

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1866.

THE POPE AND FREEMASONRY.

We inserted, in our last, a letter from Bro. Milner, B.A., Chaplain R.N., upon the above subject, addressed to the editor of the *Cork Constitution*; the following is the second of the series of four letters written by our able and much-respected brother:—

In my first letter, I stated that the ancient mysteries practised all over the world, having the same symbols, must have had one common origin. All divine truth was taught in the parent society—in every Masonic lodge—by means of symbols; by the same symbols, improperly interpreted, the ancient mysteries in the spurious Masonic lodges taught the same truths at first more or less distinctly, but subsequently (after they had lost the key), they gave the most absurdly false explanations of them, and the pure light of Masonry in those places became extinguished, and the dark and degrading rites of superstition usurped its place.

“The first learning in the world (says Stukeley) consisted chiefly in symbols. The wisdom of the Chaldeans, Phœnicians, Egyptians, Jews, of Zoroaster; Sanchoniathon, Pherecydes, Cyrus, Pythagoras, Socrates, Plato, of all the ancients that is come to our hand, is symbolic.” Serranus on Plato’s Symposium, says that “it was the mode of the ancient philosophers to represent truth by certain symbols and hidden images.” To give your readers some idea of the nature of those symbols, and the sort of teaching inculcated by their means, I will select a few of those used by Pythagoras, with their explanations:—

1. The equilateral triangle, “a perfect figure, referring to God, the principle and author of all sublunary things, who in His body resembles light, and in His soul truth, He was, and is, and shall be.”

2. Right angle, or square, “comprehends the union of the celestial and terrestrial capacities, and is an emblem of morality and justice.”

3. The perfect square “represents the divine mind.” This was the Tetractys, which I stated in my former letter was so difficult to explain. “Stanley, Lives,” &c., p. 106, thus remarks:—“The great Pythagoric symbol was one and two, which were used as the names of propagation, one being the father, two the mother. The multiplication of unity and duality (once, twice two) make four, the Tetractys, the idea of all things, which

are consummated in the number ten.” I hope your readers are edified by the explanation.

4. The cube was “a symbol of the mind of man after a well-spent life in acts of piety and devotion, which is thus perfectly prepared by virtue for translation into the society of the celestial gods.” The tetragonos aner of Aristotle’s Ethics, which has puzzled many an aspirant for classical honours at Oxford, may be freely translated “a regular brick,” as being more expressive than the literal rendering usually adopted, “a four-square man.”

5. A point within a circle was “a symbol of the universe; mesauranios, because the most excellent body ought to have the most excellent place, viz., the centre.” The central fire was esteemed by Pythagoras the mansion of Jove.

6. The triple triangle (formed of five lines returning into itself) was “a symbol of health, and was called Hygeia.”

7. The 47th Prop. of the 1st Book of Euclid was invented by Pythagoras, and is so extensively useful that it has been adopted in all lodges since his time, as a significant symbol of Masonry.

8. The letter Y, often used as a symbol of the Triune God, was also adopted as a symbolical character representing “the course of human life. Youth, arriving at manhood, sees two ways before him, and deliberates which he shall choose. If he meets with a guide that directs him to pursue philosophy, and he procures initiation, his life shall be honourable and his death happy. But if he omits to do this, and he takes the left hand path, which appears broader and better, it will lead to sloth and luxury; will waste his estate, impair his health, and bring on an old age of infamy and misery.”

But the principal symbols used in all the spurious lodges—in the cavern-lodges of Elephanta and Salsette of India, in Persia, in the mysteries of Eleusis, and other lodges of Greece—in Stonehenge, and other Celtic lodges of Britain—in the Gothic lodges of Odin, and in the American lodges of Vitzliputzli—the principal symbols in all these were the *serpent*, the *ark*, &c.; and the ceremonies in all cases bore a striking similarity to each other; while the doctrines taught were identically the same. They celebrated the death and resurrection of some imaginary being in whom their affections were interested, and to whom their devotions were directed to be paid. Osiris and Isis in Egypt, Bacchus and Rhea in Greece, Adonis and Venus

at Byblus, Mahaveda and Sita in India, Hu and Ceirdwen in Britain, Woden and Fria in Scandinavia, were the names of those imaginary deities. In Epigr. 30 of Ausonius we find the following lines, which will be readily understood:—

Ogygia me Bacchum vocat;
Osirin Egyptus putat;
Mysi Phanacem nominant;
Dionuson Indi existimant;
Romana sacra Liberum;
Arabica gens Adoneum.

The mysteries having gone on from bad to worse, in the year 364 A.D. Valentinian published an edict, forbidding nocturnal sacrifices, for the purpose of preventing indecencies which were perpetrated in them. The pro-Consul, of Greece, Pretextatus, relaxed the law, and permitted them to be celebrated in that country provided everything was done decently and in order. Soon afterwards, however, Theodosius sent orders to Egypt that the temples and places of initiation should be closed, and that was done accordingly. The old rites were secretly practised in Greece for several centuries—till the eighth century in Athens according to Psellus; and the old Bardic writings inform us that they were still celebrated in Wales and Scotland down to the twelfth century of Christianity.

I will not trouble your readers with authorities for the following statement, nor could you afford me the necessary space. You must, therefore, be pleased to take it for granted, that in all the old mysteries (at least in their palmy days), these extraordinary doctrines were regularly taught—viz., the unity and trinity of the Godhead (*e.g.*, in Plato), the creation and fall of man, and the expiation of sin by the voluntary death of a promised mediator. There were undoubted references in their teaching to the sin of our first parents and their expulsion from Paradise—a sin produced by a serpent tempter—to the first fratricide, and various antediluvian transactions, to the destruction of the human race by a deluge, and the saving of one just family in a boat or ark—to the deliverance of the chosen people from their Egyptian bondage—to the sacrifice of Isaac, &c.; and, what is far more wonderful, they taught a resurrection and a future state even more clearly than those abstruse doctrines were understood by the Jews, the candidate at his initiation being figured as dying, and being afterwards restored to life. They also taught that the good would be rewarded, and the wicked punished after death. Of course such a strange coincidence as that of such sublime doctrines as

these being taught universally in countries debarred from intercourse with each other can only be accounted for on the supposition that they had one common parentage—viz., primitive Freemasons, which has preserved the same old symbols along with the primitive explanation of them.

I will just quote a few authorities to shew what our ancient British forefathers taught in their rude open-air lodges. Selden shows that they taught the unity of the Deity; “their invocations (he says) were made to one all-preserving power, and they argued that as this power was not matter, it must necessarily be the Deity, and the secret symbol used to express His name was O I W.” They believed that the earth, having been once destroyed by a deluge, would next be consumed by fire, “*aliquando igni periturum*,” they also believed in a future state and a day of judgment.—“Caesar de Bell Gall. vi. 13.” They retained some knowledge of the redemption of mankind through the death of a mediator.—*Ibid.* It is difficult to understand how some of these tenets could have been taught even in the genuine Masonic lodges, for some of them are subjects of direct revelation only fully made known in the later Scriptures.

I will touch on one other point before I leave the old mysteries, as I think I can apply it to your own country.

When Zoroaster reformed the religion of the Persians—of course through the mysteries—he induced them to cease worshipping in the open air, on bare hill tops, in irregular circles of unhewn stone, and they commenced to build covered temples. They had been in the habit of worshipping the sun and fire, as representatives of the omnipresent Deity, and he persuaded them to preserve the sacred fire in covered fire-towers (“Hyde de Rel. vet. Pers.” c. 8, et passim), which were circular buildings—in other words round towers—with a dome, and a small orifice at the top to let out the smoke. The fire was figurative of the sun, and the round tower represented the universe. Now, I cannot say for certain that these are the veritable round towers of Ireland, as I have not had the good fortune to examine any of them so as to see whether they agree with the description given by Hyde of the Persian buildings. I can only say that Dr. Borlase has traced a surprising uniformity in the temples, priests, doctrines, and worship of the Persian Magi and the British Druids. “This conformity (says Faber) is so striking and extraordinary, that Pellontier, in his history of the

Celts, will have it that the Persians and the Celts were originally one and the same people; and Major Vallancey is of the same opinion, adding that the Druids first flourished in the East, in Hindostan as Brahmins, in Babylon and Syria as Chaldeans, and in Persia as Magi, and from thence came hither with that great body of Persian Scythians, whom the Greeks call Phœnicians. See "Hutchinson's History of Cumberland," vol i. p. 247.

I suppose, then, that some of Zoraster's pupils made their way to Ireland, and propagated his religion here, fire-towers and all. I do not know what may be the received opinion amongst antiquarians as to the origin of these mysterious round towers, but for want of a better theory this may do.

What I have already stated will give your readers some idea of what primitive Freemasonry was like of which these old mysteries were spurious imitations. In another letter, with your kind permission, I will give some idea of modern Freemasonry.

In the meantime, I have the honour to be, your's faithfully,

JOHN MILNER, B.A., Chaplain, R.N.
H.M.S. Hector, Queenstown, 6th Jan. 1866.

TIDINGS FROM THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

Our readers will remember the papers on "Masonry in the Sandwich Islands," contributed by Bro. D. Murray Lyon, Prov. J.G.W. of Ayrshire, which appeared in the Magazine some years ago. King Kamehameha IV., and his Secretary of State, Robert Crichton Wylie, occupied a prominent place in these papers; but since their publication both monarch and statesman have joined the silent lodge. The recent appearance amongst us in widow's weeds of her who was the mother of the *lovetearu* whose death-bed scene was so touchingly depicted in the concluding one of the articles already referred to, was remindful of our late royal brother's death, as the piles of Honolulu newspapers received the other day make us acquainted with the demise of his Minister of Foreign Relations. Mr. Wylie studied at Glasgow College, and received his medical diploma before he was twenty years of age. He soon after left as surgeon in a vessel bound for the North Seas, and endured hardships

and braved dangers like a true Briton. He was thrice shipwrecked, and returned to Liverpool, but not to home, having left with the firm resolution to do so after he had earned a fame worthy of his name. Through the instrumentality of his late teacher, Dr. Barr, who was then in Liverpool, he re-embarked in a vessel bound for South America, where he for a short time practised as a surgeon, but soon turned his attention to mercantile affairs, for which in tact and talent he was in every respect adapted. After a sojourn of fourteen years there he revisited his native land, and, as one of the first fruits of his success, built a mansion house for his parents on the lands of Hazelbank, parish of Dunlop, Ayrshire, N.B. He then, feeling time hanging heavily on his hand, left for London, and was soon again engaged in mercantile transactions. But, acting on an idea which seemed to have actuated him, he went to the Sandwich Islands, where for the last twenty years he occupied an important field of usefulness with great benefits to the natives there and honour to himself. It is gratifying to find that from the highest to the lowest in that land of his adoption, all are as one in testifying to his many virtues, and recording his death as a truly national calamity.

The Privy Council and the Supreme Court of Hawaii have adopted resolutions expressive of the estimation in which Mr. Wylie was held, and of the loss the nation had sustained in his death; and at a special communication of the Lodge *Le Progrès de l'Océanie*, opened on the third degree of Masonry, the Worshipful Master, H. A. P. Carter, Esq., presiding, the following resolutions, expressive of the respect felt by the members of said lodge for their late brother, were unanimously accepted:—

Whereas, our Bro. Robert Crichton Wylie has been removed by death at the call of the Great Master from this present sphere of usefulness; it is hereby resolved by this lodge—

First.—That the Government of this Kingdom has lost an industrious and faithful public servant, and one who has been for more than twenty years devoted to its independence and its recognition among the great family of nations.

Second.—That the foreign community of these islands has lost an affable, humane, and charitable citizen, whose hand was guided by benevolence, and whose ear was ever open to the needs of the indigent and distressed.

Third.—That the Order of Freemasonry has

lost an industrious and zealous member of our brotherhood, who, although he was not an active member of this particular lodge, was always anxious to propagate the moral and sublime principles of our Royal Art, assisting, as he did, in the initiation, passing, and raising in this lodge of the late accomplished Sovereign of these Islands, thereby demonstrating to the world that Freemasonry knows no distinction except that which is conferred by virtue and merit. Therefore it is meet that this lodge should record upon its archives the worth of him who has done so much to establish on a firm basis the existence of this Kingdom, and who has left the legacy of his name to the perpetuity and universality of our Ancient Order throughout the globe.

Fourth.—Resolved, therefore, that these resolutions be inscribed upon our Book of Gold, that posterity may point to this example with pride, and be stimulated to imitate his public and private virtues.

The resolutions unanimously adopted by the Hawaiian Lodge, the Right Worshipful Master, W. F. Allen, presiding, were as follows:—

Resolved—That as a Mason and a man, this lodge entertained for its deceased brother the kindest feelings and most sincere respect and esteem, and that in his demise they deeply sympathise with the bereavement of his relatives, and deplore the loss to the Order and to the community of an honest, upright and benevolent member.

Resolved—That by this sad event, our Sovereign has sustained the loss of an eminently faithful, competent and indefatigably zealous servant, and the nation a sterling, disinterested and devoted friend, to whose efficient and unwearied exertions it is mainly indebted for its early affiliation with the great powers of the earth.

Resolved—That the members of this lodge shall wear the badge of mourning for thirty days from the 31st of October, 1865.

The funeral of Bro. Wylie took place with public honours, his remains being interred in the Royal Mausoleum, in which are deposited the bodies of several of the Kings and Queens, and many of the chief nobles of Hawaii. Besides the officials of the nation, the military, the Freemasons, and other public bodies, the funeral was very numerously attended by the foreign residents and the native population. After the corpse had been placed in the mausoleum, with the proper religious ceremonies, the impressive burial service

of the Royal Art was read by the Rev. W. Bro. W. F. Allen of Hawaiian Lodge (No. 21), assisted by Bro. R. G. Davis, P.M., of Lodge Progrès de l'Océanie.

Bro. Wylie was initiated October 29, 1826, at Mazatlan, in the "Unity and Fraternity" Lodge of that Presidio, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Mexico, working in the ancient York rite. He was an officer in the Grand Lodge of England, in 1839, when presided over by his late Royal Highness, the Duke of Sussex, and was an honorary member of Mother Kilwinning. He was also a Knight Templar.

MASONIC POETS OF SCOTLAND—No. II.

SIR WALTER SCOTT.*

By the REV. ANDREW R. BONAR, Minister of First Charge of Canonsgate, Edinburgh.

(Continued from page 28.)

At the grave of Fergusson, Burns uncovered his head and wept. Walter Scott only saw Burns once, but it cannot be doubted that the influence and remembrance of Burns had no small share in directing Scott's attention to the traditions of his native country; while, from ancestral predilection, he shared in the Jacobite leanings and predilections which contrasted so curiously with the republican assertions of the Ayrshire bard.

It were wrong to speak of Scott as, on some points, a representative of the feelings of his countrymen at large. His genius has, indeed, cast a fascinating aspect upon the fortunes of Queen Mary—and upon the daring attempt of Charles Edward Stuart to regain the crown which his ancestors had lost. We may admire the graphic descriptions in "Old Mortality," while we do not relish the perverted idea which it might impart to some regarding our Covenanting fathers; inasmuch as we know that it was, in their estimate, on no trivial account that they be-

* We had a strong impression, though no allusion is made to the fact by Mr. Lockhart, in the biography of his illustrious father-in-law, that Sir Walter Scott was a member of the Masonic fraternity. Our impression was correct. An obliging brother, Bro. Rhind, Master of St. David's Lodge, has kindly favoured us with the following information:—

"The name of Walter Scott, advocate, Edinburgh, appears in the minute books of St. David's Lodge as having been initiated at an 'emergency' meeting held on 2nd March, 1801. He was passed and raised on the same occasion, along with seventeen other brethren. On 23rd March, 1802, Mr., afterwards Sir Walter Scott, recommended for initiation an English gentleman, named Dewhurst Bilsbury—a circumstance from which it may be inferred that Scott then took considerable interest in the proceedings of the Craft."

We may take this opportunity of stating, that we shall feel much obliged by such information as may be furnished for our use containing Masonic particulars connected with other illustrious names in Scottish song. We propose to make the "Etrick Shepherd" the subject of our next biographical sketch.

took themselves to the wild desert and solitary moor, that they made shipwreck of fortune, and perilled even life itself. But, while making such deductions, as little does it become us to forget that we have quoted the name of the greatest literary man—as to the amount of labour accomplished, and the felicity and genius with which most of it was executed—that the nineteenth century has produced.

On the biography of Scott it were foreign to our purpose to dwell. Under certain aspects, it was not remarkable; under others, it was noticeable enough, and worthy of consideration. Unlike Burns, the muse did not summon Scott while following the plough. Unlike Chatterton, he attempted not, in antique guise, to give, in unripe youth, the productions of his genius to the world. Unlike Byron, he sinned not against the laws of society; made not his name a "scorn and hissing" to the public; nor like a stricken eagle, vainly endeavouring to pluck out the arrow that transfixed his breast—forsake the scene of duty, that he might mourn, pine, revel, and die at last, on an inhospitable shore. In Scott's case, none of the aberrations for which genius has frequently been pled as an excuse, were indulged. A literary profession he never viewed as the mainstay of life; on the contrary, if he became wrecked upon the shoals of monetary speculation, and sacrificed life in retrieving the ruin caused by haste to be "rich overmuch," for the purpose of "adding field to field"—of enriching his baronial home; if he valued more than the applause and honour of his countrymen, the idea of becoming founder of the Scotts of Abbotsford—an idea which the stern hand of death has rendered all but nugatory, sons, daughter, and son-in-law having been swept away—never has there been a nobler spectacle of its kind exhibited, than when weary, worn, and heart-sore, Scott set himself to wipe off the mighty load of incumbrance, and worked unceasingly with that end in view, till the spirit was found, after repeated trials, fairly to have overmastered the timent of clay.

To this latter epoch we are indebted for not a few of Scott's most laboured, if not most successful, works. When his romances—the once world-renowned Scotch novels—were in progress, his son-in-law and biographer has told us how thoroughly congenial the occupation seemed to be; how, though Abbotsford was frequented by guests, the morning hour or two sufficed for completing the chapter for the day, and thereafter, hunting, hawking, or the care of policies, occupied Scott's attention; how, as he penned passages of humour, or of sparkling, vivid, description, the subdued smile often played about his lips; for it was to him no effort, but the efflux of a fountain then exuberant. There came a darker and sadder time, narrated by Lockhart in most vivid and touching lan-

guage. Comparatively dreary taskwork was undertaken. The free glad smile sank into the expression of anxiety. The pages of the *Moniteur* were searched by spectacled eyes for particulars regarding Napoleon's life. Other compilations followed, more or less unworthy of Scott's genius; yet

"Still in their ashes lived the wonted fire,"

though burning fitfully. "Tales of a Grandfather," in their exquisite flow of narrative, were penned all the more congenially when thought upon as addressed to a much-loved grandson, soon to be taken from the world, the object of a loved daughter's care. In that portion of the work, more particularly which treats of the Jacobite risings, there is much which shows us the feelings and spirit of the author; the romantic enthusiasm which makes Flora Macivor lead Waverley, even when *wavering* in his allegiance, to the edge above which, feathered with pine and birch, the mountain stream dashes—the blue sky above and the sanctity of nature round—the bee humming in its flowery cup—the heather glancing with its deep purple hue—the ferns rejoicing in their congenial position—where she strikes the Highland harp, and wakes up all his sensibilities (being romantically disposed), by telling of the standard uplifted in the gleam of morning—of the marching feet that rounded promontory and lake—of the gallant hearts of Highlandmen beating—of the tossed-up bonnets and lifted claymores, which proclaimed that they would

"Do or die for Charlie."

A few words we may say regarding Scott's personal history. Scott's childhood was not distinguished by striking marks of genius, a case not uncommon among those who have afterwards occupied deservedly a large place in the public eye. Weeds and runners spring up rapidly; splendid flowers may as quickly fade; but the oak and pine grow up slowly, and are many years in reaching full development and proportions. Yet the lame boy, when little beyond an infant, we read of as at Sandy knowes, clapping his hands as the vivid lightning flashed by the old tower, and lit up the neighbouring hills, exclaiming, "Bonnie! bonnie!" The delicacy of Scott's health in early life was favourable to studious musing and contemplation. Within, the spark of genius was waxing to a flame; nor did physical weakness check a restless spirit of inquiry, which was gratified by constant locomotion, so far as opportunity permitted. Boyhood was passing away: that sunny period when hearts are guileless and expression frank, when all nature is fair and pleasing to the eye, and its melodies charming to the ear. Vanished period! with its loves and cares—ere we begin to struggle with life's responsibilities or to suffer under its sorrows;

"Life's morning march, when the bosom was young;"

when all things seemed to be invested with a roseate

hue, though our soul's mysterious cord had not yet been touched by that which opens afresh the fount of feeling. Those of us whose hairs are becoming gray and scanty may wish that we were a boy or a girl again. Vanished faces, cheerful voices, loved and loving eyes, seemed to haunt us as we speak: it may be, too, broken resolutions, unsuccessful struggles, high purposes never wrought out. Scott's childhood was essentially, for the most part, a healthy training. His boyhood was energetic. Many pilgrimages he made to explore the romantic or storied scenery of his native land, treading each battle-field and wandering by each stream to which old tradition attached. An anecdote is told, which we must not omit. It was a favourite recreation with Scott, to stroll over Arthur's Seat or to the top of Blackford Hill; when scrambling up with a companion to some rocky nook, the two would recite legends connected with the times of chivalry, grotesque it may be, and embracing an endless variety of strange and astounding incidents. Here we find a germ of the "Waverley Novels." This period of health was followed by a long and dangerous illness. It occurred when Scott had but commenced college studies, and during this space his chief occupation was the perusal of novels of novels, plays, Scottish chronicles, &c., helping to store his mind with incidents and thoughts, afterwards turned to good account. He was all along a devoted, if not a passionate lover of nature: shrewd, intelligent, with a quick appreciation of the humorous. At this time, too, he was attracted by the poetry and romantic traditions of German literature—then, in Scotland, a fountain but recently unsealed. By connections, and also when engaged in his father's office (a douce, most respectable, and decorous man, residing in the then aristocratic region of George Square, a glimpse of which life we have in the opening chapters of "Redgauntlet,") Scott was led to make various excursions among the Highlands, then a region comparatively unknown, but the fairy and majestic beauties of which he was afterwards to celebrate with the minstrelsy of the mountain-harp. At this period, as subsequently, Scott stored up a variety of curious relics, to each of which some legend was attached; a passion which grew upon him in succeeding years, until its beau-ideal was at last realised in the "romance of stone and lime" which he built at Abbotsford, on the artistic embellishment of which almost lordly riches were expended. Hard, common-sense man of the world as, under some aspects, Scott might seem, it was a disappointment of the tender passion that made him seriously turn to literature—a first fruit of which was the "Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border." Where the lonely border fastness, with its ruined walls, looked over from its height the storied stream—above which the glinting rays of moonlight

has played on moss-troopers' steel helmets and breast plates—besides which lovers' vows had been breathed—his genius recalled the storied traditions of the past.

There came another time—a rustic cottage at Lasswade; a wife, all affection and tenderness; and there are no passages in fiction so affecting as those in which, amidst sinking fortunes, Scott writes in his diary of his lost partner, his "Charlotte;" who, with a true wife's feeling, resented so strongly Jeffrey's criticism on one of her husband's poems—talking of "*dat body*," the minute Aristarchus of the literary world. His babes were growing up around him, *there*, or at Ashiestiel, so feelingly spoken of in the introduction to one of the cantos in "Marmion." Between his babes and his dogs Scott's affection seemed to be divided. It was external sunshine with him then; step by step, his worldly fortunes prospered; a sheriffship and a clerkship of session imposed duties neither grievous in themselves nor incompatible with literary work, which was, to Scott, a pleasure. But the rising of another luminary—of a star that shone with broad, if brief, effulgence, the "comet of a season"—that of the lame boy at Aberdeen—the traveller in Greece, the pilgrim by the Rhine, the illustrator of buried Italy—the dying hero at Missolonghi—the sinning and the sinned against—the ascendancy of Byron, Scott has told us, led him into a more congenial and natural vein. For this he had been prepared, alike by varied reading, by study of the past, and by large intercourse with all classes of his countrymen.

In the "Lady of the Lake"—next to "Marmion," Scott's most successful poem—the scene was chiefly laid amidst Highland braes and forests. He describes the swift course of the fiery cross, calling the clans to the field—the romantic ride in the stirring chase when King James' horse, his "gallant gray," sunk exhausted—his adventures by that beauteous lake, hitherto unvisited—the appearance of the damsel, whose boat shot out from "Ellen's Isle"—the mustering of the clansmen of Roderick Dhu. The scenery is described with the grace of a poet and the correct eye of a painter; each cliff, each tree, with its waving branches, seems to be placed before us; rock, dark ravine, and sweeping torrent, complete the picture. The human beings, moreover, by whom this scene is peopled, are not abstractions: his Highlanders have the boldness of feature, the agility of form, the wildness of air, the blended bravery and courtesy which mark the Celtic race, who,

"Leaving in battle no stain on their name,

Look'd proudly to heaven from the death-bed of fame."

The whole poem is redolent of the breath of spring, and suits that time of life when most things wear a roseate hue. We have seen the chief spot described

when more enthusiastic than we are now. When but a child we watched, with eager eyes, to see a trace of Ellen's bowers. The hills were not then so far shorn of their leafy ornaments; all was beautiful, and all was new. Years since, a steamboat was permitted to hiss and splutter through the waters of Loch Katrine, in profanation of the sacredness of the scene, but, in accommodation of the wants of excursionists. Cheap trains and return tickets have now banished romance; and, with the shriek of the railway whistle and the grumbling of the train haunting us, we almost remember with regret even the fleecing and extortionateness of sundry Highland hostleries.

FREEMASONRY AND ARCHITECTURE.

The following very able article has been contributed by Bro. Emra Holmes, a much-respected member of the Craft in Hartlepool, to a local contemporary:—

St. Hilda's Church, Hartlepool, was built according to general authorities about the year 1185, and in all probability by the Freemasons, three years before the preaching of the third crusade under the first of the Plantagenets, Henry II. During this reign the Grand Master of the Knight Templars superintended the Freemasons, and employed them in building their temple in London, A.D. 1155. The early history of the Masons is as follows:—St. Alban, the proto-martyr of Britain, had been appointed by the Emperor Caransim Grand Master of the Freemasons, but in the last persecution by Diocletian of the Christians, to whose faith he had been converted, he was beheaded, A.D. 303. St. Augustine, the first Archbishop of Canterbury, was a great supporter of the Craft, and under his patronage they built Canterbury Cathedral, A.D. 600; the cathedral of Rochester, A.D. 602; St. Paul's, London, A.D. 604; St. Peter's, Westminster, A.D. 605; and many others. King Alfred the Great employed the Freemasons in building the University of Oxford, which he founded. King Athelstane, who succeeded to the throne A.D. 924, granted a charter to the Masons, empowering them to meet annually in communication at York, where the first Grand Lodge of England was formed in 926, at which Edwin, brother of the king, presided as Grand Master. When Athelstane died the Masons dispersed, and the lodges continued in a very unsettled state till the reign of Edgar, in 960, when the fraternity were again collected by St. Dunstan, under whose

auspices they were employed on some sacred structures. Under the patronage of Edward the Confessor, Masonry, which had fallen into desuetude, revived. He restored Westminster Abbey, assisted by Leofric, Earl of Coventry, whom he appointed to superintend the Masons. The abbey of Coventry and many other structures were finished by this accomplished architect, who was the husband of the celebrated Lady Godiva, about whom Tennyson has written a charming poem, well known, we have no doubt, to the majority of our readers. When William the Conqueror acquired the Crown of England, he appointed Gundulph, Bishop of Rochester, and Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, joint patrons of the Masons, who at this time excelled both in civil and military architecture. Under their auspices the fraternity were employed in building the Tower of London. King Stephen employed the fraternity in building the chapel at Westminster (the old House of Commons) and several other works. These were finished under the direction of Gilbert de Clare, Marquis of Pembroke, who at this time presided over the lodges. On the accession of Edward I., A.D. 1272, the care of the Masons was entrusted to Walter Giffard, Archbishop of York, when Westminster Abbey was finished. In the reign of Edward II. the fraternity were employed in building Exeter and Oriel Colleges, Oxford, and Clare Hall, Cambridge, under the auspices of Walter Stapleton, Bishop of Exeter, who had been appointed Grand Master in 1307. Masonry flourished under Edward III. He patronised the lodges, and appointed five deputies under him to inspect the proceedings of the fraternity, viz., John de Spoulee, who rebuilt St. George's Chapel at Windsor, where the Order of the Garter was first instituted; William a Wykeham, afterwards Bishop of Winchester, who rebuilt the Castle of Windsor at the head of 400 Freemasons, A.D. 1357; Robert de Barnham, who finished St. George's Hall at the head of 250 Freemasons; Henry Yeuele (called in the old records "The King's Freemason"), who built the Charter House in London, King's Hall, Cambridge, Queensborough Castle, and rebuilt St. Stephen's Chapel, Westminster; and Simon Langham, Abbot of Westminster, who built the body of that cathedral as it now stands. When Richard II. ascended the throne, William a Wykeham was continued Grand Master. He rebuilt Westminster Hall as it now stands, and

employed the fraternity in building New College, Oxford, and Winchester College, both of which he founded at his own expense. Henry IV. appointed Thomas Fitz Allan, Earl of Surrey, Grand Master; in this reign the Guildhall of London was built. In the reign of Henry V., Henry Chicheley, Archbishop of Canterbury, obtained the direction of the fraternity. Henry VI. presided in person over the lodges, and nominated William Wanefleet, Bishop of Winchester, Grand Master, who built at his own expense Magdalen College, Oxford. Eton College and King's College, Cambridge, were founded in this reign, and finished under the direction of this Grand Master. During the Wars of the Roses, Masonry fell almost into total neglect till 1471, when it again revived under the auspices of Richard Beauchamp, Bishop of Sarum, who had been appointed Grand Master by Edward IV., and honoured with the title of Chancellor of the Garter. During the short reigns of Edward II. and Richard III. Masonry was on the decline, but on the accession of Henry VII. it rose again into esteem under the patronage of the Master and fellows of the Order of St. John, at Rhodes (now Malta), who assembled their Grand Lodge in 1500, and chose Henry their Protector. Under the auspices of this Prince the fraternity once more revived their assemblies, and Masonry resumed its pristine splendour. On the 24th of June, 1502, a lodge of Master Masons was formed at the palace, at which the King presided as Grand Master, who, having appointed John Islip, Abbot of Westminster, and Sir Reginald Bray, Knight of the Garter, his Wardens for the occasion, proceeded in ample form to the east end of Westminster Abbey, where he laid the foundation stone of that master-piece of Gothic architecture known by the name of Henry the Seventh's chapel. Henry VIII. appointed Cardinal Wolsey Grand Master, and, upon his disgrace, Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex, filled the chair of K.S., to speak Masonically. He employed the fraternity in building Christ's Hospital and other famous edifices. Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset, the Regent during Edward VI.'s reign, next ruled the Masons, and employed them in building Somerset House. Upon his death, John Poynt, Bishop of Winchester, became patron of the fraternity.

In the time of Queen Elizabeth, the Grand Lodge continued to assemble at York. Inigo

Jones was appointed by James I. Grand Master of England. He introduced the Palladian style of architecture into England, and built Whitehall. King Charles II. laid the foundation-stone of St. Paul's Cathedral, in 1673, when he was attended by Grand Master Earl of Rivers, Sir Christopher Wren, Deputy Grand Master, his architects, and Craftsmen. Lord Rivers was succeeded by George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, who, however, left the care of the brethren to his Wardens and Sir Christopher Wren, who still continued to act as his deputy. In James II. reign, the Earl of Arlington, who was then Grand Master, having died, Sir Christopher Wren was elected Grand Master.

King William III. having been privately initiated into Masonry in 1695, approved the choice of Sir Christopher Wren as Grand Master, and himself frequently presided over the lodge at Hampton Court during the building of the new part of that palace. Chelsea and Norwich Hospitals were built under the directions of Sir Christopher Wren, at this time. After this period, architecture languished, and consequently Freemasonry was at a low ebb—now, however, there has been a revival of the love of architecture, and Masonry flourishes. It is true that it is no longer necessary that the free and accepted brother should be an operative, but only a speculative Mason; and, therefore, the Craft can scarcely be expected to build churches now-a-days by manual labour. Yet they boast amongst their members many of the most eminent and wealthy of England's nobility and gentry. In our own county, the Earl Durham, Earl Vane, and Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., are amongst the chief Masons in the north. The Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham is one of the richest, we are told, in the kingdom; and we venture to recommend to the Masons of Durham that they prove themselves worthy of their noble ancestry, and assist in the restoration of the Church of St. Hilda of Hartlepool. The Masons of Somersetshire have undertaken, we believe the restoration of Bath Abbey. The Masons of Lancashire have built more than one church at their own cost, we are told. Only recently the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bristol proceeded in due form, with all the ceremonials used on these occasions, to lay the chief corner stone of the restored part of the Church of St. Mary Redcliffe, in that city, towards which they had contributed largely. Let the Free and Accepted Masons of the county of Durham but come forward, and assist in restoring St. Hilda's, and they will establish a claim to our gratitude which will not be forgotten. Charity is the great virtue they practise. What nobler charity than this, to help to built up again this noble evidence of the skill of the ancient fraternity, and the piety of our forefathers?

THE LATE BRO. G. V. BROOKE.

In our advertising columns will be found an announcement relative to the proposed memorial to the late G. V. Brooke, to which we last week drew the attention of our readers. Since that time the project has met with the warmest approval, and numerous subscriptions have been promised. Several additions have likewise been made to the committee, among whom we may mention Bros. Millwood and Donald Nicol (ex-M.P. and Sheriff), each of whom has contributed five guineas to the fund. The committee have determined upon making the purchase of a lifeboat the first and chief object, leaving the question of any further memorial to be entirely dependent upon the amount of surplus funds and the wishes of the donors.

THE BENEFITS AND EXCELLENCES OF FREEMASONRY.

An address by the V.W. Bro. Dr. Senior, P.G.C. of England, delivered upon the occasion of the laying of the chief corner stone of the Masonic Temple for St. John's Lodge (827), Dewsbury.

Freemasonry was the most ancient and honourable of all institutions: most honourable, it was, because it induced to make these men honourable who were obedient to its precepts. It was founded on the principles of piety and virtue. It was a religion of symbols. Every symbol, however simple or indecorous it might appear, and every figure they saw had in it some religious point and bearing tending to the promotion of the welfare of man and the glory of God. Freemasonry was founded for the furtherance of the noblest and most holy objects: God's glory and man's happiness. It embraced men of all sects and all religions, who looked to God the great Jehovah, the Architect of the Universe, as the Supreme Ruler of all things. They trusted that wherever there was a man of honour there was a Mason; and whoever did not discharge his duties with wisdom, fervency, and zeal, was not worthy the name of man, much less the name of Mason. He thanked those present for the kind and courteous attention they had bestowed.

The temple they were about to erect would be dedicated to God's glory; as a meeting point where all men might forget their differences: for the moment they entered on the Freemason's lodge, there they always found charity, peace, and good-will. And if those of the fair sex he saw before him did not join Freemason's courts here, yet they carried out Masonry to the fullest extent, for Masonry had love as its foundation-stone, and he trusted that hereafter all present, when this life was ended, might be worthy to be raised to that glorious and eternal lodge on high, where God reigned the Great Grand Master of all, and they should reign with him in glory everlasting.

IDLENESS.—Idleness necessarily shortens life, because it makes us weaker. Idleness is a rust which wears faster than labour. "The more a key is used the cleaner it becomes," says poor Jacob. If you love life, do not waste time, for it is the stuff of which life is made. How much do we lose by sleeping longer than we need, without remembering that the sleeping fox catches no chickens. If time is the most precious of all things, then the wasting of it is the greatest waste of all.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

THE LODGE IN ENGLISH FREEMASONRY.

The letter written from the London University contains a passage which, in my notion, is very far from being correct. In our *English* Freemasonry I consider the Lodge essentially a Christian Temple; nevertheless, into this Temple are received those who are not Christians; but upon this condition only—that they acknowledge the Great Architect of the Universe.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

PASSWORDS.

What is to be done with people of nations, to whom sh is as unpronounceable as ever it was of old; to whom B is a V, and J is a Y, or to those who have no vowels? These are not imaginary cases, but awkward facts occurring in Masonic experience. If a can brother speak what is ordinarily called a European language, he is all right; but there are European languages (Greek, for instance) where he is all wrong, and there are many highly educated men (Persians, for instance) whose alphabet is very puzzling when applied to ordinary European examples.—P.M.

BELGIUM.

Have you noticed that the G.O. of Belgium is one of the political bodies, or that political questions are distinctly proposed for discussion in its lodges? If this state of affairs is countenanced, we shall learn what took place in the end of the last century, when Masonry was suppressed by some Governments, and suspended by the general consent of brethren in many parts of Germany?—INVESTIGATOR.

MASONIC BANNERS.

I shall feel obliged if you can give me a list of the countries which officially recognise Masonry, so as to form a set of suitable banners for the decoration of a lodge or festival?—J. B.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

FREEMASONRY IN ITALY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I send you an extract from a friend's letter containing a charming picture of the state of things in Italy. Perhaps the fulminations of the Pope may be traced to their proper source, and even partially excused by the light of this information.

I am, Sir, yours fraternally,
W.

"Leghorn.

* * * * "I have joined here, but am thoroughly disappointed, the whole thing being disorderly and unsatisfactory. The respectable brethren do not attend, and business is conducted by a set of violent democrats, who carry their principles into the lodge to the detriment of all order and real progress. For joining they tried to fleece me of Lit. 25 pm. more than is usually paid, and swarm upon me for

subscriptions, &c., whenever I attend. Last night there was a *réunion* of the three lodges of Leghorn, and out of the seventy present there was hardly one capable of exercising any control over the noisy members. The — Consul was a visitor, with a view to joining, but was disgusted. There is no English lodge here or at Florence. The ritual worked is the 'Rite Ecossais,' and, upon my visit, was very loosely performed.

"The — Consul has invited me to visit him, and to see if there would be any possibility, by vigorous action, either to establish a new lodge, or an English one, or to persuade the persons of authority to attend.

At present politics are discussed with great violence, and party spirit is very strong, there being a coalition amongst the younger brethren to thwart the W.M. and officers on every occasion. Sooner or later a split must happen. The finances are in terrible disorder, and the lodge is subject to one of the five Grand Orients of Italy, viz., that of Florence."

ITALIAN MASONRY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In common justice to a large body of men, I cannot refrain from replying to the letter of "Scrutator," which appears in your Magazine of the 16th December last.

I shall not attempt to defend their improper interference in politics, but the brethren in England can form no idea of the intriguing which prevails in everyday life on the Continent, and from this cause the Italian Masons have been more firmly bound together.

I trust you will allow me in your columns to show that they are also capable of good works; and as I do this without being in any way connected with them, or with their knowledge or consent, I hope the Italian Masonic body in this city will pardon me.

During the cholera which raged here during the past summer, the Italian Lodge L'Italia gave up their large Masonic hall as a temporary hospital, and had it properly fitted up, keeping a medical man in attendance at all times for whoever sought assistance; they also had means of transport for the conveyance of the sick, and likewise had three other doctors employed in their service, and relieved, to a large extent, the families whose need required it. Altogether, in this good work, the lodge, from its funds and collections, spent more than £550 sterling, besides forming an Orphan Fund to the extent of about £150.

The lodge has also formed in this place a Masonic School for the boys of those persons in bad circumstances, without reference to creed, supplying the children with clothing and a couple of good meals a-day. The school has now seventy pupils or thereabouts.

With your known impartiality I make you this statement, relying on your making it known to the English Masonic body—your readers.

I remain, Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

AN ENGLISH P.M.

Constantinople, 9th Jan., 1866.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEMS.

We are glad to be able to announce that the R.W. Bro. the Rev. John Huyshe, D. Prov. G.M. of Devon, has been appointed the Prov. G.M. of this county by the M.W. the Grand Master. The appointment of the Rev. Bro. Huyshe to this high office, which has been vacant ever since the lamented death of the late Earl of Fortescue, will be a source of satisfaction to all the brethren in the county, who have long felt a desire to see Bro. Huyshe occupy the position which has now been accorded to him, and which, we understand, is the result of the combined efforts of a large number of the brethren, many of whom memorialised in favour of the appointment. The Rev. Bro. Huyshe was initiated in the Apollo University Lodge (No. 711), at Oxford, on the 29th of February, 1822, and was passed and raised in due course. He served as W.M. of St. John's Lodge, Exeter (No. 39), and is a subscribing member of Lodges No. 4, 39, 112, 230, and 444. He was appointed Prov. J.G.W. October 21st, 1835; also June 4th, 1838; Sept. 23rd, 1841; and May 19th, 1847. He was further appointed Prov. S.G.W. May 1st, 1839, and April 24th, 1844. On the 10th of October, 1858, he was constituted and appointed D. Prov. G. Master for Devon by patent under the hand and seal of the late Right Hon. the Earl Fortescue, K.G., Prov. G.M., and after his decease was appointed to that office by the present Grand Registrar of England, the Acting Prov. G.M. He was appointed in 1862 by the M.W. the Grand Master to the office of Grand Chaplain to the Grand Lodge of England, and was reappointed to that office in the year 1863. It will thus be seen that the Right Rev. Bro. has been D. Prov. G.M. of the county for more than fifteen years, and it has long been the desire of the Masonic body that the higher dignity should be conferred upon him. We may add that the Rev. Bro. has also been called into the higher orders of Freemasonry, in many branches of which he has held office to the gratification and satisfaction of all his brethren.

A warrant has, we are informed, been granted for the opening of a new lodge, in connection with the province of Devon, at the King's Arms, Ivybridge, to be named the Erme Lodge (No. 1191).

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED FREEMASONS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL.

The anniversary festival of this most valuable institution took place on Wednesday last at the Freemason's Hall, under most auspicious circumstances, and we are glad to find that the result of the festival has been so successful as to come up to the expectation of the most sanguine of its well-wishers, who augured that when Bro. Colonel Bowyer, Prov. G.M. Oxon., accepted the chairmanship for the festival, the provincial brethren generally, and the Oxonians in particular, would rally round their gallant and distinguished Chairman, and vie with their metropolitan brethren in sparing no efforts to render the festival of 1866 a great success.

The procession, having been formed, entered the hall, and Bro. Colonel H. A. Bowyer, the Chairman, took his seat upon

the dais, supported by the following distinguished brethren and friends of the institution, viz. :—

Bros. John Emmens, G. Purst.; J. Spiers, P.G.S.B. and D. Prov. G.M. Oxon.; John Symonds, P. Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.; John Hervey, P.G.D.; G. W. K. Potter, P.G.D.; W. Gray Clarke, G. Sec.; Samuel Tomkins, G. Treas.; Rev. C. R. Davy, G. Chap.; A. Perkins, P.G.W.; Rev. W. Bowyer, P.G. Chap.; Williamson, J.G.W.; John L. Evans, President of the Board of General Purposes; J. S. S. Hopwood, P.G.D.; George Cox, G.D., Treasurer of the Stewards; J. Stevens Pullen, P.G.D.; A. Bradford, P.G. Dir. of Cers.; Capt. R. Cope, G.S.B.; Henry Greene, F. Binckes, Sec. Boys's School; R. Young, P. Prov. G.W. Cambridge; John Udall, P.G.D.; Victor Williamson, present G.W.; W. Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec. and Secretary to the Board; and several past and present Provincial Grand Officers.

After grace, and the cloth having been drawn, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to; the last of these, that of the Provincial Grand Masters and Deputy Provincial Grand Masters, having been responded to by Bro. J. Spiers, P.G.S.B. and D. Prov. G.M. Oxon.

The CHAIRMAN proposed "Success to the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows," and in doing so said, he need not express the diffidence he felt when he was asked to take the chair at this festival. He remembered that he had been present on most of the occasions, when men who were high in Freemasonry and in the nation's councils, who had a well-deserved prestige, presided. Such men commanded every respect and attention, and though he felt incompetent properly to fill that position, he could not shrink from his duty, and he therefore consented to take the chair. He wished he could successfully imitate his predecessors in their eloquence, but as he could not do that he must content himself with simply advocating the cause of this Charity. He was sure they would not allow his inefficiency to imperil the claims of the aged Freemasons, but that they would generously come forward in aid of their distressed brethren. As they all knew the peculiar merits of the Charity as well as he could tell them, he would not detain them by particularising; but he thought he would save time if he gave them a few statistics with which he had been favoured by Bro. Farnfield, the Secretary. The Institution was suggested in 1842 by the late Duke of Sussex, and since that time 238 brethren had been elected, and they had received £23,914 15s. After last May election there had been 81 male annuitants on the books, who were in receipt of £1,850 annually. At that date the income was £500 from Grand Lodge, and £100 from Grand Chapter; dividends on funded property, £1,171 10s., leaving £678 10s. residue, devoted by Grand Lodge to this Institution. The residue of the income of this branch was made up of annual subscriptions. At present there were thirty-one approved male candidates on the list for next election. The Freemasons' Widows' Fund was established under the Earl of Zetland in 1850, since which period ninety-one widows of deceased brethren had been recipients of the fund to the extent of £282 18s. 6d. After the election in May last there were fifty-nine female annuitants, receiving from the fund, per annum, £1,170. The annual income of the Widows' Fund consisted of—

Grand Lodge.....	£300
Grand Chapter.....	50
Dividends on funded property	306
	—
	£656

The whole income from the Great Benefaction of Grand Lodge was £514. The residue of the income of this branch of the Institution was made up from annual subscriptions. There

were at present twenty-one approved female candidates on the list for election. There was an asylum at Croydon attached to the Institution capable of affording accommodation for thirty-four inmates, each of whom had two rooms, and there were now twenty-seven occupants. The whole of the building was paid for, and there was a Sustentation Fund of £1,000 stock, the interest of which was employed to keep the edifice in good order, so that the subscriptions for annuities were not employed for maintaining the building. That statement afforded a satisfactory account of the Institution; but a larger income than it now had was required to pay annuities to the increasing number of applicants. The Institution depended on the generosity of the brethren for what it required, and it was their bounden duty to do what they could to assist it in the hour of its necessity. He could not bring the recipients of this Charity before them as was done annually in the case of the Boys' and Girls' School. That was always a touching sight—one which brought tears to the eyes of disciplined Masons. But though he could not bring that scene before them, the Institution was equally deserving of support. Those men and women for whom he pleaded, no doubt once entered on the great battle of life with bright aspirations and hopes, and though they had fought that battle unsuccessfully had perhaps fought it faithfully; and they now appealed to their more fortunate brethren, in the helplessness of old age to bring solace and comfort to them. He would most urgently advocate the cause of these aged brethren who now asked for relief from their misfortunes; and he exhorted his hearers to think what a comfort in their own distress would be the thought that they had lightened the sorrows of some one else, who no doubt raised supplications to the Great Architect for the happiness and prosperity of those who shed the last ray of hope and comfort upon their declining days, and on that existence which would otherwise be dark and cheerless. He would say no more, but leave in their hands, most confidently, the cause of the aged and distressed brethren (cheers).

The toast having been drunk, Bro. Ciabatta and Miss Berry sang a duet.

Bro. FARNFIELD then read the Stewards' lists, and the CHAIRMAN announced that the total amount collected was £2,992.

Bro. WILLIAMSON, J.G.W., gave "The Health of the Chairman," to which the CHAIRMAN responded.

Miss Eyles here sang with admirable effect a Scotch ballad, "Maggie's secret."

Bro. A. Perkins proposed "The Past President, Trustees, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Committee, and Officers of the Institution," to which Bro. TOMKINS replied.

"The other Masonic Charities" followed, Bro. BINCKES replying for the Boys', and Bro. UDALL for the Girls' Schools.

Bro. EVE replied for "The Ladies," and Bro. J. S. S. HOPWOOD for the Stewards, and the brethren separated at half-past eleven.

Bro. Spencer officiated admirably as toast master.

The selections of music given during the evening, under the direction of Bro. Wilhelm Ganz, P.M. 435, Org. 4, and interspersed between the toasts, were most admirably rendered by Miss Rose Hersee, Miss Eyles, Miss Arabella Smith, and Miss Berry, together with Bros. Fass (from the Royal Opera, Hanover), Walworth, and Ciabatta. We would specially mention the Scotch ballad "Maggie's secret," sung by Miss Eyles and received with tremendous applause; the new song, "The Night-ingles's trill," by Miss Rose Hersee; and Miss Berry's song, "The bird that came in spring."

The Fitzroy Lodge attended in considerable strength, and

being in their striking military uniform, added materially to the *tout ensemble*, which, we should have added ere this, was rendered additionally attractive by the good attendance of the "Lady Visitors."

A distinguished feature in the festival of this year is the circumstance of the Provincial Lodges being represented in such unusually large numbers.

Too much credit cannot be given to the Secretary to the Board, Bro. W. Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec., for his indefatigable exertions in connection with all appertaining to the festival and we congratulate him and the Board which he represents upon the successful result of their labours.

METROPOLITAN.

MOUNT LEBANON LODGE (No. 73).—This lodge met on Tuesday, January 30th, at the Green Man Tavern, Tooley-street, Southwark (Bro. C. A. Cathie's). Bro. J. C. Gooddy, W.M., opened the lodge in the three degrees. Bro. H. Moore, I.P.M., raised one brother to the third degree in his usual able, painstaking, and impressive manner. One brother was passed to the second degree. Bro. F. Walters, P.M., announced that he had got on his list (as their Steward) for the Aged Freemasons and their Widows up to that time £74 5s., which sum he hoped to increase slightly. The lodge was duly closed. Visitors:—Bros. J. Lightfoot, W.M. 147; Goodman, 147; R. Moore, P.M. 169.

PYTHAGOREAN LODGE (No. 79).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, January 29th, at the Lecture Hall, Greenwich. Bro. J. Hasler, W.M., passed three brethren to the second degree. Bro. H. A. Collington, P.M., installed Bro. F. W. Ward, S.W. and W.M. elect, as the W.M. for the ensuing year, who appointed the following brethren as his officers, viz.:—Bros. Vinten, S.W.; Trill, J.W.; Penny, P.M., Treas.; Peckham, P.M., Sec.; Doughney, S.D.; Boucey, J.D.; Kerridge, I.G.; Riley, Tyler. After business, the brethren partook of a first-rate banquet at the Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich. Visitors:—Bros. Tattershall, S.W. 13; F. Walters, P.M. 73; Ryder, P.M. 140; T. Bavin, P.M. 147; Bumstead, W.M. 548; C. J. Badger, W.M. 140, &c.

LODGE OF PRUDENT BRETHREN (No. 145).

The installation meeting of this lodge was held on the 23rd ult., at the Freemasons' Tavern, Bro. Boyd, W.M., in the chair. The following P.M.'s were present:—Bros. Hart, Graygoose, Warren, Carter, Exall, and States. There were a good many visitors, amongst whom were Bros. Newall, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. for Herts, P.M.; Muggeridge (Stability), Platt, P.M. (St. Luke's), Adams (Robert Burns), H. Thompson, P.M. Domestic; Boyd (Friendship), Gilbert (Polish), Sloman (Robert Burns), Treedwell, 177; and Nash, 677.

The lodge having been opened, and some preliminary business transacted in reference to the Mount Sinai Chapter, Mr. George Boke and Mr. William Charter were severally introduced and initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry.

The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Brown, the W.M. elect was presented to receive from the W.M. the benefit of installation.

Bro. States, the worthy Secretary, having recited the necessary qualifications for the office of W.M.,

Bro. Boyd, the W.M., then opened the lodge in the third degree, and all the brethren below the chair having retired, Bro. Brown was regularly installed by a Board of Installed Masters into the chair of K.S. as W.M. of the Lodge of Prudent Brethren for the ensuing year. Having received the customary honours, he appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Crabb, S.W.; Geo. Sharp, J.W.; Boyd, Treas.; States, Sec.; Knox, S.D.; George Summers, J.D.; Ridgway, I.G.; and Daley, Tyler.

Bro. Boyd having been invested as I.P.M. delivered the usual addresses, and the installation ceremony was brought to a close.

The brethren were then called off for refreshment, and proceeded to the temple, where an excellent banquet was provided.

On the withdrawal of the cloth, the W.M., who went to his duties of W.M. with all the ease and confidence of a veteran in the Craft, successively proposed the formal toasts, which, it is needless to say, were all duly honoured.

Bro. BOYD, I.P.M., said for a short time he was entrusted by the W.M. with his gavel, and all old Masons knew why it had been placed in his hands. He proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master," and wished him a happy and successful year and that at the end of the year of office he might see as many influential members of the Craft around him as he did on the present occasion.

The W. MASTER said the brethren would quite understand his feelings on that occasion. He had been exalted to the high position in Freemasonry which it was his ambition to arrive at, and he would do all he could to instruct the brethren in the work they had in hand, and by the assistance of the Great Architect of the Universe he trusted it would close as well as it had done before.

The W. MASTER then proposed "The Health of the Initiates," for which Bros. BROWN and CHARTER returned thanks.

The W. MASTER said a very pleasing duty then devolved upon him, which was to propose "The Health of their Brother Visitors," who had honoured them with their presence that evening. Having enumerated them, and the claims they had on the attention of the brethren of the lodge, he asked them to join him in drinking their healths.

The toast was warmly responded to, and for which Bro. MUGGERIDGE returned thanks.

The W. MASTER said he had then one of the principal duties to perform, and like a man loaded with mischief, as it was an arduous one, he hoped soon to get rid of it. He saw before him a beautiful testimonial, which he was about to present to one of the most worthy men amongst them—and indeed he was like the father of the lodge. He was well known as having passed twice through the chair, and instead of presenting him with the customary jewel, the brethren thought that he ought to have from them some mark of respect which he would be able to hand down to his children and his children's children; and in doing so the name he had to mention was that of John Boyd, their I.P.M. He was initiated in the Robert Burns Lodge, of which he soon became an ornament, and then he joined this lodge, and served the office of W.M. in 1860 and 1865. It was not for him (the W.M.) to dilate upon his virtues, but they all knew how great was the interest he felt in that lodge in particular, and in Freemasonry in general. They knew what he had done for the charitable institutions of Freemasonry in serving as steward for all the Charities, and he had not only supported them out of his own pocket, but he had opened the purses of others for the same object. He then called upon Bro. States to read the inscription on a splendid silver claret jug, which was about to be presented to him.

Bro. STATES, the Secretary, then read the inscription upon the piece of plate as follows:—"Presented to Bro. John Boyd, P.M., together with a gold clasp for his lodge jewel, by the members of the Lodge of Prudent Brethren (No. 145), as a token of their sincere regard and esteem for the valuable services he has rendered to this lodge for many years on his retiring from the chair of W.M. for the second time. Jan. 23, 1866."

Accompanying this was a beautifully emblazoned testimonial, engrossed on vellum, with the following inscription:—"This testimonial, accompanied by a silver claret jug and gold clasp on his P.M.'s jewel, is the unanimous offering of the officers and brethren of the Lodge of Prudent Brethren, No. 145 on the register of the Grand United Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England, was presented to Bro. Boyd, P.M., in open lodge, on Tuesday, the 23rd of January, 1866, as a token of the deep respect entertained for him by the members of the above lodge, and to mark their keen appreciation of his thorough Masonic feeling, earnestness, courtesy, and gentlemanly bearing towards all Freemasons, but more especially those connected with the Prudent Brethren Lodge, and as a memento of their deep attachment to him when quitting the W. Master's chair for the second time, and fervently praying the Great Architect of the Universe to continue to him the blessings of health, competence, and long life."

The W. MASTER then said that he never had a more happy moment in his life than he then had in presenting to Bro. Boyd these emblems of the esteem of his brethren in Freemasonry to one who had so long held so honourable a position in the lodge, wishing him every happiness, and long life to enjoy the confidence of the brethren. In conclusion, he asked them to join with him in drinking "The Health of Bro. Boyd."

The toast was enthusiastically responded to.

Bro. BOYD, P.M. and Treas., said in rising to return thanks for the very kind manner in which his health had been proposed

and received, he never felt himself in greater difficulty, and he was quite sure that anyone then sitting round would feel as he did if they were placed in a similar position as he was at that moment. However great might be his eloquence or his powers of speech, he would find himself in almost an unpleasant position: while on the other hand it was exceedingly gratifying and pleasant to him to receive that handsome compliment from the brethren, he felt he was unable to return thanks in an adequate manner for their kindness towards him. Therefore as he could not return thanks in an adequate manner in the way he could wish, all he could do was simply to thank them for the honour they had done him in drinking his health, and for the splendid testimonial by which it was accompanied. He could do no more, but if he could he would. As to the position he had taken in the lodge, he must say that although he entered it while it was in difficulties he had never left it, and as the lodge was then in a prominent position, he believed that eventually, and not many years hence, it would become one of the highest in the Craft. They had then amongst them many members distinguished for very high qualifications in the Craft, and there could be no doubt that they would assist in placing the lodge in the highest position in Freemasonry. There was one brother who had just joined them—he meant Bro. Binckes—who, had he been in his position, would have expatiated in eloquent terms, and he only wished that he (the W.M.) had been gifted with his powers sufficiently to thank them for the testimonial they had presented to him. While he had been in the lodge he had endeavoured to do his duty, and that was all that was required of every Mason, no matter what was his position, whether it was Inner Guard or Worshipful Master, or any of the officers between them. Let all do their duty, and then a good feeling would always exist. That he had done his duty, the handsome testimonial they had given him afforded ample and satisfactory proof. He heartily thanked them for it, and he hoped it would be handed down to his successors from generation to generation, and till time should be no more.

Some excellent songs were sung by Bro. Charter, Sloman, Exall, and at the latter part of the evening the company were delighted by some choice ballads by Miss Ransford.

The proceedings of the evening gave general satisfaction.

LODGE OF TEMPERANCE (No. 169).—At the Plough, Rotherhithe, the meeting of this lodge was held on the 18th ult. Bro. J. Searle, W.M. presided. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, one brother was passed to the second degree. Bro. G. Bolton, P.M., then took the chair, and the W.M. presented Bro. N. Wingfield for installation. A board, consisting of fourteen installed Masters, was formed, and the installation was completed. The following brethren were appointed officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. Searle, I.P.M.; Payne, S.W.; Moss, J.W.; G. Brown, P.M., Treas.; Tibbals, P.M.; Sec.; Marriott, S.D.; Pulling, J.D.; Williams, I.G.; Parrett, P.M., W.S.; B. Holt, P.M., Treas. Bro. J. Searle, was presented with a five guinea P.M.'s jewel, for which he returned thanks. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. G. Bolton, P.M., for the admirable manner in which he had performed the ceremony of installation, and for the willingness with which at all times he served the lodge. Bro. Bolton made a suitable reply. The W.M. made his final appeal to the brethren on behalf of the Benevolent Institution, which was liberally responded to. The lodge was then closed. An emergency will be held on the 29th, to initiate three gentlemen before they leave England. Visitors:—H. Moore, P.M. 73; F. Walters, P.M. 73; Bavin, P.M. 147; Patte, J.W. 147; Stahr, P.M. 871; and Bumstead, W.M. 548.

FITZROY LODGE (No. 569).

The anniversary and installation meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening, Jan. 28th, at the head-quarters of the Hon. Artillery Company, City-road. Bro. Thomas Wilson, W.M., presided; Bros. Watson, S.W.; and Maddick, J.W. Bro. Meggs, S.D., and the rest of the officers were present. The P.M.'s present were Bros. Peter Matthews, Treas.; Eglese, Sec.; Newton, Dir. of Cers.; May, and Helsham, and the following long list of visitors:—Bros. Patten, P.G.S.B., and Secretary of the Girls' School; Binckes, P.M. 65, and Secretary to the Boys' School; Tolley, 771, Prov. G. Org. Berks and Bucks; Joseph Devereux, Prov. G. Sec. Berks and Bucks; Southgate, W.M. 136; Marriott, 771; Whitehouse, 771; Mundy, 166; Jundy, 859; Mitchell, W.M. 69; Captain Boswell (Royal Horse Guards Blue), 771; Harrison, 857; Marget, 7; Jackman, 8; Bartlett, 201; Eastlake (Canongate), 2; Potter, P.M. 11,

281, 307; Mark, 83; Oskernetzler, St. Christopher's, Sweden; Cusburgh Jectle, 141; Ellerton, 812; Gurney, 28; Percival, St. Peter's (No. 442); Paas, P.M. 28; Browne, W.M. 176; C. Browne, P.M. 176; Gilbert, 527; C. E. Thompson, 177; Galland, 66; Badger, W.M. 140; Booth, P.M. 140; Lourie, 179; H. Thompson, P.M. 177; Beard, W.M. 449; Nicholas, 890; and Munton, 60.

The lodge having been opened in due form, and the minutes read, the only business before it was the installation of Bro. Watson, W.M. elect, into the duties of W.M. for the ensuing year. He was presented in the usual manner, when Bro. Wilson, the retiring Master, in a very able manner installed his successor. The brethren below the chair having been admitted, and saluted the new W.M., he appointed his officers, as follows:—Bros. Maddick, S.W.; Meggy, J.W.; Peter Matthews, Treas.; Eglese, Sec.; Crosthwaite, S.D.; Higgins, J.D.; Adams, I.G.; Holt, Tyler; Newton, P.M., Dir. of Cers.

The rest of the business of the installation having been gone through,

Bro. PETER MATTHEWS, in a very appropriate speech, presented Bro. Wilson, I.P.M., with a jewel which the brethren of the lodge had voted to him as a recognition of his services during the two years he had presided as W.M. of the lodge, during which time the lodge had enjoyed a vast amount of prosperity, and for the very liberal way in which he had supported the Masonic charitable institutions. The jewel, which was a very handsome one, manufactured by Bro. Eglese, bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. Thomas Wilson, P.M., by the members of the Fitz Roy Lodge (No. 569), in appreciation of his zeal for Freemasonry, and the talent he displayed during the two occasions, consecutive years, he served as W.M.—1864 and 1865."

Bro. WILSON, I.P.M., in very feeling terms, expressed his thanks to the brotherhood for the honour conferred upon him.

Bro. EGLESE, P.M. and Sec., who will represent the lodge at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, addressed the brethren, hoping that he should receive their support at the approaching Festival, so that the subscriptions of the Fitzroy Lodge should be larger than they had been on any former occasion.

There was a very good response, and the brethren of this lodge will all appear in uniform.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet, most bountifully furnished by the sutler to the corps.

The cloth having been drawn,

The W. MASTER gave the first toast, "The Queen and the Craft," which was followed by the National Anthem, the solo parts being sung by Bros. Marriott, Whitehouse, and Tolley, from the Chapel Royal, Windsor, the latter brother presiding at the pianoforte.

The W. MASTER next gave "The Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons," and said that the way in which he discharged his important duties was most satisfactory to every member of the Craft.

Bro. WHITEHOUSE here sung in an excellent manner, "Speed on my barque," which was heartily applauded.

The W. MASTER said the next toast he had to propose, was "Deputy Grand Master, the Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," and coupled with it the name of Bro. Patten, Sec. of the Girls' School.

The toast was well received.

Bro. PATTEN thanked the brethren kindly for the manner in which the toast of the D.G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers had been received, and as he was the only Grand Officer present, he begged to return thanks on their behalf. The D.G. Master, notwithstanding his arduous duties to his Queen, as Minister of State for War, did not neglect his duties as D.G. Master. He was always present at the right hand of the Grand Master, and indeed he was the right man in the right place. He thanked the brethren also for the way in which his (Bro. Patten's) name had been received, and he hoped the Grand Officers would long deserve the affectionate regard with which they were always welcomed in the different lodges they visited.

Bro. WILSON, I.P.M., said, the P.M.'s and most of the brethren knew no doubt why the gavel had been placed in his hands, and that was to propose "The Health of their Worshipful Master." They had already seen how he had gone through the working of the lodge for the first time, which had been done in a most admirable manner, and he was sure that he would do credit to the Fitzroy Lodge.

The W. MASTER thanked their Bro. Wilson for the way in which he had proposed his health, and for the cordial manner in which the brethren had responded to it.

The W. MASTER said the next was always an important toast in the Fitzroy Lodge, as it was that of "Their Brother Visitors." They were always most happy to receive visitors, and the more the better. They were in barracks, and although they could not do that which would be satisfactory to the fullest extent, yet they did all they could to promote their comforts. He only hoped that the visitors had enjoyed themselves that evening, and that they would come amongst them more frequently than they were accustomed to do, as he was sure that the P.M.'s and the members of the lodge would be most glad to receive them.

Song, Bro. Marriott—"Sweet May of the vale."

Bro. MUXTON, in a very humorous but excellent speech, returned thanks for the visitors.

The W. MASTER then gave "The Past Masters of the Fitzroy Lodge."

Bro. WILSON, I.P.M., said the duty devolved upon him to return thanks on behalf of the P.M.'s. He thanked the brethren very sincerely for the jewel they had presented to him as a mark of their respect, and he could assure them that he would do the best he could to promote the happiness of every brother of the Fitzroy Lodge. He would leave the other P.M.'s of the lodge to return thanks.

Bro. Wilson was followed by

The W. MASTER, who said he had the pleasure of proposing "The Health of their Treasurer and Secretary." Their Bro. Matthews, was an excellent man and Mason, and, as regarded Bro. Eglese, they all knew his worth as Secretary. His duties were then very different to what they were fifteen years ago, for at that time they did not meet more than seven or eight members, but now they were a good way towards fifty members, and, of course, the duties pertaining to his office of Secretary must occupy a good deal of his time.

Bro. EGLESE thanked the brethren sincerely for the very flattering manner in which his name had been brought under the notice of the lodge, but was sure that Bro. Matthews, had he been there, would have expressed his thanks for their kindness in a more competent manner.

The "Health of the Officers of the Lodge" was then given, for which Bros. Maddick, Meggy, and Crosthwaite severally returned thanks, and the proceedings of a very happily spent evening were brought to a close.

The evening was most agreeably diversified by songs, glees, &c., by Bros. Tolley, Marriott, and Whitehouse.

PROVINCIAL.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

KENDAL.—*Union Lodge* (No. 129).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, Jan. 25th, at two o'clock, for the installation of the W.M. elect, appointment and investment of his officers, and to celebrate the Festival of St. John the Evangelist. The W.M. Bro. E. Busher, Prov. G. Sec., was supported on this occasion by Bros. John Whitwell, S.W., W.M. elect; Titus Wilson, J.W. and Treas.; J. Bintley, S.D.; S. Gawith, J.D.; Dr. Greaves, the R.W.D. Prov. G.M.; Bannister, P.G.S.B. of England; James Hamer, Prov. G. Treas. W.L.; J. H. Johnstone, P. Prov. G.D.; John Bowes, P.M., Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Hansbrow, P.M., Prov. G.S.B. W.L.; Rev. James Simpson; Rev. T. Simpson, Halecot; Dr. Leeming; James Barrett, W. Wilson, Henry Cragg, J. O. Atkinson, R. Hodgson, Thomas Jones, Robert Gibson, E. Medcalf, jun., Joseph Wilson, Rev. W. Chaplin, Thomas Busher, W. Tattersall, Jones, Taylor, James W. Scott, Robert Butterworth, Org., William Carmel, C. G. Thompson, William Doubleday, Rev. J. P. Black, R. James, William Dodd, Atkinson, Winder, Hogg, A. K. Wood, &c. The lodge was duly opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The E.A.P.'s having retired, the lodge was opened in the second degree, when Dr. Greaves, the R.W.D. Prov. G.M. assumed the chair as Installing Master. Bros. Edward Busher and John Bowes then conducted Bro. John Whitwell, S.W., W.M. elect, to the east, and presented him for the benefit of installation. Bro. Rev. W. Chaplin, at the command of the D. Prov. G.M., read the summary of ancient charges, to which Bro. Whitwell assented in due form. This portion of the ceremony having been completed, the F.C.'s

retired, and the lodge was opened in the third degree. All brethren below the degree of an Installed Master having retired, a board was duly opened by the D. Prov. G.M., assisted by the following P.M.'s: Bros. Bannister, Hamer, E. Busher, Johnstone, John Bowes, and Hansbrow, when the W.M. elect was duly and solemnly installed in the chair of K.S. as W.M. for the ensuing year. The board was now closed, and Bro. E. Busher invested as P.M. The M.M.'s were now admitted in processional order, to appropriate music, by Bro. Butterwith, on the harmonium, and saluted the W.M. according to ancient custom, after which he was duly proclaimed. The lodge was then closed in the third and second degrees, and the W.M. saluted and proclaimed for the second and third time. The W.M. now proceeded to appoint and invest his officers for the ensuing year; before doing so, however, he addressed the brethren at some length, as to the difficulty he had experienced in selecting the officers; but expressed a hope that all would appreciate his motives, which were to do the best for the lodge. The officers were: Bros. Rev. James Simpson, S.W.; T. Atkinson, J.W.; Rev. William Chaplin, Chap.; C. G. Thompson, Treas.; William Cartwell, Hon. Sec.; Butterwith, Org. The whole of the charges were delivered by Bro. James Hamer, Prov. G. Treas. W.L., in his usual correct and efficient manner. Some routine business was then transacted, after which the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to the King's Arms Hotel, to celebrate the Festival of St. John the Evangelist. The banquet was served in the style usual to this hotel, and was of a faultless description. Grace before and after meat was said by the Rev. Bros. T. and J. Simpson. The chair was occupied by the W.M., and supported by the brethren who had attended during the hours of labour. After the cloth was withdrawn the following toasts were proposed by the W.M., and duly honoured: "The Queen; the daughter and niece of Masons;" "The Prince and Princess of Wales, the Prince and Princess of Prussia, and the rest of the Royal Family;" "Our Clerical Brethren," which was responded to by Bros. Thomas and James Simpson and J. F. Black. Bro. Joseph Bintley proposed "The Army, Navy, Militia, and Volunteers," which was responded to by Bros. Lieuts. Johnstone and Gawith. Bro. C. G. Thompson proposed "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland; the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, the Earl de Grey and Ripon; and the Grand Lodge of England;" which was ably responded to by Bro. Bannister, Past G. Swordbearer of England. Bro. W. Wilson, J.P., proposed "The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, the Right Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cumberland and Westmorland;" which was responded to by the W.M., Prov. G.R., the D. Prov. G.M. being obliged to leave by train. The W.M. next proposed "The Provincial Grand Masters and Officers of the neighbouring Provinces," which was responded to by Bros. Hamer, Hansbrow, and Bannister, the last named for Durham and Northumberland. Bro. Atkinson, of the Underly Lodge, Kirkby-Lonsdale, proposed "The Worshipful Master and Officers for the ensuing year." In doing so, Bro. Atkinson passed a high and deserved eulogium upon those worthy brethren. The W.M. responded, as also did the Wardens. Dr. Leeming proposed "The Immediate Past Officers," which was responded to by Bro. Edward Busher; after which he proposed "The Masonic Charities." Bro. Bannister responded. Bro. Bowes proposed "The Visitors." Bros. Atkinson (Kirkby-Lonsdale), and Banning (Liverpool), responded. The J.W. proposed "Our Brethren, North, East, South, and West." The W.M. then rose, and proposed in a most happy manner "The Bonnie Lassies of Cumberland and Westmoreland," which was acknowledged by Bros. Dr. Noble, Lieut. Gawith, and the Secretary. The Tylers' toast brought the day's proceedings to a close. We are glad again to express our gratification with the excellent condition of this old lodge, and the enthusiasm generally displayed by the members. The numbers are now so large that a second lodge seems inevitable.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

LIVERPOOL.—CONSECRATION OF THE WALTON LODGE (No. 1086).

The above lodge was consecrated at the St. Mary's School-rooms, Kirkdale, near Liverpool, on the 17th ult., by Bro. Younghusband, I.M., P.Z., and Prov. J.G.D.

The following is the programme of the consecration which was performed in strict accordance with the system taught by Bro. S. B. Wilson, of London, of whom Bro. Younghusband is a pupil.

The brethren having assembled in the lodge room, the presiding officer took the chair, and appointed two P.M.'s as his Wardens, *pro tem*. The brethren of the new lodge having been arranged in order, the lodge was opened in the three degrees, and a piece of solemn music played. The presiding officer then addressed the brethren on the nature of the meeting; the Secretary addressed the presiding officer, who replied and gave directions. The Secretary then read the petition and warrant, and the presiding officer inquired of the brethren if they approved of the officers named in the warrant. The brethren having signified their approval in Masonic form, the presiding officer called on the Chaplain to deliver the oration, which, having been given, was followed by an anthem, 133rd Psalm (Tallis' chant):—

1. Behold how good and joyful a thing it is, brethren, to dwell together in unity.
2. It is like the precious ointment upon the head that ran down unto the beard, even unto Aaron's beard, and went down to the skirts of his clothing
3. Like as the dew of Hermon, which fell upon the hill of Sion.
4. For there the Lord promised his blessing, and life for evermore.

The Chaplain then offered up the prayer (first portion). The chant, "So mote it be," and Sanctus, "Glory be to Thee, O Lord," having been given, all the brethren turned towards the east, whilst the presiding officer pronounced the invocation, which was followed by the chant, "So mote it be."

The lodge was then uncovered, and three P.M.'s carried the cornucopia, wine, and oil three times round the lodge (solemn music being performed during the procession), and halted in the east; the anthem, "Glory be God on high, peace on earth, goodwill towards men" was sang.

The Chaplain then took the censer three times round the lodge (solemn music being performed during his progress), and halted in the east, and offered up the second portion of the prayer, which was followed by the chant, "So mote it be, and anthem—

"Glory to God on high,
Let heaven and earth reply,
Praise ye His name;
Masons His love adore,
Tiled in their mystic lore,
And cry out evermore,
Glory to God."

The presiding officer then dedicated and constituted the lodge.

Chant, "So mote it be, followed by the Hallelujah Chorus. The W.M. designate, Bro. Morton, was then installed by Bro. Captain Mott, P.M., M.E.Z., Prov. G.S.B., and Preceptor of the lodge of instruction founded, in 1858, by Bro. Younghusband, on the model of the Emulation Lodge of Instruction in London.

The accuracy and impressiveness with which both the consecrating and installing Masters performed their work, elicited the warmest approbation of the brethren present.

After the business of the evening a dinner was provided, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts given and responded to.

WARRINGTON.—*Lodge of Lights* (No. 148).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, on Monday night last. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M. Bro. Gilbert Greenall, M.P., Prov. S.G.W., the chair was filled by Bro. H. B. White, P.M. and Treas., who was supported by Bros. W. Smith, S.W.; Robert Stevenson, John Bowes, I.P.M. and Sec.; Rev. John Porter, S.D.; David Finney, J.D.; Oakden and Ekkert, Organists, Woods and Richardson, Stewards; Ahern, I.G.; Shaw Thewlis, P.M.; P. Prov. S.G.D. (Mayor of Warrington); W. Savage, P. Rylands, B. P. Coxon, C.E.; Dr. Pennington, John Pilling, jun., John Pierpoint, James Hepherd, James Woods, Jos. Maxfield, P.M.; G. J. Higginbottom, W. H. Spring, G. Blackhurst, Thomas Jones, R. Gibbons, Jos. Robinson, Tyler; James Johnson. Visitor:—Bro. Aug. Samuel Leopold Leonhardt, Berlin. The lodge was opened in due form according to ancient custom, and the minutes read and declared to be correctly recorded. The ballot was then taken for Mr. Thomas Jones, a candidate duly proposed at the last meeting, which proved unanimously in that gentleman's favour. Mr. Jones being present he was duly admitted. The chair was now assumed by Bro. John Bowes, P.M.; Bros. Rylands and Woods being candidates for promotion, and having given proof of proficiency were entrusted and retired. The lodge was opened in the second degree, the candi-

dates admitted and passed to the degree of F.C.'s. Bros. Oakden, Ekkert, Filling, jun., and Savage, being candidates for the third degree, were entrusted and retired. The lodge was opened in the third degree, the candidates severally admitted and raised to the sublime degree of M.M.'s by Bros. H. B. White and Bowes. The lodge was closed down to the first degree. The auditors, Bros. Hepherd and Pierpoint, then tendered their report which was of a highly satisfactory character. Bro. Thewlis proposed, Bro. Warden seconded, and it was unanimously resolved that the accounts do pass, and that the warmest thanks of the lodge are due and hereby given to Bro. White, Treas., and Bro. Bowes, Hon. Sec., for the excellent and elaborate manner in which they record the transactions of the lodge. It was duly resolved to subscribe two guineas and one guinea respectively to the Royal Freemasons' School for Boys and Girls. The receipt of several communications was announced by Bro. Sec. Bro. Leonhardt was proposed as a joining member, and two gentlemen as candidates for the mysteries. There being no further business the lodge was duly closed at fifteen minutes past ten, and the brethren separated in harmony.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

NEWPORT.—ISCA LODGE (No. 683).

The installation of Bro. R. Bond as W.M. of the Isca Lodge took place at the Lodge-room, in Dock-street, Newport, on Thursday, the 25th ult. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Bridges, D. Prov. G.M. for Somerset, who, with his uniform kindness, came expressly for the purpose from Bridgewater. The lodge was opened in due form, when the following appointments were made:—Bros. R. Bond, W.M.; J. Middleton, P.M.; J. Maddocks, S.W.; T. Williams, J.W.; H. Mullock, Treas.; W. J. Russell, Sec.; Rev. F. Davis, Chap.; H. J. Groves, Org.; A. Isaacs, S.D.; S. J. Wood, J.D.; F. T. Boshier, I.G.; W. McFee, Tyler.

The lodge having been duly closed, the brethren adjourned to the Westgate Hotel, where Bro. Host Hallen had prepared a sumptuous banquet, at which a numerous company sat down, comprising not only the brethren of the Isca, but those of the Silurian Lodge, as well as other visiting brethren.

Among those present were:—Bros. R. Bond, W.M., in the chair; J. Middleton, P.M.; R. B. Evans, P.M. 471; H. Hell- yer, W.M. 471; Rev. F. Davis, Chap.; R. Laybourne, P.M.; S. Coombs, P.M.; W. J. Lloyd, 471; T. Williams, J.W.; E. Blackborrow, H. J. Groves, Org.; C. E. Sloper, Tredegar; W. Benson, ditto; J. Phillips, ditto; J. Lewis, ditto; H. Collier, 471; Capt. J. F. Cox, 960, New Brunswick; J. Maddocks, S.W., vice-chair; J. Burnett, P.M., 291, Highbridge; S. J. Wood, J.D.; R. Bodmer; R. H. Richards, 471; M. O. Scott; Henry Mullock, Treas.; F. T. Boshier, I.G.; W. Pickford, P.M., 471; W. J. Russell, Sec., &c.

After the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and, as usually, heartily responded to.

Bro. HELLYEN, W.M. of the Silurian Lodge, in returning thanks for the toast of "The Lodges of the Provinces," in his address recited the following poetical effusion, which was received with great cheering:—

We meet upon the level, we part upon the square,
What words of precious meaning these words Masonic are;
Come, let us contemplate them, they are worthy of a thought,
With the highest, with the lowest, with the rarest they are fraught.

We meet upon the level, tho' from every station come,
The king from out his palace, or the poor man from his home,
The one must leave his diadem outside the Mason's door,
And the other finds his true respect upon the chequered floor

We part upon the square, for the world must have its due,
And we mingle with its multitude, a cold unfriendly crew.
Yet the influence of our gatherings in memory is green,
And we long upon the level to renew the happy scene.

There's a world where all are equal, we're hurrying towards
it fast,

We shall meet upon the level there when the gates of death
are past,

We shall stand before the Orient, and our Master will be
there,

To try these blocks we offer up with His own unerring square.

We shall meet upon the level there, and never thence depart,
There's a mansion, 'tis all ready for each faithful trusting
heart,

There's a mansion! yea, a welcome, and a multitude is there,
Who have met upon the level, and been tried upon the square.

Let us meet upon the level then, while working patient here,
Let us meet and let us labour, tho' the labour be severe.
Already in the western sky the signs bid us prepare,
To gather up our working tools, and be tried upon the square.

Hands round, ye faithful Masons, all, the bright fraternal
chain,

We part upon the square below, to meet in Heaven again.

Oh! what words of precious meaning these words Masonic
are,

"We meet upon the level, and we part upon the square."

Bro. R. B. EVANS, in giving "The Health of the Officers and Brethren of the Isca," complimented that lodge on the zeal and efficiency with which the work was conducted, and on the material success which had attended its labours.

Bro. MADDOCKS, the S.W., returned thanks.

Bro. R. LAYBOURNE also responded, and as one of the original founders of the lodge, adverted to its rise and progress. Others now present took an active part in the establishment of that lodge. Some of the originators had left the district, others had gone to the Grand Lodge above, and it was a source of gratification to him that the work in which they had years ago heartily joined, had so abundantly prospered.

Bro. MIDDLETON gave "The Health of the Chaplain," and coupled with the toast the health of Bro. Frederick Davis.

Bro. DAVIS suitably acknowledged the compliment.

Bro. THOS. WILLIAMS gave "The Past Masters of the Isca Lodge, coupled with the names of Bros. Middleton and R. Laybourne." He bore warm testimony to their zeal and assiduity as Masons.

Bro. MIDDLETON, for himself and his fellow P.M.'s, returned thanks.

"The Health of Past Master Bro. Samuel Coombs," a veteran in Masonry, was proposed by Bro. LAYBOURNE. Some might be called fathers in Masonry, but Bro. Coombs might be truly termed the grandfather of Masonry in our province. Not only was he well known in our own district, but throughout the Masonic circle of England. Bro. Coombs had, when his wealth permitted, always attended the gatherings of the Craft, and long might he yet be spared to meet with the brethren of the province.

Bro. COOMBS, with much emotion, thanked the brethren for the feeling manner in which they had received his name. Speaking from his own experience, he testified to the peculiar advantages conferred by the Craft. Masonry had had his heartiest support, and during the remainder of his life, he hoped that he and all Masons might act upon the level, and part upon the square. Before sitting down, he wished to propose a toast. Masons were always hospitably inclined, and glad to see visitors in their midst. He would, therefore, propose "The Health of the Visiting Brethren," coupling the same with the names of Bros. Burnett and Cox.

Both brethren returned thanks.

Bro. MIDDLETON, in highly complimentary terms, gave—"The Health of Bro. Bridges, Deputy Provincial Grand Master for Somerset," emphatically recognising the fraternal kindness which prompted him to aid his Masonic brethren in the conduct of ceremonials like that at which he had officiated to-day.

The toast was very warmly received.

Several toasts and sentiments followed, Bro. Groves and others contributing to the harmony of the evening, which was characterised throughout by that geniality and fraternal feeling which are inseparable from the social gatherings of the Craft.

NORTH WALES AND SHROPSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of North Wales and Shropshire was held at Shrewsbury, on Monday, the 8th ult., when the esteemed Prov. G.M., Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, presided, and appointed and invested the following brethren as the Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing period:—

Bro. F. W. J. Goldsbro', M.D.	Prov. S.G.W.
" Capt. E. C. Cumah	" J.G.W.
" Rev. W. Jellicose	" G. Chap.
" J. P. White	" G. Treas.
" W. Bulkeley Hughes, M.P.	" G. Registrar.
" C. Wigan	" G. Sec.

Bro. Bulkeley H. Owen	" S.G.D.
" Colonel Charles Wingfield	" J.G.D.
" T. Love	} " Dir. of Cers.
" J. Parry	
" R. G. Benson	
" C. Oakley, M.D.	" G.S.B.
" R. Forrest	" G. Org.
" W. A. Darbshire	" G. Purst.
" B. Brown	} " Stewards.
" G. Brown	
" G. Owen	
" Jasper More, M.P.	

The following Past Grand Officers and members of the Provincial Grand Lodge were also present:—Bro. W. Clement, M.P., P. Prov. S.G.W.; W. Anslow, P. Prov. S.G.W.; W. Brightwell, P. Prov. S.G.W.; J. N. Heathcote, P. Prov. J.G.W.; J. C. Foudrinier, P. Prov. J.G.W.; S. Wood, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Henry Alkin, P. Prov. G. Purst. Visitor:—Bro. Colonel Brownrigg, P.G.S.W. of England.

Lodge 262 was represented by the following brethren:—Bros. Edward Tipton, W.M. 262; Robt. Jasper More, M.P., J.W. 262; R. Everett, P.M. 601, P.Z.; E. Oswell, P.M.; H. Colewell, T. R. Gardner, Capt. John Hamer, W. Blakeway, W. Clark, W. Thomas, — Kennedy, Philip Whitecombe, W. Eddowes, M.R.C.S.; T. Jobson, W. M. Beddoes, M.R.C.S.; W. J. Ward, Cecil Peele, R. C. Roberts, M.R.C.S.; R. Webster, Dr. Brooks, R. Palin, S. Lloyd Pany, J. D. Harris, M.R.C.S.; R. Sloman, Mus. Bac., 262; J. R. Pickering, R. Everett, and Dodswell, 117; W. Howlett, J. Barker, and W. Webb, 601. Lodge 998 was represented by the following brethren, Bros. the Rev. J. M. Edwards, Chap., D. P. Owen, J.D., J. Askew Roberts, Thos. Coverdale, E. Elias, J. Nobley, and J. Gough.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been closed, the brethren, about seventy in number, adjourned to the banquet.

Grace having been sung,

The PROV. G. MASTER rose and said: Brethren, at all our convivial meetings in this country, but more especially so among Masons (who are the most loyal subjects possible to the throne) it is customary to propose "The Health of the Queen." It must be a source of pleasure to you to hear that our Sovereign is getting over that great affliction which has fallen upon her, and I trust she will soon be able to show herself among her subjects more than she has done for a few years past.

"National Anthem."

Sir WATKIN W. WYNN then said,—The next toast on the list is "The Health of the Grand Officers of our Order—Lord Zetland and Earl de Grey and Ripon." It is not usual to couple these toasts together, but as some of the brethren have to go a long way to get home, I do not think it a disrespect to hurry over the early toasts. As to Lord Zetland, he has most ably presided over the Order for twenty-two years. Earl de Grey has been a very able assistant to him latterly, and I believe last year (from the great domestic affliction of Lord Zetland) was obliged to preside in his place. I think the Craft may be considered very fortunate in having so good a Grand Master as Lord Zetland. I shall couple with this toast the Right Worshipful Past Grand Senior Warden and the Grand Chaplain, as they are both connected by a most tender tie with this province. I give you "The Health of the Right Worshipful Brothers, Colonel Brownrigg and the Rev. J. Sedgwick."

Bro. Colonel BROWNRIGG returned thanks for the Grand Officers, and remarked that he had heard a brother ask, "What are the duties of Past Grand Officers?" I think the duties of Past Grand Officers are negative and not positive duties, but still they are duties and important duties. I consider that the duties of the Grand Officers are to be present at all the quarterly communications of the Grand Master, and to support the Grand Master in carrying out the schemes for the benefit of the Craft. The Craft never had a better Grand Master to preside over them than the Earl of Zetland. The duties of Past Prov. Grand Officers are, by their counsel and influence to support the Masters of lodges for the time being by assisting in the duties, and guarding them from overstepping the landmarks of the Order. As the world proceeds we see that improvements are necessary, but our forefathers were wiser in Masonry than ourselves. On the part of the Grand Officers, I return you my best thanks for drinking their healths.

A song for the Craft.

Bro. Dr. SAMUEL WOOD then rose and said, brethren, it is my high privilege to offer to you the next toast, as I represent the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, who would have done

honour to the toast better than I can. It needs no commendation, and I feel sure that the esteem and respect that we all bear to our most excellent Provincial Grand Master needs no comment. The name of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn needs no apology, and I ask you all to drink his health in the way he deserves, and that in the most uproarious and loyal manner. We have all experienced his urbanity, condescension, and liberality. The attention he has given to Masonry in the province over which he presides has become quite a household word amongst us. Health, long life, and prosperity to him, and may we see a son and heir. Success to the House of Wynnstay.

Drunk with full Masonic honours.

Chorus—"Prosper the art."

The R.W. PROV. G. MASTER, in reply, said I beg to return thanks for the way in which my health has been proposed, and I may take this opportunity to thank the Masons of Shropshire and North Wales for the kindness I have always received from them, and for the easiness with which they have stood any shortcomings since I have had the honour to sit in this chair. I have long been taught the good of Masonry, and am glad to see every year, when I look at our pocket-book, that lodges are increasing; and if the lodges in this province are not increasing, the number of members is increasing in each lodge. I thank you for all your kindness, and I drink all your very good healths.

Glee, "I'm dreaming of thee."

Sir W. W. WYNN then said, The next toast is, "The Health of the Grand Master of Ireland." There has been no Grand Master appointed for Scotland in the place of the late Duke of Athole; I shall therefore propose "The Health of the Duke of Leinster, Grand Master for Ireland," and our worthy Bro. Foudrinier, P. Prov. G.W., will reply to it.

Song, "Simon the Cellarer."

Bro. FODRINIER, in returning thanks for the last toast, said, I am quite satisfied that every brother who has the honour of being acquainted with the Duke of Leinster will feel spring up in his mind the desire to acknowledge the compliments paid to him by the R.W. Prov. G. Master. I had not the most distant idea that it would have fallen to my lot to respond to this toast, or to say one word on the present occasion. I would only add, in conclusion, the words of the old song.

"Should not a meeting like this make amends."

The Provincial Grand Lodge may congratulate itself upon the meetings of the present day, when every English, Irish, and Scotch Mason will aid in carrying Masonry forward to the utmost of his power.

A brother, whose name we did not learn, proposed "The Healths of the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master for Cheshire and the Provincial Grand Masters of the other Provinces," which was duly honoured by the brethren.

Piano—Fantasia on popular melodies—Bro. Robert Sloman, *Mus. Bac.*

The R.W. PROV. G. MASTER then proposed "The Health of the Provincial Grand Officers who had supported him in the Chair since he had presided over the Province," and said—It is the first time I have attended the Provincial Grand Lodge without the presence and assistance of Bro. Dymock. Unfortunately, I believe, he has a great domestic affliction, and he is unable to be here. I am extremely sorry that he is not able to come here, he has been so zealous for the Craft. I ask you all to join me in drinking his health.

Chorus—"Prosper the art."

A brother, whose name we did not hear, said—I will endeavour, as briefly as possible, to propose the toast put into my hands, viz., "The Provincial Grand Chaplains of North Wales and Shropshire." There must be good in Masonry when we see so many of the clergy joining our ranks. The question often put to us is, What is the good of Masonry? We may answer it by pointing out the number of clergymen who practise Masonry. It embodies the essential principles of Christianity, of which the greatest is charity. I regret that I miss from their places here to-night the familiar faces of several members of this Grand Lodge who are unable to attend. I ask you to join me in drinking the healths of the Provincial Grand Chaplains of North Wales and Shropshire.

The Rev. Bro. MORGAN said, On behalf of the Prov. Grand Chaplains, I give you my best thanks for the cordial reception given to this toast. Speaking in their and my own name, I beg to say, we endeavour, so far as we can, to perform the duties assigned to us in chapter; and as for myself, we are very proud to belong to such an institution as Masonry.

The principles which we have to uphold and propagate in our parishes are the same as we find held in great honour among us as Masons—charity, brotherly love, relief, truth, temperance, prudence, justice. These, if purely practised, will tend to make all of us better men, better Christians, better husbands, and better fathers—more likely to serve ourselves and all those with whom we are connected. I am proud to be here to-night, and I shall always be glad to see lodges established in the province.

Song—"Christmas is a merry time."

The R.W. Bro. Colonel BROWNIEGG said, I have the honour of proposing the next toast. When the R.W. Prov. G. Master proposed that of the Grand Officers, he was good enough to allude to the relation we have to the Principality of Wales, and to the fact of our having married Welsh women. I have therefore much pleasure in addressing Welshmen. The name of Wynn will always be an introduction to any Saxon; and I may add, moreover, that I married the daughter of a Mason. I propose "The Healths of the Provincial Grand Wardens, the Very Worshipful Bro. Dr. Goldsbro', and Bro. Cunnah." The selection of Prov. Grand Officers by the R.W. Prov. G. Master depends on their own merits, and they will have to give him that support which it is his right to expect.

The R.W. Bro. included in this toast Bro. J. L. Randal the G. Dir. of Cers.

Quartet—"Sleep, gentle lady."

The Prov. J.G.W., Bro. CUNNAH, returned thanks for the Grand Wardens and the G. Dir. of Cers.

Bro. JASPER MORE, M.P., said, I have the honour of proposing Lady Wynn and the Ladies. Everyone who knows Lady Wynn is aware that she presides over Wales with the same honour which is accorded to Sir Watkin. I trust that when the family seat is completed the Princess of Wales will gratify Lady Wynn by visiting the Principality. With regard to the ladies, brethren, it must be peculiarly interesting to you to know that we have amongst us a highly esteemed brother who is a descendant of the lady who shut herself up in a clock to learn the secrets of Freemasonry. It is unnecessary for me to attempt to say more with regard to the ladies generally. You know how much the poets have written on the question, and we all admit, in moments of weakness, we give way to feelings of—well, I need not say what. You know how great is their influence over us. The language we generally address to them is full of praise, and I cannot do better than conclude in the words of the old song—

"No mortal can more

The ladies adore,

Than a Free and Accepted Mason."

I propose "The Health of Lady Wynn and the Ladies."

Received with acclamation.

Sir W. W. WYNN returned thanks on behalf of Lady Wynn.

Bro. Dr. CLEMENT, P. Prov. S.G.W., then rose and said, Brethren, the next toast is "The Health of the several Masters of the lodges of Shropshire and North Wales." I think I am entitled to the privilege of proposing that toast. In looking around this lodge, I feel that if not the oldest man, I am the oldest Mason now present. I was initiated in the Craft a few days after I attained my majority. From that hour up to the present time, I have never ceased to feel the greatest interest, and I may say you all know that I have the greatest reverence and regard for the Craft. As a Mason I feel it as a professional man, I feel more alive to that motto on the wall, "Brotherly love, relief, and truth," and I am quite certain that the members of that honourable profession to which I belong, do carry in their heart of hearts, whether Masons or non Masons, that Masonic principle of brotherly love. I am quite sure that there is no part of the community that exercises Christian charity to a greater extent than the members of my own profession. We succour and relieve the poor and distressed, and perhaps give a greater amount of benefits to the poor than you think. I know that no Masonic lodge can be properly conducted unless it has a good Master. During the time that I have belonged to this lodge, it has changed its number, but it is not changed in virtue. I am quite sure we have had to preside over No. 262 brethren, who have always endeavoured to do their duty and carry out the great Masonic principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth, and I beg to propose their health.

Bro. TIRTON, W.M. of 262, returned thanks on behalf of the Masters of the lodges in the province.

The next toast was that of "The Wardens and other Officers of the Salopian Lodge," No. 262, to which Bro. JASPER MORE, M.P., J.W., replied.

The W. Bro. BULKELEY OWEN, Prov. S.G.D. proposed the health of the Visitors, and said—We are all aware that no body of Englishmen are so hospitable as Masons, and it is our particular delight to see brethren from all parts at our festive board, and I couple with that toast the name of Bro. Kennedy.

Bro. KENNEDY, in reply, said—It is a great honour to visit this lodge, of which I have heard so much, and I hope at some future time to become a member of it.

The Tyler's toast having been given, the R.W.P.E. Master and his Grand Officers retired, and the brethren separated, congratulating each other upon their happy meeting.

SIR WATKIN W. WYNN appointed the next meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge to take place at Welchpool.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

STOURBRIDGE.—*Lodge of Stability* (No. 561).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held at the Talbot Hotel on Tuesday, the 23rd ult., for the installation of the W.M. elect, and also the Festival of St. John the Evangelist. The lodge was opened at half-past three by the W.M., Bro. Haines, who was unanimously elected for the ensuing year, and the installation was performed by Bro. Masefield, assisted by the Past Masters. The W.M. then proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bros. J. H. Roberts, S.W.; J. L. Kollerton, J.W.; W. J. Jones, Treas.; W. M. Pritchard, Sec.; Wm. Fren, S.D.; R. C. Smith, J.D.; Webb and Stringer, Stewards; and E. Poole, I.G. The lodge was opened in the second and third degrees, and duly closed. The business of the afternoon being finished, the brethren retired to a splendid banquet, provided by Bro. Brooks in his usual excellent style, and a very pleasant and delightful evening was spent.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

GUISBORO.—*Zetland Lodge* (No. 561).—On Thursday, the 18th ult., the members of this lodge met at the lodge-room for the purpose of installing Bro. J. Galloway, W.M. elect for the ensuing year. Bro. G. Marwood, D. Prov. G.M. for the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, performed the ceremony, and the W.M. then appointed the following as his Wardens and other officers, viz.: G. Hodgson, S.W.; G. Page, J.W.; J. Ray Robinson, S.D.; J. C. Bulman, J.D.; Charles Ovington Ord, Sec. and Treas.; Wm. J. Laidler, I.G., and Wm. Campion, O.G. After the installation about thirty of the brethren sat down to an excellent dinner provided by Bro. Wm. Riddle, Cock Hotel.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.

ST. AUBIN'S LODGE (No. 958).—A very pleasant meeting was held on Tuesday, Jan. 16, the regular monthly night, though, owing to the exceedingly rough weather, the attendance was limited. Bro. Dr. R. G. F. Smith, P.M., presided, at the request of the W.M., who was unavoidably absent. In consequence of the illness of the I.P.M., a lecture which had been promised was necessarily postponed; and, as there were no ceremonies to be performed, a general conversation took place on Masonic subjects. The usual light refreshment followed, and the brethren separated at an early hour.

Obituary.

BRO. W. ESTWICK, P.M. & TREAS. OF THE NEW CONCORD LODGE.

It is our painful duty to announce the death of Bro. W. Estwick of Enfield, late of Hoxton and Islington, which took place on the 10th ult., after a lengthened attack of paralysis. Bro. Estwick will be well remembered by the inhabitants of Hoxton, in which place he lived and carried on business for many years as a thoroughly honest, charitable, and worthy neighbour. Years ago he was an active member of the Parochial Reform Association, and as such he filled several important offices, to the entire

satisfaction of his fellow-parishioners. From Hoxton he removed to the Southgate-road, the extent of his business compelling him so to do; and on retiring from commercial pursuits a few years since, he amused himself with agriculture at Ponder's-end and Enfield, but he never ceased to cherish the associations which he formed in Hoxton and Shoreditch. Last year he filled the important position of W.M. of the New Concord Lodge of Freemasons, meeting at the Rosemary Branch, and of which lodge he was one of the founders, and held the office of Treasurer up to the time of his death. He was a man who was highly and deservedly respected.

LINES ON THE DEATH OF BRO. ESTWICK, P.M., NEW CONCORD LODGE (No. 813).

By Bro. LLOYD JONES.

He was an exotic of infinite goodness,
Transplanted on the stormy shores of this life
For us to behold and admire.
But he withstood 'midst the blast,
And has been replanted,
To bloom with redoubled sweetness,
Fanned by the more congenial gales
Of his native clime!

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Findel, J. G., "History of Freemasonry." London: Asher and Co., 1866.
"The Masonic Eclectic, or Gleanings from the Harvest Fields of Masonic Literature and the Kindred Sciences." January, 1866. New York: J. L. White.
"The Masonic Trowel." No. 1. January, 1866. Springfield, Illinois.

MEETINGS OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND LEARNED SOCIETIES FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 10th, 1866.

Tuesday, February 6. INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.

Wednesday, February 7. SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—"On the Proposal that the Railways should be Purchased by the Government." By Mr. W. Hawes.

Wednesday, February 7. GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, at 8.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty, their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena, Princess Louise, and his Serene Highness Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, attended Divine service at Whippingham Church on Sunday morning last. The Rev. G. Prothero officiated.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—Earl De Grey and Ripon, who is High Steward of Hull, laid the foundation stone of a new middle-class at that place on the 25th ult., in the afternoon. Later in the day his lordship formally opened a very fine new town-hall. The building is from the designs of Mr. Cuthbert Brodrick, and will greatly increase the reputation of that architect.—At the Worship-street Police-court, on the 25th ult., William Chadwick, a "confidential" clerk, was charged with robbing his employers, Messrs. Henry and John Taylor, mustard and cocoa manufacturers, to the amount of nearly £3,000. The prisoner received a salary of £300, and appears to have admitted his guilt with the greatest coolness.—It will be remembered that a policeman named Fitzgerald took a man into custody in Drury-lane. He had got him in Broad-court, Long-acre, when several friends of the prisoner set upon the policeman, knocked him down, and rescued the man. Fitz-

gerald was picked up and taken to the hospital, and there shortly afterwards died. A *post-mortem* examination brought out the fact that death had been caused by fatty degeneration of the heart, but had been accelerated by fearful injuries the poor fellow had received. These facts were elicited at an inquest on the body on the 26th ult. The inquiry was adjourned.—A fearful double suicide has been committed at Paddington. Several weeks ago a French gentleman and his mother took lodgings in a house in the Norfolk-road. They paid no rent, and were evidently very poor. The landlady gave them notice to quit, and they were to have left the house last Thursday week. They did not, however, go. On Friday morning, the 26th ult., they were found hanging to the cornice-pole of the window of one of the rooms they occupied. It was evident they had made the ropes fast one to each end of the pole, and had put the nooses round their necks while they were standing on footstools. At a given signal each had jumped off at the same moment, and thus killed themselves. There seems to be no doubt that deep poverty has been the cause of their committing suicide.—Mr. Roebuck, M.P., was summoned to appear at the Westminster Police-court, charged with refusing to pay a cabman his proper fare. The amount in dispute was sixpence; and the matter seemed to rest upon the time the cabman had been kept waiting before starting. Mr. Roebuck, who from illness was unable to attend, was adjudged to pay the sixpence, and also an additional five shillings costs.—The movement which was inaugurated at St. Martin's Hall, a few weeks ago, under the title of "Sunday Evenings for the People," and which consisted of scientific and other lectures by eminent men, followed by selections of sacred music, has come to a somewhat abrupt termination. After Dr. Hodgson had delivered his lecture last Sunday night it was stated that the "Lord's Day Observance Society" had determined to put these gatherings down, on the ground that they were public entertainments and amusements, contrary to the provisions of the Act 21 George III, cap. 49. With a view to test the legality of this, the committee of the recent movement have commenced a subscription to defray the expenses of obtaining the opinion of the Court of Queen's Bench, as to whether the lectures and musical selections which have hitherto been given in St. Martin's Hall on Sunday evenings are an infringement of the Act of Parliament in question or not. In the meantime, although other lectures were announced for the next and subsequent Sundays, the gatherings will be discontinued.—The Board of Trade inquiry into the loss of the *London* was opened on the 29th ult., at Greenwich. Mr. O'Dowd opened the proceedings, and three gentlemen were called as witnesses, each of whom being inspectors of shipping—one an inspector of ships building, another an inspector for the Board of Trade's certificate, as to passengers, and a third an inspector of engines. All of them gave the *London* a very good character. She was well and strongly built, and fitted up most carefully. Where suggestions had been made to the owners they had been complied with. The witnesses were examined as to the engine-room hatchway. It was declared to be as safe as that of most sea-going steamers; but it was admitted that in some Clyde-built vessels a very important addition was made which effectually shielded the engine-room from heavy seas that might come on board the vessel. The inquiry was adjourned.—An inquest has been held on the bodies of a French gentleman and his mother who committed suicide in Paddington last Thursday night week. The evidence showed that the gentleman had been under the hallucination that he was always beset by spies. It was also shown that he and his mother had suffered great privations. For days together they had lived on small quantities

of vegetables. The inquest was adjourned.—At the Marlborough-street police-court John Williams was charged with defrauding Mr. Arthur Walsh, the member for Leominster. The prisoner proved to be a notorious impostor, and he was sentenced to three months' hard labour.—Whilst the Evangelical Alliance has been interesting itself on behalf of the Nestorians who were oppressed in Persia, Sir Moses Montefiore has been seeking to relieve the Jews in that country from the tyranny under which they have groaned. Lord Clarendon has just caused a communication to be sent to the philanthropic baronet informing him that her Majesty's minister in Persia has received assurances that the Jewish subjects of the Shah shall no longer be oppressed.—In the Court of Chancery, Vice-Chancellor Wood gave judgment in the somewhat protracted case of Colonel Knox *v.* Gye. The learned judge directed an inquiry to ascertain the profits of the Italian Opera until the new theatre was built, and after allowing £1,500 a year to Mr. Gye, as manager, out of these profits, if there be any, the claim of Colonel Knox will be satisfied.—The Lord Lieutenant was present at the inaugural banquet of the new Lord Mayor of Dublin on Tuesday evening. His lordship alluded, in the course of a speech which he made, to the Fenian movement, praised the impartiality of the trials which have taken place, and augured a better state of things for the country. Mr. Fortesque, in his speech, made an illusion which we take to mean that the Government will not allow the Orangemen to make Fenianism the excuse for any outrage. Meanwhile it is certain that great alarm still prevails in Dublin.—A few days ago the Ballot Society wrote to Earl Russell, asking his lordship to receive a deputation on the subject of the ballot. His lordship has written in reply declining to receive the deputation. He would receive it if he thought any advantage would be gained; but his opinions are, he says, well known, and no useful end would be served by his doing so.—A great Reform meeting was held at Manchester on Tuesday night. It was held under the auspices of the National Reform Union, and was attended by a large number of influential persons from various parts of the district. Mr. George Wilson occupied the chair, and delivered one of his vigorous and lucid speeches. Six Members of Parliament took part in the proceedings: Messrs. Bazley, T. B. Potter, Hibbert, R.N., Phillips, Whitworth, and Cheetham; also Mr. E. A. Leatham, and Dr. Sandwith, of Kars. The opinion of the meeting was unanimously in favour of accepting no measure less comprehensive than the bill of 1860, which embodied the principle of a £6 rental franchise.—Three very serious cases were disposed of at the Central Criminal Court, on Wednesday. George Crane was charged with causing the death of the woman with whom he had cohabited in Southwark. He had kicked and beaten her so that she died. He was found guilty and sentenced to five years' penal servitude. George Ringwood was charged with killing his wife at Paddington. Irritated by the taunts and abuse of the woman, he had stabbed her, and she died almost instantly. He was found guilty, but recommended to mercy, and the judge sentenced him to fifteen months' imprisonment. The third case was that of Elia Ferni, who was charged with stabbing Mr. George Dornbusch, in Gresham House. The defence of insanity was set up, but the jury found the prisoner guilty of intending to do grievous bodily harm. He was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The session of the Greek Chambers has closed. It is stated that another change of Ministry is imminent.—It seems there is not the most perfect equanimity in the Imperial mind as to the relations of France with the United States. One of the Government writers has been

instructed to publish an article on the correspondence with Mr. Bigelow, in which the arguments of M. Drouyn de l'Huys are repeated. There is, however, one sentence which is manifestly intended to be a severe hit at the Washington Government. Surely, it says, "the United States cannot call the resistances offered by a number of plundering adventurers war, after refusing the title of belligerents to the Confederates of the South." To which it may as fairly be answered that the United States never hung and shot Southern soldiers as the infamous Mejia has done.—The Spanish Senate has been engaged in the preparations of an address to the Queen, in reference to the war with Chili. On that subject it regrets that hostilities have broken out, but urges that the war shall be pursued till Spanish claims are satisfied, and Spanish honour vindicated.—A very interesting ceremony, which has for some time been looked forward to with interest, took place at Verviers, in Belgium, on Saturday last. The Belgium Society of Political Economy presented to the Chamber of Commerce of that thriving manufacturing town a bust of Richard Cobden, as the most expressive symbol of their appreciation of the services rendered to the cause of Free-trade by the Verviers merchants and manufacturers. It appears that these gentlemen were the principal supporters of the Free-trade movement in Belgium which has been crowned with such great success, and the recognition of their efforts and sacrifices have been attended with great *éclat*. Gentlemen from England, Ireland, France, Germany, Spain, and several other countries attended, and bore unqualified testimony to the grandeur of the principle of Free-trade; to the modest greatness of the distinguished Englishman whose memory was thus honoured so gracefully in a country which his doctrines have now thoroughly permeated; and to the worthiness of the men of Verviers to be associated with his great fame. An interesting letter from Mrs. Cobden was read in the course of the inauguration, which was followed by a very brilliant banquet, attended by 200 gentlemen, and characterised by the most cordial enthusiasm in behalf of "peace, justice, and liberty," the great ideas for ever identified with Richard Cobden's public life.—Lord Howard de Walden had an interview with the King of the Belgians on Friday week. He presented the condolences of Queen Victoria on the death of the late king, and her felicitations to Leopold II. on his ascending the throne. On Saturday Count de Comminges-Guitaud fulfilled a similar duty for the Emperor of the French.—From the Mediterranean coast of Spain some rather ugly news is to hand. It is said that some vessels bearing Chilian colours have appeared off Valencia and given chase to Spanish coasting brigs. If the story is true, which we think unlikely, the cruisers must be some of those privateers, the crews of which Spain has threatened to treat as pirates.—The Norwegian Storting has rejected by a majority of two an amendment to the Constitution proposing annual Parliaments.—The Superior Criminal Court of Berlin has ordered Mr. May, who was acquitted by the Lower Court on a charge of publishing articles in the *Schleswig-Holstein Gazette* insulting to the King of Prussia, to be arrested again, and sent to Berlin. He will have much less chance of escape there than in Altona. Meanwhile Count Von Bismarck has refused to join the discussion in the Chamber of Deputies on the Lanenburg question, on the ground that the indemnity paid to Austria was taken from the public treasury.—The bill for the suppression of religious corporations in Italy has been given to the members of the Chamber of Deputies. It provides annuities for members of the religious bodies from the state. Of course the state takes the property of the religious bodies.—The French Yellow-book has been issued. It contains despatches relative to Mexico, in accordance with the information we have already published.

AMERICA.—The telegraphic news from America has an alarmist character, but more, we think, on the surface than in reality. Mr. Chandler had moved a resolution in the Senate requesting the President to withdraw the American ambassador from England, and to inaugurate a policy of non-intercourse on

the ground of our refusal to settle the *Alabama* claims. There seems to have been a debate of some considerable importance on this motion; but it was ultimately "tabled"—that is, rejected—by a majority of 25 to 12. Mr. Chandler and Mr. Sumner both wished the resolution to be referred to the Senate Committee for Foreign Affairs; but instead of this the subject was got rid of altogether. Thus far, therefore, the anti-English feeling has been powerless for mischief. Sweeny, the Fenian Secretary for War, is calling for prompt "military action." We wonder how many calls and appeals of a similar kind have been issued by the Fenian worthies during the last few months, all of which have ended in smoke. The news from Mexico by way of New York seems to show that anything but peace prevailed there. One statement is that a filibuster force, commanded by the American general, Reed, had captured Bagdad in Mexico, taking the Imperial garrison prisoners. They plundered the city and sent the spoils to Texas. Gun boats—one Imperial and the other French came up and drove the filibusters into the upper part of the town where they remained. General Crawford had left Brownsville for Bagdad, and the Imperialists were moving in force upon that place. The other news shows great activity in martial matters.—The *Moravian*, bringing dates from New York to the morning of the 20th, has arrived. The Fenian State was to hold a congress at Pittsburgh, but their ardour must be somewhat damped by the return of a dozen ex-Federal officers from Ireland, who openly confessed that they decamped from an ignoble fear of arrest. The report of the capture of Bagdad is confirmed. The commander crossed the Rio Grande, sacked the town, and, after liberating the prisoners, garrisoned the town with them. It is, however, right to add that General Sheridan, whose command extends to the Mexican frontier, discredits the story. The anti-Slavery party in the House of Representatives have gained another substantial victory by the passage of the bill granting the suffrage to the coloured people in the district of Columbia. The necessities of the Papal Treasury are so great that it has been resolved to levy a light tax on all vessels entering the Roman ports. A telegram from Vienna states that negotiations for the formation of a new corps of Austrian volunteers for Mexico will soon be brought to a conclusion. The Austrian volunteers will act wisely if they decline a visit to Mexico.

WEST INDIES.—The *American*, which arrived at Liverpool on Sunday last, brings news from Jamaica to the 5th of January. At that time Sir Henry Storks had not arrived out, and Governor Eyre, all unconscious of his deposition, had arranged to open a commission for the trial of political prisoners on the 23rd. Before that day, however, Sir Henry Storks would have arrived out, and doubtless he would make other arrangements. The Governor does not seem to be growing in popularity in the island. On the last day of the session of the Legislative Council Mr. Wellesley Burke delivered a speech, in which he denounced the conduct of Mr. Eyre, and advocated the putting of Jamaica solely under the British Government. This speech was most favourably received in the island.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS IN ARREARS.—Subscribers who are in arrears are requested to forward without delay the amounts due from them by Post-office Order, payable to the Proprietor, Bro. William Smith, C.E., 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, W.C.

We regret to be compelled to request brethren from whom outstanding amounts are due to respond to the above notice. Some of our *Colonial* Subscribers are especially reticent in this respect; and our exchequer is not only impoverished through the non-receipt of amounts overdue, but we have also been put to the trouble and expense of writing and postages without even producing the bare courtesy of a reply. We have to acknowledge the receipt of some lodge reports, and other matter to hand, too late for insertion in our present number, but will receive a place in our next.

W. E. G.—Many thanks for your courtesy and attention. We are obliged to you for the particulars already received, and we will gladly avail ourselves of the remaining instalment which you are good enough to place at our disposition.