

LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1863.

THE KNIGHTS TEMPLARS.

By ANTHONY ONEAL HAYE.

(Continued from page 163).

BOOK THIRD—CHAPTER TWELVE.

GRAND MASTER—JACQUES DE MOLAI.

His family.—Election.—Character.—Last attempt of the Templars to conquer the Holy Land, A.D. 1298-1303.

Upon the death of Gaudinius a chapter-general was held at Paris in 1295, when Jacques de Molai, the Grand Prior of England, was elected Grand Master. De Molai belonged to the family of the Lords of Layvic and Raon, in Burgundy, and one of the greatest and most powerful in that country. His eldest brother possessed immense estates there, and an account of his wealth made a great figure. De Molai entered the order when but a youth, and by his bravery and piety early became one of its most distinguished knights. He was sent to England as Visitor General, and on the death of Guido de Foresta, in 1293, he was created Grand Prior. While in England he held several chapters, and framed laws for the reform of abuses and the better guidance of the Order. Hugh de Travaux states that De Molai attained the throne by an artifice not unlike that employed by Sixtus V. for arriving at the Papacy. The chapter, according to this knight, could not agree to the brother to be elected to the Grand Mastership, one party being for De Molai, and the other and larger for Hugh de Peyrand, the Grand Prior of France. De Molai perceiving that his chance of success was very small, assured several of the principal knights that he was not anxious for the office, and that he himself would vote for his competitor. Believing him, they joyfully made him Electing Prior. His tone now altered. "The mantle is done," he said; "now put the hood on it. You have made me Electing Prior, and, whether you will or not, I shall be Grand Master also." The astonished knights instantly chose him. We give this anecdote, not that it is true, but to pave the way for enquiring into the mass of lies which was extorted by torture from the knights shortly after, for De Molai was not present at this election, and messengers were sent to England to convey to him the tidings of his being raised to the supreme command.

The character of De Molai is an amiable one. He was a man of true merit, brave, full of spirit,

mild, moderate, and conciliating; his morals were pure, and his conduct without reproach. He had at the court of France made the friendship of the King and many of the most powerful nobles, not only on account of his family's influence, but likewise by his personal merit. In 1297 he left England for Paris, where he held the fourth son of the King at the baptismal font.

De Molai had watched well the signs of the times. He saw that the people among whom the Templars lived were apt to look upon them with disdain as deficient in that spirit which, in their ancestors, had made the Order the bulwark of Christianity. While they lived at ease in Europe the Hospitallers were still at war with the infidel and de Molai resolved to make one final attempt to secure a footing in the East, and so wipe out the disgrace which the loss of the Holy Land had entailed upon the Knights. For this purpose he set sail for Cyprus at the head of a body of troops, there to concert measures for the new campaign.

Casan Cham, Emperor of the Mogul Tartars, King of Persia, declared war against the Musselmen of Syria. The Tartars had not yet embraced Mahometism, and it was their interest to raise up as many enemies against the Musselmen as possible. Casan had married a daughter of Leon, King of Armenia, to whom he was devotedly attached, and was thus naturally bound by many ties to the Christians, whom he looked upon as his best allies. Casan sent to Jacques de Molai, and invited him to take part in the war against the ancient enemies of the Order. The Templars in the spring of 1299 left Cyprus in seven galleys and five small vessels, and landed near Inadia. The Tartars were encamped close to the ruins of Antioch, and the Templars without much difficulty joined them there. Casan was much pleased with the Grand Master, and placed a force of fifty thousand men at his command. The army then advanced upon Damascus by way of the valley of Orontes. A great battle was fought near Emessa, where the troops of the Sultans of Damascus and Egypt were defeated with immense slaughter, and the fugitives pursued by the Armenian cavalry to the verge of the desert. Aleppo and Damascus surrendered to the victor, and the Templars pushing onwards once more entered Jerusalem in triumph, visited the Holy Sepulchre and celebrated Easter on Mount Sion.

While encamped at Jerusalem Casan sent am-

bassadors to Europe to the Pope and the Christian sovereigns soliciting their alliance, and offering them possession of the Holy Land. The Pope received the ambassadors with distinguished favour, promised them every assistance, but his promises and those of the European Kings were never fulfilled. The spirit which had prompted the Crusades was dead, and Europe was preparing for that convulsion which ended in the Reformation. Genoa alone sent aid to the Holy Land, the example being set by the ladies who assumed the cross to avert the Divine wrath which they feared would come upon them from the town being laid under the horrors of an interdict.

Jacques de Molai having refreshed his troops renewed hostilities with the enemy, and advancing as far as Gaza defeated the Saracens, and drove them back into the sandy deserts of Egypt. Treachery, however, wrested further success from him, for a Saracen chief, who had been appointed governor of Damascus, instigated the Musselmen of Syria to revolt, and the Templars were forced to fall back upon Jerusalem. Casan sent troops to their assistance, but while they were preparing to march upon Damascus he died, and the Christians were deprived of their Tartar allies. The Templars left the Holy City, the ramparts of which they had begun to build, and which they were doomed never to see again, and never more to raise the ruddy standard of the cross upon its walls. This reverse was scarcely talked of in Europe, and though the name of Jerusalem was still pronounced among the congregations of the faithful, it had no power to awaken the religious enthusiasm of knights and warriors. The Templars retired to the sea coast and embarking set sail for Luinisso. A strong force was left to garrison the island of Aradus and Tortosa, but the Musselmen speedily attacked them, and they were all killed or taken prisoners.

The Hospitallers shortly after the return of the Templars to Europe attacked Rhodes, and the Sicilian Templars, with De Molai, made a fray into Greece, but after reducing several towns, and seizing much plunder they returned to Europe.

Thus ended for ever the dominion of the Templars in the East, and with the loss of this dominion began to raise that plot of monarch and priest against the Knights, which ended in the overthrow of the Order, and ferocious butchery of its members.

(To be continued.)

PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

It is very unusual to find Masonic work going on outside the Masonic body, and to have to notice labours carried on under the direction of a board, not itself consisting wholly of Freemasons, which yet are in the highest degree interesting to the Craft at large. Nothing could more engage the sympathy and assistance of the brethren than the work now carried on by the Palestine Exploration Fund. To fix the sites of a thousand places which are household words to every Mason; to investigate the gigantic works of the great Masters, Solomon and H. A.; to lay bare the elaborate systems of aqueducts, conduits, and reservoirs, which kept the Holy City supplied with water; and to show to an admiring world the very wall—a marvel of masonry, when battlements were so high, says Josephus, that a man looking over turned dizzy at the depth below him—which the great King designed and built, these are objects which this society has proposed to itself, and, with a perseverance worthy of the highest praise, in spite of scant acknowledgment, has been steadily and quietly following out for three years. Too quietly, for it was not till last June that its existence was brought before the notice of the Grand Lodge of England, which promptly responded to the call, and gave the fund the sum of a hundred guineas. Since then other lodges have been appealed to, not in vain, and the usual benevolence of Masons has in this case been stimulated by the thought that the highest objects of Speculative Masonry are touched by this enterprise. There is not space in our columns to go into all the details necessary for a right understanding of the work done. But a few particulars may be given. On Mount Moriah, where the Temple formerly stood, there still rises a wall enclosing a square area of some seventeen hundred feet. At the south wall, outside the area, which is held sacred by the Mahometans, and not allowed to be touched, Lieutenant Warren has been excavating. The first discovery which he made proved conclusively that the old tradition was true about the magnitude of the wall of the Temple. It was actually in some places upwards of 150ft. high, and nearly a thousand long—a stupendous piece of Masonry. The stones, beautifully cut and joined so closely that the blade of a knife cannot be thrust into the joints, at present the most perfect specimen of Jewish mason's art; down to the very bottom the same pains have been bestowed and the same

capital supervision exercised. In all its details the working of that lodge is more and more shewn to be a model for all future lodges. In the face of the wall have been discovered a triple gate and a single gate. These promise rich grounds for future investigation.

Again at the corner of this wall, and at a depth of 85 feet below the surface of the ground, Bro. Warren came upon a small stone built passage running south. This seems to have been without doubt one of King Solomon's aqueducts for carrying away the overflow water. It was explored by Lieut. Warren for about 400 feet, when the badness of the air compelled him to give up the attempt for the time. It is greatly to be hoped that another visit may lead him to further discoveries in this interesting spot.

The result of the excavations at the south wall may be summed up briefly. It is now quite clear that the wall mentioned by Josephus and in Kings was a gigantic work of masonry, immensely larger and more wonderful than moderns have ever been led to believe. Behind this wall and within the sacred area exists a most complicated series of vaults, passages, chambers, and tanks, serving as drainage sewers, passages for the blood of the sacrifices, for overflow water, and for water supply. What riches lie buried in these vaults, what secrets will be disclosed, what curious monuments of antiquarian art given back to the light time will show. In the meantime, we may hope for everything, and be grateful for anything.

Between Mount Moriah and Mount Zion lay formerly a valley, called the Tyropæon valley. The portion of this valley has always been a subject of controversy. It is now finally established. Moreover, there ran in former times a most magnificent causeway from Zion to Moriah. Where the valley makes a sudden and precipitous descent, close to the Haran wall, it was spanned by a splendid arch, now called Robinson's Arch. Exploring this at a depth of fifty feet below the level of the ground, Lieut. Warren has come upon the fallen voussoirs of the arch themselves lying one on the other as they were thrown down, and covered with the debris of two thousand years. The arch itself must have been upwards of eighty feet high, with a span of forty-one feet. Truly our early brethren were masters indeed.

The following extract will show a few of the difficulties that the explorers have to contend with :—

"Jerusalem is a necessitous place at present; to-day we can get no meat for love or money; yesterday no bread at any price, and all the week no charcoal; camel-drivers fear to come near the walls; at night you may see mysterious looking dark bundles lying along the Jaffa road—they are the camel loads which have been brought up hastily and thrown down, the camels being got out of the way as soon as possible for fear of being pressed by the troops. To get mules you must guarantee their safe return to their stables, or the owners will have nothing to say to you. Baskets for removing earth are not to be had now in Jerusalem, the stores of them at Lydd were gutted by the authorities, and I have been obliged to send a Fellah through the country foraging for some. All this is the effect of the war on the other side of Jordan, combined with a recent attempt at grafting European usages on Arab customs, which must fail."

Under date December 12th, 1867, Bro. Warren writes :—

"During the last fortnight I have been occupied in exploring cisterns and passages in and about Jerusalem, and it appears to me that the great question of the ancient water-supply is soon likely to draw some attention.

"1. About a mile south of the village of Lifta,* on the crest of a hill, is a chasm in the rocks, about which there are many traditions, and which we failed to explore in the spring. We went there last Monday, provided with three ladders, reaching together 120 feet., and a dockyard rope 165 feet long. We had three men to assist in lowering us on the rope. The entrance from the top just allows of a man squeezing through, but as you descend, the chasm opens out until at 125 feet it is about 15 feet by 30 inch. At this point is a ledge, and we rested there while we lowered the ladders another 30 feet, to enable us to descend to the bottom, which is at the great depth of 155 feet from the surface. The chasm is exactly perpendicular, and the bottom is horizontal. Water was dripping quickly from the rocks, but ran out of sight at once. On the floor was a rough stone pillar, and near it the skeleton of an infant; close to the pillar is a cleft in the rock, very narrow, into which the water was running.

"I cannot help thinking that this cleft is partially artificial. I have not yet ascertained its

* Two miles N.W. of Jerusalem; probably the ancient Nephtoah.

level with reference to Jerusalem, but there is the possibility of its being in connection with the cleft where we were excavating near the Russian buildings, which some suppose to be the shaft of an aqueduct by which the town used to be supplied with water.

"2. Within the walls.—I have examined and surveyed the large tank at the Burj al Kibryt; it is fully described at p. 221, Lewin's "Siege of Jerusalem." The plans and sections shall be sent by an early mail.

"I have also examined the Hammam esh Shafa.* Captain Wilson's plans give every information on the subject. The smell of the water was disgusting, exactly similar to what is encountered in any of the dirty bath-rooms of Jerusalem. I conclude that a portion of the dirty water from the baths finds its way back again into the well. The level of rock at this well I calculate to be 50 feet below the surface of the Haram Area. On ascending, I found a second shaft reaching from top to bottom, and it is evident that at one time the water was obtained by means of a Na'ura, or "Persian water-wheel" (p. 276, "The Land and the Book"), which leads one to suppose that water may have then been more plentiful than it is at present.

"3. Siloam.—I have examined and surveyed the rock-cut passage leading from the Virgin's Fount† to Siloam. We entered from the Siloam end, so as to have as much clean work as possible. For the first 350 feet it was very plain sailing; the height of passage sloping down from 16 feet at entrance to 4 feet 4 inches; the width 2 feet; the direction a wavy line to the east. At 450 feet the height of passage was reduced to 3 feet 9 inches, and here we found a shaft leading upwards apparently to the open air. This might be made use of to great advantage by the owners of the soil overhead. From this shaft the passage takes a north-easterly direction, and at 600 feet is only 2 feet 6 inches high.

At 900 feet we came upon two false cuttings, one on each side of the aqueduct. They go in for about 2 feet each. I could not discover any appearance of their being passages; if they are, and are stopped up for any distance, it will be

next to impossible to clear them out in such a place. Just here I involuntarily swallowed a portion of my lead pencil, nearly choking for a minute or two. We were now going in a zig-zag direction towards the north-west, and the height increased to 4 feet 6 inches, which gave us a little breathing space; but at 1,050 feet we were reduced to 2 feet 6 inches, and at 1,100 feet we were again crawling with a height of only 1 foot 10 inches.

"At 1,150 feet the passage again averaged a height of 2 feet to 2 feet 6 inches. At 1,400 we heard the same sound of water dripping as described by Captain Wilson, the Rev. Dr. Barclay, and others. I carefully looked backwards and forwards, and at last found a fault in the rock, where the water was gurgling, but whether rushing in or out I could not ascertain. At 1,450 feet we commenced turning to the east, and the passage attained a height of 6 feet. At 1,658 feet we came upon our old friend, the passage leading to the Ophel shaft, and, after a further 50 feet, to the Virgin's Fount. Our candles were just becoming exhausted, and the last three angles I could not take very exactly. There were fifty-seven stations of the compass. When we came out it was dark, and we had to stand shivering for some minutes before our clothes were brought us; we were nearly four hours in the water. I find a difference of 42 feet between my measurements and those of Dr. Robinson, but if he took the length of the Virgin's Fount into account we shall very nearly agree.

"Entrance to the 'Tomb of Aaron's Sons,' in the Aksa Mosque.—The wall at this point was broken through, and found to be very rough on the outside; 10 feet 6 inches thick; stones, 2 feet by 1 foot 6 inches by 1 foot 6 inches; it is backed up with made earth.

"'Standing-place of Elias,' in the Aksa.—The end of the passage or doorway here was broken through; it is about 1 foot 6 inches thick. Behind it is a mass of loose rubbish, and after removing about a ton of it I was able to get through, but could see nothing to lead me to suppose that there is anything beyond but made earth.

Somebody has opened the Tomb of Jehosaphat; it is the place where the Jews threw away the old copies of their books. The Rabbi seemed to think that I had done it, and sent to ask me to close it up. I sent at once to tell him that I had

* A well outside the Bal el Kattanin, on the west wall of the Haram.

† The "Virgin's Fount" is a spring, the waters of which rise suddenly at irregular intervals, and subside again shortly after rising.

nothing to do with it, and to assure him that I did not touch the Jewish tombs. The Sheikh of Silwan also sent him word that he might be sure it was not my work, as if we had been there it would have been closed up again and nobody would be any the wiser. I am going to see the Rabbi in a few days, and show him the plans and sections of the Haram Wall, &c. I have offered to employ the Jews in excavating, but it is out of their line altogether.

Extract from letter January 11th, 1868:—

“WORKS IN PROGRESS.

“Makhama, under Wilson’s Arch.—Gallery driven to south along Haram Wall for 30 feet. No sign of any opening in wall corresponding to Barclay’s Gateway.—Shaft under arch on west side; a curious recess has been found in the pier similar to those at Robinson’s Arch, except that it extends through these courses: a sketch of this will be sent when the shaft is completed.

“Pier of Robinson’s Arch.—This has now been bared to north for 25 feet and the corner to west has been turned. The builders of this pier, in a truly economical spirit, characteristically Jewish, have built it with recesses so as to save a very large portion of the stone, which would otherwise have had to be used. As far as I can judge of the pier at present, it is 45 feet long and 12 feet through; it is built with a hollow space inside of about 5 feet width, and the whole pier seems to be made up of smaller ones averaging 6 feet in length, the bays or openings being similar in dimensions. These little piers are the height of two courses (3 feet 9 inches and 3 feet 6 inches) 7 feet 3 inches; and lying across them and the bays are lintels, the largest being 12 feet 6 inches in length, 3 feet 9 inches in height, and weighing over ten tons.

“I wish to know whether in the other parts of the world or Syria, similar economical designs have been found in building where arches are not used. No doubt this method of building may be considered, as far as it goes, as characteristic of one particular epoch, probably before the arch was in general use; and yet it differs entirely from the massive styles of Egypt and Assyria. East of the pier, on a level with the rock surface, is a pavement which we have examined for about 18 feet; and on it, lying huddled together just as they fell, are the actual voussoirs of the great viaduct called Robinson’s Arch; they lie in lines north

and south, and between them one can squeeze with difficulty for some 10 or 15 feet each way. They are in our way going east, and though they are of *melekeh*, they are so hard that the men cannot break them, and I have had to blast them. It will take us at least a month more thoroughly to examine this pier, and all that pertains to it.

At the Kedron, the rock is beginning to rise rapidly, and I shall close the gallery up in a few days. We are now 145 feet from entrance.

“At the Aqueduct below Bir Eyub we are getting on slowly.

From letter of January 22nd, 1868:—

“We have made a great discovery this week—viz., a system of vaults, tanks, and aqueducts, in connection with, and to the west of Wilson’s Arch: they are apparently of similar age and construction, and are likely to throw considerable light on Jerusalem topography; in fact, it appears to me that this system of vaults is the key to underground Jerusalem, and, if we are not interfered with, we may reasonably hope very soon to have a good knowledge of the great embankment which runs across the Tyropœon Valley.

“Makhama.—Wilson’s Arch.—Shaft on east of pier continued to a depth of 41 feet; pier below, a depth of 21 feet 6 inches, is composed of rough hewn stones. Hole broken through pier to west for 10 feet in search of another arch. Two holes were made in the chamber A in search of continuation of Wilson’s Arch to west; and on Saturday, 18th inst., the hole to the north was found to open on to a space covered by a trimmer arch, running east and west, resting on the arches in continuation of Wilson’s Arch. These arches are in two sets, side by side, and make up together the length of Wilson’s Arch. The span of the northern set is only 12 to 13 feet, that of the southern from 22 to 23 feet; underneath these arches are other at a lower level, which may have been used as tanks, and in them are some curious troughs or aqueducts. To the west of the upper vaults are passages which the plan must explain; they run in several directions, and are blocked up loosely at the ends. From one of the passages was a hole downwards, and on being lowered into it (chamber B) I was astonished to see a white marble pedestal. I was in great hopes there might be an inscription on it, but it is quite plain, and may at one time have formed part of a column in support of the roof. In one angle is part of

a pilaster, the capital of which has on it a double ram's horn, very similar to that found at Arak el-Emir. (See De Sauley's work, p. 223, French edition.) It has the appearance of great antiquity. I am in hopes we may find other traces of sculpture.

"Robinson's Arch.—We have done little towards the east, for the stones present such difficulties; to the north we have tapped a tank which has been running stones for several days; to-day it is nearly exhausted, and we have got several peeps into a big cavern.

"Kedron.—At 160 feet from entrance the air became very impure, but on going a little further a rushing noise was heard, which proved to be a stream of pure air 100 feet below the surface. We have now come to several walls, and the work looks interesting.

"Bir Eyub.—At the aqueduct below Bir Eyub we have been retarded by the heavy rains. The floor is being deepened, so that there may be room for a wheelbarrow.

"Close to Bir Eyub we have found another aqueduct of masonry, which seems to run to the eastern side of the valley."

We could go on still further making extracts from these reports; but suffice it to say that the labours are going on with great ardour, and that the fund has every reason to believe that England appreciates her work.

The following circular letter, signed by the Earls De Grey and Ripon, Caernarvon, and a numerous body of distinguished brethren, has been forwarded to many of the lodges:—

"Sir,—We beg to call your attention to a resolution passed at the quarterly meeting of Grand Lodge held in March last relative to the Palestine Exploration Fund, to which Grand Lodge then voted the sum of one hundred guineas, and 'recommended the same to the notice of Provincial and District Grand Lodges, and of private lodges, as worthy of the support of the Craft.'

"The accompanying papers will explain the objects of the society, as well as point out the interest which every member of the Masonic Order must feel in its success.

"We, therefore, try to recommend this enterprise to your favourable notice. By bringing it before the attention of your lodge, as you best know how to do, you may render most valuable aid to this enterprise, and give a fresh impulse to an

undertaking which is fraught with such important consequences to all, and particularly to Masons.

"Several lodges, besides Grand Lodge, have already contributed to the fund; and we feel sure that its claims have only to be fairly stated for the Masonic bodies to rally round it and lend it their aid.

We remain, worshipful Sir,

Your's fraternally,

Earl de Grey and Ripon, D.G.M., Prov. G.M. West Yorkshire; Warren De Tabley, Prov. G.M. Cheshire; Mansel Talbot, Prov. G.M. S. Wales, E.D.; R. A. Shafto Adair, Prov. G. Officer; Vane, S.G.D. Caernarvon; Legendre N. Starkie, S.G.W.; Skelmersdale, P.G.W., D. Prov. G.M. West Lancashire; John Havers, P.G.W.; Eliot, P.G.W.; V. A. Williamson, P.G.W.; John Edward Cox, M.A., F.S., P.G.O.; W. K. Riland Bedford, P.G.C.; C. R. Davy, P.G.O.; Bentley Shaw, S.G.D., D. Prov. G.M., W. Wks.; George William Latham, S.G.D.; Charles Hutton Gregory, P.G.D. W. W. B. Beach, P. Prov. S.G.W., Oxon and Hants; Richard Pope, P.G.S.B., and P.S.G.W. of Cheshire; Edward Barker, P.G.S.B., Kendal; Hyde Clarke, D.D.G.M. Turkey; John P. Bell, M.D., D. Prov. G.M., and G. Supt. of R.A. Masons of N. and E. Yorkshire; W. H. Smyth, D. Prov. G.M. Lincolnshire; J. W. Leigh, P.G.C. Warwickshire; Patrick Colquhoun, P.M., 447 (654); Charles Goolden, P.M.; D. G. Bruce Gardyne, W.M., 1,118.; Layton, P.M., 404; E. C. Ogle, P.G.M., Northumberland."

These circulars should be sent to *all* the lodges. Wherever at high noon brethren assemble for labour should be read the account of this new and bloodless crusade. No lodge so poor but should find something for this Masonic work; no brother but may help it by recommendation to his richer friends.

It has established itself at an office in 9, Pall Mall East, where all information can be furnished by the Secretary, to whom we refer our readers, and we can only express the hope that the society will receive that support it deserves, and that further investigation will not be stopped for want of funds to prosecute a more extended examination of so interesting a country.

A series of very interesting photographs have been taken by Sergeant Phillips under the orders of Lieutenant Warren, R.E. These may be obtained from Messrs. Bartlett, 70, Fleet-street, price, 1s. 6d. each; to subscribers, 1s.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND—BIBLE HISTORIES.

My answer to the letter of a brother in the neighbourhood of Carlisle is that, according to an entry in one of my note books, the judgment respecting which he inquires was that "the law of the Church of England does not require of a clergyman the belief, as literally true, of all histories related in the Bible, which are incorporated from it into her formularies." C. PURTON COOPER.

MR. MOLYNEUX AND THE FREEMASONS.

The letter of the Rev. J. W. H. Molyneux to the Rev. E. I. Lockwood, in which he declined to allow the use of his church at the recent opening of a lodge in Sudbury, has been published. In it Mr. Molyneux says:—

"Notwithstanding all their loud boastful professions of universal philanthropy, I never even heard of one useful work, public or private, done by the society of Freemasons outside of its own body. All it has done in the Masonic or any other line is to build up a monstrous fabric of pretension, self-deceit, and affectation, fitly symbolised by a 'Mason' with kid gloves, a silk apron, and silver trowel. I respect real hard-working masons, with hard hands and clothes covered with stone-dust, who pave our streets and carve stone for our buildings; but shams I have no respect for. Those who love real work never can tolerate shams, least of all such as come before us with grand pretensions. As to the pretensions of this society it must speak for itself. No one can see an advertisement of any of its proceedings without being startled and dazzled by the way in which it positively bristles and sparkles with imposing titles. 'Grand, Ancient, Free, Accepted, Honourable, Worshipful, Right Worshipful,' &c. It nearly takes away one's breath!"

As to the moral influence of Freemasons, he says the society "becomes practically a convivial club," and the members are not unfrequently led into "great expenses and lamentable excesses," and "their moral well-being" is "terribly impaired." As to the Christian or anti-Christian principles of Freemasonry, Mr. Molyneux "affirms them to be absolutely anti-Christian," and says "if there be any mystery in Freemasonry, it is a part of the mystery of iniquity."

MASTERS' DEGREE.—PROPOSITION.—COUNTER-PROPOSITION.

Proposition—The Masters' degree is not more ancient than the year 1717. Counter-proposition.—The Master's degree is not less ancient than the 15th century.—From Bro. PURTON COOPER'S Memorandum Book.

FIVE ORDERS OF ARCHITECTURE.

If Pictus were followed as a purist in getting rid of the five orders of architecture (p. 168), an anomaly would be got rid of, but at the expense of historic truth. He would get nearer to the Temple of Solomon, but he would betray a landmark of true history, that series of legends, medieval and new, which show how Masonry has been built up. Thus in seeking an imaginary truth he would banish the real truth. We have had too much of this filing away as it is.—E. N.

HOW A CANDIDATE WHO HAS BEEN A PAGAN SHOULD BE "OBLIGATED."

Bro. Haye wrote some months ago that he would swear a Chinese upon the works of Confucius, and a Hindoo upon the Vedas; and Bro. Hugan has just written that a candidate is permitted to take whatever obligation may be considered binding and suitable to him; and a Most Worshipful, now deceased, has said that, previously to swearing a man to [Masonic] secrecy, it is necessary to ascertain what religion he professes, in order to "oblige" him in the most formal and solemn manner possible; and a Right Worshipful has more recently said, supposing that Hindoo candidates may satisfy us concerning a true belief in the Almighty Architect of the Universe, and a future state of responsibility and reward and punishment, upon what are we to "oblige" them? The Vedas, the Puranas, or their commentaries? Neither Bro. Haye, nor Bro. Hugan, nor the Most Worshipful was, in my humble judgment, right. * * * A Right Worshipful expresses doubts respecting suggested modes, when neither of such modes was the proper mode. * * * The candidate who has been what, dear Bro. "J. G. F.," you designate a Pagan, and who is now neither Christian, Jew, Parsee, nor Mahomedan, is necessarily a Natural Theist, and should be "obligated" in the way in which you would swear him in the Court of Queen's Bench. * * * A portion of the "Transcript" mentioned in my communication "On Masonic Oaths," FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, vol. 18, page 387, shall be sent to that periodical as soon as there is probability of the editor being able to find space for it; you will then be better able to appreciate the reasons upon which my opinion rests. * * * Letters upon this grave and momentous matter have been sent to me from Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras.—From Bro. PURTON COOPER'S Masonic Letter Book, 6th July, 1868.

THE CHARACTER OF A TRUE MASON

To be an upright man is to add still greater lustre to the Mason's character; to do justice and to have charity are excellent steps in human life, but to act uprightly gives a superlative degree of excellence, for in that situation we should become examples in religious, civil, and moral conduct; it is not enough that we are neither enthusiasts nor persecutors in religion; neither bending towards innovation, nor infidelity. In civil matters we should submit to the laws of the country we may reside in. In morality it is required of us not only that we should not err by injuring or deceiving, but to do good in every capacity of that station in life wherein Providence has placed us. By such means can the Mason be proved and testify that his emblematical jewels are ensigns only of the inward man; so he will stand approved before Heaven and before men with honour to his profession and felicity to himself as a professor of Masonry.—L. M. H.

HIGH DEGREES IN FRANCE.

The number of degrees conferred by the Grand Orient in France in 1867-8 was, for the 18th degree and under, 218; for the 30th, 32; for the 33rd, 3. The Grand Orient degrees above the 18th were not recognised by the Supreme Council of France, nor by legitimate Supreme Councils.—N.

THE BLUE BLANKET.

It would be conferring a great honour on the Craft if the brother having charge of that very interesting Masonic relic, the "Blue Blanket," referred to in your last number, would send a description of it as to size, nature, adornment, preservation, &c., with any facts or traditions respecting it, with which he may be acquainted, for insertion amongst the Masonic Notes in your Magazine.—* J. D. M.

ROBERT BRUCE (page 170).

Ha! Ha! Ha! Ho! Ho! Ho! laugh and grow fat; but I must tell you all about it. "King Theodore was a great Mason, or patron of Masonry, as shown by his order in the *Illustrated News*—a double triangle. This, perhaps, was owing to his descent from Solomon and the Queen of Sheba." O Solomon! Solomon! what have you not to answer for? You must have been "sowing your wild oats." Had Theodore claimed to have been descended from either Adam or Noah, we might well have asked for proof substantial; but the "double triangle" clearly shows Theodore's connection with the visit of the Queen of Sheba to hear the wisdom of Solomon. O Solomon! 'tis as clear as day that L. S. D. has found you out. I had foolishly imagined that King Robert Bruce had something more important to attend to than either to preside, or lead off the dance, at the "Grand Masonic assemblies at Kilwinning." I even considered that both Robert Bruce and Theodore would have found some difficulty in gracing with their royal presence "the Grand Lodge of Kilwinning," seeing there was no such Grand Lodge co-existent with either of them; but, doubtless, the same "double triangle" which proves the doubly royal descent of Theodore could easily solve that problem.—B.

CHRONOLOGICAL EXCERPTS.

Tenth century. An Anglo-Saxon Prince planted a tree in the north of England.

Twelfth century. Monks planted a similar tree in Scotland.

Seventeenth century. A Rosicrucian philosopher planted a tree in the south of England. The branches and leaves of this tree resemble those of the two former trees. Its fruit is altogether different.

The first and second trees may still be seen in a state of extreme decay. The last is a tree than which no country in the world possesses one of its kind so vigorous and flourishing.—From Bro. PURTON COOPER's Manuscript Collections upon Masonry.

CHARTERS OF SCOTCH KINGS.

If Scotch kings were so busy in the year 1100, giving charters to Scotch lodges of Freemasons, what were the English kings about? For the honour of England they must have given more, for they built more abbeys and cathedrals. What has become of our charters? Who will find our charters? They cannot be all lost, are any in Grand Lodge? There are chestsful of documents.—W. HARRIS, P.M.

D.G.M. MANNINGHAM'S LETTER.

A critical brother, having this letter in his view, asks * in what year "G.M. Payne, who succeeded Sir Christopher Wren" died? I regret my inability to answer the question.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

HUNGARY.

In the 15th century the operative lodges of Hungary were subject to the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Vienna.—From one of Bro. PURTON COOPER's Masonic Memorandum Books.

LORD * * *

My Dear Friend, "M. D. F."—It is a mistake. Lord * * * was not a sceptic. He professed pure Christianity, which he described as the development of Natural Religion. There are, he used to say, in pure Christianity two elements, the ethical and the dogmatical; the former vastly preponderating, and unlike the latter, occasioning neither doubt nor controversy. Touching our noble brother's creed, this is all that the recollection of the conversations to which you allude, (Paris, 1831), enables me to communicate. In number and amount his charitable gifts were, it is said, very considerable.—From Bro. PURTON COOPER's Masonic Letter-Book, December, 1865.

ROSE CROIX DEGREE.

The Grand Orient of France has hit upon the expedient of giving "Delegations" for the Rose Croix degree. It charges 32s. for each delegation.—N.

G.O. CALENDAR.

The sale of this in 1867-8 only amounted to 201 copies, producing as many shillings.—N.

FRENCH CONSTITUTIONS.

The Grand Orient of France sold in 1867-8, 1,588 copies of its statutes or constitutions, producing £95.

MASONIC LIBRARY.

The G.O. of France spent last year £12 in the purchase of books. How much for the Grand Lodge of England, was it twelve pence? The librarian's salary is £80 per annum.—N.

CHRISTIANITY AND ENGLISH FREEMASONRY.

In my communication, "Christianity and English Freemasonry," *Freemasons' Magazine*, vol. xiv., page 391, and errata *ibid* page, it is said that Christianity and English Freemasonry have hitherto walked hand in hand in those countries of which a correspondent there speaks. A brother now inquires which are the countries to which allusion is made. The countries are, South India, North India, Burmah, China, east coast of Africa, and the Cape of Good Hope.—From Bro. PURTON COOPER's Masonic Letter and Memorandum Books, June, 1866.

WHAT A YOUNG CORRESPONDENT SUGGESTS.

A young correspondent who draws attention to a note annexed to Bro. Murray Lyon's communication, "Ears of Wheat from a Cornucopia," page 21 of the present volume, suggests that, for the future, in a narrative of Craft occurrences prior to the introduction of the expression "Grand" into Scotch Masonry, Mother Kilwinning should be called "Head Lodge" and not "Grand Lodge."—C. P. COOPER.

DEFINITION OF THE TRUE FREEMASONRY.

The definition, *Freemasons' Magazine*, vol. xvii., page 168, is a definition of the true Freemasonry.—C. P. COOPER.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

THE CHIVALROUS DEGREES.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—I have been met with a very silly objection, that the Masonic Order of Knighthood given by myself and others will not be recognised by the heads of any constituted jurisdiction, nor their decorations be allowed to be used in the lodges. This is a very silly objection indeed, and only brought forward to hinder the great progress of chivalrous Masonry, and to draw away the attention of the public from this great branch of the mysterious science. *Imprimis*, a Knight of any of their degrees can wear them in the chapter where he was made. *Secundo*, he can wear them in his own house as often as he likes. The apron of my original Masonic Order of the Garter is so gorgeous, and contains the emblems of so many Orders of Knighthood that it is superior to the Odd Fellows' apron. It is particularly available for Masonic balls. Thank the stars, we cannot be kept out from them, the women do not know the difference, and will much more admire what is intellectual than some white or blue apron. It is grander, too, to wear a star than some mechanical emblem dangling from a common collar. The Sir Knight who wears the decorations of chivalrous Knighthood is sure of the notice of his common brethren, if not of their envy.

Yours fraternally,
W. HARRIS.

A LOST PROVINCE.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—You correspondent, "Inquirer," asks "what has become of the ancient province of Rutlandshire?" I cannot find that any such province ever existed, and, still more, that the county ever possessed a Masonic lodge. I trust, however, that this state of things will not prevail much longer. Several highly respectable inhabitants of the county have recently been initiated in the Rutland Lodge (No. 1,130), Melton Mowbray, with the intention, as I have been informed, of ere long petitioning for a warrant for a new lodge to be established at Oakham; and for the county to be annexed for Masonic purposes, as it already is in some other respects, to the province of Leicestershire.

Yours fraternally,
A LEICESTERSHIRE P.M.

[Our correspondent should refer to the old calendars and reports of Grand Lodge.—Ed. F. M.]

AUTHORITY.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—Authority! what is authority, and what are its bounds, and who will hold Squire Jones? Bro. Manningham's letter, which comes most suspiciously, may for aught we know be genuine, but for aught we know, may not. The test of the genuineness is settled by authority. A "Masonic Student" pins his faith on the German

Masonic publisher, Bro. Findel, and so does Bro. Hughan. It has not occurred to Bro. Hughan, that even if Bro. Findel is an authority on German MSS., and of that there is no evidence, any more than there is that he has seen the Netherlands MSS., Bro. Hughan himself is a far better authority on an English M.S.—its writing, its spelling, and its style. Authority to be operative must be exercised within its own proper bounds, and as yet we have got no authority, for no competent authority has seen the MSS. I should rely more on Bro. Hughan at first hand, than at third hand. We do not want learned Masons, but men learned as experts in MSS.

Yours fraternally,
ANOTHER STUDENT.

OATHS OF CHIVALRY.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—As Bro. W. Harris is putting himself forward as a great reformer of those Knightly degrees, which, as H. H. says, are only Masonic, because Masons belong to them, he may be able to give me satisfaction on one point, the settlement of which may lead to my joining his, or some of the more aristocratic Orders, which, like H. H., as yet I have refrained from doing. I have reason to believe that a friend of mine who has some twenty of these stars and degrees, must have taken some twenty or more oaths, which are scarcely so harmless as Knightly vows taken on the Swan or the Peacock. If this be so, the sooner it is done away with in these modern inventions and innovations the better. The practise of needless swearing is offensive to the spirit of the age, and has been greatly reduced by the legislature.

I trust this may obtain something more than a response from Bro. Harris or his fellow labourer, and that is an assurance that their amusements will be made more harmless.

Yours fraternally,
CANDIDATE.

WORKING OF LODGES.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—I cannot allow the letter of a "P.M. and P.M." of Staffordshire, in your last number, to pass without a word of reply. I am in the habit of visiting lodges in different parts of the kingdom, and though I see some worked well I am compelled to say the majority are not equal to Staffordshire, in either correctness of work or strictness of discipline.

It is true we are without a P.G.M., and I would gladly see the office even half as well filled as has been for some time the office of D.P.G.M. by a worthy brother, whom a more learned and hard working Freemason is rarely to be met with.

Yours fraternally,
A P.M. AND P.P.G. OFFICER
OF STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MASONIC CHARITIES.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—Every post now brings me a solicitation for votes. Permit me to suggest to the relatives and friends of candidates, that if they will

consult the leading members of the Craft in their lodge, town, or province, they will save much postage expense. If every province would unite, they could by subscriptions purchase, at least every other year, an entrance to the Girls' or Boys' School. Why should Sussex, or particularly Brighton, in which the lodges liberally subscribe and frequently send up Stewards, be called upon for votes for children in distant counties, while they have candidates of their own.

Yours fraternally,

Brighton,
Aug. 31st, 1863.

A PAST STEWARD.

CREED DISTINCTIONS.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—In answer to your correspondent, R^x, whether the members of the Lodge of Joppa are Deists or Christians, I beg to inform you the majority of the members are of the Hebrew faith, being of course "Deists," the remainder are Christians, no distinction as regards creed being made if properly proposed.

Yours fraternally,

A. P.M. of the above Lodge.

THE CREED OF FREEMASONRY.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—There are many brethren of the Craft—myself included—who, believing as we do, that "there is only one Great Name by which salvation cometh," yet hold the opinion that "speculative Masonry," in matters of faith, asks from her initiates the acknowledgment of one God only, the Almighty Creator and Architect of the Universe; this, with moral worth, and an intellect capable of appreciating all which may advance the highest interests of mankind, being the principal qualifications required from such as seek admission within our circles. This, we believe, is very far from being anti-Christian.

Allowing good men to meet as brethren, Masonry permits no sectarian discussion, but allows each brother to show, by example, the superiority of his religious tenets. The Christian brother has thus the power of making converts without *vain words*, as by his *practical* doings, in forbearance, charity, and kindness, he can show the brethren of other faiths how much better they might be by choosing the Saviour for their head and guide. Should the *professing* Christian have no higher marks of goodness than mere words, we are afraid the use of these would only introduce confusion in our assemblies, and reflect little credit on religion.

It has been alleged that Masonry having been introduced into our land by the builders of Christian churches, is of necessity a Christian institution. It may be true that it was through Christian men we have received the traditions of our Order, but those traditions, whether moral parables or veritable facts, make no mention of Christian history. Perhaps yourself or some of your learned contributors may enlighten us how far we are correct in our notions, that "Speculative Masonry" is a pure Deism, interfering with no man's sectarian belief.

Yours fraternally,
R.

THERE is this difference between a thankful and an unthankful man. The one is always pleased in the good he has done, and the other only once in the good he has received.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEMS.

Boys' SCHOOL.—A sixth application for admission to the School is made by James Addison, and which we trust on this occasion will be successful. For list of brethren who will receive proxies, we refer our readers to our advertising columns.

BRETHREN are reminded that the Lodge Music published a few weeks ago, in several issues of the MAGAZINE, has been republished in a convenient form for Lodge use, price 2s. 6d.

GRAND LODGE.

The quarterly communication of the United Grand Lodge of England took place on Wednesday evening, the 2nd inst., in the new Banqueting Hall, Great Queen-street. Lord de Tabley, Prov. G.M. for Cheshire, officiated as G.M., Victor Williamson as S.G.W., Bro. Bently Shaw as J.G.W., and Bro. Frederick Patterson as D.G.M. There were present on and near the dais Bros. Spiers, P.G.S.B.; Hopwood, P.G.D.; Patten, P.G.S.B.; Smith and T. A. Adams, P.G. Pursts.; Havers, P.G.W.; Llewellyn Evans, President of the Board of General Purposes; Clayton, P.G.D.; Fenn, Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.; Patten, G.S.B.; Rev. J. E. Cox; Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; John Empson, P.G.D.; John Symonds, P.G.D.; James Coward, G. Org.; Benjamin Head, P.G.D.; J. B. Monekton: James, Mason, P.G.S.B.; Edward Cox, P.G.D.; Rev. R. J. Simpson, G. Chap.; Thomas Price, Raynham W. Stewart, W. Ough, Assist. G. Purst.; S. May, Joshua Nunn, H. G. Warren, William Smith, C.E., &c. The attendance of the brethren, considering the season of the year, was rather more numerous than usual.

NEW GRAND SECRETARY.

The Grand Lodge having been opened in due form and with solemn prayer—

The Acting Grand Master said that he had received a letter from the M.W.G.M. stating that he had appointed Bro. John Hervey to fill the office of G. Sec., rendered vacant by the death of Bro. Gray Clarke. He therefore requested Bro. Hervey to come forward and receive from him (Lord de Tabley) the collar and badge of the office of G. Sec.

Bro. Hervey having been duly invested, Lord de Tabley said—Bro. Hervey, the important post of Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge having become vacant by the lamented death of Bro. Gray Clarke—to whose zeal in the discharge of his duties I can bear full testimony, and in doing so I am sure I shall be backed by every member of the Craft now present—the G.M. has thought proper to select you to fill the office of G. Sec., and in his name I have great pleasure in investing you with the collar and badge of office, and I feel convinced that the G.M. in making such a selection has acted fully in consonance with the feelings of the Craft. (Cheering.) You, Bro. Hervey, commence your office with the best wishes of the whole Craft; and when it shall please the Great Architect of the Universe that your connexion with this Grand Lodge shall cease, I am sure that you will continue to merit the esteem of every member of it.

Several rounds of cheering followed this short address, and on Bro. Hervey being conducted to the Grand Secretary's table, they were more heartily renewed.

THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

The G. Secretary read the minutes of the quarterly communication of the 3rd of June, which were confirmed.

GRAND LODGE AT LANCASTER.

The G. Secretary read the minutes of a special Grand Lodge held at Lancaster, on the 17th of June, on the occasion of the laying the first stone of a new asylum by the Earl of Zetland, and they were confirmed.

SPECIAL GRAND LODGE.

The G. Secretary read the minutes of a special Grand Lodge, held on the 1st of July. This meeting, it will be remembered, was held for the purpose of disposing of the business left over from the last quarterly communication. The minutes were confirmed.

At this meeting a resolution in reference to the funds of the Board of Benevolence was passed, and it was as follows: "That Bro. Clabon's propositions be referred to the consideration of a committee of fifteen brethren, to be nominated by Grand Lodge, and five other brethren to be nominated by the M.W. the Grand Master, with instructions to such committee to report to Grand Lodge in December, upon the proposed scheme and generally to the advisability of making any, and if any, what alteration in the appropriation of the Fund of Benevolence, or in the mode of dealing therewith."

The acting G. Master said the Grand Master had reserved to himself the right to nominate five members to be associated with the other members of the committee, and he had accordingly nominated Bros. McIntyre, G. Reg.; Victor Williamson, E. J. Fraser, the Rev. R. Bedford, and Llewellyn Evans, Pres. of the Board of General Purposes. The other members of the committee are, Bros. J. M. Clabon, John Udall, John Savage, J. S. Hopwood, Rev. J. E. Cox, B. Head, T. Fenn, J. Symonds, William Young, E. Cox, J. Smith, S. Gale, J. Nunn, and H. G. Warren.

THE DISTRICT GRAND MASTER FOR NEW SOUTH WALES.

The Grand Secretary laid before the Grand Lodge a letter received from Bro. Arthur T. Holroyd, D.P. Master for New South Wales, complaining of the decision of Grand Lodge upon certain appeal cases in March last.

Bro. Havers, P.G.M., said he had to ask the indulgence of the Grand Lodge in having to speak upon this communication, in consequence of the absence through illness of the Grand Registrar, and also whilst he performed a very delicate duty in reference to the District Grand Master of New South Wales. At the outset he would say that if a man had fallen into an error, it was his first duty to come forward and frankly acknowledge it. It appeared that Bro. Holroyd, the D.G. Master for New South Wales, impugned the decision at which the Grand Lodge had arrived in March last, on three appeals from New South Wales. On two of those appeals there was no doubt whatever but that they had come to a right conclusion, but with respect to the third, it was said that the Grand Lodge had dismissed the appeal and ordered the suspension of the brother in question, from his Masonic functions to be removed. In the communication which had been received from Bro. Holroyd he made a very grave charge against the Grand Registrar, and in his own words he said, "I charge the Grand Registrar with having placed before the Grand Lodge a gross fabrication, as he moved that the suspension of a brother from his Masonic functions should be removed, that suspension never having been in existence." The D.G. Master said he had never suspended this brother, and therefore as no suspension could be removed, the Grand Registrar had totally misrepresented what he had

done. Now he (Bro. Havers), need hardly say that if the charge was true, that the Grand Registrar had wilfully misrepresented any Grand Master, he would not deserve to hold office for a single hour, but he would tell as briefly as he could the history of the case; to show the strange concatenation of circumstances under which the Grand Registrar fell into the error. At the quarterly communication in March there were three appeals from New South Wales, and they were all heard on the same evening. One of them was as to a dispute about the payment of five shillings, and the question as to whether it was payable in advance or not, and in reference to this question the G. Reg. said, he believed the money had gone into the right pocket, although he thought the proceedings of the D.G.M. were wrong. And he concluded by saying that he made no motion on the subject, but afterwards seeing in the Agenda paper, the words, "against his suspension from his masonic functions," he accidentally moved that such suspension should be removed. Now that was the whole history of the matter, and on which the grave charge was made that he had wilfully misrepresented the D.G.M. of New South Wales. He (Bro. Havers) need not say that no man had shown a greater amount of zeal, impartiality, honesty, and uprightness, than Bro. McIntyre, and not a word of reproach could be fairly brought against him. A number of brethren went over these appeals most carefully, for the purpose of coming to a right decision upon them, but if any one made an error, it was his duty frankly to acknowledge it. The G. Reg. had done so, and they were not only bound to acquit him of the charges brought against him by a man in the position of D.G.M., but to express their consideration of them. He had accordingly prepared a resolution, which he offered for the adoption of Grand Lodge, and which was as follows:—

"That this Grand Lodge, having heard the explanation now given, acknowledges an error has occurred, and expresses its regret that in the agenda paper of March last, in reference to the appeal of Bro. J.W. Golden, the words 'against his suspension from his Masonic functions,' should by some unexplained cause have been inserted, and the Grand Registrar should have accidentally adopted those words, and in consequence have moved that a suspension should be removed which had never been pronounced.

"That this Grand Lodge has heard with extreme regret the charges made by Bro. Holroyd, D.G.M., New South Wales, against the Grand Registrar, to the effect 'that he had intended to prejudice his case,' that 'he had uttered a false statement, and had placed before Grand Lodge a gross fabrication of suspension.' The Grand Lodge is of opinion that even making every allowance for the excited feelings of Bro. Holroyd, such charge is unwarranted and unjustifiable; it desires to express its full confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the Grand Registrar, and its strong condemnation of the language used by Bro. Holroyd."

Bro. Llewellyn Evans, President of the Board of General Purposes, seconded the motion.

A Brother, whose name we were unable to learn, said, before the motion was put, he wished to make a suggestion, without taking upon himself the task of moving an amendment, and that was, in considering the communication of the District Grand Master of New South Wales, which was undoubtedly of a very strong character, they should meet it with language that was calm and dignified. It would be no excuse to recriminate in terms like those used by Bro. Holroyd.

Bro. Brackstone Baker was of opinion that the resolution of Bro. Havers went far enough, and not too far, as it was his opinion that they were warranted in the conviction that Bro.

McIntyre entirely fulfilled his duty, and they ought to support him, for he had done everything that was right excepting as regarded the accidental error that occurred in the Grand Secretary's office.

Bro. Glegg said he felt also that the G. Reg. deserved the support of Grand Lodge, but at the same time that the latter part of the resolution had better be omitted. He moved as an amendment that all the words after the word "pronounced," at the end of the first paragraph, be omitted.

Bro. W. Smith, P.G. Steward, seconded the amendment.

After a few words from Bro. Havers in reply—

The G.M. put the question, when only six hands were held up for the amendment. The original resolution was then put and carried by a large majority.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The report of the Board of Benevolence for the last quarter was presented, in which were recommendations for the following grants, viz. :—

The widow of the late Bro. Alfred Lyons B— of the Frederick Lodge of Unity, No. 452, Croydon ...	£50
Bro. J. H— of the Gresham Lodge, No. 869, Waltham Cross ...	£100
Bro. D. S. P— of the High Cross Lodge, No. 754, Tottenham ...	£30
Bro. G. W— of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Lodge, No. 24, Newcastle-upon-Tyne ...	£30
The whole of these recommendations were agreed to.	

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

The following was the singularly brief report of the Board of General Purposes :—

"To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

"The Board of General Purposes beg to submit a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 14th day of August inst., showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £2,702 10s. 6d.; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary, for petty cash £50. Of these sums there belong to the Fund of Benevolence £1,389 6s. 10d., to the Fund of General Purposes £910 13s. 11d., and in the unappropriated account £152 9s. 2d.

"(Signed) J. LLEWELLYN EVANS, *President*.

"Freemasons' Hall, 18th August, 1868."

On the motion of Bro. L. Evans this report was unanimously adopted.

REPORT OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE.

The following report from the Building Committee was presented :—

"To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

"The Building Committee have proceeded with the work entrusted to them, in reference to the repairing and re-decoration of the Great Hall, and they report with much regret that in order to carry out the work satisfactorily there will be considerable addition to the expense at first calculated upon.

"This extra expense may be divided under two heads, one which could not be foretold and is absolutely unavoidable, the other which need not now be incurred unless Grand Lodge shall approve of it.

"The extra cost which could not be avoided arises from the fact that upon removing some of the old plastering it was found that the bond timbers behind it, many of which were of large size, were in such a state of decay that it was imperative to remove them, and with them the whole of the plastering of

the walls; this has been done, the spaces formerly occupied by the bond timbers have been made good with brick-work, and the plastering and enrichments restored at a cost of £182. Upon taking upon the floor boards it was found that the brick arches of the cellar beneath are not continued up to the north end of the hall, and that this part is only separated from rooms in the basement, occupied by the tavern, by the ceiling of those rooms; this would give rise to the greatest danger to the hall in case of fire, the committee have therefore ordered the whole to be made fire-proof. There was, likewise, considerable danger of fire from the close proximity of the carpenters' sheds at the south end of the hall; this has been provided against by the use of fire-proof shutters to the windows at that end; the cost of these works will amount to £167.

"The Committee hope and believe that they have found the means of making the ventilation sufficient, and of improving materially the acoustic properties of the hall; the cost of this is trifling. As to the extra works which are not absolutely necessary, but which the committee strongly recommend should be done, they refer entirely to the amount of gilding which, shall be used in the decoration of the walls and ceilings of the great hall. Mr. Crace, to whom the decoration has been entrusted, strongly urges a further outlay than that originally agreed upon; this outlay will amount to about £463.

The Committee have had portions of the work finished with the smaller, and with the larger amount of gold respectively in order that they might judge of its effect, and taking into consideration the great beauty of the room, the purpose for which it is intended, the dignity, wealth, and influence of the Order, and the fact that the gilding, if well done, will last for many years, though they felt that they could not take upon themselves to incur without authority so large an extra expense, yet they most earnestly recommend Grand Lodge to sanction it, and they believe that the result will be that the great hall will not only be worthy of its character as the Temple of Masonry, but that it will be one of the most beautiful rooms in the metropolis.

Bro. Havers moved that the report be received and adopted and in doing so said, he should not go through the different items that made up the body of the report, but expressed his regret that they found it necessary to spend more money than they anticipated. As they had said, on removing some of the plastering of the building erected by their forefathers, they found the bond timbers behind it so rotten, that they were obliged to remove them, and the space formerly occupied by them had been made good with brick-work. An additional sum was also proposed for decoration, but it would be for Grand Lodge to sanction that or not. He had looked over the estimate sent in to the committee, but they were strongly recommended to lay out a sum of upwards of £400 beyond that originally agreed upon. He should move, "that the recommendation of the committee, as set forth in the report, be approved and adopted."

Bro. Udall, P.G.D., seconded the motion.

Bro. Brackstone Baker asked the chairman of the Building Committee if they intended cleaning the paintings in the Hall, as they had some merit in them.

Bro. Havers said that had already been done, and they were in the hands of Mr. Crace.

The motion was then put and agreed to.

APPEAL FROM MELBOURNE.

The next business on the paper was an appeal of the W.M. of the Lodge of Australasia, No. 530, Melbourne, against his suspension from his Masonic functions by the D.G.M. of Victoria.

Bro. Havers said he had, in the absence of the Grand Registrar, to state the ground of this appeal, which was in itself very lengthy, and it took him five or six hours to read it. It was an appeal by Bro. Kelson, W. Master of the Lodge of Australasia, No. 530, against his suspension from his Masonic functions by Bro. Frederick C. Standish, District Grand Master of Victoria, and although the appeal was long the facts were very short. The story, as he gleaned it from the evidence, was, a Bro. Dempster, who was a member of the Lodge No. 530, did not like the election of a Past Master of the Lodge to the office of Treasurer; and whilst opposing the motion he produced from his pocket certain acceptances which he said the brother in question had been unable to meet. Notwithstanding all this the Lodge sided with him, and he was accordingly elected a Treasurer, and then began the difficulties in the Lodge. These went on for some time, and Bro. Dempster became obnoxious to the members in consequence of the part he had taken in opposition to the election of Treasurer. Bro. Dempster afterwards wished to propose six new members for initiation, but was told if he did so they would most assuredly be blackballed. Some other members were then asked to propose them, which they did, and they were duly elected. On that night Bro. Dempster asked the W. Master, as they were friends of his, to allow him to initiate them, and at first he seemed inclined to permit him, but afterwards he positively refused to do so. Bro. Dempster then said that he would withdraw their names, for although they had been proposed by other persons they were still his candidates, and he felt severely the slight that had been put upon him by the W. Master. He did accordingly tell these persons that there were disputes in the Lodge, and they were not initiated in it. In about a week afterwards he sent in his resignation with the amount of the fees due from him, and asked for his clearance certificate, which he (Bro. Havers) wished was more frequently asked for in English lodges. The lodge accordingly sent him his clearance certificate, but on the back of it they wrote that at a meeting of the Lodge of Australasia, it was unanimously resolved that the conduct of Andrew Dempster was highly censurable, inasmuch a number of persons who had been elected and intended to be initiated in the lodge had been tampered with by Bro. Dempster, and that he had induced them to withdraw from it. It was also agreed that a copy of this resolution should be sent to the District G.M. The Master of the lodge, Bro. Kelson, accordingly, on the 18th of April, forwarded a copy of this resolution to the District G.M., but on the 2nd of May the District G.M. sent a communication to Bro. Kelson informing him, as Master of the Lodge, that the passing of such a resolution was irregular and highly improper, calling upon him at once to expunge all record of it from the minutes, and to give Bro. Dempster a proper certificate and retract the offensive endorsement. Bro. Kelson, in reply, said what was done was the act of the lodge, and that he could not undo it. To this objection the District G.M. said that, as Master of the Lodge, he was answerable for the conduct of it, and he ought not to have allowed such a resolution to have been proposed, and as the order for the erasure of the minutes was not complied with, the District Grand Master suspended Bro. Kelson from his Masonic functions, and against that suspension he then appealed. Bro. Kelson's defence was, that the endorsement or the clearance certificate was the act of the lodge and not his, and the by-laws that gave power to issue clearance certificates required that such certificates should state the circumstances under which the bearers of them left the lodge. He (Bro. Havers), had to ask them two questions. Was the lodge justified on the facts stated, in endorsing Bro.

Dempster's certificate with matters which appeared to be libellous? If a Brother had broken the law, the lodge would be justified in endorsing his certificate. The second question was, was not the D.G. Master justified in taking action on the case as put before him? The D.G. Master said he was ready to hear and determine the case against Bro. Dempster, but Bro. Kelson had put himself within the reach of the judge, placing himself before him. It was unfortunate that these feuds should exist, but all they could do was, strictly and impartially to do their duty, and he submitted as a motion on the facts stated, the lodge of Australasia was not justified in endorsing the certificate of Bro. Dempster.

Bro. Llewellyn Evans seconded the motion of Bro. Havers. The Master of a lodge was responsible for the conduct of it, and if he allowed matters to be brought forward that ought never to have been put before it, he was responsible for it.

Bro. Warren said the endorsing of a brother's certificate, without giving him an opportunity of rebutting the charges brought against him, was unjustifiable, and to be condensed in his absence, was an act that the Grand Lodge could not approve of.

Bro. Brackstone Baker, contended that on a Brother leaving a lodge, the members of it had no right to impart private feuds into other lodges. They had no more right to go into them than they had to inquire if a brother had paid his tailor's bill, for the purpose of debarring him from entering another lodge. He quite concurred in the resolution proposed by Bro. Havers, for the lodge was not justified in endorsing Bro. Dempster's certificate in the manner which had been described.

The motion was then put and agreed to.

Bro. Havers then said, that as Bro. Kelson had sent the D.G.M. a copy of the offensive endorsement, the G.M. was justified in acting, as he had the defendant properly before him. He moved an amendment to that effect.

Bro. L. Evans seconded the motion, which was carried.

Bro. Havers moved, "that the suspension of Bro. Kelson be confirmed, with power to the D.G.M. to remove that suspension on due submission being made.

This motion was also put and carried unanimously.

ALTERATION IN THE HOUR OF MEETING OF GRAND LODGE.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.M., Nos. 108 and 453, moved:—"That the business of the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge shall in future commence at seven o'clock instead of eight o'clock, and that in Rule 10 in page 28 of the Book of Constitutions, after the word *after* 'Ten' shall be inserted instead of *Eleven*." He said, in rising to propose this motion, he wished to consult the convenience of the Grand Lodge and the Craft generally. The brethren found themselves in a very different position from that they were in some years ago, when railways were unknown; but now, as many of them lived a little way out of town, if they attended Grand Lodge, they had great difficulty in getting home by certain trains. His desire was that all matters of Masonry should be freely and fully discussed; but at their last meeting, in consequence of the late hour, there were not more than 65 members present when they came to a very important decision. His sole object in bringing forward this motion was, that all subjects should be properly discussed.

Bro. Udall seconded the motion, and said that business could not be properly carried on at a late hour at night.

Bro. Lord de Tabley thought it would be more courteous if the motion was postponed until the Grand Master was present.

Bro. R. Stewart said he would do so, and would then withdraw the motion, but with a firm determination to give notice of it again for the next Grand Lodge.

The motion was then withdrawn. There being no further business the Grand Lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer.

PROVINCIAL.

BERKS AND BUCKS.

MAIDENHEAD.—*St. John's Lodge, (No. 795).*—This Lodge met on Tuesday, the 1st inst., at the Orkney Arms Hotel, at half-past three o'clock. Lodge being opened, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The business of the day was then proceeded with, viz., the raising of Bro. Robert Turner, and the passing of Bros. Thomas Arthur Carr, and Flintoff, to the second degree; these ceremonies were well and ably performed by the W.M. Bro. Lewis Henry Isaacs. The next business on the Agenda paper was the election of a W.M. for the ensuing year, the choice of the brethren was unanimously in favour of Bro. Charles Gammon, who was therefore declared elected. No other matters of importance being before the lodge, it was duly closed in form, and the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet provided in Bro. Skindle's best style. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to in eloquent terms by the W.M. The visitors present were Bros. Flintoff, Warick, Goody and Lumley, P.M. No. 4.; the latter Bro. returning thanks for the visitors in very feeling terms. After spending a delightful evening, the brethren separated in peace and harmony.

DORSETSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

A Provincial Grand Lodge was held on the 18th ult., at the Drill Hall of the 1st Dorset Rifle Volunteers, at Bridport, in the said province. There were present, Bros. J. Gundry, P.M. 707, Prov. G.M.; J. M. P. Montagu, P.M. 707, D. Prov. G.M.; G. Burt, P.M. 1,146, S.G.W.; B. P. Gundry, P.M. 707, J.G.W.; R. H. W. Digby, W.M. 1,168, acting Prov. G. Chap.; J. Tizard, P.M. 170, Prov. G. Reg.; T. Coombs, P.M. 418, Prov. G. Sec.; C. F. Arden, S.W. 170, Prov. J.G.D.; J. Maunders, P.M. 170, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; E. C. Gundry, J.W. 707, Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; T. C. Avant, 170, Prov. G. Org.; H. Ling, J.W. 170, Prov. G. Purst.; with many other brethren, members of Provincial Grand Lodge, and visiting brethren from the several lodges in the province following:—No. 170, Weymouth; 417, Dorchester; 437, Bourton; 622, Wimborne; 665, Lyme Regis; 707, Bridport; 1,037, Portland; and 1,168, Sherborne, and visiting brethren from other provinces, amongst whom were, Bros. the Rev. J. Huyshe, Prov. G.M. for Devon; H. C. Vernon, P. Prov. G.M. Worcestershire; and F. Binckes, Sec. R. M. I. for Boys.

The brethren met at twelve o'clock. The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, and with solemn prayer. After the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge had been read and confirmed, a charge was delivered by Bro. the Rev. R. H. W. Digby, acting Chaplain.

The Prov. G. Master then addressed the meeting. The Treasurer's account, as audited, was then presented, received, allowed, and passed.

Bro. C. Sykes, of Lodge 417, and of Dorchester, was unanimously re-elected Treasurer. The sum of £10 10s. was voted to the De Moulham Lodge (No. 1,146), Swanage, in aid of its constituting itself a life governor of the Girls' School. The sum of £21 was voted for the purpose of constituting this Provincial Grand Lodge a life governor of the Girls' School.

The Prov. G. Master then called upon the officers to resign their collars, and appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year, as follows:—Bros. C. C. Barrett, 622, Prov. S.G.W.; H. E. Hounsell, W.M. 707, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. R. H. W. Digby, 1,168, Prov. G. Chap.; G. H. Gutch, 137, Prov. G. Reg.; T. Coombs, P.M. 417, Prov. G. Sec.; J. S. Webb, 707, Prov. S.G.D.; W. S. Gillard, 1,168, Prov. J.G.D.; J. Fowler, 665, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; J. Maunders, P.M. 170, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; F. W. Good, 707, Prov. G. Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.; W. G. Usher, 472, Prov. G.S.B.; E. Herbert, 1,168, Prov. G. Organist; B. Polkingborne, 170, Prov. G. Purst.; C. Downe, R. Hawkins, Joseph Whittle, 1,168; R. Case, and Thos. S. Biggs, 417; H. Meader, 437, Prov. G. Stewards; H. Good,

707, and J. B. Cole, Prov. G. Std. Bearers; J. Lovelace, Prov. G. Tyler.

The Prov. G. Master announced his intention of holding the Provincial Grand Lodge for the year 1869, at Sherbourne.

Bro. F. Binckes then addressed the meeting on behalf of the several Masonic Charities, especially that of the R. M. I., which he represented, appealing to the brethren to aid that Institution as far as lay in their power, stating that there was a heavy debt to be paid off in consequence of which they were unable to take in that number of boys which the building would accommodate, and that at the next election instead of admitting a larger number of boys, they would be constrained to admit only nine—there being at least fifty applicants. He thanked the brethren for the support heretofore extended by the province to the Institution, and hoped he should not be disappointed of a continuance of the same for the future.

All business being concluded, the lodge was closed in ample form at half-past two o'clock, p.m., after which upwards of sixty of the brethren attended the banquet at the Bull Hotel, to which the Prov. G. Master contributed a haunch of venison, and Bro. G. Burt, P. Prov. S.G.W., a baron of beef.

DURHAM.

HARTLEPOOL.—*St. Helen's Lodge, (No. 531).*—A lodge of emergency was held at the Masonic Hall, Regent's-square, on Wednesday, the 19th ult., to ballot for, and, if accepted, initiate Mr. Peter Lonergan, of H.M.'s Customs, Mauritius, proposed by the W.M., and seconded by Bro. W. C. Ward Jackson, I.P.M., 764, Prov. S.G.W. of Durham. The brethren present were Bros. Emra Holmes, W.M.; J. Groves, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.D.; E. R. Ropner, Treas., Acting S.W.; J. J. Armstrong, J.W.; E. Alexander, Acting Sec.; Emil Jessien, Acting I.G.; E. Owens, Org.; &c., &c. The lodge having been opened in due form and solemn prayer the ballot was taken, and the candidate having been unanimously accepted was prepared and initiated into the ancient mysteries of Masonry by the W.M. who was ably assisted by Bro. Groves, who presented the working tools and delivered the beautiful charge which is given in this degree. The lodge was then closed and the brethren retired for refreshment, when the harmony of the evening was contributed to by the display of the vocal abilities of Bros. Hunter, Jessien, Owens, and others, and the usual loyal, Masonic, and personal toasts having been given and responded to, the brethren separated.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

WAVERTREE, NEAR LIVERPOOL.—*Duke of Edinburgh Lodge (No. 1,128).*—The first anniversary of this lodge was held in the lodge-room, Coffee House Hotel, Wavertree, on Wednesday, the 19th ult. The lodge was opened in due form and solemn prayer. The minutes of the previous lodge were read and passed. Bro. Dr. Taylor, P.M., Town Councillor for the Borough of Liverpool, was the Installing-Officer, assisted by Bro. James Hamer, P.M., P.G.T. Bro. Dr. Taylor having taken the chair, Bro. W. Woods, S.W., the W.M. elect, was presented to him for installation by Bro. John Thornton, W.M., and Bro. James Hamer, P.M., Prov. G. Treas.; Bro. John Scott, P.M.; and Bro. John Roberts, P.M., also assisted at the ceremony. The installation of Bro. W. Woods was then proceeded with and upon the re-admission of the brethren under the able direction of Bros. Taylor and Hamer the full ceremony of installation was gone through in its most perfect and impressive manner. The W.M. then proceeded to invest his officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were invested:—Bro. John Thornton, I.P.M.; Bro. Hiram Thornton, S.W.; Bros. Samuel Cookson, J.W.; Bro. John Green Bales, Sec.; Bro. W. Brown, Treas.; Bro. Philip Thorn, S.D.; Bro. Robert G. Lupton, J.D.; Bro. W. Pugh, I.G.; Bros. Abel Vaughan, John Taylor, Stewards; Bro. William Crawford, Tyler. The W.M. then proceeded to initiate Mr. Philip Brown into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. The brethren were then called from labour to refreshment, when thirty-seven brethren sat down to a most sumptuous banquet prepared in the usual liberal style of the worthy host, Bro. Thomas Wright. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given and responded to, Bro. Dr. Taylor, the Installing-Officer gave the toast of the evening, "The Worshipful Master," and in doing so he took the opportunity of speaking in the most eulogistic terms of the past services rendered by Bro. W. Woods to the Craft. He said that they had worked together in one lodge for several

years, and he had ever found him an earnest and true Mason, and he considered that a man who had honourably and justly earned that compliment had won the proudest title this world could bestow upon him. The toast was most heartily responded to by the brethren with musical honours. The W.M. in reply thanked Bro. Dr. Taylor for the very kind manner in which he had spoken of him. He said that he was not given to making long speeches, but he hoped and trusted they would find him a "good working Mason," ever ready to assist his brethren by every means in his power, and he trusted that when it came to his turn to vacate that chair that all the brethren of the Duke of Edinburgh Lodge would be able conscientiously to say of him what had already been said of his past conduct by Bro. Dr. Taylor that evening. The next toast was "The Past Master," which was right heartily responded to by the brethren. Past Master Bro. John Thornton thanked the brethren for the very flattering manner in which they had responded to the toast. He was very happy to congratulate them on the great success which had attended the lodge and the satisfactory state of its finances. He said that there had been during the past twelve months thirty-one initiations, and that at the present time the lodge numbered sixty members, which he considered was a very flattering commencement. He was glad that his efforts in establishing the lodge had met with their approbation and concluded by assuring the brethren that his heart would be ever with them, and that so long as he lived he should ever take an active interest in the success of the Duke of Edinburgh Lodge. The next toast, "The Visiting Brethren," having been given, Bro. the Rev. W. Ireson in responding spoke in a very beautiful and impressive manner of the many beauties of Freemasonry; its intimate connection with religion; its tendency to elevate its members and to make them better men and better Christians. On behalf of the other visiting brethren present and himself he begged to offer them his sincere thanks and best wishes for their future success. The next toast "The Musical Brethren," Bros. Wood, Yeatman, Naylor, and Flynn, having been given and duly responded to, the lodge was closed by the W.M. in due form and solemn prayer.

INDIA.

BENGAL.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE.

At a quarterly communication of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal, held at the Freemasons' Hall, Calcutta, on Wednesday, the 24th June, 1868, there were present:—R.W. Bros. Hugh D. Sandeman, D.G.M.; William J. Judge, Dep. D.G.M.; W. Bros. F. Powell, *M.D.*, D.J.G.W., as D.S.G.W.; J. H. Matthews, P.D.J.G.D. as D.J.G.W.; P. Anderson, P. Prov. J.G.W.; J. P. Kennedy, D.G. Reg.; H. H. Locke, D.G.S.; J. Mackintosh, D.S.D.G.; D. M. Folkard, D.G. Dir. of Cers.; J. Lindley, as D.G.S.B.; Von Ernsthausen, as D.G. Org.; C. H. Wilson, D.J.G.D., as D.G.P.; L. A. Goodeve; J. Conway, G. F. D. Sutton, W. G. Amos, D.G. Stewards; Bros. Davison, Le Tourneux, Acting D.G. Stewards, Bro. D. J. Daniel, D.G. Tyler.

Representatives of Lodges:—Star in the East, 67, Bros. T. McKelvey, Sec. as W.M.; J. Moore, P.J.W. as J.W. Industry and Perseverance, 109, Bros. W. Parry Davis, S.W. as W.M.; W. B. Mactavish, Sec. as S.W. True Friendship, 218, Bro. J. Lindley, J.W. as W.M. Humility with Fortitude, 229, W. Bro. W. F. Westfield, W.M. Marine, 232, W. Bro. H. B. Lewis, W.M.; Bros. R. C. Lepage, S.W.; F. Rodriguez, J.W. Anchor and Hope, 234, one delegate attended, but his signature in the D.G. Tyler's book is quite illegible. Courage with Humanity, 392, W. Bro. A. J. Sharpe, W.M. Himalayan Brotherhood, 459, W. Bro. J. E. Cooke, P.M. St. John, 486, Bro. A. W. Carpenter, J.W. as S.W. Excelsior, 825, Bros. C. Halford, J.W. as W.M.; H. J. Frew, Sec. as S.W.; J. Metherall, S.D. as J.W. St. Luke, 8 48, Bros. W. F. Tucker, Sec. as S.W.; Cotton, as J.W. Temperance and Benevolence, 1160, W. Bros. J. Andrews, W.M.; E. B. Toussaint, P.M.; Bros. P. E. Clague, S.W.; G. Alexander, J.W.

Visitors:—W. Bro. Smith, W.M. of Lodge St. Andrew in the East, 401, of Scotland. Bro. H. H. G. Tippet, of Lodge St. George, 549, Bombay. Bro. A. J. Meyer, *M.D.*, of Lodge Temperance and Benevolence, 1160.

The D.G. Lodge was opened at 6.45 P.M. Apologies were recorded from the following Brethren:—W Bros. Capt. H

Howe, P.D. Prov. G.M.; W. H. Hoff, P.D.S.G.W.; S. Fenn P.D.S.G.W.; J. H. Linton, D.G. Treas.; Geo. Keighly, P.D.S.G.D.; J. Bennett, P.D.G.D.; Dr. Mouat, D.G. Supt. of Works; W. H. Sandeman, D.G. Asst. D. of C.; J. D. Maclean, *C.S.*, D. G.P.; G. M. Goodricke, F. F. J. Toke, D.G. Stewards; Liebenhals, P.M. 392; Taylor, P.M. 392; Jacquemin, Consul General for France; Mitchell Innes, 60th Rifles; Major Macdonald, R.E.

The D.G. Master observed, with reference to the unusually large number of apologies, that the heat of the weather was so intense as to preclude many from attending, and he thought it a matter for congratulation that there was so large an attendance in Grand Lodge in spite of such a deterring cause. The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 21st March, 1868, having been printed and circulated, were taken as read, put to the vote, and confirmed. The Right Worshipful the D.G. Master addressed the D.G. Lodge as follows:—

W. Brethren:—The reports of the Finance Committee and of the Committee of the Fund of Benevolence, which are ordinarily published *in extenso* in our agenda paper, have been on this occasion unavoidably omitted. They are, however, with the District Grand Secretary, and will be read during the evening. The Finance Committee have met for the transaction of business three times during the quarter, and have rendered us real service by their exertions. Your finances are in a better position than they have been for years, indeed they have never, within my recollection, been in so prosperous a condition as they now are; and I have no hesitation in saying that this satisfactory state of things is mainly owing to the very great energy with which our worthy Bro. in the Grand Secretary's Chair has worked his office. You will recollect that for a considerable time we were suffering from a chronic deficit, and were compelled to borrow money from the Benevolent Fund to meet our engagements. Now, owing to the regularity with which Lodges have paid in their dues, we have not only no debt to record, but a substantial balance in hand of nearly £300, while the Fund of Benevolence has at its credit a sum of £560. I mention prominently the name of our Bro. Locke in this matter, and the services which he has rendered to this District Grand Lodge, because I think that it is especially due to him with reference to the frequently invidious, as well as the arduous nature of the duties which he has to perform, and which he does perform so conscientiously and laboriously, and with such manifest advantage to our interests. I hope, however, that the present satisfactory state of our funds will not induce the Finance Committee, or other Members of Grand Lodge, to suppose that we can safely discontinue our present system of rigid economy, or of closely watching the dues and fees of private Lodges. We have urgent need for all our money, and shall shortly have to bear heavy expenses when the Masonic Hall is repaired. It has undergone no repairs for upwards of four years, and we may at any time have notice from our landlords to vacate the building for a season, in order that repairs may be effected; and you are aware that the expenses that are incidental at such times are always such as to absorb the whole of the small funds which are at our command. It is for this cause, partly, that the Finance Committee have felt obliged to turn a deaf ear to the renewed application from the sub-tenants of our ground-floor for a decrease of rent, though I have no doubt that they are of opinion that the sum which is now charged for the use of the floor is no more than is equitable with reference to the gross rent which is paid for the whole of the building. In like manner, the District Grand Lodge will, I am confident, agree with the Finance Committee that it would have been out of place to have voted away a donation to the Grand Lodge at Trinidad towards the re-erection of their Masonic Hall, when our funds are sufficient only for our own wants, and we are still laboring under the disadvantage of working in a hired building. The Committee have been engaged in examining the system upon which your accounts are kept, and have directed certain improvements in detail, which they hope to carry out with the assistance of the District Grand Treasurer, whose name I regret to see does not appear among those who were present at any of the Finance Committee's meetings under notice. With reference to the Committee's remark on the proceeds of the sale of "Bro. Sandeman's Almanack," I can but regret that the proceeds are so insignificant. The circumstance is owing partly to some Masters not taking the very small trouble of circulating the preliminary notices of its publication among their Brethren, and partly from Brethren that have seen the notices not thinking it worth their while to contribute. The Almanack, is now,

as you are aware, discontinued; and I trust that the Pocket-Book and Calendar, which I have already prepared in skeleton for the press, will meet with a more ready and a more general sale. I have bestowed considerable labor upon it, and the bare mention of the fact that the surplus proceeds will be devoted to the relief of our poor, should induce subscribers. I offer no remark upon the proposition of the Committee to alter the mode of calculating the dues of Calcutta Lodges, as no definite recommendation is put forward, and the republication of our bye-laws will form a fitting opportunity for the discussion of the subject in the event of the Finance Committee making any specific proposition. The motion on this subject by the District Grand Secretary will not probably be opposed; and if adopted, I will ask our Bro. to use every endeavor to have the proceedings of this evening's meeting printed and issued without delay, in order that Masters of up-country Lodges may have an early opportunity of communicating their views upon any changes which they or their Brethren may deem advisable, to the committee which will be appointed to revise the bye-laws, prior to re-print. The committee will, I am sure, be glad to receive suggestions from any Brethren who may wish to offer them on this very important subject. I have pleasure in announcing that Lodge of the Isles, at Port Blair, has been resuscitated. I would wish to correct a portion of my address at our quarterly communication of December last, referring to that Lodge, in which I acquainted you that Bro. Berrill had been guilty of a grave offence, and had consequently absconded from the Settlement. What I stated was gathered from the papers which were submitted to me with the case; and if they misled me, they misled also the Deputy Grand Master and the Members of this District Grand Lodge generally. I cannot even now say positively that we have been misled in the matter, for it is unquestionably the fact that Bro. Berrill did "get into trouble with the Civil Authorities," and that he suddenly left the Settlement. There is no proof, however, that he rendered himself in any way criminally liable by doing so. I should, of course, be sorry to say anything in Grand Lodge that might injure a Brother's reputation, and as the words which I used, and which, as I have above stated, were gathered from the papers connected with the case, do not now appear to me to have been justified, I wish to retract them as publicly as I uttered them; and Bro. Berrill, while accepting this explanation, will understand that the remarks made both by myself and by R.W. Bro. Judge were unprompted by any motive beyond the furtherance of the general good of our Masonic Society. I have no reason to correct or to modify anything which I said regarding the Lodge at large at Port Blair, or the proceedings which reflected so much discredit upon it. I have to report to you that Lodge Harmony at Cawnpore, has been resuscitated under the auspices of Bro. Dr. Giraud, of the 19th Hussars; and I sincerely trust that, under the able management of that Bro., the Lodge will speedily regain its old name for excellence among the Lodges of the north-western Provinces. Warrants have been received from England for the new Lodges at Dinapore and Lahore, and bear the following numbers:—Dinapore, True Brothers, 1210; Lahore, Ravce, 1215. I am sorry to have to report the following exclusions from Lodge Anchor and Hope, at Howrah:—Bros. R. N. Burgess, T. C. D. Ritchie, C. W. W. Raven, James Tomkins, Charles Middleton, John Whyte, W. L. K. Soliaque, and J. Robb. Also:—Bro. H. Holfred from Lodge Hope, 413, Meerut. Also:—Bros. Thomas Fraser Campbell, W. A. Mitchell, and M. G. Shircore from Lodge St. Andrew in the East, 401, Scotland, specially reported by the Worshipful Master of that Lodge for incorporation in our proceedings. You will learn with regret that the M. Wor. G.M. the Earl of Zetland has decided to make British Burmah a separate Masonic district, by which arrangement six Lodges will be removed from the jurisdiction of this District Grand Lodge.

(To be continued.)

SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

LAYING THE CORNER-STONE OF THE NEW BUILDING AT MILLERSTON.

On the afternoon of Thursday, the 27th August, the corner-stone of a building designed to give increased means of carrying out the purposes of the Industrial Schools Act was laid at Moss-

bank, Millerston, by the Right Hon. the Earl of Dalhousie, M.W., Grand Master Mason of Scotland.

The proceedings were the occasion of much lively interest both in Glasgow and at Millerston. The Glasgow brethren, together with a number from other provinces, mustered in George Square at mid-day, and were conveyed to Stepps by railway. The Lord Provost and Magistrates, the Deacons of the various trades, the directors of the Glasgow Industrial Schools, and a considerable number of the leading citizens, reached Millerston by private conveyance. About two o'clock the Grand Lodge was opened in Millerston Free Church. There were present the Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason, the Right Hon. the Earl of Dalhousie, K.T., G.C.B.; the Right Hon. the Earl of Haddington, R.W. Dep. G.M.; Col. Campbell of Blythwood, Prov. G.M., Renfrewshire (East); Hector F. McLean, W.S., Prov. G.M., Lanarkshire (Upper Ward); W. A. Laurie, W.S., G. Sec.; W. Officer, Acting S.G.W.; Thos. Ramsay (R.W.M. No. 32) Acting J.G.W.; Henry Glassford Bell, Sheriff of Lanarkshire, Acting S.G.D.; Jas. Sellers, Jun.; Capt. Ramsay, G.S.B.; C. S. Law, G. Dir. of Cers.; J. Coghill, G. Mareschal; A. Hay, G. Jeweller; A. J. Stewart, W.S., G. Clerk; Wm. M. Bryce, G. Tyler; and the following Grand Stewards:—Bros. Owen Gough, F. Law, T. Pearson, J. McCulloch, and Capt. McCasland. The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow consisted of Bros. W. M. Neilson, Dep. Prov. G.M.; F. A. Barrow, S. Prov. G. M.; William Smith, Prov. G. Sec.; James Wallace, Prov. G.S.D.; Robert Robb, Prov. G. Mareschal; W. Alexander, Prov. J.G.; Robert Craig, Prov. G.B.B.; James Leith, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Robert Donaldson, Prov. G. D. Music; James Campbell, Acting Prov. G.S.B.; Thomas Mullin, Acting Prov. G.I.G.; James Pollock, Prov. G. Tyler.

The Glasgow Lodges represented were, Nos. 32, 4, 27, 73, 87, 103, 117, 128, 178, 219, 275, 332, 333, 354, 360, 362, 408, 413, 414, 441, and 465. Edinburgh was represented by No. 160; Linlithgow, Nos. 17 and 160; Stirling, No. 30; Wishaw, No. 31; Port Glasgow, No. 68; Chrepton, No. 147; Pollokshaws, No. 153; Coatbridge, No. 177; Johnstone, No. 242; Dunlop, No. 311; Basby, No. 458.

The Grand Lodge having been opened, a procession was formed by Prov. G. Mareschal Bro. Bobb, in the following order:—Band of the 25th Regiment; Field Battery Lanarkshire Artillery, under command of Captain McDowall; directors of the New Industrial Schools; clergy and friends; Trades' House; Lord Provost and Magistrates; Masonic deputation. The procession having arrived at the new schools, where a large assemblage had gathered, the members of Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge, the Lord Provost and Magistrates, the directors, and some others, were accommodated on a platform on the roof of the building.

The Lord Provost, in presenting Lord Dalhousie with the silver trowel to be used in the ceremony, gave a brief sketch of the history of the Glasgow Industrial Schools, and expressed a hope that the new building, when completed, would exercise a most beneficial and practical effect in the amelioration of the juvenile criminal population. His Lordship remarked further, that the call to the citizens of Glasgow for subscriptions towards its erection had been very abundantly and, he might say, very pleasantly answered. In a very short time there had been collected no fewer than £6,000, and this notwithstanding a very general depression of trade in the district. This, he hoped, was an earnest that the sum of £2,000, yet required to complete the building, would be raised before long, so that the operations of the institution might be proceeded with free of debt.

Lord Dalhousie, in reply, said that this was not masonically the period of the business when it became his duty as Grand Master, to address a few observations upon the work which he had undertaken to perform. He would, therefore, on that occasion simply confine himself to an expression of thanks for the manner in which there had been placed in his hands a trowel with which to perform one of the most benevolent works that even the City of Glasgow could be engaged in. He should endeavor, with the assistance of his brethren, to perform the ceremony he had been invited to, and he assured them that he would keep that trowel in memory of the honor which had been conferred upon the Grand Lodge, and of the flattering manner in which he himself had been received that day, as well as of the great and benevolent work they were about to engage in.

The Acting G. Chap. (the Rev. Alex. Thomson, of Millerston,) having asked the Divine blessing on the proceedings, the G.M. called upon the G. Treas., G. Sec., and G. Clerk to place the coins and documents in the cavity of the stone, and the architect

to bring forward the necessary workmen. When these orders had been complied with, the G.M. spread the mortar, and the stone was lowered slowly into its position, the band, meanwhile playing the "Old Hundred." The Sub. G.M. having seen that the Junior and Senior Wardens did their duty respectively in the application of the plumb and level, and having himself applied the square, the G.M. finished the work by three knocks of the mallet. The contents of the cornucopie, and of the vases of wine and oil, were then emptied on the stone, and the ceremony was concluded by the Grand Master saying:—"Praise be to the Lord immortal and eternal, who formed the heavens, laid the foundations of the earth, and extended the waters beyond it; who supports the pillars of nations, and maintains in order and harmony surrounding worlds. We implore Thy aid, and may the continued blessings of an all-bounteous Providence be the lot of these our native shores; and may the Almighty ruler of events deign to direct the hand of our gracious Sovereign, so that she may pour down blessings upon her people; and may that people, living under sage laws, in a free Government, ever feel grateful for the blessings they enjoy." A salvo of artillery and the playing of the "Mason's Anthem" by the band followed. The members of Grand Lodge and others on the platform, then retired to a position in the immediate neighbourhood of the newly-laid stone, when

The Grand Master said—My Lord Provost, Directors of the Glasgow Industrial Schools, my Masonic brethren, and ladies and gentlemen all here present, I beg to congratulate you on our having successfully achieved the duty which you have imposed upon the Grand Lodge of Scotland, of laying the corner-stone of this most important building. As a building, perhaps, it may not rival in importance many of the splendid structures of the City of Glasgow and the West of Scotland; but, my Lord Provost, after the statement which you have made of the purpose to be devoted, I must say that I can conceive of no work more worthy of you and your fellow-citizens—no work more worthy of the Christian philanthropy of your great city, than the undertaking of which we have now laid the corner-stone, and which is to provide in the first place for the education and maintenance of so many poor children, and to tend, in the next place, to cleanse your streets of that worst of all filth, the filth of crime, which, when neglected in the young, springs up into those noxious weeds which ruin the industry of such a city as yours, and tend to pervert the whole of society. Gentlemen, it has given me great pleasure to be present upon this occasion, and it has afforded my brethren of Grand Lodge great satisfaction to come into the West to perform an act of duty to their brethren in this quarter. But, above all, it has given us the greatest satisfaction to contemplate that the work in which we have been engaged is likely to confer so much benefit upon this neighbourhood. It is not necessary for me in the presence of the directors, in the presence of the magistrates of Glasgow, in the presence of him who administers justice in the city of Glasgow, to dwell upon the benefit which will accrue to society when the building is completed, and in full activity. I will therefore—particularly on such a day as this—not detain you longer, but I will conclude with the earnest prayer that the motto of your city, my Lord, may always be in full application to the city itself. May Glasgow flourish in all that concerns her industry and her manufactures, and in all that concerns the welfare of her people, and may she decay only in that subject which is now the subject of our work—may she decay in crime and increase in virtue. Now, brethren and gentlemen, I will call for three cheers upon the work which has now been done. And now, loyal people of Glasgow, three cheers for her Majesty the Queen.

Sheriff Bell said he had had the honour of being requested on the part of the Industrial Schools of Glasgow, of which he was a vice-president, to acknowledge most gratefully the admirable manner in which Lord Dalhousie had performed the important duties devolving upon him as Grand Master Mason of Scotland. Every one must feel that an additional impetus would be given to the success of these schools by the interest which his Lordship had shown in the undertaking. He would not venture on details at that time, but it might be interesting to mention that in Great Britain there were since the year 1857 in existence 63 industrial schools, of which number 21 were in Scotland, and that they contained between 3,500 and 4,000 pupils. The industrial children were for the most part not so much taken from the criminal as from the destitute portion of society, but by taking them into such institutions the work of the reformatories had greatly moderated, and crime was stayed at the very

fountain head. In Scotland there were about 65 reformatories, with about 5,000 juveniles in them, but it was quite evident that the Industrial Schools were the first beginning, the first mode, by which in this country the progress of crime was arrested. There was no industrial school in Scotland to compare in importance with the Industrial School of Glasgow; it embraced more than double the pupils in any other school. He heartily concurred in what had been so well stated by Lord Dalhousie and the Lord Provost as to the many benefits likely to be derived by the community at large from the great increase of the important means which were now being given to the managers of these schools for looking fully and completely after the interests of the community in that most important department.

Major Holms, as representing the Building Committee of the institution, expressed the gratification of the directors at so many of the citizens of Glasgow and so many distinguished strangers from a distance manifesting by their presence the interest they took in these operations.

This concluded the proceedings at the building. Several slight showers of rain fell during the ceremony, which, however, passed off in a highly satisfactory manner.

The Grand Lodge returned to Millerston Free Church, and was closed in due form. Thereafter a number of the gentlemen who had taken part in the ceremony met at lunch in a temporary hall on the grounds. The Lord Provost occupied the chair, and was supported by Lord Dalhousie and several members of Grand Lodge, Mr. Dalglish, M.P., Sheriff Bell, Rev. Principal Barclay, and others. The loyal and patriotic toasts were given and heartily responded to.

The Lord Provost, in giving the toast "The Grand Lodge of Scotland," complied it with the health of the Earl of Dalhousie, and mentioned that the noble Earl had given the handsome donation of £50 towards the building fund.

Lord Dalhousie, on rising to reply, received an ovation of cheering. He said: It is almost impossible for me in adequate terms to express my feelings at the very kind way in which you have received the health of Grand Lodge, and my own health likewise. In the name of my brethren, I thank you for the honour you have done us, and I beg to assure you that it always gives Grand Lodge peculiar pleasure to obey such summonses as these in any part of Scotland; and upon no occasion has she obeyed a summons with greater alacrity than the present, seeing the very great work of benevolence which the directors of the institution have in hand. Gentlemen, I was afraid that I should have been obliged by the passing of the time—for time, tide, and railways wait for no man—to run away without being present at this meeting. I remember a good story of Lord Melbourne, in the latter years of his life, when he was strictly forbidden to touch malt liquor. He had gone to visit a friend, and in that friend's house had taken a great beaker of October ale. On being rebuked he replied, "What! go into a friend's house and not taste his malt?" I may say upon the present occasion, "What! go to Glasgow and reject the hospitality of Glasgow?" However little time there may be for the enjoyment of it, still, gentlemen, such an act upon my part would not only have been absolute discourtesy, but it would have deprived me of this opportunity of cultivating the acquaintance of many whom I see around me. Gentlemen, although during my career I have not had many opportunities of being in Glasgow, still I can say I am not altogether unacquainted with it. I have had the honour—and it is one of the highest honours I have enjoyed during my life—of being rector of its University, than which there is no position to which a public man in this country can more honourably aspire, or one which reflects so much honour upon him, if he is elected to it. I have always had a deep interest in the prosperity of your great city, and as a Mason I have been present upon more than one occasion among my brethren in the West. Upon all these occasions I have had the most hospitable reception; and this day you have confirmed that hospitality by the mode in which you have done me the honour of receiving the toast of my health. At all times I shall take the deepest interest in all that concerns the welfare of Glasgow and its institutions, and, as the Lord Provost has said, I shall endeavour, as I go down the hill of life, not to depart from these principles by which the people have enabled me to stand in the position in which I am. Before I sit down, permit me to give a toast in which you are all deeply interested, though, if modesty forbids you to stand and cheer it, I am afraid I shall have few aids to my own cheer.

But you must lay aside modesty upon the present occasion, and drink the toast which I am about to give. It is health and prosperity to the city of Glasgow, and also to the prosperity of all who wish well to the city of Glasgow; and I couple that toast with the name of the Lord Provost and Magistrates of Glasgow, who must be dear to the citizens, otherwise they would not have been placed in the position they occupy. That they have discharged the duties to which they have been elected, fame and public opinion bear full testimony; that they deserve the full confidence of the city, their position and the situations which they hold are sufficient to assure me. I beg you will drink the health of the Lord Provost and Magistrates, and join me in wishing that the people of Glasgow may long continue to enjoy that freedom of opinion which they have always shown themselves worthy of.

The Lord Provost replied in suitable terms.

The Rev. Professor Calderwood proposed "Success to the Glasgow Industrial Schools," replied to by Mr. C. C. McKirdy, Mr. Dalglish, M.P., "The Educational Institutions of Scotland," replied to by Rev. Principal Barclay; and Bailie Wm. Miller, "The Trades' House of Glasgow," replied to by the Deacon-Convener.

The company then separated.

In the evening a Masonic banquet, having reference to the day's proceedings, was held in the Tontine Hotel, Glasgow. About 200 of the brethren were present. The chair was occupied by Bro. W. M. Neilson, Dep. Prov. G.M., who was supported by Bros. J. Cruikshank, P.D. Prov. G.M.; Barrow, S. Prov. G.M.; McTaggart, M.A., Convener of Prov. G. Committee; Smith, Prov. G. Sec.; Robb, Prov. G. Marshal; Leith, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Bruce, Campbell, Phillips, &c. Bro. Ramsay, R.W.M. No. 3, acted as croupier, supported by Bros. Livingstone, Wilson, Sellars, and Thomson. A number of loyal and Masonic toasts were pledged in a hearty manner, and the evening was spent very pleasantly.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRICAL CLUB, WOOLWICH.

On Wednesday, the 26th ult., a performance was given in the R.A. Recreation Rooms by the officers of the above club, by permission of Gen. E. C. Warde, C.B., Commandant. The performance commenced with *Used Up*, Bro. F. C. Hughes Hallet sustaining the principal part of "Sir Charles Coldstream" in so able and finished a manner that showed the perfect artist in the delineation of so difficult a character. Bro. J. J. Pope played the Blacksmith, "John Ironbrace," with great success, his muscular form, in addition to his conception of the part, drew forth rounds of applause. Miss C. Addison played and looked charming. The other characters incidental to the piece were played exceedingly well by the officers of the R.A., embracing the names of Messrs. W. C. Rothe, S. De Lacy, E. Wickham, and H. B. Kingscote.

Bro. J. J. Pope sang a comic song that was vociferously encored, and was again called a third time and sang another song that kept the audience in a roar; his talents are of no mean order and perfectly original.

The farce by E. Yates, Esq., entitled *My Friend from Leatherhead*, in which Bros. Pope and Hallet were assisted by the members of the company, brought the evening's entertainment to a close at a late hour. At the end of every act the members were called before the curtain and received a perfect ovation. The band of the Royal Artillery played during the evening some very excellent music.

TRUE joy is a serene and sober emotion, and they are miserably out that take laughing for rejoicing. The seat of it is within, and there is no cheerfulness like the resolutions of a brave mind.

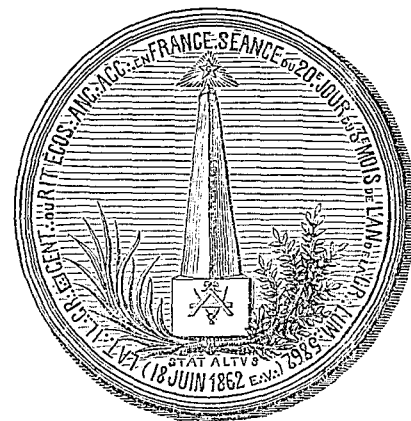
RICHES are like the leaves of a tree, beautiful for a season only, but when the winter's storm arises they fall off and are blown away.

Obituary.

THE LATE ILLUSTRIOUS BRO. VIENNET.

In our issue of the 18th July, we gave a slight obituary notice of this illustrious brother, and we then promised to give a more complete history of his career, which we now take the opportunity of doing, and are mainly indebted to *Le Monde Maconique* for the following.

We have also the pleasure of giving an engraving of the obverse and reverse of a medal struck in his honour, in 1862, and we may here take the opportunity of observing that it is a very good precedent, which might be worthily followed in the case of the late much-respected head of the English Supreme Council, Bro. Dr. Leeson, whose labours in the cause of Masonry have extended over so many years, and who has but recently retired from the onerous position of M.P.S.G.C.



Bro. F. Viennet was born at Beziers, on the 18th November, 1777. He entered the S.C. in the month of January, 1826, and during many years he fulfilled the duties of Grand Chancellor of the Order.

Bro. F. Decazes, who was proclaimed G.M. in June, 1838, had chosen him for Lieutenant G.C. At the death of Bro. F. Decazes, in the month of October, 1860, Bro. F. Viennet became according to the constitution of the rite G.M.

His obsequies took place on Tuesday, the 14th July, attended by a vast concourse of Masons of all grades, and of citizens of every profession, principally men of letters and politicians. After a discourse at the cemetery by Bro. Patin, who spoke in the name of his

colleagues of the French Academy, F. Genevay spoke as follows:—

"After the words you have just heard, a most imperious duty must urge me on to trouble your feelings and to speak over this tomb; but it is my duty, in the name of Scotch Masonry, to render a last tribute to its beloved chief.

"For many, many years he has been of our Order; he has taken a generous share in all our labours; he has loved and defended that which we love and defend; and, to his last hour, he remained faithful to us. For those who know our principles, and who have known the illustrious deceased, in such perseverance there is nothing to be astonished at. Old age respected his intelligence and kind-heartedness.

"You have heard his talents praised; we come to render homage to the right-mindedness of this conscience which remained pure, and obeyed only its own dictates—a rare virtue in all ages, still more so in ours. Neither his word nor his pen have known weakness; he never wrote or said other than he thought. He never looked for fortune, and when honours sought him he retained, even under their influence, his full and free independence of character. He shone in all his words, and our lodge will never forget the juvenile ardour with which he defended it some years ago. Besides, our institution with its grand principle of universal brotherhood, charmed his reason, and it was by it, much more than by virtue of his powers, that he ruled us and deserved the filial homage which we take a pleasure in rendering him. More than once the proofs of our veneration have gently moved his heart, and we experience the same sentiments even at this cold tomb. May it also receive our promises! We shall never forget the honest teachings of his life, his respect for truth, the ardent love he professed for his country, his liberal doctrines which he considered an honour to have always defended. This is the inheritance he has left to his Masonic family; it accepts it, it will preserve it faithfully and his name will never be forgotten by us.

"Adieu, most illustrious Master, calmly repose. Sleep in peace; your sons will mourn for you, and remember you, and will fight for justice and truth as though you were still their chief.

"Adieu, very illustrious Bro. F. Viennet. Peace and honour to your ashes! Masonry loses in you the best of its apostles, the most honoured one amongst its chiefs.

"Adieu, good and excellent man! Soon, elsewhere, we shall render you the funeral honours that we owe you, and if our voice has been raised in this sad place, it is because we have been anxious that the world might know our mourning, and that it might be witness to our inconsolable grief."

Bro. Viennet was originally destined to succeed one of his uncles, curate of Saint Méry, which was at this period one of the most important parishes of Paris. The dignities and ecclesiastical benefices were at that time transmitted from uncle to nephew, cousin to cousin, sometimes from father to son, as the family patrimony. The revolution deprived Bro. Viennet of this portion of his inheritance, and the future curé of Paris entered the Marine Artillery in 1796 as lieutenant. Twice prisoner, in 1797 and in 1813, he was only captain at the time of the Restoration, to which he gave his ardent support. "During the Hundred Days," says one of his biographers, "M. Viennet refused to vote for the additional act of the Empire, and, unless a powerful intervention had been made, he would have paid for his opposition by transportation to Cayenne."^{*}

At the very commencement of his career, Bro. Viennet had voted against the consulate for life, and against the

Empire, which explains the fact of the lieutenant of 1796 being only captain at the second Restoration. In 1815 Captain Viennet was admitted as *chef d'escadron* in the royal body guard. But, in 1827, after the publication of *L'Épître aux cheffoniers sur les crimes de la presse* (The epistle to the rag collectors on the crimes of the press) he was struck off the staff, and the same year nominated deputy for the town of Béziers. He took his seat on the Opposition benches, and did not cease to oppose the government of Charles X. until the Revolution of 1830.

He entered the Academy in the month of November, 1830, in the room of M. de Ségur. His colleague was Benjamin Constant. Bro. Viennet committed the error of not giving up the place, and the honourable body made a still greater mistake in voting for him. His name was stamped with unpopularity and it never left him. In turn Minister, Peer of France, Academician, he became the mark for the criticism of the press for the Opposition; and if it were possible to reproach him with a simplicity of life and manners, which in our eyes forms one of his principal virtues, the accusations for the greater part of which he was the object were justified by the violence of his attacks against the revolutionary party and against romantic literature.

Let us say, however, to the praise of Bro. Viennet that his hatred against romances—a persistent hatred which we can still testify to in one of the last numbers of *Le Monde Maconnique*—did not prevent him pronouncing in favour of the admission of Bro. Victor Hugo to the French Academy, nor from voting for him; it seems, at least from the following letter of Béranger (letter unedited) and we owe the communication to the kindness of our F. and friend, Eugène Despois:—

"Here you have, my dear X—, a little reply to our young compatriot. I write also to M—, wishing him a good Minister of Finance. The choice they will make troubles you not a little, Monsieur Philosopher. What do you say to a refusal of the endowment? We must never despair for anyone, not even for a bad Chamber. Who knows? The Academy may one day wish to admit Hugo. Viennet has at least had the good sense to express himself in favour of such admission. I should be still more obliged to him if he had no ill will against Doctor Flourant."

"BÉRANGER."

"26th February (1840)."

Bro. Viennet has described himself in the preface to his *Œuvres* after the following manner:—

"My character is a strange blending of kindness and causticity; as a rule I distrust everything and everybody, and I put faith in the first comer. Constraint, twists and turns, ambiguities and grimaces fatigue and irritate me. I walk straight, and lame people do not suit me. Nature has caused to pass from the veins of my father to I know not what portion of my body a conscious intuition which believes in a discriminative power as to what is true or false, just or unjust, and which will not permit my tongue to tamper with the truth, to disguise it, or to refuse it to any one in search of it. It is the most terrible gift that heaven can make to man who is obliged to live with men. It is the surest guarantee that the possessor will be duped all his life; in this respect my destiny has been accomplished, as Orestes says, but he adds that he is content, but I say not so."

This last phrase is characteristic. It indicates sufficiently well the turn and range of mind of Bro. Viennet; honest spirit, but of a limited power and unlimited vanity; frank character, a blending of giddiness and spontaneity and of a very dark deep susceptibility. Bro. Viennet believed he possessed an exact notion of the false and the real, the just and the unjust; on this head, as on many others, he deceived himself; his errors are numerous in literature as in politics; and the pretension of judging everything thus by a natural gift, without method or reflection, to distinguish at first sight the true and the false, explains precisely the weakness of his

* M. Vattier.—"Correspondence Littéraire," number for 25th February, 1865.

literary baggage and the contradictions of his public life. He himself recounts in the following terms, his vote against the Empire, one of the important acts of his long career:—

"I could have answered 'Yes,' said he, "as the wise ones did; or, 'What matters it to me?' as the indifferent ones. My reason was for the latter course. My devil of a character made me say 'No,' and my advancement was ruined."

Thus Captain Viennet had not voted from conviction, but out of a spirit of contradiction which he regretted—that is to say he regretted his advancement thus ruined.

In another place the subject is the Republic of 1848, of the "Constituante," as Bro. Viennet terms it, "*la petite Constituante*"—in a word, the Revolution. These are the counsels given by the Académicien to his literary colleagues:—"Men of letters who have mixed themselves up with political changes are beginning to see what they have gained. A long time ago I told them that their sole property consisted in the superfluity of the rich; and, as they hold to their wish, I advise them to stop, if it were possible, this poor human race which they have put in motion. If Republicanism should be established, I cannot tell who will buy books or who will pay for his seat at the play."

That which precedes is printed or reprinted in the preface of the complete fables of Bro. Viennet, published by Hachette in 1865. To these counsels we will add no commentary; it is sufficient to cite them. For some years, and in consequence of the energy with which Bro. F. Viennet, seconded by the rest of the Scotch lodges and the majority of the Gr. A., had defended the independence and duty of the S.C. against Marshal Magnan, he gained some sort of popularity. It was a surprise to find so much vigour in an old man. But the conflict over, the heroic resistance of the Grand Master was soon forgotten.

His death in an instant brought Bro. F. Viennet into renewed favour and, singular coincidence, it was again through his connection with Freemasonry.

The Catholic clergy, which excommunicates Freemasons, which also refused them admittance to their churches, were anxious to seize the last breath and the body of our deceased Grand Master. Around the deathbed a combat took place which reminds us of those pictures of Epinail, representing, in the form of an old man, a poor soul held on one side by a good angel, with white wings and sky-blue body; on the other side a great green devil, with horns. The Eternal Father is present at the battle, but to all appearance indifferent as to the result. It is not shown to whom victory is accorded, whether to the good or to the evil genius. The salvation of our former Grand Master is equally uncertain.

M. the Curé Lancien, supported by *le Monde*, *l'Union*, *l'Univers*, affirms that Bro. Viennet renounced all his errors; that he wished to die in the bosom of the Apostolic Roman Catholic religion. *Le Siècle* contradicts this, and F. Genevay, who should be better informed than the Curé Lancien, reports a conversation between Bro. Viennet and himself, which supports the *Siècle*. There remains a circumstance which has not been sufficiently insisted on, and which proves M. the Curé Lancien has spoken on insufficient grounds. Every one who knew Bro. Viennet for the last ten years, is aware that he was subject to deafness, which increased every day, and in the end was almost complete. The writer of these lines was commissioned four or five years back to speak before the Grand Master of the O.C., Ec., and to thank him, in the name of the lodges of the rite, for the energy he had displayed in repulsing the pretensions of Marshal Magnan. Although the speaker was, on this occasion, placed very near to the Grand Master, he is thoroughly convinced that he (the Grand Master) did not hear a single word of his little improvised speech.

M. the Curé Lancien whilst affirming "the Christian end" of Bro. Viennet, expresses himself thus, "When I asked him if he maintained his profession to die in the Catholic Faith, Apostolic and Roman, he answered 'Yes.'" We should not be surprised if Bro. Viennet, who had just published a work adverse to the pretensions of the Roman court, did really understand that they asked him if he maintained all that he had written in his book, and that he immediately answered "Yes."

However, what signification, what importance can be attached to the retraction of an old man of ninety-one years, a few hours before his death, when both will and intelligence had already left his weakened body, taking into consideration the acts of his whole life? Would Bro. Viennet during a long lifetime have been less the enemy of the government of priests, seeing that he did not spare either criticisms or satires; in fact, the author of the famous *Epître au Capuchin* (Letter to the Monk) and the Grand Master of the rite E.A.A., that is to say, a chief of the excommunicated? The Curé Lancien assures us that Bro. Viennet made "a Christian end." We admit this, Monsieur Abbé; take the body—we retain the spirit (mind) which animated the form now insensible. This mind is embodied in the works of the deceased; it is living in the memories of a long and honourable life, almost entirely consecrated, as it has been shown elsewhere, with an evidently ironical intention, but we accept its conclusion; to vulgarise that eternally true thought, borrowed from the *Dictionnaire Philosophique*, of Voltaire, that "in all ages, the sacerdotal power has had a terrible influence over the world."

THE LATE BRO. THOMAS POWRIE.

The death of Bro. Thomas Powrie, the eminent actor, is announced. This sad event took place at Edinburgh, on the 26th ult. Bro. Powrie had been suffering for some time from congestion of the lungs; but his illness was aggravated by an attack of British cholera. He made his first appearance last year at Drury Lane Theatre as "Rob Roy," and was unfortunate enough to injure his foot on the first night of his appearance, and which entirely precluded his again appearing during the season. Bro. Powrie was much esteemed in private for his amiability and sterling good qualities.

METROPOLITAN LODGE MEETINGS, ETC., FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 12th, 1868.

MONDAY, September 7th.—Lodges: St. Luke's, 144, Pier Hotel, Cheyne Walk, Chelsea; Joppa, 188, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.

TUESDAY, September 8th.—Lodge: Wellington, 548, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.

WEDNESDAY, September 9th.—Com. Royal Masonic Ben. Institution at 3. Lodges: Union Waterloo, 13, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich; Vitruvian, 87, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth; Doric, 933, Mason's Hall, Basinghall-street; Montefiore, 1017, Freemasons' Hall.

THURSDAY, September 10th.—Lodges: Lily Lodge of Richmond, 829, Greyhound, Richmond; Capper, 1076, Marine Hotel, Victoria Docks, West Ham; Royal Jubilee Chapter, 72, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

FRIDAY, September 11th.—Lodge: Caveac, 176, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

WE are again compelled to postpone the publication of several important letters and lodge reports.

BRO. R. Y. begs us to give his compliments to Bro. Hughan and to express his regret that he has no Masonic works to exchange, as the few he possesses are solely for reference.