

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1867.

ADDRESS TO THE OFFICERS AND BRETHREN OF THE LODGE OF ANTIQUITY, MONTREAL.

*By Bro. J. C. FRANK, W.M. of the lodge, P.D.G.M., P.G.Z. of the Grand Chapter of Canada, &c.**(Continued from page 247.)*

The election of Grand Master is not in consequence of any law or regulation of Grand Lodge; the office is indebted for its existence to a landmark, nay, if Grand Lodges were abolished, a Grand Master would on that account still be indispensable. Indeed, although in a period of very recent date a Grand Lodge was unknown, there never was a time when the Craft did not have a Grand Master. Hence he had certain inherent rights, which are his without any action, or even opposed to the action of Grand Lodge, one of which is the fifth landmark, the prerogative of the Grand Master to preside over every assembly of the Craft wheresoever and whensoever held. Not so with the Deputy Grand Master: this was an office established as late as A.D. 1721, with the sole object of relieving the Grand Master from the inconvenience of attending to the details of business. The Deputy has no inherent right; all his privileges are in the case of death or absence of the Grand Master from the province; and those specially conferred on him by the Constitution. The rights and privileges of Deputy Grand Master have been a vexed question at various meetings of the Grand Lodge of Canada; and, finally, the many privileges granted him under the old Constitution were abandoned, excepting only the privilege of presiding in any lodge he may visit, but it adds no other authority or power while so presiding. The probable reason that this one privilege was granted may be attributed to the first general regulation of the 39 general regulations adopted in 1721, which says: "That the Grand Master, or his Deputy, has authority and right, not only to be present in any true lodge, but also to preside wherever he is:" but since the Constitution grants no authority to the Deputy to examine books, try complaints, or otherwise interfere with the body, one would surmise that the intention was he should preside in the place of the Grand Master when by him so required, then indeed assuming the powers of the Grand Master himself. But not denying him the privilege to preside under any circumstances;

should he assume the chair when entering? I think he should; that the Master may at once understand his own subordinate position for that meeting, and not be forced to lower his dignity by being at any moment, at the pleasure of the Deputy, called upon to abandon the work entered upon, or be ejected from the chair; a still stronger case, when the Deputy on entering specially declares that he did not come in his official capacity, nor did he desire to take any part in the evenings' proceedings for reasons then named; and the latter is really the case which came before me. In such case no unbiassed person but would admit the higher the officer the more is he bound by his word. It may be asked, but supposing something illegal suddenly transpires. I reply, his assuming the chair cannot afford a remedy; he has no higher powers in the chair than the Master, who can, as soon as he reassumes it, or at the next meeting reverse the decisions of the Deputy. As to politeness, we should almost expect that a Grand Officer would apprise a subordinate lodge of an intended official visit, he certainly does not lower his dignity thereby. The Queen herself notifies the Lords when her Majesty intends to honour the House; the Governor-General does likewise; the army is notified of an intended review by the General, and in almost every instance the humbler body is apprised of the visit of the superior to insure such reception as may be a pride instead of humiliation to the inferior.

Thus it was certainly never intended a Deputy G.M. should interfere with the prerogative of the Master in the routine business of the lodge; nay even Grand Masters, who have a perfect right so to do, in courtesy generally abstain from their right. I will not refer to ancient cases; it may be said that we live in more enlightened, even though in less polite times. Let me allude to a case of the present century; nay, of the present year; nay, even of the last month only.

On the 19th of November last, the centenary meeting of the Lodge of St. Mark, S.R., was held in Glasgow, Scotland: the Grand Master Mason, as the Grand Master is there called, was present. Bro. Major Barber, the Master of the lodge, addressing the Grand Master, said: "I have much pleasure in requesting you to take the mall, and the chair of St. Mark's Lodge."

The Grand Master, having taken the chair, said: "R.W. Sir and Brethren, you are all, no doubt,

aware that it is the prerogative of the Grand Master Mason of Scotland to preside and take the chair of every lodge he enters. Having, by the voice of my brethren in Scotland, been elected to the very high and distinguished honour of Grand Master of this country, I feel it to be my duty to support every privilege and every prerogative which may belong to that most distinguished chair; and it is therefore solely on account of preserving the privileges and prerogatives of the Grand Master Mason of Scotland that I now assume the chair of the Lodge of St. Mark, No. 102; and having said this; which I must likewise do, I take it, solely for the purpose of supporting these privileges. I am happy to think that the election, which you have so lately made, is that of a brother so highly worthy to perform the duties of this chair as Bro. Major Barber. I can most truly, and with the most perfect confidence, place this mall in his hand, and request him to take the chair and perform the various duties of this evening, being assured that he will support the dignity of this chair, and will discharge all the duties which require to be performed in a spirit of harmony and good feeling." Brethren, the analogy is self-evident, and requires no comment. On the points maintained the Deputy Grand Master and myself are at issue; and however pleased I may be to be favoured with a visit from any or all of my superior officers, I must never be asked to forego opinions gathered in twenty odd years of Masonic labour and research, without having granted to me the consideration which is due to him who has been considered worthy to hold some of the highest positions in the gift of the Craft, not by accident, but by Masonic age and exertions. Members of Antiquity, while always acknowledging a wrong when convinced, be sure ever to stand firm in your right while you believe yourself to be so, and you will gain the approbation of every right-thinking man and Mason.

I have already given you the average attendance of officers during the year, I will now give you the average attendance of members. We have had fourteen meetings, five members attended all the meetings, seven none, and of those latter ones who have so sadly neglected their duty, let me ask what would they say if any person were to accuse them of perjury in private life or in a court of justice? and yet how little they think of Masonic perjury, how little of their promises (which

for obvious reasons I do not here repeat), promises made in the evening, remembered only to be forgotten in the morning. Let me warn you, brethren, a Masonic promise is as binding as any other. Let me warn you to attend your lodge as you have agreed. Let me warn you never give your hand to a worthy brother without remembering it must be the sure pledge of brotherhood. Step forward when required, in his defence and support, remember him in your prayers, keep his lawful secrets as your own, and above all protect his character as well behind his back as before his face. Brethren, if you observe these laws, you will not only be good Masons, but you will likewise exemplify the golden rule, "Do unto others as you wish that they should do unto you."

At the beginning of the year our lodge numbered 59 members; six Masons joined us, and seven were initiated, making 72 members. Deduct therefrom five withdrawn and 17 suspended leaves now 50 members of the lodge: of these four are honorary, and seven have thus far not paid their dues. The number of paying members may thus for the present be reduced to 39.

I had intended here to insert a financial report, which, however, after the elaborate reports of the Secretary and Treasurer, would seem superfluous. I may nevertheless state for the information of the brethren, that the general fund of the lodge still owes about 200 dollars, the payment of which is not pressing at present; that the benevolent fund has a surplus of nearly 100 dollars, and that the value of the sixth share of the furniture owned by the lodge, together with their paraphernalia, amounts to about 500 dollars. It remains for me to bear testimony to the untiring exertion in the interest of the lodge by the retiring officers, excepting only the two already mentioned; the assistance rendered me by each and every one of the others is beyond all praise; not only have they sacrificed time, labour, and means in the service of the lodge, but they have accorded to me personally that cordial respect and deference which I shall ever gratefully remember. As to the Secretary, his work is before you. I cannot say more than that I have never worked with a more exemplary, a more willing, and more efficient officer. The Committee of General Purposes have shown their good will towards him by presenting him with a small token of their affection on the occasion of his marriage; the

Master has shown his good will towards him by raising him to the office of Junior Warden. Since, however, he has returned his salary by donations, the lodge still owes him a debt of acknowledgment, which will, I trust, not be overlooked. To the brethren, one and all, let me say that I will ever cherish the affection and courtesy by them extended towards me during the whole year, which has, I assure you, rendered what might otherwise have been burthensome, a labour of love. And now, before entering upon the new year, which I purpose doing in very few words, let us, with all reverence and humility, return our manifold and sincere thanks to God, the Great Architect of the Universe, for all favours already received, and may He continue to protect our lodge by adorning it with every social and moral virtue.

Here, my brethren, my remarks, intended as a retiring address, should have closed, but for your kind partiality in re-electing me to the proud position of Master of this lodge, it becomes me now to add a few initiatory words concerning the approaching Masonic year. I hope I have thus far not said too much about myself, nor do I intend to say more than to express my great pleasure and gratitude for the tribute you have paid to my very humble exertions. To be elected the Master Antiquity by its present members is a high honour; to be re-elected affords proud satisfaction, but to be re-elected without a dissenting voice—nay, even after having for good and weighty reasons refused—to be still unanimously re-elected raises the recipient of such favour in his own estimation; so, you are aware, have I been re-elected, and I shall not soon forget the forbearance and kindness of the brethren shown in their manifest affection towards me ever since I occupied the chair, and in the acknowledgment they have kindly tendered me, for what they pleased to call my services. That I have done my best I will not deny: that I shall endeavour to do better, the future will, I trust, disclose to you. You are aware I left Masonic obscurity, in which I intended to rest in Montreal, solely at the request of a Committee from your lodge. You are aware that my private avocations leave me little time to work for the Order. Such is the reason I at first declined to serve. You have, however, forced me by your kindness to forego my individual wishes: we are once more wedded; you have again taken me for better for worse—rely upon

it for better my best endeavours shall be used. Theretiring officers have worked with me faithfully, and from the personnel of the officers elect, I doubt not the dignity of the lodge and of the Master will be fully sustained. I shall again endeavour to attend regularly. I shall again endeavour to rule the lodge without fear or favour but with all affection. I again claim from my officers a punctual attendance at lodge meetings, better be five minutes too soon than one minute too late. It should be the pride of the officers to receive the W.M.; not the W.M. to receive them. In case of unavoidable absence, notice in writing must be given, stating the cause, at least as early as the morning of the day of meeting, to enable me to appoint a well skilled brother to act *pro tem*. The officers are expected, and the brethren are requested, as far as practicable, to appear in full dress as heretofore, and no member can be admitted without the Masonic clothing appropriate to his degree. The Committee of General Purposes are required to give as heretofore monthly reports on all matters within their province, or which may be sent before them by the lodge or the Master.

I am unable to give you even a synopsis of matters which may be brought before you during the ensuing Masonic year. Masonry, as you are aware, is in its tendency Conservative—a lodge cannot legislate for the Order. Indeed, the fundamental laws of Masonry can never be changed or altered by any human power. I may, however, be allowed to allude to two projects—local ones of course—which are in contemplation. First, that refreshments shall be served at every regular communication in the Ante-Room to be partaken of when the Master may see fit to call the lodge from labour to refreshment, which has been heretofore done *pro forma* only. This, aside of being a relief to laborious meetings, will have a tendency to prevent brethren from adjourning to public places after lodge, which has been the principal reproach often urged against us by the uninitiated.

The second project is to raise the initiation and admission fees to 100 dollars and 25 dollars respectively, so soon as the lodge has out of the General Fund discharged all liabilities, and so soon thereafter as a By-law can be introduced, carried, and approved to that effect. That the low fees have done great injury to the Craft in this province is patent to every Mason, and requires neither

argument nor lengthy remarks. Whether the time has arrived to render the amount or schedule of fees now proposed expedient and beneficial, is worth a trial at least. It will probably take six months before such a by-law can fairly take effect, thus giving ample time to every good man desiring to join our lodge to make his proposition; as to numbers, I hold that too many are not desirable. A lodge, although the members belong to the universal Masonic family, should form in its own members a small family of itself, consisting of brethren who can fairly fraternise without as well as within the lodge, who are ready to assist one another in any emergency to the best of their ability, who take a pride in the fact of being associated, tendering nevertheless all the while the right hand of fellowship to all brethren hailing from other lodges, who may confer the favour of a visit. And here let me say that, while it is un-Masonic to persuade any man to join our Order, it is glorious by our precept, by our conduct, and by our example, to enjoin good men to connect themselves with the Fraternity.

In conclusion, brethren, permit me to recommend that the Lodge of Antiquity (the first on the register of the Grand Lodge of Canada) should be the first to take steps to enable Grand Lodge to carry out the long projected scheme of erecting a monument of the Order in this province, and let me hope that that monument may not be only a Masonic Asylum for aged and infirm Masons, but may have added thereto a hospital and a boys' and girls' boarding-school, where indigent Masons may be enabled to educate their children free of expense, and those who can afford an outlay may contribute such a sum as their circumstances in life may fairly warrant. To accomplish this desirable and most beneficent object, I would recommend that the brethren of this lodge should enter into a subscription in accordance with their several means, and that the lodge shall add such an amount as may be deemed advisable as a donation to the so-called Asylum Fund; not doubting that every lodge hailing under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada will gladly follow our example, and thus enable Grand Lodge at an early period to lay the foundation-stone of a building which will surely prove the greatest ornament and the greatest blessing to the Fraternity in Canada.

Brethren, we have sown our seed this year; let us not relax our labours, but endeavour to reap our harvest in the next. I firmly believe that the

Lodge of Antiquity may now look forward to years of prosperity. Let us stand shoulder to shoulder, man to man, brother to brother, and we will hand over to our successors the Lodge of Antiquity in that proud position which it ought to occupy in the Craft of the land. Brethren, once more I thank you for your confidence; once more I shall assume the chair with the most sincere wish that my work may prove beneficial to the Lodge of Antiquity, a lodge which, believe me, will remain dear to me throughout the course of my existence.

And I again pray the Great Architect of the Universe that our labours for the ensuing year may be commenced in order, continued in peace, and closed in harmony.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

It with regret we hear that several of the Metropolitan Lodges of Instruction, which formerly were well attended and in good working order, have lately been in a very unhealthy condition, or have altogether fallen into abeyance. Now, considering the very great increase that has taken place in the numbers forming the ranks of Freemasonry, which has often been commented upon and pointed to as an honour to our Order, it does seem strange that the converse of this should be the fact with respect to lodges of instruction, in which the true principles of the Craft are taught and the members instructed in the performance of their duties. It is well known by every Mason who has attained "the highest honour that the Craft or the lodge can bestow upon its members" that above all things, to enable him to carry on the "business of Freemasonry with order and decorum," it is essential that those officers who are appointed to aid him should be well instructed in their duties, or the solemnity of the ceremonies soon degenerates into a farce and a sham, and may tend to bring scandal upon our Craft. How is this state of things to be avoided unless it is by diligent attendance at lodges of instruction on the part of those seeking appointments, for it is well known that they can never properly be learned unless that course be adopted. It is too much the practice to adhere to a system of seniority in making these appointments, and the result is that officers are chosen on that ground who have no qualification whatever, and are utterly unable to perform their duties. This is not only prejudicial to the interests of the lodge where such appointments are made, but it sets at defiance, and completely ignores, one of the most important rules of the Book of Constitutions, which explicitly declares that "all preferment among Masons should be grounded upon

real worth and personal merit, therefore no brother shall be elected Master of a lodge, or appointed to any office therein merely on account of seniority or rank." Nothing can be more express of positive than this condition, and where it is disregarded we see the results in a miserable rendering of those ceremonies, serving only to excite a smile and a silent remark in the minds of those Masons who know how the duty should be done and who have seen it performed in a proper manner. The appointment to office should in no sense be considered as a right, but as a reward for industry, and if the system was made general that no officer should be appointed unless he had shown his proficiency, and by his attention had deserved it, we should soon see every lodge worked in a way that would confer honour upon the Craft. It is too much the practice to gloss over these defects, and occasionally when the working has been spoken of by visitors, and sometimes commended, a feeling would often arise whether those praises were deserved, and in place of them whether a total silence ought not, in justice, to have been maintained. These are matters, however, which must be left in the hands of the members, but at present the subject is one that is worthy of attention, and one, we trust, that will receive due consideration.

THE NEMESIS: A TALE OF THE DAYS OF TRAJAN.

By BRO. A. ONEAL HAYE, K.M., K. Cal., Corresponding Member of the German Society, Leipzig; Knight Templar, Scot.; Author of "The History of the Knights Templars;" "Vava Queer;" "Gatherings in Wanderings;" "Songs and Ballads;" "Poemata;" "Legends of Edinburgh." &c., &c., &c.; Poet Laureate of the Canonsgate, Kilwinning; P.M. St. Stephens; P.P.Z. of St. Andrews, &c. Chap.; &c.; &c.

(Continued from page 250.)

CHAPTER XXVIII.

THE MESSENGER OF GOOD AND EVIL TIDINGS.

"A down the street with hasty feet
The messenger has come,
And though his news be bad yet greet
Him with a fair welcome."

"Caius, how came you to fall in love with Phryne, when such a dear child as Myra is, was by her side?"

"Myra, you jest Adrian, Myra indeed. Do you dare compare the two? Why, there is as much difference between Myra and Phryne as between a star and the sun."

"You must excuse me then, if, star gazer that I am, I choose the night twinkler to Phœbus."

The cousins were seated in a room in Caius's house, the storm raging so furiously, that Adrian resolved to stay there all night.

"Balbus came out in strange colours to-night. It is wonderful how superstition can thrall a man's mind."

"Think you so, Caius? to my mind superstition rules the world. What are all our dreams, our hopes, our desires, but superstitions? We desire power because we have a superstitious belief that it will make us happy, riches, love, learning, even religion, nothing but superstitions all. As the light shines through the horn of the lantern, so does the soul shine through the body. Can we blame if the purity of the ray is dimmed by the protecting horn? Not so, remove the horn and the flame will be blown out, destroy the body and where is the soul?"

"Then the clearer the horn the purer the ray?"

"Aye, and the purer the body the purer the soul. Could you account for the strange effect the spilling of the salt and wine had upon our fellow banqueters?"

"Not I. I do not believe in superstition."

"Ah poet, poet, is it not rather that you lose yourself in such witching images of superstition that you have no faith in any that comes not from your craft?"

"Likely. I do not think I shall be drowned, because I never go afloat. I may be killed on the field, for I am a soldier, therefore I offer a sacrifice to Mars, and leave Neptune to look after the welfare of his own devotees."

"Well, in spite of all my doubts, I must confess that the mythology of Rome is comfortable, where every honest man and every rogue can find a patron. What a droll assembly Olympus must be."

Myra, on quitting Adrian that day in the garden, hastened to her chamber, and wrote a few lines on a slip of parchment. Calling to her the slave who had been with her on the night that Adrian rescued her from Maremma, and who, like herself was a Christian, she said:

"Haste thee, Servia, to the house of the lady Lucidora. Our good father, Paulus, will be there to-day. Leave this letter and ring for him, and say to the lady that it requires his best attention."

Paulus did not reach Lucidora's till late that night, having been present at a Christian meeting in another part of Rome. He read Myra's letter with the liveliest interest. He was much interested in the young Roman, both as a distinguished philosopher, and as a member of his society, and

he had determined after his conversation, as related in chapter seventeen, to gradually instruct him in the mysteries of Christianity, and gather him into the band of the Cross, the highest and purest of all philosophies. On receipt of Myra's letter, he resolved that very night to seek out Adrian, and converse with him. Lucidora, who had been converted by Paulus, in vain entreated him to delay till the morning, but he said :

"The present time alone is mine, every day has its duty, and I must work in the cause of Christ at all hours and in all seasons."

The rain poured down in torrents, and the sleet cut chilly at times, but no obstacle could overturn his determination.

"I go," he said, "on my master's errand, and he will protect his servant. I do not fear for robbers, as I have nothing upon me worth taking ; and as for the rain, I have been too long a resident upon the marsh to heed that."

So he went on his way, while at one time the rain fell in great sheets of water, while the next moment the sleety blast swept the streets with cold keen breath.

"Jesus, my Saviour," prayed the old man, as he staggered along, bent double by the tempest. "Thou art with thy servant now, and in Thy blessed name do I trust. Yea though I walk in the valley of the Shadow of Death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me, and in Thee do I place my trust."

Rome was not so well paved as it might have been, and Paulus had great difficulty in avoiding the holes, which appeared in the streets. Once or twice he stumbled and fell to the ground, but he held to his purpose, only murmuring :

"Old age is creeping in upon me, and I feel the whispers of my winter, and the sound of sleety winds through empty boughs, yet if I leave the seeds of truth behind me in this dead soil, Godwill, in coming summers, spread it over with glorious crops, and Satan's yoke be broken from the earth."

He was passing the house of Caius, when a more boisterous blast came hurling along. Paulus in vain bent to it, it caught his mantle and he fell to the ground uttering a piercing shriek, for he had severely hurt his ankle in his fall, and he lay on the ground insensible, with the rain pouring down upon him like a deluge. Luckily Adrian and Caius heard the shriek, and summoning the slaves they hurried to the door, and brought him in.

"Bear him up gently to your master's bed," said Adrian, "it is Paulus, my friend, Caius."

"Your friend?" said the other in amazement.

"Hush. Yes ; I know him."

The slaves carefully bore the old man in their strong arms up to the sleeping chamber, and laid him gently on their master's bed. At a sign from Caius, they left the room. Adrian, who was a skilful leech, applied restoratives, and gradually brought old Paulus out of his swoon. The old man smiled as he recognised Adrian, and then looked enquiringly at Caius.

"This is my cousin, Caius Fabius," answered Adrian to his questioning look. "You are in his house. Are you hurt any where?"

"I think my right ankle has suffered in my fall."

Adrian looked at it, fortunately it was little hurt, and easily put to rights. Adrian gave him some dry clothes, and then told him to rest there till morning.

"But what could have tempted you to wander about Rome on a night like this, Paulus? My cousin and I have just come in, and found it difficult, young and strong as we are, to make headway at all."

Paulus only smiled as he held out a ring.

"Ha! you come from Myra. Then you are a ——"

Paulus stopped him with a significant gesture, and then turning to Caius, who had listened to Adrian in astonishment said :

"Would you leave us alone for a little?"

"Certainly," answered Caius, turning away in growing astonishment at the great familiarity which appeared to exist between his patrician cousin and this plebian. Before, however, he made two steps Adrian caught him by the arm, and said : "Caius, this guest whom heaven has sent us is a noble Corinthian, who, on the death of his son, surrendered his wealth and came to Rome, and is one of our greatest philosophers. You may speak freely," he said to Paulus, "what you have to tell me, he, too, will gladly hear, and if you can bring us true tidings, we will receive them eagerly."

"Be it so, then," answered Paulus, with a happy smile, as he said inwardly, "Give me, O Father in heaven, these two as sheep of my ingathered flock. Let me pluck them forth from the pit of destruction." Then aloud, "You desire to hear of God, of that God whom we worship in our homes, of that God whose rites we celebrate by night, in

fear and trembling, in the caves beneath Rome?"

"Art thou a Christian?" said Caius in astonishment, "one of those base creatures who worship a Jew, who perish for his crimes, like the meanest slaves on a cross?"

"I am a Christian, and I glory in the Cross. Upon it died no thief, but one who came to earth in his allmighty love to bear the shame of our sins, to die that we might have eternal life. We worship Him who was before this world, at whose breath man became a living being, and sun and moon and stars shone out in the azure sky, who made the mountains tower up in the air, and decked the grass with many a flowery gem, who filled the vallies with the low of oxen and the bleat of lambs. We worship Him who is the Lord of life and death, who, when this earth shall fade as doth a garment and men be numbered with the dust, shall yet be as glorious and as powerful as at the beginning of time, as now, and as when time shall be no more."

"You fill my heart with wonder," exclaimed Caius. "Who is this God, who, being so great, is still unknown in Rome?"

"Unknown He is at present," replied Paulus, "but an age will come when Rome will be the small centre of His Church supreme. But my fall has weakened me, my old bones cry for rest, and I can ill fulfil my task to-night. Take this scroll," and he took from his breast several sheets of parchment; "read it carefully, and to-morrow I shall instruct you in the Christian's faith and the true knowledge of God."

"Do you require anything," asked Adrian, "before we leave you to your repose?"

"You remind me. How did you become acquainted with the family of Murtius?"

"My cousin was introduced by Balbus, and introduced me to-day. You must know Caius intends marrying Phryne, the eldest daughter."

"What! marry Phryne? It is impossible."

"Wherefore impossible?" asked Caius.

"Because there is a secret connected with that family which, known, would make you avoid an alliance with them, and still more with Phryne."

"A secret?"

"Aye, a secret which it is not fit that you should know. Tell Phryne to-morrow that you have seen Paulus, the Corinthian, and mark the result."

"Nay, this is but idling. Why should I mention your name, why avoid her; what is this mighty secret that cuts her off from me?"

"You demand it of me, then?"

"Not I. I wish not to hear it. I have perfect faith in Phryne, and mean to marry her."

"Then you compel me to perform a sad duty," said Paulus, raising himself on his elbow, and looking towards Caius, "a duty so melancholy that I scarce can find words to tell it. You love Phryne, and I tell you to shun her as you would the deadly snake, for she is unworthy of your love."

"Unworthy?" cried Caius angrily.

"Aye, have you never heard the tales they tell regarding Murtius in Rome? They are broad cast."

"If you have no better warrant than these babblers' talk, good night; for I would sooner trust the fiercely howling Charybdis than these gossips."

"Paulus," interposed Adrian, who although he spoke in quiet tones yet had a fire burning within, "you know something which is yet untold in Rome. Speak freely, and Caius, know if she is unworthy of you, now is the time to learn the why, not after you are married."

"Well, let him speak, but he will never persuade me to think evil of Phryne."

"Oh innocent and happy soul of youth," cried Paulus, "to whom the world is but a garden of choice fruits and flowers, who seest not the serpent's trail of slime across the leaves of the rose, who judgest the race of man by the standard of your own pure spirit. You will believe me, Caius, and although you may now curse me for my tidings, the time will come when you will thank me."

Six years previous to the date of our story Paulus left Corinth for Athens with his son, Hermes, a youth of twenty. Paulus loved his son with a deep and tender love, he had, from the cradle, identified himself with his child's pleasures and studies, and when Hermes desired to see more of the world the father was his guide. At Athens Hermes became acquainted with Phryne, then sixteen, and fell madly in love with her. Nothing could persuade him to leave Athens, and his father at length formally proposed marriage to Murtius, who willingly agreed to the proposal, as Paulus was very rich.

Murtius had been married to an elder sister of Lais, but when Lais was twenty-two she came to reside with her brother-in-law and her sister. She was a lovely woman, voluptuous but cautious, and

she resolved first to get rid of her sister to succeed to her position. In an evil hour Murtius succumbed to her blandishments, and became her slave. Lais poisoned her sister, and so succeeded in her schemes. But she soon tired of Murtius, and unknown to him found other lovers, one of them being the father of Myra.

The wrong she had done to Murtius and her sister instead of creating remorse, produced hate, and she resolved to drag their child Phryne down to her own level. Murtius was in difficulties, and Lais introduced to him an old rich rascal, who lent him money, and so gained access to his house. The lender fell madly in love with Phryne, but as he was already married, he could not aspire to her. Lais soon read his secret, tempted him, and one night having drugged Phryne, her awful purpose was accomplished.

Meanwhile Hermes plied his suit, and Phryne listened to him, liked him, and would have married him, had not the terrible wrong been done her. Lais, who had been ignorant of his proposal, when she heard of it pressed Phryne to accept of him, but she would not, and in a subsequent interview dismissed him. Wild and broken hearted at his refusal Hermes sickened. The confederate of Lais lost his wife and came to Phryne with offers of marriage. Hermes heard of this, and the idea that he had been sacrificed for gold killed him. But the justice of heaven did not favour Lais' schemes. Before her confederate's marriage with Phryne, he saw another girl, fell senile-madly in love with her, and married her. Phryne gave birth to a child shortly after, whose first breath was its last, and the Athenians coming to hear of these dark doings, Murtius and Lais, with Phryne and Myra, then a girl of twelve, came to Rome.

Paulus, in telling his dark story, carefully forebore mentioning his own name, and when he had concluded, Caius who had been horror struck at its infamy, although the solemn tones of the narrator carried truth with them, he exclaimed—

"Oh 'tis too horrible a tale to be true!"

"Alas," said Adrian, "my poor cousin, I fear it is too true. I heard some faint rumour of it myself in Athens. Bear up against this blow like a man."

"'Tis true in every part, for it was my own son that perished, hounded to the death by Phryne's cruelty. Think you that I would wilfully bear false witness, Caius? your cousin will tell you who I am."

Caius looked at Adrian, who said,

"He is incapable of telling a lie."

Caius, on hearing this affirmation, flung himself down upon a seat and buried his face in his hands, while his breast heaved in agony. Adrian went to him, and passing his arm round his neck, said,

"Bear up, my cousin, and call all your fortitude to your aid—cast her image like a worthless rag your heart, for she is not worth one tear."

"Not for her loss," replied Caius, "do I shed these tears, but for the shock this gives my dreams, scattering to the winds my trust in woman, and my faith in man."

"Learn, then, to place your trust upon a higher power than earth's," replied Paulus, "place it upon that God whose heart can feel each throb that smites thine own; who sees and pities with a father's pity each pang that causes the tear to flow."

"Can God know grief?" asked Caius, in surprise.

"How may He else be father of his fold, if He knows nothing of his children's sorrows. Go, read that roll. It will tell you more of grief, felt by a God, than earth can ever know."

Through the live-long night did the cousins peruse that wondrous story, which told briefly, but clearly, the purpose which brought the Saviour to the earth, and of his life and death. Gradually the light poured in upon the darkness of their minds, for was it not a strange, a superhuman knowledge, that was revealed to them? They saw Him in the cradle, a fugitive in his mother's arms fleeing from the massacre of the innocents, a conqueror over the temptations of the devil, a great lawgiver, a teacher of brotherly love, and of peace and good-will to all men, lastly a victim led to the sacrifice, in all showing the perfect man, the all-powerful God. It filled their hearts with a new joy, before which fled the dark doubts of Adrian, and in which was half forgotten the grief of Caius. The rays of the sun found them seated in deep converse, before them spread the wondrous scroll.

"Is it not marvellous?" exclaimed Adrian. "How paltry seem the griefs of this world, placed face to face with Christ's. My mind expanded into joy as I read—"

"It is most wonderful! I stand like one whose ail scarcely ruffles off the skin, before a man whose body, shattered by a thousand blows, can scarcely retain the soul. Ah, Adrian, this is truth!"

"Thou hast said it, Caius. This indeed is truth! My languid heart, which panted through a weary desert land, has come at length to the true font of life. O let us drink these waters so freely offered, that in this blood we, too, may win our way to God. This satisfies my doubts. As beauty is the truth of things external, so is love of the mind. Philosophy, to be the truest and the likeliest God, must bear these truths, and these truths have we written here."

While so engaged in talk Paulus had risen, his slumber had refreshed him, and save a slight lameness, he felt no evil consequences from his fall. He at once made his way to the cousins, who chided him for rising, but he replied—

"I am rested and recovered, I must do my Master's work. Have you mastered the scroll?"

"We have," replied Caius.

"We have read it in wonder and awe," said Adrian. "My heart feels lighter than a bird's at these glad tidings."

"And mine," said Caius, the dreamy expression gathering once more in his eyes, "although still sad, can see the sun of comfort rising in the east."

"The soul is like the sea, when the thunder cloud has passed, the deep still heavens. Thy sun of comfort is rising in the east, and in this scroll is its dawn, for in it thou see'st a greater woe than thine. The Spirit of God is sacrifice, in that He gave his blessed Son to death for us, and man becomes but truly great, when he has passed with naked feet through the fiery tribulation of grief. The calm and sluggishly flowing stream, whose waters like oil never break from repose, glides to the sea, or ends in some quagmire without turning a single wheel upon its banks; but where the torrent plunges, and roars and foams adown the swarthy mountain's side, pursues its course, and lo, you find that towns nestle and expand upon its banks, which echo loudly with the clamour of the hammering hand, the clink of gold, and the rattle of the benched oars."

"That is true," said Adrian, "in action man alone discovers his finer qualities, and the secret resources of mind and body."

"Man must then feel sorrow, and afterwards sacrifice his greatest need, for he will only grow good, and it is better to be good than great, when he offers day by day upon the shrine of heavenly hope, the passions moulded by earth and sin, in humble imitation following in the track of Christ, and holding before him constantly that bloody

Cross, the beacon which will lighten him from the devil to God. Where can we read of a nobler sacrifice than that of the Saviour lifted up upon the accursed tree, the God by His own creatures crucified, scorned, yet bearing meekly each withering taunt, each hate-inflicted blow, the great 'I Am', an outcast from His home, and that home placed where yonder stars revolve in brilliancy, burning bright everlasting fires, lit by the Seraphim, who reign thereon supreme. What can history show to equal this dread spectacle? Epaminondas, in the streets of Thebes, or Marius, seated on the wreck of Carthage, mourning his own ruined fortunes. Ah, no! for this was God Himself, held up as a spectacle of woe amid a world of woe, a sight which shook the grave, and tore from death's dull grasp the sheeted dead, and sent them forth to preach the tidings of a glorious day new born to bless mankind; a sight that turned the heart-struck moon to blood, and spread an eclipse across the flaming glory of the sun; that rent the sacred veil of the Temple in twain, for what more use was there for mystery, when God offered Himself the Atoning Lamb for earth."

"The very thought is terrible."

"Aye and more terrible, when we ask, what did man do for this sacrifice? Man gave not a finger for his bleeding God, the very disciples fled, and one denied Him in his hour of trial. Man gave the bitter hyssop and a mock, a crown of thorns, mete emblem of earth's poor sovereignty, a rod and a robe of scorn, a buffet most freely given, and oh, how meekly borne. Alone, the Saviour trod the marrow of the press, no dear one helped, the only one given as a comforter to cheer his sorrowful soul, was the contrite thief hanging on his right hand."

"O horror, horror," exclaimed Adrian. "All His cures and miracles could not prevent the vilest insult being offered to Him, and man, still unconscious of the opened door, seeks other gods, and kneels at sin's vile shrines."

"It cannot last," cried Caius, a glow of enthusiasm lighting up his countenance; "the great new light must prevail, altar and idol both shall burn with fire. I stand before this mighty story astonished, and my brain reels as if with wine, the light is far too strong for me."

"Hast thou forgot so soon?" said Paulus, "that a higher strength than thine has said 'Come unto me ye heavy laden, and I will give you rest,' confide in God."

"Unto these words I cling; help me, my God."

"Confide in God," cried Adrian, rising and pacing the room, "what music rings in these words. Confide in God. I knew not half the beauty of the world till now. I cast mine eyes up to you heaven, and whisper to my heart, 'O heart rejoice, there is a God who cares for thee. Believe in him, confide in him, for he both can and will preserve thee from all woe, and carry thy fainting soul beyond the grave.'"

In earnest conversation passed the early hours of the morning, Paulus pouring into the eager ears of the cousins the divine mysteries destined at a future day to overthrow and destroy the pagan idolatry. But when the dial pointed noon, he turned to Caius, saying—

"Now then, for Murtius and his house."

"You ope' again that wound closed by the calm of your sweet words," said Caius, sighing heavily. "Alas that such a fate should have befallen so great a man."

"The greater the mind, the greater is his crime. To him to whom much is given much will be required, for man's intellect is the might of God on earth, and whoever dares to prostitute to villainy that gift, will burn for ever in the endless hell. For evil ends not with himself. It spreads abroad, and like a pestilence taints the air, so that no one may breathe in it and have health. Go, then, see the unhappy Phryne. Deal gently with her, while you state all uncompromisingly. Be brief, the quicker the operation the sooner flies the pain. Remember, to forgive as you hope to be forgiven. Be not harsh with her. Go, my new found son, and may heaven be with you."

Caius then embraced his cousin, and left the room. A silence ensued which was broken by Paulus.

"Hell would have engulfed them long ago, had not she, that angel in the house, saved them by her prayers."

"What mean you?" asked Adrian.

"Myra," replied Paulus. "When but a child she loved to sit beside my knee and hear the story of her Lord. She treasured up and conned over his words; her guileless innocence and her vile mother's love have kept her pure in that den of iniquity. She loved her Saviour devotedly, and when her father came to Rome she searched me out, and now is one of the undaunted few who still, in spite of persecution and the deadly laws against Christ's followers, worship that God who died that we might live."

"Brave, noble girl!"

"Add, likewise, innocent and, firm and unwavering in her faith, she proves how true are the great

Psalmist's words, 'From infant lips I have ordained praise,' for she is but a child."

"Seems it not strange that she alone of all that house should have escaped the snares of sin?"

"To God all things are possible. He makes and unmakes thrones. 'Tis He that sends the lightning forth upon its angry way, that curbs the wild tempestuous deep, and makes the very jaws of death yield back their prey."

"Why does He not drive sin from the world, and give us back our forfeited heritage?"

"Has he not done so in his gift of Christ? What has been done, man possesses faculties to perform again. Treasure his words, tread in his footsteps, and assist to drive sin from the world. God gave not sin to the earth, but man gave it, and God has sent his Son as man to wage the fight and crush the serpent's head. Salvation is within the reach of everyone who seeks it in pure simplicity of heart. But come with me to the lady Lucidora's, the hour of prayer is nigh, and the faithful assemble there."

"Oh! am I fit to enter in?"

"The door stands open. Enter."

(To be continued.)

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MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

BROTHER DE WITTE CLINTON'S ADDRESS.

There is an error in the quotation from Brother de Witte Clinton's address to which "Students" calls attention—"the Religion of Masonry," page 89 of the present volume. But substitute "Zoroaster" for "Brahma," and the "Zend-Avesta" for the "Vedas," and the error will disappear. In reference to the various matters which the entire quotation comprises, the following communications made by me to the *Freemasons' Magazine* will be found useful:—"Great Architect of the Universe.—Natural Theology," vol. xiv., page 6. "Freemasonry as a World-wide Association," *ibid* page 69. "The Lodge in English Freemasonry," *ibid* page 89. "English Freemasonry and certain Continental Lodges," *ibid* page 248. "Prayers in Lodge," *ibid* page 306. "Christianity and English Freemasonry," *ibid* page 391. "Toleration in Freemasonry," *ibid* page 466. "True Freemasonry," vol. xv., page 51. "English Freemasonry essentially Monotheistic," *ibid* page 72. "The God of Freemasonry and the God of Mystical Pantheism," *ibid* page 110. "Natural Religion—Freemasonry," *ibid* page 130. "The Pantheism of the Hindoos," *ibid* page 150. "The Hindoo, the Polynesian, and the English Freemason," *ibid* page 168. "The Parsees," *ibid* page 207. "The English Freemason and the Hindoo Pantheist," *ibid* page 251. "Hindoo admitted into English Freemasonry," *ibid* page 348. "The Intolerance which would be incompatible with true Freemasonry," *ibid* page 433. See also "The Freemasonry which excludes no Man on account of his Creed," "Pantheism and Freemasonry—Expla-

nation of a former Communication," pages 48 and 68 of the present volume. — CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

ELEUSINIAN MYSTERIES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—Will any of your correspondents inform me if there is any account extant of the initiation of the Sacred Olympic Rites and Eleusinian Mysteries of the old Greek, and if any similarity thereto can be found in the mysteries of our Craft?

Yours fraternally,

△

THE BOYS' SCHOOL.—MIDDLE-CLASS EDUCATION.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have endeavoured (see my letter of Jan. 5th) to lay before you my idea of the sort of instruction which now in our model middle-class school ought to be offered to our charges, and which those interested in their welfare may very reasonably demand.

It may be urged in reply that I have asked for too much, and that in so asking I have injured my case. Of course all and everything I have suggested for a curriculum could not be undertaken at once (let us not, however, be too content with that jog-trot proverb "*festina lente*,") of course would not be offered in the fullest extent to all; but what really have I demanded which can be called unnecessary? Hindustani may seem so to some, but that subject only. Only, however, those boys who have shown an aptitude for languages, and who manifest an inclination to seek their fortune abroad, and who promise to be physically fitted for the climate, and for whom, through the patrons of the Craft, openings offer in India, need be taught it. But I do say this, moreover, that independently of all these conditions, I know of no language better calculated for training than it is—no, not even Latin; and I do say consequently this, that these conditions existing on his part, we best serve the boy by teaching him thoroughly before he starts the language of his future home; and we best serve our own interests in that country by sending thither the educated linguist, and not the half-taught griff.

But, sir, my plan is that we should have a good, inexpensive school, to which a parent abroad—say in India, for instance—could send home his child, sure of his receiving a good education, and whence that child could return to his father in all respects fitted for his life work, save as regards the parental guidance and experience—a world-famed school belonging to a world-wide brotherhood, where the best education, both in quality and quantity, may be guaranteed at the least expensive rate.

The great thing to remember is, that we have and must have a school, not a college; a place where boys are taught, and not youths received; a place where a great many rudiments must be carefully attended to,

and not where special subjects can be entered upon and thoroughly pursued; but again, on the other hand, I contend that we need not and ought not to rest contented with a perfectly rudimentary curriculum. The report of 1864 lies before me. The examiners may have been satisfied; it was a charity school, no doubt, in their eyes which they were asked to examine. I wonder much, however, was the Head Master satisfied? I ask you to look over the subjects of examination; the marks given (almost in some cases the maximum), and then to walk into the National School nearest to you, and—*verbum sap*—I am not quite certain that house committees and amateur schoolmasters can best tell what average boys can do; but a boy of ten or twelve is capable, if he has been in any sort of training before that age, of a good deal more than the subjects on the face of that report, and, as a rule, such a boy does not require much pushing from a teacher who knows his business.

Now, consider what can be done between twelve and fifteen if "science in play is made philosophy in earnest." Why, sir, you may get a boy to do anything, make anything if you will only show him how, and help him. The idiot may be trained, and the lunatic made amenable, and the man is a dotard who cannot, somehow, interest the average boy. The child is the true investigator, and the ablest constructor. But the worst is, for this you want so much individualising; and how is this to be paid for?

I can only recur to the pupil teacher system, an admirable system under a good master: a system pursued in the highest schools, for, after all, what are the junior assistants?

Given, a good master, as head,—a labourer worthy of his hire, and receives the hire worthy of him,—a good man and true, a Mason, a Christian, a gentleman, a scholar, and a lover of human nature as manifested in the April showerism of boyhood. Given, one or two men of a like stamp for his aides, and then all other help should come from amongst the boys; and there is a screw loose, and a large screw too, where such help is not only not quite efficient, but not taken in very good part.

A school like ours should, in this respect, resemble a college, where the fellows are chosen, under conditions, from the students. Herein should be held out a bonus to the hardworking pupil. At the age of fifteen a certain number, one, say, for instance, distinguished for his scientific, another for his linguistic powers and information, might be permitted to remain in the school to prosecute his studies, on condition that he assisted in the working of the school, and was attached to some college or incorporation recognised for its capability to assist him in that, his own speciality. The College of Engineers, the London University, Trinity College (Dublin), may be mentioned to complete my meaning; and, according to circumstances, their might be payment given to him or taken from him. This, however, it is easily seen is mere detail, and as regards the school work itself, I would offer a few suggestions.

A good practical guarantee should be provided for the educational progress of the boys. I do not find fault with what is apparently provided in this respect, I merely say it is not enough, and, certainly, in writing this, I would by no means even appear to doubt the progress, but the Craft should have it made

quite evident to them. An examination once a year is utterly worthless for all practical purposes; in fact, to conduct effectually this part of school management, there must be a combination of inspection and examination; there must be also constantly and frequently recurring examinations.

The university middle-class examinations should be attended, but, as at them, every boy could not possibly be presented, the College of Preceptors should be desired to undertake the examination of the whole body of pupils, whilst a monthly set of papers of questions in the work accomplished during each preceding month, might be distributed amongst the classes by the Secretary, and the answers being collected and forwarded to the brother examiner who had prepared the questions, they would be adjudicated upon by him. And surely there are brethren whose ability and willingness to undertake this from time to time would be equal to the demand.

Thus far had I written when the Magazine brought me the report of the Boys' School Festival, and the intimation that it has been "determined for the future to submit a certain number of boys annually to the test of the Oxford local middle-class examinations," &c.

The reason given for so determining is, so far as it goes, excellent and true; but these Oxford local middle-class examinations are not the perfection of the examination principle. They cannot do more than they attempt, and their attempts are very limited.

In effect the university says to the schoolmaster, "You pick your boys, of whom, of course, you will be beforehand tolerably sure, and we will examine them."

This is rather a test of the schoolmaster than the school—of what, under certain circumstances, he can do, than of what he ordinarily and, the whole school considered, actually does; and the truth is that these examinations are supplementary to full and thorough inspection and examination of the whole school. They are the "class" to a "pass," the "honours" to a "poll." I may be considered prejudiced or incapable of judgment. Be it so. I will not urge, then, what I may think. I will appeal to a recognised authority. Matthew Arnold is, without doubt, capable of forming a good opinion upon a subject in which he is so thoroughly at home; and to his article in Macmillan, "A French Eton," part ii., I would refer those of your readers who are interested also in the welfare and the fame of our Boys' School.

And now, unless replies to my letters call upon me again to take up my pen, or you express a wish that I, when occasion serves, should remark upon those current educational topics which may bear upon the progress of our own Institution, I shall no further intrude upon your space and the patience of your subscribers. I had intended a note or two upon the Girls' School, but I shall hold my peace and bide my time; let it suffice if I have interested one member of the Craft where he felt little interest before perhaps, and for the future

"Floreat latomorum schola."

Yours fraternally,

W. N. KIM.

BYE LAWS. BYE-LAWS. BY-LAWS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The following extracts relate to the word "By-laws":—

Penny Cyclopædia, article "Boroughs of England and Wales."—"The sole legislative assembly in every municipal town or borough was originally the Saxon *folk-mote*, or meeting of the whole community, called in many places the *hundred*, and were held within doors, the *hus-ting* or the *common hall*. This assembly was held for mutual advice and general determination on the affairs of the community, whether in the enacting of local regulations called *burgh-laws* (by contraction *by-laws*, since often corrupted into *bye-laws*), the levying of local taxes, the selling or leasing of public property, the administration of justice, the appointment of municipal officers, or any other matter affecting the general interests."

Johnson's Dictionary, 4to edition, 1832.—"By, in composition, implies something out of the direct way, and, consequently, some obscurity, as a *by-road*; something irregular, as a *by-end*; or something collateral, as a *by-concernment*; or private, as a *by-law*. This composition is used at pleasure, and will be understood by the examples following."

"By-LAW.—*By-laws* are orders made in court-leets, or court-barons, by common assent, for the good of those that make them, farther than the publick law binds."—*Cowell*.

"There was also a law to restrain the *by-law* and ordinances of corporations."—*Bacon*.

"In the beginning of this record is inserted the law or institution; to which are added two *by-laws*, as a comment upon the general law."—*Addison*.

Yours fraternally,

JOHN SYMONDS.

THE OCEAN YACHT RACE ACROSS THE ATLANTIC.

OUR BRETHREN WHO PERISHED.

It will be fresh in the recollection of our readers that four unfortunate men were washed overboard and drowned from the *Fleetwing* yacht during its race across the Atlantic, in competition with the *Henrietta* and *Vesta*. Of those four who thus perished two of them, viz., David J. Wood and Charles M. Hazelton, were members of our Craft, and belonged to the Huguenot Lodge, No. 381, of Staten Island, and their untimely fate must bring a pang of regret in the heart of every member of our Order. The following lines have been written upon the melancholy event:—

Strong blew the gale o'er the mariners' graves,
No time for a funeral rite to be read;
While every breath on the dark blue waves
Hissed loudly, to hallow the friendless dead.

And heavily heaved on the gloomy sea
The yacht that sheltered each homeless one,—
As though the funeral hour should be
When the waves were rough, and the storm not gone.

And there each lay, in his coarse, cold shroud,—
And strangers were round the coffinless;
Though no kinsmen were seen among the crowd,
There were eyes to weep, and lips to bless.


No sound from the church's passing bell
Was echoed along the pathless deep,
The hearts that were far away to tell
Where the mariners lay, in their lasting sleep.

—*New York Courier*.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEMS.

THE next assembly of the Original or Premier Conclave of Red  Knights and K.H.S. will be held at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury, on Saturday, the 13th inst. The noble lord at the head of the Order is expected to preside, having happily recovered from the effects of his late accident.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.—Bro. W. Williams, 16, Dock-street, Newport, Monmouthshire, informs us that he shall be glad to receive votes in support of the second application of Tom Ferdinand Nicholas.

METROPOLITAN CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—On Tuesday the 23rd inst., the annual festival of the Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction will be held at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury, on that occasion the exaltation ceremony will be rehearsed, together with the three clauses of the third section, explanation of the jewel and solids, and the history of the rod of Moses. Comp. Blackburn, P.Z. will give an interesting lecture in Royal Arch Freemasonry. Comp. Ladd, P.Z., will preside as M.E.Z., and Comp. T. Beard will preside at the banquet. As there are about 60 stewards who will take part in carrying out this festival of the Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, many of them eminent in Royal Arch Masonry, a very numerous gathering is confidently expected. The chapter meets every Tuesday evening, under the presidency of Comp. Brett.

METROPOLITAN.

LODGE OF INDUSTRY (No. 186).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 26th ult., at the Freemasons' Tavern. Bro. William Bartlett, W.M., presided. Bros. W. Mann, S.W.; T. S. Mortlock, J.W.; Thomas Price, S.D.; A. Miller, J.D.; T. A. Tallent, I.G.; G. Thoms, P.M. and Dir. of Cers.; H. Carpenter, P.M. and Sec.; H. Lake, P.M. and Treas.; T. S. Saunders, P.M., and nearly thirty brethren were present. The lodge having been opened with solemn prayer, and the minutes read, Mr. William Snell and Mr. Edward Cox were severally introduced and initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry, the ceremony being impressively performed by the W.M. Bros. Bowen and George Riches, who were candidates for passing to the second degree, were examined as to the progress they had made in the science, and their answers being considered satisfactory they withdrew. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bros. Bowen and Riches were passed to the degree of F.C. On the lodge being resumed to the first degree, a motion was entered into in reference to the visiting fee to the lodge, and the votes of the lodge to the Boys and Girls' School, and the Asylum for Aged Freemasons, were disposed of. The lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. Bro. W. J. Woodstock was a very efficient Tyler.

INSTRUCTION.

UNITED MARINERS' LODGE (No. 30).—The fifteen sections were worked on Thursday evening, the 28th ult., by Bro. T. H. Foulger, at the United Mariners' Lodge of Instruction, held at Bro. Scurr's, the Three Cranes Tavern, Mile End-road. Among the brethren who assisted the working were Bros. Barnes, sen., Scurr, Bowron, Homewood, Hamilton, Austin, and Morrison, who rendered them in a most beautiful and expressive manner. Bro. Scurr, in a most feeling speech, proposed that Bro. Foulger become an honorary member, which proposition was warmly seconded by Bro. Barnes, and carried unanimously. Amongst the brethren present were Bros. J. Stevens, Pichett, Davis, Scotcher, Jarman, Moss, and many others.

UNITED PILGRIMS LODGE (No. 507).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held on Friday evening, the 29th ult., at the

Durham Arms, Harleyford-road, Kennington. Bro. John Thomas, P.M. of the parent lodge, presided as W.M., Bro. Geider, S.W., and Bro. Ord, J.W. There were several brethren present. The lodge having been opened in due form and with solemn prayer, the minutes of the last lodge were read and confirmed. It was then announced that Bro. Payne, of the Wellington Lodge (No. 548), was a candidate to be passed to the second degree, and the usual preliminary questions were put and answered satisfactorily. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, when the ceremony of passing was worked in Bro. Thomas's careful manner, and the use of the working tools was very impressively explained. The lodge then proceeded to work the sections of this degree, which, as is well known, are of a very beautiful description. After the sections had been gone through, the lodge was resumed in the first degree, and Bro. Pain was proposed and admitted a joining member of this lodge, who returned thanks for being received amongst them, stating that he was desirous of obtaining Masonic information, and that he would take every opportunity in his power of attending amongst members who were so able to afford it to him. Bro. Geider was appointed W.M. for the ensuing week, and having nominated his officers, the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer.

NEW CONCORD LODGE (No. 813).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday evening, the 27th ult., at Bro. Gabb's, the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton. Bros. Pedler presided as W.M.; Pitsch, S.W.; Dent, J.W.; Aldridge, S.D.; Powell, J.D.; Taylor, I.G.; Gawler, P.M.; and Spratt, Sec. The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting read, the ceremonies of the three degrees were very ably worked by the W.M., and gave very great satisfaction to the brethren. This lodge has hitherto maintained a very high position in the Craft, and it is to be hoped that the members of the parent lodge will take care that its reputation shall suffer no diminution by giving it every assistance in their power, and, at the same time, they will fit themselves for any duties they may be called upon to fill. Our worthy Bro. Emmens has used every exertion to render this lodge of instruction worthy of a very extensive support, and we hope he will have the satisfaction of seeing a large attendance at every meeting.

PROVINCIAL.

CUMBERLAND.

CARLISLE.—Union Lodge (No. 310).—On Tuesday evening, the 26th ult., the regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Freemasons' Hall. The W.M., Bro. G. G. Hayward, presided, supported by Bros. F. W. Hayward, Dir. of Cers., P. Prov. S.G.W., as P.M.; W. Court, Treas., acting S.W.; G. Somerville, J.D., acting J.W.; B. H. Cooke, S.D.; T. Cockburn, as J.D.; A. Woodhouse, Steward, S.W. 412, acting I.G.; John Barnes, Tyler; R. Metcalf, and M. Higgins. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes read and confirmed, but, as there was only general lodge business on hand, it was soon gone through, and the lodge closed with prayer. After the brethren had partaken of refreshment, they all parted in good-fellowship and harmony.

LONGTOWN.—Holy Temple Lodge (No. 412).—An emergency meeting in connection with the above lodge was held on Saturday evening, the 30th ult., at the Wheatsheaf. The W.M., Bro. H. Fleming, presided, and was supported by Bros. J. Pendrigh, P.M., as S.W.; R. M. Hill, J.W.; T. Robins, P.M., S.D.; A. Woodhouse, S.W., Steward (310), acting J.D. on this occasion; D. Murray, P.M., Sec.; R. Forster, P.M., Treas.; J. Carruthus, F.M., I.G.; W. Nixon, Tyler; W. Murray Lemair, P.M. (who is eighty-five years of age). Visitor—G. G. Hayard, W.M. 310. The lodge was opened in due form, when two candidates, in the persons of Messrs. William MacCullister and William Robinson, both of Workington, were then initiated by the W.M. separately, in a manner that won a vote of thanks from the brethren. No other business being on hand, the lodge was closed with the usual solemnities, the brethren retiring to the festive board, where ample justice was done to the good things provided; but, in consequence of the lateness of the night, and being Saturday, the usual toasts on such occasions were dispensed with, and, after a little harmony from Bros. R. Foster and A. Woodhouse, the meeting was brought to a close, and the Carlisle and Workington brethren retired, and drove home in a

voiture provided, and safely arrived in the small hours of the morning, highly satisfied with their trip to the border lodge.

DORSETSHIRE.

SWANAGE.—*Consecration of the De Moulham Lodge* (No. 1,146).—The consecration of this new lodge took place on the 23rd ult., in the large room of the Mowlem Institute, a handsome structure erected and presented to the town by Bro. George Mowlem, who, we are informed, is a native of this part of Dorsetshire, and a descendant of the ancient family of De Moulham. From an inscription upon the wall of the assembly-room we learn that the generous donor intended, amongst other advantages to the town of Swanage, the institute should also serve for Masonic meetings. The brethren having assembled at high noon, a procession was formed in the usual way, and the lodge was opened in the three degrees. The Warrant of Constitution was read. The ceremony of consecration was then most ably performed by Bro. John Symonds, Prov. Assist. Grand Dir. of Cers. of England, assisted by Bro. Henry Muggeridge, P.M. No. 192, &c., Preceptor of the Stability Lodge of Instruction, London, who delivered an oration upon Masonry in his usual effective and impressive manner. Amidst the numerous assemblage of distinguished members of the Order present were—Bros. Thomas Coombes, Prov. G. Sec. of Dorset; Rev. Dr. Burrowes, of Kimmeridge, P. Prov. G. Chap. of South Wales and G.S.W. for Dorset; Crickmay, Weymouth, and several other Prov. G. Officers; Joseph Freeman and G. Birt, of the Old Dundee Lodge, No. 18, London; Francis Smith, W.M. elect of the Welchpool Lodge, No. 998. Many brethren also came from Corfe Castle, Wareham, Poole, &c. The officers named in the warrant are Bros. Mowlem, W.M.; Joseph Freeman, S.W.; and Birt, J.W. Bro. Hillier, the organist of Swanage Church, presided over the musical portion of the ceremonial in a highly efficient manner. We should add that the greater part of the beautiful furniture of the lodge was presented to the members by Bros. Mowlem, Freeman, and Birt. The ceremonies concluded, the brethren adjourned to the Victoria Hotel, to a banquet, at which Bro. Joseph Freeman, P.M. of the Old Dundee Lodge and S.W. of the new lodge, presided, in the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. Mowlem. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and a pleasant evening was spent by the brethren.

DURHAM.

GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE.—*Lodge of Industry* (No. 48).—The regular meeting of this old and flourishing lodge was held on Monday, the 25th ult., at the Grey Horse Inn, High-street, and the work of the evening consisted in the installation of Bro. Robert J. Banning, M.D., P.M., P. Prov. J.G.W. Durham, W.M. elect. There was a very numerous attendance of the brethren of the lodge, and also of visitors, amongst whom we noticed—Bros. Major B. J. Thompson, W.M. 481; George Thompson, P.M. 481; J. H. Hair, P.M. 481; Capt. G. A. Allan, S.W. and W.M. Tyne Lodge; J. H. Thompson; Wm. Morrow, P.M.; William Robinson, M.D.; George Douglas, M.D.; Anthony Clapham, P.M.; J. Stokoe; Jens Jensen, P.M., &c. The installation was conducted by the retiring W.M., Bro. J. H. Thompson, in a most efficient manner. The following officers were appointed and invested with their collars:—Bros. J. H. Thompson, I.P.M. and Treas.; Jens Jensen, S.W.; J. A. Robson, J. W.; Anthony Clapham, P.M., Dir. of Cers.; Wm. L. Mackenzie, Sec.; R. B. Reed, S.D.; Robert F. Cook, M.D., J.D.; William Garbutt, I.G.; Robert Watson, Org.; William Burroughs and John Potts, Jun. Stewards; Joshua Curry, Tyler. After the conclusion of the ceremony the brethren, to the number of forty-three, sat down to a sumptuous dinner, served in excellent style. The chair was taken by the W.M. Later on in the proceedings the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and heartily responded to. Many appropriate addresses were given by the brethren who responded to the various toasts, and a most enjoyable evening was passed.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

HEREFORD.—*Funeral of Mr. Lacey*.—The funeral of the much-respected manager of the Gasworks took place on Monday, the 25th ult. The weather was very unpropitious, but notwithstanding this a large number of Freemasons and members of the Green Dragon Friendly Society attended to pay their last tribute of respect to the deceased. The Freemasons assembled at the Mitre Hotel, and the members of the Friendly Society

at the Green Dragon Hotel, and proceeded from those places respectively to the Gasworks. Here the funeral procession was formed, and afterwards proceeded to the cemetery. Several of the proprietors of the Gasworks also walked in the procession, and many of the shops in the city were partly closed.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

SHEPTON MALLET.—*Lodge of Love and Honour* (No. 285).—This lodge assembled on the 28th ult., at the George Hotel, for the purpose of initiating Messrs. L. L. Cox and G. C. Cottrill. The ceremony was performed between the hours of seven and nine p.m., and at the close the brethren partook of a supper, provided by Mrs. Alford, the hostess of the George, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW.

POLLOKSHAW.—*Royal Arch Lodge* (No. 153).—The members of this ancient lodge met in their lodge room at the Maxwell Arms Hotel on the evening of the 29th ult., at eight o'clock, for the purpose of electing office-bearers for the ensuing year, when the following was the result of the election:—Bros. G. Mackay, W.M.; Hugh McKinnon, D.M.; Thos. Duncan, P.M.; J. Forrest, S.W.; J. Stevenson, J.W.; Nicol Cameron, Treas.; W. Snodgrass, Sec.; Rev. George Campbell, Chap.; Alexander White, S.A.S.; J. Henderson, J.A.S.; Alfred Echo Jones, S.G.S.; A. G. Franklin, J.G.S.; Robert Campbell, Std. Bearer; H. Manfred, Tyler; J. Murray, G.B.B.; D. McNaughton, G.M. On the election being completed and refreshment produced, the W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft," which having been right loyally honoured, he next gave in succession "The Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland, with their respective Grand Masters," and "The Provincial Grand Master for Renfrewshire East," which also were duly honoured. The meeting was much enlivened by the singing of Bros. McKinnon, Dunu and Wilson.

CANADA.

The M.W. the Grand Master of Canada has recently made official visits to the brethren in Montreal and Peterborough. At Montreal, on Tuesday, 19th February, he paid a visit to the St. George's Lodge (No. 19), C.R. in full regalia, and also to the Victoria Lodge, C.R., the next evening, expressing his satisfaction at the proceedings on each occasion, and on Saturday evening, the 23rd inst., he delivered to the Craft a Masonic address, on which occasion the Masonic Hall was crowded to excess. The entrance of the M.W. the Grand Master, preceded by the Holy Bible, square and compass, and escorted by R.W. Bro. Richard Bull, D.D.G.M., two deacons and stewards, was an imposing spectacle. A most interesting lecture was then delivered by the M.W. the Grand Master, he being continually interrupted with applause. After the lodge was closed the brethren proceeded to the Terrapin, to partake of a cold collation, prepared in honour of the G.M., and a more pleasant evening has not been spent by the Craft for a long time. Low twelve was the signal for the Junior Warden's toast, "Happily have we met; so happily do we part; and as happily may we ever meet again." All departed deeply impressed with the pleasant proceedings, and receiving the promise of another visit at an early day, when the M.W. the Grand Master will deliver a lecture on Masonry in one of the public halls.

At Peterborough, on Wednesday evening, the 26th February, the Victoria Hall was crowded, on the occasion of an address by the M.W. the Grand Master. Admission was by ticket, procured, however, without charge. At the appointed time the members of the two Peterboro' lodges entered the room, clad in their usual symbols and insignia of office. They escorted the M.W. Grand Master, who took his seat on the platform, surrounded by Bros. Dennistoun, W.M. of Corinthian Lodge, Peterborough; Burnham, W.M. of the Peterborough lodge; Rev. V. M. Clementi, Grand Chaplain; J. King, H. Lawson, and D. Sutherland. The remainder of the brethren present occupied front seats in the body of the Hall. The lecture was listened to with marked attention, and was frequently applauded during its delivery. After the delivery of the lecture the brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet at the Huffman house, Bro. Dennistoun presiding. The usual standard Masonic toasts were

given and responded to, and the party separated delighted with the proceedings and conscious of the benefit which would result from the visit of the M.W. the Grand Master.

INDIA.

BRITISH BURMAH.

RANGOON.

The Order of Freemasonry in all the degrees still progresses so favourably in this far-off place that I must give you an account of our proceedings.

Of course December is a busy month among Masons, and here, with two lodges, two chapters, two Mark lodges, and two encampments, it has been particularly so; and with our expert Mason to do the needful at the various installations—Bro. Col. Greenlaw, Hon. Prov. S.G. Warden of England—installed the W.M. of No. 614; also, the Master elect of the new lodge styled the Lodge of the Isles, at Port Blair, at the Andaman Islands.

On St. John's Day a most excellent sermon was preached by Bro. Rev. M. Marks, the Chaplain of No. 832, both lodges having gone to church in procession with the superb band of the 24th Regiment. A collection was made for the Greenlaw Masonic Orphan Fund at Madras, a fund that our brother is working hard to establish in each presidency, and which in his own—that is, Madras—is well responded to. He goes in for doing good, and had we here a Provincial, or rather, District Grand Lodge, given us, he would do much real good throughout Burmah. In the evening there was a banquet and a ball, both being a great success, and both able to add surplus money to the Orphan Funds.

On January 2nd Bro. Greenlaw installed the three Principals of Royal Burmah Chapter; on the 4th he installed E.C. elect, H. T. Duncan, as E.C. of the Templar Encampment, and E.P. of the Priory; besides installing four companions as Knights Templar. On the 12th he installed the W.M. elect of the Mark Lodge attached to Lodge of the Isles, and appointed his officers, &c., of the Prov. Grand Lodge.

The V.E. Commander Col. Greenlaw also held a Prov. Grand Conclave, and appointed his officers. On February the 8th, the brother, as Master of No. 832, gave the three degrees in their entirety, and a lecture on the point within a circle. Thus you see how we progress. During the last month eleven members have joined No. 832, which now numbers upwards of sixty. This great increase is solely owing to the good working, and to Bro. Greenlaw always giving a lecture on some of the ancient mysteries or some symbol. The Mark, Arch, and Templar each are well attended; in the latter the Malta degree is worked well and fully, and elicits great praise. We certainly owe a great deal to this R. W. brother, for he has brought in work all the degrees in Burmah.

On the first Monday the encampment meets; second Thursday, No. 832 Lodge; third Thursday, No. 68, the Mark Lodge; on the fourth Thursday, Royal Arch, attached also to No. 832; and we are now all looking forward for the warrant of the Ancient Rite, 18°, to be called the Leeson Chapter of S.P.R. ✕.

The Prov. Grand Lodge, which is daily more needed, is the only thing now begged for, and as we have seven lodges, and all petitioning for it, we hope to succeed; and we are a body of very influential Masons, both as to Masonic and social position, more so than any part of India. I mean, that we have men who, from their social position, could hold the highest office. Recorders, barristers, men high in military rank, merchants, clergymen, medical men—and all these working Masons. Where else can such a list be seen? It is this that makes us wonder how it is, or what has been said to prevent what, I hear, was all but promised us, the Prov. G. Lodge. We live in hope, yet we shall still go on. Here we are working hard, yet all our charities going elsewhere, and our R.W. Bro. exerting himself for the establishment of Masonic Orphan Funds which are in other provinces. We hear that appeals are being still made for the Prov. G. Lodge, and for the good of Masonry, as well as for the sake of those who look for support from Masons, I hope we may soon receive what is actually necessary.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

TEMPERANCE CHAPTER (No. 169).—*Installation Meeting.*—

The regular convocation of this newly-established and flourishing chapter was holden on Tuesday, the 1st inst., at the White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford. The chapter was opened by Comps. W. Watson, as M.E.Z.; G. Bolton, as H.; F. Walters, as J. G. Brown, J., being present, and the three Principals who opened the chapter being all first Principals, assumed the positions for the purpose of assisting at the ceremony of installation. The companions were admitted. The minutes of the last meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. A Board of Installed Principals was then formed, and Comps. J. H. Searle was installed as J.; and G. Brown as H. The Board was closed. The ballot proved unanimous in favour of the six candidates proposed for exaltation. Comps. G. Bolton, as M.E.Z.; W. Watson, as H.; F. Walters, as J., then exalted Bros. Dussek, Heckell, Tippet, Shaw, Andrews, and Pulley into Royal Arch Masonry, and it is superfluous to add how well the ceremony was rendered when in the hands of three such expert Principals as those who occupied the chairs really are. A Board of Installed Principals was again formed, and Comp. W. Watson finished the installation ceremonies he had begun, by installing Comp. J. T. Tibbals M.E.Z. for the ensuing year. The Board was again closed, and the following companions were invested as officers of the chapter, viz.:—Comps. W. Simmons, P.Z.; G. Bolton, P.Z., Treas. (re-invested); N. Wingfield, S.E. (re-invested); H. Moore, S.N.; F. Walters, P.S.; J. Lightfoot, 1st A.S.; Woodland, 2nd A.S.; Holt, Janitor. The chapter was closed. The usual first-class banquet followed. Strange to say, no visitors were present.

DOMATIC CHAPTER (No. 177).—The regular convocation of this chapter was held on Thursday evening, the 28th ult., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Comps. Sutton was installed as M.E.Z., Payne as H., Little, P.Z., as J. The ceremony was performed in a very excellent style by Comp. T. A. Adams, assisted by Comps. Brett, Watson, and a large number of Past Principals. The following appointments were then made:—Comps. J. Smith, P.G.P., Treas.; Buss, E.; Hubbard, M.E.Z., as N.; T. H. Foulger, P.S.; Gilbert, 1st Assist. Soj.; Wilson, 2nd Assist. Soj. Bro. Hampton, S.W. of the Manchester Lodge, was exalted into Royal Arch Masonry. A splendid P. Principal's jewel was presented to Comp. Sissons on his retiring as M.E.Z., and a handsome silver coffee-pot was presented to Comp. Buss for his indefatigable exertions as Secretary. Among the visitors were—Comps. Dr. Goldsborough, P.Z., and P. Prov. G.S.W. for Surrey; Fox, M.E.Z. elect of the Mount Sinai Chapter; Potter, P.Z.; Lucy, and about forty other companions, who sat down to a banquet. The usual toasts and speeches followed.

CUMBERLAND.

CARLISLE.—*Chapter of Union* (No. 310).—The regular quarterly convocation of this chapter was held on Wednesday evening, the 27th ult., in the Freemasons' Hall, under the excellent presidency of the M.E. Comp. F. W. Hayward, Z.; Comps. T. Routledge, P.Z. 409, as H.; and W. Murray, J. The chapter was opened in due form, when the following companions entered:—C. J. Banister, P.Z., P.G.S.B. of England; A. Woodhouse, S.E.; H. Fleming, S.N.; G. G. Hayward, acting Prin. Soj.; W. Irwin, and Visiting Comp. J. Halifax, 409, Wigton; J. Barnes, Janitor. Comp. S.E. read the minutes of the last regular convocation and emergency, which were confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Bro. J. B. Paisley, of Lodge No. 310, and proved in his favour, but through some unforeseen circumstance the candidate did not make his appearance. This being the night of election, the officers were elected for promotion according to rote. A committee was appointed, consisting of the officers present, to form by-laws for this chapter. No other business coming forward, the chapter was closed in order, and the companions retired, and parted in harmony.

LANCASHIRE WEST.

GARSTON.—*Chapter of Harmony* (No. 220).—The usual monthly meeting of this chapter was held on Thursday, the 21st ult., at the Wellington Hotel, when there were present Comps. C. Leedham, Z.; Hamer, P.Z., as H.; Pearson, J.; Pepper, P.Z., Treas.; Ladmore, E.; Bunting, N.; Larsen, P.S.; May, P.Z., &c. Visitors: Comps. Platt and Lewin, P.Z.'s 477; Jones, 203; Nosworthy and Stevenson, 477. The chapter was duly opened in solemn form by the three Principals, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Lovelady, of Lodge No. 1,035, was balloted for as a companion,

and, having been unanimously elected, was exalted by the M.E.Z. in a very impressive style, after which the lectures were delivered, the mystical and historical by Comp. Hamer, and the symbolical by Comp. Pearson. Bro. Marshall was proposed for exaltation by Comp. Leedham, seconded by Comp. Hamer, P.Z. The sum of ten pounds was unanimously voted to the Fund of Benevolence for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, and two pounds to a distressed companion, a P.Z. of a neighbouring province. The chapter having been closed, the companions adjourned to refreshment, where the talent of Comp. Woods, the worthy host, was well displayed. After the usual toasts, the health of the visitors was ably responded to by Comp. Platt, who expressed his great admiration of the working, especially that of the subordinate officers, upon whose careful attention the business of the chapter depends for comfort as well as for good work. The companions separated at an early hour.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

NEWPORT.—*Silurian Chapter* (No. 471).—The usual monthly convocation of the Companions of this chapter took place on the 29th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Dock-street, when Bro. D. L. James, of the Silurian Lodge was balloted for and unanimously elected, and afterwards exalted to the sublime degree of a R.A. Mason. The ceremony being ably performed by the M.E.Z. and his officers. Two other candidates were proposed for admission at the next meeting, and after discussing and adopting a new code of by-laws the chapter was duly closed at 9.30 p.m.

MARK MASONRY.

METROPOLITAN.

THE SOUTHWARK LODGE OF MARK MASTERS (No. 22).—Bro. Dr. Frederick John Lilley, W.M., presided, and opened this lodge punctually at half-past six o'clock p.m., at the Green Man Tavern, Toooley-street, Southwark. The minutes of the last meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. Ballots were taken for ten candidates, and declared to be unanimously in favour of their admission. Bros. E. Palmer (No. 33) and A. Thomson (No. 211) being in attendance, were regularly advanced to the ancient and honourable degree of Mark Master Freemasons, the work, as usual by the W.M., being well and ably done. A. Avery, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. A. D. Loewenstark, P.M., Treas., was unanimously elected Treasurer for the third time. Bro. W. J. Lang, P.M., was unanimously re-elected Tyler. The Audit Committee was elected, and appointed to meet on Thursday, October 3rd. Business being ended, the lodge was closed. There were present—Bros. H. Massey, as S.W.; R. Ord, Reg., as J.W.; F. Besant, Chap.; F. Walters, P.M., Sec.; A. D. Loewenstark, P.M., Treas.; M. A. Loewenstark, S.O.; T. H. Meredith, I.G.; G. Schuck, E. Harris, W. Dalziel, and several others. Visitors—Bros. R. Watts, W.M. (8); C. A. Cottebrune, P.M. (8); W. Turner (24), J. Donkin (22), G. W. Wheeler, and others.

DURHAM.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—*Eclectic Lodge* (No. 39).—On Friday, the 29th ult., the meeting of this small but promising Mark Lodge was held in the Freemasons' Hall. The W.M., Bro. Geo. Moore, M.D., presided, and there were present:—Bros. Alfred Larkum, Sphinx Lodge (No. 107, I.C.) Ceylon, as S.W.; J. W. Cameron, Sec., as J.W.; W. Stonier Leigh, M.O.; R. B. Harpley, S.O.; Edward Hudson, J.O.; Geo. Kirk, Reg. of Marks; Samuel Gourley, M.D., S.D.; John Miller, Steward; Geo. Carter, I.G.; &c. The only business after the confirmation of the minutes was to ballot for Bro. Robert Gallon, late of Lodge de Loraine (No. 541), Newcastle-upon-Tyne, who, being accepted, was then advanced by the W.M. to the honourable degree of a M.M. in a skilful and workmanlike manner. A candidate was proposed as a suitable person to be advanced at the next meeting to this ancient and beautiful degree, after which the dues were distributed, and the lodge was closed with solemn prayer. A most agreeable hour was then spent at refreshment.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

HULL.—*Minerva Lodge of Mark Masters* (No. 12).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Monday evening, the 1st

inst., in the Masonic Hall, Prince-street, at which were present:—Bros. Walter Reynolds, W.M.; W. Scott, S.W.; J. Linwood, J.W.; M. C. Peck, P.M., Sec.; W. K. Brown, M.O.; H. Haigh, S.O.; J. Walker, J.O.; G. Hardy, Dir. of Cers.; S. R. Hensen, S.D.; J. N. Scherling, as J.D.; J. Carr, Org.; J. Burn, Steward; W. R. North, I.G.; Faulkner and W. Johnson, Tylers; F. Jackson, A. Rasmussen, W. Drury, J. Norton, O. Hammerton, R. Vise, C. A. Dreyer, and J. Thompson. The lodge having been opened in due form, the ballot-box was prepared for the following brethren, all of whom had been properly proposed, viz.—Bros. W. E. Woolf, C. Leggot, A. Wallis, A. Gemmell, Thomas Ross, and Thomas Sanderson—the latter as a serving brother—all of whom were unanimously accepted. Bros. Dosser, Woolf, Leggot, Gemmell, and Sanderson being present, were then admitted, and regularly advanced to this honourable degree by the W.M., the Secretary giving an explanation of the mystic cypher peculiar to this degree. Four brethren were then proposed for ballot at the next meeting, and the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. The brethren then adjourned to the banquet-hall, and the remainder of the evening was passed in harmony.

SCARBOROUGH.—*Star in the East Lodge* (No. 95).—A regular lodge of Mark Master was holden at Scarborough, on Wednesday evening, the 27th ult., by Bros. William Foster Rooke, W.M.; J. W. Woodall, S.W.; R. H. Peacock, J.W.; John A. Chapman, as M.O.; James Frederick Spurr, S.O.; T. W. Farthing, J.O.; William Peacock, S.D.; J. Raper, J.D.; D. Fletcher, I.G.; H. C. Martin, Sec., &c. The Mark Masters lodge was duly opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Bro. William Jackson was balloted for and advanced to the degree of Mark Master, after which the lodge was closed in due form at nine o'clock.

MADRAS AND BRITISH BURMAH.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTERS.

At a quarterly communication of the Prov. G. Lodge of Mark Masters, E.C., for Madras and British Burmah, held at the Masonic Temple, in the cantonment of Rangoon, on Tuesday, the 15th January, the following were present:—Bros. Capt. H. T. Duncan, D. Prov. G.M., in the Eastern chair; R. Berrill, Prov. S.G.W.; C. Pascal, Prov. J.G.W.; S. Porter, Prov. G.M.O.; J. R. Kay, Prov. G.S.O.; A. Gair, Prov. G.J.O.; H. Godbier, Prov. G. Sec.; D. Fraser, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; J. Stacey, Prov. G.S.D.; D. Paul, Prov. G.J.D.; D. Paul, Prov. G.J.D.; J. Williams, Prov. G. Purst.; J. Morris, Prov. G. Tyler. The Prov. G. Lodge was opened with prayer, and in due form, and the proceedings of the last communication were read and confirmed.

The D. Prov. G. Master expressed the regret of the Prov. G. Master that indisposition prevented his being present. He had, however, begged to express his satisfaction at the continued success of the Order throughout the province. There are now nine lodges in the province, and an application has been made since our last meeting for a lodge at Port Blair, in the Andaman Islands, and a dispensation was now issued for its formation, pending the arrival of the warrant from the Grand Mark Lodge of England. The Prov. G. Master has also received the intimation of another Mark Lodge about to be applied for. These two lodges will make up for two of the three lodges lately transferred to the allegiance of the Prov. G. Master of the newly formed province of Bengal. They are the Umballa Lodge, at Umballa; the Stanley Lodge, at Meerut; and the Capstone Lodge, at Calcutta. All Prov. G. and Past G. Officers have now been authorised to wear gold cord on the outer edges of the ribbon on their aprons and collars. The cord for the aprons and collars of the Prov. G. Lodge has been received, and will be affixed by the next communication.

By command of the Prov. G. Master, the D. Prov. G. Master, appointed the following as Prov. G. Officers for the ensuing year:—

Bro. Capt. Duncan,	D. Prov. G.M.
„ Capt. A. O. Saunders,	Prov. S.G.W.
„ C. Scott,	J.G.W.
„ Dr. Dickinson,	G.M.O.
„ Capt. Forbes,	G.S.O.
„ Major Pigott,	G.J.O.
„ C. Pascal, elected and invested,	G. Treas.
„ H. Godbier,	G. Sec.
„ R. C. Babington,	G.S.D.

Bro. Buchanan,	Prov. G.J.D.
" Furlong,	" G. Org.
" D. Fraser,	" G. Supt. of Works
" D. Paul,	" G. Banner Bearer
" J. Fraser,	" G. Sword Bearer
" J. Stacey,	" G. Dir. of Cers.
" A. Miller,	" G. Purst.
" J. Morris,	" G. Tyler
" Dawson, No. 68,	} " G. Stewards
" H. Bacon, No. 86,	

The Prov. G. Master nominated Bro. J. White, of No. 86, and Bro. J. Reid, of No. 68, as members of the Board of General Purposes, according to the Constitution, No. 22, p. 14.

The Prov. G. Lodge then elected Bro. J. R. Kay and C. Pascal as members of the Board.

The D. Prov. G. Master expressed the thanks of the Prov. G. Master to the Past Grand Officers for their assistance during the past year.

The accounts of the Prov. G. Lodge not being ready, they could not be brought before the Prov. G. Lodge, but they will be prepared immediately, and will be printed and circulated, and so sent for approval.

Application from certain brethren at Port Blair to open a Mark Lodge in connection with the Lodge of the Isles has been received, and the Prov. G. Master has granted them the necessary dispensation to meet.

There being no further business, the Prov. G. Lodge was closed with solemn prayer and in due form.

RED CROSS KNIGHTS.

SURREY.

RICHMOND.

Inauguration and dedication of the Rose and Lily Conclave (No. 3).

This interesting ceremony was performed on Saturday, the 30th ult., at the Greyhound Hotel. At four o'clock punctually, the Sir Knights present formed a procession under the efficient direction of Sir Knt. H. G. Buss, G. Almoner, who officiated during the proceedings as Grand Marshall. Two knights headed the procession, bearing the *labarum*, or imperial standard of the Order, followed by three Past Sovereigns carrying the corn, wine, and oil; then the acting Grand Prelate, with the censer; the acting G. Recorder, with the charter; the acting Grand Organist; two Viceroyes, bearing the sceptre and pastoral staff; the acting G.V.E., with the sacred volume, succeeded by a Past Sovereign as Sword Bearer, and the representative of the Grand Sovereign.

The knights having entered the conclave chamber Sir Knt. Little, G. Recorder, assumed the chair, and after opening a conclave proceeded with the ceremony of inauguration, in which he was most ably assisted by Sir Knt. Powell as V.E.; Buss, as G. Marshall; Terry, as H.P.; Hubbard, Marsh, Turner, MacDougal, and other zealous members of the Order. The rites observed being peculiar to this Christian degree, cannot be published, but it will suffice to say that the utmost decorum and solemnity were preserved, and the greatest satisfaction was expressed by all who witnessed the imposing ceremony. Sir Knt. Walters was then presented as the M.P.S. nominate, and a senate of Sovereigns having been formed, consisting of six members, that distinguished knight was duly enthroned in the imperial seat of Constantine, and on the re-admission of the knights was thrice saluted with drawn swords in ancient form. The officers for the ensuing year were invested as follows, viz.: Sir Knts. G. H. Oliver, V.E.; S. E. Clark, M.D., S.G.; R. Ord, J.G. and Treas.; J. Terry, Recorder; R. Gurney, Prefect; J. M. Graham, Standard Bearer. Ballots were then taken for the candidates named in the summons, all of whom were duly elected, and the following being in attendance were regularly admitted, received, constituted, and installed as knights of the Order, viz.:—Bros. C. A. Cottebrune, P.M. 733, 957, P.Z. 177; T. F. Giles, P.M. 820; E. J. Dixon, 975; G. T. Noyce, S.D. 975; T. J. Carless, 820; J. McKiernan, 192; A. Thomson, 211; and Captain J. W. C. Whitbread, 319 and 959. The whole of the ceremonies during the evening were worked with the masterly accompaniment of Sir Knt. H. Parker on the harmonium. Sir Knt. Little then delivered the inaugural oration, which had been specially composed by him for the occasion, and which we hope

to be able to publish in our next issue. On the motion of the M.P.S. it was carried unanimously; that the M. Ill. G. Sovereign Lord Kenlis; the M.E. Grand V.E., F. M. Williams, M.P.; R. W. Little, G. Recorder; and H. Parker, Organist, Premier Conclave, be elected honorary members of the Rose and Lily, and the conclave was then closed.

The knights then adjourned to the refectory, where a *recherché* banquet awaited them, and on the removal of the cloth, after the first loyal toast, the M.P.S. proposed "The Health of Lord Kenlis, Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign," with which he coupled the name of Sir Knt. Little, G. Recorder, who expressed his thanks warmly for the cordial reception of his lordship's name, and assured the knights companions that Lord Kenlis viewed with feelings of the liveliest satisfaction, the establishment of a new branch of their ancient and christian Order.

Sir Knt. Hubbard, in responding to the toast of the G.V.E., and the rest of the Grand Council, spoke as follows: The occasion of our meeting here to-day is one that cannot be otherwise than a source of profound gratification, as well to myself as to those other members of the Grand Council who were instrumental in promoting the revival and reorganisation of this Order in England, and who still watch over its interests and devote a considerable portion of their time to the management of its affairs. To me, indeed, it seems almost incredible that within the comparatively brief space of time—less than two years—when Past Sovereigns Little, Buss, and myself met, and within the circumscribed area of my own residence, and with somewhat maimed rites, installed a few Sir Knt. Companions, and the present moment, when we have been called upon to assist officially at the dedication and inauguration of a third conclave, and to sit at its banquet-table as invited guests. We feel proud, and we hope not unpardonably so, that within the same brief period we should find our names associated in the government of the Order with those of noblemen and gentlemen of rank and position in the social scale, and that we have rallying around our standard and our altar able and distinguished Masons such as we have the pleasure of meeting here to-day. Arguing from the past, we feel justified in the belief that at no greatly distant day we shall see the banner of the Red Cross planted throughout the length and breadth of the land, and the broad principles of Craft Masonry—not superseded, but supplemented—by the symbol and principles of Christianity; and even if some of us, from natural causes, should not be living witnesses of this, we feel that we shall—

"Departing, leave behind us

Footprints on the sands of time."

In the name, and on behalf of the Grand Council, I beg to offer you our grateful acknowledgments for the cordial manner in which this toast has been received.

The M.P.S. then gave "The Health of the Visitors," coupling with it the names of Sir Knts. Buss, G.A., and MacDougal, P. Sov.

Sir Knt. Buss thanked the companions heartily for the kindness with which he had been received, and expressed a fervent hope that the "Rose and Lily" might long continue to bloom.

Sir Knt. MacDougal, in his reply, stated that he had been some years a Mason, but he had never seen the duties of Freemasonry so perfectly carried out as they had been that day—it was faultless. He also alluded particularly to the oration of Sir Knt. Little, as suggestive of solemn truths; and to the excellence of Sir Knt. Terry's working in the conclave.

"The Health of the M.P.S.," proposed by Sir Knt. Little, elicited an enthusiastic response, Sir Knt. Walters being well known and esteemed in nearly every degree of Freemasonry, as a zealous worker and supporter of the charities.

"The Newly-Installed Companions in Arms," given from the chair, was also cordially received, and the new knights, headed by Sir Knt. Cottebrune, who expressed his admiration of the working, responded *seriatim*.

Sir Knts. Clarke and Ord returned thanks as S. and J.G.'s, Terry as Recorder, and Gurney as Prefect.

At ten o'clock the Sentinel's toast brought the pleasant *réunion* to a close.

On this occasion, besides other knights already mentioned, the Original or Premier Conclave was represented by Sir Knts. Marsh, M.P.S.; Powell, V.E.; Wescombe, J.G.; MacDougal, F.R.C.S.; H. Palmer, Org.; and Trickett, Z.N.; and the Plantagenet Conclave, No. 2, by Sir Knts. Turner, M.P.S. elect, and Payne.

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW.—On Tuesday night, the 19th inst., the members of the Lodge Thistle (No. 87) held their 105th annual festival in the Tontine Hotel, the large hall of which was gaily and appropriately decorated with a number of Masonic flags, banners, &c. Bro. Paton, W.M., presided on the occasion. The company, which numbered about one hundred, comprised many of the brethren in evening dress, while the Craftsmen were adorned with their various badges and insignia of office. After an excellent supper had been partaken of, and the cloth removed, the chairman proposed the usual loyal toasts in suitable terms, which were responded to with all the wonted Masonic enthusiasm, much sympathy being expressed for the Princess of Wales in her present precarious state of health. During the course of the evening Bro. Potts, in an able and eloquent address, presented to Bro. Cowan, P.M., in the name of the members of the Thistle Lodge, a handsome Past Master's jewel, a purse of sovereigns, and a gold ring for his partner in life. Bro. Cowan acknowledged the gift in modest but suitable terms, remarking that much of the prosperity of the Lodge Thistle, during his Mastership, was owing to the harmonious manner in which the office-bearers had seconded and supported his endeavours to place the lodge in its present position. Various other toasts were given and fittingly responded to, Bro. Wallace, of the Commercial Lodge, proposing "The Thistle Lodge" in an effective manner, while a number of the brethren contributed much to the evening's enjoyment by their vocal and instrumental efforts. The festival of this ancient lodge was brought to an agreeable conclusion by an assembly, which passed off well, the entire arrangements being under the management of Bro. Burton.

GRAND MASONIC BALL AT RENFREW.—The annual ball of the Prince of Wales Lodge (No. 426) came off with great *éclat* on Thursday evening, the 21st ult., in the Lodge Hall, High-street. There was a good attendance of the members of the lodge. The Hall was beautifully and tastefully decorated for the occasion. Amongst those present were Bros. M'L. Henderson, Henry C. Lobnitz and lady, John Jack and lady, Ensign Cameron and lady, William Fraser and lady, &c. At the opening grand march the scene was very beautiful with the brilliant dresses of the ladies and fine decoration of the hall, which latter piece of work reflected great credit on the committee. Dancing was carried on with great spirit till a late hour in the morning. Bro. Jack acted efficiently as Master of the ceremonies. Mr. Adam's quadrille band was in attendance, and played during the evening the most popular airs of the day, to the delight and satisfaction of the company.

FREEMASONRY.—There is no human organization upon the globe that ever has or ever will harmonise in one body so many elements which are in external conflict as the Masonic organisation. Its wise founders, if it ever had any, organised it upon a few simple but cardinal landmarks, which command the approbation and lay fast hold upon the affections of its initiates, and which furnish no grounds of controversy, admit no improvement, and tolerate no change. The laws of Masonry are as fixed, immutable, and eternal as mathematics. The old Patriarch Enoch inscribed them upon a pillar of stone, and transmitted them through the mighty flood; Noah taught them to two of his sons upon the summit of the sacred mountain where his ark rested when the flood subsided, and the earth bloomed and blushed again with vine and fruit under the genial sun; Moses learned them from the old priests on the banks of the Nile; the men of Gebel carved them on the rock ribs of the Mediterranean Sea; Solomon and the two Hiram collected them in a brief code at Jerusalem, and the builders and rebuilders of the Temple spread them over the globe; and they were transmitted to us in legendary lines, as well as to the Indian chiefs who inhabited and claimed to own this great country before our forefathers discovered it.—*Judge English.*

MEETINGS OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND LEARNED SOCIETIES FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 13TH, 1867.

Monday, April 8th.—GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30. Papers to be read:—1. "Site of Kunaxa and ancient canals in Mesopotamia," by Lieut. J. B. Bewsher. 2. "Sources of the Lycus and other rivers in Kurdistan," by J. E. Taylor, Esq. 3. "Description of Diarbekr," by E. J. Garden, Esq.

Tuesday, April 9th.—INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.

Wednesday, April 10th.—SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Christian, drove out on the afternoon of the 27th ult., attended by Lady Churchill. The Queen held a Court on the 28th ult., at Buckingham Palace. Her Majesty, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold, left Windsor Castle at twenty minutes past eleven a.m., and arrived at Buckingham Palace shortly before twelve o'clock. Her Majesty travelled by special train on the Great Western Railway, and drove in a carriage and four from Paddington to Buckingham Palace. The Queen, accompanied by Princess Louise, left Buckingham Palace at half-past four o'clock, and visited the Prince and Princess of Wales at Marlborough House. Her Majesty and her Royal Highness afterwards drove to Paddington Station, escorted by a detachment of the 14th Hussars, and returned by railway to Windsor. The Queen, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice, and the suite in attendance, arrived at Windsor Castle at half-past six o'clock, from Buckingham Palace. Her Majesty drove in the Great Park on the morning of the 29th ult., attended by Lady Churchill. The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Christian, drove out in the afternoon. Her Majesty and Princess Christian walked, and rode on ponies, on the morning of the 30th ult., in the Home Park. The Queen, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Christian and Princess Augustus of Saxe Coburg, drove out in the afternoon in a carriage and four. The Queen, Prince and Princess Christian, Princess Louise, Prince Arthur, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice, and the ladies and gentlemen in waiting, attended divine service on the morning of the 31st ult., in the private chapel. The Queen and Princess Louise walked, and rode on ponies, in the grounds of the Castle, on the morning of the 1st inst. The Queen, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Christian, drove out in the afternoon in a carriage and four, attended by Lady Churchill. Her Majesty drove out on the morning of the 2nd inst., accompanied by Princess Christian. The Queen, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Louise and Princess Beatrice, drove out in the afternoon in a carriage and four, attended by Lady Churchill. Her Majesty walked and drove on the morning of the 3rd inst., attended by Lady Churchill.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the HOUSE OF LORDS on the 28th ult. there was an interesting discussion on the Ecclesiastical Titles Act. Lord Lyveden moved for returns of the actions taken under the Act. He said he knew there had been none, but he wished to have it demonstrated how foolish it was to keep such a statute on the books. In the discussion which followed, only Lord Redesdale was found to say a word in favour of the Act. The Bishop of Killaloe desired its abrogation, and so did every other peer who spoke. It was the general opinion,

however, that this was not a fitting time to deal with the question, and thus the matter dropped.—The Earl of Denbigh succeeded in eliciting from the Earl of Derby a most important statement in reference to the Eastern question. The Earl of Denbigh apparently is anxious that England should interfere actively in the East for the preservation of Turkey. He wished particularly to know whether England had joined with France and Russia in urging upon Turkey the cession of Candia to Greece. The Earl of Derby's reply was that she had not. The French ambassador had called upon Lord Stanley, and told him that the French Government was about to instruct its representative at Constantinople to advise the Porte to cede Candia; but Lord Stanley only replied that if the Porte chose voluntarily to cede Candia England would not interfere, but she would take no step to induce the Porte to do so. A similar answer had been given to a similar representation made by the Russian Ambassador.—There was a short discussion in the House on the 29th ult. in reference to the militia, but it and the subsequent proceedings were without much interest.—The proceedings on the 1st inst. had little interest. The chief topic of discussion was the possibility of employing soldiers in industrial occupations. The Duke of Cambridge said the military authorities were anxious as far as possible to promote such employment; but there were insuperable difficulties in the way, so far as the soldiers in this country were concerned, owing to the constant moving of regiments.—On the 2nd inst. the only business of much interest was a question asked by the Earl of Clarendon in reference to the reported cession of Russian America to the United States. The Duke of Buckingham said corroboration had been received from St. Petersburg of the report that Russia and the United States were in treaty for the cession to the latter of Russian America. His Grace added that he did not believe, were such a cession to take place, it would have any ill effect on our colonies.—On the 28th ult. the questions in the HOUSE OF COMMONS were very numerous. Not many of them, however, had much interest. Mr. Darby Griffiths asked a foolish question as to the manner in which Mr. Walpole intended to deal with persons convicted of murder. Mr. Walpole's reply was dignified and manly. In effect, he told those who questioned his action in these matters that it would be better for them to have full information respecting them before they found fault.—There were several notices of amendments to the Reform Bill, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer for once gave a straightforward reply in reference to the bill. Mr. T. Cave wanted to know if persons who had £50 in a friendly or building society might have a vote as well as those having that sum in a savings' bank. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said emphatically they might not.—The first order of the day was the proposed guarantee of a loan of £3,000,000 to the new dominion of Canada, to enable the great inter-colonial railway to be constructed. Mr. Adderley introduced the question in a long speech, in which he pointed out the advantages of the proposed railway, and contended that there was little fear of any ultimate loss to this country. The proposal was strenuously resisted by Mr. Aytoun, Mr. T. Cave, and Mr. Lowe, and strongly supported by Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Watkin. Eventually the resolution was carried by 247 votes to 67.—The House then went into committee on the Mutiny Bill, and the question of flogging was discussed. Sir J. Pakington moved his amended flogging cause, and a lengthy discussion ensued.—On the 29th ult. the first note of the coming Reform battle was sounded. Mr. Gladstone gave notice of a question, the character of which showed that Mr. Disraeli would have to tell the House clearly what was

to be retained and what given up in the Reform Bill. The question was, whether the Government would, before going into committee, lay upon the table of the House the alterations which they proposed in the bill. Before this notice had been given the Chancellor of the Exchequer had stated in reply to questions put to him that the Reform Bill for Ireland could not be introduced until after Easter.—On the motion for going into committee of supply, several interesting questions were discussed. The first was introduced by Mr. Goldsmid, who complained of the manner in which the architects who had competed for the new National Gallery had been treated. They imagined that one of their number would be chosen to carry out the building; but Lord John Manners declined to accede to this, and said there was no official undertaking that the successful architect should superintend the erection of the building. This was corroborated in the course of the debate by Mr. Cowper, late Commissioner of Works. He said that when he was in office he mentioned, in conversation with one of the competing architects, that it was his intention to employ the architect who might be successful to superintend the erection of the building, but he never thought it necessary to make an official memorandum of the fact.—Sir Francis Goldsmid called attention to the persecutions endured by the Jews in Servia, and called upon the English Government to make such representations as would induce more tolerance upon the part of the Servians. Sir Francis showed that the Jews were treated with most abominable cruelty. Mr. Gregory supported the appeal of Sir Francis Goldsmid, and Lord Stanley promised to do what he could. He added, that he believed the persecutions were attributable more to the bigotry of the Servian people than of the Servian Government, which was averse to any persecution of the Jews.—Sir John Gray, in a lengthy speech, brought under the attention of the House a matter which, on the face of it, has an exceedingly ugly look. At the recent Tyrone Assizes several men were brought up for trial for rioting at Donoughmore. With one exception they were all Roman Catholics. A constable called as a witness swore that the rioting was caused by the persistence of several Orangemen, who, notwithstanding his endeavours, would march with colours flying and music playing party tunes to where the Roman Catholics were. He identified several of the Orangemen as well as the Roman Catholics, and they were all brought before the magistrates in petty session at Donoughmore. The magistrates, however, dismissed the aggressors with a single exception, and sent the Roman Catholic for trial. Mr. Justice Keogh, who tried the case at Tyrone, elicited these facts from the constable, and then denounced most heartily the conduct of the magistrates, promising to call the attention of the Lord Chancellor to their conduct. Sir John Gray wanted to know what steps had been taken in the matter. The defence set up by the magistrates was that the Orangemen had not been identified, and that Mr. Justice Keogh, in the observations he made, had been led by mis-statements.—On the 1st inst., the most remarkable business was the question of Mr. Gladstone as to the Reform Bill, and what followed it. Mr. Gladstone simply asked whether the Government would lay upon the table the alterations in the Reform Bill to which they were willing to agree before going into committee. To this the Chancellor of the Exchequer replied that he was going to give notice of the dual voting clause. As to the other parts of the bill, they must be left for the committee, the Government being most anxious to co-operate with the House in bringing the whole question of Reform to a satisfactory settlement. This statement brought cheers from the Ministerial

benches, and derisive cries from the Opposition. In the midst of these expressions of opinion Lord Cranborne rose. Instantly there were loud demands for silence, which, having been obtained, his lordship asked Lord Stanley a question. Lord Stanley had said on one occasion that the Government would bring in a bill by which they would stand or fall. Would his lordship inform the House what were the propositions in the bill now brought in by which they would stand or fall? The House cheered vociferously. Lord Stanley was almost as clever in his reply as his chief, the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The question, he said, was rather one to be met in argument and debate, and when the debate on the bill took place he should be prepared to answer the question. Whereupon the Ministerialists cheered, and Lord Cranborne and his friends laughed, and there were cries of "Oh, oh." However, the Ministry had staved off the subject for another night, and that was enough for them.—Mr. Walpole was questioned by Sir Robert Collier in reference to Toomer's case. The right hon. gentleman went into a long explanation of his motives for declining to grant a pardon to Toomer. The explanation was longer and more candid than it was satisfactory.—There were questions, too, about Luxembourg and the acquisition of Russian America by the United States.—Then the House went into committee on the Mutiny Bill, and discussed the flogging clause. Sir John Pakington had abandoned his first amended clause and proposed another more stringent. The House proceeded to deal with the first clause, and having amended it in various particulars, came to a division as to whether it should stand part of the bill. It was rejected by a majority of thirteen, made up almost wholly of members of the late Government, who supported Sir John Pakington. Then Sir John's new clause was proposed, and after a long and interesting conversation was agreed to. The House then went into committee on the navy estimates, and a long debate ensued.—On the 2nd inst., after the questions had been disposed of, Colonel Wilson Patten moved that the prayer of certain petitioners from Lancaster, in reference to the proposed disfranchisement of that borough, should be complied with, and that they should be heard by counsel at the bar of the House. An interesting discussion took place, but eventually Colonel Wilson Patten withdrew his motion.—Lord Amberley obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the laws as to Sunday trading, and then the House, on the motion of Mr. Dent, went into a debate on the subject of agricultural gangs. Mr. Dent wished that women and children employed in agricultural pursuits should, if possible, be brought under the operation of the Factory Acts. The debate was remarkable for a capital speech made by Professor Fawcett, and also for the general exposure it gave of the iniquities practised in some of the agricultural districts. Subsequently a lengthy discussion took place on a motion made by Mr. Crawford that the State should take up the debentures of railway companies where necessary.—On the 3rd inst., after some discussion in committee, the Joint Stock Companies (Voting Papers) Bill was shelved. The House then, on the motion of Mr. Ayrton, took up the consideration of the Spiritual Destitution Bill. This measure proposed to make it incumbent upon the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to provide curates for populous places where there was much spiritual destitution. Mr. Howes moved the rejection of the bill, on the ground that it would unduly fetter the action of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. After a long discussion, the bill was rejected by 173 votes to 78. The Irish Sea Coast Fisheries Bill was read a second time on the motion of Mr. Blake, Lord Naas, on the part of the Government, re-

serving the right to amend it in committee. The other business was unimportant.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The Registrar-General's return of the health of the metropolis shows some improvement during the last week, the mortality having returned to about the usual average. The number of deaths registered was 1,601, and the improvement is almost exclusively under the heading of bronchitis. The annual rates of mortality last week in thirteen the largest places per 1,000 were as follows:—Hull, 21; Sheffield, 24; Bristol, 25; London and Newcastle-on-Tyne, 27; Liverpool, 29; Leeds and Salford, 30; Birmingham, 31; Edinburgh, 33; Manchester and Glasgow, 34; and Dublin, 42.—The magistrates at Market Drayton have dismissed the case against Mr. Eyre, and that individual left the court amid the cheers of those who were in it. This took place on the 29th ult., after a long speech for the defence from Mr. Giffard, who seems to have avowed that he would not deal with the law of the case, but simply with the facts. As, however, the law and the facts are mixed up inextricably, to deal with one part of the question was virtually to make it incumbent on the magistrates to commit the case for trial in a superior court. That which Sir Thomas Henry did not think it within his duty to do, the justices of Salop have done. It is, of course, out of the question that the matter can rest where it is. The whole proceeding shows how little sincerity there is in the professions of the partisans of Mr. Eyre that they wish him to be justified in the eyes of his countrymen. The fact is, they dare not let him be brought before "twelve men in a box," and hence he and they spare no pains to avoid a fair trial. One good result will pretty surely follow from this action of Sir Baldwin Leighton and his fellow magistrates. Their proceedings will have struck such a blow at the whole system of administering justice by unpaid, unprofessional, and, necessarily, prejudiced magistrates, that it will speedily be supplanted by some system wiser and more just. Certainly no living being will believe that Mr. Eyre is innocent of the grave charges made against him because a bench of country justices, with Sir Baldwin Leighton at their head, have declined to commit him for trial. He is, in fact, precisely in the same position as his assistant, Provost-Marshal Ramsay, the indictment against whom for murder was thrown out by a grand jury of planters. The country will fully understand now why Mr. Eyre was unwilling to come within the jurisdiction of Sir Thomas Henry.—There was a shocking accident on the 1st inst. at the powder mills belonging to Messrs. Hall and Son at Faversham. An explosion took place in the mixing-house, and four out of five men employed therein were instantly killed.—Alfred Mellon was buried on the 2nd inst. at the Brompton Cemetery. A goodly number of those who had known him in life, and held him in the highest estimation, were present at his grave side to testify their grief at his early loss.—The manner in which men of various nations have spontaneously come forward to assist poor Captain Casey is a gratifying evidence of the cosmopolitan spirit of the age. Captain Casey, it will be remembered, was master of the ship *Jane Lowden*, which became water-logged in the Atlantic. For thirty-three days this poor fellow found a refuge in the maintop, and for twenty-eight days of that time he was entirely without food. When rescued (he was the solitary survivor) he weighed only forty-two pounds, and had to undergo the amputation of half his toes and fingers. He was taken to Holland, where the Dutch—who, phlegmatic as they are, have a great affection for the English—treated him with the utmost kindness, and have since contributed two hundred pounds for his relief, which sum, added to the four hundred received at the Thames Police-court, will enable him to start in life again, with, we hope, a more pleasant termination to his next venture, whether on land or sea.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

An esteemed correspondent has written us to warn our readers against an individual (a Pole) who, upon the faith of his being a Master Mason in great distress, has succeeded in victimising several brothers in the vicinity of Hemel Hempstead.