

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1865.

THE POPE AND FREEMASONRY.

The absurdity of the avalanche of invectives hurled by his Holiness against the class he describes as "vulgarly termed Masonic" almost precludes criticism, but yet it behoves us to make some remarks upon the subject on behalf of the Order.

Matters of religion we touch not upon, except those which are universal amongst Masons, and which include charity and love towards all men; but it appears most iniquitous in our eyes that his Holiness should animadvert upon a class which has ever exerted itself in promoting the advancement of civilization, notwithstanding that the feebleness of the "Allocution" quite certifies in itself that it will receive but little attention on the part of educated men.

In all parts of the world the value of the Masonic Institution is so firmly established that no argument can either hide or hinder its extension. His Holiness complains that the brotherhood develops and extends with impunity; this in itself is an assumption that some wrong is committed by the class which appears so obnoxious to the Papal See.

The institution of Masonry, upholding as it does all intellectual progress, must necessarily be offensive to the ruler of the Vatican, whose empire, ever depending upon the slavery of the mind, now quickly fades—not as did the old Roman Empire, from the luxurious degeneracy of its monarchs, but because the improved education of the multitude reveals to the mass the fallacies of the Papal pseudo-autocracy.

The truly benevolent and christian system supported by the Craft is instanced by the fact of the liberal support which there is rendered to all who need assistance. In every quarter of the globe a Freemason finds friendly aid. His connection with the Order is in itself sufficient to satisfy those who may be in a position to aid him, either by means or influence, if he himself is sincere, and the fact of his being one of the brotherhood is some guarantee.

Those who are acquainted with the statistics of the subscriptions annually received on account of the Masonic Charities can judge of the accordance of deed with profession among the members of the Craft, wherein may be seen a practical confutation of those insinuations which have been substituted

for arguments. Based as the Masonic institutions are upon principles which are in themselves the pillars of Christianity, their foundations stand too firm to be shaken by the attacks of those who, fearing the liberal spirit they attempt to intimidate, endeavour to work upon superstitions scarcely to be found in the most ignorant.

There can be no doubt that Freemasonry will yet extend "*with impunity*," notwithstanding the carking of those who fear its influence in promoting civilization and destroying that servile bondage desired by a degenerate priesthood; but yet the Order is, to use the words of the poet,

"Like some tall cliff that lifts its awful form,
Swells from the vale, and midway leaves the storm,
Around its base though clouds and tempests spread,
Eternal sunshine settles on its head."

CLASSICAL THEOLOGY.—LXXXI.

XI.—JUNO AND JANUARY.

Virgil says, in praise of a country life, in his Second Georgics (line 798),—

"Happy the man, who, studying nature's laws,
Through known effects can trace the secret cause—
His mind possessing in a quiet state,
Fearless of Fortune and resign'd to Fate!
And happy, too, is he, who decks the bowers
Of Sylvans, and adores the rural powers—
Whose mind, unmoved, the bribes of courts can see,
Their glitt'ring baits, and purple slavery;
Nor hopes the people's praise, nor fears their frown,
Nor when contending kindred tear the crown,
Will set up one, or pull another down."

We believe Juno to have been no friend of the Trojans, but it would seem by the "Royal Seer's" advice to Æneas, the name of Juno was of great moment. Thus Dryden recites, in the third Æneis,—

"The prophet first with sacrifice adores
The greater gods; their pardon then implores.
Besides, if faith to Helenus be due,
And if prophetic Phœbus tell me true,
Do not this precept of your friend forget,
Which, therefore, more than once I must repeat.
Above the rest great Juno's name adore.
Pay vows to Juno; Juno's aid implore;
Let gifts be to the mighty queen designed
And mollify with prayers her haughty mind."

In fact, Juno is often mentioned in the Æneiad, and had much to do with the adventures of its heroes. Through Juno's jealous dislike of Æneas we are told, she would soon have brought him to an untimely end, had not the great Father of Light and Ruler of Destiny decreed differently. Venus has sketched, according to the poet, the portrait of her rival Juno, to Neptune thus addressed:—

"The pride of Jove's imperious queen, the rage,
The malice, which no sufferings can assuage,
Compel me to these prayers; since neither fate,
Nor time, nor pity, can remove her hate.
E'en Jove is thwarted by his haughty wife;
Still vanquished, yet she still renews the strife."

* * *
"She persecutes the ghosts of Troy with pains,
And gnaws e'en to the bones the last remains.
Let her the cause of her hatred tell;
But you can witness its effects too well."

But let us pass on to some other of her acts, as recounted in the poem.

"Sublime on stately steeds the Trojans borne,
To their expecting lord with peace return;
But jealous Juno from Pachynus height,
As she from Argos took her airy flight,
Beheld with envious eyes this stirring sight.
She saw the Trojan and his joyful train,
Descend upon the shore, desert the main,
Design a town, and, with unhoped success,
Ambassadors return with promised peace.
Then, pierced with pain, she shook her haughty head,
Sighed from her inmost soul, and thus she said:
'O, hated offspring of Phrygian foes!
O, fates of Troy, who Juno's fates oppose!
Could they not fall unpitied on the plain,
But slain, revive, and taken, 'scape again
When execrable Troy in ashes lay,
Through fires, and swords, and seas they forced their way.
Then vanquished Juno must in vain contend;
Her rage disarm'd, her empire at an end!'"

* * *
"On Tiber's shores they land, secure of fate,
Triumphant o'er the storms of Juno's hate!
Mars could in mutual blood the centaur bathe,
And Jove himself gave way to Cynthia's wrath,
Who sent the dusky boar to Calydon—
What great offence had either people done?
But I, the consort of the Thunderer,
Have waged a long and unsuccessful war,
With various arts and arms in vain have toil'd,
And by a mortal man at length am foil'd.
If native power prevail not, shall I doubt
To seek for needful succour from without?
If Jove and Heaven my just desires deny,
Hell shall the power of Heaven and Jove supply.
Grant that the fates have 'firm'd by their decree
The Trojan race to reign in Italy;
At least I can't defer the nuptial day,
And with protracted wars the peace delay;
With blood the dear alliance shall be bought.
And both the people near destruction brought."

Thus, and much to the same intent, having said,
in a few words more, we are told she sank be-
neath the ground with furious haste.

"To rouse Alecto from th' infernal seat
Of her dire sisters, and their dark retreat,
This fury, fit for her intent, she chose
One who delights in wars and human woes."

Her, relates the *Æneiad*, Juno finds, and thus in-
cites her to her purpose—

"O, virgin daughter of eternal night,
Give me this once thy labour to sustain

My right, and execute my just disdain.
Let not the Trojans, with a feigned pretence
Of proffer'd peace, delude the Latian prince;
Expel from Italy that odious name,
And let not Juno suffer in her fame.
'Tis thine to ruin realms, o'erturn a state,
Betwixt the dearest friends to raise debates,
And kindle kindred blood to mutual hates.
Thy hand o'er towns the funeral torch displays,
And forms a thousand ills ten thousand ways;
Now shake from out thy fruitful breast the seeds
Of envy, discord and cruel deeds;
Confound the peace established and prepare
Their souls to hatred, and their hands to war.
Smeared as she was with black Gorgonean blood,
The fury sprang above the Stygian flood,
And on her wicker wings, sublime through night,
She to the Latian palace took her flight."

Virgil has made Juno, as we see, the personifi-
cation of jealousy, Alecto hate in person, and
Jupiter in himself absolute justice; as for instance,
according to the poem, in his rebuke of the pro-
ceedings of Juno, rehearsed by Venus pleading
for her son, *Æneas*, that beauteous boy, thus so
beautifully described:—

"Amid the press appeared the beauteous boy,
The care of Venus and the hope of Troy;
His lovely face unarmed, his head was bare,
In ringlets o'er his shoulders hung his hair,
His forehead circled with a diadem;
Distinguished from the crowd he shines a gem,
Enchased in gold, or polished ivory set
Amidst the meaner soil of sable jet."

Then thus in council of the exalted deities, to
both replied the imperial god—

"Celestials! your attentive ears incline!
Since, said the god, the Trojans may not join
In wish'd alliance with the Latian line—
Since endless jarrings and immortal hate
Tend but to discompose our happy state,
The war henceforth shall be resigned to fate—
Each to his proper fortune stand or fall:
Equal and unconcerned I look on all;
Rutulians, Trojans are the same to me,
And both shall draw the lots their fates decree.
Let these assault, if fortune be their friend;
And if she favour those, let those defend;
The fates shall find a way."

We are aware, nevertheless, to the taunts of
Æneas, Turnus rejoined,

"No threats of thine my manly breast can move;
'Tis hostile heaven I dread, and partial Jove."

For he bore in mind, and it is to be borne in mind,
the answer of the Founder of Mankind to Saturnia,
his consort, when, according to her suitable advice,
herein expressed, that

"Latium be Latium still let Alba reign,
And Rome's immortal majesty remain."

He decreed still not unfavourable to Venus:—

"All shall be Latium; Troy without a name,
And her lost sons forget from whence they came."

From blood so mixed a pious race shall flow,
Equal to gods, excelling all below.
No nation more respect to you shall pay,
No greater offerings on your altars lay."

To this, we are informed,

"Juno consents, well pleased that her desires
Had found success, and from the cloud retires."

We will now select another quotation from the poem before us, for the sake of Virgil's sketch of Juno, by the mouth of Venus, thus classically embodied and addressed to Jupiter,—

"Power immense! eternal energy!
(For to what else protection can we fly?)
Seest thou the proud Rutulians, how they dare
In fields, unpunished, to insult my care?
How lofty Turnus vaunts amidst his train
In shining arms triumphant o'er the plain?
E'en in their lines and trenches they contend,
And scarce their walls the Trojan troops defend;
The town is filled with slaughter, and o'erfloats
With a red carnage their increasing moats.
Æneas, ignorant, and far from thence,
Has left a camp exposed without defence.
This endless outrage shall they still sustain?
Shall Troy renewed be fired and fired again?
A second siege my banished issue fears,
And a new Diomed in arms appears.
One more audacious mortal will be found;
And I, thy daughter, wait another wound:
Yet if with fates averse, without thy leave,
The Latini lands my progeny receive,
Bear they the pains of violated law
And thy protection from their aid withdraw.
But, if the gods their sure success fortell—
If those of heaven consent with those of hell
To promise Italy—who dare debate
The power of Jove, or fix another fate?
What should I tell of tempests on the main,
Of Æolus usurping Neptune's reign?
Of Iris sent, with Bacchanalian heat,
To inspire the matrons, and destroy the fleet?
Now Juno to the Stygian sky descends;
Solicits hell for aid, and arms the fiends!
That new example wanted yet above—
An act that well became the wife of Jove!
Alecto, raised by her, with rage inflames
The peaceful bosoms of the Latian dames.
Imperial sway no more exalts my mind—
Such hopes I had, indeed, while heaven was kind.
Now, let my happier foes possess my place,
Whom Jove prefers before the Trojan race;
And conquer they whom you with conquest grace:
Since you can spare, from all your wide command,
No spot of earth, no hospitable land,
Which may my wandering fugitives receive,
Since haughty Juno will not give you leave.
Then father (if I still may use that name)
By ruined Troy, yet smoking from the flame,
I beg you, let Ascanius by my care
Be freed from danger, and dismissed the war;
Inglorious let him live without a crown:
The father may be cast on coasts unknown,
Struggling with fate; but let me save the son."

Be it here likewise remembered how King Latimus had entertained Æneas, and had promised him his only daughter and heiress, Lavinia, beloved by Turnus, who, favoured by her mother, and incited by Juno and her accomplice Alecto, breaks the treaty and caused the quarrel and the war. Venus goes on to say—

"Mine is Cythera, mine the Cyprian towers:
In those recesses, and those sacred bowers,
Obscurely let him rest; his right resign
To promised empire and his Julian line.
Then Carthage may the Ausonian towns destroy,
Nor fear the race of a rejected boy.
What profits it, my son, to 'scape the fire,
Armed with his gods, and loaded with his sire;
To pass the perils of the sea and wind,
Evade the Greeks, and leave the war behind,
To reach the Italian shores, if, after all,
Our second Pergamus is doomed to fall?
Much better had he curb'd his high desires,
And hovered o'er his still extinguished fires.
To Simois' banks the fugitives restore,
And give them back to war, and all the ills before."

We have had modern poets, but the ancient ones perhaps were less particular, in putting words into the mouths of their deities, as might best suit their purpose. Juno severely retorts throughout, up to the peroration in which we find her saying, with swelling heart,—

"But 'tis my crime—the queen of heaven offends
If she presumes to save her suffering friends.
Your son, not knowing what his foes decree,
You say is absent; absent let him be.
Yours is Cytheria, yours the Cyprian towers,
The soft recesses and the sacred bowers.
Why do you then these needless wars prepare,
And thus provoke a people prone to war?
Did I with fire the Trojan town deface,
Or hinder from return your exiled race?
Was I the cause of mischief, or the man
Whose lawless lust the fatal war began?
Think on whose faith the adulterous youth relied;
Who promised, who procured the Spartan bride?
When all the united states of Greece combined,
To purge the world of the perfidions kind,
Then was your time to fear the Trojan fate—
Your quarrels and complaints are now too late."

Jupiter, however, as we have stated, thought contrariwise, and to Juno spoke pointing out to her in particular

"While leave was given thee, and a lawful hour
For vengeance, wrath, and unresisted power,
Toss'd on the seas thou couldst thy foes distress,
And driven ashore, with hostile arms oppress,
Deform the royal house, and from the side
Of the just bridegroom tear the plighted bride—
Now cease at my command."

We all know, although with "dejected eyes" the imperial goddess did not forget the becoming majesty of Juno in answering like a wise and

prudent wife. The dread decree of Jupiter she confessed she knew too well, and therefore she replied :—

"Else should you not behold me here alone,
Envolv'd in empty clouds, my friend bemoan
But girt with vengeful flames, in open sight,
Engaged against my foes in mortal fight."

But thus, after a few more words, she continues—

"Yet now resign'd to your superior might,
And tired with fruitless toils I loathe the fight.
This let me beg (and this no fates withstand)
Both for myself and for your father land ;
That when the nuptial bed shall bind the peace
(Which I, since you ordain, consent to bless),
The laws of either nation be the same ;
But let the Latians still retain their name ;
Speak the same language which they spoke before ;
Wear the same habits which their father wore.
Call them not Trojans ; perish the renown
And name of Troy, with that detested town.
Latium be Latium still, let Alba reign ;
And Rome's immortal majesty remain."

To this, as we have said, Jupiter agrees, Turnus challenges Æneas, and in single combat is killed, of course, by the assistance of Venus. Thus we are informed the beautiful young Æneas wins the lovely young Lavinia, and the Trojans gain and commence their reign in Italy.

ADVANCEMENT OF CANDIDATES.

Nothing can be more certain than that the proper qualifications of a candidate for admission into the mysteries of Freemasonry and the necessary proficiency of a Mason who seeks advancement to a higher degree, are the two great bulwarks which are to protect the purity and integrity of our institution. Indeed, we know not which is the most hurtful, to admit a candidate who is unworthy, or to promote a candidate who is ignorant of his first lessons. The one affects the external, the other the internal character of the institution. The one brings discredit upon the Order among the profane, who already regard us, too often, with suspicion and dislike ; the other introduces ignorance and incapacity into our ranks, and dishonours the science of Masonry in our own eyes. The one covers our walls with imperfect and worthless stones, which mar the outward beauty and impair the strength of our temple ; the other fills our interior apartments with confusion and disorder, and leaves the edifice, though externally strong, both inefficient and inappropriate for its destined use.

But to the candidate himself, a too rapid advancement is often attended with the most disastrous effects. As in geometry, so in Masonry, there is no "royal road" to perfection. A knowledge of its principles and its science, and consequently an acquaintance with its beauties, can only be acquired by long and diligent study. To the careless observer it seldom offers, at a hasty glance,

much to attract his attention or to secure his interest. The gold must be deprived, by careful manipulation, of the dark and worthless ore which surrounds and envelopes it before its metallic lustre can be seen and appreciated.

Hence the candidate who passes rapidly through his degrees, without a due examination of the moral and intellectual purposes of each, arrives at the summit of our edifice, without a due and necessary appreciation of the general symmetry and connection that pervades the whole system. The candidate, thus hurried through the elements of our science, and unprepared, by a knowledge of its fundamental principles, for the reception and comprehension of the corollaries which are to be deduced from them, is apt to view the whole system as "a rude and indigested mass" of frivolous ceremonies and puerile conceits, whose intrinsic value will not pay him for the time, the trouble, and expense that he has incurred in his forced initiation. To him, Masonry is as incomprehensible as was the veiled statue of Isis to its blind worshippers, and he becomes, in consequence, either a useless drone in our hive, or speedily retires in disgust from all participation in our labours.

But the candidate who, by slow and painful steps, has proceeded through each apartment of our mystic temple, from its porch to its sanctuary, pausing in his progress to admire the beauties and to study the uses of each, learning, as he advances, "line upon line and precept upon precept," is gradually and almost imperceptibly imbued with so much admiration of the institution, so much love for its principles, so much just appreciation of its design as a conservation of Divine Truth, and an agent of human civilisation, that he is inclined on beholding at last the whole beauty of the building, to exclaim, as did the wondering Queen of Sheba, "a Most Excellent Master must have done all this !"

On the other hand, there are many old Masons who know nothing about the morality of Masonry, or what their duties are, for the reason that they never see or hear anything talked about in their lodges except the ritual. The ritual is undoubtedly not to be neglected, inasmuch as it is the medium through which we convey our lessons of symbolism, and by means of which we separate ourselves from the rest of the world, and obtain the means of mutual recognition. But it is, after all, "the weakest part of Masonry." The ritual alone will no more make a true Mason than the manual exercise will make a true soldier. The moral and intellectual teachings of the Order—its intention as a great religious institution, occupied in the search after Divine Truth. We unfortunately know too many Masons, who arrogantly assume a high position among the teachers of the Order, simply because they can open and close a lodge, or confer a degree, with a strict adherence to, and a ready renunciation of, the exact phraseology of

the ritual, and yet who, taken from the beaten track of old routine, are as completely ignorant of the history, the nature and design, and the true symbolism of the Order, as if they had never entered within its portals. It is time that such men should be deprived of the laurels which they have assumed, and be told that something more than a mere knowledge of the words of a ritual are necessary to make a "bright" Mason or a competent teacher in Masonry. Masonry has its science and its literature, and to these the attention of the Masonic student should be directed. The ritual is its alphabet. A knowledge of it is, therefore, it is true, necessary to a full comprehension of its language; but he who has gone no further than the alphabet, however competent he may be to instruct others in the same rudiments, can hardly discharge the duty of a teacher of the science.—*Masonic Record of Western India.*

A FEDERAL MASON IN DANGER.

In the fall of 1864, several squadrons of Federal cavalry went out on a raiding expedition through one of the most Southern States. The expedition was successful, completely so. The enemy had fled before it. Artillery had been captured, hundreds of prisoners, and an indefinite amount of horses, mules, &c. The country had been raided successfully. To the initiated that sentence speaks volumes in itself; it means a country has been devastated, plundered—private property not excepted—a people's feelings aroused to the highest pitch of exasperation, &c. As a general thing, those captured from a raiding party get but sorry treatment. Well, this successful expedition spoken of had been out seven days, and was within one day's march of its home or camp destination, when the enemy who had been following warily, made an attack on the rear of the column, in hopes of recapturing some of the plundered booty, &c. The attack was soon and easily repulsed, but with the loss of one officer and five men to the raiders, which happened on this wise: A little party of six made a dash into the woods after the same number of rebels; the chase became exciting; several miles of ground had been travelled, when the rebels made a stand and showed fight. (The Federal column had passed on its route; the six troopers were not missed until the next day.) The Union soldiers opened on them with carbines and pistols immediately, and thereby emptied six rebel saddles; but the firing brought more troops to the scene of action. Our little party still fired away, until they saw themselves being surrounded; then they attempted to retreat to their column; but, alas! 'twas too late; they were hemmed in on every side; they were raiders—need I say any more? No; my horse threw me from the saddle; he was captured and so was I. When I began to look about me, I found myself between two regiments of Confederate

cavalry; I saw no other Union prisoners besides myself; I was hooted and jeered at; one party rode up to me and demanded my arms, another wanted my spurs, another took a fancy to my coat and hat, but one who considered that coats and hats could be bought with money, modestly requested that I should give him something, if it was only my Yankee manufactured pocket book, with its contents of greenbacks, as he had heard very much about such things, and wished to see some. His wish had to be gratified, but my wish to see the book and its contents again was never gratified. Next, some one suddenly wished to know what time it was, and a special requisition was made for my watch, no objection being made to the chain and ornaments attached. Thus far the privates had their own say; then I loudly protested against giving up my watch, as it had some Masonic engravings upon it, and Masonic ornaments attached to the chain. While pleading for the watch, an officer rode up and overheard a part of the conversation, and understanding that I was a Mason, took the watch from the trooper who had taken it from me and put it in his own pocket, at the same time drawing a revolver and declaring that he would take charge of me and my property; and as the others seemed to demur at it, the officer ordered me to walk ahead of him, at the same time telling the men he would defend me with his life, and that he was bound to do it.

That officer was a Mason, and through his instrumentality my life was spared, for I was informed by one of the men who helped to strip me (some time afterwards), that when they had finished plundering me, I was to have been taken into the woods and shot, as the other prisoners had been. I must here say that my watch and chain were returned to me intact. Before the officer left me he put a guard over me, with strict orders to bring me safely to their head-quarters, while he himself galloped on ahead, and reported a Federal prisoner coming. Shortly after the commanding officer privately gave orders to one of his subordinates to take me into the woods and see that I was shot. As soon as I understood what disposal was to be made of me, I very naturally expostulated upon the unlawfulness of the act about to be perpetrated. In doing so, I gesticulated with my hand. I happened to have on my finger a ring, with the Masonic emblem engraved upon it; the officer saw it, paused suddenly, and asked me two or three Masonic questions. I answered him correctly. That officer was a Mason also, and, when he knew me to be one, he couldn't find it in his heart to execute his order. His commanding officer was likewise a Mason, and, when informed by his subordinate that I was a brother, my life was not only spared, but many little kind attentions were shown me, and within a short time afterwards, through the influence of my Southern Masonic brethren, I was paroled and sent within our lines.

Thus, my brethren, you see, under Divine Providence, Masonry saved my life twice, and released me from a long imprisonment, &c. And while in prison, many of the brethren visited me, and administered unto my wants; and on my return journey through their country, in every town or village I stopped, some brother would inquire if any of their fraternity were among the prisoners. I being the only one, the distinction between myself and the other prisoners was marked, as regards the favours I received, &c. Thus, my brethren, you can see in my case an instance where the divine principles of fraternal love and Masonic charity mitigated the horrors of war, and thereby the more solemnly impressed upon my heart and memory the beauty and glory of that Institution whose pillars have withstood the decay of ages and the convulsions of revolutions, and now stand as firm as when the wise king was divinely inspired to institute the Order.—*National Freemason.*

ON LODGES AND THEIR FURNITURE.

A lodge is the place where all business concerning the society is transacted, and where Masons meet to expatiate on the Craft. When the lodge is revealed to an entering Mason, it discovers to him a representation of the world, in which, from the wonders of nature, we are led to contemplate her great original, and worship him from his mighty works; and we are thereby also moved to exercise those moral and social virtues which become mankind, as the servants of the Great Architect of the World, in whose image we were formed in the beginning.

The Creator, designing to bless man's estate on earth, hath opened the hand of his divine benevolence with good gifts; he hath spread over the world the illumined canopy of heaven: the covering of the tabernacle, and the veil of the temple at Jerusalem, were representations of the celestial hemisphere, and were of blue, of crimson, and purple; and such is the covering of our lodges. As an emblem of God's power, his goodness, omnipresence, and eternity, the lodges are adorned with the image of the sun, which he ordained to rise from the east, and open the day; thereby calling forth the people of the earth to their worship, and exercise in the walks of virtue.

Remembering the wonders in the beginning, we, claiming the auspicious countenance of heaven on our virtuous deeds, assume the figures of the sun and moon, as emblematical of the great light and truth discovered to the first man; and thereby implying, that as true Masons we stand redeemed from darkness, and are become the sons of light: acknowledging in our profession, our adoration of him who gave light unto his works. Let us then by our practice and conduct in life show that we

carry our emblems worthily; and as the children of light, that we have turned our backs on works of darkness, obscenity, and drunkenness, hatred and malice, Satan and his dominions; preferring charity, benevolence, justice, temperance, chastity, and brotherly love as the acceptable service on which the great Master of all, from his beatitude, looks down with approbation.

The same divine hand, pouring forth bounteous gifts, which hath blessed us with the sights of his glorious works in the heavens, hath also spread the earth with a bounteous carpet: he hath wrought it in various colours; fruits and flowers, pastures and meads, golden furrows of corn, and shady dales, mountains skirted with nodding forests, and valleys flowering with milk and honey: he hath wrought it as it were in Mosaic work, giving a pleasing variety to the eye of man: he hath poured upon us his gifts in abundance; not only the necessities of life, but also wine to gladden the heart of man, and oil to give him a cheerful countenance: and that he might still add beauty to the scene of life wherein he hath placed us, his highly favoured creatures, he hath skirted and bordered the earth with the ocean; for the wise Creator having made man in his own image, not meaning in the likeness of his person, but spiritually, by breathing into his nostrils the breath of life, and inspiring him with that resemblance of the Divinity, an intellectual spirit; he skirted the land with the ocean, not only for that salubrity which should be derived from its agitation, but also that to the genius of man, a communication should be opened to all the quarters of the earth; and that by mutual intercourse, men might so unite in mutual good works, and all become as members of one society. These subjects are represented in the flooring of the lodge.

The universe is the temple of the Deity whom we serve: wisdom, strength, and beauty are about his throne, as the pillars of his works: for his wisdom is infinite, his strength is in omnipotence, and beauty stands forth through all his creation in symmetry and order: he hath stretched forth the heavens as a canopy, and the earth he hath planted as his footstool; he crowns his temples with the stars, as with a diadem, and in his hand he extendeth the power and the glory; the sun and moon are messengers of his will, and all his law is concord. The pillars supporting the lodge are representative of the divine power.

A lodge where perfect Masons meet, or are assembled, represents the works of the Deity.

We place the spiritual lodge in the vale of Jehosaphat, implying thereby that the principles of Masonry are derived from the knowledge of God, and are established in the judgment of the Lord; the literal translation of the word Jehosaphat, from the Hebrew tongue, being no more than those express words. The highest hills and lowest valleys were from the earliest time esteemed sacred, and it was supposed the spirit of God was

peculiarly diffusive in those places. Upon the top of the mountain, the whole limit thereof round about shall be holy.

The Master of each lodge should found his government in concord and universal love; for as the Great Architect moves the systems with his finger, and touches the spheres with harmony, so that the morning stars together sang the songs of gratitude, and the floods clap their hands, amidst the invariable beauties of order, so should we, rejoicing, be of one accord and of one law, in unanimity, in character, and in affection; moving by one unchanging system, and actuated by one principle, in rectitude of manners.

A Mason, sitting the member of a lodge, claiming these emblems as the testimonies of his Order, ought at that instant to transfer his thoughts to the august scene which is imitated, and remember that he then appears professing himself a member of the great temple of the universe, to obey the laws of the mighty Master of all, in whose presence he seeks to be approved.

An ancient record expresses that the first Masons received their knowledge from God, by which means they are endowed with the due understanding of what is pleasing to him, and the only true method of propagating their doctrines.

As we derived many of our mysteries and moral principles from the doctrines of Pythagoras, who had acquired his learning in Egypt, and others from the Phœnicians, who had received the Egyptian theology in an early age, it is not to be wondered that we should adopt Egyptian symbols to represent or express the attributes of the Divinity.

The Pythagorean system of philosophy also points out to us a reason for the figure of the sun being introduced into the lodge, as being the centre of the planetary system which he taught, as well as the emblem of the Deity which he served. This grand *μεσσηνέω* was a symbol expressing the first and greatest principle of his doctrines. This was also a representation of the Abrax which governed the stellary world and our diurnal revolutions.*

In the books of Hermes Trismegistes, who was an Egyptian, and said to be contemporary with Abraham's grandfather, is this remarkable pas-

* *Ἀβραξᾶ*, Abrax, or Abracar, was a name which Basilides, a religious of the second century, gave to God, who, he said, was the author of 365. The author of this superstition is said to have lived in the time of Adrian, and that it had its name from Abrasan or Abraxas, the denomination which Basilides gave to the Deity. He called him *Κυριος*, i.e., *Jehovah* vel *Dominus*, the supreme God, and ascribed to him seven subordinate powers or angels, who presided over the heavens, and also according to the days in the year, he held that 365 virtues, powers, or intelligences existed as the emanations of God; the value, or numerical distinctions, of the letters in the word, according to the ancient Greek numerals, made 365—

A B P A X A Σ, } = 365.
1, 2, 100, 1, 60, 1, 200 }

sage. Speaking of the Deity, he says,—“But if thou wilt see him, consider and understand the sun, consider the course of the moon, consider the order of the stars. Oh, thou unspeakable, unutterable, to be praised with silence.”

From hence we are naturally led to perceive the origin of the Egyptian symbolisation, and the reason for their adopting those objects, as expressive of the mighty majesty and omnipresence of the Deity.

Posterity, to record the wise doctrines and religious principles of the first professors of the true worship, have adopted these descriptions of the lodge in which they assemble, and maintain those religious tenets which nature dictates, gratitude to him under whom we exist; and working in the acceptable service of him who rejoiceth in the upright man.

As such it is to be a Freemason, or such is a lodge of Masons, as such are the principles of this society, as these were the original institutions of our brotherhood, let the ignorant laugh on, and the wicked ones scoff. And that these are true solutions of our emblems, I am convinced myself; and with humble deference to the rest of my brethren, offer them for their attention.

In every regular assembly of men, who are convened for wise and useful purposes, the commencement and termination of business is attended with some form. Though ceremonies are in themselves of little importance, yet as they serve to engage the attention and to impress the mind with reverence, they must be considered as necessary on solemn occasions. They recall to memory the intent of the association, and banish many of those trifling amusements which too frequently intrude on our less serious moments.

The opening and closing of our lodges may be traced from the most remote period of antiquity. Being founded on a rational basis, the more refined improvements of modern education have not altogether disregarded it; on the contrary, the custom seems still to prevail in every civilised country of the world.

The veneration due to antiquity, setting aside the reasonableness of the practice, would of itself recommend it. To enlarge on the propriety of observing it in this society, which has received the sanction of the earliest ages as well as the patronage of the wisest men in more recent periods, would, I apprehend, be equally needless and unimportant.

The ceremony used at the opening of our assemblies reminds the Master of the dignity of his character, and the brethren of fidelity to their trust. These are not the only advantages resulting from it; a reverential awe for the Deity is inculcated, and the great end of the creation demonstrated. Here we are taught to adore the God who made us, and to supplicate his protection on our well-meant endeavours.

The closing of our meetings teaches us to offer

up the proper tribute of gratitude to the beneficent Author of life ; and here the less important duties of the society are not passed over unobserved. By this ceremony we are taught how to support the regularity of our assemblies, and the necessary degree of subordination which takes place in the government of our lodges. Such is the nature of these ceremonies and their utility, that it becomes our duty never to omit them.

FURNITURE OF THE LODGE.

It is with pleasure I proceed to give solutions of the mysteries in Masonry ; which, to minds inattentive to the real import of the objects in their view, might remain undiscovered, and the professor of Masonry might pass on, without receiving a just sense of those dignities which he has assumed.

I have defined what is intended to be represented by a lodge, and its origin and nature ; it is now my duty to discover to my readers the import of the furniture of a lodge.

As Solomon at Jerusalem carried into the Jewish temple all the vessels and instruments requisite for the service of Jehovah, according to the law of his people ; so we Masons, as workers in moral duties, and as servants of the Great Architect of the World, have placed in our view those emblems which should constantly remind us of what we are, and what is required of us.

The third emanation of Abrax in the Gnostic hierarchy, was Phronæsis, the emblem of prudence, which is the first and most exalted object that demands our attention in the lodge : it is placed in the centre, ever to be present to the eye of the Mason, that his heart may be attentive to her dictates, and steadfast in her laws ; for prudence is the rule of all virtues ; prudence is the path which leads to every degree of propriety ; prudence is the channel where self-approbation flows for ever ; she leads us forth to worthy actions, and, as a blazing star, enlighteneth us through the dreary and darksome paths of this life.

Virtue, by Masons and moralists, is defined to be that stedfast purpose and firm will of doing those things which nature hath dictated to us, as the best and most salutary ; a habit of the soul by which mankind are inclined to do things which are upright and good, and to avoid those that are evil. In short, virtue is moral honesty and good principles.

Of the virtues of which prudence is the rule, three are called cardinal virtues, of which, most properly a Mason should be possessed, are fortitude, temperance, and justice ; for without these, the name of Mason is an empty title, and but a painted bubble.

That fortitude must be the characteristic of a Mason I need not argue, by which, in the midst of pressing evils, he is enabled always to do that which is agreeable to the dictates of right reason.

Temperance also must be one of his principles,

being a moderating and restraining of our passions, especially in sobriety and chastity. We regard temperance under the various definitions of moralists, as constituting honesty, decency, and bashfulness, and in its potential parts instituting meekness, clemency, and modesty.

We profess justice as dictated to us to do right to all, and to yield to every man what belongeth to him.

The cardinal virtues, prudence, fortitude, temperance, and justice, hold in their train the inferior powers of peace, concord, quietness, liberty, safety, honour, felicity, piety, and charity, with many others which were adored by the ancients in those ages, when they confounded mythology with the worship of the Divinity. Within the starry girdle of prudence all virtues are enfolded.

As the steps of men are trod in the various and uncertain incidents of life ; as our days are chequered with a strange contrariety of events, and our passage through this existence, though sometimes attended with prosperous circumstances, is often beset by a multitude of evils ; hence is the lodge furnished with Mosaic work to remind us of the precariousness of our state on earth : to-day our feet tread in prosperity, to-morrow we totter on the uneven paths of weakness, temptation, and adversity. Whilst this emblem is before us, we are instructed to boast of nothing ; to have compassion and give aid to those who are in adversity ; to walk uprightly, and with humility ; for such is the existence, that there is no station in which pride can be stably founded : all men in birth, and in the grave, are on the level. Whilst we tread on this Mosaic work, let our ideas return to the original which it copies, and let every Mason act as the dictates of reason prompt him, to live in brotherly love.

As more immediate guides for a Freemason, the lodge is furnished with unerring rules, whereby he shall form his conduct ; the book of his law is laid before him, that he may not say through ignorance he erred ; whatever the Great Architect of the World hath dictated to mankind, as the mode in which he would be served, and the path in which he is to tread to obtain his approbation ; whatever precepts he hath administered, and with whatever laws he hath inspired the sages of old, the same are faithfully comprised in the book of the law of Masonry. The book and the former are never closed in any lodge, for they reveal the duties which the great Master of all exacts from us ; open to every eye, comprehensible to every mind ; then who shall say among us, that he knoweth not the acceptable service ?

But as the frailty of human nature wagemeth war with truth, and man's infirmities struggle with his virtues, to aid the conduct of every Mason, the Grand Master holdeth the compass, limiting the distance, progress, and circumference of the work : he dictateth the manners, he giveth the direction of the design, and delineateth each

portion and part of the labour—assigning to each his province and his Order. And such is his Mastership, that each part when asunder, seemeth irregular and without form; yet, when put together, like the building of the temple at Jerusalem, is connected and framed in true symmetry, beauty, and order. The moral implication of which is, that the Master in his lodge sits dictating those salutary laws, for the regulation thereof, as his prudence directs, assigning to each brother his proper province; limiting the rashness of some, and circumscribing the imprudence of others; restraining all licentiousness and drunkenness, discord and malice, envy and reproach, and promoting brotherly love, morality, charity, benevolence, cordiality, and innocent mirth; and that the assembly of the brethren may be with order, harmony, and love.

To try the works of every Mason, the square is presented, as the probation of his life, proving whether his manners are regular and uniform. This instrument is worn by all Masters of lodges; for Masons should be of one principle and one rank, without the distinctions of pride and pageantry; intimating that from high to low the minds of Masons should be inclined to good works, above which no man stands exalted by his fortune.

But superior to all, the lodge is furnished with three luminaries; as the golden candlestick in the tabernacle of Moses was once emblematical of the spirit of God, whereby his chosen people were enlightened, and prophetic of the churches; or otherwise, as Josephus says, representative of the planets and the powerful works of God; so our three lights show to us the great stages of Masonry, or otherwise our lights are typical of the Holy Trinity.

Such is the furniture of the lodge: such are the principles dictated to us as Masons; let us rejoice in the exercise of those excellences, which should set us above the rank of other men, and prove that we are brought out of darkness into light. And let us show our good works unto the world, that through our light so shining unto men, they may glorify the great Master of the Universe; and, therefore, do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with their God.—*Scottish Freemasons' Magazine.*

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

POPE'S "ESSAY ON MAN."

A brother, who writes from Brussels, has sent me a French translation of sundry lines of Pope's "Essay on Man." The translation is not new to me. It is by the Marquis de Saint Simon, and was privately printed at Harlem in 1771. I am not aware that it has been reprinted. In the very serious and important matter which my correspondent is considering, poetical beauties are irrelevant and worthless; and yet he has allowed them to get possession of his mind, because his understanding the "Essay on Man" occasioned charges against its

author of fatalism and naturalism. It should be read with caution by an individual embarrassed in the choice of a creed. It was in consequence of those charges that Pope composed his "Universal Prayer". It may not be useless to remark that every word of this prayer accords with the religion of Freemasonry. I hesitate not to recommend it as a morning and evening orison to one who, it seems, unhappily for his mental quiet, has laid aside his New Testament. In reference to the particular lines upon which my correspondent comments in a postscript, he should read the article "Ame du Monde" in the "Dictionnaire des Sciences Philosophiques." He will afterwards, if I am not deceived, take a very different view of those lines from that which he appears to take now. In my communication to the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, vol. X., page 21, I have stated that, in my opinion, "the God of Freemasonry is essentially a personal God;" and, in another communication to the same MAGAZINE, vol. XI., page 324, I have stated that "Hegelians belonging to the party which founds on Hegelian doctrine a negation of the personality of God, ought, in my judgment, to be excluded from our lodges."—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

FREEBORN.

Can a Turk or Arab, who was sold as a slave, or whose father was a slave, become a Mason? There are some distinguished men in Turkey, Syria, and Egypt, who in the good old times when slavery was honoured, were brought from Circassia, or are the sons of Circassian slaves, and, in the spread of Masonry in the East, we may have such candidates.—FREEBORN.

MASONIC CYPHER, IN NO. 326.

I do not feel at liberty to furnish a "key" to the cypher writing forwarded by "Δ," but will offer a solution, premising first that the 36th letter should be Q instead of E. This typographical error, together with the difficulty in deciphering the cypher, required not a little time and patience. I make the letters to ask the following question, Have you never wilfully revealed any of the secrets of Masonry? Sorry to find as yet there has been no answer to my letter, in No. 325, in regard to the "Book of Elucidations," by Bro. Finch of Canterbury.—WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN, 18^o, Truro, 16th October, 1865.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

MASONIC REGISTRATION.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I had proposed to myself the laborious task of obtaining from all Masonic lodges holding under the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, and Ireland, a roll of their *Matriculated* Apprentices since the year 1820, with, so far as could be obtained, notices of their advancement, and an annual obituary.

Such a work, from its voluminous character, although in general arrangement assimilated to the present clergy list, would entail in its publication

very considerable expense, unless reduced by a *Masonic* system of *abbreviations*, intelligible to the fraternity at large, without compromising the general principles of the Order.

The recent Papal allocution makes such a registration the most desirable, as it would prevent in a great measure, injurious suspicions against our own Masonic Institution, which have never, I may safely assert, engaged in political conspiracies, as I am afraid those on the continent have been accused of, with some show of truth.

But a question arises—are the so-called continental Masons *bona fide* brethren, or is their knowledge of the working of the system derived from illegitimate sources in some instances, and then gradually worked up, partly through the adroitness of candidates for affiliation, and the amiable laxity of examiners?

In order, therefore, to free Masonry in England from the general reproach hurled at it from the Vatican, it would be highly beneficial, and could not be objected to by genuine Masons, to exact in every instance of affiliation the production of a *proof of original initiation* with reference to duly recognised authorities abroad, on whose confirmation of the truth, the alien candidate, might be admitted.

It may be said that this would be equivalent to the introduction of an *exclusiveness* foreign to the radical and Catholic laws of our noble Order; but if so, the fault is not in the promoters of such a reform, but in those "wolves in sheep's clothing," who may possibly sometimes prey upon the liberality of lodges, and turn to their own personal, or to political ends, advantages which were never intended to be so employed.

In the task of Masonic registration there would no doubt be very considerable obstacles, and some that would be almost insurmountable, if the work of compilation were undertaken by anyone not possessed of the nicest discretion. In some cases an unwise publicity might be the result; in others, matters of private detail might be injudiciously handled, and so give rise to trouble and expense of an extraneous description. Observant, Masons will, I have no doubt, follow the train of thought that compels in these remarks a *certain* amount of *reticence*.

If the diploma of a *Master* only were exacted there would be no check on the imposition, which we would rather guard against than complain of, for in truth no case of this description is ever likely to see the light. But prevention being better than cure, it seems to us that at any rate in the case of affiliation, the initiation papers should be demanded before the admission of a candidate.

For example, a spurious brother might dexterously effect an impediment in his speech, or some other defect, and so adroitly draw from a negligent and unsuspicious examiner such suggestions as might enable him (in connection with his previously obtained illegal information) by *analogy*, to worm himself into a lodge

as an affiliated member, without any previous initiation. This may seem a bold thing to say, but I would ask, is it *impossible*?

A *Masonic Gazette* might with advantage be established, in which, periodically, should appear all cases of initiation and affiliation; and if the three national Grand Lodges would support such a scheme there is no doubt that the best interests of Freemasonry would be very materially advanced in an age of progress, which requires what some term reform, but what others more justly describe as the fuller development of latent good, which, as in the case of Freemasonry, contains within itself the germs of infinite expansion, accommodation to all times, and a radical stability, which is above the suspicion of tottering.

There is another question to which we would briefly allude, namely, the *candidature of women*.

I have seen the admission of women into the learned professions, especially in America, and, with a remarkable, and, I believe, unique instance in England, of female initiation into the mysteries of the Craft. I am not prepared to say that a time is not at hand when the other sex may with advantage be admitted as fellow-labourers in our lodges, or, at any rate, in lodges of their own formation.

Of course, there are many who could urge endless objections to such an innovation; but where is the stride onwards that has not been opposed?

Married men, no doubt, would object, as a rule, to such a novel proceeding, but the more intelligent would surely discard from their minds such fears of a secret ascendancy. Common sense and daily experience show us that there are occult laws constantly in operation which correct noiselessly, but effectually, the abuses of systems, and that we cannot exclude the competition of labour when *the hour* predestined comes.

But amongst women there is a very powerful and natural prejudice against our Craft. Its exclusiveness as regards men is, of course, the cause. Women argue, and plausibly, that there cannot be much good where they are shut out from the light of any particular department of knowledge.

Amongst themselves, though without a *name* or *charter* of incorporation, a very noble species of moral Freemasonry prevails, and which is often displayed by the proudest towards the humblest, at times when even the most cynical could not suggest a selfish or sinister motive.

We must all have known (if capable of appreciating) women of their superior mental cast, and perhaps the *very one* who may be the *warmest supporter* of the Pope's recent allocution, may herself be that one, whom of all others, a true Mason would most deserve to see entrusted with the honour and confidence of our mystic body.

I do not say that it would be in all cases advisable to make such an innovation, but there can be little doubt that some women would be found an honour to Masonry, and by their example would give the best and most practical *contradiction* to the fallacious and mischievous insinuations contained in the public document just mentioned.

I am, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

SIGMA.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

* * All communications to be addressed to 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MASONIC MEM.

We understand that the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting at Tewkesbury is postponed, in consequence of the death of Bro. Trotman, at whose house the Provincial Grand Lodge was to have been held, and in consequence the meeting of the St. George's Lodge (No. 900) would also not take place on the 19th inst.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The Quarterly General Court of the Governors of this most valuable Institution was held on Monday, the 14th inst., at the Freemasons' Tavern. Bro. John Udall, *V.P.*, in the chair. Among the Governors present we observed—Bros. Hopwood, Head, Emmerly, Hodges, Stevens, May, E. Cox, Hogg, Sheen, &c. The minutes of the last quarterly court and of the several committees having been read and confirmed, the Secretary (Bro. Binckes) read a communication from the Earl of Zetland, acknowledging the receipt of the vote of condolence on the death of the Countess agreed to at the last quarterly court, and which was ordered to be entered on the minutes. It was resolved to have two periods of the year fixed as the date of boys retiring after attaining the age of 15. It was also resolved that as the state of the funds permit, the number of boys be increased from 80 to 100, and that the special privileges granted to donors to the Building Fund be continued up to June next. The usual ballot for the election of candidates then took place with the following result:—

SUCCESSFUL.

Crabtree, B. T.	865 votes.	9th Application.
Bayly, A. J.	741 "	2nd "
Macintosh, J. A.	682 "	1st "
Story, W. G.	673 "	2nd "
Martin, J. R.	652 "	6th "
Collingwood, S.	637 "	5th "
Johnson, H.	587 "	4th "
Pearson, L. S.	566 "	4th "
Redgrave, W. B.	566 "	1st "
Merryweather, J. T.	562 "	2nd "
Ingham, J.	557 "	1st "
Wheeler, H. S.	546 "	2nd "
Steddy, G. A.	536 "	1st "
Martin, E. H.	516 "	2nd "

UNSUCCESSFUL.

Everist, G. E.	463 "	1st "
Trealt, W. R.	455 "	1st "
Wood, F. O.	401 "	1st "
Owen, W. H.	227 "	3rd "
Heckmott, H.	217 "	4th "
Storey, J. G.	182 "	1st "
Graham, F.	126 "	3rd "
Ashton, H. J.	115 "	3rd "
Maille, Frank.	96 "	1st "
Bentley, E. T.	83 "	5th "
Wallace, T. G.	76 "	1st "
Jackson, H. J.	56 "	7th "
Cottman, F.	29 "	1st "
Pearson, J.	13 "	1st "
Atkinson, J.	5 "	1st "

After the declaration of the poll, a vote of thanks was passed to the scrutineers, and also, on the motion of Bro. S. May, *V.P.*, to Bro. Udall, for the efficient conduct in the chair, and the proceedings then terminated.

METROPOLITAN.

EASTERN STAR LODGE (No. 95).—The first meeting of the season was held on Tuesday, Oct. 17, at the Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street. Bro. George Griffiths, *W.M.*, opened the lodge, and being in ill-health, requested Bro. Goode, *P.M.*, to undertake the duties. Bro. Travers was raised to the third degree, and Bro. Faith was passed to the second. The names of two gentlemen were submitted for initiation at the next lodge. Among the visitors were Bros. D'Olier, No. 254; Drew, No. 15; Jones, No. 720; and Smith, No. 923. The brethren adjourned to banquet at seven p.m.

LODGE OF JUSTICE (No. 147).—On Wednesday, the 11th inst., this flourishing old lodge held its first meeting after the usual recess at the White Swan, High-street, Deptford. The lodge was opened by Bro. J. Bavin, assisted by Bros. J. Lightfoot, *S.W.*; G. Chapman, *J.W.*; G. Bolton, *P.M.*, *Treas.*; C. H. Davis, *P.M.*, *Sec.*; J. Patte, *S.D.*; W. Andrews, *J.D.*; Batt, *I.G.*; J. Cavell, *P.M.*; F. Durrant, *P.M.*; F. Walters, *P.M.*; Speight, *P.M.*; Box, Chappell, Thomas, Goodman, Waterman, German, Miles, Wingfield, Ponder, and others. In the longest list of visitors we ever recollect seeing honour this lodge with their presence, we noticed Bros. J. T. Tibbals, *P.M.*, and *Sec.* 169; Roach, *P.M.* 169; Knowlan, *P.M.* 169; R. Bentley, *P.M.* 548; E. Skinner, 548; J. W. Halsey, *P.M.* 134; A. P. Leonard, *W.M.* 619; H. Whittle, 871; &c. An installation could not have been better attended. Ballots were taken for, and declared to be unanimous in favour of Messrs. J. Dooley and E. Predam. Bros. Waterman and Batchelor were raised to the third degree, and Bros. Marshall, Barnes, and Mott were passed to the second degree, the *W.M.* most ably performing these ceremonies. By the kind permission of the *W.M.*, Bro. F. Walters, *P.M.* Mount Lebanon Lodge (No. 70), a member of this lodge, took the chair to initiate some friends he was introducing. Accordingly, Messrs. G. Waterman, J. Dooley, and H. Predam were introduced, and afterwards initiated into ancient Freemasonry in that able, painstaking, and impressive manner now so well known by all who have had the pleasure of seeing Bro. F. Walters perform any of the ceremonies of Freemasonry. Bro. J. Bavin then resumed the chair, and, after receiving propositions for new candidates, duly closed the lodge. The brethren then partook of a banquet served up in Bro. Porter's usual first-rate style.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Friday evening, the 13th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, and was, as usual, very numerous attended. Bro. Benjamin Osborne, *W.M.*, presided, supported by Bros. Simpson, *S.W.*; W. F. Smith, *J.W.*; Carpenter, *T. A.* Adams, Haydon, Baker, Russen, Thompson, Elmes, and Brett, *P.M.'s*. The following visitors were also present:—Bros. Boyd, *P.M.* Prudent Brethren Lodge; Ouden, *P.M.* Wellington Lodge; Watkins Price, Belgrave Lodge; Southey, Finsbury Lodge; Huggett, Hornsey Lodge; and Hamilton, Whittington Lodge. The lodge having been duly opened, Messrs. Cruse and Edwin W. Coathupe, *M.R.C.S.*, were candidates for admission into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, and, a ballot being unanimous in their favour, they were initiated by the *W.M.* into the secrets of the Order. Bro. Stock and another brother were then passed to the second degree. Bro. H. Thompson, *P.M.*, then opened the lodge in the third degree, and Bros. Harris, Cheek, Foster, Tims, Giles, and Johnson having given proofs of their proficiency in the science, they were impressively raised to the sublime degree of *M.M.* Since the lodge has been removed to its present place of meeting it has greatly increased, it numbering at the present time 140 members, and at each meeting numerous candidates were on the list for initiation. To give some idea of the flourishing condition of it, may be mentioned the fact that, during Bro. Osborne's Mastership, which commenced in December last, forty-two new members have been admitted, a circumstance almost unprecedented; and that number would have been considerably increased, but for the rule under which a limitation at each meeting is enforced. This speaks well for the esteem in which Bro. Osborne is held; and there can be no doubt that he will retire from the chair with the goodwill of everyone of the members of the lodge. Although the resources of Anderton's Hotel are very ample, yet, with such a rapid increase in the lodge, it was deemed necessary to do something, and, accordingly, after the other business, it was proposed and agreed to unanimously that, for the future, the initiation fee be seven guineas, the joining fee three guineas, and that the

meeting nights of the lodge be only in the months of October, November, December, January, February, and March. This having been disposed of, the lodge was closed, and sixty-seven brethren adjourned for refreshment. After the cloth was drawn, the loyal and Masonic toasts were given, Bro. T. A. Adams responding on behalf of the D. Prov. G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers. The W.M. then said he had a most pleasing toast to propose, which was the health of their newly-initiated members, Bros. Cruse and Coathupe, and he said, from the deep attention these brethren had paid to the ceremony, and the high recommendation they had brought with them, he felt assured that they would make worthy and good Masons. He called upon the brethren to join with him in giving them a hearty welcome, and to drink their healths with all the enthusiasm it deserved. The toast was heartily responded to. Bros. Cruse and Coathupe, in very appropriate terms, returned thanks for the honour conferred upon them, and said it would be their study to become worthy members of the Craft. Bro. Thompson, I.P.M., said, to say he had pleasure in the privilege he possessed of proposing the next toast, would but feebly express his feelings, as it was the health of their W.M. The time which their W.M. would preside over them was drawing to a close, but it must be highly gratifying to him that up to the present time he had the privilege of initiating 42, which showed in itself the respect which was entertained towards him. To bring 42 members into Freemasonry was something extraordinary, for that number alone would make a very respectable lodge, and more than many lodges could boast of; but when that number had been initiated by him and had two months still to serve it must be to him a source of the utmost gratification. It must also be to him very pleasing to see that evening the unanimity which prevailed when certain new propositions were made for an alteration in their present financial arrangements. Those propositions were received in a truly Masonic spirit, and passed, as all lodge resolutions should be, by an unanimous vote, and he trusted they would tend to its welfare. He asked the brethren to join him in drinking the health of Bro. Osborne, W.M., and long life to him. The toast was very cordially received. The W.M., in acknowledging the compliment, expressed his thanks to Bro. Thompson for the kind manner in which he had proposed his health, and to the brethren for the manner in which they had responded to it, and he could assure them that if his services had given them satisfaction, it was all that he required. The W.M. proposed a toast at all times gratifying to the Domestic Lodge, which was the health of the visitors, and said that the oftener they came the better they should like them. The toast was drunk with hearty good will, and the several visitors replied for the honour conferred upon them. The officers of the lodge was the next toast, for which Bro. Simpson, S.W., made a most suitable reply, expressing the determination of the officers to do their duty. The Tyler's toast was then given, and a truly Masonic and happy meeting was brought to a close at eleven o'clock. Bros. Stephenson, Onden, Woolfe, Margerison, and Walford delighted the brethren during the evening with songs, recitations, &c.

YARBOROUGH LODGE (No. 554).—The brethren of this flourishing lodge assembled for the fulfilment of Masonic duties on Thursday, the 5th inst., at Bro. Walter's, Green Dragon, Stepney, when the following ceremonies were conducted in a very able manner by Bro. Joseph Hudson, W.M., supported by his very efficient officers. The lodge being opened in the first degree, Messrs. Norris and Taggart were introduced within the precincts of the ancient and honourable order as E.A.'s. Bros. Veray and Bland, after answering the usual questions withdrew, and the lodge being opened in the second degree, they were made recipients of the truths imparted to Fellow Crafts. Bro. Stewart then showed his proficiency in the former degrees, and on the lodge being opened in the third, was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. The lodge was then closed down, and the brethren partook of a comfortable banquet prepared by the worthy host. After the removal of the cloth the usual Masonic toasts were proposed and cheerfully responded to. The health of the visitors Bros. Deane, Miller, Fowler, Saqui, &c., was drunk and responded to by each of the brethren. Bro. Hamilton, P.M., then rose and said he had a most pleasing duty to perform—viz., that of presenting to the lodge a very highly finished photographic copy of the engraving of King Solomon's Temple, the gift of Bro. Barnes, No. 554. The speaker very ably handled the subject, and much amused the brethren by his

description of the temple up to a certain part, "the limit of Craft Masonry." He also informed the brethren that the original engraving from which the photograph was taken is very rare, that also being the present of a deceased brother of the lodge, Bro. Philpot. The W.M. and brethren signified the pleasure it afforded them to accept the gift of Bro. Barnes, and hoped that the great talent he exhibited in its production would meet its due reward. Bro. Stevens, S.D., sung an excellent song in his usual effective and impressive manner, and the Tyler's toast being given, the brethren dispersed in peace harmony at the seasonable hour of half-past ten.

PANMURE LODGE (No. 720).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 14th inst., for the despatch of Masonic business. Several brethren were advanced through various grades, and a number of propositions made for initiates and joining members. Bro. Thomas, W.M., was supported by Bros. Reid and Stevens, P.M.'s, Bro. Hodges, P.M., officiating as S.W., and Bro. Cranswick, as J.W. There was no banquet on this occasion, but after the closing of the lodge the brethren accepted the invitation of the W.M. to partake of wine, and the health of Bro. Thomas, proposed by the acting S.W., was as usual heartily received.

CRYSTAL PALACE LODGE (No. 742).—This lodge held its last regular meeting for the season at its quarters in the Crystal Palace on the 5th inst., its excellent W.M., Bro. John Berkam, presiding. The meeting was very numerous attended, both by the lodge's members and by visitors. Among the latter we noticed Bros. John Emmens, W. Watson, E. J. Oliver, G. Palmer, D. Weiste, Nicholson, R. P. Nash, H. Massey, and W. Patient. The lodge having been duly opened, the W.M. raised Bros. Waddington, Jennings, Barton, and Land to the M.M. degree. He then passed Bro. James Davidson to the F.C. degree, and afterwards initiated Messrs. M. Sarson, Thomas Austin, and William George as E.A. All these ceremonies were admirably performed. The W.M. then inquired whether any brother would stand as Steward for the Boys' and Aged Freemasons' Festival for next year. Bro. the Rev. W. Taylor Jones, Principal of Sydenham College, volunteered to fill the office of Steward for the Boys' Festival, and the S.W., Bro. Samuel Poole Acton, for the Aged Freemasons. There being no further business to be transacted, the W.M. closed the lodge. The brethren, to the number of seventy, afterwards sat down to a sumptuous banquet, provided by Messrs. Bertram and Roberts, of the refreshment department of the Crystal Palace. When grace had been said and the cloth removed, the W.M. proposed the usual toasts. In giving "The Provincial Grand Master, the Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the rest of the Grand Officers," he said that among them was a celebrated Mason and officer of Grand Lodge, Bro. Emmens, and he should couple his name with the toast. Bro. Emmens said: W.M., Wardens, and brethren, in responding to the toast that has been so kindly proposed and drunk, allow me to thank you sincerely for the honour you have done me in coupling my humble name with that of so distinguished a brother as the Deputy Grand Master of England. I am sure that every one who is acquainted with the Earl De Grey and Ripon knows, without my telling him, that he has the interests of Freemasonry at heart, and does all in his power to promote those interests. On his behalf, and on behalf of the rest of the grand officers, I beg to return my sincere thanks, and I also beg to thank you, brethren, for the opportunity you have given me of being among you to-night. Again, I trust you will receive my sincere thanks for drinking the toast with so much cordiality. The W.M. then proposed "The Initiates," and said that the Crystal Palace Lodge ought to feel itself highly flattered, when there were so many other good lodges in London which they might join, that as many as three gentlemen in one day should elect to belong to it. He, for one, felt very grateful to those newly-made brethren for so honouring this lodge. After the Freemasons' song had been sung by the Tyler, Bro. Crawley, Bro. Sarson returned thanks. The W.M. then proposed "The Joining Members," which having been drunk, Bro. the Rev. W. Taylor Jones said when we have a brother present so able to respond as my brother on my left (Bro. Bailey), I do not know why I should be selected to return thanks for this toast; but since I have been so selected I will, in as few words as possible, thank you for the honour you have done us. I beg then to express my gratitude on behalf of my brethren and myself for the kindness you have evinced on this occasion in not allowing the joining members to pass by unnoticed among the toasts. When I was here last I remember I asked you whether your

lodge was so un-Masonic as to refuse to admit as a joining member a brother who was anxious to become one of you. I do sincerely thank you and all the members of this lodge for abrogating a rule you had laid down not to admit joining members, and I could not allow the opportunity of showing my thankfulness to pass, when I found you were in want of a Steward for the Boys' Festival. These are the first fruits of the alteration of your rule, and I trust I shall be able to do my duty as such Steward, and that every brother will perform his part in assisting me properly to fill the office. Let them show that the first fruits of the change which has been impressed upon them, and is impressed upon Freemasons on all occasions, to be charitable, be such a steward's list for the forthcoming year as will do honour to so flourishing a lodge as this. I took in the second highest list last time for the Girls' School, and that list amounted to nearly £80; and I do hope that on this occasion I shall not be far short of that amount. Such a respectable lodge as this that I shall be trusted to represent should send in a list unsurpassed in amount. We know that the virtue of a Freemason is charity, and that was the origin of my joining the body. Many years ago I was brought into connection in a charitable cause with the Masons, and I saw the great efforts that were made by them in furtherance of that holy object, and I said if that is the object of Freemasonry you must allow me to become one of your number. I did become one; and I am proud to say I am a member of that fraternity who show that though enjoying the good gifts of Providence themselves, they do not forget their brethren who are in need. I feel confident that the Crystal Palace list on the forthcoming occasion will be a list of which we may be proud. Before I sit down I again thank this lodge for electing me a joining member, and in return I shall do my best properly to represent it in the Masonic Charities. (Cheers.) Bro. Palmer, P.M., proposed "The Worshipful Master." After it was drunk Bro. Emmens sang most admirably "John Barleycorn," for which he received great applause. The W.M.—Allow me to return you my sincere thanks for your kindness, brethren. I could have no greater pleasure than to preside over my mother lodge, especially when I am so well supported by my officers. Never was Master better supported. Any wish I have expressed has been gratified—almost, I may say, any wish I have half expressed has been granted. All the brethren and officers have, to use a common expression, stuck to me through thick and thin, and this is the only way in which the Master of a lodge like the Crystal Palace Lodge can efficiently perform his duties. I thank you all for the very kind manner in which you have given me support, and I tell you with regret that it is only on one other occasion I shall have the pleasure of presiding over you. (Cheers.) After a few other toasts, the brethren adjourned till the first Thursday in April, 1866, emergencies excepted.

THE BELGRAVE LODGE (No. 749).—The first meeting of the season of this lodge took place on Wednesday last at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street. Present—Bro. Nash, W.M., supported by Bros. Froud, P.M. and Treas.; Garrod, Sec.; Ranting, Evenden, and Temple, P.M.'s, assisted by Bros. Ough, S.W.; Bond, J.W.; Evenden, acting S.D.; Bourne, J.D.; Pierce, I.G. The lodge was opened in the three degrees and removed to the first, when a ballot was taken for Messrs. S. Smith, Parsons, Homewood, and Lefevre, which proved unanimous in favour of each. The minutes of the last regular lodge and the lodge of emergency held in July last were read, when Bro. FROUD rose and said it became his duty to address the lodge before the W.M. put those minutes for confirmation. He then briefly referred to the resolution come to at the last lodge of emergency, and expressed his regret that he was unable to be present on that occasion. The resolution was that the sum of £100 be placed in the Bank of England in the names of three trustees. He now called upon the brethren not to confirm that portion of the minutes, in order that when the proper time arrived he would be enabled to advocate the cause of the Masonic Charities. He was convinced that the members of the lodge had reconsidered that resolution, and would support him in carrying out one of the first principles of the Order—charity; and from the expressions of approval he had heard around him he would not detain them now, but at once propose that the minutes be confirmed with the exception of that portion containing the resolution that £100 should be placed in the Bank of England.—Bro. EVENDEN rose and said it gave him great pleasure to second the proposition of Bro. Froud. The W.M. then put the question from the chair, and it was carried unanimously. The lodge being resumed to the

third degree, the W.M., whose excellent working during his year of office is highly spoken of, proceeded to raise Bros. Wickham and Zandorf to the sublime degree of M.M.'s, and the lodge being again resumed to the first degree, the W.M. vacated the chair to Bro. Froud, who initiated Mr. Stephen Smith, and afterwards Mr. Parsons, in a most impressive manner. The W.M. resuming the chair and initiating Mr. Lefevre, there being no other candidates present, the lodge then proceeded to elect a W.M. for the ensuing year, when it was found that Bro. Ough, S.W., was unanimously elected. Bro. Froud was also unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Daly, Tyler. Bro. Ranting then proposed, in a highly complimentary manner, that a P.M.'s jewel of the value of five guineas be presented to the W.M. Bro. Nash as a token of esteem, to mark the approbation of the brethren for the manner in which he had conducted the business of the lodge during his year of office. The proposition being seconded by Bro. Temple, it was carried unanimously. The Secretary then read several letters, and having informed the W.M. that he had no other matters to call his attention to, Bro. Froud rose and made an earnest appeal to the brethren on behalf of the Masonic Charities, and concluded by reminding them that the lodge had only been in existence for seven years, and during that time had taken a prominent position in the Craft. An opportunity was now given them to take a still higher position, and make the lodge a Vice-President of our noble institution. Fifty guineas constituted a V.P.; thirty guineas had already been voted to the three Charities, making the lodge a Life Governor of them, and by giving forty guineas more to each, they would not only be doing their duty as Freemasons, but remember with pride and satisfaction that they had taken another step, which would, he hoped, induce other lodges to follow their example. He then gave a notice of motion that at their next meeting he would propose that the sum of forty guineas be voted to the Boys', and forty guineas to the Girls' Schools, leaving the question of the Royal Benevolent Fund to be decided at a future meeting. The lodge was then closed in ancient form and solemn prayer. During the evening an excellent banquet was served by Bro. Clemow, at the conclusion of which the W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft," "The Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M. of Masons," "The Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon," and "The rest of the Grand Officers," each toast being received with enthusiasm. The W.M. then rose, and called upon the brethren to drink the healths of the "Brother Initiates." After congratulating them upon their entrance into Freemasonry, he proceeded to inform them that they were only on the threshold of the Order, for they had much to see yet. Bro. S. Smith replied on behalf of himself and brother initiates, and in a most feeling manner thanked the W.M. and the brethren for the warm reception they had received, and said he was both astonished and delighted during the solemn and impressive ceremony he had witnessed that evening, and would look forward with happy feelings in conjunction with the young brethren by his side to be admitted into the other degrees. The health of the W.M. was then proposed by Bro. Temple, who spoke in high terms of the manner in which the W.M. had conducted the business of the lodge during the past year, and particularly for his constant attendance, and correct working of the ceremonies.—Bro. NASH, W.M., said he felt highly pleased for the kind manner in which his health had been received, and it would be a lasting and pleasant reflection for him in leaving the chair to know that he had won the approbation of the brethren, and as a P.M. he hoped to be of some assistance, if necessary, to those who might follow him in that position. The healths of the P.M.'s was then proposed by the W.M. and warmly received by the brethren. The W.M. spoke of the great services rendered by the P.M.'s to the lodge, and begged to unite with the toast the names of the Treasurer and the Secretary.—Bro. FROUD, Treas., returned thanks on behalf of himself and his brother Past Masters, and, in a speech of some length, which was listened to with great attention, spoke of the rapid progress of the lodge, and the assistance he and the various W.M.'s had received from their Secretary. He then proceeded to make some amusing allusions to Bro. Garrod's sudden anxiety for lodges of emergency. It gave him possibly another opportunity for displaying his ability as a letter-writer. The truth is, you must not

Call him a dunce, nor call him a fool,

For in writing he was always the cock of the school.

(Loud laughter.) Bro. Secretary was also clever, very clever,

at figures, and he would recommend the members to pay him at once their subscriptions, and give him no opportunity of calling their attention to the margin. (Laughter.) He then proceeded to make some remarks upon a passing event which had caused some amusement during the last week, and assured the brethren that Freemasonry had nothing to fear but everything to hope for, and concluded by saying that an institution founded upon the grand principles of piety and virtue must continue to flourish; and if it were possible to discover some other hemisphere, the time would come when the grand principles and the tenets of our Order would be admired by "states unborn," and its beautiful language be spoken "in accents yet unknown."—The W. MASTER then proposed "The Health of Bro. Ough, the W. Master elect," and in doing so paid a great tribute to his worth as a brother who had not only been constant to his duties, but most studious in preparing for the high office he was to fill, and he was satisfied would pass through his coming year with credit to himself and to the honour of the lodge.—Bro. OUGH returned thanks in a manner which was highly gratifying to the brethren, and concluded by saying that with their kind confidence he would do his utmost to carry out his duties, and trusted that when he left the chair he might be found worthy of those honours conferred upon those who had passed before him. The officers of the lodge was the next toast, and, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Potter, was acknowledged by Bro. Band. The Tyler's toast followed, and the brethren separated after a most interesting and delightful meeting—the pleasures of which was enhanced by the excellent singing of Bros. S. Smith, Parsons, and others. The installation will take place on the 8th of Nov.

MERCHANT NAVY LODGE (No. 781).—The members of this lodge met on Thursday, the 12th inst., at the Jamaica Hotel, West India Docks. Bro. Wright, P.M., presided, in the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. Lars With; C. K. Killick, S.W.; Davis, J.W.; Sutton, S.D.; Steadman, J.D.; Gibbs, I.G.; E. T. Read, Hon. Sec.; Bros. Blackfeldt and Daniell, P.M.'s, and many brethren and visitors, amongst whom were Bros. Hampton, P.M. No. 554, and E. Johnson, No. 140. The minutes of the last regular lodge and those of two emergency meetings were respectively confirmed. A ballot was taken, and declared unanimous in favour of Messrs. Bradbury, Mace, Armstrong, and Shoring, all of whom being present, were regularly initiated into ancient Freemasonry. The lodge was then opened in the second degree. Bro. Cranston being a candidate for the third degree was asked the usual questions, entrusted, and withdrew. Lodge being opened in the third degree, Bro. Cranston was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. Lodge being resumed to the first degree, was called off for refreshment. On the resumption of the lodge, the Secretary read the revised by-laws, all of which received assent, subject to the approval of Grand Lodge. Bro. Daniell, I.P.M., was requested to retire, when Bro. Wright, P.M., proposed, and C. K. Killick, S.W., seconded, that a jewel be presented to Bro. Daniell, I.P.M., for efficient services rendered as Master for the preceding year, which was carried unanimously. On the return of Bro. Daniell, Bro. Wright, in very touching and appropriate terms, presented him with a jewel, to which Bro. Daniell replied in a suitable manner. Bro. Read, Secretary, proposed, and Bro. Blackfeldt, P.M., seconded, that this lodge subscribe for one copy of THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR, which was carried unanimously. Nothing further being offered, lodge closed with solemn prayer. The lodge and brethren were in deep mourning.

PROVINCIAL.

DURHAM.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

On Tuesday, the 10th inst., the annual Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham was held in the Mechanics' Hall, Darlington. About 120 of the brethren having assembled in the Hall, the Prov. G.M. Bro. J. Fawcett, J.P., entered in procession with his Prov. G. Officers, among whom we noticed Bros. J. Dodds, as D. Prov. G.M.; John Crosby, Prov. S.G.W.; George Kirk, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. John Cundill, Prov. G. Treas.; W. Best, P. Prov. J.G.W.; J. Graham, Prov. G. Reg.; J. Settle, P. Prov. G.R.; W. H. Crookes, Prov. G. Sec.; H. Hedley, Prov. S.G.D.; J. Tillman, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; B. Levy, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., &c. Visitors—R.W. Bro. Victor A. Williamson, J.G.W.

of England, preceded by six Prov. G. Stewards, Bros. Thos. Wm. Hearon, John Bailey, Stonier Leigh, Wm. Smith, &c. An anthem was sung, Bro. Ferry, Prov. G. Org., presiding as the harmonium, and the lodge opened in due form by the Prov. G.M. After the minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge had been read and confirmed, the R.W. Prov. G.M. moved that an address of condolence, which was read by the Prov. G. Sec., be sent to the M.W.G.M. on the lamented decease of the Countess of Zetland, and the R.W. J.G.W. promised to be the bearer of the address. The accounts of the Prov. G. Treas., showing a considerable balance in favour of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and the report of the Fund Committee, conferring several grants on distressed brethren and the Masonic Charities, were read and confirmed. On the motion of Bro. Jos. Dodds, the Rev. John Cundill was again unanimously elected Prov. G. Treas. The R.W. Prov. G.M. then proceeded to appoint the Prov. G. Officers for the ensuing year, and invest those that were present as follows:—

Bros. Henry Fenwick, Esq., M.P.	...D. Prov. G.M.
" H. G. Faber, 509	Prov. S.G.W.
" Waldir, 111	J.G.W.
" Rev. A. Duncan Shaftoe	G. Chap.
" Rev. John Cundill, 124	G. Treas.
" John Graham, 80	G. Reg.
" W. H. Crookes, 80	G. Sec.
" James Groves, 531	S.G.D.
" Ernst Biesterfeld 424	J.G.D.
" J. Tillman, 949 (Architect)	G. Supt. of Works.
" B. Levy, 97	G. Dir. of Cers.
" Toxford, 47	G.S.B.
" J. W. Marshall, 111	G. Org.
" Sangster, 80	G. Purst.
" Laws, 80	G. Tyler.
" T. H. Campbell, 97	} G. Stewards.
" G. Greenwell, 124	
" Richard B. Harpley, 764	
" Bryden Williamson, 947	

After Provincial Grand Lodge had been closed, the brethren adjourned to the King's Head Hotel, where a banquet was provided that did credit to Bro. Robinson's reputation, the only fault, perhaps, being the insufficiency of waiters. Prominent in the bill of fare was a haunch of red deer venison, shot by F. A. Millbank, Esq., M.P., on the Isle of Harris, and kindly presented by him, through Bro. Joseph Dodds, to the Freemasons of the province.

"The Health of the Queen" having been duly honoured, and the National Anthem sung, the Prov. G.M. said—"From the head of the country we naturally revert to the head of the Craft. After what had been said in lodge, it would be out of place to make many remarks. It was quite unnecessary to enlarge on his many noble qualities, but he might simply say we had every reason to be proud of our Grand Master." (Cheers). He then proposed "The Health of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master."

The Prov. G.M., in proposing "The Deputy Grand Master and other Grand Officers," said if we are fortunate with respect to our Grand Master, one advantage is in his selection of the officers of Grand Lodge. We have a Deputy Grand Master who can find time from the business of the State to devote to Masonry. We have also reason to pay peculiar honour to the other officers, as, on this occasion, we are favoured with the presence of Bro. Williamson, Senior Grand Warden, a nephew of our Grand Master, and brother of one who has wisely ruled over this lodge.

Song—"The clough and crow."

The Junior Grand Warden felt it a serious responsibility returning thanks for the Grand Officers. It was the first Grand Lodge in this province that he had attended. Though not strictly a Durham Mason, he was a Durham man, and had a county feeling. The province was ruled over by one of his best and oldest friends, and, having heard the reports of the different lodges, he could see that it was ruled by a master hand.

Bro. J. Crosby, P. Prov. S.G.W., said it fell to his lot to propose the next toast, "The Provincial Grand Master of Durham." (Loud cheers.) The kind way in which the name was received considerably lessened the difficulty he felt. He had seen and been connected with him in Masonry for twenty years, and could confidently reiterate all that had been said. The Provincial Grand Master attended all the meetings he

possibly could, and what, perhaps, had been done by no other Provincial Grand Master, he had presided in Grand Lodge. He concluded by wishing him good health, success, and long life to rule over the province.

Glee—"Mynheer van Duuck."

The PROV. G. MASTER could not adequately return thanks for the toast. If he had succeeded well, it was owing in a great measure to those who had preceded him. The province was greatly indebted to the masterly talents of the late Earl of Durham. He hoped from year to year to meet with that kind consideration they had paid him during the last eighteen years.

"The Deputy Provincial Grand Master and other Provincial Grand Officers" followed, and a letter was read from Bro. Fenwick, Esq., M.P., explaining that nothing but total inability from illness would have prevented his being present, and that his heart would be with them both in the lodge and at the banquet.

Song—"The Bellringer."

The next toast, "The three Masonic Charities," was proposed by Bro. the Rev. John Candill, Prov. G. Treas., in an eloquent and telling speech, in which, amid the laughter of the brethren, he good-humouredly alluded to the recent fulminations that have issued from the Vatican, noticed several of the stock objections to Masonry, and pointed out some of its numerous advantages as shown in the Asylum for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, the Boys' and the Girls' Schools.

Other Masonic toasts followed, alternating with glees and songs, for which the brethren were much indebted to Bros. Marshall, Prov. G. Org.; Perry, P. Prov. G. Org.; Bailey, Wynham, &c., Bro. Marshall accompanying the violinists on the pianoforte. The brethren separated about nine o'clock.

[Though we had not the advantage afforded of being present at the Provincial Grand Lodge (not having received an invite) we are glad to be able to avail ourselves of the courtesy and thoughtfulness of a provincial brother, who has furnished the particulars from which we have been enabled to draw up our report.—Ed. F. M. & M. M.]

SOUTH WALES (EASTERN DIVISION).

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

(Continued from page 295.)

The banquet which took place after the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting, held in the Cardiff Town Hall, on Thursday, the 28th Sept., was numerously attended. The R.W. Bro. T. M. Talbot, the newly-installed Prov. G.M. presided. He was supported on the right by Bro. E. J. Morris, D. Prov. G.M., and several other brethren of distinction, including the Assist. G. Dir. of Cers., and other members of Grand Lodge, and on the right hand by the Prov. G.M. of Oxfordshire, Col. Bowyer, the Prov. G.M. of Somerset, the J.G.W. of England, and numerous other dignitaries of the Order.

The banquet took place in the Stewart Hall, a new building erected alongside the canal, by which its foundation is said to be soaked, and the whole structure rendered unsafe. Certain it is, that despite the very awkward shape of the ground, the architect has tried his best to make something out of the awkward elements with which he has had to deal, and, externally, has attempted to give an ornamental character to the elevation, and has succeeded in combining the useful therewith in the way of introducing shops on the side fronting the street, which are flanked by an entrance to the hall at each end of the row. The interior of the hall, as may be imagined when we state that the ground-plan of the building is triangular, is excessively awkward, and the gallery, situated at the base of the triangle, is of a horse-shoe form, extending far along each side, and presenting generally the appearance of a man-of-war's poop and deck companion; altogether, more like the interior of a ship than a public hall or a Methodist meeting house.

However, about 250 brethren sat down in this triangular apartment at about half-past five to the banquet, provided by mine host of the Angel, Bro. Cousins.

The viands were a fair average quality, and were served in Cardiff style; the wines, however, were detestably bad, and we shall only be doing Bro. Cousins an act of kindness in recommending him thus publicly to change his wine merchant forthwith, or at least employ a good judge of wines to taste and select the wines before they are placed in his cellar, as but for the kindly feeling exhibited towards him by the brethren present, and the willingness on the part of some to make considerable allowances, as they said, the otherwise very

agreeable meeting, and not at all bad banquet would have gone off with some expressions of dissatisfaction. After grace had been said by the Prov. G. Chaplain, the following toasts were proposed and responded to consecutively:—The Queen and the Craft. The M.W. the G.M. of England. The R.W. the D.G.M. and Officers of Grand Lodge. The R.W. the Prov. G. Master. The R.W. the Installing Prov. G.M. The R.W. the Prov. G. Master present. The W. the D. Prov. G. Master. The W. the D. Prov. G. Master present. The Visitors. The Provincial Grand Officers. The Masonic Charities. The Glamorgan Lodge and the Lodges of the Province.

The Right Worshipful the Prov. G.M. in proposing the first toasts upon the list, which he did in admirable and appropriate speeches, concluded the third toast by calling upon the Right Worshipful Bro. Williamson to respond on behalf of the officers of Grand Lodge, and he expressed himself in warm terms of friendship towards Bro. Williamson as an old college chum whose friendship he had gained at Oxford, and hoped long to enjoy.

Bro. WILLIAMSON, J.G.W. of England, in an excellent speech responded to toast No. 3, and expressed the great pleasure it afforded him in seeing his esteemed friend and brother, the Prov. G.M., in his present exalted position, and he took the occasion to refer to the time when they were both initiated into the Order in the Apollo University Lodge, and spoke in the highest terms of praise of the zeal and devotion which had ever been evinced by Bro. Talbot in the pursuit of Freemasonry as a science, and concluded by expressing a hope that the province might long be ruled over by so able and zealous a Mason as the Prov. G.M.

The D. Prov. G. MASTER, in an admirable speech, introduced the toast of the evening, "The Health of the R.W. the Provincial Grand Master," and certainly Bro. Morris did ample justice to the subject of the toast, for eloquence, feeling, and truly Masonic regard could no further go, and it was received in the most enthusiastic manner by the brethren present, and with all the honours. Bro. Morris gave some very interesting details of the progress and present condition of Freemasonry in the province, and of the very great interest which had been taken by the R.W. the Provincial Grand Master in the development of Masonry, the Masonic charities and the welfare of the lodges and the brethren, more particularly in the Eastern Division of South Wales.

The R.W. PROV. G. MASTER, in returning thanks, expressed the great satisfaction he felt at seeing so large an assemblage to support him upon the occasion of his being installed into the honourable position to which the M.W. the Grand Master had done him the honour to appoint him, and thanked the Deputy Provincial Grand Master for the kind things he had said of him, and to the brethren present for the enthusiastic reception they had given to the toast which had been so eloquently proposed and cordially responded to.

The health of the R.W. the Installing Master Col. Bowyer, Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire, was responded to by that esteemed and much respected brother, whose love of Freemasonry and willingness as well as ability to perform any and every office in the Craft which he may be invited to perform, is so universally known and so highly appreciated by all who know him, that the mention of his name by the proposer of his health produced a perfect furore of applause, and his response was received with the warmest and long continued marks of enthusiastic feeling.

The toast of "The Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Masters present" was responded to by the Prov. G.M. for Somerset, Bro. A. W. Adair, in a brief but thoroughly fraternal speech, expressing his hearty good wishes for the prosperity of Freemasonry in the province, which so closely joins his own, and is only separated therefrom by a narrow strip of water, and he expressed a hope that he might have the pleasure of receiving the brethren present in his province, and, whenever they did pay him a visit, he would promise them a hearty welcome.

The next toast, No. 7 on the list, "The Health of the Worshipful Bro. Morris, Deputy Provincial Grand Master," was received in a manner so enthusiastic as to stand second to none amongst the toasts of the evening, and the encomiums passed upon him were warmly received, as they were justly deserved, and it is a matter of regret that the limited space that is at our disposal in the MAGAZINE forbids our attempting to undertake the task of reporting all the praises bestowed upon him for his great zeal and ability as a Mason, and his great exertions

in the province, or his admirable reply in acknowledging the toast, and the enthusiastic reception to it; but we may add our testimony of the zeal and ability of Bro. Morris as a Mason, and to his great courtesy and attention to the brethren and visitors in general, and in particular to the representative of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.

Bro. B. J. SPIERS, D. Prov. G.M. of Oxfordshire, responded to the toast of the D. Prov. G.M.'s present in his usual impressive but quiet gentlemanly style, and expressed the great pleasure he felt at seeing the province in so promising a condition.

"The Visitors," responded to by the Grand Chaplain of England; "The Prov. G. Officers," responded to by Bro. Michael, S.G.W., brought the list of toasts down to "The Masonic Charities," whereupon was called forth the united eloquence of Bros. Patten and Binckes, against who's appeals in the cause of charity, what body of mortal men can stand, however resolute or formidably arrayed, and we do believe that if ever Bro. Binckes did make one speech more forcible or admirably addressed to the subject than another, he did upon this occasion excel; indeed, he out-Binckised himself.

With the toast of "The Glamorgan Lodge and the Lodges of the Province," which toast was responded to by the W.M. of the Glamorgan Lodge, Bro. D. Roberts, the proceedings of the evening were terminated, and the brethren separated about 9.30 p.m., highly delighted with the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting, and with the admirable manner in which they had been presided over at the banquet by the Prov. G.M., whose additional hospitality added materially to the enjoyment of the evening.

Obituary.

BRO. COL. LLOYD V. WATKINS, M.P., P.M.

On the 23th ult., at Brecon, in his sixty-third year, died Bro. Col. John Lloyd Vaughan Watkins, her Majesty's Lieutenant for the county of Brecon, and M.P., and alderman for the borough. He was initiated into Freemasonry in St. Peter's Lodge (No. 476), Carmarthen, and it was through his exertions the Brecknock Lodge (No. 651) was established in 1855. He was installed Worshipful Master in 1857, and his regular and punctual attendance at the lodge was an example to all. The loss the Brecknock Lodge has sustained will be most severely felt.

As a mark of respect to departed merit, the W.M. has requested the lodge to be placed in mourning for three months.

BRO. JOHN T. ARCHER.

We regret to announce the death of this well-known brother, at Cork, on the 25th ult., after a short illness. Bro. Archer was initiated in the Bedford Lodge (No. 183), in 1840, became P.M. of the same, and was presented with a £5 jewel, was a member of the Robert Burns Lodge (No. 25), a member of the Globe Lodge (No. 30), member of the Lodge of Regularity (No. 108), Past Master of the same lodge, and presented with a £5 jewel; was appointed Grand Steward by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, was an honorary member of the Pythagorean Lodge (No. 93), Greenwich, one of the founders of the Preston Lodge (No. 1008), Putney, of the Beadon Lodge (No. 902) Kew Bridge, and the Polish National Lodge (No. 778), of which he was a Past Master, and was decorated with the Polish White Eagle and Golden Cross, in company with the M.W. Grand Master the Earl of Zetland, the late Earl of Yarborough, and the late Lord Dudley Stuart; was a member of the Board of General Purposes three years, a member of the Board of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows six years, governor for life of the same institution, governor for life of the Freemasons' Girls' School, subscriber for life of Freemasons' Boys' School, exalted to the Royal Arch degree in the Chapter of Prudence (No. 12), on the 24th January, 1845. The deceased brother was one of the founders of Robert Burns Chapter (No. 25), an honorary member and Past Prin-

cipal of the chapter, and was presented with a £6 jewel; was also one of the founders of the Polish Chapter (No. 778), Past Principal and honorary member of the same. He joined No. 8 Lodge, Cork, and was a subscribing member of No. 3 Lodge; also a member of No. 3 Royal Arch Chapter, and Past Z. or 1st P. of same.

Bro. Archer, since his arrival in Cork, some five years ago, has, by his kind and affable manners and abilities as a Mason, endeared himself, not only to the Masonic body but also to many of his acquaintances.

The funeral procession moved from Hydes Hotel (where he died) at nine o'clock on Wednesday morning, the 27th ult., followed by upwards of a hundred of the brethren wearing blue and those entitled wearing blue and crimson rosettes, with sprigs of acacia in the lapel of the coat, crape, and white gloves. The whole of his Masonic jewels, collars, and aprons were laid on the coffin. The pall bearers were Bros. W. Marsh, E. W. Wigmore, and F. Grey, K.T.'s; W. Stephens, Jos. Grey, and W. Barnard, R.A.M.'s, all of No. 3 Royal Arch Chapter.

BRO. H. L. P. GENTILE.

On the 26th ult., at Naples, of consumption, in his 31st year, Bro. Henry Louis Pascal Gentile. He was initiated in the Northumberland Lodge, at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and afterwards joined the Lodge of Good Report. He was exalted in the Mount Zion Chapter, and became a member of the Keystone Mark Lodge. He was much esteemed by a large circle of friends. Having been for a long time in declining health, his passing away was not unexpected.

NOTES ON MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Mr. Walter Montgomery, the manager of the new Nottingham theatre, has got into trouble with a local dissenting minister, Mr. Baxter. Mr. Montgomery, in his opening address, had thought fit to say, "Recognised as our profession is by the highest in the land, we have little to fear from the clouded intellect and narrow prejudices of a limited few, but even they shall be convinced (if they come amongst us) that there is nothing inconsistent in the following our profession and wearing 'the light yoke of that Lord of love who stilled the rolling waves of Galilee.'" Mr. Baxter denounced this as blasphemy, and Mr. Montgomery called upon him for an apology under threat of legal proceedings. Mr. Baxter declined to apologise, declaring that he adhered to the opinion he had expressed. Mr. Montgomery retorts in an address, in which he charges Mr. Baxter with "deliberately inflaming a congregation with the most vindictive passions, turning the holy house of prayer into a bear garden resounding with responsive howls at every fresh denunciation." He adds, "It would not have surprised me to have seen my beautiful theatre in flames at the hands of some excited fanatic an hour after that fiery attack."

A meeting of gentlemen interested in the continuance of the festivals of the three choirs of Worcester, Hereford, and Gloucester has been held at Worcester, to take preliminary steps for the next festival, which would come, in due course, to the turn of Worcester next year. The Lord Bishop of Worcester presided, and among those present were the High Sheriff of the county (Mr. Royd), the Mayor of Worcester (Mr. J. D. Perrin), the Right Hon. Sir J. S. Pakington, Bart., M.P., Sir E. A. H. Lechmere, Bart., M.P., Mr. Sheriff, M.P., &c. It was resolved, on the motion of the Bishop, that those present should form themselves into a committee to take the preliminary steps for the next festival, and that the usual request should be preferred to the Dean and Chapter for the use of the cathedral and college hall.

Mr. Mapleson announces a short season of Italian

opera at her Majesty's theatre, to commence on the 23rd inst. The operas are to be "Faust," "Fidelio," "Don Giovanni," and "Der Freischütz," the singers Mdle. Titians, Mr. Santley, Signor Gardoni, and other members of Mr. Mapleson's Company.

The *Orchestra* mentions a rumour that Government are taking steps to interdict the sale of the song introduced into "Arrah-na-Pogue"—"The Wearing of the Green." To be consistent they must prohibit the singing also; but Government can hardly be so foolish.

Liszt, they say, has converted the Pope to a liking for Haydn and Mozart. He plays daily before his Holiness, but only religious works now. Operas are tabooed. Liszt has declined the prelacy which was offered him; he prefers remaining a simple priest.

A new English vocalist, a Miss Brereton, has been singing with great success in Paris, and the correspondent of the *Orchestra* predicts that her name will become a "household word" in England before long.

Tamberlik has been decorated with the order of Charles III. of Spain. He is one of the few on whom the Emperor of Russia has bestowed his large golden medal surrounded with brilliants.

The *Orchestra* says that a triangular tract of ground at Knightsbridge, which covers one of the large plague-pits of 1665, has been taken for the purpose of erecting a theatre.

King Victor Emmanuel has just conferred an annual allowance of 450*l.* on the son of Guiglini, the tenor, to facilitate his admission into a naval school.

Astley's is now open with a new piece by Mr. John Brougham, called "The Child of the Sun," with Miss Menkin as the heroine.

Mdlle. Adelina Patti is expected in Paris, where she will remain quiet for some time, as the state of her health requires repose.

The *Orchestra* says that the frequent rumours with regard to Miss Bateman's marriage are so far true that she has become the wife of an American gentleman—a pianist.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.

A merry, rattling farce, written by Mr. O. S. Cheltenham, and entitled "Dinner for Nothing," was brought out here on Monday evening with complete success. The leading idea of the plot is a droll one, and some of the situations are contrived with a good deal of comic skill. Mr. John Biffles (Mr. J. Clarke), a philanthropist on the largest conceivable scale, has placed a placard in the window of his suburban residence announcing that he is ready to extend hospitality gratis to foreigners of all nations, and has moreover driven his cook to desperation by commanding her to prepare a number of outlandish dishes in order that he may be enabled to gratify the peculiar tastes of the denizen of every clime. His conduct is naturally looked upon with extreme disfavour by Mrs. Biffles (Miss Sophie Larkins), his wife, and Arabella (Miss Weston), his daughter; and Fred Hallibut (Mr. Sydney Bancroft), the young lady's lover, undertake to cure the too generous Briton of his folly. He disguises himself as a Frenchman, and induces a number of his friends to personate the natives of all manner of countries; the motley crew invade the domestic hearth of Mr. John Biffles, fleece him unmercifully, and involve him in a variety of alarming and apparently perilous entanglements, being materially aided therein by Arabella, who presents herself as a gushing and persecuted Italian maiden flying from the obnoxious advances of *Il Conte Bentivoglio* (Mr. Hare), a sham fire-eating compatriot, and in the end the would-be universal host abandons his scheme of keeping open house for

foreigners. This little piece is excellent fooling, and it was acted throughout with an earnestness which gave full effect to the author's diverting idea. Some of the parts were remarkably well played. Mr. J. Clarke's overflowing and exaggerated sentimentalism, his bold but abortive attempts to express himself in divers languages, and his horrified bewilderment when he found himself in the midst of annoyances and dangers of a purely exotic character, provoked repeated roars of hearty laughter; his make-up was admirable, and his performance was full of natural humour. Mr. Sydney Bancroft was capital in his disguise as the *Chevalier du Brouillard*, and spoke his French lines excellently; Mr. Hare threw a great deal of character into his impersonation of the jealous and bloodthirsty Italian; and cordial praise must be bestowed upon Mr. J. Tindale for his singularly clever acting in the little part of a Japanese. Miss Sophie Larkins had not much to do, but the little that was seen of her confirmed the favourable impression which she produced on her first appearance here; Miss Weston, a new comer, looked very pretty and acted nicely, though we would suggest that her disguise when she appears as the Italian girl should be much less transparent, so as to render it conceivable that her father should be deceived; and Miss Blanche Wilton played the most peripatetic waiting-maid ever seen upon the stage with unflagging vivacity and energy, rendering substantial service to the piece and entitling herself to warm commendation.

Mr. H. J. Byron's sparklingly written burlesque of "Lucia di Lammermoor" still continues to delight the audiences which nightly crowd this bright and elegant theatre, and will doubtless hold its place in the bill for many weeks to come. Nothing could well be more perfect in its way than the style in which this piece is acted; the piquancy and delicately refined humour of Miss Marie Wilton, the jaunty grace of Miss Fanny Josephs, the thoroughly artistic *verve* of Miss Hughes, the grotesque tenderness and droll despair of Mr. J. Clarke, the admirably exaggerated and comical intensity of Mr. F. Dewar, and the quiet fun of Mr. H. W. Montgomery combine to create a series of side-splitting burlesque pictures which find charming backgrounds in the pretty scenery; and we should not omit to note that the band is a capital one, and that the singing is of far more than average excellence.

REVIEWS.

Happy to Meet. Song with chorus; written by Bro. G. W. Chase. Music composed and dedicated to the brethren of the Lodge of Harmony (No. 600), Bradford, by Frederick C. Atkinson.

We have pleasure in noticing Bro. Atkinson's musical offering; it is very cheery and good. The words to which the music is set were given in our issue No. 227, Nov. 7, 1863. We recommend Bro. Atkinson's production as well worthy of a place amongst the various pieces of Masonic music which have from time to time appeared.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal family attended by the Court, will, it is understood, return to Windsor Castle from Scotland on or about the 1st of November. The Queen and her Royal Highness the Princess Helena, attended by the Marchioness of Ely and Lieut.-General the Hon. C. Grey, drove to the Spittal of Glenshie, and rode over the hill to Dunkeld, on a visit to the Dowager Duchess of Athole, on the 11th inst., and returned to Balmoral on the following Friday. The Queen, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Prince Alfred, Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse, Princess Helena, and Prin

cess Louise, and attended by the Marchioness of Ely, Lieut.-General the Hon. C. Grey, and Major-General Seymour, was present at Divine service at the parish church of Crathie on Sunday last. Dr. N. Macleod officiated, and in the evening had the honour of dining with her Majesty.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The births in London and ten other large towns of the kingdom last week exceeded the deaths by nearly twelve hundred, and in London alone by over six hundred; yet the actual exceeds the estimated death rate by 82, the number of deaths being 1,361 during the week. Diarrhoea, however, which took on an average 87 victims during the preceding six weeks, was content with 54, so that the public will now have one more argument against the alarmists about cholera. Six deaths are reported from accidents in the streets. London was healthier than any other great city of the kingdom, except Bristol, which was one per thousand less, Dublin coming next in salubrity, notwithstanding the awful smells from the Liffey. Liverpool was the highest, being 36 per 1,000 against Bristol's 21.—The Eldon Club of Norwich held their anniversary dinner on Wednesday evening, the 11th inst. when Mr. Chester Waters, the Conservative candidate at the late election, was present, and met with an enthusiastic reception. Lord Henry Thynne, M.P., Captain Peel, and other distinguished persons were present, and expressed their high respect for Mr. Waters, and their conviction that if he had been chosen at the last election, Norwich would have reason to be proud of her representative.—A public school for the instruction of the sons of the middle classes has been erected at Cranley, in Surrey, and was opened with some ceremony on the 12th inst. There was a public meeting, at which the High Sheriff of Surrey presided, and which was addressed by the Bishop of Winchester, the Earl of Carnarvon, Mr. C. Buxton, M.P., and several other gentlemen. The object of the school is to impart a sound plain education, on the public school system, and according to the principles of the Church of England. The school is calculated to accommodate 150 boys, and a considerable number have already joined.—A Court of Common Council was held on the 12th inst., at which the principal subject of discussion was the propriety of keeping Southwark Bridge toll free. The stipulated period for the removal of the toll expires next month, and Alderman Salomons moved a resolution that arrangements be made for keeping it open for another twelve months with the option of purchasing the bridge altogether. The motion was strenuously opposed, not from any doubt as to the convenience afforded by the bridge being free, for that was admitted on all hands, but because the motion pointed to the chance of the corporation purchasing it altogether, for which it was said there were no funds forthcoming. The motion was, however, carried by a small majority.—A meeting of the Middlesex magistrates was held on the 12th inst. at which reports were made on the state of the various prisons under their control, and discussions also took place on the propriety of having the Industrial School at Feltham placed on the same footing with other reformatories, but the matter was postponed for twelve months. It was brought to the notice of the magistrates that the Indian Government was now in the habit of sending home lunatics, some of whom were left to wander about the country, and the matter was deemed so serious to the county of Middlesex that a deputation was appointed to wait upon the Secretary of State for India upon that subject.—The execution of John Currie, for the murder of Major De Vere, at Chatham, took place at Maidstone, on the 12th inst. There was an intention to have the sentence carried out in Chatham barrack-yard, on the scene of the murder, but other views prevailed, and the execution was ordered at the

usual place. The prisoner is said to have been very penitent, and to have confessed that he had no reasonable ground of animosity against his victim. This is so far satisfactory, as it disproves the charge insinuated at the time of the murder, that the major's harshness to his men had provoked the crime.—A curious and rather amusing episode occurred at the Reigate revision of the voters for East Surrey. Mr. Burt, one of the Liberal agents, brought a charge against the Reigate overseers that they had framed their list with a Conservative bias. The revising barrister at once proceeded to investigate the charge, when it turned out that the overseers were Liberals, and their bias, if any, must have been on the other side. It is due to Mr. Curtis, another Liberal agent, to say that he protested against the charge.—A meeting of the Sanitarium Commission of the City was held on the 12th inst., when Mr. Gibbins, the chairman, stated that he, as chairman of the markets committee of the corporation, had been examined before the Royal Commission on the cattle plague, but that no question was put to him on the subject of providing a sanitarium for cattle; and it was not till the close of his examination that he volunteered his opinion in favour of the curability of the disease. Several members of the committee were of the same opinion, and stated several facts within their own knowledge where diseased cattle had been cured. It was then resolved that a deputation should go from the committee to enforce these views on the commission.—At the meeting of the Board of Works a report was read from Dr. Letheby disclosing a new danger to health from the admission into the public sewers of the refuse of certain manufactures. The question of an increase of salary to the engineers of the board was again brought up, and after a good deal of discussion, and the rejection of several amendments, it was agreed to increase Mr. Bazalgette's salary to £2,000, and his assistants to £800 each.—The colliers of Cramlington, a pit village in the north, have been on strike for several weeks; and as there was no sign of the pitmen returning to work their employers resolved to evict them from their cottages, which, as is generally the case in the north, are held by the pitmen rent free, as part of their remuneration. It happened, unfortunately, that the days selected for the evictions were wet and stormy, and as the pitmen made no preparation to go elsewhere the turning them and their families out of doors in the drenching rain added to the excitement and indignation which was felt by their fellow-workmen through the district. On the 12th inst. the evictions were resumed till one of the pitmen, more clever than his neighbours, barricaded his door, and, as the evictors had no warrant to force it open, the proceedings were suspended.—A murder was committed in Great Yarmouth on Thursday night, the 12th inst. A Dutch sailor was dancing in a low beer-shop, when the captain and one of his comrades tried to induce him to go on board. He refused, and unsheathing a knife, stabbed his comrade to the heart. With a brutal levity, which we should hope is not often paralleled, the other inmates proceeded with their dancing as if nothing had happened, till the police interfered and stopped them.—It will be remembered that at Plymouth a few days ago a woman named Brown was charged on suspicion of having intended to bury her husband alive, and on her first examination it was stated that the poor man had been put in his coffin. This, however, seems to have been incorrect, but what is true is bad enough. While Brown lay in a helpless state his wife sent for the undertaker, who measured him for his coffin, and did not discover that he was living, partly on account of the readiness with which the woman explained a gurgling sound which he heard, and partly because the patient, although conscious, was unable to speak. The man's life was insured for

fourteen pounds. He is sixty-two years old, while his amiable wife has reached the more mature age of seventy-eight. She has been discharged from custody on promising that she would not re-enter the dwelling of her sick husband.—Sergeant Dransfield, the musketry instructor of the 1st Tower Hamlets Volunteers, who was accidentally killed, was buried on Sunday last at Bow cemetery. Most of the metropolitan volunteer regiments sent representatives to the funeral, which was wholly of a military character. The procession of volunteers was fully a half mile in length.—Earl de Grey and Ripon and Sir Charles Wood were present at the banquet given by the Mayor of Ripon on Friday night, the 13th inst. Earl De Grey, in a speech which he made, sang the praises of the Government with good heart. Sir Charles Wood was as impassive as ever. He thought that "upon the whole" the general election was in favour of the Government. "He did not think that either Fenianism in Ireland or the cattle plague in England afforded any cause of great anxiety."—The inquest on the young woman Caroline Milner, who was found dead in her bed in a lodging-house in Little Drummond-street, St. Pancras, was resumed on Monday. There were suspicions that the woman had come by her death through foul practices. The evidence, however, proved that death had resulted from natural causes, and a verdict to that effect was returned by the jury.—The inquest on the man Mindle, who died suddenly in a coffee-house in Bloomsbury, was resumed on Monday. It was suspected that Mindle had been poisoned, but a *post-mortem* examination failed to discover any signs of poison in the stomach. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes.—At the meeting of the City Sewers Commissioners on Tuesday a deputation of owners of slaughterhouses in Newgate-market attended to protest against the proposed removal of the slaughter-houses within the City of London. These, it seems, from Dr. Letheby's report, are 58 in number, and one and all are said to be of considerable annoyance to the inhabitants of the neighbourhoods in which they are situated. The protest of the deputation so far prevailed that it was resolved to refer the question back to the general purposes committee. A letter from the clerk of the council with reference to the disposal of the bodies of cattle dying of the plague was read and referred to the select committee. Dr. Letheby's report showed that in the past week 4,500lb. of meat had been condemned. What had been done to its would-be vendors.—The Lord Mayor on Tuesday held an examination in the case of the persons charged with the extensive frauds upon foreigners. The case against Barthe being completed by reading formally the correspondence between the prisoner and the Bishop of Hildesheim, he was committed for trial, bail being refused. The two Jourdain, against whom the evidence is not yet sufficiently detailed in court, were remanded until next week, when the case will doubtless be handed over to the November sessions of the Central Criminal Court.—On Tuesday morning the fronts of three houses situated in Limehouse fell into the street, killing a child who was passing. The occupants of the houses, it seems, had been forewarned, so that the imminence of the danger was not unknown. A serious responsibility, therefore, appears to rest upon those who allowed passengers to come within danger. The owner of the houses employed a number of men to clear away the ruins. One man would probably have been enough to keep the roadway clear. At any rate, if there was time to warn the inmates there was surely time to either shore up the houses or to keep even children beyond risk.—It is with sincere regret that we announce the death of Lord Palmerston. The health of the noble Premier had for some days caused great anxiety amongst his own circle, but on

Monday and Tuesday he had so far rallied as to induce the expectation of his recovery. On Tuesday evening, however, "his condition altered suddenly for the worse;" dangerous symptoms supervened; he gradually sank during the night, and expired on Wednesday morning at a quarter to eleven o'clock. The immediate cause of his lordship's death was not gout, but a severe cold, resulting in internal inflammation, which, at his advanced age, could not be combated. He died within two days of his eighty-first year.—The strike at Cramlington has assumed very formidable proportions. The military have been called out, although no further evictions have taken place. On Tuesday six of the rioters were charged at Newcastle with unlawful assembly and disturbance of the peace, and having pleaded not guilty, were committed for trial at Alnwick sessions. When good sense is beginning to prevail in the old field of contest in Staffordshire, it is a pity that an effort should not be made in the north to bring together masters and men, the latter now having been on strike for more than seventeen weeks.—On Wednesday one of the inspectors of cattle appointed under the Order in Council applied to the Westminster magistrate for a warrant to break into certain premises to which he had been refused admission, and in which he believed diseased cattle to be kept. The magistrate informed him that under the act he had power to enforce administration by virtue of his appointment and without a warrant. Recalcitrant dealers will, therefore, in future have their gates subjected to the action of sledge hammers. A deputation from the sanitarium committee of the Corporation of London on Wednesday awaited on the Royal Commissioners appointed to inquire into the cattle plague, and stated their views on the question of the establishment of hospitals for the diseased animals. Some of the members of the deputation were examined, but of course no conclusion was announced by the commissioners, who are sitting every day, and devoting their attention to the rather unattractive subject with a perseverance worthy of all praise.—At the Hampstead Police-court, on Wednesday, a new and rather ingenious device for raising money was revealed. A youth was in the habit of calling on householders, and stating that he had overheard some men planning a burglary at that house, and he had taken the trouble to come and warn them. Of course he asked for his railway fare, and appears to have got it. He was committed for trial on four distinct charges, and will probably have leisure at Holloway to meditate on some other clever trick.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The reported commencement of the evacuation of a portion of Papal territory by the French troops is contradicted. It is now announced that the movement will not commence for a few weeks. In connection with this matter much interest is attached to Count Walewski's trip to Florence. The count previous to his departure having visited Biarritz, it is assumed that he has been entrusted by the Emperor with some secret and special communications to the Italian Court relative to the convention of September.—In the South of France the cholera has almost disappeared, and it is to be hoped that the recent storms may have purified the atmosphere, and that any further spread of epidemic may so be prevented.—According to the *Wanderer* of Vienna, the new Austrian loan is concluded. Messrs. Rothschild's several houses, and Messrs. Baring Brothers, of London, are, according to this authority, the contractors for the loan, which will be issued in two emissions of sixty millions of florins each.—It is believed in Vienna that several of the minor German Governments are about to recognise the kingdom of Italy immediately, and that the negotiations between Prussia and

Italy for the conclusion of a treaty of commerce between the latter power and the Zollverein will then be carried successfully out.—The cholera has been very severe in Madrid within the last few days—that is to say, there have been a great many cases of cholera, but the proportion of deaths does not seem to us to have been large. A wild, indeed we cannot help calling it a disgraceful panic, appears to have prevailed. Over 60,000 people have fled from the city, and the election movements which were going on are stated to have been completely suspended; this, too, although the latest accounts represent the disease as decidedly diminishing.—The Paris correspondent of a morning contemporary mentions some rumours afloat in that city in consequence of a hasty summons to St. Cloud, received by the Marquis de Moustier, French Ambassador to Constantinople, who has been on leave of absence in Paris, but is now hurriedly sent back to his post. The story told in some circles was that Prince Couza is very sick, and, being childless, would leave in case of his death Roumania open to new fortunes, and that the French Government intends, in such an event, to endeavour to have it annexed to Austria, on consideration of Austria's giving up Venetia to Italy. Need we say that we do not profess any faith in this story?—It is reported that the chief topic of discussion at a meeting of the French Cabinet, held on Monday, was the propriety of publishing returns of the number of cholera cases in Paris. Considerable alarm exists in the public mind on the subject, and it is very probable that the exact truth might prove less serious than the unenlightened imagination of the people leads them to believe it to be. The *Temps*, in an elaborate article, upon which the appearance of carefully prepared statistics confers an air of authority, maintains that there is no reasonable ground for the exaggerated apprehensions entertained in some quarters.—A French paper calls attention to a system of fraud now being practised by some rogues in London upon tradesmen on the Continent. The method pursued is to profess to give prizes to unsuccessful exhibitors at the last Exhibition, and to obtain a sum of money by way of admission fee to a society formed for that object.—According to a Paris correspondent a number of the speculators in Anglo-French Mexican Stocks are considerably indebted to the New York correspondent of the *Times* for the *canard* he transmitted to Printing-house-square by the last mail, respecting the threatening dispatch by the Washington Government to France on the Mexican monarchy. As a fluctuation of about one per cent. in the price of the stock followed the arrival of the Transatlantic duck dealers made a pretty good thing out of it.—Austria, Prussia, Italy, Spain, and Portugal, are said to have announced their concurrence in the proposal to hold a congress at Constantinople for the purpose of devising means to prevent the importation of cholera from the East by Mahomedan pilgrims. England and Russia, it is understood, have not yet intimated their decision. Cholera has made its appearance in Naples, two cases having occurred on the 14th.—We learn from Madrid that the Constitutional Progressist party have decided on abandoning the policy of abstention, and that they will accordingly take part in the approaching elections. The cholera still prevails in the same city, but the mortality was slightly decreasing.—On the 9th inst., a party of ten Pontifical Dragoons encountered a band of brigands, near Spurgola, and effected the release, without payment to the brigands, of a prisoner for whom they had demanded a ransom of 12,000 crowns. The brigands, we suppose, were told to go about their business.

AMERICA.—The New York correspondent of a morning contemporary gives an account of the proceedings of the Fenians in New York, and argues from their martial preparations that

they mean something more than mere talk. He is, nevertheless, of opinion that prompt and determined action on the part of our Government will "squench out" Fenianism both here and in the United States. The effect produced on the North American Fenians when the news of the arrest of their fellow conspirators and the failure of the plot in Ireland reaches them, will be watched with great interest. A New York telegram of October 6th states that there had been a semi-official statement that the United States would take no action inconsistent with entire neutrality in regard to Mexico. The *Moravian* brings news that the North Carolina Convention had declared the secession ordinance to be null and void. President Johnson had, it is said, pardoned Mr. Humphreys, the elected Governor of Mississippi. There had been an incendiary fire at Mobile, by which 6,000 bales of cotton were destroyed. St. Louis papers report the arrival of Juarez at Santa Fe *en route* for the United States, but the report is considered doubtful. There had been a meeting of Fenians at the Astor House. The orents in Ireland were canvassed, and a general congress of the entire order was summoned to meet at Philadelphia on the 16th inst.

INDIA, CHINA, &c.—There is no news of importance from India. The negotiations with Bhootan have led to no satisfactory result, and the Rajah is still boggling over terms. Sir Harry Parkes has re-established the British Legation at Yeddo, the post of danger, and therefore, as is supposed, of honour.—From New Zealand we have some further particulars of the dissensions between General Cameron and the Governor, but as the former has returned to this country, this episode now belongs to history. The situation of affairs, in a political sense is becoming more complicated. On the meeting of the Legislature the Auckland members actually debated whether they should take their seats or stand aloof altogether from that body. Mr. Weld's ministry, nevertheless, appears to be very strong. He is going to dispense entirely with the Imperial troops, and to give representation to the natives.—The Cape mail has arrived. The news is down to September 13. The Boers reported that they had driven the Basutos to bay, and that Moshesh was suing for peace. On the frontier of the Cape Colony everything was quiet. The other news is not of importance.—A telegram dated Rio Janeiro, September 28th, says that Uruguayana was closely invested by the Brazilian forces, but had not been taken.—According to the accounts brought by the West India mail, the weather in the islands was generally favourable and the crops promising. The late hurricane at Guadaloupe had been attended with a great destruction of property, and the loss of many lives. The most important piece of news from Central America is that the Salvador Government had tried ex-President General Barrios by court-martial, which condemned him to be shot, and the sentence was immediately executed. The proceeding had given great offence to Nicaragua, and a war between the two republics was considered as likely to ensue. From the Pacific we learn that the revolution in Peru is still proceeding, and that the rebels were gaining ground.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * * All communications to be addressed to 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, W.C.

LEX.—1. Yes; quite legal. 2. You are wrong, as the brother was a Mason, and as such entitled to vote. 3. As to your postscript, that does not influence the question, as it was not necessary the fee or subscription should at that time have been paid.