

THE  
FREEMASONS'  
MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

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MARCH 1, 1856.

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FICTION AND FACT.

THE unreal ever possesses a wonderful influence over the human mind. This is owing chiefly to the opportunity which the former gives of "discovery," or, as it is termed by Aristotle, "*ἀναγνώρισις*," the exercise of which principle constitutes the pleasure we derive from plays, riddles, and (when combined with the imitative faculty) from works of art. But the unreal predominates in its attraction over the real, because in the present constitution of things the contemplation of fact must be painful, whereas imagination, by a magical auto-cracy, can banish irksome images from its sphere, and gratify innate self-esteem by the very exercise of the power which evokes long lines of pleasurable or beautiful thoughts. The pauper, by this fiat of his will, dreams himself a prince; he reigns the monarch of a fictitious world, but which for a moment is a world of fact in the pleasure it affords, until the soaring bubble of his greatness, sparkling with varied hues of visionary glory, bursts against some rude projecting angle of reality, and he who a moment before trod upon air, is recalled to the truth that he cannot live upon the deceptive element, and is troubled to find a shilling! "What am I?" asks Byron, and he adds—

—“Nothing, but not so art thou,  
Soul of my thought, wherein I live or die!”

so certain is it that fiction is prevalent over reality in the influence it possesses over us; so truly is the happiness of hundreds produced, and the misery of thousands banished, by dreaming—*well!*

Imagination also possesses a great advantage over reality by the universality of its endowment. It is no royal prerogative: the madman values his paper crown and straw sceptre as highly (and, probably, at a far truer estimate) as the descendant of the Cæsars regards his diadem of gold, with bits of carbon called diamond. "Lo! when I frown," said Lear, "see how that caitiff quakes." All

can hope, though but few know how to act; and happiness, as Swift remarked, is only the perpetual condition of being well deceived. The schoolboy pictures manhood, without rods or tasks; the maiden loves not the actual personification of, but the nearest resemblance to, the hero of her dream, and sighs, she hardly knows why, at each discovery of some new discrepancy between the faulty living one and the perfect ideal. Individuals in each walk of life change their condition to some fancied state of redolent ease and plenty, until old age, like the foot of Alnaschar, trips up the ricketty foundation of our prosperity, and we start at discovering ourselves bankrupts in time, who in fancy had revelled in an eternity of youth. Nevertheless, as to universal endowment, without distinction of class or sex, fiction, like the air we breathe, is open to the use or abuse of all.

Yet it has its decided benefits, this activity of imagery, if duly restrained, so that men may be said to be even deceived into wholesome energy, and swallow the bitter medicine of this world's wretchedness under cover of an illusory sweetness furnished by imagination. We do our duty, indeed, when we picture to youth the disappointments, vexations, and deceitfulness of man, in order to lead the mind's aspirations to a higher sphere; but as to the benefit resulting to the world, it is indeed well that the vivacity of Telemachus rejects the chill aphorisms of Mentor. Instil thoroughly into a young man's heart the very incorporation of the old man's experience, and farewell to the exertion which draws all its energy from the vain expectation that the world will reward it, and to the bold flights of talented ambition whose soarings stimulate the march of mind, and yet whose pinions are buoyed up by the vapouring hope, that merit is sure to triumph over envy, and that distinction follows desert necessarily in the world's allotment of prizes. By-and-by is time enough for the aspirant to discover that the world is not just—meanwhile, let the racer run the course; but do not damp him yet, by the information that in all probability the guerdon he desires will be given to another, for if you did this, he would never run at all, and mankind would stagnate in a torpitude of hopeless apathy and a sullen weariness of inactive discontent.

There is also, besides the stimulus which imagination gives to mental energy, a self-protective influence which, under such principle, the mind acquires: we mean in the corroboration of its self-esteem. This is a panoply against public opinion, the variety of circumstance, and, in many cases, even the pressure of corporeal infirmity,—that straw which so often throws down the giant! Let a man possess true self-esteem, and the sneer of the envious, the adulation of the sycophant, are equally powerless to molest or perturb him. But here we must define: self-esteem must not be confounded with conceit, for the latter is synonymous with vanity, and the former with pride. Pride results from the estimate set by a man upon his own judgment; vanity from the estimate he sets upon the judgment of the world: and hence the truth of the dictum, that "a really proud man is too proud to be vain;" in other words, his self-estimate

is so high as to ignore altogether the judgment of others upon him. Now, it is evident that this pride may arise from fancied as well as from real excellence, by a species of hypochondriasis, and many an ermined Herod, or political Sejanus considers himself spotless and unimpeachable by a monomania more fixed and destructive than that which characterizes him who imagines himself a teapot, or who consumes his life in endeavouring to reconcile his two legs, one of which is a stanch Protestant, whilst the other, he is convinced, favours the Bishop of Exeter.

Yet if in alluding to the consolations of imagination, our readers think we would encourage the habit of ideal rumination, our purport will be misconceived. By no mental process does the intellect more surely commit suicide than by the indulgence of visionary fabrication, and "castles in the air" cost their builder a greater outlay from the resources of his mind, than even solid bricks and mortar draw from the revenues of his pocket. Such warblings of fancy are not only transitory, but deceptive; they steal from us the treasure of a lifetime, and, like ivy, conceal from self-scrutiny the mind's insidious decay; lull us, like the Danite in the harlot's lap, to the enervating sleep of indolent satisfaction with mistaken powers, until, when the Philistines of care and real want threaten us, we start up and find our boasted strength is gone! In intellect, as in moral excellence, satisfaction with the present as the ultimate end of our aspirations, certainly checks further progress; yet also, since the mind cannot be quiescent, to pause is to retrograde, and contented acquirement is the sign of mental as of moral decline. Hence it is, that if left wholly to imagination, we should be like madmen crying—

"Seas of milk and ships of amber!"—

St. Giles' and St. James' would change places for the more appropriate precincts of Bedlam and St. Luke's; and the human war which is carried on at such fearful odds, at present, between knaves and dupes, would terminate in the overwhelming increase of the latter. Fortunately, "Imagination and we are not all one; but we have," as Lord Shaftesbury powerfully expresses it, "a person left within, who has power to correct the appearances and redress the imagination."

It is evident then, that though in some cases fiction and ideal may be consolatory, and, in their deceptive promises of results, even encouraging, yet, being false, their influence must be evanescent, fitful, and destructive. Sane and beneficial exertion must have two constitutive elements,—it must aim at the truest good, and it must proceed by the purest way. Observe the purest, that is, the way most in accordance to the Bible, a book which admits neither flattery nor imposture, which ignores policy where the latter wars with honesty, and does not allow even a statesman to have two consciences, one for God and another for the State. The stimulus to progress drawn by man from himself, in his contemplation of this scene of woe and worthlessness, must be of necessity ephemeral and inefficient, so

that the only real incentive to excellence must be one which, passing beyond the present, draws its efficacy from the highest law of our duty in regard to an eternal future. The exercise of our mental powers, the practice of charity, the appliances to intellectual improvement in the arts and sciences, which Masonry, as a loving mother, encourages and would develop, are all founded upon our relation as immortal beings to an eternal destiny, and the text-book which she exhibits as a guide is the volume of the Sacred Law. For a brother, therefore, to rest contented with merely the shadowy types of Masonry, and not endeavour to lift the mystic veil of allegory—to become acquainted with the great truths, not alone in science but in morals, which Masonry points at, is to rob her of her diadem, and himself of sound improvement. We rejoice, indeed, to hail great alterations for the better in the Fraternity, from our first and consistently-repeated efforts to assert the true dignity of Masonry since our entrance upon the management of this periodical, now twelve months ago. We have constant proof that our endeavours have been successful, from finding the usage now becoming common of good lectures upon scientific and ennobling subjects being given under the presidency of Lodges. If we speak of the wonders of Nature allegorically, shall we not, in the true spirit of Masonry, teach men “to look through nature up to nature’s God” really, and thus set forth the glory of the G.A.O.T.U., as well as promote the intellectual advancement of mankind, in accordance with our principles to encourage knowledge in the true spirit of brotherly love? The fiction of the types in Masonry can never equal the moral and mental realities of the antitypes; and draped Truth in outline is less ethereal than the chaste figure which stands in all the purity of knowledge—and yet knows no shame! The appetency of mind is for knowledge, each repetition of its impulses imparts additional earnestness to its craving for more light; and who but a cowan would rest in the dim obscurity of Masonic allegory, with the lofty tower of Truth before him, and not count his trouble and toil well repaid if he be but permitted to reach the top, and see the extended horizon of Almighty goodness in morals, art, and science projected before him?

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## NOTES OF A YACHT'S CRUISE TO BALAKLAVA.

(Continued from page 97.)

*August 24th.*—No time for entries in my journal during our stay at Constantinople. I will therefore jot down my memories while they are fresh.

Landing at Galata, in order to reach the sultan’s city, is a terrible disenchantment. Semi-barbarism, and demi-semi-civilization, here conspire to produce the most unpleasant results. The narrow,

unpaved streets of Galata through which we passed to arrive at Pera, were covered with every imaginable filth and dirt; and, worse than all, hundreds of mangy, half-starved, wolf-like curs followed us, yelping, barking, snapping, like the embodiment of old women's curses on the adventurous Franks.

The wretched animals, being considered unclean by the Turks, are masterless, and allowed to cater for themselves, disputing with the vultures the office of public scavengers.

Passing the Turkish *Père la Chaise*—a large burying-ground, crowded with cypresses and tombstones—we entered Pera, which is one of the cleanest and best built of all the suburbs of Constantinople. Here reside most of the wealthy Frank merchants; but of the mansions, little is seen beyond the high walls which enclose them.

The streets of Constantinople are about the most melancholy thoroughfares imaginable,—they are mere lanes; the houses are mostly built of wood, and not more than one story high, with few windows to the street. Then, the silence is nearly unbroken; the filth to be met with at every step, revolting. Add to these items, cavalcades of pack-horses, mules, asses, and camels; an occasional rude araba, or country vehicle, for pleasure or traffic; or, rarer still, some ambassador, or perhaps the sultan himself, in a gilded coach,—and you have some of the materials which compose the *tout ensemble* of Constantinople.

There are few remains of the old Greco-Roman rule left in Constantinople. The cattle-market occupies the site of the palace of Constantine; the Seraglio, a fine building, that of ancient Byzantium.

The aqueduct, which adds so much to the stately view from the Bosphorus, still supplies Constantinople with the purest water, as it did in the time of the Romans. This, with a bath, known as the Hundred-marble-pillar Bath, are all of antique remains to be found in the Sultan's City.

The ladies were, of course, in desperate haste to see both the mosques and the bazaars. I accompanied them on a tour of inspection through the latter, the second day of our sojourn at the crescent-crowned city.

The bazaar is a promenade for all nations, at every hour of the day—English, French, and Turkish military officers; Armenians, Persians, Greeks, Arabians, Egyptians, Jews,—all in their distinctive costumes, buying, selling, bargaining, cheating!

Then, the profusion of glittering temptations—from the costly shawls of India; velvet and silks, from Broussa; delicate embroideries; fierce, barbaric-looking arms; weird eastern jewels and amulets; charms and perfumes; down to Parisian *bijouterie*, German toys, and Manchester cottons!

Lady C—— spent a small fortune in about an hour. Independent of the intrinsic value of the articles, they were purchased in an Eastern bazaar! and the vendors themselves were irresistible. There

squatted the proud Osmanli merchant, smoking his eternal chibouque, immovable in his serious gravity. If you purchase an article, he delivers it to you, and pockets your money without moving a muscle of his face, or indulging in an unnecessary gesture.

If you object to the price, with equal tranquillity he puts it back in its place, and smokes on. Mademoiselle Kate found this gravity piquant, and spent half an hour in endeavouring, with various wiles, to draw a grey-bearded Turk, of highly picturesque appearance and almost preternatural solemnity, into a smile. At last she succeeded; and, certainly, the offer of his coronet, hand, and heart, from the loftiest duke in England, would not have elated her so much as this triumph.

The Armenians, generally fine, patriarchal, honest-looking fellows, also proved most attractive. They were as silent and dignified as the Osmanlis; but there was a suave grace in their dignity,—an air of bland politeness in their way of laying one hand on their hearts, when exhibiting an article, that produced an immense effect.—(N.B. Articles purchased from these fascinating individuals were always dear, but not always good.)

Our excitement was crowned by the various female figures, gliding about in their *yachmaks*,—above which gleamed dark flashing eyes—making one think of Byron, bow-strings, black eunuchs, and the *sack finale* of many fair dames. But, alas! not the liveliest imagination could convert the waddle of these ladies into a graceful motion—it is hopelessly awkward. These bazaars are like all those in the great Eastern towns, strongly built, covered with domes, and supported by pilasters.

Our next visit was to the mosque of the Sultan Achmet.

It is on the same plan of all those edifices:—a courtyard in front is adorned with a fountain, and shaded by the foliage of cypress and plantain trees; numerous colonies of doves, which are favourite birds with Mahometans, add a gentle beauty to the entourage; and in this luxurious shade, the Moslem devotee dreams away—

“The long sunny lapse of a summer's daylight.”

Within, a species of hall is decorated with columns of jasper, marble, and porphyry; the whole covered with a dome, beside which the slender, graceful minaret springs up into mid air.

How great a change have a few years made in Moslem intolerance; not ten years since it would have been a work of difficulty, not to say danger, to gain access to a Mahometan temple; now, a few piastres to the muzzin will gain admittance to any traveller. I rather think that the adventurous spirit of Miss P—— would have been better pleased had she been compelled to don Mahometan garb, and venture to gratify her curiosity at the risk of her life.—(N.B. The lady denies the imputation.)

On our return to Pera from the mosque, encountered the Sultan, and were fortunate enough to get a very good view of him.

He is a melancholy, irresolute-looking, but handsome man, with

a somewhat delicate, worn expression. The impression he left on my mind was, that neither good-fortune nor prosperity was likely to attend him. There are some countenances which look like a draught payable at sight, on the bank of success: such was not his.

His attendants were few, and the only remarkable point in the turn-out, was the extraordinary beauty of the Sultan's horse; it was dark grey, with a nobly-arched crest, and square-cut nostril, while his delicate limbs and full deer-like eyes proclaimed a high race: the Sultan curbed him with a languid grace—in another moment he had passed from our sight, leaving an indescribable feeling of pity behind.

If Constantinople on a nearer view disappoints you, the eye can scarce ever weary of the beautiful environs, nor the endless variety of the Golden Horn. To enjoy this to the full, we constantly hired a caïque, to row indolently on the blue waters, and steep ourselves in the new and lovely world into which we were introduced. These boats are very elegant in shape and decoration, and are composed of oak or cedar, fancifully carved and varnished.

They are generally about thirty feet long and two or three in breadth. The prow, long and pointed, cuts the water like an arrow; and thousands of these graceful barks may be seen skimming the Golden Horn at every hour of the day. They can accommodate from eight to ten persons. The dress of the boatmen, too, is most becoming—a white cotton shalwar (a kind of shirt) confined at the waist by a red silk shawl, a silk jacket with wide sleeves, and the red fur cap.

One of our pleasant excursions was to Mount Bulgurlu, two miles beyond Scutari—though, alas, an agreeable member of the party was absent, Colonel ——, who only gave himself four days at Constantinople, and had left the day before in a steamer for Balaklava, intending to view the Sultan's city at his leisure, returning: both the ladies *triste* in consequence, specially the beautiful widow.

We gentlemen had been favoured with a peep at the hospital previous to our ascent of Bulgurlu; but I must not let myself repeat an oft-given description, especially as everything is *now* so well arranged it would be impossible to season it with the cayenne of fault-finding.

Somewhat to the disappointment of the marvel-seekers, and the destruction of the ladies' dreams of Turkish habits, no sooner did we approach the ascent of the hill than we were surrounded by a mob of little Greek and Mahometan urchins, who besought us in strange jargon, but with gestures and petitions most unmistakably similar to those of Margate and Boulogne, viz., to hire their ponies and themselves to assist our ascent of the mountain. Nor did we free ourselves from the midge-like enemy till we had selected steeds and attendants from among them.

The view from the top is indeed glorious. At one glance you behold the entire city of Constantinople, with the suburban towns of Galata, Pera, and Scutari. Palace, chiosk, seraglio, mosque, minaret, and spire, the thousands of shipping mirrored in the glassy waters of the Golden Horn, the distant Hellespont, and nearer Marmora,

islands, villages, and vine-clad hills,—the whole beautiful picture framed in as it were by the magnificent outline of the snow-crowned Olympus.

To the left the lovely Bosphorus winding like a river to the Euxine through a succession of such scenery as the world can scarcely match, with the grand mountain range of Asia Minor towering in the distance.

I shall long remember the banquet of beauty on which I then feasted; nor do I hesitate to pronounce that view unrivalled: rich in materials for poet and painter, replete with historic and classic association, it was more than all this,—the real prize for which three mighty nations are doing desperate deeds!

“Yes,” cried Miss P., as I mentioned to her the thoughts running through my mind, “and we should not dream of returning without a peep at Balaklava.”

“Certainly not,” exclaimed the widow.

“Balaklava, by all means,” said the Hon. Charles ———.

“We could not be happy till there we have arrived,” remarked Herr Müller.

“It would be rather stupid to turn back now,” said I.

“Well, since you are all agreed, so be it,” was the conclusion of Sir Arthur; and we returned to the yacht in high spirits, anxious to finish our sight-seeing and start for the seat of war.

The next day our fair friends paid a visit to the ladies of a merchant's family—the head of which is somewhat of a Turkish Tory. We of the sterner sex were permitted as far as the court, which was a quadrangle surrounded by the offices, chambers, and hareem belonging to the family. A neat verandah ran round three sides of it, furnished with divans, carpets, and cushions; the centre occupied by a pretty fountain, a flower-garden, and some evergreens.

The old gentleman, a most dignified effendi, but who spoke little English, gave us a capital luncheon of the best salad I ever ate, and an excellent dish called kabobs, which, with rich perfumed sweetmeats, coffee, and pipes, formed no contemptible repast.

But we saw none of the ladies, to the infinite regret of the Hon. Charles ———.

The houses in Constantinople are furnished with a curious broad wooden shutter on the outside, serving at night to make all safe, and by day, when supported by poles in an upward slope—the hinge being at the top,—for a verandah. If the house be a shop, a platform is placed under this, where goods may be displayed, and the shopkeeper smoke his chibouque with imperturbable gravity.

On our way back to the yacht we were surprised by meeting a most incongruous cavalcade, composed of blue-eyed daughters of England, and several fair blossoms of the Hareem enveloped in folds of muslin, and attended by their black guards (not *blackguards*). Verily the spirit of Islamism is departing!

The day before yesterday went to see San Sophia. The exterior is neither pleasing nor imposing. You behold a vast and rather un-



symmetrical collection of piles and buttresses: the effect of the whole would be stumpy, were it not for the fairy minarets which raise their airy columns above the dome. Nor is the interior much better; there is a crowd of columns and pillars of every order, size, and material,—porphyry, Egyptian granite, jasper, and marble. These are, however, interesting from the fineness of their workmanship and the fact that they were used formerly as supports and decorations in various Pagan temples.

The most vivid impression left on me by San Sophia, is a feeling of its vastness. Its wide extent is unbroken by altars, chapels, pews, statues, or any object to interfere with a sense of magnitude: it is like a gigantic sepulchral vault, as the principal and only merit of its architecture is the small elevation of its cupola in proportion to its circumference. The only object indicative of the sacred purpose of the huge building is a pulpit; yet, when lit with coloured lamps suspended from the dome, and filled with a crowd of true believers, the effect must be imposing. While thus reflecting, Miss P. came to me, her eyes sparkling with enthusiasm.

“Look Mr. ——,” she exclaimed, “that dusty time-worn banner over the pulpit is the same that the Sultan Mahomet placed there with his own hand the day he conquered Constantinople, more than four hundred years ago. Think of that.”

And I did think; yes, it was here, after the hosts of the Crescent, drunk with blood and fury, had wrought such carnage as the world has few examples of, that at the command of their leader they knelt to thank Heaven for victory on the mangled bodies of their victims!

We sailed at sundown yesterday, but had light enough to see those fairy chiosks and minarets that crown Constantinople so lightly that a puff of wind seems to endanger them, gradually fade in the distance; so on, past Therapia, the residence of ambassadors and wealthy merchants, rising from the water in a semicircle, terrace over terrace, amid the luxuriant foliage of a thousand varied trees and shrubs.

Each moment the panorama changed. A little further, the pretty painted houses of Buyukderé hove in sight, while the bold range of Asiatic hills, covered with every description of shrub and tree, added their quota to the picturesque whole; then past the majestic castles of Europe and Asia. Night closed in as we accomplished the passage of the far-famed and most exquisite Thracian Bosphorus, and we slept upon the bosom of the stormy, treacherous Euxine.

25th. So far as our experience goes, we might say that the Black Sea has been belied, for after a light breeze from the east had died away, a complete calm came on at noon yesterday; so here we lie, provokingly, like a painted ship upon a painted sea.

The ladies have been amusing themselves overhauling their purchases from the bazaars of Constantinople, and Sir Arthur's into the bargain,—among the latter some exquisitely-ornamented Circassian arms, of rare temper and beauty.

The whole glittering mass of rare embroidery, rich pipes, odd amulets, and barbaric jewellery, piled up in picturesque confusion on the table of the saloon, lent something of a piratical aspect to the honest little craft which has afforded us such a pleasant home on the waters, and looked as though we had been on a plundering expedition. But a faint rippling sound called us on deck, and to our delight we beheld various catspaws ruffling the surface of the water. Before turning in for the night the breeze had freshened, but was too much to the eastward of south.

*(To be continued.)*

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## SECRET POISONS.

BY VANE IRETON ST. JOHN.

UNDER the name of secret poisons are included all such as act insensibly upon the system and gradually bring life to a close, as if by a lingering disease.

The diabolical art is not, as supposed by some, of modern invention, for it was in common use among the ancient Greeks and Romans. Plutarch tells us that Aratus of Sicyon was murdered by Philip of Macedon, by means of a slow poison, that occasioned extreme heat, spitting of blood, and at last affected the brain. Quintilian, also, speaks of poisons in such a manner as to prove that they must have been then well known. Theophrastus mentions a liquid which would by regulation occasion the death of the patient in a month, or two, or even a year, if wanted. It was prepared from *aconitum*, a plant, which was therefore forbidden to be in the possession of any one. He tells us, also, that Thrasgas discovered a preparation, which, given in small doses, would take effect in any desired time. Thrasgas was a native of Mantinea, a city in Arcadia, and was celebrated for his skill in botany.

This poison was much used at Rome, about two hundred years before the Christian era. In one year so many persons of distinction died, that an inquiry was made, and a maid-servant gave evidence against several ladies of high rank, and at least a hundred and fifty were condemned and punished. But as so many had been initiated into the secret, the poisoning still went on. Drusus was poisoned by Sejanus, and died as if by consumption. Agrippina, who desired to get rid of Claudius, and did not dare to use open violence, consulted the famous poisoner Locusta, who administered a deadly liquid to him in a dish of mushrooms. It did not, however, take the desired effect, and it was accordingly followed by one of a stronger nature.

Locusta was soon after compelled, by the blows and threats of the Emperor Nero, to prepare in his presence a poison by which to destroy Agrippina's son, Britannicus. It was first tried on a kid, but as it took five hours to kill it, Locusta boiled the remainder a

little longer, and Britannicus fell a victim to it at the first taste. For this service she was pardoned and liberally rewarded, besides being entrusted with pupils to instruct in this *elegant* art.

All these poisons were prepared from plants, particularly aconite, hemlock, and poppy, or extracted from animal substances. That prepared from the sea-hare, *lepus marinus*, is the most remarkable of those made from animals. It was by this that Domitian despatched Titus, according to Philostratus. The *lepus marinus* was, it is conjectured, what is now, in the Linnæan system, termed *aplysia depilans*.

No one was more famous for this dreadful art than was Tophana, or Toffania, a woman, who resided first at Palermo, and afterwards at Naples. She sold those drops, which took their name from her, and were called *aqua Tophania*, or *aqua della Toffana*; and sometimes *acquetta di Napoli*, or merely *acquetta*. She distributed her preparation by way of charity to such wives as desired to be rid of their husbands. Between four and six drops were enough to destroy a man: and the dose could be so proportioned as to operate in a given time. As she was strictly watched by the government, she fled to an ecclesiastical asylum. She distributed her poison in small glass phials, with this inscription, "Manna of St. Nicholas of Bari," and ornamented with a figure of the saint. An oil, which was supposed by the superstitious people to perform miracles, drops from the tomb of that saint at Bari, in Naples, and is dispersed in great abundance under the above name. In choosing the appellation, Tophana, therefore, showed great tact, as the reputed sanctity of it prevented the customhouse officers from examining it too closely. When the viceroy became acquainted with this, which was about 1709, she fled from one convent to another, but being at length seized, was thrown into prison. The clergy raised much noise on account of this violation of ecclesiastical privilege, and made many attempts to excite the people to insurrection. But they were soon calmed when Tophana was reported to have confessed to poisoning all the springs in the city.

She was put to the rack, where she acknowledged her wickedness, and named those who had afforded her protection, who were immediately dragged from churches and monasteries. She was afterwards strangled, and to mitigate the anger of the archbishop, her body was thrown at night into the area of the convent from which she had been taken. But the secret was not buried with her, for others had learnt the art.

In 1659, in the reign of Pope Alexander VII., it was observed at Rome, that many young married women were left widows, when their husbands became disagreeable to them. It was asserted also, by the priests, that it was often told them at confession by young ladies of distinction, that they had been guilty of poisoning. At length suspicion fell upon a society of young married women, whose president was, as it appeared, an old woman who foretold future events, and had predicted very exactly many deaths to persons who had reason

to wish for them. A crafty female, employed by the government, was sent to the president to procure some drops for, as she pretended, a tyrannical husband. By these means the whole society was arrested; and all of them, except the fortune-teller, by name Hieronyma Spara, confessed before being put to the torture.

“Where are now,” exclaimed she, “the Roman princes, knights, and barons, who on so many occasions promised me their protection! Where are the ladies who assured me of their friendship! Where are my children, whom I have placed in such distinguished situations!”

In order to deter others from like crimes, Gratirosa, the assistant of Spara, three other women, and Spara herself, who, up to the last, retained a hope of aid, were hanged in public. Some were executed in the same way months afterwards; others were whipped, and the rest banished. This Spara was a Sicilian, and learnt the art from Tophana, at Palermo.

About the year 1670, great excitement was produced in France by the art of poisoning. Mary Margaret d'Aubray, daughter of the lieutenant-civil Dreux d'Aubray, was, in the year 1651, married to the Marquis de Brinvilliers, son of Gobelin, president of the Chamber of Accounts, who was worth thirty thousand livres a year, and to whom she brought a portion of two hundred thousand. He was a colonel of horse in the regiment of Normandy, and during the course of his campaigns, became acquainted with one Godin de Ste. Croix, a young man of distinguished family, then captain of that regiment of troops. Being a needy adventurer, the officer became a frequent visitor at the house of the marquis, and in a short time began to pay his addresses to the marchioness, who lost her husband, after she had helped to squander his large fortune. Her conduct, when newly a widow, gave rise to so much uneasiness in her father, that he had Ste. Croix arrested by *lettre de cachet*, and thrown into the Bastille. While here, the young man became acquainted with an Italian, named Exili, from whom he learnt the art of making poison. In this he instructed the marchioness, who, when she acquired the skill, assumed the habit of a nun, distributed food to the poor, visited the hospitals, and gave the sick medicine, in order to try the strength of her poisons. By the force of bribes, she induced La Chaussée, Ste. Croix's servant, to poison her father, into whose service she got him introduced, and her brother: the former it took ten doses to kill; the son died sooner. The daughter, Mademoiselle Aubray, could not be poisoned, owing to her great vigilance, and a suspicion she had that her father and brother had been poisoned.

The way in which her villany was detected is curious in the extreme. Ste. Croix, when preparing poison, usually wore a glass mask; but this dropping off once by accident, he was suffocated and found dead in his laboratory. On his effects being searched by order of the government, there was found a small casket, to which Ste. Croix had affixed a written request that after his death it might be delivered to the Marchioness de Brinvilliers, or in case she should not

be living, that it might be burnt.\* Perhaps had it not been for this singular petition the box would not have been opened; but on that being done, a great quantity of poisons of every kind was found, with labels on them as to their effects. The casket was of course refused the marchioness, on her demanding it; and as she failed to bribe the officer of justice, she fled the kingdom. La Chaussée, however, confessed to more acts of villany than were suspected, and was broken on the wheel in 1673.

Desgrais, a very active officer of justice, was sent in search of the marchioness, who was found in a convent at Liege. To entice her from hence—it being a sacred sanctuary—Desgrais assumed the dress of an abbé, acted the part of a lover, and, having engaged her to go out on an excursion of pleasure, arrested her. Among her effects was found a full confession of all her crimes. Notwithstanding all her attempts to escape she was brought to Paris, where she amused herself while in prison with playing picquet. When condemned and brought to the place of execution (16th July, 1676), she exclaimed, in a contemptuous manner, to the immense crowd assembled, “You have come to see a fine spectacle!” She was beheaded, and afterwards burnt. As she had been deceived by hopes of pardon, she cried, on mounting the scaffold, “*C'est donc tout de bon !*”

By the execution of the Marchioness de Brinvilliers the practice of poisoning was far from suppressed, and therefore for the purpose of preventing its spread, there was established a court called the *Chambre Ardente*, in 1679. Besides others, it detected two women, named La Vigoureux and La Voisin, the latter of which was a midwife. Both of them pretended to foretell future events, to call up ghosts, discover hidden treasures, &c., and also distributed philtres, and sold secret poison to those who wished to get rid of troublesome husbands. Many came, merely to know when a husband, lover, or a mistress would die; and the two wretches kept a list of dupes, among whom were found the Countess de Soissons, the Duchess de Bouillon, and the Marshal de Luxembourg. The first fled to Flanders, the second was saved by the help of her friends; and the latter, after being months in the Bastille, was declared innocent. La Vigoureux and La Voisin were burnt alive (February 22nd, 1680), after their hands had been burnt through with a red-hot iron and cut off. Several

\* This request was as follows:—“I humbly beg that those into whose hands this box may fall will do me the favour to deliver it into the hands only of the Marchioness de Brinvilliers, who resides in the street Neuve St. Paul, as every thing it contains concerns her and belongs to her alone; and as besides there is nothing in it that can be of use to any person except her; and in case she shall be dead before me, burn it and every thing it contains, without opening or altering anything; and, in order that no one may plead ignorance, I swear by the God whom I adore and by all that is most sacred, that I advance nothing but what is true. And if my intentions, just and reasonable as they are, be thwarted on this point, I charge their consciences with it, both in this world and the next, in order that I may unload mine, protesting that this is my last will. Done at Paris, this 25th May, in the afternoon, 1672.—DE SAINTE CROIX.”

persons were punished by the common hangman, and others in the list were declared guiltless. In 1680, however, the *Chambre Ardente* was done away with, for in reality it was only a political inquisition.

In spite, however, of everything, poisoning spread. In Denmark, Count Coptz de Ulfeld was supposed to have intended poisoning the king by a powder that would throw him into a lethargy. Charles XI. of Sweden died by the effect of a like poison. Having ruined several noble families by seizing on their property, and having after that, made a journey to Turneo, he fell into a disorder that no medicine could cure. On asking his physician what caused his illness, he replied, "Your majesty has been loaded with too many maledictions." "Yes," answered the king; "I wish to God that the reduction of the nobility's estates had not taken place, and that I had never gone to Turneo." On being opened, his intestines were found full of ulcers.

It has been believed that succession powder is diamond-dust pounded fine, which, however, Voltaire says is not more prejudicial than powder of coral. In the casket of Ste. Croix were found sublimate, opium, regulus of antimony, vitriol, and many preparations, the ingredients of which were not discoverable. Many have affirmed sugar of lead to have been a chief ingredient; but the effects are different from those of the poisons used by Exili and Ste. Croix. It seems almost certain that the poisons used by Toffania and Brinvilliers were arsenical neutral salts. The opinion, however, that they were composed of opium and cantharides has in latter times received so many confirmations, that one is almost induced to believe that there are more kinds than one of these Stygian drops which civilization is now banishing from use.

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#### CASE OF THE CARNATIC STIPENDIARIES.

It is perhaps but too partially known, that there at present in England many representatives of the late sovereigns of the Carnatic, who have undertaken a tedious journey from their native land, and are subject to what appears likely to be a protracted residence in this country (thanks to the tardy action of justice against oppression here), for the sake of obtaining restitution of certain payments withheld from them by the East-India Company, in the violation of treaties, and in face of the justest claim. Many of these princes are Masons, and though, for this cause, "as in duty bound," we sympathize more earnestly with their position, yet the case itself, as put forth in the petition of the stipendiaries to the House of Commons, reveals such a tissue of injustice, ingratitude to most devoted allies, cruelty, and oppression, as suffices to make the blood tingle with indignation and with shame that an English Company should be so permitted to act by the Government. Never talk to us about Russian iniquity, when, in return for the most devoted service to the English cause during the late French war, and in flagrant dereliction of the treaty of 1801, the noble houses who, in reliance upon British faith, and partly by the most oppressive coercion, surrendered the inheritances of their ancestors, are reduced from the position of stipendiaries, *of right*, to mere alms-men, dependent upon the private charity of a company, which, verily, has neither a body to be kicked, nor a soul to be shrived. The case was brought before the House of Commons in 1853, by W. D. Seymour, Esq., M.P. ;

but as yet no restriction has been placed by the Honourable (?) House upon the equally Honourable (?) Company's perfidy. All we hope is, that before long the general indignation at such a stain as the case now affixes upon our national character will cause fullest restitution of their rights to these devoted brothers of our Order. Their narrative, as simply put forth in their pamphlet, is horrifying in some of its details. Imagine, on the one side, Mahomed Ally's devotion to the English being so strong as to defray, out of his own resources, the whole expense of the war on the coast of Coromandel, and of the siege of Pondicherry; and on the other, his son dying of a broken heart, from the East-India Company's tyranny, which compelled *his* son again to appear before their officers, and be torn from the bedside of his father's dead body *on the very day of his decease!* It is all very well, with hypocritical mealy-mouthedness, to invoke blandly the defence of Heaven against the devices of our enemies; but the better way to obtain it is, to fall prostrate with shame over our own infamous transgressions in China and India, and with these humbling revelations of our iniquity towards the unfortunate Carnatic princes, to pray that "*our own* pride may be abated;" and that we may be taught to practise, if not the loving-kindness, yet, at all events, the honesty we preach.

We shall be happy to forward to any Brother a copy of the pamphlet now issued relative to the above disgraceful conduct of the Government and the Company.

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[Extracted from the "SENTINEL," of Saturday, 22nd December, 1855.]

#### SATURDAY HALF-HOLIDAYS, AND THE BETTER OBSERVANCE OF THE LORD'S DAY.

SIR,—The Rev. Dr. Cumming, in his inimitable Lecture, delivered before the Young Men's Christian Association, in Exeter Hall, on "*Labour, Rest, and Recreation*," well observed, "Let the employer give *half-holidays* and holidays, and man will have *his* day for the *Crystal Palace*, and the Christian will have his Sunday for solemn service and devout worship." Again, "Next to the Bible, I know no fountain of a pure morality so large and exhaustless as the Sabbath, and no speedier way to ruin on one side, and *loss* on the other, than its DESECRATION and NEGLECT."

Entertaining similar sentiments to the above, I venture with all boldness, knowing the manly, Christian, uncompromising, and anti-expediency character of your journal, to inclose you a copy of my letter upon the above subject, addressed to Lord Cranworth, and of his Lordship's *prompt* reply thereto, through his principal secretary, the Hon. W. C. Spring Rice, and trust that its publication may not prove uninteresting to your numerous readers, especially to those who *truly value* the privileges of the Gospel.

In truth and love, yours,  
JOHN ROBT. TAYLOR.

54, Chancery Lane, 15th Dec., 1855.

(Copy.)

#### SATURDAY HALF-HOLIDAYS.

54, Chancery Lane, Dec. 6th, 1855.

MY LORD,—The importance of the subject-matter of the inclosed pamphlet will, I hope, recommend its perusal to your Lordship's favourable consideration. It is a subject on which there appears to be but little difference of opinion, and if carried out, *it will do more in preventing the desecration of the Sabbath than any legislative enactment could effect.* It will be seen in the Introduction, that Lord Ebrington is decidedly in favour of the movement, an opinion which is shared by Mr. Charles Dickens, Lord Robert Grosvenor, Mr. Commissioner Holroyd,

Mr. Commissioner Skirrow, and numerous other gentlemen who have addressed me upon the subject. It is, in fact, supported by every man who is sincerely anxious for the religious, moral, social, intellectual, and physical well-being of his brother man.

In all great movements, there are, no doubt, difficulties in the way, as there may be in this; but they should NOT be considered as INSURMOUNTABLE. The present will involve, for instance, new Rules in the Courts of Law and Equity, for altering the times of service of summonses, notices, &c. on Saturdays, which can be easily adopted, without detriment to the public service, if the matter is taken up with sincerity, energy, and determination. Formerly the sittings at the Rolls Court were held from six till ten in the evening. It was then considered to be impracticable for counsel to attend in the daytime, as they were engaged in the other courts; but this fear soon vanished, when the difficulties were fairly canvassed, discussed, and considered.

At the same time, I would remind your Lordship that the late lamented Vice-Chancellor Sir Lancelot Shadwell invariably closed his court on Saturdays between half-past two and three o'clock, and did not sit on Monday mornings until eleven o'clock.

I would beg leave to observe, that the public mind has been canvassed upon the subject by two monster public meetings in the metropolis, one held at the Guildhall, and the other at Exeter Hall, independent of a large number of district meetings, which have been from time to time reported in the newspapers; in many cases with favourable leading articles;—in fact, up to this hour, the movement has received the entire commendation of the public press of this country—there has not been a single instance of opposition. *It may be fairly stated, that the popular feeling is with the movement, so that it appears hard, that one or two of the judges should stay the progress of this beneficial measure.*

The benefits to be derived from its adoption would be incalculable; the 10,000 solicitors in town and country will not only be benefited, but also their numerous clerks and dependents will be relieved; if your Lordship and the Common Law and Equity Judges will consent to rise at two o'clock on Saturdays, or if they should please, *it would be preferable to close the courts entirely on that day*, which would afford them the opportunity of considering their judgments in abeyance; and the solicitors in town, *like their brethren in the country*, might devote their Saturday mornings exclusively to their accounts, and to a revision of business in hand.

As my only object in addressing your Lordship is to further the cause of true religion, virtue, and social happiness, I trust, if I have committed any error in judgment in so doing, that your Lordship will grant me your forgiveness.

I have the honour to be, my Lord,

With great respect,

Your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

JOHN ROBERT TAYLOR.

To the Right Honourable the Lord High Chancellor  
of Great Britain, &c. &c. &c.

Lincoln's Inn, Dec. 7th, 1855.

SIR,—I am desired by the Lord Chancellor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th inst., and the accompanying pamphlet on the subject of Saturday half-holidays, which shall receive due consideration from him.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. C. SPRING RICE.

Mr. J. R. Taylor.



ADDRESS  
OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED  
MASONS OF CANADA, TO THE UNITED GRAND LODGE OF  
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF ENGLAND.

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[The very great importance of the present condition of relations between the English and Canadian Lodges, prompts us to give instant insertion to the following Address just received, and to the Letter of our Correspondent appended to it. Our readers will see that the question will come before the Grand Lodge of England at the next Quarterly Communication, and that though we shall return to the subject in our Number for April, it behoves every true friend of the Order to bestir himself at once actively in the matter.—ED.]

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ADDRESS.

*To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, the Right Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Officers, and Brethren of the United Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England;*

WE, the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Officers, and Brethren, of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, with sincere respect and fraternal regard, SEND GREETING,

The Freemasons of Canada, to the number of forty-one Lodges, having united in the establishment of a Grand Lodge of Canada (as you have doubtless already been informed), we feel it our first duty to lay before you, as the parent to whom the majority of our members owe their Masonic existence, a full explanation of the circumstances which dictated, and the course we pursued, in taking a step, which, while it determines the rule of the Grand Lodge of England over us, as Lodges, we confidently believe will not sever, and we earnestly trust will not weaken, that Holy Bond of Brotherhood so long existing between us as Masons.

In offering these explanations, we feel assured, by the purity of the motives by which we were actuated, and the justness of our cause, that we shall not ask from you in vain, that generous and truly Masonic consideration which has ever distinguished the Grand Lodge of England.

The absence in this province of that progress in our Masonic Art which has invariably attended the existence of duly constituted Lodges in every other country, had long been a source of unfeigned sorrow to all zealous Canadian Freemasons, who observed with deep regret that the advancement of the Order was by no means commen-

surate with the rapid improvement which marked every other branch of the social and political economy of this noble province.

The principal influences which retarded the progress of Masonry in Canada cannot be better described than by the following extracts from a circular, on the subject, issued by the Lodge of Strict Observance, No. 833, R. E., of the City of Hamilton, in the month of September last.

Adverting to the alleged grievances suffered by the Craft, it is there stated:—

“The first and most important is, the diversity of interests and the want of harmony in action and in working, resulting from the growth in the province, of Lodges hailing from the Grand Lodges of different countries, thus perpetuating local and national feelings and prejudices, and conflicting interests, and consequent estrangement of affection, amongst the Brethren of an Order that knows no country and is confined to no race.

“The second is, the manifest injustice of Lodges in this province being required, out of their limited means, to contribute to the accumulated funds of the Grand Lodge of England, in addition to having to support a Provincial Grand Lodge—and especially as the great proportion of claims for Masonic assistance that are daily and hourly occurring in this province, are made by Brethren emigrating from the mother country, whilst instances of Masons leaving this for England, in a position to require such relief, are rare, if they ever occur at all. The Grand Lodge of England thus doubly tax the Fraternity here by transferring to these shores numberless claimants for Masonic benevolence, at the same time that they are receiving from us a portion of our means of affording that assistance.

“The third is, the inconvenience arising from the lengthened periods that must elapse, in consequence of the distance between us and the Grand Lodge of England, before we can receive replies to our communications, sanction to our proceedings, warrants, certificates of membership, &c., even in cases of emergency; and instances have often occurred of Brethren being deprived of the privileges of the Craft, by leaving for foreign countries before the arrival of their certificates—for which, it must be borne in mind, they had paid previously to their initiation. This disadvantage is unavoidable even were the correspondence and remittances of our Lodges promptly acknowledged and complied with, but which, unhappily, is far from being the case, important communications having frequently remained without reply for months, and in some cases for years, greatly to the inconvenience of the Fraternity here; and notwithstanding that complaints of such neglect have been repeatedly represented to the Grand Lodge of England through the regular channel of communication, and also by resolutions of the Provincial Grand Lodge through the Grand Registrar of England, they have as yet received no attention nor redress—a neglect highly discourteous towards the Masons of Canada, and seriously injurious to the general interests of the Craft.

“The last, but in our estimation, by no means the least of the alleged grievances, is the appointment of our Provincial Grand Master by the Grand Master of England, which virtually leaves the appointment in the hands of the Masons of England—who, at a distance of near 4,000 miles, may reasonably be expected to be practically ignorant of the social position and requirements of the Craft in Canada; and inasmuch as the Provincial Grand Officers are nominated by the Provincial Grand Master, the efficiency or inefficiency of the administration of our affairs depends entirely upon the eligible or ineligible selection of a Provincial Grand Master made for us by the Grand Master of England—and this selection is made without reference to the opinions of the Fraternity in Canada, as to the Masonic attainments, zeal or interest in the Craft, and general qualifications of the nominee, although they would naturally be the best informed on the subject, and most deeply interested in the result.

“The Provincial Grand Lodge, thus constituted, is placed in the equivocal position of being irresponsible to, and independent of the Craft in Canada, whilst experience has shown that body to be unable to secure from the Grand Lodge of England the attention and respect due to their position as a Provincial Grand Lodge.”

The sentiments contained in the foregoing extracts were participated in by the whole of the Masonic Fraternity, with scarcely an individual exception; nor were such feelings and convictions of recent formation, the necessity of establishing a Canadian Grand Lodge having for many years occupied the serious consideration of the Brethren; but hailing as they did from different Grand Lodges, and distributed as they were over a province extending in length 1,600 miles, and in breadth averaging over 220 miles, being three times as large as Great Britain and Ireland—the means of communication, too, being very imperfect—they had but few opportunities of meeting together, and much time, therefore, elapsed before any action was taken in the matter.

The first important step occurred at a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Upper Canada, held in October, A. L., 5852, when, after expressing the highest respect and esteem for their parent Grand Lodge of England, a resolution was unanimously passed, to the effect, That it is absolutely necessary for the welfare of Masonry in the province, that an independent Grand Lodge should be established, having full power to control the working and operations of the Craft in this quarter of the globe, and that all funds accruing from the same should be retained by the said Grand Lodge, to meet the urgent necessities of the Craft in the province.

In May, A. L., 5853, the same Grand body (the Provincial Grand Lodge), adopted and forwarded a Petition to the Grand Lodge of England, which, after briefly narrating the Masonic history of Western Canada, from the year 5792, and stating—That the advancement of Masonry had been of a less cheering nature than the progress of Canada in population, intelligence and wealth, had

warranted them in anticipating, and that their funds were drained by the constant demands from indigent Brethren, emigrants from Great Britain and Ireland, until they were unable to carry out the great charitable objects of the Institution, prayed that they might be allowed to retain all fees arising from the working of the Craft, and also that the various Lodges under their jurisdiction might be permitted to elect their own Provincial Grand Master—at the same time expressing the belief that if the prayer of their petition were granted, and the Grand Lodge of England would exert its influence to induce the other Grand Lodges of Great Britain not to issue any more warrants to Lodges in Canada, that ere long the whole Craft in the province would be united in one harmonious body.

These Petitions and Resolutions having elicited no reply from the Grand Lodge of England, resolutions were passed at subsequent meetings of the Provincial Grand Lodge, directing that application be made to the Grand Lodge of England, first through the Grand Secretary—the regular channel of communication—and afterwards through the Grand Registrar, respectfully calling attention to the Petitions, and begging that they might be favored with consideration and some reply. These applications appear to have been alike unavailing in procuring from the Grand Lodge of England any consideration of the claims of the Masons of Canada, for at a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge on the 19th July last, it was officially announced that no reply had been received from the Grand Lodge of England to any of these communications.

Finding that the interests of the Craft in the province were suffering with increased severity from the causes of which they had complained—feeling deeply the uncourteous neglect the Petitions and correspondence of the Provincial Grand Lodge had experienced from the Officers of the Grand Lodge of England—and believing the Provincial Grand Lodge to be incapable of obtaining from the Grand Lodge of England those concessions which the position of the Craft rendered indispensable—a very large majority of the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge were desirous of calling a meeting of all the Canadian Lodges, for the purpose of deciding on and adopting the correct constitutional course for securing that relief which the circumstances of their case demanded.

Several resolutions having that object in view were proposed, but the Right Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master (presiding) ruled them out of order, and refused to submit them to the meeting, adjourning the Provincial Grand Lodge until the next day.

In consequence of the refusal of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master to take the opinion of the Lodge on any of the resolutions proposed, a numerous meeting of members of the Provincial Grand Lodge, including several Provincial Grand Officers, was held after the adjournment of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and after considering the unsatisfactory position and prospects of the Craft, and despairing of ever obtaining redress of their grievances through the intervention of the Provincial Grand Lodge, a resolution was unani-

mously passed, calling a meeting of Delegates from all Canadian Lodges to be held in the City of Hamilton, on the 10th of October, to consider the expediency of establishing a Grand Lodge of Canada.

In conformity with that resolution, and in pursuance of a summons issued to all the Lodges in Canada, the representatives of forty-one Lodges, hailing from the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland, assembled at the Masonic Hall, in the City of Hamilton, on the 10th of October, A. L., 5855.

Very Worshipful Brother the Rev. F. J. Lundy, D.C.L., Provincial Grand Chaplain of Upper Canada, and Worshipful Master of the Union Lodge, Grimsby, No. 494, R.E., was called upon to officiate as Chaplain during the session of the Convention.

The Convention having been inaugurated by solemn prayer,

Very Worshipful Brother C. Magill, Past Junior Grand Warden of Upper Canada, and Worshipful Master of the Barton Lodge, Hamilton, No. 733, R.E., and Mayor of the City, was called upon to preside, and

Very Worshipful Brother T. B. Harris, Past Master of St. John's Lodge, Hamilton, No. 231, R. I., was requested to act as Secretary.

On the recommendation of a Committee appointed for the purpose, the rules and regulations for conducting public business, contained in the Book of Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England, were, *mutatis mutandis*, unanimously adopted for the government of the Convention.

The objects for which the Convention was called were introduced with explanatory observations by the Chairman, who invited the Brethren present to express their views on the subject before the meeting freely and at length.

The Convention was addressed by many of the Brethren, and the several points of alleged grievance were very fully considered and discussed.

In the course of the debate it was urged, that, however willing the Grand Lodge of England might be to concede all the points embraced in the petitions of the Provincial Grand Lodge, the serious inconvenience arising from the distance (near 4,000 miles) between Great Britain and this province could not thus be avoided, whilst the establishment of a Grand Lodge of Canada, in addition to remedying that inconvenience, would unite as one family the fraternity of the province, identify the interests, and assimilate the working of the various lodges, at present belonging to three distinct jurisdictions, and establish harmony throughout the Craft.

It was further urged that having a Grand Lodge in the province would afford the Lodges a convenience of communication which would greatly facilitate the business of the Craft—that the amount of dues that would be saved by having but one Grand Lodge to support would materially increase their benevolent resources—and that a Grand Lodge, with officers, annually elective by the Masons of Canada, would secure due attention to the interests of the Frater-

nity, and elevate Freemasonry in Canada to a position of prosperity, influence, and utility, under any other circumstances far beyond its capabilities.

It was also urged that amongst the numerous and intelligent body of Masons in the province, the requisite talent and devotion to the welfare of the Craft may at all times be found, to conduct an efficient administration of the affairs of Freemasonry in Canada, and that the necessities of the Fraternity required that they should assume a position of self-government.

The feeling of the Convention being manifestly so strongly in favour of the establishment of an independent Grand Lodge, a Committee composed of those Brethren, whose Masonic knowledge and general ability had distinguished them as the best qualified for the faithful and efficient performance of so important a duty, was appointed to investigate all available Masonic authorities for precedents applicable to the peculiar circumstances of the case. The result of their researches was a recommendation for the immediate formation of a Grand Lodge of Canada. This recommendation, with the full and explanatory report of the Committee, having received from the Brethren that calm and grave consideration which the serious importance of the subject demanded, it was felt that, however painful it might be to them thus to sever the link which had so long bound them to their parent Grand Lodges of Great Britain and Ireland, and sincerely as they felt, and readily acknowledged, the duty they owed to those parent Grand Lodges, they felt that they owed a still higher duty to Freemasonry, whose best interests were at stake, and whose prosperous existence in the province imperatively required that immediate separation.

It was thereon solemnly resolved—

That in order to apply a remedy to these evils,—to form perfect fraternal union and harmony, establish order, insure tranquillity, provide for and promote the general welfare of the Craft, and secure to the Fraternity of Canada all the blessings of Masonic privileges, it is expedient, right, and our bounden duty to form a Grand Lodge of Canada.

It was then on motion unanimously resolved—

That the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, be and is hereby formed upon the Ancient Charges and Constitution of Masonry.

A Committee was then appointed to prepare rules and regulations for the government of the Grand Lodge of Canada; and a temporary code having been submitted and approved, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Master and Grand Officers. V.W. Bro. W. M. Wilson, Past Grand Senior Warden of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Upper Canada and W.M. of Norfolk Lodge, Simcoe, C. W., No. 500, R.E., was elected Grand Master, and V.W. Bro. A. Bernard, Past Grand Junior Deacon of the Provincial Grand

Lodge of Montreal and William Henry, Lower Canada, and W.M. of St. George's Lodge, Montreal, C. E., No. 643, R.E., was elected Deputy Grand Master, and Brethren of acknowledged Masonic ability were elected and appointed Grand Officers.

Committees were then appointed to conduct the general business of the Grand Lodge, and the Convention was adjourned with solemn prayer, its deliberations having occupied three days.

The requisite arrangements having previously been made, on the 2nd of November the Grand Lodge was duly consecrated, and the Grand Master Elect regularly installed, in due and ancient form, by the Most Worshipful the Honourable H. T. Backus, P.G.M. of the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of the State of Michigan, assisted by other Brethren of eminence and distinction in the Craft.

The Grand Lodge of Canada was thus regularly formed and inaugurated, in the name of the Great Architect of the Universe, in conformity with the custom which has prevailed in the establishment of Grand Lodges, and we confidently believe that the circumstances which called it into existence were as much stronger as the number of Lodges by whom it was formed was greater than had ever before combined for the creation of a new Grand Lodge. From the time when the Four Lodges of London renounced their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of York, and formed themselves into an independent Grand Lodge, up to the present period, the greatest number on record of Lodges ever associated to erect a new Grand Lodge was seventeen, whilst forty-one Lodges, and holding warrants, too, from three different jurisdictions, were harmoniously united in the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

We have now stated, as briefly as their importance would admit, the whole of the circumstances connected with the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and we submit them with all due respect to your august body, to whom we have always looked up as the fountain of Masonic knowledge, and the brightest example of virtue, dignity, and benevolence, and from whom the great majority of us claim, and will ever proudly boast, our descent.

Having been entrusted with the sacred duty of directing the affairs of the Craft in this province, and of representing them, and advocating their interests throughout the universe; and having solemnly undertaken that charge, and to disseminate the grand principles of our Ancient and Honourable Order, and promote to the utmost extent of our ability the general prosperity of the Fraternity, it is our earnest desire and intention to follow and maintain, pure and unsullied, the ancient landmarks, laws, and traditions of the Craft as we received them from your hands.

Engaged in one common cause—the good of our fellow-men, by promoting the interest of our time-honoured Institution,—and it being our first wish and highest ambition to establish and perpetuate a sincere and intimate alliance with the Grand Lodge of England, we extend to you, in the name of our Divine Art, the right hand of

brotherhood, and confidently claim from you a reciprocation of our Fraternal regard.

Signed on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Canada,

L. S.

WM. MERCER WILSON, G.M.

THOS. BIRD HARRIS, G.S.

HAMILTON, C. W., 10th Nov., A. L. 5855.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASON'S MAGAZINE.

SIR AND BROTHER,—The particular object of my writing is to inform you that the Freemasons in this province have been driven, by injustice and neglect, to declare themselves independent of the Grand Lodge of Great Britain, and to establish a Grand Lodge of Canada, and their Address to that effect will be presented to the Grand Lodge of England at the next quarterly communication.

I inclose a copy of the Address, which I am sure will receive your careful and unprejudiced consideration, and I doubt not will satisfy you that they were justified, nay more, compelled, in self-defence, to take this step, unpalatable as it must at first appear to all English Masons. I assure you it was with great reluctance I was induced to join in the movement, and it was not until I had been convinced indisputably that it was resolved into a question between independence, with harmony and efficiency, or continued dependence, with poverty, discord, and effeteness—that I consented to sever the connection with the Grand Lodge of England, or, in other words, to throw overboard part of the cargo, to save the ship.

The statements in the Address are not only strictly correct, but the circumstances of their case are much stronger than represented, serious as they appear. For instance, I came here about eighteen months ago, there were three Lodges in the city, two holding under England, and one from Ireland, and the working of the three was beautifully varied and peculiar, a compound in different proportions of English, Irish, and American, with an *ad libitum* introduction of something altogether new to me. Each was completely wedded to its fancy work, and so “fraternally” jealous were they of each other, that any members of other Lodges were looked upon as rivals and antagonists. They have now all joined the Grand Lodge of Canada, and we shall immediately establish a Lodge of Instruction, to teach the English working, which will be adopted by all our Lodges. I of course mean those that have affiliated with the Grand Lodge of Canada, being about two-thirds of all the Lodges in the province, the remainder being yet undecided, waiting for the action of the Grand Lodge of England in the matter.

The next paragraph speaks of our having to contribute to the



Grand Lodge of England, and also to support a Grand Lodge. This applies only to Upper Canada, as we have in the lower provinces two more P.G. Lodges to support, and the inroad this makes upon our funds, often necessitates the refusal of relief to Brethren in distress, from actual want of funds.

The appointment of our P.G.M. by the Grand Lodge of England operates most seriously to our disadvantage: our present P.G.M. of Upper Canada exhibits a perfect indifference to the interests of Masonry, attending no Lodges, grand or subordinate, and only occasionally appearing at public ceremonies, leaving all his duties to be performed by his deputy.

I need not point out how different will be our position now we elect our own G.M.

I trust the perusal of the Address will secure the Grand Lodge of Canada the advantage of your attendance and support when the question comes before the consideration of the Grand Lodge of England, and, I assure you, your countenance was never requested in a more righteous cause.

I am, my dear Sir and Brother,

Yours truly and fraternally,

W. L. S.

THE COGGIN SUBSCRIPTION.—Though we regret the necessity of a subscription being entered into for the assistance of Bro. Coggin, who for upwards of thirty years has been most assiduous in attending to the comfort of the visitors to the Freemason's Tavern,—we cannot do otherwise than call upon the Brethren to assist in the good work. Bro. Coggin has, towards the close of life, from unforeseen causes, left the Tavern straightened in his circumstances, and a little help may enable him to pass his remaining years in comparative comfort. Who that knows the man will withhold it? We feel sure not one.

THE VENDETTA.—Not to take revenge is considered by the genuine Corsican as degrading. Thirst for vengeance is, with them, an entirely natural sentiment; a passion that has become hallowed. In their songs revenge has a *cultus*, and is celebrated as a religion of filial piety. Now a sentiment which the poetry of a people has adopted as an essential characteristic of the nationality is ineradicable; and this in the highest degree, if woman has ennobled it as *her* feeling. Girls and women have composed most of the Corsican songs of revenge, and they are sung from mountain-top to shore. This creates a very atmosphere of revenge, in which the people live and the children grow up, sucking in the wild meaning of the Vendetta with their mothers' milk. In one of these songs, it is said, that twelve lives are insufficient to avenge the fallen man's—boots. That is Corsican. A man like Hamlet, who struggles to fill himself with the spirit of the Vendetta, and cannot do it, would be pronounced by the Corsicans the most despicable of all poltroons. No where in the world, perhaps, does human blood and human life count for so little as in Corsica. The Corsican is ready to take life, but he is also ready to die.—*Wanderings in Corsica*, vol. i.

## REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

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[Publishers are requested to send works for review not later than the 20th of the month, addressed to the Editor of the "Freemasons' Monthly Magazine," 74-5, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields.]

*The Book of the Lodge.* Second Edition. By the Rev. G. OLIVER. London: R. Spencer, 314, High Holborn.—We drew attention to this work in our last, when only a few sheets were before us. Now that it appears in its perfect form, we can only reiterate the recommendation we then gave of it to all Brethren of the Craft. It is well worthy of that venerable and excellent Brother, Dr. Oliver, whose benefits to Masonry have been incalculable, and is a precious heirloom to future Masons, many of whom we trust he may yet see fulfilling the duties it inculcates, and preserving the true Masonic knowledge it provides. We quote the words of a reviewer of the former edition, who testifies that "the book is likely to become a text-book to the Fraternity throughout the world, for its practical utility cannot be denied. There is not a single class of Brethren amongst those who are ever so slightly disposed to consider the Science worth cultivating, who will not find a fund of entertainment and instruction in one or other of its divisions."

*Gilfillan's British Poets.* Nichol.—The last issue of Nichol's edition of the "British Poets" contains the works of Johnson, Parnell, Gray, and Smollet. We could have well spared the latter, notwithstanding the "Ode to Independence." Johnson's two satires—"London," and "The Vanity of Human Wishes"—are unrivalled in their massive energy. Parnell is now remembered for very little beyond his "Hermit." But Gray—almost every line he wrote was a gem. Mr. Gilfillan's biographical and critical notices are not the least attractive portions of the volume.

*The Lights and Shadows of Freemasonry: consisting of Masonic Tales, Songs, and Sketches, never before published.* By ROBERT MORRIS, K.T. New York: John W. Leonard & Co., 383, Broadway.—This interesting volume offers to the general reader a collection of narratives founded upon the occurrences of real life, spiritedly detailed; while to the initiated eye it presents a succession of incidents bearing, either directly or indirectly, upon every section of Masonic obligation and privilege. The author, himself a zealous votary of the Craft, has succeeded in producing such records as will illustrate its social advantages, while they answer the silly objections of its opponents. In one story, which we would especially instance, the interesting question of conjugal relation as connected with the secrets of Freemasonry is fairly set before us. Catharine Williams, a young heiress, abandons her engagement upon the refusal of her

lover, who is a Freemason, to become recreant to the promises and pledges given to his Order. She is punished for the wanton sacrifice of a heart devoted to her, by finding that the man she ultimately marries has, instead of a single innocent secret, a hundred guilty ones to conceal from her knowledge. The lover, after many years' travel, becomes the happy husband of a woman more comprehensively minded, and one also whose influence is exerted rather to strengthen than to sap that honourable observance of engagements, the basis of social and domestic relation. While we commend this book to the notice of the Craft, as one calculated to interest while it improves, we would heartily acknowledge the sympathy we experience in any pursuit or production of our American Brethren; and the full reciprocation of the good feeling so consistently evinced towards us, resulting in an union the benefits of which will extend from "principles" to "effects," we trust, long years from the present time. Our American Brethren vie with each other in giving attestation, every mail, of their cordial interest in our progress here; and we can only state that our pages will be ever open to assert their interests and reciprocate their kindly feeling.

*Laws of Man and Wife.* — *Family Interests: A Story taken from Life.* Hope and Co. — This is a story written with the object apparently of showing the injustice and wickedness of the laws between man and wife in our so-called Christian country. A young heiress is wooed and won by a man of broken fortunes and character, and who is at the same time living with a Frenchwoman. As soon as she becomes aware of his marital treachery, she leaves his house and returns to her friends, by whose advice an action is brought for alimony. Unfortunately she had been deaf to the warnings of her relatives, and there were no settlements, and accordingly, when the case comes on, the offending husband pleads that he has only a small sum of money (which, by the way, is then settled upon her), the wife's fortune having been made over by a deed of gift to the French mistress. This is no fiction, a parallel case having been tried only a few years ago. On this head the language of the law is precise. In Wharton's "Laws relating to Women," p. 313, we read:—

"Assuming, then, that the wife has no separate interest in her own property secured to her by settlements, the husband, by the marriage, acquires an absolute right to all his wife's personal property in her actual and beneficial possession at the time, or which comes into her possession during the marriage, and he may assign or dispose of it at his own good pleasure. This right is wholly independent of the circumstance whether they live together or not."

Upon this the writer very justly remarks that society, and women in particular, have the means of restraining, if not restricting, this injustice in their own hands:—

"Two or three of his former friends of unusually strict principles cut him dead, half a dozen more only bowed, and avoided speaking, and a good number spoke as little to him as they could help, without being actually uncivil; but this was only a nine days' wonder; the feeling against him gradually wore off, and in six

months his misdeeds were generally forgotten, and he was nearly as well received as ever. Now, if Vivian had cheated at cards, or played with loaded dice, or acted dishonestly as a railroad director, he would have been cut—utterly and hopelessly cut; but as it was, he having merely ill-used and defrauded the woman he had sworn to cherish, it was not thought worth while to punish him for such a small offence against society as that. Does it not show a great want of chivalrous and generous feeling among gentlemen, that while they exclude from society any one of their own order who, by his dishonourable behaviour, has defrauded one of themselves, they will yet continue to receive on friendly terms a man who has behaved dishonourably to a woman? If a gentleman pledges his word to another gentleman, and does not redeem it, he is cast out of gentlemen's society; but if a gentleman pledges his faith before God's altar to a lady, and notoriously breaks his oath, there are but few, very few gentlemen indeed, who will refuse to associate with him. The sentence of excommunication that is passed on persons whom society determines to cut, is a very severe one; but it is a useful and salutary punishment, and acts as a warning to others who are inclined to err in the same direction. If ladies were to determine that they would not admit within their houses men who had been notoriously guilty of breaking God's laws, or of having cruelly oppressed a woman, they would greatly raise the standard of morality, and confer an immense benefit upon their own sex. Many a man who is not withheld from crime by the fear of having to answer for it in the next world, would be withheld if he expected to meet with punishment in this. If a man knew that if he behaved ill to his wife, he would be excluded thenceforth from the society of other ladies, as women very properly are when they do wrong; if he knew that he should never again receive an invitation to a ball or evening party; if he knew that from henceforth all his lady acquaintances would look coldly on him, and that he should be entirely reduced to the club for society, he would think twice before he did anything that would entail this punishment on him, and would treat his wife differently. Thus women might, if they chose, confer protection on each other."

In the course of time the wife becomes a mother, and when her boy is about eight years old, his father stealthily takes him away. Hoping that the law would interfere and restore her child, she carries her grievance into the court of Common Pleas with the usual result—that the father's claim to the boy's guardianship is confirmed:—

"'I am prepared to contend,' replied Mr. Kennedy, 'that, where a father misconducts himself towards his children, the law will interfere and take them from his custody.' The judge replied,—'There are many cases in which the law has interfered to give a father the custody of his children, and in some cases those who administered the law have deeply regretted it; but I know of no case in which a father has been deprived by a court of law of having their custody.'"

The judgment here recorded was delivered in that court in the year 1852, by a judge recently deceased. We are a very moral and a very just people; if we were not so, we might perhaps be induced to borrow a leaf from the jurisprudence of our French neighbours. The rule with us is, that "a mother, as such, has no legal right to the custody of her children;" and our legislators, statesmen, and moralists, assert that to change this condition of the law is not only difficult, but impossible. But the example of France has clearly proved that an alteration may be beneficially effected:—

"According to French law, the children are always, in case of a separation between husband and wife, given over to the parent—whether father or mother—whose conduct has been the most respectable. If a man applies for a legal separation from his wife on account of her misconduct, and obtains it, the children are

at once given up to him ; and, in the same way, if a wife obtains a legal separation from her husband because of his unfaithfulness, the children are immediately, without any further legal process, turned over to her."

*The Microscope : its History, Construction, and Application.* By JABEZ HOGG, M.R.C.S. London: Routledge.—The world, usually so slow in accepting improvement when conveyed by instruments which invade its preconceived notions and belief, has been compelled not merely to recognise, but to depend upon, the long-neglected aid of the microscope for the solution of some most startling natural phenomena. Medical science without it would be deprived of one of its surest agents for diagnosis, whether of insidious elementary disease or of lurking agents of decomposition and vitiated structure in vegetable physiology, whereby the nutriment of the human body is impaired. Zoology and geology equally rest upon the subtle accuracy by which latent vegetation or animal life is microscopically detected, and as the author of this most interesting and able work observes :—

"The microscope not only assists studies and develops objects of profound interest, but it also opens up innumerable sources of entertainment and amusement in the ordinary conventional acceptance of these terms. It discloses to us peculiarities and attractions in abundance. It impresses us with the wonderful and beautifully-skilful adaptation of all parts of creation, and fills our minds with additional reverence and admiration for the beneficent and almighty Creator."

We regret that the volume did not reach us until after most of our reviews had been set up ; but the best proof we can give of our estimate of its value consists in the fact that we have purposely made room for necessarily a brief, notice of it. Succinctly but clearly written, the book brings before the reader the widest range of subject, most scientifically treated with thorough knowledge and careful analysis, yet divested of the too frequent pedantry of bombastic technical expression. After giving an admirable history of the invention and improvements of the microscope, and of the optical principles involved in its construction, it presents the best directions for the provision of the newest and most scientific apparatus, and instructs us in the phenomena and constitutive elements of photography. In the second part, all the remarkable inhabitants of lesser worlds, circled by our own, which itself depends on theirs, are investigated. Infusorial animalcules, insects, zoophytes ;—as Shelly says—

" All those living things  
To whom the fragile blade of grass,  
Which springeth in the morn  
And perisheth ere noon,  
Is an unbounded world :  
    Those viewless beings  
Whose mansion is the smallest particle  
Of the impassive atmosphere ;"

—these all are displayed in the implicated yet independent machinery of life, whereby the All-wise Architect of Worlds has constructed them. We shall mark several portions of this admirable work for quota-

tion; meanwhile no person should omit to peruse its pages, who desires to have his intellectual powers expanded and moral aspirations ennobled by this talented exposition of Nature's mysteries, calculated to improve both.

*The Constitutions of the Freemasons, containing the History, Charges, &c., of that Most Ancient and Right Worshipful Fraternity.* London, 1753: republished (fac-simile) by J. W. Leonard & Co., 383, Broadway, New York, 1855 (commonly called "Anderson's Constitutions").—This is a capital reprint, with all the distinctive peculiarities of old type, &c., of the Constitutions of our Order, and is dedicated to Bro. M. W. W. Lewis, *M.D.*, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. It is an elegant volume as well as a very important work, and contains much valuable intelligence as to the records and traditions of our noble Fraternity. Considerable and sound learning is displayed in connecting Masonry with the most ancient triumphs of art, and the whole history of its progress is interestingly displayed, from the earliest period down to that at which this book was written; viz., the epoch of the M. W. Grand Master John Duke of Montague, to whom the original book was dedicated by that ever-to-be-honoured Mason, J. T. Desaguliers, Deputy Grand Master. Moreover we have the charges of a Freemason derived from the ancient records of ultramarine and home Lodges, treating of topics instructive to all, under the several heads of—1. God and Religion; 2. Supreme and subordinate Magistrates; 3. Lodges; 4. Masters, Officers, and Members; 5. Craft Working; 6. Behaviour, besides general regulations. Should any Brother desire a copy of this instructive work, we have no doubt Bro. Spencer, of Holborn, can obtain him one; but the volume itself bears no London printer's name of modern date, and was forwarded to us by our respected American Bro. Leonard, of New York, through the courtesy of our Bro. Spencer.

*The Preaching of Christ.* By JAMES AUGUSTUS ST. JOHN. London: Chapman and Hall.—Few writers have aided literature in its several branches more than the well-known author of this work, and the talented members of his family. His "Philosophy at the Foot of the Cross" is too famed to need further recommendation; and we confess that his new work wins upon us as much by its simple yet deep enunciation of truth, as by its masterly recognition and portraiture of the Saviour's all-surpassing excellencies. The book should be found in the closets of the prayerful, on the reading-table of the doubter, and the shelves of the inquirer into metaphysical subtleties; for the intellectual goes hand in hand with the moral power, and the observations of a sagacious and deep-thinking mind are tempered with the sound knowledge and counsels of the Christian.

*A Popular History of Birds.* By ADAM WHITE. Lovell Reeve.—This beautiful little book (royal 16mo.) belongs to an admirable popular series of works on natural history, which Mr. Reeve has for

some time been bringing out. These books are all written in a pleasant style, with as little technical harshness as possible, and they are illustrated by a great number of singularly beautiful coloured drawings, such as, until a very recent period, were only seen in the most expensive works. In the present state of bird-knowledge, our naturalists recognise between six and seven thousand species, and two thousand four hundred genera and sub-genera; and into this terribly complicated field Mr. White has not attempted to take his readers, but confined himself to explaining the characteristics of the most important groups and most interesting species. This task appears to us exceedingly well done. The book is lively, elegant, and interesting to read, as well as useful for reference, and the twenty plates, each containing several exquisitely-coloured portraits of birds artistically grouped, make it a volume admirably adapted for Christmas presents and an ornament fit for any table.

*Johnstone's Specimens of Sacred and Serious Poetry* (Oliver and Boyd) has long enjoyed that share of popular favour which it deserved. It is now enriched with many choice passages from living poets; such as Tennyson, Bailey, Smith, Keble, and Longfellow. Short biographical notices precede the selections from Chaucer down to Byron.

#### PAMPHLETS.

*Parallel Passages from two Tales, elucidating the Origin of the Plot of Guy Mannering.* Edited by G. T. FRENCH. Manchester: Simms and Co.—These few pages contain the main facts recorded in the "Gentleman's Magazine" for July, 1840, and in "Chambers's Edinburgh Journal" of March 6, 1841, and vindicate the exclusive authorship of "Guy Mannering" to Sir Walter Scott; whilst, at the same time, they prove that the novel itself is not original, but really only an adaptation of a tale of private life, conjoined with certain stories communicated to Scott by Mr. Frain and others. The striking resemblances between the names, passages, and incidents concurrent in "Guy Mannering," in "Memoirs of an Unfortunate Young Nobleman," and the "Gentleman's Magazine," vol. xiv., are plainly and forcibly set forth, and the deductions are no less clear than candidly represented to the reader's mind. It is a curious and clever enunciation of a subject which must interest the lovers of literary productions.

*The Present Crisis.* A Sermon preached by the Rev. W. J. GRUNDY. London: G. Nichols, 7, Earl's Court, Cranbourne Street.—The author has elicited great approbation in the neighbourhood of Kilvington, Notts, of which benefice he is rector, by a former discourse, entitled the "Fall of Sebastopol." The present one is an able digest of the events of the war, and we doubt not will bring much profit to the Patriotic Fund, for the benefit of which it is printed. The writer regards our national conduct, as well as that of Russia, in a religious aspect, and whilst admitting war to be an evil,

shows it to be inevitable under certain relations of things. His concluding address to all, as Christians warring with far worse foes spiritually, than merely nations or their politics, is forcible and practical. Indeed, the whole sermon is replete with evangelical truth and encouragement, and must earn the writer distinction in these days of such general driveldon and inconsistent incompetency.

*The Indian Freemasons' Friend. No. XII., December 1, 1855.* Thacker and Co.: Calcutta and London.—This valuable Masonic publication contains a history of the Lodge No. 279, and has some admirable remarks upon the necessity of concentrating colonial Grand Lodges, drawn from the evils incident to the Canadian and Australian Lodges, and from our comments upon the secession of the former. It shows well that the P.G.M. should everywhere be elective, which system prevails under the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland; but England forms the exception: so that while the P.G.M. of Grenada, under the Scottish constitution, can declare that "the kind suffrages of his Brethren have raised him to his elevated station," and the P.G.M. of Armagh felicitates himself as being "elected unanimously to his distinguished station," the P.G.M. of Essex is obliged to confess that "his strongest title to that dignity was derivable from the friendly partiality of the G.M."

Our Indian Brother is quite right, and the success of his periodical we hail most heartily; it is conducted with equal talent, zeal, and prudence. Doubtless the system in England is toadyism personified; and if the Brethren permit such a state of rottenness to continue, they deserve to lose the attachment of the colonies, the respect of continental Masons, and the very elements of domestic efficiency and self-esteem.

*Putnam's Monthly Magazine of Literature, Science, and Art.* New York: Dix and Edwards. London: Sampson Low and Son.—This periodical presents to us a startling theory, powerfully but somewhat mistily conceived, as to the author of the plays commonly known as Shakspeare's; a thrilling "ghost" story; animated descriptions of the Virginian springs; low life in the Pampas; Scamparias (reeking of Yankee-doodle); a sketch, called Owlcopse; and some clever poetry and reviews. The latter are particularly worth notice; and the poetry, also, is far above the ordinary standard. It is a decidedly "go-a-head" publication, and while seeking to amuse and instruct, professes itself the friend of good morals, sound learning, and the most liberal and earnest discussion.

*An Address on the Moral and Physical Evils resulting from a neglect of Sanitary Measures.* Delivered by R. HARLAND WHITEMAN, Surgeon. London: Brettell.—The facts that ten thousand deaths and a quarter of a million of cases of sickness occur in the metropolis in one short year, most of them probably preventable: that the annual slaughter in England alone, by causes that are preventable, producing only one disease, viz. typhus fever, is more than



double the loss sustained by the allied armies at Waterloo; that 136 persons perish every day in England, whose lives might be saved; that in Manchester alone 13,362 children perished in seven years, above the mortality natural to mankind: these facts, we say, suffice to prove the importance of the inquiry which this pamphlet prosecutes in a most skilful, sound, and scientific manner.

*American Freemason.* Louisville and New York. — We have received numbers of this excellent journal from 1 to 6 inclusive, with the exception of No. 2. The great press of matter upon our reviewing columns prevents our quoting at present from its pages; but we pronounce it, unexceptionably, the best Masonic weekly paper we have met with: the illustrations are admirable, and the articles, whether literary or musical, first-rate. We wish it all success, and shall print some of its hints shortly, for they are invaluable.

*Service of the Knights Templar, with the Rules of the Hugh de Payens.* T. M. Creighton: Kingston, Canada W.—We acknowledge the courtesy of the Eminent Commander T. A. Henderson, Esq., in forwarding a copy of the very beautiful service and admirable rules adopted by the Fratres of the Encampment over which he so worthily presides. The selection of Scripture is appropriate, and the prayers couched in the spirit of devotion and simplicity. May they have their effect, to the well-being of each member of the community!

*Case of Blindness from Birth, in a Female, cured by an Operation upon her at the Age of Twenty-two.* By G. CRITCHETT, F.R.C.S. Deptford: Anderson.—A very singular account of a case, which is full of information upon several contested and little-known theories relative to vision. The mental philosopher, as well as the medical philanthropist, will peruse these pages with great interest, whilst the skill of the operator entitles him to the highest approbation. Some of the statements are affecting and almost romantic; and the style of description concurs with the importance of the topic.

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BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.—At the meeting of this board on the 30th January, £98 were voted to distressed Brethren or their widows, in sums varying from £3 to £20.

THE BOYS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL.—The whole of the arrangements for the Festival on the 12th March are completed, and a very numerous muster of the Brethren is expected. The musical arrangements have been confided to Bro. Donald King, W.M. No. 12.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

[THE EDITOR *does not hold himself responsible for any opinions entertained by Correspondents.*]

### MASONIC OFFICERS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have read with much care and attention the letters of M.M., Vindex, and P.W., the former of which appeared in your magazine for January, and the two latter in your number for February. In all well regulated Lodges, it is the custom, as stated by Vindex, for the W.M. elect to submit a list of his officers to the Past Masters of the Lodge, in order that their united judgment may assist him in his selection, and that merit, not favouritism, may be the qualification for office. Before I became W.M. of my Lodge, such a thing as a board of P.M.'s was never thought of; but having heard of it in other Lodges, I called it into existence, and on very many occasions has the Lodge been benefited by their decision and advice. That cliques do exist in Masonic Lodges I know full well, and I shall be happy to give Vindex more than one example, and the result of such a state of things, if he expresses any desire for further detail. Our Constitutions say that preferment shall be the reward of merit, and that neither seniority nor rank shall take precedence of that qualification; and yet how very often do we see the reverse. I will give you an example. About four years ago, a Brother was initiated into the Order, and when only a F.C., was requested to fill the office of secretary, in consequence of the Brother who occupied that post leaving through illness. In six months after he was raised to the Third Degree, he was made S.W., and having *served* that office for twelve months, was installed W.M. of the Lodge—a post which he filled for two years, during which time he acquired a reputation for the correct performance of his ceremonies and illustrations on the various Tracing Boards, Lectures on Masonry, &c. &c., which many desire but very few attain to. In due time he was exalted to the R.A., and having served the qualifying office of P.S., the Companions were desirous of testifying their approbation of his conduct by electing him to the second chair without serving the third, the third principal and second principal elect having resigned. The Prov. Grand Superintendent was applied to for a dispensation, and refused. The Chapter met and again applied, and were again refused. Now to the pith of my tale. When this Brother was S.W. of his Lodge, he was offered and refused the collar of J.W. of the Province, because it would have been unconstitutional for him to accept it, although on the same day the collar of Prov. S.G.W. was given to the S.W. of the Lodge of which the Prov. G.M. is a member, and the collar of S.G.D. to another member of the same Lodge, who had but a short time before been raised to the Third Degree; and on the same day also the other collars of J.G.W. and Grand Reg. were conferred on two other members of the said Lodge. The Brother I allude to in course of time remonstrated with the Prov. G.M., through his Prov. G. Sec., upon his unconstitutional conduct in conferring Provincial honours contrary to the Constitutions of the Order; and this has raised against him a *OLIQUE*, composed of the P.G.M. and several members of the Lodge before adverted to. The prerogative of the P.G.M. is undoubted, and he can confer (if done constitutionally) all the collars upon members of one Lodge. But where there are eight or nine Lodges in his Province, he ought to be the rewarder of merit, and act justly and honourably, and above all Masonically. The

sequel is soon told. This Brother is for ever shut out from all honours in the Province in which he resides, for doing his duty. Now one would suppose that *justice* ought to be meted out as fairly to one person as another; and yet a short time ago a dispensation was applied for by the Chapter attached to the Lodge of which the Prov. G.M. is a member, to place the third principal in the first chair and the P.S. in the second chair, and it was immediately granted; and this very year, in the Chapter to which this Brother belongs about whom I write, the P.G. Superintendent granted a dispensation, contrary to the R.A. regulations, to place a companion in the third chair who had served no qualifying office whatever. These, and many more things of the same class, I could enumerate, for they are undeniable facts, and one almost blushes to think that *Masonry* can be so prostituted; and I am prepared with evidence to prove all and much more than I have written. I was therefore pleased at reading the letter of P.W. in your last Magazine, advocating the appointment of new G.M.'s and Prov. G.M.'s triennially. It would be the greatest boon which could be conferred on the Craft. Our ancient records inform us that a new G.M. was appointed nearly every year, and I see no reason why this ancient landmark should not be restored. At present *Masonry* does not stand forth before the world in her proper light, for cliques and *cliquism* now obscure her brightness. Masons ought to be really united, possessing, as it were, but one feeling in common, and practising towards each other brotherly love and friendship. Doubtless the Brother I allude to could make a formal complaint to the Board of General Purposes of the unconstitutional conduct of his Prov. G.M. and Prov. Grand Superintendent; but to what motive would Vindex and many others attribute his conduct?—*disappointed ambition*. His best policy is therefore to remain quiet and bide his time, and not subject himself to the same probable fate as that which befell a member of his Lodge, our late lamented Bro. Dr. Crucifix.

I will now conclude with a remark this Brother made a few days ago. "If I had been a sycophant or a time-serving parasite, I should ere this have held a very high provincial rank; but I am now reaping the reward of having done my duty, and that reward is, I am sorry to say, injustice and oppression. Never mind; I will only strive more and more to propagate the tenets of the Order, for I have the satisfactory testimony of a clear conscience in the matter, and the inward conviction that I have done my duty."

This tale tells its own moral, and needs no further remark; but cannot such a state of things be altered?—Believe me,

Fraternally yours,

JUSTITIA.

February 14th, 1856.

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### THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In the presence of a great undertaking, it becomes every one interested in its success to suggest such means as to him appear the most certain of obtaining the desired object.

The necessity of erecting schools for the sons of deceased or indigent Freemasons has, within the last few weeks, been presented most distinctly to our notice,—the esteemed Earl of Yarborough taking the lead in this, as he ever does in all movements calculated to benefit the Craft.

That necessity, immediately recognised by every Brother, will still continue to exist from want of the necessary funds.

I propose to meet it by a plan which will attain the desired end, and redound more to the credit of the Brethren than any other course, inasmuch as the Boys' School would then not only be an evidence of our charity, but also of a sister virtue equally rare; viz.—Self-denial. I propose, sir, that our Brethren in all Masonic Lodges shall discontinue their banquets for the space of one year, devoting the money so reserved to the construction and endowment of the aforesaid school.

When it is asked in Lodge whether any Brother has aught to propose for the

good of Freemasonry, I hope the reply will be a repetition of my proposition. If carried out, we shall be able to look back with honourable pride on the year's abnegation that gave our boys a home.—I remain, dear Sir and Brother,

Faithfully and fraternally yours,

JOHN MOTT THEARLE,

P.M., No. 82, Prov. G.S.B. Herts.

February 26, 1856.

#### PROVINCIAL GRAND OFFICERS.

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—Will you allow me to ask the Provincial Grand Master for Devonshire, if it is not a *rule* in his Province that a Bro. must hold a certain rank in her Majesty's service, or a commission of the peace, to entitle him to the Collar of a Prov. Grand Warden?

If such is the fact—and I am informed it is, upon undeniable authority,—the Most Worshipful Grand Master is bound to take cognizance of this violation of the Constitutions.

Truly and fraternally yours,

Bath, February, 1856.

B. C. V.

#### GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

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

DEAR SIR,—In my communication to you under date 22nd October last, I promised to give more ample particulars of the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and now avail myself of leisure to do so. It would, however, take up too much time and space were I to give in detail the many reasons which have induced so large a number of the Brethren in Canada to take the important step they have so lately done; nor indeed is it necessary, for these reasons have to some extent been already given by a correspondent of your Magazine, who, under the signature "Canadian," writes from Kingston, dated August 3rd, 1855, and who, although opposed to the formation of a Grand Lodge for Canada, unintentionally shows the necessity of its establishment. I refer you to his letter, and shall take up the history of the movement, of which I have already communicated the result, from the point where he left off, viz., from the time of the meeting on the 19th July last of the Provincial Grand Lodge, at the Clifton House, Niagara Falls.

"Canadian" informs you that he had reason to believe, that in consequence of the many just causes of complaint which the Craft in this Province really had, a Convention of Masons in Canada would be called for the purpose of organizing a Grand Lodge and electing a Grand Master. My last shows you the correctness of his surmise, that this Convention had met; and I now proceed to inform you that thereat, after the most mature deliberation and earnest and harmonious discussion, the following Preamble and Resolution were unanimously adopted, viz. :—

"That whereas the existence of Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons in this Province, hailing from three several Grand Lodges, is a system productive of much evil to the Craft, creating a diversity of interest and allegiance, an absence of harmony in action and working, perpetuating local and national feelings, and thus estranging the affections of Brethren, whose Order knows no country and is confined to no race; and

"Whereas the benevolent funds of Canadian Freemasons, small as they are, are constantly taxed to relieve needy Brethren from Europe; while those funds are doubly drawn upon by contributions to the Grand Lodges of England and Ireland, and to the Provincial Grand Lodges of Canada, thus creating a constant drain upon those funds in a direction from which but little return can ever be expected; and

"Whereas the distance between Canada and the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland, presents a very serious difficulty, in regard to the necessary correspondence as well as the prompt receipt of warrants and certificates, which

have been delayed for months, and in some cases for years, greatly to the inconvenience of the Fraternity in Canada; and

“Whereas important communications, and even remittances of money, have been suffered to lie for years in the office of the Grand Secretary of England, without the least acknowledgment of their having been received in due course—Brethren being often compelled to leave the Province before they could receive from England the certificates for which they had long previously paid; and

“Whereas the communications of the Provincial Grand Lodges of Canada to the Grand Lodge of England, though respectfully and Masonically expressed, especially when in the form of petitions or remonstrances, have been treated with silent contempt—their very receipt remaining unacknowledged; and

“Whereas the Provincial Grand Masters of Canada and their Deputies are not appointed by and are entirely irresponsible to the Freemasons of Canada, being the mere nominees of the Grand Lodges in Europe, the members of which can know but little of the state of the Craft, or the Masonic position of individual Brethren in this Province; and

“Whereas while the Provincial Grand Lodges of Canada are thus rendered irresponsible to and independent of the Craft in Canada, experience has shown that they are unable to receive from the parent Grand Lodges that attention and respect which are due to their position:

“Therefore be it resolved, That in order to apply a remedy to these evils, to form perfect fraternal union, establish order, insure tranquillity, provide for and promote the general welfare of the Craft, and secure to the Fraternity of Canada all the blessings of Masonic privileges, it is expedient, right, and our bounden duty to form a Grand Lodge of Canada.”

This Preamble and Resolution having been adopted, it was unanimously resolved, “That the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada be, and it is hereby formed, upon the Ancient Charges and Constitutions of Masonry.”

A Committee was then appointed to prepare rules and regulations for the government of the Grand Lodge of Canada. The rules and regulations submitted by this committee, being found in perfect harmony with the landmarks, ancient usages, and established customs of Masonry, were adopted.

It was provided that the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Secretary, and Grand Treasurer, should be annually elected by ballot, an actual majority of votes being necessary to a choice.

On motion, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Master and other Officers, and the following Brethren were duly elected and appointed:—Most Worshipful Bro. William Merces Wilson, G.M.; Right Worshipful Bro. A. Bernard, D.G.M.; Very Worshipful Bros. W. B. Simpson, D.D.G.M.; Richard Bull, S.G.W.; James Daniell, J.G.W.; Rev. Dr. Lundy, G. Chap.; William Bellhouse, G. Treas.; T. B. Harris, G. Sec.; Rev. G. Scott, Asst. G. Chap.; George L. Allan, S.G.D.; Thomas Perkins, J.G.D.; J. H. Isaacson, Asst. G. Sec.; Thomas Duggan, G. Supt. of Works; J. Osborne, G. Dir. of Cer.; A. G. Fenwick, Asst. G. Dir. of Cer.; J. W. Haldimand, G. Sword-Bearer; W. Thomas, G. Org.; George W. Powell, G. Pursv.; J. Morrison, G. Tyler; J. R. Holden, J. C. Butler, and R. A. Malcolm, G. Stewards.

The Most Worshipful the Grand Master elect, appointed the several committees necessary for conducting the general business of the Grand Lodge.

On the second day of November, 1855, the Grand Lodge of Canada met in the Masonic Hall in the city of Hamilton, when the Most Worshipful Bro. Bachus, Past G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, solemnly constituted and consecrated the Grand Lodge of Canada, and installed the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and other officers, in due and ancient form.

I have reason to know that the Grand Lodge of Canada, thus formed with a view to relieve the Craft from the numerous disadvantages and abuses to which it has been subjected, and to promote the true interests of Masonry in Canada, desires fraternal relationship with England, as well as with all other Grand Lodges throughout the world, and will most cordially and zealously co-operate with them in promoting the genuine principles of our ancient and honourable Fraternity.

At this convention the following Lodges, regularly warranted by the respective Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland, were represented, viz. :—

Brockville, Brockville ; Niagara, Niagara ; Union, Grimsby ; Norfolk, Simcoe ; Nelson, Clarenceville ; St. Andrew's, St. Andrew's ; Golden Rule, Stanstead ; St. George's, Montreal ; Zetland, Montreal ; Barton, Hamilton ; Dorchester, St. John's, C.E. ; Prevost, Durham ; St. George's, St. Catherine's ; Strict Observance, Hamilton ; Amity, Dunville ; Composite, Whitby ; St. George's, London, C.W. ; King Solomon, Woodstock ; St. Lawrence, Montreal ; Great Western, Windsor ; Acacia, Hamilton ; Shefford, Waterloo ; Hoyle, Lacolle ; St. John's, Hamilton ; Independent, Quebec ; Social and Military Virtues, Montreal ; Wellington, Dumville ; Hawkesbury, Hawkesbury ; St. John's, London C.W. ; King Hiram, Ingersol ; St. John's, Cayuga ; St. Thomas, St. Thomas ; Brant, Brantford ; Vaughan, Vaughan ; Wellington, Stratford ; Harmony, Binbrook ; Brighton, Brighton ; St. Andrew's, Quebec ; King Solomon, Toronto ; Prince Edward's, Picton ; Thistle, Amherstburgh.

I am happy to be enabled to send you copies of resolutions adopted by the Grand Lodge of the State of Vermont, at its last communication, held in Burlington on the 9th and 10th instant. They are as follows :—

“ That the Grand Lodge of Vermont cordially extends to the Grand Lodge of Canada the right hand of fellowship, and recognises it as an independent Grand Lodge, entitled to all the courtesies and fraternal regards due to the most favoured Grand Lodges.

“ Resolved, that this Grand Lodge will receive a delegate from the Grand Lodge of Canada, and that the Grand Master be, and he is hereby authorized, to appoint some suitable Brother delegate to attend the communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada.”

I have also learned that Iowa and Virginia have in their respective Grand Lodges passed similar resolutions ; and I confidently expect that ere this the Grand Lodge of England, awakening from her apathy, and admitting her neglect, has from honourable feelings of justice pursued a like course. In so doing she will at the least retain the esteem and affection of those who have left her only from a sense of right and justice.

In conclusion, let me observe, that to you, sir, for the manly step you have taken in their behalf in your opening article in the December number, the Craft here are deeply indebted, and I doubt not but that an increased number of subscribers from Canada will prove how fully they appreciate your action. With best respects, believe me, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

MONTREAL, Jan. 21st, 1855.

VIDI.

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MASONIC GENEROSITY.—In the year 1748, M. Pseverot, a gentleman in the navy, and brother of the celebrated Doctor of Medicine in the faculty at Paris, was unfortunately shipwrecked on an island whose Viceroy was a Freemason. Along with his ship M. Pseverot had lost all his money and effects. In this destitute condition he presented himself to the Viceroy, and related his misfortune in a manner which completely removed all suspicion of his being an impostor. The Viceroy made the Masonic signs, which being instantly returned by the Frenchman, they recognised and embraced each other as Brethren of the same Order. M. Pseverot was conducted to the house of the Viceroy, who furnished him with all the comforts of life, till a ship bound for France touched at the island. Before his departure in this vessel, the Viceroy loaded him with presents, and gave him as much money as was necessary for carrying him to his native country.—*Architecture of the Middle Ages*, by J. Miller.—London: Spencer, 314, Holborn.

## THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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### DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

We have heard with much regret that Lord Yarborough has resigned the office of Deputy Grand Master. It is also reported that Lord Londesborough is to succeed him.

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### THE GRAND SECRETARY.

It is with extreme regret that we hear Bro. White, who has filled the important office of Grand Secretary for a period of half a century, lies dangerously ill, and that but slight hopes are entertained of his recovery. We have had occasion sometimes to speak in terms of disapprobation of the management of the Grand Secretary's office; but all who have the pleasure of the acquaintance of Bro. White, will bear testimony to his truly estimable qualities as a man, and his excellence as a Freemason. Advancing years have of late doubtless prevented Bro. White paying such close attention to the duties of his office as formerly, and to that cause may probably be traced many of those grounds of complaint to which we have had to allude, and which might have been prevented, had greater energy been displayed amongst the assistants in the Grand Secretary's office in reminding him of details which may have escaped his notice.

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### METROPOLITAN.

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LODGE OF FIDELITY (No. 3).—At the monthly meeting of this Lodge at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 13th February, Bro. Shackleton was installed as W.M. by Bro. P.M. Grant. The other business of the evening consisted of four initiations, two passings, and two raisings, which were well performed.

ROYAL SOMERSET HOUSE AND INVERNESS LODGE (No. 4).—This Lodge held its usual meeting on the 25th February, which was extremely numerous, several Grand Officers being present; amongst others, Bros. Willett, Prov. G.M., Dorset; Purton Cooper, Prov. G.M., Kent; Parkinson, P.G.D.; Evans and Le Veau, P.G.S.B.; Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec.; Ransford, G.O. Bro. Roxburgh was duly installed as W.M. by Bro. Joseph, P.M., in his usual perfect style. The newly-installed Master then proceeded to initiate Dr. Greenhalgh into the Order; and the manner in which he performed the ceremony, showing that he perfectly *understood* the ritual, was especially noticed by the many experienced working P.Ms. who were present, with intense pleasure and satisfaction. Indeed we may congratulate this Lodge not only on its prosperous condition, but also upon having a Master to preside over it so fully competent in every respect as our Bro. Roxburgh, and we anticipate for him a brilliant year of office.

ALBION LODGE (No. 9).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held 5th February, when the W.M., Bro. Woods initiated Mr. Jackson into Freemasonry, and raised three Bros. to the Third Degree.

**WESTMINSTER AND KEYSTONE LODGE (No. 10).**—A meeting of the above Lodge was held at Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday, February 5th, in place of the 6th (Ash Wednesday). The Worshipful Bro. W. Beach, who presided as W.M., was supported by Bros. W. Portal, S.W.; Cox, J.W.; Pettat, Ch.; G. Portal, Sec.; Spiers, P.G.S.B.; Lord North; Hon. W. North; Sir G. Beaumont, Bart.; Benson, Robbins, Davies, Amhurst, Elers, Hammerton, Tyssen, &c. Bros. E. H. Patten, P.G.S.B.; and Geo. Barrett, V.P. of the Board of Gen. Purposes, were present as visitors. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, Bros. Sir G. Beaumont, Bart., No. 460; Roger Palmer, 2nd Life Guards, Lodge, No. 1, Dublin; and Edward Ninder, No. 862, were elected joining members; and the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon and Captain the Hon W. A. Amherst, Coldstream Guards, were elected for initiation. Bros. Lord North and Elers were then raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Masons; and Bros. Tyssen and Hamerton were passed to that of Fellow Craft. The Earl of Carnarvon and Capt. Amherst were then initiated, and the manner in which the three ceremonies were performed by Bro. Beach was the admiration of all present. After some conversation upon the secession of the Canadian Lodges, on which point Bro. Beach expressed his intention of bringing a motion before the Grand Lodge, the Brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, at which, in returning thanks for his health being drunk, Bro. Captain Amherst related an instance of a Russian officer in the Crimea being granted large parole through the influence of a Brother, who recognised him as one of the Craft, which parole he most honourably kept, thereby forming an exception to the general rule. It is a matter of sincere congratulation to the Craft, that so talented a nobleman and practised a debater as the Earl of Carnarvon should have joined the Masonic body. His advent may be looked upon as giving hope of a new era in the conduct of the business of the Grand Lodge.

**ENOCH LODGE (No. 11).**—At the usual monthly meeting of this Lodge on the 13th February, Bro. Binckes, W.M., raised three Brethren to the Third Degree. From the charity fund belonging to the Lodge, it was unanimously resolved that £10. 10s. be subscribed to the Boy's School at the approaching festival; and £5. 5s. were voted to the family of a member who, from unforeseen circumstances, have been reduced to a state of distress. We are glad to see this Lodge, so well known for its hospitality, not only not neglecting, but paying increased attention to, the claims of charity.

**GLOBE LODGE (No. 23).**—This old and distinguished Lodge met at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Thursday, February 21st. The W.M. Bro. G. Brandon, in a masterly and impressive manner, passed three Brethren to the Second Degree, and initiated a gentleman into the mysteries of Masonry. The Lodge then proceeded to elect the W.M. as Grand Steward for 1857. Bro. Lazarus, Past Prov. G. Officer of Wilts, and P.M. No. 61, was present as a visitor.

**EGYPTIAN LODGE (No. 29).**—A Lodge of Emergency was held at the George and Blue Boar, Holborn, on Thursday, February 1st, when two Brethren were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Masons. The visitors were Bros. Keatley, of the Humber Lodge, No. 65, and Mayor of Grimsby; Crawley, P.M. No. 103; and Alexander, No. 223.

**BRITANNIC LODGE, (No. 38).**—A meeting of this Lodge was held at the Thatched House Tavern, on the 8th February, when the W.M., Bro. Gooch, P.G.M. for Wiltshire, initiated Mr. John Brown of Shule Hill, Sparrow Head, and passed a Brother to the Second Degree. Bro. Bridges was then elected W.M. for the ensuing year. The installation will take place in May.

**GIHON LODGE (No. 47).**—At the monthly meeting of this Lodge, on the 21st February, Mr. Henry Cowley, steward of the *Victoria* steam-ship, was initiated into the Order by Bro. Wilmott, the W.M., who also passed two and raised one Brother to their respective Degrees.

**CONSTITUTIONAL LODGE (No. 63).**—This Lodge met on the 21st February, at the Ship and Turtle Tavern, for the purpose of installing Bro. Percy Moss W.M. for



the ensuing year, the ceremony being ably performed by Bro. W. Farnfield, A.G. Sec. The W.M. then appointed his Officers, as follows:—Bros. J. Horn, S.W.; G. Groombridge, J.W.; J. Shirley, Treas.; W. Farnfield, Sec.; J. Smith, S.D.; J. W. M. Dosell, J.D.; A. J. Dorward, I.G.; and afterwards initiated a gentleman into the mysteries of the Order.

LODGE OF FELICITY (No. 66).—The usual monthly meeting of this Old Red-apron Lodge was held on Monday, February 18th, at the London Tavern; Bro. James Morris, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. Wm. Kynaston, S.W., and R. Kynaston, J.W. The office of S.D. was ably discharged by Bro. W. Graham. Bros. Baumann, Cross, Goddard, and Noyes, were passed to the Second Degree; and Bro. Cohen was raised to the Third Degree—the ceremonies being most excellently performed by the W.M. Bro. Graham was returned to G.L. as the G. Steward for 1857. Bro. Kynaston has undertaken the stewardship of the Girls' School Festival, and Bro. Smith, P.M., for the second time, offered himself for the Boys' School Festival on the 12th of March. The Brethren adjourned to one of those pleasant banquets to which they are accustomed, and a most pleasant evening was spent.

LODGE OF PROSPERITY (No. 78).—The Brethren of this Lodge met on the 15th ultimo, to celebrate the installation of Bro. Thomas, W.M. elect, who presented the retiring W.M., Bro. Weeks, with a very handsome P.M.'s jewel, voted to him from the funds of the Lodge. Bro. Weeks, in a feeling and appropriate speech, expressed his thanks, and said, "Worshipful Sir and Brethren, ere I take my seat as a P.M. of your Lodge, permit me to acknowledge the deep debt of gratitude I owe our Bro. Isaacs for the valuable Masonic instruction he has upon every possible occasion imparted to me, to which instruction alone I am indebted for this very handsome mark of your approbation. At the same time I trust he will honour me by accepting this box, as a token of my gratitude and esteem for him as a man and a Mason." A very beautifully chased silver snuff-box was then presented to Bro. Isaacs, bearing the following inscription:—"A slight token of gratitude and esteem from Bro. Thomas Weeks, P.M. Lodge of Prosperity, No. 78, to Br. Henry A. Isaacs, W.M. Lodge of Israel, No. 247, for his unwearied and valuable Masonic Instruction.—15th February, 1856." Bro. Isaacs having returned thanks in appropriate terms for the honour thus unexpectedly conferred upon him, the Brethren adjourned to banquet, and passed a most agreeable evening, their only regret being occasioned by the indisposition of Bro. Weeks, which prevented his joining them at the festive board.

LODGE OF REGULARITY (No. 108).—The Brethren of this Lodge met at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Thursday, February 14th. The W.M., Bro. Albertz, was installed by Bro. Crohn, and afterwards appointed his Officers, and initiated a gentleman into the Order. Bro. Grosjean was appointed S.W.; Rée, J.W.; Azemar, S.D.; Jarchou, J.D.; Heine, I.G.; Augero, Sec. Bro. MacCallan was also invested as Treasurer. Bro. Grosjean was elected to represent the Lodge as Grand Steward for 1857. Bro. Rée, J.W., will serve as Steward at the Girls' Festival. The Brethren then adjourned to partake of an elegant banquet. Several toasts having been drunk, Bro. L. Solomon, P.M., proposed the health of the W.M., and expressed his great delight in vacating the chair to a Brother who possessed such great Masonic talent as Bro. Albertz. The W.M. returned thanks to the Brethren for placing him in his high position, and expressed his determination to discharge its duties to the best of his ability. He then proposed the health of the Past Masters, thanking them individually for their zeal and ability, and more particularly expressed his satisfaction in having to present Bro. Lewis Solomon with a jewel, as a mark of respect from the Brethren for his exertions in promoting the prosperity of the Lodge. Bro. Solomon, in a feeling manner, returned thanks. In proposing the health of the Officers, the W.M. congratulated himself on possessing their friendship, and stated he was certain they would exert themselves to the utmost to discharge their various duties, and support him in the labours of the Lodge. The S.W. and rest of the Officers individually assured the W.M., that his confidence should not be misplaced.

The Brethren were much pleased by the truly beautiful singing of Bro. Lowick, supported ably at the piano by Bro. Charles Solomon, who likewise amused the Lodge with his comic singing.

**EASTERN STAR LODGE (No. 112).**—The annual meeting for the installation of the W.M. elect, was held at the Warden Arms, Poplar, on Wednesday, the 12th February, when there was a full attendance of the members, Bro. G. F. Grimes, W.M., in the chair. The first business was the passing to the Second Degree of Bros. Umney and Yorke, after which the following five gentlemen were initiated:—W. M. Evans, G. Dyson, A. W. Lucas, C. Ross, and G. Rowell. The ceremonies were ably performed by the W.M. Bro. Grimes then vacated the chair, which was assumed by Bro. Thomas Vesper, P.M., and Bro. Grimes presented Bro. W. E. Gardner, the W.M. elect, for installation, in which ceremony Bro. Vesper was assisted by Bros. W. W. Davis, P.M., No. 112; T. E. Davis, P.M., No. 812; D. Potts, P.M., No. 203; J. How, P.M., No. 82; and W. Freeman, P.M., No. 247; Bros. Vesper, How, and Potts, delivering the addresses. The W.M. appointed and invested as his officers the following Brethren:—Grimes, P.M.; Holt, jun., S.W.; Allison, J.W.; Thos. Vesper, Sec.; Daniels, S.D.; Vousely, J.D.; and Helps, I.G. Bro. W. Wentworth Davis, who had been re-elected Treas., and Hookey, Tyler, were also invested. The Brethren, in number thirty-four, then adjourned to a well-appointed banquet, and a most agreeable evening was spent. Among the visitors present, besides those we have named, were Bros. Atkins and Francis of No. 11, and Capt. Booth of No. 8.

**BURLINGTON LODGE (No. 113).**—*Centenary Festival.*—As might be expected from the position this influential Lodge holds in the Order, a large number of Brethren were invited to meet the W.M. and members to celebrate its hundredth anniversary, on February 12. The M.W. Grand Master granted a dispensation, which was read in open Lodge, empowering the members to wear an honorary jewel in commemoration of the event. From the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. Honey, in his usual able manner, initiated four candidates and passed three Brethren to the Second Degree. The installation of Bro. Wilson as W.M. was most efficiently performed by Bro. Whitmore, a P.M. of the Bank of England Lodge, and who on several previous installations had been selected by the Lodge to discharge this interesting ceremony. The W.M. appointed and invested the following officers:—Bros. Ramskill and Sidgwick, S. and J. Wardens; Chown and Leaf, S. and J.D.; Faudel, P.G.D., Treas.; Barber, Sec. A letter was read from the M.W. Grand Master, regretting his inability to accept the invitation of the Lodge, and also one from the Deputy Grand Master, likewise regretting the state of his health would prevent him being present.

At the banquet the Grand Secretary responded to the toast of "The Present and Past Grand Officers," and alluded to the esteem testified towards the W.M., by being elected to preside over a Lodge of such a high position in the Craft. We missed at this meeting the Father of the Lodge, Bro. J. Hodgkinson, P.S.G.D., and regret an omission, on our part, in not recording the very handsome testimonial, elaborately written on vellum, that was presented to him on the 10th April last, accompanied with a large chased silver-gilt snuff-box, as a mark of the esteem and affection he was held in by the members, previous to his taking up his residence in Jersey.

The following visitors were present, viz.: W. H. White, Grand Sec.; H. Lloyd, S.G.D.; J. N. Tomkins, J.G.D.; G. W. K. Potter, P.G.D.; J. Hervey, P.G.D.; W. F. Dobson, Past Prov. G.J.W. for Kent; D. H. Stone, J. A. Rose, No. 1; W. Moxon, P.M., No. 14; G. Cox, P.M., No. 18; W. Honey, P.M., No. 19; W. Nesbett, P.M., No. 30; W. Kynaston and R. Kynaston, No. 66; C. Hogg, P.M., and G. M. Todd, No. 109; G. Soames, P.M., No. 116; S. Morris, P.M., No. 237; J. Rigby, J.W., No. 324; G. Chance, W.M., No. 329; R. Spencer, Z. Watkins, W. L. Wright, J. Whitmore, F. G. Warrick, C. Stroughill, P.Ms., No. 329; W. Gooch, No. 453, &c.

**TEMPLE LODGE (No. 118).**—This Lodge met at the Ship and Turtle on Tuesday, February 5, when there was a full muster of the members; Bro. W. Weedon,

W.M., presided. The six following gentlemen were balloted for and approved:—Michael Walker, George Cutt, John Abbott, W. George Drew, Edward Johnson, and Frederick Woodford, and the first five, being present, were initiated into Freemasonry. Bro. Manes was passed to the Second Degree, and Bro. Legg raised to the Degree of W.M. Bro. Wynn, P.M., then assumed the chair, and installed the W.M. Elect, Bro. Charles Alpi Bettger, who invested Bros. Weedon, P.M.; Scott, S.W.; Astello, J.W.; W. Christie, Sec. and S.D.; Aldridge, J.D.; Grimes, I.G.; John Keast was re-elected Treas.; and Rice, Tyler. The manner in which all these duties, which occupied four hours, were discharged, reflects high credit on Bros. Wynn and Weedon and the several officers of the Lodge. Two other gentlemen were proposed for initiation at the next Lodge. It was eight o'clock when the Brethren adjourned to banquet. After the accustomed loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, the health of the W.M. was proposed by Bro. Weedon, P.M., who, in a few words, summed up Bro. Bettger's excellent qualities as an earnest of a successful year of office. The W.M. responded, hoping that his efforts would at the end of his term of office meet the approbation of the Lodge. The W.M. then proposed the health of the visitors—Bros. Alex. Levi, P.M., No. 218; J. How, P.M., No. 82; T. Gibbons, P.M., No. 248; G. Bellis, No. 342, Scotland; which compliment was in neat terms acknowledged by Bro. Levi. The health of the Past Masters was responded to by Bro. Wynn. "The newly-initiated Brethren" was acknowledged by Bro. Johnson, who expressed his high gratification in being admitted into the Order. Its ceremonies and teaching satisfied him that it must conduce to the happiness of mankind, whilst the assembling at the social board extended the benefits of good fellowship. He had heard much and thought long of Freemasonry, having been in the habit of meeting many of its members, and although he might have made a leap in the dark, the result was most pleasing to his mind. After paying due honour to the officers, the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren separated.

**LODGE OF FAITH (No. 165).**—At the monthly meeting of this Lodge, on the 29th January, the W.M. Bro. M'Manus initiated a duly qualified candidate (Mr. Wilcox) into the Order, passed two, and raised one Brother to their respective Degrees.

**LODGE OF PRUDENT BRETHREN (No. 169).**—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on the 26th February, when Bro. Morbey, W.M., very ably passed Bros. Ed. Hart, Denkin, Landon, and Erwood, to the Second Degree. It was then resolved, that a P.M.'s Jewel should be presented to Bro. Hewlett, for his services as W.M., during the past year.

**LODGE OF HONOUR AND GENEROSITY (No. 194).**—A meeting of this Lodge was held at the London Tavern, on February 25, and was particularly well attended. The business commenced by the installation of Bro. Wm. M. Westall as W.M., which ceremony was ably performed by P.M. Bro. Lee Wilson, Deputy Prov. G.M. for Surrey, assisted by the immediate P.M. Bro. Charles J. Corbett. Bro. Joseph N. Cherer was appointed S.W. and Bro. Frederick Robins J.W. Bro. Sherman was raised to the Third Degree. The Brethren afterwards adjourned to a very elegant dinner. Amongst the visitors were Bros. the Rev. O. F. Owen, Prov. G. Chaplain for Surrey; Warren and Kynaston, G. Stewards; Bellinger, P.M., and Anderson, No. 82; Wilmott, W.M., No. 57; Honey, Beular, &c. After the toasts of the "Queen and the Craft" and the "M.W. G.M. the Earl of Zetland" had been duly honoured, Bro. Owen stated that he had been requested to propose a toast which was somewhat unusual, "The Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland and all Foreign Lodges." He knew that Masonry was well supported by the Irish and Scotch Lodges on the one side the globe, whilst it was equally well maintained in Canada and America on the other; and notwithstanding the recent unfortunate circumstances which had induced the Canadian Lodges to throw off their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, he, as editor of the *Freemasons' Magazine*, was in the possession of letters which breathed the purest principles of brotherly love and of kindness towards their Brethren on this side of the channel. This toast was one of no ordinary nature, acknowledging, as it

did, their French and their Russian Brethren, at a moment when peace appeared about to again dawn upon the world'; for who could more value peace than Freemasons, whose principles had even on the battle-field stayed the sword, stemmed passion, and preserved a Brother from destruction. In America the rainbow of fraternal love drew brightness even from the contrast of the cloud; and as feelings of discord appeared to gain ground amongst the people, so did those of philanthropy and charity increase amongst Freemasons. Bro. Warren returned thanks for the toast of the Earl of Yarborough and the rest of the Grand Officers. In doing so, he stated that himself and Bro. Kynaston held office not in right of the will or caprice of one man, but by the vote of their Lodges. He made this remark because he felt that the Officers of the Grand Lodge, as at present constituted, did not fairly represent the Craft. They never would have the business of the Grand Lodge properly conducted until they limited the time for the Grand Master holding office to three or five years, and until they made the Prov. G.M.'s offices co-existent only with that of the G.M.; for then they would not have the scandal existing of Prov. G.Ms. who had never been into Masonry for twenty or twenty-five years, or who had never even presented themselves for installation into office. He was also connected with the Magazine, and he called upon the Brethren to assist them in their labours by communicating anything for the interests or honour of the Craft. Bro. Cole eloquently returned thanks for the toast of the Prov. Ms., and Bro. Owen subsequently acknowledged the toasts of the visitors and the press, and in doing so expressed his regret that his Highness Japer Allee was unable to be present that evening; but as he had had the honour to introduce him to the Lodge, he could assure the members that he would take his Degrees amongst them. Referring to the remarks of Bro. Warren relative to the Grand Lodge, he fully identified himself with them, and referred to the ancient constitution to show that the principles for which they were contending were merely those which had up to a very recent period prevailed. The business of the evening was enlivened by the comic singing of Bro. Beular, and the excellent musical talent of that most exquisite vocalist, Bro. Bellinger.

**SAINT JOHN'S LODGE (No. 196).**—At this Lodge, held at the Holly Bush Tavern, Hampstead, on Tuesday, February 12th, Bro. Samuel Aldrich, W.M., Bros. Hart, Hale, and Ware, were raised; and William Aspinall, Esq., initiated.

**OLD CONCORD LODGE (No. 201).**—The monthly meeting of this Lodge took place at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Thursday, 5th February. The business consisted of initiating Messrs. Cook, Houghton, and Cocks, into the noble Order, and passing Messrs. Bladon and Swainston to the Degree of Fellow Crafts. These ceremonies were performed by the W.M. (Bro. Nicholson) in a very able and masterly manner, after which he presented the immediate P.M. (Bro. G.M. Gurton) with a very handsome jewel, and in doing so stated that he felt quite certain there was but one feeling predominant with every Brother of the Lodge as regarded the worthy P.M., which was that of sincere esteem and brotherly affection. He (the W.M.) felt how pleasing the duty was in having to present so handsome a token to his predecessor; besides (he candidly confessed) he was looking forward in expectation of the same honour being conferred on himself. Of Bro. Gurton's regard for his Brethren, and attachment to his Lodge, every Brother had witnessed many convincing proofs; it was therefore with much pleasure he placed "that jewel" on his breast, trusting he would enjoy many years of health and happiness to wear it, and continue so worthy a member of this Lodge.

Bro. Gurton thanked the W.M. and Brethren for the very handsome compliment paid to him, and assured them so long as he should live he could never forget this mark of their kind approval of his conduct.

Bro. Emmens, P.M. and Sec., then stated, that since the Lodge meeting, the annual ball had taken place at the Hanover-square Rooms. It gave him much pleasure to say, it had been very successful. Indeed, this ball was now so firmly established as always to insure its success. Upwards of 360 of the Brethren, their ladies, and friends, attended on this occasion, which passed off with great *éclat*; and although the expenditure exceeded £150, he was happy in presenting to the Benevolent Fund of this Lodge (in the name of the steward of the ball)

the sum of £20 from the proceeds. Bro. Emmens also informed the Brethren, that Bro. Kennedy, P.M., had consented to represent this Lodge as steward at the forthcoming anniversary festival of the Boys' School; and that Bro. Jackson, J.W., would also represent the Lodge at the festival of the Girls' School, on which occasions they trusted to have the support of all the Brethren.

It was then proposed that a vote of thanks be recorded to the stewards of the ball, for their very handsome donation to the Benevolent Fund of this Lodge. Some other business having been concluded, the Brethren adjourned to the banquet, and spent a very happy and harmonious evening.

PHENIX LODGE (No. 202).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Saturday, February 9th, Bro. Harrison, W.M., presiding; Bro. C. H. Scott was raised to the 3rd Degree; Bro. R. W. Armstrong passed to the 2nd Degree; and Mr. J. B. M'Entyre initiated into the Order; the whole of the ceremonies being most ably performed. The Brethren afterwards dined together. Amongst the visitors were—Bros. Otley, No. 1; Azemar, No. 108; Blackburn, No. 169; Hogg, No. 201, &c. &c. The evening's entertainment was enlivened by the exertions of Bros. Farquharson, Genge, Perrin, and Lowick.

MANCHESTER LODGE (No. 209).—This Lodge held its third meeting since the removal to its present quarters, at the Gun Tavern, Pimlico, on Thursday last. The business comprised an initiation and two passings. The ceremonies were performed in a very efficient manner by the W.M., Bro. Collard, and the Officers, without exception, discharged their duties most satisfactorily.

ST. JAMES'S UNION LODGE (No. 211).—This Lodge met at the Westmoreland Arms, George Street, Portman Square, on Tuesday, February 12th. In consequence of the illness of the W.M. Bro. John Gurton, the immediate P.M., Bro. Kelly, presided, and in a most able manner raised one Bro. to the 3rd Degree, and passed two to the Degree of Fellow Craft. A jewel to the value of five guineas was voted to Bro. Kelly, P.M., for his great Masonic ability and untiring exertions for the benefit of the Lodge during his year of office; and a jewel to the value of two guineas to each of the three preceding P.M.'s, for their zeal and ability. The Brethren then proceeded to partake of a sumptuous banquet. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, Bro. Kelly proposed "The Health of the W.M. Bro. Gurton," and expressed his regret at the severe attack of illness which prevented his attendance. In proposing "The Health of the Past Masters," the W.M. thanked them severally for their able support, more particularly Bro. Garner, the Father of the Lodge, who had been thirty-five years a member; and Bro. Golborn, the worthy and much-esteemed Treasurer. Bro. Garner thanked the Brethren, and trusted that the succeeding Masters, after passing the chair, would not neglect the duties still incumbent on them, and that he should always see a goodly muster of P.Ms. in their places. He then proposed "The Health of the W.M. in the Chair, Bro. Kelly," thanking him for the talent and zeal with which he had conducted the business of the Lodge, which had won the respect of the Brethren. Bro. Kelly, in returning thanks, expressed the great satisfaction he felt in doing his utmost for the benefit of the Lodge, and his determination to promote its interests by every means in his power. In proposing "The Health of the Officers," Bro. Kelly thanked them severally for their attention to their duties, and stated, as the Lodge of Instruction was to be reopened on Monday next, and would be held every succeeding Monday, he would recommend their regular attendance, as the best means of enabling them to render that assistance to the Master which was so highly essential in the working of the ceremonies.

LODGE OF TRANQUILLITY (No. 218).—The installation meeting of this Lodge took place on Monday, the 18th of February. Bro. Saul Salomons, W.M., presided; and Messrs. E. Lasher, H. Wagener, G. Prichard, and B. Benjamin, were duly initiated into Freemasonry. Bros. Sewell and Lasher were passed to the Second Degree. Bro. Van Gore, the W.M. elect, was then presented and formally installed into the chair. The W.M. appointed and invested as his officers—Bros. N. Davis, S.W.; M. Harris, J.W.; J. Smart, S.D.; H. Harshburg, J.D.;

R. Simons, I.G. ; Bro. Hermann, Hon. Sec. ; Bro. Alexander Levy, P.M., who had been elected Treasurer, was also invested. The Brethren adjourned to refreshment, and had a most happy evening. It is worthy of notice, that the Benevolent Fund of the Lodge, only three years established, amounts to £200 : thus, should a member or his widow require aid, there are ample means for a noble donation.

LION AND LAMB LODGE (No. 227).—At the usual meeting of this Lodge at the Bridge House Hotel, on Thursday, February 7, Bros. J. G. Scott, W.M., Mr. James Mallett and Mr. James Balfour were initiated into the Order, and two other gentlemen were proposed for initiation at the next Lodge. The working of this Lodge is excellent, it being under the guidance of that able and indefatigable Mason, Bro. Muggeridge. The testimonial that is now in progress will prove the high estimation in which he is held by the Craft. It was very gratifying to witness the attendance of nine Past Masters of No. 227, at their head being the father of the Lodge, Bro. Sotheran, who was initiated in 1808. Bro. Mallett, in acknowledgment of the reception he had met with, mentioned that his forefathers had all been Masons ; but circumstances had prevented him joining the Order until that night. He was truly gratified with all he had seen and heard, and hoped that he should not only do honour to his parentage, but become a creditable member of the institution.

LODGE OF UNITED STRENGTH (No. 276).—The anniversary meeting of this most excellent working Lodge was held at the Gun Tavern, Pimlico, on the 12th instant, Bro. Cooper presiding. The W.M. most efficiently initiated three gentlemen into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry, and passed a Brother of the Zetland Lodge to the Second Degree. The W.M. then proceeded, in a very impressive manner, to instal his successor, Bro. Henry Carter (of Berwick Street), into the chair, as W.M. for the ensuing year. The new W.M. was pleased to invest the following Brethren as his Officers ; viz.—Bros. Lugg, S.W. ; John Coggin, J.W. ; Collard, S.D. ; Bromley, J.D. ; Winsland, I.G. ; Cowdrey and Frost, Dirs. of Cer. ; the much-respected P.M. Grimstone, Treas. ; P.M. Crump, Sec. ; and Longstaff, Tyler. The newly-invested Officers, each in their turn, received a Masonic address from the retiring W.M., informing them of their duties and situations in the Lodge. At the close of business, the J.W. summoned the Brethren to the refreshment-room, where one of the most *recherché* banquets had been prepared under the immediate superintendence of the much-respected host. Upwards of forty brethren sat down to dinner, amongst whom were several visitors, including Bros. Potter, P.M., No. 11 ; Buss, P.M., No. 29 ; Fisher, P.M., No. 103 ; Norman, No. 165 ; Blackburn, No. 169 ; Caldwell, No. 25 ; &c. &c. The cloth having been removed, the W.M. proposed the health of the Queen, which was responded to with the usual loyal Masonic feeling. The National Anthem was excellently given, Bros. Foster, Allen, and Bromley taking the principal parts. After the usual Masonic toasts, the W.M. proposed the health of the visitors ; and Bro. Potter, in returning thanks, complimented the W.M. and the Lodge upon the superior manner of the working, and the energy with which the true principles of Masonry were carried out. The immediate P.M., Bro. Cooper, then proposed the health of the W.M., who, in returning thanks, said he should always endeavour to attend punctually to his duties, and follow in the footsteps of the learned and respected P.M., whose health he begged to propose, and long life to him. Bro. Cooper said that as long as he lived he should always have the welfare of the Lodge at heart, and if any of the Brethren wanted instruction, he should be happy to give it at any time. The health of the Officers having been proposed, and responded to individually, and several other toasts having been disposed of, the Brethren adjourned until the second Tuesday in March, when we understand several Candidates are to be initiated.

ST. ANDREW'S LODGE (No. 281).—At the monthly meeting of this Lodge on the 7th February, Bro. Dr. Paul was duly installed as W.M. by Bro. Mills, P.M. The W.M. duly invested the officers of the Lodge, amongst whom were Bro. Perriman, S.W. ; Bro. Richards, J.W. ; and Bro. Linton, Treas.

YARBOROUGH LODGE (No. 812).—The press of business in this extensive Lodge required an Emergency meeting on Tuesday, the 19th of February, Bro. William Vesper, W.M. in the chair ; and it was gratifying to see the worthy Bro. initiate in the most able manner, it being the first performance of his duties since his installation. Two new members, Mr. Johnson Lamprell and Mr. William Bullivant, were initiated ; and Bro. John Travers, of Lodge No. 86, was admitted a joining member.

CANONBURY LODGE (No. 955).—On the 22nd of February, we had the pleasure of visiting the above-named Lodge, held at Bro. Todd's, Canonbury Tavern, upon the occasion of its consecration—a ceremony so rare as to bring together a number of our most distinguished Brethren : among them we may note Bros. John Hervey, P.G.S.D. ; Bisgood, D. Prov. G.M. for Kent ; Gooch, D. Prov. G.M. for Wilts ; John Mott Thearle, Prov. G.S.B. for Herts ; Bohn, Filer, Wolley, Sullivan, Harrison, Friend, Paas, Todd, Buss, Creed, Broome, Richardson, Adlard, Jones, Cooper, Laughlin, Wilson, Nicholson, J. Levinson, M. Levinson, Langstaff, Bake, Burton, Arliss, Binckes, Cox, Hart, Pullwarr, Massey, Hogg, Graves, Spencer, Underwood, Savage, Watson, and as many other Brethren. Bro. Todd's room is very elegantly furnished for Lodge purposes, of the most ample size, and capable of further extension. In honour of the solemn purpose for which the Brethren had been called together, the whole of the apartment had been reconstructed and beautified, and its walls adorned with busts of ancient and modern worthies, famous in poetry or song ; its jets of gas, popping forth at regular intervals from out the clustering leaves from which they spring ; its mirrors reflecting and re-reflecting everything, and giving a *tout ensemble* well worthy a visit to behold. If other invitation were necessary, we have it directly opposite, in the old tower of Canonbury, with its quaint brickwork and funny little windows in the queerest places, from whence many of our past worthies looked forth upon the rural prospect spread out before them ; where the green grass grew for miles round the old tower without a break to the eye until you came to the heights of Hampstead and the tree-adorned slopes of Highgate. Thirty years since, we were accustomed for evening solace to wander down to the old Canonbury tea-gardens that stood on the site of the present, or taking a ramble through the fields by the New River, watch the endeavours of Young England to catch minnows with bent pins ; or dwelling upon the philosophy that taught, as the old angler did, thus : “ When I would beget content and increase confidence in the power and wisdom and providence of Almighty God, I will walk the meadows by some gliding stream, and there contemplate the lilies that take no care, and those very many other little living creatures that are not only created but fed (man knows not how) by the goodness of the God of Nature, and therefore trust in Him.”

“ Mais ils ont changé tout cela.”

The old tower is completely built in, miles and miles of bricks and mortar surrounding it. Speculative builders—tiny Sir Thomas Maryon Wilsons in their way—have bricked and are bricking over all they can of grass or country, edging up even to Bro. Todd's tea-gardens. May his shadow nor his small preserve of country never be less. The business of the Lodge commencing, it was opened in the Three Degrees, Bros. Gooch acting as W.M. ; Wm. Watson, S.W. ; Binckes, J.W. ; Longstaff, Tyler. The petition for the new Lodge having been read and the warrant produced, Bro. Laughlin made a most effective oration ; after which the corn, oil, and wine, being placed in three elaborately-chased silver cups, from the *atelier* of Bro. John Mott Thearle, the ceremony of consecration took place, the Brethren saluting the M.W. Prov. G.M. Gooch. The W.M. Bro. Filer was then presented and installed in due form, and appointed as his officers, Bros. Hill, S.W. ; Bohn, J.W. and Sec. ; Wilson, S.D. ; Friend, J.D. ; Buss, I.G. On the closing of the Lodge the Brethren adjourned to the banquet provided by Bro. Todd, who, as is his custom, left nothing to desire. The viands and wines were excellent, and the good-humour and general satisfaction of the Brethren at all the arrangements proved how well they had been cared for. Upon the removal

of the cloth the W.M. gave the usual toasts of the evening, prefacing each with a quiet and appropriate brevity which was extremely pleasing; and we may take this occasion to remark, for the guidance of W.Ms. generally, that the speeches most approved are those short ones that go straight to the mark—any endeavour to make long orations, especially by the W.M., who has so many to make, is a mistake. To the toast of the Earl of Yarborough and the Grand Officers, Bro. John Hervey replied, expressing the very great pleasure it afforded him to come among them on so auspicious an occasion, and the gratification he felt at the excellent working he had witnessed. On the W.M. proposing the health of the D.G.M. for Wilts, Bro. Gooch replied in a very effective and truly Masonic speech. The W.M. then proposed what he very appropriately designated as the chief toast of the evening, viz. “The Health of the Founder of the Lodge, their worthy Secretary and esteemed Friend, Bro. Bohn.” The necessity for a Lodge at Canonbury had been acknowledged for years; but as was usual in such matters, that which was the business of every one had not been attended to by any one, until Bro. Bohn, with a determination that did him the highest honour, took the matter in hand and carried it out most successfully. The thanks of the entire Masonic district thereabout were due to Bro. Bohn, as the father and founder of the first Canonbury Lodge. Bro. Bohn, in reply, expressed his great satisfaction at the honour done him on this occasion; for this he had laboured—this had been the goal to which his ambition was directed—to establish a Lodge to the satisfaction of the Brethren. Conscious of having carried his labours to a successful conclusion, and proud of the title the W.M. had been pleased to confer upon him, viz. Founder of the Lodge, he begged to drink all their very good healths. Bros. Cooper, Levi, Thearle, and Bohn, contributed to the harmony of the evening; and time flew so quickly and merrily, that when we looked at our patent lever we doubted either our own eyes, or its hands, and seriously questioned its ability to tell us the time of day; but day it certainly was; and on the principle of being grateful for everything, we felt very thankful at the opportunity afforded us of getting home very early.

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#### INSTRUCTION.

ALBION LODGE (No. 9).—This highly-esteemed Lodge of Instruction worked the whole of the 15 Sections on Sunday, Feb. 24th, in a most satisfactory manner, Bro. Collard, W.M. No. 209, being W.M. upon the occasion. A special vote was recorded upon the minutes to Bro. Collard. Several Brethren from Greenwich attended, and admitted that they never heard anything connected with Masonry so beautifully given, both by the W.M. and those who illustrated the Lectures.

LODGE OF UNITED PILGRIMS (No. 745).—This Lodge met on Friday the 1st Feb., 1856, for the purpose of working the 15 Sections, which was admirably performed, before a numerous assemblage of Brethren—Bro. Percy Moss, W.M. The following Brethren assisted the W.M. to work the 7 Sections of the 1st Degree:—1. Bros. F. Geider; 2. J. Collins; 3. A. Gardner; 4. W. R. Warren; 5. G. Haward; 6. P. G. Salmon; 7. H. Garrod. The 5 Sections of the 2nd Degree:—1. Bros. J. Pearson; 2. J. W. Ward; 3. F. Geider; 4. J. R. Warren; 5. W. H. Luckins. The 3 Sections of the 3rd Degree:—1. Bros. J. Thomas; 2. J. R. Warren; 3. H. Garrod. It was proposed and seconded, and carried unanimously, that a vote of thanks be recorded to the W.M. for the able manner in which he had discharged his duties. The Brethren separated, expressing the pleasure and instruction they had received in hearing the Sections so well gone through.



## PROVINCIAL.

### BERKSHIRE.

READING.—*Union Lodge* (No. 597).—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Jan. 21st, at the Masonic Hall, when the following Brethren were present:—Bros. R. Gibson, P.G.M., Berks and Bucks; the Rev. Sir John Hayes, P. Prov. G.C.; Rev. A. Roberts, P.G.C.; A. H. Fall, P.G.O.; J. B. Gibson, P.G.S.; C. Cave, P.G.T.; G. Botly, W.M.; E. Sherwood, J. Compigne, A. Compigne, H. Jordan, P.M.s; R. Lovegrove, Hibbard, Prince, Parsons, Gill, Powell, Moxhay, Clacey, Kitcat, Hawkes, Weedon, Lever, Byass, Ettammatt, P.M. (No. 9), &c. The Lodge was opened at two o'clock, when Bro. Botly, W.M., with his usual skill, performed one initiation, two passings, and two raisings; after which, Bro. Cave, P.G.T., was ably installed by Bro. J. B. Gibson, P.G. Treas. The W.M. was pleased to appoint Bros. Moxhay, S.W.; Kitcat, J.W.; Lever, Sec.; Hawkes, S.D.; Byass, J.D.; Weedon, I.G. The business of the Lodge having terminated, the Brethren partook of an elegant banquet, provided by Bro. Pontin, at the George Hotel, and separated at an early hour.

WINDSOR.—*Etonian Lodge* (No. 252).—At the meeting of this Lodge on Tuesday, February 20th, Bro. Holden, late Secretary, was elected W.M. for the ensuing year. We trust the election of a Brother who is so much respected, will be the means of restoring that harmony in the Lodge, the want of which has been so much felt during the past year.

### CESHIRE.

BIRKENHEAD.—*Mersey Lodge* (No. 701).—On the 3rd of January this Lodge celebrated the festival of St. John, and the installation of the W.M., at the Angel Hotel, with the usual solemnities. Bro. Josiah Wedgewood, who had been re-elected to the office, was presented and regularly installed by Bro. Willoughby, P.M. and P. Prov. J.G.W. for Cheshire; after which the following Brethren were appointed, and invested with the collars and jewels of their respective offices:—Bros. William Wade, jun., S.W.; Joseph Bratton, J.W.; — Ker, S.D.; George Jones, J.D.; — Lee, I.G.; Samuel Moss, Past Prov. J.G.W. of Gloucestershire and Cheshire, Treas.; and Edward Kirkby, Sec. The Lodge was then called to refreshment, when sixty-six Brethren sat down to a most sumptuous banquet, which reflected the highest credit on Bro. Hiskey, the worthy host, and his wife. The W.M. of course occupied the chair, supported on his right by Bros. Arthur Henderson, P.G. Pursv. of West Lancashire; J. Lord Howard, W.M. of No. 782; — Rampling, Past Prov. G. Supt. of Works for West Lancashire and Cheshire; S. Moss, Past Prov. J.G.W. of Gloucestershire and Cheshire; and on his left by Bros. Griffith, P.M.; Willoughby, Past Prov. J.G.D. of Cheshire; Troughton, Prov. J.G.D. of West Lancashire; Lambert, Prov. J.G.D. of East Lancashire; Beadsworth, Prov. G. Sword Br.; Shaw, Prov. G. Stand. Br. of Cheshire; Hornblower, Past Prov. G. Supt. of Works for Cheshire; Mollineux, Prov. G. Org. for North Lancashire; C. H. Pickering, W.M. No. 880; J. Pitt, M.C.; Brown, Sec. and Treas. No. 315; and Dutton, Prov. S.G.D., &c.

After the cloth had been removed, the W.M. rose and begged to give as the first toast of the evening, "The Queen and the Craft" (three times three, followed by "God Save the Queen").

Then followed the toasts of "Prince Albert, and the rest of the Royal Family;" and "The Allied Armies in the East;" which were drunk with the like enthusiasm.

The next toasts were "The M.W. the G.M. of England, the Earl of Zetland, and the R.W. the D.G.M., the Earl of Yarborough;" which were drunk with Masonic honours.

The W.M. said it gave him great pleasure to propose the next toast, which was one more immediately connected with the Province—a nobleman who had on all occasions shown himself a true Mason, and a kind and sincere friend of Masons—he meant “The R.W. Field Marshal Lord Viscount Combermere, Prov. G.M. of Cheshire.” (Masonic honours.)

This was followed by “The health of the Dep. Prov. G.M., John Trinchett Maddocks, Esq., and the R.W. Prov. G.M.’s for West and East Lancashire, and the Officers of the G.L. ;” to which Bro. Henderson responded for West Lancashire, and Bro. Lambert for East Lancashire.

Bro. Willoughby, after referring to the admirable manner in which the Lodge had been presided over by the W.M. during the past year, to his having initiated no less than thirty-six Masons, and to the anxious care he had manifested for the honour of the Craft, said he could well conceive that a disposition should exist in the minds of the Brethren to call upon him to preside over them for a second year; more especially as he felt assured no exertion would be wanting on his part to maintain the dignity of the Lodge, not merely by adding to its numbers, but to its respectability (cheers). “The health of the W.M.” was drunk with Masonic honours.

The W.M., in responding, said he could assure them it was with feelings of the deepest gratitude that he rose to acknowledge the kindness, not only then bestowed upon him, but likewise for the honour of being elected to preside over the Lodge for another year. It would ever be his study to do the best he could for the Craft generally, and his mother-Lodge in particular, by a rigid adherence to the ancient landmarks, and the enforcement of the foundations of the Order, namely, “Brotherly love, relief, and truth.”

The W.M. then proposed “the health of the P.M.’s,” which was responded to by Bro. Griffith, who concluded by passing a very high and deserved eulogium on the services of Bro. Moss, the Treasurer of the Lodge, and proposing his good health. The toast was most warmly received, and accompanied with Masonic honours.

Bro. Moss, who was received with loud cheers, acknowledged the compliment in a very eloquent speech, which, we regret, in the crowded state of our pages it is impossible to publish.

Several other toasts and sentiments followed, after which the Lodge was closed in time, form, and harmony.

*Zetland Lodge* (No. 782).—On Wednesday, the 16th of January, this Lodge met at the Monk’s Ferry Hotel, for the purpose of installing the W.M., and celebrating the festival of St. John. The Lodge was opened by Bro. J. L. Howard, the W.M.; when, after the usual preliminaries, Bro. Samuelson, P.M. and Prov. S.G.D. of Cheshire, with a very feeling address, presented the W.M. with a handsome Past Master’s jewel, in gold, in the name of the Lodge, to which Bro. Howard responded in eloquent terms. The ceremony of installation was then very ably performed by Bro. Willoughby; Bro. William Bulley was placed in the chair, and the following officers duly invested:—J. P. Platt, S.W.; C. N. Marshall, J.W.; Henry Bulley, S.D.; — Balshaw, J.D.; — Rampling, Treas.; William Dixon, Sec.; David Cordingly, I.G.

The Lodge was afterwards called to refreshment, when the Brethren sat down to a most substantial and excellent dinner, for which Bro. Hilliar, the worthy host, is so justly celebrated. The W.M., Bro. Bulley, occupied the chair, and amongst the Brethren were—Bros. Moss, Past Prov. J.G.W. of Gloucestershire and Cheshire; J. L. Howard, P.M.; Samuelson, Prov. S.G.D.; Willoughby, Prov. J.G.D.; Hornblower, Past Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Stephens, Past Prov. S.G.D.; Griffith, P.M. No. 701; Wedgewood, W.M. No. 701; Wade, S.W. No. 701; Bratton, J.W. No. 701; E. W. Coulborn, No. 830, &c. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk with honours, and a very pleasant and truly Masonic evening was passed.

#### DEVONSHIRE.

PLYMOUTH.—*Masonic Testimonial to Bro. Newcombe.*—On Monday, Feb. 4th, the ceremony of presenting a silver inkstand, together with a purse of £100, the

proceeds of the recent Masonic demonstration in recognition of Bro. Newcombe's conduct on the occasion of the calamity which befell Madlle. Julie, took place in the Theatre. Notwithstanding an increase which had been made in the charges for admission, the house was what is professionally designated "a Bumper," every available seat in the boxes, pit, and gallery, being occupied. The sight presented by this crowded audience was in itself an interesting one, but the occasion which had called together so many of the inhabitants of this and the neighbouring towns, gave rise to additional source of gratification on the part of the spectator. The pieces selected for the evening's entertainment were Sheridan Knowles's play of "The Hunchback," and the farce entitled "The Eton Boy." In the former, Bro. Newcombe sustained the character of *Master Modus*, and was well received. At the close of this piece the presentation took place. When the curtain drew up, a table was discovered in the centre of the stage, on the left of which stood Bro. G. W. Soltau, chairman of the committee, near whom was the secretary, Bro. W. Hunt. At the other side sat Bro. Newcombe, and the treasurer, Bro. R. Lidstone, occupied a position near him. Around these, ranged in such a manner as to form a half circle, and decorated with Masonic clothing, were about seventy members of the different Lodges belonging to the neighbourhood, the Provincial and Past Provincial Officers occupying the foremost places.

A burst of applause followed the rising of the curtain, and as soon as this had subsided,

Bro. G. W. Soltau advanced to the foot-lights, and addressed the audience. He began by observing, that if upon any previous occasion he had found it necessary to ask the kind indulgence of an assembly, he found it doubly necessary on the present, seeing that it was the first time he ever had the honour of appearing on this or any other stage. He considered that he should be a sorry Mason if, while he had been instrumental in laying the foundation of these proceedings, he had failed to see the accomplishment of that which he believed was well and worthily commenced. He was rejoiced to find that this large and numerous assembly fully accorded with that which the Freemasons had undertaken, and that they thought that body acted well and wisely in presenting Bro. Newcombe with a testimonial expressive of their esteem and regard. After alluding to the circumstances connected with Madlle. Julie, Bro. Soltau went on to relate another instance of Bro. Newcombe's kindness, in the case of Mr. and Mrs. Henderson, both of whom had, though at different periods, fallen ill during engagements at the theatre, and to both of whom, up to the time of their death, did he pay the salaries they would have received had they been enabled to carry out their engagements. These were cases that were not generally known. He might carry the catalogue to a considerable length, but he would merely say that such was Bro. Newcombe's liberality, that he really felt afraid sometimes to tell him of any act of charity in which he might be engaged. Bro. Newcombe had shown that he fully came up to the principles of Masonry, and he was proud to recognise Bro. Newcombe as a Brother Mason. A few days ago a play was put upon the stage entitled "Secrets Worth Knowing," and he had no doubt that some of the audience came here in the full expectation of having their minds enlightened in reference to the secrets of Freemasonry. They were disappointed on that occasion, and no doubt thought that some little light would be thrown upon the subject on this. "Ladies," added Bro. Soltau, "you were never more mistaken in your lives." But this he would tell them, that whatever the Freemasons' secrets were, they were all founded on those three important, great, and noble virtues, "brotherly love, relief, and truth." "Sir," said Bro. Soltau, turning to Bro. Newcombe, "the distinguished way in which you have shown yourself to be a true Mason has induced the Brethren you see around you—Brethren from every part of the country—to co-operate with us in presenting you with these testimonials. Allow me, Bro. Newcombe, to place in your hands one hundred sovereigns." [Loud applause, Bro. Soltau handing the purse to Bro. Newcombe.] Bro. Soltau proceeded to remark that he felt much pleasure in placing that sum in Bro. Newcombe's hands, because he knew the real value of money, and how to distribute it usefully. He then presented the silver inkstand, which he stated was

both massive and valuable, but which would be the more valuable to the recipient from the inscription which it bore, and which ran as follows:—

“Presented with One Hundred Pounds to Brother J. R. Newcombe, Manager of the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, 4th February, 1856, by the Right Honourable the Earl Fortescue and a numerous body of Freemasons, in testimony of their cordial approval of his truly Masonic conduct on many occasions, but especially on that of the recent calamity which befell Madlle. Julie whilst performing on the Plymouth stage, whereby he has maintained in their full splendour the peculiar attributes of Freemasons.

“G. W. SOLTAU, P.P.G.S.W., Chairman.”

He also had great pleasure in presenting Bro. Newcombe with testimonials from all parts of her Majesty's dominions, expressive of their cordial approval of the steps taken by the committee. Among the names those testimonials contained, were those of the Earl of Zetland, Mr. Ellis, of Cornwall, Mr. Paul Treby, and others. He also read extracts from letters written by Mr. Augustus Smith, of Trescoe Abbey, in the Isles of Scilly, Dr. Tunstall, of Bath, and Earl Fortescue, expressive of the sentiments he had conveyed. In conclusion he wished that Bro. Newcome might long live to enjoy the reputation he had gained, and trusted that the testimonial now presented to him might be a solace to him in after years, should he ever be overtaken by adversity, and an incentive to his children to emulate the noble example of their father.

Bro. Newcombe then spoke as follows:—Ladies and gentlemen, I am certain you will not consider it the mere customary and formal mode of returning thanks for a compliment, when I say that I feel myself totally at a loss to give expression to my feelings on this occasion. The pride which I feel at this unprecedented expression of your sympathy is so tempered with the recollection of the sad and melancholy event which has called the expression forth, that if I seem poor in words of gratitude, I know that you will appreciate and respect the cause. It is certainly a great honour to see an assemblage like the present brought together for the purpose of testifying their cordial approval of my conduct on the late distressing occasion; but it is a compliment far beyond my poor deserts. I did no more than observe that rule which is, and I trust ever will be, the guiding principle of my life—I did merely my duty. There are other claims upon a manager's attention than those of simply catering for the gratification and amusement of the public,—there is a duty incumbent upon him to look upon the members of his company as those who have cast in their lot with his; and I should feel myself unworthy of the name of a man, did I not on all occasions when they suffer injury or wrong by their connection with my establishment, afford them aid, assistance, and protection. That there could be found one single individual who would act otherwise, I could not, a short time since, have believed: that she whose untimely end we all so deeply deplore—one so fair and young, cut off in the full flush of youthful promise and bright hopes—should have met with the treatment she experienced at the hands of one person, is a libel upon our kind. It is so monstrous that we can only exclaim, “Thank God, for the honour of our common nature, there is but one such man.” Ladies and gentlemen, and Brother Masons, you will be pleased to hear that among the various letters of approval and sympathy I have received, none has been more gratifying than one sent by every member of the Victoria Theatre in London, at which poor Madlle. Julie had been engaged, and where she had been greatly respected and esteemed. The same sentiments as those which have prompted you, my kind and generous friends, to this public demonstration in my honour, pervades the whole of this communication. You, sir [turning to Bro. Soltau], have alluded with great eloquence and feeling to the sad occurrence from which this demonstration has more immediately arisen: you have been pleased to express in glowing language, not only on your own part, not only on the part of the inhabitants of these towns, but also on behalf of the Masonic body generally of the three kingdoms, your cordial approval and appreciation of the manner in which I have acted on the occasion referred to: you have also expressed the most kindly approval of the manner in which I have conducted myself during the eleven years I have directed the dramatic amuse-

ments of Plymouth ; added to which, this brilliant and crowded assemblage, these gratifying letters, and this splendid testimonial, all convey to me, in a manner unmistakeable, how large, how overflowing, is the measure of your generosity and kindness. This splendid testimonial will indeed be valuable. Apart from the sad occasion which gave it birth, it will ever recall to me this, the brightest moment of my life, and it shall be handed down to my children as a beacon to guide them, and a stimulus to persevere in the path of rectitude and honour. With a conscious sincerity I tender to you this poor expression of my thanks, and I entreat you to believe, that to retain the high position I have the happiness and honour to hold in your good will, will ever be the end of my endeavours and the highest object of my ambition.

The curtain here fell amid loud and long-continued cheering, and shortly afterwards the performances were resumed.

TORQUAY.—*Lodge of St. John* (No. 411).—On Thursday, 7th February, this Lodge held its regular meeting, when a clergyman of the Established Church (Rev. Robert Bowden, of Stoke Gabriel), was initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, and Bro. E. Appleton passed to the F.C. Degree. The ceremonies were performed by the W.M. Bro. Franklin Thomas, in a most skilful and impressive manner.

#### DURHAM.

DARLINGTON.—*Restoration Lodge* (No. 128).—The meeting of this Lodge took place on Thursday, the 31st January, under the able presidency of Bro. the Rev. Robert J. Simpson, Prov. Grand S.W., who was ably assisted in the duties of the evening by Bro. H. A. Hammarborn, W.M. of St. Helen's Lodge, Hartlepool, No. 774. W. E. Franklin, J.W. of Lodge No. 56 and W.M. Elect of the Gateshead Borough Lodge, was received as a visitor, and expressed much gratification at the instructive ceremonies he had witnessed.

DURHAM.—*Granby Lodge* (No. 146).—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on the 5th January, at the Freemason's Hall, presided over by Bro. Wm. Tiplady, W.M., who in a most impressive manner raised Bro. Hemmingway, of the cathedral choir, to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, and passed another to the Second Degree. Bro. W. E. Franklin, who was paying visits to every Lodge within reach, for the purpose of maturing his Masonic experience before taking the chair of the Gateshead Borough Lodge, No. 614, was received as a visitor and most cordially entertained by the Brethren. It is quite a treat to witness the accurate and careful working of this Lodge, which sets an excellent example in this respect ; and the immense advantage of a private hall is here peculiarly observable.

GATESHEAD.—*Borough Lodge* (No. 614).—The installation of Bro. W. E. Franklin, bookseller, of Newcastle-on-Tyne and the North-eastern Railway, took place at the Lodge Room, on Monday, February 18, when a strong gathering of Brethren from the surrounding district assembled to do honour to the occasion. The W.M. was ably installed by Bro. P.M. John Barker, Past Prov. G.S.D., Northumberland, who kindly undertook the duties, in the absence of the Prov. G. Director of Ceremonies for Durham, Bro. E. Davies, who was severely indisposed. The W.M. appointed the following officers, delivering to each a suitable and impressive charge on their various duties, and his appointments appeared to give satisfaction to the entire Lodge. Bros. Philip Holloway, P.M. ; William Preston, S.W. ; Charles Brinton, J.W. ; Andrew Gillespie, Sec. ; William Johnson, Treas. ; James Terry, S.D. ; Patrick S. Gillies, J.D. ; Joseph Meynall, I.G. ; William Wilkinson, S.S. ; Daniel Robson, J.S. ; Alexander Dickson, Tyler. After the ceremonies the Brethren retired to a sumptuous entertainment prepared with the well-known excellence and liberality of the host, Mr. G. Brinton, which being amply discussed by about fifty Brethren, the cloth was withdrawn, and the usual toasts drunk. In giving "The P.G.M. of Durham, John Fawcett, Esq. ; his Deputy Henry Fenwick, Esq., M.P. ; and the Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge," the W.M. took the opportunity of remarking

on the advantages resulting to this province from the very great ability of the Grand Master, who was most zealous in promoting the good of the Order, by his readiness to give instruction when called upon, and his promptness to give sound advice if ever difficulties occurred with any Lodge under his rule; to his very careful oversight and auspicious government might be mainly attributed the successful operations of the Craft in this province.

Bro. R. B. Ridley, Past Prov. G.J.W. and W.M. of Lodge No. 292, St. Hilds, South Shields, in responding, stated that the Grand Master merited fully all that the W.M. had stated, and remarked, in proof, that it was only very recently that the P.G.M. of Durham had been called upon to preside on the throne of the Grand Lodge of England, showing the great confidence reposed in him.

The W.M. next gave "The P.G.M. of Northumberland and Berwick-upon-Tweed, the Rev. E. Chaloner Ogle; his Deputy R. Medcalfe, Esq.; and the Provincial Grand Lodge," remarking that the kind feeling, great liberality, and careful interest of the Grand Master had conferred the greatest benefit on Freemasonry in his province.

Bro. John Barker, Past Prov. G.S.W. of Northumberland, in returning thanks, agreed with the sentiments expressed by the W.M., and added his meed of respect and admiration for the character of the P.G.M., stating that he was entitled to their highest opinions, and that as a Freemason and in his private career the Rev. E. C. Ogle attached himself to all who know him.

"The body of Past Masters" was next given by the W.M., who stated that his object in putting a toast in this form was to enable him (himself a young Mason) to give utterance to what he believed were the sentiments of every young Mason, that the highest respect and consideration were due to those from whom alone they were enabled to receive the privileges and advantages of Freemasonry, the nature of their institution being such as to involve those who conscientiously discharge their duties in much trouble and the expenditure of considerable time and thought.

Bro. P.M. John Toshack, of St. Hilds, No. 292, and ex-Mayor of South Shields, the oldest Past Master present, acknowledged the compliment.

The W.M. then gave "The Young Masons."

Bro. Gillespie, in responding for the young Masons, said he aimed at nothing less than honours, and he trusted every young Brother did the same. This was a laudable aim, and by following the advice of their experienced Brother, Toshack, in doing their duty as good Masons, a path was open to them for acquiring all desirable honours.

Bro. P.M. Barker, of Lodge No. 24, and Past Prov. J.D., next proposed "The W.M. of the Borough Lodge, Bro. W. E. Franklin," to whom the thanks of the Lodge were due for the most important services he had that day rendered. It had afforded him great pleasure to instal Bro. Franklin, whom he had known since his entrance into Masonry; he had acquired an intimate knowledge of all the mysteries of Freemasonry, and was thoroughly conversant with its workings, and, he was convinced, would perform the duties of the Lodge efficiently and creditably. Bro. Franklin's rapid advancement to his present position was a sufficient proof of the estimation in which his Lodge held him, and afforded a stimulus to young Brethren to exertion.

The W.M., in responding to this toast, said he had devoted much valuable time in visiting and assisting at Freemasons' assemblies during the short period, barely three years, he had had the honour of holding a place among them, and had travelled to the extent of his means with a view of picking up crumbs of experience; but for any time, expense, or labour, he had bestowed, he was now more than compensated by the confidence which had been exhibited in placing him in his present position. He thanked the Brethren for the honour conferred upon him, and solicited their continued support of his efforts to preserve harmony and to carry out the duties of the Lodge with perseverance, punctuality, and earnestness, that he might be able to deliver his charge to his successor not only unimpaired but improved.

The following Lodges, who were represented by visiting Brethren, were pro-

posed by the W.M., and severally responded to, "Nos. 24, 56, 119, 292, 586, 624, 706, 793, 919, 957."

"The Ladies," never forgotten by good Freemasons, were proposed by Bro. John Hogan, and responded by for Bro. D. Robson.

Many good songs were sung by Brethren of musical ability, and Bro. J. T. M. Harrison, Past Prov. G.O., kindly presided at the pianoforte.

#### HAMPSHIRE.

PORTSMOUTH.—*Portsmouth Lodge* (No. 717).—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, January 10th, on which occasion Bro. Mark E. Frost was installed to the dignity of W.M. for the ensuing year, and nominated the following Brethren as his Officers:—Bros. H. Castell, S.W.; H. Hollingsworth, J.W.; J. J. Galt, P.M., Treas.; G. Rake, Sec.; J. S. Tibbitts, S.D.; T. R. Weston, J.D.; — Allnutt, I.G.; E. Galt, P.M., M.C.; G. Gale and — Hatch, Stewards; — Wey, Tyler. The ceremony of initiating three candidates into the First Degree of Masonry was performed in a most impressive manner; and upon the termination of the duties of the Lodge, the Brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet provided by Bro. Weston, of the Sussex Hotel, in a style which conferred the highest credit on the worthy caterer. In addition to the members of this Lodge, there were several visiting Brethren present, including many influential W.M.'s and P.M.'s of Lodges in the immediate neighbourhood, who, in some most appropriate remarks, expressed themselves as highly gratified, not only with the dignified manner in which the duties of the Lodge had been carried out on that evening, but also with the very cordial and brotherly reception they had on this and other occasions met with. The festivities passed off, under the presidency of the W.M., in a most satisfactory manner to all present, and closed in that perfect harmony so peculiarly characteristic of the Craft. It is pleasing to add, that the prospects of this Lodge are now most encouraging. During the past year upwards of twenty candidates have been initiated, and subsequently advanced in the Order by the immediate P.M., Bro. J. J. Galt, who has been indefatigable, during his term of office, in endeavouring to impress on the junior Brethren the importance of studying and practically illustrating the great principles of Freemasonry. To him, therefore, too much praise cannot be given; and it is satisfactory to find that there is every prospect that the newly-installed W.M. will, in his own skill and zeal, echo that of his predecessors, and, assisted by his equally zealous officers, lead on the Lodge to increased usefulness, so that it may still maintain that high position in the Province which it has ever been its emulation to enjoy.

#### KENT.

CANTERBURY.—*United Industrious Lodge* (No. 34).—This Lodge met on Thursday the 7th Feb. at the Freemasons' Tavern, St. Margaret's Street. The business was remarkable—the Right Worshipful the Mayor, Henry Cooper, Esq., and the Town Clerk, Stephen Plummer, jun., Esq., having been both raised to the degree of Master Mason. After this interesting ceremony there was an excellent banquet, of which more than twenty Brethren partook. The Prov. G.M. for Kent, Bro. Charles Purton Cooper, Q.C., and the Prov. G. Sec., Bro. Charles Isaacs, of Chatham, both attended on the occasion.

#### LANCASHIRE.

BLACKBURN.—*Lodge of Fidelity* (No. 336).—The usual monthly gathering of this Lodge took place on Friday evening, the 25th January, at the Angel Inn. Bro. George Whewell, W.M., presided. After the customary business of the Lodge had been completed, Bro. Chatburn was passed to the Second Degree by P.M. Bro. Eaves. After the conclusion of this interesting ceremony the Brethren adjourned, and passed a most agreeable evening.

*Lodge of Perseverance* (No. 432).—The members of this Lodge met on the evening of Monday, the 28th January; the W.M., Bro. Charles Boardman, presiding. There was an average attendance of members, and amongst the visitors we noticed Bros. Stocks, P.M. No. 336; and Radcliffe, No. 434.

BOLTON.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 268).—The Brethren of this Lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John the Evangelist on Wednesday, the 16th January; on which occasion Bro. James Fitznewton, the J.W., who was elected at the last regular Lodge meeting, was duly installed W.M. for the ensuing year. The following Brethren were invested officers:—Bros. J. Cunliffe, S.W.; Jos. Howarth, J.W.; Wm. Platt, Treas.; G. P. Brockbank, Sec.; John Hughes, S.D.; Wm. R. Hill, I.G.; Thomas Mitchell and Charles Hardacre, Stewards; William Dawson, Tyler. The ceremony of installation and investiture was impressively performed by Bros. J. Tunnah, Prov. G. Sec., and John Thorpe, the retiring Master. The Brethren adjourned to banquet at five o'clock, Bro. James Fitznewton, W.M., presiding, supported by Bros. John Thorpe, P.M. No. 268; Robert Pearson, J.W. No. 436; Thomas Dawson, Sec. No. 436; John Tunnah, P.M. No. 268, Sec. No. 44, and Prov. G. Sec.; William B. Birch, P.M. No. 268; R. M. Crook, No. 44; William Dawson, P.M. No. 268; Benjamin Harris, P.M. No. 268; and about thirty-five other Brethren.

MANCHESTER.—*Lodge of Affability* (No. 399).—On Friday evening, the 4th January, the above Lodge met to celebrate the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, and to instal into the chair the W.M. elect, Bro. John J. Lundy, Kt., R.✠ and *Ne Plus Ultra*. Among the visitors present were Bros. Charles Ellis, P.M., No. 246, &c.; Burslem, P.M. No. 177; Wm. Hill, P.M. No. 402; J. L. Hine, P.M. No. 407; Broadbent, P.M. No. 407, and several others. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Wm. Hill, after which the W.M. appointed Bro. John Higginbottam S.W., and Bro. Thomas Lundy, J.W. The Brethren then adjourned, and spent a pleasant evening.

On Thursday, 7th February, at the regular meeting of the Lodge, the late Master, Bro. Lyons Wright, of Lodges No. 65 and 407, and P.M. of No. 399 and 623, was presented by the W.M. Bro. Lundy, on the part of many of the Brethren of the Lodge of Affability, with others of the Lodges in East Lancashire, and neighbouring provinces, with an elegant P.M.'s jewel, as a token of their appreciation of his eminent services during the time he occupied the chairs of the Lodges No. 399 and 623, not only to those Lodges in particular, but also to the Craft in general. The jewel bears the following inscription, surmounted by the Cross Patée of a Knight Templar:—"Presented to Bro. Lyons Wright, P.M. No. 399 and 623, by Brethren of the Masonic Lodges, Nos. 65, 177, 189, 246, 399, 407, and 623, as a token of their fraternal regard. 7th February, 1856."

SOUTHPORT.—*Lodge of Unity* (No. 889).—On Friday, January 4, the members of this Lodge dined together, at the Scarisbrick Arms Hotel, in celebration of St. John's day. The occasion was also selected for the presentation of a testimonial of regard to Bro. J. B. Lambert, P.M., who has been mainly instrumental in establishing and maintaining the efficiency of the Lodge. Bro. Withnell, W.M., occupied the chair, and the vice-chair was filled by Bro. John Richardson, S.W.

The chairman, after dinner, proposed in succession the following toasts:—"The Queen and the Craft;" "Prince Albert, &c.;" "The Earl of Zetland, and the Grand Lodge of England;" "Le Gendre N. Starkie, Esq., R.W. Prov. G.M. of West Lancashire;" "The Earl of Ellesmere, R.W. Prov. G.M. of East Lancashire." He then expressed his regret that he was obliged to leave the room, and proposed that Bro. Lambert should occupy his position. Other toasts having been given—

Bro. Hunt said it devolved upon him to propose the next toast on the list, which was that of a gentleman and Brother well deserving of their kind notice, he being, upon all occasions, so devoted to the duties of this Lodge. He meant Bro. P.M. Lambert. It was owing to his strict mode of governing the Lodge and instructing the younger Brethren, that they had attained such a good position in such a brief time. He was one of the most indefatigable labourers in the good cause; and, as a practical proof of the approbation of his friends and Brethren, he had a token to present to him of a gold watch and chain, of which he begged his acceptance. Bro. Hunt gave a statement of Bro. Lambert's past services, and



stated that he was willing to continue at his post as honorary secretary for another year. Bro. Hunt was warmly cheered throughout his speech, and at its conclusion handed Bro. Lambert a case, containing a splendid gold watch and massive chain and seal. On the outer case was engraved one of the Masonic emblems, and inside were inscribed the words—"Presented to Bro. J. B. Lambert, P.M., by the Brethren of the Lodge of Unity, No. 889, as a token of esteem for his Masonic abilities and character. Jan. 4th, 1856."

Bro. P.M. Lambert, in receiving the testimonial, and acknowledging the toast in a brief but comprehensive speech, expressed his gratitude to the subscribers. He assured them, when he first heard that it was intended to present him with some acknowledgment for his services, he merely expected some Masonic jewel, and he certainly never anticipated being the recipient of such a handsome and costly present. On looking at its dial it would always remind him of the hours he had devoted to his Masonic duties, and he was determined to go on, as he had done before, in working for the welfare of the Lodge. He should have great pleasure in rendering any assistance to the W.M. elect in the discharge of his duties, and he trusted they should continue to work together in harmony and good-will.

Bro. Richard Johnson then proposed "The Health of the Treasurer," congratulating the Lodge that there was corn in Egypt still.

Bro. Hunt responded in a good-humoured address. "The Officers of the Lodge" was next proposed, and responded to by Bros. J. Richardson, Pidduck, and Pickering.

Several excellent songs were sung, and the remainder of the evening was very pleasantly spent.

#### LINCOLNSHIRE.

BOSTON.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 339).—At the monthly communication on Tuesday, the 12th February, Bro. Geo. Jackson, W.M., in the chair. Bro. Pocklington read the first of a series of papers on the Second Degree, which he prefaced by stating he had adopted the ideas of writers who had written on the same subject, as all must necessarily do, to some extent, who dealt with subjects relating to the ethnology of the world in its infancy. After giving from Dr. Oliver's "History of Initiation" an epitome of the mysteries practised by the ancient Egyptians, and contrasting them with the learned Preston's definition of Freemasonry, he remarked that the Rosetta stone, discovered at Rosetta, in Egypt, in 1799 (which is a block of black basalt, bearing three inscriptions; one in hieroglyphics, another in the writing of the people, and the third in ancient Greek), was the key to Egyptian hieroglyphics; and when Young and Champollion discovered the use and importance of that key, the scholar was enabled to read the hieroglyphical and other inscriptions which everywhere there abound, and thereby became conversant with the history of that country ages previous to the patriarch Abraham. Egyptian art was next glanced at, showing it to be the parent of every other; that the oldest buildings (the Pyramids and the great Sphinx), were yet the largest; that the Egyptian columns were centuries older than those of Greece; and that the hieroglyphical writing at the time of the erection of the Pyramids was as perfect as at any after period. The Hall of Columns at Karnac was briefly explained, and attention directed to the reduced models of those astounding columns at the Sydenham Palace. The colossi of the Ramsain, the obelisks and sculpture of Egypt, were also referred to as existing evidences of how wonderfully art in that country was the expression of its symbolical mythology; whilst the inscriptions prove that the faith of those initiated in the hierophantic mysteries of that misunderstood people was Monotheism, or a belief in the G.A.O.T.U., in the immortality of the soul, and a resurrection. A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Bro. Pocklington for his instructive papers, and the Lodge was adjourned to the 28th February. The Brethren on this occasion appeared with black crape covering their decorations as a mark of esteem for their late Bro. Howell, I.G.

SPALDING.—*Hundred of Elloe Lodge* (No. 690).—On the 24th January, Bro. Tidswell, P.M. of the Lodge, and P.G.S.B., raised a Brother to the Sublime

Degree of a Master Mason in a very reverential manner. The Lodge was well attended, and the Brethren, after refreshment, separated in harmony. At the monthly communication of this Lodge, holden on Thursday, February 21st—present, Bros. Pocklington, W.M. ; Williamson, P.M. ; Rainey, P.M. and M.C. ; Tidswell, P.M. and Treas. ; Clark, P.M. ; Bates, P.M. and Sec. ; Ridgway, J.W. ; Dolman, S.D. ; Best, J.D. ; Bingham Gilbert, Tyler ; Briggs, I.G. ; Handley, T. ; and Smith W., visiting brother, No. 339 ;—a Brother was admitted to the Third Degree by Bro. Tidswell, after which the W.M. evinced to the Brethren that he was well qualified to fill the chair which he now occupies for the first time, by initiating a gentleman into the mysteries of the First Degree in a very able manner.

#### NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

OUNDLE.—*Lodge of Merit* (No. 687).—We are glad to find that this Lodge, which had nearly died a natural death in consequence of some disunion amongst its members, has been resuscitated by its removal, under the sanction of the Marquis of Huntley, Prov. G.M. for Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire, from the Ram Inn, Northampton, to the Talbot Hotel, Oundle, where it has been taken up by several spirited members of the Craft. The manner in which the business was performed on its reopening on the 29th January, when Mr. Matthew Southwell, of Oundle, was initiated as a serving Brother, augurs well for its future prosperity. There is already a large accession of joining members, and we are informed that two gentlemen are to be initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry on the next Lodge night. The Brethren celebrated the opening by a Masonic ball, under the patronage of the Prov. G.M., which was most numerous and fashionably attended. Dancing, to the delightful strains of Bro. Corley's band, was spiritedly carried on until a late, or rather an early, hour.

#### NORTHUMBERLAND.

BLYTH.—*Blagdon Lodge* (No. 957).—On Wednesday evening, the 13th of February, the members of this newly-constituted Lodge held their second meeting. The labour was somewhat arduous, there being four candidates for passing, and one for raising ; three gentlemen were balloted for to be initiated at the next meeting. The Brethren, after the work was over, retired to refreshment, Bro. James Morton Winn, W.M. elect, presiding, supported by Bro. George Weatherhead, P. Prov. J.G.W. ; Bros. Owen, Prendegast, Fisher, and Cockburn ; and the evening was spent in a most harmonious and truly Masonic manner.

BYKER, near Newcastle-upon-Tyne.—*St. Peter's Lodge* (No. 706).—At the usual monthly meeting of this comfortable Lodge, held on Monday the 11th of February, Bro. John Cook, W.M., in the chair, who was attended by his officers and numerous Brethren, W. R. Dale, Esq., of Tynemouth, and Thomas Metcalfe, Esq., of South Shields, were duly initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry. After the business was closed, the Brethren retired to a slight repast, ending their meeting in that truly Masonic good feeling that so predominates in *this* Lodge, and ought to characterize *all* others.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—*Newcastle-upon-Tyne Lodge* (No. 24).—This Lodge met on Thursday, the 7th of February, Bro. W. Johnson, P.M., in the chair ; Bros. Ludwig, S.W. ; J. Hopper, J.W. ; but in consequence of the absence of two Brethren, who were expected to take their 3rd Degree, the business was only of routine character.

*Northern Counties Lodge* (No. 586).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 4th of February, under the able presidency of Bro. B. J. Thompson, P.M. and P. Prov. J.G.W., who initiated two gentlemen into ancient Freemasonry. Among the Brethren present were Bro. Berkeley, Prov. G. Sec., and several P.Ms. of other Lodges.

#### OXFORDSHIRE.

OXFORD.—*Apollo University Lodge* (No. 460).—The Anniversary Meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall on Thursday, February 21, when there

was an extremely numerous attendance of the Brethren. The chair was filled by Bro. W. B. Beach, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W. &c. &c. The Lodge having been opened in due form, the W.M. proceeded to initiate into the Order Sir Michael H. Beach, Bart., and Messrs. Parish, Eden, and Clayton. As all the candidates were under age, a dispensation for their initiation had been procured. The W.M. elect, Bro. Henry Adair Pickard, of Christ Church, P. Prov. G.D.C., was then installed into the chair, the whole of the ceremonies of the day being impressively performed by Bro. Beach, than whom a better working Mason does not exist. The new W.M. appointed as his Officers as follows: Bros. J. E. Codrington, S.W.; H. Barter, Merton College, J.W.; M. S. Walrond, Balliol College, Sec.; A. Faber, New College, S.D.; J. C. Farmborough, Magdalen Hall, J.D.; Quentin Twiss, I.G.; W. H. Hutton, Trinity College, M.C.

At the conclusion of the business, the Brethren adjourned to a very elegant banquet, prepared on their own premises. The room was handsomely decorated, and on the cross table was a magnificent candelabrum, which was presented by the Brethren to Bro. Thompson, P. Prov. S.G.W., who is an old P.M., and the Treasurer of the Lodge.

The chair was occupied by the W.M., who was supported by about eighty Brethren, many of whom were visitors. Amongst those in the immediate vicinity of the chair, we noticed Bros. Spiers, D. Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire; Purton Cooper, Prov. G.M. for Kent; Dr. Kent, Prov. G.M. for Australia; Herbert Lloyd, G.S.D.; Warren, G. Steward; Alderman Sadler (late Mayor of Oxford), P.M.; Rev. G. Portal, P.M., P. Prov. G.S.W.; Rev. — Sidebottom, W.M., No. 902; Rev. C. Pettat, P.M., P. Prov. G. Chap.; Newmarch, P.M. No. 862, Cirencester; Hester, W.M. No. 425; Wyatt, P.M. No. 425; Randell, P.M. No. 425; Wyndham Portal, S.W. No. 10; F. Cox, J.D. No. 10, &c. &c.

Grace was said by the Rev. Bro. Pettat.

On the removal of the cloth, the toasts of the Queen and the Craft, and the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M. of Masons, were drunk with all the honours.

The W.M. had now to propose the health of the Earl of Yarborough and the Officers of the Grand Lodge. They were honoured that evening with the company of the G.S.D., who had rendered very important services to the Craft, and was a Vice-President of the Boys' School. There was likewise present Bro. Spiers, P.G.S.B., who was well known to them, and other Grand and Prov. G. Officers. He begged to give them the Earl of Yarborough, D.G.M., Bro. Herbert Lloyd, G.S.D., and the rest of the Grand Officers.

Bro. Herbert Lloyd, G.S.D., returned thanks. He regretted that illness had for some time deprived them of the services of the Right Hon. D.G.M., who was truly devoted in his desire to promote the interests of Freemasonry, but he trusted he would soon be restored to them. He had long anticipated the pleasure of visiting this Lodge. He had been that day highly delighted with the working, and he could assure the younger Brethren, that if they followed the excellent example which had been set them, they could not fail to maintain the high character which the Lodge held in the Craft.

The W.M. next gave the P.G.M. Bro. Bowyer, and the D.P.G.M. Bro. Spiers, who was too well known both in Oxfordshire and London to need his saying anything to recommend the toast to their notice.

Bro. Spiers, D.P.G.M., regretted that a double duty devolved upon him that day, owing to the unavoidable absence of their respected G.M. in consequence of a domestic affliction, he having just lost his mother, to whom he was deeply attached. It gave him sincere pleasure to return thanks on behalf of the Prov. G. Officers for the compliment paid them, and he would assure them they always felt highly gratified when they had an opportunity of visiting the Apollo Lodge. When Lord John Churchill was Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire, the necessity was pointed out to him of allowing dispensations for the initiation of candidates under age. The noble lord was at first opposed to it, but after some consideration, especially with regard to the age at which many of the members of the University left it, he consented, and dispensations were granted for the initiation of young men not under nineteen, and they always endeavoured to obtain them as near twenty as possible. Grand Lodge acceded them that privilege, and how

influential their Lodge was in spreading the Light of Freemasonry, was shown by the circumstance that six of the present Prov. G. Masters had been initiated in the Apollo Lodge. He looked upon Freemasonry as one of the greatest institutions of mankind, as it united together the various classes of society, who were enabled thus to meet on common ground, without losing their own self-respect, and they were thereby enabled to appreciate the good qualities which each possessed.

The W.M. next gave the healths of the Prov. G.Ms. for Kent and Australia. Bro. Purton Cooper was, many years since, and was still, a member of the University, and they were glad to welcome him again to Alma Mater. They had had the pleasure of meeting Bro. Kent at the Prov. G. Lodge of Oxfordshire, and he was sure they were all glad of the opportunity of renewing the acquaintance thus commenced.

Bro. Purton Cooper, P.G.M. for Kent, returned thanks, and expressed his satisfaction at the encouragement now given to Masonry in Oxford, by the facilities afforded for initiation. He had himself given a dispensation for the initiation of seven young officers who were under age, on their being about to proceed to the Crimea, and though that was only twelve months since, five of them had died on the field of battle; and sure he was that they had been the better prepared for the discharge of their duties by being members of the Craft. When he was at Oxford there was no Lodge in it, and he could hardly say what would have been the penalty if any member of the University had talked of becoming a Freemason. He had, however, with a fellow-commoner visited the Continent, and having seen, after one of the sieges of the late war, how a wounded officer was attended to by a Dutchman and his family, through the good-natured Hollander having discovered the officer to be a Brother Mason, he determined at once to become a member of the Craft. Since then, though not as a military man, he had seen the great advantages of the institution, and should ever feel proud of belonging to it.

Bro. Kent, P.G.M. for Australia, also returned thanks, and spoke of the importance of the Craft, more especially in the colonies.

Bro. P.M. Beach proposed the health of the W.M., and expressed his conviction that he would fully warrant the confidence placed in him by the Brethren in electing him to so important and responsible an office.

The W.M. briefly returned thanks, and stated that it should be his earnest endeavour to follow, though he could only expect to do so at a very humble distance, in the footsteps of their worthy P.M., Bro. Beach.

Bro. Spiers had the permission of the W.M. to propose the next toast, the health of Bro. P.M. Beach, who had most ably filled the offices of J. and S.W., and for two years that of Master. He would say but little in support of the toast, because Bro. Beach was so well known to them all, and he was happy to announce that a committee had been formed with the view of acknowledging his great services in a more substantial manner than merely drinking his health.

Bro. Beach, P.M., responded to the compliment. He felt that they had too flatteringly acknowledged his services, but it had ever been, and ever would be, his earnest desire to secure the best interests of the Lodge.

The Sister Lodges of the Province was the next toast, which was acknowledged by Bros. Hester, Sidebottom, and Hayward.

The W.M. next gave the P.M.s of the Apollo Lodge, thanking them for their zeal and ability. He coupled with the toast Bro. the Rev. G. Portal, Steward for the Boys' School Festival.

Bro. the Rev. G. Portal, P.M., returned thanks, and alluded to the Westminster and Keystone Lodge having been recently taken up by the Oxford Brethren, as a means of reuniting them in London. They had also another reason, that of gaining an influence in the G. Lodge, the management of which was not so satisfactory as could be wished. He did not wish to reflect upon any one, but he must say a most expensive system of jobbing existed in G. Lodge, and they were determined to put a stop to it, and have the right men in the right places.

The health of the initiated was then proposed and severally acknowledged.

The next toast was the visitors, which was responded to by Bros. Sadler, Warren, Newmarch, and Bower. In the course of his remarks Bro. Warren

assured Bro. Portal that in his endeavours to reform the Grand Secretary's office, he should have his most cordial support, both through the *Freemasons' Magazine*, with which he had the honour to be connected, and in his place in Grand Lodge.

One or two other toasts having been drunk, the Brethren separated.

## STAFFORDSHIRE.

TIPTON.—*Noah's Ark Lodge* (No. 435).—The members of this Lodge, who assembled at Bro. Whitehouse's, Navigation Inn, Tipton, on Friday the 15th, were somewhat disappointed at the absence of the candidates—one for initiation, and another for passing—as it was the first full night of Bro. Howell's year of office as W.M., and his known ability for the office led them to hope he would have had a fair trial of his skill in these two difficult degrees. It was however announced that the Rev. W. Gibbens, B.D. (brother to Bro. F. Gibbens, M.A., initiated on the 19th, at the *Standard Lodge*, No. 730, and who leaves for the Baltic fleet), would be initiated at a Lodge of Emergency for the following Friday. The Rev. Bro. Gwynne, the P.M., having left the room, Bro. Cresswell proposed and the W.M. seconded, that a P.M.'s Jewel be presented to the Rev. Brother, that he be made an honorary member, and that a purse be raised for him as a testimonial of their regard and esteem for the ability and urbanity with which he discharged the duties of W.M. during the past year. The resolution was carried unanimously, with the exception of "honorary member," as it was supposed not to be agreeable to the feelings of the Rev. Brother. On his return to Lodge, the announcement of the resolution was made to Bro. Gwynne, who acknowledged the compliment in a very good speech, in the delivery of which his emotion was visible. The thanks of the Lodge were likewise given to Bro. Netherwood for the very handsome firing glasses he had presented the Lodge, as also to Bro. Davis, S.D., for the chaste deacon's wand, surmounted by the appropriate jewels, which were presented to the Lodge by him. Nothing further offering for the good of the Craft in general, or this Lodge in particular, the Lodge was closed in due form. The visitors present comprised, Bro. W. Bristow, P.M. No. 313; Bro. the Rev. T. W. Herbert, J.W. No. 313; and Bro. W. Wigginton, Sec. No. 313, and I.G. No. 730.

## WORCESTERSHIRE.

DUDLEY.—*Harmonic Lodge* (No. 313).—This Lodge was opened in due form on February 5th, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Stone-street, by Bro. T. R. Cooper, the W.M. Shortly after Lodge was opened, some little excitement was caused among the Brethren by the announcement of the arrival of the Dep. Prov. G.M., Bro. L. A. H. Lechmere, who succeeded Bro. Hyde towards the close of last year. The R.W. Dep. Prov. G.M. was accompanied by the R.W. Prov. G.W., Bro. Wainwright (P.M. No. 730), and the R.W. Prov. G. Treas., Bro. Manfield (P.M. No. 313). On this (Bro. Lechmere's) visit he was received with due honours, the Brethren appearing delighted with the opportunity of showing him the satisfaction which his visit caused, it being the first of the kind since the year 1847.

Mr. William Deakin, iron merchant, of Prince's-end, Tipton, having been duly prepared, was then brought forward and initiated to the First Degree; the maiden performance of the ceremony by the W.M. giving a clear indication of what the Brethren may expect as to the future working of the Lodge of Harmony during his reign.

Upon the motion of Bro. Manfield (Prov. G. Treas. and P.M. No. 313), seconded by Bro. W. Bristow (P.M. No. 313), the sum of £5 was voted to the building fund of the Boys' Institution (a similar sum, it will be perceived, was given in No. 730). The claims of this institution were warmly advocated by the Dep. Prov. G.M., who passed a great encomium upon the present condition of the Girls' School, and trusted that the present appeal to the Masonic world would realize sufficient to place the boys upon a similar footing with regard to building accommodation, and make that institution in every way worthy of those who ranked under the noble banner of brotherly love, relief, and truth.

After the transaction of some business of minor importance, a Brother of No. 838 was proposed as a joining member, and the Lodge was duly closed.

In addition to the Dep. Prov. G.M. and other Prov. G. Officers, the following visitors stayed to the banquet: Bros. the Rev. A. G. Davies, W.M. No. 730; W. Barns, P.M. No. 730; — Waring, J.W. No. 435; and W. Bristow, sen., M. of Cers. No. 824.

Thanks having been returned by Bro. the Rev. A. G. Davies to the G.A.O.T.U. for His mercies then received, and the customary loyal toasts having been drunk, the W.M. proposed that of "The Dep. Prov. G.M.," coupled with the other Prov. G.L. Officers, whom they were rejoiced to see among them. The W.M. said he trusted that the Dep. Prov. G.M. would find that the Brethren had not been unmindful of the trust reposed in them, as might have been the case with some Lodges when not overlooked; and that their condition that night would prove they had been honest and zealous workers for the good of the Craft in general, and that Lodge in particular. He again expressed his delight at seeing Bro. Lechmere, and trusted that he would often come over to look them up, and *keep them up* to that high mark it should ever be the object of Masons to attain.

The Dep. Prov. G.M. in acknowledging the toast, said that he had some little diffidence in paying this, his first visit, to the oldest Lodge in the Province. He was delighted with the kindly and brotherly reception given to him by their excellent W.M., as also with the cordiality evinced by the Officers and Brethren. He was glad to see so good an attendance at the Lodge, and congratulated the members upon the manner in which the W.M. went through the duties of the evening. Although but a young Mason, he (the Dep. Prov. G.M.) thought he might still be able to express an opinion upon Masonry, for during the eight years he had been in the Order he worked his way up honestly and fairly. Initiated just after he had attained his 21st year, he held the office of Secretary to the Apollo (University) Lodge, Oxford, No. 460; then in one of the Worcester Lodges he passed through the several chairs. Having thoroughly attended to his duties in these offices, to the best of his ability, he hoped that in discharging the higher duties of the responsible office to which he had been appointed, he should not be found wanting. The Dep. Prov. G.M. alluded with great satisfaction to two suggestions made to him since his entry into the Lodge, and in the propriety of which he expressed his concurrence. The one was, the distribution of the cost incurred by a Grand Lodge visit over the several Lodges of a Province. As the custom stood now, *one* Lodge bore the whole of the burden—unless there happened to be another Lodge in the same town—and it was frequently ruinous, cramping their energies, strewn their path with difficulties, and possibly leading to a final erasure of their warrants. The other suggestion was respecting the jewels of the Prov. G.L. Officers, which were frequently lost, necessitating the purchase of new jewels by officers to replace those lost by their predecessors. The suggestion would meet this difficulty. It was proposed that a Prov. G.L. Officer should deposit, with his fee of honour, the cost of the jewel, so that the party who lost it would be the sufferer, and not the Brother who was elected to his office. Both these suggestions met with his hearty approval, and he would take the earliest opportunity of laying them before the R.W. Prov. G.M. (Bro. H. C. Vernon) for his approbation. In alluding to the W.M.'s request for a frequent visit from him, he could assure the Brethren he would come as often as his engagements would permit, and at *any time* when his presence was *particularly* required. As to his countenance of the late Masonic ball at Dudley—to which the W.M. had alluded—he came as a matter of pleasure as well as a Masonic duty. He did not approve of Masonic balls generally, unless they were for some benevolent purpose (as the Dudley ball was); but when the cause of charity was to be forwarded by them, he should always be ready to come forward and assist. He concluded a good practical speech by alluding to the general efficiency of the Prov. G.L. Officers, not forgetting those two excellent Masons then supporting him, Bros. Wainwright (Prov. G.W.) and Manfield (Prov. G. Treas.).

The health of the W.M., and various other toasts having been drunk, the company separated, highly pleased with the entertainment of the evening.

*Royal Standard Lodge* (No. 730).—The monthly meeting of the members of this Lodge took place on Tuesday, the 12th February, under the able presidency

of the Rev. Bro. A. G. Davies, W.M., when Bro. Saunders was passed to the Second Degree. On the motion of Bro. Barns (P.M.), M. of Cers., seconded by the Rev. Bro. E. A. Gwynne (P.M. No. 435), J.D., the sum of £5 was voted to the building fund of the Boys' Institution. This Lodge, it will be remembered, at the last Lodge night, contributed a guinea annually to each of the institutions, and £1 to the Fund of Benevolence. We wish *all* other Lodges did likewise.

At a Lodge of Emergency held on Tuesday, the 19th February, the Rev. Frederick Gibbens, M.A., formerly curate of Dudley, was initiated into Freemasonry. The W.M. was supported by the whole of the officers, and many of the members. The Rev. Brother has received the appointment of chaplain to one of her Majesty's 21-gun frigates, and leaves in a few days to join his ship. At the banquet he expressed his determination not to receive any degrees in any other Lodge, but to return to his mother's lap for further instruction, when once he has an opportunity so to do. The Rev. Bro. Herbert, J.W. No. 313, returned thanks as visitor; and Bro. Barns, in proposing a toast to the W.M., took occasion to allude to the fact of *four* ministers of the Gospel then gracing the board, and said that was a proof that Masonry had nothing inherently bad in it. When he was made, there were no clerical members in the Province; now some of their best supporters (including their worthy W.M.) were clergymen: he could not but congratulate Masons upon this fact.

#### YORKSHIRE.

BRADFORD.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 874).—On the 21st February, Mr. Herrman Fraenkel, merchant, was duly initiated in the mysteries of our Order; the ceremony was very effectively performed, and the charges were given in a most impressive manner by the W.M., Bro. Barsdorf; the working tools were explained by P.M. Bro. Ward.

Ample justice having been done to the refreshments provided after the meeting, a very harmonious evening was spent, much enlivened by our talented musical Brethren, Ahrens, S.D.; Goldstein, S.; Crossley, and Sutcliffe; whose vocal attainments never fail to be appreciated, and to diffuse harmony and good-will amongst the Brethren.

HUDDERSFIELD.—A numerous-attended Masonic assembly took place at the Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, on Friday evening, January 25th, under the auspices of the Lodge of Truth, No. 763, a dispensation for that purpose having been granted by the Dep. Prov. G.M.

The Lodge room was very tastefully decorated under the superintendence of Bros. Hardy and Jackson; amongst other embellishments, we noticed the arms of the Earl of Zetland, R.W.G.M.; the Earl of Mexbrough, Prov. G.M.; and Lord Goderich, immediate P.M. of the Lodge.

The musical arrangements were placed in the hands of Bro. J. Wood, Prov. G. Org.; and the orchestra elicited unqualified approbation by the effective manner in which the music was rendered. Dancing commenced about nine o'clock, and was sustained with great spirit until four o'clock the following morning, under the direction of Bro. Binton, who admirably performed the duties of M. of Cers. Refreshments were provided in the lecture-room in *recherché* style, by the excellent purveyors of the Lodge.

During the evening the ball-room presented a very gay and animated appearance, from the variety of costume in which the Brethren appeared. We observed, beside Prov. G. clothing, the dress and jewels of the following degrees: M.M., Mark M., Royal Arch, Knight Templar, and Rose Croix.

The whole proceedings passed off with great *éclat*, and not a single circumstance occurred to disturb the harmony and enjoyment of the evening.

After defraying all expenses a considerable surplus remained, which the committee will devote to Masonic purposes.

*The United Lodge of Instruction.*—This Lodge, composed of members of each of the three Lodges in Huddersfield, and acting under a dispensation from the Prov. G.M., which has met every week for a number of years at the White Hart Hotel, was removed to the Zetland Hotel, on Friday evening, February 15th.

To celebrate this event, after the Lodge had been opened, and the necessary business gone through, the Brethren were called by the J.W. from labour to refreshment, and about twenty-five sat down to an excellent supper, and a very harmonious evening was spent. Bro. Dore presided as W.M., and the W.Ms. of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 342; of the Huddersfield Lodge, No. 365; and the Lodge of Truth, No. 763; and several P.Ms. were present.

During the evening, our highly-esteemed Bro. Ainsworth, P.M. of the Huddersfield Lodge, who has been forty-five years a Freemason, gave an interesting account of the progress of the Craft in Huddersfield, contrasting its early history with its present prosperous condition.

LEEDS.—*Alfred Lodge* (No. 384).—This Lodge has steadily progressed during the past year, under the able presidency of P.M. Bro. Thos. Dixon, who has initiated, passed, and raised Messrs. Wm. Varley, John Clarkson, J. Butler, Samuel Addyman, George Dixon, Rich. Harrison, Chris. Bennett, and John Varley. At the Lodge meeting in November, the W.M. for the ensuing year was balloted for, when Bro. Wm. Chadwick, S.W., was unanimously elected, and duly installed at the Lodge meeting in December. The ceremony of Installation was performed by Bro. P.M. James Hargreaves, Prov. G. Sec. for West Yorkshire, in his usual impressive manner. The Brethren, on admission into the Lodge, saluted the new W.M.; when he appointed for his Officers—Bros. Dr. Hulme, J.W. as S.W.; George Pullan, J.W.; Samuel Addyman, S.D.; Mathews, J.D.; Chris. Bennett, I.G.; and Harrison, Sec.

The Brethren celebrated the festival of St. John on the 4th of January. Amongst the Brethren present were—Bros. the R.W.D.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire, Charles Lee; Past Prov. S.G.W. Dr. Fearnley; Past Prov. J.G.W. P.M. Leonard Hicks; Past Prov. G.R. P.M. John Lee; Past Prov. D.W. P.M. Wm. Perkins; P.M. Hamilton Richardson, W.M. of No. 372; and George Hemingway, of Durham Cathedral, who contributed greatly to the harmony of the evening by singing several songs in his masterly style; his rendering of "I'm an Englishman," and a song of his own composition, entitled "Our Flag waves triumphant o'er Sebastopol," was truly excellent. After the usual toasts were given and drunk, the R.W. the D.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire delivered a powerful and impressive speech, and besought the Brethren to acts of charity, and to give the grasp of friendship with that electrical effect which should strike to the heart, and firmly plant it there. The Brethren, after an agreeable and social evening, separated at an early hour. Long may such brotherly love continue! At the last Lodge meeting, Friday, February 1st, Mr. John Bowling, professor of music, was initiated into Masonry by the W.M. Bro. Chadwick, who is most assiduous in the discharge of his duties.

RICHMOND.—*Lennox Lodge* (No. 114).—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Friday, the 1st February, when the following officers were duly installed for the ensuing year:—Bros. T. Thompson, W.M.; A. Young, S.W.; W. W. Coates, J.W.; B. Wilson, S.D.; E. Gibson, J.D.; M. Bell, Treas.; C. Metcalfe, Sec.; M. Greathead, I.G.; J. D. Metcalfe, Tyler. Bro. W. E. Franklin, the W.M. Elect of the borough of Gateshead Lodge, No. 614, paid a visit to the Lodge on this occasion. It is much to be regretted that this old and most respectable Lodge, held upon the estate of our Most Worshipful G.M. should not be in a more prosperous condition, its meetings having been but very seldom held of late; and we trust the noble earl's immediate vicinity will have the effect of restoring it to its original animation.

SPILSBY.—*Shakspeare Lodge* (No. 617).—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on the 14th February, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Charles Marshall, R.A. After the usual business, the W.M., who is leaving the neighbourhood for a distant part of the Province, presented the Lodge with a very handsome Chaplain's jewel, at the same time inviting the Brethren to take supper with him at the close of the Lodge. Bro. George Smith, P.M., P.G.S., thanked the W.M. for his well-selected present, and assured him it would ever be highly treasured by those Brethren who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.



Bro. Edward Rainey, *R.A.*, *J.W.*, then presented the Lodge with an ancient Bible, that has been beautifully bound in Masonic cover by Bro. R. Spencer, 314, Holborn, which was duly acknowledged by the *W.M.*; after which the Lodge was ably closed by the *W.M.* Owing to several private parties in the town and neighbourhood on that evening, only the following Brethren could accept the *W.M.*'s kind invitation: Bros. G. Smith, *P.M.*, *P.G.S.*; Shinblely, *P.M.*, *P. Prov.* G. Treas.; Edward Rainey, *R.A.*, *J.W.*; Macintosh, *P.M.*, Treas.; Frederick Rainey, *R.A.*, Sec.; S. Shaw, *S.D.*; S. Brown, *I.G.* From the well-known hospitality of Bro. Charles Marshall, it is needless to say a most delightful evening was spent in peace, harmony, and brotherly love.

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## ROYAL ARCH.

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### THE GRAND CHAPTER.

The quarterly convocation of Grand Lodge was held in the Temple, on the 1st February. Comps. Dobie, acting as *Z.*; Pattison, as *H.*; Crohn, as *J.* There were also present Comps. Rawson, Hervey, Matthews, Herbert Lloyd, Potter, Parkinson, G. Biggs, and several others.

The Report of the Committee of General Purposes showed that at the last Report a balance was left in the hands of the Treasurer of £338. 0s. 7d., and the receipts had since amounted to £206. 13s. 4d., making £544. 13s. 11d.; the expenditure amounted to £101. 19s. 6d., leaving a balance in hand of £442. 14s. 5d.

A report was brought up from the committee appointed to inquire into the question connected with the Mark Masons' Degree, stating that after obtaining every information in their power, the Committee were unanimously of opinion that "the Mark Masons' Degree, so called, does not form part of the Royal Arch Degree, and though not essential to be given in Craft Lodges, there is nothing objectionable in it, nor anything that militates against the universality of Freemasonry; and it might be considered a graceful addition to the Fellow Craft's Degree." The report had been submitted to the *G.Z.* and approved.

On the motion of Comp. John Hervey, seconded by Comp. P. Matthews, it was resolved, "As the Mark Degree formed no part of Royal Arch Masonry, the question of its introduction into Masonry be left to the Grand Lodge of England."

It was resolved to grant new Charters for the following Chapters:—

*Wiltshire Chapter*, to be held in connection with the Royal Sussex Lodge of Emulation, No. 453, at Swindon, with Comps. D. C. Gooch, *Z.*; J. W. Brown, *H.*; H. Weaver, *J.*

*Holy Zion Chapter*, in connection with the Lodge of Courage and Humanity, No. 551, Calcutta, with Comps. J. M. Harrison, *Z.*; M. R. Crawford, *H.*; C. T. Price, *J.*

*Affability Chapter*, in connection with the Affability Lodge, No. 399, Manchester, with Bros. L. Wright, *Z.*; C. Ellis, *H.*; J. Hyde, *J.* This Chapter was formerly in existence under a Charter granted in 1821, but it has lain dormant ever since 1839.

Permission was given for the removal of the Chapter of Jerusalem, No. 467, which was formerly held at Bengal, but has for some time been dormant, to Calcutta.

At the suggestion of the Committee of General Purposes, it was resolved to apply to the Board of General Purposes of the Craft to light the Temple with six new chandeliers, at a cost of about £150, which Grand Chapter offered to pay, in acknowledgment of having been allowed the use of it ever since it was built, rent free.

All business being ended, the Chapter was closed in the accustomed form.

### LONDON CHAPTERS.

**BRITISH CHAPTER (No. 8).**—This Chapter, so distinguished for the high Masonic rank and talent of its members, met at the Freemasons' Tavern on Friday,

February 1st. It being the period of election, the following Companions were unanimously selected as Officers for the ensuing year:—Comps. Stohwasser, Z.; Dawson, H.; Cooper, P.G.M.; Kent, J.; Vallance, E.; Else, N.; Cotterel, P.S.; Bisgood, Treas.; and Crawley, Janitor. The Companions then proceeded to banquet. After the health of the Queen, which was duly responded to, the M.E.Z. proposed the health of the Grand Z. of the Order, the Earl of Zetland, *trusting that the nobleman's lady might enjoy better health during the ensuing year, whereby he might be enabled to honour the Craft with his company more frequently than during the last (!)* He had, when one of a committee of five for the revision of the Book of Constitutions, advocated the expediency, and should always continue to do so, of electing a fresh Grand Master every three years; and if a law was made to prevent a Grand Master being elected for more than three years in succession, he felt satisfied that it would be of great advantage to the Craft, and to the noble Brethren who honoured it with their support. The health of the Earl of Yarborough, G.H., and the rest of the Officers, was then drunk, with thanks for their attention to the duties of their respective offices, but more particularly the M.E.Z., Comp. Herbert Lloyd, Grand P.S., whose great Masonic ability and exertions in the cause were universally known and appreciated. The M.E.Z., in his usual happy manner, returned thanks, and proposed the health of the Past Principals, thanking them for the eminent services they had rendered the Chapter. He then called upon the Companions to drink to the success of the Masonic Charities, trusting that the members of the Craft would redouble their efforts to render them pre-eminent in the amount of their usefulness, and worthy of an institution which was founded on charity. The healths of the three Principals were drunk with much enthusiasm; to which the M.E.Z. replied, that they ever felt a pleasure in doing their duty, and although it had been less onerous during the past year than he could have wished, they would display their zeal on all occasions when called upon. He then proposed the health of the Officers, thanking them for their able exertions, more particularly the Scribe, Comp. Purton Cooper, to whose able and energetic endeavours they were indebted for their present prosperous position. Comp. Cooper in return stated, that he had taken great pleasure in discharging the duties of the office, and more particularly in having been the means of rendering service to the Chapter by getting in a large amount of dues, and giving up the books to his successor, after taking considerable pains in their correction. The healths of the Treasurer and Wine Steward were also drunk, with the thanks of the Companions for the able manner in which they provided for their comfort and enjoyment.

ENOCH CHAPTER (No. 11).—This Chapter met at the Freemasons' Tavern on Tuesday, February 19th. In consequence of the absence of Comp. Simpson, First Principal, Comp. Williams, P.Z., presided, and with the assistance of the Officers, exalted Bro. Sewell, of the parent Lodge, in that able manner for which this Chapter is distinguished. The visitors were Comp. Chown, of the Chapter of Fidelity; and Comp. Braithwaite, of the Albany Chapter.

MOUNT SION CHAPTER (No. 169).—This Chapter, removed from Cornhill, has established itself at Radley's Hotel, New Bridge Street; and at the meeting in January, Comp. Henry Muggeridge was, by dispensation, installed M.E.Z., he being at the same time 1st Principal of the Waterloo Chapter, at Woolwich; Comps. Steele, H.; Sharpe, J.; and Goodwin, E. The Convocation of February the 25th was also well attended.

#### PROVINCIAL CHAPTERS.

BATH, SOMERSETSHIRE.—*Tynte Chapter, attached to the Lodge of Honour.*—On Monday, the 28th January, a Chapter was held, when Comp. R. W. Falconer, M.D., was installed in the chair of Z.; Comp. Capt. Evans, P.Z., in the chair of H.; and Comp. Terey in the chair of J.

BIRKENHEAD.—*Chapter of Fidelity (No. 701).*—An extraordinary meeting was held on Friday, February 8, at the Angel Hotel, Birkenhead, when the principal business was the installation of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., as 2nd Prin-

cipal. The other offices were filled by Comps. Lewis Moss, Willoughby, Rampling, Howard, Balley, and Samuelson. Amongst the visitors were—Comps. Alpas, Jeffery, and Allender. The ceremony of installation was most impressively performed by Comps. Willoughby, Greene, and Alpass, assisted by the Past Chiefs, Moss and Rampling.

CARDIFF.—*St. John's Chapter* (No. 43).—This Chapter met on the 30th January, for the first time, and was opened by the following Principals at two o'clock in the afternoon, in accordance with ancient usage:—M.E.C. Joseph John Evans, Past and Present Z. No. 120, acted as Z.; M.E.C. William Done Bushell, P.Z. No. 221, as H.; M.E.C. James Poole, P.J. No. 221, as J.; M.E.C. James Bremner, P.Z. No. 120, as P.S. Comp. R. F. Langley was installed as Z.; Comp. Thomas Hodge, as H.; and Comp. S. Lowder, as J.; the M.E.C. J. J. Evans addressed himself at considerable length to the newly-installed Principals, pointing out to them the importance of the duties they had undertaken, and the faithful and zealous manner in which they were called upon to discharge those duties from the trust and confidence placed in them by the authorities from whom they had procured their warrant.

The M.E.Z. Comp. R. F. Langley expressed his thanks to the Principals who had assisted at his and the other Principals' installation, and said that his best efforts should be devoted to the discharge of the important duties he had undertaken.

Bros. George Bird, Thos. J. Dyke, George Fisher, and Frederick Burns were declared duly accepted, and were admitted in due form, and exalted to the supreme Degree of Royal Arch Masons. They afterwards received a lengthened and explanatory lecture from the M.E.C. Comp. J. J. Evans, alluding to its history, forms, symbols, and mystical allusions. On the motion of C.M.E. Comp. W. D. Bushell, seconded by M.E. Comp. R. F. Langley, Z., the thanks of the Chapter was unanimously voted to M.E. Comps. J. J. Evans and James Bremner, for the services they had rendered to the Chapter on its first meeting, for which they severally expressed their thanks. It having been arranged that the Chapter should meet on the first Monday in each month, and there being no further business before the Chapter, the same was closed in perfect harmony at half-past five P.M.

At half-past 6 P.M. the Brethren, to the number of thirty, assembled at the Cardiff Arms Hotel, kept by the widow of the late Bro. John Woods, to partake of a splendid banquet, presided over by the newly-intalled M.E.Z. Comp. R. J. Langley, who is also the W.M. of the Glamorgan Lodge, No. 43. The vice-chair was ably filled by Bro. Bassett, S.W. No. 43. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were duly responded to, the Brethren broke up shortly after ten, having spent a truly delightful evening.

DEWSBURY, YORKSHIRE.—*Chapter of the Three Grand Principals* (No. 251).—A convocation of this Chapter was holden in the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, the 31st Jan., when the Principals for the ensuing year were most admirably installed into their respective chairs by E. Comps. Thomas Hemmingway, P.Z., and George Fearnley, M.D., P.Z. The following is a list of the officers for 1856:—Comps. Wm. Audsley, M.E.Z.; Charles Oldroyd, P.Z., H.; Richard R. Nelson, J.; Joseph Oldroyd Gill, E.; James Critchley, N.; Thomas Hemmingway, P.Z., P. Soj.; J. Brown, P.Z.; and Samuel Norcliffe, P.Z., Assistant Sojs.; George Fearnley, M.D., P.Z., Treas.; Joshua Blakeley, Jan.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—*Chapter de Swinburne* (No. 24).—At the Convocation of this Chapter on Wednesday, the 13th of February, Comp. J. Barker, M.E.Z., presiding, some candidates were balloted for exaltation at the next meeting.

OXFORD.—*Alfred Chapter* (No. 425).—A convocation of this Chapter was holden at the Masonic Hall, on the evening of the 20th of February, when Comp. Beach officiated as M.E.Z.; Comps. Thomson, H.; Sidebottom, J.; and Pettat, P.S. Six of the Brethren were exalted into the Royal Arch.

## THE MARK DEGREE.

In consequence of the dispute which has arisen between the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland and the Bon-Accord Chapter of Aberdeen, relative to the latter having granted a Charter for the practice of Mark Masonry in London, the Bon-Accord Chapter, still believing themselves to be in the right, have determined to return their Charter to the Grand Chapter. They have also come to the following resolution: "Being aware that the Arch and other subordinate Degrees connected therewith were wrought by the Knights Templar Encampments in Aberdeen many years previous to the formation of the Supreme Chapter, and that the Knights Templar Encampments never gave up their inherent right of working these Degrees, therefore resolve to apply to the St. George Aboyne Knights Templar Encampment for a Warrant or Charter to work the Royal Arch Degree, and other subordinate Degrees connected therewith; and that the Office-bearers be appointed a committee to carry this resolution into effect."

## THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.



ROSE CROIX CHAPTER OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, BATH. — On Saturday, the 26th January, a meeting of this Chapter was held for the purpose of installing the M.W.S. for the ensuing year, Bro. Captain John Evans. On this occasion the New Ritual was first used in this Chapter. Among the Brethren present were the Illustrious Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Thirty-third Degree, Charles John Wynn; the Illustrious Grand Inspector Inquisitor General, Thirty-first Degree, Randle Wilbraham Falconer; the Illustrious Knights K.H. Thirtieth Degree, Francis Terry and George Alexander Muttlebury, &c.

METROPOLITAN CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX.—This important Chapter held a meeting on Friday, the 15th of February, for the purpose of conferring Degrees, when four Brethren were admitted to the Order. In consequence of the death of the M.W.S. Bro. Emly, the chair was taken by the Ill. Bro. Cox, assisted by the Ill. Bro. C. J. Vigne. The rooms were appropriately and brilliantly decorated, and the whole ceremony performed in a most perfect manner.

On Monday, the 4th of February, a large party of Brethren, members of the Rose Croix and higher Degrees, after having enjoyed the hospitality of the Ill. Sov. Gr. Insp. Gen. 33rd Degree, Sir John De la Pole, *Barç.*, in the shape of an elegant cold collation, held a Sov. Chapter Rose Croix, in the rooms of the fine old mansion Shute House. The M.W.S., Bro. Thomas Pickering, to the great regret of his Brethren, was prevented by illness from performing the ceremony, which, in consequence, was undertaken by the Ill. Sov. Gr. Insp. Gen., 33rd Degree, Bro. Charles John Vigne, Gr. Sec. Gen. H.E.; when Bros. Hinton and Montagu, from Lyme, and Bros. Snook and Norman, from Colyton and Seaton, were admitted to the rank of Princes Rose Croix.

Among the visitors at Shute House were the Ill. Bros. Terry and Muttlebury, 30th Degree; Bro. F. Adams, of Bath, 18th Degree, &c. &c. On this occasion the new ritual was used for the first time, and those who know the amount of preparation and the number of rooms required to perform the ceremony according to the directions it contains, will fully appreciate the fraternal kindness and Masonic zeal of the Illustrious and worthy Brother, in allowing the use of his house for the meeting.

## KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

OXFORD.—*Encampment of Cœur de Lion.*—A meeting of this Encampment was held in the Masonic Hall, on the 21st February. Sir Knt. W. W. Beach, E.C.,

presided, and several candidates, being Royal Arch Masons, were installed into the Order.

**THE CORYTON ENCAMPMENT.**—This Encampment of Knights Templar held a meeting at Shute House, near Axminster, on Monday morning, the 4th February, when Comps. Hinton, Norman, and Montagu, were duly installed by the V.E., Prov. G. Commander of Dorset, Fr. Charles John Vigne (who acted as E.C.P.T.), assisted by several distinguished Sir Knights from this and other Encampments.

**WATFORD ENCAMPMENT.**—Monday, January 28th, Frs. present: William Stuart, D.G.M. and P.G.C.; W. S. Tootell, E.C.; G. Francis, P.E.C.; H. H. Burchell-Herne, P.E.C., Registrar, &c. The business of the day was the election of the E.C. and Treasurer for the year ensuing, when Fr. T. A. Ward was unanimously elected to the former, and Fr. Thomas Rogers to the latter, office. The election of Fr. Ward to the office of E.C., and his acceptance of it, were hailed with much satisfaction by all the Fratres present. Fr. Ward is the D.G.M. of the Masonic body in Hertfordshire—not only one of the founders, but one of the ablest Masons in the Province; the Encampment has therefore every prospect of a successful career under his able and vigorous rule. We may mention that owing to the hotel, “The Essex Arms,” which is connected with the Masonic Hall, having been untenanted, and lately undergoing very extensive repairs, and its juxtaposition to the new Corn Exchange (an account of the laying of the foundation-stone of which our readers will find in our July number), the Watford Lodge and Chapter, as well as the Encampment, have been for many months debarred from exercising their wonted hospitality. The repairs being now completed, and the hotel taken by a landlord in every way qualified to restore it to the *status* it enjoyed while in the hands of Bro. Barnard, the *réunions* in the Masonic Hall will again, we hope, resume their pristine character of liberal and cordial hospitality. Though we have frequently had occasion to complain of too much money being spent in banquets, and too little for the real purposes of Masonry, we cannot object to the Watford Lodge in this respect; for while liberality prevails at the board, it does not forget the Masonic charities, to all of which it subscribes, as do most of its members in their individual capacity.

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## SCOTLAND.

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### DUNDEE.

*Ancient Lodge* (No. 49).—The ball given by the members of this Lodge went off in excellent style on the 8th of February. About eight o'clock the Brethren and their fair companions began to assemble at the Exchange Buildings, and soon commenced the merry dance to the strains of an excellent band, led by Mr. Bryson of Perth, and in the Scotch dances by the eminent Scottish violinist, Bro. Allan of Forfar. Mr. Lowe, professor of dancing, acted as Master of Ceremonies. About 150 ladies and gentlemen were present, the Brethren all appearing in the full Masonic costume of the Lodge, and the Office-bearers wearing their sashes and jewels. The hall, lobbies, and staircases, were tastefully decorated with evergreens, flags, and Masonic emblems, under the able direction of Bro. McLean; and Bro. Rickard, of the British Hotel, satisfactorily provided the refreshments. Dancing was continued with great spirit until five o'clock, A.M., when the happy party broke up, highly pleased with the whole proceedings.

There is nothing of moment to report this month as to our Masonic affairs, except that preparations are in active progress for the general Masonic ball to take place on the 29th February.

Several of the Lodges have had an accession of members.

### ROYAL ARCH.

**DUNDEE.**—*Union Chapter* (No. 6).—This Chapter continues to receive additional members, and is in a very satisfactory condition. At the meeting of 18th February, an excellent code of bye-laws for the regulation of the Chapter, prepared by a committee appointed for the purpose, was submitted and adopted.

## FRANCE.

*Review of Lodges under the Grand Orient de France in different periods since its Foundation.*

|                         | 1776 | 1802 | 1807 | 1814 | 1817 | 1822 | 1827 | 1832 | 1837 | 1842 | 1847 | 1850 | 1854 | 1855 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| France .....            | 163  | 97   | 364  | 612  | 451  | 293  | 265  | 230  | 222  | 239  | 255  | 405  | 317  | 244  |
| French Colonies .....   | 10   | 32   | 7    | 16   | 20   | 11   | 11   | 14   | 19   | 25   | 28   | 44   | 51   | 48   |
| Military Corps .....    | 23   | 4    | 53   | 73   | 1    | 5    | 1    | 2    | 2    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 0    | 0    |
| Foreign Departments ..  | 3    | 15   | 46   | 131  | 4    | 4    | 2    | 1    | 2    | 3    | 5    | 5    | 5    | 5    |
| Foreign Countries ..... | 0    | 1    | 15   | 34   | 3    | 10   | 10   | 9    | 5    | 5    | 6    | 27   | 25   | 26   |
| Total .....             | 199  | 149  | 485  | 866  | 479  | 323  | 289  | 256  | 250  | 273  | 295  | 482  | 398  | 323  |

It is very interesting to learn from the above table the increase of the Order in France in different periods. How under the supremacy of the *Grand Orient*, founded in 1776, Freemasonry expanded more or less, and how the number of Lodges increased or decreased.

Certainly it is remarkable, that in the years when Europe was oppressed by war, with all its evils, when commerce and industry lay prostrated, the Order flourished the most. Suffering humanity was most in need of it then, to cure misfortune, to dry many a tear flowing for the loss of dear friends, to relieve families impoverished by dearness and the absence of the provider, to save them from famine.

Many a warrior also joined our Masonic work of peace, to forget in the Lodge his rough profession, and to participate there in a higher warfare for the benefit of philanthropy, and to find, perchance, in the ranks of the enemy, a brother.

Further, one may remark, that in the Colonies the royal art always finds more numerous disciples, and that with every year the number of Lodges increased, so that many a colonial town counts more Lodges within its walls than other towns equal or more numerous in inhabitants in Europe.

On the other hand we see that at the present time the Lodges in France decrease, and it cannot be denied, that through the indifference of many Brethren, Lodges are more and more neglected. Should true Masons believe the destinies of Masonry already *fulfilled*, or think them not *within reach*, the heart of every Brother should be filled with a sincere wish that nobody should leave his square lying in the dust, but let him take his tools firmly and bravely to work in true harmony with his Brethren at the spiritual temple which we erect to the honour of the G.A.O.T.U., and for the benefit of mankind.

## PRUSSIA.

Very soon the Lodges in Gosler and Osnabruck have to leave the protection of the mother Lodge—the Three Globes. The King of Hanover demands that they should join the Grand Lodge of Hanover; we know with what regret the Brethren leave our union, but they owe obedience to their sovereign. For the present the ecclesiastical council has desisted from any measures against the clergy in our union: those ministers who are Masons will not be directly inconvenienced; but those who are not, are cautioned not to meddle with unknown things.

## COLONIAL.

### NEW ZEALAND.

AUCKLAND.—On Thursday, Sept. 6th, 1855, the Brethren of Auckland met at the Masonic Hotel, for the purpose of assisting the members of the Waitematu Lodge in the ceremony of constitution. The Lodge-room of the Auckland Lodge, No. 348, under the registry of Ireland, was placed at the disposal of the Brethren of the new Lodge for the purpose. There was a large attendance, thirty-five Brethren being present, consisting principally of members of No 348, and other visitors: amongst several of high Masonic rank, we observed Bro. Sir Samuel Osborne Gibbes, *Bart.*, Past Prov. G.S.W., Dorset (the Master elect), and Bro. Witney, Past Prov. G.S.W., Somerset. Bro. James Buchanan, W.M. of Lodge No. 348, acted as Dep. Prov. G.M., *pro tem.*, and opened the Lodge in due form. The application for the new Lodge having been read, and the warrant of Constitution from the Prov. G.L. of New South Wales empowering the Brethren of the Waitematu Lodge to meet as a regular body, the W.M. proceeded to instal Bro. Sir S. Osborne Gibbes in the chair in ancient form. The W.M. then proceeded to invest the officers of the new Lodge; viz., Bros. F. W. Merriman, P.M. No. 348, S.W.; James Buchanan, W.M. No. 348, J.W.; William Mason, S.D.; William Young, J.D.; F. E. Campbell, I.G.; and James S. Baylis, Sec.

After the proceedings of the evening, the Brethren retired to refreshment, when the usual Masonic toasts were proposed, and the Brethren separated.

The following are the Lodges in New Zealand:—No. 348 Lodge, Auckland, Irish Constitution; Waitematu Lodge, Auckland, English Constitution; Mount Egmont, New Plymouth, dispensation from No. 348; Pacific Lodge, Wellington, English Constitution; Southern Star Lodge, Nelson, dispensation from Pacific; and Canterbury Lodge, English Constitution.

### AUSTRALIA.

ADELAIDE.—The first stone of the new church of St. Luke, Whitmore-square, Adelaide, was laid on Tuesday, September 11th, in Masonic form, by his Excellency Sir R. G. McDonnell, Governor-in-Chief of South Australia, and a member of the Order. The Brethren of the various Lodges assembled at two o'clock, at the Masonic Hall, North-terrace, and proceeded in procession along North-terrace and King William-street, to the site of the intended building on the western side of Whitmore-square. The procession was joined on the ground by his Excellency the Governor, the Lord Bishop of Adelaide, some of the principal officers of Government, and several clergymen. The number of persons present was from 1,500 to 2,000. The Masonic ceremony proper for the occasion was performed by Bro. Lazar, the Dep. Prov. G.M., his Excellency laying the foundation according to the forms of the Order. The Lord Bishop read the usual service of the Church. A collection was made amounting to a considerable sum. After the ceremony about one hundred Brethren of the Order, together with their distinguished and reverend guests, partook of a grand banquet at the Napoleon Bonaparte. The chair was occupied by the Dep. Prov. G.M., on whose right hand were placed his Excellency the Governor, the Honourable the Colonial Secretary, and the Private Secretary; the Lord Bishop of Adelaide, and Mr. Maturin, aide-de-camp to his Excellency, being seated on his left. The evening was passed with that order and sociality which usually characterize Masonic entertainments.

## I N D I A.

### CALCUTTA.

A Special Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bengal was held on the 15th November, to consider the report of a Committee appointed by the P.G.M.,

on the subject of the "intrusive Scottish Lodge," Kilwinning in the East, No. 353. The appointment of the committee was owing to a letter not long before addressed to the P.G.M., by one of the Calcutta Lodges, for instructions as to the conduct to be *now* observed towards Brethren of the Scottish Lodge, who might apply for admission into our Lodges, and were likely, in most cases, to be persons who had no connection with the formation of that Lodge, or knowledge of the circumstances attending it. The P.G.M., in the minute he was pleased to record thereon, declared that the circumstances brought to his notice in the letter, induced him to bring the matter under consideration again, although he had hoped that the resolution last come to would have been *final*. When the committee, consisting of certain Grand Officers and the Masters and (when Masters were not present, &c.) the Senior Wardens of the Lodges in Calcutta, assembled, the P.G. Secretary laid before them a minute which did equal credit to his head and his heart, in which he not only gave briefly an *exposé* of the question, but a view of the courses that were open. We shall merely state here that, after much discussion on both sides (though not carried on in the most business-like manner), the P.G. Lodge came to the following resolution, by a majority of 21 to 15 :—

"That, in consideration of the circumstances stated in the papers laid before the Committee, it be resolved to recommend, that the District Grand Lodge rescind all the Resolutions which have been passed, from time to time, having reference to the Scotch Lodge *Kilwinning in the East*, No. 353; and that the Lodge now working in Calcutta, under a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, named *St. David's in the East*, No. 371, be recognised by the District Grand Lodge of Bengal. And further, that a suitable acknowledgment be made to the letter addressed by the Secretary of Lodge *St. David's in the East*, to the Provincial Grand Secretary."—(From the *Indian Freemasons' Friend*.)

#### MADRAS.

MASONRY.—*St. John's Day*.—We are sure that it will gratify the numerous members of the Masonic Order whom we have the pleasure to number among our supporters, and it will be interesting to our readers in general, that we give a short account of the proceedings of Lodge Universal Charity (No. 340) on the morning of yesterday, *St. John's Day*. The Brethren met at gun-fire as usual, in order to instal the W.M. elect for the year in the chair of his high office, and that he might appoint and invest his officers. We cannot, of course, here enter upon a description of the beautiful and solemn ceremonies which, in accordance with ancient rule, were observed in tiled Lodge on the occasion: we shall be, however, sufficiently understood when we state that all the details of that most imposing scene—the touching magnificence of which none but the "Free and Accepted" of Craft can know—were conducted with all that solemn order and accuracy which so much beautify the time-honoured grandeur of the secret ritual. Nearly forty Brethren, at the close of the proceedings, saluted the newly-installed Master, as Masons and Members of his Lodge. Before the arrival of the moment when the retiring Master was to resign his authority into the hands of his elected successor, the following short and affecting address was presented to him; he received it as it merited to be received :—

LODGE ROOMS, UNIVERSAL CHARITY.

27th December, 1855.

WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER,—We are unwilling to pass by the occasion of your vacating the Chair of this Lodge, on its annual change of officers, without offering to you this lasting token of our esteem, and of our gratitude for the services which you have during the past year been enabled to render to Masonry and our Lodge. We congratulate you on the high position which, under your rule, and that of your wise and able predecessors, Lodge Universal Charity has attained among its Sister Lodges in the Presidency; and we are sure that its members, while they have cause for pride in the rapid progress which so many of the junior Brethren have made in the various degrees of our beloved science, will never forget how much they owe to the zeal, assiduity, and indulgent kindness with which you have performed your arduous labours. We are gratefully sensible of the warmth of your fraternal regard for us, and in the fullest sincerity recipi-



cate it. That you may enjoy long years of unalloyed happiness, enhanced by every domestic blessing, in health and prosperity, and ever be surrounded by Brethren sincere and as affectionate as we are—is the anxious prayer of,

Worshipful Sir and dear Brother,

Your attached and obedient Brethren.

To H. O'HARA, Esq., W.M.,

*Lodge Universal Charity* (No. 340).

From the Annual Report read, the Lodge is evidenced to be in a most flourishing condition. Its numerical strength consists of forty-two members, of whom sixteen have been admitted as new Masons or joining members during the past year. Its funds are in a most satisfactory state. The Brethren paid well-merited honour to the retiring officers, as well as to the retiring Master; the Treasurer (Bro. Lewis) and Secretary (Bro. Sharlieb) being, for their exemplary zeal and assiduity, particularly distinguished. To the latter Brother was presented, in token of appreciation of his valuable services in an arduous post, a jewel of office.

The following are the Officers of the Lodge for the present year:—

W. Bros. T. G. Greatorex, W.M.; H. O'Hara, P.M.; Bros. J. H. Kenrick, S.W.; H. Baber, J.W.; G. Lewis, Treas.; C. P. Strafford, Sec.; W. Sharlieb, D.C.; W. Joyes, D.C.; R. Briethaupt, S.D.; J. Flynn, J.D.; J. Adamson, J.G.; R. P. Campbell, Stel.; W. Grant, Stel.; — Axelby, Tyler.

In the evening the Brethren gave a sumptuous ball, at the Masonic Temple, South Beach, to a gay assemblage of about three hundred of their friends. We shall, in our next, furnish an account of the entertainment, and will not now further anticipate than to state that nothing was wanting which could have added to the brilliance of the scene, or which could have given increased splendour or happiness to the evening's homage paid by beauty, worth, and art, to the glorious patron of the Craft in whose honour the day is kept by Masons sacred.—(*From a Madras paper.*)

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## AMERICA.

### ALBANY.

The following are the Office-bearers for the year in the various Lodges:—

*Excelsior Lodge* (No. 195).—G. W. Ray, W.M.; W. B. Deming, S.W.; W. J. Nelson, J.W.; George Mitchell, Sec.

*Cyrus Lodge* (No. 208).—A. F. Shepherd, W.M.; Isaac Lewis, S.W.; W. W. Boluanan, J.D.; W. Livingston, Sec.; E. Ayres, Treas.

*Enterprise Lodge* (No. 228).—Asa Hinckley, W.M.; William Marsh, S.W.; G. B. Haskell, J.D.; H. P. Curtis, Sec.

*Arcturus Lodge* (No. 274).—Thomas Summers, re-elected W.M.; Thomas R. Turnbull, S.W.; Austin L. Sands, M.D., J.W.; C. D. Evans, Sec.

*Doric Lodge* (No. 280).—W. H. Bush, W.M.; T. Johnstone, S.W.; A. Hahn, J.W.; Ruhe, Sec.; J. W. Simons, Treas.

*Amity Lodge* (No. 323).—H. W. Turner, W.M.; J. Waterman, S.W.; W. P. Brennan, J.W.; W. Dreeg, Treas.; R. T. Entwistle, Sec.; S. B. Tobey, S.D.; J. S. Parker, J.D.

*Zerrubbabel Lodge* (No. 329).—Alex. Bowman, re-elected W.M.; G. Dankin, S.W.; H. Stelmeyer, J.W.; D. Ackerson, Sec.

*Putnam Lodge* (No. 338).—Gilbert Bishop, re-elected W.M.; R. H. Welch, S.W.; E. L. Walton, J.W.; J. Corduan, Treas.; E. Scoles, Sec.

*Adelphic Lodge* (No. 348).—J. B. Y. Sommers, re-elected W.M.; N. O. Benjamin, S.W.; D. Wagstaff, J.W.; Shove, Sec.; W. D. C. Boggs, Treas.

*Continental Lodge* (No. 387).—Robert Chapman, W.M.; E. P. Barrow, S.W.; W. H. Sacket, J.W.; Alonzo Carr, Treas.; W. Lyons, Sec.

## BROOKLYN.

*Central Lodge* (No. 361).—Gustavas Swan, re-elected W.M. ; Alden S. Crowell, re-elected S.W. ; Lewis Hurst, J.W. ; Thomas B. Robertson, S.D. ; George Acret, J.D. ; Alexander Agar, Treas. ; H. E. Wheeler, re-elected Sec.

*Hope Lodge*.—A. P. Moriarty, re-elected W.M. ; W. H. Housner, S.W. ; N. Cartens, J.W. ; James Bennett, Sec. ; Thomas Arnold, Treas. ; J. Dickie, S.D. ; I. Jackson, J.D.

## NEW JERSEY.

Daniel Babbitt, G.M., Orange Lodge ; T. H. Varick, D.G.M., Jersey City ; J. H. Janeway, G.S.W., Rahway ; George Finch, G.J.W., Red Bank ; Elias Philips, G. Treas. ; J. H. Hough, G. Sec. ; J. R. Chapin, D.G. Sec.—(From the *Masonic Messenger*, New York, Jan. 15, 1856.)

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**SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR FEBRUARY.**


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## THE WAR.

The peace negotiations are progressing, and on the 25th an armistice to extend to the land forces only was signed, to continue in force until the 31st March. In the mean time the warlike preparations have been continued, and the docks at Sebastopol as well as Fort Nicholas totally destroyed.

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Her Majesty opened the Session of 1856 on the 31st January, just as our last number went to press. The Speech from the throne announced that negotiations were about to be opened at Paris for peace ; that a defensive treaty had been entered into with Sweden and Norway ; and a commercial treaty concluded with Chili. The Speech also referred to several measures for the improvement of the law, to be brought forward in the course of the session, and contained an assurance that whilst peace would be sought by every honourable means, the preparations for the continuance of the war would be carried on with every possible energy. The first night in both Houses was devoted to the discussion of the Address in answer to the Speech, to which there was no opposition.

No business of importance was transacted in the House of Lords until the 7th, when Lord Lyndhurst moved that the patent conferring a life peerage on Sir James Parke as Lord Wensleydale be referred to a committee of privileges. The motion was opposed by Government, but carried by a majority of 138 to 105. On the 8th Earl Granville introduced a bill to create a vice-president of the Council of Education, who, his lordship explained, was to be a member of the House of Commons. The House sat in committee on the 12th, and examined a number of patents of ancient date relative to life peerages. On the 15th, Earl Granville, in moving the second reading of the bill for establishing a Minister of Instruction, under the title of Vice-President of the Committee of Council on Education, described the duties of the office. In addition to the duties discharged by the present committee, the educational functions exercised by certain public boards would be transferred to the Minister of Instruction. The bill was read a second time. The Wensleydale peerage case was further considered in a committee of privileges on the 18th. On the 22nd, Lord Glenelg moved that the following questions should be submitted to the judges :—“Whether it is in the power of the Crown to erect, by patent, the dignity of baron ?” and “What the rights and privileges are conferred by such a patent ?” The motion was negatived by 142 to 111. Lord Lyndhurst then brought forward a motion declaring that the patent creating Sir James Parke a peer for life would not entitle him to a seat in the House, which was carried by a majority of 92 to 57. On the 25th, the

report of the committee of privileges was brought up, and Earl Granville announced that Lord Wensleydale would not attempt to take his seat until full time had been allowed for discussion.

In the House of Commons, on the 1st, Mr. Lowe brought in two bills—one for the amendment of the law of partnership, and the other for the incorporation and regulation of joint-stock companies and other associations. Under the first measure, a dormant partner may put money into a concern without risking anything beyond the amount so invested. Under the second measure, the Joint Stock Act, and the Act for its amendment, and the limited Liability Act of last session, will be repealed. The measure will be partly compulsory and partly permissive. The part compelling incorporation will extend to all partnerships for gain or profit of more than twenty members; the permissive part will extend to all partnerships of more than six partners and less than twenty; associations, not for gain or profit, consisting of upwards of six members, may adopt the bill if they choose. Banking and insurance companies will be excluded from its operation. On the 4th, the same hon. gentleman introduced a measure for the better regulation of local dues upon shipping. He proposed to abolish the passing tolls entirely, as well as town dues, with the exception of that portion of them on the security of which money has been borrowed by the corporations. Charity and special dues he proposes also to abolish. Under these arrangements the shipping interest will be immediately benefited to the extent of £45,000 per annum,—the ultimate benefit will exceed £200,000 per annum. On the same day Sir Geo. Grey obtained leave to bring in a bill for the amendment of the Acts relative to the metropolitan police, and the Solicitor-General for Ireland to abolish the Encumbered Estates Court and extend the jurisdiction of the Irish Court of Chancery as regards those estates. On the 5th, Sir George Grey brought in a bill for the improvement of the police in boroughs and counties of England and Wales, and Mr. Packe for the abolition of church-rates. The Metropolitan Police Bill was read a second time on the 6th. On the 7th, Mr. Collins obtained leave to introduce a bill to transfer the testamentary jurisdiction of the ecclesiastical courts to the superior courts of common law and to the county courts. Captain Scobell moved for a select committee to inquire into the naval administration, and the lists of officers, patronage, promotions, and retirements, and the efficiency of the service in all the grades belonging to it. The motion was lost by 171 to 80. On the 8th, some explanations took place relative to the American question. The Metropolitan Police Bill was passed, and the Partnership Amendment and Joint-Stock Companies Bill read a second time. In Committee of Supply on the 11th, a vote was taken for 76,000 seamen, being an increase of 6,000 over the estimate of last year. On the 12th, Mr. Napier moved that provision should be made for the skilful and proper structure of Parliamentary Bills, to promote the progressive amendment of the laws of the United Kingdom. The motion was in substance agreed to. A motion for considering the advisability of constructing a harbour of refuge and defence in Cardigan Bay was negatived by 118 to 44. On the 13th, several bills of minor importance were advanced a stage. On the 14th, Sir Fitzroy Kelly obtained leave to bring in two bills—one to consolidate the statute law relating to offences against the person, and the other to consolidate the statute law relating to bills of exchange and promissory notes. Sir John Shelley moved for returns to show the manner in which the Irish judges had discharged their duties, which, after a long discussion, were ordered by a majority of 132 to 121. After some explanations on the Enlistment question in America, in which Lord Palmerston stated the papers could not yet be produced, as the negotiations were still pending, on the 15th, the Chancellor of the Exchequer obtained leave to bring in a bill relating to the superannuation of the civil service. On the 18th, the Irish Court of Chancery Bill was read a second time, and a Select Committee appointed to inquire into the present constitution of the Ecclesiastical Commission. On the 19th, Mr. Mackinnon obtained the appointment of a Committee to consider the inconvenience now felt in this country from the want of equitable tribunals by whose means any difference between masters and operatives might be satisfactorily adjusted. Leave was given to bring in a bill to amend the Act relative to ministers' money in Ireland.

Two or three bills were read a second time on the 20th. On the 21st, Sir Joshua Walmesley brought forward a motion to authorise the opening of the British Museum and National Gallery on Sundays, which was negatived by a majority of 376 to 48. On the 22nd, the House was occupied in Committee of Supply, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced the completion of a loan for £5,000,000, and the funding of £3,000,000 Exchequer Bills. On the 25th, the second reading of the Local Dues on Shipping Bill was brought forward, and adjourned until the next day, when it was withdrawn, that the subject might be referred to a Select Committee.

#### ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

On the 3rd a French polisher, out of regular employ, of the name of Bousfield, residing in Portland-street, St. James's, murdered his wife and three children by cutting their throats.

Her Majesty's ship *Polyphemus* was lost on the 29th January, off the north-west coast of Jutland, when the master and fourteen hands were lost.

The ship *Josephine Willis* was run down in the Channel on the night of the 3rd by the steamer *Mangerton* and from sixty to seventy persons lost.

On the 6th Thomas Corrigan was found guilty, at the Central Criminal Court, of the murder of his wife in the Minories on the 26th December, and sentenced to death. The sentence has since been commuted to imprisonment for life.

On the 7th Charles Westron was convicted of the murder of Mr. Waugh, by shooting him in Bedford-row, on the 16th January, but recommended to mercy on account of predisposition to insanity.

Thomas Jones, a convict, murdered Mr. Hope, assistant-surgeon of the *Stirling Castle* convict ship, in Portsmouth harbour, on the 8th, because that gentleman had ordered him to be removed from one deck to another, by which his liberty was somewhat abridged.

The Pavilion Theatre, in the Whitechapel-road, was totally destroyed by fire on the 13th. The loss is estimated at £20,000.

Celestine Somner, the wife of an engraver, murdered her illegitimate daughter, aged ten, at her residence in Linton-street, Islington, on the 16th. The child did not usually live with her mother.

#### JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.

During the month the various Railway Companies have held their half-yearly meetings. The London and North-Western Company declared a dividend at the rate of  $5\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. per annum; South-Western, 5 per cent.; Great Western,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.; Lancashire and Yorkshire,  $4\frac{1}{4}$  per cent.; Liverpool and Southport,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.; London and Blackwall, 3s. 6d. per share; Midland,  $3\frac{3}{4}$  per cent.; Great Northern, 6 per cent. on the B. stock, and  $2\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. on the A. stock; South-Eastern, £4. 8s. 4d. per cent.; South Wales, 3 per cent.; North London, 4 per cent.; Oxford and Wolverhampton,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on preference stock; North and South-Western Junction, 5 per cent.; Bristol and Exeter,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. The London and County Bank declared a dividend on the 8th equal to 15 per cent. per annum. The North of Europe Steam Navigation Company declared a dividend on the 21st of 12s. per share, and a bonus of 6s.

#### PROVIDENT.

The annual meeting of the National Guardian Assurance Company was held on the 13th, when a report was presented which said,—The assurances now in existence under policies of the society were represented by 2,279 policies, for the assurance of £396,915, and producing an annual income of £18,207. 9s. 10d. The new policies for the year produced in premiums £4,070. 10s. 7d. The losses on the year were very severe, amounting to £7,399. 8s. 7d. The report was adopted, and a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. declared.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

A French fire insurance company, having proposed to issue policies free of duty, a deputation of the Unity Board waited on the Chancellor of the Exchequer,

to represent the undue competition they would have to contend with, on the 12th. The right hon. gentleman stated that, if necessary, measures would be taken for the protection of the revenue and English companies.

On the 2nd, a grand dinner was given by the East-India Company to Lieut.-General Patrick Grant, prior to his leaving England to take the command of the army of the Madras Presidency. Lieut.-General Grant is the first officer of the Company's service upon whom so distinguished an appointment has been conferred.

Mr. John Braham, the celebrated vocalist, died on the 17th, aged 79.

On the 16th February, Mr. John Sadlier, M.P., and formerly a Lord of the Treasury and Chairman of the London and County Bank, committed suicide, by poisoning himself with essential oil of almonds. It appears that his affairs were much involved.

On the 29th January, Bro. W. H. Massy, P.M. of No. 333, and the M.W. Sovereign of Prince Masons, Chap. No. 4, Limerick, was married to the Countess of Seafield. The bridegroom, who is a captain in her Majesty's service, has only just returned from the Crimea, where he greatly distinguished himself.

## Obituary.

### BRO. REV. THEODORE ALOIS BUCKLEY.

Bro. the Rev. Theodore Alois Buckley, Chaplain of Christ Church, Oxford, well known by his various literary works of the highest merit, and by talented contributions to several periodicals, including our own, has closed a brief career of twenty-eight years. He was initiated in the Apollo University Lodge, Oxford, in 1852.

### BRO. J. C. COOK.

The funeral of this much-respected Brother took place on the 1st of February, at Netherton. The melancholy *cortège* consisted of three mourning-coaches and the hearse, the procession being joined, as it moved off, by the Brethren of the various Lodges who had assembled for the purpose of displaying this last mark of respect to departed worth. The funeral service was read by the Rev. John Davies, M.A., of St. Edmund's Church, Dudley; the Rev. J. C. Browne, D.C.L., Vicar of St. Thomas's, Dudley, and the Vicar of Netherton, being likewise present. The deceased Brother was an inhabitant of Dudley for upwards of thirty years, and served the town well for many years as a member of the Board of Guardians, the Board of Health, &c. As we have already stated, he was a "P.M." of the Harmonic Lodge, No. 313.

### BRO. WILLIAM HOWELL.

At Boston, lately, Bro. William Howell, P.M. of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 339, and for many years a consistent member of that Lodge, and much respected by all the Brethren.

### BRO. HENRY EMLY.

On the 15th of February, in his 67th year, Bro. Henry Emly, of New Square, Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law. Bro. Emly was a native of Salisbury, in which city his father was the proprietor of a brewery, and served the office of mayor. Our deceased Brother was extensively known in Masonry: he was twice W.M. of No. 76; he also filled the chair of No. 194 and No. 32; besides which he went through the several offices in the Grand Steward's Lodge, discharging the important duties of the Master's chair most excellently. He was a member of the Prince of Wales' Chapter, and had filled the different chairs of the Croydon Chapter. For the last seven years Bro. Emly's more active attention was

bestowed on the High Grades : he was a member of the Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree for England and Wales, and M.W.S. of the Rose Croix ; he also filled the important office of Chancellor of the Grand Conclave of Knights Templar, and his loss in that office will be most severely felt. Bro. Emly's attainments in every Degree of our Order were of the highest rank, and every duty he undertook was performed most admirably. Under a better system, had the *purple* been bestowed as an honour and reward, he would have filled a prominent place in the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of England.

#### BRO. SALOMO SALOMO.

On the 17th February, at his residence in Smith's Buildings, Mansell Street, Bro. Salomo Salomo, S.W. of the Bank of England Lodge, aged 44. He was also a member of the Joppa Lodge and the Joppa and Jerusalem Chapters.

#### BRO. JOHN FOWLER, D.G. SEC. OF IRELAND.

We have already recorded the death of John Fowler, Esq., one of the oldest, most respected, and most erudite members of the Masonic Fraternity in Ireland. Bro. Fowler had attained to the patriarchal age of 87 years, during 64 years of which he was a member of the Craft, having been initiated in Lodge No. 620, known as "The First Volunteer Lodge of Ireland," in the year 1792, and without intermission continued his zealous and useful aid on all occasions when his Brethren found it necessary to draw upon his well-stored mind for advice and counsel under the pressure of any emergency. That Bro. Fowler's deep research into ancient Masonic lore, his clear and lucid mode of imparting to his Brethren the information thus obtained, and his unremitting care and attention to the Order at all times, were highly appreciated, needs no further proof than will be furnished by the unprecedented attendance of the Brethren who, on the 29th of January, assembled around his, the grave of departed worth, each anxious to testify his personal regard for the man and the Mason, whose blameless life as the one, and whose intelligent and active discharge of his duties as the other, had drawn around him closely the hearts of all his Brethren. On the solemn occasion of his interment there was an array of Brethren in which every grade of the Order, from the first to the last, seemed to vie each with the other which should be most conspicuous in paying the last sad tribute to his memory. The service was performed by the Grand Chaplain of the Order. An appropriate and impressive address was delivered within the chapel by Bro. the Rev. R. Wall, *D.D.*, the burial service being performed by Bro. the Rev. Henry Westby ; the Deputy Grand Master, at the appropriate moment of committing the body to the grave, reading aloud the scroll inscribed with the style, title, and Masonic dignities of the deceased Brother, which, when read, was dropped into the grave, according to ancient usage ; and as the moment approached which was to hide for ever from mortal eyes all that was mortal of their departed and deceased Brother, is it too much to say that not a heart around that grave but throbbed with feelings of Fraternal sorrow, that each had lost a friend whose counsel and advice he had been accustomed to receive—that within the precincts of the time-honoured Masonic temple a great light had been extinguished.

#### BRO. SIR WM. MOLESWORTH.

A correspondent writes :—"As under this head I do not see mention of a distinguished Brother, I beg to state that the late Right Hon. Sir Wm. Molesworth, Bart., M.P. for Southwark, H.M.'s Secretary of State for the Colonies, was a Past Officer of the Province of Cornwall, and member of the 'One and All Lodge,' No. 413, Bodmin. It will be unnecessary to say more in praise of the Hon. Baronet than the Prime Minister, Lord Palmerston, expresses in a letter to Sir William's widow, speaking of his great talents and noble nature, when he says, 'for singleness of mind, honesty of purpose, clearness of judgment, faithfulness of conduct, courage in difficulties, and equanimity in success, he never was surpassed, and deeply must any nation lament the premature loss of such a man ; for voids so created are not easily replaced.'"

## NOTICE.

THE EDITOR requests that ALL COMMUNICATIONS may be sent to him at 74-5, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn Fields, by the 20th of each month AT LATEST, to insure their insertion.

OUR SUBSCRIBERS having experienced difficulty in obtaining the *Magazine* regularly, we beg to inform them that in future the *Freemasons' Monthly Magazine and Masonic Mirror* will be sent direct, for twelve months, to any address, at the commencement of each month, upon receipt of an Order upon the General Post-Office, Charing-cross, for 10s. 6d., payable to Mr. Henry George Warren, 2, Red Lion-court, Fleet-street, by whom the same will be acknowledged. The Brethren will observe that this allowance upon the full price can only be made when the *Magazine* is paid for in advance; all single numbers will be charged as heretofore, 1s. each, exclusive of the postage.

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 TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A HUDDERSFIELD correspondent writes,—Our Lodge subscribes to your publication; and, while I am writing, I might as well mention a subject that I have long thought of, viz., the enormous expense of attending the Grand Lodge. If a London Brother could get a motion for a joint committee of London and Provincial Brethren carried in Grand Lodge, to examine into the duties, the business done, and the salaries paid to the different Officers, it would be beneficial. I have no doubt, at least, that the business might be done *better* than at present for one half the money; or should the committee confirm the present officers' salaries, we in the Provinces would be better satisfied, as a very strong feeling at present exists that all is not as it should be.

“P. M.” No. 1.—We have received the lines, but they do not reach the standard, and require revision.

“P. M.”—Your “skit” at the trumpet is rather invidious, and we must decline publishing it; the Brother you dislike to hear “trumpeted” has a “key-note” of excellence we would not disparage.

“G. H. P.”—The notice of the Earl of Carnarvon's intended election was omitted by mistake. We congratulate the noble lord on the honour he has reached in being made a Mason.

“THE ETONIAN LODGE.”—We thank our contributor for his kind communication, and for the assurance of the appreciation of our efforts to “put away the evil” from this formerly excellent Lodge. Let the members only discharge their duty as honourable and independent men, who will not “*wrong the dead, themselves, nor us,*” and they will perceive that we have hitherto spoken in sorrow, not in anger, and now cordially congratulate them on their present improved auspices.

“JUSTITIA.”—A correspondent assures us that the statement in our columns, signed by this title, is underdrawn, and complains bitterly of the need of improvement in the county of Somerset. But the remedy is in the Fraternity's own hands, by resolutely removing the present G.M. We shall be glad to hear from our esteemed Brother often.

“**HIEROPHANT.**”—To your first question, we answer, it is correct. To the second, your working is the nearest that adopted in London. We disapprove of all book-learning in Masonry.

“**W. F.,**” **CARLISLE.**—There is no necessity for a Master or Past Master of a Lodge being an Arch Mason.

“**ANTIQUITAS.**”—The press of matter compels the postponement of your communication for the present. Accept our thanks.

“**INQUIRER.**”—The subject shall receive attention.

“**W. B.**”—It is not allowable for Arch Masons to wear their sashes in a Craft Lodge.

“**DOBIC.**”—The allusion in Preston is to the tracing-board, which should always remain covered until the Lodge is opened.

“**G. P. B.**”—We have seen two or three candidates, and even as many as five, initiated at one time, and the same course pursued in the 2nd and 3rd Degrees. We, however, hold it to be altogether improper, as each candidate should be obligated separately.

“**W. M.**”—The Wardens must hold their office for the full twelve months to render them eligible for election as Master.

“**HIGH GRADES UNION.**”—We understand it is intended to make a complete alteration in the constitution of this Society, as at present it is found extremely inconvenient for country Masons who have taken the Degrees to belong to it. It is proposed, as we are informed, to make the Chapters of Rose Croix and K.H. perfectly distinct, with a small subscription of membership to each, and a certain fixed sum to be paid by each Brother attending the banquets.

**BRO. PERCY WELLS** is thanked for his suggestion.

We are much obliged to our esteemed friend **Bro. Wigginton** for his valuable communications. His wishes shall be attended to.

“**J. E.**”—Our answer relative to clothing in our last Number, should have referred to Prov. G. “Chapters,” and not Lodges.

We have received a list of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York, but it is too long for publication in our present number.

“**MANCHESTER LODGE (No. 297).**”—This Lodge now holds its meetings at the Gun Tavern, Pimlico.

We regret that our Glasgow and other letters arrived too late for our present number, which it will be observed is again considerably enlarged to meet the requirements upon our space.

The United Masonic Ball at the Freemasons’ Tavern takes place on the 31st inst.—**Bro. Hawood’s** band is engaged.