

THE
FREEMASONS'
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MASONIC LIBRARY AND MUSEUM.

THE heading of this article may take some of our readers by surprise, inasmuch as the highly-important matter which it comprehends may have been but lightly thought of, and even, if thought of, been deemed scarcely worthy of mature deliberation. Yet, the question of the establishment of a Library and Museum ought ever, amongst any people, and in any progressive community, to be an object of no trifling consideration. In all times, as history in a multiplicity of instances has proved, the formation of establishments of this character has not only obtained general approval, but has been rightly considered matter of paramount importance.

This having been so *generally*, the question naturally arises to us, as Masons, why it should not apply to us *particularly*. There is no reason—there can be no reason—why it should not.

A system embodying some of the highest theoretical and practical principles which can fairly be said to constitute the existence of science itself, should not, in these onward days, be without its garner of lore, and its storehouse of those actual illustrations of the past which untiring industry may have gathered, cultivated taste arranged, and religious care preserved.

Sincere in these views, we hail with no ordinary degree of satisfaction the effort which we find is being made towards the formation of a "Masonic Library and Museum."

At the forthcoming Grand Lodge, a resolution is to be brought forward relative to the establishment of an institution of the above character. So well-intentioned a step we believe to be one in "the right direction," as a most valuable adjunct in the advancement of Masonry, and its decided and unquestioned interests. This move-

ment has its origin with our esteemed Grand Registrar, Brother Henderson.

It is true that for many years past a so-called "Masonic Library" has to a certain extent existed, but in a form in which it has been far from adequate to the real requirements of the Craft. Candour forces from us the admission that, as at present constituted, it is surrounded by difficulties which have rendered it so inaccessible that it is comparatively of no actual avail—indeed, we believe but few Brethren know of its existence even in name.

It is no disparagement to the inventive minds and unwearied energies of the toilers of the past, or even of almost present days, that we find it not only politic, but really pleasing, to welcome a more strong and healthy offshoot from the good old tree under which we have so long flourished—despite the countless storms which have threatened and assailed, but have not succeeded in its destruction. In their day those motive powers for good did vast service, which every one of us is bound justly and gratefully to acknowledge. Still there is ever wanting some fresh infusion of blood—some more refined and improved education commensurate with our times.

We like the hands in which the matter lies for introduction, for we have not in the vast chain of our Order a link more valuable,—a brother more energetic, hearty, and industrious in all he undertakes, than Brother Henderson. He is aware of the fact to which we have alluded, that scarcely one Brother in a hundred knows of the existence of a library at this moment; and not one in a thousand has ever seen a single book it contains! Surely in such a community as ours—numerous, influential, intelligent, and rapidly increasing in all these qualities from day to day—such a state of things should not be.

Independently of the ordinary advantages which are apparent wherever such institutions as libraries and museums exist, the formation of one in our Order will have increased value, inasmuch as it will form a kind of centre where the Brethren may assemble for conversational and discussional matters of the highest importance and interest to the Order; a place, too, where our country Brethren may be enabled to resort at all times, in order to their becoming acquainted with whatever is going on in the Masonic world: such as the times and places of Lodge and other meetings, and the various matters which are included in an Order of so comprehensive a character as that of Freemasonry.

It may even become—as we sincerely trust it may—the nucleus of a Masonic club, whereat can be discussed such minor differences as may arise between the Brethren, with a view to their settlement and arrangement in a social, friendly, and fraternal manner, instead of their being brought crudely before Grand Lodge—a proceeding which but too often gives rise to feelings of undue excitement and ire, which ought not to exist amongst the members of an Order which professes to be bound together by the sacred ties of brotherly love.

Doubtless, Brother Henderson's excellent and praiseworthy project will meet with the most profound respect, and with that serious and hearty attention which it justly demands; and we very much mistake our Order if it does not, with all the convenient speed that may be, carry out the idea to its fullest extent. Personally, we fully concur in the movement, and therefore heartily wish Brother Henderson every success in a scheme which redounds so highly to his taste and judgment, and which, when properly carried out, will shed an additional lustre on the great Institution of Freemasonry.

MASONIC ANTIQUITIES.

FROM BRO. DR. RAWLINSON'S MANUSCRIPTS

IN THE BODLEIAN LIBRARY, OXFORD.

MANY Brethren have at various times regretted the discontinuance of the republication of these MS. in our pages, and have expressed to us a strong wish for their continuance. We give therefore the following extract:—

“ A Prologue for &c.

“ If MASONS have in every ART excell'd,
Which ROME has copy'd or which GREECE beheld.
If fam'd Progenitors of Royal State
Smil'd on our CRAFT, and Bad* our works be great.
If to our Hearts, whilst flows the VITAL tyde,
Each drop that Visits, is to Kings ally'd.
This Fame we boast, but court a nobler Praise
Which still shall flourish, thro' the length of Days.

“ The Gilded DOME, and Regal Pride shall turn,
To tott'ring ruin, and the Mouldring URN.
But Social Virtue, and attractive Grace,
What time shall conquer, or what Death efface?
This purer fire, has shone on MASONS past,
And still shall shine,—'till fate has clos'd the last.

“ Ye Gartered Heroes, who the CRAFT approve,
Whom Brittain Honours, or whom MASONS Love,
Thro' either World,—assert our Noble Cause
Whilst Missionary Brothers, Spread our Laws,
And lead in Pomp, to MONTAGU's mild Reign
The Feathered Indian, and the Furry Dane.
No more shall Nation, be from Nation, hid,
Or unknown Accents, intercourse forbid:
But by new signs ally'd, and Tokens joyn'd,
Friendship shall form the Language of Mankind.”

This is immediately followed by a Charge, evidently the ground-

* Bade.

work of the beautiful charge now in use amongst us. We therefore give it in full:—

“ A SHORT CHARGE To be given

To new admitted BRETHREN.

“ YOU are now admitted by y^e unanimous Consent of our Lodge, a Fellow of our most Antient and Honourable SOCIETY, *Antient*, as having subsisted from times immemorial; and Honourable, as tending in every particular to render a Man so that will be but conformable to its glorious Precepts. The greatest Monarchs in all Ages, as well of Asia and Africa as of Europe, have been Encouragers of the Royal Art; and many of them have presided as Grand-Masters over the MASONS in their respective territories, not thinking it any lessening to their Imperial Dignities to Level themselves with their Brethren in MASONRY, and to act as they did.

“ THE World's great Architect is our Supreme Master, and the unerring Rule he has given us, is that by which we work.

“ RELIGIOUS disputes are never suffered in the Lodges; which Principle Cements and Unites men of the most different principles in one universal Band, and brings together those who were y^e most distant from one another.

“ THERE are three general Heads of Duty, which MASONS ought always to inculcate, viz. to God, our Neighbour, and our-selves.

“ To GOD, in never mentioning his Name but with that Reverential Awe which becomes a Creature to bear to his Creator, and to look upon him always as the SUMM-BONUM † which we came into the world to enjoy; and according to that view to regulate all our Pursuits.

“ To our Neighbours, by acting upon the Square, or doing as we would be done by.

“ To ourselves, in avoiding all Intemperance, whereby we may be rendered incapable of following our Work, or led into Behaviour unbecoming our laudable Profession, and in always keeping within due Bounds, and free from all Excesses.

“ IN the State, a MASON is to behave as a peaceable and dutiful Subject, conforming cheerfully to the Government under which he lives.

“ HE is to pay a due Deference to his Superiors, and from his Inferiors, he is rather to receive HONOUR with some Reluctance, than to extort it.

“ HE is to be a Man of Benevolence and Charity, not sitting down contented while his Fellow Creatures, but much more his *Brethren* are in Want; when it is in his Power, (without prejudicing himself or Family,) to relieve them.

“ IN the Lodge, he is to behave with all due Decorum, lest the Beauty or Harmony thereof should be disturbed or broke.

“ HE is to be obedient to the Master, Presiding officers, and to apply himself closely to the business of MASONRY, that he may sooner become a Proficient therein, both for his own Credit and that of the Lodge.

“ HE is not to neglect his own necessary Avocations for the sake of MASONRY, nor to involve himself in Quarrels with those who through Ignorance may speak evil of, or ridicule it.

“ HE is to be a Lover of the Arts and Sciences, and to take all Opportunities of improving himself therein.

“ If he recommends a Friend to be made a MASON, he must vouch him to be such as he really believes will conform to the aforesaid Duties, lest by his Misconduct at any time the Lodge should pass under some evil Imputations. Nothing can prove more shocking to all faithful MASONS, than to see any of their Brethren profane or break through the Rules of their Order, and such as can do it they wish had never been admitted.”

The above ancient Charge, which is upwards of a hundred and thirty years old, will doubtless be interesting to many of our

Brethren, as being the only portion of the ceremonies of that period, which, even did they exist, we should be able, for obvious reasons, to put in type.

The next portion of Dr. Rawlinson's Collection is the continuation of a pamphlet, the first part of which, consisting of an Exposure (?) of Freemasonry, called "The Grand Mystery of the Free-Masons Discover'd," &c., appeared in our numbers of February, March, April, and September, 1855.

The remaining portion of this pamphlet (the date of which is 1725) is entitled—

" TWO
" LETTERS to a FRIEND.
" The *First*, concerning
" The *Society* of FREE-MASONS.
" The *Second*, giving an account of
" The Most Ancient Order of GORMOGONS,
" In
" Its *Original, Institution, Excellency, and Design: Its Rules and Orders, and*
" the Manner of its Introduction into *Great Britain.*
" With an intire Collection of all that has been made Publick on that occasion.
" Together with the supposed Reason of their Excluding the Free-Masons,
" without they previously undergo the Form of Degradation, &c.
" Now first set forth for the *Satisfaction and Emolument* of the *Publick.*

" ————— Nullo penetrabilis astro,
" Lucus erat. ————— Virg.

" London :

" Printed by A. Moore, near St. Paul's. M.DCC.XXV."

A LETTER TO A FRIEND CONCERNING THE SOCIETY OF FREE-MASONS.

" SIR,—The Command, you have been pleas'd to lay upon me, is not to be discharg'd in a few Words: You require of me, To give you an account of the *Fraternity* (as you are pleas'd to term it) which call themselves FREEMASONS; together with my opinion about *them*, and their *Tenets*.

" This, SIR, will cause some little Time to be spent; first, in Enquiry after their *Tenets*; and then in maturely judging and reasoning upon 'em: for rash and unpremeditated Determinations in *such* Matters, will only expose their Authors; and give Strength and Reputation to the opposite Parties.

" As for their *Tenets*, they seem to be all Riddle and Mystery, to every Body but themselves; and I make a Doubt, whether or no, they be able to give any fair and satisfactory Account of 'em. By what I can learn they are under an *Oath* or some solemn obligatory *Tie*, not to make known or divulge their *Arcana* to any, except to members of their own Society. This I presume, is because they are either so nonsensically *ludicrous*, and *foolish*, or else so horribly *lewd*, and *blasphemous*, that they will not endure a Publick Censure.

" They set a huge Value upon themselves, in regard of being *Free-Masons*: entertaining strange, awkward Notions of the word *Masons*; such as it never had belonging to it in Hebrew, Greek, Latin, English, or, I believe in any language under Heaven. They seem to be listed under the Patronage of *Hiram*, the King of *Tyre*, who was doubtless an *Heathen*, unless converted to Judaism after his Acquaintance with *Solomon*: They tell strange foppish Stories of a *Tree*, which grew out of *Hiram's Tomb*, with wonderful *Leaves*, and *Fruit* of a *monstrous* Quality; although at the same Time, they know neither where, nor when he dy'd; nor anything more of his Tomb, than they do of Pompey's. But to stop the Mouths of their ignorant, crack brain'd Disciples, (such as *Ale-house keepers, Botchers,*

Corn-cutters, &c.) some of their principal *Θαυματαργοι* lugg 'em by the Ears with a bombast Gypsie-like jargon, which they call Arabick : although I am morally certain, that not one of the Society knows any more of the *Arabick* Language than I do of the CHINESE.

“ Upon the account SIR of this stupendous *Bocardo*, they assume to themselves the August Title of *Kabalists* ; or rather, as I submissively conjecture, *Cabalists* : i. e. A knot of whimsical, delirious Wretches, who are caballing together, to extirpate all manner of *Science, Reason,* and Religion out of the World.

“ To explain the senseless and irrational *Mode* of their Proceedings, I shall ask you or them, or all the world ; whether 'twas ever known, that Men of common Sense and Discretion, did profess themselves to be of an Employment or occupation, which they know nothing at all of ? As for instance, SIR, would you not take that man to be qualified for *Bedlam*, that should call himself a *Goldsmith*, when his Business is to mend *Shoes* ? and would it not make you laugh, to hear a Fellow call himself a *Lapidary*, when he gets his Living by *sweeping of Chimneys* ? Yet this is exactly the Case of *Free-Masons* ; Every Member forsooth is a *Free-Mason* ; although there be some *Divines*, some *Pettifoggers*, some *Thread-makers*, *Taylors* and *Weavers*, and an huge Bead-roll besides, of Men calling themselves *Masons*, who know no more how to lay a Brick or a Stone as it should be laid, than they know how to make a *Hog* play upon a *Flute*, or a *Horse* understand *Algebra*.

“ That Sir, which gives the greatest Gloss and lustre to their *Cabal*, is this, *viz.* That they have artfully drawn up some Great Names, into their wild Latitudinarian Measures : This I cannot in the least wonder at ; for great Men, are but *Men*, and as apt to run into giddy, whimsical Schemes as their Inferiors. Excellent was the Observation of the *Buzite* where he says, *Great Men are not always wise* : and I really looked upon some certain Gentlemen among them, however otherwise dignified and distinguished, to be just such another Decoration to the *Free-Masons*, as *Julian* and *Maxentius* were to *Atheism* ; or *Constantius* and *Valens*, to the *Arian Heresy*.

“ I protest, SIR, I had like to have forgotten one Man, who makes a most Il-Lustrous Figure amongst 'em ; and stiles himself R.S.S., and L.L.D. He makes wonderful Brags of being of the *Fifth Order* : I presume (as he is a Mason) he means the *Fifth Order* of *Architecture* ; which is otherwise call'd, The *Compound Order* : and by it, one would be tempted to imagine that the Doctor is a *Composition* of *Maggots* and *Enthusiasm*. One thing there is, which makes me more bold in affirming this ; and this is it.—The Doctor pretends he has found out a *Mysterious, Hocus-pocus* Word, and that against whomsoever he (as a Member of the *Fifth Order*) shall pronounce this terrible Word, the Person shall instantly drop down dead. I cannot imagine how the Doctor came by this powerful word ; unless he found it in *Rablais's Pantagruel* ; or in *Doctor Fuller's Dispensatory* ; which are two great Repositories of Incomprehensible Nonsense. I'll take all the Care I can, to keep out of the Doctor's Way ; for I am sure if he meets me, and knows me, out comes the great MILLESYLLABICUM, and I'm as dead as *William the Conqueror*.”

This last paragraph evidently alludes to Dr. Rawlinson himself. The letter is too long for insertion in a single number of the *Magazine*, but we propose to continue it. Our readers will perceive that objections to Freemasonry, and conjectures and ideas about the Order, equally absurd with any which prevail in our own time, were rife in 1725 ; their whimsicality is of course their only recommendation, and we now present them to our Brethren, in the hope that they may derive from them at least as much amusement as was probably experienced by Dr. Rawlinson when he placed it in his Masonic Collection.

N.B. The capital letters, italics, antiquated spelling, &c. &c., are carefully transcribed from the original.

HISTORY OF THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

BY A SUBLIME PRINCE OF THE ROYAL SECRET.

(Continued from page 437.)

THE following facts in the history of the Ancient and Accepted Rite I extract from the address of that able scholar, Illus. Bro. Giles Fonda Yates, on his resigning the Commandership of the Northern Supreme Council of the United States, in 1851. He says he directed his attention to the history of the Sublime Degrees very soon after his initiation as a Master Mason. His intercourse with old Masons in the city of Albany in 1822, led to the discovery of the original warrant of the Lodge of Perfection, established in Albany in 1767, its book of minutes, and the original patents of Illustrious Bros. Samuel Stringer, M.D., Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, and Peter W. Yates, Esqrs., Deputy Inspectors General, under the old system; also "The Regulations and Constitutions of Nine Commissioners," &c., 1761, and other documents, that had been left by Bro. Francken with the Albany Brethren when he founded their Lodge. With the concurrence of the surviving members of the said Lodge, residing in Albany, Dr. Jonathan Eights and the Hon. R. W. Stephen Van Rensselaer, P.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of New York, he aided in effecting its revival. The necessary proceedings were thereupon instituted to place the same under the superintendence of a Grand Council of Princes of Jerusalem, as required by the old constitutions; and such Grand Council was subsequently opened in due form in said city of Albany. Lodges of Perfection in the counties of Montgomery, Onondaga, Saratoga, and Monroe, in the State of New York, were successively organized, and placed, agreeably to the constitutions, under the superintendence of the Grand Council before named.

In 1843, the following named Brethren were published as officers of the Albany Grand Council of Princes of Jerusalem:—John W. Bay, of the city of Albany; K. H. Van Rensselaer, of New York; J. Christie, Portsmouth, and R. Smith, of New Hampshire; G. F. Yates, Schenectady; J. Selkraig, Onondaga, N. Y.; John K. Paige, of Albany; Lewis C. Beck, M.D. of Princeton College, New Jersey; D. D. Benedict, of Saratoga; Collins Odell, of Montgomery county, N.Y.

"Although many of the Sublime Degrees are a continuation of the Blue Degrees, yet there is no *interference* between the two bodies. The Sublime Masons never initiate any into the Blue Degrees, *without a legal warrant for that purpose from a Symbolic Grand Lodge*; but they communicate the secrets of the chair to such applicants as have not already received them, previous to their initiation into the Sublime Lodge: yet they are at the same time

informed that it does not give them rank as Past Masters in the Grand Lodge."

But this practice was never adapted by the "Sublime Freemasons" in the northern jurisdiction of the United States.

Our Illustrious and venerable Bro. Gourgas, has well observed that our Degrees and orders constitute of themselves a perfect system and rite, which we denominate the "Sublime System," and the "Ancient and Accepted Rite." They have been called "Honorary." Such they are in the true sense of the term, but not in the sense generally used, which is construed as synonymous with "Side," or "Detached" Degrees. We, however, possess, in addition to our regular series of Degrees, "Detached" Degrees, of more or less value, subsidiary to our regular degrees; but none of our Degrees are, *per se*, subordinate or subsidiary to any other system or rite, much less to any system or rite which had no existence when our rite was organized at the beginning of the last century. All attempts to make them so, we, as faithful conservators of our Illustrious Order, are bound to resist. If the star of "Sublime Freemasonry" is never permitted to culminate in the *zenith*, it deserves a better fate than to become a *satellite* to any other orbs, although these may shine with more distinguished and dazzling lustre? If it ever becomes depressed to the *nadir* of the Masonic horizon, it will not be because of its want of value and merit.*

That illustrious chieftain of our Order, the immortal Dalcho, remarked that our Degrees imparted to him knowledge which he had vainly sought for in the lower Degrees; that they elucidated the origin and principles of the Masonic institution and its connection with science and religion, more intimately than the Symbolic Degrees. While in the Symbolic Degrees general ideas only are communicated, and these obscurely, in the Sublime Degrees these

* And here a word or two with "P.M. and P.Z.," whose cut-and-slash criticism appears in your last issue, at page 627. He "thinks I have paid but little attention to Royal Arch Masonry, and have not had the advantage of a *competent* instructor when *initiated, crafted, raised, and particularly when I was exalted.*" Now, sir, I do not pretend to be a brilliant star in the Masonic Order, nor that my feeble attempts at writing are to shed a lustre upon all who read them. I am a humble *student* of Freemasonry and Freemasonic principles, anxious to share what little knowledge I possess with my less informed brethren, and unwilling to keep my light, dim and shadowy though it may be, "under a bushel." According to the good old maxim "Never too old to learn"—and this holds good particularly in Masonic matters—I shall be most happy to receive instruction from "P.M. and P.Z." on any subject connected with our Order, for he refers to my ignorance of, or want of competent instruction in, all the degrees of ancient Freemasonry. I, too, am a P.M. and P.Z., though that fact, of itself, does not signify that I am much better informed than any others of my Brethren; for in many instances these official affixes afford but a poor index to the mental store or literary lore of those to whose cognomens they are attached. But, by the way, I observe that "*Lector,*" also, comes in for his share of "P.M. and P.Z.'s" favours. In such company as *Lector's*, I am willing to be condemned; and I would here volunteer, irrelevant though it may be, the advice of a distinguished writer on criticism: "Critics should remember in their criticisms that the hand that cannot build a hovel can demolish a castle."

ideas become clear as practical truths; though still, like all truths regarding the mind and heart, which are invisible, they can be expressed only by figurative terms and external symbols.

By imagery, and through a veil* of metaphor, the light of truth and the most sublime allusions are disclosed. We may be well versed in the ceremonials of our Order, and yet not understand their true import; we may correctly read "the letter" of our traditions and legends, and yet remain blind to their "spirit," and ignorant of the principles and inferences they involve. By research and persevering study alone can we solve the enigma, "*de quo fabula narratur?*" Many of the characteristic allegories, legends, symbols, and ceremonies of Sublime Freemasonry are looked upon as insignificant and valueless, because they are not palpable to the senses and fully comprehended at the first blush. Some of our most sacred mysteries are lightly esteemed because they furnish no disclosures that strike dumb with amazement: our "hidden treasures" and spiritual "riches of secret places" are unappreciated; and no Royal Secret which humbly professes to have a relation only to the *life* of the heart, seems to be cared for; nor yet any any "precious stone" in our mystic edifice if the "philosopher's stone" be wanting. For men of this stamp our High Degrees, or, indeed, any Masonic Degrees, will ever fail to present attractions.

"Upon the arts of building and architecture, the Order of Free and Accepted Masonry rises, like a fair stupendous pyramid from a broad square basis, tending regularly up to a summit of *attainments*, ever concealed by intervening clouds from the promiscuous *multitude of common observers below.*"

"Some persons," observes Bro. Yates, "who have written and discoursed about our Degrees, have obtained what little knowledge they possess of them from spurious and corrupted sources. I do not speak unadvisedly on this subject, for I have critically examined rituals† identical with those in use among the clandestine and *soi-*

* This ideal is beautifully symbolized in one of the High Degrees, by a figure of Truth covered with a semi-transparent veil.

† That most of the writers who have hitherto written on Sublime Freemasonry have obtained the information they have palmed off as *orthodox* from the most corrupt fountains, and that they have tended to spread and diffuse the most unmeaning nonsensical and unintelligible jargon, is well known to all intelligent Sublime Freemasons. A respect for Brethren yet living, ornaments to Craft Masonry, and sound in all their opinions upon Masonic subjects with which they were acquainted, forbids my quoting the most absurd trash connected with the Higher Degrees now to be found in the library of every Brother who has a Masonic library. As an instance of such ignorant blundering, I would say that *Thomas Smith Webb* in tampering with a degree of our illustrious Order, and ignorant of the meaning of the legend *Inveni Verbum in ore leonis*, wrote it and printed it, in the several editions of his *Monitor*, "*Juvenis Verbum intre leonis*" ! ! ! ! !—Latin which, I am sure you will agree with me, would puzzle that astute myth "a Philadelphia lawyer" to decipher. *Jeremy L. Cross*, a travelling Masonic peddler in America, copied Webb, and copied his blunders! *Atwood*, a notorious usurper, and literary Masonic pillager in New York, author of the *Master Workman* (by the way his *work* should be heaved among the rubbish), continues the

disant Supreme Councils, and usurping propagandists of Sublime Freemasonry."

Now and then an orthodox hieroglyphic, symbol, or allegory, is surreptitiously obtained, but its true solution is not attained to by the vulgar interpretations of superficialness, or else it is purposely perverted by the infidel, or bigot, or sectarian, to suit his narrow purposes, or by intriguers, who

"Like scurvy politicians, seem to see
The things they do not."

(*To be continued.*)

ON THE MATHEMATICAL AND MASONIC PROPERTIES OF THE NUMBER 666.

BY BRO. G. K. GILLESPIE, A.M.

THE mystic number 666 is already of peculiar interest to the Masonic world, as emblematical of the riches of King Solomon, enumerated in 1 Kings, x. 14, and 2 Chronicles, ix. 13: "Now the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was six hundred and three score and six talents of gold." Indeed, this number, not only from its representing in talents of gold the revenue of the royal builder of the Temple, but also from its intrinsic qualities, may well be regarded by Masons as a "Golden Number."

In meditating, as a "Speculative Mason," on the occult symbolizations connected with the Temple of Jerusalem, my thoughts were, not long ago, powerfully arrested by this number; and the absorbing attention with which I explored its hidden significance was rewarded by the successive discovery of several properties, possessed by this number alone, and connecting it intimately with the *Triangle* and the *Square*. These I will now, with the permission of the editor, communicate to the Craft, through the medium of its able and zealous organ, the *Freemasons' Magazine and Masonic Mirror*; being well aware that—to use his own words—he will "hail with gratification and pleasure any new illustration of the science."

In the first place, then, the number 666 is a *triangular number*; that is, it is one of the terms of the series 1, 3, 6, 10, 15, &c. . . . 666, &c. . . . of the numbers which represent, or may be arranged in, equilateral triangles. Thus it appears that 666 has for its base *the sacred number 3*, its units being resolvable into the form of a symmetrical triangle.

The secondary base of 666 is 6, a number not only a *perfect number* (that is, equal to the sum of its divisors), but *the first of perfect numbers*.

new motto. And *Macoy*, in his *True Masonic Guide*, perpetuates it. *O tempora! O mores!* Would to Heaven that the evil were confined to *such* publications, and the writings of *such* "authors;" it would be well. But alas! it is not.

This secondary base is closely related to, or resolvable into, the primary 3. For 6, particularly in the number 666, is connected with the radix 3 by properties of a very remarkable character. And, first, of the number 6, taken by itself:—

(1) 6 is itself a *triangular* number, and expresses that particular equilateral triangle of which the side is *three*.

(2) 6 derives its property of being a perfect number from its being equal to the sum of its *three* divisors; these divisors being, moreover, the *first* three digits, 1, 2, 3.

The number 6 thus—being a *triangular* number, and that triangular number of which the side is *three*; being also a *perfect number*, and *the first of perfect numbers*; being equal to the sum of its *three* divisors, and those divisors the *first* three numbers; and being, in the number 666, taken *three* times—pre-eminently represents such an equilateral triangle as is a fit symbol of the *Deity*. This emblematic fitness evidently comprehends a symbolization of the attributes in virtue of which the Divine Being is *one* and *indivisible*, although *triune*, and not only *perfect*, or *optimus*, but *first*, or *nulli secundus*, i.e. *maximus*.

Secondly; of 6 taken three times in the number 666. The proof of the triplicity, or trinity, of this symbol (666), may be further extended by observing that 666 is composed of a unit, a ten, and a hundred, each multiplied by 1, by 2, and by 3; that is, each taken once, twice, and thrice. And here, again, the number 6 appears, as well as 3, since there are in this multiplication 6 factors, i.e. *three* multipliers and *three* multiplicands; the three multipliers, 1, 2, 3, being the three divisors of the perfect number 6, and indicating respectively the first, second, and third persons of the *Holy Trinity*.

Further; 666 is *trebly* a triangular number. For (1st) 6 is a triangular number; (2ndly) 666 is a triangular number; and (3rdly) 36, the side of the triangle formed by 666 units, is itself a triangular number. Thus the idea of triplicity, and that triplicity a *Trinity in Unity*, seems multiplied the more we develop the subject; and indications crowd upon us that the recondite qualities of this number variously identify it with the equilateral triangle—the natural, peculiar, and unique symbol of *Trinity in Unity*, and (the Triangle being equilateral) of the *Equality of the Three Persons*.

I now proceed to show the relations of this extraordinary number to the *Square*. And let me premise that the Square is the representative of solidity and strength; of stability, firmness, fixity; and consequently of perpetuity or eternity—the grandest attributes of the Almighty; which are also symbolized in the architecture of the Temple: “For God said in strength will I establish this mine House, to stand firm for ever.”

The number 666 is the sum of the series of natural numbers from 1 to 36. Hence the side of the equilateral triangle formed by 666 is 36, *the square of six*. Thus the element 6 is here found “in the form of a square,” as well as that of a triangle; and the number 666 is shown to be not only connected obviously with the number 6, but

also associated, in an occult relation, with the square of that perfect number.

It is also observable that 666 typifies the *union of the triangle and the square*; being the sum of the triangular number 630, and the square of 6. It is therefore, collectively, a symbol of the *Triune Almighty*.

The connection of the numbers 3, 6, and 666 with each other and with the *perfect square* appears also from another numerical fact. It will be found that the sum of the *six* permutations of the digits, 1, 2, 3, taken *three and three* together, is equal to the square of 6 *plus* the square of the square of 6; and each of these sums is a multiple of 666.

By means of this interpretation of the number in question the mysteries of the triangle and the square are united in one Masonic symbol typical of the chief essential attributes of the G.G. of the universe.

Having proved that this marvellous number possesses properties constituting it, perhaps, the most remarkable of all emblems or monograms of the Deity, I have no doubt that, in Rev. xiii. 18, this number is said to have been affixed to the "beast," in no other sense than as being the mark set upon him, by Divine warrant, to seal him for perdition. However this may be, there can be no doubt that the subject is well worthy of attention on the part of those devoted to the mysteries of our science. If I have failed in my attempt to decipher and elucidate the problem, I can only say, "Let him that hath understanding count the number" with more "wisdom."

But, on the contrary, if the solution which I have ventured to offer be recognized and accepted as the true one, I would propose the future representation, in Masonry, of the celebrated number 666, by a character or diagram suggestive, not only of the equilateral triangle and the square, but of the employment of those "instruments of architecture" in the construction of God's House, the Temple of His Glory, and the imperishable token of His Immutability.

These notions are embodied into a monogram or cipher, in which I have composed them, and which I will communicate masonically.

MASONIC LODGE, TORQUAY.

At the end of May, as we have already stated, the first stone was laid of a building to be erected in Torquay, for the Freemasons' Lodge of St. John, No. 411. The engraving of the hall, which we are enabled to publish through the kindness of the proprietors of the *Builder* newspaper, will sufficiently demonstrate its character. The edifice will be built of limestone, excavated on the site, hammer-dressed (provincial, "nobbled") with dressings of Bath stone and brick (in



BUILDING FOR THE FREEMASONS!



W. H. WOODMAN

LODGE OF ST. JOHN'S TORQUAY

colours) from the architectural pottery, which will also be used for the jambs, &c., of the internal doorways. The roof will be open to the collar beam, and the floor of the Lodge-room is to be laid with parqueterie. Our readers will observe that the design has been studied as regards the introduction of *the porch, dormer, and tessellated paving*. The *east* end of the Lodge-room will have a large circular window filled in with tracery, in the form of crossed triangles, surrounded with voussoirs of red and white bricks. The shafts of the porch columns will be of polished dark marble. The apse shape of the west end is dictated by the form of the ground, which runs off to a sharp point. The apse is devoted to the entrance-hall and staircase, with a robing-room over.

The chimney-stack of the two main rooms is placed in front to suit internal arrangements, and as there is a high rock close behind the building, it is probably a fortunate necessity. The lower room will be rented by the Natural History Society of the town, and used as a museum. This museum ranks among the best of the west of England.

The windows of the lower room are placed high up in the wall, to afford room for cases of curiosities under them.

Mr. John Harvey, of Torquay, is the contractor for the works. Mr. Edward Appleton is the architect.

MASONS AND COWANS.—Never enter into a dispute with a cowan. Like the deaf adder he will stop his ears, and refuse to hear the voice of the charmer, charm he never so wisely. No matter how clear are your facts, or how convincing your arguments, still he will turn an incredulous ear to your reasoning. Though you anxiously cry out, “O Baal, hear us!” and even cut yourself with knives and lancets to bespeak his attention, there will be neither voice nor any answer, nor any that regardeth. You may as well endeavour to extinguish the sun by pelting it with snow-balls, or to cut rocks in pieces with a razor, as to make any genial impression on the mind of a professed cowan.

MASONIC EMBLEMS.—Chalk, charcoal, and earthen pan, or clay, are the emblems which were adopted by our ancient Brethren to express certain qualities, in the absence of which no progress in Masonry can be expected. Nothing is more free for the use of man than chalk, which seldom touches but leaves its trace behind; nothing more fervent than charcoal, for, when well lighted, no metal is able to resist its force; nothing is more zealous than clay, our mother earth, who will open her arms to receive us when all our friends forsake us.—

Book of the Lodge.

A BROTHER IN ADVERSITY.

THERE pass'd along the churchyard path a man
 Whose meagre, pallid looks bespoke his woe ;
 And he had come to seek a kindred's grave.
 Not long his search ; his tatter'd uncouth garb
 Was deem'd a profanation to the place
 Where gilded marble told the tale of death ;
 The officious beadle turned him from the gate,
 Met his subdued rebuke with threat'ning sounds
 Of vagrancy and stocks, and bade him go.
 He turn'd away with slow and devious steps,
 Wrapt in the gloom of his own solitude ;
 Despair sat cowering in his hollow eye,
 And spread her dusky plumes upon his brow ;
 The dogs yelp'd at him as he pass'd along ;
 And many a passer-by avoided him,
 As though his presence were a deadly plague.
 Poor wretched man !—an outcast from mankind,
 Torn from the sympathies that sweeten life,
 Even denied communion with the dead,
 And spurn'd away from its last resting-place ;—
 I felt how utterly unblest his heart,
 And bent my way resolving to assuage,
 If but with kindly tones, the bitterness
 That wrung his bosom e'en to agony.
 There is a charm in pity !—the mild look,
 The sympathizing sigh, the soften'd voice—
 (The heart's deep feeling language cannot sound)—
 Convey a blessing more approved than gold !
 That poor, emaciated, woe-struck man,
 Possess'd as mild a heart, as pure a soul,
 As ever thrill'd with love, or hoped for bliss.
 Dissever'd from his home in early life,
 He left an aged mother, orphan else,
 To tread the camp, and combat in the field.
 Wounded and weary in a sultry clime,
 Where sickness wrought what valour had outbraved,
 Long while suspended on the verge of time,
 He fought with death, and struggled back to life,
 To live a blighted, wasted, wand'ring thing ;
 And yet not all unblest he lived ; oh, no !
 "There is another and a better world !"

Compassion prompted the inspiring truth ;

And while I conversed of the Lodge above,
The centre whence all goodness emanates,
Where every faithful Brother will find rest,
Forth from his bosom carefully he drew
Some valued treasure, as it seem'd ; and then—
(Cautious, the mystic sign he gave, that guards
Each sublime secret from the cowan's search)—
His dim and hazy eye became illumed,
When from the folded canvass he display'd
A treasured volume of the Sacred Law !
And this had been the parting gift of her
Who tended on his steps in infancy,
And led him up to manhood, and had taught
The earliest impulse of his soul to rise,
Like fragrance of a fresh-blown flower, to heaven ;
And he had come to seek his mother's grave,
To breathe the prayer of faith, the sigh of hope,
Perchance to drop the tributary tear
Of filial love and veneration there.

Poor wand'ring Brother, thou art now at rest ;
Closed is thy day of labour ; laid aside
Thy level, rule, and square ; thou hast work'd out
The circle of thy destiny, received
Th' appointed wage in the Grand Lodge above,
Close tyed in presence of Grand Architect,
To trace the mysteries of eternity,
And rise exalted in Sublime Degrees
Of perfect Knowledge, Light, and Truth, and Love.
Well didst thou scan the deep Masonic lore,
Contain'd within that book of mysteries,
And squared the duties of the Craft, in light,
From the bright centre of all glory—the Most High !

Sceptics would rob the poor of hope of heaven,
Scoff at the soul-inspiring word that lifts
The finite to infinitude of bliss,
Doom man, the semblance of the Deity,
To perish like a dog in some vile ditch.
Oh, blessed book ! chart of a holier land,
Rife of eternal promise ; in thy page
We may possess the affluence of heaven,
And find rich mines of ever-during wealth,
That overflow the heart with secret bliss,
The soul with hallow'd light. We hail the power
That raises man above his native earth,
And gives to mortals—Immortality !

REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

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

A Book of Masonic Addresses, delivered in various Parts of the United States, on the 4th of November, 1852, in celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of the Initiation into the Masonic Order of the great Washington—the Pater Patriæ of the United States.—A correspondent has forwarded us a prospectus of the above work, now being compiled by the REV. WILLIAM S. BROWNE, of Lexington, Kentucky, United States. According to the prospectus, this large and elegant volume will consist mostly of addresses delivered by distinguished Masons of almost every state in the Union, on the Centennial Anniversary (November 4, A. L. 5852) of Washington's initiation as a Mason, together with such historical facts bearing upon his connection with the Institution, as shall be deemed requisite to the full and complete establishment of the fact. To Masons of every rank and clime, this will prove a work of great interest and inestimable value. It will carry on its every page indubitable evidences of the fact that the world's model hero, in whose colossal proportions were harmoniously blended the matchless prowess of the patriot chieftain, the wisdom, prudence, and sagacity of the veteran statesman, and the heaven-born virtues of the true Christian, was indeed and in truth a Mason in in heart, profession, and action. This fact alone, fully and irrefutably established as it may be, will do more to quench the fires, allay the storms, and still the braying notes of Anti-Masonry than the resuscitation and broadcast diffusion of the accumulated lore of ancient and modern times. Let it be known and read of all men, that WASHINGTON, the favoured of heaven, and honoured of earth, the Father of the American faithful, together with his illustrious compeers, the Warrens, the Lafayettes, and the Franklins of Revolutionary times, was a Mason, an ardent and devoted member of our ancient and honourable Order; and we have nothing to fear, though simultaneously attacked by all the opposing legions which the Prince of Darkness may array against us. Our bulwarks would be impregnable, our weapons of defence complete, and fully adequate to our protection.

The "perfect ashlar" of which this work is composed, were taken from the native quarries, hewed, squared, and invested with an air of matchless beauty and perfection by the master hands of such veteran worthies as the late Hon. Thomas Douglas, Prov. G.M., of the Grand Lodge, and Prov. G.H.P. of the G.C., of Florida; Philip C. Tucker, Esq., M.W.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, a Mason of fifty years' standing, and for twenty-five years successively elected to grace the Orient of his own Lodge; A. G. Mackey, M.D., of South Carolina, the most gifted, erudite, and profound Masonic jurist of any age or country; Hon. H. Grider, of Kentucky; Rev. Stephen H. Tyng, of New York; and a host of others of like calibre and qualifications. Many of these "perfect ashlar" or addresses, are valued so highly by those who possess them, that single copies could not be bought for the amount at which it is proposed to furnish this entire volume complete, got up in the highest artistic style of the day, and sent post paid to the address of every generous-hearted Brother who will give it his support. Will you not, Brethren, one and all, lend a helping hand to push forward the car of this truly Masonic and laudable enterprise? By so doing, you do not impoverish yourself or family, but on the contrary, you will secure a work which, we doubt not, you will be proud to preserve as an heirloom in your family. Perhaps the brightest essay on the principles of our Order ever written in any language or clime, is the address of Grand Master Douglas above referred to, and scarcely less

brilliant and masterly are those of A. G. Mackey, the great American Masonic scholar and jurist, Rev. Stephen H. Tyng, of New York, and others. The price of Bro. Browne's book will be 12s. 6d. in America, and it can be obtained in London, we expect, at about 15s. The proceeds of the sale of this work will be devoted to the establishment of a "Masonic Collegiate Institute," wherein the orphan daughters of indigent deceased brothers (such as *yours*, if a father, and *ours* may become), might find a *home* and *alma mater*, in which they would be shielded from the contaminating influences and cruel buffetings of a heartless world, and qualified, in common with the more fortunate, for the sacred duties and responsibilities of life.

The following notices from the Masonic press of America, where Bro. Browne and his object are known, speak in the highest terms both of Brother Browne and his enterprise:—

The American Freemason, says: "We heartily adopt the following from the 'Masonic Union,' having before expressed ourselves in the same strain of approval. Bro. Browne is a personal acquaintance of ten years' standing, and we know that his zeal is only overmatched by his ability. Correspondents on this subject will please address him at Lexington, Kentucky. We received some time since a very fraternal letter from the Rev. Bro. W. S. Browne, of Lexington, Kentucky, informing us of his design to collect, if possible, and place in a volume, the copy of an Address delivered in each State of the Union, on the occasion of celebrating the Centennial Anniversary of Washington's initiation into the Fraternity; together with the accompanying proceedings of the body addressed. The patriotic and philanthropic Brother says that it is his intention, if possible, 'to establish, from the proceeds of the sale of the work, a Masonic Female Orphan School, which shall be a credit to our great Fraternity; an asylum for the orphans of deceased Brothers of every grade, and a monument to the memory of our illustrious Brother more enduring than the National Monument itself.' 'I believe,' says the truly Masonic Brother, 'there is liberality enough in the bosom of our wide-spread Brotherhood to enable me to carry out my design successfully, when the matter is properly presented. I wish to bring every influence to bear upon the work, and to add every attraction and embellishment which it is in my power to obtain, consequently I have conceived the idea of trying to get up a likeness of General Washington clothed in Masonic regalia, fac-similes of his letters expressive of his love and regard for the Institution of Masonry, &c., all of which tend to speak in language stronger than any mere words can do. We feel it a pleasure as well as a duty, to commend this benevolent project to the friendly consideration of the Fraternity, wheresoever dispersed. The learning and accomplishments of Bro. Browne are ample guarantees of the fidelity with which the book will be compiled, and the objects to which the avails are designed to be appropriated, must call a warm and generous response from the bosom and the purse of every true Mason."

The Masonic Mirror and Keystone, speaks thus:—"Bro. W. S. Browne, the Principal of the above Institution established for the education of orphan daughters of indigent deceased Brothers, is in embarrassed circumstances in consequence of carrying out his noble, praiseworthy, and benevolent enterprise. He calls upon his favoured Brethren to aid and assist him in his emergency. Brothers, shall he appeal in vain? Surely not. If your Heavenly Father has blessed you with the means, can you contribute to a more charitable purpose than to sustain a Brother in so great and so good a cause as providing for and educating the orphan?"

"The members of every Masonic Lodge in the country should see to it at once, for, is not this a Masonic charity that appeals to our heart's sympathies from our departed Brothers in Heaven? Bro. Browne is a good man, of generous impulses, and enjoys the confidence of the Craft in Kentucky."

The following preamble and resolution were offered by the Chairman of the Committee on Education of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and unanimously adopted:—

"WHEREAS, our worthy Brother, W. S. Browne, of Devotion Lodge, No. 160,

has established a female college, entitled Washington Masonic Collegiate Institute, in which ample provision has been made for the education of the orphan daughters of indigent deceased Brothers, and has obtained from the Legislature an act of incorporation for the same; therefore—

“Resolved, That this Grand Lodge heartily second and most cordially recommend this truly Masonic and philanthropic enterprise of our esteemed Brother to the liberal patronage and kind consideration of the Craft in general. May he prosper in his laudable undertaking, and may his efforts be crowned with that success which their intrinsic merit demands!

“J. B. PEYTON,

“Chairman of Committee on Education.”

MASONIC HALL OF GRAND LODGE OF KENTUCKY.

Lexington, August 28, A.L. 5855.

We, the undersigned, having been made acquainted with the enterprise of Bro. W. S. Browne, of Devotion Lodge, No. 160, to establish a female college in which ample provision is made for educating the orphan daughters of indigent deceased Brothers, do most cordially recommend his undertaking to the favourable consideration of the Craft at large. Having long known Bro. Browne in his public, private, and Masonic character, we cheerfully recommend him as a good man and true; a Mason tried and trusty; and a workman that needeth not to be ashamed. May he prosper in his enterprise, and may the blessing of a kind Providence crown his efforts with that success which they merit.

Signed by the officers of the Grand Lodge.

American Quarterly Review of Freemasonry and its Kindred Sciences. No. 1. New York: R. Macoy.—We, who profoundly believe in the wisdom of the publication of all information and intelligence on Masonic matters which may be *legitimately* promulgated, and in the utility and advantages derivable from such publication, greet this new tributary to the great ocean of the literature of the Order with a right hearty welcome. Our Transatlantic Brethren—to use the widest acceptation of the term—have long been noted for their contributions to the literature of the age; and the work before us affords abundant proof that no pains have been spared to render it deserving the honestly warm reception of the Masonic body, which we do not entertain a moment's doubt will readily be accorded to it on perusal. Edited by the able pen of Dr. Albert G. Mackey, and numbering amongst its staff of contributors many of the chief literary dignitaries of the Order in the New World, its pages are at once of the most instructive, attractive, and interesting character. It opens with a remarkably well-written defence of the publication of Masonic books and magazines, by the editor, to which we advisedly counsel our Brethren of the Craft at home to direct their earnest attention. It will well repay a perusal. Clear in its views, elegant in its diction, terse in its construction, this article cannot but be read with both pleasure and profit. Bro. Mackey hits us a little hard, perhaps, when, in drawing a contrast betwixt the Masonic writers and the Masonic Lodges of England, he speaks of the assiduous cultivation by the latter of the mysteries of the “knife-and-fork degree.” But he should remember that we are essentially a dining people. It is a very great “part and parcel” of John Bull's nationality, to “eat, drink, and be merry.” As one of Bro. Mackey's countrymen (the eloquent clergyman Mr. Millward) said, in our hearing, in relating an anecdote illustrative of the Crimean war, at one of our metropolitan meetings the other day—“There is no wonder at these Englishmen fighting so—look how they eat!” He may rely on it, that an art (for it is an art) we do not forget in time of war we do not fail to remember in times of peace; we say this in no hypercritical mood. We have not space for any lengthened extracts from this capital introduction to the new *American Masonic Quarterly*, yet we cannot but quote the following clenching exposition on the subject of the publication of matters connected with and affecting the Craft:—“We confess, for our own part, an exceeding degree of latitudinarianism on these points. We fear no danger from publicity, if, in treating of Masonic

subjects, we abstain from any improper reference to the modes of recognition or the ceremonial ritual. . . . The science, the philosophy, the history of Masonry—these are topics which need all the research of the student ; and the more that is written and printed of them, and the more they are brought before the minds and rendered accessible to the hands of the Masonic scholar, the more will their value be increased, and the more will the institution of which they constitute the very foundation be elevated.” A tribute as noble and generous as it is true and just to the talented labours of Dr. Oliver follows, which Masons in England will not be slow to appreciate ; and the able article closes by an interpretation of the course which the conductors of the magazine deem it right, and which they intend, to pursue in furtherance of the spread of Masonic intelligence. “Charge to the Rosé Croix Freemason,” is a poetical composition of high merit—distinguished alike for the sage counsel it contains and for the vigorous and elegant language in which that counsel is conveyed. “Classical Freemasonry,” is highly illustrative of the deep study and research of the able writer, Dr. J. F. Adams, who penned it. “A Poem spoken before the Masonic Fraternity, St. John’s Day, 1857, at Providence, Rhode Island,” possesses many excellent points, and cannot be read without pleasure. We take exception, however, to an expression here and there—such, for instance, as the writer directing his Muse to

“Put on thy best Mercurian-wingèd shoes.”

As a whole, however, it is a more than ordinarily creditable composition. A series of very clever papers succeed, which, added to a vast amount of Masonic news, make up some 150 pages of deeply interesting matter, set forth, we must add, in right excellent typography.

The Indian Freemasons’ Friend, May, 1857. Calcutta: Thacker and Co. London: Thacker and Co.—This record of Masonic transactions in India, where everything now is of intensely increased interest, will be perused with pleasure by all who read it. It gives us peculiar satisfaction, inasmuch as we take a deep concern in the affairs of our Craft in distant lands. It may seem an anomaly, but the best paper in the present number is entitled “Bulwer : Byron : Norton :” by Guillaume Houches, in which Lady Bulwer receives a severe castigation for abusing her husband in her novels, and which closes with a beautiful contrast between her and the Hon. Mrs. Norton under their unhappy circumstances. Altogether our Indian fellow-labourer is a welcome addition to Masonic periodical literature.

Select Lyrics. By the most esteemed Authors of the Day. Robert Cocks and Company, New Burlington-street. — Small, but precious as the Golcondian diamond, is the little work now upon our table. Replete with the beauties of the minds of the true imbibers at the Heliconian fount, it puts forth claims far beyond those books of more pretensive appearance, that, clothed in livery of splendid array, turn out indeed to be the verification of the adage “Fronta nulla fides.” Glorious are the names of the authors who have contributed thereto ; to enumerate them would be but to give a catalogue of all our eminent lyric writers. The price is merely nominal, it being put before the public more as an advertisement medium for the sale of the music of the establishment, than with an idea of gaining profit by its publication. It is a work really to be recommended, for portability, elegance, and talent.

DUTY OF MASONS.—In the present stirring times, it is a duty incumbent on the Lodges of Masons, dispersed as they are, not only throughout this kingdom, but also in every country under the canopy of heaven, to show themselves to the world as a body endued with a corresponding activity in the performance of every moral and social duty. The world expects from us the blooming fruits of an institution which professes to investigate science, and to make it subservient to the improvement of the mind and amelioration of the heart.—*Book of the Lodge.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

THE MARK DEGREE.

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—Allow me, through the medium of your valuable periodical, —and in these days when the Degree of Mark Master is becoming appreciated and widely extended throughout the sister kingdom, notwithstanding its being disregarded by any supreme body,—to call the attention of Brethren in legitimate possession of that degree, to the fact that, in so far as regards Scotland, no certificate is to be considered authentic which has not subjoined to it an attestation by the proper official of the Grand Chapter, that the Brother therein named has been regularly recorded in the register appointed to be kept by them for that purpose. Such certificate, however, is not to be demanded of Brethren holding diplomas for the Royal Arch, or in possession of Mark Master certificates emanating from a Scotch Royal Arch Chapter; the higher degree comprehending that of Mark Master as a necessary preliminary, and the latter being, in all cases, invariably first conferred.

This notification is given that Brethren unacquainted with the manner in which the Masonic Degrees in Scotland are regulated, may not have obtruded upon them the certificates of unauthorized and surreptitious bodies, of which it is believed there are several at present at work both in Scotland and elsewhere, subversive alike of that regularity which ought to be maintained and of the interests of legitimately constituted authorities.

Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland,
EDINBURGH, 5th August, 1857.

Yours fraternally,
WM. GAYLOR, G.S.E.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have your welcome *Magazine* for August before me, and much enjoy the rich store of good things it contains. Your editorial article, on "Clerical Intolerance," is a very *facile princeps* of Freemasonry, and will do good. Ignorance and bigotry are always found to go hand in hand; and the bigotry or "intolerance" of the Rev. Rector of Harleston is certainly owing to his ignorance of the heaven-born principles of our excellent institution. Your remarks on "Masonic Charity," in its broadest acceptation, forbearance and brotherly love, are sound Masonic doctrine. Might not others, as well as the Rev. Mr. Ormerod, benefit by them? We should all do well to refrain from censuring or condemning that of which we have no knowledge, or at least that of which our knowledge is insufficient to aid us in forming a correct opinion concerning it.

In your Correspondence, "P.M. and P.Z." informs "Lector" that he is mistaken in stating that a Warden should preside in a Masonic Lodge in the absence

of the W.M. Will "P.M. and P.Z." please correct the mistake?—first showing "Lector" where he made the *statement* that a Warden should preside, &c. From the very high respect I entertain for the views of my Brethren, though those views may, and sometimes do, differ from my own on subjects of this important nature, I should be sorry to make such a dictatorial "statement" as that which "P.M. and P.Z." attributes to me, but which cannot be found in my communication in the June number of your excellent *Magazine*. If "P.M. and P.Z." read the *Magazine* regularly, he would have noticed that the "statement" he refers to was made, not by "Lector," but by the Editor of the *Freemasons' Magazine and Masonic Mirror*, on page 176, in the February number; he would have found also, in the May number, on page 366, that "Canadian," in a well-written communication, asked for the "authority" on which the statement was made, and in the editorial note to the same communication, page 367, that the Editor said, "We have the Grand Secretary's authority for it." It was not until then that "Lector" took the subject up, and as his views coincided with the "statement" of the Editor and the authority of the Grand Secretary, he quoted the authorities upon which he had formed them. But now it appears that not only "Lector," but all the authorities quoted, and the Editor of the *Magazine*, and Grand Secretary into the bargain, are swamped by the unsupported *dictum* of "P.M. and P.Z."

By the bye, from the perusal of "P.M. and P.Z.'s" communication, I take it that he is an Irishman,—P.M. and P.Z. of an Irish Lodge and Chapter. I will therefore add another "authority," that may have some weight with him; it is *Downes's Constitutions of Freemasonry, published by the authority of the Grand Lodge of Ireland*. Dublin: printed by Bro. C. Downes, P.M. No. 141. 1820. On page 27, section viii., it says,—"In the absence of the Master of a particular Lodge, a Past Master shall fill the chair, but if none such be present, the Senior Warden may act as Master *pro tempore*."

Instead of his bare *ipse dixit*, will "P.M. and P.Z." favour us with *authorities* or *arguments* to support his side of the question? Surely too much light cannot be thrown upon so important a subject. But let us have something less resembling an *autocratic ukase*, than the bare dictatorial assertion of "P.M. and P.Z."

Yours fraternally,

LECTOR.

THE VISIBLE SYMBOLISM OF FREEMASONRY.

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

SIR,—I must say that I have read, with great pleasure and profit, that excellent lecture on "The Visible Symbolism of Freemasonry," recently concluded in your *Magazine*. The author displays not only a thorough acquaintance with his subject, but a happy mode of making intelligible and easily understood that abstruse science, which so many of our Brethren have attempted to explain, but in which so few have entirely succeeded.

By a foot-note on page 350, I observe that this lecture is only one of a "series," and a synopsis of "the first lecture of this series" is given from an American periodical. That synopsis is so good, that it makes me anxious to see the whole lecture, as delivered by the "learned doctor," and, indeed, the whole "series."

Will not the learned author of these lectures be so kind and brotherly to those of his "English Brethren" who *do* "philosophically study" the Symbolism of our Order, as to afford them the aid of *his* investigations and study of the subject; or, in other words, will he not favour us with a copy, for publication in the *Freemasons' Magazine and Mirror*, of the whole series of lectures here referred to? The name and fame of DR. MACKEY, the great American Masonic scholar, the author of the *Lexicon of Freemasonry*, the *Ahiman Rezon*, the *Mystic Tie*, the *Principles of Masonic Law*, the editor of the *Miscellany*, and, without exception, the ablest and soundest writer on Freemasonry of any age or country, though not unknown in England, are far from being as widely known as they should be. I hope our distinguished Brother will favour us with the series of lectures I have here

alluded to; for whilst his lights will be none the less by their enlightening us, he will receive, as he merits, the gratitude and admiration of all those who may read his masterly productions.

I am, Sir,

Yours on the Square,

HIRAM.

MANCHESTER, 17th August, 1857.

LODGE OF FREEDOM.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Notwithstanding the well-deserved character your *Magazine* enjoys, as being an exceedingly faithful reporter of all Masonic proceedings allowed to be published, I find an error has crept into your report of the proceedings at the annual festival of the Lodge of Freedom, No. 91, held on the 20th of July, at Gravesend, which I feel sure you will be happy to correct. It is there stated that the ceremony of initiation was performed by Bro. Spencer on Bro. Froud and myself, the error being again repeated towards the close of the same paragraph. Now, as it is my fervent hope that my memory may ever be kept green as to the able and impressive manner in which the W.M., Bro. Watson, Prov. G.S.B., initiated myself and Bro. Froud, and feeling sure that I shall ever feel a pleasurable debt of obligation to him, not only for that gracious act, but also for his having been the means of introducing both of us, as well as many others, to the enjoyment of the beauties and sublimities of Freemasonry—I trust you will kindly allow me an opportunity of correcting an error, at once trifling yet important, in your next.—I am, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

23, Newton-street, Hoxton, N.,
August 8th, 1857.

W. HESTER.

CANONBURY LODGE.

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

MY DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—My duty frequently calls me far from my Lodge both in England and abroad. I have, therefore, had opportunities of visiting a great many Lodges, and during my career as a Mason I never, until the appearance of Bro. Bohn's letter in your last, heard the fact of a candidate being under preparation alleged as a reason for refusing admission to a strange Brother, if found worthy. Allow me, therefore, to suggest to the members of the Canonbury, and such other Lodges as may be in the habit of preparing candidates in the Tyler's ante-chamber—that the practice is an objectionable one at all times, but especially so when, as we find by Bro. Bohn's letter, it was made an excuse for an act of (to say the least of it) incivility to a visiting Brother—and that it is much better for Lodges to have a distinct *convenient room* for that purpose.—I am, dear Sir and Brother,

Most truly and fraternally,

DUBLIN, Royal Barracks, 18th Aug., 1857.

A "M.M."

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In concluding the correspondence on this subject, allow me to say the efforts of myself and my friends have been exerted to carry it on in a truly Masonic spirit, as evinced by the fact that I placed the matter in the hands of friends to prevent its getting beyond Masonic bounds, and I leave now the Craft to judge between us, with the following remarks.

I cannot blame the Tyler, if a candidate was in *preparation*, for keeping me waiting outside, for, under similar circumstances, I should have done the same;

but, I do blame him and Bro. Hill for *not* telling me that a candidate was preparing.

I did *not* say "I attended to witness the ceremony of Installation," nor that "I *only* came to see the Installation;" but that "I wished simply to see their *working*." I could *not* say so, because, as a stranger, I could *not* know what business the Lodge had to do, though I heard the ceremony of Installation going on, and I *was* told "their business was over."

We did *not* "wish each other good night," because, as stated in my letter, Bro. Hill retired "without even wishing me good night, inviting me to stay, or even the slightest courtesy due from one gentleman to another, much less from a Mason to one of his Brethren," and I repeat it.

I do *not*, nor ever did, profess that my certificate ought to admit me; but all Masons ought to have a willingness at all times to undergo a strict examination when properly called upon, which I was ready to do.

Having now done with Bro. *Hill*, I do now accuse Bro. Bohn of making use of one expression at the Lodge banquet in April, which had a double meaning, which might have seriously reflected upon my character, and of which my friends were anxious to ascertain the *real* meaning; and also a visitor at the same time made charges, of which he could know nothing, and which, to say the least, were uncalled for, from him especially, and it would have been more Masonic, if he could not have defended an absent Brother, that at all events he should have used that great Masonic virtue, "silence."

I shall be satisfied if this correspondence ends in Lodges in general, and the Canonbury Lodge in particular, being more courteous to strangers who want "to see their working" according to the Book of Constitutions (page 72, article 4), but as to refreshments, that is a subject I have nothing to do with.

In conclusion, let me recommend to Bro. Bohn the study of the principal round of the Masonic Ladder—from which I trust he will receive some little benefit.

I am, dear Sir and Brother,
Yours fraternally,

MANCHESTER, 18th August, 1857.

JOHN J. LUNDY, P.M. No. 399.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—A word or two in reply to Bro. Bohn, and I too have done with this controversy.

The reply of that Brother has turned out as expected by myself and friends—inasmuch as he has failed utterly to show any cause why Bro. Lundy should have been refused admission to the Canonbury Lodge on the occasion referred to in his letter signed "P.M."

Your readers will now be able to judge how far Bro. Lundy was or was not justified in writing that letter.

For myself, I cannot admit that *the* question asked of a Brother outside the door of a Lodge should be "Do you wish to dine with us?" I should consider that question, asked of me, a positive insult, and have turned away sorrowing. Bro. Lundy, however, had more forbearance, and condescended to reply to it, that he had come "simply to see the *WORKING*." In the quotation of this passage of the conversation, Bro. Bohn, or his "excellent S.W., Bro. Hill," are certainly guilty of a misrepresentation—whether wilful or not, I trust I have more Masonic charity than to decide.

How could Bro. Lundy have said that he came only to see the *Installation*, when he had, and could have, no information as to whether any or what business might be going on, until informed by certain unmistakable sounds which reached his ears in the lobby, whilst waiting in uncertainty as to his ultimate admission or rejection, that an *Installation* was taking place?

So much for the main question. I cannot, however, allow Bro. Bohn's last paragraph to pass unanswered, as it is personal to myself, and as there he endeavours to cast on me the odium of intruding "personal matters" on your readers. Bro. Bohn knows well that he forced me into that method of communication by

positively refusing to answer any letter on the subject except through your columns, and the first paragraph of my letter to you will show the reluctance with which I availed myself of your space.

I am quite satisfied that your readers will forgive me, and will not, like Bro. Bohn, attribute to me a violation of the spirit of fraternal kindness, in taking up the defence of a Brother whose character had been so unjustly aspersed.

I remain,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

MANCHESTER, August 15, 1857.

LYONS WRIGHT, P.M.

[Trusting that these explanations will prove satisfactory to all parties, we too will add, "the correspondence is now closed," so far at least as the pages of the *Freemasons' Magazine* are concerned.]

LODGE PERSEVERANCE, BOMBAY.

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—My absence from Bombay during last February and part of March, prevented my seeing your January number when it first came out, and it is only this day that it has met my eye. In it I observe another letter from Δ. I cannot and will not reply to any man who still shields the mis-statements which he makes and the calumnies which he utters, under an anonymous signature, after I have challenged him in my own name to authenticate what he advances. I may, however, state for the information of your readers, that the petitions and appeals against the authority of the Prov. G.M. and Prov. Grand Lodge of Western India, from a small portion of the members of Lodge "Perseverance," to the Grand Lodge of Scotland,—framed after the majority of the old Brethren of the Lodge had been driven from its precincts by the sad proceedings within,—have been, in every instance, emphatically dismissed by the Grand Lodge of Scotland; and that the principal petitioners (your correspondent Δ, I fancy, amongst them) have been suspended from Masonic privileges *sine die*.

Lodge "Perseverance" is now once more working in harmony, as it did until the late W.M. was elected on my relinquishing office in December, 1855.—I am, Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

HENRY L. CARTWRIGHT,

Prov. G.M. of Western India.

BOMBAY, 26th June, 1857.

PROVINCE OF KENT.

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—"Facts are stubborn things," and require a more powerful agent than man can devise to overthrow their truths. That they are sometimes very unpalatable is evinced by a letter from "P.M. and Z." of Warwick, in answer to one which appeared in the July number of the *Freemasons' Magazine*, from "One who has respect for the Chair," and I cannot refrain from expressing my conviction that an apology would have been more in keeping with the principles of Masonry than a defence founded upon evasion and sophistry. Destitute indeed must the writer have been of matter to sustain his argument, to be compelled to invoke the aid of poverty for support. I am at a loss to understand what there is in my letter showing "a lamentable want of brotherly love and charity, or reflecting anything but credit on the writer." Is it not the duty of every Mason to judge with candour, admonish with friendship, and reprehend with mercy? It is strictly enjoined in the charge of a Fellow-Craft. The genuineness of the authority no one can deny. "The fact of not dining at a Prov. Grand Lodge banquet (abstractly) means no disrespect to the Master of a province." But, the fact of several Brethren, three of whom were either past or present Prov. Grand Officers, and who also attended the ceremonial,

precipitately retreating to the Fountain Hotel to partake of a good dinner and its usual accompaniments (when every care that prudence or forethought could dictate had been taken by our Canterbury Brethren to provide amply for the comfort and convenience of all), savours to me very powerfully of disrespect. "Masonic rank is frequently allied with poverty, and it sometimes happens that the best Masons in and out of Lodge are those whose means will not allow of their dining at a Masonic banquet." Now, sir, if honour is given to whom honour is due, poverty must necessarily be associated with rank in some instances, and the result is that the recipients of those honours are sometimes the best Masons, and cannot enjoy the luxuries of a Masonic banquet without incurring responsibilities which their circumstances in life will not fairly warrant, and no prudent man would spend in luxury that which Providence has given him to provide the necessaries of life. Life is a lottery, and man should make up his mind for the blanks, but "One who has respect for the Chair" has respect for the poor also, and would scorn the imputation so ingeniously and ungenerously trumped up by the "P.M. and Z.," viz., by holding up to the contempt of the Brethren "those whose means will not allow of their dining at a Masonic banquet," the words of "P.M. and Z." most aptly recoil on himself—"I am ashamed of such Masonry, or rather the lack of it, displayed by your correspondent." Your Warwick Brother, in conclusion, says that "he never dines with the Master of the Province to which he belongs, because he cannot afford it," but he does not say that he never dines with the Master of any other Province. Disgraceful, indeed, would it be for any Brother to "aim the shaft of ridicule" at poverty; and I pray the G.A.O.T.U. may never allow me to so far forget myself as to ridicule those who are borne down by its burdens; but rather hope to be endued with power to fulfil that Divine command so emphatically alluded to by your correspondent—"Let us do unto others as we would they should do unto us." The outward world will then, indeed, admire our Order instead of laughing at it.

I remain, Sir and Brother,

ONE WHO HAS RESPECT FOR THE CHAIR.

THE ROYAL ARCH.

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—In Dr. Cooke Taylor's History of Mahomedanism, when treating of the Assassins, in allusion to the misuse that may be made of Secret Societies, by way of note he says:—

"The Royal Arch Degree in the institution of Freemasonry, was originally devised by some Scotch Jacobites, as a means of holding together the party of the Pretender. From the place where they met, the new Degree was called 'The Royal Arras,' and the meetings of its members, the 'Royal Arras Chapter.' When the cause of the Pretender became hopeless, the new Degree merged into the general system, and by an easy corruption the name was changed to the 'Royal Arch.'"

Now, having had a very intimate acquaintance with Dr. Taylor from his first appearance in the world of literature till his decease, I can confidently say he was not a Mason. I never heard him allude to the subject, although frequently with him when he was writing the work in which the note appears, and it was but a few days since I accidentally saw it.

Can any of your readers inform me from whence Dr. Taylor could have derived his information? I am fully aware that our present Degree was established at the Union in 1813, and that the ceremonial of the Royal Arch was, prior to that date, very different to that we now have; and that the Royal Arch forms no part of the Ancient and Accepted Rite.

I am, yours fraternally,

J. How, P.Z. No. 593.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I feel much obliged to you for having inserted my letter of the 10th July, in your Journal. I was quite sure that "fair play" was your motto. I fully admit the force of your observations in the footnote to my letter, but you will, I hope, allow me to point out, that it is not the Encampment of Baldwyn at Bristol, or any other individual Encampment, that pretends to grant warrants for the creation of new Encampments, but the Supreme Grand and Royal Encampment of Masonic Knights Templar, &c., the original charter of which body, dated December, 1780, is now in my possession. The evidence on the subject will shortly be printed and circulated, till which time I ask you to suspend your judgment.—I remain,

Freemasons' Hall, Bristol,
August 12th, 1857.

Dear Sir and Brother,
Yours fraternally,
D. W. NASH.

THE BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—When the Board of Stewards were appointed to conduct the proceedings of the last festival of our Benevolent Institution, each member deposited a certain sum to defray the necessary expenses. When the Board balanced their accounts it was found that the deposit exceeded the expenditure by fifteen shillings each. Bearing in mind that the annuitants in the asylum are not provided with fuel, the Board very properly determined on expending that amount in coals for their use.

My object in trespassing upon your columns on the present occasion is to invite the attention of Lodges and individual Brethren to two modes (easy in themselves) by which this important article, so necessary to the domestic comfort of the annuitants, may be gratuitously and adequately provided.

The first is that Lodges generally (and those in London in particular) should contribute a small sum from their Benevolent Fund, say ten shillings annually; should this mode be objected to, the next I would suggest would be that the members of every Lodge should be solicited to subscribe one shilling annually, or even sixpence; let the amount be forwarded to Bro. Farnfield and expended by the Committee of Management.

I deem this to be so simple a mode for promoting the comforts of our annuitants as to induce me to hope that one of these, or some such plan, will be adopted.

The London Lodges will soon be opened for the season, and if Brethren will only give their attention to the matter, I am confident that a sufficient sum will be raised to provide our annuitants with coals for the coming winter.

I am, dear Sir and Brother,
Faithfully and fraternally yours,
SAMUEL ALDRICH, P.M. No. 196.

HAMPSTEAD, N.W.,
19th August, 1857.

UNIFORMITY OF WORKING.

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—I have for several years past observed a great difference in the "work" of many Lodges, and am at a loss to account for it, and much surprised that the Grand Lodge has not ere this interfered and insisted on the adoption of one system. I believe the great difficulty in dealing with the subject is—that there is not in existence a body acting under the authority of the Grand Lodge, charged with the safe keeping of the ritual of Masonry, and with power to

enforce uniformity. I feel convinced that the establishment of such a Board, together with a Lodge of Instruction acting under its authority, would be of the greatest advantage to the Craft; it would quickly correct all irregularities, and be the fountain-head where the zealous Mason might obtain that instruction on which he could rely. At present it is a difficult task, and at all times a very unpleasant one, to contend against "something" wrong, done by a worthy Brother, which has taken root in the Lodge, has been acquired by many, and considered to be correct. There are other evils existing, deplored by faithful Masons, which such a Board as I suggest might do much to eradicate. If you think the subject worthy your notice, and will give this a place in your valuable publication, I shall have great hopes that the matter will be taken up in the proper quarter, and good service rendered to the Craft by, Sir and Brother,

Yours respectfully and fraternally,

GRAVESEND, Aug. 17th, 1857.

P.M.

BROTHER J. HARRIS.

We had occasion in our *Magazine* of December last, to notice the distressed position in which this talented artist (the painter of the Prize Tracing-boards in use every Friday evening at the Emulation Lodge of Improvement) was at that time. We now extract the following from a catalogue of the sale of books, &c., lately issued by Messrs. Sotheby and Co., the celebrated auctioneers of literary property:—

"FACSIMILES," by JOHN HARRIS.—"John Harris, the proprietor of the following lots, is well known to possessors of rare books by the marvellous facsimiles executed by him to complete some of the scarcest in literature. His talent in this line is so wonderful, that his facsimiles of Caxton, Wynkyn de Worde, and other typographers, have puzzled even the connoisseur to detect the difference between the original and copy. Intense application has destroyed the eyesight of the artist, who, having had a wife and family to maintain, is now, at the age of sixty-six, left without any means of support. To remove the temporary difficulties in which his blindness has placed him, the following facsimiles are to be sold without reserve:—

"It is to be hoped, for Mr. Harris's sake, that the collectors of books and engravings, as well as whatever is curious in art, will not fail to secure specimens of the extraordinary skill of a man who leaves us without any one to supply his place."

Then follow a list of 100 lots of Facsimiles of the Early Printers, which were sold on 22nd August last, and we much regret to say did not realize the amount Bro. Harris anticipated they would from their great curiosity.

We may inform our readers that Bro. Harris is one of the candidates for the Annuity Fund, having polled at the last election 497 votes; and he will feel greatly obliged by the name of any Brother who will assist him in his canvass communicating with Bro. R. Spencer, at his Masonic Depot, Great Queen-street, opposite Freemasons' Hall.

We hear that Bro. J. Harris gives private instruction on the "Tracing-boards" as well as the "Ceremonies."

Bro. Spencer has called at our office and shown us a specimen of Bro. Harris's skill in a facsimile executed for him a few years back, in restoring a portion of the O. B. printed in black letter to a copy of the "Book of Constitutions," printed in 1722, now in his possession, and supposed to be unique; and which Bro. S. will be most happy to show to any member of the Craft.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

We understand that the next Provincial Grand Lodge for Cheshire will take place at Stayley-bridge some time in next month, when the R. W. the Prov. G. M., Field Marshal the Viscount Combermere, is expected to be present. Masonry in Chester is on the ascendancy, application for a new Lodge, to be held at the house of Bro. Thomas, Pied Bull Inn, being in course of preparation.

The annual meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Worcestershire is fixed to take place at Stourbridge, on Tuesday, the 8th of September. There will be no procession, but an address will be delivered in the Lodge-room, by the Prov. G. Chap. (Bro. the Rev. A. G. Davies, M.A.), after which the customary collection will be made. A large muster of Brethren is expected. Grand Lodge will be opened in the Corn Exchange.

The Prov. Grand Lodge of Hampshire is postponed until October, when it is expected the D. G. M., Lord Panmure, will be able to attend. By the accidental substitution of one letter for another last month, we were made to say that Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon was likely to become Prov. G. M. for this province, whereas it should have been Prov. G. W. We trust the day is far distant when it will become necessary to find a successor to so excellent a Prov. G. M. as Sir Lucius Curtis.

The Prov. Grand Lodge of Sussex is appointed to be held at the County Hall, Lewes, on the 10th of September, when the D. Prov. G. M., Col. McQueen, will preside; the Prov. G. M., the Duke of Richmond, being a mere nonentity, taking no interest in the prosperity of the Craft in the province.

The office of Prov. G. M. for Suffolk still remaining unfilled, the superintendence of the province devolves on the G. Reg., who has requested Bro. Martin to continue in office as D. Prov. G. M., and take the general control of the provincial business.

The *Indian Freemasons' Friend* says, "A proposition is in circulation for the formation of a Masonic Volunteer Corps in Calcutta, as a defensive measure in these troublous times, when the evil-disposed may be tempted to rise."

At a special meeting of the subscribers to the Boys' School, on the 15th August, the election of Bro. the Rev. Chas. Woodward and Mrs. Woodward, as master and matron, was confirmed. There were only twelve persons present, every one of whom was a member of the committee whose acts they had met to confirm. What a farce! We scarcely think a gentleman verging on three score, whatever his general qualifications, a fitting person to elect as the first master of a new school.

The Paris correspondent of the *Morning Post* says,—“Freemasonry is making rapid progress in Prussia, which now contains 158 Lodges. In the remainder of Germany there are 113 Lodges.”

In consequence of the want of information from Canada, Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon has for the present withdrawn his notice in favour of Grand Lodge acknowledging the independence of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

We have been favoured with a view, at Bro. Spencer's Masonic Depôt, of a breast-plate, crown, mitre, and turban, manufactured in his best style, for the Grand Chapter of Turkey, held at Smyrna; the stones, &c., in the breast-plate, represent most skilfully the costly gems worn by the High Priest in that portion of his vestments. The names of the Twelve Tribes are carefully engraven on each, the whole beautifully inserted in a chaste gilt setting, within rows of rich gold embroidery on ground-work of purple, crimson, and blue. Altogether, the manufacture is most unique, and far exceeds in richness of design and beauty of execution anything of the kind we have previously seen.

We are happy to hear that the balance of the Stewards' Guarantee Fund remaining in the hands of the Treasurer, after defraying the expenses of the late Festival for the benefit of the Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their widows, amounts to £33. 4s. In accordance with a resolution of the Stewards, this sum will be devoted to providing coal and wood for the inmates of the Asylum at Croydon during the coming winter.

At the monthly Board of Benevolence, on the 26th of August, the only application for relief was from a foreign Brother desirous of returning to his native country; but the consideration of the case was postponed, in consequence of the non-attendance, through indisposition, of the Brother recommending the petition.

G R A N D L O D G E .

NOTICES OF MOTION.

The following are the new notices of motion for the next Grand Lodge :—

Bro. Stebbing, to move for “Verbal alterations in questions, &c. to Candidates for Degrees.”

Bro. Stebbing—“That D. Prov. G.M. be authorized to appear in Grand Lodge in their provincial clothing, and take their seats on the dais, ranking after P.G. Secs.”

Bro. Rev. Wm. Westall—“That the charge to Initiates be bound up with the Book of Constitutions.”

A recommendation from the Board of Benevolence—“Of a vote for £50 to the widow of a deceased Brother, twenty-eight years a member of Lodge No. 391, Whitby, to which he continued to subscribe until the time of his death,” will also be brought under consideration.

THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

SPECIAL GRAND LODGE AND INAUGURATION FETE.

THE interesting ceremony of inaugurating the new school-house for the reception of such of the sons of Freemasons as may be elected to the benefits of this valuable institution, took place on Tuesday, the 11th of August ; but we regret to say, owing to the shortness of the notice, the season of the year (when nearly every Lodge is closed), and the absence of the M.W.G.M. and the majority of the principal Officers of the Craft, the attendance was not so good as we could have wished, not more than about 230 persons, including ladies, being present at any period of the day ; though, notwithstanding the drawbacks to which we have alluded, the attendance would have been somewhat better, had it not been for the weather threatening to be, as it afterwards proved, anything but propitious for an out-door *fête*. The premises of the new school were formerly the residence of Mr. Fletcher the eminent shipowner, and are most delightfully situated in Lordship-lane, Tottenham, surrounded by about ten acres of beautiful land. The cost of the freehold was only £3,500 ; and already the Brethren have been offered £500 advance on their bargain, which they have declined to accept. The school is well situated, being within half an hour's easy walk of the Great Northern and the Eastern Counties Railways. A special train having been provided by the Great Northern Railway, at a quarter past eleven in the morning, a number of the friends of the institution assembled together, and a special Grand Lodge was opened at twelve o'clock. In the absence of the Grand Master, the chair was filled by Bro. Charles Purton Cooper, Q.C., the Prov. G.M. for Kent, who was supported by Bros. Benj. Bond Cabbell, Prov. G.M. for Norfolk, as D.G.M. ; John Hervey, as S.G.W. ; Masson, as J.G.W. ; Rawson, Prov. G.M. for China ; Rev. J. E. Cox, G. Chap. ; Walmesley, P.G.S.B. ; Biggs, P.G.S.B. ; Gray Clarke, G. Sec. ; William Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec. ; Jennings, G.D.C. ; Bros. Thory Chapman, Assist. G.D.C. ; Smith, G. Pursvt. ; and about 120 other Brethren.

Grand Lodge having been opened, a procession was formed in the following order :—

Two Grand Stewards.

The Wardens, Past Masters, and Masters of the several Lodges according to rank, Juniors walking first.

Grand Steward.	{	A Cornucopia, with Corn, borne by the Master of a Lodge. Two Ewers with Wine and Oil, borne by Masters of Lodges.	}	Grand Steward.
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Grand Pursuivant.
Assistant Grand Secretary.

Grand Director of Ceremonies. Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.
Past Grand Deacons.
Grand Secretary, bearing Book of Constitutions.
Past Grand Wardens.
The Corinthian Light, borne by the Master of a Lodge.
The Column of J.G.W., borne by the Master of a Lodge.
The Junior Grand Warden, with Plumb Rule.

Grand Steward.	{	The Banner of the Grand Lodge.	}	Grand Steward.
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The Doric Light, borne by the Master of a Lodge.
The Column of S.G.W., borne by the Master of a Lodge.
The Senior Grand Warden, with Level. The J.G. Deacon.

Grand Steward.	{	The Grand Chaplain, bearing the Sacred Law on a Cushion.	}	Grand Steward.
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The Deputy Grand Master (represented by R.W. Bro. B. Bond Cabbell),
with the Square.

The Ionic Light, borne by the Master of a Lodge.
The Grand Sword Bearer.
Grand Steward. { The Grand Master,
represented by R. W. Bro. C. P. Cooper, Q. C. } Grand Steward.
Two Grand Stewards. The S. G. Deacon.
Grand Tyler.

This part of the procession having been duly formed, proceeded to join that portion drawn up outside of the Lodge-room consisting of

The Pupils of the Masonic Institution for Female Children, accompanied by the Matron and Governesses.

The Band of the Hon. Artillery Company.

Stewards walking two abreast.

Two Members of the House Committee.

The Pupils of the Masonic Institution for Boys, accompanied by the Rev. Charles and Mrs. Woodward (the Master and Matron).

The House Committee.

The procession thus duly formed marched round the plot of ground in front of the principal entrance, and thence round the exterior of the building. On re-arriving at the principal entrance, the band and a portion of the procession filed off, and the children of the schools, with the Stewards, proceeded to the dedication-hall, to which the ladies and other friends of the institution had been previously admitted.

The remainder of the procession next proceeded to the dedication-hall, on arriving at the door of which it halted, the Brethren dividing to the right and left, and facing inwards, forming an avenue, through which the G. M. passed into the dedication-chamber, preceded by the G. Sword Bearer and the Brethren bearing the ewers of oil and wine and the cornucopia containing the corn, and followed by the D. G. M. and the other G. Officers, the band playing outside the building.

The G. M. having taken his seat, the vessels were deposited on the pedestal placed for their reception.

The proceedings having commenced with prayer, and the singing of a hymn by the children,

The R. W. Bro. Cabbell, the treasurer of the institution, addressing the G. M. and the Lodge, stated that he had now to ask the M. W. G. M. to proceed with the dedication of this building, which was intended to receive the sons of indigent and deceased Freemasons, with the view not only to their sustenance but to bestow upon them that inestimable blessing, a good education, so as to enable them to fill a respectable position in society in after life. The institution was originally established in 1798, to clothe, educate, and apprentice the sons of indigent and deceased Freemasons on the true principles of Masonic charity; children of all religious denominations, and wherever resident, being eligible for admittance from the age of seven to ten years, provided the fathers had been Masons three years, and continued subscribing members to a Lodge for two years. These children were placed in good schools, and, as far as possible, in combination with their other education were instructed in the tenets of the religion of their parents and guardians. Already had 854 children received the benefits of the institution, and seventy boys were now on the foundation. About five years since, a few zealous Brethren bethought them that education of a better and more uniform description might be given to the children if they could, as far as possible, be brought together in one building, which would be under the immediate superintendence of the committee of management—though of course they were aware that all the children could not be so provided for, as only one principle of religious instruction—that of the Church of England—could take place within its walls; so that the option of having the children in the school or educated upon the present principle would remain with the parents or guardians of the children. So energetically had the appeals of these Brethren been responded to by their Fellow-

Masons, that the committee had been enabled to purchase the freehold of the beautiful building they were then in, and the title-deeds of which lay before him, at a cost of £3,500. The estate consisted of rather more than ten acres, and the building without alteration was capable of containing at least thirty-five boys; and with a very trifling expenditure he believed it might be made to accommodate at least as many as were on the foundation. At first, in consequence of the limited funds at their disposal, the committee would not feel justified in admitting more than twenty-five boys, whom he hoped to see in the institution at Michaelmas; but he felt assured, that no sooner was the institution opened than the liberality of the Brethren would be stimulated to such a degree, that within a very few years it would rival in importance the kindred charity, the Girls' School. He would now hand the title-deeds to the M.W.G.M., and ask him to proceed with the dedication.

The M.W.G.M. *pro tem.* then proceeded to dedicate the building in the following terms, scattering the corn, oil, and wine as he proceeded:—"I now proceed to perfect the great and good work for which we have this day assembled, and in fulfilment thereof, I, in the name of the G.A.O.T.U., dedicate this building to the uses of that charity the objects of which have just been so ably and eloquently proclaimed to you by the R.W. Bro. B. B. Cabbell; and I may add, that charity thus exercised, is of that degree which we have well-founded reason to believe is highly acceptable to the Lord and Giver of all good things, as not merely evidencing the anxiety of affording bodily relief and sustenance to our fellow-creatures, but of rescuing the needy from the ways of ignorance and darkness, when as yet they are unable to help themselves, and bringing them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; thus affording them, at least, the means whereby they may secure to their immortal souls that blessed immortality which the Creator of the universe has assured to those who keep His laws, and obey His commandments. And whilst, by the judicious system of education and control exercised in this establishment, we place within the reach of all received within its walls, the means whereby this most-to-be-desired consummation may be attained—the children to be here brought up, will, by that same system, be fitted during their progress through life to fulfil the duties of their several stations, with benefit to themselves, and to the advantage of the whole social community. And beseeching the Almighty Lord to bless and perfect these our honest endeavours, I here spread this corn, praying that it may indeed prove the corn of nourishment; I pour out this wine as the spirit of refreshment, and this oil as the type of joy and gladness; and declare this building dedicated as 'The Royal Masonic Institution for the Sons of Indigent and Deceased Freemasons.'"

Another hymn was then sung, and prayer offered up to the Almighty Architect for his blessing on the institution. At the conclusion of the ceremony, in which the M.W.G.M. was ably assisted by the Grand Chaplain and Bro. Jennings, G.D.C., the band played "God save the Queen;" and the Brethren and their friends having been once more formed into procession, directed their steps to St. Michael's Church, where a most eloquent sermon was preached by the Rev. J. E. Cox, the Grand Chaplain; the prayers being impressively read by the Rev. Mr. Winter, the curate of Tottenham.

The Rev. G. Chaplain took as his text verses 1 and 2 of the 13th chap. of 1st Corinthians—"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have no charity, I am nothing." After eloquently pointing out that charity must exist in the soul, and not in the mere outward show of its practice, the Rev. Brother concluded as follows:—"And now, lastly, there is yet one further illustration—though charity, as we have seen, does not consist exclusively of almsgiving—which ought to be given to our text, and which is suggested by this occasion of our meeting together. We have seen what charity is not, and what it is. It, therefore, now behoves us to take heed lest the illustration in practice rather turns towards the former than to the latter definition. Most sincerely do I hope—most firmly do I believe—that this rule has actuated those who for some years past have seen, and felt, and avowed, the

absolute necessity of finding a home, as well as an education fitted for the demands of the present advancing age, for the orphan sons of such of the Masonic fraternity as have been called from this life to another before they could accomplish this necessary and most important undertaking; and for the sons of those who, from uncontrollable circumstances, have been plunged into poverty, and therefore have been prevented from securing the advantages for their offspring which are in these days of such immense consequence. The purpose which has called so many of the Masonic fraternity to this place to-day, is an assurance that they have been influenced by the great principle of brotherly love, which binds them together,—an evidence of that charity which is the brightest jewel of the system by which they are conjoined in the bonds of one common brotherhood, and a proof that its rule and directions have applied to the contributions already offered, and to those which will be presented to day. And rarely, Brethren, can you be solicited in a case more important than the present. With all our doings, we have hitherto not done enough in this direction. Whilst we have employed our means extensively upon the care of the female children of our Brethren, we have hitherto comparatively forgotten the boys. This can no longer be; for although we cannot do all at present that we would, to prove that the great principle of charity is the motive by which we are guided, the work of this day is an assurance that we have the goodwill; and with that goodwill must follow the working which shall establish our institution on the broadest basis of usefulness. Towards this object, therefore, I ask for further demonstration of charity, and intreat a disinterested and enlarged liberality;—and although it cannot be expected that all can be this day done that is requisite, of this I am confident, that the proof will not be wanting that the profession of brotherly love, relief, and truth is sincere, and that those who are privileged to understand the meaning attached to these terms will rejoice to be the instruments for the performance of a solemnly imperative duty. It is not for me to tell you, Brethren, what you should pour into the treasury of the institution which we this day dedicate to the purpose of charity. If your desire be that 'all glory should be given to the Most High,' that will direct you as to the proportion and amount of the donation, and not let it be doled out with a niggard hand or stinted parsimony. Never yet, in my experience, have I witnessed an appeal made for the purpose of demonstrating the force of the bond that unites us, fall unheeded. I do not believe that the appeal of to-day will fail; I believe it will be again shown to those who wonder what can be the object of our hidden acts and secret mysteries, that it is a holy object, a heaven-taught rule, a solid purpose that we follow; to dispense the blessings of charity largely, and religiously to manifest this virtue in the fullest extent to which it lays claim. Thus will it be our pride, as it is our privilege, to make known that there is nothing incompatible with Christianity in our Order; for if there had been, I should not have been here to-day imperfectly to define the nature and the claims of charity; and that Freemasonry, not less than a profession of Christianity, is all valueless, unless it gives an honest, pure, and faithful manifestation of that glorious elucidation of Christ's character, as set forth in the inspired words of the servant of the Most High: 'Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.'

At the conclusion of the service the procession returned to the school-house, where Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

At three o'clock the Brethren and their friends re-assembled in an elegant marquee, where a banquet had been provided under the direction of Bros. Shrewsbury and Elkington, which reflected the greatest credit on them for its profusion and excellence. The chair was occupied by the R.W. Bro. Cooper, supported by all the Grand Officers who were present at the ceremony of the morning, with the exception of Bros. Gray Clarke, G. Sec., and Smith, G. Purst., who retired early.

At the conclusion of the repast the R.W.G.M. (Bro. Cooper) rose and proposed the health of the Queen—a Mason's daughter—and the Patroness of the Royal

Freemasons' Boys' School, which was followed by that of the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M. of Masons.

The R.W.G.M. then rose and said that he had now to propose the health of the R.W.D.G.M. Lord Panmure, and the rest of the Grand Officers. The noble lord, he knew, took the greatest interest in the prosperity of the Craft, and he believed it was only the pressure of his duties in the important office he held in the state which prevented his being present on that occasion. They had however present a brother whose name was associated with everything that was charitable, and the great object of whose life seemed to be the consideration how he could best contribute to the happiness of mankind—Bro. Cabbell. (Applause). Bro. Cabbell had been a most munificent supporter of the charity, and there was no occasion upon which his presence could in any way contribute to the prosperity of the institution but he was to be found at his post. There were also other Grand Officers present whom he was glad to meet in the promotion of so good a cause, and he would now ask them to drink to Lord Panmure and the rest of the Grand Officers, coupled with the name of Bro. Bond Cabbell. (Cheers).

Bro. B. B. Cabbell, Prov. G.M. for Norfolk, expressed the gratification he felt at having his name connected with such a toast. He felt that it was his bounden duty to be in his place upon an occasion so interesting as that of inaugurating a building for the reception and education of the children of their poorer Brethren. He knew that their excellent D.G.M., Lord Panmure, took the deepest interest in the prosperity of every institution connected with the Craft, but holding the high and important office of Minister of War, it was impossible the noble lord could be as often amongst them as he could wish; but though not present, he was sure he would not the less appreciate the compliment which had been paid him. Having, as he most sincerely did, acknowledged the toast they had just drunk, he trusted they would allow him to propose the health of the excellent Brother who had that day acted as G.M. He knew him to be a man of the most extensive learning, of the purest philanthropy, and the most disinterested charity. They were greatly indebted to their distinguished Brother for his services in the important ceremonies of the day, and trusting he might live long as an ornament to the Craft and to be useful to the state, he begged to propose the health of their M.W.G.M., Bro. Purton Cooper.

Bro. Cooper assured the ladies and gentlemen—including the Brethren—present, that nothing could have given him greater pleasure than to have the opportunity of being present in furtherance of so good a cause as that of promoting the charity of their Order. He was an old member of the Craft, having been connected with it upwards of forty years. It was whilst abroad, in 1814, that he first became acquainted with the excellences of Freemasonry, though he was then under age and could not become a member; but he took the earliest opportunity of doing so, and had never had cause to regret the step he had taken. Ladies in this country were not Masons, but in France a system of Masonry had been adopted amongst them, the Empress Josephine having been one of their most distinguished members; and if any ladies present wished to become members of that Order, he should be happy, as far as he could, to assist them; but he could assure them that if they were good wives, good sisters, good daughters, and charitable neighbours, they were sure to be in heart good Masons. He had now the gratifying task of proposing to them to drink prosperity to the Boys' School, trusting that their work of that day might be crowned with the blessing of the Almighty, and tend to the lasting benefit of those for whom it had been established; and with the toast he must again couple the health of Bro. Cabbell, the treasurer of the institution.

The children of the girls' school having sung the Festival Hymn,

Bro. Cabbell returned thanks, and again detailed the history of the school. Though at present they felt justified only in admitting twenty-five boys into the institution, he trusted that next year the liberality of the Brethren would enable them to double the number. He had now to propose a toast which he was sure they would respond to with the greatest cordiality. Their proceedings that day had been sanctified by the ordinances of religion, and they had heard an excellent sermon from their Rev. Brother, who, he regretted, had been obliged to leave

them before they could acknowledge his services. There was another rev. gentleman, however, to whom they were equally indebted—the Rev. Mr. Winter, who had not only so kindly granted them the use of his church, but had himself taken part in the service of the day. (Cheers.)

The Rev. Mr. Winter regretted that the rev. gentleman who had delivered them so eloquent a discourse that morning, and who was more acquainted with the principles of Freemasonry than he could pretend to be, was not present to acknowledge the toast; but he could not refuse the task which had devolved upon him. He was profoundly ignorant of the mysteries of Freemasonry, but whatever they were, he could judge the tree by the fruit—that fruit was charity; and he sincerely wished them God speed in this holy work. When he was asked for the use of his church, and was informed of the nature of the charity which it was intended to promote, he felt that he could not refuse it, and felt most gratified in being able to place it at the disposal of the Committee of so noble an institution. When he first came into the Green Lanes, there were but a few cottages in the neighbourhood, and when his church was built, it seemed doubtful from whence a congregation could be found. There had been no difficulty in that respect, however; a neighbourhood and congregation had grown up around him, and he was glad to hail the establishment of the Freemasons' School amongst them; and he could not help being struck with the applicability of the words at the end of the second lesson of the day to the work in which they had been engaged: "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this—to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

Bro. Jennings, G.D.C., had been entrusted with a toast which he was aware required no observations of his to recommend it to notice. He was sure that every person present must be greatly gratified with what had taken place that day, and have been pleased to meet in so commodious and beautiful a building as that which had been inaugurated for the Boys' School. But they would not have had the opportunity of being present—they would not have been the possessors of the building—had it not been for the untiring zeal and great exertions of the committee to carry out the wishes of the Brethren for the establishment of the school. He was sure they were deeply indebted to those gentlemen for what they had done, and he begged them to drink to the "Committee," coupled with the name of their chairman, Bro. Hopwood, who he knew had been most untiring in his endeavours to carry out successfully the ceremonies of the day, and promote the happiness of those who had honoured the inauguration of the school with their presence.

Bro. Hopwood briefly replied on behalf of the committee; after which the health of the ladies was most enthusiastically drunk, thus bringing this part of the day's proceedings to a close.

During the banquet it was announced that the collection at the church including some £5. 5s. purses from ladies, and £10. 10s. from Bro. Rawson, had amounted to nearly £100; £1,200 having been subscribed to the institution at the festival held about two months since. At the conclusion of the banquet, dancing and other amusements became the prevailing order, and were kept up with great spirit within the building and under the tents until a somewhat advanced hour, notwithstanding a pouring rain which came on about six o'clock; Bro. Donald King, who was present as one of the company, adding not a little to their enjoyment by his excellent ballads. Bro. B. Banks, Jun., was an efficient toast-master.

BRO. DISTIN.—It will be seen from our advertising columns that Bro. Distin, Sen., the well-known trumpeter and sax-horn player, takes a benefit at the Crystal Palace, on Saturday, the 19th inst. Bro. Distin—who has played at three coronations of the sovereigns of England—has secured the services of Madame Clara Novello, and expects to be supported by other talent, which will render this the most attractive Shilling *fête* of the season.

METROPOLITAN.

CONSECRATION OF THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE LODGE, No. 1,008.

The R.W.D.G.M., the Right Hon. Lord Panmure, paid a visit to Woolwich on the 4th of August, for the purpose of inaugurating a new Lodge, under the above title, the Brethren connected with it being principally officers in the artillery—it being the first occasion of his lordship performing such a ceremony since his accession to office. The Town Hall, in which the ceremony took place, was handsomely decorated with banners, flowers, evergreens, &c., and the noble D.G.M. was assisted by Bros. W. H. White, P.G. Sec. ; Stephen Barton Wilson, G.D. ; Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec. ; John Hervey, P.G.D. ; Dr. Harcourt, D. Prov. G.M. for Surrey ; Bisgood, D. Prov. G.M. for Kent ; Logan, Prov. G. Reg., Jersey ; and a large number of the Brethren.

The ceremony, which was most impressively performed, having concluded,

The D.G.M. addressed Capt. Forbes, the W.M. named in the warrant, and said, it gave him great pleasure to place the worthy Brother in the chair as Master of the new Lodge, for which he anticipated great prosperity. He looked upon the position of the Master of a Freemasons' Lodge as the highest honour to which a man could aspire. It proved that he had that within him which induced him to study art and science, and to practise the strictest virtue. The institution to which they had the honour to belong was peculiarly based upon the exercise of the most ennobling virtue which could adorn man—charity. They did not admit ladies to a participation in their secrets ; not that they undervalued the worth of female virtue and charity, but because it was not thought desirable that they should take part in mysteries, which, from their very name, particularly pointed them out as belonging only to man. But though they did not admit ladies amongst them, there was nothing to prevent them hailing from a Lodge bearing the name of a lady, the more especially when she was herself the personification of every Masonic virtue. He thought this Lodge was most appropriately named, the "Florence Nightingale," as she had shown herself to be a woman of rare heroism—one possessed of the most disinterested charity, who had left her home to succour the soldier in the hour of trouble, with no other motive than that of benefiting her fellow-creatures and putting into practice the ennobling virtue of charity, in its highest and holiest sense. Florence Nightingale had, by her conduct, endeared herself not only to the army, but to every household in England, her fame was not confined to any given spot, but, like their ancient Craft, was spread throughout the world. He trusted that Florence Nightingale might enjoy many years of that unalloyed happiness which works of pure charity alone could give, and that this Lodge, dedicated to her name, might flourish through many generations, and until time should be no more.

The D.G.M., who was listened to with the deepest attention, resumed his seat amidst loud applause. The noble lord called upon Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, J.G.D. to install Bro. Forbes into the chair, which he did with his accustomed skill.

The W.M. then appointed his officers as follow :—Bros. P. Laird, P.M., Treas. ; T. Moore, P.M., Sec. ; Dr. H. J. Hinxman, P.M., Dir. of Cers. ; Col. E. Wodehouse, Royal Artillery, S.W. ; W. C. Taylor, J.W. ; Capt. G. Davis, Royal Artillery, S.D. ; G. W. Cann, J.D. ; Lieut. H. J. Alderson, Royal Artillery, I.G. ; J. Smith, Organist ; J. Allinson, Tyler.

The W.M. said he had now to thank the R.W.D.G.M. for his kind attendance in Woolwich that day, and for having done him the honour of placing him in the chair. He could assure the noble lord that he not only expressed his own feelings, but those of all the officers and members of the Florence Nightingale Lodge, in returning him their most sincere thanks for the great honour he had conferred upon them.

The D.G.M. assured the W.M. and Brethren that it had given him great pleasure to attend their Lodge that day. In doing so he felt he had done nothing more than he was obligated to do—viz., to the utmost of his power to promote the interests of Freemasonry. He was sure, from what he knew of the Brethren comprising the Florence Nightingale Lodge, that it must prosper and reflect honour upon the Craft in which it was his pride to fill a somewhat important position. He could assure the Brethren that, at any time when it was thought he could promote the interests of the Order, his services would, as far as possible, be at their command. In conclusion, he begged to thank the Brethren for the honour conferred upon him, and the kind manner in which he had been received. The noble lord having resumed his seat amidst loud cheers, the Lodge was closed in due form.

In the evening a large number of the Brethren dined together under the presidency of Captain Forbes, W.M., at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, but they were deprived of the pleasure of the company of the R.W.D.G.M. owing to his having to return to town to attend to his parliamentary duties. In addition to the Brethren we have named, there were present, amongst others, Bros. J. Townsend, M.P.; T. Hassall, Quartermaster Royal Artillery; E. Edwards, D. Walker, C. Malings, J. Warren, M.D., and J. Finnimore, M.D., Surgeons, Royal Artillery; J. Franklin, Lieutenant, Royal Artillery; H. Allinson, M.D., Surgeon, Royal Artillery.

The healths of her Majesty and the M.W.G.M. having been duly honoured,

The W.M. said he had now to propose a toast possessing more than usual interest, the health of R.W.D.G.M., who had honoured them with his presence that day; and the past and present Grand Officers. They were particularly indebted, not only to the D.G.M., but to Bro. Wilson, for the part they had taken in the ceremonies of the day; and he was sure they would be anxious to express their thanks by cordially drinking the toast. To Bro. White they were much indebted for his company; and he would therefore take the liberty of coupling with the toast, the names of Bros. White, Wilson, and Hervey.

Bro. White, who was received with loud applause, regretted that Lord Panmure was not present to return thanks for the toast which had been so cordially drunk, as he was sure that he must have satisfied them, by the manner in which he had performed his duties in the Lodge, of the great interest he took in the prosperity of the Craft. He believed there was not a more zealous or sincere Mason in England than Lord Panmure. His lordship was an old Mason, having been initiated in Canada when serving with his regiment, and having subsequently held high office in the Grand Lodge of England, when it was under His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex as G.M. His worthy Brother on his right (Bro. Wilson) was so well known that it was impossible for him to speak sufficiently in his favour, and he should therefore leave him to speak for himself. Personally it had been a matter of great pleasure and delight to be present that day to witness the consecration of the Lodge and the installation of a Master who, he was sure, so well deserved the confidence of the Brethren. He wished them every prosperity, being sure that they could not have adopted for their Lodge a name dearer to the hearts of Masons and of the people of England than that of Florence Nightingale.

Bro. Wilson felt that Bro. White had left him nothing to say, beyond expressing his sincere thanks for the honour they had conferred upon him, assuring them that he should at all times be proud to render them any assistance in his power.

Bro. Hervey also briefly acknowledged the compliment.

The W.M. said that he had now to propose a toast individually of great importance to the members of the Lodge. That day they had consecrated a Lodge under the name of a lady who, as the D.G.M. had justly said, enjoyed not only an English but a world-wide reputation. Their Lodge was named the "Florence Nightingale," after a lady who was the first to volunteer her services to proceed on a mission of mercy to smooth the bed of the sick and dying soldier in the late war. Those who had been to the Crimea, knew how different were the military hospitals after the arrival of Miss Nightingale to what they had previously been. He begged to propose to them the health of that best of women,

“Miss Florence Nightingale, those charitable ladies who had assisted her in her holy mission, and the ladies generally.”

The toast was drunk with loud applause.

Bro. White would take the liberty of proposing a toast, which he was quite satisfied they would be delighted to drink. He did so because there was no P.M. or other Brother in the Lodge who could claim that honour. The W.M. had manifested the greatest anxiety and zeal for the prosperity of the Lodge, and he felt sure, from what he had seen, that he would do everything to promote the interests and comfort of the Brethren. He begged to propose “The health of the W.M.”

The toast having been responded to with all the honours,

The W.M. returned thanks and said, that when it was first proposed to him to join the new Lodge, he readily acquiesced, and it being afterwards discovered that he was a P.M., he was asked to take upon himself the duties of the chair. He felt happy at having the opportunity to serve the Lodge, and he should make it his study to perform the duties to the utmost of his ability. He was so young an Officer and so young a Mason, that he was aware they might have found many men more worthy and more competent to fill the chair than himself (No, no), but they could not have found one with a more zealous desire to serve the Lodge and the Craft. He was glad to see several members of the other two Woolwich Lodges, Nos. 13 and 1,002, present, and he hoped they would always be found acting hand in hand together. He would now give them, “The health of the visiting Brethren.”

The toast was acknowledged by Bros. Townsend, M.P., and Moore.

Bro. Moore, having obtained the permission of the W.M. to propose a toast, would ask them to drink the health of a Brother whose courtesy and kindness every person who had visited the Grand Secretary's office must have witnessed; he alluded to the Assistant Grand Secretary, Bro. Farnfield. (Cheers.) As Secretary of No. 13, he (Bro. Moore) had had frequent occasion to visit the office in Great Queen-street, and had ever received the most respectful and courteous attention from Bro. Farnfield.

Bro. Farnfield assured the Brethren that the compliment which they, in conjunction with Bro. Moore, had been pleased to pay him, was totally unexpected on his part. He had ever endeavoured to do his duty to the Craft to the utmost of his ability, he should ever continue to do so, and if he met with the approbation of the Brethren, he would feel it to be his best reward. (Cheers.)

Several other toasts were drunk, and brought the evening to a happy close. The band of the Royal Artillery was present during the dinner, and added much to the enjoyment of the Brethren.

BRITANNIC LODGE (No. 38).—This highly flourishing Lodge met at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, on Friday, August 14, for the purpose of celebrating the summer banquet. The Lodge having been duly opened soon after three o'clock, the much-respected W.M., Bro. George England, proceeded to initiate in a very able manner Messrs. Grissel, Noden, and Strawbridge, into the mysteries of our ancient Order. The ceremonies were impressively performed, and listened to with marked attention by the candidates, the whole reflecting high credit upon the W.M. Bro. Windham was passed to the 2nd Degree. All business being at an end, the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren, upwards of fifty in number, retired to partake of a very *recherché* dinner. The W.M. presided, with his usual urbanity, supported by his Wardens, Past Masters, and many visiting Brethren from the metropolis. The toasts proposed and responded to were of the usual Masonic nature, and the Brethren separated at an early hour.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE (No. 196).—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on the 11th inst., at the Holly Bush Tavern, Hampstead; Bro. R. Hazard, W.M. and Treas., in the chair. Bro. G. Hart, S.W. *pro tem.*; Bro. G. Pritchard, J.W. *pro tem.*; Bro. P.M. Shury, S.D. *pro tem.*; Bro. P.M. Aldrich, J.D., Sec. *pro*

tem.; Bro. John Douglas, I.G. *pro tem.* Amongst the Brethren we noticed Bros. A. W. Hamilton, P.M.; Thompson, P.M.; J. Winter, M.D.; J. Caney, W. Aspinall, Isaac Douglas, Pitt, &c. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, the Treasurer reported the amount of Lodge funds in his hands; he also stated that all liabilities were discharged. A ballot took place for Bro. J. Houghton, late of the Apollo Lodge, No. 283, as a joining member, when that Brother was unanimously elected. Bros. Wood, Vinall, Frost, and Price, were severally passed to the 2nd Degree. Two guineas were unanimously voted from the Lodge funds, as the usual annual subscription to the Benevolent Institutions. Bro. Aldrich read a notice, to the effect, that at the next meeting he should move that from and after the 8th of September next, the monthly meetings of the Lodge be held on the first Tuesday, in lieu of the second Tuesday in the month as heretofore; and stated that at the same meeting he should move a resolution, that application be made to the Grand Chapter for a warrant to hold a Royal Arch Chapter in connection with the Lodge. A considerable sum having been subscribed by the members for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Bro. P.M. Aldrich, in addition to the sum voted from the Lodge funds, a Committee was appointed to determine what the testimonial should consist of, and to prepare it accordingly. The Lodge was then closed and the Brethren retired to refreshment, Bro. Aldrich in the chair (the W.M. being compelled to retire in consequence of indisposition). The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given and duly responded to, the W.M. *pro tem.* said, that the next toast was that of the W.M., whose retirement from the meeting and its cause all must regret; he called upon the Brethren to unite with him in drinking to the better health, long life, and happiness of Bro. Hazard, their W.M. The toast was warmly received. Bro. P.M. Hamilton, who responded to the toast, said, that having known their respected W.M. for nearly forty years, he could bear testimony to the rectitude of his conduct in all the relations of life. He was one who carried out the first principles of Freemasonry; he was ever ready to lend a helping hand to those in need, and he was as generally respected as he was generally known. He should not detain the Brethren by speaking of their W.M.'s Masonic qualifications, because they were known to them all, but he could not sit down without reminding the Brethren how much they were indebted to him for the zeal and fidelity with which he had discharged the important duties of Treasurer. In the name of the W.M., Bro. Hazard, he thanked them most sincerely. Bro. Hamilton was repeatedly applauded through his address. Bro. Pitt, in a neat speech proposed the health of their W.M. *pro tem.*, Bro. Aldrich, and warmly eulogized his many Masonic qualifications and private worth. He reminded the Brethren that the present flourishing condition of the Lodge was mainly owing to that worthy Brother. The toast having been warmly received, Bro. Aldrich, in returning thanks, said that it was most flattering to him to know that his humble exertions in promoting the interests of the Lodge were so kindly appreciated by the Brethren, and he assured them that he would endeavour to deserve their future esteem. Bro. P.M. Aldrich then proposed the health of the Officers (most of whom, however, were recruiting their health in various parts of England and on the continent), coupled with the names of Bros. Pritchard and Hart. He said, that though most of the Officers were not present, yet their duties had been admirably performed; for though young in Masonry, the Brethren who had undertaken the offices were fully qualified to perform any duties the Lodge required. Bro. Pritchard returned thanks, and expressed his acknowledgments for the way in which their healths had been proposed and received, and assured the Brethren that whenever their services were required they would be happy to render them. He reminded the Brethren who had taken their 2nd Degree that evening, that a Lodge of Instruction was held in that room every Thursday evening, and recommended them to attend, for unless they did so, he was sure that they could not acquire a knowledge of the ceremonies which it was so essential for them to understand. Thus ended as pleasant an evening as ever we remember to have witnessed—the only drawback being the absence of the W.M., who, we sincerely hope, will soon be restored to health. The evening was enlivened by the excellent singing of Bros. Jones, Pitt, Caney, Aspinall, &c.

CAVEAC LODGE (No. 205).—The Brethren met at the Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, on Wednesday, August 6, and, after Lodge business, sat down to a very excellent banquet, the W.M., Bro. G. P. Salmon, presiding. The banquet was served in Bro. Rackstraw's best style.

LODGE OF ISRAEL (No. 247).—This Lodge had a Meeting of Emergency, at Bro. Seyd's Hotel, Finsbury-square, on Tuesday, August 11. Bro. J. M. Isaacs, W.M., initiated several gentlemen, and conferred the Degrees of F.C. and M.M. on a number of Brethren, in a very impressive manner.

BEADON LODGE (No. 902).—This Lodge held its annual meeting at the Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, on Wednesday, August 19, to install as W.M. for the ensuing twelve months, Bro. Charles Potter. Bro. William Watson, P.M. and founder of the Lodge, presided, in the absence of Bro. John Scott, the retiring Master, and performed the duties of the chair with his usual good taste. Bro. Potter, having been duly installed, proceeded to invest his assistant officers as follows:—Bros. Denyer, S.W.; Smith, J.W.; Collins, S.D.; Avery, J.D.; and Purbrook, I.G. Bro. W. Blackburn (W.M. No. 169) was re-appointed Sec., and Bro. Potter, sen., Treas. Bros. Daker and Lowenstark, of No. 169, were (by permission of Bro. Blackburn, their W.M.) advanced to the 2nd Degree; Bros. Purbrook and Avery raised, and Messrs. James Parker and John Comley initiated into the Mysteries and Privileges of Freemasonry. The initiations were performed by Bro. Potter, jun., in a manner that augurs well for his future Masonic career. Lodge being closed in due form, the Brethren adjourned to banquet, provided by the new host of the hotel, Bro. Rackstraw, formerly of the Gun Tavern, Pimlico. After the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and complimentary toasts followed, and a delightful evening passed. The visitors included—Bros. C. Morbey, P.M. No. 169; Collard, P.M. No. 209; Nicholson, P.M. No. 201; Couchman, P.M. No. 165; Norman, S.W. No. 209; Anderson, J.W. 248; Denkin, Daker, and Lowenstark, No. 169; Eason, and Lafitte.

INSTRUCTION.

CONFIDENCE LODGE (No. 228).—On Wednesday, 5th August, at the weekly meeting of this flourishing Lodge of Instruction, the ceremony of installation was ably performed by Bro. Garrod, W.M., No. 206. After the ceremony, a vote of thanks to Bro. Garrod was recorded in the minutes of the Lodge, for the excellent manner in which he had conducted the business of the evening. It was afterwards proposed and carried that an assistant-secretary should be appointed, who, amongst other duties, should furnish reports of the proceedings of the Lodge to the *Freemasons' Magazine and Masonic Mirror*, which is taken by the Lodge for the use of the Brethren. On the proposition of Bro. Brett, Bro. Newman was elected to that office; the Lodge then adjourned. The Brethren meet at Bro. Wadson's, Bengal Arms, Birchin Lane, every Wednesday evening at eight precisely. Brethren in search of Masonic knowledge will find themselves amply repaid by a visit to this Lodge.

PROVINCIAL.

CESHIRE.

CHESTER.—*Cestrian Lodge* (No. 615).—On Wednesday, August 12, a special meeting was held by the Brethren of this Lodge, at their Lodge-rooms, the Royal Hotel, in this city, for the purpose of affording the Brethren of the Bar at present on the Chester and North Wales circuit, many of whom are members of the Cestrian and were initiated therein, an opportunity of attending their duties in Lodge. The Lodge was opened for business at four o'clock, when

Mr. George Parker was initiated, and received the Charge. Bro. Harper was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., the ceremony being most effectively and impressively performed by Bro. P.M. Willoughby, assisted by Bro. Bulley, of No. 651, Birkenhead. The Masonic labours of the day having been brought to a close, the Brethren were called by the J.W. to refreshment; when a sumptuous repast having been laid out in the banqueting-room, provided by Bro. McGregor, the worthy host of the Royal Hotel, the W.M., Bro. J. D. Weaver, occupied the Chair, with the R.W. the Mayor of Chester (Bro. P. Eaton), on his right, his left supported by the worthy Recorder of the city (Bro. W. N. Welsby), Bros. John Jones, S.W.; Horatio Lloyd, J.W.; Henry, S.D.; Pigot, J.D.; Tibbets, I.G.; Brown, P. Prov. Grand Director of the Ceremonies. On the removal of the cloth, "Non Nobis" was beautifully given by the professional Brethren present. Amongst those who remained to the banquet were the following learned Brethren:—Bros. Wood, McIntyre, Lloyd, Foulkes, Twiss, with several distinguished visitors, and many influential merchants of the city. "The Queen and the Craft," having been given from the Chair, with the Masonic fire, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts followed in quick succession, interspersed with some excellent songs, catches, and glees, sung in capital style by Bros. Brown, Cuznur, and Walker. Bro. Harrison, from Oxford, kindly presided at the pianoforte, and received a well-merited compliment for the manner in which he accompanied the singing during the day, and for the zeal he has always manifested in the cause of Masonry. It having been announced that the cause of Bro. Brushfield's absence was that he had taken to himself a wife, the healths of the esteemed Brother and his amiable lady were responded to in bumpers of claret and sparkling champagne, according to the ancient custom of the Cestrian Lodge. Bro. Salisbury, the honourable Member for Chester, was prevented taking his Second Degree in consequence of having to attend in his place in Parliament. A truly Masonic evening having been enjoyed, the W.M. gave commands to his J.W. to call the Brethren to labour, when several highly respected gentlemen were proposed as candidates, and others as joining members. The Lodge was then finally closed, and adjourned until the Second Wednesday in September.

HYDE.—*Lodge of Industry* (No. 465).—This Lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Thursday, the 7th of August, at the Norfolk Arms Hotel, the W.M. Bro. James Wilson in the chair; Bros. Wood, S.W.; Bayldon, J.W. After the confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting, Bro. Charles O. Worthington, having proved himself worthy was passed to the Degree of a Fellow Craft by the W.M., assisted by Bro. Leather. The Lodge having been closed, and the other business of the Lodge transacted, the Brethren adjourned to supper, and after having spent a very pleasant evening, broke up a little before eleven o'clock.

DEVONSHIRE.

TAVISTOCK.—*Bedford Lodge* (No. 351).—The usual monthly communication of this Lodge was held in the Lodge-room, on Monday, August 3, Bro. Bawden, W.M. in the chair, opened the Lodge and proceeded to business; when Bro. Cross, P.M. acting for the W.M., raised Bro. Tucker to the Sublime Degree of M.M. The W.M. afterwards initiated Mr. J. C. Wills of Tavistock into the mysteries of the Order.

DURHAM.

STOCKTON.—*Tees Lodge* (No. 749).—The Brethren met in Lodge on Thursday, August 6th, when Bro. Maddison was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. In the absence of Bro. Robinson, W.M., Bro. Shelly, S.W., occupied the chair, and performed the duty of W.M. in a most efficient manner. A pleasing incident connected with the Lodge was the presentation of a Past Master's jewel to Bro. Joseph Dodds, P.M., who, at the earnest request of the Brethren, had accepted the office, and faithfully and zealously performed the duty of W.M. for two consecutive years. Before the business of the Lodge was closed, Bro. Robinson arrived, and in an appropriate speech alluded to the valued services of Bro. Dodds (who had presented the Lodge with a handsome case

of working tools), and conveyed to him the expressions of esteem manifested by every Brother in aiding the testimonial which he then presented to him. Bro. Dodds appeared deeply sensible of the fraternal spirit so unanimously exhibited towards him, and in language warm and earnest thanked the Brethren for the token of their esteem, which he should ever value as a memento of one of the happiest moments of his life, as it conveyed to him the approval of a large number of gentlemen, the knowledge of whose esteem was more intrinsic than the jewel by which it was represented. He hoped the bonds of Brotherhood would be more closely drawn amongst them; and by their unitedly proving the principles of the Craft in their daily intercourse with each other and with the world at large, let it be seen that Freemasonry was a blessing to mankind. He thanked the Brethren for their invariable support and kindness towards him during the two years he was in the office of W.M. when a large number of Brethren had been initiated. He had endeavoured faithfully to work the Lodge during a time of great pressure in his professional engagements, and it was most gratifying to him to be assured he had not done so in vain. He should never look upon the jewel nor wear it without feeling himself a better man. Freemasonry made them all better men, he hoped his family would prize it as he did, and be proud to regard it as a heir-loom of their esteem when he should have ceased to wear it. The Brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment, and passed the remainder of the evening in love and harmony.

ESSEX.

COLCHESTER.—*Angel Lodge* (No. 59).—This Lodge still keeps up its numbers; at the last meeting, August 4, Mr. Waterworth, surgeon, was initiated.

On Monday, August 17, a testimony of respect was presented by the members of the Colchester Angel Lodge and Royal Arch Chapter, No. 59, to Bro. George Chaplin, the late much-respected host of the Cups Hotel, in this town, and a most worthy member of the Order. The testimonial, which was supplied by Mr. Hill, silversmith, High-street, consisted of a valuable silver inkstand, of very elegant design, and appropriately embellished with Masonic emblems. The following is the inscription:—

“Presented to Brother and Companion George Chaplin, P.M. and P.Z., by the members of the Angel Lodge and Patriotic Chapter, No. 59, Colchester, in testimony of their high appreciation of his uniform kindness, urbanity, and general desire to promote the welfare of the Order. May, 1857.”

The testimonial was presented by Bro. Thomas Hall, W.M. of the Angel Lodge, who was accompanied by Bros. J. Haddock, J. S. Norman, W. Slaney, Treas., W. Williams, Sec., &c. Bro. Chaplin, on receiving the present, expressed his heartfelt gratitude for the high compliment paid him by the Brethren of the Angel Lodge and Patriotic Chapter.

United Lodge (No. 998).—At the last meeting, two gentlemen were proposed for initiation. This young Lodge can show a pattern for working that ought to shame many old Lodges.

HARWICH.—*Star in the East Lodge* (No. 935).—At the meeting of the above Lodge, on Monday, the 10th inst., Bro. S. D. Forbes, P.M. No. 59, No. 387, and No. 717, was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year; Bro. Groom was re-elected Treas. The Installation Banquet is fixed for September the 3rd.

HAMPSHIRE.

BASINGSTOKE.—*Oakley Lodge* (No. 995).—On Monday, August 3rd, a new Lodge was consecrated at the Black Boy Hotel, in this town, under the title of the Oakley, taking its name from the estate of Bro. Beach, M.P., who was named in the warrant, dated the 26th January last, as the First Master. The Chair was taken by the Prov. G.M., Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, who was supported by Bros. Deacon, D. Prov. G.M.; Dr. Kent, Prov. G.M. for Australia; S.W. Fleming, Prov. G.M. for the Isle of Wight; Emanuel, P. Prov. G.W.; Slade, P. Prov. G. Treas.; Stebbing, Prov. G. Sec.; Thompson, Prov. G. Treas. (Oxon); Cave, Prov. G. Treas. (Bucks and Berks); Rev. G. Bradshaw, Acting

Prov. G. Chap. ; Pittat, P. Prov. G. Chap. ; Wyndham Portal, Prov. J.G.W. ; Durrant, P. Prov. G.D. ; Sherry, Prov. G.D.C. ; Crombie, Warren, &c.

The Prov. G.M., having opened the proceedings, called upon Bro. Stebbing, Prov. G. Sec., W.M. of the Southampton Lodge, No. 555, to assist him in the ceremony of consecration, which was most impressively performed. The reading of the Charter, and other usual formalities having been gone through,

Bro. Stebbing most eloquently and at great length addressed the Lodge. He said, that in such an assembly it would be unnecessary for him to dilate on the excellences of Freemasonry, which tended to soothe the sorrows of life, to dry the tear of misfortune, and add to the happiness of its members. It had been originated at a time when social ties amongst men were almost entirely wanting, and it had developed itself through many difficulties, assailed by the ignorance of the dark ages, withstanding alike the fury of the tempest and the raging of war, only to come out with a brighter lustre, and surrounded by a halo of glory. He was delighted at having the opportunity of being present to take part in the opening of the Lodge at Basingstoke, as it would be another link to bind the Masons of Hampshire together in one bond of fraternal affection. This institution was not like the Upas-tree, which brought death to all within its influence; on the contrary, it conferred blessings to millions of their fellow-creatures, by teaching the great principle that every man should regard his fellow-man as a Brother, and endeavour to aid him in the hour of affliction. He could but reflect with gratification on the fact that it was but a few years since that he had taken part in the consecration of No. 717, and that now there were nearly 300 more Lodges which had received the sanction of the M.W.G.M. Thus, to paraphrase the words of Pope,

“ By just degrees we rise,
And lift the hearts of Masons to the skies.”

It was the province of the Brethren to show to the world that there was something more in Freemasonry than merely a name; that they met not alone for their own gratification, but for the assistance of each other—the relief of suffering and distress. The basis of Freemasonry was founded in religion, the carrying of man through the toils and troubles of life, and the acknowledgment of a Supreme Being, to whom all men must bow—Jehovah, Jove, or Lord. On this basis they were especially taught to practise charity, that virtue which would gild the path of life, and render its down-hill happy; and in the close of life, when the weary head was laid on the pillow to rest, how sweet would be the contemplation of well-spent days in acts of charity, leading one to look with confidence to the Grand Lodge above as the haven of those who had zealously and faithfully discharged their duty to God and their fellow-man. No man was a stranger amongst Masons; poor and naked they all came into life, but they could never be so poor as not to find a sympathizing chord in a Mason's heart. How delightful was it for them to be enabled to meet in social life, and show by their acts that they practised what they taught, and that their great object was not only to be happy themselves, but confer happiness on others. Freemasonry was spread throughout the habitable globe, and how great were its advantages he had seen ample proof. Indeed, he had an example in a member of his own family, who being shipwrecked on the coast of South America—when surrounded in a great measure by savages—a friendly Spaniard, who knew not one word of his language, on receiving the Masonic sign, readily came forward to assist and relieve him.

The acting Grand Chaplain, the Rev. Bro. Bradshaw, having offered up an appropriate prayer, the Lodge was duly strewed with corn, wine, and oil, as emblems of peace and plenty. The Rev. Brother then addressed the Lodge, and expressed the pleasure he felt in taking part in a ceremony by which they were bound to pursue the study of art and science, in conjunction with the practice of Brotherly love, relief, and truth, and whose crowning glory was charity. He felt that the establishment of a new Lodge in Basingstoke was an event of the greatest importance, not only to Masonry, but to the neighbourhood, the more especially as that Lodge was to be presided over as its first Master by one who bore the honoured name of Beach. That name was justly revered in the neigh-

bourhood; not only for the virtues of their respected neighbour and new Master, but in remembrance of the kindness and liberality of his father. He knew not whether the father of Bro. Beach had been initiated as a Mason, but he knew that he possessed a truly charitable and Masonic heart. When some years since it was proposed to make a railway in the district, there was one obstacle stood in the way,—it became necessary to sever Oakley Park. Upon being appealed to, and informed that it would tend to the benefit of the town, and develop its resources to the advantage of the inhabitants, he at once said, "Take the land; if you have the money, pay for it a fair value; if you have not, no matter, but make the railway." He was delighted that the new Lodge bore the name of Oakley, and he trusted that it might enjoy a long career of prosperity; that Bro. Beach might long be spared to witness that prosperity, and that Masonry might continue to flourish so long as the sun shed its rays to rule the day, the moon gave its light by night, or there was a Master to preside over a Lodge.

The ceremony of consecration having been brought to a conclusion, Bro. Stebbing proceeded to induct Bro. Beach into the Master's chair (he being already an installed Master), and expressed the great gratification he felt in doing so, knowing how great was the Masonic talent of Bro. Beach, and how much he would reflect honour on the choice of the Brethren.

Bro. Beach expressed his gratitude to the Brethren for the high compliment which had been paid him by selecting him to fill the chair as the first Master of the Lodge, and especially to Bro. Stebbing and the Grand Chaplain for their kind expressions towards him. He could assure them that he would do his best to merit their confidence, and he trusted he should discharge the duties of his office so as to merit a continuance of their approbation.

The Prov. G.M. congratulated Bro. Beach on taking the chair, being assured that he would not only maintain the landmarks of the Order, but promote, to the utmost, unity, good fellowship, and brotherly love. The new W.M. then proceeded to appoint Bros. Davis, S.W.; Hammerton, J.W.; Howe, Sec.; Hillier, Treas.; Challis, S.D.; King, J.D.; and Figgins, I.G.

The W.M. then proceeded, under dispensation, to initiate six candidates into the Order, viz., Messrs. Lamb, Sherwood, Webb, Fowler, and Brookes, and Mr. Hall (as a serving Brother).

At the conclusion of the business, the Brethren adjourned to the Town Hall, where a very elegant dinner had been provided by Mrs. Klitz (the widow of Bro. Klitz), the arrangements having been superintended by Bro. Sherry, of Winchester, the energetic G. Dir. of Cer. The chair was taken by Bro. Beach, W.M., supported by the Brethren we have already named, and about fifty others.

The healths of the Queen and of the G.M. having been drunk, the W.M. proposed "The D.G.M. and the rest of the G. Officers," coupling with it the name of Dr. Kent.

Dr. Kent returned thanks, and assured the Brethren that on his return to Australia he should take with him the memory of that day as one of the most gratifying he had experienced during his sojourn in this country.

The W.M. had now to give a toast which would be sure to be received with respect in the Province of Hampshire—"The Health of Sir Lucius Curtis, the Prov. G.M." Wherever the interests of Masonry required it, he was always to be found. He was a constant attendant in the Grand Lodge of England—took an active part in all the business of the Province—and reigned in the heart of every Mason who had the honour of his acquaintance.

The toast having been drunk with loud applause,

The Prov. G.M. returned thanks for the compliment. He looked upon the events of that day as the commencement of a new era in the history of the Province. He had now held office amongst them for seventeen years, and begged to tender them his heartfelt gratitude for the great kindness he had ever received at their hands, and he trusted the G.A.O.T.U. would prosper them in all their undertakings. He would now call upon them to join him in a bumper to their excellent Master, Bro. Beach. (Applause.)

The W.M., Bro. Beach, returned thanks, and again assured them that no efforts

should be spared on his part to contribute to the prosperity of the Lodge and the happiness of the Brethren. He was most gratified to see present Bro. Fleming, the Prov. G.M. for the Isle of Wight, whose efforts for the advantage of Freemasonry they were all so well acquainted with, and he begged to propose his health, in conjunction with that of the visitors.

The toast was cordially responded to.

Bro. Fleming begged them to accept his grateful thanks for the kindness with which they had received his name. He felt a difficulty in acknowledging the compliment in the Province of Hampshire, as it was so closely connected with that of the Isle of Wight, that he felt he was no stranger amongst them. He assured them he was always proud to meet the Brethren from Hampshire in his Province, and he wished that every prosperity might now attend them.

The W.M. next gave "Bro. Stebbing," and thanks to him for the valuable service he had rendered to the Lodge by so ably performing the important duties of the day.

Bro. Stebbing responded. He had been Prov. G. Sec. for some years, and had ever endeavoured by strict attention to his duties to promote the best interests of the Craft throughout the province. Indeed, he was obliged to do so, as their Prov. G.M. had everything done in order, and all correspondence was promptly answered. He again thanked them for the compliment paid him, and assured them that he had great satisfaction in the performance of the ceremony of the morning; and he felt that a new era was opening upon Freemasonry in the province when these private Lodges were presided over by Brethren of the standing of Bro. Beach, who had passed the chair, and obtained the highest honours, in another province.

The health of the Prov. G. Chaplain, responded to by the Bev. Bro. Bradshaw; the "Initiates," acknowledged by Bro. Sherwood; the "Officers," for which Bro. Davis, S.W., returned thanks, and other toasts, having been drunk, the Brethren separated, having spent a very pleasant evening.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Annual Provincial Grand Lodge, very poorly attended, was held in the Town Hall, Hertford, on Friday, the 7th August, Bro. Ward, the D. Prov. G.M., presiding, in the absence of Bro. Stuart, the Prov. G.M., who was prevented attending through particular business calling him to Ireland.

Some matters of routine having been gone through, the D. Prov. G.M. proceeded to invest the officers, nominated by the Prov. G.M., with their jewels of office, viz., Bros. Hagger, S.W.; Horley, J.W.; Rogers, Treas.; Sedgwick, Sec.; Francis, Reg.; King, S.D.; Griffin, J.D.; How, D.C.; Rev. David Carson, Chap.; Goocher, Supt. of Works; Russell and Jackson, Stewards; Davy, Purst.; Thomas, Tyler.

At the conclusion of business, the Brethren adjourned to dinner, the Chair being occupied by the D. Prov. G.M.

The usual preliminary toasts having been duly responded to, the D. Prov. G.M. proceeded to propose the health of the "Prov. G.M.," whose absence they all so much regretted. A better Mason, a truer man, or a sincerer Brother, did not exist, and he was sure the Brethren would heartily join with him in wishing him long life and prosperity. (Cheers.)

The Rev. D. Carson, Prov. G. Chap., proposed the health of the "D. Prov. G.M.," who, by his zeal and great kindness to the Brethren, had secured to himself the regard and gratitude of every member of the Craft in the province.

The D. Prov. G.M. having acknowledged the compliment, and apologized for any shortcomings in the discharge of the duties of the day, it being the first time he had presided over them, proposed the health of the Officers of the province, as without good officers it was impossible the business could be efficiently carried out.

Bro. Hagger, Prov. G.S.W., briefly replied, and pledged the Officers to do their best to serve the interests of the province.

The health of the Prov. G. Chap. was proposed by the D. Prov. G.M., and responded to by Bro. Carson, who alluded to the great progress which the Hertford Lodge had made since its resuscitation, it having three years since only eight or nine members, whilst it now numbered about thirty, and had that day been able to meet the G. Lodge, which it trusted would ere long again visit Hertford.

Bro. How proposed the health of the Magistrates of the town, with thanks to them for the use of the hall, coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Burchell Hearne, one of the oldest and most respected Masons and magistrates in the county.

Bro. Hearne replied, and assured the Brethren that the magistrates, many of whom were themselves Masons, would be at all times happy to contribute to their accommodation, at meetings of this kind, as far as lay in their power.

The health of the Treasurer and other toasts followed in rapid succession, the company breaking up early, owing to many of the Brethren having to return to their homes by the railway.

KENT.

GRAVESEND.—*Lodge of Freedom* (No. 91).—The Lodge was opened in the 1st Degree by Bro. Hills, W.M., on the 19th August, and Bro. W. Danes initiated; after which the W.M. gave the appropriate charge. Bros. Hester and Froud were passed to the 2nd Degree by the W.M., Bro. Hills; the whole of the ceremonies being performed in a most perfect manner. At the conclusion of business, a banquet was well served by Bro. Wates. The visitors were Bro. Whaley, No. 176, Albany Lodge, and Bro. Mills, No. 181, St. George's Lodge. After various appropriate toasts were drunk, the health of "The Visitors" was given and responded to, the Brethren assuring the Lodge they were truly astonished at the manner in which the work of the Lodge was done by so young a Master. The whole proceedings passed off with great satisfaction to all present, and a more harmonious and pleasant evening could not be conceived.

LANCASHIRE.

BOLTON.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 268).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 19th of August, at the Commercial Hotel, Bolton. The Lodge opened at six o'clock, P.M., under the presidency of Bro. J. Mitchell, W.M.,—all the officers being at their posts as usual. Bro. G. Platt, son of the late highly-respected Treasurer of the Lodge, was raised to the Degree of M.M. by the W.M. The Lodge being closed to the 1st Degree, Mr. Charles Yates and Mr. Henry Platt (another son of the late Treasurer) were duly admitted to the light by the W.M. The ceremonies were conducted in that beautiful and impressive manner which has characterized this Lodge since the accession of the present officers; the working Tools being rendered by the J.W. (Bro. Entwisle), and the charge at initiation effectively delivered by Bro. Bawden, J.D. The only visitor present was Bro. Beswick, No. 436. The Lodge closed at half-past nine, P.M., in due form, and with prayer.

FARNWORTH.—*Earl Ellesmere Lodge* (No. 976).—The monthly meeting of this very flourishing Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 12th of August, at the Bowling Green Inn, Farnworth, near Bolton, on which occasion there was a good muster of the Brethren, and also several visitors from Lodge St. John, No. 268, Bolton; amongst whom we observed Bros. John Mitchell, W.M.; John Hughes, S.W.; W. Bawden, J.D.; and J. Howarth, the very efficient Dir. of Cer. of that Lodge. The Lodge having been open in the 3rd Degree, Bro. Peat, W.M., requested Bro. Mitchell, W.M., No. 268, to perform the ceremony of raising Bro. Bennett to the Degree of M.M., which that Brother proceeded to do in his usual eloquent and impressive style. The Lodge having been closed to the 2nd Degree, Bro. Peat, W.M. of the Lodge, resumed his chair, and in a masterly manner conferred the 2nd Degree upon Bro. Hodson. A gentleman

having been proposed for initiation, and the business of the evening being concluded, the Lodge was duly closed. A sumptuous supper was provided, which did credit to the worthy and respected host, Bro. Holt,—which having been despatched, and due honours rendered to the Queen and the Craft, the Grand Master and the various Masonic dignitaries, the Brethren separated at an early hour.

LIVERPOOL.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 267).—This flourishing Lodge held its regular monthly meeting at the Wellington Hotel, Garston, under the presidency of Bro. C. J. Banister, W.M., assisted by the officers of the Lodge. Mr. Edward Pierpoint was initiated into the mysteries of the Order. The Lodge was then opened in the 2nd Degree, when Captain Sutherland was passed. Bro. Ralphs was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. The three Degrees were given to the Brethren in a very impressive manner by the W.M. After which the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren and visitors retired to the supper-room; the pleasures of the evening being enlivened by the excellent singing of Bros. Aldrich, Callon, Fouls, Fleetwood, Smith, McMurdo, Sutherland, &c., and the Brethren separated highly delighted with the proceedings.

NORFOLK.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

A Prov. Grand Lodge was held at Harleston, on Friday, August 14, under the auspices of the Faithful Lodge, No. 100, and was very well attended by the Brethren of this and the neighbouring province of Suffolk. Owing to the Rev. Archdeacon Ormerod, the rector, refusing the use of the church, as is customary upon these occasions, the arrangements were rather different from what had been anticipated. The Brethren met at the Magpie Hotel, and proceeded, in Masonic procession, to the Lodge Room, at the Corn Exchange, where Lodge was opened by Bro. Benjamin Bond Cabbell, Esq., F.R.S. and Prov. G.M. for Norfolk; and, after the business of the Lodge was completed, the procession re-formed, and proceeded to the bowling-green, at the Magpie Hotel, where a very excellent and impressive oration was delivered by Bro. W. L. Fox, Prov. G.S., which was listened to with great attention by a numerous and respectable audience, who were admitted by free tickets. A collection was afterwards made at the gate, in aid of the funds of the Harleston Benevolent Society, which will be thereby considerably benefited, although not to the extent it would have been, had the liberality of the rector allowed the use of the church.—[We take the above from a local paper, not having been favoured with any account; nor with a notification of the day on which the meeting was to be held, to enable us to send a reporter. We believe the Masons of the district are not noted for their activity.]

NORTH WALES AND SHROPSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. Bro. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., M.P. having appointed Saturday, August 8, for holding a Prov. Grand Lodge at the Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury, there was a numerous attendance of Brethren to do honour to a Brother who is so universally respected as Sir Watkin. On the opening of the Lodge there were present, in addition to the R.W. Prov. G.M. the following Brethren:—Rev. E. H. Dymock, Prov. D.G.M.; Rev. P. G. Bentley, Prov. G.Chap.; Charles Wigan, Prov. G.Sec.; J. P. White, Prov. G.Treas.; H. Bloxham, Prov. G.R.; W. Evans, Prov. J.G.D.; H. Evett, Prov. G.D.C.; J. L. Randal, Prov. G.D.C.; W. Anslow, Prov. G.S.B.; J. Beech, Prov. G.P.; W. H. Bayley, Prov. G.Stew.; W. J. Clement, P. Prov. S.G.W.; J. N. Heathcote, P. Prov. J.G.W.; T. C. Eyton, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Samuel Wood, P. Prov. J.G.W.; W. Brightwell, P. Prov. S.G.D.; John Broughall, P. Prov. J.G.D.; Henry G. Warren, P.G.Stew., Grand Stewards' Lodge; A. R. Martin, P. Prov. G.S. of West Lancashire; J. R. Robinson, Prov. G.P. of Staffordshire; and about thirty other Brethren. On the entry of the R.W. Prov. G.M. into the Lodge

he was saluted in due form. Bro. Bloxham, Prov. G. Reg., presided at the harmonium, in the absence of Bro. Haydon, Prov. G. Org. The accounts of the Lodge, which appeared to be in a very satisfactory state, notwithstanding some of the Lodges have not made the usual returns, having been read, the R. W. Prov. G. M. proceeded to appoint and invest his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. the Rev. E. H. Dymock, D. Prov. G. M.; William Anslow, Prov. S. G. W.; William Harley Bayley, Prov. J. G. W.; Rev. P. G. Bentley and Rev. G. C. Guise, Prov. G. Chaps.; J. P. White, Prov. G. Treas.; John Broughall, Prov. G. Reg.; Charles Wigan, Prov. G. Sec.; W. E. Curtis, Prov. S. G. D.; W. H. Emmerson, Prov. J. G. D.; J. L. Randal, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Rev. D. F. Glynne Mytten, Prov. G. D. C.; Isaac Knowles, Prov. G. D. C.; J. Turner, R. N., Prov. G. S. B.; W. Haydon, Prov. G. Org.; T. R. Pickering, Prov. G. P.; W. Stokes, T. Barber, Edward Lewis, Samuel Blandford, H. A. Jones, and E. Jeffreys, Prov. G. Stews.; Richard Lewis, Prov. Grand Standard Bearer; Edward Mallard and W. Cureton, Prov. G. Tylers.

On the question arising as to where the Prov. G. Lodge should be held in the ensuing year, on which the R. W. Prov. G. Master usually consults the convenience of the Brethren, the V. W. P. Prov. J. G. Warden for West Lancashire, Bro. Martin, who is also a P. M. of and subscribing member to the St. David's Lodge, Bangor, referred to the understanding that existed when the Province was formed, that the Lodge should be held in alternate years in North Wales and Shropshire, which, if adhered to, would this year give to Bangor the honour as a matter of course, and he therefore claimed it of Grand Lodge for that town.

Bro. Roberts of Rhyl, also of No. 540, took the same view.

The R. W. Prov. G. Master admitted the understanding, and seemed to lean strongly to the suggestion; but the Lodge generally was in favour of deferring the visit to Bangor, and holding the meeting in Ludlow. Bro. Heathcote, P. Prov. J. G. W., and several other Brethren, urged that there were four Lodges in different towns in Shropshire, and only three in Wales; that all in Shropshire were in full working, whilst no returns had been received since 1855 from Carnarvon; that the proportion of dues paid was as five to three in favour of Shropshire over North Wales; that it was a long distance for the Shropshire Brethren to travel from Shrewsbury to Bangor; and that though the Shropshire Brethren had gone in large numbers to the three meetings held in Wales, no representatives had ever been sent by the Lodges there to the meetings in Shropshire; though sometimes two, or perhaps three Brethren, came to Grand Lodge of their own good will to the Craft; and that a Prov. Grand Lodge had never yet been held at Ludlow.

The R. W. Prov. G. Master said, he could not forget how well the Lodge had been received at Bangor, and he should like very much to go there, but taking all the circumstances into consideration, he would defer his decision for the present. At a subsequent period of the evening, however, the right hon. bart. decided in favour of Ludlow, expressing a hope that as that place was in the Marches, it would prove alike satisfactory to the Brethren of Shropshire and North Wales.

In the evening a very numerous party reassembled at a very elegant banquet, under the presidency of the R. W. Prov. G. M. supported by his Officers, visitors, and other Brethren, to the number of seventy or more.

On the removal of the cloth the healths of the Queen and of the M. W. G. M. the Earl of Zetland were drunk with all the honours.

The Prov. G. M. said the next toast he had to propose was the health of the D. G. M. the Right Hon. Lord Panmure. They were so far from the metropolis, that he was afraid there were no G. Officers present to respond to the toast. He begged pardon, he was informed that Bro. Warren, a P. G. Steward, was in the room, and he would therefore couple his name with it.

Bro. H. G. Warren assured the Brethren that he was taken altogether by surprise in having his name brought forward in connection with the toast, the office of G. Steward conferring no precedence on a Brother beyond the year in which it was held. He had the greater difficulty in returning thanks for the G. Officers,

inasmuch as those who had read the published proceedings of G. Lodge must have perceived that he was more often in opposition to, than acting in accord with the G. Officers. At the same time he had always felt that there was not a member of the dais but acted conscientiously for what he believed to be the good of the Craft, however much the views of those Brethren might differ from his own. He was proud to have the honour to be acquainted with many of the G. Officers, and though he had occasionally attacked what he believed to be a vicious system of management, he had always endeavoured to avoid anything like personalities as regarded any Brother. There was one Brother whose name had been much before the Craft, and who, whatever might have been his short-comings of late years, he felt deserved well of the Brethren for his long and valuable services. He alluded to Bro. White, the late G. Sec., who he believed had been too often made to bear the blame of a vicious system—a system which he hoped and believed was being amended. That their business had been allowed to get too much in arrear, there could be no doubt; but he believed that to have arisen in a great measure from the increase in the number of their Lodges and their members, and perhaps from due allowance not being made for the fact that as officers, however efficient in their youthful days, advanced in years, they were not altogether prepared to contend with a largely increased business without additional assistance. He had had the pleasure of being present at G. Chapter on the previous Wednesday, when a very elegant testimony was borne to the worth of Bro. White, and the value of his services—a testimony in the justice of which he most cordially concurred. (Applause.)

The Rev. Bro. Dymock, D. Prov. G.M. had great pleasure in proposing to them to drink to the health of a distinguished Brother, well known to and respected by every Brother in the province—"The R.W. Prov. G.M." (Cheers.) It was impossible to do justice to the merits of their R.W. Brother, for whether as a representative of the county in Parliament, as a Director of Railway Companies, tending to the benefit of the district, or as a Mason, his whole life was devoted to the promotion of the interests of his Brethren and his neighbours. (Applause.)

The R.W. Prov. G.M. sincerely thanked the Brethren for the honour conferred upon him. He was afraid that they too much overrated his efforts, and that he had not done as much as he ought, but he could assure them that no efforts should be wanting on his part to promote the prosperity of the Craft. He trusted it would long flourish in their province, and begged to drink to all their good healths. (Applause.)

The next toasts were "The Sister Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland;" and "Viscount Combermere, Prov. Grand Master for Cheshire, and the other Prov. Grand Masters."

The Prov. G.M. had now to propose the health of a Brother whom he held in the highest esteem, a Brother who had efficiently discharged all the duties of the Lodge, and who had done him the honour of becoming the D.G.M. of the Province. He knew him as a good neighbour, a most hospitable country gentleman, and an excellent Mason. He had had as many opportunities of becoming acquainted with the excellent qualities of Bro. Dymock as any man, and he most cordially asked them to join with him in drinking his health.

The Rev. Bro. Dymock could assure the Brethren present that it gave him great pleasure to look back upon the many happy days he had spent in the Shrewsbury Lodge, and he was glad of every opportunity to meet the Brethren. Since he had entered Masonry, it had been his greatest delight to be amongst them, and he could scarcely express how obliged he felt for the kindness he had at all times received both from the R.W.G.M. and the Brethren.

Bro. Bayley, Prov. J.G.W., had received the permission of the R.W.G.M. to propose a toast, which he was sure they would drink in silence. The Salopian Lodge had lately lost one of its most distinguished ornaments by the death of Bro. Rowlands, Prov. S.G.W. He was sure that so beloved was Bro. Rowlands by all who knew him, that it would require no words of his to induce them to drink to his memory. After much suffering, their respected Brother had been taken from amongst them. He was, indeed, one of the bright lights of their Order, and

no Brother more clearly stood by its landmarks, and acted upon its precepts. It was impossible to speak too highly of the merits of their departed Brother; his death had left a void amongst them which it would be difficult to fill; and as they revered his name, so should it be their constant endeavour to follow his example. He was sure that even those Brethren who had not the pleasure of his acquaintance would cordially join with him in drinking to the memory of Bro. John Leche Rowlands.

The toast was drunk in solemn silence.

"The Health of the Prov. G. Wardens," acknowledged by Bro. Anslow, and of the "Past and Present G. Officers," responded to by Bro. Clements, a Mason of upwards of forty years' standing, having been drunk,

Bro. the Rev. P. G. Bentley, Prov. G. Chap., said he would, with permission, propose to them a health which he knew they would receive with the utmost enthusiasm—it being that of a lady, the respected wife of the Prov. G.M. (Cheers.) He would also couple with it the name of Lady Combermere, the wife of one who had obtained a name distinguished in history, and who was one of the oldest Prov. G.Ms. in the kingdom. "The Health of Lady Wynn, Lady Combermere, and the Ladies."

The Prov. G.M. returned thanks for the honour conferred upon Lady Wynn and the other ladies. He could assure them that Lady Wynn, who was the daughter of a Mason, always took the greatest interest in the prosperity of the Order, and was truly a Mason at heart. (Cheers.)

"The Lodges of the Province," was next drunk, coupled with the name of Bro. Bayley, Prov. J.G.W., and W.M. of Lodge No. 328, who eloquently acknowledged the compliment, and congratulated the Brethren on the increasing prosperity of the Province, more especially referring to the progress making by the Admaston and Ludlow Lodges.

Bro. Brightwell, Prov. S.G.D., had been called upon to propose a toast, and as obedience to authority was one of the great principles of the Order, he had no difficulty in complying with the request. There were present at that meeting a number of Brethren, many of whom had come a great distance to do honour to the Lodge, and, by their presence, evince the great interest they took in the prosperity of the Craft. It gave the Brethren of Shropshire great pleasure to receive them, as they could not better carry out the great principles on which their Order was founded than by the exercise of hospitality. It was most gratifying at all times to meet with Brethren from other Lodges, but the more especially when they were met, as upon that occasion, under the auspices of their R.W.G.M. They were honoured by the company of Brethren from the north, south, east, and west, many of them of great distinction in the Order, and who reflected honour on the Craft. He could assure those Brethren that the members of Lodge No. 328, in connection with which the Prov. Grand Lodge had that day assembled, would at all times be glad to meet them and give them a hearty welcome. He would ask them to join with them in drinking to the "Visitors," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Warren, of the Grand Stewards' Lodge.

Bro. Warren returned thanks, though he was sorry the task had not devolved on some of the Brethren by whom he was surrounded, he having already had the honour to address them. He could assure the R.W.G.M. and the Brethren, that it had given him great pleasure—as he believed he might say it had every visiting Brother present—to have had the opportunity of coming amongst them that day, and witnessing the very admirable manner in which the Lodge was worked (Hear, hear, from the visitors), and the dignified and courteous manner in which it had been presided over. In the name of the visitors he thanked them for their kind reception, and could assure them that either here or in their own Lodges, they would at all times be glad to meet with any of the Brethren present.

The health of the "Stewards," coupled with the name of Bro. Randal, and one or two other toasts, closed the proceedings, which were of a most gratifying description; the harmony of the evening being much enhanced by the excellent singing of Bros. Armstrong, Haswell, and Jones of Liverpool; Bro. Haydon presiding at the pianoforte.

SOUTH WALES.

INSTALLATION OF THE PROV. G.M.

On Thursday, August 6, a most interesting ceremony took place at Cardiff, the installation of Bro. Charles Kemys Kemys Tynte, as Prov. G.M. for the Eastern Division of South Wales. Bro. Frederick W. Beadon, P.J.G.W. of England, was the installing G.M., and performed the ceremony in the most impressive manner. The Lodge, which was held in the New Town Hall, and under the superintendence of Bro. Thomas G. South, was tastefully decorated with the flags of all nations; and a most beautiful throne for the Prov. G.M., with a magnificent canopy, tent fashion, of blue and gold, formed by four spears, and tastefully decorated, attracted the attention of all visiting Brethren.

After the installation of the Prov. G.M., Bro. Beadon proceeded to install Bro. George G. Bird, of Swansea, as D. Prov. G.M. The appearance of the venerable and respected deputy was received by the Brethren in the most hearty manner. The appointment of the various Provincial Grand Lodge Officers was then proceeded with. Bros. R. F. Langley, Prov. G.R.; Alexander Basset, Prov. J.G.W.; Clement Waldron, Prov. S.G.D.; P. James, Prov. G. Steward; George Bird, Prov. G. Steward.

After the routine business of the Grand Lodge had been performed, the Brethren proceeded in procession to St. John's Church.

The usual lessons for the day were read by the Rev. C. Stacy, after which the choir rendered the anthem "In Jewry is God known." The sermon was preached by the Rev. H. Harris, the chaplain to the Grand Lodge of South Wales. The rev. gentleman selected his text from Proverbs xviii. 24—"The man that hath friends must show himself friendly; and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." The preacher commenced his discourse by remarking that the Brethren had assembled together that day on a novel occasion, and judging from the number of persons present, who were not Masons, their proceedings excited no small degree of interest by bringing into action that innate sentiment of mankind which ever delights in hidden things. But he trusted that the large majority of persons had assembled that day for far higher purposes than that of a secular character. Various indeed were the opinions and prejudices entertained with regard to that ancient Fraternity known as the Masonic Brotherhood. Some judged of the merits of the institution by the conduct of its members. But it would be seen that such inferences were often false; yet "good trees bring forth good fruit," and good principles produce good actions. The Christianity of Jesus could not be estimated by such a standard, as its avowed followers did not always act up to their professions. There were many who "knew God's will," but who "did it not." The Fraternity were not profaning the solemn place in which they had assembled by meeting for purely temporal purposes, as the intelligent Brethren, by their presence, recognized the great Corner Stone. Freemasonry did an immense amount of good in private and by stealth. It inculcated principals of morality; it improved the intellect by encouraging the study of the sciences; it exhorted members to perform virtuous deeds and cherish feelings of brotherly love. Masonic principles, which were founded on religion, must necessarily be the highest and noblest. He believed that no human system was so calculated to engender feelings of fellowship, benevolence, and goodwill as Freemasonry. It would be impossible in one sermon to explain the principles and objects of a society which had stood the test of twenty-eight centuries, and which could lay claim to even greater antiquity. It ranked among its members men of various countries and of different opinions. It was confined to no country or clime. Travelling from kingdom to kingdom and from shore to shore, it connected those entertaining widely different opinions, and united them by deeds of love and charity. The Fraternity would sympathise with him (the preacher) in the task he had undertaken, having to treat in one sermon upon mysteries that it would take volumes to expatiate upon; and it required caution in treating of the subject in the presence of strangers, lest the secrets of the Fraternity might be unfolded. He would, therefore, confine his

remarks to one head—namely, to that world-wide philanthropy which made the Freemasons a peculiar people, and more than brothers. The Masonic insignia and jewels were not worn merely to make themselves a gazing-stock for strangers; they ranked among their members men of too exalted intellects to take a delight in such temporal frivolities as that. Those emblems were only representations to remind them of certain moral agencies. Feelings of friendship, truth, and charity were inculcated by God himself, and, it was friendship of that kind that elicited the observation, "Behold how these Christians love one another." The friendship of a Mason's lodge was not like the ordinary friendship of man, which too often lasted only during prosperity. It was a friendship that would not be dissolved by either prosperity or adversity—a friendship which had for its object only doing good. He hoped that his remarks would renew those generous impulses which the Brethren had so often felt. To do good was the chief principle of life, and the object for which they had that day assembled. Masonry inculcated the principles of Christian charity—to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and be a friend to the helpless; for "it is more blessed to give than to receive." Our blessed Lord himself set the example, by soothing human sorrows and wiping the tears from the eyes of the distressed. The principles of Freemasonry had been introduced into Pagan countries which had only the light of reason to guide them; but how much greater was the inducement held out to those who had been promised a crown of glory as their reward! As an instance of their desire to relieve the necessitous and comfort the afflicted, the chaplain referred to the offerings which they were about making that day for the relief of the poor of that town, and which would be placed at the disposal of the minister of the parish. The speaker referred to the wonderful bond of Masonic union by which the Chinese and Arab of the desert were alike embraced. The Turkish Masons even allowed their females to be present with unveiled faces during the celebration of the Masonic mysteries. Masonry taught man to place woman in her true position in society, and it taught him to treat her with proper consideration in the various relationships of life. The chaplain concluded by expressing an ardent hope that the members of the Lodges on earth would, when death terminated their labours, meet again in the great Lodge above where the world's great Architect lives and reigns for ever.

After returning to the Town Hall the Brethren separated for about two hours, when they re-assembled at the Cardiff Arms to partake of a magnificent banquet. On the cloth being drawn, the musical Brethren present sang with great effect *Non nobis Domine*. The musical arrangements were conducted by Bro. Groves, of Newport, assisted by Bros. George Turner (of the Bristol Cathedral choir); H. P. Read, Bristol; Henry Francis, ditto; — Fisher, and Wm. Henry Angell, of the Theatre Royal.

The R.W. the Prov. G.M. then gave the toast ever first with Masons, who make loyalty one of their guiding principles, "The Queen."

The next toast was the "Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M.," which the Prov. G.M. prefaced by expatiating on the many virtues of that nobleman, the head of the great body of Freemasons in England.

The Prov. G.M. next gave the health of the "R.W.D.G.M. of England, Lord Panmure," as a nobleman and a statesman. He paid a high tribute to the acquirements of the noble Lord, who in the hour of England's severest struggle showed no ordinary powers, and at the glorious close of that struggle left the army of England more efficient than any of the other powers with whom we were then associated. He therefore gave them "Lord Panmure, and the other Grand Lodge officers."

Bro. F. W. Beadon, P.J.G.W., returned thanks for Lord Panmure and the officers of Grand Lodge. He pointed to the great service of Lord Panmure as Minister of War, and the great service he rendered the country by his conciliatory conduct, thereby saving the loss of valuable life; also as a Mason, by uniting the bond by which the Grand Lodge was bound to the provinces by a firmer union than ever. He should with pleasure, when he returned to London, tell the noble Lord and Brother how his name was received in the provinces. (Applause.)

The D. Prov. G.M., Bro. George G. Bird, then rose to propose the health of

the Prov. G.M., Bro. Tynte. (Applause.) He came amongst them under very favourable circumstances. Three generations of his family held similar offices, and could he do away with the fine river that separated Cardiff from the shores of Somersetshire; he might say that the three generations had their provinces in a ring fence, viz., Somerset, Monmouth, and the eastern division of South Wales. He was pleased to hear that day the voice of his old friend and Brother, the grandfather of their Prov. G.M. It was a pleasure to him to hear his voice, for he was a good Mason and a fine old English gentleman. He felt they would have a happy time with their Prov. G.M., and therefore he most sincerely gave his good health, hoping he might for many years govern the Province. (Applause.)

In returning thanks, Bro. Tynte spoke of his gratitude, that he, almost an entire stranger, had been received by the Province in such a flattering manner. He could ascribe it only to one cause, the fact of his near and dear relatives being so long connected with Masonry; and the relative to whom his friend and Brother referred, would have been most happy to have met them at the banquet, but age and infirmity prevented that honour. He begged to thank them and to assure them it would ever be his pleasure to support Masonry in the Province.

The Prov. G.M. next gave the health of the installing Master, Bro. Beadon, and thanks to him for the excellent manner in which he had performed the ceremony. (Applause.)

Bro. F. W. Beadon, in returning thanks, said he came before them under no ordinary circumstances. In the first place, the Prov. G.M. for Somersetshire sat with his father on the same form at Eton. He thanked God they both possessed their faculties, but he deeply regretted that the health of Col. Tynte prevented his being present at a banquet which would have given him so much satisfaction. The R.W. Brother then gave a brilliant statement of the progress of Masonry throughout England, and concluded an eloquent speech amidst a burst of applause seldom witnessed.

“The health of Bro. G. G. Bird, D. Prov. G.M.,” was next proposed by the Prov. G.M., in eulogistic terms.

Bro. Bird, in returning thanks, said he had often had to thank them on former occasions. It was true he had for some years filled his present office. It was gratifying to him to have received from Bro. Hutchings, their late Prov. G.M., the office of D. Prov. G.M.; he had known him in early life, and perhaps to that circumstance he was indebted for his appointment. With the present Prov. G.M. it was not so, he had not known him, and therefore the debt of gratitude for his re-appointment to the office as D. Prov. G.M. was the deeper. He felt he must also be ever grateful to the Brethren for their reception of his name. (Applause.)

“The Visiting Grand Lodge,” coupled with the name of Bro. Randall (Somersetshire).

Bro. Randall returned thanks in a neat and appropriate speech, speaking of a Lodge at which he assisted when their respected newly-installed G.M., Bro. C. K. K. Tynte, was initiated into Masonry, calling the attention of the Brethren to the progress their respected G.M. had made to arrive at his present high position.

“The Senior and Junior Wardens of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and all inferior Officers.”

Bro. Matthew Moggridge, of the Swansea Lodge, and Prov. G.S.W., returned thanks.

“The health of the Mayor and Corporation of Cardiff, and thanks to them for the use of the noble room in which the Lodge was held.”

One of the oldest and most respected members of the Corporation, and also of the Glamorgan Lodge (of which he may be fairly said to be the father), Bro. P.M. William Bird, returned thanks, speaking at the same time of the well-known liberality of the Corporation of Cardiff, and their great respect for the Cefn Mabley family. The Tyntes were always good Masons and good citizens.

“The health of the Master, officers, and Brothers of the Glamorganshire Lodge, 93.” In proposing this toast the Prov. G.M. paid a deserved compliment to Bro. R. F. Langley, regretting his illness in feeling terms.

Bro. Thomas Hodge returned thanks for the Master of the Lodge.

"The health of the Prov. G. Chaplain, and thanks to him for his services."

Rev. Bro. Harris responded.

"The health of the Prov. G. Secretary—Thomas Jones Dyke, of Merthyr."

Brother Thomas J. Dyke, of Merthyr, returned thanks in most appropriate terms.

Bro. Beadon proposed, "All poor and distressed Masons," which having been drunk, the meeting separated, having spent one of the most delightful days, not perhaps in the memory of the oldest inhabitant, but certainly in the memory of the oldest Mason. Nothing of the kind was ever seen in Cardiff, and so we conclude our report by wishing them many "merry, merry meetings."

[After the sermon a subscription was made for the purposes of charity, and a sum of £12 was collected, £6 of which were given to the Cambrian Deaf and Dumb Asylum, Swansea, and £6 to the poor of St. John's parish, Cardiff.]

STAFFORDSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was held this year under the auspices of the Sutherland Lodge, No. 660, Burslem, on Tuesday, July 28. Brethren from every part of the county were present, as well as delegates from other Provinces, and as the Lodges of the Potteries, Newcastle, and the surrounding district were largely represented, the meeting was a very numerous one, and went off with more than usual *éclat*.

As every room and convenience that the splendid new Town Hall afforded was put into requisition, the arrangements reflected great credit on the Prov. G. Stewards, Bros. J. S. Forbes, Sec., J. Lowndes, R. Hales, J. Bowering, T. Elsinore, and G. L. Robinson, and rendered it the most successful meeting held within the Province.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form by Bro. Lieut.-Col. Vernon, R.W. Prov. G.M., at twelve o'clock, in the spacious justice-room of the Town Hall, and the business of the Provincial Grand Lodge was then proceeded with by Bro. Dee, Prov. G. Sec., reading the minutes of the last meeting, which were duly confirmed.

It was then proposed by Bro. Dee, Prov. G. Sec., and seconded by Bro. Burton, P. Prov. G.S.W., that the usual donation of £10. 10s. be given from Prov. Grand Lodge funds, to the Masonic Girls' School; and, in addition, Bro. Dee, in a clear and lucid speech, pointed out the advisability of securing for Prov. Grand Lodge a voice in the direction of funds and affairs in connection with the charities to which sums were annually voted by Prov. Grand Lodge, and after discussion by several Brethren, as to the possibility of the Prov. G.M. becoming a vice-president of the institution, Bro. Dee proposed, and was seconded by Bro. Burton, that £50 be given from the Prov. Grand Lodge funds to insure that object. Bro. Burton then proposed, in order to make the vice-presidentship permanent to the Prov. G.M. of Staffordshire, that the Prov. G.M.'s life should be insured for £50, a motion which met with the cordial approval of the Brethren, and was unanimously adopted.

The usual routine business of the Prov. Grand Lodge having been gone through, the following Prov. G. appointments were made:—Bros. Alfred Glover, S.W.; C. T. Davenport, J.W.; Rev. E. Gwynne, Chap.; Rev. James Downes, Assist. Chap.; W. Lloyd, Treas.; Thomas Mason, jun., Reg.; F. Dee, Sec.; Henry Hall, S.D.; William Green, J.D.; Edwin Yates, Sup. of Works; Samuel Hill, Dir. of Cers.; George Sergeant, Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Jno. H. Sweeting, Sword Bearer; John Emery, jun., Org.; John Robinson, Purst.; Carlo Bregazzi, Standard Bearer; Henry Bagguley, Tyler.

The Prov. Grand Lodge adjourned at two o'clock to hear Divine service in St. Paul's Church; Bro. the Rev. James Downes, B.A., Prov. G. Assist. Chap., incumbent of Stonall, and Bro. the Rev. E. Gwynne, Prov. G. Chap., officiated. The sermon, by the former, upon the text "Sirs, ye are Brethren," was an eloquent exposition and practical enforcement of the beautiful precepts of the Fraternity, and of Christianity, viz.,—love to God and love to man—which

assured his auditory was the grand secret of Freemasonry. The sermon was listened to with evident pleasure and attention, and, we believe, by unanimous consent, will be published, the profits, if any, to be applied to some Masonic charity.

During service Bro. J. Twiss, Prov. G. Org. for Cheshire, and Bro. J. Emery, Prov. G. Org. for Staffordshire, presided at the organ.

Mr. John Steel, organist of St. Paul's, also rendered his valuable aid. The service was not a choral one, though some extra music was introduced. In the place usually assigned to the middle voluntary, Master George Timms, of St. Peter's choir, Congleton, sang the air, "Rejoice gently," from the Messiah, with extraordinary power and beauty. The anthem was "Behold how good and joyful," the bass solo being sung by Mr. Shirley, and the pretty duet for trebles by Masters John Sproston and James Painter, of St. James's choir, Congleton, in a very pleasing manner. After the sermon, the three Congleton boys sang together Curschmann's lively trio, "Ti prego," to the English words, "Protect us through the coming night," in a style of great purity and sweetness. At the offertory the handsome sum of £12. 13s. 7d. was collected after Divine service.

The Brethren walked from church to the Town Hall, and the business of the Prov. Grand Lodge was proceeded with.

Proposed,—That out of the sum of £12 collected in the morning at church, £5 be given to the St. Paul's Church Schools, and the remainder in aid of the Masonic Funds of Benevolence. After some other business was transacted, the Grand Lodge was closed in due form with solemn prayer, and the Brethren adjourned to

THE BANQUET.

At 5 o'clock, a grand banquet was held in the large room of the Town Hall, which was elegantly decorated with flowers, Masonic banners, emblems, &c., the front of the gallery being surrounded with geraniums in vases, evergreens and shrubs in rich profusion, being only less beautiful than the ladies, to the number of 120, who graced the gallery, and to whom, during the banquet, wine was served by the Prov. Grand Stewards.

The chair was taken by the Prov. G.M., supported on the right by the R.W.D. Prov. G.M., Bros. Thomas Ward; C. S. Vigne, P. Prov. S.G.W., Somersetshire; the R.W. Prov. G. Sec., Frederick Dee; Henry Hall, Prov. G.S.D.; the R.W.P. Prov. G.S.W., W. K. Harvey; the R.W.P. Prov. G.S.W., Dr. Burton; J. D. Allen, P.M., No. 101, Lancashire, and W. Green, Prov. G.S.D.; and on the left by the V.W. Assist. G. Chap. Bro. the Rev. James Downes; the R.W. H. C. Vernon, Prov. G.M., Worcestershire; Colonel Hogg, P. Prov. G.S.W.; and John Snow, P. Prov. G. Standard-bearer, Sussex. The vice-chairs were filled by Bros. Alfred Glover, Prov. G.W., and J. H. Sweeting, Prov. G. Sword-bearer. The rest of the company numbered about 100, including the Prov. G. Stews., and Bros. J. Wilson, Congleton; G. Baker, W. Harding, W. T. Ashwin, F. C. Lees, the Rev. S. Sandberg, and Mr. S. Goddard, Burslem; E. Wedgewood and C. T. Davenport, Tunstall; G. Sargeant and T. Simpson, Hanley; T. Griffin and Berry, Stoke; T. Cope, Fenton; J. Higginbottom and G. Garnham, Longton; S. M. Turner, F. Crewe, T. Hallam, and T. Mason, jun., Newcastle. Nearly all the Brethren appeared in full Masonic costume, and the scene presented in the hall was perhaps the most brilliant seen within its walls since its erection.

After the usual loyal toasts, "The health of the M.W.G.M. of England, the Earl of Zetland," was given from the chair, and drunk enthusiastically, with Masonic honours; as were also "The healths of the M.W. Grand Masters of Scotland and Ireland, the duke of Atholl and the duke of Leinster," to which Bro. Dr. Burton and Bro. Colonel Hogg respectively responded. These were followed by "The health of Lord Panmure, D.G.M.," which was pledged with similar honours; after which, "The Memory of General Anson, P. Prov. G.M. of Staffordshire," was proposed by the chairman, who passed a graceful tribute of admiration upon the lamented general, as a man, a soldier, and a Freemason.

The toast was drunk in silence; and after an appropriate interval, Bro. Ward proposed, amid cheers, "The health of the Chairman, Prov. G.M. of Staffordshire, Colonel Vernon." In the course of the remarks with which he prefaced the toast, he mentioned that since the appointment of Colonel Vernon as Prov. G.M., the Lodges of Staffordshire had increased from seven to fifteen—a proof that the gallant colonel was a Brother who had the interests of Freemasonry at heart. His appointment had met with the cordial approbation of the district, and the excellent manner in which he had discharged the duties of the office—giving satisfaction to all—the urbanity of his character, the exercise, as they all knew, of every virtue which could adorn not only a Freemason, but a man, well justified every expectation, and gained him really and truly the respect, the regard, the admiration of the district. (Loud and long-continued cheering, amid which the toast was pledged with every honour.) The chairman briefly returned thanks, and then proposed "The health of D.P.G.M., Bro. Ward," which was received with a round of lusty cheers. Bro. Ward, he said, was a Mason of whom any Lodge might well feel proud, and that this district felt for him all the esteem and respect which it was possible for one man to feel towards another, was a truth which really required no iteration from him. (Loud cheers.) For himself, he regarded Bro. Ward so highly, that he had not words to express his feelings, and perhaps in his presence it might—he felt sure it would—be more gratifying to abstain from the attempt. However, he must say that as his deputy he had ever found him ready and anxious to promote the welfare of the district—always deeply desirous of furthering every object calculated to increase the prosperity of the Fraternity; ever acting with that good feeling, that activity and trustworthiness which were qualities so essential for the office, and, to use the words so flatteringly applied to himself, exercising all those virtues of kindness and benevolence, which met their due appreciation in the heart of every Brother and every man. (Great cheering, and all the honours to the toast.) Bro. Ward briefly but felicitously responded. This was followed by "The health of Brother the Rev. James Downes, Prov. G. Assist. Chap.," which met a hearty reception, and was gracefully acknowledged. The other toasts were—"The Visiting Brethren," proposed by Bro. Glover, and responded to by Bros. Vigne and Snow; "The Officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge, Past and Present," coupled with the names of Bros. Glover and Baker, proposed by the chairman, and responded to by the two Brethren mentioned. The Prov. G.M., in proposing "The Ladies," expressed the pleasure it gave him to meet them upon the present occasion; and coupled with the toast the name of Mrs. Sargeant, the wife of the W.M. of Sutherland, Lodge 660, which met with a hearty response on the part of Bro. Sargeant for the married ladies, and Bro. J. S. Forbes for the single ladies; and Bro. Sargeant, in the course of his remarks, expressed the pleasure it would give him on any future occasion to have the permission of the Prov. G.M. for the ladies to sit down to the banquet with them (which remark was received with rapturous applause).

"The health of Bro. Sargeant and the Brethren of the Sutherland Lodge, No. 660," was then given, and heartily acknowledged by Bro. Sargeant, W.M. And in connection with the progress of Masonry, and the honour conferred upon the Lodge by the visit of Grand Lodge, it appeared that the W.M. of No. 660 had the honour of initiating no less than seventeen members into the Order within five months.

"The Stewards," coupled with the names of Bros. Robinson and Forbes, was heartily responded to by them.

The Prov. G.M. warmly congratulated the Brethren on the progress of the Order in the provinces, and on the excellent arrangements which had been made for the day's proceedings, and the good feeling and unanimity which had been displayed throughout. Bro. Robinson, the architect of the Town Hall, was also complimented for his professional skill, of which it was a standing monument. The management of the musical accessories to the banquet was entrusted to Bro. J. Emery, jun., who was assisted at the pianoforte and harmonium by Bro. Twiss. Mr. Scotcher's quadrille band played during dinner. After the removal of the cloth, the services of the Potteries Glee Union, consisting of Messrs. E. Bourne, J. Latimer, J. Bourne, and H. W. Shirley, aided by the above-

mentioned youths from Congleton, were called into requisition. The arrangements in this department deserved, as they received, the highest approbation of the R.W. President and the Brethren at large. The singing of the Congleton boys was especially commended, and received a substantial reward at the hands of the guests at the principal table. It appeared, in the case of Timms particularly, not only to delight, but to astonish the Brethren as well as the lady spectators. We cannot help instancing a passage in the solo part of the national anthem in which this youthful vocalist ran up with perfect ease to the tonic in alto, and *ad libitum* down again to close the air in a style which elicited the most enthusiastic applause and "bravos" of his audience. He afterwards obtained a rapturous *encore* for his sweet singing of Balfe's serenade, "Good night, beloved." The other lads, Sproston and Painter, were also much applauded for their charming singing with Timms in the trio (by Curschmann) the "Flower Greeting," and in several glees with him and the other vocalists. In the course of the evening Bro. T. Simpson sang a Masonic song, with a chorus ("Hurrah, for the Order is good") by the Glee Union, written and composed by himself.

The banquet was brought to a close, and the Brethren separated at an early hour, after one of the most pleasant meetings ever held in the province.

TIPTON.—*Noah's Ark Lodge* (No. 435).—This excellent working Lodge assembled at the Navigation Inn, Tipton, on Friday the 21st August, when the Lodge was opened, in the new Masonic Hall attached to that house, by Bro. E. S. Cresswell, the W.M. Bro. W. Barns, P.M., was admitted a joining member; and after the transaction of routine business, the Lodge adjourned. We regret that the J.W. was too ill to be present, and are sorry to hear that the state of his health is such as to cause anxiety to his friends and Brethren. The excellent W.M. has but just recovered from a long and severe illness. The evening was spent in harmony and brotherly love. The visitors were Bros. W. Wigginton, J.W. No. 313, and Sec. No. 819; E. Poole, No. 819, and J. C. Westley, No. 819.

SUSSEX.

BRIGHTON.—*Royal York Lodge* (No. 394).—This Lodge held its monthly meeting at the old Ship Hotel, on Tuesday, August 4th, Bro. John Bacon, W.M., in the chair. The Lodge was opened in the 1st Degree, when a ballot was taken for Mr. Henry Martin and Mr. William Marchant, and with Mr. Charles Purvis, who was elected on last Lodge-night, they were initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry by the W.M. in his usual impressive manner. Two gentlemen were proposed for election on the next night, and the Lodge was closed in perfect harmony.

WILTSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

A Provincial Grand Lodge for Wiltshire was held at the Town Hall, Devizes, on Tuesday, the 18th August, pursuant to a summons from the R.W. the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. D. Gooch, in the absence of the R.W. the Prov. G.M., Bro. Lord Methuen. The Lodge was very numerous attended, not only by the Wiltshire Brethren, but also by Brethren from London, Somersetshire, and Hampshire; and after the business was concluded, the Brethren went in procession to St. John's church, where prayers were read by the rector (the Rev. P. A. L. Wood), and a most appropriate and impressive sermon was preached by the Prov. G. Chap. Bro. the Rev. G. Campbell. The rev. gentleman selected his text from the 133rd Psalm—"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

The Brethren afterwards dined together at the Bear Hotel; the R.W. D. Prov. G.M., Bro. D. Gooch presided; and the newly appointed officers, Prov. S.G.W. Bro. J. W. Browne, and Prov. J.G.W. Bro. H. Weaver, acted as vice-presidents. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk with the accustomed honours. Thanks were given to the rector for his services, and to the Prov. G. Chap., Bro. the Rev. G. Campbell, for his excellent sermon; and their healths were cordially drunk.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

DUDLEY.—*Harmonic Lodge* (No. 313).—Two ceremonies were performed at this Lodge on Tuesday, August 3, by Bro. Bristow, P.M., who officiated in the absence of Bro. T. W. Herbert, M.A., the W.M. Mr. Alexander Smith, of India, was initiated into the Order, and Bro. Solomon Woodall passed to the 2nd Degree. A Brother being proposed as joining member, and a notice of the approaching Prov. Grand Lodge meeting at Stourbridge, on September 8, being read, the Lodge was closed in due form.

Royal Standard Lodge (No. 730).—This Lodge met at the customary hour and place, under the presidency of Bro. M. Dennison, P.M. and Prov. G. Reg. The ceremonies were gone through in a very able manner.

Vernon Lodge (No. 829).—This Lodge was opened at the old Town Hall, on Wednesday, August 19, by Bro. the Rev. A. G. Davies, M.A., P.M., and Prov. G. Chap., who raised a Brother to the Degree of Master Mason. Two gentlemen were proposed for initiation, and other routine business disposed of, after which the election of Officers for the ensuing year took place. The result was as follows, the ballot being in all the cases unanimous:—Bros. G. H. Deeley (P.M., P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., and S.W.), W.M.; Geo. Burn Lowe (M.C.), Treas.; James Jeffs, Tyler.

YORKSHIRE.

BRADFORD.—*Lodge of Hope* (No. 379).—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Duke-street, on Monday, the 3rd August. The W.M., Bro. W. Gath, Prov. G.S., after the Lodge had been opened in the proper Degree, raised Bro. Hope to the Sublime Degree of M.M.; Bro. Thos. Hill, P.M., giving the illustrations of the working tools, at the request of the W.M. The Lodge being then duly lowered, the W.M. passed Bro. Haley to the Degree of Fellow-Craft, displaying his wonted felicitous manner of working and presiding over the Lodge.

HICKMONDWIKE.—*Amphibious Lodge* (No. 322).—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held at their Hall on Wednesday evening, Aug. 5th, when Bro. Sykes, the W.M., assisted by his officers, very ably raised two Brethren to the Sublime Degree, and initiated a gentleman into the Fraternity. The whole of the working was characterized by a close adherence to the ancient ritual of the Order. The visitors present were a Brother from the Three Grand Principals, Dewesbury; and Bro. J. R. Dore, of the Lodge of Truth, No. 763, Huddersfield.

HUDDERSFIELD.—*Huddersfield Lodge* (No. 365).—The Brethren of this Lodge met at their room at the Zetland Hotel, on Wednesday, August 5, the W.M., Bro. Hanson, in the chair, when the first lecture was very correctly worked by the following members:—Bros. Jno. Wilson, Edward Harling, John Kinworthy, Joseph Boothroyd, James Taylor, William Taylor, and Benjamin Smith. All the above are young Masons, Bros. Wilson and Smith having been initiated only a few months. The labours of the evening being ended according to ancient custom, the members and visitors assembled around the festive board, and spent a convivial evening.

ROYAL ARCH.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The quarterly convocation of Grand Chapter was holden at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, August 7, there being present Comps. Dobie as Z.; Rawson as H.; Pattison as J.; Crohn as P. Soj.; Potter and Tombleson as Assist. Soj.; W. H.

White as E. ; T. H. White as N. ; Walmsley as S.B. ; Smith, D.C. ; Gole, Biggs, Havers, Farnfield, Gray Clarke, P. Scott, and about a dozen others.

The minutes of the last convocation having been read,

Comp. White announced that Comp. Gray Clarke having been installed as a first principal, the M.E.G.Z. had been pleased to nominate him to the chair of Ezra ; and also that, in consequence of Comp. Roxburgh not being qualified, Comp. Pulteny Scott had been nominated as second Assist. Soj.

The Comps. having been invested with their insignia of office,

Comp. Havers said, after what had just taken place, he was sure it would be contrary to the feeling of Grand Chapter, were they to let the opportunity pass of paying a tribute to the worthy Companion who had filled the office of Grand Ezra for more than half a century. He was sure they would all participate in the feeling which he now expressed, that they could not separate that evening without a recognition by Grand Chapter of the services of Comp. White. He was sure, that having filled the office for more than fifty years, they would feel with him that they owed to their worthy Companion a deep debt of gratitude ; and if advancing age or infirmities prevented his performing the duties of office so efficiently as formerly, their gratitude would not be the less for what he had done. He should therefore propose a vote of thanks from the Grand Chapter to their excellent Scribe E. for his valuable services. It was not to Comp. White as a Past Officer that he proposed this vote, but as Scribe E., and he trusted he would long be spared to benefit Grand Chapter by his valuable advice and assistance.

Comp. G. Biggs seconded the motion.

Comp. Dobie could not put the question from the chair without bearing his testimony to the great value of the services of Comp. White. Ever since he had been associated in the duties of Masonry—even before he came to England, having originally joined the Order in Scotland—he had been acquainted with the name and worth of Comp. White. For the last twenty-five years he had been on terms of intimate acquaintance with him, and he had never found a more excellent Mason, or one who was more intimately acquainted with the laws of the institution. It gave him great pleasure to put the motion, as they owed it to a zealous Mason and most excellent man, not to let him quit the office he had so long and honourably held without some acknowledgment of his services.

The question was put and carried by acclamation.

Comp. Havers having apologized for the absence of the G. Reg. (Comp. Henderson), said that he was authorized to state by that learned Brother, that having duly considered the position of the Mount Horeb Chapter, at St. Kitts, he was clearly of opinion, with the General Committee, that it might be acknowledged, subject to its being attached to a regular Lodge. He therefore moved that Grand Chapter adopt the recommendation of the General Committee to recognize the Mount Horeb Chapter, subsequent to its being attached to a regular Lodge, and paying the necessary fees for the Companions exalted.

Comp. J. Newton Tomkins seconded the motion, and expressed his gratification that the G. Reg. had arrived at the same conclusion as the Committee. He, in common with the members of the Committee, had given the subject every consideration, and, assisted by the advice of their valued companion, the late Scribe E., to whom they had that evening paid but a just tribute of respect, had come to the conclusion that that was the best and most practical settlement of the difficulty in which, from circumstances, the Chapter had become involved.

The resolution having been carried, the report from the General Committee was brought up. It stated that at the last account there was a balance in hand of £478. 6s. 8d., and during the quarter there had been received £193. 16s. 5d., making a total of £672. 3s. 1d. The disbursements amounted to £90. 2s., leaving a balance in the Treasurer's hands of £582. 1s. 1d. Of this amount, the Committee recommended the funding of £300, making the funded property £1,800. Petitions had been received from Newcastle-upon-Tyne for a Chapter to be attached to Lodge No. 624, to be called the Ogle Chapter. Also from Bacup, Lancashire, for a Chapter to be attached to Lodge No. 358, to be called the Bacup Chapter ; and

from the Lenox Chapter, No. 338, of Brighton, for a Charter of Confirmation, the original Charter, granted in May, 1824, having been lost.

The report was adopted, and, after some discussion, the various Charters were granted as prayed for.

Comp. How brought forward a motion for giving to the Officers of Prov. G. Chapters the power to wear a distinctive costume similar to that worn by the Officers in G. Chapter, and, on the suggestion of the acting M.E.Z., the motion was referred for consideration to the General Committee.

The Chapter was then closed in due form.

PROVINCIAL CHAPTERS.

GRAVESEND, KENT.—*Hermes Chapter* (No. 91).—A convocation of the above Chapter was held at the Falcon Tavern, on the 10th of Aug. ; a numerous meeting of companions being the response to the summons. Comps. Thomas Allen, M.E.Z. ; W. Watson (acting as J. *pro tem.* for Comp. Dawson, who was unavoidably absent) ; and Southgate, H. Three Bros., viz. Spencer, P.M. No. 91 ; Thomas Pottinger, No. 91 ; and Wm. Thos. Bray, No. 376, having been proposed at the previous meeting, were balloted for and exalted. The duties of the Chapter were well performed, and the Brethren retired early, having partaken of a splendid banquet provided by the worthy host of the tavern.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—*Hope and Unity Chapter* (No. 259).—This Chapter held a convocation at the White Hart, Romford, on Friday, Aug. 7, at which there was a goodly assemblage of companions. Comp. William Watson performed the duties of First and Second Principals, on account of the unavoidable absence of the Brethren who hold those offices. Bro. Dashwood was exalted to the Degree of an Arch Mason, and expressed his delight at this addition to his Masonic acquirements. Comps. S. B. Wilson, jun., and F. Binckes, were elected joining members. After business, the Companions sat down to an excellent repast, which was well provided, and to which ample justice was done.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

COLCHESTER.—*Temple Cressing Encampment*.—This encampment is steadily progressing under its talented E. C. Maydwell, who spared no time or trouble to make matters agreeable to all at its meeting on the 20th. Two out of four candidates on the list were duly installed as Templars.

MARK MASONRY.

THISTLE LODGE (No. 3).—(Scottish Constitution.)—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, August 7th, at Dick's Hotel, Fleet-street, Bro. Adams, R.W.M., presiding, when Bros. Dearth, Dougal, and Jones were advanced to the Degree of Mark Masters. The Committee appointed to frame the by-laws presented their report, and the code of laws so proposed to the Lodge was unanimously agreed to. The business disposed of, the Brethren, to the number of nearly forty, sat down to a cold collation, served up in Bro. Quelch's excellent style. Among the visitors were Bros. De la Chaumette and Blackburn, of the St. Mark's Lodge, No. 1.

SCOTLAND.

AYR.

A large meeting of Freemasons took place in the Masonic Hall here on Wednesday, August 5, for the purpose of presenting Brother Andrew Glass with a Gold Watch and appendages, from the "Freemasons of Ayr." In presenting the testimonial, Brother James Telfer, S. W. of Ayr St. Paul's, after a few introductory remarks, said, in addressing Bro. Glass: "Your name has for a lengthened period been closely associated with Masonry in this county; and by many Brethren who were privileged to receive at your hands the rites of initiation has it been borne to the remotest corners of the earth. Within a Lodge of Freemasons in this place I need not take up the time of the Brethren in enumerating from a local point of view the services you have rendered to the cause of Masonry: suffice it to say, that had it not been for your noble and persevering exertions, aided by a few choice spirits, our Masonic Light would long ere this have been so obscured as to lead Brethren at a distance to question whether the race of Craftsmen of which Ayr in former years had so much reason to be proud had not entirely passed away: and Royal Arch Masonry, too, but for your personal energy and spirit, would, as is well known to every "Companion" of that Sublime Order, have been hopelessly extinguished in this the county town. I will not in your presence attempt to expatiate on the many virtues that adorn your Masonic character, but shall now, in the name of the Freemasons of Ayr, present you with this Gold Watch and appendages as a mark of the high estimation in which you are held by your Masonic Brethren, and in acknowledgment of the invaluable services you have so steadily and cheerfully given, and at much personal sacrifice, to aid in upholding the honour, dignity, and privileges of the Craft. May you be long spared to wear this testimonial, and to note its faithful monitions of the lapse of time—warning you to prepare for the termination of your earthly pilgrimage; and in your last hours may your spirit be cheered with the hope of admission to the eternal Lodge above, whose Master is the beneficent and all-wise Architect."—Bro. Glass said: "I cannot express the feelings that are uppermost in my heart at this moment. It is no doubt pleasing for one to know that services, however humble and in whatever sphere they may be rendered, are in some measure appreciated by those qualified to judge of their value; but when such honour and distinction is conferred by members of a fraternity a leading motto of which is Equality, the individual who is thus honoured must indeed feel at a loss to find words expressive of the dictates of his heart; but I trust that my future course in connection with Masonry will show that I fully appreciate the generous motives that have prompted so many Brethren to unite in thus honouring such an humble member of the Order. During my intercourse with the Craft I have endeavoured, in as far as my abilities permitted, to comport myself in such a manner as to impress the uninitiated with a sense of the sacredness of the tie that binds the Brotherhood; and in this I have been well supported by a numerous staff of true and enthusiastic Craftsmen. I am happy to be able to say that Masonry continues to flourish as of old in the ancient town of Ayr; and that so many hailing from almost every Lodge in this wide district should be found amongst the subscribers to this Masonic gift, is surely ample proof of our unity! Accept, Brethren, this very imperfect acknowledgment of your kindness; and in my future journeyings through this transient and ever-varying scene of joys and sorrows, my path shall be made the more pleasant by the remembrance of this evening's proceedings." A handsome gold brooch was then presented to Mrs. Glass, who had prepared an excellent supper for the entertainment of the Brethren present. After supper, a few hours were very harmoniously spent—

. "Social Mirth lending her aid,
To smooth the wrinkled brow of Care."

EDINBURGH.

GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was held on Monday, 3rd August, in Kampling's Hotel, the M.W.D.G.M., Bro. Whyte Melville, of Bennoch and Strathkiness, in the chair. The principal business of the evening was voting £3,500 for the house in George-street, which is to be rebuilt as the Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Dr. Macowan acted as G.S.W., and Bro. Drybrough as J.W. Most of the G. office-bearers were present, and a large attendance of members of Grand Lodge.

Lodge of Edinburgh, Mary's Chapel (No 1).—A meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday evening, 6th August, for the purpose of initiating three foreign gentlemen into the mysteries of our Order. The R.W.M. conducted the ceremony with his usual ability, going through the whole three Degrees in French, fully explaining to the candidates all they had to learn, and continuing until they fully understood what they had gone through. We must congratulate the Lodge of Edinburgh in having so efficient a R.W.M., and the Grand Orient of France in having so learned a representative at the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The names of the candidates were Antoine Portal, captain of the brig *Cannebriere*; Jorgen Reolf, Munster, and Guide Drammar, Norway. Bros. Clark and Thallon acted as Wardens, and fully explained at the examinations anything the candidates did not understand.

A report of Journeymen Lodge jubilee will be given in our next.

PEEBLESHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Provincial Grand Lodge met on Tuesday, the 11th of August, under the auspices of the Peebles Kilwinning Lodge, No. 24, for the purpose of being present at fixing the keystone of the bridge across Eddlestone Water, at Peebles, and laying the foundation-stone of "The Chambers Institution," which is to be built at the expense of Mr. William Chambers, of Glenormiston,—a gentleman who, by honest industry, has raised himself from comparative poverty to wealth and independence, and whose career we glean from a speech made by him in returning thanks for his health being proposed at a dinner in his native town, in August, 1841 :—"It has been said that prophets are not apt to be honoured in their own country; I can say, however, that the first remarkable honour paid to me has been not only in my own country, but on the very spot of my birth. Here, where twenty years ago I was sent forth upon the world to use the faculties with which nature had endowed me; here, after doing my best in the interval to improve and use those faculties, I am received back to the open hearts of a hundred honourable men, mostly my school companions, and told that the place of my nativity is glad to claim me as her child. There is something peculiarly striking in this recognition. I am the descendant of a long line of burgesses of Peebles. My ancestors have lived here with your ancestors from time immemorial. If you will search your records, if they go back so far, you will find that a person of the name which I now bear, and probably my ancestor, was chief magistrate of Peebles at the conclusion of the thirteenth century, or about forty years before the town was made a royal burgh by King David II. I can trace my family here from father to son for two hundred years. Good reason have I then to feel pride in having my name enrolled in the list of your citizens. The transactions of this day indissolubly connect me with a place in which our family has lived for at least ten generations—perhaps since it was first settled by an Anglo-Saxon people. Owing to certain family misfortunes, my parents found it advisable to remove to Edinburgh, in 1813, when I was thirteen years of age. There I was in a short time introduced to scenes of active industry. What were the privations I endured while an apprentice it would be out of place to say, and it would be equally irrelevant to trouble you with the history of my early career. It will be reckoned

enough when I say, that at nineteen years of age I found myself my own master, and five shillings in my pocket. With that mighty sum, a handful of old books, and no friends either to encourage or to embarrass me, I launched into business on my own account, determined to get on. Adopting Franklin as a model, and keeping in mind your own burghal motto, 'Contra Nando Incrementum,' I toiled early and late; learned to set types with my own hand, printed small volumes and tracts, almost leaf by leaf, and finally bound and disposed of them. No species of labour did I deem too hard or degrading, provided it was honest; I persevered through all sorts of difficulties, and trusting to a kind Providence, never despaired. But I pass over twelve years of ordinary pursuits, partly relieved by literary occupation, and come at once to the period when my brother and I commenced the business of preparing and editing a cheap and popular kind of literature. The idea of attempting something of that nature occurred to me in the early part of the year 1832. At that time there was a growing taste for reading, and I resolved to take advantage of it, and lead it into new and improving channels. With that end in view, and assisted by my brother, who, in the mean time, had had his own difficulties to contend with, and whose pursuits had been more of a literary character than my own, 'Chambers's Edinburgh Journal' was started in February, 1832. The success of this cheap periodical was altogether amazing. Of the first number, 30,000 copies were sold in a few days. The circulation rose rapidly from that point, and has been for some years about 70,000 copies weekly."

We may, we think, venture to trace the munificent gift now in preparation for the town of Peebles to the gratifying recollections of the proceedings on that occasion. When the prophet found himself honoured in his own country, gratitude no doubt prompted him to do something in return, and Mr. Chambers has adopted the characteristic plan of adding to the natural or scenic attractions of the burgh a reading-room, picture-gallery, museum, and reference library,—an act which we believe is entirely spontaneous on the part of Mr. Chambers, and done purely from a wish to improve the place of his nativity. The Prov. Grand Lodge was opened in due form in Tontine Hotel by the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Forbes McKenzie, assisted by Bros. J. Wolfe Murray, Sub. Prov. G.M.; Samuel Hay, D. Prov. G.M.; Francis D. McCowan, R.W.M. No. 1, Prov. G.S.W.; Thomas Drybrough, R.W.M. No. 2, Prov. G.J.W.; John Willins, Prov. G. Treas.; John Donaldson, Prov. G.Sec.; the Rev. A. J. Murray, G. Chap.; Robert Laurie, G. Bible-bearer; and the other Prov. Grand Office-bearers and numerous Brethren. In the mean time the members of the Peebles Kilwinning Lodge had assembled at the house of their R.W.M., Bro. Donaldson, and escorted him to the Lodge, which was then opened, and the various deputations received. Thereafter the procession was formed in the following order:—

Lodge St. Clair, Edinburgh, No. 349, headed by R.W.M. Bro. Crichton.

Lodge Edinburgh and Leith Celtic, No. 291, headed by R.W.M. Bro. Hay.

Lodge Portobello, No. 226, headed by R.W.M. Bro. Scott.

Lodge Stow, No. 216, headed by R.W.M. Bro. Gray.

Lodge Roman Eagle, No. 160, headed by R.W.M. Bro. Knox.

Lodge Edinburgh Defensive Band, No. 151, headed by Bro. Gregory.

Lodge St. James Operative, No. 97, headed by R.W.M. Bro. Bryce.

Lodge St. David, No. 36, headed by R.W.M. Bro. Downie.

Lodge Cannongate and Leith, No. 5, headed by R.W.M. Bro. Pearson.

Lodge Cannongate Kilwinning, No. 2, headed by Bro. Dr. Macritie, D.M.

Lodge Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel), No. 1, headed by Br. Dr. Drysdale, followed by the Peebles Kilwinning Lodge, No. 24, headed by a band of music.

The procession proceeded to the Tontine Hotel, where they were joined by the Prov. Grand Lodge, the provost, magistrates, and town council of Peebles, with the borough officers with their halberds; Mr. Chambers carrying the plans of the institution, supported by gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood, including members of the Bridge Committee; also an instrumental band, which, as they walked on, played the Masonic Anthem. On arriving at the Eddleston Bridge, or the Old Cuddie Bridge as it was formerly called, the Brethren halted and

opened, to admit the Prov. Grand Master and Office-bearers ; who having taken their places to the inspiring strains of " God Save the Queen," the Jewels, &c., were laid upon the table. " Hail Masonry " was played by the bands, after which the Prov. G. Chaplain offered up a prayer. Bro. Bathgate, town clerk, then read a copy of the document to be deposited within the cavity of the stone. It contained the minute of the meeting of the Commissioners of Supply for the county of Peebles, held on the 30th April, 1856, when they resolved that to improve the communication into the town at this point, the bridge over Eddleston should be rebuilt, and remitted the matter to a committee. The committee raised £724. 4s. by voluntary contribution, and approved of a plan proposed by Mr. John Mitchell, Mountaincross, the execution of which, for £448, was granted to Mr. James Harkness, builder, Hawick. The rest of the money was to go to the improvement of the approaches. The paper went on to state, that the work having been gone on with thus far, the keystone was fixed by the Prov. G.M., &c. After which the Grand Treas. deposited the coins, &c. ; and the necessary workmen being brought forward, the stone was lowered in due form, the bands playing " Great Light to Shine." After the various Prov. G. Office-bearers had performed their several duties, the Grand Master struck the stone three times with his mallet, saying, " May the Almighty Architect of the Universe look down with benignity upon our present undertaking, and crown this bridge, of which we have just now laid the keystone, with every success." Three cheers were then given by the assembled Brethren and spectators. The cornucopia was next thrown upon the stone, the oil and wine being poured in like manner. Another hearty round of cheers was given, after which the R.W. Prov. G.M. delivered an address to the provost and magistrates, which was responded to by the provost of Peebles.

" Rule Britannia " then followed from the bands, the Brethren meanwhile forming in procession. After all were in their respective places, they proceeded by Old Town, Ludgate, Cross-road, Railway-bridge, North-gate, and High-street, to Queensberry Lodge, to lay the foundation-stone of the Great Hall of the Chambers Institution. On reaching the gateway, the magistrates went in and took their places, the Brethren opening up to admit the Prov. Grand Lodge, and Lodges according to their seniority on the roll of the Grand Lodge. Here a surprise awaited the Brethren of the mystic art ; a large balcony had been raised, covered with green baize cloth, and filled with ladies, the *élite* of the nobility and gentry from the surrounding neighbourhood, and a fairer bouquet of beauties could not have been culled from Tweedside. We observed Lady Hay, and her two fair daughters, on a separate form ; and what surprised us more than anything we had seen that day, was to observe the learned Professor Simpson, of world-spread fame, looking with a quiet smile of satisfaction upon the gay scene.

Prayer having been offered by the Prov. G. Chap., Bro. Bathgate read the following document, which was afterwards deposited in the cavity of the stone :—

" At Peebles, the eleventh day of August, anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven years, and in the twenty-first year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria :

" This foundation-stone of the Great Hall of the Chambers Institution was laid in usual form, with Masonic honours, by the Prov. G.M. for Peebles and Selkirk, with the assistance of the ancient Peebles Kilwinning Lodge of Freemasons, and deputations from several other Lodges, and in presence of a large concourse of spectators, including William Chambers, Esq., of Glenormiston, the founder of the said Institution.

" The property of which the site of this Hall forms a part, successively belonged to the Church of the Holy Cross of Peebles, the Hays, Lords Yester, Earls of Tweeddale, the Douglasses, Earls of March, and William the Fourth Duke of Queensbury, from whom, in 1787, it passed into the possession of Provost James Reid ; finally, during the current year, it was acquired by William Chambers, Esq., of Glenormiston, with intentions as after narrated.

" Born and educated in Peebles, Mr. Chambers followed the profession of a bookseller and publisher in Edinburgh and London, and was the projector of

Chambers's Edinburgh Journal, of which publication he had been editor jointly with his brother, Robert, until the present time. It having pleased God to bless Mr. Chambers's efforts to disseminate a cheap and wholesome species of literature, and to give him the means as well as the desire to do a noble work of piety and munificence, he resolved to show his affection for his native town and county (to which he had returned in 1849, on acquiring the estate of Glenormiston), by purchasing the aforesaid property, and after effecting sundry improvements and additions, devoting it to purposes of moral and intellectual advancement, and public utility, for the benefit of the present and all succeeding generations. He now, accordingly, by assisting at the laying of this foundation-stone, commences a series of operations which it is reasonably expected will be finished within the ensuing two years. When completed, according to present plans and intentions, the Chambers' Institution, as it is to be called, will comprehend—1st, in the old and massive edifice fronting the High-street, a public reading-room and library; 2nd, in the buildings projected southwards, on the west side of the quadrangular court behind, a gallery of art and museum fitted up for the reception of objects illustrative of science and the fine arts, and calculated, it is hoped, to improve the mind and the taste of the visitors; 3rd, closing the quadrangular court on the south, a hall of large dimensions adapted for public meetings and exhibitions, also festive, educational, and other assemblies. It has also been arranged, at the request of the Magistrates and Town-Council of Peebles, that the ancient Cross of the Burgh, removed from the grounds of Sir Adam Hay, Bart., and presented by him to the Burgh, shall be placed in the centre of the quadrangle, being a convenient and eligible spot, as nearly as possible, to its original site in the High-street, and well adapted for the preservation of this interesting relic. When completed, according to these designs, at the cost and to the satisfaction of Mr. Chambers, the various buildings and their contents will be heritably conveyed by Mr. Chambers, by deed of gift, to the Provost, Bailies, and Town-Council of Peebles, in trust for the behoof of the community, according to certain terms enjoined by Mr. Chambers, and also according to certain regulations appointed by the directors, who, with their successors, will be named by Mr. Chambers in the constitution to be granted by him for government of the aforesaid Chambers' Institution. In testimony of these solemn acts and intentions, Mr. Chambers has herewith subjoined his signature, following which are the signatures of officials and persons, or expected to be, present at the laying of this foundation-stone as aforesaid.

(Signed)

W. CHAMBERS, of Glenormiston.
 JOHN STIRLING, Provost of Peebles.
 ALEX. DICKSON, Bailie.
 JOHN KEDDIE, Bailie.
 THOMAS WHITE, Dean of Guild.
 JOHN BATHGATE, Town Clerk.
 GEORGE H. MONILAWS, Minister of Peebles.
 ARCHD. DONALDSON, jun., Master of the
 Kilwinning Lodge, Peebles.
 ROBERT CRAIG, Surgeon, Peebles.
 JOHN WILLIAMS, Master of Burgh School."

LIST OF ARTICLES ENCLOSED WITH THIS DOCUMENT.

1. Parchment with Signatures.
2. Tracings of Plans—four in number.
3. Chambers' Journal, No. 188, August 8, 1857.
4. Do do No. 189, August 15, 1857.
5. Peebleshire Monthly Advertiser, August 1, 1857.
6. An Edinburgh Daily Newspaper.
7. Programme of Proceedings.
8. Coins of Queen Victoria—as follows: One Five-Shilling-Piece; one Two-Shilling-and-Sixpence-Piece; one Two-Shilling-Piece; one Shilling-Piece; one Sixpence-Piece; one Fourpence-Piece; one Threepence-Piece; one Penny-Piece.

The Treasurer deposited the coins, &c., as stated above, upon which the stone was lowered by three distinct stops, the bands playing the while; the Prov. G.M. then walked from the platform, with the Sub. Prov. G.M. on his right, the Prov. G.W. walking before him. On arriving at the east of the stone, the Prov. G.M. ordered the Sub. G.M. to see the various implements applied to the stone, that it might be laid in its bed according to the rules of Masonry. The Sub. G.M., addressing the Wardens, ordered them to do their duty. The Prov. G.M. then said: "R.W. Prov. J.G.W., what is the proper jewel of your office?" "The plumb, R.W.G. Sir." "Have you applied the plumb to the several edges of the stone?" "I have, R.W.G. Sir." "R.W.J.G.W., what is the proper jewel of your office?" "The level, R.W.G. Sir." "Have you applied the level to the top of the stone?" "I have, R.W.G. Sir." "R.W. Sub. G.M., what is the proper Jewel of your office?" "The square, R.W.G. Sir." "Have you applied the square to those parts of the stone that are square?" "I have, R.W.P.G. Sir."

The R.W. Sub. G.M. then said:—

"Having, my R.W. Brethren, full confidence in your skill in our Royal Art, it remains with me now to finish this our work." And leaning forward, he gave the stone three knocks with his mallet. The cornucopia was then handed to him, which he threw upon the stone, pouring the wine and oil upon it, saying, "Praise be to the Lord Immortal and Eternal, who formed the Heavens, laid the foundation of the earth, and extended the waters beyond it, who supports the pillars of nations, and maintains in order and harmony of surrounding worlds: we implore thy aid, and may the continued blessings of an all-bounteous Providence be the lot of these, our native shores, and may the Almighty Ruler of events deign to direct the hand of our Gracious Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, so that she may pour down blessings upon her people; and may her people, living under sage laws in a free government, ever feel grateful for the blessings they enjoy. So mote it be."

The bands played the Masons' Anthem, after which, three cheers were given for Sir Adam Hay, Mr. Chambers, the Prov. Grand Lodge, the Lord Provost, and last, though not least, the Ladies. The Brethren then returned, in inverted order, to the Tontine Hotel, where a dinner was prepared for them by Bro. Smith, mine host of the Tontine, to which upwards of 150 Brethren sat down, presided over by the Prov. G.M., Bro. Forbes McKenzie, in the chair, supported on the right by Bro. J. Wolfe Murray, Sub. Prov. G.M., and Bro. John Stirling, Provost of Peebles; and on the left by Bro. Samuel Hay, D. Prov. G.M., and the Rev. Bro. Alex. J. Murray, of Eddlestone, G. Chap. The R.W.S. and J.W. acted in their office as croupiers. The following toasts were proposed from the chair in succession:—"Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, the first Lady in the Land." "His Royal Highness the Prince Consort." "Albert Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family." In proposing the Army and Navy, the R.W. Prov. G.M. after commenting upon the gallant deeds which had been performed by our brave countrymen in the Crimea, and of a later date by our fleets in China, said that feeling assured as he did that no individual body had a greater desire to see peace restored to their native land than did the Masons of Scotland, still, until a permanent and lasting peace could be obtained, he was convinced that that army which was now engaged in quelling the rebellion in India would shed their blood freely in their country's cause until they had succeeded in again establishing a footing in India; and as many of those men composing the army in India and the fleet in China, and those troops and fleets protecting our country's interests in foreign parts, were Masons, he hoped the Brethren now around this board would join with him in dedicating a flowing bumper to the "Army and the Navy." (Long and Loud cheering.) Bro. Chas. Stuart Law, Grand Steward, was called upon for "Britannia the Pride of the Ocean," which was received with great applause; the R.W. Prov. G.M. rising and proposing his health and song, which was responded to by Bro. Law. In returning thanks for the army, he said that he esteemed it a high honour to belong to that branch of the service; he was quite certain that those Brethren who had left their native shores to join the army in India considered it their sole object to do their duty to their queen and to their

country, whose honour was intrusted to their keeping; and that whether Delhi was or was not taken, no British heart would blame that army, which as yet had never flinched when duty called or danger threatened them.

The next toast proposed was "The M.W.G.M. his Grace the Duke of Athol," in proposing which, the Worshipful Chairman said, "I am sure there is no one amongst us who does not know how enthusiastically his Grace does his duty, when either labour or refreshment calls him; and as you all know his good qualities as well as I can explain them, I beg of you to pledge a flowing bumper to his very good health—three times three."

The next toast on the list was "The M.W.G.M. the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland and the Grand Lodge of England," followed by "His Grace the Duke of Leinster and the Grand Lodge of Ireland." Bro. Tolley then sang "The Land of the West." When the well-merited applause for a song so exquisitely sung had subsided, the chairman proposed his health, with three times three and quick firing.

The Prov. G.M. then gave "The Foreign Grand Lodge," coupling with the toast the R.W. Prov. G.S.W., Bro. Dr. McCowan, representative at the Grand Lodge of Scotland from the Grand Orient de France. (Loud applause.)

Dr. McCowan, in responding to the toast, thanked the Prov. G.M. for the honour conferred upon him in coupling his name with the Foreign Grand Lodges. On behalf of the Grand Orient de France, he begged to assure this Prov. Grand Lodge that they reciprocated that cordial feeling which had actuated the Brethren of Scotland for such a length of time. He took this opportunity of informing the Brethren that the Masonic Congress, which was intended to be held this year at the Hague, was postponed in consequence of the death of Count Rosenthal, formerly Minister of Justice at the Netherlands, and the delegate from Holland to the last Congress at Paris, 1855. He had just received a letter from the Grand Orient de France, informing him of this lamented event, and that in consequence no Congress would be held this year. The chairman then gave "The Earl of Wemyss and March, as Prov. G.M. and Lord Lieutenant of the county."

In laying before the meeting, for their acceptance, the toast of the "Provost and Magistrates of the Burgh of Peebles," the Prov. G.M. said: "I am sure in better hands the duties could not have been placed than in those of the enlightened men who fill the offices in the burgh. Between the borough and the county there had always existed a very friendly feeling, and it was a remarkable coincidence, that when any project was set agoing by the burgh and backed up by the county, it was sure to succeed; while, on the other hand, if the county proposed anything which was not seconded by the burgh, it was sure to fail: he therefore called upon the Provincial Grand Lodge to dedicate a special bumper to the Provost and Magistrates of the city of Peebles."

Bro. Provost Stirling said: "In the name of the magistrates of Peebles, allow me to return you their most cordial and heartfelt thanks for the honour you have done them in drinking their healths. As to the intimate connection existing between the county and the burgh, I entirely coincide with the remarks which have just now fallen from our worshipful chairman, and I sincerely trust, in the extension of the Old Cuddie Bridge, this day, we have added one more link in the chain which cements the burgh and county to each other's interests."

The R.W.D.G.M. proposed the next toast, which was "Prosperity to the Chambers' Institution, and Success to the Founder." They had that day laid the foundation of one of the noblest institutions of the county; which, although not intended to be like one of those palaces which had been lately built in the metropolis of Scotland—not like monastic institutions, where the children were confined within their walls, and allowed only to view their parents and friends at the will of their teachers, but where every one would be entitled to enter and study the useful arts and sciences, thereby fitting him to push his way in the world, and socially and morally to inform the mind with which the G.A.O.T.U. had endowed him. (Loud cheering.)

R.W. Bro. J. Wolfe Murray, of Cringletie, then proposed the "Health of Bro. Sir Adam Hay, Vice-Lieutenant of the County," who conferred upon the town of

Peebles so great a benefit in restoring the old cross of the town, to be erected in the centre of the great hall of the Chambers' Institution.

Bro. Samuel Hay returned thanks, assuring the Brethren that although his brother had been called away upon urgent business, still he left behind him his best wishes, as he was certain he would have felt great pleasure in being present with them that day.

Bro. Donaldson, R.W.M. of Peebles Kilwinning Lodge, then rose, and proposed the "Health of the R.W. Prov. G.M.," with a vote of thanks for the way in which he had performed his duties that day, which he felt convinced was to the satisfaction of every one present. (Loud cheers, and three times three.)

Bro. Kerr's song, composed for the occasion, was then sung.

The R.W. Bro. Forbes McKenzie, in responding, thanked the Brethren for having received his health with so much applause. He hoped it would not be long before he would have an opportunity of again calling the Provincial Grand Lodge together, and trusted that the Brethren would exert themselves to find out some excuse,—the smaller it was, the more willingly he would accept it.

The Chairman then gave the "Clergy of all Denominations."

To which the Rev. Alex. J. Murray, Prov. G. Chap., responded in something of the following terms: "I would not have thought it a compliment had the R.W. Prov. G.M. proposed this toast to any particular sect. I trust the day is not far distant when there will be no dissensions in our church. A bright example has been set us this day by my respected friend, Mr. W. Chambers, who had laid the foundation of a building to receive parties of all denominations; his name will go down from father to son, and from generation to generation, not, perhaps, graven on a cold stone, but on the warm hearts of those who remembered him as the friend of the fatherless and the widow."

The Prov. G.M. then gave the "R.W. Masters, Wardens, and Deputations from the various Lodges present," which toasts were responded to by the Brethren heading the several deputations.

"The R.W.S. and J. Prov. G.W.," was the next toast, responded to by the Prov. S.G.W.

The R.W. Bro. Dr. McCowan then gave the "Health of the Sub. Prov. G.M., Bro. Samuel Hay," and reverted to the services he had rendered to the Grand Lodge during the period he had held the office of G. Treas., an office which he understood had been held by members of Bro. Hay's family for upwards of fifty years; and also to the exertions he had taken to secure a hall for the Grand Lodge; on these grounds, as well as in regard to Bro. Hay's connection with Peebles, he begged to crave a hearty bumper. (Loud cheering.)

The R.W. Prov. G.W. then gave "Bro. Wolfe Murray, Sub. Prov. G.M.," who replied. "The Memory of the late Sir John Hay," from the chair, drunk in solemn silence. Then "The Ladies," mid great cheering. Followed by "Happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again."

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed, the Brethren forming in procession and marching to the railway station, accompanied by the bands. A special train had been provided for them, and, when nine o'clock struck, carried them home, every one better pleased than another at his day's excursion.

I N D I A.

PRO D. PROV. G.MS. IN THE NORTH-WEST PROVINCES.—The D. Prov. G.M. has delegated to R.W. Bro. Major Charles Hogge, P. Prov. J.G.W.; V.W. and Rev. Bro. Thomas Cartwright Smyth, Prov. G. Chap.; and W. Bro. Capt. E. Kyrle Money, P. Prov. S.G.D., the discretionary power vested in him for granting dispensation to Lodges for the following purposes:—

For advancing a Brother to a higher Degree at a shorter interval than four weeks.

For initiating a candidate under the age of twenty-one years.

For public processions or assemblies, but not for Masonic balls, which are to be discountenanced.

The above Brethren will have the temporary titles of Pro D. Prov. G.M., and Pro D. Prov. G. Superintendent, and their duties will be divided in the following manner:—Bros. Hogge and Smyth, acting jointly, will grant dispensations to six Lodges and five Chapters, at Allahabad, Meerut, Cawnpore, Agra, Mussoorie, and Delhi. Bro. Money will grant dispensations to seven Lodges and three Chapters, at Simla, Umballa, Peshawur, Jullundur, Rawul Pindee, Ferozepore, and Subathoo. By this arrangement, the delay which is at present caused by references to Calcutta will be avoided. The D. Prov. G.M. has, however, reserved to himself the power of granting dispensations for constituting new Lodges, and for the continuance of the Master of a Lodge in the Chair for more than two years in cases of necessity.—*Indian Freemasons' Friend*.

CALCUTTA.

Just as we were going to press we received the *Indian Freemason's Friend* for June. It contains the report of a meeting held at Calcutta on the 20th May, at which the Freemasons determined to offer their services to the Government in the present juncture in such manner as the Governor-General might please to direct. An address having been accordingly forwarded to the Governor-General, he thanked them for their offer—suggested that they might be useful hereafter as special constables—and requested those who were willing so to act, to register their names at the office of the commissioner of police, but stated the Governor-General “has no apprehension whatever of riot, insurrection, or disturbance amongst any class of the population of Calcutta; and if unfortunately any should occur, the means of crushing it utterly and at once are at hand.”

DELHI.

The following is interesting, as contrasting how different was the position of Delhi only five months since to what it is now. How many of these Brethren may have perished in the late unfortunate events it is as yet impossible to say.

On the 30th of March, the ceremony of installing the W.M. of Star of Delhi Lodge was performed at Delhi, by W. Bro. Lieut. G. Forrest (the father of Masonry in the North-West), V.W. the Rev. Bro. Smyth, and W. Bro. Buckley, late of Lodge Harmony, Cawnpore. V.W. Bro. Smyth went over from Meerut expressly for the purpose of affording his assistance. The eastern chair was occupied by W. Bro. Forrest (who conducted the proceedings in his well-known skilful and impressive way), and the duties of Wardens were discharged by V.W. Bro. Smyth and W. Bro. Buckley. The ceremony of Installation (after the requisite preliminaries were concluded, and D. Prov. G.M.'s dispensation for holding the Lodge had been read) was performed by the three installing Masters; and W. Bro. Capt. Russell, of the 54th regt. N.I., was duly proclaimed in the three Craft Degrees, by V.W. Bro. T. C. Smyth, as first W.M. of Star of Delhi Lodge.

The following Officers were afterwards appointed by the W.M., and addressed by V.W. Bro. Smyth on the subject of their respective Masonic duties (excepting W. Bro. Forrest):—Bros. Lieut. G. Forrest, P.M.; Dr. Dopping, S.W.; Lieut. Holland, J.W.; W. Bro. Conductor Buckley, S.D.; Bros. Conductor Scully, J.D.; Conductor Settle, Tyler.

The services of Bro. W. H. Marshall, a worthy, able, and most zealous Mason, have been happily secured for this infant Lodge, in the important capacities of Sec. and Treas.

On the closing of the Lodge the Brethren adjourned to another room, where an ample inaugurating banquet had been prepared. The evening was enlivened by various songs, toasts, and speeches; all imbued with that spirit of harmony and brotherly love which should ever characterize Monastic assemblies.

SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR AUGUST.

THE COURT.

During the greater portion of the past month the Queen has been residing at Osborne, where she has dispensed the royal hospitality to a large number of visitors, imperial, royal, and noble, including the Emperor and Empress of the French, the Queen of the Netherlands, Prince Napoleon, Prince Leiningen, the Duke of Cambridge, the Earl of Clarendon, and Lord Palmerston. The visit of the French Emperor was one of political importance. After the departure of her illustrious visitors, her Majesty took a cruise in the royal yacht, and paid a visit to the harbour and arsenal of Cherbourg. Her Majesty has now gone to spend the autumn in her Highland home at Balmoral.

PARLIAMENT.

On the 27th of July, the Marquis Clanricarde called the attention of the House of Lords to the extent and condition of the Indian army.—On the same evening, Mr. Disraeli, in the House of Commons, brought forward the whole question of our Indian policy, and endeavoured to show that the unhappy disturbances in that country are not a mere military outbreak, but a national revolt.

On the 28th, the House of Lords consented to the second reading of the Fraudulent Trustees Bill. The question of embodying the militia was also discussed; and the Duke of Newcastle suggested the propriety of Government supplying the public and free libraries with copies of the blue books free of expense.—In the House of Commons, on the same evening, the Board of Health Continuance Bill was withdrawn; and Sir De Lacy Evans called attention as to the necessity which exists for a better system of military education, in order that the country may have the advantage of properly qualified staff officers. A commission was ordered to be issued for inquiry into the manner in which the elections in the town of Galway had been conducted, and the Attorney-General for Ireland was directed to prosecute the Rev. Peter Conway and the Rev. Luke Ryan, two Roman Catholic clergymen, for interfering with the voters at the last election for Mayo county.

On the 29th, the House of Commons was engaged in discussing Lord Naas' Bill for the amendment of the Superannuation Act, the second reading of which was carried by a considerable majority.

On the 30th, Lord Ellenborough complained in the House of Lords that the growth of the Indian mutiny was attributable to the delay of the Government in attending to the complaints of the sepoys, with reference to the greased cartridges.—In the House of Commons, upon the same evening, the Attorney-General moved the second reading of the Divorce Bill, which gave rise to a lengthened debate, which was adjourned until the next evening.

On the 31st, several bills of minor importance were advanced a stage in the House of Lords, and a warm debate took place relative to the Indian army.—In the House of Commons, on that evening, the debate upon the Divorce Bill was resumed, and terminated in the second reading of the bill by a majority of more than two to one.

On the 3rd of August, Lord Panmure introduced a bill into the House of Lords for the embodying of the militia, and stated that it was intended to increase the effective force of the army by ten battalions. On the same evening there was another Jew Bill debate, after which Lord John Russell obtained a select committee to consider the applicability of the 5th and 6th William IV. cap. 62, to the case of the Jews in reference to the administration of the oath of abjuration by the clerk at the table of the House.

On the 4th, the House of Lords sat for a short time and passed several bills; and Lord Brougham called attention to parliamentary reform.—In the House

of Commons Mr. Warren attempted to defeat the Divorce Bill, by moving that it be committed that day six months. This motion gave rise to another debate, but was ultimately negatived without a division.

On the 5th, the House of Commons agreed to the second reading of a bill to prevent the sale of obscene books. The subject of a national portrait gallery was also discussed.

On the 6th, the Lords rejected a petition from the Queen and Royal Family of Oude, because the word "humble" was omitted from it. Their Lordships consented to the second reading of the Militia Bill.—In the House of Commons, the New Zealand Loan Bill was read a second time; and the consideration of the Divorce Bill was proceeded with in Committee.

On the 7th, the Lords forwarded several Bills a stage.—The House of Commons was further occupied with the consideration of the Divorce Bill.

On the 10th, the Lords forwarded several Bills a stage.—In the Commons, Lord John Russell brought up the Report of the Select Committee on Oaths, which stated that the Act, 5th and 6th of William IV. c. 62, did not apply to the House of Commons in the case of the Jews. Mr. Hanbury called attention to the playing of bands in the public parks upon Sundays. The Committee of Supply for Government were defeated by a large majority, on a vote for the purchase of a place of worship in Paris, for the use of the English residents.

On the 11th, several Bills were advanced a stage in the House of Lords.—In the House of Commons, Lord Palmerston explained the nature of the Moldo-Wallachian difficulty. Sir De Lacy Evans, called attention to the importance of despatching troops to India by the shortest possible route, and with the greatest possible speed. The character of our gallant and illustrious Brother, the late Sir Charles Napier, was ably vindicated by Mr. Bruce, General Codrington, and Mr. Roebuck, from scandalous aspersions cast upon it by the East-India Company.

On the 12th, the House of Commons consented to the continuance of the tea and sugar duties for two years longer, to meet the drain which the Indian mutiny will make upon the Exchequer.

On the 13th, the Bishop of St. David's entered in the House of Lords upon a defence of his conduct in refusing to consecrate the burial-ground at Swansea, until provision was made for the conveyance of the officiating clergyman to and from the cemetery.—In the House of Commons some further progress was made in Committee on the Divorce Bill.

In the House of Lords, upon the 14th, the Earl of Ellenborough called attention to the condition of India and the state of the British army.—On the same evening in the House of Commons, Mr. Estcourt brought before the attention of Parliament the advisability of subsidizing the Euphrates Valley Railway and Telegraph, and further progress was made with the Divorce Bill.

The House of Commons sat also on the 15th, and passed the East-India Mutiny Bill.

On the 17th, the Lords agreed to the Commons' amendments on the Reformatory Schools' Bill, and advanced several Bills a stage. The same evening, the Royal Assent was given by commission to a variety of measures.—In the Commons on that evening, Mr. Vernon Smith announced that he would not this session bring forward the usual Indian Budget. The Committee upon the Divorce Bill was again resumed.

On the 18th, the Lords agreed to the second reading of the East-India Mutiny Bill.—In the Commons, it was announced that a proposition for awarding compensation to the sufferers from the mutiny in India was under the consideration of the Court of Directors.

On the 19th, the Bill for the prevention of the sale of obscene books, was passed through Committee, and the consideration of the clauses of the Divorce Bill finally terminated.

On the 20th, the Earl of Shaftesbury called the attention of the Lords to the opium trade, and was informed by the Lord Chancellor that there was nothing illegal in it.—In the House of Commons on the same evening, the report upon the Divorce Bill was brought up and agreed to. Mr. Disraeli called attention to the claims of the sufferers by the Indian mutiny.

On the 21st, the Lords advanced several bills a stage, and ordered the production of some papers connected with the recruiting of the Indian army.—In the Commons the Divorce Bill was read a third time and passed.

On the 24th, the Lords took the Commons' amendments of the Divorce Bill into consideration, agreeing to some, and departing from others.—In the House of Commons Sir De Lacy Evans made some inquiries with respect to the employment of the German Legion at the Cape.

On the 25th, the Lords forwarded several bills a stage, and the Commons agreed to the Lords' amendments upon the Divorce Bill.

On the 28th, Parliament was prorogued by Royal Commission, and so terminated the first session of the new parliament.

FOREIGN.

With respect to foreign affairs, we have still to regret the continuance of the Indian mutiny, with all its attendant horrors of plunder, rape, and assassination. There has been in France a mockery of a state trial to try the shadows of some imaginary conspirators against the life of the Emperor; the whole was a thing manifestly got up by the Parisian police according to order. The question of the elections in the Danubian Provinces has led to a misunderstanding between the Porte and several of the Powers—parties to the treaty of Paris. From Italy we learn that the pope has been making a personal inspection of the condition of the estates of the church, much to the annoyance of the king of Naples, and is now about to pay a visit of ceremony to the Grand Duke of Tuscany. A marriage has been arranged through the good offices of Prince Albert, between the king of Portugal and a German Princess of some territory we never before, in our ignorance of geography, heard of, and we question if its existence is known to either Wyld or Arrowsmith. A royal marriage has been celebrated between the Archduke Maximilian and the daughter of King Leopold of Belgium—a princess of surpassing beauty. Prince Albert was present on behalf of the queen at the royal espousals.

JUDICIAL.

On the 27th of July, Messrs. Fox and Henderson obtained a first-class certificate in the Birmingham district bankruptcy court.

On the 29th, at the Derby Assizes, the Rev. M. Highmore obtained a verdict for £750 damages for slander against the Countess of Harrington.

On the 7th of August, James Spollen was put upon his trial at the Commission Court, Dublin, for the murder of Mr. Little. The trial lasted three days, and resulted in the acquittal of the prisoner. He has been since re-arrested on the charge of robbery.

On the 10th, at the Cornwall Assizes, a man named Thomas Podley was sentenced to imprisonment for blasphemy.

On the 11th, an action for crim. con., tried at the Surrey Assizes, the plaintiff obtained a verdict, with one farthing damages. It will be known in history as *Lyle v. Herbert*, and remarkable for being not only the last of its kind, but for the depravity of morals which it exhibited, and for the licence assumed by the counsel for the plaintiff.

On the 17th, Charles Harrison was sentenced at the Old Bailey to eighteen months' imprisonment; and Ryder Durant and Roger Durant each to six years' penal servitude, for extensive sugar robberies in the City.

On the 18th, S. R. Clarke was sentenced at the Central Criminal Court to twelve months' imprisonment, under the Bishop of Oxford's Act, for the abduction of a young girl under sixteen years of age, the daughter of a Jew.

On the 25th, George Cox was found guilty, at the Central Criminal Court, of stabbing with intent. Sentence was deferred, the jury having recommended him to mercy, as the victim of his violence was the paramour of his wife. On the same day also, at the Central Criminal Court, John Payne was acquitted, on the ground of lunacy, of the murder of Richard Empson, in St. Martin's workhouse. On the same day, in the same court, an Italian, named Salvi, was sentenced to fifteen years' penal servitude, for a murderous attack with a dagger

upon a debtor of his imprisoned in the Queen's Bench. The man has since died, and the coroner's jury has returned a verdict of wilful murder against the convict. On the same day, at Liverpool Assizes, Henry Roger, master of the ship *Martha Jane*, and William Miles and Charles Edward Seymour, the two mates of the same vessel, were ordered for execution for murder upon the high seas. Their victim was a sailor named Andrew Rose, whom they barbarously maltreated. At the same assizes, upon the same day, Thomas Fox Longs was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment for the embezzlement of £8,000. On the same day, Mr. Beadon committed to prison Thomas D. Evans, formerly a clerk in the Submarine Telegraph Company, and Captain Henry Thorne, on the charge of trying to extort money from the Hon. Mr. Cadogan, one of the directors of that company, by threatening to publish a libel charging him with making his position subservient to stock-jobbing.

On the 22nd, the Royal Surrey Gardens Company appeared in the Bankruptcy Court, on the petition of Mr. Horace Jones, the architect of the Music Hall.

COMMERCIAL.

The North-Western Railway Company has declared on the profits of the last half year a dividend of 5 per cent. per annum.

The dividend of the South Western Railway Company has been at the rate of $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

The Eastern Counties Railway Company have declared a dividend at the rate of 5s. per share.

The dividend of the Great Western was only at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum.

The Midland Counties Railway Company have declared a dividend at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum.

The Brighton and South Coast Railway Company have divided 5 per cent. per annum.

The South Eastern have divided 9s. on each £30. of stock, which with the 15s. divided at the spring meeting makes the dividend for the year equal to 4 per cent.

The London and County Bank has declared a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent.

The Bank of London has for the present postponed the declaration of a dividend.

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

On the 25th of July, a person named Speed was arrested at Pontefract upon the charge of poisoning.

On the 27th, there was a fire, supposed to be an incendiary one, in Holborn, by which one of the inmates of the house was burned to death.

On the 29th, a lady, Miss Gilbert, was thrown from her horse in Rotten-row and so severely injured that her life was for some time despaired of.

On the 31st, the brig *Pallion* of Hull blew up, from the explosion of gas generated in her hold from the coal with which she was freighted; and there was an explosion of fire-damp in a pit near Ashton, by which thirty-nine people lost their lives. On the same day a collision took place on the railway near Hull, by which several persons were severely injured; and Sir F. Martin, while in the act of getting out of a train still in motion, upon the North London line, missed his footing, and was run over by the carriages in the rear of that in which he had himself travelled.

On the 2nd of August, the vault of the Chesterfield family was sacrilegiously broken open, and the ornaments and other mountings stolen from the coffins.

On the 4th, there was a destructive fire, happily unaccompanied by loss of life, in the Commercial-road, Mile End.

On the 5th, a fire broke out in the Lawn Market, Edinburgh, by which some buildings of great historic interest were destroyed, as the residence of Hume, the philosopher, and the toady Boswell, where that worthy received his patron, Dr. Johnson. On the same day, a train ran off the rails of the Nottingham and Lin-

colnshire railway. Several persons were severely hurt by the accident ; and three sergeants belonging to the corps of Royal Marines were drowned at Portsmouth, by the upsetting of a dingy in which they were taking a row.

On the 8th, Mr. Antey, R.N., fell from a cliff at Portland, and was killed by the fall.

On the 10th, two young men were drowned at Brighton, by the upsetting of a boat. On the same day, at Ryde, a gunner lost his arm, and another man his thumb, by reason of the premature explosion of the gun which they were firing as the salute of the Royal Victoria Yacht Club to the Emperor of the French.

On the 12th, the body of a man supposed to have been murdered, was found at North Woolwich. On the same day, Lieut. Shafto of the Blues, was drowned in the Thames near Windsor, while bathing.

On the 16th, there were two collisions at sea. In one, the *Carl August*, a Prussian vessel was run down by the steamer *Scandinavia*. In the other case the steamer *Britannia* ran down the French barque *Berthe et Léonore*.

On the 17th, a horrible crime was committed at Lincoln. A Mrs. Woolfet, the wife of a cork-cutter residing in that city, in a fit of madness, cut off the head of her own child.

On the 18th, there was a destructive fire in Lambeth-walk.

On the 19th, a policeman named Geo. Guimer, was stabbed by a virago in Short's-gardens, Long-acre, while endeavouring to bring back to the workhouse an escaped lunatic.

On the 19th, too, there was a fire at Lewisham, in which property to the value of £700 was destroyed.

On the 20th, a man was killed in a pugilistic encounter in the fields at Kentish Town.

On the 26th, there was a collision on the Brighton Railway in which several persons were injured. Amongst the passengers were the Duchess of Inverness and the Bishop of Oxford, both of whom escaped injury.

MISCELLANEOUS.

On the 25th of July, John Lewis was executed at Cardiff, for the murder of his wife at Merthyr Tydvil, last winter.

On the 26th, there was an attack made by the people of Birmingham upon the conventicle of the Mormons.

On the 28th, Prince Napoleon was entertained at a public dinner by the citizens of Cork. On the same day, Baron Rothschild was again elected member for the city of London ; Charles Finch was executed at Chelmsford, for the murder of his sweetheart ; John Blagg was executed at Chester, for the murder of a game-keeper ; and there was held, at Bedford, a meeting of the Conservative Land Society, Bro. the Hon. Robt. Bourke in the chair, for the purpose of making known the object of the Society.

On the 29th, a meeting of the friends of Law Reform was held at Lord Brougham's private residence, to organize the coming conference at Birmingham, upon the Reformatory question. It will commence on the 12th October.

On the 3rd of August, there was a grand *fête* at Nuneham Park, near Oxford, for the benefit of the widows and orphans of men formerly employed by the Great Western Company.

On the 6th, the Manchester Reformatory was opened in the presence of a large concourse of visitors, including the principal advocates for a reform of the system of secondary punishments.

On the 7th, the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland inaugurated the laying of the Transatlantic cable, with great ceremony, at Valentia, on the coast of Kerry ; and in an eloquent speech enumerated the advantages which he expected to result from the undertaking. On the 11th, those expectations were, for the present, disappointed, by the breaking of the cable.

On the 8th, the Dowager Marchioness of Londonderry gave a splendid entertainment to the workmen employed in her collieries at Seaham. On the same day, the lunatics of the district asylum at Exeter enjoyed themselves at a picnic given

to them by the managers of that institution. On the 8th, too, George Jackson was executed at Stafford, for the Charlesworth murder.

On the 10th, the Olympic Theatre was opened for the first time under the management of Mr. Robson.

On the 10th, also, the Right Hon. John Wilson Croker, for many years editor of the *Quarterly Review*, died at the residence of Judge Wightman, near Hampton Court.

On the 13th, the electors of Oxford gave a public entertainment to their able representative, the Right Hon. Mr. Cardwell.

On the 14th, a public park was opened for the use of the inhabitants of the town of Halifax. It is the munificent gift of Mr. F. Crossley, M.P., to his townsmen and constituents.

On the 15th, a public statue of the late Daniel O'Connell, M.P., was uncovered at Limerick.

On the 17th, the Royal Agricultural Society of Ireland, held its annual meeting at Waterford. The show is said to have been an excellent one.

On the 18th, Sir J. Graham laid the first stone of the new docks, at Silloth Bay.

On the 19th, Ministers took their whitebait dinner at Greenwich, preparatory to the closing of the session.

On the 20th, two men were executed at Maidstone, one for the murder of his former sweetheart, and the other for a most bloodthirsty act of fratricide.

On the 25th, an important meeting was held at the Mansion House for the relief of the sufferers by the Indian mutiny. On the same day, there was an indignation meeting of the shareholders of the Surrey Gardens Company, who complain of fraud and robbery on the part of the Directors.

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.

"THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE."—Brethren having JANUARY numbers on hand which they do not require, may receive the current number, or the full price for them, at the office, Red Lion Court, Fleet-street.

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

"R. B. WALKER, and J. G. C. L. NEWNHAM, MONROVIA, LIBERIA."—Under the circumstances, the Lodge was perfectly justified in the course pursued ; laws must be sometimes read more with regard to their spirit than their exact literal meaning. Under what constitution does the Oriental Lodge No. 1 hold ?

"ZEBRA."—A P.M., who has served the office of Prov. J.G.D., will wear his apron of the last-named office with the Master's levels upon it. The jewel to wear would be that of P.M., and if he so thinks fit, that also of P.G.D.

“Z. Z.” on further consideration, will see that it is a question which we cannot answer.

“MASONIC WAISTCOAT.”—We have received a specimen Masonic waistcoat-piece from Bro. Myerscough, the manufacturer, Bolton-on-the-Moors, Lancashire. It is made of wove marcella, is chaste in design, and, whilst purely Masonic, so unobtrusive that it can be worn in mixed company without exciting any particular attention.

“P.M.”—The Rev. Brother alluded to has no connection whatever with the *Freemasons' Magazine*. Letters should be addressed to the Editor, without regard to names.

“CHARLES GRAY” is thanked.—Hampstead Heath has been received.

“A MASTER MASON.”—An Address to Freemasons, though containing some good lines, is too crude for publication. Our correspondent wants a little more practice in versification to give him that ready and easy flow which alone lends a charm to poetry.

“BRO. P. FERVA LANDA.”—We should like to hear from this worthy Brother.

“AN INQUIRER.”—We have not yet heard of the arrival in this country of Bro. Morris, the well-known American writer.

“C.T.” No. 432.—The subject mentioned has been for some time under consideration; we are nevertheless obliged for the suggestion.

“THE MASONIC JOURNAL” for August, published at Haverhill, Massachusetts, has come to hand.

“P.M.”—“Right well,” most certainly; the new reading is purely ridiculous. If you read Shakspeare, Jonson, Dryden, and many other of our standard authors, you will find the word *right* continually used in the sense of *very* or *most*; as for example, “Right glad am I to see you.” Surely no person would think of saluting another thus, “Right! glad am I to see you.” “Right merry have we been;”—how will that read “Right! merry have we been.” Suppose we substitute the word “very,” and then see how it will appear—“Very! merry have we been;” Again, “Very! glad am I to see you.” No person in his senses would attempt to justify such a reading.

“SULTANA SAUCE.”—Bro. Alexis Soyer will be pleased to receive our best thanks. The sauce is excellent, and proves that in his recent visit to the Crimea and travels in Turkey, &c., he had still an eye to business. If other Turkish compounds are equal to the Sultana Sauce, the cookery of the east must be far in advance of that of England; but on this point Bro. Soyer will doubtless ere long favour us with his opinion.

“LECTURER.”—We have heard Bro. Donald King's musical lecture on Dibdin, and can fairly recommend it as yielding a delightful two hours' entertainment combined with instruction.

“BRO. C. MERCER.”—We hear Bro. Spencer has perfected a few sets of “Dr. Oliver's Historical Landmarks, 2 vols.,” by reprinting the two first sheets.

“BRO. T. ROWE.”—*Vide* above in reply.

“AN ADMIRER OF THE LATE BRO. DOUGLAS JERROLD.”—The poetical address entitled “The Palm-tree,” written by Bro. D. Jerrold, was read at the Fourth Anniversary Festival in aid of the Asylum for the Worthy Aged and Decayed Freemasons, on 19th June, 1839, and printed in the *Freemasons' Quarterly Review*; Bro. Spencer can supply you with a copy.

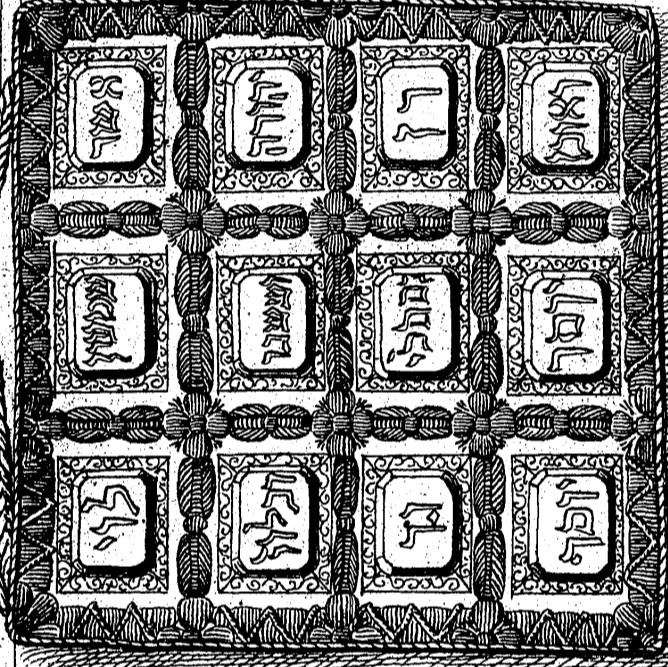
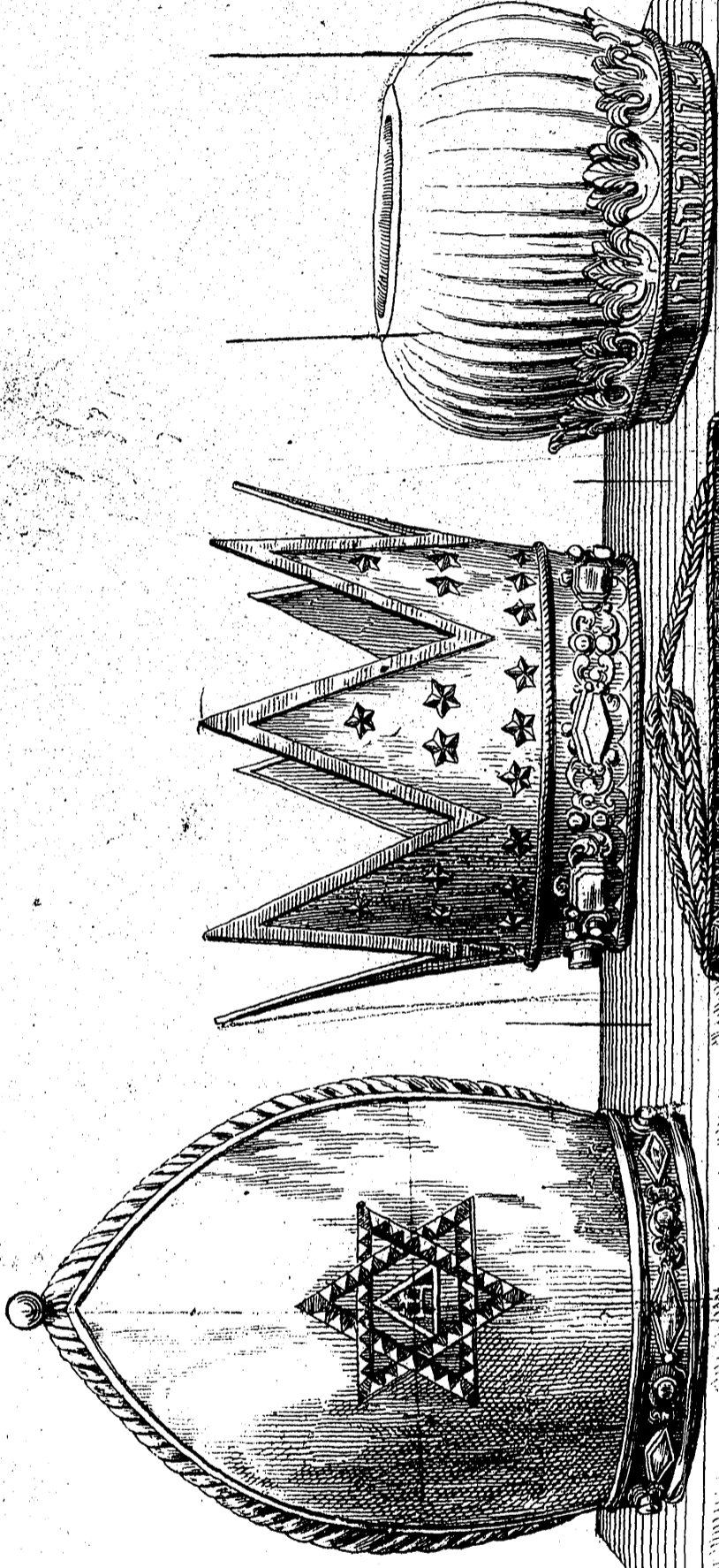
“INDIA.”—As, doubtless, during the unfortunate mutiny prevailing in India, many of the Brethren have lost their lives in the discharge of their duties, we shall feel obliged to any of our friends who can furnish us with information regarding them.



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