to the ocean to the bold conjectures of the seaman, we may form some idea how readily the art of foreseeing rain, tempests, and the direction of the winds, depending universally upon the same principles, would be transformed in the eyes of the Pagan multitude into the power of commanding the elements; and on the other hand, this ideal faculty being once conferred, how soon it would be converted into a source of emolument. A learned French writer has suggested that the art of drawing down the electric fluid from the clouds, attributed to Franklin, was known and practised in the earliest ages, and grounds his belief on medals and traditions. One medal is described as representing the temple of Juno, the roof being armed with pointed rods. Another bears the legend Jupiter Elicius, the god appears with the lightning in his hand. Others bear a fish covered with points placed on a globe. M. Boessière thinks that this represents the conductor employed by Numa to withdraw from the clouds the electric fire. The history of the physical attainments of Numa deserve particular notice. At a period when lightning was occasioning injury, Numa, instructed by the nymph Egeria, sought a method of appeasing the lightning, that is to say, in a way of rendering this meteor less destructive. He succeeded in intoxicating Faunus and Picus, whose names in this place probably denote only the priests of these Etruscan divinities. He learned from them the secret of making, without any danger, the thundering Jupiter descend upon earth, and immediately put it in execution. Here the veil of the mystery is transparent to render the lightning less injurious, to make it, without danger, descend from the clouds; and the effect and end are common to the beautiful discovery of Franklin, and to that religious experiment which Numa frequently repeated with success. Livy relates that Numa's successor, Tullus Hostilius, in searching the memoirs left by Numa, found among them some instructions relative to the secret sacrifices offered to Jupiter. He attempted to repeat them, but deviated from the mode of preparation, or the celebration of the rite; exposed to the anger of the god, thus evoked by

a defective ceremony, he was struck by the lightning, and burned together with his palace. In modern days, a learned man was killed in a similar way when repeating too incautiously Franklin's experiment. It has been suggested that the art veiled under the name of rites of Jupiter Elicius has been employed by the various imitators of thunder, as, for instance, the narrative of Salmoneus, who wished to be called a god and receive divine honours from his subjects; therefore, to imitate thunder, he used to drive his chariot over a brazen bridge, and darted burning torches on every side, to imitate lightning. Jupiter, provoked at this impiety, struck Salmoneus with a thunderbolt, and he was placed in the infernal regions near his brother Sisyphus. This art was employed by Zoroaster to kindle the sacred fire, and perform, in the initiation of his followers, some of the miracles of which a traditional belief still exists in the East.

The Hebrew prophets, in their denunciations of the idolatrous practices into which the Israelites had fallen, refer to the particular species of foretelling events. "The people ask counsel at their stocks, and their staff declareth unto them." (Hosea iv. 12.) Theophylactus illustrates this passage by noticing a very common practice to which he supposes it may allude. The diviners set up rods and began their enchantments by muttering verses, and when the rods fell they drew their presages from the manner and direction of the fall. The Hebrew writers, however, thus describe the custom:—when a person began a journey or commenced any undertaking, he desired to know whether the result would be prosperous or otherwise, and to this end he took a branch of a tree or rod, and stripped off the bark from one side and left it on the other; he then threw up the rod twice, and if the side with the bark lay upwards the first time, and the peeled side the second time, the omen was good, and he proceeded in his undertaking; but if the reverse happened, the sign was bad, and the matter in hand was discontinued. Tacitus makes us acquainted with the mode of divination of the ancient Germans. They cut the twig of a fruit tree into several pieces, and having distinguished the pieces by marks they threw them promiscuously into a white cloth. Then the priest of the community, if information was desired concerning a public event, or if a private one the father of a family, addressed a prayer to the gods, and, looking towards heaven

took up each piece thrice, one after another, and from the order in which the marks presented themselves he drew inferences for the solution of the difficulty, or for the prediction of the future.

This is not unlike the mode of divination alluded to by Ezekiel xxi. 21, "For the king of Babylon stood at the parting of the way, at the head of the two ways, to use divination: he made his arrows bright, he consulted with images (mag. knives), he looked on the liver." The process was to mark a number of arrows, corresponding to the alternatives, with the names of the nations or places which were the subject of consideration. The arrows were then shaken together in a quiver, and the marks on the one first drawn decided the preference. This always was in use among the Arabs, and was employed by them on all occasions. The arrows were three in number, unfeathered; upon one, was written "Command me, Lord," on another "Forbid, or prevent Lord," and the third was blank. These were put in a bag held by the divine, by whom also the lot was drawn. As the prophet mentions that the arrows were made bright for the occasion, it is presumed that this divination consisted in the inspection of the appearances these polished heads might exhibit. The method of divination by looking in the liver was very common among the ancient Greeks and Romans who examined the appearances of the entrails of animals slain for sacrifice. Jamblicus, who wrote on the mysteries of the ancients, reasons thus: "If the power of the gods proceeds in manifestations as far as to things inanimate, such as pebble stones, rods, pieces of wood, stones, or corn—this very thing is most admirable in the presignification of divine prophecy; because it imparts soul to things inanimate, motion to things immovable, and makes all things to be clear and known, to partake of reason and to be defined by the measures of intellection, though possessing no portion of reason for themselves."

The arts of divination were founded mainly on the investigations of science. It was at first a fair question whether, amidst the wonders which science was unfolding to the view, it might not contribute to lift the veil from the future, and reveal what was yet to come.

There has been in the human bosom no desire stronger than looking into the future. We are so made that we wish to lift the mysterious veil which shrouds the future, to penetrate the deep darkness which rests on the unseen world. Our great in-

terests are there. The past is fixed, and cannot now affect us, except by the consequences of what we have done, and by teaching us lessons of value, derived from our own observation and that of others. But the future is not fixed. Man, so anxious to know what this is to be, finds himself in this respect to it peculiarly unendowed.

It required centuries of investigation, a thousand failures, and the results of long and patient thought to ascertain what were the true objects of science, and to convince the world that it was not its legitimate purpose to reveal the future to man.

The Divining Rod is a forked branch of some peculiar kind of wood, usually, but not always, of hazel, by which it has been pretended that minerals and water may be discovered in the earth, the rod, if slowly carried along in suspension, dipping and pointing downward, it is affirmed, when brought over the spot where the consecrated spring or mine is situated. Other mysterious powers, such as that of discovering the lost boundaries of lands, and even of detecting the birthplace and parentage of foundlings, have also been attributed to the divining rod. The rod is sometimes called the *Vigila Divina*, or the *Baculus Divinatorius*, or the rod of Aaron, or the *Cadaceus* (after the wand of Mercury). But although a rod or wand has been the distinguishing ensign of the professors of magic in all ages and countries, and rhabdology or divination by the rod, was familiar to the ancient nations, the form, the material, and the mode of using the divining rod of the modern miners and water-finders seem to be superstitions of comparatively recent introductions. Many persons with some pretensions to science have been believers in the powers ascribed to the rod. George Agricola, the able and learned metallurgist of the sixteenth century, and, in later times, John Sperlingius and Theodore Kirchinærius, who have written on the rod, all say the devil is in it. Morhoff, who was eminent for his scientific as well as literary knowledge, admits that it is not clear to him whether the effects be natural or the result of demoniac agency. Many curious facts on the subject are to be found in "Bayle's Dictionary."

An old author on divinity describes it as "a strange kind of exploration, and peculiar way of rhabdomancy, used in mineral discoveries. The method of proceeding is to take a forked hazel, commonly called Moses his rod, which, freely held

forth, will stir and play if any mine be under it; and, though many have attempted to make it good, yet, until better information, we are of opinion, with Agricola, that in itself it is a fruitless exploration, strongly scenting of pagan divination. It was used also to discover any hidden spring of water, and, though one may seem as incredible as the other, there have not been wanting persons who have lately given evidence in favour of this property, and of that respectability as, at least, to suspend a judgment upon so extraordinary a phenomenon." In the twenty-second volume of the *Quarterly Review* will be found the following well-authenticated history:—

"It is just fifty years since Lady N.'s attention was first called to this subject. She was then sixteen years old, and was on a visit with her family at a chateau in Provence, the owner of which wanted to find a spring to supply his home, and for that purpose had sent for a peasant, who could do so with a twig. The English party ridiculed the idea, but still agreed to accompany the man, who, after walking some way, pronounced that he had arrived at the object of his search, and they accordingly dug, and found him correct. He was quite an uneducated man, and could give no account of the faculty in him, or of the means which he employed, but many others, he said, could do the same. The English party now tried for themselves, but all in vain, till it came to the turn of Lady N., when, to her amazement and alarm, she found that the same faculty was in her as in the peasant, and, on her return to England, she often exerted it, though in studious concealment. She was afraid lest she should be ridiculed, or get the name of a witch; in either case, she thought she should never get a husband.

"Of late years her scruples began to wear away. When, in 1803, Dr. Hutton published "*Ozanam's Mathematical Recreations*," where the effect of the divining rod is treated as absurd, she wrote a long letter, signed "Z. Y. Z." stating the facts which she knew. At Dr. Hutton's particular request, she went to see him at Woolwich, and she then showed him the experiment, and discovered a spring in a field which he had lately bought near the New College, then building, which field he afterwards sold to the College for a large sum in consequence of the spring. Lady N. afterwards showed the experiment to others in the park at W. She took a thin forked hazel

twig, about 16in. long, and held it by the end, the joint pointing downwards; when she came to a place where water was under the ground, the twig immediately bent, and the motion was more or less rapid as she approached or withdrew from the spring. When just over it, the twig turned so quick as to snap, breaking near the fingers, which, by pressing it, were indented, heated, and blistered. A degree of agitation was also visible in her face. When she first made the experiment, she says, this agitation was great, but has gradually decreased. She repeated the trial several times in different parts of the park, and her indications were always correct. It is extraordinary that no effect is produced at a well or ditch, or where earth does not interpose between the twig and the water. The exercise of the faculty is independent of volition."

(To be continued.)

#### SOCIAL MORALITY.

The pre-eminence of truth has in all ages been acknowledged, and probity regarded as the basis of prosperity, temporal and spiritual. Truth, in itself, must include perfect rectitude, honesty, morality, and virtue, and, without these, there cannot exist in any circle that mutual confidence without which social intercourse must be presided over by suspicion and distrust. The importance of mutual faith is too evident to need much insisting upon, both in social and commercial spheres, and far more so among the Craft, in whose foundation moral rectitude must be regarded as the head of the corner-stone.

In all large capitals depravity appears to be epidemic in certain quarters, but its reign is short, for however cunningly the deceitful sons of Mammon may steer their various courses, there will ultimately come a time when their iniquity shall become patent to the world, and then their career is ended.

Rigid probity possesses also the great qualification of invariably defeating a crooked policy; whereas, on the other hand, if fraud is opposed by fraud, the contest is doubtful. Chance, knowledge of human nature, or superior intellectual powers may determine the victory, but, where truth is opposed to deceit, it must in the end prevail. Allegorically speaking, its straightness leaves no bend or corner for the intrusion of specious arguments, which hence fall harmless before it.

To draw the line of demarcation where right ends and wrong begins is not easy. The legal definition is not that which accords with conscience, as, for the proof of wrong, certain evidence is requisite, which

possibly may not always be attainable ; hence probity may be differently understood by different individuals ; but, notwithstanding this, there exists a standard which appears to be tacitly accepted, and the approach or deviation therefrom is probably determined by instinctive perception ; but its test consists in the existence, or otherwise, of a feeling of confidence mutually between individuals.

It is moreover a somewhat peculiar fact that the idea of trust will not be influenced by personal feelings of liking or disliking, although, of course, if any one is forced to censure one for whom he happens to possess some regard, he will naturally express himself in the mildest terms in speaking of the shortcomings of his friend, and may, perchance, although unintentionally, exaggerate those of his opponents ; yet an upright character will command the respect of all, which is far more estimable than the mere connection of friendship, which in itself is usually of but a very evanescent character.

To enter upon the discussion of the various forms in which truth and morality are developed would occupy far more space than we have at present to devote to it, pervading as its influence does the whole range of intercommunication, political, commercial, and social, and comprising, not only true speaking but every form of virtue, honesty, and integrity.

That the ancients thoroughly appreciated the benefits of rectitude in all transactions cannot be doubted by those who have the slightest acquaintance with the classics, for if they did not practise it, they at least professed it, and no more can be said for the moderns. But in the Craft we believe the feeling is universally in favour of a straight course, and that every brother will say with Achilles,

"He who thinking one thing will another tell,  
My soul detests him as the gates of hell."

#### ARCHÆOLOGIC ITEMS FROM ROME.

The summer sultriness gives the signal of suspension to labourers of excavation, and almost of such as are carried on underground in or near Rome. We may, therefore, in the present interval, find space for some general observations as to what has been accomplished during the past season by activities in this sphere. On the Palatine Hill, where works ordered by the Papal Government and by the Emperor of France have been progressing simultaneously, there is little to notice in addition to particulars now well known, save that the area of substructions and foundation-walls is gradually extending, more and more serving to throw light on the general plan, though not yet presenting to view any imposing elevation of the imperial buildings. The most important result of the works ordered by the Emperor since the beginning of the last winter has been the discovery

of the very vaguely-marked but massive ruins of the Temple of Jupiter Victor, nearly central to the theatre over which these labours extend ; but no art-remains of much value have been brought to the light since the torso of a Fann (distinguished by characteristics of the highest order) was exhumed in the winter. The most interesting range of the Palatine antiquities, those ruins beneath the Church of St. Anastasia at the hill's north-western angle, consists of numerous vaulted chambers and corridors, besides stupendous fortification-walls of considerable extent, that may class with the most ancient of Rome's monuments, and be referred to the earlier kingly period. These discoveries, we are sorry to report, have been for almost a year left *in statu quo*, without the prosecution of any labours on the site partially worked by Government order ; great, indeed, being the contrast between the energy manifest in the now metamorphosed Farnese Gardens, where French enterprise is concerned, and the languid efforts of the Roman authorities on the western and northern slopes of the same hill. The Signor Reghetti, who has purchased the Palazzo Pio, below which his discovery of the bronze Hercules proved such a treasure-trove, has undertaken the complete rebuilding of that residence ; and other remains of Pompey's theatre and temple to Venus, over a portion of which it stands, are being gradually uncovered in those works. We have just visited the spot, and been obligingly conducted by a gentleman of that family over the subterranean long indeed known and accessible beneath this mansion, though now open to a somewhat greater extent. It is not what recent research has yet obtained, but rather what the hitherto-discovered conveys promise of, that in fact renders a visit to the dark recesses under the Pio palace more interesting now than in years past ; and in the massive style, as well as compact condition of the great structures, arcades of the theatre partly in square-hewn peperino, partly in reticulated masonry and rubble-work, we may see the earnest of the existence of much more, long buried in darkness and oblivion, which probably escaped the despoilers of the Middle Ages, owing to the accumulating of soil and alteration of the city-level around, though we may infer that much of the antique was remorselessly swept away to give place to the Pio palace itself. In a magazine on these premises we saw the various and rich fragments, architectonic ornaments, Corinthian capitals and cornices in white marble, pavement in *porta santa*, besides one very valuable piece of sculpture, a finely-draped female statue wanting the head and arms, and measuring two metres in this mutilated state—all objects found in or near the same compartment with the magnificent bronze of Hercules, and supposed to pertain to the decorations of the Venus Temple.

The Palazzo Pio on one side joins on to a crescent of paltry houses, in whose general plan is recognisable the form of the ancient theatre. And



here we may enter three large smoke-begrimed stables, formed out of the arched recesses of the arcades, with their massive vaults and walls, partly of *opus reticulatum*, now in many places blocked off or altered to suit modern purposes; the appearance of these interiors reminding one of caverns scooped out of living rocks—a strange scene to come upon in the midst of crowded streets. At a short distance hence, on the southern side of the Pompeian theatre, was lately found, under a shop, in the Via Giubbonari, an enormous shaft (diameter  $4\frac{1}{4}$  metres) of red Egyptian granite, laid prostrate; and near this, an immense fragment of white marble cornice with fine mouldings; these relics lying in a dark subterranean, at a depth, we might conjecture, of about 13ft. below the modern level—brought to light nearly by accident in laying the foundation of a house: it seems that no effect is to be made either for securing them or continuing to explore on a site so promising. The bronze Hercules remains still in an out-house of the Vatican, to receive the few restorations requisite from the hand of Tenerani; and with permission from that gentleman this wonderful statue may at times be seen. We leave to learned judges the anatomic power it displays; but what struck us most at a first view was the high conception of heroic beauty, the finely-marked characteristics of intellect that distinguish this above all other antiques of the same subject.

More important than all other recent undertakings on the part of this Government, are the excavations at Ostia, suspended till November next. At the last session (5th of July) of the Roman Archæologic Academy, we heard a long and learned report from Signor Visconti, jun., on the general results of these works, a single drawing (why not more, we might ask?) being shown to illustrate this lecture, from an indeed admirably designed fresco in a tomb (now at the Vatican Library) of Orpheus's descent to the shades, and his meeting with Eurydice. It was Pius VI. that systematic labours were first ordered at Ostia; recommenced, after long interruption, caused by political tempests, under Pius VII., they were again resumed in 1859, with direction of Signor Visconti, whose intelligent method has aimed at the disencumbering of the city's entire area, instead of excavation limited to certain sites. At the session of the Academy it was announced, amidst much applause, that the Pope had ordered the creation of a museum of Ostian antiquities *in situ*; the edifice chosen being a large one hitherto used as a dépôt for the produce of the saltworks on this seacoast, where in future the valuable art-objects hitherto, in every instance, transferred from Ostia to Rome, will be exhibited; but, it may be asked, to what superior advantage for the student or tourist, seeing that the unwholesome and desolate situation, sixteen miles distant from Rome, and the poverty of accommodation at the modern village, must continue to render Ostia one of the least frequented

(though now, indeed, highly attractive) among historic spots near this city.

The preparations for erecting Tenerani's nobly-conceived monument to Pius VIII., at St. Peter's, are now nearly complete; and the colossal group,—the Saviour, the two chief Apostles, with the Pope kneeling in front,—will soon appear above the door leading from an aisle to the sacristy, where that egress will enter into the design of the architectonic basement. Another sculpture lately erected at St. Peter's is the colossal statue of St. Angela Merice, foundress of the Ursuline nuns, by Galli,—not, indeed, favourably seen in the high-placed niche assigned to it,—but a pleasing and dignified matron figure, and monastic costume ably treated, and the venerable character of the nun contrasted with the youthful naïveté of a girl standing at her knee, introduced in allusion to the special vocation of the Uranines, the worthy females enrolled in which order dedicate their existence to the instruction of their own sex. The project for the restoration of the Marcian Aqueduct, to discharge its waters first on the Quirinal, is not to be carried out by means, in any part, of the antique construction (now extant only in a few scattered ruins), but entirely by underground channels laid through the embankment of the railway, to be at the same time commenced between Rome and Tivoli. Our consul, Mr. Severn, has energetically promoted this project, now sanctioned by authorities. At present, the most conspicuous public works here are those in churches; and in the re-opening of catacombs has of late been displayed great activity. On the other hand, many things, most obviously desirable and of most general interest, are neglected; classic sites left untouched; illustrious monuments abandoned to disgraceful uncleanness and profanation. Such inconsistencies form, indeed, one of the manifest peculiarities of Rome. We are often astonished to see how much is done by a Government whose revenues have been reduced, through late political shocks, by more than two-thirds; whilst our surprise at what is left undone may well be modified by the consideration that this Government absolutely and on system prevents all utterances of opinion, reducing the Press to an echo of its own wishes, or *usque ad nauseam* praises—under which state of things, can one wonder at any imaginable amount of abuses or short-comings?—*Builder*.

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CRICKET.—On Wednesday, the 13th inst., a match at cricket was played on Moulsey Hurst, between two elevens, consisting of the pupils and *attachés* of Bro. Hammond's Commercial Academy at Hampton, assisted by Messrs. R. and W. Peel and Bro. J. K. Sheen, non-residents. The score was as follows:—Bro. Sheen's side, 81 and 74, total 155. Bro. Hammond's side, 57 and 23, total 80. The match, which had been on the *tapis* for some time and anxiously looked forward to, was keenly contested and created a lively interest.

WHISPERING is more dangerous than loud speaking; the latter may instantly call up the rejoinder of truth, if needed; but the former may travel on, leaving poison in its track, until truth can overtake it with difficulty.



## LITERARY EXTRACTS.

COMPOSITION OF THE AMERICAN CHARACTER.—The North American people have been bred from the most restless and combative class of Europe. Whenever, during the last ten or twelve generations, a political or religious party has suffered defeat, its prominent members, whether they were the best, or only the noisiest, have been apt to emigrate to America, as a refuge from persecution. Men fled to America for conscience sake, and for that of unappreciated patriotism. Every scheming knave and every brutal ruffian, who feared the arm of the law, also turned his eyes in the same direction. Peasants and artisans, whose spirit rebelled against the tyranny of society and the monotony of their daily life, and men of a higher position, who chafed under conventional restraints, all yearned towards America. Thus the disposition of the parents of the American people have been exceedingly varied, and usually extreme, either for good or for evil. But in one respect they almost universally agreed. Every head of an emigrant family brought with him a restless character and a spirit apt to rebel. If we estimate the moral nature of Americans from their present social state, we shall find it to be just what we might have expected from such a parentage. They are enterprising, defiant and touchy, impatient of authority, furious politicians, very tolerant of fraud and violence, possessing much high and generous spirit, and some true religious feeling, but strongly addicted to cant.—*Macmillan.*

NUBIAN WOMEN.—It is worth while going to Nubia to see the girls. Up to twelve or thirteen they are nearly dressed in a bead necklace, and a lether fringe, four inches wide, round their loins; and anything so absolutely perfect as their shapes, or so sweetly innocent as their look, cannot be conceived. The women are dressed in drapery, like Greek statues, and their forms are as perfect; they have hard, bold faces, but very handsome hair, plaited like the Egyptian sculptures and soaked with castor-oil. The colour of the skin is rich sepia-brown, as of velvet with the pile, very dark, and the red blood growing through it, unlike negro colour in any degree. My pilot's little girl came in the dress mentioned above, carrying a present of cooked fish on her head, and some fresh eggs. She was four years old, and so clever! I gave her a captain's biscuit and some figs; and the little pet sat with her little legs tucked under her, and ate it so daintily; she was very long over it, and when she had done, she carefully wrapped up some more biscuit in a little rag of a veil to take home. I longed to steal her, she was such a darling. One girl of thirteen was so lovely that even the greatest prude must, I think, have forgiven her sweet, pure beauty. But the women, though far handsomer, lack the charm of the Arab women; and the men, except at Kalabshah, and those from far up the country, are not such gentlemen as the Arabs.—*Lady Gordon's Letters from Egypt.*

## NOTES ON MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Meyerbeer's "L'Africaine" is shortly to be produced in Vienna.

The *Era* finds fault with the custom now prevalent among actors of growing their moustaches.

The *Orchestra* has received private intelligence from Fano to the effect that poor Giuglini is quite given up.

Ernest Rossi, the distinguished Florentine actor, is about to come to London, and play in Italian versions of some of the tragedies of Shakespeare.

Mr. John Brougham, of the Princess's Theatre, is going to leave England for America.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Kean have been playing to crowded houses at the Broadway Theatre, New York. They are to be succeeded by Madame Celeste, who will perform

there for two weeks, and then go a farewell tour through the country.

Mr. Sims Reeves, who has been staying at Malvern Wells to try the water cure, very kindly got up an amateur concert, and himself sang in it, for the purpose of raising funds to buy a new organ for the church. The proposal came from him, and he gave his services gratuitously.

Miss Kate Terry and Miss L. Foote are playing alternate nights the part of the heroine in Mr. Tom Taylor's drama of "The Serf."

The English Opera season at Covent Garden is to commence on Monday, the 22nd of October, with an English version of "L'Africaine."

A romantic opera by Mr. Balfe, and a grand historical opera by Mr. Vincent Wallace, are announced as being prepared for publication.

The Vaudeville is preparing two new pieces, the "Nouveau Cid," by M. Hegelmann, and "L'Ivresse," by M. Althon-Shea, formerly a peer of France.

Miss Berry, whose execution of our native ballads won honourable mention in many quarters during the London season just concluded, has been lately staying in Paris. She has received the most flattering marks of distinction from musicians, Rossini having given her his portrait and autograph, and Auber the same, with the addition of an album. M. Gounod also wrote a piece of music expressly for her.

## MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

## MASONIC CYPHER.

In my Masonic researches I have come across the following, and shall be glad if any of your numerous readers can furnish a key. There are no points, and the letters are all of one uniform size:—  
L E A L F  
X E Y Q Y I X C Q T P F X O C X L C N K W  
Q G E S E W O D S E W I H Y M C C Z R P E  
Y U U A H.—Δ.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

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

## FREEMASONRY IN JERSEY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It is now about two years since mention was first made in your columns of the establishment of a lodge in Jersey, under the title of "Les Amis de l'Avenir," holding a warrant from the "Grand Orient du Rite Ecossais," in France. This proceeding having been very properly pronounced irregular by the Provincial Grand Master, the English brethren who took part in it were, after many preliminaries, suspended, and formal notice was given to the Masters of the several lodges in the province to forbid their members visiting the new lodge, and to report any breaches of the mandate which might come to their knowledge. An appeal was laid before the Grand Lodge in December, 1863, which resulted in a confirmation of the suspension inflicted by the local authority. This matter has been repeatedly noticed and discussed in your columns, which affords a reason for again troubling your readers with a few remarks on the subject, a very sore one among the Masons of Jersey; so long a time having elapsed, one might fairly suppose that further measures would be taken, but in fact, nothing has been done, beyond an

occasional reminder to the English lodges from the Provincial Grand Master, that those under his jurisdiction must abstain from countenancing the refractory brethren by visiting or otherwise, the result probably of his having been from time to time informed that his orders were disregarded by many, with whose names he said he was well acquainted, though for reasons best known to himself, but beyond my comprehension, he declined to visit them with the punishments he had threatened. This has seemed like unwillingness to carry out his own mandates from a doubt as to their propriety, and unfair towards many, myself among the number, who, anxious to show their obedience to lawfully constituted authority, have, even when desirous of seeing the working of the French Lodge, declined invitations to visit it, and have farther been so scrupulous as not to frequent a lodge under Irish warrant, of which some of the suspended brethren are members, with the sanction of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

There has recently been unpleasant correspondence in a French Masonic Journal, owing to a supposed slight on the part of a lodge at Rennes to "Les Amis de l'Avenir," in not having invited them with the Jersey Masons under English warrant, to attend the annual reunion of the Brittany lodges. One can hardly wonder at this, since the French lodge here, though irregular according to English constitution, cannot be called spurious, for those initiated in it are doubtless as genuine Masons as any others. On all these grounds, it is high time, as it appears to me, for some understanding to be entered into on the subject. I confess that I quite agreed with the suspension of the leaders in the affair two years ago, nor am I inclined to change my opinion on the subject; but as the French lodge has now existed so long, has proved its ability to maintain its position, has initiated many under French warrant who are as legitimate Masons as ourselves, but with whom we cannot hold any intercourse, the time has probably now arrived when it would be wise to make some concession, which I think may be done without any compromise of principle. I do not counsel the admission of members of "Les Amis de l'Avenir" as visitors of English lodges, but I know that there are many under our constitution who think that the restriction laid upon us not to visit the French lodge may be advantageously removed. Indeed, some go so far as to say, and not without a fair degree of reason, that whilst fully admitting the power of the Craft Masonic authorities over all actions in connection with the English lodges, they dispute their right to control the members in whatever they may think it right individually to do outside them, or to forbid their visits as free agents to any place to which they may choose to go. Grand Lodge does not recognise Druids, Foresters, Odd Fellows, &c., but it does not presume to interfere with brethren who belong to those societies, though their ceremonies may perhaps be regarded as parodies of the rituals of Freemasonry. There appears to be no reason why the French lodge established in Jersey should be put in a different category from them, at least so far affects occasional visits to it. The case may be considered similar in some respects to one alluded to in a former communication, where a Provincial Grand Master assumed a right to forbid the wearing of Craft clothing and

jewels in a Mark Masters' Lodge, alleging law No. 2, on page 91, of the "Book of Constitutions," as his justification, the validity of which was disputed, on the ground that Grand Lodge has power over English Masons only within the lodges under its jurisdiction. "No straining can make the law against wearing badges in public, or appearing as Masons in public processions of the Order without special permission, applicable to a meeting of brethren in private," and any attempt so to construe it must seem an arbitrary dictatorial assumption of authority. A consideration of this matter has led to doubts in my mind as to the correctness of the opinions I first held on the other question, so far as regards the veto on English Masons to visit the French lodge alluded to.

Nothing I conceive would be lost by the concession recommended; surreptitious attendance at the lodge "Les Amis de l'Avenir," which, it is said, does take place, would be avoided; and much good would be effected by the removal of bitterness of feeling, inconsistent with the profession of fraternity. If, on the contrary, it be thought right still to impose these restrictions, the original offenders have shown themselves so determined to continue their course, that there appears to be no alternative, after a probation of two years without any sign of repentance, but for the Grand Lodge of England to proceed to extremities, by expelling from English Masonry all those who have been so long under suspension. Should the English Masonic authorities allow matters to remain *in statu quo*, the only inference to be drawn is that they shrink from carrying out their own principles, which would seem to indicate that some radical change in our constitutions is desirable in this respect, as in others to which reference has been made on former occasions—*e.g.*, the mode of appointment of Provincial Grand Masters.

Yours fraternally,  
P. M.

Sept. 20, 1865.

#### THE F.C. DEGREE, ILLUSTRATED FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT, &c.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The second degree has never received the consideration its real importance demands, nor has the lesson it ought to teach been sufficiently impressed upon the minds of brethren (says the W.M. to the newly-passed F.C.). As in the former degree you made yourself acquainted with the principles of moral truth and virtue, you are now permitted to extend your researches into the hidden mysteries of nature and science. The American ritual adds,—“The Entered Apprentice as the type of unregenerated man, groping in moral and mental darkness for that light which is to guide his steps, and point out to him the paths which lead to duty, and to him who gives to duty its rewards.”

The F.C. is intended to typify the struggles of the ardent mind for the attainment of truth! moral, intellectual truth! and above all, his divine truth! the comprehension of which surpasseth human understanding.

But modern Masonic lectures are blind to that important fact that whilst the speedy downfall of Solomon's magnificent edifice, the pride and admiration of the world, points out the utter instability of human undertakings, so does the fate of that king.

So wise and virtuous, whom God had chosen, according to his heart, who became deaf to his advice and proud on seeing himself one of the most powerful Kings of the world, forgot the goodly gifts of the Lord, and abandoned himself to all manner of excesses, and whose complaisance to the sex (as amiable as dangerous) took him from the duty which his forefathers paid to the eternal, until he profaned the Holy Temple by offering to the idol Moloch frankincense that never was to burn, but for the service of the *sanctum sanctorum*. This shows how utterly powerless the wisest man is to wrestle against the great enemy of our souls, whose faith is not founded on the rock of ages.

The steps which form an important part of the ceremonies of Craft Masonry are as follows:—E.A.P., 3; F.C., 5; M.M., 7; and R.A. 9 (making together 24); corresponding with the natural division of the day and night, also with the division of the 24in. gauge, the beautiful application of which in our system of Masonic teaching is well-known to every E.A.P.

The five steps in this degree have a threefold signification. Firstly, the ascent of a winding staircase, leading, as we are taught, to the middle chamber of K.S.'s Temple, where the F.C.'s assembled for certain purposes; secondly, to the five Orders of Architecture; thirdly, to the number necessary to form a F.C. lodge. The staircase is very obscurely described in our ritual; but Josephus says ("Antiquities," book vii. chap. 3), "The King also has a fine contrivance for an ascent to the upper room over the Temple, and that was by steps in the thickness of the wall, for it had no large door on the east end, as the lower house had, but the entrances were by the sides through very small doors, and when he had cut a door-place in the wall, he put therein doors of cedar, and overlaid them with a great deal of gold, and had sculpture upon it; he also had viels of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and the brightest and softest of linen, with the most curious of flowers wrought upon them, which were to be drawn before those doors; the door for the middle chamber was in the right side of the house, and they went up with winding stairs into the middle chamber, and out of the middle into the third" (1 Kings vi. 8).

How this description can possibly be identified with the extraordinary flight of steps depicted on the lodge board (not the tracing board) in the second degree, puzzles any but a Masonic architect or G. Supt. of Works, to say nothing of the difficulties K.S., with his magnificent following, must have had when dodging round it, when he entered by the grand entrance below.

Our lectures are silent on the subject, but our lectures carry out fully Hamlet's instructions to the players—"Let those that play your clowns speak no more than is put down for them;" and as to any reason for our faith that is in them, they say with Falstaff, "What, upon compulsion? Give you a reason upon compulsion? If reasons were as plenty as blackberries, I would give no man a reason upon compulsion."

In English lodges, the candidate is instructed by the Deacon to take those steps on the floor; but they manage those ceremonies better in France. There, the E.A.P. is obliged to ascend three planks, the

third of which is rendered dangerous and difficult by rough and uneven blocks and other obstacles, and before being passed to the second degree, he must cross the bridge of knowledge which spans the stream of ignorance. This is simply a counterpart of the bridge (not the K.H. ladder, which is quite a different thing). It is described in page 167, No. 321, of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, which is introduced in the 30th degree of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. Its most appropriate plan certainly appears to be between the E.A.P. and F.C. degrees, as in the former degree the E.A.P. was allowed to make himself acquainted with the principles of moral truth and virtue, the first seven, or ascending steps; and in the latter, the F.C. is permitted to extend his researches into the hidden mysteries of nature and science, the remaining seven, or descending steps of the bridge; but, in the present divided jurisdiction of English Freemasonry, it is not at all likely the authorities would consent to such an innovation.

Yours fraternally,  
ROSA CRUCIS.

#### THE PEN-AND-INK SKETCHES OF ONE FANG.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I send you herewith a series of fifteen tracings taken from drawings in a Chinese work of no very great antiquity, entitled "Fang Shi Mo Pu; or, The Pen-and-Ink Sketches of One Fang." The book was published some years after its author's death—that is to say, during the reign of the Ming Emperor Wang Li (A.D. 1573 to 1621). It is made up of numerous drawings of trees, shrubs, animals, buildings, seals, pottery, and ancient houses, and the manner in which it was compiled is set forth in one of the many prefaces which introduce the work to the public. We are told that whenever Shi saw anything strange, beautiful or ancient, he immediately pulled his tablets out and took a sketch of it. A friend of the artist, who seems to have superintended the preparation of the book for the press, gives us also a few particulars about Shi. This man, named Tai Hang, in his introduction to the sketches, says:—"During his lifetime Shi was noted for the fidelity of his drawings. His best efforts were directed to the representation of shrubs, which he endeavoured not so much to copy slavishly in all their minute details, as to transfer to paper with an eye to the general effect of the whole. For this reason, while looking at the pictures of trees, they seemed to you before your eyes." The drawings which I now submit to the readers of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE may therefore be considered tolerably accurate copies of the originals, which, no doubt, were found in Buddhistic works and temple symbols. I have no means at hand of discovering the meaning of the Indian characters which enter so largely into these drawings, but no doubt many of your readers will be able to throw additional light on this part of the subject. The Chinese legends which appear on the face of the drawings I have translated.

With regard to the meaning of these drawings I have consulted many of the standard works (Chinese) on Buddhism, and have invoked the assistance of several *Ho Shang*, or priests. The latter are, however, as a rule, so grossly ignorant that it is a hope-

less task to endeavour to elicit any information from them. The six-stemmed bamboo (No. 1) is a frequently recurring element in the Buddhistic cosmogony, and appearing, as it does in the accompanying drawing, in the position of a support to the five-pointed star, it becomes especially suggestive to R.A. Masons. No. 2 ("the precious things of Heaven") is also worth examination on account of the collection of Craft emblems which it contains. I may mention as an additional fact, although it renders our knowledge of Oriental Masonry (if there be such a thing) more misty than before, that the five-pointed star is looked on by Chinese Buddhists as representing the square and compasses.

I would earnestly recommend a consideration of these drawings to those who are willing to devote themselves to the elucidation of the history of Masonry, and who are in a position to acquire extensive information on the subject.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

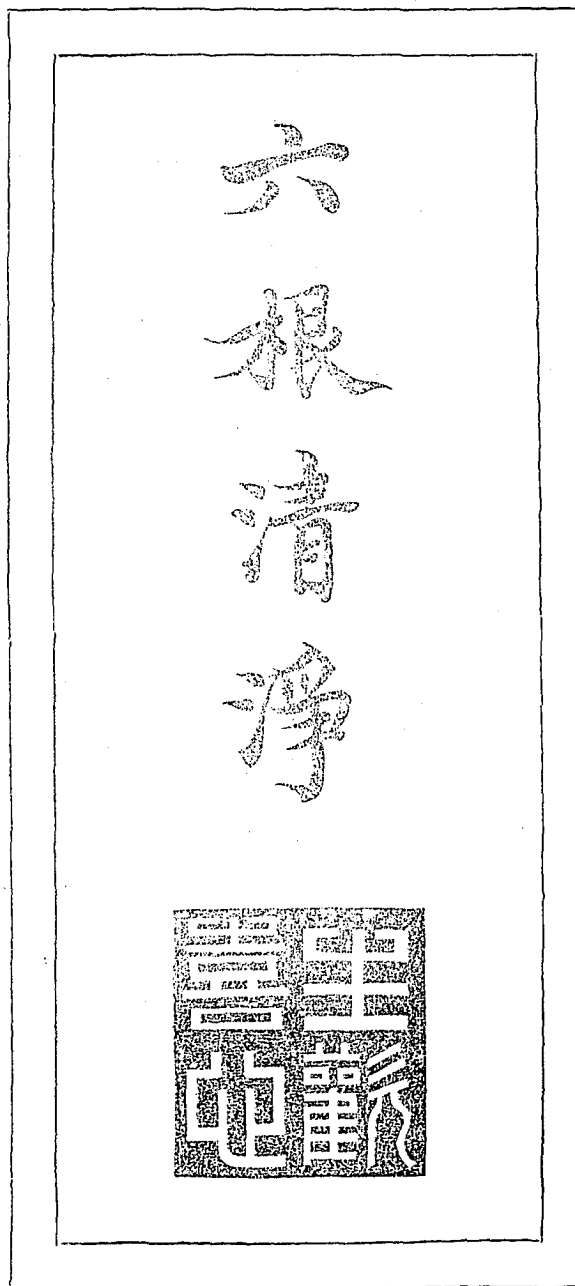
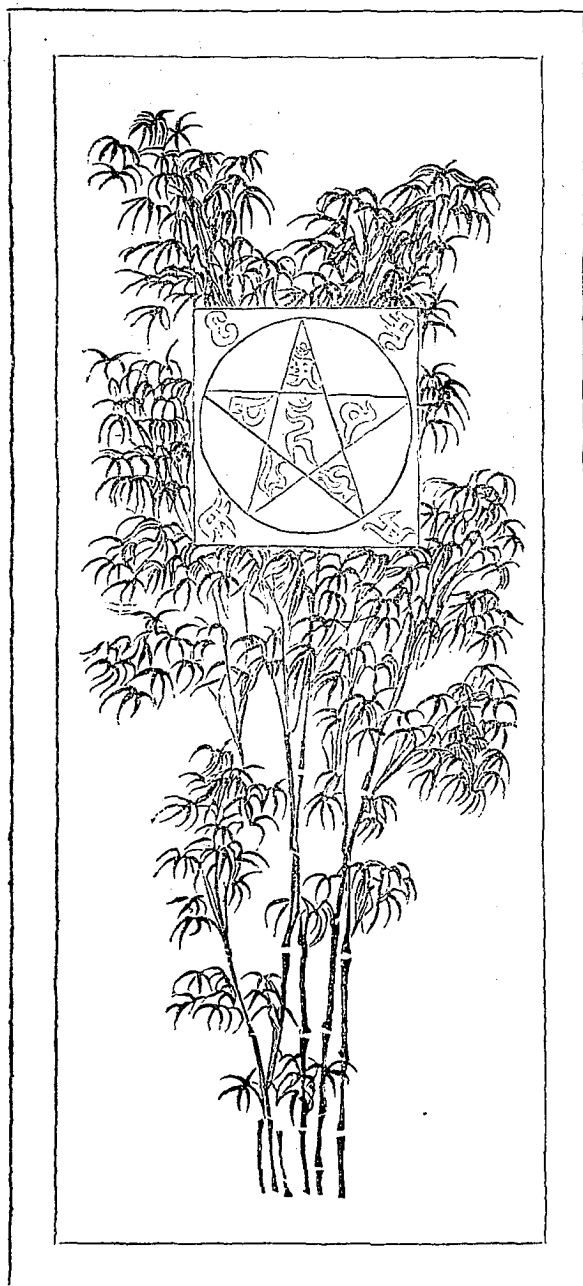
R. ALEX. JAMIESON.

J. W. Northern Lodge of China 570,

Late interpreter to the U.S. Consulate-General  
Shanghai. in China.

[A continuation of these illustrations will be given in future issues of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE. Ed. F.M.]

### No. 1.



THE SIX STEMMED BAMBOO.

No. 2.

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天



THE PRECIOUS THINGS OF HEAVEN.

## THE MASONIC MIRROR.

### MASONIC MEMS.

We understand that the members of the Grand Lodge and Chapter at Ewell not having sufficient room for their meetings or capability to receive the Provincial Grand Lodge at the Spring Hotel, have determined upon building a Masonic Hall with the necessary offices. Bro. A. B. Friend is the architect, and when we say Bro. Blake, P.G.D., is entrusted with the conduct of the affair, success may fairly be anticipated.

The foundation stone of a new church at Marske, in the North-East Riding of Yorkshire, was laid on Saturday, the 16th inst., by the Earl of Zetland. The church is designed to contain free sittings for 495 adults and 116 children. Our M.W. Grand Master has given the site, the stone, and £2,000, with promise of more if needed. Marske Hall, one of his lordship's seats is in the parish; the Hall was built by Sir William Pennyman, in the reign of Charles I. The spire of the old church serves as a conspicuous sea mark.

The alderman on the rota for the chair of the Chief Magistrate of the City of London, is the worthy Bro. Benjamin Samuel Phillips, P.M. of the Burlington Lodge, the alderman of Farringdon Within.

### PROVINCIAL.

#### LANCASHIRE (WEST).

##### PRESENTATION TO BRO. THOMAS MARSH.

A meeting of the Lodge of Harmony (No. 220) was called at seven p.m. on the 22nd inst. at the Masonic Temple, Hope-street, Liverpool. Bro. James Hamer, Prov. G. Treas., was called upon to preside, and Bro. Laidlaw P.M. 155 occupied the west. At the hour appointed the brethren assembled, and were ushered into the banqueting room, where a splendid repast, provided by Bro. Ball, the house steward, awaited them. At the proper time the chairman proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were all well and truly responded to.

Bro. HAMER enlisted the attention of the brethren to what was really the toast of the evening, viz., "The Health of Bro. Thomas Marsh, P.M. of 220," who had the esteem and affection of all who knew him, all could bear testimony to the zeal and patient perseverance of Bro. Marsh in the cause of Freemasonry; but there were a number who had noticed not only the ordinary but the extraordinary devotion of Bro. Marsh during his Mastership to the duties of his office in cultivating the moral and social virtues, and in carrying out those heavenly-minded principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth, not in the letter only, but in the spirit; also those brethren of 220 who could appreciate the worth of Bro. Marsh had been improved by his labours and profited by his example, felt constrained to offer him some small token of his gratitude, and therefore privately and silently resolved among themselves to present to him a testimonial of their regard for him, both as a man and a Mason. It was his pleasing duty to convey to Bro. Marsh the hearty good wishes of his brethren, as manifested in the beautiful jewel he had now the pleasure, in the name of the subscribers, of presenting, and trusted, when he looked upon that jewel, it would act as a powerful incentive to future exertion, and would remind him not only of the duties he had had to perform in this world in extending knowledge and kindness to his brethren, but of those duties to God which would ensure him everlasting happiness, when it should please the Great Architect of the Universe, to summon him to the Grand Lodge above. Bro. Hamer then placed upon the breast of Bro. Marsh a very beautiful Past Master's jewel in gold, set with a splendid brilliant, and bearing the following inscription on the back—"Presented to Bro. Thos. Marsh, P.M. of Lodge of Harmony 220, by his brethren, as a slight recognition of his many services rendered to this lodge and Masonry in general, Sept. 22, A.R. 5865." In continuation Bro. Hamer hoped, in common with his brethren, that Bro. Marsh may be long in the enjoyment of health to wear his jewel,

and that it may be a heirloom in his family for many generations. The toast was responded to with Masonic honours.

Bro. MARSH, in very feeling and appropriate terms, thanked the brethren for the honour they had conferred upon him, and having been taken somewhat by surprise, he trusted they would make an allowance for the sake of his mind and feelings at the present time, for a conflict of pleasure, surprise, and gratitude was then struggling for the mastery; and although it is written that from the fulness of the heart the mouth speaketh, in his case he found his heart so full that his lips could not perform their office of conveying to them his deep sense of the honour conferred upon him; he should bear in mind the very excellent precepts of Bro. Hamer, and hoped to spend very many years with the brethren around him, and that every year might find them all nearer and nearer, and growing more and more in the favour and likeness of the Great Architect of the Universe.

That Great First Cause, least understood,  
Who all my sense confin'd  
To know but this, that thou art good,  
And that myself am blind.

After again thanking the brethren Bro. Marsh resumed his seat, evidently much affected.

Bro. GOEPEL, P.M. 823, could not allow that opportunity to pass without bearing his testimony to the rare talents and persevering industry of Bro. Marsh, who for the last four years had ably filled the responsible office of secretary to the West Lancashire Relief Committee, and had been the means of causing similar committees being established in other large towns in England, whereby imposters were detected, and the worthy found relief.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Bros. Mason and Goepel, for their having so successfully carried out the ideas and wishes of the brethren, and their good task displayed in the ornamentation of the jewel. The brethren then enjoyed themselves, and song, sentiment, and toast prevailed until ten o'clock, when they separated.

Among the visitors we noticed Bros. Wylie, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Crane, P.M. 249; Winkup, P.M. 667; Rankin, 667; Smith, J.D. 249; Pearson, 249; Nash, 823, &c.

WARRINGTON.—*Lodge of Lights* (No. 148).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, on Monday evening last. The W.M., Bro. Gilbert Greenall, M.P., was supported by Bros. White, P.M., S.W.; W. Smith, J.W.; John Bowes, P.M., Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., Hon. Sec.; R. G. Stringer, P.M.; Joseph Mansfield, P.M.; John Worthington, John Pierpoint, S.D.; W. Richardson, David Finney, Gibbons, W. H. Spring, Dr. Pennington, Woolf, Jos. Robinson, Tyler; James Johnson, and W. Woods. Visitors:—Bros. Richard Warburton, No. 89, Lodge of Unanimity, Dukinfield, and John Billam, No. 200, Old Globe Lodge, Searborough. The lodge was opened in solemn form according to ancient custom, when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The chair was then assumed by the I.P.M., Bro. John Bowes. Bro. Woolf being a candidate for preferment, and having given proof of proficiency in the first degree, was entrusted and retired. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Woolf having been duly admitted, was passed by Bro. Bowes. Bro. David Finney being a candidate for promotion, and having proved his eligibility, was entrusted and retired. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and Bro. Finney having been duly received, was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. by Bro. Bowes. Bro. H. B. White, P.M. and S.W., now assumed the chair, and concluded the history, and gave the lecture on the tracing board. The lodge was then closed in the third and second degrees. Bro. Bowes, Hon. Sec., announced the receipt of several communications, which were taken as read. Bro. White, P.M., then brought forward the report of the centenary committee, from which it appeared that the R.W. Prov. G. Master, Col. Sir Thomas Hesketh, Bart., M.P., had commanded the Provincial Grand Lodge to meet at Warrington, on November 8th next, and that after the business there will be a procession, Divine Service at the Parish Church (by the kind permission of the Rector, Rev. W. Quekett), and a banquet at four o'clock at the public hall. The next day the Festival proceedings will be brought to a close by a grand Masonic miscellaneous concert, by artistes of acknowledged ability, in aid of the funds of the "Royal Masonic Institution for the Sons of Indigent and Deceased Freemasons." The concert is under the immediate patronage of a large number of brethren of Masonic and

social distinction. The announcement was unanimously received by the brethren, and there is every prospect of thorough success. Bro. H. B. White, P.M., proposed, Bro. Joseph Maxfield, P.M., seconded, and it was unanimously resolved, that the Prov. G. Master be presented with a centenary jewel. After a variety of other business had been transacted, the lodge was closed according to ancient custom in perfect love and harmony.

#### MONMOUTHSHIRE.

NEWPORT.—*Isca Lodge* (No. 633).—At the meeting of this lodge held on Wednesday, Sept. 20th, Bro. John Middleton, W.M., in the chair, ten gentlemen from the Tredegar Ironworks were proposed as candidates for initiation. We understand if they are approved, the whole will be initiated at the next lodge on the 3rd Wednesday in October, a special dispensation having been granted for that purpose. We hear a new lodge will be forthwith opened at Tredegar, every preparatory matter being arranged. We wish them God speed.

#### WARWICKSHIRE.

##### LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE NEW MASONIC HALL, BIRMINGHAM.

On Wednesday afternoon, September 20th, the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the New Masonic Hall and Club Buildings, in New-street, was performed by Lord Leigh, the R.W. Prov. G.M., in the presence of a large concourse of brethren and ladies.

The brethren assembled at the Masonic Rooms, Newhall-street, at one o'clock, to receive the R.W. Prov. G.M., who opened the Provincial Grand Lodge in due form. Amongst those present were—The Right Hon. and R.W. Bro. Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M.; Bros. C. W. Elkington, D. Prov. G.M.; J. H. Bedford, Prov. G.W.; H. Weiss, Prov. G.W.; Rev. W. B. Smith, Prov. G. Chap.; Rev. J. Stonehouse, Prov. G. Chap.; J. Collins, Prov. G. Tyler; G. Hudson, Prov. G. Reg.; W. B. Briggs, Prov. G. Sec.; C. Read, Prov. S.G.D.; J. Pursall, Prov. S.G.W.; J. J. Turner, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; G. Wyman, Prov. G.S.B.; W. L. Harrison, Prov. G. Org.; J. Isaacs, Prov. G. Assist. Sec.; F. D. Johnson, Prov. G. Assist. Purst., and other officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge; Bro. Harvey, Prov. G.M. Staffordshire; Bros. W. H. Sprotson, W.M. 43; A. S. Blankensee, J.W. 43; and W. Stillman, P.M., Sec. 43; Bros. W. J. Walters, W.M. 74; M. Smart, S.W. 74; J. Bowker, J.W. 74; and C. J. Penn, T. 74; Bros. G. Beech, W.M. 473; W. C. McEntee, J.W. 473; D. Malins, jun., Org. 473; Bros. J. A. Best, Prov. G.S.B. and W.M. 739; J. Muggridge, P.M. 739; J. Stubbin, S.W. 739; Bros. Lieut.-Col. Mason, P.M. 887; the Rev. J. Ray, Chap. 887; and Captain McInnis, 887; Bros. E. Worrall, W.M. 925; F. D. Johnson, P.M. 925; M. O. Suffield, S.W. 925; C. Pembroke, J.W. 925; and Rev. H. G. Layton, Chap. 925; Bro. A. McCracken, W.M. 1016; Bros. T. Partridge, W.M. 1031; T. D. Miller, J.D. 1031; W. W. Rose, Assist. Sec. 1031; and F. F. Cuisset, Org. &c.

After the formal business had been gone through, a procession was formed, which marched to the Town-hall, where the invited guests fell in.

On two sides of the open space platforms were erected, on which there were about 500 ladies; the floor of the open space being reserved for the brethren, and those who were to take part in the ceremony. There were in all upwards of 1,100 people present; and the effect produced by the gay dresses of the ladies and the regalia of the brethren was most picturesque. In addition to those already named, there were present at the ceremony the Mayor (Mr. H. Wiggin), Dr. Miller, Dr. Badham, and many others.

After the brethren had all fallen in to their appointed places, prayers were offered by the Rev. F. Stonehouse, Prov. G. Chap., and Bro. J. Ray, P. Prov. G. Chap. (lecturer of St. Phillips). Bro. Charles W. Elkington, D. Prov. G.M., and Chairman of Directors, then presented the inscription and copies of the proceedings to the Provincial Grand Master. Bro. W. B. Briggs, Provincial Grand Secretary, read the following inscription, which was placed in a bottle, together with the reports and some coins of the present reign:—"Provincial Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of Warwickshire. At a special meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, held at the Masonic Rooms, Newhall-street, Birmingham, on Wednesday,

the 20th September, 1865, in the 29th year of the reign of her Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, this, the Foundation Stone of the buildings of the Masonic Hall and Club Company (Limited), was laid in solemn form, and according to ancient usage by the Right Hon. William Henry Lord Leigh, Lord-Lieutenant and Right Worshipful Grand Master of Warwickshire, assisted by the Worshipful Bro. Charles William Elkington, Past Grand Sword Bearer of England, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire; the Worshipful Bro. J. H. Bedford, Senior Grand Warden; the Worshipful Bro. W. H. Weiss, Junior Grand Warden; the Worshipful Bro. W. Bramwell Smith, and the Worshipful Bro. Frederick Stonehouse, Grand Chaplains; and in the presence of a numerous body of Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, and brethren." Then followed a list of the officers and directors of the company. The bottle was then placed in a cavity of the stone by Bro. James T. Collins, Provincial Grand Treasurer. Mr. Holmes, the architect, next presented to Lord Leigh a silver trowel, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to the Right Worshipful Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M. of Warwickshire, on his laying the foundation stone of the Masonic Hall, at Birmingham, September 20th, A.L. 5865, A.D. 1865." On the reverse was his Lordship's crest. The trowel, which was furnished by Messrs. Elkington and Mason, was the gift of the Directors. Lord Leigh then smoothed the mortar below the stone. The workmen lowered the stone into its place, whilst an anthem was sung, commencing

Let our theme of praise ascending,  
Blent in music's lofty strain;

the band accompanying the singers, who were conducted by Bro. Stockley.

The PROV. G. MASTER having applied the rule, level, and square in the usual manner, then said: I pronounce this stone well and truly laid. May the Great Architect of the Universe prosper this and all our good and healthful undertakings, and may he bestow upon us the blessings of love, peace, harmony, and plenty. So mote it be. Wine, oil, and corn were then poured on the stone, and his lordship having mounted it, said: Mr. Mayor, ladies, and gentlemen, it is not my intention to detain you with many observations, but I should wish simply to explain that through Masons having flourished so much in this province, it was necessary to raise a building in order to accommodate the Masons of this town; consequently a few Masons of Birmingham assembled together, and formed themselves into a company to build a Masonic hall, a drawing of which is exhibited; and I only hope and trust that the town will consider that the architecture may be an addition to the numerous buildings not only raised by Masons in this town, but throughout the country, of which a splendid illustration may be found in the magnificent Cathedral of St. Paul's, London, and many other most splendid buildings throughout England. (Loud applause.)

Bro. W. BRAMWELL SMITH, Prov. G. Chap., then delivered an appropriate and beautiful oration. (The oration will be given in our next.)

The National Anthem was then played, after which the Mayor mounted the stone, and after congratulating his fellow-townsmen on the commencement of a building which would be an honour and an ornament to the town, called upon those present to give three cheers for Lord Leigh, which were given with considerable energy.

Lord LEIGH thanked the Mayor for the compliment paid to him, which he said he should take as intended for the body he had the honour of being the head of in that province. Looking around him, he said the Masons always prided themselves on being looked up to and liked by the ladies of Birmingham and Warwickshire; and he always felt that the ladies were with them. He hoped that before he next attended a meeting of a body in Birmingham the Mayor would be an initiated Mason. (Laughter.) He called upon all present to join him in giving three cheers for the ladies. (Loud cheers.)

The procession was then re-formed, and walked to the Town-hall to

#### THE LUNCHEON.

About five hundred ladies and gentlemen sat down to a luncheon served in the Town Hall, while a number of others occupied seats in the galleries, from which they were able to observe the proceedings. The chair was occupied by Bro. C. W. Elkington, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire; and there were also seated at the cross table, Lord Leigh, Pro-



vincial Grand Master of Warwickshire; the Mayor of Birmingham (Mr. H. Wiggin), the Rev. Dr. Miller, Bro. W. K. Hervey, Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire; Dr. Bowes, Provincial Grand Master of Hertfordshire; Dr. Foster Gough, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire; Colonel Mason, Dr. Bell Fletcher, Mr. Kynnersley (Stipendary Magistrate of Birmingham), Dr. Birt Davies (Coroner for Birmingham), Mr. Sampson Lloyd Foster, &c. During luncheon, which was served by Mr. Avery, of Bull-street, the band of the Birmingham Rifle Corps played a selection of music; and in the course of the evening several pieces of vocal music were well rendered by a choir led by Mr. Stockley, of Birmingham.

The loyal toasts having been drunk, and that of "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers" having been responded to by Colonel Howe, Captain Acklom, and Colonel Mason.

Captain Burges proposed "The Clergy and Ministers of Religion," and in doing so alluded to the harmonious working for good on the part of the ministers of all denominations in Birmingham. With this toast were coupled the names of the Rev. Dr. Miller and the Rev. Dr. Mackenzie.

The Rev. Dr. MILLER, in responding, said he did so as a representative not only of the clergy there, but of ministers not present, who were not insensible to the respect paid their body in the invitation to a portion of its numbers to take part in the proceedings of that day. He had come there with some degree of curiosity. (Laughter.) He had come there to watch the proceedings, in the hope that he might learn something of the mystery of Freemasonry; but he had to confess that up to that time he had been entirely disappointed. (Laughter.) He perceived, however, that there was a good deal of craft in the Craft. They had done what even the Mayor of Birmingham did not venture to do last week—they had broken in upon the custom of allowing the ladies to look on while the gentlemen were eating; and he really believed that was nothing but a subtle device to reconcile the ladies to the secrets of Freemasonry. (Laughter and applause.) He felt fully persuaded that the ladies there, and the ladies elsewhere who heard what he had stated, would say that Dr. Miller was quite right. ("No, no," and laughter.) He could not see that either in private or public life Freemasons were very different from other men; yet as he believed one of the articles was the universal brotherhood of the human family, and that greatest of Christian graces—charity—he was sure that all ministers of religion would approve of their objects; and he himself was very much obliged to them for the invitation given him to be present on that occasion. He supposed there were some secret benefits enjoyed, in the entire absence of the fairer sex (laughter), of which they were not cognizant. He had been sorely tempted to join the brotherhood and know what they were, but he had resisted the persuasions of even Adjutant M'Innis; and he thought the man who had resisted Adjutant M'Innis must remain uninitiated for the rest of his life. (Laughter and applause.)

The CHAIRMAN proposed "The Mayor, Magistrates, and Corporation."

The Mayor briefly returned thanks.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed "The Most Worshipful the Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland; the Deputy Grand Master, Earl de Grey and Ripon; and the Grand Lodge of England." He said they knew Lord Zetland as one who had filled the office he now held for twenty-three years, while Earl de Grey and Ripon was greatly distinguished in public life. He had great pleasure in coupling with the toast the name of Lord Howe, who had been their Provincial Grand Master for several years, and who had been most liberal in respect of the disposal of the land required for their building.

Bro. HERVEY returned thanks on behalf of the Grand Lodge of England.

The CHAIRMAN next proposed "The Health of the Provincial Grand Master, Lord Leigh." He said the toast was not one which required many observations from him; for, as Lord-Lieutenant of Warwickshire, they knew Lord Leigh had done all in his power for the good of the county. He had always had great pleasure in working with his Lordship as Deputy Grand Master, and he thought they would all agree with him that they had a most excellent Provincial Grand Master. (Applause.)

Lord LEIGH, in returning thanks, said that seldom since he had filled his present office had it been his fortune to perform a duty with more pleasure than he had performed that of to-day; and he rejoiced that that ceremony had taken place, for it showed that Freemasonry had increased, and was increasing in that borough. (Loud applause.) He only regretted that

Lord Howe was not able to be present to undertake a duty which he would have performed so much better than he (Lord Leigh) could have done; and he regretted the absence, also, of Earl de Grey and Ripon, whose duties throughout the year were so heavy that he could not spare time to attend here, and so break in on the holiday allowed him. Dr. Miller had very boldly said that the ladies' hearts were not with them; but he would say that the ladies were always with the cause of charity. (Applause.) Their brotherhood was one of harmony and love and charity, with which the ladies were entirely satisfied; and he would appeal to all married Masons present, in support of his assertion, that their wives would not attempt to screw the secret out of them. (Applause.) He could assure them that during his married life his wife had never for one moment attempted to screw the secret out of him. (Laughter and applause.) It was the only secret he had kept from her. (Laughter.) She subscribed to the Masonic School—she had that much confidence in them—and he hoped her example would induce others to do likewise. (Applause.)

Lord LEIGH again rose, and proposed the health of the chairman, expressing his pleasure at the way in which he had performed his duties of Deputy Provincial Grand Master. He had, for his own part, to thank the officers generally for the kindness he had always received from them. He rejoiced to find their chairman in such good health and recovered from the effects of his late accident, in which he had the sympathy of all who knew him. (Hear, hear.) He proposed "The Health of the Deputy Provincial Grand Lodge of Warwickshire."

Mr. SHERIDAN returned thanks, and concluded by presenting Lord Leigh with the trowel used in laying the foundation stone.

Other toasts followed before the company departed.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING.

In the early spring plans were submitted in competition for these buildings, and the designs sent in by Mr. Naden and Mr. Holmes were selected conjointly, and those gentlemen were directed to amalgamate the best parts of their designs, and together work out a complete building. But there was great difficulty in practically carrying out these instructions; and after several preliminary sketches had been made, Mr. Naden and Mr. Holmes mutually agreed upon terms to separate, Mr. Holmes, with the sanction of the board of directors, retaining the appointment of architect to the company. The directors finally adopted the plans and designs of Mr. Holmes, arranged almost entirely as in his original competition drawings, the position of the entrances, staircases, Grand Lodge Room, and Grand Banqueting Hall, and kitchen offices being identical. The style of the building will be, in accordance with the instructions to competitors, strictly classical, the exterior of the Grand Lodge room being treated with somewhat of the Greek severity of manner, while the interior will display more freedom. The grand entrance will be in New-street, at the upper end of the frontage, under an entablature and pediment filled with emblematic sculpture, and supported on consoles and polished red granite columns. This will lead into a spacious vestibule, from which the smaller lodge rooms and the separate staircase to club and Grand Lodge room and banqueting hall will be approached. The smaller lodge rooms are to be each 28 feet by 25 feet, and 16 feet high. These rooms will be on the mezzanine floor, fronting Post Office-place, which is to be continued into Pinfold-street, but in consequence of the rapid rise that thoroughfare will have from Pinfold-street, these rooms will be entered almost on a level with New-street. The rooms will be decorated with pilasters and cornices, and panelled ceilings, and lighted from Post Office-place. They are so designed that as occasion may require they may be converted into one large room, 56ft. by 25ft. At the end of one room will be an organ chamber, and at the end of this the regalia room. The lodge rooms are to be entered from spacious lobbies, and anterooms, or porches, and adjoining will be a preparing room to each lodge room, and a large fire-proof muniment room, to contain the records of all the lodges. At the end of the vestibule before mentioned will be a second vestibule, and on the left hand of this the grand stairs to banqueting hall, which is to be on the first floor, immediately over the smaller lodge rooms and lobbies, &c. The staircase will be wide, lighted from the top by a handsome domed light. The walls will be partly panelled and partly pierced with arcades, supported on piers and columns, with carved stone capitals. An

anteroom opposite top of stairs is to be entered from a vestibule, and on right of this vestibule will be the principal entrance into banquetting hall, which will be a noble room 71ft. 6in. long, 40ft. wide, and 32ft. high. The hall will be divided by polished marble detached columns on each side into five bays. The columns will stand on surbases, and have Caen stone carved capitals founded on the Corinthian type, and carrying the entablature of the Order. From this will rise an attic moulding, springing from which will be an elliptical ceiling richly panelled and coffered. The hall will be lighted by five wide and lofty windows, between the columns the windows will be divided in the height by the entablatures, the upper parts being semicircular headed, and rising into the covered ceiling, which will be groined to receive the windows, while from the centre of the groins a bold ornament will spring, from which the gassiers will hang on each side. A raised orchestra with a semicircular arched front will form an imposing feature at the end of the hall. A corridor, leading to the retiring rooms, adjoining three sides, will give access to an additional means of exit in case of alarm. The Grand Lodge room will be over the banquetting-hall, and of similar length and breadth, and 28ft. high. It also will be divided into five bays by triple pilasters instead of columns. The pilasters carry an entablature. The centre part of ceiling will be flat and coffered, and curved panelled sides will connect it with the cornice. This room will be lighted by five side windows, and also from the top, when required, through ornamental glass in the coffers. Ample preparing and regalia rooms, with porches, will adjoin. The Grand Banquetting Hall and Grand Lodge and smaller lodge rooms can be shut off completely from the rest of the building, and separately from each other, when requisite. The portion of the building on the first, second, and third floor, facing New-street, and a part facing Post Office-place, will be set apart for the purpose of the club. This portion will have a separate grand staircase from the entrance vestibule on ground floor, and will contain on the first floor a reading and writing-room, 40ft. by 28ft., and 16ft. high, and two card-rooms adjoining; on the second floor a dining-room similar in size to the reading-room, a strangers' dining-room, 22ft. 6in. by 13ft. 6in., and a private dining-room, 26ft. 6in. by 13ft. 6in., each 16ft. high. On the third floor two billiard-rooms, each 28ft. by 19ft., and a card-room 22ft. by 13ft. 6in., all 16ft. high.

#### YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

SCARBOROUGH.—*Old Globe Lodge* (No. 200).—This lodge was opened in due form on the evening of the 20th Sept. inst., by Bro. James Frederick Spur, P.M., who occupied the chair during the unavoidable absence of Bro. W. B. Stewart, W.M. There were present Bros. W. Bean, P.M.; H. C. Martin, P.M. Hon. Sec.; H. A. Williamson, S.W.; J. Hargreaves, J.W.; W. Peacock, S.D.; S. Gibson, J.D.; J. Verity, I.G.; Bros. Ash and Saunders, Tylers; and others, amongst whom we observed the following visitors:—Bros. Charles R. Codd, of the Minerva Lodge, Hull, formerly a member of this lodge; H. Elders, 643; W. Hanks, 643; A. S. Swan, 200; E. Junting, 101; F. Croxton, 467; W. Sheard, 971; W. Hartley, W.M. 263. The lodge was opened in the first degree, when the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and Mr. Woodall (of Seamer) was duly initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry. The lodge was then opened in the second and third degrees, and Bro. J. M. Crosby was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. The W.M. observed that the next Provincial Grand meeting for the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire would be held at Scarborough on the 4th of October next, at two o'clock in the afternoon, after which there would be a banquet at the Assembly Rooms in Huntriss-row, dinner tickets five shillings each, and he hoped the brethren would make it convenient to attend. The lodge was then duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment provided by Bro. J. Chapman, and the rest of the evening was spent in perfect harmony.

#### MARK MASONRY.

##### DEVONSHIRE.

MORICE TOWN, DEVONPORT.—*St. Aubyn Lodge* (No. 64).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Monday evening last, the 25th inst., when four candidates were duly bal-

loted for, accepted, and advanced, and expressed their desire to be enrolled contributing members. The annual report of the audit committee was read, received, and adopted. Bro. the S.W. was put in nomination, and unanimously elected the W.M. for the year ensuing, and the present Treasurer and Tyler were re-elected. The new by-laws, as approved by the General Board, having been distributed, and no further business offering, the lodge was closed with usual prayers.

#### CHANNEL ISLANDS.

##### JERSEY.

ST. AUBIN'S LODGE (No. 958).—The regular monthly meeting was held at the Masonic rooms on Tuesday, the 19th inst., under the presidency of Bro. E. C. Malet de Carteret, W.M. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for the admission of Bro. Dr. R. G. F. Smith, P.M. 342, as a joining member, which was unanimous in his favour. The W.M. read a letter from the Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Masonic Temple at St. Helier, soliciting the co-operation of the brethren in preparation for a bazaar, to be held in the building. As many of the members were absent from the meeting, the secretary was requested in the issue of the next circulars to endeavour to obtain a full attendance, with a view to consideration of the subject. The I.P.M., with the assistance of the brethren, worked the last section of the second lecture and the first section of the third lecture. The lodge was closed at a quarter to nine, and the brethren and visitors adjourned for refreshment, breaking up an hour later.

#### Poetry.

##### LINES ON THE LATE LAMENTED DEATH OF HER LADYSHIP THE COUNTESS OF ZETLAND.

*Addressed most respectfully to her sorrowing husband, the M.W. the Grand Master, by a Brother Freemason who sympathises deeply with his lordship's affliction.*

One who has passed thro' the anguish before thee  
Can feel for the desolate void in thine heart;  
Ah! vainly we say that "we will not deplore thee,"  
When ties of affection are sundered apart.

O'erwhelm'd by the shock of thus painfully losing  
A partner whose life was the joy of thine own;  
Oh, what to the mourner, all comfort refusing—  
Oh, what in this world for that loss can alone?

Yet endeavour, tho' suffering, with calm resignation,  
To meet the affliction that falls to thy share;  
Thy bereavement—tho' truly a sad visitation  
Is a trial the Almighty has sent thee to bear.

Then strive for the sake of the lov'd ones remaining,  
To raise up thy soul from the abyss of grief,  
And still whilst a hallow'd remembrance restraining  
Put thy trust in the Saviour to send thee relief.

And look forward with hope to the bliss of a meeting  
In the land which thy lov'd one hath entered before,  
Where she waits to receive thee with heavenly greeting;  
And love's blended heartstrings are sever'd no more.

ANGER is the most impotent passion that influences the mind of man; it effects nothing it undertakes; and hurts the man who is possessed by it, more than the object against which it is directed.

### Obituary.

#### BRO. FARNCOMB.

On the 23rd inst., at his residence, Rose-hill, Forest-hill, Surrey, in his eighty-seventh year, died Bro. Thomas Farncomb, formerly Alderman of the Ward of Babsishaw, and Lord Mayor of the City of London 1849-50. During his year of office, Bro. Farncomb invited a large number of his brethren to a splendid banquet at the Mansion House. The example has not been followed.

### THE WEEK.

**THE COURT.**—The Queen, accompanied by Princess Helena and attended by Lady Churchill and Lieut.-General the Hon. C. Grey, rode over the hill to Invermark, where her Majesty slept on Tuesday night, the 19th inst., at Lord Dalhousie's shooting lodge, and returned to Balmoral the same way on Wednesday evening, the 20th. Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse, Princess Helena, and Princess Beatrice, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, honoured the Braemar gathering with their presence on the afternoon of the 21st. Their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse, Princess Helena, Princess Louise, and Princess Beatrice went to a dance given by the Prince of Wales at Abergeldie on the evening of the 22nd. The Queen, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses the Princess of Wales, Princess Louis of Hesse, and Princess Louise, drove to the Lynn of Quolch, and returned by Mar Lodge to the Castle on the 26th.

**GENERAL HOME NEWS.**—The weekly return of the Registrar-General shows that the mortality in London is below the average by about 110. During the week four deaths from cholera are reported, but as the Registrar-General observes, "cases occur sporadically every week in summer in every country of Europe and Asia." During the last ten weeks there have been 127 deaths from cholera in London; but this is nothing extraordinary, and is indeed believed to be less than in many other cities of Europe. The births too are again in excess of the average. The rate of mortality is less in London than in any of the great cities of the kingdom, except Bristol; Dublin and Birmingham are next; Hull having a death rate of sixty per cent and Salford fifty, greater than the metropolis.—The annual orations were delivered at Christ's Hospital on the morning of the 21st inst. in the presence of the Lord Mayor and others. The young orators distinguished themselves by the ability with which they performed their allotted task, and the subjects of the orations were not of the usual stereotyped kind. Several of the speakers alluded in eloquent and touching language to the death of Mr. Cobden, and one of them passed a high eulogy on President Lincoln, who, he said, died "with the words of mercy on his lips, and with forgiveness at his heart."—Mr. Moens has written to correct an error which has crept into some accounts of his capture by the Neapolitan brigands. He was not travelling on a cross read at the time of his unlucky misadventure, but on the public and much-frequented highway between Pastum and Salerno, the security of which was guaranteed by the Government.—At the Central Criminal Court, on the 21st, a boy named Edward Breeze was charged with setting fire to the premises of his master, William Andrews, a tradesman in New Oxford-street. The offence seems to have been prompted by the prisoner's desire

to be revenged for his dismissal from his employer's service. The judge, as well as the jury, took a merciful view of the case, and his lordship, instead of sending the lad to prison for a long term, ordered him to be privately whipped.—Another case tried was that of Madame Valentin, who was charged with perjury committed in one of the many trials in which she has been engaged. The jury, the reporter says, to the surprise of the court, found her guilty. The Recorder does not seem to approve of the verdict. He postponed passing sentence.—The woman Esther Lack, who murdered her children in Southwark, was also tried. She was acquitted on the ground of insanity. Two persons named Stack, husband and wife, were charged with causing the death of their child by ill-usage. The man was acquitted; the woman, being found guilty, was sentenced to four months' imprisonment.—At the Marlborough-street Police-court, a man named Henry Thomas Durrant, was charged with assaulting a superannuated policeman named Powell. Durrant had gone to Powell's house, struck him, put handcuffs upon him, and tied his legs together. Powell's cries brought assistance, and the prisoner escaped. It seems that Powell is liable to fits of insanity, and that while in one of these his wife got an order from Dr. Clapp for his removal to the workhouse. The workhouse authorities refused to send for him, and his wife induced the prisoner to go into the house and act in the manner described. The magistrate fined Durrant £5, or a month's imprisonment.—A strange case of poisoning has been inquired into at Greenwich, by a coroner's jury, under the direction of Mr. Carttar. Mrs. Elizabeth Reeve, the wife of a veterinary surgeon at Greenwich, was taken ill on Aug. 15th. She was seen by two or three medical men who were brought to her by her husband. They thought she was in labour. She died during the night. Suspicion arose as to the cause of death, and a *post-mortem* examination was proposed. The husband objected unless a medical man was present on his behalf. This condition was finally complied with, but it was seventy-eight hours after death before the examination took place. The intestines were sent to Professor Rodgers, who found in them traces of veratrum, or white hellebore. The medical men were of opinion that this had caused death. The inquest is adjourned, and the husband has been required to enter into sureties for his future appearance.—A youth, named William Chalmers, was brought up at the Clerkenwell Police court charged with embezzling £800 and with arson. The prisoner had taken the money in small sums from his master, Mr. W. Constantine, of New Ormond-street, and squandered it on some woman. When discovery became likely he set fire to his master's office, in order, if possible, to destroy the books and papers which would have shown his guilt. He was remanded for a week.—The authorities have pounced upon a Fenian agent at Sheffield, a man named Quigley, who is said to have resided there for sixteen years. The prisoner was employed as a travelling agent by the brotherhood, and in the interest of the propaganda visited various parts of the Continent. Quigley was sent to Dublin for trial. He seems to have preserved every document that was calculated to ensure his own conviction and to implicate his confederates.—At the Central Criminal Court, on the 22nd, Henry Rickman was tried on a charge of having murdered his paramour, Anne Scott. As it appeared that the woman was a very drunken disorderly person, and that the fatal assault committed by the prisoner had been provoked by her, this charge was abandoned, and the jury convicted him of manslaughter, and strongly recommended him to mercy. He was sentenced to nine months' hard labour.—Mdm. Valentine has been brought up for judgment. A highly-

respectable witness was called to speak to her character, and the prisoner, when asked what she had to say against the passing of sentence, made a speech in which she solemnly affirmed her innocence. The Recorder, who declined to express any opinion upon the propriety of the verdict, but said his duty was simply to give it effect, sentenced her to nine months' hard labour.—The foreigners who are charged with frauds upon people upon the Continent were brought up again at the Mansion House on the 22nd inst. Some interesting evidence was given, and the prisoners were remanded. The female protested strongly against her detention.—Amelia Southernwood, late a chambermaid at the Charing-cross Hotel, was brought up at the Bow-street Police-court to answer a charge of murdering her child. The prisoner had delivered herself of a child and then killed it by jamming its neck in a drawer. She was committed for trial.—*Fenianism continues to attract attention.* On Saturday last some Irish detectives arrested a man named Archdeacon, in Liverpool. He kept a little stationer's shop there; but it is alleged that papers were found in his possession proving his intimate connection with the Fenian organisation. In Ireland there have been one or two more arrests. In Liverpool on Sunday last a wicked hoax was played upon the merchants. One of the papers reported that a vessel, the *Hannah*, on her voyage from America, had sighted a large armed vessel full of men; that this ship threw a shot across the *Hannah's* bows, whereupon the master hoisted American colours; and that on seeing this the armed ship hoisted a Fenian flag and sailed away. This news was calculated to alarm some of those who at Liverpool saw with so much satisfaction the doings of the *Alabama*. It was, however, purely an invention from beginning to end.—Just as the service in St. Andrews's Church, Holborn, was being finished on Sunday evening, some scoundrel in the building called out "Fire." There was much alarm and great crowding, and several persons were more or less injured before the panic could be allayed. The fellow who raised the cry got away, but it is said he left his hat behind him, and that, it is to be hoped, will lead to his detection and punishment.—A very serious accident happened on Saturday morning last at the railway works, Battersea. A number of workmen were employed in building a bridge over a roadway, when suddenly the wooden staging gave way, and several of the men were thrown to the ground, while bricks and beams were showered upon them. One poor fellow named Flood was killed, and others were more or less injured.—The Privy Council have published a most important report from Professor Symonds in reference to the cattle plague. The Professor has been making inquiries into a case where several cows have died on a farm at Blakeney, in Norfolk. The conclusion he comes to is that sheep equally with horned stock are liable to the disease. In this particular case it appears to be beyond doubt that the disease was brought to the farm by a flock of lambs.—William John Storer, who has been committed on the coroner's warrant for the manslaughter of Miss Blake, of Salisbury, was to have been brought before the magistrates on Monday. As he had been committed for trial, however, he could not be brought up without a writ of *habeas corpus*, and therefore no proceedings were taken. In all probability the prisoner will be tried on the coroner's commitment only.—The foreigners who are charged with forging Russian bank-notes were brought up again at the Lambeth Police-court on Monday. After some additional evidence had been given they were committed for trial.—The Mansion House committee for the provision of Sanatoria for diseased cattle have thrown up their work. They met on Tuesday, and complained, first, that

no adequate subscriptions came in, and next that the Government thwarted them in their efforts to provide proper places for the reception and treatment of diseased cattle. They therefore resolved to recommend that no further steps be taken in the matter.—While there have been five arrests at Tralee, no more have taken place in Dublin during the last few days. Archdeacon, the Liverpool Fenian, and Morissey a young apothecary's assistant, were examined on Monday, but no evidence was taken. Archdeacon exhibited great anxiety lest a complimentary letter, addressed to him by the Emperor of the French, which he says was amongst his papers, should be lost. There is a significant rumour that one of the persons apprehended has turned "informer," and that he will give "important information."—The coroner's jury who have been inquiring into the cause of death of Thomas Underline, at Bromley, have returned a verdict of wilful murder against some person or persons unknown. Underline was beaten and kicked by some navvies and died in consequence.—An inquest was held on Tuesday on the body of the man who was killed on Saturday by the fall of a railway arch at Battersea. The evidence seemed to indicate that there had been a want of strength in some of the materials used, and the jury returned a verdict to that effect.—At the Clerkenwell Police-court on Tuesday George Price was charged with having caused the death of his wife. The evidence showed that Mrs. Price had been suffering from disease; that the prisoner refused to give her the means of obtaining even the necessaries of life; that he threatened and abused her; and that he actually refused to allow her to have the comforts which friends provided for her. He was remanded for further examination.—The genuine text of Earl Russell's circular on the Gaslein Convention has been published. It differs only in a few verbal particulars from the version with which the public are already familiar. So that controversy is settled.—Fenianism is supposed to have a hiding place in Leeds. A man named M'Carthy applied on Tuesday for a summons against a fellow-workman, whom he charged with offensive language towards him. The tables, however, were turned against the complainant, and it was alleged that he was a member of the Fenian organisation and the secretary of the Leeds branch, and that on various occasions he had denounced the English Government, and said that the streets might one day run with English blood. Another man was said to be the drill sergeant, but he emphatically denied the imputation, and M'Carthy himself spoke in extremely subdued tones. The Mayor rejected his application for a summons, and dismissed him with a caution.—A ship called the *Accrington* was on fire on Wednesday in the Thames. She had been hauled out of the East India Docks, and was prepared to set sail for Calcutta. Part of her cargo consisted of railway sleepers dressed with creosote. It is said that the vapour from these ignited at a candle taken into the hold by a seaman. At any rate, early in the morning the cargo was found to be on fire, and it was only with great difficulty the flames were subdued. The damage is great.—It is asserted that yellow fever has made its appearance at Swansea, and that Government have sent a medical commissioner to inquire into the matter. A contemporary also reports that a case of cholera has occurred at Southampton. There is no special cause of alarm in this, for probably no summer passes in which there are not isolated cases of death from Asiatic cholera, or some disease closely resembling it.

*FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.*—The Emperor of Austria has issued a remarkable manifesto. He acknowledges that thus far his scheme of united empire has failed, because of the passive resistance of Hungary and Croatia. He therefore offers, for the

ake of conciliation, to lay before the Diets of these countries both the Diploma of October, 1860, and the Patent of February, 1861. In other words, he now submits to the discussion and decision of these Diets the whole constitution which hitherto he had insisted on their accepting. If however, they should in any way modify the constitution, the alteration must be submitted to the judgment of the other parts of the empire. During these proceedings the operation of the constitution through the present Reichsrath remains suspended. The Government will act on its own responsibility in the interval. We need hardly point out the importance of this unexpected concession to the resistance of the non-German provinces. —The *Moniteur* knocks on the head all the rumours about changes in the *personnel* and policy of the French Government to begin on the 14th of October. However the report got abroad, there can be no doubt that it took strong possession of the journalistic mind of Paris. Our correspondent in Paris several times warned our readers to put no faith in it, and the *Moniteur* now confirms his warning. —A new Austrian loan is, it appears, to be contracted for. We should think the success of the loan can hardly be assured until Europe learns what the decision of the Hungarian Diet is likely to be on the offer of conciliation which the Emperor has thrown out. —Some foolish Englishman, it appears, has been writing a threatening letter to Count von Bismarck. At least the Berlin papers are authorised to publish a letter signed "A Briton," bearing the London postmark, and dated "15th Sept.," which threatens the Prussian Prime Minister with "a thrashing" should he ever show his face in England. Silly practical jokers forget that a sort of capital is made out of such follies by the person to whom they are addressed. —Lord Russell would put a stop to a weary and perplexing controversy if he would tell the world at once whether he did or did not write the circular on the Gastein Convention which has been attributed to him, and on which we all commented. The *Nord* insists that the published text is a mere invention; other Continental papers as firmly maintain that it is authentic. We at home can only wonder and wait. —Some German papers see in the Emperor of Austria's manifesto only a scheme to get rid, for the present, of the inconvenience of constitutional government in Austria itself. The Ministry had hard work last session to get the Reichsrath to come to any terms about the budget, and it is urged that they would be very glad to have a short interval of arbitrary rule to pull through their difficulties without awkward questionings and objections. But though this theory is quite worth mentioning, we are not disposed to adopt it. The manifesto appears to us to have been issued in good faith—with the hope of bringing about somehow a compromise absolutely necessary for the stability of the empire. Should the negotiations fail it is believed that the constitution of the western provinces will be allowed to remain intact. —The Madrid papers state that it is believed that that city will wholly escape the visitation of cholera. —Explanations on the subject of the new Austrian loan have been published. —The King of Prussia is about to pay a visit immediately to his new province of Lauenburg. He is to be accompanied by his guide, philosopher, and friend, the Count von Bismarck. —The Roman Minister of War, Mgr. de Merode, has made the death of General Lamoriciere the subject of an order of the day to the Pontifical army. The order is of course a panegyric, but it states that Lamoriciere was only awaiting a favourable opportunity of again offering his life in the Papal cause. We really, *pace* Mgr. de Merode, can hardly credit this. —From Rome we have received, and we publish, some alleged official documents to prove the complicity of the Papal

Government in the brigandage system. We do not doubt the complicity, but we do doubt the authenticity of these documents. —The King of the Greeks has announced his intention to dispense with a third of the civil list, in order to relieve the embarrassments of the Treasury. —Spain and Peru have formally renewed their diplomatic relationship. The Spanish Minister was received by the Peruvian President, and the Madrid papers publish reports of the courteous speeches interchanged on the occasion. —A strange story of Prussian police government in Posen is published. A little boy of nine was formally charged with having spoken slander of the Police President, and was arrested, brought before a police magistrate, threatened with incarceration and the stick if he did not confess, and treated generally as a mature culprit might be by a Turkish Cadi. The child's father has addressed a memorial on the subject to the Prussian Minister of the Interior. —Lamartine is publishing a "Life of Byron" as a *feuilleton* in the *Constitutionnel*. Two chapters have already appeared. Thus far the style seems turgid and weak. Remarking on Byron's early years, Lamartine tells that the poet fell in love when a child of eight, and adds that Dante conceived his immortal passion for Beatrice at eleven, and that he himself—Alphonse de Lamartine, was similarly affected at ten years old. This is characteristic—Byron, Dante, and "myself."

AMERICA.—The *Africa* has brought an item or two of American intelligence, her dates being to the 14th inst. President Johnson has given a public assurance to the Southern States that he will adopt a conciliatory policy towards them; and it is clear, from the order which is about to be given—to withdraw from the South all troops except those which are engaged in garrison duty—and from the restoration of the civil authority in all matters save those affecting the status of the negro, that the President is determined to exercise the utmost clemency consistent with the re-establishment of order and the abolition of slavery. The *Peruvian*, with dates from New York to the 10th inst., has arrived. The Massachusetts Republican Convention, with Senator Sumner at its head, had declared strongly for the exclusion of the Southern States from Congress until the negro had been invested with the suffrage. According to the British gunboat *Urgent*, the Atlantic cable buoys have disappeared from the place where they were anchored.

INDIA, CHINA, &c.—Sir Harry Parkes, the new Minister in Japan, is establishing his legation at Yeddo. —Another telegram informs us that the traffic on the East India Peninsular Railway has been stopped by floods but is now resumed. —Direct intelligence from New Zealand confirms the report that General Cameron has resigned the command of the troops in that colony. William Thompson, whose surrender was reported a mail or two ago, has petitioned the Queen to send out a commission of inquiry.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- \* \* \* All communications to be addressed to 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, W.C.  
 E. F. Received with many thanks.  
 F. C. Your communication is unavoidably postponed till our next.  
 J. S.—St. Alban formed the first Grand Lodge in Britain A.D. 287.  
 M. M.—Thanks for your poetic effusion. We shall be happy to hear from you again.  
 S. S.—The Earl of Zetland was elected and installed as Grand Master in 1844.