

LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1863.

### FREEMASONRY IN FRANCE.

The "Grand Masonic Temple" of Lyons was inaugurated on the 2nd ult. A facetious account of this ceremony is given in a recent number of *Le Refuse*, and although we cannot render but imperfectly the prating, chit-chat style indulged in by the writer, Mons. Denis Brack—who may be a Mason for ought we know, though he does not profess to be one—we do not hesitate to reproduce his report *in extenso*, showing, as it does, in what light the modern French liberal school looks upon the relative merits of, and the antagonism between Freemasonry and Ultramontanism. We need hardly premise that as regards the details of the ceremony the account is to be taken *cum grano salis*, as our readers are well aware that the Masons of France, though essentially at war with Romish obscurantism, are not, in their majority, opposed to the maintenance of the spirit of revealed religion in the rites of the institution.

It is barely three months, says the writer, since I had an opportunity of noticing the forthcoming inauguration of a Masonic temple at Lyons, and, as an *advanced* guard of the Roman and Apostolic camp, giving vent to my feeling of distress by exclaiming: "Now then, Monseigneur, take up your sacred thunderbolt to smash this monster to atoms." At that time they might have been put down; the danger might yet have been averted. How is it that my scream was not echoed by his eminence before it grew too late? For now it has become an accomplished, stubborn fact, formidable, indestructible.

The famous inauguration came off with the most damaging *eclat* on Sunday last during the very hours of High Mass. Being devoured by the holy zeal of the house of God, and anxious to ascertain the exact state of the forces of the enemy, and by this means lend a helping hand to the last attempt at their extermination, I ventured to sneak into their haunt, as Ulysses did into the camp of the Trojans.

I succeeded but too well! Is it a divine chastisement for my having committed such culpable temerity that ever since I am labouring under an irrepressible nightmare? Incessantly I see before my eyes a grave wide open and about to close, but not to harbour Freemasons! Incessantly I hear tingling in my ears a knell foreboding evil, but

it is not the knell of Freemasonry! Is my fainting faith destined ever to revive?

First of all, the strange aspect of the haunt confounded me. It was not a horrible den, such as had been described to me, that I went into. Surely the look of this place gives rise to thoughts and feelings quite different from those produced by our cathedrals, with their sombre masses and their steeples ascending to the skies. Under its influence the soul is by no means seized with a mysterious terror, nor does it feel any sensation like being detached from the earth, and, rising up higher and higher, into an endless space; on the contrary, being captivated by some indescribable terrestrial pleasure, it falls back upon itself, as it were, to admire that harmonious, elegant, and noble architecture that seems to plant itself firmly into the ground, and take deep roots therein. "This must be the temple of a divinity altogether human" you will say, and really it is the "temple of labour."

Having dexterously evaded the guards placed at the doors I penetrated into it—and here I am now in an immense workshop. Everywhere the symbols and tools of labour—*ferret opus*—and what labour? Marvellous, fruitful labour! What surprised me most was to find here upwards of two thousand workers that had gathered from all comers of France. Most of them saw each other for the first time, yet they accosted one another in full confidence, a smile on their lips, shook hands affectionately, and greeted each other with the beautiful name of brother. Your pastoral letters do not speak of all *that*, Monseigneur.

All of a sudden everyone grew silent and a mighty voice filled this vast place. The sacred orators of our churches had accustomed me to a kind of discourse, insipid, rigid, lifeless, like the hollow resoundings of the grave, and I had actually looked upon the monotonous, somnolent delivery of a certain kind of pious jargon as the *beau idéal* of eloquence. Now you may imagine how great was my surprise when I felt drowned in a speech redolent with fiery and passionate words, full of images and warmth; sparkling like a flash of lightning, roaring like a hurricane, kindling like a conflagration, and saw the whole multitude trembling, panting, heated to rapture. And what was it these powerful tribunes proclaimed? Did they expatiate on the primitive degradation of man, his inability for good, his predestination to suffer endless tortures or attain endless glory?

Did they speak of death and the day of the last judgment?

No, their speeches were less super-human. They taught the eternal laws of humanity, reminded their brethren of their rights and duties, spoke of the mission of their immortal institution, of its incessant struggle against ignorance and destitution; they asked their audience to build up the social fabric, which being founded on fraternity and liberty, must have fraternity for its apex. Really I have read nothing of all this in your pastoral letter, Monseigneur.

"These sayings and doings are mere show and hypocrisy," said I to myself, lulling myself in this hope; and man, manifesting himself in his true character when under the influence of liquor, I waited to see my Freemasons at the table spread underneath the splendid cupola of the Alcazar. I had heard so much of the orgies of this *eating and drinking society*. One more sad disappointment was in store for me. I found myself in presence of a scanty meal, altogether unworthy of a clerical table. Indeed, sundry extravagant toasts were proposed, but I heard the same ringing voices; only, to electrify all those present, but one word was sufficient—Justice! sovereign reason, Liberty! A more powerful wind never excited a more sympathetic audience. You might have imagined a sea lashed by a mighty storm. The banquet closed at an early hour. In vain I looked under the table before leaving for some *disjecta membra* of the "hideous family" foaming and snoring.

Now, setting aside all party considerations, it must be admitted that Lyons has witnessed a most successful Masonic festival. And is this the result that might have been expected from your pastoral letters and syllabuses? Should our aged archbishop by stamping on the ground and shaking his crosses have succeeded only in raising legions of infidels? *Dies iræ, dies illa!* Your eminence might have foreseen the triumph of Freemasonry at Lyons, and Lyons passing under the sway of the accursed sect!

Forty years since, the Masonry of Lyons had become notorious; its twelve lodges counted among their members, speakers and writers of distinction, they founded journals and reviews, initiated a course of lectures, earnestly sought to solve the highest philosophical and social questions. The twelve lodges centralised their forces, devoted their vast resources to coun-

teract destitution and catastrophes, erected schools, established refuges and benevolent societies, altogether displayed the banner of Freemasonry, holding it high with a firm and powerful hand.

Monsieur de Bonald appeared. The banner seemed to hide itself; the lodges frightened, as it seemed, wrapt themselves in silence, and were thrown into the background. The presses became extinct through which the civilising motto had glittered. You might have said that the Masonry of Lyons sleeping hollow as it were, had left off altogether devoting its attention to the way in which the things of the world went on. And now it is awake again—you know how it came to pass. Adepts have met one another, vigorous, energetic, devoted adherents. They have united their isolated efforts into a bundle, they have created that concord on which life and strength depend. And the morrow is theirs! Shortly we shall see gatherings, powerful in number, powerful in strength, a queer Masonic press resurging in our midst, and the *brother orators*, from their platforms and their cathedrals, laying hold of and dealing with authority and success with those great social questions in the solution of which mankind is interested.

As in Lyons, so everywhere, the Masonic army will put itself in motion. We shall see the various rites amalgamated and welded together, and then there will be unity of power as of principles, teachings and aims; and then Freemasonry which has already done so much for the future regeneration of mankind will do still more. And then, Messeigneurs, unless you can find something more efficient and powerful than your anathemas and excommunications, your banishments, your hangmen, your swords and your piles; you will have to dig your own graves with the ends of your golden crosses.

We are the quick, and you are the dead.

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WHEN the British Archaeological Association were inspecting the gallery of paintings at Charlton House, attention being called to the picture of St. Joseph working as a carpenter, assisted by the child Jesus, Mr. Black said he wished that St. Joseph had been represented in his proper sphere as a mason, the original term used signifying architect, builder, or mason, and not carpenter. The term carpenter, he urged, was undoubtedly an error, as in the climes where St. Joseph dwelt no wood was used in the erection of the structures of their houses, but stone only.

## THE KNIGHTS TEMPLARS.

By ANTHONY ONEAL HAYE.

*(Continued from page 182).*

## BOOK FOURTH—CHAPTER FIRST.

*Introductory remarks.—Philip le Bel.—Quarrels with Pope Boniface, in which he is supported by the people and clergy of France.—Is excommunicated.—Sends the Colonnas and Nogaret to Italy, who capture the Pope at Agnani.—Death of the Pope.—The Templars espouse the cause of the Pope.—Hatred of the King to the Order.—Benedict XI., grants the King a tenth of the French ecclesiastical benefices.—The King includes those of the Templars.—Their rage.—The King orders the “sounding” of the coin.—The people rebel.—Two disgraced Templars head the riot.—The King besieged in the Temple.—The riot quelled, and the ringleaders imprisoned.—Serious charges made against the Templars by a condemned prisoner.—The King, delighted with the tidings, sends messengers through France to collect information.—Tampers with the apostate Templars who, agree to accuse the Order.—Their accusation.—A.D. 1303.*

It is our intention in this book to consider the causes which led to the suppression of the Order, the persecution of its members, and the destruction of the noblest company of Knights emblazoned upon the rolls of fame. We have not, thus, to chronicle the valiancy of battle-fields, the fierce encounters of armed men, the victories of the valiant soldiers of the Cross. We have undertaken a task at which the hand trembles and the heart grows faint; for it is to tell how this devoted Order—the bulwark of Christianity in the east, whose members were praised by Pope and prince, as the chosen champions of Christ, thousands of whom fell victims to infidel hate, rather than accept life and wealth and honours on renouncing the Cross, and worshipping Mahomet—was strangled by the sacriligious and impious hands of an unscrupulous king and a cowardly pontiff. Not more rapid was the Order's rise than was its fall. As some magnificent vessel of war breasts the main, and towers above the little crafts like a giant among pigmies, while the eyes of the world look on in wonder, so did the brethren of the Temple eclipse all other warriors, even the gallant Knights of the Hospital, and cast into the shade the most chivalric of monarchs and the most renowned of leaders. But in a moment, in the silence of night, without warning, the work of destruction began, and on the morrow the shattered fragments of the wreck strewed the main, and terrified the universe with the magnitude of the disaster.

It is a law in nature that all things must perish: God alone is eternal and unchangeable. Monarchies, republics, peoples, great fortunes, have their ebb as well as their flow. But these changes do not generally happen at once; they are preceded by shadows of the events which are about to follow. Disaster follows disaster; war succeeds war; loss comes after loss, till the ruin is complete. Such was not the fall of the Order of the Temple. Never were its affairs in a more flourishing condition; and although the Knights had abandoned the Holy Land, they were still looked upon by Christian Europe as the mirrors of chivalry and piety. Its fall was prompt and sudden; on the same day, at the same hour, the whole Order ceased to exist—a fatal proof of the terrible consequences which dog those who incur the wrath of crafty, revengeful, and absolute kings. We have then to treat of the destruction of the Order, to tell how the virtues of the Knights were, under the cunning councils of their persecutors, transformed into vices, and the destroyers and destroyed of the infidel, accused of being in league with and believers in the vile doctrines, and participators in the viler practices of the followers of the false prophet. With regard to the crimes advanced against the Order, we may premise, that we can find no trace of them in the chronicles of the monkish writers of the Crusades, even in the pages of William of Tyre and Matthew Paris, their bitterest enemies; nor can we believe that an Order which, a few years before the date of its suppression, had seen three hundred of its bravest Knights perish on the bloody ruins of Safet, and another enormous band buried beneath the walls of Acre, rather than embrace Mahometanism, could have been guilty of a secret alliance with the infidel, could have outraged humanity and Christianity by the perpetration of such horrible crimes, or could have been a party to the surrender of the Holy Land, every mile of which was stained by the best blood of its children.

Philip IV., surnamed Le Bel, on account of his exceeding personal beauty, ascended the throne of France in 1285, at the early age of seventeen. He had been educated by Giles de Colonna, afterwards Archbishop of Bourges, a man distinguished for his learning, and for the boldness and liberality of his opinions. He early instilled into the mind of the King his favourite maxim, that Jesus Christ had not given any temporal dominion to His Church, and that, consequently, the King of

France derived his authority from God alone, and not from the Pope. These doctrines were congenial to a mind like Philip's, and he readily and early became a very undutiful son of the Church. He was a man of a proud and haughty spirit, well instructed in business, but cold and cruel in the prosecution of his schemes. He was naturally of a fierce, avaricious, despotic, and revengeful character, and his education fostered the seeds of those qualities which sometimes make a great king, and always a bad man. By his marriage with Jeanne d'Evreux, he added to his own estates those of Navarre, Champagne, and Brie, and other rich lands in France, of which she was heiress. By these possessions, and from his own determined character, he became the most powerful King that for a long time had swayed the destinies of France.

His first object on ascending the throne was to settle all differences with his neighbours; but, although he was much indebted to Edward I. of England in this settlement, he soon after, with a conduct alike ungrateful and impolitic, engaged in war with that powerful monarch. He likewise attempted to seize Flanders, in revenge for the Flemings having assisted England in the war. In this, however, he was unsuccessful. He was defeated and driven back to France with terrible bloodshed, and with the loss of much treasure. The loss of money he deplored more than the loss of the lives of all his soldiers, as his subsequent and more famous quarrel with Pope Boniface VIII. amply proves. Boniface, neither a Gregory nor an Innocent, nor characterised by remarkable genius or virtue, stretched the power of the papacy to its utmost limits, and, finally, by grasping at too much, lost all. He had no eye to the change of ideas which had taken place in Europe, the result of the Crusades, and appears to have been unaware of the spread of liberty of thought, and blind to the unwillingness of kings to submit longer to the exactions of Rome. He deemed them to be still as subservient to Rome as they were in the days of Gregory, who kept Henry IV.,\* Emperor of Germany, standing barefoot at his palace doors three days in the snow, and of

another Pope who, in a dignified manner, kicked off a monarch's crown who knelt before him, to show that he could make and unmake kings at pleasure. Boniface awoke the jealousy of the King, and the quarrel which ensued ended in open warfare. The Pope issued a Bull prohibiting any of the clergy to give subsidies to lay powers without the consent of Rome. This, attacking Philip in a peculiar manner—for his late wars had impoverished his exchequer—the king resolved that the clergy of France should contribute with his other subjects to the exigencies of the state. He thereupon answered this Bull by issuing an order prohibiting the exportation of gold, silver, or merchandise from France, thereby cutting off a great source of the papal revenue. It is but justice to say that the Pope explained in another Bull that he only objected to forced subsidies, and even praised those of the clergy who had voluntarily aided Philip, and admitted the right of the king to demand subsidies from the clergy, without consulting the Holy See, where, in his conscience, he believed that there was a case of necessity for doing so. Matters in no ways improved. Boniface sent as his legate to the court of France, Bernard Saisette, who had rebelled against the king, and who, on this, as well as on account of his disposition, was peculiarly obnoxious to Philip. Armed with the power of the Pope, he threatened him with an interdict; but Philip contented himself with ordering the legate to leave the kingdom. Thereupon the Pope issued another Bull, declaring that the Vicar of Christ was vested with full authority over the kings and kingdoms of the earth; that all kings and persons whomsoever, and the King of France as well as others, by Divine command, owed perfect obedience to the Roman Pontiff, and this not merely in religious matters, but likewise in secular and human affairs; and he concluded by ordering the French clergy at once to repair to Rome. The king replied:—"Philip, by the Grace of God, King of the French, to Boniface, acting as Supreme Pontiff, little or no health. Let your extreme silliness know that, in temporals, we are not subject to any one." He furthermore ordered the Bull to be publicly burned, and this deed to be

\* This took place at the Castle of Canossa. Gregory VIII. made him stand in the court-yard, clad in sackcloth, without food or drink, and it was only after this penance and after shedding many tears, that the Pope granted him absolution. Baron Annal, tom. xi., A.D. 1077, n. xviii., p. 524. Sigbert, Gemblac, and Alberic relate that Gregory on his death-bed repented of using such harsh treatment. *The Saturday Review*,

in noticing this portion of the history, fell foul of me for calling Henry IV. Emperor of Germany. I find that I am right, and the reviewer wrong. The reviewer again challenges me for calling Albert Emperor of Austria, which he was. The reviewer had to find fault, but it is a pity his fault-finding should have been all in the wrong.

proclaimed by sound of trumpet; at the same time forbidding the French clergy, under severe penalties, to leave the kingdom. The Pope again summoned the clergy to repair to Rome, to deliberate upon the means of preserving the liberties of the Church. Several abbots and prelates complied with the summons, whereupon the king seized their possessions. In this critical state of things, Philip resorted to a most important measure. He convoked a national assembly at Paris, in which, for the first time, their appeared deputies of the Third Estate, who willingly expressed their resolution to stand by their monarch in defence of his rights; and the clergy present readily denied the temporal jurisdiction of the Pope. The king was thus recognised by his people and his clergy as an independent sovereign in his own kingdom, and as having complete and absolute power in all temporal matters in France. This was of the utmost importance to him in his subsequent proceedings against the Templars.

The Pope menaced with deprivation all those of the clergy who had not attended his summons, and in his famous Bull *Unam Sanctum*, he asserted that Jesus Christ had granted a twofold power or sword to his church, a spiritual and a temporal; that the whole human race was subject to the Pontiff, and that all who dissented from this doctrine were heretics, and could not expect to be saved. A subsequent Bull declared that every person, whatever his rank might be, was bound to appear personally at Rome, when summoned. Philip forbade the publication of these Bulls, and again assembled the Estates General, when through his Chancellor, William de Nogaret, he publicly accused the Pontiff of heresy, simony, magic, and other enormities, and urged the calling of a General Council for deposing the guilty Pope. Upon this the Estates General appealed to a General Council against the decrees of Boniface. This was the commencement of the undermining and weakening of the Papal power, for the proud Philip for the first time taught the Europeans, what Emperors had in vain attempted, that the Roman Bishops could be vanquished and laid under restraint. Commissioners were sent through France to procure the adhesion of the clergy to this act. Most of them readily agreed, while those who at first were refractory, were either bribed or compelled to give their assent. The king, on his part, solemnly pledged himself to stand by those who sided with him in resisting

the demands of the Pope, and this pledge was also given by his wife and eldest son. The Pope at last fulminated the sentence of excommunication against the king, but Philip intercepted the Bull, and so prevented its publication. Boniface, as a last measure offered the crown of France to Albert, Emperor of Austria. The firm adherent and adviser of the king through the whole of his conflict with Boniface, was the Chancellor, William de Nogaret. This man was a fit tool for the unscrupulous Philip; bold, unprincipled, and heartless, he had no will but that of the king, no desire but to rise though his means to the greatest power. He left no stone unturned to gain this object, stooping to perform the most villanous of services, and embing his hands in oceans of innocent blood.

Matters having gone so far, the king resorted to an act, which for temerity is almost unparalleled in the annals of Christendom. He had afforded an asylum at his court to some members of the Colonna family, who were the personal enemies of the Pope. He despatched William de Nogaret and some of the Italian exiles, attended by a force of three hundred horse to Italy. They took up their abode at a castle between Sienna and Florence under pretext of its being a convenient situation for carrying on negotiations with Rome. The Pope was at this time residing at his native town of Agnani. Nogaret by means of bribes and liberal promises, soon acquired a considerable number of partisans from among the disaffected and impoverished inhabitants of that region, and early on the morning of the 7th September, 1303, he appeared at the head of a large force before the gate of Agnani, which was thrown open to him by a traitor. The conspirators thereupon spread through the streets, shouting as they went, "Long live Philip: death to Boniface." They entered the palace of the Pope without opposition and while the French went off in search of plunder, the Colonnas thought only of vengeance. The Pope, on hearing the shouts of the conspirators, knew that his death hour had arrived. Never, in the course of his long life, for Boniface was now eighty-six years of age, did he display greater courage or devotion. Clothing himself in his pontifical robes, he knelt before an altar in prayer, waiting there for the arrival of his murderers. With fierce shouts and bloody imprecations, Sciarra Colonna and his myrmidons burst into the chapel; but at the sight of the vener-

able Pontiff, they were seized with involuntary awe, and those who had sought him with armed hands to slay him, sheathed their weapons and dared not lay a finger upon him, whom even in their rebellion, they viewed as God's viceroy upon earth. They, however, kept him captive for three days; but on the fourth, the people rose, drove the conspirators from the town, and released the Pope. Boniface thereupon returned to Rome, but his mind had given way before the insults offered him. He was seized with paroxysms, during one of which he dashed his head so furiously against the wall of his chamber that he died shortly after in consequence of the injury.\*

Among the most zealous of the Pope's partisans, were the Templars. They hated Philip for many reasons, and being under the immediate patronage of the Pope, who was their only superior, they displayed an energy on his behalf which was extremely imprudent and even uncalled for. Not only did they appear as his champions, but they lent him, through the treasurer of their savings, a considerable sum of money. This sum was advanced undoubtedly in secret, but the vigilant Philip, by means of his spies, soon became aware of the loan. At the same time they importuned Philip for the repayment of certain monies lent to him by the Order. Irritated to the last degree against the Order, he sought for an opportunity of revenging himself upon it, and that opportunity, unfortunately for the Knights, soon arrived.

Benedict XI. succeeded Boniface. He was a mild and good man, too gentle for the times he lived in, and his desire was to spread peace among his Christian flock. For this purpose he re-established friendly terms with the Court of France, absolved Philip from the excommunication of Pope Boniface, and gave the king a tenth part of the ecclesiastical riches of his kingdom. The king now had a rod wherewith to scourge the Templars. He included in the ecclesiastical roll, their benefices, which, according to their privileges, were exempt from payment of any tithe. The Templars loudly complained of this imposition; their complaints were unavailing, and their farmers were compelled to contribute a tenth. The whole Order was troubled and scandalised at this proceeding, which in their eyes appeared to be a perpetuation of the

King's persecution of Pope Boniface. The King, however, proceeded to other measures, which speedily roused the whole of France against him, but which told fearfully in the long run against the Templars, who were in the matter altogether innocent of any criminal action.

By his wars with England and Flanders, Philip had exhausted his exchequer, and cast about for a means of replenishing it. He had recourse to a measure which is frequently fatal to states, for while it yields a present benefit to the king, it is followed by disadvantages to the people, very difficult to repair. The measure adopted was the "sounding of the specie." This operation consists chiefly in giving back to the subject a coin of lesser weight than that which had been called in to the profit of the monarch on the new specie. The people, upon whom the loss fell, complained loudly of this injustice, and refused to bring their gold and silver to the mint. The rapacity of the King alienated all classes, and so notorious was this that the Pope, in one of his letters, mentions it as an admitted fact.\* Foremost among the dissatisfied appeared the Templars, who were the more indignant and irritated at this unprincipled measure, as their greatest wealth consisted in enormous sums of money, being in that particular the richest men in France. Already had Philip, in contravention of the sacred privileges conferred upon them by Popes and monarchs, seized upon a tenth of their revenue, and while they offered no active resistance to that spoliation, they resolved not to submit to this new exaction. They accordingly sent messengers to the King, who expostulated with him on his injustice, and at length, when they could not persuade him by argument to withdraw his obnoxious measure, carried away by passion, they gave utterance to threats. This was most injudicious, alike considering the haughty and vindictive character of the King, and the influence of such an example upon the people. The King was fearfully enraged against the Order. Everywhere they had appeared in opposition to him, and the war with Boniface was still fresh in his mind. He resolved to crush their power, for he dreaded, since they had abandoned the Holy Land, that they would found some military empire, which would destroy him and his realm. The Templars, at the same time, renewed their demand for the immediate repayment of the

\* Milman, in his *Latin Christianity*, gives a magnificent account of these circumstances. See also Mezerai. *Abrégé Chron.*, Dupui Grutler.

\* Dupui, p. 16.

money advanced by them, upon the marriage of Philip's daughter, Isabella, with the son of the King of England. The bold conduct and daring language of the Templars, soon became known among the people. Its effect upon them was most powerful. They assembled together, and emboldened by the example of the Knights, took up arms to defend themselves against the edict.

The Knights do not appear to have had any actual communication with the people; but two men who had formerly belonged to the Order, thinking thereby to ingratiate themselves with the Templars, and hoping to be again received into the body, by furious speeches inflamed the passions of the populace. Dressed in the habit of the Order, they were believed to be accredited agents of the Knights, which they were not. These men were named Squin de Flexian and Noffo Dei. Squin de Flexian was a native of Beziers, and had been the preceptor of Montfaucon in Querci; but convicted of heresy and of leading a most infamous life, he had been degraded, and by the order of the Grand Master condemned to perpetual imprisonment. Noffo Dei, a man full of all iniquity, was a native of Florence. He does appear to have held any office in the Order, but ranked as a simple Knight. Noffo had been guilty of certain crimes, and to escape punishment fled to Paris, where he was seized by the provost, and condemned to suffer imprisonment for life. The chapter-general of the Templars thereupon degraded and expelled him from the Order. The two had succeeded in escaping from prison and took refuge in the provinces, where they wandered about in company, subsisting on alms. When the tidings arrived of the sedition in Paris they hurried thither, hoping to inflame the people to resist the edict, and trusting by that measure once more to be received into the Order, or failing that, in the riots which would succeed the enforcing of the edict, to enrich themselves by means of plunder. They were gladly received by the Parisians, who placed them at their head. A riot ensued.\* The mob surrounded the house of Etienne Barbet, the treasurer, which they pillaged and then demolished. The King had gone on a visit to the palace of the Templars, and thither the crowd repaired. They surrounded it and gave utterance to the most violent threats against the King. The Templars, however,

manned the walls and, with the retinue of the King, defended the gates against the attacks of the mob. They were, however, ill-provided with stores, and the dishes for the king's table had to be brought from the Louvre. The seditionists, as the provisions were being carried to the temple, attacked the bearers, and, seizing the trenchers, threw them into the mud. The King was in a furious rage at finding himself thus besieged, without either victuals or soldiers, while he was suspicious of the good faith of the Templars, whom he had injured so grossly and so often. His suspicions, however, were uncalled for, as the Templars would have scorned to harm any one under their protection and enjoying their hospitality. The siege lasted three days. The attacks of the populace were incessant, but the Templars succeeded in defending the gates, and at length the King's troops arrived, when the people struck with terror, retired, and the sedition was quelled.

Philip's wrath did not soon dissipate. He, the proudest king in Europe, had been insulted by a beggarly mob—he, the most powerful monarch of his time, had been besieged by a cowardly race of citizens. He ordered the leaders of the seditionists to be arrested and cast into prison. He resolved to make an example of them, so as to crush for ever the audacity of the people. Report pointed out Squin de Flexian and Noffo Dei as the leaders and chief instigators of the sedition. They were arrested and thrown into prison, and the tidings brought to Philip that the two culprits were Templars, and in all probability had been deputed by the Order to stir up the people. The remonstrances of the Knights upon the occasion of passing the edict for sounding the money was now remembered to their disadvantage; but the Templars, hearing of the arrest of their degraded brethren, laid the particulars of their cases before the King. These explanations, while they exonerated the Knights from any share in the seditions, exasperated the King the more against them. He had intended to proceed against the Templars as fomentors of the riots, and when thus certain of having his prey within his claws, he found it slip away beyond his reach. He ascribed to the conduct of the Templars in resisting the edict the subsequent riot, and, although he could not proceed against them criminally, he did everything in his power to humiliate and mortify them. But, when he least expected it, a pretext for destroying them was put into his hands, in a most extraordi-

\* Mezerai, Dupui, Grutler, Mariana.



nary manner, and under circumstances which render the whole charges made against the Order suspicious and improbable.

The news of this sedition, the active share taken in it by the two degraded Templars, and the hatred which the King bore towards the Order, soon spread through France. Nothing was talked of but the King's desire to ruin the Order; and there is little doubt that emissaries of Philip were actively employed through France in collecting matter prejudicial to the Knights. The governor of a castle in Languedoc was the first to fire the train of destruction. On hearing of the King's anger and wish for vengeance, he sent a letter to Philip, stating that there was a prisoner confined in a dungeon of his castle, lying under sentence of death for a capital crime, who was in possession of a secret of such importance, that it could only be confided to the king. The secret, he added, was of so much importance, that he felt sure the King would rather lose his crown than be ignorant of it. Upon receipt of this letter, Philip was moved with a lively curiosity; he commanded the citizen to be brought before him at Paris, and in the meantime suspended the sentence for his execution. The citizen accordingly, well bound and under the charge of a strong military escort, was sent to Paris, and upon his arrival was at once conducted into the royal presence. He cast himself at the feet of the King, and begged for his life in return for the secret he had to divulge. This the King promised him, providing that his tidings should be of that value which he ascribed to them. The citizen then stated that, having been condemned to death along with an apostate Templar, he was placed in the same dungeon with him. They were denied the privilege of confession, as it was not the custom to permit a priest to administer the sacrament of penance to criminals accused of such crime as they were condemned to death for committing. Consequently, they did, as had been often done before by criminals in their condition—they confessed to one another. The Templar, in his confession, spoke in general terms of the immorality which reigned in the Order, and hinted at certain abominations committed by the members at the reception of the Knights, so terrible and execrable, that he, the repository of this confession, thought it was for the interest of the kingdom and Christianity that Philip should be informed of such things existing among a body of men reputed to be so godly.

He then charged the Knights with a disbelief in God, of denying Jesus Christ, and of practising crimes which cannot be named.

(To be continued.)

## MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

### FREEMASONRY. PROGRESS, EPOCHS.

Freemasonry, like all other human institutions, is subject to the law of progress, and has its epochs. These epochs are seven, and at each of them Freemasonry underwent considerable changes. The first epoch may be called pre-historic. The second epoch is the middle of the seventeenth century. The third epoch is the last part of that century. The fourth epoch is the early part of the eighteenth century. The sixth epoch is the last part of that century; and the seventh epoch is the early part of the present century.—From a bundle of old Masonic notes in Bro. PURTON COOPER'S possession.

### SUPREME COUNCILS.

The Supreme Council of England I have always understood to be the chief and mother Supreme Council of the world. What Supreme Councils are derived from it, and by what Councils is it recognised? I am not able to ascertain this in the usual course.—R. X.

### THE TRUE FREEMASONRY.

"The intolerance which would be incompatible with true Freemasonry," *Freemasons' Magazine*, vol. 15, page 433. It is there stated, "Should Christian, Mahommedan, Jewish, or Parsee Freemasonry bar the entrance of an individual into the lodge, on the ground that he acknowledged no other religion except natural religion, that would, in my judgment, be incompatible with true Freemasonry"—meaning the true Freemasonry.

"Toleration of true Freemasonry," *ibid* vol. 16, page 350. There it is stated that "the Freemasonry which does not tolerate the Theism of natural religion is not true Freemasonry"—meaning the true Freemasonry.

"Christian, Jewish, Parsee, and Mahommedan Freemasonry," *ibid* page 426. It is there said that "by the adoption of the wise toleration existing in English Freemasonry, the toleration of all other religions in which there is a recognition of the Great Architect of the Universe and a belief in the soul's immortality, the particular Freemasonry becomes universal (the term universal being taken according to its correct signification), and therefore true Freemasonry"—that is to say the true Freemasonry.—C. P. COOPER.

### SQUARE AND COMPASSES.

Are these emblems, affixed to a tavern or beer-shop, any safe indication that the keeper is a Mason? Do they not rather give a suspicious character to the house? Will it not be safer for a tavern-keeper, who is a Mason, not to mix himself up with the general herd of Masons and non-Masons by appearing to tout, but to abstain from putting up suspicious emblems?—IGNOTUS.



## ROSA CRUCIS.

The following are the replies of Rosa Crucis to his several correspondents:—

## MASONS BY RIGHT.

I never questioned the right of Jews and Mahommedans to be Freemason because they are not Christians, but I denied then, and do still, that Jews, Deists, and Mahommedans are Masons *by right*; and I challenge Bro. Circle to prove it by the Book of Constitutions. If any such claim did exist it would, however, be that of our Hebrew brethren to whom we owe the Book of the Divine Law, and those glorious Hebrew poems which Tate and Brady did all they could to spoil; and it was from a pure virgin of that ancient race that the Saviour of Mankind was born; and, as to antiquity of descent, our oldest nobility are mere mushrooms when compared with the grand old princes of the House of Judah.

## CORINTHIAN ORDER.

If Bro. Pictus will look into Josephus, he will find that Solomon built his house supported by "quadrangular pillars," but "the roof was according to the Corinthian Order."

## OFFICE OF MASTER MASON.

The name of Master Mason appears frequently in the old rolls; but it seems to me to mean a contractor rather than what we commonly understand by that appellation.

## IMMORTALITY OF THE SOUL.

The Jews were divided upon this subject, but the Sadducees said there was no resurrection, and neither angel or spirit; but the Pharisees confessed both, and Job says, "And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God."

## ROYAL ARCH DEGREE.

I have long been of opinion with the Masonic Student that the H.R.A. is only the latter portion of the M.M. Degree, separated by Grand Lodge for the purpose of creating additional Grand Officers, extra fees, and putting money into the pockets of Masonic jewellers.

## LAW OF MIRACLES.

A miracle "is an effect above human nature, a power performed in attestation of some truth" (Bentley) "effected by power more than natural" (Herbert); when our Saviour turned water into wine, teetotalism was not the fashion among the ancient Jews and when he raised Lazarus and the widow's son to life, he performed a miracle. When Bro. Cooper or N. C. F. can do the same, they may be able to lay down the law of Miracles, but not till then.—From a bundle of Masonic Memoranda.—ROSA CRUCIS.

## JEWISH CHARITY, CHRISTIAN CHARITY, IN FREEMASONRY.

A statement has been forwarded to Chateau . . . In this statement a comparison is drawn between Jewish charity and Christian charity in Freemasonry which my experience entirely contradicts. In my province of Kent—1853-1860—the charitable donations of the Jewish brothers were, in proportion to their numbers, fully as large as those of the Christian brothers.—From Bro. PURTON COOPER'S Masonic Memorandum Book, April, 1867.

## A HINT FOR GRAND LODGE.

The *Bulletin of the Grand Orient of France*, in recording the labours of the Council of the Order, or, as we should call it, Board of General Purposes, has a heading which shows that all plans of new lodge buildings are submitted to the Council and by them to a Select Committee. Thus we find the report on the new buildings or rooms for a lodge at Compiègne and one at Carpentras. They are reported as strictly Masonic, and as presenting improvements on the previous accommodation afforded. They are consequently recommended to be authorized. Would it not be a good thing if plans of lodge rooms were submitted for approbation in England? Would it be a good thing if they were submitted to the same authorities as those who in the Grand Lodge buildings have supplied us with rooms that are not Masonic?—N.

## BRO. VIENNET AND THE GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

The *Bulletin of the Grand Orient* records that the death of M. Ill. Bro. Viennet, M.P.S.G.C. of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, was announced to the Council of the Grand Orient by their President at their sitting. Bro. S. Jean, D.G.M., presiding, observed: "Brethren,—You all know the mournful loss which Freemasonry has sustained. The M. Ill. Bro. Viennet, M.P.S.G.C., of the Supreme Council of France, is just dead, and his funeral takes place tomorrow, Tuesday, at the Church of the Madeleine. I propose that the Council be represented by a deputation, and invite all the members who can to be present. We owe this example to our brethren of all rites, we owe this homage to the qualities and virtues of the deceased." A deputation was unanimously named and it attended; and, as a compliment to the deceased, a distinguished literary man was placed in the deputation.—N.

## ORIGIN OF THE MASTER'S DEGREE.

My answer to the inquiry of a correspondent is that amongst my papers is a very recent memorandum to the effect that, according to Bro. Findel, the origin of the Master's Degree may have been some years before 1680.—C. P. COOPER.

## ENGLISH FREEMASONRY AND CHRISTIANITY.

Brother \* \* \*, there may be Freemasonry without Christianity. But such Freemasonry would not be English Freemasonry. . . . "Christianity is the essence of English Freemasonry." This line, you say, occurs in my last letter. Now, if you take away the essence of a thing the thing droops and expires. . . . I adhere to the words used in my communication, "Christianity and English Freemasonry," *Freemasons' Magazine*, vol. 14, page 391. "English Freemasonry, from its nature, cannot exist if separated from Christianity. Divide English Freemasonry and Christianity, and the former necessarily and immediately perishes. Its principle of vitality is gone."\* —From Bro. PURTON COOPER'S Masonic Letter-Book, June, 1866.

\* This fragment of a letter is all that remains in my possession of a long correspondence, of which the opinion expressed in the lines cited from my communication was the subject. A memorandum that I had prepared of the grounds upon which my opinion rested, was some months ago sent to a learned brother, who has just announced his intention of submitting them to a critical examination.

"CHARTER OF SCOTCH KINGS" (page 188).

The remarks of Bro. W. Harris may be a little satirical, yet there is something in them.

Scotch Kings, "in the year 1100," were not "busy giving charters to Scotch Lodges of Freemasons." The king at that time was Edgar (1097 to 1107), who was succeeded by his brother, Alexander I. (1107 to 1124), who was succeeded by his younger brother, David I. (1124 to 1153). It was in this (David's) reign that the great revolution took place in Scotland, in the supplanting of the Culdees by the Roman Catholics, when so many new monasteries, &c., were founded, and old ones, which had fallen into decay, restored. Scotland, in the beginning of the twelfth century, was just beginning to recover from "an age of anarchy," and when David I. (our Scottish Charlemagne, or Alfred) got the reins of government in his hands, he had to begin the work of setting things in order; and, although he did so, he does not seem to have granted charters even to burgh towns, much less to "lodges of Freemasons." \* Neither did his grandson, Malcolm IV., who succeeded him (1153 to 1165) do so; this was reserved for Malcolm's brother, William the Lion (1165 to 1214), who was the first to grant charters to burghs, as well as the first to grant anything like a Royal charter to anything like a lodge of Freemasons, which Masonic charter of his was granted at second-hand (if I may so express it), being a confirmation of what his friend Bishop Joceline had done, the Fraternity being mentioned in it along with other matters, and this, granted in 1190, is the oldest genuine document bearing any resemblance or connection to a Masonic charter we really know of in Scotland.

As to the word *Fraternitas* in it, meaning a company of operative Masons, Professor Innes (in a letter to me dated 20th May, 1868) observes, "if you find other such fraternities about that time over Europe, and I think there were some;"† which observation of Professor Innes I consider to be an encouragement to look for them.

Our talented Masonic historian, Bro. Findel, at page 54 of his History of Freemasonry, alludes to the Company appointed by Bishop Lucy to build his cathedral in 1202. Was it chartered?

There is a difference between Scotland and England in regard to the building fraternities. They may have grown up in England or been introduced there with the Normans in 1066; they would then exist in England as a matter of course, which may prove a difficulty in the way of finding many English Royal charters. There may, however, be bishop's charters. But these are merely suggestions of my own.

In Scotland again, previous to the latter half of the twelfth century, the churches built would probably be principally of wood. Scotchmen then were good carpenters. If the churches founded in David's time had been of stone, where have they all gone to? Speaking of the Cathedral of Glasgow, founded in 1123 and dedicated in 1136, Professor Innes observes

\* It is only childish credulity, a taste for imposition, or sheer inexcusable ignorance of the history of their own country that would now make Scotchmen uphold, or believe in, charters such as the Malcolm and David I. affairs.

† I am sorry to say I have not as yet been able to look after this.

in "Registrum Episcopatus Glasguensis," page 24. "The original Church of Bishop John, built perhaps chiefly of wood, had been recently destroyed by fire."

While David introduced a new religion, it stands to reason that the new religionists would have to feel their way a little before they were able to put up the magnificent stone structures that were afterwards erected. But as the Scottish carpenters would hardly be able to build stone churches to the satisfaction of their employers. Masons had to be imported into Scotland to do so, who would naturally be looked upon by the Scottish Craftsmen with a jealous eye as intruders, which necessitated the granting of charters of protection to the Masons, many interests being disturbed in the introduction of stone *versus* wood; opposition being, however, useless, the new-comers would gradually incorporate with themselves the native Craftsmen, and perhaps the fact that, "until the end of the 16th century, the Wrights and most of the other Crafts of the city (of Glasgow) were incorporated with the Masons," is a relic of these amalgamations or customs.

The great age of Church building in Scotland was after the treaty (A.D. 1189) between William the Lion and Richard of England.

In Scotland, therefore, we need not look for any charters being granted to building fraternities before the time of William the Lion; and, as if to rivet this, Professor Innes says, if you can get a photograph of the entry of the William the Lion charter, "no more ancient or honourable title could be put into your handsome charter chest."† While, however, we have no Masonic Scotch charters before the end of the twelfth century, there may have been such in England long before that time, and may be got if looked for.

The "Masonic Archæological Institute" has undoubtedly plenty of work before it, and deserves the cordial support of all brethren who desire a true and thorough knowledge of Freemasonry. I wish every success to the search for ancient English charters.—W. P. BUCHAN.

SUPREME COUNCIL.

As an old Mason, initiated in England 50 years ago, having resided in the South American States for nearly 30 years, and a member of a foreign Supreme Council (a 33°), I hope I may be excused for inquiring—first, where your English Council exists or holds out? secondly, of whom is it composed, and where can I see their names and addresses, and know something about their social status, &c.? thirdly, by what other Supreme Council is your English Council recognized? fourthly, how long has it been established, and by whom was it founded or generated? fifthly, are there any meetings of chapters or other bodies held under the English Council, and if so, where? sixthly, is there any Masonic directory in which any information—beyond that very imperfectly conveyed by the English Craft Calendar, or Masonic Pocket Book—can be obtained, particularly relating to the high grades as I see they are called here. As I leave Europe shortly, I shall be glad of replies in your next.—A 33° (and of the few now living of 25 years standing.)

\* Connected with building must be meant.

† This alludes to an old box of carved oak made in 1684.

## WHENCE THE TERM "FREEMASON" IS DERIVED.

Dear Bro. "E. G. H.," the ensuing is the passage of Mr. Wyatt Papworth's paper showing whence the term "Freemason" is derived. The paper is entitled "On the Superintendents of English Buildings in the Middle Ages.—Collections for an Historical Account of Masons, their Customs, Institutions, &c." It was read at the Royal Institute of British Architects, 2nd Dec., 1861. "From these details three facts are obtained; the first, that the earliest use of the English term Freemason was in 1396, without any previous Latin word. The second is, that the word freestone, or its equivalent Latin term, had been employed from the beginning of the previous century, *i.e.*, 1212; and the third fact, if the word be permitted me, is that the term Freemason itself is clearly derived from a Mason who worked freestone, in contradistinction to the Mason who was employed in rough work. This may appear to many a trivial point, but those who know the many fanciful origins of the term Freemason, so often quoted, will perhaps accept this solution; one which has been suggested before, without any proof brought forward in support of it."—From Bro. PURTON COOPER's Letter and Memorandum Books, July, 1865. [See the *Freemasons' Magazine*, vol. 7, page 186.]

## DEISTIC MASONRY.

A Deistic Masonry, the expression "Deistic" being understood in its philological sense, is unknown.—C. P. COOPER.

## NO CAUSE FOR ANGER.

My answer to a correspondent at . . . is that there is not even the "quantulacunque occasio" of which Juvenal speaks, for there is no cause whatever for anger. A brother has done well in writing, and the editor has done well in publishing.—C. PURTON COOPER.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

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

## CAUTION TO MASONS.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—I write this letter as a caution to brethren in the Craft in various parts, and to prevent their being imposed upon. A Mrs. Butler, who represents herself as the widow of a deceased Mason, has been to various places to sell tickets for an entertainment she intends to give. She was in this town some weeks since, and must have received large sums of money, but has not since been heard of, leaving the unpleasant remembrance on the minds of the members of the Craft that, in consequence of their charitable feelings towards one in distress, they have had their pockets considerably lightened, and nothing like a *quid pro quo* except a piece of coloured pasteboard admitting to Mrs. Butler's entertainment when it may take place (if ever). Mrs. B. is accompanied by her daughter, and produces signatures of many Masons high in the Craft in this and the neighbouring provinces.

Yours fraternally,

✠K. T.

## HIGH DEGREES AND SHAM DEGREES.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—Nothing shows so much there is a screw loose in our constitution and administration as these late proceedings of W. Bro. William Harris and others. It is all very well holding aloof from other than Craft degrees, but they must be provided for. In Ireland and Scotland the Most Worshipful Grand Master has for many years past been at the head of all degrees and the centre of all jurisdiction, and, were this the case here, the pranks of Bro. Harris and his rivals and imitators would soon be put a stop to because they could not go on. It is most undesirable to persecute quacks and mountebanks, and I disclaim all personal reflections on Bro. Harris, who appears to be a well-meaning but ignorant simpleton, but quiet contempt largely administered will go a great way in stopping this foolery, which is otherwise calculated to bring Masonry into disrepute among the weaker brethren, who ought to be protected.

Yours fraternally,

A. & A.

## GRAND LODGE LIBRARY.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—A remark in Notes and Queries forcibly struck me, and that was a reference to the library and librarian of the Grand Orient of France. It has grieved many that our Grand Lodge should be without a library. It was a cherished hope of our lamented G. Sec. Bro. Gray Clarke, that he should succeed in getting our records and few books into such order as to found a library; and he was hoping the completion of the building would give him this chance. Bro. Gray Clarke had made it his business to acquire from books and records as much information as he could with regard to our constitutional history to assist him in the difficult questions arising in his correspondence.

We now have an active and energetic Secretary, Bro. Hervey, and I heartily commend to him this necessary work of the library. A literary society without a library makes but a poor figure.

There are difficulties in the way of finding a librarian, but the name of a Bro. occurs to me to whom the beginning of such a work might be usefully confided, if he would take charge of it. I mean our Bro. Jeremiah How, a Masonic author, an active Mason, and a man of zeal and intelligence. I hope this hint may be of use.

Yours fraternally,

P. M.

## MASONIC APPEAL.

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

Sir,—Will you bear with me while I inform you of an effort set on foot through reading the MASONIC MIRROR of last month. The thought struck me (and I put it at once into practice) on reading the speech of Bro. Bentley Shaw, chairman at the annual fête of the Boys' School, that the wives of Masons might make themselves very useful just now in helping to reduce the debt of £10,000 on the Boys' School. I copied such parts of the speech as

were needed to explain the object, and with the MASONIC MIRROR made up my mind to call upon all the wives of the lodge member's, widows and single member's, asking them to give 10s., if they could, to help in this work; of course there are many who cannot give as much, but if they who can, will do so it will make up for those who give less. I have met with very good success as far as I have called, but I have not yet gone the round of the members, as I leave my books with them for a few hours that they may read for themselves. I send you this brief account, hoping you may aid the cause by inserting the plan in your next *Magazine*, putting it in the best form you can to induce other lodges to take it up. At a small personal sacrifice this heavy debt might be easily paid, when we think that there are upwards of 40,000 members of lodges in England alone. Next month I hope to send you the finished account of the work in this lodge.

H. H. W.

[We feel very much pleasure in giving insertion to the above letter, and heartily commend the idea of our lady correspondent to the notice of the Craft generally, that they may be also induced to "go and do likewise."—ED. F.M.]

### THE STATE OF MASONRY IN THE PROVINCES.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—I have read with much interest the correspondence which has lately appeared in your columns on the state of Masonry in the provinces; and I feel strongly tempted to trouble you with some observations, prompted by my own experience, on several of the points already discussed. Among these I may mention the mischievous effect produced upon a province by having at its head a Prov. G.M. who persistently neglects the duties of his office, whilst retaining the whole power in his hands, and the great difficulty of getting rid of such an one;\* the relative positions of the Prov. G. Masters and their deputies, and the anomalous *status* of the latter as regards the Craft in general. I must, however, for the present refrain, and, trusting that so important a subject will not much longer remain in its present unsatisfactory state, I remain,

Yours fraternally,  
D.P.G.M.

### MASONIC RELIEF IN THE PROVINCES.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—I venture to trespass upon your space with some remarks upon a point not yet touched upon, but which, although indirectly bearing upon the main subject, is one of no little importance, and well worth ventilating in your pages, with a view, if possible, to obtain a remedy, or, at least, a mitigation of a crying evil from which country lodges have

long suffered. I say "country lodges," because I presume, from the nature of things, the members of London lodges are very little exposed to it.

I refer to the increasingly numerous applications for relief made to the Masters, Almoners, and individual members of lodges in the provinces by persons styling themselves "Brethren in distress," but who, as a class, may more truly be designated "Tramping Masons," and, not unfrequently, "Masonic Impostors."

After an interval of more than a quarter of a century, during which I have been an active member of my present and other lodges, I am again serving the Mastership of my mother lodge, and during the past few months the W.M. of the sister lodge in this town and myself have been inundated with applications for relief to an extent far beyond anything I have ever known in my long experience of lodge business. "Distressed Masons" have appeared here—not monthly, or weekly only, but almost daily, and, in some instances, by two or three in a day—indeed, between the Tuesday in last week and the preceding Thursday, no less than nine such applicants presented themselves.

Nearly all these comers, until their rapidly increasing numbers compelled us to say, "Hold, enough!" have—perhaps injudiciously—been relieved, to a greater or less extent, out of the lodge funds—not because they were thought worthy of it, but in the hope of sparing the brethren generally the annoyance of being personally solicited for relief by these men, which is contrary to our by-laws.

Now, past experience has long convinced me that it is very rare indeed for any really deserving case of distress to be presented to the Fraternity in this manner by itinerant begging; and that, at least nineteen out of twenty of the men so asking relief are either arrant impostors or unworthy brethren who are debased enough to make a trade of Masonry, and to lead a wandering life of idleness by imposing with a lying tale of distress upon the charity of the country brethren, rather than earn an honest living by the work of their hands.

I have been glad to find, for the credit of the Craft in this country, that comparatively few of these men claim to be English Masons. As a body they may be divided into two classes—foreigners and Scotch Masons. Of the former class not a few—if their own account is to be credited—are "persons of distinction," whilst, as a rule, the latter may be described as occupying a position little above that of artizans. I fear that among the former class (for whom as wanderers in a strange land our sympathies would be naturally excited) are to be found not a few arrant knaves and impostors.

In the early part of the year you gave insertion to a communication from the town from whence I write, respecting a Hungarian who had been detected as a Masonic impostor after he had succeeded in fleecing many of the brethren, and, as it was subsequently found, he had also done on a former visit, but whose career was soon afterwards cut short by his being taken into custody at Bristol for felony. I regret to say that my colleague and I were soon afterwards victimized by another foreigner, who, however, unlike his predecessor, there was no reason

\* In this province a former Prov. G.M. neglected to hold a Prov. G. Lodge for 17 years; and yet, in spite of petitions and deputations to head-quarters, he retained office for 40 years, up to the day of his death, having met the brethren on four occasions only during that period.

to doubt was a 'Mason.' About six months ago an application was made to us officially for a temporary loan of money by a young German, having a certificate of his having been initiated in a Scotch lodge. He gave his name as Siegmund Sax, and his address as 17, Kollhofen-street, Hamburg. He appeared to be about 27 years of age, was rather below the middle height, was possessed of pleasing, gentlemanly manners, and had intensely black, short curly hair. He represented that he had been travelling through Scotland and the north of England for orders in the silk trade on behalf of the firm of Messrs. Michelson & Co., of Hamburg. That he had been for several years in the United States, but that he now visited this country for the first time, and that the allowance of 15s. a day made to him for his travelling expenses, although sufficient on the continent, was inadequate here, and that, consequently, he had fallen short of funds to take him back home. He showed his purse containing about £3 in gold, and asked for a loan of £4 to enable him to reach Hamburg, promising to remit it within a week. He produced a large roll of his bills at hotels at various places in Scotland and England, which, he said, he was keeping to show his employers what his expenses really had been. Although there was much about his story that led us rather to doubt its accuracy, his plausibility and apparent simplicity of manner induced us to give him the benefit of a doubt, and, the result was, that we advanced him the £4, taking his receipt for it and an undertaking to repay it within seven days. As may be imagined, *we have neither seen him nor the money again*, and, although more than one attempt has been made to hear something respecting him at Hamburg, it has been without success. Unfortunately neither my colleague nor I made a note of the name and locality of his lodge, but his certificate had one peculiarity—a marginal note, to the effect that it had been issued as a duplicate—the original certificate having been lost during the war in America.

This, and his description, will be sufficient to put your readers on their guard should he pay any of them a visit.

Lately, one foreigner has succeeded another rather rapidly. Last week a Frenchman, advanced in years, presented himself, stating that he had been in Mexico as a soldier with Maximilian; that he had just succeeded in escaping from prison and reaching Liverpool, and asked for aid to get to the Duc D'Aumale, at Twickenham, when he should at once be free from difficulties. Of course "all his papers had been taken from him when prisoner." Two days later he was followed by another foreigner, styling himself "an ex-Hungarian general." He also had just escaped out of prison somewhere, and he likewise had been deprived of his Masonic certificate. A day later succeeded one calling himself a physician, who had just escaped from Siberia. Now I cannot say whether those statements were true or false, but I give them as examples of the applications made to us for relief by foreign Masons in one week; and I may add that the ex-Hungarian general smelt very strongly of beer; and it is no unusual thing for a "Mason in distress" to present himself in a state of intoxication. The greatest tax upon us, however, is made by the Scotch Masons; these may be said to come, "not in single files, but in battalions," and I greatly fear that the facilities existing in that country—through which far too many persons, not "in respectable circumstances," are admitted into the Order for a very small fee—offers a pre-

mium to many in the lower ranks of life to become Masons for mercenary and unworthy motives.\*

I will now, sir, whilst apologizing for the length of this letter, which, however, still leaves much untold on the subject, ask you and your numerous readers whether some practical plan cannot be developed for, at least, checking the successful career of the knaves by whom, under the false names of "distressed Masons," the provinces are infested, whilst substantial relief may be afforded to really deserving cases. From the rather strong epithets which I have applied to individuals calling themselves "Brother Masons," some may perhaps think that I and the province which I represent are wanting in charity.† I will, in order to remove any such impression, only state that, when two years ago I served as a Steward at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, I was so liberally supported that I had the honour of sending in the largest list of any individual Steward—upwards of £200—so that our charity cannot be said "to begin at home and end there."

Yours fraternally,

D.P.G.M.

#### A LEESON TESTIMONIAL.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—I noticed, buried in an article where I, in common with many others, should not have looked for it, a very excellent suggestion for doing honour to so illustrious a brother as the learned Doctor Leeson, until recently, your English M.P. Sov., G. Com. A. and A.R., by following a precedent so excellent as that you illustrated with two engravings in your last number. As a foreigner, and a member of the same Order under a foreign jurisdiction, it might be thought to be bad taste on my part to add more remarks, and my English, too, is not equal to the task of addressing your readers properly on this subject, and doing it justice.

Paris,

Yours fraternally,

Sept. 9th, 1868.

III. Bro. 33<sup>rd</sup>, OF FRANCE.

#### GIVE HONOUR TO WHOM HONOUR IS DUE.

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

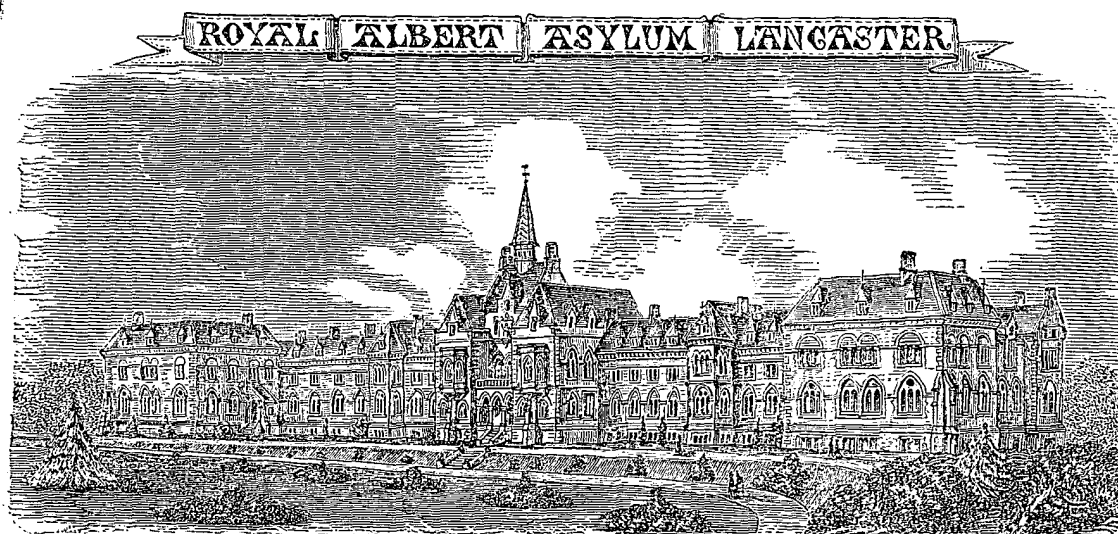
Dear Sir and Brother,—I have never seen any report in the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE of the meeting of the Grand Chapter Rose Croix, which was held in London nine months ago, and which was, I have been told, a really splendid meeting of all the principal English Masonic luminaries, and, as my informant told me, they were as handsome and highly intelligent set of gentlemen as ever he met with in any society in Europe or America—and he has travelled greatly. He told me, too, at that time that a resolution was unanimously carried, that a suitable testimonial was to be presented by the body to the retiring M.P.S.G.C., Dr. Leeson, and that a committee was named and agreed to.

Yours fraternally,

H. K.

\* We hope for better things now that Earl Dalhousie, the D. Prov. G.M. of England, is G. M. M. of Scotland, and this subject is one demanding his Lordship's most serious attention, and affecting the deservedly high reputation of Scotch claims and Freemasonry in Scotland.

† We advise our correspondent to apply to Bro. Hine, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, as the Lancashire brethren have adopted a very successful arrangement for distributing relief; and we are assured that the really deserving who may apply to the almoners are never sent away empty-handed and are properly cared for.—[Ed. F.M.]



We present our readers this week with an engraving of the above institution, the foundation stone of which was laid by the M.W.G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, K.T., on the 17th of June last. More than usual interest was attached to the proceedings, from the fact that it was the first time Grand Lodge had been held at such a distance for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of a building not Masonic.

The institution was established in 1864. The idea was originated by a member of the Society of Friends, who offered to give the sum of £2,000 towards erecting an asylum for idiots in Lancashire. The idea was subsequently enlarged upon, and it was finally agreed that the whole of the north of England should be permitted to partake of the benefits of the institution.

It has met with a great deal of substantial support, which has resulted in the building being commenced.

The site chosen for the new asylum is one of the prettiest around Lancaster—a gently sloping hill on the opposite side of the line and very near to the stately Ripley Hospital. The building has been designed in our national style of architecture, adapted to modern requirements. Standing on a commanding site (about 150ft. above the sea level), half a mile to the south of the town, adjoining the Lancaster and Preston Railway, and surrounded by its 67 acres of ground, it will be a conspicuous object as the traveller approaches the town from the south. The whole of the exterior is built of durable light-coloured freestone, quarried within a quarter of a mile of the building. To render the interior perfectly dry and warm, the outside walls are lined with brickwork, having a small cavity between the brick and stone, thus giving the building as it were an inner lining, and cutting off all communication with the ever-changing temperature of the exterior. The general arrangement of the plan is very simple and something in the form of the capital letter E, the main front facing westward being represented by the thick upright stroke with two wings at the north and south extremities projecting 60ft. from the front of the main building and running back 185ft., and a central projection of 40ft. extending in an easterly direction to a distance of 250ft. The greatest length from north to south is 472ft., and from east to west 340 ft., the total area covered being 5,160 square yards. The principal entrance is in the centre of the main front, and opens into the large entrance-hall and staircase leading to the boardroom and secretary's office. To the right is the residence of the superintendent, to the left the matron's room, waiting-room, &c. Facing the entrance is the large dining-hall, 70ft. by

35ft., capable of accommodating 300 inmates. Immediately behind the dining-hall is the kitchen wing, containing a large kitchen 43ft. by 35ft., scullery, pantries, servants' hall, &c.; beneath are the bakeries, store-rooms, &c., communicating with the kitchen by a hoist. To the east of the kitchen wing, at a distance of 40ft., and connected by a corridor, is the workshop block, 140ft. by 66ft., containing workshops for the carpenters, painter, shoemakers, &c., engine-house and smithy, over which are the washhouses, laundry, &c. Immediately adjoining the entrance-hall, and branching off to the right and left, are the principal corridors, 9ft. wide and 130ft. long, communicating with the various apartments and with the corridors of the wings. The rooms on the west side of the corridor, both on the right and left, are reserved as day rooms for first-class patients, those on the east side are occupied by the schoolmaster, schoolmistress, and attendants. In the north and south wings are the schoolrooms, dayrooms, baths, and lavatories, and at the east end of the south wing is the residence of the house steward. The basement floor is entirely above ground owing to the natural slope of the ground, and is chiefly appropriated for general storage of provisions, ironmongery, coals, drapery and linen, larders and dairies, tailors' and upholsterers' shops, &c. The principal entrance to the basement storey is at the east end of the central block, where goods and stores are delivered and deposited for use. In the south wing are workrooms and large play rooms for the use of the female inmates in wet weather, and the kitchen and offices of the house steward. The first floor is generally appropriated as dormitories, with the boardroom and offices over the principal entrance. The second floor is similarly appropriated, and will be used as dormitories when required. The building will accommodate 500 inmates, exclusive of the staff of officers, and the total cost will not be less than £50,000. The architect for the building is Mr. G. Paley, of Lancaster; the contractor for the masonry is Mr. Baynes, and for the woodwork Mr. Blades, both of Lancaster; for the plumber's work Mr. James Walmsley, of Preston; and for the plasterer's work Messrs. Johnston Bros., Carlisle.

A good deal still remains to be accomplished before it can be said that the exertions of the committee have been crowned with complete success; but it is gratifying to learn that there is every prospect of the building being opened for the reception of inmates free from debt. The total cost of the building is estimated at £60,000, and the contributions from all sources amount to about £40,000.



## THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

### MASONIC MEMS.

A PROV. GRAND LODGE of the Western Division of Lancashire will be held at the Public Hall, King-street, Wigan, on the 6th day of October, under the presidency of Bro. Lieut.-Col. Sir T. G. F. Hesketh, *Bart.*, *M.P.*, Prov. G. M.

GIRLS' SCHOOL.—The votes of the brethren are solicited on behalf of Clara Mercedes Wicks, a candidate for admission to the Girls' School at the next election.

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.

BOYS' SCHOOL.—The case of Henry Hickmott is earnestly represented as being a very deserving one.

GIRLS' SCHOOL.—Theresa Mary Claisen is also a candidate for admission. For list of brethren who will receive proxies in the above cases 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.

### METROPOLITAN.

PERFECT ASHLAR LODGE (No. 1,178).—A meeting of this prosperous and flourishing lodge was held on Thursday, the 3rd inst., at the Gregorian Arms Tavern, 96, Jamaica-road, Bermondsey. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. J. Donkin—caused by his being out of town—Bro. F. Walters, P.M. and Sec., opened the lodge punctually at six o'clock, p.m. The minutes of a regular lodge and an emergency meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. Bro. J. W. Avery, P.M. Beadon Lodge (No. 619), and J.W. of this lodge, then took the chair of K.S., and presided over the lodge for the remainder of the evening. He raised Bro. Philip Fry and passed Bro. Leon Ashton. Both of these ceremonies being rendered in an able and effectual manner, reflecting the greatest credit upon the W.M. The by-laws were read by the Secretary. The ballots for W.M. and Treasurer were unanimous in favour of Bro. F. H. Ebsworth, S.W., as W.M.; and Bro. Dr. Dixon, P.M., as Treasurer (re-elected). Bro. W. J. Laing, P.M., was unanimously re-elected Tyler. The audit meeting was appointed to be held on Monday, the 26th inst., at seven o'clock, p.m. The lodge was closed, and refreshment followed after labour. There were present during the evening, besides those named, Bros. F. H. Ebsworth, S.W.; J. Green, S.D.; H. Bartlett, J.D.; D. Rose, I.G.; J. W. Dudley, W.S.; Dr. Dixon, P.M., Treas.; J. H. Harmsworth, J. H. Fudge, J. Ruse, G. Free, G. Drapper, T. W. Cox, J. A. Axtell, T. Blakeley, P.M.; G. Ransom, C.E., and several others. Amongst a large number of visitors we noticed Bros. H. Endor, G. Hill, and H. Keeble, 73; E. Rabley, W.S. 158; C. W. Noehmer, 186; H. Massey, W.M. 619; J. Hawker, W.M. 871; J. Griffin, S.W. 933, &c.

### PROVINCIAL.

#### DEVONSHIRE.

TOTNES.—*Pleiades Lodge* (No. 710).—The monthly meeting was held on Thursday, August 27th, at the Masonic Rooms. The chairs were filled as follows: Bros. John Heath, W.M.; Marks, I.P.M.; George Heath, acting as S.W.; W. Oldrey, J.W.; Pridham, S.D.; W. Cuming, acting as J.D.; Taylor, Org.; Niner, I.G. Soon after six o'clock the lodge was opened by the W.M. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read

and confirmed. Bro. Chudleigh, a candidate for the second degree, was examined as to his proficiency, and entrusted, after which he retired. The lodge was opened in the second degree. By the wish of the W.M., he and the I.P.M. exchanged chairs, for the latter to work the ceremony. The candidate was readmitted properly prepared and passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. By request Bro. Dr. Hopkins gave the appropriate charge, and also the lecture explanatory of the second Tracing Board. Bro. Marks, acting W.M., then closed the lodge in the second degree, after which Bro. J. Heath resumed his chair and several matters of business were settled, the principal of which had reference to the recent decorations of the lodge room, the re-arrangement of the lighting, &c. The lodge was finally closed at half-past 7.

#### DURHAM.

DURHAM.—*Marquis of Granby Lodge* (No. 124).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 1st inst. in the Freemasons' Hall, Old Elvet, Durham. The lodge was opened shortly after seven o'clock, under the presidency of Bro. W. A. Malcolm, W.M., who was supported by the following officers, viz., Bros. W. C. Blackett, as S.W.; T. Sarsfield, J.W.; Rev. F. Thompson, *M.A.*, P. Prov. G. Chap., Chap.; W. Carr, Sec.; W. Brignall, jun., 30°, S.D.; W. Sarsfield, J.D.; R. Cooke, I.G. Among the brethren present were, Bros. W. Stoker, P.M. and P. Prov. S.G.W.; W. Brignall, P.M., P. Prov. G. Reg.; W. R. Fitz-Gerald, P.M., 18°, P. Prov. S.G.D.; Rev. J. W. Hick, *M.A.*, *J.P.*; R. Sheraton-Johnson, Rev. A. Rawson-Ashwell, *M.A.*, &c. The following visitors were present, viz., Bros. the Rev. J. Gaskill, *M.A.*, 312; H. Lawrance, 481; Shead, 743; and W. Canney, 1,121. The minutes of the last regular lodge having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken, with a satisfactory result for Mr. George Elliot, of Houghton Hall (of the firm of Messrs. Glass, Elliot, and Co., the celebrated telegraph cable manufacturers). The candidate being in attendance, was properly prepared and regularly initiated into the mysteries restricted to the first degree. After certain brethren had been appointed trustees for the new Masonic Hall, the lodge was closed in form and with prayer, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The W.M. gave the usual Masonic toasts, which were duly honoured, and proposed "The Health of the newly-initiated brother (Bro. George Elliot)" in an able manner. Bro. Elliot responded in a most effective style. He dwelt at some length on the impressive ceremony he had gone through, and the excellent selection of words which he adopted in expressing his feelings, called forth most enthusiastic applause from the brethren. He concluded by begging the members of the lodge to accept a donation of £50 towards the new Masonic Hall, and stating that he would have pleasure in endeavouring to prevail, so far as the constitutions of the Order would allow him, on his son to be initiated in the Marquis of Granby Lodge. Several other toasts followed, and the brethren then adjourned.

#### KENT.

WESTERHAM.—*Amherst Lodge* (No. 1,223).—The first meeting of this lodge since its consecration was held on the 16th ult., presided over by Bro. R. B. Newson, W.M. Bro. A. Christy, S.W., was unavoidably absent, but there present Bros. W. A. Thompson, J.W.; Col. Wurde, Treas.; J. Bowen, Sec.; Rev. G. Hingstone, Chap., and several other brethren from the Cornwallis Lodge (No. 1,107), who fearing that the new lodge, for want of members, might require some aid, very kindly and opportunely drove from Erith, a distance of more than twenty miles, to fill any office that might be vacant, or otherwise assist in carrying through the work of Masonry. Bro. T. W. Knight was therefore appointed S.W., *pro tem.*; Bros. Sherwin, S.D.; F. Webber, J.D.; and R. Lambert, I.G., which offices they filled much to the satisfaction of the W.M. and brethren of the lodge. Five gentlemen, inhabitants of Westerham, were initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, and five brethren from other lodges received as joining members. The ceremony of initiation was performed in a very correct and impressive manner by the W.M., and concluded by the delivery of the ancient charge, which will not be easily forgotten by those to whom it was addressed. We could wish that those Masters of lodges who think lightly of this part of their duty, had been present to have heard it, and witnessed the effect produced. After the newly-initiated brethren had been instructed



by the W.M. in some of the interesting and advantageous principles of Freemasonry, upon which they would have to undergo an examination prior to their having a higher degree conferred upon them, the lodge was closed in due form. The brethren then sat down to a banquet provided by Bro. Clark, with his accustomed liberality and taste. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to. Bro. W. Fox returned thanks on behalf of the newly-made brethren, in a speech which would have done credit to an experienced and much older brother, and which, if he spoke the sentiments of those whom he represented, leaves no doubt that they will reflect honour upon the lodge of which they were that day admitted members. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the Visiting Brethren of the Cornwallis and other lodges," and thanks to them for the honour they had done, and the valuable service they had rendered the Amherst Lodge, which was replied to in a very neat speech by Bro. T. W. Knight. Bro. M. Shervin, of the Cornwallis Lodge, presided at the piano, and added much to the enjoyment of the meeting by the use of his vocal powers. After spending a very pleasant evening the brethren separated at an early hour, to find their way through a drenching rain to their respective, and to some, very distant homes.

#### MONMOUTHSHIRE.

NEWPORT.—*Silurian Lodge* (No. 471).—On Wednesday last, 2nd inst., business was resumed after the usual three months summer holidays, and a goodly number of brethren attended in pursuance of their summons. Bro. Oliver, W.M., was in the chair, supported by Bros. Evans, Pickford, and Thomas, P.M.'s, and we noticed several P.G. Officers present. The lodge having been opened in due form, the minutes of the last lodge held in June were read and confirmed. Bro. Samuel Purfitt having been called up to the chair, most satisfactorily answered the requisite questions as an E.A., and the lodge being opened in the second degree he was duly passed to the degree of F.C. Bros. Wilkins, Bailey, and Davies, having also passed the test of examination, the lodge was opened in the third degree, and these three brothers raised to the sublime degree of M.M.'s. The lodge was then closed down to the second and first degrees, when the Secretary introduced a petition to the Board of Benevolence from Mrs. Louisa Zoneh of 19, East-road, City-road, London, widow of the late Bro. Clement Zoneh, of Newport, Draper, who was initiated in this lodge in November, 1845, and subscribed thereto up to the time of his leaving the town. Mrs. Zoneh is, we hear, in very deplorable circumstances, and the brethren present unanimously agreed to sign the usual recommendation, which was accordingly done. One brother was proposed as a subscribing member, and one as an honorary member, and the lodge was closed in harmony at 9.40 p.m.

#### INDIA.

##### BENGAL.

##### DISTRICT GRAND LODGE.

(Continued from page 196.)

W. Bro. Judge, Dep. Dist. G.M., said, R.W. Sir,—I wish to say a few words concerning the remarks in your address, referring to the case of Bro. Berrill. As you have said, the conclusions at which we arrived were based solely upon the statements made by the brethren at Port Blair. It must be a source of gratification to us all to learn that our Bro. Berrill is innocent of what was imputed to him; but on the other hand, I fully share the regret which you have expressed, that being misled as we were by the papers before us, any statements should have been recorded in this District Grand Lodge which might be likely to give pain to our Bro. Berrill. I can only say, that if any words of mine which were used on the occasion have wounded the feelings of that Brother, I am most heartily and sincerely sorry that they were uttered.

W. Bro. J. P. Kennedy, D.G. Reg., said he had been very much gratified at what he had just heard concerning Bro. Berrill. He (Bro. Kennedy) had known Bro. Berrill in Burmah, and had been much surprised when he heard the statements which the Port Blair Brethren had made respecting him, as his (Bro. Kennedy's) own experience had led him to form such an entirely different opinion of Bro. Berrill. He was therefore very

glad to hear these statements contradicted, as they had been this evening, in open Grand Lodge by the District Grand Master.

The D.G. Master felt much pleasure in hearing the District Grand Registrar speak so favorably of Bro. Berrill, and would be glad if he would communicate to that Bro. the fact that his case had been noticed in the District Grand Lodge, and that the District Grand Master, and the Brethren of the District Grand Lodge generally, were anxious that every means should be taken to make it known to the Craft at large, that the temporary slur which had been cast upon his character had been a matter of great regret to them, and that this early opportunity had been taken of removing the imputation of misconduct. W. Bro. Kennedy regretted that he was unable to convey any such communication to Bro. Berrill, as he had lost sight of him since he had left Burmah.

The following report of the Finance Committee was read:—

Report of the Finance Committee of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal for the quarter ending 31st May, 1868. Since their last report, the committee have had three meetings, viz:—27th May, 1868, present, W. Bros. Judge, Powell, Matthews, Mackintosh, Farr, and Locke; apology for non-attendance from W. Bro. Folkard. 5th June, 1868, present, W. Bros. Judge, Powell, Matthews, Mackintosh, Farr, and Locke, apology for non-attendance from W. Bro. Folkard. 22nd June, 1868, present W. Bros. Judge, Matthews, Mackintosh, Folkard, and Locke; apologies for non-attendance from W. Bros. Powell and Farr.

An application has been received from W. Bro. Sagriell (to whom a portion of the Freemasons' Hall is sub-let), asking for a reduction in the amount which he is charged for rent. The committee have given a very careful consideration to the request, but find themselves unable to recommend the District Grand Lodge to accede to it. W. Bro. Sagriell has been informed by the D.G. Sec. accordingly.

A circular letter from the D.G.M. of Trinidad, West Indies, has been received by the D.G.M. of Bengal, announcing the total destruction by fire of their Masonic Hall on the evening of Monday, the 24th February, 1868, and soliciting assistance to enable the Brethren at that station to re-build their Hall.

The letter has been referred by the D.G.M. of Bengal to the Finance committee. The committee, while sincerely sympathizing with the Brethren at Trinidad on the untoward calamity which has befallen them, regret that the state of our own funds, and the fact of our not having a Masonic Hall of our own, do not permit them to recommend any vote from the funds of the District Grand Lodge.

The committee have had under their consideration the mode in which the several accounts of the District Grand Lodge are kept, with a view to the adoption of a better system than the one now in force, which has prevailed for many years, and dates from a time when the accounts of the District Grand Lodge were both simpler in form and much smaller in amount than at present. The subject is one which has occupied the attention of the Finance committees both of the present and preceding years. During the quarter under report, the present committee appointed a sub-committee of two of their number (W. Bros. Matthews and Farr) for the special consideration of this subject.

The committee have been greatly assisted by a very careful memorandum which the sub-committee prepared for them, and have directed certain improvements, which, with the aid of the D.G. Treas., they hope to be able to carry out.

The committee wish to make known to the District Grand Lodge the benefit which the Fund of Benevolence continues to derive from the sale of "Bro. Sandeman's Almanack." In the account for the present quarter, there is a credit under this head amounting to rs. 151-4.

The committee are glad to be able to report that the Lodges generally have been punctual with their returns and dues.

The D.G. Treas.'s accounts for the quarter under report have been audited and found correct. The following is an abstract:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance from last audit .....	2,102	9	11
Received during this quarter .....	3,567	15	8
Total to credit.....	5,670	9	7
Deduct disbursed during this quarter.....	2,682	2	7
Balance, of which rs. 601-3-4 is locked up in the Agra Bank .....	2,988	7	0

Fund of Benevolence.		
Balance from last audit.....	5,600	0 0
Received during this quarter .....	1,274	4 0
Total to credit.....	6,874	4 0
Deduct disbursed during this quarter.....	1,271	9 6
Balance, of which rs. 5,600 are invested in Government Securities, viz.:— rs. 5,000 of 5 per cent. Loan, and rs. 600 of 5½ per cent. Loan .....	5,602	10 6

The committee have had under consideration a proposal made by one of their members, having for its object an alteration in the mode of calculation of the dues from the Calcutta Lodges to the District Grand Lodge under the head of "10 per cent. on collections." Under the present system, the D.G. Sec. is obliged to accept as correct whatever may be put down in the return from any Lodge. He is wholly unable to check the item as he does any other entry in a return. The committee have no reason to believe that there is any less liability to error in the calculation of this item than in any of the others which go to make up the ordinary Lodge return; and, looking to the frequency with which mistakes occur under heads which the D. G. Sec. is able to check, they think it very desirable that some mode of calculation should be adopted, which should enable that officer to examine the correctness of this portion of a Lodge return in the same way as he is able to do with the other heads.

There has been some difference of opinion amongst the members of this committee as to the way in which this object should be attained, and the committee at this date do not find themselves prepared with any definite recommendation to lay before District Grand Lodge on the subject. This, however, is of less importance from the fact that the District Grand Secretary has announced his intention of moving (at the ensuing Quarterly Communication of District Grand Lodge) for the appointment of a Committee to report as to whether any revisions in the District Grand Lodge Bye-laws are necessary. The finance committee will therefore make known their views regarding this portion of the code to the bye-law committee, should it be appointed; and they have no doubt as to the careful consideration which the subject will receive at their hands.

It has been brought to the notice of the committee that many complaints are made concerning the state of the piano in the banqueting-room. The committee believe that, during the ensuing quarter, they will be able to make arrangements by which a better instrument may be secured.

H. H. LOCKE.  
District Grand Secretary.

23rd June, 1868.

It was proposed by Bro. L. A. Goodeve, and seconded by Wor. Bro. J. P. Kennedy:—"That the foregoing report of the finance committee be adopted." Carried unanimously.

The following report of the Grand Committee of the Bengal Masonic Fund of Benevolence was read for the information of the District Grand Lodge, and was ordered to be recorded:—

"The subjoined Report of the working of the Fund during Quarter ending 31st May, has been received from the Executive Committee:—

During the past quarter there have been no new grants made from the Fund.

One grant of Rs. 30 a month has been proposed, but the arrangements for ensuring the observance of the conditions under which the grant was made are not yet completed.

The following pensions were sanctioned:—

For March ...	1	at Rs. 80,	6	at Rs. 20,	4	at Rs. 16.
" April ...	1	"	80, 6	"	20, 4	" 16.
" May ...	1	"	80, 5	"	20, 2	" 16.

An application to renew the pension of Rs. 20 lapsing in April has already been received. A similar application for the renewal of one of the pensions of Rs. 16 may be expected. With regard to the other lapsed pension, the recipient asked for, and obtained, a grant of Rs. 25 to enable her to join her son up-country, where she will be maintained without further assistance from this fund.

The pensions of Rs. 80 is granted to a lady (widow of a Mason, late of Calcutta) now residing in England. Of the six pensions of Rs. 20 each, five are to widows in Calcutta, and one to a widow in Dacca. Of the four pensions of Rs. 16, two are

to widows in Calcutta, one to a Mason's daughter\* in Calcutta, and one to a Mason's daughter in Patna.

One brother in the Azimgurh District applied for assistance but to afford him the relief he required was far beyond the power of our limited fund, and it appeared to the Executive Committee that to start a man in business on a large scale was foreign to the purpose and intention of the fund. They were therefore obliged to refuse this application.

The balance which the fund has to its credit is Rs. 5,602-10-6 of which Rs. 5,600 are invested in Government paper, viz., Rs. 5,000 in 5 per cent., and Rs. 600 in the 5½ per cent. loan.

The District Grand Secretary announced that the next business to be brought before the District Grand Lodge was the consideration of the following motions by the Right Worshipful District Grand Master, of which due notice had been given, as required by Arts. 20 and 21 of the District Grand Lodge by-laws:—

"1st.—That inasmuch as the present year completes a quarter of a century during which the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland has presided over the United Grand Lodge of Antient and Accepted Masons of England, as Most Worshipful Grand Master, a congratulatory address be submitted from this District Grand Lodge as a token of the esteem and regard which are entertained for his lordship by the Freemasons working under his rule in Bengal."

"2nd."—(In event of the above being carried),

"That the following brethren be solicited to form themselves into a committee to draw a suitable address and submit the same for approval at the next Quarterly Communication of this District Grand Lodge:—

The Deputy District Grand Master.  
W. Bro. J. B. Roberts,  
The District Grand Wardens,  
W. Bro. S. Fenn,  
The District Grand Registrar,  
The District Grand Secretary,

with power to add to their number."

The District Grand Master, in moving the first of these resolutions, said:—

"The resolution which I have the pleasure to propose may stand on its own merits. It needs no advocacy from the proposer, nor does it involve any probability of a discussion. Our Most Worshipful Grand Master has entered upon the 25th year of his Masonic reign, and it would be impossible to dispute the fact that he has presided over the Craft with very great success, and that he fully possesses the esteem and regard, and the most complete confidence of the thousands of Masons who range under his banner in all parts of the world. You will have noticed in the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge of England, that a project has been set on foot to pay a general tribute of regard to his lordship. The proposition which I am now making need in no way interfere with our joining with others in whatever scheme may be adopted to this end by our brethren in England; but seeing that Bengal is a very large and important district under his lordship's rule, and that loyalty to constituted authority is among Freemasons a leading characteristic in which we should be unwilling to yield the palm to any, our Grand Master will in all likelihood feel gratified at receiving direct from his Masonic brethren in this Province an assurance of their respect and fraternal regard. I cannot perhaps better summarize the benefits which have accrued to the Craft during his lordship's reign, than by reading an extract from the printed proceedings of the last Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of England, in which are given the expressions made use of by the brother who proposed his re-election as Grand Master for the ensuing year.

"For 24 years," he said, "that noblemen had faithfully discharged the duties of his high office, and in a few words he would call the attention of the brethren to the unexampled prosperity of the Craft throughout that period. He would not weary Grand Lodge with mere statistics, but would give the results, that brethren might judge for themselves. It was a generally received opinion that good government is best shewn by increase of numbers and increase in material resources. It was gratifying to find that such was the result and this result afforded a double satisfaction to the governed and those who governed. The antiquity of the Order

\* Died since date of this report,

is very great—it is not a child of yesterday—and had for many years gone on increasing; but, since the Earl of Zetland had been at the head of the Craft, it had increased threefold in numbers, and not only had the annual income greatly increased, but it had been invested in securities which the Craft in future times could not but be proud of. To the noble hall in which the were then assembled, they had added other buildings devoted to Masonry, besides those appropriate buildings, the Girls' School and the Boys' School. Like the income of Grand Lodge the incomes of the Masonic charities, he believed, had multiplied more than threefold. He felt sure he was only reiterating the sentiments of the Grand Master, and of all present, in expressing an ardent hope that brethren would continue their exertions as they had done in times past, and they might rely that the Craft would continue to go on and prosper to the end of time."

I would add that at the above Communication, the brother who proposed as Grand Treasurer a Mason who has now filled the post with marked success for 15 years, observed that, in the year 1850 the whole income of Grand Lodge was under £2,000 a year. Now the contributions of Lodges alone amounted annually to £10,000.

The District Grand Master's first motion was seconded by the Deputy Grand Master, and carried unanimously.

The second resolution, moved by the District Grand Master, was seconded by W. Bro. Folkard, and carried unanimously.

The District Grand Master suggested that the Address-Committee should meet at an early date, in order that, after drawing up a suitable address, they might circulate printed copies to the several lodges in the province for the signatures of such brethren as may desire to subscribe to it; such copies to be submitted at the next Quarterly Communication of the District Grand Lodge together with the original address, which could then be signed by the brethren assembled, and finally closed for transmission to England.

The District Grand Secretary then moved the following resolutions, of which due notice had been given:—

"1st.—That as it will shortly be necessary to reprint the by-laws of this District Grand Lodge, a Committee be appointed to consider and report as to whether it be necessary or desirable to make any amendments, alterations, or additions to said by-laws; such report to be submitted to the District Grand Lodge at the next quarterly communication."

This was seconded by W. Bro. Wilson, and carried.

"2nd.—That the following seven brethren be asked to form the Committee referred to in the foregoing resolution:—

The Deputy District Grand Master,  
The Past Deputy District Grand Master (Bro. Roberts),  
The District Grand Registrar.

W. Bro. Fenn,  
W. Bro. J. H. Matthews,  
W. Bro. Folkard,  
And the Mover,

with power to add to their number. Three to form a quorum."

W. Bro. Mackintosh suggested that W. Bro. Dr. Powell should be added to the by-law committee, but he did not wish to move it as a formal amendment to the District Grand Secretary's motion.

This District Grand Secretary said he should be most happy to adopt the suggestion of W. Bro. Mackintosh and add Bro. Powell's name to the seven contained in the resolution. Wor. Bro. Mackintosh then seconded the resolution, and it was carried.

The District Grand Secretary read the following letter from W. Bro. Folkard, Chairman of the District Grand Stewards of 1867:—

Calcutta, 10th June, 1868.

H. Hover Locke, Esq.,  
District Grand Secretary.

Dear Sir and V.W. Brother,

The District Grand Stewards of 1867 finding a small balance in hand at the end of their year of office, have devoted it to the purchase of a plated Agdan, which I herewith send you for presentation at the next meeting.

At the last banquet we observed there was not a single Agdan on the table, and to meet this want, we send three others of bronze.

I am, dear Sir, and V.W. Bro.,

Yours fraternally,

D. M. FOLKARD,

Chairman, District Grand Stewards of 1867.

The District Grand Master proposed that a vote of thanks be tendered to the Grand Stewards for their handsome present, and directed the attention of the custodians of the hall to the importance of carefully guarding the plate of the Grand Lodge, which was valuable, against injury.

Carried unanimously.

There being no further business to be brought forward, the District Grand Lodge was closed in due form at 7-50 p.m.

The cash receipts of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal for the second financial quarter, 1868, show a sum of Rs. 5,670 9s. 7p., and the disbursements of Rs. 2,682 2s. 7p., leaving a balance of Rs. 2,988 7s.

The cash receipts, including balance from last audit, of the Masonic Fund of Benevolence for the second financial quarter 1868, including balance from last audit, were Rs. 6,874 4s., and the disbursements Rs. 1,271 9s. 6p., shewing a balance (of which invested in Government Securities Rs. 5,600, viz., Rs. 5,000 of 5 per cent. Loan, and Rs. 600 of 5½ per cent. Loan) of Rs. 5,602 10s. 6p.

On the Suspense Account of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal for second financial quarter, 1868, the Deposit Receipts were Rs. 5,005 11s. 6p., and the Disbursements Rs. 3,502 1s. 2p., showing a balance of Rs. 1,502 10s. 4p.

## ROYAL ARCH.

### METROPOLITAN.

ROSE OF DENMARK CHAPTER (No. 975).—A quarterly convocation of this prosperous chapter was held at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge, on Saturday, the 5th inst. The chapter was duly opened by the principals and after the confirmation of the minutes, Bro. Edwin P. Roper, Curzon of the Isaac Newton University Lodge, No. 859, Cambridge, and a member of the Inner Temple; also Bro. Frederick Kent Solicitor, of the Domestic Lodge, No. 177, London, were regularly exalted into the Royal Arch Order, the ceremony being admirably performed by Comps. J. Terry, Z.; A. A. Pendlebury, H., Z. No. 1,056; and J. Brett, P.Z., as J. Comp. R. Tanner, the newly elected P. Soj., also received great commendation for the highly efficient manner in which he performed the arduous duties of his office. Among other members present during the evening we noticed Comps. W. F. Smith, J.; R. W. Little, P.Z. and S.E.; H. G. Buss, P.Z., Treas.; G. Powell, S.N.; F. Price, 1st Assist. Soj.; Gurney, D.C.; Walford, Wine Steward; Quilty, Lloyd, Marsh, Allman, Mayo, Longhurst, Banks, and Still. The visitors were Comps. C. B. Payne, Z., 177; Nicholls, H., 25; Major Dunbar, of a Scotch chapter; Applebee, 657, &c. A most pleasant evening was enjoyed by all, and we must not omit to mention that the chapter voted the sum of two guineas to the Zetland Commemoration Fund, being, it is believed, the first chapter to appear as a donor, but we trust to be followed in due time by every chapter under the English constitution.

### WARWICKSHIRE.

FLETCHER CHAPTER (No. 1,031).—The annual meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic Rooms, New Hall-street, Birmingham, on Wednesday, the 2nd inst. There was a good attendance of Companions and the following visitors:—Comps. Machen, P.G., H.; Edwin Yates, P.G., J.; John Pursall, P.G., N.; V. W. Blake, P.G., 1st Assist. Soj.; J. Archer, M.E.Z., 43; G. Jones, P.Z., 587; J. B. Hebbert, M.E.Z., 587; T. J. Bold, P.Z.; Dr. J. Johnstone, 587; C. C. Lewis, 539; J. J. Turner, P.Z., 482; C. Yarwood, M.E.Z., 482. The chapter having been opened in form, the minutes read and confirmed, and a joining member balloted for, the installation of the principals was then proceeded with, the ceremony being performed by Comp. W. H. Sprston, P.G., E., and M.E.Z. The companions installed were J. G. Bland as Z.; Dr. T. Partridge, H.; and J. F. West, J. At the conclusion of the ceremony the M.E.Z. invested the officers elected at the previous meeting—W. H. Sprston, P.Z.; B. Parnell, E.; E. Kent, 1st Assist. Soj.; H. Darwin, R.; W. H. Sprston, D.C.; G. J. Pratt, Janitor. Bro. W. H. Hayward was then admitted, properly prepared, and exalted to this supreme degree by the newly appointed officers, after which Comp. Dr. Partridge, H., presented the P.Z. with an album, containing a cabinet photograph of each member of the chapter. Companion Sprston thanked the companions for

the very handsome and acceptable mark of their favour and congratulated the members on the flourishing condition of this young chapter. The M.E.Z. rose the usual number of times, and nothing further offering the chapter was closed in ancient form. The companions then adjourned to refreshment, and after the usual toasts had been proposed and responded to the companions separated at an early hour having spent a very pleasant evening.

### MARK MASONRY.

#### METROPOLITAN.

ST. MARK'S LODGE.—This lodge met at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury, on Monday, the 7th inst. Bro. R. W. Little, W.M., advanced in his usual superior manner, Bros. Curzon, Ransom, and Smith. Bro. F. Binckes, G.S., installed Bro. H. C. Lavender, W.M. The officers he was pleased to appoint, were Bros. T. Wescombe, S.W. and Treas.; J. G. Marsh, J.W.; W. B. Church, M.O. and Chap.; T. Cubitt, S.O.; J. McKiernan, J.O.; H. Parker, Org.; F. Walters, P.M., Reg. of Marks; R. W. Little, P.M., Sec.; Curzon, S.D.; Smith, J.D.; and W. J. Laing, Tyler. The lodge was closed, and a first-class banquet followed. Visitors, Bros. C. Swan, H. Massey, E. Worthington, &c. All the work was well and ably done.

#### DEVONSHIRE.

TOTNES.—*Pleiades Lodge* (No. 26).—An emergency meeting of this Mark lodge was held on Thursday, September 3rd, to do the work due for the regular quarterly meeting on the 10th, when, even though summoned as usual, the members are hardly likely to attend, as so many engagements with country friends exist at the time of Totnes races. The lodge was opened soon after 6 p.m. by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, G.J.W., in his chair as W.M., assisted by the following: Bros. Rev. R. Bowden, S.W.; J. Heath, J.W.; Marks, M.O.; Niner, Sec.; Adams, S.D.; G. Heath, I.G. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Bro. G. Glanfield as a joining member, and for Bros. Stafford and Greenfield as candidates for advancement, which was in each case unanimously in favour. The W.M. read a note from the Chaplain explaining the cause of his absence. The following brethren were then admitted properly prepared, and duly advanced to the degree of Mark Master by the W.M., who divided the brethren for the earlier part of the ceremony, giving the obligation to them in three separate parties; for the latter part the brethren were all brought up together: Bros. Stafford, Greenfield, Stooke, Poulton, Drake. The W.M. subsequently gave the lecture explanatory of the Degree. The following appointments to office were made: Bros. G. Heath, I.G.; Stafford, J.D.; Poulton, Regis. By resolution proposed by the I.G., seconded by the S.W., the W.M. was requested to make arrangements for the appointment of a brother as Organist similar to those existing in the Pleiades Craft Lodge. No other business offering, the lodge was closed about 8 o'clock.

#### DURHAM.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—*Electio Lodge* (No. 39).—A lodge of emergency was held at the Masonic Hall, on Wednesday, the 26th ult., for the purpose of advancing Bro. W. Brignall, Jun., 30°, of Durham. There were present Bros. W. Brunton, W.M., Prov. G. Reg.; G. Moore, M.D., I.P.M., G.M.O.; G. Kirk, M.D., S.W.; B. K. Harpley, J.W.; S. Gourley, M.D., M.O.; Emta Holmes, 30°, Member Royal Order of Scotland, J.O., Acting S.O.; E. Hudson, Sec., Acting J.O.; G. Carter, Acting S.D.; J. Miller, I.G.; &c. The lodge was opened with accustomed prayer, and the ballot being taken and proving favourable the candidate was prepared, admitted, and advanced to the honourable degree of Mark Master. At the close of the interesting ceremony the lodge was closed with solemn prayer, and the brethren retired for refreshment. The W.M. having proposed the Grand Master, Bro. W. M. Beach, M.P., the R.W. the Deputy Grand Master, the Rev. G. R. Portal, M.A., and the rest of the general Masonic toasts, called upon the brethren to drink to the health of the newly advanced Bro. Brignall, which he proposed in felicitous terms, and which was responded to in an equally happy manner. Bro. Brignall in acknowledging the toast spoke in the highest terms of the degree, and of the way in which the ceremony had been worked, and ended by expres-

sing a hope that he might be able to introduce several candidates at no distinct date to be initiated into this ancient order. The evening was spent in love and harmony, and the brethren separated at a reasonable hour.

### RED CROSS KNIGHTS OF CONSTANTINE.

#### CHANNEL ISLANDS.

GUERNSEY.—*Doyle Conclave* (No. 7).—A regular assembly of this conclave was held at the Masonic Hall, Court-place, Guernsey, on Thursday evening, the 27th ult. Present, E. Sir Knt. James Gallienne, M.P.S.; Ill. Sir Knt. E. W. Hutchinson, P. Sov., Treas.; Sir Knts. J. Millington, V.E.; Dr. E. Collettette, S.G.; J. H. Guilbert, J.G.; F. Clarke, H.P., and acting R.; J. B. Gardner, Pref.; W. H. Martin, Herald; J. Rowe, Org.; H. W. Stickland and W. Willcock, Stewards; W. H. Muntz and J. H. Parker, members of the Permanent Council; and J. B. Lucas. The officers having been invested, the duties of the Grand Christian Conclave were resumed, the first business being to vote the following resolution, which was proposed by the M.P.S., seconded by the Treasurer, and carried with acclamation—"That the thanks of the members of the Doyle Conclave (No. 7), of the Order of Constantine, be and are hereby tendered to the most Eminent Sir Knt. Frederick Williams M.P., Grand Eusebius of the Order, for the prompt and courteous manner in which he facilitated the inauguration of the conclave, during the absence of Lord Kentis, M. Ill. G. Sovereign." The M.P.S. then called upon the acting Recorder to read the account of the origin and history of the Doyle Conclave, which had been prepared. The same having been read and approved by the members, was ordered to be inserted as the introduction to the minute book for permanent record. The next business was to draw up a code of by-laws. This being found too tedious a task for a regular assembly of the conclave, it was delegated to a special committee composed of the M.P.S., V.E., S.G., J.G., and H.P., who were to frame the laws and submit them to the next assembly. By permission of the M.P.S., the acting Recorder reported to the members that the M. Ill. G. Sov., Lord Kentis, had been pleased to appoint E. Sir Knt. Gallienne as Inspector General of the province, which met with unanimous and hearty approval. It was proposed by the H.P., seconded by V.E., and most cordially carried that Ill. Sir Knt. E. W. Hutchinson, P. Sov., be elected to the eminent position of Knt. G. Cross. A few minor items brought the business to a close, after which the conclave adjourned in due form, and the Sir Knights retired for the banquet.

### Obituary.

#### DEATH OF THE LATE BRO. DR. ROGAN.

The sudden death of one of our most esteemed and best beloved citizens has brought sorrow to the hearts of all, and has plunged his many friends into profound grief. At the County Lunatic Asylum, on Sunday, the 30th ult., died Bro. Doctor Rogan, the resident physician of that institution. Son of one of our most respected local medical men, and nephew of another, whose professional eminence was National—he was trained for the same calling. To a rare amount of natural talent, was added an education, as perfect as industry and perseverance in the best schools and under the best masters, could make it. At college he distinguished himself as a first-class prize-man in more than one branch of natural science, and his love of learning was such as to make him an earnest student to the end of his life. His knowledge and attainments, as a physician, were held in high estimation by his brethren, who often asked for his assistance in cases requiring more than ordinary acumen. We have further heard it said by competent critics, that, his judgment and skill as a surgeon were such as would have placed him in the front ranks of metropolitan practice.

His tastes, however, were different, and his ambition soared no higher than the office he held. He gave up a

growing practice, and confident hopes of eminent and lucrative position, to hold the unobtrusive appointment of resident physician of the County Derry Asylum. Here his energies were chiefly devoted to the study of mental disease and to the treatment of his unfortunate patients, duties for which he was in all respects eminently qualified.

But it was not merely his talents or his attainments that won the love of all that knew him. The remarkable geniality of his disposition, his imperturbable sweet temper, his kind and unselfish life, have endeared him to persons of every class and denomination, and rendered his death a public loss.

His unexpected removal was caused by disease of the heart.—*Londonderry Standard*.

#### DEATH OF MADAME VICTOR HUGO.

Our illustrious Bro. Hugo has been deprived of the partner of his joys and sorrows. Among Freemasons there will be only one sentiment, and that of deep sympathy as they learn this fact. The whole world of literature will feel for the poet stricken with grief; and every Masonic heart will share in the sorrow of our gifted brother. In the name of the members of our ancient Order throughout the British Empire, we beg to assure Bro. Hugo that he is near the hearts of his brother Craftsmen during this dark dispensation.

The following account of Madame Hugo, written by the Paris correspondent of one of our contemporaries, will be interesting to our readers:—

"In 1823, a young man, who had published a volume of verse, mentioned in his preface that he was scarcely rich enough to wed a young girl whom he loved. This edition of his work—1,500 copies—was bought up in four months. Each copy was sold at 3fr.; the printer and bookseller took 3fr., and the poet was therefore enriched by 750fr. In addition to this, he received a pension from Louis XVIII. of 1,000fr. a-year, and on this he married; and the union has just been broken, after 45 years' companionship. Paul Meurice has a statue by Clessinger which represents Madame Victor Hugo in all the radiance of youth and beauty, her dark hair clustering round a forehead severe in classic mould, and a look beaming with love and energy. This marble shows her as she lived, and, as if embodied, keeps up the ardour which those felt whom she may have inspired by her genius, led on to heroism, or consoled in adversity. Madame Victor Hugo, wife and mother, wept for by those who knew her, will ever remain in their hearts green and fresh, and will be to-morrow, as she was yesterday, the companion of the poet and his witness—the title she gave herself—the *temoin de sa vie*. Confident in her attachment and his destiny, she marched on smiling by his side, trusting in the future. Both poor, but rich in hope, they were thrown (while little more than children) into the gulf of life. Hugo then only dreamed of glory for her; a glory timid, unobtrusive, and without jealousy. Madame Victor Hugo had for her husband that complete admiration and affection which doubles itself and re-lives in the being beloved. She never spoke of the poet, she always spoke of the man. 'Others know his genius. I know his heart.' She died at Brussels. Some 17 years ago she arrived there with her exiled husband and her sons, who cast their lots with the parents. 'Let us stay here a few days,' she said; 'it will be a shelter in passing.' Days dropped past—long days, sad and dark—then months, and then years. Then they decided to make Brussels their summer home, and go to Guernsey in winter. They were still near France. When the news of her death arrived in Paris, it was repeated everywhere, and in a few hours had spread throughout the changed old town which the author of *Notre Dame de Paris* loved so well. And everywhere, whatever the quarter, the house, or those who lived in it—all felt and

understood how much the poor great poet had lost. It is good, therefore, that the press—that voice which speaks to all—should carry to him in his bereaved home the assurance of deep sympathy."

#### PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

##### HALL BY THE SEA.

On Monday the last Hall was crowded until a late hour, it being the occasion of the regatta ball. Messrs. Spiers and Pond, with their usual liberality, gave the use of the Hall for the purpose of distributing the prizes to the successful competitors, in addition to presenting ten guineas to the Regatta Fund. The Mayor, E. Rapson, Esq., presented the prizes, after which Miss R. Isaacs created quite a *furor* by her charming singing, and was encored in every song. Mr. Frank Crellin has a very pleasing voice. Mr. J. Levy, the celebrated cornet-player made two appearances, and was enthusiastically received. The dancing was under the direction of Mr. Walton.

At the termination of the regatta, a grand display of fireworks took place on the green facing the sea. Bro. John Thomas Moss, of Zetland Lodge, kindly volunteered to raise subscriptions for that purpose, in addition to presenting the sum of £10 10s.

#### METROPOLITAN LODGE MEETINGS, ETC., FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 19th, 1868.

MONDAY, September 14th.—Lodge: Peckham, 879, Edinboro' Castle, Peckham-rye.

TUESDAY, September 15th.—Board of Gen. Purposes at 3. Lodges: Mount Lebanon, 73, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Eastern Star, 95, Ship and Turtle Tavern. Leadenhall-street. Salisbury, 435, 71, Dean-street, Soho. Camden, 704, Lamb Hotel, Metropolitan Cattle Market, St. Mark's, 857, Horns' Tavern, Kennington. Chapter: Mount Sinai, 19, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

WEDNESDAY, September 16th.—Lodges: Nelson, 700, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich. Chapter: Westminster and Keystone, 10, Freemasons' Hall.

THURSDAY, September 17th.—House Com. Female School, at 4. Lodge: Cosmopolitan, 917, Great Western Hotel, Paddington.

FRIDAY, September 18th.—Lodge: New Concord, 813, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton. Chapter: Caveac, 176, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

ALPHA.—Your letter is unfortunately crowded out.

D. H.—The report of Prov. G.L. of South Wales (Eastern Division) will appear in our next.

BRO. R. M. (St. Johns).—Thanks for the report. You will observe we have used it. Always glad to hear from you.

AUDI (Alexandria).—Letter received and intimation given to Bro. H. C. Shall be glad to receive reports as opportunities afford.

TO SUBSCRIBERS AND INTENDING SUBSCRIBERS.—In future, to prevent misunderstanding on the part of Subscribers and intending Subscribers (more especially those in the provinces and abroad) and also to prevent unnecessary trouble and inconvenience to ourselves, we beg to remind our friends that yearly half-yearly, or quarterly subscriptions are payable *in advance*, the amounts being respectively 26s., 13s., and 6s. 6d., postage free, within Great Britain, the foreign postage rates being extra must be added.