

THE
FREEMASONS'
MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

JULY 1, 1857.

GRAND LODGE.

THE first Quarterly Communication since the appointment of the new Grand Officers has been held, and passed off with a quietude and determined application to business, apart from exciting appeals to the passions, to which Grand Lodge has for some time been a stranger. The minutes having been read, Bro. Henderson moved the non-confirmation of the resolution which prohibited any but Masons dining at the Masonic festivals, on the ground that it limited the Stewards in their choice of musical talent for the amusement of the Brethren. We do not feel disposed further to argue the question, nor show the fallacy of the argument, now that the question is decided, though that decision is against our own convictions. At all events, we shall feel bound by our obligations and the Book of Constitutions, which states, "You shall be cautious in your words and carriage, that the most penetrating stranger shall not be able to discover or find out what is not proper to be intimated; and sometimes you shall divert a discourse, and manage it prudently for the honour of the worshipful Fraternity." As one argument against excluding professional men not Brethren of the Craft from our Masonic dinners, it was stated that, at the recent festival of the Girls' School, Bro. Signor Bottesini gave his valuable services gratuitously, which he would have been unable to do had the law excluded his accompanist, who was not a Mason. As a practical answer to this, we need only say that within a week Bro. Bottesini appeared at a private Lodge, bringing with him an accompanist who wore the badge of a Mason.

This question being disposed of, the election of the Board of General Purposes and the Colonial Board was proceeded with; the result never

for one moment being doubtful, the dais (as represented by Bro. Jennings) and the vaunted great constitutional party (through their representatives, the Earl of Carnarvon and the Rev. G. R. Portal) having agreed to a list, which was most assiduously canvassed for, and there being no organization to oppose it. In truth, the dais and the Oxford party have drunk the loving cup together, laid down their swords, and all is peace, though we are afraid but a hollow one. We do not complain of the making of lists or the canvassing for support, but we do object to the Grand Secretary, who is a paid servant of the Craft, becoming a partisan, and sitting at his desk to mark lists to serve any party, even though it consist of the occupants of the dais, and even though he is requested to do so by so active a partisan as the Director of the Ceremonies. We protest against such an abuse of power, whilst Bro. Clarke is yet young in office, in the warning voice of friendship rather than in that of complaint. What is the price to be hereafter paid for the union of the constitutional party (we use their own designation, which we have always repudiated) with the dais remains to be seen, though various Grand Offices, Wardenships, Chaplaincies, &c., are loudly talked of.

“ Treason never prospers—what’s the reason ?
Once successful, it’s no longer treason.”

Some communications from the Grand Master having been ordered to be entered on the minutes, and the revised rules of the Benevolent Institution agreed to, Bro. Portal, assisted by his new allies, succeeded in rendering the resolution, passed some months since, for placing that institution upon a par with the other charities, almost nugatory, and has since been sounding his own praises for having conferred a benefit on the institution. Save us from such friends ! Bro. Warren withdrew a resolution for rendering the Temple available as a music-room on the occasion of the festivals, on the promise that arrangements were to be made for giving greater accommodation in future ; and, on the representations of his friends, that for limiting the period during which the Grand Master may hold office. He next brought forward a motion giving priority to notices in the order as originally placed upon the business-paper, which having been carried, the proceedings of the evening were brought to a close.

AN INTERESTING RELIC.—The Masonic flag presented to Dr. Kane by the Masons of Nova Scotia on the eve of his departure for the Arctic search, and which was so carefully preserved throughout that long and eventful absence, has, we understand, been presented to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and will add another to the list of its valuable Masonic monuments.—*Masonic Journal*, published at Haverhill, Massachusetts.

THE VISIBLE SYMBOLISM OF FREEMASONRY.

BY R.W. A. G. MACKEY.

(Concluded from page 432.)

BUT I have said that there is another higher and abstruser symbolism in Masonry; and in coming to this we at length arrive, for the first time, at that chain of resemblances which unites Freemasonry with the ancient systems of religion, and which has given rise among Masonic writers to the names of Spurious and Pure Freemasonry,—the Pure being, as I described in the former lecture, that system of philosophical religion which, coming through the line of the Patriarchs, was eventually modified by influences exerted at the building of King Solomon's Temple; and the Spurious being the same system altered and adulterated by the polytheism of the Gentile nations.

As this second stage of symbolism is, if less peculiar, far more interesting than the other, because more philosophical and more historical, I propose to devote a larger portion of our time to an extended view of the system.

And in the first place, there is what may be called an elementary view of this abstruser symbolism, which seems almost to be a corollary from what has already been described.

As each individual Mason has been supposed to be the receptacle of a spiritual temple, the Lodge, or collected assemblage of these Masons, is adopted as a symbol of the world. It is in the first degree of Masonry more particularly that this species of symbolism is developed. In its details it derives the characteristics of resemblance upon which it is founded, from the form, the supports, the ornaments, and general construction and internal organization of the Lodge, in all of which the symbolic resemblance to the world is beautifully and correctly sustained. The form of a Masonic Lodge is said to be a parallelogram or oblong square; its greatest length being from east to west, its breadth from north to south. A square, a circle, a triangle, or any other form but that of an oblong square, would be eminently incorrect and un-masonic.

Now as the world is a globe, or, to speak more critically, an oblate sphere, the idea of making an oblong square its symbol would seem at first view to present insuperable difficulties. But the system of Masonic symbolism has stood the test of too long an antiquity to be easily found at fault; and, indeed, this very symbol is in itself a striking evidence of the antiquity of the Order. At the Solomonic era—the era of building the Temple—the world, it must be remembered, was supposed to have that very oblong form which has been here symbolized. If, for instance, on a map of the world we should

inscribe an oblong figure, whose boundary-lines would circumscribe just that portion which was known and inhabited in the days of Solomon, these lines, running a short distance north and south of the Mediterranean Sea, and extending from Spain in the west to Asia Minor in the east, would form an oblong square, including the southern shore of Europe, the northern shore of Africa, and the western shore of Asia, whose greatest length, about 60° , would be from east to west, and whose breadth, about 20° , would be from north to south. This oblong square, thus inclosing the whole of what was then supposed to be the habitable part of the world, would represent precisely what is symbolically said to be the form of a Lodge, while the Pillars of Hercules in the west, on each side of the Straits of Gades or Gibraltar, might aptly represent the two pillars that stood at the porch of the Temple. A Masonic Lodge is, therefore, a symbol of the world.

This symbol is sometimes, by a very usual figure of speech, extended in its application, and the world and the universe are made synonymous, when the Lodge becomes, of course, a symbol of the universe. The world and the universe are here one and the same thing.

By always remembering that the Lodge is the symbol, in its form and its extent, of the world, we are enabled readily and rationally to explain many other symbols attached principally to the first degree, and we are enabled, too, to collate and compare these with similar symbols of other kindred institutions; for it should be observed that this symbolism of the world widely pervaded all the ancient rites and mysteries.

It will, I think, be interesting to extend our investigations on this subject, with a particular view to the way in which this symbolism of the world was developed in some of its most prominent details, and for this purpose I shall select the mystical explanation of the officers of a Lodge, its covering, and a portion of its ornaments.

The three principal officers of a Lodge are, it is needless to say, seated in the east, the west, and the south. Now, with the recollection that the Lodge is a symbol of the world or the universe, the reference of these three officers to the Sun in its rising, its setting, and its meridian height, must at once suggest itself. This is the first development of the symbol; and a brief inquiry will satisfy us of its antiquity and its universality.

In the Brahminical initiations of Hindostan, which are among the earliest that have been handed down to us, and may be almost considered as a cradle of all the others, the ceremonies were performed in a vast cavern, the remains of some of which at Salsette, Elephanta, and a few other places, will give the spectator but a very imperfect notion of the extent and splendour of these ancient Indian lodges. More imperfect remains than these are still to be found in great numbers throughout Hindostan and Cashmere; their form was sometimes that of a cross, emblematic of the four elements of which

the universe was composed, but more generally an oval, as a representation of the mundane egg, which, we all know, was in the ancient systems a symbol of the world.

The interior of the cavern of initiation was lit by innumerable lamps, and there sat in the east, the west, and the south the three principal hierophants, or explainers of the mysteries, as the representatives of Brahma, Vishnoo, and Siva. Now Brahma was the Supreme Deity of the Hindoos, borrowed or derived from the Sun-god of their Sabain ancestors; and Vishnoo and Siva were but manifestations of his attributes. And we learn from the Indian Pantheon, that "when the Sun rises in the east, he is Brahma; when he gains his meridian in the south, he is Siva; and when he sets in the west, he is Vishnu."

Again, in the Zoroastrian mysteries of Persia, the temple of initiation was circular, being made so to represent the universe; and the Sun in the east, with the surrounding zodiac, formed an indispensable part of the furniture of the reception-room.

In the Egyptian mysteries of Osiris, the same reference to the Sun is continued; and Herodotus, who was himself an initiate, intimates that the ceremonies consisted in the representation of a Sun-god who had been incarnate, that is, appeared on the earth, or rose, and who was at length put to death by Typhon, the symbol of darkness.

In the great mysteries of Eleusis, which were celebrated at Athens, we learn from Chrysostom, as well as other authorities, that the temple of initiation was symbolic of the universe, and we know that one of the officers represented the Sun.

In the Celtic mysteries of the Druids, the temple of initiation was either oval, to represent the mundane egg,—a symbol, as I have already said, of the world,—or circular, because the circle was a symbol of the universe,—or cruciform, in allusion to the four elements or constituents of the universe. In the island of Lewis, in Scotland, there is one combining the cruciform and circular form; there is a circle consisting of twelve stones, while three each are placed on the east, the west, and the south; and thirty-eight, in two parallel lines, on the north, forming an avenue to the circular temple. In the centre of the circle is the image of the god. In the initiation into these rites, the solar deity performed an important part of the celebrations commenced at daybreak, when the Sun was hailed at his appearance as the "God of Victory; the king who rises in light and ascends the sky."

But I need not multiply these instances: every country and religion of the ancient world would afford one. Sufficient has been cited to show the complete coincidence between the symbolism, in this respect, of Masonry and the ancient rites and mysteries, and to suggest for them a common origin; the Sun being always in the former, from the earliest times of the primitive or patriarchal Masonry, considered simply as a manifestation of wisdom, strength, and beauty of the Divine Architect, while it was by the latter, in

their degeneration from the true Noachic faith, adopted as the special object of adoration.

There is another symbol of great importance in Freemasonry, and which commands peculiar interest in this connection with the ancient symbolism of the universe and the solar orb. I allude to the point within the circle. Everybody who has read a Masonic monitor is well acquainted with the general explanation of this symbol. We are told that the point represents an individual brother, the circle the boundary-line of his duty to God and man, and the two perpendicular parallel lines the patrons of Masonry. This explanation will do very well for the exoteric doctrines of the Order, and it may possibly be deduced by a little effort from the correct explanation. But the question now is, What was the ancient interpretation of this symbol, and how should it be read as a sacred hieroglyphic in reference to the true philosophic system of symbolism, which constitutes the real essence and character of Freemasonry?

Perfectly to understand this symbol I must invite your attention to the Phallas, a peculiar modification of sun-worship, which prevailed to a great extent in ancient times.

The Phallas was a representation of the *membrum virile*, and the worship of it is said to have originated in Egypt, where, after the murder of Osiris by Typhon, which I have already explained as the destruction or deprivation of the Sun by night, Isis, his wife, or the symbol of nature, in the search for his mutilated body, found all the parts except the organs of generation, symbolic of the fact that the Sun having set, its fecundating and invigorating power had ceased. The Phallas, therefore, as the symbol of the male generative principle, was very universally venerated among the ancients, and that too as a religious rite, without the slightest reference to any impure or lascivious application. He is the god mentioned under the name of Baal Phegor, in the 25th chapter of Numbers, as having been worshipped by the idolatrous Moabites. Among the eastern nations of India, the same symbol was prevalent under the name of Lingam; but this was only the male generative principle. To perfect the cycle of creation, it is necessary to advance one step further. Accordingly we find in the Cteis of the Greeks, and the Yoni of the Indians, a symbol of the female generative principle of co-extensive prevalence with the former. This was precisely in accordance with the whole system of ancient mythology, which was founded upon a worship of the prolific powers of nature. All the deities of pagan antiquity, however numerous they might be, can always be reduced to two different forms of the generative principle, the active, or male, and the passive, or female. Hence the gods were always arranged in pairs; as, Jupiter and Juno, Bacchus and Venus, Osiris and Isis. But they went further. Believing that the prolific and productive powers of nature might be conceived to exist in the same individual, they made the older of their deities hermaphrodite, and used the term ἀρρενόθηλος, or *man-virgin*, to denote the union of the two sexes in one divine person.

Thus, in one of the Orphic hymns it is said or sung,—“Jove was created a male and an unspotted virgin;” and Plutarch, in his tract on “Isis and Osiris,” says, “God, who is a male and female intelligence, being both life and light, brought forth another intelligence, the Creator of the World.” Now this hermaphroditism of the Supreme Divinity was again supposed to be represented by the sun, which was the male generative energy, and by nature or the universe, which was the female prolific principle. And this union was symbolized in different ways, but principally by the point within a circle; the point indicating the sun, and the circle the universe invigorated by his generative rays. And in some of the Indian temples this allusion was made more distinct by the inscription of the signs of the zodiac on the circle.

So far, then, we arrive at the true interpretation of the Masonic symbolism of the point within the circle. It is the same thing, under a different form, as the Master and Wardens in the Lodge. The Master and the Wardens are symbols of the sun, the Lodge of the universe, just as the point is the symbol of the same sun and the circle of the universe.

But the two perpendicular parallel lines remain to be explained. You are all very familiar with the recent interpretation that they represent St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist. But this modern exposition must be abandoned if we desire to obtain the true ancient signification. In the first place, we must call to mind, that at two particular points of his course, the sun is found in the zodiacal signs of Cancer and Capricornus. The points are astronomically distinguished as the summer and winter solstice. When the sun is in these points, he has reached his greatest northern and southern declination, and produces the most evident effect on the seasons, and on the length of the days and nights. The points, supposing the circle to represent the sun's course around the universe, will be indicated by the points where the parallel lines touch the circle, or, in other words, the parallel lines will indicate the limits of the sun's extreme northern and southern declination. But the days when the sun reaches these points are, respectively, the 21st of June and the 22nd of December; and this will account for their subsequent application to the two Saints John, whose anniversaries have been placed by the Church near those days.

One other reference to this symbolism of the universe must for the present suffice. I allude to the covering of the Lodge. The mere mention that this is figuratively supposed to be a clouded canopy, or the firmament, on which the host of stars are represented, will be enough to indicate the continued allusion to the symbol of the universe. The Lodge, as a representative of the world, is of course supposed to have no other roof than the heavens, and I would scarcely think it necessary to detain you with any discussion on the subject, were it not that another symbol, or the Theological Ladder, is so intimately connected with it, that the one naturally suggests the other. Now this mystical ladder, which connects the ground from

of the Lodge with its covering, is another important and interesting chain, which binds in one common origin the symbolism and ceremonies of Freemasonry with the symbolism and rites of the ancient initiation.

This mystical ladder, which was always supposed to consist of seven rounds or steps, was widely dispersed among the religions of the ancients.

For instance, in the mysteries of Mithra, in Persia, where there were seven stages or degrees of initiation, there was erected in the temples, or rather caves (for it was in them that the initiation was conducted), a high ladder, of seven steps. Each of these steps or rounds was dedicated to one of the planets, the topmost representing the sun; so that, beginning at the bottom, we have *Saturn, Venus, Jupiter, Mercury, Mars, the Moon, and the Sun*,—the whole being the symbol of the sidereal progress of the solar orb through the universe.

In the mysteries of Brahma we find the same reference to the ladder of seven steps; but here the names were different, although there was the same allusion to the symbol of the universe. The seven steps were emblematical of the seven worlds which constituted the Indian universe. The lowest was the *Earth*; the second, the *World of Re-existence*; the third, *Heaven*; the fourth, the *Middle World*, or intermediate region between the lower and upper worlds; the fifth, the *World of Births*, in which souls are again born; the sixth, *Mansion of the Blessed*; and the seventh and topmost round, is the sphere of *Truth*, the abode of Brahma himself, as I have already said, represented by the Sun; and thus we arrive once more at the symbol of the universe and the solar orb.

Doctor Oliver thinks that among the Scandinavian mysteries he has found the mystic ladder in the sacred tree Ydrasil; but, although I am inclined to coincide with his views, the explication is too elaborate and complicated for a popular discourse. It is unnecessary to carry these parallelisms farther. Any one, however, can see in them undoubted reference to that septenary division which so universally prevailed throughout the ancient world, and the influence of which is still felt even in the common-day life and observances of our own time. Seven was among the Hebrews their perfect number; and hence we see it continually recurring in all their sacred rites. The creation was perfected in seven days—seven priests, with seven trumpets, encompassed the walls of Jericho for seven days—Noah received seven days' notice of the commencement of the Deluge, and seven persons accompanied him into the ark, which rested on Mount Ararat in the seventh month—Solomon was seven years building the Temple—the candlesticks in the Tabernacle consisted of seven branches,—with hundreds of other instances of the preponderance of this talismanic number, if there were either time or necessity to cite them. Among the Gentile nations the same number was equally sacred. Pythagoras called it a venerable number. The septenary division of the days of the week, although not, as has been supposed,

universally, was sufficiently so to indicate the influence of the number. And it is remarkable, as perhaps in some way referring to the seven-stepped ladder which we have been considering, that in the ancient mysteries, as Apuleius informs us, the candidate was seven times washed in the consecrated waters of ablution.

There is, then, undoubtedly, an anomaly in giving to the mystical ladder of Masonry only three rounds. It is an anomaly, however, with which Masonry has nothing to do. The error arose from the ignorance of those inventors who first engraved the Masonic symbols for our monitors. The ladder of Masonry, like the correlative ladders of its kindred institutions, always had seven steps, although in modern times but three principal or topmost ones are alluded to. These rounds, beginning from the lowest, are *Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, Justice, Faith, Hope*, and, lastly and supremely, *Charity*, which therefore takes the same place in the ladder of Masonic virtues as the sun does in the ladder of planets. In the ladder of metals we find gold, and in that of colours yellow, occupying the same elevated position. Now, St. Paul explains charity as signifying, not almsgiving, which is the modern popular sense, but love—that love which suffereth long and is kind; and when in our lectures on this subject we speak of it as the greatest of virtues, because when faith is lost, and hope has ceased, it alone extends beyond the grave to realms of endless bliss, we there refer it to the Divine love of our Creator. But Portal, in his treatise on symbolic colours, informs us that “the sun represents Divine love, and gold indicates the goodness of God.”

So that if charity is equivalent to Divine love, and Divine love is represented by the sun, and lastly if charity be the topmost round of the Masonic ladder, then, again, we arrive, as the result of our researches, at the symbol so often already repeated by the solar orb, the natural sun or the spiritual sun. The sun, either as the vivifying principle of animated nature, and there the special object of adoration, or as the more prominent instrument of the Creator's beneficence, was ever a leading idea in the symbolism of antiquity. Its prevalence, therefore, in the Masonic institution, is a pregnant evidence of the close analogy existing between it and all these systems. How that analogy was first introduced, and how it is to be understood, without detriment to the purity and truthfulness of our own religious character, has already been explained.

I might have extended these researches still further; enough, however, has been done, I trust, to establish the following leading principles:—

1. That Freemasonry is, strictly speaking, a science of symbolism.
2. That, in this symbolism, it bears a striking analogy to the same science as seen in the mystic rites of the ancient religions.
3. That as in these ancient religions the universe was symbolized to the candidate, and the sun as its vivifying principle made the object of his adoration, or at least of his veneration, so in Masonry

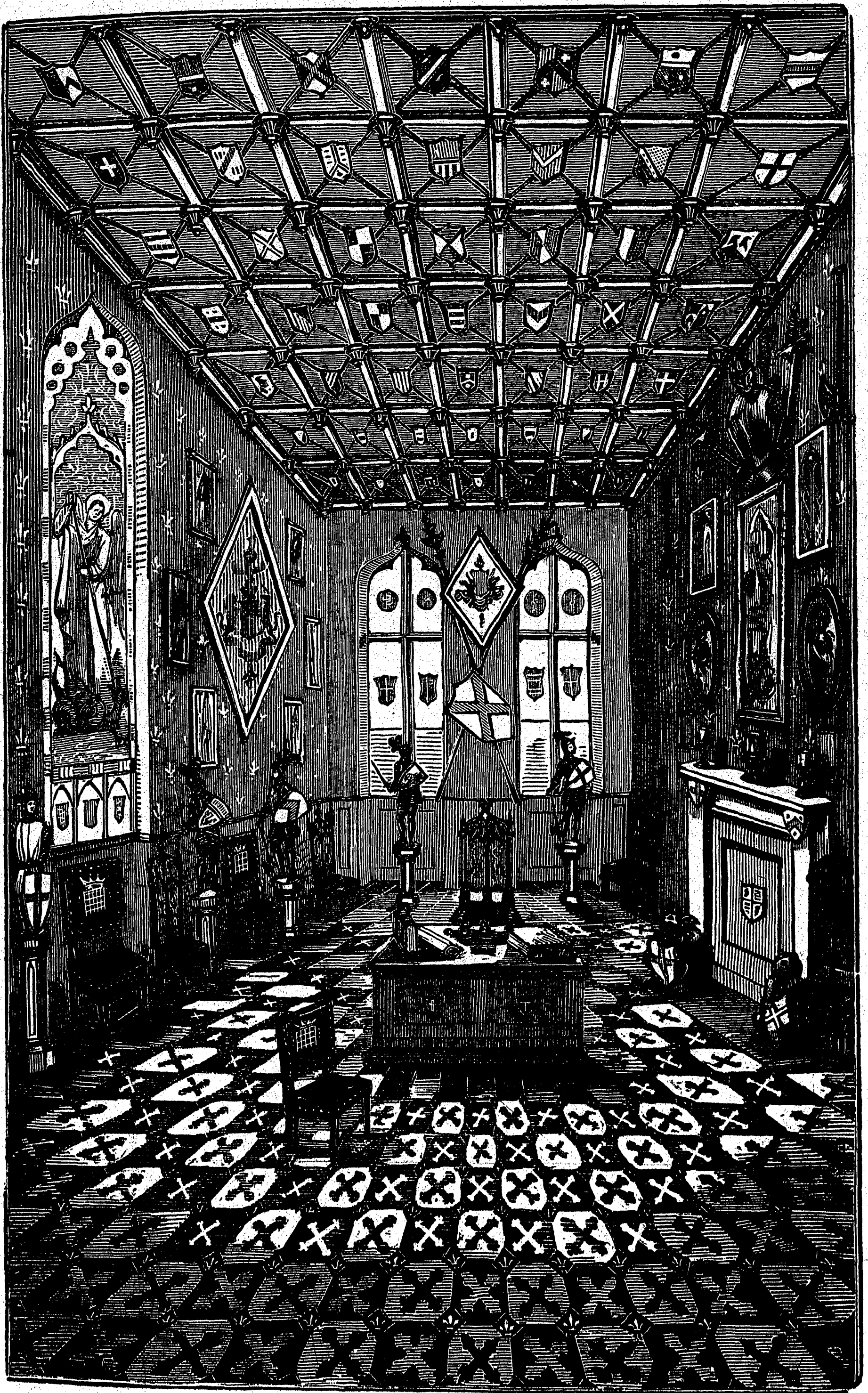
the Lodge is made the representative of the universe, and the sun its most prominent symbol.

4. That this identity of symbolism proves the identity of origin, which identity of origin is hereafter to be shown to be strictly compatible with the true religious sentiment of Masonry.

5. That all the symbolism of Freemasonry has its reference exclusively to what the cabalists have called the Algabel, the Master Builder, the Supreme Architect of the Universe.

HERALDIC STUDIO, GREAT TURNSTILE, LINCOLN'S-INN FIELDS.

HERALDRY, a science though of late years much neglected, may justly be termed one of the keys to history, and when blended with Masonry, adds lustre to one and research to the other. The uses that have been made of it in the honorary badges of our noble houses are in this day the history of times long since fled; they remain to record the deeds of valour achieved by men who live in the grateful remembrance of their country, and who, though dead, yet speak. No man has done more to call back its remembrance than Bro. Salt, of the Lincoln's-inn Heraldic Office; therefore in this number we have thought it our pleasing duty to notice the Heraldic Studio. The ceiling is a work of judicious art, in solid oak, each panel emblazoned with the arms of men of civil, religious, and military celebrity. The stained glass in the windows affords excellent specimens of ancient workmanship. The furniture, of solid oak, is Gothic, the chairs of the time of Cromwell. In this studio may be found a contrivance of a desk and table, representing a tomb in the Canterbury Cathedral, which reflects great credit on the cabinet-maker for development of true monastic character. In speaking of this *multum in parvo*, we must not forget the specimens of monumental brasses and designs for windows, also the heraldic engraving on stone, steel, &c. The emblazonments of arms which adorn the walls may be said to be done in the first style of art; moreover, the fine collection of the best works on heraldry, some upwards of two hundred years old, all constitute such a studio devoted to heraldic decoration as can scarcely be found in England. The contemplation of this spot not only improves the taste but causes us to revert to the past days of English domesticity, when the mansions of country gentlemen were reared with solid stone and English oak, instead of Roman cement and American deals. They were typical of comfort, substantial wealth, and hospitality. The healthy reaction of taste in this country will convince us that heraldry is once more become a favourite study, as we know it will at all times find a place in true Masonic decoration. We therefore recommend those requiring anything connected with heraldic matters to be executed artistically and by the heraldic laws to visit Bro. Salt, who has spared neither time, expense, nor attention to the subject, and whose taste and knowledge are evinced by the models adorning the heraldic chamber. This is the first and only room of the kind in the way of studio established in England by a single person, and our worthy Brother deserves all the success he has reaped from the attempt. The restoration of the pursuit of early archives will go far to re-establish heraldry, to illuminate the days of the past, and therein to lay the groundwork for a science full of historical interest and value, both popular and Masonic.



STUDIO

OF THE LINCOLN'S INN HERALDIC OFFICE

THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE IN FRANCE.

FROM A FORTHCOMING HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY.

THIS History of the Templars would be incomplete without alluding to the *Ordre du Temple* in France. Mills, Sutherland,* de Magny, Dumas,† Burnes, Gregoire,‡ and other authorities, all show that the Order, although *suppressed*, has never been *dissolved* in that country;§ and the case is thus succinctly stated by Mills in his History of Chivalry:—

“But the persecution of the Templars in the fourteenth century does not close the history of the Order; for, though the Knights were spoliated, the Order was not annihilated. In truth, the cavaliers were not guilty,—the brotherhood was not suppressed,—and, startling as is the assertion, there has been a succession of Knight Templars from the twelfth century down even to these days; the chain of transmission is perfect in all its links. Jacques de Molay,

* “The prosecution of the Templars, and the spoliation of their possessions, annihilated the Order as a political body; but its suppression as a confraternity was not entirely accomplished. Jacques de Molai, anticipating martyrdom, named a successor to the Grand Mastership, and the succession has been maintained regularly and uninterruptedly to the present day, &c.”—Achievements of the Knights of Malta, vol. i. p. 265.

† “L’Ordre des Templiers, que l’on croyait aboli, paraîtrait au contraire s’être conservé jusqu’à nos jours, sans que ses réunions conventuelles aient cessé, sans que la succession légitime et légale des Grand-Mâîtres, depuis Jacques de Molay, ait été interrompue.”—Dumas, Gaule et France, 1833.

‡ “Aux conjectures substituant la réalité, paraissent les Templiers actuels, avec une collection de monumens. L’authenticité de plusieurs peut être également défendue sans preuve et attaquée sans preuve. Vous me montrez des ossemens recueillis dans le bûcher du Grand-Mâitre, l’épée du martyr, le casque du martyr, Guy Dauphin d’Auvergne; la patène, la crosse et les mitres primatiales; mais sur ces objets, on n’a de garant que le témoignage traditionnel des dépositaires. Je suis moins hardi à contester sur ce drapeau nommé le *Beau Céant*, et ces sceaux avec des légendes en caractères particuliers à l’ordre dont, on trouvera l’alphabet à la suite de ce chapitre. L’Histoire de l’Art fixe leur origine aux époques contemporaines des Templiers; d’un autre côté, leur structure atteste la destination que vous leur assignez; mais mes doutes presque tous s’évanouissent à l’aspect de cette charte de transmission, rédigée en 1324, par le Grand-Mâitre Jean-Marc Larménus, successeur immédiat de Jacques Molay. Cette charte Latine est écrite en caractères particuliers à l’ordre. L’imposture a forgé quelquefois des diplômes et même des médailles. On connaît les fameuses *padouannes*; mais l’original de la charte dont il s’agit, soumis à l’examen d’hommes versés dans la diplomatie, ne leur offre aucune trace d’après laquelle on puisse l’arguer de faux. Sur ces faits, les Templiers établissant que l’existence de l’ordre ne fut jamais interrompue, assurent qu’en 1324 les Templiers Ecossais, *excommuniés* par le Grand-Mâitre Larménus, n’étaient qu’une contrefaçon de l’ordre du Temple, qui devint ensuite la tige des sociétés maçonniques.”—Histoire des Sectes Religieuses, par M. Grégoire, ancien évêque de Blois, tome 2. Paris, 1828.

§ The Penny Magazine of 1836-7 enumerates “the Ordre du Temple” as one of the recognized orders of knighthood.

the Grand Master at the time of the persecution, anticipating his own martyrdom, appointed as his successor in power and dignity, Johannes Marcus Larmenius, of Jerusalem; and from that time to the present there has been a regular and uninterrupted line of Grand Masters. The Charter* by which the supreme authority has been transmitted, is judicial and conclusive evidence of the Order's continued existence. This Charter of transmission, with the signatures of the various chiefs of the Temple, is preserved at Paris, with

* No mystery exists in our days with respect to this Charter. M. Thory gives a minute description of it from personal observation, as well as copies of it, and of the Statutes, from the originals (*vide Acta Latamorum*, vol. ii. p. 139), and it was submitted to the inspection of nearly two hundred Knights at the Convent-General held at Paris in 1810. The written acceptance on it by the Duke de Duras in 1681 was ascertained by the late Dr. Morison in 1837, to be genuine, which is important, as it disconnects the Order with a profligate club established in France in 1682, calling itself "The Templars;" and it is further fortified by the undoubted signature of the Duke of Orleans, and that prince's attestation, *propria manu*, of the Statutes of the Convent-General of Versailles in 1705, which have been handed down along with it. But Clavel, a French Masonic writer, evidently conceiving the Order to be a high grade of Masonry, which it is not, has attacked all its titles with great severity; and in this has been aided by two persons who had been *eliminated* from it; the one a Scotch follower of Thomas Paine, who wished to exclude all religion, and the other a bigoted Portuguese, who denounced Bernard Raymund for admitting a heretic Protestant. The documents which they communicated to Clavel are to be found in the handwriting of one of them in the Library of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and consist chiefly of exposures of certain relics injudiciously produced, and lengthy dissertations on the *Leviticon*, a theological work by Bernard Raymund, with which we have no concern, as it is not one of the titles of the Order. They should be read at the same time with the Acts of the Convent-General held at Paris in 1836-7, by which the writer was unanimously expelled the Order, and an official Ritual, in which, years after he had communicated his *proofs* to Clavel, he still designated himself a Grand Cross and Grand Prior of the Temple. Both these individuals had gone on for above ten years testifying, as high office-bearers, to the perfect truth of the Charter, but they finally ended by representing that it was forged in 1705, by an Italian Jesuit, named Bonanni, an assertion for which there is not one tittle of evidence, and cannot be, since, the Order having been handed down in secret through a small number of noble families, history is altogether mute as to the Charter till the death of the Duke de Cossé Brissac. A Belgian writer has replied ably to such mis-statements:—"Les noms les plus illustres de France figurent dans cette noble série, et nous ne pouvons souffrir qu'on accuse d'avoir inventé un *rite Maçonnique récent* le dépositaire légal, en 1804, de cette Charte, quelque déplorable abus que cet homme ait fait plus tard du pouvoir qui lui avait été confié par ses Frères, et bien que son absurde despotisme ait mis le *Temple* à deux doigts de sa perte. Les signatures des Grand-Maîtres acceptants *sont connues et ont été vérifiées*; nous en appellerions au besoin aux témoignages des savants Münter et Grégoire. Ces témoignages ont été plus d'une fois imprimés; les contester, contester l'authenticité des signatures, c'est faire injure aux noms les plus respectables, c'est accuser de faux *Philippe d'Orléans* et après lui trois autres membres de la maison de Bourbon. *Philippe d'Orléans* qui, bientôt après Régent du royaume de France, mit sa gloire à garantir de tous les dangers qui l'environnaient son royal pupille et dédaigna de devenir roi avant son tour, aurait commis un *faux* pour devenir le Grand-Maître d'un Ordre chevaleresque apocryphe et obligé de se cacher! Qui croirait à une semblable accusation? Que dire d'ailleurs de la sottise de tant de milliers de Chevaliers dupes d'une aussi grossière mystification?"—*Essai sur l'Histoire de l'Ordre des Templiers*. Bruxelles, 1840.

the ancient statutes of the Order, the rituals, the records, the seals, the standards, and other memorials of the early Templars.*

"The brotherhood has been headed by the bravest cavaliers in France; by men who, jealous of the dignities of knighthood, would admit no corruption, no base copies of the orders of chivalry, and who thought that the shield of their nobility was enriched by the impress of the Templars' red cross. Bertrand du Guesclin† was the Grand Master from 1357 till his death in 1380, and he was the only French commander who prevailed over the chivalry of our Edward III. From 1478 to 1497 we may mark Robert Lenoncourt, a cavalier of one of the most ancient and valiant families of Lorraine. Philippe Chabot, a renowned captain in the reign of Francis I., wielded the staff of power from 1516 to 1543. The illustrious family of Montmorency appear as Knight Templars, and Henry, the first duke, was the chief of the Order from the year 1574 to 1614. At the close of the seventeenth century, the Grand Master was James Henry de Duras, a marshal of France, the nephew of Turenne, and one of the most skilful soldiers of Louis XIV. The Grand Masters from 1724 to 1776 were three princes of the royal Bourbon family. The names and years of power of these royal personages, who acknowledged the dignity of the Order of the Temple, were Louis Augustus Bourbon, Duke of Maine, 1724 to 1737; Louis Henry Bourbon Condé, 1737 to 1741; and Louis Francis Bourbon Conty, 1741 to 1746. The successor of these princes in the Grand Mastership of the Temple was Louis Hercules Timoleon, Duke de Cossé Brissac, the descendant of an ancient family, long celebrated in French history for its loyalty and gallant bearing. He accepted the office in 1776, and sustained it till he died in the cause of royalty at the beginning of the French Revolution. The Order has now its Grand Master, Bernardus Raymundus Fabré Palaprat;‡

* See the Charter in full, in a "Sketch of the History of the Knights Templars," by James Burnes, LL.D., F.R.S., Knight of the Guelphs of Hanover. 2nd Edition. Edinburgh, 1840.

† The signature of Bertrand du Guesclin is by a *cross*, as we learn from the "Recherches Historiques sur les Templiers," Paris, 1835, in the Library of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.—"C'est que Duguesclin, en 1357, avait accepté la souveraine magistrature du Temple, et que *la croix* de ce guerrier, qui ne savait pas signer, figurait son acceptation sur la charte de Larménus."—P. 27.

‡ This personage, although a man of high education, an *élève* of the University of Montpellier, Doctor of the Faculty of Paris, and Chevalier of the Legion of Honour, was not of dignity sufficient to succeed the Montmorencies and Condés of France as Grand Master. He had been elected only till some illustrious nobleman could be obtained; and as ancient feelings revived in France, incessant efforts, embittered possibly by his liberal notions of religion, were made to force him to abdicate in favour of the Duke de Choiseul, or the Counts Le Peletier d'Aunay and de Chabrillan. Clavel even alleged that he was not the legitimate representative of the Duke de Cossé Brissac; but, apart from the attestation on the Charter written in his presence on the 10th June, 1804, by the Magistral Vicar, Radix de Chevillon, that he had received his authority from the duke, and his own acceptance a few months later, we have the positive and public averment of the Duke de Choiseul in favour of the legitimate continuation of the Order through the Revolution; and it is decisive, inasmuch as he lived through that

and there are colleges in England and in many of the chief cities in Europe.

“Thus the very ancient sovereign Order of the Temple is now in full and chivalric existence, like those Orders of Knighthood which were either formed in imitation of it, or had their origin in the same noble principles of chivalry. It has mourned as well as flourished, but there is, in its nature and constitution, a principle of vitality which has carried it through all the storms of fate; its continuance, by representatives as well as by title, is as indisputable a fact as the existence of any other chivalric fraternity. The Templars of these days claim no titular rank, yet their station is so far identified with that of the other orders of knighthood, that they assert equal purity of descent from the same bright source of chivalry; nor is it possible to impugn the legitimate claims to honourable estimation, which the modern Brethren of the Temple derive from the antiquity and pristine lustre of their Order, without, at the same time, shaking to its centre the whole venerable fabric of knightly honour.”

To this we have only to add that, on the demise of the Grand Master Bernard Raymund, in 1838, he was succeeded in the regency of the Order by Admiral Sir Sidney Smith, who held sway till his death in 1840; and that, at that date, it numbered amongst the

troubled period, and was Bernard Raymund's rival, and must have been an associate of the Duke de Cossé Brissac. The following are his words, delivered at a public Chapter of the Knights, held at Paris in the year 1837, as printed in the “*Ordre des Chevaliers du Temple, Bruxelles, 1840*,” now in the Library of the Grand Lodge of Scotland:—“Jamais la succession des Grand-Maîtres ne fut interrompue, et M. de Brissac, vertueux et fidèle comme Molay, fit comme ce dernier héros; il usa de toute sa puissance, nomma son successeur, et, près d'être assassiné, lui remit la plénitude de ses pouvoirs. Le Chevalier du Temple, Chevillon, remit les titres et pouvoirs, dans ces temps révolutionnaires, à trois chevaliers, Ledru, De Saintot, et Decourchant, qui s'adjoignirent M. Fabré-Palaprat. C'est ainsi que, par diverses circonstances, ce dernier s'est trouvé à la tête de l'Ordre. Bientôt et malgré les représentations aussi respectueuses qu'amicales de plusieurs chevaliers et de moi-même, le système antique de l'Ordre changea de nature.” The duke goes on to complain of the monstrous innovations on the rule of St. Bernard, the Charter of transmission, and the Statutes of 1705, introduced by the Grand Master, &c.; but the work we have quoted contains a further address from the Count de Chabrilan in 1838, giving precisely the same account of the continuation of the Order. Clavel admits that Bernard Raymund reproduced it under the garb of Masonry in 1805, in a new Lodge called the “*Chevaliers de la Croix*,” which was immediately recruited from another of “personnes de haut rang, telles que frères de Choiseul, de Chabrilan, de Vergennes, de Dillon, de Coigny, de Montesquiou, de Narbonne, de Bethune, de Montmorency, de la Tour du Pin, d'Aligre, de Labourdonnaye, de Sennones, de Crussol, de Nanteuil, de Flahaut,” &c. &c., many of whom, like the Duke de Choiseul, must have been formerly associating with the Duke de Cossé Brissac, the recently murdered Grand Master. At a later date, the same authority states that Carnot, Ney, Napoleon, de Montebello, Isambert, Chatelain, Montalivet, &c., were not only members of the *Ordre du Temple*, but remonstrating seriously with the Grand Master on its affairs; and the inquiry naturally arises, what could have attracted these great men, and almost all the ancient noblesse resident at the capital, to the standard of Bernard Raymund, then an humble physician in Paris, if he himself was an impostor, and his Order a delusion?

British subjects enrolled as its office-bearers, the names of the Duke of Sussex, Grand Prior of England; the Duke of Leinster, Grand Prior of Ireland; the Earl of Durham, Grand Prior of Scotland; the Chevalier Burnes (Grand Master of Scottish Freemasons in India), Grand Preceptor of Southern Asia; the Chevalier Tennyson d'Eyncourt, Grand Prior of Italy; General George Wright, Grand Prior of India, &c. &c.; while, amongst its functionaries in France, we find the Prince Alexandre de Wirtemberg, the Dukes de Choiseul and Montmorency, and the Counts le Peletier d'Aunay, de Lanjuinais, de Brack, de Chabrillan, de Magny, de Dienne, and others equally distinguished. Latterly, in consequence of political changes in France, an institution so much identified with ancient nobility and tradition has naturally fallen into abeyance; but it still numbers about thirty British members, most of whom are officers in the public service of India, received by the Grand Preceptor of Southern Asia, under Legatine powers from the Grand Master, Bernard Raymond, sanctioned by the Duke of Sussex, without whose approval no British subject was admissible.

After this short account of the continuation of the Order, it may be interesting to make a brief abstract of the Statutes established by the Convent-General held at Versailles in 1705. The Order of the Fellow Soldiers of the Temple consists of two distinct classes, termed a Superior and Inferior Militia; the former comprising all knights consecrated according to rites, rules, and usages, with their Esquires; and the latter, the humbler Brethren, or persons admitted, *propter artem*, and the candidates, or, as they are designated, the *postulants*, for the honours of chivalry. Except as a serving brother, no one is eligible even to the lower grade who is not of distinguished rank in society, which in Great Britain is understood to imply that station in life which would entitle a gentleman to attend the court of his Sovereign. The candidate must moreover be strongly recommended by sponsors as a Christian,* of liberal education, eminent for virtue, morals, and good breeding; and in no case is a strict scrutiny into these qualifications dispensed with, unless he be a Knight of Christ, a Teutonic Knight, or the descendant of a Knight Templar. Should he be ambitious of the rank of Novice Esquire, which usually precedes Knighthood, he is further called on to produce proofs of nobility in the fourth generation;† and a deficiency in this requisite can only be supplied by a formal decree of the Grand Master conferring on him the nobility necessary for his reception. Considerable fees are paid by all intrants; and members, on being promoted to the equestrian honours of the Order, are expected to make an oblation to the Treasury, the amount of which cannot be less than four drachms of gold, but generally very far exceeds that sum. Before receiving the vow of profession, which is

* "Nullus ad initiationem accedit, nisi Christianus, liberaliter institutus, civili ordine insignis, virtute, moribus, fide et urbanitate præstantissimus."

† "Nullus ad novitiatum armigerorum accedit, nisi genere in quarto gradu sit nobilis."

still administered to all chevaliers, the candidate makes a solemn declaration either that he does not belong to the Order of Malta,* or that he abjures the spirit of rival hostility which actuated the Knights of St. John in former days against the Templars. These preliminaries being arranged, his petition is finally decided on either in a conventual house, or by the special legate of the Grand Master, in whose name only his reception can be proclaimed; and, once armed a Knight, and consecrated a Chevalier of the Temple, he cannot, on any pretence whatever, renounce the Order.

At the head of the Hierarchy of the Order ranks the Convent-General, or assembly of the Knights; but the executive power is vested in the *Magistere*, consisting of the Grand Master and his four Deputies, or *Vicarii Magistrales*. After these follow the members of the Grand Council, which consists of the Supreme Preceptor, and eight Grand Preceptors, the Primate of the Order, and his four Coadjutors-General, with all the Grand Priors, Ministers, and other principal dignitaries that may be present at the Magisterial City. Each nation of the Order is presided over by its Grand Prior, appointed for life, whose language comprises the various subordinate divisions of Bailiwicks or Provinces; Commanderies; Convents of Knights and Noviciate Esquires; Abbeys of Ladies and Canonesses; Chapters of Postulants, and Conclaves of Initiation. Except in special cases, no Chevalier is eligible for a Commandery before the expiration of two years from his having obtained the honours of Knighthood; and, in like manner, no Commander can be appointed a Bailli, nor any Bailli a Grand Prior, before the same period has intervened.

In concluding these observations, we may add that the Order of the Temple, notwithstanding its undeniable claims to honourable distinction, has never enjoyed much consideration amongst our countrymen (Scotchmen). Its exclusive character, together with the great expense and difficulty which attend admission into its ranks, has raised against it a host of enemies. Hence calumnies have been propagated against it; and an institution perfectly unconnected with politics, and actuated by the purest principles of Christian philanthropy, has been represented as engendering false notions of government and wild infidelity. But the registers of the Temple contain the respected names of Massillon and Fenelon: Frederick the Great and Napoleon sanctioned its ceremonies, and honoured its officers; and even in these days, princes of the blood, and some of the most illustrious nobles of our town (Edinburgh), and other countries, have not disdained to display the humble ring of profession, along with the gorgeous decorations of the Garter and the Golden Fleece.

* "Le primat actuel est Vié-Césarini, commandeur conventuel de l'ordre de Malte. Les ci-devant Chevaliers de Malte qui, depuis trente ans, s'efforcent de ressusciter leur ordre, avaient fait, dit-on, des avances pour s'unir aux Templiers, et par ce moyen fortifier leurs réclamations."—*Histoire des Sectes Religieuses*, par M. Grégoire, ancien évêque de Blois. Paris, 1828.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

THE CANADAS.

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—I have lately witnessed with much satisfaction the bold and uncompromising manner in which you advocate the rights of Canadian Masons. I am not a member of the so-called independent Fraternity, but yet cling to a Lodge which hails from England. A severance will be to me a cause of much regret; but I cannot close my eyes to the prospect of a universal severance before the expiration of many months. Disaffection when once it takes root is a plant of obstinate growth, and I fear that we are about to gather some of its fruits in this colony. Whether or not, I shall not lose the admiration which I have formed for your *Magazine*. The information which you give is more and more becoming an object of interest to the Fraternity in Canada; a body of men who—because of their intelligence as well as their numbers—must effect much good in this rising colony of Britain.—Believe me, Sir and Brother,

Yours very fraternally,

TORONTO, CANADA WEST, *May 29.*



TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—After the discussion in Grand Lodge last April, it will doubtless be surprising to you, and those of your readers who take an interest in Canadian affairs, to learn that our Provincial Grand Lodge has not yet been notified of the answer to the memorial then laid before Grand Lodge; and that the only information we have received has been through the pages of the *Freemasons' Magazine*. Surely the officials at home must think our patience of an extraordinary character if they expect the temper of Canadian Masons to be improved by the further waiting for a notification of the now “too late” and scant justice offered us by the G.M. Surely, too, the officials of Grand Lodge ought to be better acquainted with our position and wrongs—having had them before them since June 1850, and knowing that their supineness had already cost them the allegiance of more than one-half the Canadian Masons, and that the other half have held firm only from a sincere desire to exhaust *every fraternal means* before having recourse to the painful one of final severance,—than to think that we will *now* be satisfied with the offer of nomination of three names for Prov. G.M., contribution to English Grand Lodge funds (while having also to relieve indigent Brethren emigrating here from the United Kingdom), and last and chiefest, the great boon of “a representation in Grand Lodge the same as is accorded to *foreign* Lodges!” We thank those Brethren for the meaning attached to that word; and we would now tell them in reply, that—whether conceded or wrested—we *must be independent*, or equal to a “foreign” Lodge—for, in the words of our “last” Memorial, “*the time has been allowed to pass when moderate*

concessions would have more than satisfied the Masons of Canada. Our Provincial Grand Lodge has not been called for its May communication, owing to a daily expectation of receiving the answer to our Memorial.

TORONTO, June 8, 1857.

Yours fraternally,

JACTA EST ALEA.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—Apprehending that the letter of “Lector,” published in the *Freemasons' Magazine* of this month, may produce discomfiture by misleading Senior Wardens of Lodges held by warrant direct from Grand Lodge, permit me to inquire how it is that the power and privilege of Senior Wardens of Lodges in America should differ so widely from those of Senior Wardens of Lodges in England?

By Article 6, page 72, Book of Constitutions, 1855, it is thus stated:—“In the Master's absence, the immediate Past Master, or if he be absent, the Senior Past Master of the Lodge present, shall take the chair. And, if no Past Master of the Lodge be present, *then* the Senior Warden, or, in his absence, the Junior Warden, shall *rule* the Lodge.”

Therefore, I submit that the immediate Past Master, or, if he be absent, the Senior Past Master present, could, *as a right*, occupy the Master's chair, although the Senior Warden be present, and that such occupation would be accompanied by all liabilities.

The Senior Warden, or, in his absence, the Junior Warden, shall have precedence of the immediate Past Master or the Senior Past Master *only* in “*summoning* the Lodge until the next election of Officers.”

An opinion, “by authority,” on these matters would be much esteemed by,

Yours fraternally,

NEWBURY, June 6.

E. S. C., S.W., No. 839.

P.S. The words italicized are not so marked in the Constitutions.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Bro. S. B. Wilson, G.J.D., must have misunderstood the Service of Installation at the Westminster and Keystone Lodge—here we state the Queen of Sheba attended after the Dedication to view the Temple.

“Lector's” letter at p. 440 is in accordance with the opinion of the Editor of the *Magazine* some years ago, when I, as S.W., initiated a Brother on that opinion.

If a Companion of Arch Masons cannot hold office in the Grand Chapter, unless he has been a Principal, how can a Brother hold office in a Prov. Grand Lodge, when he has not been either Master or Warden of a Lodge, and merely attends by sufferance? And yet I think this was your opinion.

Excuse these notes from, Yours fraternally,

C. P.

[We have not altered our opinion—which is strictly in accordance with “Lector's.” The regulations of Grand Chapter distinctly lay down that no Companions below the rank of G.W. (who in virtue of their office become associate members of G.C.) can take rank in the Grand Chapter unless they are members thereof. In the ancient charges, page 7 of the Book of Constitutions, it is distinctly laid down that a Brother cannot be a “Grand Warden until he has been Master of a Lodge.” A similar prohibition used to stand in the Constitutions themselves, but it seems to have disappeared, how we know not, and the G.M. continually appoints Brethren to the office of G.W., who have never filled the

Master's chair. In the provinces, however, the prohibition is still retained, and a Prov. G.W. must be an actual M. or P.M. A Prov. G.D. must be a Warden or P.M.; but there does not appear to be any qualification required for other Officers beyond that of being M.Ms.]

OFFICIAL NEGLECT.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—My object in addressing you is purely a search or inquiry into the reasons why Grand Lodge has allowed now two packets to arrive without having given us information on the points hereafter named, so much required, and of so important a nature, to the state of Masonry in this island. Before proceeding, however, I must preface this communication with the facts to which I allude.

I am a member of the Harmonic Lodge, No. 458, which received its Charter in 1818 from Grand Lodge of England. I was initiated, passed, and raised in a Lodge working under a Charter of a recognized Grand Lodge, the locality of which I reserve, as I do not wish my name to be known. The first evening that the Harmonic Lodge was reopened (5th Feb. A.C.), a ballot took place for a candidate, in which an Entered Apprentice then present took part. At the second meeting that we had, the same process was gone through by a Fellow Craft, and thus it continued until one evening the W.M., a very able man, stated that he was of opinion that none but Masters should vote on any question, especially for the admission of candidates. The votes of the Masters present were then taken, and it was decided "that Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts should continue to ballot for candidates and members until such time that we should receive an answer from Grand Lodge on the subject;" and the Secretary was requested to apply to Grand Lodge for some decision.

At the next regular meeting, after the minutes had been read, one of the Brethren who had voted in favour of the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft voting, stated that, on mature consideration, he felt that none but Master Masons should enjoy the privileges of the ballot; he was seconded by a Brother who had not been at the previous meeting. A discussion arose, and the above-named Brother held out that in America, whence they came, the ballot always took place in a Master Masons' Lodge. The Secretary argued that, being in the habit of balloting in the Entered Apprentice degree, if Entered Apprentices were not to join in the entire work of the Lodge, it would be preferable that the American system be observed, as he was of opinion that Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts should not be present at any part of the work of a Master Masons' Lodge, no matter of how trivial consequence that work was. He further argued that, according to Art. 14, page 64 of Constitutions, 1841 (the late edition of 1855 not being at hand), "every Lodge was bound to receive as a *member*, without further proposition or ballot, any Brother initiated therein, provided such Brother express his wish to that effect on the day of his initiation." He wished to know if a Brother's privilege as a member was not that of the ballot on every question brought in the Degree Lodge in which he worked? The W.M. argued that none were full Masons until they were raised to the Sublime Degree, and that none but a Master Mason could be considered as a member. The Secretary rose in explanation, calling the attention of the Brother, that the moment a Brother subscribed the bye-laws, and paid his fees and dues, he was, according to Constitution, to be acknowledged as a member; and if none but Master Masons were to be considered as members, the Lodge had no right to levy monthly quotas from the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft. Upon this several Brethren expressed their opinion that money matters should never be brought in as an argument in a Masonic body! The Senior Warden wished to know, that if the Lodge was composed of but three Master Masons, two Fellow Crafts, and a dozen or more Apprentices, what course could be pursued? The W.M. stated that, even then, none but the three Master Masons had the right of vote!

This is a queer doctrine. Should the interest, then, of a Lodge of seventeen Masons or more be governed by the vote of three? If these three Master Masons ballot for a candidate, obnoxious to the other members, would the result of the ballot, if the candidate be accepted, be looked upon as legitimate? Bro. Secretary again argued, that having agreed to leave it to the decision of Grand Lodge, it showed very little respect to that worshipful body to act, or annul any question prior to the receipt of the desired information, and as a consequence, the question might be brought before the Lodge at every meeting, and, according to the opinions of the Brethren present, a resolution could be acted upon at one, and be annulled at the other, regular intermediate meeting. The W.M. then ordered that no discussion again take place on the subject until a positive answer be received from Grand Lodge.

In this dilemma we now stand, and many are dissatisfied at the present state of things; whereas, had the Board of General Purposes, or the Colonial Board, acted upon the premises, and at once sent us their decision, the question would have been settled, and every one would respectfully and submissively bow to the opinion of the section of Grand Lodge to which it has been referred.

It is as well to add that the communications on the subjects herein alluded to were sent to the Grand Secretary to be forwarded in the regular channel.

The next point in view is:—

There is a Lodge working here under the name of "Les Cœurs Sincères," holding of the "Supreme Council of 33rd of France," under No. 141. This body have no charter in their possession, and still initiate, pass, and raise candidates. They have been working for nearly three years, and find it very hard that the Harmonic Lodge will not receive their members as visitors, nor visit them. The Harmonic Lodge addressed them a communication, requesting that they would allow one or more of its Officers to inspect their charter, and invited them to do the same in regard to theirs (the Harmonic Lodge). The body refused, and accuse the Harmonic Lodge of want of fraternal feelings. However, viewing the Concordat of 19th January, 1811, between the Grand Orient and the Supreme Council, we are led to believe that the latter body has no right to grant warrants for Lodges or Chapters under the 18th degree Scotch rite. This has been laid before the Board of General Purposes, and up to now no answer has been received. You must understand that, in a small town like ours, such questions cause ill-will more so than in large cities; therefore, for the sake of harmony, this important affair should be settled. The Cœurs Sincères have been expecting inspectors from Haiti to instal them, and it is reported that they intend to invite the Harmonic Lodge to assist in the ceremony. How can we assist prior to receiving the authority of Grand Lodge?

Again, the Lodge Cœurs Sincères state that their charter is from the symbolic section of the Supreme Council. It would be well if the Colonial Board of Grand Lodge would inform us whether such authority is vested in the Supreme Council.

Our Lodge kept up St. George's day by a banquet of Order, attended by many visitors. The usual toasts were given and responded to.

Our Benevolent Fund has increased in ten meetings to 52 dollars, or £10. 8s. Considering that we do not meet but twice a month (first and third Thursdays), and that our members do not number over thirty, it augurs fair for the future.

We reopened Harmonic Lodge, after a recess of three long years, with thirteen members, on the 5th February last, and have initiated fourteen Brethren from that date, and have now before the Lodge three proposals, one of which is from Pedro Santana, the ex-President of the Dominican republic.

A report was current among the Brethren that there is a Holy Royal Arch Chapter attached to the Lodge, under the name of Sussex Chapter, the charter for which has either been burnt, mislaid, or stolen; but we are endeavouring to raise the necessary means to open in that degree.

A proposal has been made for the purpose of petitioning Grand Lodge to communicate with the Grand Lodge of Denmark that we are working under charter from them, and to claim from Grand Lodge of Denmark their protection, or rather recognition.

It strikes us as curious that our Constitutions are so lack of explanations. Is

there not a member of Grand Lodge spirited enough to engage the attention of Grand Lodge on the subject? Allusions are made to the Landmarks of the Order. Many of the Brethren are ignorant of them!

The precious time (*vide* case of Grand Lodge of Canada) lost in communicating with and receiving answers from Grand Lodge could be economized were Grand Lodge to empower the Colonial Board to form a code of general regulations to meet all emergencies, and have them distributed among the foreign Lodges under its jurisdiction. We have known cases of the greatest importance to be delayed owing to the want of such regulations. Sure it is, that from the numerous questions laid before Grand Lodge from different private Lodges and Brethren, there would be sufficient "data" and groundwork for said code.

Again, Grand Lodge should forward us, as well as every other Lodge under her jurisdiction, a list of Grand Lodges recognized by her, in order that none may be allowed to visit her offspring Lodges but such as have been made or belong to a Lodge under an authorized Grand Lodge.

I must fraternally crave your indulgence for this prolonged epistle; but, if convenient to you, I shall from time to time keep you informed of everything passing in this rocky island which tends to the glory of our ancient and beloved Order.

That the G.A.O.T.U. may keep you from the attacks of Coronus is the fraternal wish of

A DEVOTED MEMBER OF THE ORDER.

ST. THOMAS, WEST-INDIES,
May 26, 1857.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I regret that circumstances should have arisen which render it necessary to bring under your notice the loose and irregular manner in which the business of the Grand Secretary's Office is still carried on. Two letters, one under date 24th November, 1856, and the other 23rd February, 1857, were addressed to the Grand Secretary's Office, by the W.M. of the Royal Philanthropic Lodge, No. 585, Trinidad, seeking for information on two subjects of vital importance to the Lodge. To the first of these letters the Lodge received an answer through our worthy Bro. R. Spencer, for whose kindness and attention to its interest the members of the Royal Philanthropic Lodge are truly thankful; but as this is not looked upon as an official answer, the same has not been placed before the Lodge, and the result is, that those in authority at the Grand Secretary's Office, through their unpardonable and gross negligence, are likely to create some misunderstanding between the Philanthropic Lodge and one of its members. The letter of Bro. Spencer arrived here on the 8th April, 1857; and I expect the request made to him by Bro. Farnfield, to inform our W.M. of the result of his inquiries on his first communication, were elicited in consequence of a duplicate of the letter having been forwarded to the Grand Secretary's Office. With regard to the other letter, an answer should have been received here at *least* a month ago; and by this also unpardonable act of negligence the Brethren at the Grand Secretary's Office have precluded a worthy member of this community from partaking of the privileges of our time-honoured institution.

The little attention which is paid to communications from the West-India Colonies at the Grand Secretary's Office is truly to be lamented, and I fear much that the Brethren in these colonies will often, rather than have their letters treated with contemptuous silence, act upon their own opinion and responsibility; indeed, in the matter to which the second letter referred, the members of Lodge No. 585 were prepared to do so, but have deferred so acting for the present, in hope of hearing from the Grand Secretary's Office: should, however, no letter arrive by the next packet, I have reason to believe that they will then do so; and should they be in error in their opinion, the blame must rest at the Grand Secretary's Office.

Whilst on the subject of matters relating to colonial Lodges, I regret to have to call your attention to a subject brought before the Grand Lodge at its Quarterly

Communication on the 4th March, 1857, by Bro. H. G. Warren, with respect to the Mark Degree being "constantly given in colonial Lodges, notwithstanding Grand Lodge had decided against that Degree." I do not know from what source Bro. Warren has obtained his information; but as in the term "colonial Lodges" are included the Lodges in the West Indies, I beg, on the part of the colonial Lodges in this part of the world, to give to the statement *an emphatic denial*. As to its being sanctioned by the Provincial Grand Masters, we unfortunately are not deemed *worthy of being blessed with such*, although I perceive that the G.M. is favourable to the appointment of district Provincial Grand Masters, an idea, by the bye, which, in this remote corner of the earth, *on dit*, did not originate with our worthy M.W.G.M., but was suggested to him by the great champion of Freemasonry in these colonies, Bro. Daniel Hart, through letter.

With regard to the actions of colonial Lodges in other parts of the world in this matter I have no knowledge, I only speak with regard to those in the West Indies, and have done so inasmuch as I consider the expression or term, "colonial Lodges," rather broad and sweeping in its signification, and that Brethren in England, as well as Grand Lodge, might be led to believe that the Lodges in the West-India Colonies, holding from Grand Lodge of England, have been guilty of such an unconstitutional act as that mentioned by Bro. Warren, were the statement to be allowed to go uncontradicted. Bro. Warren, in making this statement, must have been perfectly satisfied of the truth of his authority, and no doubt will embrace the first opportunity offered him of making the *amende honorable* to those who feel their Masonic honour and integrity to have been somewhat slighted by the broad statement of Bro. Warren, in the Grand Lodge, on the 4th March last.

By giving this a place in the columns of your valuable Magazine, you will confer a favour on,

Yours, very fraternally,

JUNIOR WARDEN, No. 585.

TRINIDAD, PORT OF SPAIN, May 25, 1857.

[We think the Brethren ought to have been satisfied with the answer sent by Bro. Spencer at the request of Bro. Farnfield. The first question remitted to the Grand Secretary—that a certain Brother named had been returned to Grand Lodge—and whether he had ever held office in their Lodge, they ought to be able to decide by their own minute books. The second question, as to whether a gentleman who has lost a foot may be made a Mason, we find an answer in the affirmative has been sent, though certainly not quite so soon as it might have been. Having referred the above letter to Bro. Warren, he informs us that his question more immediately applied to Canada, but he has authority for also stating that the practice of conferring the Mark Degree in Craft Lodges prevails in the West Indies, Bro. Aria having more than once asserted, even in Grand Lodge, that he so took the Degree in Jamaica, and having, at a recent meeting of Mark Masters, distinctly stated that in the West Indies the Degree was almost universally worked in connection with the Craft Lodges.]

THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—There are some mis-statements in the letter of a "Sovereign Grand Inspector-General 33rd Degree," in your last number, which I hope you will allow me the opportunity of correcting.

Having for many years held, during the lifetime of the first Sovereign Grand Commander of the 33rd Degree, Dr. Crucefix, the office of Grand Secretary-General H.E., I am perfectly acquainted with all that relates to the establishment of the 33rd Degree in this country, the entire correspondence with the Supreme Councils of America, France, and Ireland having passed through my hands.

As Deputy Prov. Grand Master for Bristol, and Grand Sup. of the Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite established in that city, and held and prac-

tised there since the year 1800, I am also in possession of the evidence relating to the condition of the Ancient and Accepted Rite in this country before the creation of the Supreme Council of which Dr. Crucefix was the head, by the Supreme Council 33rd Degree for the Northern Jurisdiction of the United States.

In the year 1800 those Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite which, including the 18th or Rose Croix Degree, were acknowledged by the Grand Orient of France, were introduced into Bristol by some French refugees, members of the latter body, and the Chapters or Encampments so formed registered with the Grand Orient in Paris. The Templar K—h, which if not the 30th Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, it is difficult to distinguish from it, appears from the Bristol documents to have been conferred in the Baldwyn Encampment of Knights Templars, an Encampment which has existed in Bristol from a very remote period.

It is not true, as your correspondent asserts, that the members of the Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite held in Bristol designate themselves Knights Templars. They have no other connection with the Knights Templars than arises from their holding their meetings in the same hall, subscribing to a common fund for the maintenance of that hall, under the terms of a trust-deed, for the benefit of all Masonic bodies in the province of Bristol, and being placed under the authority of an Officer who unites in his person the Grand Mastership of the Knights Templars and the superintendency of the Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. It would have been more correct in your correspondent to have said that the Baldwyn Knights Templars of Bristol do not acknowledge the Grand Conclave, than that the Grand Conclave does not acknowledge them. There are Officers of the Grand Conclave who were installed Knights Templars in the Encampment of Baldwyn at Bristol, and no one knows better than your correspondent that every effort has been made by myself to bring about the union of the Baldwyn Knights Templars of Bristol with the Grand Conclave, and that such union would have been effected to the satisfaction of many eminent members of Grand Conclave in May last, but for the triumph of local and personal feelings over the true interests of the Order.

I remain, Sir and Brother,

Yours very fraternally,

D. W. NASH,

Sov. Grand Insp. Gen. 33rd Degree, Grand Master
of the Knights Templars from time immemorial,
and Past Dep. Prov. Grand Master for Bristol.

BRISTOL, *June 20, 1857.*

THE QUEEN OF SHEBA.

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—Not being present at the Installation of the Earl of Carnarvon, I am not able to understand the precise nature of the objection taken by the Grand Junior Deacon to the allusion to the Queen of Sheba in the ceremony of Installation.

If the installing Master asserted that the queen was present at the dedication of the Temple, I think with the Grand Junior Deacon, that there is no authority for such an assertion. I have installed several times, and have been present at many more Installations, but I never heard of the dedication of the Temple alluded to in that ceremony; and if it were alluded to on the occasion in question, I think it must have been by mistake.

But does the Grand Junior Deacon mean that the visit of the Queen of Sheba to King Solomon was not made until all the buildings connected with the Temple were completed? If this be his meaning, he also speaks without authority. Scripture is silent as to the exact period of the visit; indeed, it is the character of the sacred writings to maintain a chronological silence, as if time and seasons were as nothing to Him with whom a day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years but as a day.

The Grand Junior Deacon opens his Family Bible and finds the dates run thus : The Temple begun, B.C. 1012. The Temple dedicated, B.C. 1005 ; and the marginal date to the visit of the Queen of Sheba, B.C. 992. He shuts the Book, and feels satisfied that he has clenched the argument. But does he not remember that the chronology given to the Scripture narrative is hypothetical—that there are five separate computations, containing the astonishing difference of nearly 1800 years between the highest and lowest accounts—that the dates occurring at the margin of the Bible are the computation of Archbishop Usher, which is rapidly giving place to that of Josephus, as corrected by Hales ?

On reference to the Scripture account of the life of Solomon, we find that events are not placed in their consecutive order. The 4th chap. of the 1st Book of Kings is a collection of paragraphs selected from different events of his reign, and bears the impress of having been written after his death ; yet it is placed immediately before the chapter commencing with the initiatory proceedings for the building of the Temple. The 6th chapter contains a synopsis of the building, and the time that portion of it occupied, viz., seven years. But the first verse of the next chapter states that he was thirteen years building his own house, which from the 1st verse of the 8th chapter 2nd Chronicles would appear to be thirteen years after the seven, viz., “at the end of twenty years, wherein Solomon had built the House of the LORD and his own house.” These twenty years would comprise the first half of King Solomon’s reign, and it was during the middle part of this period, in all probability, that the Queen of Sheba made her visit.

Few materials for the building of the Temple were required to be furnished by King Solomon ; they had been abundantly prepared by his father, King David, whose conquests and permanent tributes enabled him to lay by immense wealth for a purpose he had so deeply at heart. David appears entitled to much of the fame of that magnificent structure, as it was he who amassed the wealth, purchased the site, and furnished the plan of this building. He also re-organized the Levitical Institution, the services of which added much to the splendour and sacredness of the building. The fame of the Temple and the magnificence of King Solomon’s court spread far and wide. The palaces and cities he was building, the improvements he was making in the metropolis, and his great wisdom were the theme at every court. The monarchs of the surrounding nations became aware of the riches and magnificence, as well as the superior wisdom of the great king, through the medium of the caravans which were employed to collect the riches of the nations to add to the grandeur of the city of Zion. It is very probable that one of these caravans acted as guide to the eastern queen, who journeyed thither accompanied with a large retinue, laden with costly presents—the presents most acceptable to the king would be such as were useful for building his palaces. Gold and precious stones were used in abundance for that purpose, and the amount of gold and precious stones which the Queen of Sheba brought was enormous.

It is evident that the queen’s visit must have been during the time that King Solomon was enjoying great prosperity and popularity. The wisdom of the king and the magnificence of his court were not more remarkable than the happiness enjoyed by his subjects :—“Happy are thy men, and happy are these thy servants,” was the exclamation of the astonished queen. The completion of the building of the Temple and city seems to have been the culminating point of the happiness of the king and his subjects. Years of misrule and heavy exactions pressed heavily upon the land. The death of King Solomon was hailed with satisfaction, as an opportunity for lightening the burdens which weighed the people down. The arrogance of his son and successor produced the fatal cry,—“To your tents, O Israel ; now see to thine own house, David.”

I started by stating that the dedication of the Temple, as far as I know, is not alluded to in the ceremony of Installation (the subject I should imagine to be unapproachable—the Grand Junior Deacon introduced it, not I), but I think the Scripture bears internal evidence that the Queen of Sheba visited King Solomon *before the completion of the magnificent buildings which surrounded the Temple*, which is quite sufficient for our traditional history.

Let me take this opportunity to call your attention to a great want of the Craft, viz., a proper authority to whom the Brethren can appeal in all cases of this sort.

Those who take upon themselves, or are recognized teachers in Lodges of Instruction, are not equal to the task. It requires a person possessed of a little learning, and an acquaintance with Biblical literature—why does not the Grand Secretary select a Brother with such qualification to be the referee in such matters?

AN OLD P.M.

PROVINCE OF KENT.

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—Reading a report in the *Kentish Journal* of the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting at Canterbury, I there find a list of the Brethren present on that occasion; and to my astonishment I find there were only *three* of the Brethren at the banquet representing the largest, and boasting as being the most influential Lodge in this county, viz. Lodge No. 91; and, from information I have received, there were no less than nine of the above Lodge who preferred dining privately at the hotel. Among those were the senior appointed P.G. Steward, the retiring P.G. Reg. and P.G. Pur., as also the immediate P.M. of the Lodge, the Brother who, by report in the *Freemasons' Magazine and Mirror* of June last, is to be specially recommended to the Prov. G.M. for some mark of his especial favour. Such respect as shown by that Lodge to the Prov. G.M. on this occasion certainly ought to merit his especial notice. There was a want of respect on the part of the Brother who received the Steward's apron; ingratitude on the part of those two Brothers retiring from office in Provincial Grand Lodge, and a want of common courtesy in the P.M. who expects next year to receive nothing inferior to the *rank of Prov. G. Warden*. May the future favours of the Prov. G.M. be bestowed on those Brethren who justly merit them!

I remain, Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

ONE WHO HAS RESPECT FOR THE CHAIR.

CANONBURY LODGE.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It is with great reluctance that I intrude upon your valuable space what I consider quite a personal matter. I trust, however, that I may be excused by the circumstances, in your eyes as well as in those of your readers.

One of my friends, an ardent lover of the Craft, and anxious to see the methods of working, paid, at considerable inconvenience, a visit to the Canonbury Lodge, No. 955, where he met with such a reception as induced him, with the advice of several Masons of standing in the metropolis, to forward to your pages an account of the manner in which admittance had been denied him, in a letter signed "P.M."

Subsequently, in your May number, a letter appeared from Bro. Bohn, imputing to "P.M." a falsehood in the statement of facts; and in the same number a report of a speech made by Bro. Bohn, at a meeting of his Lodge, which elicited from me the following Letter:—

(Copy.)

"MANCHESTER, May 8th, 1857.

"MY DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am requested by Bro. ——— P.M. No. 399, to request you to furnish an explanation of certain remarks reported to have been made by you at a recent meeting of the Canonbury Lodge in reference to a letter which he had felt it his duty to address to the Editor of the *Freemasons' Magazine*.

"I would just mention that your letter to that periodical, savouring as it does so much more of the 'lie direct' than the 'retort courteous,' would not have

elicited any reply, as the tone in which it is written is sufficient evidence of the truth of his assertions. But on a subsequent occasion you appear, from the report, to have said, that 'should the writer of the letter, or any other stranger, present himself under SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES, you would advise and approve a precisely similar course of conduct as had been pursued on the occasion in question, and it would be well if a like caution were always used at the porch.'

"You will oblige me, as well as the Brother himself and his friends, by stating what were the 'CIRCUMSTANCES' which, in your eyes, justified the withholding from a Brother Mason the undisputed right of admission to your meetings.

"An answer by return will oblige,

"Yours fraternally,

(Signed)

✠ LYONS WRIGHT, No. 65, P.M. Nos. 399 and 623."

"Bro. THOMAS BOHN, W.M. No. 955,

"HOLLOWAY."

After a lapse of three weeks, and when it was too late for your June number, I got a reply from Bro. Bohn, declining any reply except to a communication through your columns.

I have therefore to beg of you to insert my letter, that Bro. Bohn may answer it with the publicity which he desires. By this means, I trust, we shall arrive at the *circumstances* alluded to, and know in what the visit of "P.M." differed from that of any other Mason, producing his certificate, and expressing himself "perfectly willing to undergo examination;" or, whether there are any *other* circumstances than these necessary in order to obtain admission to the Canonbury Lodge.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

MANCHESTER, June 20th, 1857.

✠ LYONS WRIGHT, P.M.

THE SUN IS SOMEWHERE SHINING.

[A Masonic Song.]

BY BROTHER CHARLES SLOMAN.

NIGHT's dark shadows cloud the sky,
All seems mirk and dreary;
Body prone, and closed eye,
Now repose the weary;
Sorrow doth in sad silence grieve,
But vain is its repining,
For care flies fast if we believe
The sun is somewhere shining.

What if clouds enshroud us here!
Other climes glow brightly;
Check ye then the rising tear,
And treat misfortune lightly;
The leafy woods may be in shade
When day-beams are declining,
Yet doubt not, though obscure the glade,
The sun is somewhere shining.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

THE MASONIC FESTIVALS.

THE Quarterly Communication took place on Wednesday, June 3, there being present the M.W.G.M. the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland ; the Earl of Durham, S.G.W. ; Bros. Hy. Fenwick, *M.P.*, J.G.W. ; Tomkins, G. Treas. ; Henderson, G. Reg. ; Roxburgh, S.G.D. ; S. B. Wilson, J.G.D. ; Rev. J. E. Cox, G. Chap. ; Hutchings, G.S.B. ; Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M. for Warwickshire ; Hall, Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire ; Kent, Prov. G.M. for South Australia ; C. Purton Cooper, Prov. G.M. for Kent ; the Rev. Dr. Bowles, Prov. G.M. for Herts ; Hammond, Prov. G.M. for Jersey ; Fawcett, Prov. G.M. for Durham ; Dobie, P.G. Reg. ; Clarke, G. Sec. ; W. H. White, D.G. Sec. ; Farnfield, P.G. Sec. ; Pattison, P.G.W. ; Havers, Hervey, and Parkinson, P.G.Ds. ; Le Veau, Spiers, Potter, and King, P.G.S.Bs. ; Smith, G. Purs. ; &c. &c.

The Minutes of the last Quarterly Communication having been read,

Bro. Henderson said, that before the Minutes were confirmed, he hoped the Grand Lodge would agree not to confirm that portion of them which related to the resolution which, for the future, prohibited any gentlemen not Masons sitting down at Masonic festivals. (Hear, hear.) The management of these festivals was intrusted to Brethren who accepted the office of Steward, and who had generally discharged their duties in an exemplary manner. What occasion was there therefore to meddle with them? One of the measures which they adopted to promote the comfort of the Brethren, was the introduction of certain gentlemen of the musical profession. (Hear.) This law would, if confirmed, hamper them in the selection of such gentlemen (hear) ; and was it right and proper to do this? ("Yes," and "No, no.") The Grand Lodge had no authority except over Grand Festivals. There was another objection to this resolution, and that was, that it would exclude the ladies ("No, no"), and waiters, many of whom were not Masons. The Grand Stewards ought not to be controlled by any such regulations as these. He concluded by calling upon Bro. Warren, who had moved the resolution, to agree with his proposition for its non-confirmation.

Bro. Slight entirely agreed with the view of Brother Henderson, and seconded the motion. The Grand Stewards had a series of regulations to guide them, which were sanctioned by the G.M., but those regulations said nothing on this subject. The object of the resolution objected to was to exclude the musical gentlemen not members of the Craft. But let the Brethren see how this would work. On a recent occasion, when they had the advantage of the gratuitous services of the eminent Bro. Bottesini, he said he could not have given those services without the assistance of his accompanist, who was not a Mason. (Hear.) If this rule therefore had been enforced, they would have been deprived of the valuable services of that distinguished Brother. The Grand Stewards were all Masons, and they naturally preferred musical gentlemen who were Brethren. He thought, however, that the matter might safely be left in their hands, until it could be shown that the present arrangement had led to evil.

Bro. Henry George Warren :—I maintain that the resolution I brought forward, and which was carried, is in strict conformity with the Book of Constitutions, at page 22 of which it is laid down that—"There shall be a Masonic festival, annually, on the Wednesday next following St. George's Day, which

shall be dedicated to Brotherly love and refreshment, and to which all regular Masons may have access, on providing themselves with tickets from the Grand Stewards of the year." If other than Masons could be admitted, why should they provide for the admission of all Masons. If musicians not Masons may have access to our festivals, other persons not Masons ought also to have access to them. (Hear, hear.) I deny altogether the construction that has been put upon the resolution by Bro. Slight. I never brought forward the resolution with the view of opposing the engagement of singers not Masons. (Hear.) Let them come in after dinner as the ladies do, and not sit down with us, when they hear conversation not intended for other than Masonic ears, and may see many things which they ought not to see. Whilst strangers are at table, an undue constraint is put upon the Brethren. Only last year the Brethren, at a table at which I was sitting, complained of the constraint put upon them from the presence of parties who were not Masons. It is not Masonic to have such persons at our festivals. Engage them to sing and pay them liberally, if you will—and I know, having served as Steward, that they are paid liberally. All I object to is, their sitting down with us; because if singers not Masons may dine with us, I do not see why other persons not Masons should be excluded. I believe that if we were to admit every one who chose to come to the festivals of the charities, we should have a large addition to the list of donors, and the charities would be greatly benefited. Many noblemen, for instance, would probably support the G.M., and be willing to assist our charities, although they were not themselves Freemasons. I repeat, if one class of persons not Masons are admitted, other classes ought also to be admitted. Either admit all or exclude all; there ought to be perfect equality in that respect. (Hear.)

The Rev. Bro. Portal said he was surprised that a Brother so well acquainted with the Book of Constitutions as Bro. Warren undoubtedly was, should have so utterly misinterpreted the law. The passage which that Brother quoted simply meant to guard against the supposition that none but members of Grand Lodge could be present at the Grand Festival. "All Masons" did not mean Masons as against the outer world, but simply "all Masons" as against any restriction to the members of the Grand Lodge. He should therefore support the non-confirmation of that part of the minutes. In the Prov. Grand Lodge in that part of the country in which he lived, it had been found practicable and advisable not only to admit gentlemen who were not Masons, but even the ladies to dine with them at the Prov. Grand banquets. Bro. Fleming, the Prov. G.M. of the Isle of Wight, was allowed to hold his last banquet in the grounds of one of the principal men of the island; and though he was not a Mason, he and his family were present on the occasion. The results of that banquet were highly beneficial to the Masonic cause in the Isle of Wight. He could see no ground for apprehending the disastrous results which had been spoken of.

Bro. Roxburgh took the same view of the question, and thought that great injury would arise from the enforcement of this resolution.

The minutes of the last Quarterly Convocation, with the exception of the resolution in question, were then confirmed.

The Grand Secretary then read the minutes of the Grand Lodge held previous to the Grand Festival, which were also confirmed. The reference made to Bro. White's retention of his salary was received with loud cheering.

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

The following Brethren were elected:—

Bros. W. P. Scott, W.M. No. 2; Earl of Carnarvon, W.M. No. 10; John Symonds, W.M. No. 21; F. Slight, W.M. No. 109; D. Gooch, W.M. No. 167; R. W. Wheeler, W.M. No. 324; E. Roberts, W.M. No. 914. J. J. Blake, P.M. No. 1; J. S. S. Hopwood, P.M. No. 7; T. Bisgood, P.M. No. 8; W. Young, P.M. No. 11; S. Webb, P.M. No. 4; N. Bradford, P.M. No. 54; Rev. G. R. Portal, P.M. No. 460.

The G.M. nominated Bro. Roxburgh President, and Bros. Dobie, Henderson, Parkinson, Hervey, S. B. Wilson, Jennings, J. Smith, W. H. White, Havers, and Evans.

COLONIAL BOARD.

The following Brethren were elected, viz.—

Bros. John Hervey, No. 7 ; W. Beach, *M.P.*, No. 10 ; G. Wilkinson, No. 21 ; Joseph Smith, No. 206 ; M. H. Shuttleworth, No. 225 ; G. Lambert, No. 234 ; Rev. G. R. Portal, No. 460. To whom the Grand Master added Col. Burlton, President, Col. Ramsay, and Bro. Rawson.

BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The undermentioned ten Brothers were nominated at the General Committee, to be of the Committee of Management for the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows ; and no other Brethren having been named, they were elected : viz.—Bros. Samuel Aldrich, P.M. No. 196 ; John Thos. Archer, P.M. No. 23 ; H. S. Cooper, P.M. No. 276 ; Henry Elmes, P.M. No. 206 ; Thomas Gole, P.M. No. 18 ; E. J. Kennedy, P.M. No. 201 ; Charles Lee, P.M. No. 9 ; David Samuel, P.M. No. 264 ; John Symonds, P.M. No. 275 ; Joseph Taylor, P.M. No. 21.

INITIATION OF THE KING OF HANOVER.

The M.W. the Grand Master laid before the Grand Lodge a copy of a letter which his lordship addressed to the R.W. Bro. Ludwig Herrig, representative of the Grand Lodge of England at the Grand Lodge Royal York at Berlin, requesting that R.W. Brother to represent the Grand Lodge of England at Hanover, on the occasion of the initiation into Freemasonry of his Majesty the King of Hanover ; the report made by the R.W. Bro. Herrig of the proceedings which took place, and also a letter from his Majesty the King of Hanover ; also a letter to Prince Frederick of Prussia, and his Royal Highness's reply ; and moved that those documents be entered on the minutes. Agreed to.

THE CANADIAN BRETHREN.

The M.W. Grand Master also laid before the Grand Lodge a copy of the communication which he addressed to the Prov. Grand Masters of the three Prov. Grand Lodges in Canada, and the answer which he had received from the Prov. Grand Secretary of Canada West, and a communication on the subject addressed to him by the W. Bro. W. W. Beach.

On the motion of Bro. Hall, seconded by Bro. Henderson, these documents were referred to the Colonial Board.

Some Brethren having expressed a wish to have the documents read,—

Bro. Henderson said they were very long, and their time could be far more profitably employed in attending to the ordinary business.

After a short discussion, in which Bros. Savage, Binckes, Portal, and Roxburgh took part, it was ordered that the documents should be printed as an appendix to the report of the Colonial Board, and submitted with the usual documents to each Brother on entering Grand Lodge.

THE GRAND MASTER OF CONNECTICUT, U.S.

The G.M. of the state of Connecticut presented himself for admission, and by order of the M.W. the G.M., the Grand Director of the Ceremonies and Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson were sent out to examine him.

PAST GRAND SECRETARY WHITE.

The M.W. Grand Master moved :—

“That in consideration of the faithful and distinguished services rendered by Bro. William H. White to the Craft, during a period exceeding fifty-five years, the Grand Lodge grants to him as a retiring pension, an amount equal to the full salary and gratuity he has been hitherto receiving as Grand Secretary.”

His Lordship said :—I have now submitted the motion to which I referred at the Grand Festival in regard to our respected Bro. White (cheers), whose services to the Craft, during the period of upwards of fifty-five years, I am sure Grand Lodge

will agree with me in thinking entitle him to some signal mark of our approbation. (Hear, hear.) I know of no one, and I believe there never was any one who has done more—who has rendered more valuable services to Masonry than our worthy Bro. White. (Cheers.) He was indefatigable and zealous, and I believe he has thought more of Freemasonry than any other Brother in England, and devoted more time to it. I feel confident that the Brethren will all agree with me in the motion I have made. (Cheers.) We must also consider this, that in conferring upon him this mark of our consideration, we are not simply rewarding past services, but we are giving as it were a retainer for future services. I feel certain that the present G. Sec. will derive the greatest advantage from the assistance and instruction of the P.G. Sec., who is so competent to assist him in every department. But Bro. White is so well known to Grand Lodge, that I need say no more about him, and I shall simply conclude by moving the resolution which I have read. (Cheers.) I may just say, that during the time I have had the honour to be G.M., I feel that I cannot express how valuable the services of Bro. White have been, and I have often heard the late Duke of Sussex express himself in similar terms.

Bro. Hall, Prov. G.M. for Cambridgeshire, seconded the motion. He said it was hardly necessary that it should be formally seconded; for he felt sure that it had been already seconded in the breasts of all the Brethren present. (Cheers.) Nothing could be more pleasant than to reward the merits of an old, tried, and faithful servant like Bro. White; and there was no place where this could be more fitly done than at the foot of the statue erected to their late G.M. He looked on it not only as a tribute of respect to Bro. White merely, but as an additional memorial of their reverence for the memory of the late G.M. the Duke of Sussex. He seconded the motion with the greatest pleasure; and, although it was not usual to express a wish for the continuance of a tax, yet he sincerely hoped, in this case, that it might last many years. (Cheers.)

Carried unanimously amid loud cheering.

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The M.W. Grand Master submitted the Report of the proceedings of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, with the alterations in the Rules and Regulations, as adopted at a Special General Meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of that Institution, for approval and sanction of Grand Lodge. The following are the alterations proposed, viz. :—

(1.) "A Special General Meeting shall be held on the requisition, in writing, of *twelve* Life Governors, instead of eighteen; ten to be a quorum: should that number not be in attendance within *fifteen* minutes of the time specified in the advertisement, no business shall be transacted.

(2.) "A donation of £50, in one or more payments within *five* years, instead of three years, shall constitute the donor a Vice-President of the Institution.

(3.) "That the law requiring one-third of the annual subscriptions to be invested, be abrogated.

(4.) "No Brother having an income of £25 per annum shall be admitted to the benefit of the Institution." Formerly it was £20.

(5.) "On the death of any male annuitant leaving a widow (to whom he was married not less than ten years before his election, and who shall be not less than fifty-five years of age, or altogether incapacitated from obtaining her support) not otherwise provided for, she shall be entitled, if approved by the Committee, to receive from the Widows' Fund one-half of the pension of such annuitant, and if she be a resident in the asylum, to continue such residence until the third election next after his death, in order to give her the opportunity of applying for election on the Widows' Fund."

On clause 1,—

Bro. Savage said twelve was a small number, and he should think there would be no difficulty in getting eighteen.

Bro. Henry George Warren said there was great difficulty in getting the signatures of eighteen governors, and that was the reason they proposed to reduce it to twelve. He had himself found the difficulty of getting eighteen Life

Governors together to sign a requisition ; and, even with the valuable assistance of the P.G. Secretary, it had taken him three or four months before he could succeed. As it regarded ten being a quorum, that was introduced at a time when he was not present, but it evidently meant a quorum of the meeting for the transaction of business, as there could be no quorum for signing a requisition.

Bro. Dobie said eighteen was perhaps a large number to get together ; but it would prevent their being called together for trivial purposes.

The clause was agreed to with three dissentients.

THE G.M. OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT, U.S.

Bros. Jennings and Wilson returned and reported that the Brother representing himself to be the G.M. of Connecticut had been examined, and was found to be a Mason. He had several certificates with him, but not the warrant of his appointment as G.M. of Connecticut.

In the absence of any positive proof of the office in question being held by the Brother, although he had numbers of certificates in the higher Degrees, he was admitted as a Master Mason.

The Brethren who had examined him presented him to the G.M. who greeted him well, shook hands with him, and the worthy Brother took his seat upon the Dais at the left of the M.W. the G.M. amidst loud cheering.

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The discussion on the report was then resumed.

Clause 2 was agreed to.

On clause 3,—

Bro. Savage objected to the passing of such a resolution till they had three or four thousand pounds invested.

The M.W. the G.M. supported the same view, and thought this was an informal mode of dealing with the question. The first step should be to rescind the law which made it necessary to have £4,000 invested. He recommended Grand Lodge not to sanction this resolution.

Bro. Hervey said that after the rules had been carefully considered in Committee and revised, it was a pity that Brethren who, like Bro. Savage, were members of that Committee, but did not attend, should come to Grand Lodge and make these objections. (Hear, and a laugh.) Grand Lodge ought to support the members of Committee who were present and made the alterations. For his part he cordially concurred in all the alterations which the report suggested.

BRO. WHITE.

The discussion on this report was again interrupted by the introduction of Bro. White, the P.G. Sec., who was presented to the G.M., who then informed him of what had taken place in his absence, and read to him the resolution which had been unanimously agreed to.

Bro. White briefly expressed his gratitude ; but in so feeble a tone of voice, and with so much emotion, that we could not catch more than the general tenour of his observations, which was that of thankfulness and gratitude for the honour which had been conferred upon him. He also expressed his perfect willingness at all times to assist his successor whenever his health permitted. In fact, he said he felt anxious to serve the Craft so long as he had any ability to do so.

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The discussion was once more resumed.

Bro. H. G. Warren thought Bro. Savage had over-estimated the importance of this resolution. So far from diminishing the chances of raising the £4,000, the sum was now left unlimited, in hope that it might go much further than that. The rule in its entirety said :—“ With a view of providing for the permanency of the Institution, all life donations and bequests, received on account of the Male or Widows' Fund, shall be invested in the public funds in the names of the trustees, and on no account shall any portion of the principal invested be withdrawn, except

with the sanction of two-thirds of the subscribers present at the annual general meeting, and also of the Grand Lodge." They would therefore see that ample provision was made for the permanency of the Institution. Now what did they suppose would be the amount retained in aid of the General Funds instead of being invested, if this rule were carried? Why, last year it would have amounted on the Widows' Fund to £34. 10s. (Hear.) In fact, the law had been virtually abrogated already, as they could not have paid the annuitants last year had it been literally obeyed. Many Brethren objected to annual subscriptions being set aside to provide for the future, and one member of the Committee had pledged himself to obtain forty or fifty new subscribers if the law was altered. (Hear.) While unfettering a portion of the funds, they made the income of the charity permanent, by providing that all bequests and donations should be placed to the permanent fund, and that fund could not be touched without the consent of two-thirds of the meeting, and also of the Grand Lodge. They had therefore done that which was necessary to the permanency of the institution by providing for the accumulation of a good fund; but at the same time they wanted to place in the hands of the Committee the means of keeping faith with the annuitants. (Hear.)

The clause was then agreed to.

Clause 4 was passed without discussion.

On clause 5,—

Bro. Savage objected, and hoped that in its present shape it would not be passed. He agreed that the widows ought to receive half the annuity, but it should be half the annuity which the deceased husband had been in the habit of receiving, and not a charge upon the Widows' Fund; for if it were charged upon that Fund, it would in time prevent elections, which were the vitality of charitable institutions. (Hear, hear.) He proposed to insert after the words "to receive," the words "from the fund for male annuitants."

The M.W. the G.M. ruled that the Brother could not move such an amendment; the resolution must be rejected or approved.

Bro. Savage thought the report ought to go back for reconsideration. (Hear, and "Oh! oh!")

Bro. Smith, G. Pursuivant, supported the motion, and deprecated the opposition offered by Bro. Savage, who, he said, was a member of the Committee, and had had several summonses to attend, but he had neglected his duty. (Hear, and a laugh.) And then, said Bro. Smith, what does he do? Why, my lord, after we have spent hours and days in considering these matters, and after we have agreed unanimously to these alterations, and have come down here to ask you to agree to them, up jumps Bro. Savage, the member of the Committee who, as such, had not attended to his duties, and asks you to send it back to us! (Hear, and laughter.) After we have spent all this time about it, if once sent back, you will not be very likely to see it again. (Hear, and laughter.)

Bro. Jones supported the proposition, but he objected to any man, or body of men, however great their individual or collective wisdom, being considered so infallible as that Grand Lodge had not a fair right to criticise their arguments. (Hear, hear, and cheers.)

The question was then put, and the Grand Master declared the resolution to have been lost.

Bro. Smith, G. Pursuivant, demanded a division, which was taken: there appeared—

For the motion	..	..	..	..	..	106
Against it	..	..	..	..	..	66
						<hr/>
Majority in favour	..	..	..	..	..	40

The result was announced amidst loud cheers.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

A grant of £30 was made to a Brother once connected with No. 33, London.

A similar grant was also made to a Brother once connected with No. 115, Burslem.

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

The following Report was presented to the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

The Board of General Purposes beg to report that, in pursuance of the resolution of Grand Lodge, that the laws relating to the period of the meeting of the General Committee previously to the Quarterly Communications should be referred back to this Board, they have taken the subject into their consideration, and do now recommend for the approval of Grand Lodge that the following alterations be made in the Book of Constitutions:—

At page 20, to be inserted as a fresh paragraph—

“In order that all Lodges may be duly informed of the business to come before Grand Lodge, the printed report of the proceedings of the last Grand Lodge shall be sent, together with the printed copy of the notices of motion for the ensuing Grand Lodge, to all Lodges, at least ten days before each Quarterly Communication.”

To carry the same into effect, they find it necessary that the following alterations be made, which they also recommend to Grand Lodge for approval:—

Page 20—

The word “fortnight” to be inserted after the word “Wednesday,” in section 8: it will then read, “shall meet on the Wednesday fortnight immediately preceding each Quarterly Communication.”

Page 26, section 8:—

A similar alteration by insertion of the word “fortnight” after the word “Wednesday.”

Page 89, Appeal:—

“Twenty-one” to be substituted for “fourteen” in the eighth line of page 89: it will then read, “twenty-one days at least before the next Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge.”

Page 90, section 3, Fund of Benevolence:—

The words “but one” to follow immediately after the word “Wednesday:” it will then read, “The distribution and application of this fund shall take place on the last Wednesday but one of every month,” instead of, as it now stands, the last Wednesday of every month.

Page 100, section 6:—

The word “third” to be substituted for the word “fourth:” it will then read, “The Board shall meet on the third Tuesday in every month.”

That in consequence of the great increase of business in the Grand Secretary's Office, it has been found absolutely necessary to employ an additional clerk since the 1st of January, at the weekly salary of £1. 10s. That there being no prospect of any decrease of work, the Board recommend that the services of the Brother now employed be retained at the same salary.

The Board considering it desirable that the remainder of the property situated in Queen's-court should belong to the Society, and the same having been offered for sale, negotiations have been entered on, and the Grand Superintendent of Works has been authorized to offer the sum of £3,000 for the said property, consisting of No. 59, Great Queen-street, and all the houses on the west side of Queen's-court.

A letter from Mr. Bacon, the tenant of the hotel, was read, offering to rent the premises in Middle-yard, now in the occupation of Mr. Lambert, who quits at Midsummer. The Board, having taken the subject into consideration, recommend that the said premises be let to Mr. Bacon at an annual rent of £50, with an agreement to surrender the same at any quarter on receiving six months' notice.

A letter from Mrs. Barton, wife of the late Grand Tyler, was read, stating her present state of destitution, and praying for some assistance. The Board beg to recommend the case to the sympathy and consideration of Grand Lodge, and pray their consent to the grant of £20, and that the same be paid to Mrs. Barton in weekly sums by the Grand Secretary.

26th May, 1857.

VOL. III.

(Signed)

A. DOBIE, *President.*

A B

On clause 1,—

Bro. Aria asked how the Brethren were to be informed of the business to be brought forward in Grand Lodge when the Lodges were not meeting?

Bro. Dobie said the circulars would be sent to the usual place of meeting.

In reply to Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon,

Bro. Dobie said that, if this motion were carried, Bro. Portal's would be rendered unnecessary.

The clause was then agreed to.

The resolution about the purchase of property was referred to the Board of General Purposes, with instructions to carry it into effect as suggested.

The report as a whole was then agreed to.

From the financial statement it appeared that the balance at the bankers' to the credit of the Fund of Benevolence, on the 22nd of May, was £1,603.

The balance for General Purposes to the same date was £1,358. 1s. 6d.

Out of these balances there have been ordered to be invested in the 3 per Cents. £500 for the Benevolent Fund, making a total invested of £17,000 on that account, and £500 for the General Purposes Account, making the total of that account £6,500.

Ordered to be entered on the minutes.

THE CHARITY JEWEL.

Bro. Rev. G. R. Portal, P.M., No. 460, moved :—

“That the resolution, confirmed in December last, relative to the Charity Jewel, be rescinded; and that instead thereof it be enacted, That any Brother serving the Stewardship of the Festival of the Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, in addition to those of the Boys' and Girls' Charities, be entitled to wear a clasp on the ribbon by which the Charity Medal is suspended; such clasp to be approved by the Board of General Purposes.”

The Reverend Brother in support of his motion, said that he agreed that there ought to be no distinction between the three charities, but the principle upon which that object was sought to be attained was faulty, and it would be well to reconsider it. The medal bore upon the face of it the statement that the wearer had served—not the Annuity Fund, but—the Boys' and Girls' School. He proposed to allow Brethren who had served the Annuity Fund as well as the Boys' and Girls' School, to wear a clasp to show that they had served the third charity. He admitted that this would oblige Brethren to serve the Boys' and Girls' School before they served the Annuity Fund, if they wanted to wear the medal. The form of the clasp would of course be determined by the M.W. the G.M.

Bro. Hervey seconded the motion, and expressed a hope that it would be carried unanimously.

Bro. Henry G. Warren said :—M.W.G.M., before the question is put, I should like to say a few words. My resolution, which has been agreed to, proposes really to place the charities upon an equal footing; but Bro. Portal's keeps up what I have often complained of—it puts the Annuity Fund the third on the list. I shall therefore move an amendment in the following words :—“That the resolution relative to the Charity Jewel, approved by Grand Lodge in December, be rescinded, and that the M.W. the G.M. be respectfully requested to take into his consideration the propriety of granting some honorary badge for serving the office of Steward in support of the Benevolent Fund.”

Bro. Jones seconded the motion, and suggested that a General Charity Jewel should be worn by those who had served all three of the Institutions.

Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon said it was objected that the medal was given to those who served the Boys' and Girls' School, and that this placed the Annuity Fund in an inferior position; but what was the remedy proposed by the amendment? Why, it was that the Annuity Fund should have a Jewel of its own, while the Boys and Girls had only one between them. This was placing the Annuity Fund above both the Boys and the Girls. (Hear, hear.)

The question was then put for rescinding the resolution of December, and agreed to.

The M.W. the G.M. said he would do his best to carry out the resolution.

THE TEMPLE FOR A GLEE-ROOM.

Bro. H. G. Warren moved :—"That henceforth the use of the Temple be granted to the Stewards of the four Masonic festivals for a music-room at the conclusion of such festivals." He said that every one admitted the inconvenience arising from the present want of accommodation for the glee-room party at the Masonic festivals. It was well known that there was not accommodation for anything like the number who regularly attended. He thought the Temple would be far more suitable, and that it would be most fittingly occupied in the manner he proposed, while it would add greatly to the comfort of the ladies whom they invited to partake of the hospitalities of the evening. A great deal had been said of the advantage of having the ladies with them (hear, and cheers), and if they were to be with them, let them give them every accommodation in their power. In the Temple there was accommodation, and there was at the same time the advantage of facilities of access. He did not intend it should have anything to do with refreshment (hear),—nothing whatever,—the present glee-room could be appropriated to that purpose, as heretofore, and the Temple would only be used for the purposes of music.

Bro. Lambert seconded the motion.

Bro. Henderson said that he was ready to admit the inconvenience referred to, but alterations were in progress which would enable the Brethren to receive their fair friends in a proper manner. (Hear, hear.) This, however, was not the question,—the question was, whether a building intended to be exclusively devoted to the purposes of Masonry should be applied to another purpose? It would be a matter of regret if there were not some room specially devoted to Masonry. Motions of this kind had several times been made, and withdrawn in deference to the wishes of the Brethren, and he hoped it would be withdrawn on the present occasion, as the Brethren generally felt how desirable it was to maintain the Temple intact for the uses to which alone it ought to be devoted; viz., to the meetings of Grand Lodge, Grand Chapters, and occasionally to those of private Lodges and Chapters, as was the case the other day, when a noble Brother whom he saw opposite had used it for the purposes of his installation. It was not perhaps generally known that any Lodge or Chapter could have the use of the Temple for such purposes on the payment of a small fee. (Hear, hear.) Under the circumstances, he hoped that the motion would be withdrawn.

Bro. Warren: "On the understanding that a proper room is to be provided, I will withdraw the motion. (Hear, hear.) But I don't see that serving buns and wine to the children can be more appropriate in the Temple than good music." (Hear, and a laugh.)

THE GRAND MASTER.

Bro. Warren, in deference to the suggestions which had been made to him from various quarters, withdrew the motion which stood on the paper in his name to the following effect, at the same time expressing his conviction that if carried, it would add to the dignity of the office and the independence of the Craft :—

"That from the date of the resignation or voidance of office, from any cause whatever, of the M.W.G.M. the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland and the R.W.D.G.M. the Right Hon. Lord Panmure, no Brother (excepting he be a prince of the reigning family of Great Britain) be eligible to be elected or appointed as G.M., Prov. G.M., or D.G.M., for more than five years in succession, but any Brother who has once served either of those offices shall be eligible for further re-election or appointment at any time after the expiration of twelve months from the date at which he retires from office."

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Bro. Warren moved :—"That notices of motion once given shall stand on the paper of business in their order of precedency until considered by Grand Lodge, withdrawn, or otherwise disposed of." He said there could be no objection to that motion. At present they had notices of motion on the paper for ten or twelve

months, or perhaps eighteen months, and then, in the interval between one Grand Lodge and the other, some Brother sent in an entirely new motion before the old one happened to be renewed, and thus the new motion appeared before the old ones upon the paper. This was not fair; for if the motion was good, the sooner it was passed the better, and, if bad, the sooner Grand Lodge expressed its disapproval of it the better, in order that it might be rejected.

Bro. Binckes seconded the motion, on the ground that it would have a good effect.

Bro. Thomas Taylor supported the resolution, because it went on the good old English maxim of "first come first served." (Hear, hear.) But he thought that though the old motions should take the precedence of the new, yet they should require to be renewed; or else, when, in the interval between the Grand Lodges, the Brethren had altered their opinions in respect to motions, the time of Grand Lodge would be occupied unnecessarily. He did not, however, see that Bro. Warren had much ground for complaint, for all the motions of that evening, with one exception, had proceeded from him. (Hear, and laughter.) He proposed, therefore, that the resolution should bear this addition:—"Provided that notice of renewal be given to the Board of Masters immediately preceding the next Quarterly Communication."

After a few words from Bro. Aria and Bro. Symonds,—

Bro. Dobie suggested that the object would be met by the insertion of the words "if renewed" after the word "precedency." (Hear, hear.)

In this amended shape the motion was, with the consent of the mover and seconder, agreed to.

It being now past eleven o'clock, no new business could be proceeded with, and the M.W. the G.M. closed the Lodge in ample form.

MASONIC ON-DIT.

That a new charter is about to be applied for, for a Lodge to be held at Hampton Court, by Brethren connected with the Westminster and Keystone Lodge. Bro. Portal is to be the first W.M.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED FREEMASONS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

THE Triennial Festival of this noble Institution was held at the Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday, June 17th. Although upwards of 150 of the Craft sat down to dinner, and although the objects for which the Institution was designed were warmly supported,—as will be evident from the large sum collected, £1,558. 6s. 6d.,—yet we deeply regretted to see the *dais* so thinly attended, especially by the leading Brethren of the Order, to whom we should have thought this Festival would have proved a greater and more solid attraction. It is not for us to judge or attempt to account for their absence; we simply and regretfully record the circumstance.

The chair was to have been filled by the Earl of Durham, S.G.W.; but, as will be subsequently seen, that nobleman was unable to attend. In his absence, therefore, it was taken by Bro. H. Fenwick, M.P. for Sunderland, J.G.W., supported by Bros. Capt. Bowyer, Prov. G.M. for Oxford; Rawson, Prov. G.M. for China; Beech, M.P.; W. G. Clarke, G.S.; Tomkins, G.T.; W. H. White, P.G.S.; Parkinson, P.G.D.; Thos. H. White, P.G.D.; Jno. Hervey, P.G.D.; Herbert Lloyd, P.G.D.; W. Evans, P.G. Sword-bearer; C. Horsley, G. Organist, &c. &c.

The gallery was well filled by a very graceful assemblage of ladies, who evinced no inconsiderable interest in the proceedings, and whose re-entrance at the commencement of the post-prandial business of the day was greeted with several rounds of applause, a recognition which they most pleasingly acknowledged.

The dinner, it is scarcely necessary to say, was all that could be desired, supported by wines of true excellence, and rendered most agreeable by that attention to the comfort of their assemblies for which Messrs. Elkington and Co. are famed.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bros. Lawler and King, and right well did they perform their office, both in the selection of the music to be performed and of the talented *artistes* to whom the execution thereof was intrusted. Miss Poole, who was announced as one of the singers, was unfortunately prevented from being present by indisposition, and her place was ably filled by Mrs. Clare Hepworth. There were besides, Mrs. Heywood Thomas, Miss Leffler, and Bro. Fielding. Mrs. Donald King presided at the pianoforte with great ability; and Bro. Horsley, in the course of the evening, gave one of those brilliant solos on that instrument for which he is so celebrated.

Bro. Banks, jun., performed the duties of toast-master with great efficiency.

The cloth having been removed, and grace beautifully and impressively sung,—

The Chairman rose to propose the first toast, “The Queen,” and, in so doing, said that it was unnecessary for him to occupy their time on that head for more than one brief minute. He was quite sure they would all agree with him that that distinguished lady had manifested so many, such manifold virtues, that they had shed a lustre on even royalty itself altogether unknown in past times. (Three times three cheers.)

The national anthem was then exquisitely rendered, and drew down richly-merited bursts of applause.

The Chairman next gave “Prince Albert, Albert Prince of Wales, and the other branches of the Royal Family.” In order to proceed to the more immediate business of the meeting, he should pass over the toast without comment, were it not that that young and distinguished lady towards whose future career the eyes of England were directed was included in it. He knew that he spoke their sentiments when he said that he hoped, in that future and more extended career of responsibility she was about to undertake, she would obtain all that happiness which through her beauty and her virtues had been extended to her in her own hitherto happy home. He hoped sincerely she might be as happy as they knew she was good. (Loud cheers.)

The Chairman said that, the preceding toasts having comprehended the reigning family of this country, they had shown their duty and fidelity as good and loyal citizens. He would ask them now to drink the health of their Masonic sovereign, “The M.W.G.M. the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland.” (Cheers.) He was quite sure he could safely appeal to the Masons of England in his behalf, for Masons could all see in their G.M. sufficient inducement to drink the toast with the utmost sincerity. (Hear, hear.) He had now for many years occupied the chief chair, in which his urbanity of manner was unsurpassed, and in which he displayed great kindness and comeliness of disposition, and that firmness which won and influenced by its very gentleness. Other estimable conduct, too, he had shown, which altogether formed reasons why they, as his subjects, should pledge the toast in a full and genial bumper. He had received a note from the noble earl desiring him to state to the meeting the cause of his absence, and he regretted to say that the cause was ill-health. They were all aware that for some time past domestic indisposition had prevented his attendance from being so frequent as could have been wished. Had he been able to have been present he was sure he would have been glad to have presided. He hoped they would think of him in the words of the song,—

“Then, oh! in your triumph remember his merit,
And lift high the wine-cup that flows to his name.”

(Loud cheers.)

The Chairman then gave as the next toast, “The Right Hon. Lord Panmure, D.G.M., and the Present and Past Grand Officers.” In former times, when the Scotch crossed the English border, it created in the minds of Englishmen—he would not say feelings of great fear, but at any rate of some little apprehension, for they came with the warlike appliances of spears and bended bows. But now

a Scotchman—the Deputy Grand Master—came as a peacemaker, an allayer of animosities, a soother of discord; and he was recognized as such by every member of the Craft in the country. Had that always been the case, it might ever have been sung,—

“Welcome blue bonnets over the border.”

(Cheers.) He would now call attention to the Present and Past Grand Officers, and was happy in being permitted to couple with the toast of their healths the name of a Brother who was never mentioned without regard and veneration—Bro. White. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. W. H. White, P. G. Sec., in returning thanks, said he felt exceedingly impressed by the circumstance of the Chairman having so particularly mentioned his name as to call upon him individually to return thanks for the honour done to the Grand Lodge. As to their noble D.G.M., Lord Panmure, there was but one opinion, and therefore it was unnecessary for him to say more than that he had done much and would do yet more to serve the Craft and to promote its general interests. From the bottom of his heart he sincerely felt all the gratitude any one could well feel for the compliment they had paid himself; and he assured them that, so long as he remained amongst them, his most anxious wishes and endeavours would ever be directed and exerted to promote the interests of the Institution generally, and especially of this charity. He perhaps ought to add a word or two in reference to the Earl of Durham, who had intended to be present. When he saw him a few weeks since, he promised that he would certainly take the chair unless something extraordinary prevented him from doing so. However, circumstances had occurred which had compelled the noble lord to leave England before the day fixed for the dinner—circumstances over which he had no control, and owing to which he was obliged to leave London the day before. The noble earl, however, had intrusted him with a draft for £20, as his contribution towards the funds of the charity, in which he expressed that he felt the deepest interest. (Loud cheers.)

The Chairman next gave “The Provincial Grand Masters”—two of those distinguished Officers being present. He might remind them that, however well governed the Craft might be by its king, it yet required proconsuls, as it were, to attend to its business in the provinces; and without the active co-operation of such Officers in the prosecution of the business and duties of Masonry, Masonry could not be properly carried on. He had great pleasure in calling attention to the presence of Bro. Rawson, Prov. G.M. for China; and Bro. Bowyer, Prov. G.M. for Oxford. He was happy in being able to say that he found that Masonry was flourishing in both those provinces to a vast extent; and that in China especially it had progressed so much that really they might hardly despair seeing even Commissioner Yeh himself joining them. (Laughter and cheers.)

Bro. Samuel Rawson, in returning thanks, bore testimony to the truth of what the Chairman had said in reference to the progress of English Masonry in the province over which he had the honour to preside. In no province were the principles of Masonry more honourably or more straightforwardly carried out, comparatively few though the members were who had ranged themselves under its banners. He had the pleasure of appealing to the Masons of China in support of the charities of England, and in the lists he found the name of each Lodge of China as handsome contributors. (Loud cheers.)

The Chairman again rose and said that to the next toast he would beg their kind and careful attention, that of “Success to the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows.” (Cheers.) He assured them that he approached this subject with very great and very well-founded diffidence. That diffidence would be overwhelming, if he did not know that in every Freemason’s heart there was a fountain of goodness which never yet was found dry when an appeal was made to it in behalf of a distressed Brother. (Loud cheers.) It was not his intention to dilate at length on this subject. It was known to all of them that this charity, whose triennial festival they were met to celebrate (so far as regarded the male fund) was established in 1842, when his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex presided over the Craft. That portion of it which extended to

Freemasons' widows, was founded at a later period—he believed in 1850—under the presidency of the Earl of Zetland. Both of these were supported from three sources. First, from a large and fixed annual grant from the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter; secondly, from interest accruing from moneys invested in the funds; and thirdly, and mainly, from the voluntary donations of the Brethren of the Craft. Inasmuch as the two former of these sources were fixed and invariable, it naturally followed, that if they expected an extension of the usefulness of the institution, they must look to the voluntary donations of the Brethren. (Hear, hear.) Going back for two or three years, he was sorry that the prospects elicited were not so favourable as he should like to have seen them. For instance, the Royal Benevolent Annuity Fund, for Masons themselves. He found that the year preceding March, 1855, the voluntary donations were between £700 and £800. In the following year there was a great diminution, they then only amounted to some £594; and the year after worse still, for there was only £405 collected. (Hear, hear.) He thought it his duty to allude to these facts, for, looking at the charity as one which must be kept up, and the large sums of money required to be laid out, it was better that they knew the exact state of the case. (Hear, hear.) What was the result of the diminution of the funds? First, last year (for the first time since the charity was instituted) no annuitants at all were elected in it! The result was an accumulation of applicants, each of whom was as necessitous, and had as good claims, as any of those who had been fortunate enough to be elected before. (Hear, hear.) The same state of things occurred in reference to the Widows' Fund. There was a decrease there also, though not to so great an extent. He had to ask them, therefore, with a view to practically carrying out the principles of the Order, whether they intended to permit that state of things to go on, or whether they were prepared (to use a homely expression) to take the bull by the horns—to turn over a new leaf—and to carry out those principles in the most efficient manner? (Hear, hear.) In his mind's eye he saw some good and necessitous Mason an applicant for the benefit of this fund,—one whom, perhaps, some of them might have met at the convivialities of the Masonic board—one with whom they might have engaged in happy conversation at that table—one, perhaps, who might have been engaged in a long career of Masonic usefulness—now learning the bitter lesson that “hope deferred maketh the heart sick.” (Hear, hear.) He hoped sincerely that by their efforts to-day they would enable that poor Mason to say practically, that the renewal of hope had given him consolation—that hope which pointed out to him a safe haven for rest for the remainder of his life. (Hear, hear.) Their beautiful building near Croydon was adapted for the habitation of thirty-four necessitous Masons, who could live there in homely comfort. This filled, he knew, was what they would all like to witness; but at the present moment, partly from want of funds and partly from other causes, that beautiful building, with all its comforts, conveniences, and appliances, had within its walls only fourteen or fifteen residents. (Hear, hear.) He pointed out this circumstance, for, unless something was done to carry into effect the particular object for which the building was erected, the money spent in its construction would be practically thrown away. (Hear, hear.) He very much feared that, owing to his own defects, he should scarcely be able to obtain such a response from them as he could wish; but he would earnestly solicit them, if only for his own sake, as the humble advocate of the claims before them, not to let it be said that up to a certain time this charity was supported well and efficiently, and then failed for want of funds. He besought them to give, and to give freely and liberally to the funds of one of the noblest institutions which graced these realms. (Loud cheers.)

The Secretary, Bro. W. Farnfield, then read a long series of lists of subscriptions, the grand total of which formed the munificent sum of £1,558. 6s. 6d. :—

To the Widows' Fund.	£ 774	6	6
To the Male Annuitants' Fund.	755	10	0
To the Building Fund.	28	10	0
	<hr/>		
	£1,558	6	6

Then followed that exquisitely beautiful solo on the pianoforte by Bro. Horsley, which we alluded to in the earlier part of our report, and which elicited thunders of applause.

Bro. Capt. Bowyer then rose to propose the health of "the Chairman." He said it had most unexpectedly devolved upon him to propose this toast, and he felt some disappointment that the toast had not fallen into the hands of others who would have done more justice to it than he was capable of doing. However, he assured them he felt no less interest in this excellent charity than they did, nor any less desire to do honour to any one who so earnestly advocated its cause as the worthy chairman had done. The position which their right worshipful chairman had taken, and the statements he had advanced, left him but little to say. This, however, he might add, that the efficient manner in which their president had conducted the business of the meeting denoted him capable of taking any office which might be offered him. Not only had he performed duties to his country generally in a satisfactory manner, but as a Mason, by his efficiency, zeal, and ability, he had rendered the Masonic cause eminent service. Under his auspices he conceived they had achieved a great Masonic triumph that evening, as witnessed by the splendid result in the subscription-lists. It was enough to justify him in saying that he thought they might go home and safely thank God that they were Masons. (Cheers.)

The Chairman, in responding to the toast, assured them that this mark of their kindness and approbation was received by him with a thankfulness impossible for him to describe. It was enough, however, for him to say that he should never forget the kindness and consideration paid to him—especially towards the defects which must have been apparent to every one present. He could not but advert to the three meetings which had recently been held in support of Masonic charities. At the first festival some £1,200 were collected for the Boys' School (hear, hear); shortly afterwards the festival of the Girls' School produced £1,886 or £1,900 (cheers); and now, to-night, they had the high satisfaction of knowing that £1,588. 6s. 6d. had been gathered. (Loud cheers.) In a word upwards of £4,645 had been subscribed towards the Masonic charities of this country. (Reiterated cheering.) He called that a great Masonic fact to fling in the face of those who entertained the ideas of the outer world, that Masons only met for conviviality, and for other ends which were unworthy the rest of Englishmen. (Repeated cheering.) He felt that he could ever point to such lists of subscriptions in proof of the excellence of their charities, and of the liberal manner in which they were supported. (Cheers.)

Bro. Beech, *M.P.* for Hants, rose to propose the next toast—"The Right Hon. Lord Southampton, Past President; the Trustees, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Committee, and Officers of the Institution." They had that evening, under the able presidency of their chairman, received a very handsome collection for the charity. The accents of foreboding with which he (the chairman) had commenced the business of the evening, had happily been changed into notes of triumph. It was, of course, impossible that a charity of this nature could be carried on without such worthy men and officers as he had named—Brethren who had given their time, their trouble, and their zeal to the great work of the institution, and of whom they were fortunate enough to number many amongst them that day. A great debt of gratitude was due to them, and especially to Bro. Tomkins, Grand Treasurer, whose zeal in Masonry was well known, and whose name, therefore, he had much pleasure in coupling with the toast. (Cheers.)

Bro. Samuel Tomkins, *G. Treas.*, returned thanks, and in so doing considered the business of the evening a perfect triumph. The liberality with which they had met the appeals made to them was most gratifying. He anticipated the greatest success to this most interesting institution from the exhibition of liberality displayed on the present occasion. For his own part he felt extremely thankful for the support rendered, and hoped that on their next festival they should see as large or larger number of supporters around them. (Cheers.)

Bro. Tomkins again rose, and gave "The other Masonic Charities." He said he had to thank them for the great success which, through their instrumentality, had attended the Benevolent Institution. But, whilst they congratulated them-

selves on this, they should not be unmindful of other claims on their interests and affections—he alluded to the Girls' and Boys' Schools—two most estimable institutions, whose merits were too well known to render it necessary for him to say one word in their favour. The amount collected in the year, not only here, but from the several Lodges in the country, was a very cheering ground, and a very interesting fact in Masonry. He would couple with the toast the name of Bro. Crew. (Cheers.)

Bro. Crew said he was happy in having the opportunity of addressing them; for if any one felt a deeper interest than another in the success of these institutions, it was himself. The speaker, in a few concluding words, expressed like gratification to that evinced by the preceding speakers, on account of the liberality with which the appeals for support for the different institutions had been met; and hoped sincerely that so good a cause would continue to grow and prosper. (Cheers.)

Bro. Beech then rose to give the next toast, which he was sure they would receive with enthusiasm—"The Ladies." (Tremendous cheering.) A more unfounded calumny than that which had been propagated, and which in some quarters was actually believed, that the ladies were excluded from Masonic assemblies, and regarded with a sort of pious abhorrence—(laughter)—did not exist. He was happy to know to the contrary, and was happy to say that such statements were false. He need scarcely advert to the circumstance of their presence—to the enthusiasm with which their first approach had been greeted—to the warm manner in which they had drunk their healths afterwards—nor, when the manner in which the charities and institutions had been supported was announced, how their bright eyes shone in the pure spirit of charity. (Enthusiastic cheering.)

The Chairman then gave "The Stewards." (Cheers.)

Bro. Parkinson responded, adverting to the great success of the evening's business, that success was due to those present more than to the stewards; for it was of little use their names appearing unless other names followed with substantial subscriptions attached to each. He for one hoped to see this, not a triennial festival only, but an annual one. (Hear, hear.) He believed, too, if they had a winter dinner it would be more advantageous; and he further believed that an annual festival would not diminish in any way those two excellent charities the Girls' and Boys' Schools. They ought not, in taking care of the children, to neglect the parents. Whilst they remembered the branches, they ought to remember the parent stock also. (Loud cheers.)

Thus ended a most gratifying and successful festival. That portion of the company having the *entrée* then adjourned to the glee-room, where we were glad to leave them.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

At the monthly meeting on the 24th June, seven petitioners were relieved by the vote of £51.

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

At the monthly meeting on the 10th June, Bro. Dixon, who has been an unsuccessful candidate at thirteen elections, was placed upon the funds by the committee, he being upwards of eighty years of age. Mrs. Bird and Bro. Offer, who were successful at the last election, have accepted residences in the asylum at Croydon.

METROPOLITAN.

LODGE OF FIDELITY (No. 3).—This Lodge held its last meeting for the season on Wednesday, June 10, at the Freemasons' Tavern; Bro. Gillespie W.M., presiding. The minutes of the last Lodge being confirmed, the W.M. proceeded to initiate two gentlemen into the Order. The initiates, Lieutenant John Richard Wolseley (18th Royal Irish) and Mr. Julius Jacoby, appeared duly impressed with the beauty of the ceremony, which was admirably rendered by the W.M., who also conferred the 2nd Degree upon Bros. A. S. Jones, Glover, and Robinson, and the 3rd Degree upon Bros. Tarrant, Furley, Neville, and Fraser. Lodge business being ended, the Brethren adjourned to banquet, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk. The W.M., proposing the toast of "The Initiates," adverted to the honour done this Lodge by its being selected for their newly-made members, one of whom had upheld the glory of the country in the Crimean expedition; the other being a Prussian gentleman, whom they were proud to see amongst them, as it showed that country or sect was no bar to Masonry, the order being essentially that of a common Brotherhood. The toast was well received, and neatly responded to. The visitors present were—Bros. J. D. Archbell, P.M. No. 268; J. W. Jackson, W.M. No. 225; A. Frend No. 233. The W.M. was well supported by his officers, as also by a large number of P.Ms., Bros. Goldsworthy, P.S.G.D., Shackleton, Williams, Heath, Dearsley, Low, and Squires. Thanks were voted, during the evening, to Bro. Sargent for the honour he had done the Lodge by representing it as a steward at the late festival of the Girls' School. The Brethren retired early, highly pleased with the entertainment.

WESTMINSTER AND KEYSTONE LODGE (No. 10).—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, June 3, in the Freemasons' Tavern, presided over by Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon, W.M., supported by his Wardens, viz., Bros. Ralph A. Benson, S.W.; Frederick Cox, J.W. There were also present amongst the members Bros. Lords Skelmersdale and Valletort; Sir John E. Harrington, Bart.; Rev. W. H. Lyall, M.A.; Alderman Spiers, P.G.S.B.; &c. &c. There was no business before the Lodge, which having been closed in due form, the Brethren adjourned to banquet, and among the visitors we observed Bro. Smith, of the Scientific Lodge, Cambridge. After the customary Masonic toasts were drunk, the W.M., accompanied by his Wardens and P.Ms., retired to take part in the proceedings of Grand Lodge.

ROBERT BURNS LODGE (No. 25).—This increasing Lodge held a Meeting of Emergency on Monday, June 8, the W.M., Bro. Clements, presiding with his usual ability, and initiating one gentleman into the Order, and advancing four Brethren to further degrees. It was proposed, and carried unanimously, "That a summer banquet be held in July next, to take place at the Crystal Palace." An application was made to the Lodge for relief by the widow of a Brother lately deceased, and the sum of £5 was awarded. A Brother, formerly a member of this Lodge, had a grant of £10 made him, to relieve present necessities. Both sums were taken from the "Lodge Fund of Benevolence." Lodge being closed in due form, the Brethren adjourned.

EGYPTIAN LODGE (No. 29).—The last monthly meeting of this ancient Lodge was held at the George and Blue Boar on Thursday, June 4, the W.M., Bro. James Shepherd (of North Brixton), presiding. Bro. Charles Bryant Payne, G. Tyler, formerly of the Lodge of Industry, but now a member of this Lodge, was appointed I.G. in room of Bro. Benjamin, who has resigned. Some other business terminated the proceedings, and the Lodge was closed in the usual form. The Brethren then retired to banquet, presided over by their W.M. with his accustomed good humour.

LONDON LODGE (No. 125).—On Saturday, the 6th June, the members of this Lodge assembled at the Freemasons' Tavern, when the following business was gone through; viz.—two raisings, one passing, and one initiation, ably performed by Bros. P.Ms. Raynham, Stewart, and S. B. Wilson, J.G.D., in a manner that called forth great praise.

LODGE OF GOOD REPORT (No. 158).—The last meeting of the season was held on Thursday, 4th of June, at Radley's Hotel, in New Bridge-street. Bro. Newman Ward, the W.M., presided, and was supported by all his Officers, also Bros. Chantler, Robinson, Fish, and Southgate, P.Ms., and others. A ballot was taken for the admission of Messrs. T. P. Blyth, H. F. Jourdain, and S. W. Gomme; and those gentlemen, being in attendance, were initiated into Masonry, the ceremony being gone through by the W.M. in a way that reflects high credit on his diligence, the more noticeable, as it was the first instance of his having this duty to perform since his installation in April. Some Brethren were proposed for joining, and altogether the Lodge affords good promise for the ensuing season. The Brethren adjourned to banquet, and an evening of true enjoyment concluded the most satisfactory season the Lodge has known. The visitors present were Bros. Carpenter, W.M. No. 47; Bryon, P.M. No. 57; W. H. Jones, No. 3; and How, Prov. G. Dir. of Cer. for Surrey. In the course of the evening, the W.M., in proposing "The Officers," was pleased to express his entire satisfaction with each and all, and Bro. Smale, S.W., in response, assured his chief that the same earnest desire to discharge the duties of their respective offices pervaded them all, and their attention that evening was but an earnest of their efforts for the future.

ST. ANDREW'S LODGE (No. 281).—This Lodge held its last meeting on Thursday, June 4, when the W.M., Bro. Pierce Egan, most ably raised a Brother to the 3rd Degree. Other business was disposed of, when the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren retired to an excellent supper.

FRENCH LODGE, LA TOLERANCE (No. 784).—The last monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday, June 2, when Bro. Daley, P.M. of the Zetland Lodge, Kensington, most efficiently raised Bro. White to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. At the conclusion of the ceremony the Lodge was duly closed, and the Brethren retired to a substantial supper, provided in good style, presided over by the W.M., Bro. Gratia, who was also supported by Bro. Dr. Caplin, the founder of the Lodge. Bro. Waite, of St. Luke's Lodge, was among the visitors.

POLISH NATIONAL LODGE (No. 778).—On Thursday, June 11, a very large gathering of this highly popular Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Bro. E. Johnstone, W.M., in the chair, who, in an efficient manner, initiated Bro. Robert Metcalfe into the secrets of the Order (previous to his departure for New Zealand), at the conclusion of which some further business was transacted, and the W.M. having vacated the chair, Bro. P.M. Louis Lemanski proceeded to install the S.W., Bro. Horatio Samuel, W.M. for the year ensuing. The ceremony was most beautifully performed, and reflected the highest credit upon this excellent and worthy Brother, who is the Treasurer to the Lodge. The installation brought to a close, the new W.M. invested the following Brethren with the collars of their respective offices; viz., Bros. Viscount Raynham, M.P., S.W.; Punchaud, J.W.; Arnold, S.D.; Levinger, J.D.; St. Clare, I.G.; J. Beckett, Tyler. Bros. C. Hooper, No. 169, and Owen Bowen, No. 32, were unanimously elected joining members. The report from the Audit Committee was also tendered. The whole of the business being over, the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren retired to the Great Hall, where a dinner, including every delicacy of the season, was provided. The tables were graced with rich costly plate and magnificent vases of flowers. The W.M. presided, supported by about 100 Brethren from various Lodges in the metropolis and country; amongst whom we observed Bro. the Rev. Dr. Bowles, Prov. G.M. for Hereford, accompanied by his deputy, Bros. Westmacott, F. Roxburgh, S.G.D.; J. Biggs, P.G.S.B.; Brandon, P.M. No. 23; Bottesini, No. 4; Montemerli, No. 4; Dr. Diplock, No. 4; George Genge, No. 30; Ganz, &c.

After the usual toasts were proposed, and drunk with Masonic honours, the W.M. presented Bro. P.M. Lemanski with a splendid chased-gold cigar-case, emblematical of the Order, and having on one side a fac-simile of the "Charity Medal." Bro. Lemanski acknowledged the high compliment. Bro. P.M. Wiercenski, the founder of the Lodge, responded to the "Past Masters," and observed that the Grand Master was a member of this Lodge, as was also the P.D.G.M. Signor Bottesini played some beautiful solos on the bass violin. Bros. Lorenzo, Ganz, and George Genge contributed to the harmony of the evening their vocal powers. Bro. Benjamin Banks, jun. (of the Egyptian Lodge) was an efficient toastmaster.

CAMDEN LODGE (No. 1,006).—The first meeting of this new Lodge, the Charter of which bears date the 29th of April—the day of the Grand Festival—held its first meeting at the Assembly House, Kentish Town, once a favourite resort of our forefathers, ere steam and the iron horse enabled man to take much more extended journeys. The Lodge having been duly opened, Bro. John Hervey, P.G.D., proceeded, in his usual efficient manner, to consecrate the Lodge; after which he installed as the first Master Bro. G. J. Soper, of Lodge No. 211, who invested as his Officers Bros. S. B. Wilson, jun. (as *locum tenens* of Bro. St. Aubyn Barrett Lennard, who was prevented being present by indisposition), S.W.; Marras Wilson, J.W.; J. Jones (one of the active originators of the Lodge), Treas.; Squire, Sec.; Best, S.D.; Oliver, J.D.; Moore, I. G., and Tyrrell (P.M. St. Luke's Lodge), M.C. Three gentlemen (Messrs. P. J. Hains, H. Crowne, and G. Helps) having been initiated into the Order and other business disposed of, the Brethren adjourned to a very elegant banquet—there being a large number of visitors present, including Bros. John Hervey, P.G.D.; S. B. Wilson, J.G.D.; Hyde Pullen, D. Prov. G.M. Isle of Wight; T. A. Adams, P.M. No. 196; E. Barringer, P.M. No. 130; G. Barrett, P.M. No. 212; Squire, P.M. No. 3; Collard, P.M. No. 209; J. Harris, P.M. No. 9; Croft, W.M. No. 30; Neat, W.M. No. 745, &c. &c. On the removal of the cloth, the W.M. proceeded to give the usual toasts. In proposing "The D.G.M., Lord Panmure, and the rest of the Grand Officers," he coupled with it the name of Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson. Bro. Wilson was well known in the Craft as one of the most successful teachers of the beautiful principles of Freemasonry, and as a Brother who was at all times ready to assist the junior members of the Craft in their search after Masonic knowledge. The G.M., in conferring office upon such a man, had merely rendered him simple justice, though he had at the same time secured for himself the gratitude and approbation of the Craft. Bro. Wilson expressed his thanks for the manner in which the toast had been proposed and responded to. He felt that in the course he had pursued he had only simply done his duty, and he believed he might state, upon behalf of the other Grand Officers, that it would be their endeavour to merit the approbation of the Brethren. The W.M. next gave "The health of Bro. John Hervey, P.G.D., and thanks to him for the great service he had performed to the Lodge in undertaking its consecration and the installation of the W.M. that evening." Bro. Hervey, like his friend Bro. Wilson, felt that he had done nothing more than his duty in assisting to promote the interests of Freemasonry by his humble services that evening. He was most delighted to find that they started under the best of auspices with a most excellent Master and every prospect of permanent success. "The Visitors" was next given, and acknowledged by Bro. Warren. Bro. S. B. Wilson proposed "The health of the W.M.," whose admirable performance of the ceremony of initiation was worthy of the highest praise, and gave promise of working not to be excelled in any Lodge. The W.M. assured the Brethren that it should be his utmost endeavour to do everything in his power to place the Lodge, though low in number, high in efficiency, and proposed the health of the initiates. Bro. Haine responded—assured the Brethren that he and his brother initiates had been much impressed with the beauty of the ceremony—and trusted at some future time to be able to make a more fitting acknowledgment of the pleasure they felt at having been admitted into the Craft. The W.M. next gave

"The Treasurer and Secretary." To Bro. Jones they were under special obligations, as it was mainly through his exertions the Charter had been obtained and they were enabled to meet that evening. Bro. Jones replied, and stated that he had only performed a labour of love in endeavouring to secure to the Brethren resident in Kentish Town a Lodge in their own immediate neighbourhood; and he felt sure, looking at the fact that through the liberality of the Officers the whole of their furniture was already paid for, it could not prove otherwise than successful. "The health of the Wardens and other Officers," acknowledged by Bro. Marras Wilson, *M.D.*, and other toasts having been drunk, the company separated after spending a most harmonious evening. We cannot close our notice without stating that the furniture and arrangements of the Lodge are most complete; the pedestals, pillars, &c. were presented by the W.M., and the jewels, which are of the most elegant design, by Bro. Lennard, the S.W. The manufacturer of the jewels, Bro. Thearle, of Fleet-street, has registered the design. We believe that no Lodge ever started with greater elements of success within itself.

INSTRUCTION.

LODGE OF EMULATION (No. 21).—At the meeting of this Lodge on the 5th of June, Bro. Luis Artus, P.M. of No. 40, presiding, it was resolved, on the motion of the W.M., seconded by Bro. Price, and supported by Bro. J. Hervey, "That at the next anniversary meeting a testimonial should be presented to Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, as a token of esteem and of the sense entertained by the Lodge for his valuable services during the last twenty-five years."

ST. JOHN'S LODGE (No. 196).—There was a large attendance of Brethren at the anniversary meeting of this excellent Lodge of Instruction at the Holly-bush Tavern on the 4th of June, Bro. T. A. Adams presiding as W.M., Bro. Tyrrell as S.W., and Bro. Morris Levinson as J.W. The fifteen sections having been most ably worked, the Brethren adjourned to a very elegant banquet, served under the immediate superintendence of Bro. Dale. The cloth having been withdrawn and grace said, the W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft," which was followed by "The health of the M.W.G.M. the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland." The W.M. would now ask them to fill a bumper to "The D.G.M. and the rest of the G. Officers." Deeply as they must all regret that the illness of the Earl of Yarborough should have induced him to resign the office of D.G.M., it was a source of pleasure to know that he was succeeded by so estimable and distinguished a Brother as Lord Panmure. Of the other G. Officers he need say but little, though he had no reason to doubt that they would do their best for the interests of Freemasonry. There was, however, one of those Officers sitting by his side (Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson) of whom it would be impossible to say too much. He was at all times ready to afford instruction to the Brethren, and they had that day had a specimen of the excellence of his working. As a man and a Mason, he was worthy of the highest regard, and Bro. Wilson had not so much received honour by his recent advancement to the *dais*, as conferred honour upon it by becoming an Officer of Grand Lodge. He would ask them to drink "To Lord Panmure, Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, and the rest of the G. Officers." Bro. Wilson, J.G.D., rose amidst loud cheers, and assured the Brethren that he felt deeply honoured by the way in which his name had been received. So much had within the last few days been said of him in the pages of the *Freemasons' Magazine*, a Brother connected with which (Bro. Warren) was sitting to his right, and that evening by their excellent W.M., that he hardly knew how to express his obligations. This, however, he must be allowed to say, that it would ever be his desire to evince his gratitude by endeavouring to promote the interest of the Craft and the Brethren to the utmost of his power. He was sure, also, that it was the anxious wish of Lord Panmure and the rest of the G. Officers to discharge their duties so as to merit the approbation of the Brethren. Bro. King, as the oldest P.M. of the mother Lodge, proposed "The health of their respected W.M., Bro. Adams." The members of the St. John's Lodge were always glad to see that worthy Brother at their meet-

ings. It was now many years since he first met Bro. Adams in Freemasonry, and he believed he never met him without feeling increased respect and regard for his many Masonic and social virtues. Bro. Adams briefly acknowledged the compliment, and said that, owing to the lateness of the evening, his next toast would be a somewhat comprehensive one, "The Visitors, the Masonic Press, and the Charities," coupling with it the name of Bro. Warren, who was too well known to all present to require from him any remarks to insure a cordial reception to the toast. Bro. Warren, in reply, thanked the Brethren for their kind opinions of him, assured them that it would be at all times a source of great pride to him if he could be in any way influential in assisting in the prosperity of the Craft, or aiding the onward progress of their noble Charities. Whilst speaking of the Charities, he begged to remind them that the Festival of the Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows would take place on the 17th, and that their worthy P.M., Bro. Aldrich (one of the most active friends of the Institution), was a Steward. The W.M. next gave "Bro. Hazard, the Master of the Parent Lodge," No. 196, an excellent Mason, and a man highly esteemed by all who knew him, for his excellent qualities and his extensive and unostentatious charities. Bro. Hazard was aware that Bro. Adams had spoken of him in terms of too high commendation, but he could assure them that he was proud of his connection with No. 196, and he felt that Masonry tended to exalt any man, and that he could not help carrying the precepts and principles taught in the Lodge into the bosom of his family, thus tending even to the rendering of home still more homely and delightful. The next toast proposed from the chair was "The Past Masters of the St. John's Lodge, Bros. King, Hamilton, Shury, and (as the W.M. said, last, not least) Bro. Aldrich," to whom they were greatly indebted for the prosperity not only of the mother Lodge, but the Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Aldrich's whole heart was in Freemasonry, and he was sure that whenever St. John's Lodge called upon him for his services they would again be, as they had always been, most cheerfully rendered. Bro. Dr. King returned thanks for the Past Masters, who could not feel otherwise than most proud at witnessing the prosperity of the Lodge. Bro. Aldrich, as immediate P.M. of the Parent Lodge, also responded. He had ever taken the greatest interest in the Lodge in which he was initiated, and in which he had had the honour to serve as Master. He thanked the Brethren for the support they had afforded him during his year of office, during which time he had had the pleasure of initiating twenty-three gentlemen, good and kind friends, into the Order. The health of "The Wardens," acknowledged by Bro. Tyrrell, and other toasts, having been drunk, the Brethren separated, after spending a most happy evening, which would well bear the morning's reflections.

LODGE OF UNITED PILGRIMS (No. 745).—The Lodge met on Friday, the 19th of June, for the purpose of working the ceremony of Installation, which was performed in a very able and efficient manner by Bro. H. Garrod, W.M. of No. 206, in the presence of several Brethren; after which they partook of a supper, supplied by Bro. Foulsham, in a style which gave general satisfaction, and the evening was passed in social harmony. In May last, the sum of £5 was voted from this Lodge of Instruction to the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, making £15 to the Male Fund and £18 to the Widows' Fund.

PROVINCIAL.

BRISTOL.

Colston Lodge (No. 886).—This Lodge held a Lodge of Emergency on May 28, the business of the evening being one initiation, one passing, and one raising, which ceremonies were worked in a very admirable and efficient manner by the presiding W.M., Bro. Bell, whose year of office will be long remembered by the Brethren of the Lodge—his hospitality having been unbounded, his urbanity the

theme of all, and his integrity of conduct unsurpassed. This being election-night, Bro. Head, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing twelve months, and Bro. J. S. Broad, Treas. The Lodge celebrated the third anniversary of their constitution at the Montagu Hotel, Kingsdown, on the following day, when upwards of seventy Brethren sat down to the banquet; among whom were Captain Shute, Prov. G.M., and several other Prov. G. Officers. This Lodge, although established only three years, already numbers upwards of fifty members, and bids fair to be the most flourishing Lodge in the city and province of Bristol. The Brethren passed a very pleasant evening, under the able presidency of Bro. Bell, W.M., who urged the necessity of a more constant attendance by the Brethren at the Lodge of Instruction, more particularly those who held or aspired to office in the Lodge.

CORNWALL.

CHACEWATER.—*Boscawen Lodge* (No. 1,000).—The Brethren residing in Chacewater, acting under a Warrant of Constitution recently granted from the Grand Lodge, to open a new Lodge in that place under the above title, met on Monday, May 24, for the first time, for the despatch of business. The W.M.'s chair was taken on the occasion by Bro. S. Harvey, P.M. of the Fortitude Lodge, Truro, Bros. John Moyle and Davies, of Chacewater, acting as his Wardens, the other Officers being chosen from the Brethren residing in the place. About twelve Brethren were present to celebrate the opening; including visitors from the Phoenix and Fortitude Lodges, Truro, the former being the mother Lodge of most of the Brethren of the new Lodge. Two candidates were proposed for initiation, and we believe many more are likely to follow. The consecration of the Lodge and installation of the first W.M., who we understand will be Bro. John Moyle, will be performed on an early day by the P.D. Prov. G.M., assisted by the other Prov. G. Officers.

DEVONSHIRE.

NEW MASONIC HALL, TORQUAY.

The ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the new Masonic Hall was performed on Thursday, the 28th of May, by the Right Worshipful the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Devon, Bro. the Rev. John Huyshe, M.A. (assisted by the Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge), with all the brilliant display and imposing solemnity which peculiarly characterize the demonstrations of the Craft.

An event in itself so interesting to the Fraternity, but especially important in the history of Freemasonry in that locality, could not fail to attract a very large gathering of Brethren from all parts of the province. But the interest was not confined to Masonic circles. The assembling together of so large and influential a body of men, highly distinguished as many of them are, both in their social position and in the Craft, and the novel grandeur of the proceedings intended to be publicly conducted, were hailed as fit occasion for a general holiday.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was summoned to assemble at the Town Hall, at "High Twelve;" and by that hour no fewer than four hundred Masons, representing, with very few exceptions, every Lodge of the province, besides many visiting Brethren, were in attendance. The gorgeous arrangements of the interior of the Lodge excited the admiration of every Brother. The D. Prov. G.M., on taking his seat, was greeted, according to the ancient form, nine times, and the Grand Lodge was duly opened with solemn prayer. Bro. Franklin Thomas, W.M. of the St. John's Lodge, Torquay, No. 411, then advanced to the centre of the Lodge, attended by his Wardens and Deacons, and formally asked the D. Prov. G.M. "fraternally to assist him in laying the foundation-stone of a building intended to be dedicated to Freemasonry." Certain ceremonials having been performed, the Brethren, fully clothed in their aprons and insignia of office, departed for the site of the intended building in Park-place. The procession was

at least a quarter of a mile in length, and the effect it produced upon the dense bodies of spectators which availed its path was exceedingly pleasing. On arriving at the building,

THE CEREMONY

was proceeded with in the presence of an immense concourse of persons, who occupied every available spot within sight, preserving, however, the most praiseworthy decorum from beginning to end. All being ready, the P.G. Treasurer deposited the usual coin, and the P.G. Registrar the sealed scroll, in cavities which had been made in the stone for their reception. The silver trowel was then handed to the D. Prov. G.M., who, having spread the mortar, the stone, suspended by the "Lewis," was successfully lowered into its place, and duly tried by the "Plumb-rule," the "Level," and the "Square." Giving it three raps, the D. Prov. G.W. then addressed the assemblage thus:—

"Know, all you who hear me. We proclaim ourselves free and lawful Masons, true to the laws of our country, professing to fear God, and to confer benefits on mankind. We practise universal beneficence towards all. We have secrets concealed from the eyes of men which may not be revealed to any but Masons, and which no cowl has yet discovered; they are, however, lawful and honourable. Unless our Craft was good and our calling honest, these secrets would not have existed for so many generations, nor should we have had so many illustrious personages as Brethren of our Order, always ready to sanction our proceedings and contribute to our welfare. We are assembled in the broad face of open day under the canopy of Heaven to build a house for Masonry. May God prosper our handiwork as it shall most please Him. May this house become a place wherein just and upright Masons may practise benevolence, promote harmony, and cultivate brotherly love, until they shall all assemble in the Grand Lodge above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for ever."

After the foundation-stone had been truly set and struck thrice by the D. Prov. G.M., the following benediction was repeated by the Chaplain:—

"May the Almighty Architect of the Universe, who disposes of all things according to the excellency of His will; who made the heavens for His Majesty, the sun and stars for His glory, and the earth as our place of existence and obedience to His laws, look down on us His servants, Master Masons, endeavouring, in the bonds of love, according to the rules of charity, to build a house for His worship. And may this house, when completed, be a fit habitation for worthy men to meet together to do good. May the secret assemblies of Freemasons convened here, according to law, be conducted in honour, and result in charity. May every Mason who enters under the roof of this intended building remember that the secrets of the Lord our God are with them that fear Him. May this good work prosper. May the workmen be comforted. May no strife, brawling, or unseemly words be heard within the walls. May the Master love the Brethren, and the Brethren honour the Master. May the coming in and going out of the Brethren be blessed for evermore. May there be plenteousness here, and the voice of thanksgiving ever heard. May no mourning or sorrow of heart be known. May the true wayfaring Mason find comfort in his journey when he tarrieth for a time within the gates of this house.

"Oh Lord God! Great Architect and Grand Geometrician of the Universe, prosper Thou our work. Permit us at all times and in all places to build up Thy holy temple in our hearts and souls with the beauty of true holiness, so that we may, by faith and good works, ultimately arrive at that glorious mansion, where all things are indeed perfect,—where there shall be no more labour, no more sorrow, but love, joy, peace, rejoicing, and happiness for evermore."

The Grand Master anointed the stone-work with oil, strewed wheat and salt, and poured wine thereon, saying:—

"Behold how good and pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity. It is like the precious ointment upon the head that ran down upon the beard—even Aaron's beard—that went down to the skirts of his garments; as the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion, for there the Lord commanded the blessing, *even life for evermore.*"

The Prov. G. Chaplain then said :—“ HOLINESS TO THE LORD. May He prosper our handiwork.”

The procession was then re-formed, and proceeded back to the Provincial Grand Lodge in the same order as before.

Upon the proposition of the Prov. G. Sec., Bro. Denis Moore, a sum of £5 was unanimously voted from the funds of the Grand Lodge to the poor widow of a deceased Mason, whose case was well known to many Brethren present. The Lodge was afterwards closed in ample form with solemn prayer, and about 120 of the Brethren adjourned to

THE BANQUET,

which took place in the Union Hall, a large room of ample dimensions, elegantly decorated with flowers, and embellished by the banners of the Prov. G.M., the D. Prov. G.M., and of the various Lodges of the province. Indeed, as the Brethren stood ranged on each side of several long tables, dressed in the various badges and jewels of the Order, the *tout ensemble* was superb, and presented a magnificent appearance.

The Dragoon Band was in attendance, and performed with marked ability.

The D. Prov. G.M. was supported on the right hand by Bros. Denis Moore, P. Prov. G.J.W. and Prov. G. Secretary ; Rev. R. F. Elrington, Chaplain of the Brixham Lodge ; Bro. Dix, Prov. G. Swordbearer ; Capt. Russell, P. Prov. G. Deacon ; Jenkin Thomas, Prov. G. Superintendent of Works ; — Pollard, P. Prov. G. Treasurer ; C. J. Laidman, Prov. G. Dir. of Cer. ; J. Killingley, Prov. G. Asst. Dir. ; G. W. Turner, P.M. ; and on the left hand, by Bros. the Rev. W. E. Hadow, *M.A.*, Prov. G. Chaplain ; Rev. J. Russel, *M.A.*, P. Prov. G. Chaplain ; Rev. Henry Bowden, *M.A.*, Chaplain of the Torquay Lodge ; Dr. Bucknill, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works, Dorset ; L. Tripe, P. Prov. G. Deacon ; — Collins, Prov. G. Registrar, Wiltshire ; F. Thomas, P. Prov. G. Reg., Oxfordshire, and W.M. of the Torquay Lodge ; Dr. Blake, P.M., S.W., and E. Appleton (the architect), J.W. of the Torquay Lodge ; G. W. Webber, P.M., and S. Cash, P.G. Stewards ; J. Sherrard, P.M., and W. Melliush, P.M.—Bros. Col. Morris, Prov. S.W., and Capt. Woods, Prov. J.W., discharged the duties of Vice-Presidents.

On the removal of the cloth,

The R.W.D. Prov. G.M. called upon the Brethren to drink with all due honours the health of “The Queen,” whom no man, he was quite certain, honoured more than the “free and accepted Mason.” (Cheers.)

The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm ; the band following the cheering with the National Anthem. “Prince Albert, Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family” having been drunk,

The R.W. Chairman, in proposing “The Army and Navy,” observed that, independently of its claims upon their good feeling and patriotism, arising out of the brilliant deeds of both branches of her Majesty’s service during the late war, the toast was one of peculiar interest to Freemasons, when they recollected the great number of members of their Craft who were officially attached to the Army and Navy. Many honourable and distinguished Masons, whose names he could enumerate, were thus situated ; and he asked them, therefore, to give a toast—always demanding their enthusiasm as Englishmen—a warm and hearty reception. (Cheers.)

Bro. Colonel Morris, Prov. G.S.W., returned thanks on behalf of the army. He was fully sensible of the cordiality with which the nation had acknowledged its services to their country ; and he rejoiced to say that Freemasonry was in nowise dishonoured by that department of her Majesty’s forces. (Hear, hear.) During the late war in the Crimea, many a gallant fellow had, in the intervals of that struggle, for the first time seen the light of true Freemasonry, and often was the Master’s order stayed, and the stroke of the gavel interrupted, by the roar of cannon. Balaklava had a Lodge of its own, and many a brave Brother was suddenly summoned from his labour there to attend in the Grand Lodge above. Masonry even during that sanguinary struggle was not neglected.

Bro. Lieut. Phipps, of Chichester, responded for the Navy.

The healths of the M.W.G.M. of England, the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, and of the M.W.G.M. of Ireland and Scotland, were then successively drunk.

The R.W. Chairman was quite sure that the toast he was about to propose would be received with unmitigated pleasure—associated, however, with a feeling of deep regret, in which every Brother shared, at the unavoidable absence of the distinguished Mason whose name he should present. For thirty-seven years had he enjoyed the honour of presiding over this province, and his interest in the progress of the Masonic art—always deep and sincere—was still unabated. Declining health alone prevented his attendance on that day; but he was truly representing his lordship's feelings when he said that his heart was with them. He gave "The health of the R.W. Prov. G.M. of Devon, the Right Hon. the Earl Fortescue, *K.C.B.*" (Cheers.)

This toast was duly honoured.

Bro. F. Thomas, W.M., St. John's Lodge (No. 411), Torquay, was happy to say that no such feelings of regret as necessarily attended the reception of the last toast could mingle with their enthusiasm in drinking the health of the D. Prov. G.M., which he had the honour and very great pleasure of proposing. (Cheers.) He performed that duty with much satisfaction, because he felt that he (the W.M.), and through him the members of the St. John's Lodge, were bound to express to the D. Prov. G.M. their deep gratitude for the very kind manner in which he had entered into the feelings which dictated them to carry on the proceedings of that day, and for the impressiveness with which he had performed the onerous duties that had fallen upon him. They desired also to manifest their gratitude to the other members of the Provincial Grand Lodge for the readiness with which they had assembled with all the "pomp and circumstance" that should ever attend demonstrations of that character, and for the very imposing manner in which the whole ceremony had been conducted. He rejoiced exceedingly at the large assemblage of Brethren that had gathered together at Torquay on that day. Freemasonry had been for a considerable time at a very low ebb in this town; so much so, that it was almost regarded as a thing passed away. But he was proud to say that that day's demonstration would prove that Freemasonry was not merely a name—that it was a fact, and not a fiction (hear, hear); and he was confident that from the auspicious commencement of this Lodge would date a new era of Freemasonry in Torquay, and that great numbers would speedily determine to rank under its banners. (Cheers.) To the D. Prov. G.M. and his Officers were they indebted for the opportunity of showing to the people of Torquay how great a thing Freemasonry was; and, therefore, without dilating on his personal excellences, or the efficiency with which he discharged the duties of his high office, which were patent to them all, he would ask them to drink, with all the enthusiasm the toast demanded, "The health of the D. Prov. G.M. of Devon, Brother the Rev. John Huyshe." (Loud cheers.)

The R.W.D. Prov. G.M. could not adequately express his gratitude for the cordiality with which they had drunk his health. He assured the W.M. of St. John's Lodge that, whatever might have been its prosperity with regard to numbers, Torquay stood very high in Masonic estimation; for that was the second time within the last three years that he had had the honour of presiding, in that very room, over larger meetings of Brethren than he had ever witnessed at other parts of the Province. To the efficient manner in which the Officers of the Grand Lodge, and indeed the W.M. of the St. John's Lodge, had pre-arranged everything, was alone to be attributed the completely successful manner in which the different beautiful ceremonial rites of the day had been carried out. With regard to the exceedingly interesting event that had occasioned their meeting, he could only say that the new Lodge had been indeed commenced with very great zeal on the part of the Torquay Brethren, had been hitherto carried on in perfect harmony, and—he felt assured from a conviction of the Masonic character of them all, he might add—would end in what a Mason's work always did end, in Brotherly love. (Cheers.)

The R.W.D. Prov. G.M. next proposed the health of Bro. Lawrence Palk, *M.P.*,

the donor of the site, whose absence—attributable to Parliamentary duties—he very much regretted. (Cheers.)

The R.W. Brother said he would now propose a toast which he was sure they would drink with very great satisfaction—the healths of the Master, Warden, and Brethren of the Lodge which had so nobly entertained them. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. Thomas, W.M., on behalf of his Lodge and himself, tendered the Brethren their sincere thanks for the kind manner in which they had accepted the toast, and for the mention of the obligations under which they all held themselves to be for the arrangements of the day. He was indeed very happy to find, from the testimony of all with whom he had had communication, that those arrangements had met with their entire approval. (Cheers.) The Brethren of the Torquay Lodge felt it to be a duty they owed to the Provincial Grand Officers of Devon to receive them with all the honour it was possible for them to show, and that no pains to render their comfort certain and the general arrangements complete should be spared; and the satisfaction it had given the large assemblage of Brethren who had honoured them with their presence at that auspicious solemnity amply repaid them for their exertions. (Cheers.) He should perhaps be excused if he detained them a few moments in explaining the reasons which induced them to erect a Masonic Hall at Torquay. It would no doubt be recollected by a great many present, that when the Provincial Grand Lodge was last held in this town, a few years ago, the only room available was very inconvenient, badly situated, and ill adapted for the purposes of Freemasonry. The paucity in the number of Brethren in Torquay was, they believed, mainly attributable to the want of a proper building in which to conduct their ceremonies; and they therefore determined to build such an edifice as would be at once creditable to the town in which they lived, honourable to the Province to which they belonged, consistent with the great principles of Freemasonry which they professed, and consonant with the beautiful ceremonies they had to perform within its walls. (Cheers.) That (pointing to a sketch of the building) was the plan of their intended hall, which they hoped to carry out in its integrity; so that whenever any Brother from a distant part of the country should visit Torquay, and be led to inquire as to the existence of Freemasonry in this place, every finger would be at once pointed to the new hall, as a proof that Freemasonry really had a local dwelling-place here. (Cheers.) They had seen the foundation-stone of the building laid; and he only hoped that “upon that foundation a superstructure might be raised, perfect in all its parts and honourable to the builder.” (Cheers.) It but remained for him to mention that the members of the Torquay Lodge had had many difficulties to overcome in this undertaking, arising chiefly from a want of funds—the necessary consequence indeed of the smallness of their number; for he was happy to bear testimony to the readiness with which the Brethren of his Lodge had responded to the call made upon them: they had subscribed to the full extent of their means towards this very laudable object. (Cheers.) Arrangements had, however, been made that would leave them something in debt; still they hoped, by the probable increase to their numbers, and the assistance they might reasonably expect from other Brethren, they would speedily see an end to their difficulties, and that before that day six months they should be in a position to invite, not only the Brethren of this Province, but their wives and their daughters, to celebrate the opening of the new hall with, he hoped, a Masonic ball. (Cheers.) For he was not one of those who would confine all the enjoyment of Freemasonry to men; he thought it highly desirable that their wives, and daughters, and sisters should have as good an opinion of Freemasonry as themselves; and nothing so much conduced to that end as for them to partake in some of the enjoyments which they had it in their power to afford them. (Cheers.) The W.M. again thanked the Brethren, not only for the compliment they had paid the members of the Torquay Lodge in drinking their healths, but for attending in such large numbers on the present occasion. (Much cheering.)

The M.W.D. Prov. G.M. next gave “The Provincial Grand Officers, and Visiting Brethren from other Provinces;” and in again expressing his gratification at the great success of the day’s arrangements, could not help particularizing the

indefatigable exertions of Bro. C. Laidman, the Prov. G. Dir. of Cer., as materially conducing to that result. (Cheers.)

Bro. Laidman thanked the Brethren, for the Provincial Grand Lodge and himself, for the compliment that had been paid them. He had found himself unexpectedly in a somewhat difficult position; for when he had the honour of being appointed Prov. G. Director of Ceremonies, he had no idea of having been called upon to undertake the conduct of such extensive arrangements as necessarily preceded the events of that day. His path, however, had been smoothed, and the difficulties very greatly obviated, by the exertions which had been made by the W.M. and Brethren of the Torquay Lodge. (Cheers.)

Bro. Denis Moore, Prov. G. Sec., proposed "The Masters, Wardens, and Brethren of other Lodges of the Province of Devon." He had great satisfaction in testifying to the increasing prosperity of the Craft in this Province. Never, indeed, during the twenty-eight years that he had the honour of being officially connected with it, had it been in such a state of progression. (Cheers.)

Bro. Lloyd, W.M. No. 46, Exeter, responded to the toast.

Bro. Moore, with the permission of the R.W. Chairman, observed that he knew of no greater service being afforded by any Lodge to the Craft than that of founding a building dedicated to the purposes of Freemasonry; and when they saw this good work effected in a place like Torquay, where so much remained to be done, he felt quite justified in asking the Brethren of the Province to give their voluntary assistance to so laudable an intention. If the W. Masters of the different Lodges would introduce the subject to their Brethren, he felt certain that that assistance would not be withheld. (Hear, hear.)

The last Masonic toast, "To all poor and distressed Masons," was next drunk.

We have been favoured by Bro. Edward Appleton, the architect of the new Lodge, with the following description of the building:—

It will consist of two large rooms, a committee-room, entrance-hall, staircase, and offices. The peculiar shape of the ground (the site being triangular, and running off to a very sharp point) gave rise to the apsidal form of the west end. The style adopted is mediæval; the front elevation presenting a row of dormer windows of double lights, separated by columns, to the upper floor, which will be the Lodge-room; the ground-floor will be lighted by three windows grouped into triplet lights; this room will be occupied by the Natural History Society for their museum. The entrance will be at the west end, in the splay of the apse; the doorway will be in deep reveal, containing columns of dark marble, surmounted by an overhanging cusped stone roof, supported on corbels. The roof of the Lodge will be framed open and stained, and will be surmounted by a lantern. The proximity of the building to the hill, and the internal arrangements, made it necessary to place the chimneys in front, and they are accordingly introduced surmounting the middle dormer. The building will be erected of the limestone excavated from the site, with dressings of coloured bricks, Bath stone, and cement. The voussoirs of all the arches, and the filling in of the tympanums of the museum windows, will be with brick in two colours. There will be a circular window at the east end, filled with tracery in the form of a Masonic device. It is intended, if the funds will permit, to lay the Lodge-room with a tessellated floor of Swiss parquetry. The reasons for the selection of the Gothic style were:—1st, that it permits of certain Masonic forms being introduced with greater effect than could be done in any other style; 2ndly, this is the style of most of the greatest works of the early Operative Freemasons, who erected the noble works of art in the middle ages; the Lodges travelling from place to place executing those wonders of magnificence which are the admiration of the world to the present day; and, 3rdly, that the Gothic style is essentially the style for England, being that which is best adapted to our social requirements and tastes, and to our climate, both in point of utility and artistically.

ESSEX.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The annual Prov. Grand Lodge was held at Colchester on Monday, June 8th, under the patronage of the United Lodge No. 998, which has just received a

charter, it having been principally established for the accommodation of the officers stationed in the military dépôt, many of whom were initiated whilst on foreign or colonial service, and the only other Lodge in the town, the Angel, being too full to offer any great chances of promotion to new members. The United Lodge met as early as ten o'clock in the Town Hall, the use of which had been kindly granted by the mayor; and at eleven o'clock the R.W. Prov. G.M. Bro. Rob. Jno. Bagshaw, with his Prov. Grand Officers, were introduced in due form, there being a large assemblage of the Brethren; every Lodge in the province being represented, with the exception of Chigwell, together with several visitors of eminence; amongst whom we noticed Bros. B. Bond Cabbell, Prov. G.M. for Norfolk; Dr. Kent, Prov. G.M. for South Australia; White, P.G. Sec.; Masson, P.G.S.B., &c. The first business was the installation of Officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge for the ensuing year; viz., Bros. S. J. Skinner, P.M. No. 343, Chelmsford, D.G.M.; H. C. Trevanion, W.M. No. 259, Romford, S.G.W.; George Wakeling, P.M. No. 343, J.G.W.; C. W. Arnold, No. 343, and M. Margoliouth, No. 817, Bocking, G. Chaps.; Joseph Burton, P.M. No. 843, G. Reg.; John Pattison, P.M. No. 59, Colchester, G. Treas.; A. Cunnington, W.M. No. 817, G. Sec.; Captain Burney, S.W. No. 998, Colchester, S.G.D.; Lieut. Gutzmer, W.M. No. 935, Harwich, J.G.D.; Peter Matthews, No. 343, Taylor Osborne, J.W. No. 59, G. Dir. of Cers.; Job Austin, No. 343, G. Org.; Joseph Saunders, S.W. No. 59, G. Purs.; Maryon, Chelmsford, G.T. The following were chosen G. Stewards:—Bros. J. Coppin, W. Edes, J. Greenhill, and T. Moy.

The G.M., assisted by his Officers and the Brethren present, then proceeded to consecrate the United Lodge, No. 998, and invest the Officers who had been previously appointed (under a dispensation), as follows:—Bros. Henry Law Maydwell, major 3rd battalion, W.M.; Burney, captain and paymaster, S.W.; Perry, captain 89th, J.W.; John Mann, P.M. No. 59, Treas.; S. D. Forbes, Sec.; Rev. R. Bewick, Chap.; Wm. A. Neck, S.D.; T. Morris, quartermaster dépôt battalion, J.D.; Blanckley, major 6th regt., D.C.; Davies, ensign 4th, I.G.; O'Brien, paymaster-sergeant Essex rifles, T.

In the course of the ceremony of consecration a new ode was sung; this, as well as the other music, having been especially composed for the occasion by Bro. Job Austin (of the Enoch Lodge), the organist of St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, London. The ceremony of consecration having concluded,—

The R.W. Prov. G.M. said that they were that day honoured with the presence of a highly-esteemed Brother, who, after having spent fifty-five years in the service of the Craft, had just retired from office. He of course alluded to their respected Bro. White, the P.G. Sec., whom he was glad to see amongst them in the full vigour of life after so lengthened a performance of most arduous and difficult duties. From circumstances, they could not expect to see Bro. White amongst them very often; but, hoping that he might long be spared to enjoy his retirement, he begged to move that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. White for his kind attendance in the Prov. Grand Lodge of Essex that day.

The R.W.D. Prov. G.M. (Major Skinner) seconded the motion. He had had the pleasure of being present in Grand Lodge a few days since, and hearing a proposition made by the M.W.G.M. for granting to Bro. White his full salary as a retiring pension, and nothing could have been more gratifying than the manner in which the proposition was received, as evincing the esteem in which the worthy Brother was held.

The vote having passed by acclamation,—

Bro. White, who was received with loud applause, thanked the Brethren most cordially for so unexpected a mark of their kindness. He was aware that in the performance of his duties there had been many shortcomings, and that he had not always been able to do all for the advancement of Freemasonry he could have wished. Since the period when he was first honoured by being appointed G. Sec. the number of Lodges under the Constitution of England had more than doubled; and such had been the increased activity amongst the Lodges, that Freemasonry had flourished to a most extraordinary degree, and the result was that the business of the G. Sec.'s office had been increased more than tenfold. If, there-

fore, he had of late not been enabled to perform all the duties as efficiently as in his younger days, he hoped they would make allowances for that increase of business, his advancing years, and give him great credit for having always endeavoured to perform his duties to the best of his ability. He once more thanked them for the kind reception they had given him, and could assure them that so long as he should live his utmost ambition would be to secure the good opinion of the Craft.

About two o'clock the Brethren, with their Lodge banners, headed by a band from one of the depôts now occupying the camp, walked in procession to St. Botolph's church to attend divine service. The prayers were read by the Rev. C. W. Arnold, one of the Prov. G. Chaplains; and in the absence of the G. Chaplain, the Rev. J. E. Cox (who was unavoidably prevented attending), the Rev. M. Margoliouth delivered a brief extempore discourse from John xiv. 6,—“I am the way, the truth, and the life;” pointing out that this text was in perfect accordance with the true principles of Masonry, and exhorting the Brethren to make it the model of their lives and conversation, that they might finally attain to one of those “many mansions” which the Great Architect of the Universe had promised to prepare for those who love Him. Bro. Job Austin presided at the organ; and the choir was assisted by Bros. Bromley, Mattacks, Ellisdon, &c.

On the return of the Brethren to the Town Hall for the purpose of closing the Lodge, some further business was transacted, and votes of thanks were passed to Bro. the Rev. M. Margoliouth for his sermon, to the mayor for the use of the Town Hall, to Colonel Street for the services of the band, to Bro. Austin as Organist, and Bro. Peter Matthews for the efficient performance of his duties as Dir. of Cer.

THE BANQUET.

Shortly after the business had closed, the Brethren adjourned to the Cup Hotel, where a most elegant dinner was served to between seventy and eighty of the Brethren. The chair was occupied by the Prov. G.M. Bro. Bagshaw, supported on the right and left by Bros. Benjamin Bond Cabbell, Prov. G.M. for Norfolk; Dr. Kent, Prov. G.M. for Australia; White, P.G. Sec.; Masson, P.G. Sword-bearer; Skinner, D. Prov. G.M., Essex; and Revs. Arnold and Bewick. There were also present as visitors Bros. Hopwood, Vice-Pres. of the (Grand Lodge) Board of General Purposes; Adlard, P. Prov. Asst. G. Dir. of Cer.; Saul Isaacs, P. Prov. G.J.W., Kent; H. G. Warren; Moore, No. 54, Irish. There were also present the following Officers of the Essex Prov. Grand Lodge:—Bros. Trevanion, S.W.; Wakeling, J.W.; Pattison, Treas.; Burton, Reg.; Cunnington, Sec.; Burney, S.D.; Gutzmer, J.D.; Matthews, D.C.; T. Osborne, Saunders; Edes, Coppin, Greenhill, and Moy, Stewards, &c.

The principal Lodges in the province were represented as follows:—

Angel Lodge, Colchester (No. 59).—Bros. T. Hall, W.M.; J. Saunders, S.W.; Taylor Osborne, J.W.; Williams, Sec.; Pattison, Griffin, Marson, Norman, Croyden, H. May, Bean (Mersea), Ellisdon, Miller, Coppin, Pargeter, Edes, Ralling, Palmer, G. T. Talbot, P. M. Sainty, J. Dunn, &c.

United Lodge, Colchester (No. 998).—Bros. Maydwell, W.M.; Burney, S.W.; Perry, J.W.; J. Mann, Treas.; Neck, S.D.; T. Morris, J.D.; Davies, I.G.; Col. Whitmore; Major Blanckley; Cpts. Marriot, Conyers, Cassady; Assist.-surgeon Wilson, T. Moy, &c.

Lodge of Good Fellowship, Chelmsford (No. 343).—Bros. Stephen Webb, W.M.; Sarel, Kent, Wakeling, Maryon, &c.

North Essex Lodge, Bocking (No. 87).—Bros. A. Cunnington, W.M.; Durrant, G. C. Rolfe, Randall, Harden, jun., Cardinall, &c.

Star in the East Lodge, Harwich.—Bro. Lieutenant Gutzmer, W.M., and several Brethren.

The Brightlingsea, Burnham, Rockford, and Romford Lodges were also represented.

The cloth having been removed, the R.W. Prov. G.M. gave as the first toast “The Queen and the Craft,” and said it was a happy circumstance that they had always had sovereigns in this country who were great supporters of Masonry. Their

present Queen was the daughter of a Mason, and had always shown herself ready and willing to assist their charities. (The toast was drunk amidst loud applause.)

The R.W. Prov. G.M. next proposed "The health of the M.W.G.M. of England, the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland." He was happy to say that during the past year the health of the noble earl had greatly improved, so that he was now able to give a closer attention to the interests of Freemasonry than he was, owing to ill health, enabled to do a year or two ago. It was a matter of gratification to witness the growing influence of the Grand Lodge of England, and which was mainly to be attributed to the mild and considerate rule of the M.W.G.M. (Applause.)

The R.W. Prov. G.M. would now call their attention to the next toast, "The R.W.D.G.M. of England and the other Grand Officers." Since the last meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge of England had lost the services of a noble Brother, who was highly and deservedly respected in the Craft. The Earl of Yarborough had been induced, in consequence of continued illness, to resign the position of D.G.M.; but, fortunately, the M.W.G.M. had been enabled to find a fitting successor in the person of the Right Hon. Lord Panmure, who appeared likely to give the utmost satisfaction to the Craft by the manner in which he discharged the duties of his high office. They must not forget that they had two Officers of the Grand Lodge present, Bros. White and Masson. To Bro. White they were under deep obligations for past services, he having been G. Sec. for a period of nearly sixty years. Bro. White had been the bosom friend of their late highly-respected G.M. the Duke of Sussex, at whose hands he received his first appointment as a G. Officer. He was proud to meet Bro. White in Essex, and they would ever be glad to meet him so long as it should please the Almighty to bless him with health and strength to continue to add to the services he had already afforded to the Craft. He begged now to give them "The health of the D.G.M. Lord Panmure and the rest of the G. Officers, coupling with the toast the names of Bros. White and Masson."

Bro. White, who was warmly cheered, returned thanks on behalf of the G. Officers and P.G. Officers for the compliment so kindly paid them, and desired to make his humble acknowledgments of the kindness he had experienced from the Craft during a very long period of years. He became a member of the Grand Lodge as a Warden in February, 1800, and it had pleased the Almighty so to bless him with health, that except in a single instance (in March, 1856) he had never been absent from any meeting of the Grand Lodge during that lengthened period. With regard to the new D.G.M., every one who had witnessed his anxiety and zeal for the advancement of the Craft must rejoice that he had been placed in that position. Lord Panmure was an old Mason, a P.G.W. and a most zealous and excellent Mason; and he (Bro. White) was satisfied he would carry out the principles of Masonry, and perform the duties of his office to the satisfaction of the Craft generally, being certain that it would have been impossible to find a Brother more fitted to advance the interests of Freemasonry than their noble Brother Lord Panmure. (Cheers.)

Bro. Masson also returned thanks. He assured the Brethren he was not only grateful for the reception they had given him, but it gave him the most sincere gratification to be present and witness the cordiality which existed between the Brethren of the Province of Essex and their excellent Prov. G.M. He hoped that Masonry would continue to flourish amongst them, and that they might continue to enjoy the blessings of prosperity and brotherly love. (Cheers.)

The R.W. Prov. G.M. said they had the pleasure of seeing present two distinguished Masters of Prov. Grand Lodges, both of whom, in their peculiar spheres, had rendered important services to Masonry—he alluded to Bro. Cabbell, Prov. G.M. for Norfolk; and Bro. Kent, Prov. G.M. for Australia. (Loud cheers.) Bro. Cabbell was well known as having devoted himself for many years to most munificent acts of charity; and he had probably done more for the advancement of the Masonic charities than all the other Provincial Grand Masters in the kingdom. (Cheers.) Bro. Kent was entitled to their high regard for having carried out the precepts of Freemasonry at the antipodes; and he (the G.M.) had reason to know that no man had done so much for the advancement of the Craft in those distant regions as that worthy Brother. (Cheers.)

Bro. Cabbell returned thanks, and complimented the Prov. G.M. upon the way in which Masonry was evidently flourishing in the Province of Essex. He could not feel otherwise than highly gratified at the reception they had given him, and also at observing the deserved tribute of respect which they had paid to Bro. White in acknowledgment of past services. He felt that the M.W. the G.M. had had a most difficult task in finding a fitting successor to Bro. White, than whom no Brother better understood the principles and laws of Freemasonry; and he trusted that successor would be able to discharge the onerous duties of the office with something like the ability of Bro. White. He hoped Bro. White would long live to benefit the Craft and enjoy that retiring allowance which the Grand Lodge had so honourably and so unanimously voted to him. In conclusion, he had only to say that this was the first occasion on which he (Bro. Cabbell) had had the pleasure of meeting the Brethren in Essex, but he sincerely hoped it would not be the last. (Cheers.)

Bro. Kent also responded to the toast, and said he could not refer to the far-distant province over which it had pleased the G.M. of England to call upon him to preside without feelings of considerable pride, because he was happy to know that Masonry not only had flourished there for some time, but continued to do so, and that it was carried out in accordance with those fine and excellent principles which they all professed to be guided by. Since his return to this country he had had the privilege of being present at a great number of Masonic meetings, but they must excuse him for saying that he had seldom felt from the beginning to the end of a day such perfect and uninterrupted satisfaction as he had done on that occasion. He begged to express his very sincere gratitude for the kindness he had experienced, and to express the hope that Masonry would enjoy continued prosperity in the Province of Essex. (Cheers.)

Bro. Cabbell had been permitted to propose a toast, and he would ask them to join with him in drinking the health of one whose name he felt sure would be received with the utmost cordiality—"The Prov. G.M. of Essex, Bro. Bagshaw." (Cheers.) Any Brother who in these days undertook the office of Prov. G.M., although it might be accompanied by high honour and great credit, knew also that great responsibility attached to the fulfilment of its duties. Indeed, it was one of the distinguishing features of the present time, and one of those points upon which the honour, character, and greatness of the country depended, that although great honour was paid to those in high station, it was because those who filled high stations, if not universally, at least generally, knew very well that that honour was rendered in proportion to the faithfulness with which they discharged the duties and acted up to the responsibilities of their various positions. (Hear, hear.) He was sure the Brother whose health he proposed had followed out that principle; and he congratulated the Brethren of the Province upon being presided over by one in every way so capable of performing his duties. He gave them the health of their excellent Prov. G.M., and long might he live to enjoy the honour of presiding over the Province of Essex. (Cheers.)

The R.W. Prov. G.M. had a most pleasing duty to perform in thanking them for the very kind manner in which they had received his name and responded to the last toast. No man could be more sensible than himself of his shortcomings; but he could assure them that it was his earnest desire to perform his duty to the utmost for the promotion of the prosperity of the Province. He could never be too grateful for the kind support he had received from the various Lodges, and to which he felt they were indebted for the high position which Masonry held in Essex, and which he trusted it would ever continue to hold. (Cheers.) He would now proceed to the discharge of another most pleasing duty, by proposing a toast which he was sure they would be glad to acknowledge. It had been his good fortune to be supported in his office by a D. Prov. G.M. who had himself a friend in every Brother throughout the Province. (Cheers.) He believed that no man could have done so much for Freemasonry as Bro. Skinner, and he was fully aware how much he was himself individually indebted to that worthy Brother for the support which he had uniformly given to him in his office as Prov. G.M. He trusted that Bro. Skinner would long continue in an office he had so ably filled for so many years to the satisfaction of the Brethren and his own honour. (Cheers.)

The R.W. D. Prov. G.M. Major Skinner returned thanks, and said the object of the Prov. G.M. in again visiting Colchester was, that in conjunction with the annual business, he might perform the important duty of consecrating a new Lodge. A great military dépôt had been formed here, and the Brethren connected with it who had been made Masons in different parts of the world had shown that they had not forgotten their duties as such (hear, hear); for the moment they found themselves together in sufficient numbers they took the necessary measures for forming a new Lodge, which already numbered between forty and fifty Brethren; a fact upon which he congratulated the Prov. G.M. most heartily. (Cheers.) It was most gratifying that soldiers appreciated the value of their Craft, and he was sure it must be gratifying to the members of the new Lodge to reflect that the new D.G.M. was initiated whilst serving, as captain of the 79th Highlanders, with his regiment in Canada. He once more thanked them for the kindness with which they had received his name, and which he invariably experienced from them. (Cheers.)

The R.W. Prov. G.M. had now another toast to propose, which he looked upon as of great importance. They had been honoured with the presence of many visitors that day, and he was sure they would cordially join with him in drinking their health. Amongst those visitors he noticed their esteemed Bro. Hopwood, a P.M. of a distinguished Lodge, and who had long been one of the most active workers in the Craft as a member of the Board of General Purposes. The Brethren who undertook to work on that Board were something like the members of committees in the House of Commons; their labours, though unseen, were of the most useful description, and the most arduous: and he was sure that those who enjoyed the honours of Freemasonry ought to be most grateful to those Brethren for performing the hard work. (Laughter.) There was also sitting close to Bro. Hopwood a Brother whom he was delighted to see present on that occasion. He alluded to Bro. Warren, who was known as connected with a publication which must prove most useful to the Craft, if conducted with discretion, and a desire to avoid petty cavilling or criticism. So conducted, a Masonic Magazine must become of essential service in promoting the prosperity of the Craft, and acquainting the members with what was doing by their Brethren in different parts of the country, and throughout the world. He gave Bro. Warren a hearty welcome, and assured him they would be glad at all times to meet him in Essex. He would now give them "The Visitors, coupling with it the names of Bros. Hopwood and Warren." (Cheers.)

Bro. Hopwood returned thanks, and expressed the great gratification which had been experienced by the visitors at the proceedings of the day, and the kind and hospitable reception they had met with from the R.W. Prov. G.M. and the Brethren.

Bro. Warren also briefly acknowledged the compliment, assuring the Brethren that it should ever be his endeavour, as he knew it would of the conductors of the *Freemasons' Magazine*, to merit their kind approbation. He felt that, in the course he had sometimes taken in Grand Lodge and elsewhere, his intentions had been misunderstood, as would ever be the case where men took an active part in any institution; but he had the consciousness of feeling that he had never uttered or written one word excepting with the sincere desire of promoting to the utmost the well-being and prosperity of the Order of which he had the honour to be an humble member.

The D. Prov. G.M. proposed "The health of the Grand Senior and Junior Wardens—Bros. Trevanion and Wakeling;" remarking, as a proof of the fitness of the former for the office, that he had been chosen for the second year Master of the Romford Lodge; and with respect to the latter, that there was not a better Mason to be found in the world. (Cheers.)

Bros. Trevanion and Wakeling respectively returned thanks, assuring the Brethren that they felt deeply grateful to the Prov. G.M. for the honour conferred upon them in placing them in the position they now held, and to the Brethren generally for the kind manner in which they had responded to the last toast.

The Prov. G.M. said one of the most interesting duties of that day had been the consecration of the United Lodge, founded chiefly to give the military Brethren of

the dépôt battalions an opportunity of practising Freemasonry, in which many of them took such great delight. By the good feeling of the Colchester Brethren this had been done with the greatest harmony, and there was every prospect of it becoming one of the most thriving Lodges in the province. He would propose "Prosperity to the United Lodge, with the health of the Worshipful Master, Bro. Maydwell."

Bro. Major Maydwell said it was with no slight feeling of pride that he rose to return thanks for the very high honour conferred upon the Lodge over which he had the happiness to preside. It originated, as had been said, in the desire of several Brethren who were anxious to make advances in the science, and who felt that the old Lodge was too full to give them a fair chance of doing so. A new Lodge having been formed, the proud position was accorded to him of being its first Master—a very high honour indeed, when it was borne in mind that the Master of a Lodge was not chosen by one or two, but by the unanimous and expressed wish of every Brother of that Lodge. Thanks to the exertions made and facilities given by the Prov. G.M., within a month after sending up their petition they held their first meeting; and the ceremony of this day had been rendered much more interesting, by the fact of the Prov. Grand Lodge being held at the same time, which had, doubtless, induced many more to attend than would otherwise have been the case. He had no doubt the formation of a second Lodge in Colchester would gain for that town an important place in the annals of Masonry; and as a proof of the activity of the Brethren, he might mention, that with their own regular meeting and that of the Angel Lodge, of which he was also a member, and their respective Lodges of Instruction, each of which was open to the members of the other, they had a Masonic meeting every week. (Cheers.)

The Prov. G.M. regretted that their most excellent Director of Ceremonies had slipped away to catch a special train before he had had time to propose his health. He was sure they must have all felt how much the success of their meeting that day was attributable to the exertions of Bro. Matthews, and would agree with him that he well deserved their thanks. They were also greatly indebted to the Stewards for attending to their comforts, and to Bro. Austin for the aid he had afforded them in Grand Lodge—at church, where his presiding at the organ, which added greatly to the solemnity of the scene—and his exertions that evening to add to their amusement and gratification. He gave them the Stewards, and Bros. Matthews and Austin.

Bro. Job Austin returned thanks, assuring the Brethren that if he had at all added to their enjoyment that day he was amply repaid for his exertions.

The D. Prov. G.M. remarked that they were met to-day under the auspices of two Lodges—one of them the oldest in the province, and justly regarded as the leading Lodge, both on account of its age, its numbers, and the friendly spirit of its members. Trusting that this friendly spirit would continue, he had much pleasure in proposing the health of the Master and Brethren of the Angel Lodge, with those of the other Lodges of the Province. (Applause.)

Bro. Thomas Hall, who has just been elected for the second time Master of the Angel Lodge, returned thanks for the toast.

The G.M. then gave the concluding toast—"To all poor and distressed Masons," after which the Brethren separated, it being about nine o'clock.

The harmony of the evening was much enhanced by the vocal exertions of Bros. Palmer, Matthews, Masson, and Austin; the latter Brother also giving some excellent performances on the harmonium. Too much praise cannot be given to Bro. Peter Matthews for his exertions as Director of Ceremonies; and we cannot but express a hope that ere long we may see him called upon to fill the office in the Grand Lodge of England, in which no Brother has more fairly earned a claim to some distinction from the G.M.

ISLE OF WIGHT.

The Prov. Grand Lodge is to be held at Ryde, on the 2nd July, when the beautiful grounds of Lord Downes will be thrown open to the Brethren.

KENT.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent was held at Canterbury, on Monday, the 15th of June. Considerable interest was excited, such a meeting not having taken place in the town for nearly half a century, the last Provincial Grand Lodge held in Canterbury being in 1808. This in some measure may be attributed to the circumstance that the only Lodge it possesses had been almost allowed to die from exhaustion, not having more than two or three members in it. A few years since, however, great exertions were made to effect its revival, and successfully, it now ranking as one of the most respectable Lodges in the county of Kent. Accordingly, the Prov. G.M., Bro. Chas. Purton Cooper, Q.C., determined to hold his annual Grand Lodge this year in Canterbury, and fixed Monday the 15th of June for the purpose. On the previous evening there was a goodly attendance of the Brethren in the Masonic Hall, St. Margaret's-street, when Bro. Stephen B. Wilson, J.G.D. of England, delivered a very effective lecture on the objects and scope of Freemasonry, for which he was unanimously accorded a vote of thanks.

On Monday morning, after a sumptuous breakfast at the Rose Hotel, High-street, the Brethren proceeded to the Freemasons' Tavern, where the large Concert-hall was arranged as a Lodge-room. The Lodge was opened with the usual ceremonies, in excellent style, by Bro. Holttum, W.M. of No. 34, assisted by Bro. Thomas Philpott, S.W., and Bro. Trimmell, J.W. The R.W. the Prov. G.M. (Bro. Purton Cooper) and his grand officers then entered the Lodge, and were received with the customary formalities, under the direction of Bro. Poussett, the excellent and experienced Master of the Ceremonies. The Grand Lodge was then opened, and amongst the Brethren on the dais were Bro. Ashley, P.Prov.D.G.M. for Kent; Bro. Harvey Boys, P. Prov. S.W.; Bro. Brook Jones, P. Prov. S.W.; Bro. W. H. Vale, P. Prov. G.S.W. for Herefordshire; Bro. Hyde Pullen, D. Prov. G.M. for the Isle of Wight; and several grand officers of the province; amongst whom were Bros. Townsend, Hoggens, Cruttenden, Wellsdon, Sergeant, Delmar, Moore, Pike, Saunders, Isaacs, &c.

The minutes of the last Grand Lodge having been read and confirmed, Bro. Saunders was re-elected Treasurer, and the following Officers for the year ensuing were appointed and invested by the Prov. G.M.:—Bros. Phipps, Margate, S.G.W.; Pike, Maidstone, J.G.W.; Kingsford, Canterbury, G. Chap.; Windeyer, Chatham, G. Reg; Isaacs, Chatham, G. Sec.; Hayward, Margate, G.S.D.; Hiscock, Ramsgate, G.J.D.; Holttum, Canterbury, S. of W.; Poussett, Margate, D. of C.; Tollputt, Folkestone, G.O.; Watson, Gravesend, G.S.B.; Gore, Gravesend, A.D. of C.; Day, Maidstone, G.P.; Wates, No. 91; Cooleys, No. 216; Lyon, No. 149; Fox, No. 34; Grundy, No. 741; Martin, No. 376, G. Stewards.

The R.W. the Prov. G.M. said that Bro. Phipps, had for many years held the important and pleasing office of Grand Organist; and the regret he felt to lose him in that office was in some degree compensated by the pleasure he had in appointing him to one of the highest offices in the Grand Lodge. Bro. Phipps had, as the Master of the Ramsgate Lodge, not only proved himself an excellent working Mason, but had shown, by his conduct in one memorable case, that the principles of Freemasonry had a firm hold upon him. Many members present would remember, some years ago, when a clergyman of Essex (B. Hewlett—better known to the world by his literary cognomen of Peter Priggins), a Brother Mason, died, leaving his family in great distress, Bro. Phipps, by his own individual exertions, through the publication of a piece of music for the benefit of the family, added £60 to the subscription raised for their relief. (Applause.) The practice of benevolence was the daily duty of the Mason; but it was gratifying in appointing a Brother to high office to know that he was one who had distinguished himself so much in the cause of charity.

In investing Bro. Pike, the Prov. G.M. said he had it upon authority on which he

could rely that the Brother he had appointed J.G.W. was an excellent working Mason, and, indeed, he had observed in his visits to the Belvidere Lodge that no Brother performed the mysteries of the Craft more skilfully. He had also remarked that Bro. Pike was never absent from his Lodge, and he believed he might add the meetings of the Grand Lodge; and he had, therefore, great pleasure in decorating him with the insignia of his new office. (Applause.)

In investing Bro. Windeyer, the Prov. G.M. said,—“Yours is a Masonic name in this province; and just about fifty years ago, when the Grand Lodge was last held in this city, your grandfather presided as D. Prov. G.M. I have therefore much pleasure in appointing you as G.R., and I hope that for centuries your family may not be unrepresented in the Grand Lodge of Kent.” (Applause.)

In investing the G.O., who is blind, the Prov. G.M. said,—He would venture to affirm that Bro. Tolputt, since he had been initiated into Masonry, notwithstanding the infirmity with which it had pleased the Great Architect of the Universe to afflict him, had made as much progress in Masonry as any Brother who had the full possession of all his senses. (Applause.) If the Almighty had deprived him of one of his senses, he had in some degree compensated him by giving him many good and amiable qualities and an excellent heart. (Applause.) Besides this, the Almighty had given him a great consolation, namely, a love of harmony. Harmony did not consist simply of music—that was the representation of harmony,—but it was by harmony that the Almighty ruled the universe; and no mortal who was enabled by His grace to appreciate and adore Him could fail eventually to reach that happy place where His wisdom and harmony are continually revealed to those who bow before His throne. (Hear.) He (the Prov. G.M.) knew no Brother in whom he felt a deeper interest, and had great pleasure in appointing him G.O. (Applause.)

After some other business had been disposed of,—

The Prov. G.M. said he had now the pleasing duty of presenting to Bro. Charles Isaacs the testimonial voted to him by the Grand Lodge for his long and faithful services as G.Sec. The testimonial-vote of the Grand Lodge, swelled by many individual subscriptions, had taken the shape of the massive silver salver they saw before them, a tea and coffee service, and a handsome Masonic jewel, the estimated value being more than £200. The inscription on them was as follows:—

“Presented to Brother Charles Isaacs, Past Master of Lodge No. 20, Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden, and Provincial Grand Secretary, by the Provincial Grand Master and Brethren of the Province of Kent, as a mark of esteem and regard, and in grateful appreciation of his zealous and efficient services during a period of twelve years.

“Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent, Canterbury, June 15, 1857.

It was not only necessary that the Prov. G.S. should possess those qualifications which ordinarily belong to an efficient Craftsman, but, being called upon to assist the Prov. G.M. with his advice in delicate and difficult questions, he ought to be a person of judgment and discretion. “When I (said the Prov. G.M.) was appointed Prov. G.M. for Kent, Bro. Isaacs was a complete stranger to me; but I knew he had held the office of Secretary for many years, and from the inquiries I made I was satisfied he would discharge the duties of that office in a perfectly satisfactory manner if he would continue his services under me. He kindly consented to do so; and now that four years have elapsed, I am happy to say that I never took any step on which I had more reason to congratulate myself.” (Cheers.) The R.W. Prov. G.M. spoke at some length in a like complimentary strain, dwelling particularly on the liberality Bro. Isaacs had always displayed in the cause of charity, his exertions to extend the blessings of Freemasonry, the readiness with which he obeyed any call from the Lodges, and upon his known ability and expertness as a Mason. His remarks were received with warm applause, and he concluded by saying,—“Bro. Isaacs, I have great pleasure in presenting you with this plate and this jewel; may you live to wear the latter, and to enjoy the esteem and high consideration of the Craft for many, many years.” (Loud applause.)

Bro. Isaacs, who was received with applause, and who appeared much affected, expressed the deep sense he had of the honour conferred upon him. From his first admission into Masonry, he had been impressed with a profound admiration of its principles ; and it was indeed an intense gratification to him that his earnest desire to further the cause and exemplify the principles of Masonry should have been so highly appreciated and so lavishly rewarded by the Brethren of the province. It was indeed gratifying to him to know that he possessed the esteem and approbation of the Brethren ; and their flattering acknowledgment of his services would only stimulate him to further exertions. (Cheers.)

A procession was shortly afterwards formed to the cathedral, headed by the band of the 3rd Dragoon Guards, playing as a march "The Free and Accepted Mason." The passage of the procession of Grand Officers up the magnificent nave of this glorious edifice presented a spirit-stirring scene ; the rich colours and the glistening jewels which most of these distinguished Brethren wore contrasted in a picturesque manner with the pushing crowd around them. The cathedral was densely crowded ; and the Venerable Archdeacon Harrison, the canon in residence, exhibited great anxiety that all should be well accommodated.

The service was most effectively performed, although the strength of the choir was somewhat diminished by several of its choicest singers having gone to the Handel celebration at the Crystal Palace. The Rev. R. Hirst, minor canon, said the prayers ; and the anthem was from Psalm cxxxii., — "Lord remember David."

The sermon was preached by the Rev. Bro. Kingsford, who took for his text 1 Tim. ii. 5,— "For there is one God." The preacher, in dwelling on the great aim of the Apostle to promote unity and harmony, observed that there were few societies more active in this behalf than that of the Freemasons ; the principles of which proved its Divine origin—principles the very opposite of those generally professed by mankind ; for the disposition of mankind was naturally selfish. Strife, bitterness, envy, pervaded every class of men, which was not influenced by the spirit of religion or that godly unity manifested by the Order of Freemasonry. They must look higher than earth for the reign of such a disposition as that which prompted them to bear one another's burdens—which was one of the first principles of Freemasonry. Had their principles originated simply with man, there would never have been found among them that universal philanthropy and that bond of union which were to be observed among Freemasons. The heathen of old used to wonder at and admire the love existing among the early Christians—they themselves could not understand it : closely akin to that was the union found among Freemasons. Why, then, was this order nowadays rather an object of scorn and derision, than of admiration ? He believed it was because of a prejudice against their vow of secrecy ; but it was only their forms and ceremonies which were kept secret—they never concealed their principles. Surely it was unjust that their "good should be evil spoken of" on such a ground—it was neither Christian-like nor logical. It was urged against them why, if their origin was divine, as they pretended, the world should not see and admire their goodness. He answered that it was not their aim to parade their good deeds before the world. He did not maintain that the designs of their Order were always fulfilled. Alas ! in many cases they had been abused ; but it was not because it had been so, that they should be denounced and vilified. He might go into an historical account of the early origin of the Masonic Craft, and show the services it had rendered, especially in the erection of the noblest edifices of antiquity. He briefly traced to the Masons, the Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian Orders of Architecture, and the splendid structure of Solomon's temple ; and last, but not least, the beautiful building in which they were then assembled—the greatest pride of their land. Masonry was an art founded on the principles of geometry, and directed to the service and convenience of mankind ; but Freemasonry was of a much higher order, having reference to the intellectual and moral qualities of men, and the cultivation and improvement of the heart. Was it contrary to the Christian principle, he asked, to admit within their assemblies Jews and Mahometans—that principle which inculcated Brotherly love to all, and the extension of the truth to those sitting in darkness as the great means of bringing them under the influence of that blessed

Light which came into the world to guide their feet into the way of truth and peace? He showed the identification of Freemasonry with the principles of the Established Church; and how best they were promoting the pure principle of Christianity which brought "peace on earth and good-will toward men" by extending their Brotherly affections to suffering humanity.

At the close of the service a collection was made at the doors in the joint behalf of the Kent and Canterbury and the Masonic charities; and the result was a sum of £20.

The route taken by the procession from the Cathedral to the Lodge-room on its return, was by Burgate and St. George's, thus more than quadrupling the distance gone over on proceeding to the sacred edifice.

On the return of the Brethren to Grand Lodge, thirty guineas were voted from the Charity Fund to be given in the names of the Lodges of Dartford and Canterbury, by which they will become permanent governors of the Masonic Girls' School and of the Boys' School.

Votes of thanks were then given to Archdeacon Harrison and the Rev. M. Kingsford—the former for his courtesy in allowing them the use of the Cathedral, and the latter for the admirable sermon he had preached; after which the Lodge was closed in ample form.

THE BANQUET.

The Brethren then proceeded to the Corn Exchange, where a sumptuous dinner had been prepared by Bro. Bretton, the indefatigable landlord of the Rose.

At the *table d'honneur* were Bros. Purton Cooper, Prov. G.M. (in the chair); Bisgood, D. Prov. G.M.; Ashley, P.D. Prov. G.M.; Harvey Boys, P. Prov. S.G.W.; the Rev. M. Kingsford, Prov. G. Chap.; Saunders, Prov. G. Treas.; Isaacs, Prov. G. Sec.; Pullen, D. Prov. G.M. for the Isle of Wight; Warren, Grand Stewards' Lodge; J. Delmar, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Vale, P. Prov. S.G.W. for Herefordshire, &c. In other parts of the room were Bros. Windeyer, G. Reg.; Roffway, Skiller, and Hills, No. 20; Stephenson, P. Prov. G.D.; Cooley, and Death, No. 216; Holttum, Prov. G.S.; Clarke, P.M.; Philpott, S.W.; Trimnell, Callaway, Fox, Reynolds, Rev. R. Hirst, Rev. C. W. Daeth, Pout, &c., No. 34; Watson, G.S.B.; Moore, P. Prov. G.D.; and Gore, Asst. Dir. of Cer., No. 91; Reynolds, P.M.; Key, P.M.; Tomalin, S.D.; and Biron (87th Fusiliers), No. 147; Brook Jones P. Prov. G.S.W.; Shrubsole, and Shrubsole, jun., No. 155; Poussett, Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.; Haywood, Prov. S.G.D.; Higgins, Lyons, and Walter, No. 149; Beeching, P. Prov. Dir. of Cer.; Hiscocks, and Hodge, No. 621; Duke, W.M.; Gardner, P.M.; Moses, P.M.; Prescott, S.W.; Boyton, J.W.; Gosling, J.D.; Larkin, Gibbons, Norris, Hartley, Offen, Philpott, &c., No. 235; Landale, W.M.; Treadwell, Quait, Messenger, Webb, Bray, and N. Martin, No. 376, &c. &c. The number of Brethren at the dinner amounted to upwards of 150.

After dinner, grace was sung by Bros. Donald King, Young, Lawler, and Kingsbury; who afterwards sung, in admirable style, a variety of songs, glees, &c.

Upon the removal of the cloth,

The R.W. Prov. G.M. said that he had now the pleasing duty to perform of proposing a toast which was always acceptable to Masons—"The health of Her Majesty." They had always had the good fortune in England of having their Masonic rites patronized by royalty. Canterbury had borne no small part in the history of Masonry. Not to go back into earlier ages, he found that in the reign of Edward III. some very important Masonic operations took place in Canterbury, so important that the king thought it first necessary to revise the Constitutions with his own hand. Other important business was transacted in Canterbury in the reign of Henry IV. Then when they came down to the time of her Majesty's ancestors, they would find that they had invariably practised Freemasonry. Her Majesty's august father was a Mason—so also were all her uncles, with one exception; and had her illustrious uncle, the late M.W.G.M., the Duke of Sussex, lived a little longer, there could be no doubt that—though he would not say the Queen would have become a Mason—Prince Albert would have been enrolled in their ranks. They were now entering on another generation, and he had no doubt that

ere long the Prince of Wales would be numbered in the Craft. The Princess Royal could not be ; but she was about to marry into a family the members of which were celebrated, from the time of Frederick the Great, as being promoters of Freemasonry ; and he believed that Prince Frederick was already a good Freemason—if he were not, he was sure he would become one. He begged to propose “The Queen and the Craft.” The toast was drunk with loud applause.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. then gave “The health of the M.W.G.M. of England, the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland.” It had been the fortune of the noble earl to live in an age of Masonic transition ; and should he now be approaching the close of his Masonic career, the Brethren would always regard with admiration the firmness with which he had carried them through that period, and for the excellent appointment of Officers recently made. During the reign of the noble earl Freemasonry had greatly progressed, the number of Lodges, which was less than 730 when he became G.M., having increased to upwards of 1,000 ; and he was sure his lordship had won for himself the respect and love of every member of the Craft. (Applause.)

The R.W. Prov. G.M. next gave “Lord Panmure, the D.G.M. of England, and the Grand Officers.” He was sure that Lord Panmure would prove a most valuable and efficient Officer ; and, though he was Minister of War, his Masonic principles would ever keep him from running the country unnecessarily into war. With the toast he wished to couple the name of a Brother who was distinguished, not only by his connection with the literary organ of the Craft (the *Freemasons' Magazine*), but for his high Masonic attainments and independence of conduct. He proposed “Lord Panmure, D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, coupled with the name of Bro. Warren.” (Cheers.)

Bro. Warren scarcely knew how to return thanks for the toast with which his name had been coupled, inasmuch that he was not a Grand Officer. It was true, however, that he had held that dignity in virtue of having been elected a Grand Steward by the Brethren of Lodge No. 108 ; but his rank and precedence expired with his year of office. He accepted the task imposed upon him, however, in the name of his respected friend and Brother, Stephen Barton Wilson, whose eloquent lecture many of them had heard the previous evening, and who had unfortunately been compelled somewhat hurriedly to return to town. Having taken some part in the discussions which had made this what the Prov. G.M. had been pleased to call an age of transition, he might be allowed to express his gratification at the appointments of Lord Zetland for this year : they were the most popular that had been known for many years. (Cheers.) It might be presumptuous in him to express an opinion relative to the new D.G.M., but he must be allowed to say, that widely as his lordship and himself had differed in opinion in Grand Lodge, he sincerely believed that the noble lord was actuated by the strongest desire to promote the best interests of the Craft ; and that his appointment as D.G.M. would be of advantage to it. He believed that now the old system of routine had been broken through, and they had a few new and trusted Grand Officers, many of the neglects of which he and others had complained would be remedied ; but he warned the Brethren that the matter was after all in their own hands. If they did not look narrowly after the performance of the duties of the Grand Lodge, they had no right to complain if they were not properly performed. (Applause.) Long services, increasing business, and advancing years, would be no longer regarded as apologies for correspondence unanswered, or duties unperformed ; but to insure efficiency they must look well after the business themselves, and support those who did so. (Cheers.)

Bro. Reynolds, of Lodge No. 34, wished to guard himself from the charge of vanity in proposing the next toast. He had not voluntarily put himself forward to perform the duty, knowing that there were many Brethren present who could do greater justice to the toast. He begged to give them “The health of their R.W. Prov. G.M.,” who had so ably performed his duties that day, as he had on every occasion when he mixed amongst the Brethren. (Cheers.) He could not conceive that it would require any eloquence to make that toast acceptable to them, when he considered the sublime principles by which they were bound together, and with the beauties of which they could not have failed to be impressed

when listening to the eloquent discourse delivered to them in the cathedral of Canterbury that day. Freemasonry might indeed be regarded as one of those humanizing influences of life which rendered it so delightful for man to mingle with his fellow-men ; and whilst its watchword was charity, it appeared to him in the attribute of an angel who had flown over the earth scattering flowers from his brow and diamonds from his wings. (Cheers.) He called upon them all to drink with him "Health and long life to Bro. Purton Cooper, their R.W. Prov. G.M." (Loud cheers.)

The R.W. Prov. G.M. returned thanks, and, in the course of his remarks, said that if it pleased the G.A.O.T.U. to spare his life so long, he intended to celebrate the next grand festival at Maidstone, and he trusted that on that occasion Freemasonry would be as creditably illustrated as it had been that day by the arrangements of the Brethren of the Canterbury Lodge. (Cheers.) This had certainly been one of the most successful celebrations since he had the honour of holding the office of Prov. G.M., and he trusted the meeting at Maidstone next year would not be inferior. (Cheers.) One of the great principles of Masonry was that its duties should be performed by the Master with the assistance of his Officers. Now, he was happy to say that he was supported by one Officer, the D. Prov. G.M., who had nothing to do, for the reason that he (the Prov. G.M.) did all the work himself. He was sure that he had always had the honour of being supported by most excellent Grand Officers, and he should therefore ask them to drink to the health of these gentlemen, coupled with the name of Bro. Bisgood, who he hoped might enjoy a long and happy life. (Cheers.)

Bro. Bisgood said there was one thing at least he could do, return his most sincere thanks for the kindness which he had received from the Prov. G.M. and the Brethren of Kent, whenever he had had the honour to meet them. The Prov. G.M. had told them he did nothing ; and he could assure them he wished the G.M. would give him a little to do. This, however, he had done, he had attended there to support the Prov. G.M. and assist him with his suggestions in the performance of his duties. Perhaps the G.M. might call that nothing, because he did not require any suggestions from him. (Laughter.) If, however, he should at any time obtain the opportunity, he would show them how well he could perform the duties of the chair ; and it was his most fervent hope that he might have to preside over them at Maidstone next year, in consequence of his friend the R.W. Prov. G.M. having been honoured with the discharge of other and higher duties in the State by Her Majesty's Government. (Cheers.)

The R.W.G.M. then gave "Bro. Ashley, P. Prov. D.G.M., and the rest of the P. Prov. G. officers." They could not be too grateful for past benefits, and at no time had there been a Brother to whom they were more deeply indebted for his services. He had held the office of D. Prov. G.M. for thirteen or fourteen years, with equal advantage to the Craft and honour to himself. (Cheers.)

Bro. Ashley returned thanks. He lamented that Past G. Officers paid the G.M. so poor a compliment as not to attend in greater numbers whenever the Grand Lodge was held. That was in fact their duty, and they ought not to accept the honours of office without they intended to perform its duties. (Cheers.)

The R.W. Prov. G.M. then proposed the health of their excellent Brother, the Prov. G. Chaplain, to whom they were so deeply indebted for his eloquent and truly Masonic sermon. He only regretted he was not in a position to do so, or he should have great pleasure in making Bro. Kingsford a bishop. (Cheers and laughter.)

Bro. the Rev. M. Kingsford briefly responded, assuring the company that, as a member of Lodge No. 34, he was always happy to meet them, and that he was deeply grateful to the R.W. Prov. G.M. for having raised him to the dignity of Prov. G. Chap. He was as yet but an humble curate ; but whatever position he might hereafter hold, he should never forget the kindness he had received from their hands.

The G.M. said the next toast was one which he really ought to call the toast of the evening—he meant "The health of the Brethren whose hospitality they were then enjoying—the W.M. and Brethren of the Canterbury Lodge." (Loud cheers.) It was nearly fifty years since a Grand Lodge had been held in that ancient city.

It was held under the auspices of the Earl of Moira, the then G.M., and presided over by the great-grandfather of Bro. Windeyer, who had that day been invested with purple honours. (Cheers.) The fact that they were assembled on a peculiar spot, which of all our native isle was the first to be civilized, in the most ancient city of the United Kingdom, gave that charm to their meeting which the memories of the past enwrapped around all objects within its scope. (Cheers.) He hoped and trusted that much less than half a century would elapse before they met there again. The Canterbury Lodge, he was happy to say, would be able to receive the Grand Lodge in its regular rotation with the other Lodges, and so, in nine or ten years, in all probability, the Grand Lodge would be again held at Canterbury—again he hoped to be received in the admirable and comfortable manner in which they had been received that day. He congratulated Bro. Steel (who for many years, when the Lodge was in abeyance, paid the Grand Lodge dues, and thus kept it on the register) on the resuscitated and promising condition of the Lodge, and on the events of that day. (Cheers.)

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm.

Bro. Holtum, W.M., in the name of Lodge No. 34, returned thanks. He expressed their gratitude also for the handsome attendance which had resulted from their invitations; and their delight at finding their arrangements had met with the approval of the Brethren. (Cheers.)

Bro. Steel also returned thanks, and expressed his gratification at witnessing the continued prosperity of the Lodge, &c., and the Prov. Grand Lodge once more enabled to meet in their city.

The Prov. G.M. had now a most pleasing duty to perform, viz., to propose the health of the visitors who had honoured the Prov. Grand Lodge of Kent with their presence that day; and with that toast he would couple the name of Bro. Pullen, D. Prov. G.M. for the Isle of Wight. (Cheers.)

Bro. Pullen returned thanks, and expressed his gratification at the opportunity of being present, he being a former inhabitant of the county and a P.G. Officer of the Province. Whilst in the cathedral, he could not but reflect upon the circumstance that it was built of stone brought from the neighbourhood in which he now lived, and compare its noble proportions with the lovely scenery around the quarry from whence the stone was obtained, as showing forth the natural beauties of creation and the art of man. (Cheers.)

The health of the Grand Treasurer having been drunk and responded to, Bro. Bisgood, D. Prov. G.M., gave the health of Bro. Isaacs, the Prov. G. Sec., which was drunk with loud applause.

Bro. Isaacs responded, assuring the Brethren that he had always felt the greatest pleasure in Freemasonry, in which he had had the honour to hold Prov. Grand office for twelve years. He again thanked them for the handsome testimonial with which they had presented him that day, which he trusted would be handed down as an heirloom to his children's children, to testify how well the Brethren had appreciated his services. He felt that Masonry had made him a better man than he might otherwise have been, and having had the charge of bringing up six brothers and sisters, it was gratifying to him to know that one of those brothers was now rendering a service to Masonry in a distant clime, having received an account of his consecrating a new Lodge in Australia. (Cheers.)

The closing toast having been given, the Brethren separated about half-past nine o'clock.

The intervals between the speeches were agreeably diversified by the excellent singing of Bros. Donald King, Lawler, Kingsbury, and Young.

DARTFORD.—*Lodge of Emulation* (No. 367).—On Tuesday, May 26, the installation of the W.M. of this Lodge took place at the Lodge-room, Bull Inn. The Lodge was opened in due form. There were present Bro. Isaacs, P. Prov. G.S.W. and Prov. G. Sec.; Bro. F. P. Campbell, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Bro. Culhane, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Bro. Green, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Bro. Munn, P. Prov. S.G.D.; P.M., Bro. Spencer, Gravesend, and other Brethren of Gravesend Lodge; Bros. Henderson, P.M., Brown, S.W., and other Brethren of the Woolwich Lodge; Bro. Harris, P.M., and other Brethren of the London Lodges. Bro. Munn, P.M.,

having taken the chair, duly installed Bro. Quait to the W.M.'s chair, in a very eloquent, imposing, and feeling manner; after which the Brethren adjourned to a splendid banquet, prepared by Bro. Bray, host of the Bull Hotel. The retiring W.M., Bro. Landale, was presented with a very splendid Jewel, for his able services, coupled with the flourishing state of the Lodge, during his year of office. This Lodge, it was said, now stands amongst the most flourishing Lodges of the county of Kent.

SANDGATE.—*St. John and St. Paul Lodge* (No. 898).—A preparatory meeting of this Lodge was holden at the Duke of York Hotel, on Tuesday, the 9th of June, for the purpose of opening the Lodge and making arrangements for the future government. Bros. Stephen Barton Wilson, J.G.D. of England, W.M.; Phillips Monypenny, as S.W.; Stephen Barton Wilson, jun., as J.W.; several Brethren of the Prince Edwin's Lodge, No. 147, Hythe, and of the Temple Lodge, No. 816, Folkestone, were in attendance. The Lodge being duly formed, the usual business was regularly gone through, and several distinguished members of the Craft who had been proposed were unanimously elected. From the circumstance of the Lodge being under the immediate care and guidance of Bro. S. B. Wilson, we must congratulate the R.W. Prov. G.M. Bro. Purton Cooper on the event, as it cannot fail to become one of the best-conducted and best-working Lodges in the province and an ornament to the Craft.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

On Wednesday, June 3rd, a Quarterly Communication of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Bell Hotel, Leicester, the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Kelly, in the chair, who read a letter from the Prov. G.M., Earl Howe, expressing his Lordship's regret that he was unable to leave town to attend the meeting. Between twenty and thirty members were present.

A report was presented by a committee appointed at the last Provincial Grand Lodge accompanying and recommending for adoption a code of by-laws for the Province, which had been previously approved by the Prov. G.M.

The proposed laws, having been read *seriatim*, were unanimously adopted, after some discussion, and were ordered to be printed and distributed among the members. Among the laws are two which we think might be profitably adopted in other Provinces; viz., "That the W.M. of every Lodge in the Province shall, at the cost of the Lodge, furnish to every present and future member a copy of the latest edition of the 'Book of Constitutions';" and "That at three of the Quarterly Communications members of all the Lodges in the Province shall work some portion of the Lectures of the Order, and original Lectures on the History or Symbols of the Order may also be delivered under the sanction of the Prov. G.M. or his Deputy;" thus insuring a uniformity of working in the Province, and affording a means of imparting intellectual instructions in Masonry to the Craft, for which there is seldom opportunity at the regular meetings of private Lodges.

The fourth Quarterly Communication, at which the annual appointment of Officers will take place and the ordinary business of the Province be transacted, is fixed for the month of October.

LEICESTER.—*John of Gaunt Lodge* (No. 766).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, May 28th, when Bro. Bithrey was passed to the 2nd Degree, and Bros. Beattie and Barnard Lee raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. A ballot was taken for Bro. J. B. Sowtee, as a joining member, who was duly elected, and Bro. W. Napier Reeve was also proposed to join the Lodge. This being the period for the choice of W.M. for the ensuing year, the ballot took place, and resulted in the unanimous election of the S.W., Bro. George Bankart, who was absent on his wedding tour. This Lodge is in a very flourishing state, and has had a large accession of valuable members under the efficient rule of the present W.M., Bro. William Millican, who has performed the various

duties of his office in an admirable manner. Among the accessions during the past year is Sir Arthur G. Hazlerigg, Bart., of Noseley Hall, a lineal descendant of the baronet of the same name of historical celebrity during the civil wars.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

BOSTON.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 339).—At the Monthly Communication of this Lodge holden on the 9th of June, Bro. Pocklington, W.M., in the chair, the following resolution was proposed by P. M. Fricker, seconded by P. M. Greenwood, and carried unanimously :—"That this Lodge have heard with deep thankfulness of the escape of the R.W. the P.G. Master of Lincolnshire from death by shipwreck, on the occasion of the loss of his lordship's yacht, the *Zoe*, on the night of the 28th ult. That the Lodge desire, first, to express their fervent gratitude to the G.A.O.T.U. for this special dispensation, whereby He has preserved to them one of the brightest lights of Masonry; and secondly, to offer to the Earl of Yarborough their humble congratulations on his escape, and the expression of their earnest hope that he may long be spared to preside over the Grand Lodge of this province. That a copy of this resolution, under the hand and seal of the W.M., be forwarded to the Prov. G.M." The W.M. initiated Mr. John Fixter into the mysteries of the 1st Degree, concluding with the Lecture on the Tracing-board.

SLEAFORD.—*St. Botolph's Lodge* (No. 858).—On Thursday, the 4th of June, the members of the above Lodge held their usual monthly meeting at the Bristol Arms Hotel, when two gentlemen were initiated into the mysteries of the 1st Degree by Bro. Greenwood, Prov. G.D.C., who was ably assisted by the other officers of the Lodge. The Brethren were punctual in their attendance, only three members being absent. It was proposed and carried unanimously, that the Brethren of this Lodge do express to the R.W. the Prov. G.M., the Earl of Yarborough their congratulations upon his escape from the imminent danger to which he had been recently exposed, also their gratitude and thankfulness to the G.A.O.T.U. for preserving them a life so valuable as his lordship's, not only to the Craft, but to the country at large; and a form being prepared, it was adopted, and signed by the Brethren present, and the Secretary was requested to forward it to the D. Prov. G.M. for presentation to the Prov. G.M. Since the warrant of this Lodge was transferred, in December last, from Boston to Sleaford, it has progressed very favourably: ten gentlemen have been initiated, and most of them have passed through their Degrees in a manner that reflects great credit upon themselves. It is pleasing to see how fully the noble principles of our Order are appreciated by them, and the desire evinced, not only to be Masons in name, but to show the great social advantage of Masonry to the community at large. This is the youngest Lodge in the Province, but the zeal shown, the attention that has been paid, and the desire of the younger Brethren to improve themselves in our noble science, will soon make it equal to the best working Lodge in the Province. Though the youngest Lodge, it has one of the oldest Masons in the country belonging to it, in Bro. P. M. Smedley, who has been a Mason between fifty and sixty years, and, during his Masonic career, has proposed fifty gentlemen as fit and proper to become Masons, all of whom were accepted, and he has not had reason to regret a single proposition. The Brethren are much indebted to the countenance given to their proceedings by the regular attendance of three or four old Masons, who have grown grey in the service, and who show a desire to promote the welfare of the Lodge as far as they possibly can; indeed every member of the Lodge seems to have the same desire; and so long as that exists, there cannot be a doubt as to the prosperity and success of the St. Botolph's Lodge.

SPALDING.—*Hundred of Elloe Lodge* (No. 690).—A special Lodge was holden at the Turret on the 18th of June, Bro. P. M. Tidswell, Prov. G.S.D. as W.M., in the absence of Bro. Wood, the W.M. Bro. Sharman was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. Bro. Pocklington, the immediate P.M., proposed, and Bro. Cartwright seconded, a resolution expressive of thankfulness to the Most High for

His mercies vouchsafed to the Right Worshipful the P.G. Master of Lincolnshire, in preserving him from a dreadful death by shipwreck. The Lodge having been closed, the Brethren adjourned to Bro. Tyler's and partook of an excellent supper, after which the usual toasts were given with the accustomed honours, and the Brethren separated after having spent a very delightful evening in Masonic harmony.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

NORTHAMPTON.—*Pomfret Lodge* (No. 463).—The last meeting of this Lodge prior to the recess was held at the George Hotel, on Thursday, the 4th of June, when Bro. Boème, P.M., in the absence of Bro. Wartuaby, the W.M., proceeded to initiate Mr. Edward Sharman, of Wellingborough, into the mysteries of Freemasonry. The ceremony having been gone through, with the P.M.'s accustomed ability, the following gentlemen were proposed and seconded as fit and proper persons to become members of the Order; namely, Mr. W. Flewitt, Mr. Edwin Sheppeel, Mr. George Cotton, and Mr. Matthew Reid Sharman. Bro. Charles Simpson, of Great Harrowden, was proposed as a subscribing member of this Lodge. The Lodge was then adjourned to the first Thursday in October.

SOUTH WALES.

SWANSEA.—*Indefatigable Lodge* (No. 288).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge took place as usual, on Tuesday, the 9th June, when a goodly number of Brethren assembled. Among those present were Bros. Dr. Bird, D. Prov. G.M.; M. Moggridge, Prov. G.S.W.; F. W. Michael, Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.; G. A. Munro, P.M.; J. G. Hall, P.M.; F. Pitman, &c., and several Visiting Brethren from the Neath, Cardiff, Gosport, and Gibraltar Lodges. The first business of the evening was to ballot for Mr. H. W. Williams, of the *Cambrian* newspaper, who, being duly elected, was regularly initiated. Bro. P. H. Rowland, of the Cambrian Lodge, No. 472, Neath, was also duly elected a Subscribing Member. Bro. M. Moggridge, Prov. G.S.W., then proposed and Bro. F. Pitman seconded the nomination of Bro. Theodore Talbot, of the Apollo University Lodge, No. 460, Oxford, as a subscribing member. On the motion of Bro. Secretary, seconded by Bro. G. A. Munro, P.M., and warmly supported by Bro. Thomas Powel, W.M., and Bro. F. D. Michael, P.M., the following annual subscriptions were unanimously agreed to; viz., £2. 2s. to the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, £2. 2s. to the Royal Masonic School for Female Children, and £2. 2s. to the Royal Masonic Institution for Educating, &c. the Sons of Indigent and Deceased Freemasons. A discussion then ensued with regard to the mode of celebrating the Festival of St. John, on the 24th June, when, after some conversation, an excursion to Ridwelly Castle was determined upon. A Lodge of Instruction was held on Tuesday, the 26th May, which was attended by a number of the Brethren. A lecture was delivered by Bro. F. D. Michael, P.M., and the Brethren were afterwards catechized.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—*St. Peter's Lodge* (No. 607).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge took place on Thursday, June 4, when Bro. Beddow was passed to the Degree of a Fellow-Craft, by Bro. Warner, P.M. No. 435, who had taken the chair at the request of the W.M. for that purpose. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Bro. Lewis, W.M. No. 769, delivered the charge of the 2nd Degree. A communication was read from the Grand Secretary, summoning the W.M. to appear before the Board of General Purposes, to explain a discrepancy in a certificate of membership sent to Grand Lodge, and the returns and dues paid to Grand Lodge. It was explained by the Secretary that no record of the returns sent to Grand Lodge had been made at the time the Brother referred to was a member, and being so long ago, no present member of the Lodge was a member at the time; no notice being in the minute-book of the time he withdrew from the Lodge, the Secretary concluded he must be a member of the Lodge up to the time he found his name amongst the visitors.

Lodge of Honour (No. 769).—The annual festival and installation of the W.M. took place on Friday, June 12th. The W.M. opened the Lodge, and confirmed the minutes of last meeting. Bro. Evans, P.M., then took the chair, when Bro. Stuart, the W.M. elect, having been presented and undergone the needful preparation, was installed in due form. The Brethren having saluted their new Master, the installing Master delivered the charges usual on the occasion in a very impressive manner. A vote of thanks was then proposed to the immediate Past Master for his services in the chair during his year of office. The Brethren afterwards adjourned to the Alliance Hotel, where the banquet had been provided by Bro. A. Easthope. The visitors present were Bros. Fry, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cer. for Warwickshire; Edwards, W.M. No. 786; Cooke, W.M. No. 607; King, S.W. No. 607.

SURREY.

CHERTSEY.—*St. George's Lodge* (No. 486).—This Lodge, which is the longest-established in the Province, after a state of quietude for some years has lately sprung into vigorous action, owing to the exertions and true Masonic spirit of Bros. Harcourt, Heseltine, and Blenkin. The increase of business demanded a Lodge of Emergency, which was held on Saturday, the 20th of June, at the Crown Hotel. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. James Merryweather, Bro. Blenkin, Prov. G.S.W., presided; and the Rev. T. A. Wills, of Laleham, Messrs. Williams, Kay, and Dow, were initiated, and Bros. William Barras and H. L. Pascale Gentile were raised to the 3rd Degree. Bro. Phillips, of Kingston, was admitted as a joining member. Bros. John Barker, P. Prov. G.D. of Northumberland; Smith, P. Prov. G.D.; and How, Prov. G. Dir. of Cer. for Surrey, were visitors. At seven o'clock the Brethren adjourned to banquet, provided by Bro. Lovett. Bro. Dr. Harcourt, D. Prov. G.M., announced that the Provincial Grand Lodge of Surrey would be held in the Surrey Lodge, at Reigate, on the 18th of July.

SUSSEX.

BRIGHTON.—*Royal York Lodge* (No. 394).—This Lodge held its monthly meeting at the Old Ship Hotel, on Tuesday, June 2, the W.M., Bro. John Bacon, presiding. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last Lodge being confirmed, the Brethren proceeded to ballot for Mr. A. Folker, who, having been duly elected, was introduced and initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry in a most impressive manner by the W.M. Bro. P.M. Lucas proposed, and Bro. P.M. Wood seconded, that the sum of five guineas be voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows. Two gentlemen were then proposed for election at the next meeting of the Lodge. The Lodge was then closed according to ancient custom, and a majority of the Brethren retired to refreshment, and spent a most pleasant evening.

This Lodge has been raised to a high degree of prosperity by the exertions of Bro. John Bacon, the present W.M., and Bro. W. R. Wood, the immediate P.M. The latter during his year of office initiated fourteen and admitted eight joining members; among whom were the Earl of Yarborough, P.D.G.M., and Bro. R. W. Wheeler, V.P. of C., and W.M. of the Prince of Wales's Lodge. These accessions are chiefly owing to Bro. Wood's exertions, as for the two years preceding his Mastership the Lodge was stagnant. Our attention has been directed to the Royal York Lodge by the subscriptions the Charities have received this year by its means: Bro. Wood served the Stewardship for the Girls' Festival, and his list supplied the large sum of £113. 17s. 6d.; and at the Festival of the Benevolent Institution, the Lodge handed to Bro. Wheeler, as a member, £30. 9s., to add to his own £50 as W.M. of No. 324.

Royal York Lodge of Instruction (No. 394).—The Brethren of this Lodge dined together on Monday, June 15th, under the presidency of Bro. John Bacon, W.M. It having been proposed by Bro. R. Cherriman, P.M., and seconded by Bro. Lucas, P.M., that the sum of £2. 2s. be voted towards the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, this was carried

without a dissenting voice. The Brethren, after having spent a most pleasant evening, retired highly delighted. We would strongly recommend to our newly-initiated Brethren the necessity of attending meetings for Instruction, as it is the only way to become acquainted with the proper manner in which the duties of Freemasonry can be carried out. Attendance on regular Lodge nights is part of the duties of every Mason; but unfortunately it is seldom we hear the beautiful lectures and sections worked; therefore it is only by attending these Lodges of Instruction that they can be heard and appreciated, unless it is on some special occasion, for very few country Lodges ever think of anything of the kind. We trust these few remarks will be received, as they are meant, only to stimulate the Brethren, and endeavour to get them to meet more numerous and oftener.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

NEW SCHOOLS AT MALVERN.—The interesting ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of these schools was performed on Wednesday, June 10, with immense *éclat*—indeed, that respectable personage, “the oldest inhabitant,” has no remembrance of such a sensation in this world-widely celebrated locality. A general holiday was kept at Malvern on this occasion; the shops were shut after mid-day, and the entire population seemed as if collected in the open air to witness the procession of the Freemasons from their Lodge, which had been established for the day at the Abbey Boarding-house. Obedient to the summons of the R.W. H. C. Vernon, Esq., G.M. of the Province, nearly eighty members of the Craft assembled to assist in the ceremonial, which on this occasion presented a curious and novel feature. We refer here to the fact that the stone was laid not only by the Prov. G.M., assisted by the Grand Officers of the Craft, but also by Lady E. Foley, instructed by the R.W. Prov. G.M. The Prov. G.M. had an apt pupil in his fair *élève*, who handled the trowel, and applied the level, plumb, and square, like an experienced Craftswoman.

Under such auspices, the Prov. Grand Lodge of Worcester was opened about one o'clock P.M., on Wednesday, for the investing of the undertaking with the prestige of having been commenced by the venerable society. The Lodge, as we have stated, was held in the Abbey Boarding-house dining-room, and among the Craftsmen present we observed—Prov. G.M. for Worcestershire, H. C. Vernon, Esq.; P. Prov. G.W. Joseph Bennett, as D. Prov. G.M.; John Renaud, Prov. S.G.W.; J. O. Sanders, Prov. J.G.W.; E. Giles and C. C. Griffiths, P. Prov. G.Ws.; Rev. A. Davis, Prov. G. Chap.; Revs. W. A. Hill, W. L. Isaac, and G. Fisk, P. Prov. G. Chaps.; W. Masefield, Prov. G. Treas.; Richard P. Hill, Prov. G. Sec.; J. Barber, Prov. S.G.D.; W. Barnes, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; T. R. Cooper, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; B. Brookes, Assist. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; W. Copley and T. M. Hopkins, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; W. Bristowe, Prov. G. Sw. B.; W. D. Lingham, P. Prov. G. Sw. B.; Jabez Jones, P. Prov. G. Org.; James Fitzgerald, Prov. G. Pursvt.; James Wheeler, P. Prov. G. Pursvt.; W. J. Clarke, E. Roberts, and W. Shephard, Prov. G.S. The visitors comprised, from Lodge No. 349, Hilary Hill, W.M.; A. H. Royds, D. Prov. G.M. East Lancashire; J. Firkins; W. Haigh; H. E. Isaac; T. Holland; J. Jones; W. H. Wood, S.W.; W. Evans; J. Calvin; W. Webb; B. Cooper, W.M. Lodge No. 313, T. W. Herbert, W.M.; Richard Evans; T. Morris; T. Garner; R. Light. Lodge No. 772, T. Baxter, W.M.; J. M'Millan, P.M.; T. Clutterbuck, P.M.; F. Wyatt Dyer; E. Smith, jun.; W. J. Hopkins; W. Oastler; W. E. Turner; G. Cox; H. Marshall; T. Hobbs. Lodge No. 523, A. Granger; W. Lovesey. Lodge No. 838, R. Meredith; G. B. Bradley. Lodge No. 307, W. Slade, P.M.; T. Shipton; W. L. Davis; A. Thorn, Sec.; G. Parsonage; G. H. Hall; H. Vaughan. Lodge No. 819, E. A. Gwynne. Lodge No. 824, A. Green, W.M.; W. Bristowe, Sec.; T. Hemming; T. Mellard. Lodge No. 212, J. Hill Grice. Lodges No. 224 and No. 437, James J. Ayerst, M.D.; also E. A. Lingard, Prov. G. Org., Warwickshire; J. Good, Prov. G.D., Staffordshire; Rev. Arthur Hill (Lodge of Benevolence); G. J. Sylvester, late No. 349; T. James, P. Prov. G.D., Staffordshire; Charles Freame; S. Dawson; W. Howells, Prov. G.S.W., Staffordshire, &c. &c.

The Prov. G.M. detailed the order of Masonic business, and a procession of the Brethren was then formed, the line of march being from the Boarding-house to the Abbey.

To a spectator advantageously placed, the scene in the churchyard when the Masons entered was strikingly pretty. The roadway to the Abbey was left entirely free to them, while a fringe of elegantly-dressed females and children lined, as it were, the procession; and, in the background, a male assemblage completed the animated accessories. Green hills towered to the sky at a finely-placed distance; buildings of classical and mediæval outline met the view in various directions; and to the left the magnificently-wooded vale of Severn stretched its loveliness far as the eye could reach, while the ear was kept in tune by the bells of the Abbey tower.

A portion of the church was assigned to the Freemasons, and they having reverently bestowed themselves, divine service was commenced. Prayers were read by the Rev. A. Davis, P.G. Chaplain, and a very appropriate sermon was preached by the Vicar, the Rev. G. S. Fisk, from Psalm cxliv. 11, 12: "Rid me and deliver me from the hand of strange children, whose mouth speaketh vanity, and their right hand is a right hand of falsehood. That our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth; that our daughters may be as corner-stones polished after the similitude of a palace." The reverend preacher's discourse was delivered extemporaneously. It was an eloquent enforcement of the necessity of religious education as the only means of rolling away crime from amongst us, and delivering society from its giant evils. The collection in aid of the funds amounted to £53.

At the conclusion of Divine worship the Masonic procession was re-formed, taking the route to Barnard's Green; and at the distance of a mile from the Abbey, turning to the right till it reached the site of the school, which is situate in Mill-lane, at a short distance from the town, arrived at the platform; the Lady Emily Foley accompanied the Prov. G.M. and other Officers to the stone, which as usual was placed in the north-east corner. The Masons stood around, and among the company on the platform we perceived Capt. and Mrs. Candler, H. Wyatt, Esq.; Capt. Sandford, Mrs. Fisk, Mrs. and Miss Vernon, Col. and Mrs. Wicksted, Mrs. and Miss Palmer, Rev. J., Mrs., and Miss Cullen, Rev. H. C. Adamson and Mrs. Adamson, Mrs. Brownlow, Mrs. W. Essington, Miss Taylor, Rev. Vale (The Grange), Rev. R. Harkness and Mrs. Harkness, Rev. H. Harkness, Mrs. Onslow, Miss Bruce, Misses Briscoe, Mrs. Walters, Mrs. Bowles, Miss Harris, Mr. Shipway, Mr. Wm. Bullock (churchwarden), &c.

The Rev. S. Fisk commenced proceedings here by giving out to be sung a hymn by the Right Hon. S. Lushington, *D.C.L.*

Lady Emily Foley then presented to the Vicar and Mr. Bullock, churchwarden, a deed of conveyance of the site, and the G.T. handed to her ladyship a porcelain box containing several current coins of the realm, which she deposited in a hollow wrought in the stone. Thereafter her ladyship covered the aperture with a brass plate, bearing an inscription purporting that the foundation of the buildings had been laid by Lady Emily Foley, assisted by the Masonic body, on June 3rd, A.D. 1857, and A.L. 5857, the Rev. G. S. Fisk being Vicar. The massive covering-stone was then lowered up on its bed, mortar having been previously spread on the latter by the Prov. G.M. and her ladyship. The stone was ascertained to have been duly placed in its proper position by the Prov. G.M., the acting D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Bennett (who read aloud the inscription on the plate before its deposit), and the Grand Wardens. Lady Foley, under the guidance of the Prov. G.M., repeated the trial of the position of the stone by the level, plumb, and square, and everything having been found done in due order,

The Prov. G.M. said—"I declare this stone to be laid in a just, perfect, and regular manner, according to ancient Masonic custom; may the G.A.O.T.U., who has so kindly blessed us in the proceedings of this day, enable those engaged in the building to complete it; may it hereafter be preserved from ruin and decay and be of lasting prosperity: I, therefore, strew corn on this stone as an emblem of plenty—I pour wine on it as an emblem of cheerfulness—I anoint it with oil as an emblem of comfort and consolation. I dedicate this building to the honour

and glory of the Most High, and may He prosper the work we have so auspiciously commenced."

Lady Emily Foley then said—"Having had the pleasure of presenting to the Vicar and Churchwardens of Great Malvern the conveyance from the late Lady Lambert and myself of the site for the proposed schools, of which the foundation-stone has just been laid, I beg now to express my deepest gratitude to the late Charles Morris, Esq., to his sister Miss Morris, and to his surviving brother Mr. Morris, for their magnificent donations to these schools. My best thanks are also due to the Rev. George Fisk, the Vicar of Great Malvern, for his energy and perseverance in bringing this undertaking so far to a prosperous issue; and I thank most cordially all those who have contributed according to their means to this good object, as well as the Committee, for the very handsome trowel and other instruments presented to me for the performance of the ceremony, and for all the trouble they have taken in the arrangements of this day. The Prov. G.M. of Worcestershire, Henry C. Vernon, Esq., and all his brother Freemasons, who have had the kindness to attend this day, will, I trust, accept my warmest thanks for the honour which they have conferred on the proceedings by giving the sanction of their presence at this ceremony, and for the important assistance they have kindly rendered in the performance of it. In conclusion, I pray that the Almighty will bless this work through Jesus Christ, to His glory and to the good, both spiritual and temporal, of all those who may be educated in these schools."

The Prov. G.M., addressing his Brethren, said:—"Fellow Craftsmen,—It is quite impossible to over-estimate the importance of this day's ceremony. When men build schools, the most far-sighted cannot see the end thereof. The education which the labourer, the artisan, and the mechanic, receive in schools may in some few instances lead to results we may not like to contemplate; but in the great majority of instances the result is most encouraging. If anything will tend to promote the true design and prosperity of these schools, it will be the blessing of Heaven, which we have this day invoked on our undertaking. This has been no common day with me, beginning and ending merely with the usual ceremonies of life; no greater honour could have been conferred upon myself and those other members of the noble Order over which I rule in this province, than that of being intrusted with the laying of this foundation-stone; and that which has considerably enhanced that honour is the kind and courteous terms in which my offer of assistance was accepted. One of the great principles of our Order is 'to do good to all men,' and surely we have to-day assisted in one of the noblest and greatest works of man, in making preparation for the education of the child. By education I do not mean merely reading and writing, for these are only instruments of education, and may be used against it, but I mean that sound religious and moral training based on the volume of God's word, which will enable the child to grow up into the man of good sound principles, wherewith to meet the sneers and scoffs of the sceptic and the infidel. That the children of this parish are well trained up in these principles who can doubt? Who can question this, looking at the antecedents of our beloved vicar? Who amongst us but must feel assured of this, seeing his staff of well-tried, zealous, and efficient curates, and such able and willing teachers? We may also feel satisfied that 'common things' will not be overlooked; that the girls will be taught something more profitable than working crochet, making lace collars and edging; that they will know how to cut out, make, and wash their fathers' and brothers' smockfrocks, and darn their stockings; ay, and not be too proud to do it. That the boys will be taught something more adapted to ordinary capacities than crossing the Asses' Bridge, and taking a sight of the moon when they ought to be taking their rest. I trust they will be able to plant potatoes, sow pease and beans, in the soil most suited to their culture, to throw up a ridge at such an angle as that the ridge and furrow shall have an equal amount of sun and air, and that they will be taught practically that knowledge of common things best adapted to their future stations in life. And now, having trespassed so long on your patience, I will detain you but little longer; but I feel sure you would consider it an omission on my part did I not say a word or two to our kind patroness, Lady Emily Foley. May you, my lady, long be spared to add to those acts of philanthropy and charity for which you have ever been justly

celebrated, and ever continue to receive, as queen of Malvern, the true and united allegiance of your legal subjects, and inhabitants of this rising and important town. Now one word more—I have a pleasing duty to perform to a worthy Brother of the Craft—Bro. Fisk, I present you with £20 from the funds of the Provincial Grand Lodge, which are contributed for Masonic charities; but on this occasion we have deviated from the usual course, and present this sum to you as the commencement of a fund for the repairs of this school, in which I trust many a Mason may be educated: may you, Bro. Fisk, long enjoy health and strength to continue your works of usefulness in this parish, and have the gratification of witnessing the fulfilment of that gracious promise, ‘Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.’”

Bro. Fisk, addressing Lady Foley, the Prov. G.M., Craftsmen, and bystanders, said that they would give him credit for perfect sincerity when he said he felt that that was positively the happiest day of his relation with the parish; for not only did he feel that he had been wonderfully supported in promoting the present undertaking, but he felt that God’s hand was visible in everything connected with it. If ever there had existed the slightest difference of opinion on the subject, it was ended; all variance had melted into thin air, and they had their foundation-stone laid that day by their kind patroness. He knew that to his fellow-craftsmen the work of that day was a labour of love, from which they would look forward to the time when Malvern, having become a large and populous place, other labours of the same kind would be required; and they would hope that workers would not be wanting, but that it might please God to raise up others to carry on similar labours, so that that parish might never perish for lack of knowledge. He entirely agreed with the Prov. G.M. in regard to the necessity of rendering Christian education for the young decidedly practical, and he would have the sons and daughters of the people trained up in a practical acquaintance with the things by which they were to be surrounded in actual life. He would have the daughters of even the comparatively wealthy taught to darn a stocking, and even to scour a room, that they might be the better able to appreciate the condition of those beneath them in rank. Bro. Fisk next referred to the cheque for £20 just handed to him by the Prov. G.M., and he esteemed the gift not only as a contribution to the funds, but a token of the estimation in which he was held by his fellow Craftsmen.

The addresses of the Lady Emily Foley, the Prov. G.M., and Bro. Fisk, were received with much applause.

The Doxology was then sung, and afterwards the national anthem, led by Bro. Jabez Jones, was joined in by the general company. Three lusty cheers were given for the Queen, and the proceedings terminated, the Masons returning in procession by the short route to their Lodge-room. Here the Masonic business was concluded, the Lodge was closed in due form, and the Brethren retired to refreshment. The Prov. G.M. presided, the Grand Wardens occupied their usual positions, and the festivity was brought to a close about ten o’clock.

The situation of the site is very pleasant, and commands a good view of the Malvern range of hills on the west, and of very extended landscapes in other directions. The land for the schools, residence, and playground is three furlongs in extent. Something less than half of the area will be occupied by the buildings and yards; the rest will form an open space in front. The principal elevation will have a southern aspect. The building will be 160 feet from end to end. The plan contains a large school in the centre, which may either be used as a mixed school for children of both sexes or divided into separate schools. This apartment is 83 feet in length by 40 feet in width; but the parallelogram is broken in upon by two class-rooms, each of 18 feet by 14 feet, which form part of that area. The west end of the building is occupied by the infant school, which has an area of 55 feet by 28 feet, and a class-room of 18 feet by 14 feet. The school-rooms and class-rooms have open roofs. At the west end are residences for a married couple, as teachers of the mixed school, and for a single person who is to teach the infant school. Each of these residences has a parlour, a kitchen, and a scullery; the larger has three bed-rooms, the other only one. The floors will be boarded, and the school-rooms will be fitted in the best style recommended by the Committee

of Council on Education. It is calculated that the mixed school will accommodate 300 scholars, and the infant 200, allowing a square yard of floor to each in the large school, and 7 feet 6 inches to each in the smaller one. The style of the building will be Gothic, with numerous gables, and many breaks in the outline of the walls and roofs. The wall will be of brick, with Bath-stone dressings, and the roof of Broseley tiles. Each of the principal windows has a gable above it, and there are ventilating turrets, with octagonal roofs, above the schools, in keeping with the style of the building. The porches are roomy, and over that which leads into the boys' school there is a pretty bell-turret. The general appearance of the building, as shown in the drawings, is very good, effect being produced by grouping rather than by elaborate ornament. The height of the large school is about 26 feet from the floor to the apex of the roof; that of the infant school is about 30 feet. The residences, being two stories high, have a still higher roof than the rest of the edifice. Mr. Davis, of Malvern Wells, is contractor for the building at £2,435, exclusive of boundary-wall. The work will, it is expected, be completed in seven months.

The architect is Mr. E. W. Elmslie, of Malvern. The silver trowel used on this interesting occasion by Lady Foley was supplied by the Messrs. Manning, silver-smiths, Worcester and Malvern, after a design by Mr. Elmslie, and is a very elegant piece of work. It contains the following inscription in Gothic characters, incised round the implement as a border:—"Parochial Schools, Great Malvern. First stone laid by Lady Emily Foley, June 3rd, 1857. E. W. Elmslie, architect."

A capital collation was served in the Lyttelton school-room for the committee and ladies who kindly attend as teachers.

DUDLEY.—*Harmonic Lodge* (No. 313).—Owing to the "Castle Fêtes" and "Whitsun-week," the Lodge was but poorly attended on Tuesday the 2nd, the W.M., Bro. the Rev. T. W. Herbert, being supported by only six Brethren. Bro. R. Evans was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., and a gentleman proposed for initiation; after which Lodge was closed. The ordinary proceedings were varied by a Brother seeking admission in a military (review) undress, and the discussion upon the point lasting for some considerable time. Ultimately, however, the Brother was accorded the *entrée*. He had that afternoon participated in the ceremony of escorting two Russian cannons (captured at Sebastopol, and presented to Dudley by the Government) from the railway station to the court-yard of the Castle, a ceremony which was over but twenty minutes before the hour named for the opening of the Lodge.

Royal Standard Lodge (No. 730).—The meeting of this Lodge on the 9th was doubly honoured,—first, by the presence of the R.W. Bro. H. C. Vernon, and secondly, by his taking the chair, and opening, closing, and conducting the business of the Lodge. The only business before the meeting was the election of the W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler, for the ensuing year; the result being as follows:—Bros. M. Dennison (P.M. No. 313 and Prov. G. Reg.), S.W., W.M.; Bateman, P.M. (P. Prov. S.D.), Treasurer (re-election); and J. Jeffs, Tyler (re-election). Lodge being closed, the Brethren adjourned to banquet, over which the R.W. Bro. H. C. Vernon presided. The visitors present were Bro. T. Cooper, P.M. No. 313 and Prov. G. D.C.; Bro. C. F. G. Clark, S.W. No. 313; and Bro. the Rev. E. A. Gwynne, P.M. No. 435 and Prov. G. Chaplain for Staffordshire.

The Vernon Lodge (No. 819).—Lodge was opened at the Old Town Hall on Wednesday, the 17th, Bro. the Rev. A. G. Davies, P.M. No. 730, and Prov. G.C., the W.M. After sundry routine business had been transacted, and a "call off" made, Mr. W. Collins was initiated to the 1st Degree in Bro. Davies's well-known masterly style. This makes the sixth initiation since September last. A gentleman, who was a perfect stranger to the town, applied for admission to the Lodge, duly armed with certificate, &c.; but the examination not being satisfactory, the Rev. W.M. felt compelled to refuse him entrance, a refusal as painful to him who made it as to him who received it. Our W.M., however, cannot be too cautious, and it should be a lesson to every member of the "Vernon," as well as to every other Lodge, teaching the Brethren to make themselves well acquainted with the

principles and working of the Craft, that they may never be themselves placed in such a state of difficulty and danger,—for there was no moral doubt as to the truth of the stranger's statement, albeit gross inattention to Masonic matters did not permit him to prove it.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN CHAPTERS.

DOMATIC CHAPTER (No. 206).—The last convocation for the season was held in Bro. Ireland's Masonic Hall, which has been recently much enlarged and improved, on Thursday, June 25, when Bro. Bouverie, W.M. of No. 63, was most impressively exalted—the ceremony being performed by Bros. Adams, as Z.; Bros. Thompson, H.; Watson, J.; and Odell, P.S. Comp. Alexander, W.M. of No. 223; and Comp. Payne, G. Tyler, were elected joining members of the Chapter. There were upwards of twenty Comps. present, including Comp. S. B. Wilson, J.G.D.; J. Smith, G. Purs.; Sheen, Howlett, and other visitors.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER (No. 218).—An Emergency Meeting of this flourishing Chapter (removed from the Bridge-house Hotel, Southwark) was held on Tuesday, June 14, at Dick's Hotel, Fleet-street, Companion Sheen, Z., presiding. The business of the evening consisted of exalting Bros. Prall, No. 237; Cotterell, No. 219; Dyer, No. 237; and Boutcher, No. 816, into the Royal Arch. The ceremony was most correctly and impressively performed by the M.E.Z., who was ably assisted by the other Principals and Officers. The Companions then proceeded "to consider and determine on the future place of meeting," when it was resolved "that the meetings of the Chapter should be held at Dick's Hotel, Fleet-street." The Chapter was then closed in ancient form, and the Companions adjourned to a cold collation, tastefully and abundantly served up in Bro. Quelch's usual admirable style. The visitors were Comps. Buss, P.Z. No. 206, and Thearle, P.Z. No. 778. After the usual loyal Masonic toasts, the Companions separated highly gratified, as well with the proceedings of the evening as with the attention shown to their comfort and convenience in their new quarters.

PROVINCIAL CHAPTERS.

LEICESTER.—*United Chapter of Fortitude and St. Augustine* (No. 348).—Until recently each of the two Lodges in this town had a Royal Arch Chapter attached to it, neither of them, unfortunately, in a very active state. It was thought that by uniting them an efficient Chapter might be formed, and that the members of the two Lodges meeting in the Chapter on common ground would tend to promote that cordiality and fraternal union so happily existing between them. This course, with the sanction of the late P.G. Superintendent, Sir F. G. Fowke, Bart., has been adopted. At a former meeting Comps. Gibson, Clephan, and Underwood (Mayor of Leicester), were elected the Principals for the ensuing year; and on Wednesday, the 3rd of June, a Chapter was held for their installation. The ceremony was performed by Comp. Kelly, D. Prov. G.M. and P.Z.; after which he exalted Bros. Cummings, of St. John's Lodge, No. 348, and J. D. Paul, of the John of Gaunt Lodge, No. 766. Several Brethren were proposed for exaltation at the next Chapter, to be held in the month of August.

SURREY.—*St. George's Chapter* (No. 486).—It is with a considerable amount of pleasure that we record the holding of a convocation of this Chapter, which, after an abeyance of some years, was accomplished by the perseverance of that earnest and excellent Mason, Comp. George Harcourt, M.D., the D. Prov. G.M. of the province. At the last meeting of the members—held we are afraid to say how

long since—Comp. Harcourt, H., was elected First Principal, but was never installed; the actual Z. left the province, other members dropped off, and so few remained as to render a meeting a matter of great difficulty. However, Comp. Harcourt, with the countenance of that few, and the assistance of some others of the province willing to lend their aid, accomplished the first step in the resuscitation of the Chapter on Saturday, the 30th of May, at Bro. Lovett's, the Crown Hotel, Chertsey. There were present Comps. George Harcourt, M.D.; W. K. Heseltine; Wm. Blenkin; Samuel T. Bidwell; Robert Harcourt; Dr. B. H. Kent, Prov. G.S. South Australia; J. J. Blake, P.Z. No. 3; C. H. Law, P.Z. No. 109; J. How, P.Z. No. 593; W. G. Smith; C. Greenwood, Chocon, and Prince. The Chapter was opened by Comps. How as Z., Harcourt as H., Law as J., Blake as P.S. The minutes of the preceding Chapter being read and confirmed, Comp. Harcourt was presented with a complimentary address by Comp. Blake, and duly installed as Z., according to the ancient ceremonies of this Sublime Degree, by Comp. How. The other Companions then re-entered the Chapter, and two Brethren were proposed for exaltation, and others to join. The election of Officers next took place, the result of the ballot being Comps. Jeremiah How, H.; William Keil Heseltine, J.; Treas. Samuel Toll Bidwell, E.; Robert Harcourt, N., and William Blenkin, P.S.

The Chapter was then closed, and adjourned till the ensuing month. The Companions afterwards assembled at a very excellent banquet, Comp. Harcourt presiding, supported by Comps. Blake and Law as H. and J. After the customary Masonic toasts, Comp. How, with permission of the M.E.Z., rose and said: It was at all times a pleasing duty to propose the name of the presiding Officer on the day of his installation; that gratification was enhanced, however, on the present occasion, by the fact that Comp. Harcourt held a high Masonic position in the province; and his vigorous perseverance in rousing the Brethren to action that evening was an earnest that Masonry in Surrey would again revive. The Companions must not consider this as a mere complimentary toast and matter of course; they had in Comp. Harcourt a presiding officer who, all knew, had been most active and most successful in his Lodge, which was second to none in the province; and, under his able direction, equal success would attend the Chapter. With these observations he concluded by asking a hearty response from the Companions to the toast "The health of their M.E.Z."

Ex. Comp. Harcourt, on rising to thank the Companions, alluded to the difficulties that beset him in his efforts to resuscitate the Chapter; he at last resolved, with the few members that remained, to have a meeting, previously obtaining the promised aid of some friends then present. To one and all, members and visitors, who had by their attendance thus laid the first stone of their renewed structure, he tendered his warmest thanks; he thanked them for the kind and cordial feeling which all evinced towards him, and trusted there would follow many opportunities of thus assembling together in the St. George's Chapter.

Comp. How then said, his next duty, as acting P. Principal, was to tender his own thanks to the E. Companions, who for the day filled the chairs of H. and J., and by their presence assisted at the installation. Of Comp. Blake it was not necessary to offer one word of eulogy, more especially in Surrey, where, in the office he held, he was ever ready to aid and assist our cause. He was pleased to find that, in having the company of Comp. Law, he had brought one not an entire stranger to Chertsey; and therefore he was sure of a cordial welcome to Comps. Blake and Law.

Comp. Blake assured the Companions that both himself and Comp. Law were much honoured in their slight services being so munificently rewarded. For himself he could but say it gave him much pleasure to be present; and he congratulated the Chapter and Masonry in Surrey on the event of that day, which, he was sure, was the precursor of good results. Whenever his services could be of use, he should be happy and ready to be with them.

The M.E.Z. then proposed "The Visitors," including among them one who, at a sudden call, so kindly came among them in case his services could be of use; this was Comp. Dr. Kent, the Prov. G.Supt. for South Australia.

Dr. Kent, on rising, remarked there was one Visitor who had done everything

that day, who ought more especially to have been named—he alluded to Comp. How—and not himself, who, however good his intentions, had really done nothing for them. The Visitors could not but be pleased with the auspicious prospect the Chapter presented, and gratified with the hospitality with which they had been received, for which through him they returned their most grateful thanks.

The M.E.Z. said that in the last toast he had, for reasons which must be apparent, purposely omitted Comp. How's name, as, in filling the distinguished position of installing First Principal, Comp. How was entitled to special notice; independent of the excellent and efficient way in which that ceremonial was performed. For himself he could not allow the opportunity to pass without saying how much he was indebted to Comp. How; he, as well as most there present, had many opportunities of seeing Comp. How's efficiency in every branch of Masonry, and he (Dr. Harcourt) felt most happy in having the aid of a Companion whose proficiency would enable the Chapter to conduct the business most satisfactorily to all.

Comp. How said he never found himself at a loss for words but when he had to speak of himself. The kindness of his excellent friend who presided over them had overrated any merits he might possess, and those sentiments appeared to have been echoed by all around. He could but say, his most heartfelt thanks were offered for this overflow of kindness; and further, he would repeat that he should be most ready at any time to attend the summons of the St. George's Chapter when his services could be of use.

The M.E.Z. then proposed, "The newly-elected Officers," to which Comp. Blenkin replied.

A concluding glass to all poor and distressed Royal Arch Masons finished the day's proceedings.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—*St. Peter's Chapter* (No. 607).—The first meeting of this Chapter for the season was held at the Star and Garter on Monday, June 15, when Bro. Thomas Lawes, P.Z., installed Comps. Curtis, Z.; Lewis, H.; George Hudson, J. The other Officers were also appointed. Bro. Stanway was balloted for as a candidate for exaltation, and unanimously elected, but not being present, the ceremony did not take place. The accounts having been audited, the balance-sheet was read to the Companions, who were gratified to learn that the Chapter was in a very prosperous state, the Treasurer having a considerable sum in hand.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

DUDLEY.—On the 10th June a meeting of Masonic Knights Templar was held at this place to consecrate the Richard de Vernon Encampment, and to inaugurate the V.E. Prov. G. Com., Sir Knight Henry Charles Vernon. Both ceremonies were performed by the V.E. Prov. G. Com. of Dorset, Sir Knight C. T. Vigne, assisted by Sir Knight A. Royds, D. Prov. G. Com. of Lancashire. The V.E. Prov. G. Com. of Worcestershire then installed the E.C. for the ensuing year, Sir Knight Thomas James, whose long-trying services in every branch of Masonry insure the success of the new Encampment; and his attainment of this honourable position will, we feel sure, afford the greatest satisfaction, not only to his personal friends, but to every well-wisher to the Craft in general. He next appointed his Officers, and proceeded to install eight candidates out of the thirteen on the list, in the most able manner.

A statement was made, which was received with much regret by all present, of the withdrawal of the names of three candidates, who were persuaded to take the Degree in an Encampment not under the Grand Conclave, by the representations of a person who, by holding out the tempting shadow of cheapness and speedy advancement to the highest offices, induced them to travel far west to obtain what they will find to their cost are useless Degrees, not being recognized

by either Grand Conclave or the Supreme Grand Council of the 33rd Degree, from all Encampments and Chapters working legally under which bodies they are excluded.

The V.E. Prov. G. Com. appointed Sir Knight A. Royds his D. Prov. G. Com. for Worcestershire, an appointment which promises well for this province, from the well-known zeal of Frater Royds for Knight Templar Masonry in Lancashire, where he has been greatly instrumental in forming fifteen Encampments, which number nearly 400 members. Under such auspices there can be no doubt of the success and spread of this branch of Masonry in the province of Worcester. A most comfortable repast was afterwards provided for the members and visitors, and the whole proceedings of the day were brought to a close in harmony, goodwill, and the utmost satisfaction.

Essex.—The first Provincial Grand Conclave in this county was held at the George Hotel, Colchester, on Tuesday, June 9th, for the purpose of installing Sir Knt. H. S. S. Burney, who was nominated Prov. G. Commander at the Grand Conclave on the 8th of May.

The ceremony of installation was performed by the G. Chancellor of the Order, Sir Knt. Masson, and a great compliment was paid to the Province of Essex by the V.E. Sir Knt. Dr. Kent, who selected this occasion to be installed as Prov. G. Commander for Australia. This double ceremony was rendered still more interesting by the presence of the Ven. P.G. Chancellor of the Order, Sir Knt. William White. After the V.E. Prov. G. Commanders had been severally installed and duly proclaimed, the V.E. Prov. G. Commander for Essex, Sir Knt. Burney, proceeded to invest the G. Officers of the Province. Sir Knt. T. Morris having been duly elected Treas., the following appointments were made:—Sir Knts. Jno. Pattison, Prov. G. Prior; John Mann, Prov. 1st G. Captain; W. C. Pery, Prov. 2nd G. Captain; S. D. Forbes, Prov. G. Chancellor; W. Wiseman, Prov. G. Reg.; Eddy, Prov. G. Hospitaller; T. Hall, Prov. G. Expert; H. F. Holt, Prov. G. Almoner; Gutzmer, Prov. G. Captain of Lines; J. Partridge, Prov. G. Sword-bearer; T. Osborne, Prov. G. 1st Herald; Saunders, Prov. G. 2nd Herald; Hale and O'Brien, Prov. G. Equerries.

The proceedings of the Conclave having been brought to a close, the Sir Knights adjourned to the banquet; the chair being occupied by the V.E. Prov. G. Commander, Sir Knight H. S. S. Burney.

On the removal of the cloth, the following toasts were proposed and duly honoured:—

“Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, the daughter of a Knight Templar.”

“Prince Albert, and the rest of the Royal Family.”

“The Most Eminent Commander, Sir Knight Kemys Kemys Tynte.”

In proposing this toast the V.E. Prov. G. Commander alluded to the great respect and esteem felt by all Knights Templar for the Ven. Sir Knight who ably presided over the Order. Succeeding the late lamented M.E. and S.G.M., H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, he had to bring all his energies to work so as to fill the hiatus caused by the death of his Royal Highness, and ably had he supplied the loss the Order then sustained; and it was with feelings of the greatest affection that the Sir Knights of the Order saw him a short month since, although suffering from a very grievous affliction, preside over the Grand Conclave.

“The Very Eminent Deputy Grand Master, Sir Knight Steward.”

“The Grand Officers, Present and Past,” the Prov. G. Commander coupling with this toast the name of one looked up to with respect and regard by all Masons, more particularly Knights Templar—Sir Knight Wm. White, the P.G. Chancellor of the Order, who had taken the first opportunity of being released from his arduous duties as Grand Secretary to the Craft to visit this Provincial Grand Conclave. The Ven. Sir Knight was very instrumental under the Grand Mastership of his friend the ever-to-be-lamented late G.M., H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex, in reviving our Noble Order;—might every blessing attend him during his declining years!

Sir Knight White returned thanks.

“The Eminent Grand Chancellor, Sir Knight Masson;” the Prov. G. Com-

mander remarking that he had come down from London to carry through the ceremonies with which they had that day been gratified, and had performed them in an impressive manner. It was needless to say (added the Prov. G. Commander) how completely the Grand Chancellor performed his duties, taking advantage of every opportunity to forward the interests of the Order.

Sir Knight Masson returned thanks.

"The Very Eminent Sir Knight Kent, and the Prov. G. Commanders." This toast (the Prov. G. Commander remarked) would doubtless be received with great satisfaction, when they remembered how zealous a Knight's name was coupled with it, Sir Knight Kent having spread the Order to the antipodes, whither he was shortly proceeding, and might every success attend his endeavours!

Sir Knight Kent returned thanks.

Sir Knight Masson proposed "Prosperity to the Temple Cressing Encampment, and the Health of its Eminent Commander, Sir Knight Maydwell."

Sir Knight Maydwell returned thanks.

Sir Knight Holt said he had been waiting for some time to hear a toast which they should all be delighted to honour: he begged to propose the "Health of the newly-installed Very Eminent Commander, Sir Knight Burney."

The Prov. G. Commander returned thanks, regretting that the baton of command of the Province of Essex had not been confided to some more worthy hands; but adding that no exertion should be spared on his part to promote the best interests of the Order.

"The Provincial Grand Officers;" the Prov. G. Commander remarking that with their assistance the rule of the Province would be easy.

"Prosperity to the Prudence Encampment of Ipswich."

The V.E. Prov. G. Commander would only delay the Sir Knights with one toast more, but with this toast he must beg to couple a name which no Englishman could hear without heart-felt emotion: the toast was "The Ladies, and Miss Nightingale,"—one who, in her practice, carried out all the noble principles of their Order. Might the best wishes they could give be hers; and, to bring this toast strictly within the rules, might she be blessed with an excellent husband—a Knight Templar!

Sir Knight Pery returned thanks, and fully entered into the feelings that prompted the honourable mention of this hallowed name, he himself having experienced her kind attention in the sickness and misery of a Crimean hospital.

The usual final toast, "To all Knights Templars, &c." was then drunk, and the Conclave broke up.

THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

A meeting of the Metropolitan Chapter of Rose Croix, H.R.D.M., for the reception of candidates, will be held at Freemasons' Tavern on Tuesday, the 14th July. We understand that the M.P. Sov. Com., Dr. Leeson, has signified his intention of presiding, and that he will deliver a lecture on the history of the Order.

MARK MASONRY.

A meeting of Brethren practising this Degree was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Saturday, the 30th May, in pursuance of a letter from Lord Leigh, whom the Bon Accord Mark Masters last year appointed as their G.M., in which he said, "It appears to me very desirable, that before the next meeting of the

Grand Lodge of Mark Masons in June, the whole of the Brethren of the Degree in England and Wales should be invited to attend a general meeting, for the purpose of expressing their opinion as to whether it is better to unite as a whole under a constitutionally elected governing body, or to continue it as at present, some under the English Constitution, and some under Irish, Scotch, or American warrants, each relatively to the other, in effect irregular."

A number of Brethren attended the Bon Accord Mark Masters—those holding under Scottish Constitutions, and those professing to act from time immemorial, being tolerably fairly represented. As the convener of the meeting, Lord Leigh was called upon to take the chair, and in opening the business his lordship expressed a hope that, "Whatever the authority under which they might profess to work, the Brethren would abstain from discussing the validity of any such authority, and keep in view solely the course to be pursued for the future well-being of the Craft."

Bro. Dr. Jones (Bon Accord) moved the first resolution—

"That this meeting, as a collection of Brethren practising the Mark Degree, regret that this interesting portion of Freemasonry should have been, since 1813, omitted from the ceremonies recognized by the United Grand Lodge of England, and is anxious to promote the working of Mark Masonry."

This was seconded by Bro. Isaacs (Arnott Lodge, Scottish Constitutions), who urged the advantage of unity if it could be brought about on fair and equitable terms. After a few words from Bro. Dr. King, on the internal working of the Bon Accord, Bro. Aria maintained that the Mark Degree should not be kept separate from the Craft; that every Master of a Craft Lodge had an inherent right to open it in the Mark Degree, and that he had himself been so advanced in a Craft Lodge under the British Constitution in Jamaica. This is evidently such a contravention of the Charter and the present Book of Constitutions as interpreted by the authorities of Grand Lodge, that the Brethren in Jamaica ought to be called upon for an explanation of their mode of working. Bro. Havers objected to the Degree altogether as contrary to the British Constitutions. Mindful of his oath, he must resist any innovations of those Constitutions, and he called upon the noble lord in the chair to be careful how he infringed on the authority of the G.M. by establishing another Grand Lodge with Grand Officers in this country. Bro. Basset Smith stated, that the Degree had been worked from time immemorial in Warwickshire and the midland counties, and was known to have been so practised for more than sixty years by men now living. Bro. Aria also contended that it was no innovation, and repeated that in the West Indies it was almost universally practised. After some conversation, in which Lord Leigh stated that he was a personal friend of the Earl of Zetland, and should be as careful as anybody not to infringe upon the rights of that noble lord, the resolution was carried in a slightly amended form. Bro. Hughes (St. Mark's, Scottish Constitution) then moved—

"That this meeting deploras the differences of authorities, of working and organization, at present existing among Mark Masters, and is anxious to promote unity and uniformity on these points."

Bro. Hughes, though anxious for union, was fearful that, if they established a Grand Lodge of Mark Masons, they might raise a cumbrous machinery, which

might hereafter stand in the way of their acknowledgment by the United Grand Lodge of England. After some explanations from Bro. Havers, the motion was seconded by Bro. Norton (Bon Accord), and carried unanimously. The next resolution was brought forward by Bro. Warren (St. Mark's, Scottish Constitution), and seconded by Bro. Ridgway (Bon Accord)—

“That it is desirable a committee be formed to ascertain and represent the views of all parties practising the Degree with respect to the means to be adopted to promote such unity and uniformity.”

The names on the committee were, after some discussion, settled as follows :—Bros. Jones, Cole, Warren, Hughes, Barnard, Peter Matthews, Pullen, Hearn, Ridgway, Isaacs, Adams, Sharman, S. B. Wilson, Collins, Barringer, and Woolley.

This Committee has since met twice, and we regret to say come to a premature close, the Brethren never having once entered upon the business for which the Committee was more particularly appointed, that of ascertaining what Mark Lodges there were in England and their opinion with regard to a general union ; but having directly gone into discussions upon abstract principles of government. We regret this the more, inasmuch as the proposer of the Committee was not present on either occasion, he not having been consulted as to the time for calling it together, and having made previous engagements out of town.

It would appear, however, that there was little intention of acting in good faith towards the Brethren of the Scotch Lodges, as, pending the decision of the Committee and prior to its second meeting, the Bon Accord Grand Lodge (as it is termed) met on the 16th of June and passed the following resolutions, which would throw those Lodges out of all rank, it being well known that none of the Scotch Lodges (of which there are now eight in England) were in existence at the date named, the Brethren belonging to these Lodges having carefully abstained from applying for Charters from another country until after the adverse decision of the United Grand Lodge of England :—

“When any body of Freemasons shall, to the satisfaction of the General Board, with the approval of the Grand Master, prove themselves to have actually met, and worked as a Lodge of Mark Masters, previously to the Quarterly Communication of the United Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England, held in June, 1856, such body shall be deemed to have the inherent right of forming a union with the Lodges working under this constitution, and be entitled to all the privileges of a duly-registered Lodge, on accepting a warrant of confirmation, and thereby agreeing to support the regulations for the government of the Craft as laid down in the Book of Constitutions ; and any such Lodge so uniting shall take precedence, without a number, and rank above the Phoenix Lodge No. 2, on the roll ; provided also, that when any Lodge proved in like manner to have been working in England, Wales, or any of the colonies or possessions of the British Crown, under a warrant granted by any Foreign Grand Lodge having authority to grant a warrant for working a Lodge of Mark Masters, within its own jurisdiction, such Lodge shall also have a right of forming a union with the Lodges working under this constitution, and be entitled to all the privileges of a duly-registered Lodge, on the Brethren causing their Charter to be enrolled on the books of the Grand Lodge, and a memorandum of their union with the Lodges under this constitution endorsed thereon, or on their accepting a warrant of confirmation, and thereby agreeing to support the said constitution.

“Any such Lodge shall take precedence, and rank with the other Lodges on the roll, according to the date of their respective charters, taking, in common, the number of the Lodge next before it on the roll, with the addition of a dis-

tinguishing letter, until such time as a re-arrangement of numbers shall be deemed advisable.

"There shall be no fee on the registration of any Brethren, whose names shall be returned as members of any such uniting Lodges at the time of the Union.

"Every Mark Master who shall give to the Lodge satisfactory proof of having served the office of W.M. of a Lodge of Mark Masters, or of having conferred the Degree upon two or more Brethren previous to the month of June, 1856, shall be deemed to be a Past Master of a Lodge of Mark Masters, and enjoy all the privileges of that rank, during such time as they shall continue subscribing members of any Lodge on the roll."

We may mention that there was a meeting of the Bon Accord (private) Lodge on the same day, when Lord Carnarvon and ten other Brethren were advanced.

SCOTLAND.

ALLOA.

St. John's Lodge.—On Monday, June 1, a Meeting of Emergency was held at the Royal Oak Hotel, for the purpose of affiliating Sir James Burnes, Knight of the Hanoverian Guelphic Order, late Physician-General to the army in India and Grand Master of Masonry in that country.

After business had been concluded, the Proxy-Master (Mr. W. Downing Bruce) said—"I have on many occasions had the honour of introducing into this Lodge men of high rank and varied talents. But I never had greater pleasure than in introducing this evening as an affiliated Brother the R.W. Master of Western India; not because my gallant friend is perhaps the greatest Mason in Europe—it is not because he is the near relation of Scotland's greatest bard, or that he is the brother of those gallant and distinguished soldiers, Col. Sir Alexander Burnes and Lieut. Charles Burnes, both of whom, all will recollect, perished in the deplorable catastrophe at Cabool—it is because Dr. Burnes has by his own energy, industry, and talents, raised himself to be chief of the medical department of the army, the greatest Britain ever possessed; he has shared in all its dangers and participated in all its victories." (Loud cheers.) Mr. Bruce then went on to relate some of the services of Sir J. Burnes. He stated "that from 1821 to 1827, Sir J. Burnes served with the army in the field, and in the latter year was selected as envoy to the Ameers of Scinde, between whom and our Government a very unfriendly feeling had subsisted for years. For his services on that occasion he received the thanks of the Government. The narrative of his visit to Scinde has gone through numerous editions both in India and in Europe. On the return of Sir J. Burnes to Europe, in 1833, he received the honour of knighthood from his sovereign—was elected a Doctor of Laws by the University of Glasgow—and on his departure for India, a public entertainment was given to him, at which the Marquis of Dalhousie was in the chair, when he received the present of a magnificent silver vase bearing an appropriate inscription; the committee for its presentation consisting of the Marquis of Dalhousie, Admiral Sir David Milne, Sir George Ballingall, Sir Reginald Macdonald Seton, and other eminent individuals. On the return of Sir J. Burnes to India, and before a year had elapsed, we find his Masonic Brethren there voting him three massive silver pillars, surrounded by the emblems of Faith, Hope, and Charity, 'To mark their deep-felt gratitude for his conduct to themselves, and their high sense of his brilliant efforts in the cause of charity, friendship, and love to all men.' His next prominent appearance was on the occasion of his laying the foundation-stone of the hospital founded by Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, which ceremony created great sensation at Bombay, in 1843. He established the celebrated Masonic Lodge 'Rising Star,' for the admission of

Hindoos and other natives of India. Sir J. Burnes, I may state, has always been a most zealous promoter of Freemasonry, and for above twelve years has held the high office of Grand Master of India. On his departure, the Brethren of the various Lodges subscribed a liberal sum for the perpetual endowment of gold medals at the academy of his native town, Montrose, the great medical college at Bombay, and other seminaries. The eminent and official position and the distinguished and meritorious career, in the service of which he has long been an honour, he had ever used in endeavouring to advance merit and promote unpretending worth, to assist the necessitous, and soothe those heats and irritations which occasionally arise in the best-regulated communities; and as a private friend, I may state that he has been warm, sincere, and constant in his attachments. Dr. Burnes would undoubtedly be received into the Alloa St. John's Lodge with all the honours due to one so eminently distinguished." (Cheers.)

The R.W. the Grand Master of India, in returning thanks, said that he felt highly flattered by the complimentary speech of his friend, their representative Master, and for the great honour they had done him in affiliating him a member of the Alloa St. John's Lodge—a Lodge that was fast rising to distinction and becoming known to Masons all over the world. He then went on to state the benefits that were to be derived from Masonry in foreign countries, and the high estimation in which the Craft was held by the natives of India; he complimented the W.M. on the satisfactory manner in which he conducted the proceedings of his Lodge, and stated that he should endeavour to be present at their approaching centenary meeting, which, he had no doubt, would be attended by the Officers of the principal Lodges in Scotland, and he sincerely hoped, considering the position the Lodge had attained, that the R.W. Grand Master of Scotland, his Grace the Duke of Athol, would endeavour to be present on that occasion.

Other toasts were proposed, and the evening was spent in great harmony, Bro. Manning, of Edinburgh, adding much to the amusement of the evening by singing many admirable and well-selected songs.

A quarterly meeting of this Lodge was held on the evening of Tuesday, 8th of June, when Captain Adam Ferguson, of the 42nd Highlanders, and a Prussian gentleman, were initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry. A deputation from the Stirling Lodge, headed by the R.W. Master, and several gentlemen from Edinburgh, attended, and the evening was spent in a very convivial manner.

MONTROSE.

Kilwinning Lodge (No. 15).—This old-established Lodge is in a very satisfactory condition; Bro. Alex. Beattie, R.W.M., who conducts the ceremonies in a very Masonic and creditable manner. We are informed that at present several hundreds of Brethren can claim the "Kilwinning" as their mother Lodge.

St. Peter's Lodge (No. 120).—This highly respectable and flourishing Lodge met in the Star Hotel, on the 19th inst., when two candidates were entered Apprentices, and other five were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Masons. The R.W.M. Bro. George Steele, *M.D.*, conducted the ceremonies in a truly Masonic and interesting manner; and his Lectures and Charges were at once instructive and pleasing not only to the newly initiated Brethren, but also to the numerous assemblage of the more experienced Craftsmen. He was ably assisted by the Wardens, Bros. Driver and Rodgers, by the indefatigable Secretary, Bro. Smeaton, and by the other office-bearers. Bro. James Chalmers, of Dundee, who at one period presided over this, his mother Lodge, for seven years, was present on this occasion; and mutual expressions of good-feeling were interchanged in consequence of his visit. Bro. Clirehugh, P.M. of Lodge "Mary's Chapel," Edinburgh, No. 1; and P.D. Ritchie, P.M. Lodge of "Ancient Dundee," No. 49, also attended this meeting, and met with a kind and brotherly reception. Many Brethren of eminence are original and affiliated members of St. Peter's; amongst whom we may particularly note Sir James Burnes, *K.H.*, Prov. G.M. of Western India, his late lamented brother Sir Alex. Burnes, and Sir James Duke, *M.P.*, ex-Lord Mayor of London.

ROYAL ARCH.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

A Quarterly Convocation of the Supreme Grand Chapter took place in the Star Hotel, Edinburgh, on the 17th June, 1857, E.C. Dr. W. D. McRitchie, in the absence of the First Grand Principal, acting Z.; E.C. John Dunbar acting H., and E.C. Donald Campbell acting J.

The minutes of last quarterly meeting, and of meeting for election and installation of Office-bearers, were read and approved of.

Proxy commission by the Ayr Royal Arch Chapter, No. 18, in favour of Comp. G. Darling, a regular Royal Arch Companion of the Edinburgh Chapter, No. 1, was read and sustained.

On a report brought up from the Grand Committee, recommending that warrants for holding Mark Master Lodges be granted to the following Brethren, the same were agreed to, and warrants accordingly issued, viz. :—

1. To Bros. William Bulley, John Parry Platt, and Charles Nairne Marshall, for holding a Lodge at Birkenhead, in Cheshire, under the name and title of "The Joppa Lodge of Mark Masters," to rank No. 5 on the roll of Mark Master Lodges holding under Scotland; this number having been assigned them in consequence of the withdrawal of a petition formerly lodged on behalf of the proposed Kilwinning Lodge, of London, which at last meeting was delayed, pending the discussion of a motion affecting its formality, and which the applicants in the most handsome manner withdrew, lest their persistence in the application might in any way affect said motion, in which they appeared cordially to concur.

2. To Bros. John Ladmore, Jonathan Foster, and Edward Jones, for constituting a Lodge at Liverpool, under the title of "The Keystone Lodge of Mark Masters," to rank No. 6; and on applications subsequently lodged, which were reported by the Scribes to be in all respects regular, the Supreme Chapter further agreed to expedite warrants in favour of

3. Bros. William Harris, John Lintor, and Gilbert Cobb Harris, for holding a Lodge at Bristol, under the title of "The Canynges Lodge of Mark Masters," to rank No. 7; and of

4. Bros. Benjamin Toundrow, Thomas Yeatman, and Joseph Clark Carver, constituting them a Lodge to be held at Liverpool, under the title of "The Liverpool Lodge of Mark Masters," the same to rank No. 8 on the aforesaid registry.

The Supreme Chapter also, on the report of their Committee, agreed to expedite a Royal Arch Charter in favour of eleven regular Royal Arch Companions of the St. Andrew's Chapter, Glasgow, No. 69, constituting them into a regular Royal Arch Chapter, to be held at Airdrie, in the middle ward of the county of Lanark, under the title of "The Airdrie District Royal Arch Chapter," and to rank No. 78 on the roll of the Supreme Grand Chapter.

An application for a charter to constitute a Royal Arch Chapter, to be held in Glasgow, under the title of "The Commercial Royal Arch Chapter," was delayed till next meeting, the same not having been forwarded in time to admit of the preliminary inquiries being made.

In accordance with a recommendation contained in the report of Committee, it was agreed, at the request of the St. John's Lodge, Bolton, that before any second warrant for holding a Mark Master Lodge there should be granted, they should be allowed to be heard on the subject; the Supreme Chapter, notwithstanding, claiming for itself the inherent right of judging in every case what warrants should be granted or withheld.

A remit was made to a special committee, consisting of Companions John Dunbar, Donald Campbell, and William Gaylor, to frame a code of by-laws for the government of separate Mark Master Lodges, and to apply for and receive from the Lodges already constituted any suggestions they might have to offer in reference to the adoption of any rules additional to those contained in the body of their warrants,—said committee to report a draft of the proposed by-laws for adoption by the Chapter at next quarterly meeting.

The following Chapters were appointed to be visited in the course of the season ; viz., Edinburgh, No. 1 ; Caledonian, Dunse, No. 25 ; Esk, Dalkeith, No. 42 ; and Canongate, Kilwinning, No. 56 : Companions Donald Campbell, P.P.Z. for Banff, No. 4 ; James Chalmers, P.Z. for Dundee, No. 6 ; and J. N. Sutherland, P.P.J. for Banff, No. 4,—being appointed a committee to undertake the visitation.

On the motion of Comp. John Dunbar, as amended, it was enacted and declared —“That no Brother or Companion shall hold office in any more than one Lodge or Royal Arch Chapter holding warrant from the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, the Tyler *excepted*.”

On a communication from the Halifax Chapter, No. 55, complaining of certain acts on the part of Comp. J. Willis, P.G.Z. for the Province of Nova Scotia, whereby it is alleged he had become disqualified for any longer holding that high office, the Chapter directed a copy of the complaint to be transmitted him, with a request that he would explain or answer the charges preferred against him, and that betwixt then and next quarterly meeting.

A complaint, though of a somewhat different nature, having been made by the Carlton Chapter, St. John, New Brunswick, against M. E. Alexander Balloch, P.G.Z. for that province, as also a letter from the Superintendent himself for instructions in the matter, were remitted to the Grand Principal Z., with powers to him to remove or continue an interdict which the Superintendent had, in the exercise of his duty, considered necessary to pronounce against a Companion being exalted to the Degree of Royal Arch, who had, at a regular meeting of the Chapter, been rejected, and afterwards, as it appears, not at an emergent meeting, but at an adjournment of the same meeting, been accepted, and received part of his Degrees.

A complaint by the Edinburgh Chapter, No. 1, against one of their members for refusing to deliver up, though repeatedly called on to do so, certain books and documents, the property of the Chapter, was delayed till next meeting.

DUNDEE.—*Union Chapter* (No. 6).—Little has been doing of late in this Chapter, but still a few exaltations have taken place. Some superior new Regalia have lately been provided, particularly a splendidly-bound Bible, procured from the warehouse of Comp. Richard Spencer, London ; and silver Compass, Square, and other Jewels, adorned with brilliants, and made by a local artist. The excellent portrait of Comp. Jack, P. Prov. G.Z., painted by Comp. Irvine, having been returned from the Royal Exhibition at Edinburgh, it is intended to have it placed in the Chapter-room and inaugurated at the next monthly meeting.

MONTROSE.—*Enoch Chapter* (No 3).—We are glad to report that this Chapter shows some symptoms of revival, after a considerable period of inaction. Comp. Jas. Chalmers, M.E.Z. of the Union Chapter, Dundee, No. 6, having had occasion to reside much here for the last few months, has been endeavouring with some success to bestir the Companions ; but although they are individually desirous of progressing in the good work, yet there still exists a want of united perseverance, which a little care and attention may easily supply, and which it is hoped will be advantageously exercised. In March last Comp. Chalmers, assisted by Comp. Robertson, P.J. of his Chapter, entered four Brethren into the Degrees of Mark, Past, and Excellent Masters, and exalted to that of Royal Arch, in the Enoch Chapter ; and others express their desire for similar reception.

AMERICA.

MAINE.

GRAND LODGE.

The G.M., in his address, recommended that measures be taken to furnish presiding G.Ms. with some work or works on Masonic jurisprudence, to assist them in deciding such questions as may be submitted to them. A committee was

chosen to compile such a work, or select from such as are already published ; R. P. Dunlap, Prov. G.M. of Brunswick, in the chair.

The G.M. stated that nearly a year ago he sent copies of all papers relating to the difficulties between St. Croix Lodge, Calais, and Union Lodge, New Brunswick, to the D. Prov. G.M. of New Brunswick, with a friendly proposal, and request to open a correspondence with him upon the matter, with a view to an amicable settlement. Although the papers sent were received, no notice had been taken of them whatever ; not even an acknowledgment of their receipt. It was voted that the G.M. be requested to notify the Grand Lodge of England of the facts in the case, and solicit an adjustment of the matter.

During the year dispensations had been granted for four new Lodges ; viz., Hiram Abiff, at West Appleton ; Benevolent, at Carmel ; Narragausus, at Cherryfield ; Island, at Isleboro'. Also a "Lodge of Instruction," at Portland ; and one at Saco.

Charters were granted to Benevolent Lodge, No. 87, and Narragausus Lodge, No. 88, and the G.M. authorized to give a Charter to Island Lodge at the end of six months, if in his opinion advisable. Dispensation of Hiram Abiff Lodge extended one year.

The committee to examine by-laws of subordinate Lodges and report a code for adoption, reported an excellent code, which was ordered to be printed with the proceedings, and sent to the Lodges for examination.

The committee recommend that the Lodges endeavour to conform to the "simple and straightforward usages of our fathers in Masonry," and protest against the modern practices of "calling off," from week to week, "adjourning" Lodges, "reconsidering ballots," &c., as irregular and un-Masonic.

A proposition to amend the Constitution, so as to require two dollars instead of one as fee to the Grand Lodge for each initiation, was entertained, and referred to usual committee.

A special committee, composed of R. P. Dunlap, Prov. G.M., and Cyril Pearl, was appointed to consider the subject of recognizing the new "Grand Lodge of Canada." They reported the following resolution, which was adopted :—

"Resolved, That final action on the relations relative to the Grand Lodge of Canada be deferred to the next Annual Communication."

Believing it to be necessary to a true understanding of the facts in the case, we will say that a very large majority of the members of the Grand Lodge were in favour of "recognizing," but as our worthy Prov. G.M. of the committee was not prepared to recommend such action, and it was feared by the committee that it might complicate our existing difficulties with the Grand Lodge of England (in the case of St. Croix and Union Lodges), and embarrass the G.M. in adjusting the same ; and as the committee on foreign correspondence had given a very full statement of all the important facts in the case, and it was moreover not deemed absolutely necessary that the question should be immediately disposed of, it was therefore deferred as above.

Resolution recognizing the new Grand Lodge of Kansas was unanimously adopted.

We are pleased to announce that our worthy and distinguished Bro. R. P. Dunlap, who has held offices of trust and honour from the lowest to the very highest in Masonry, who was an active member of the Grand Lodge at its formation, in 1820, and who was its G.M. twenty-nine years ago, was elected G.M. for the year ensuing.

On being installed into office, the G.M. made some exceedingly eloquent and appropriate remarks, alluding to his long connection with the Institution, and a continuous membership in the Grand Lodge for the long term of thirty-seven years. He had been present at its birth, and had watched with deed interest its increasing years and strength. He avowed an increasing love for the sublime principles of Freemasonry, a determination to support the dignity and honour of the Grand Lodge, and the reputation of the Fraternity at large, to suppress every exhibition of un-Masonic conduct, and watch over the subordinate Lodges with zealous care that the ancient landmarks be strictly adhered to. We venture to say, that never before were the Grand Officers so well installed, and so

impressively charged and instructed as on this occasion. They will not soon forget the duties given them in charge. The following is a list of the Officers elect, and appointed :—R. P. Dunlap, Brunswick, G.M. ; Hiram Chase, Belfast, D.G.M. ; Wm. Allen, Portland, S.G.W. ; John Williams, Bangor, J.G.W. ; Moses Dodge, G. Treas. ; Ira Berry, G. Sec. ; Wm. P. Pre' le, Jr. Ass. G. Sec.

Having finished its business, the Grand Lodge closed in ample form in peace and harmony.

GRAND CHAPTER.

This grand body was opened in ample form by A. B. Thompson, M.E.G.H.P. Every Chapter in the state (ten in number) was represented. The returns show 520 members, seventy-five exaltations, six deceased, two demitted, and one expelled the last year. There are reported seventy-eight non-affiliated R.A. Masons residing in the state. The G.H.P., in his report of his doings, reported having decided that general business, balloting, &c. might be done when open upon the Mark Degree, on the ground that, although open upon an inferior Degree, it was nevertheless a Chapter or assemblage of R.A. Masons. This decision very naturally caused some surprise. A committee on doings of G. Officers subsequently reported adverse to this decision, and supported it by reference to a regulation of the Grand Chapter itself, which provided that no balloting or general business could be done except when open on the 7th Degree. The report was accepted.

A committee, consisting of A. B. Thompson, T. J. Murray, and O. A. Merrill, was appointed to consider the subject of a uniformity of work, and report next year.

The by-laws of the Grand Chapter were amended so as to provide for the appointment of a G.P.S. and three G. Masters of Veils.

The report on foreign correspondence by Comp. Pearl was excellent. It rapped Pennsylvania in a very brotherly manner for its one-sided exclusiveness in not publishing its doings, and exchanging the usual courtesies with other states. It reported the sky of Royal Arch Masonry unusually clear throughout the world.

The Officers elect and appointed were installed by Robert P. Dunlap, P.G.G.H.P., in his usual happy manner.

GRAND COUNCIL.

This grand body was opened by the M.P.G.M., R. P. Dunlap, who from a committee reported a Constitution for the Grand Council, which with one or two amendments was adopted.

Committee on Work reported having agreed upon the work and lectures of Mass with very slight changes. Accepted.

Committee on Returns reported seven Councils, all in a flourishing condition.

GRAND ENCAMPMENT.

There was a full representation from every Encampment in the state. The returns show twenty-five creations in the past year. Balance in treasury, 20,800 dollars. A committee was chosen to revise the by-laws, to conform to the Constitution of G.G. Encampment, also to procure regalia and plate for diplomas. A charter was granted for a new Encampment at Saco.

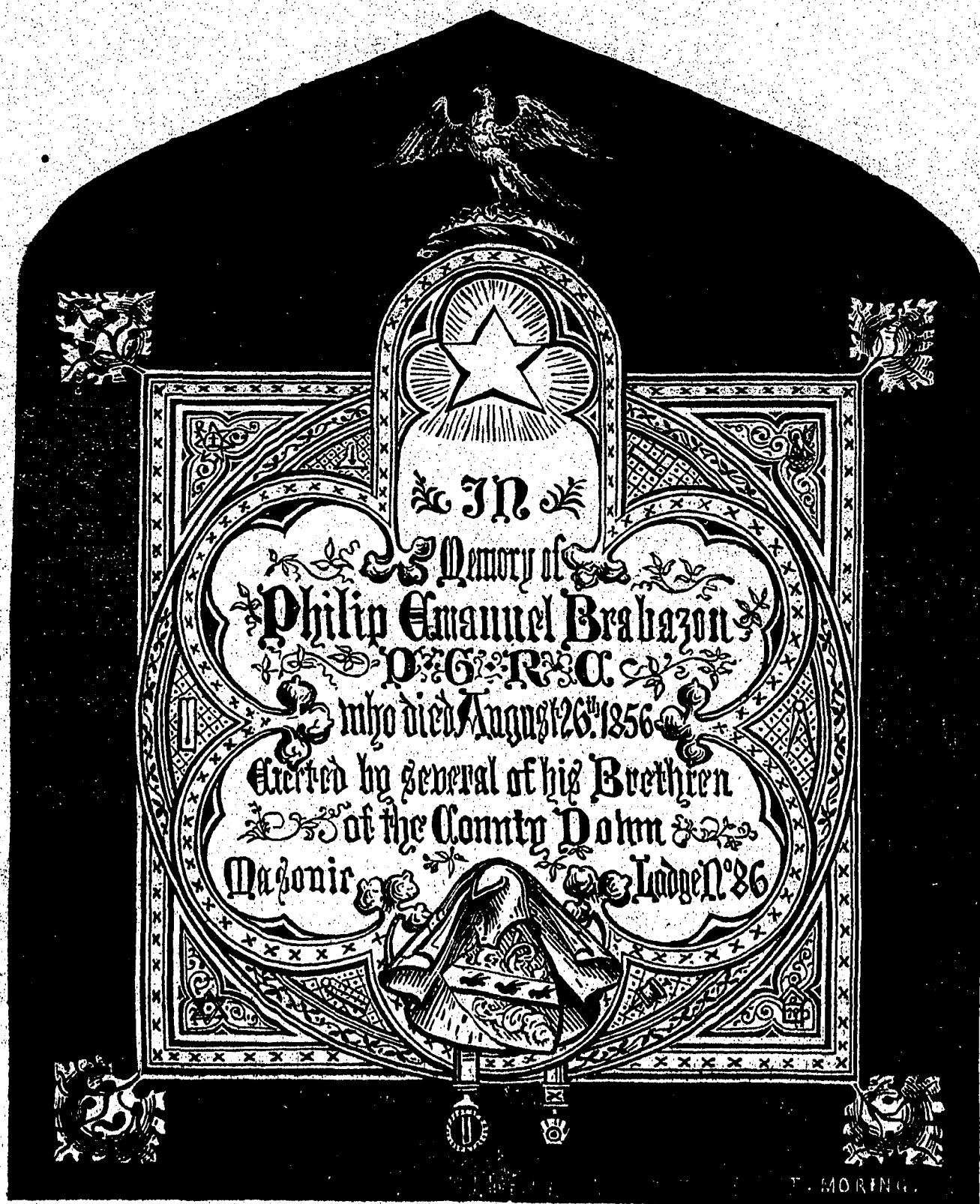
Committee on differences between Maine and Portland Encampments reported that the latter had unwittingly infringed upon the jurisdiction of the former, and that they refund forty dollars of fees received. Report accepted. Voted to publish proceedings annually.

THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

The children will visit the Crystal Palace on the 29th, the expense being principally borne by our worthy Bro. B. B. Cabbell, the Treasurer. A few of the friends of the Institution will dine together in the afternoon.

MONUMENTAL BRASSES.

The fashion of Monumental Brasses has been for some time reviving, and the Brethren of Lodge No. 86, Ireland, have recently determined to erect, in Downpatrick Cathedral, a memorial Brass to the late Bro. Philip E. Brabazon, P.G., R.C., who was highly popular amongst the Craft in the county Down. It is a beautiful work of art, designed and executed by Bro. T. Moring, of High Holborn, where we had an opportunity of inspecting it a few days since. The accompanying woodcut represents the design of the Brass, which measures four feet by four feet six inches; it is inserted into a black marble block.



BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.

On the 9th of June a very crowded and elegant *conversazione* was held in the hall of this institution, on the invitation of Bro. W. Forster White, the treasurer. The hall, which is at all times rich in works of art, was on this occasion most profusely decorated with photographs of the gems of the Art Treasures Exhibition,—water-colour drawings, plate, &c., whilst on tables running throughout the hall were some beautiful photographs of distinguished statesmen and others, by Miall, stereoscopes, with views and fancy groups, microscopes, &c. The latter were principally exhibited by Messrs. Salmon and Co., and some of the objects shown were most interesting,—such as the tongue of a gnat, the head of a fly, the leaf of a flower, the foot of a frog, a drop of water, &c., in which the wonders of nature are made most manifest.

SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR JUNE.

THE COURT.

THE Court continued at Osborne up to the commencement of the last month, where Her Majesty received the Grand Duke Constantine upon a flying visit. After the departure of that open-hearted sailor, Her Majesty and suite removed for a few days to Windsor, in order to be present at the Ascot Races.

On the 14th June, Her Majesty returned to London, to go through the *tedia* of her position, the holding of levees and drawing-rooms. That day too she received the Archduke Maximilian of Austria as a guest at Buckingham Palace. His Imperial Highness Prince Frederick William of Prussia and the Hereditary Prince of Saxe-Meiningen and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar have been the only royal visitors at the English court during the past month.

On the 15th, Her Majesty held a court, and fixed the day for the reception of the addresses of congratulation upon her late accouchement.

On the 16th, the infant princess was baptized with great state by the name of Beatrice, the Princess Royal and Prince William of Prussia being sponsors.

On the 17th, the royal party attended the oratorio of Judas Maccabæus at the Crystal Palace.

On the 18th, the Queen held her first levee for the season. It was very numerously attended.

On the 19th, there was a grand state concert.

On the 20th, the Queen held a court for the reception of addresses of congratulation on the occasion of the birth of the Princess Beatrice.

A drawing-room, attended by almost the whole of the female aristocracy, was held upon the 23rd.

PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords, on the 28th of May, Lord Dungannon called attention to the fact that certain bishops of the Church had, in imitation of Mr. Spurgeon, taken to preaching in Exeter Hall. The Bishop of London justified the conduct of his right rev. brethren. The Sale of Poisons Bill was read a second time. The report upon the Probates and Letters of Administration Bill was received, and the Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Bill passed through committee; after which their lordships adjourned for the Whitsun holidays.——In the House of Commons, Lord Palmerston announced the settlement of the Neuchatel question. Mr. Roebuck endeavoured to make the House assume one of the prerogatives of the Crown, and take upon itself the management of foreign affairs; but his motion was negatived by a large majority. Sir Charles Napier was also defeated in his motion for an inquiry into the constitution of the Board of Admiralty. The adjustment of the land-tax and the punishment of persons convicted of aggravated assaults were also considered, and the Joint-Stock Companies Bill was read a second time.

On the 29th, in the House of Commons, Lord Palmerston explained the circumstances which led to the abandonment of the Clarendon and Dallas treaty with the United States of America. The Princess Royal's Annuity Bill was passed through committee. Mr. E. Ellice called the attention of the House to the cruel manner in which pauper lunatics are treated in Scotland; the Ministers' Money Bill was passed through committee; and the House adjourned for the Whitsuntide holidays.

On June 4th, both Houses resumed business. In the House of Lords the Sale of Poisons Bill was referred to a select committee, and the report upon the Divorce Bill, after some important amendments, was agreed to.——In the House of Commons, Lord Robert Cecil failed to obtain a committee to inquire into the feasibility of using voting-papers instead of an open poll at the general elections. Mr. Hoisfall brought the constitution of the Board of Trade under the attention of the

House, and Mr. Conningham obtained a committee to inquire into alleged corrupt practices in the administration of the Duchy of Lancaster.

On the 5th, in the House of Lords, the working of the Merchant Shipping Act was vindicated by Lord Stanley of Alderley, and the Probates and Letters of Administration Bill was read a third time and passed.—In the House of Commons, one million and a quarter of money was voted to purchase the free passage of British ships through the Sound.

On the 8th, in the House of Lords, Earl Granville laid on the table an account of the income and expenditure of the Irish Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and Earl Grey brought the details of the great Shedden case before the attention of their lordships, who, however, refused to reopen it.—In the House of Commons, the Parliamentary Oaths Bill was read a second time without opposition. The report of the Civil Service Commissioners was discussed; the Joint-Stock Companies Bill was passed through committee; the Fraudulent Trustees Bill was read a second time; the Savings Bank Bill also obtained a second reading.

In the House of Lords, on the 9th, Lord Ellenborough called the attention of the House to the mutinous state of the native army in India, which he attributed to an attempt on the part of Government to proselytize them.—In the House of Commons, Lord Palmerston explained the circumstances attending the death of Lieut. Williams in the harbour of Belleisle by a shot from a French ship, and stated that the emperor had offered to provide for his family. The Lord Advocate brought in a Bill to remedy the law in respect to the treatment of Scotch lunatics, and the Joint-Stock Companies Bill was read the third time.

On the 10th, the House of Commons threw out, by large majorities, both Mr. Hardy's Beer Bill and Mr. Locke King's Property Qualification Bill.

In the House of Lords, on the 11th, Lord St. Leonards introduced a Bill for the protection of private trustees acting with *bonâ fide* intentions.—In the House of Commons, the mismanagement of the Duchy of Lancaster was brought under the notice of the House by Mr. Wise. The state of the missionaries in India, and the administration of justice in that country, were also discussed.

In the House of Lords on the 12th, the Transportation and Penal Servitude Bill was passed through committee, and the Divorce Bill was reported as amended.—In the House of Commons, Sir Benjamin Hall was taken to task for expending in his department more money than Parliament had voted, and Mr. Wilson explained how the great increase had taken place in the miscellaneous estimates.

On the 15th, in the House of Lords, the Princess Royal's Annuity Bill was read a third time and passed, and the Marquis of Clanricarde insisted upon the necessity of amalgamating the Supreme and the Sudder courts in India.—In the House of Commons, the Oaths Bill was passed through committee.

On the 16th, in the House of Lords, Lord Malmesbury insisted on the necessity of equalizing the poor-rates, and Lord Carnarvon's Reformatory Institutions Bill was taken into consideration, and the debate upon it adjourned until Mr. Adderley's Bill came up from the House of Commons. The equalization of the poor-rates occupied the almost exclusive attention of the House of Commons.

In the House of Commons, on the 17th, the Industrial Schools Bill was in part passed through committee, and the Grand Juries (Ireland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

In the House of Lords, on the 18th, the Ministers' Money Bill was read a second time after a sharp debate. Majority for the second reading, 5.—In the House of Commons, Military Reform was ably canvassed, and Government received its first defeat in the present Parliament on the question of the scale used in the Ordnance Survey of Scotland.

In the House of Lords, on the 19th, the resignation of the Bishop of Norwich was discussed, and the Lord Chancellor on the part of Government promised, not only that his lordship should, although he resigned his see unconditionally, obtain a retiring pension, but that a general measure would be introduced to facilitate such resignations for the future. The Transportation and Penal Servitude Bill was read a third time and passed.—In the House of Commons, the new Speaker's knowledge of the forms of the House was severely tested by the proceedings con-

sequent upon the presentation of a petition from a parliamentary agent complaining that one of the witnesses to be examined before the Rochdale Election Committee had been offered a bribe to leave the country. A select committee was appointed to investigate the matter. Lord Claude Hamilton inquired why the insult offered to the British flag upon the occasion of the bombardment of Grey Town had not been avenged, and compensation obtained for the British residents who suffered in that piratical attack upon an unfortified town.

On the 22nd, in the House of Lords, the Earl of Albemarle brought the case of Mr. Dixon, a gentleman who had been some years ago indicted for a conspiracy to murder, before the notice of the House. It was a complaint of persecution against a stipendiary magistrate and the Irish Government. The Lord Chancellor called attention to the report of the Statute Law Commission, and laid on the table eight bills for the simplification of criminal jurisprudence. The bill for the Abolition of Ministers' Money was passed through committee.—In the House of Commons, Colonel French complained of the exclusion of members of the House from the committee appointed on the evening of the 19th, with reference to the charge of tampering with the witnesses upon the Rochdale Election Petition. On the consideration of the Oaths Bill as amended, clauses were inserted prohibiting Jews from holding any of the high offices of state. The Reformatory Schools Bill was read a second time, and the Fraudulent Trustees Bill passed through committee. Mr. Lowe obtained leave to bring in a Bill for amending the law relating to joint-stock banks.

On the 23rd, in the House of Lords, the Joint-Stock Companies Amendment Bill was read a second time, and the Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Bill, after a vigorous opposition from several of the bishops, received a third reading.

In the House of Commons a warm debate, which was adjourned, took place upon the second reading of the Finsbury Park Bill. The Irish grand jury system was discussed without any practical result. The capacity of India as a cotton-growing country was canvassed.

JUDICIAL.

On the 28th of May, in the Court of Exchequer, a Miss Dalziell obtained £50 damages in an action for breach of promise of marriage against a former lover, a sea captain, named White, who allowed a journey through the tropics to cool his passion.

The Court of Queen's Bench, on the 1st of June, made absolute the rule for a criminal information against Sir Edward Conroy for uttering words calculated to provoke a breach of the peace.

On the 4th of June, the House of Lords pronounced a judgment of divorce in the case of *Campbell v. Campbell*.

On the 5th, the same tribunal delivered a similar judgment in the case of *Ley v. Ley*.

On the 11th, the Court of Queen's Bench made absolute the rule for a criminal information against Lord Ernest Vane Tempest for an assault upon Cornet Ames.

On the 17th, at the Central Criminal Court, Rebecca Rice Hamilton, a sempstress, was found guilty of sending letters containing threats of serious accusations to several persons, with a view of extorting money. She was transported for life. In the Court of Queen's Bench, upon the same day, Capt. Erlam was found guilty of the abduction of Rose Goodman, a girl under sixteen years of age, and sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

On the 22nd was tried in the Queen's Bench *Sidebottom v. Atkins*, with a verdict carrying £6,528 for the plaintiff. The defence set up was that it was a gambling transaction. The Prince of Wales was present. The same day, *Armistage v. Macdonald*, an action for crim. con., was tried in the Common Pleas, when the plaintiff obtained £100 damages.

On the 23rd, the case of *Jones v. Hales* (*Daily News*) was commenced in the Court of Common Pleas. It was continued through the next day, and resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff. It was an action for libel, arising out of a notice of the death of a gentleman at Paris, in which improper conduct was attributed to the

plaintiff, a medical gentleman, who attended him. On the same day, in the Court of Exchequer, was commenced the action of Barber *v.* Potter for slander. It, too, was continued through the next day, with a verdict for the defendant. In the Court of Error, the case of Mansell, the murderer, was again argued, when the judgment of the Court below was again confirmed.

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

On the 27th of May, another colliery explosion took place in Monmouthshire, by which twelve persons lost their lives.

On the night of the 30th, a large number of persons were overtaken by the tide while crossing Ulverstone Sands, on the Lancashire coast, and drowned.

On the 2nd of June, Mr. James Algernon Stuart Austin was sentenced by the Reigate magistrates to three weeks' imprisonment for attempting an indecent assault upon a young woman travelling by one of the South-Eastern Company's trains.

On the 3rd, the walls of the new Roman Catholic Cathedral at Plymouth, owing to the weakness of the material employed in the construction, namely, Bath stone, gave way, and caused considerable damage.

On the evening of the 9th, one of the most extensive fires which have ever taken place in the metropolis occurred at the Camden Town station. Pickford's stores, and the merchandise in them, amounting in value to an immense sum, were completely destroyed.

Another gunpowder explosion took place upon the 16th at Curtis and Harvey's gunpowder-mills at Bedford, by which one man lost his life.

On the 23rd, a man named Michael Crawley was committed to Chelmsford gaol for the murder of his wife, Mary Crawley: a ferocious piece of butchery.

COMMERCIAL.

On the 27th of May, the National Bank capitalized £29,899 of its reserved fund, and further increased its capital by the addition of £20,000, the cost of taking over the Clonmel and Carrick-on-Suir Bank; thus making the shares £25 each, with a bonus of £2. 10s. stock, and a dividend of 6 per cent. per annum.

On the 28th, the proprietors of the Ionian Bank met and reported that during the past year, after paying the usual dividend, £2,177. 10s. 6d. had been added to the Rest.

On the 30th, the Trust and Loan Company of Canada, out of £9,371. 13s., the profits of the last half-year, declared a dividend at the rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

On the 8th of June, the proprietors of the Bank of Australasia met and agreed to a dividend of 6 per cent. with a bonus of 14 per cent., in all 20 per cent. out of the profits of the past year.

On the 12th, the Church of England Life and Fire Assurance Company declared a dividend of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. upon the profits of the past year, and the proprietors of the Commercial Docks agreed to a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.

On the 18th of June, there was a special meeting of the North of Europe Steam-Packet Company, to receive the report of a Committee of Inquiry into the management of the concern. This report was of a most damaging character to the management.

On the 20th, the first meeting of the Australian Auxiliary Clipper Company was held. It was reported that £30,000 of the capital was not as yet taken up.

On the 23rd, the South Australian Banking Company declared a dividend of 12 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, payable in half-yearly instalments.

BENEVOLENT.

The annual festival of the Medical Benevolent College was held on the evening of the 28th of May, when about £2,500 was subscribed to the funds of the college.

On the 1st of June, the friends of the Sailors' Orphan Girls' School dined together in aid of its funds. The subscriptions for the year amounted to £2,426. 9s. 1d. and the expenditure to £1,792. 19s. 7d.

On the 5th, the annual meeting of the friends of the Ear Infirmary was held, when it was reported that during the past year 1,746 persons had been admitted as patients, of whom 348 were discharged cured, and 281 relieved.

On the 10th, the anniversary festival of the Metropolitan Free Hospital was held, under the presidency of Lord John Russell. The subscriptions amounted to £1,400.

PROVIDENT.

On the 11th ult., the 19th quarterly meeting of the Conservative Land Society took place at the offices of the society in Norfolk-street. Viscount Ranelagh presided, and submitted the report from the executive committee, which congratulated the members on the success of the experiment made in April last of allotting houses leased and occupied, the villa residences on the St. Margaret's estate not only having been chosen with early rights of choice, but considerable premiums were paid to secure these excellent investments. Before the end of the financial year the committee hope to submit for sale villas now in the course of erection on the Enfield estate. About one-third of the Taunton estate has been already sold, and the tenders for roads and drains having been called for, it is expected that the remainder will be speedily taken. The contract for the Kentish-town estate roads and drains will be carried out without delay. The Maidstone estate in West Kent, and the Red-hill estate in Nutfield, close to the railway station, in East Surrey, will be allotted on the 18th instant. The committee have set apart a free site for a church on the Maidstone estate; and it was stated that a handsome donation has been subscribed by a gentleman of Maidstone, to secure the speedy erection of a church. Lord Alfred Churchill having retired, the executive committee had elected Lieut.-Colonel Meyrick as a member of the Board, and Viscount Pevensey, M.P., Hon. Ralph Dutton, M.P., Mr. Beach, M.P., Mr. Archdall, M.P., and Mr. M. D. Scott, had been added to the general committee. The receipts from Lady-day to June 6th amounted to £8,154. 19s. 10d., and the grand total to that date to £295,508. 9s. 10d. Total number of shares, 13,343. The total sale of land amounted to £205,375. 14s. 2d. The report then adverted to the recent general elections:—"The executive committee had occasion in their last report, after the contests in East Sussex and West Kent had taken place, to record the good faith with which nearly all the allottees who acquired the freehold franchise in those two counties through the instrumentality of the society had voted in favour of the Conservative candidates. Since the two struggles referred to, a general election has taken place, the fourth Parliament of Queen Victoria having been dissolved on the 20th March, 1857, and the committee have the satisfaction of reporting to the members that the returns of the polling have been exceedingly gratifying; and had the general body of Conservatives acted with the same consistency and fidelity as the allottees of the society, more of the counties might have been saved to the cause. The committee were well aware that, in a society the commercial advantages of which have been so eagerly sought after by all classes of the community, investors of various shades of political opinion would be found, many of whom, it may be stated, honourably abstained from voting; but so far as regards the members placed on the register by the society, the proportion of Conservative voters is at least 90 per cent."

MISCELLANEOUS.

A grand flower-show was held at the Crystal Palace upon the 30th of May, and was most fashionably attended.

On the 2nd of June, Mr. Keating, Q.C., was again returned for Reading, on his appointment as Solicitor-General.

On the same day, a meeting of the members of the beer trade was held, for the purpose of taking measures to oppose the passing of Mr. Hardy's Beer Bill.

On the 3rd of June, the first flower-show of the Horticultural Society's season was held at Chiswick Gardens.

On the 13th, Lord Brougham presided at the annual meeting of the National Reformatory Union.

On the 20th, a public meeting was held in the great hall of Lincoln's-Inn, in support of the movement for raising money to complete King's College Hospital. H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge presided, and £15,000 was subscribed.

On the 22nd, a conference of the friends of education, for the purpose of considering the causes of the early removal of the children of the working classes, was opened by Prince Albert, at Willis's Rooms, and lasted during the two following days. The conference was a most successful step towards bringing those who entertain different views upon the subject of education to act upon neutral ground.

On the same day, the new club-house belonging to the Junior United Service was inaugurated by a sumptuous banquet, presided over by H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge.

Obituary.

BRO. DOUGLAS JERROLD.

THIS distinguished member of the Craft died, after a very short illness, on the 8th of June. On Sunday night he took leave of several of his intimate friends, and shortly after the noon of Monday his earthly career had terminated. Bro. Douglas Jerrold was in a great measure what may be termed a "self-educated" man; and the celebrity he attained with every class of his countrymen that is capable of appreciating intellectual worth may be cited among the many instances how distinction is the path to fame from any of those beaten tracks of instruction that time and usage have prescribed. He was born in London on the 3rd of January, 1803; and to the fact that his father was manager of the Sheerness Theatre may be attributed that predilection for the stage which forms a leading characteristic of the greater portion of his life. However, his earliest expressed passion, fostered, no doubt, by the scene which Sheerness presented during the height of the war, was for a maritime life, and he obtained a midshipman's appointment through the good offices of Captain Austen, brother of Miss Austen, the novelist. With the war ended his nautical career, and, on quitting the service, he was apprenticed to a printer in London. His leisure hours were now devoted to self-instruction, Shakspeare being his chief author. An essay on the opera of *Der Freischutz*, which he dropped into the editorial box of a newspaper on which he was employed as a compositor, is the reported beginning of his literary labours. To his infinite delight, his own anonymous "copy" was handed over to him to put in type, and shortly afterwards appeared an editorial notice soliciting other contributions from the unknown correspondent. The two productions, *Black-eyed Susan* and the *Rent Day*, stamped him at once as the most popular dramatist of his time,—as the writer, above all others, who could command the suffrages of the multitude. Latterly, the greatest literary triumphs of Bro. Jerrold have been achieved in the periodical publications of the day. The papers which he collected under the title of "Cakes and Ale," are charming ebullitions of the fancy; and the "Candle Lectures," which so accelerated the rising popularity of *Punch*, stand as specimens of minute life-painting that can scarcely be surpassed. At the time when these famous lectures were in course of publication there was not a hen-pecked husband in the United Kingdom who did not snatch up *Punch* every week to contemplate his own misfortunes "*uti in speculo*." For the last few years Bro. Jerrold was chiefly occupied as the editor of *Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper*, and, by the custom of the English press, his own individuality could no longer be expressed as distinctly as in his earlier works. But there was one character in which Bro. Douglas Jerrold was always pre-eminent, and that was as the social wit. To conceive a brilliant and elaborate *repartee* was with him the work of a moment; nay, we could, if we would, cite cases, in which the cue was barely pronounced before the retort was fired off. The most novel combination of ideas were effected by him with electric rapidity; even an old pun could become new from his manner

of uttering it ; and, what was most wonderful of all, there was generally a deep truth couched at the bottom of his pleasantry ; so that the joke, which had created a roar on its first utterance, actually appeared better when it became a subject of sober reflection. Bro. Douglas Jerrold died at Kilburn Priory in the arms of his eldest son, and retained his intellect until within a few minutes of his death. Bro. Jerrold was initiated in the Bank of England Lodge, No. 329, in November, 1831, and continued a member until June, 1836. He joined the Lodge of Concord, No. 49, in March, 1838, and appears to have left it in December, 1844. This last-named Lodge has made no return since 1849, and the charter cannot be traced.

BRO. T. S. SWAN.

At Chichester, March 15th, 1857, aged 64 years, Bro. Thomas Sanden Swan, Esq., J.P., Assistant Commissary General. Our deceased Brother having spent all his best years in the service of his country in all parts of the globe, returned to his native land with a broken constitution, but a few months before his decease after a very painful illness. The deceased was a most enthusiastic and sincere Mason, and attained high honours in the Craft. He was the first Master of the Lodge of Hope, 901, Launceston, Van Diemen's Land ; and on leaving that colony in 1855, was presented with a costly Past Master's Jewel—a token of esteem which often alleviated his severest sufferings—bearing the following inscription :—

“ 21 Mar., A.L. 5855, A.D. 1855.

“ Presented to Bro. Thos. T. S. Swan, Esq., J.P., A.C.G., Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, 32nd Degree ; Grand Register of France, No. 10,402 ; P.M. of the Lodge of Hope, No. 901 ; Register of the Grand Lodge of England ; P.F.P. of H.R.A. Chapter attached to Lodge No. 901 ; P.G.C. of the Grand Company of the Lodge of Triple Esperance, Port Louis, Mauritius, &c. ; by the W.M. Masons, Officers, and Brethren, of the Lodge of Hope, No. 901, as a slight token of their respect and esteem for one who was the 1st W.M. of their Lodge, and the memory of whose Masonic virtues will ever remain among them. Launceston, Van Diemen's Land.”

His remains were consigned to their last resting-place in St. Paul's burial-ground, Chichester, on the 18th of March, when the officers and men of the dépôt battalion paid the usual military honours to their departed comrade. A few Masons were silent but sorrowing spectators of the scene.

NOTICE.

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

THE “ FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.”—The Brethren are respectfully informed, that the Volume for 1856, in a handsomely embossed symbolic cover, is now ready, price 13s. 6d. Covers may be had at the office, price 1s. ; or the Brethren may have their Numbers bound for 1s. 6d.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Correspondents are requested to address their communications direct to the Office, and not to the private house of any Brother.

“ AMICUS ” is perfectly justified in wearing his Scotch Jewels, notwithstanding he has become a member of an English Lodge, provided they are not of prohibited Orders.

"A NEW BRUNSWICK MASON OF FORTY YEARS' STANDING."—We hold that honorary members of Lodges are entitled to all the rights and privileges of contributing members in their own Lodges, but their seats in Grand Lodge will be lost unless they make some payment to their Lodge funds, when, of course, the word honorary would be a misnomer.

"H. LEWIS," Wolverhampton, will please receive our best thanks.

"SQUARE" sends us the following long list of questions which he states he has put to "the late and also the present Grand Secretary," without being able to obtain an answer:—

1.—"Is it legal and constitutional to install a Brother as W.M. of a Lodge, after being convicted of defrauding the Government by smuggling and selling contraband goods?"—*We should say certainly not; Freemasonry teaching us to render unto Caesar those things that are Caesar's. We are aware, however, that there are a class of persons who consider it rather a merit than a disgrace to "do" the Government, especially in seaport towns.*

2.—"If the first W.M. of a new Lodge does not invest a P.M., who is the proper person to take the chair or rule the Lodge in the absence of the W.M.?"—*We cannot see how the W.M. of a new Lodge can invest a P.M. Any P.M., being a member of the Lodge, may rule it in the absence of the W.M., if requested to do so, or the S.W. may discharge the duty.*

3.—"Does a P.M. of any Lodge rank as a P.M. of every Lodge of which he is a subscribing member, and is he entitled to take the chair in the absence of the W.M.?"—*To the first part of this question we would say he ranks as a P.M. in though not of the Lodge, as, in virtue of being a P.M. of another Lodge, his name should be always placed on the list of parties qualified for election to the chair prior to the ballot. The second part of the question is answered in No. 2.*

4.—"In a new Lodge, where there is no Past Master of the Lodge, in the case of any P.M. assuming the chair in the absence of the Master, without the Wardens having been invited to rule the Lodge, and while thus acting as W.M. he decides the election of Master by giving the second or casting vote, is that election valid and binding upon the Lodge?"—*We should say that whilst in the chair he is certainly entitled to all its privileges, if a subscribing member of the Lodge.*

5.—"Can the D. Prov. G.M. vote or speak on any question brought before a private Lodge of which he is not a subscribing member, though it be within the province of which he is D. Prov. G.M.?"—*He cannot vote, but he may speak, should his opinion be asked on any question.*

6.—"Is the Tyler of any private Lodge, of which he is a subscribing member, entitled to vote in the election of W.M.?"—*Yes; but we think it very undesirable for a Tyler to be a subscribing member.*

7.—"Can a member enforce that the vote for confirmation or non-confirmation of minutes be taken by ballot?"—*No.*

"CAMP OF ANTIQUITY, BATH."—We can only report the proceedings of legitimate and regular Masonic bodies, duly recognized by the properly constituted authorities in this country.

"ZETA" complains that Dr. Oliver is engaged in another Masonic work, and thinks there is too great an abundance of such publications already. We are of an entirely different opinion, and, on the contrary, hail every new illustration of the science with gratification and pleasure. As to our Masonic historian, we rejoice to hear that he is again in harness, and hope he will live long enough to favour the Craft with many more strictures on a subject that is inexhaustible, and very imperfectly understood.

"OUR EDINBURGH LETTER."—The report of the Canonbury Lodge and other favours arrived too late.

The continuation of the Ancient and Accepted Rite has not come to hand.

"No. 365."—This Lodge was last month reported as the "Zetland," whereas its proper title is the "Huddersfield;" the error arose in the fact that the Lodge is held at the Zetland Hotel.