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A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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FREEMASONRY IN SPAIN.

THE news from Spain is not reassuring. The progress of the young King has, indeed, been marked by spontaneous or manufactured enthusiasm, but the advisers who surround him have already blundered and played into the hands of those Ultramontanes who are anxious to hand that distracted country over to the tender rule of an irresponsible priesthood. We, in England, heard of the accession of this young prince with feelings of unmixed satisfaction. We were of opinion that his presence, in the midst of contending Carlists and Republicans, might have the effect of restoring peace to his country, and, perhaps, of healing the wounds which have been caused by one of the most cruel and bloody of civil wars. We did not forget that the Crown was offered by a clique of statesmen, and not by the people through their representatives; but we all held that the clique or party in favour of monarchy acted as though they had the good of the nation at heart. We learn, with unmixed astonishment, that the generosity which credited the party of the King with the best of intentions has been too hasty, and too ignorant of the utterly rotten condition of Spanish politics. The press has been attacked; the Protestant church in Spain is threatened, and now we hear that an attempt is to be made to suppress Spanish Freemasonry. We hinted, a week or two ago, that the Craft was in some danger, and in our first number we called attention to the fact that Freemasonry in Spain has generally been under the ban of the State. But we did not suppose that a Monarch, invited to rule on so-called constitutional principles, could so soon set those principles at defiance. It was known that in Senor Canovas del Castillo he had an adviser who was thoroughly versed in the science of government, and admirably fitted to play the part of Premier in a free State. Our hope, indeed, that Spain under Alfonso would find peace and freedom was based upon our faith in the genius of the man who was to be his adviser. The threat which now appears to hang over the heads of our brethren in Spain does not, indeed, come from this accomplished politician; but if he is powerless to prevent a step which will imperil his master's crown, we can only fear the worst. It is evident that priestly influence is again doing its fell work, and this threat of persecution would seem to be but the prelude of an unholy alliance between the new government and Rome. The aged Pontiff, who now pines a voluntary prisoner at the Vatican, has always regarded the Freemasons with suspicion and hatred. He has fulminated his edicts against them repeatedly during his long Pontificate, and the great influence of the Church has been used again and again to crush the Order in Catholic countries. A tie which binds men together in mystic brotherhood—a secret which defies the prying eyes of the priesthood—naturally excites the anger of a great hierarchy who seek to make mankind the slaves of a system of mental bondage, which has no parallel in the whole history of despotic rule. But in attacking Masonry the Church has been too wily to state its real reasons for its uncompromising hostility. To assert that the Mason keeps one corner of his mind or heart sacred from the insolent intrusion of priestly eyes, and to make this the sole ground of accusation against him, would manifestly defeat its object. The Church is too wise for this, and, accordingly, we are told that Romish hostility to the Craft arises from the assumed fact that the Order on the Continent invariably becomes a political weapon in the hands of traitors. It has been asserted that the machinery of the organisation readily lends itself to

the spread of opinions fatal to the Church, to order, and good government. If such a charge as this were made against English Masons, every one conversant with the facts would laugh it to scorn. The loyalty of the Fraternity has been too often tried and proved, and the Princes of our Royal House have not disdained to hold the gavel of the Grand Master. The libeller who ventures to say that Continental Masonry is not equally loyal to the ruling powers, invariably presses his charges without bringing one particle of evidence to support them. He points merely to the disturbed condition of France and Spain, and argues that secret societies in those countries have been the fomenters of sedition. But he always fails to show that these political brotherhoods have any kinship with the Craft. Even if it were possible to prove beyond all question that Masonry had allied itself with disloyalty, it would still be necessary to prove that the principles of the Order are favourable to rebellion and anarchy. The fact is, that if any isolated cases can be cited in proof of the sweeping and general charges which Rome has thought proper to bring against the brotherhood, that will only go to show that the deep seated discontent of the people of Southern and Western Europe had forced its way into every state and condition of society. When Masons conspire, if they ever conspire, the cause must be sought, not in the Lodge or the Order, but in those high in authority in the State, who care not what crimes they commit against the people, provided a dynasty be upheld, or a rotten church, tottering to its fall, be propped and supported.

Although Spanish Masonry has always been under suspicion, yet we have never heard of one authentic case of disloyalty on the part of the collective brotherhood. Individual Masons may doubtless have been found in the ranks of the plotters against the State. It would be strange indeed if they were not. If we were to assert that under no circumstances had a Mason been found willing to take arms against a bad Government, we should only be declaring that, in trying moments, when duty to the State means antagonism to the Government, they had failed in the highest and most sacred duty of a citizen. Rebellion, in some cases, is a sacred duty, and none but a bigot or a fool will say that our countrymen were in the wrong when they took arms against King James II. Loyalty to freedom in a case of this kind overrides all other considerations, and when to rebel or be silent means to be free or to perish, it would be idle to urge that a man must remember obligations which were never intended to rob him of his status as a human being and a citizen. We, however, deny emphatically that the Order in Spain, as an Order, has ever encouraged sedition. The brotherhood have struggled in that unhappy country to spread the benign principles of the Craft, and amid much discouragement they have succeeded in building up the Masonic edifice to respectable proportions. This threat of persecution, coming from the man who has been regarded as the only hope of the Nation, is a cruel blow to the anticipations of all liberal minded Spanish politicians. It is an augury of ill in store for other interests than those which cluster around the Craft. The crown indeed as yet sits so lightly on the head of Alfonso that the mere breath of popular indignation may bring the bauble to the ground. If he would rule his countrymen he must show that he is independent of the intrigues of priests, but this attack on Masonry can come from no other quarter than Rome, and if Rome is to guide the counsels of the Cabinet at Madrid, Alfonso will soon again be an exile from the land in which the Bourbon has never yet been naturalised.

FREEMASONRY IN ITALY.

IN the January number of *le Mond Maçonnique* is an article on the present position and prospects of Italian Freemasonry; and as we are told it emanates from a distinguished brother, the following translation will, perhaps, be acceptable to our readers.

If it is commendable in a young society to maintain its position in spite of the many and grave difficulties which surround it; assuredly Italian Masonry is worthy of the very highest praise. Not only has it been able to preserve itself pure, independent, and honoured, but every day that has passed since the last Assembly has brought with it increased power and estimation.

Italian Masonry embraces two principal rites; the Scottish and the Symbolical, the rite of Memphis being hardly, if at all, represented. It was greatly to be feared that this division might lead to, if not a moral, at all events an administrative, separation. There were even rumours abroad on this point, and the perfidious enemies of the Order already seemed to triumph. Hence the Masonic world was anxious to learn what line of policy the new Constituent Assembly would pursue. It behoves us then to acknowledge that this body has not only not disappointed, but has greatly surpassed the reasonable expectations of all good Masons.

It is needless to enlarge on the brotherly feeling which governed the labours of the Assembly; the world knows this already. So profound, indeed, was this sentiment as almost to prove harmful, if that, indeed, can be so described, which summarily cut short every discussion, even on questions of the greatest moment, in order to arrive at a final vote which, as the event proved, was almost unanimous.

The constitution of Italian Masonry, based as well on freedom and the complete development of its rites as on the independence and unity of administrative power, is in perfect accord with those principles of liberty which govern the modern world, and for the accomplishment of which Masonry has laboured so strenuously and endured so much. The new elections of the Constituent body have, in great measure, confirmed the government of the Order as settled by the Assembly of 1872, a fact which proves that those who were at that time entrusted with the governance of the Craft have never ceased to possess the entire confidence and affection of all the brethren. The new element imported into the Council of the Order, and among the G.G.M.M. thereto affiliated, has brought with it a considerable accession of weight and influence together with a spirit of hearty co-operation both effective and fraternal. When once have been established the bases of a system destined to endure, to prosper, and to perfect itself indefinitely, then Freemasonry in Italy will vastly extend its beneficent influence, its power and authority, and will make itself respected even in the outer world.

The new Lodges which have been established in all parts of the Italian peninsula have largely increased both the number and moral weight of the Order. Many old Masons, whom the incertitude of the earlier steps kept aloof, have again knocked at the door of temple, and it has been opened in order to welcome them with that fraternal regard which displays itself in the domestic circle when some dearly loved but long absent member returns to its bosom. Some Lodges—which had been led astray by the well-known mar-alls which are a reproach to the Order, and which, for some time past, had been excluded from the ranks of the Italian brotherhood—have recognised their error, in most cases involuntary on their part, and have returned full of confidence in the success of their labours. Vain were the efforts of the men we have spoken of to seduce them once again from their purpose. The calumnies they invented, the silly recriminations they indulged in, only served to unmask them more and more. True there are still some small refractory centres, but we may safely assert that if these are honest, they will not long delay rejoining the G.O. of Italy. On the other hand, if the elements of which they are composed are at all unworthy of regard, the discredit into which they have already fallen, will place them beyond the power of doing harm.

This work of increase has induced another, far more engrossing in its details, and of far greater difficulty. We mean the work of purification. It was necessary to eliminate all those elements which, if not absolutely bad, would bring to the Craft neither esteem, nor community of principles and views. This operation is still being carried

out by means of a single diploma of the third degree, emblem distinctive and modest of the brethren, but above all, sure guarantee and indispensable passport for the members of every grade, in order to secure for them due recognition as regular Masons. Thus purified, Italian Masonry will pursue its labours, many of which are more than commenced, and already approach completion.

The Lodges of Italy remain faithful to the grand principles of the Craft, and are before all things setting themselves to the task of tightening those bonds which unite in one brotherhood the Masons of the whole world. They are working prudently, and devoting themselves, with philosophic tolerance, to the consideration of those questions which the modern world must sooner or later solve. It is thus, that with unshaken constancy and never failing prudence, the Masons of Italy are gradually fashioning the stone, which at the same time they are polishing.

This task is at present sustained by 165 Lodges, organised and regulated in their labours by the superior authorities of each rite, as established in the chief provinces of the Peninsula. Between May and December of last year the work of re-organisation thus undertaken by the brethren in Italy, led to the establishment of 25 Lodges, all prosperous and in working order. But in order to give an idea of the stringent resolutions, which actuate the G.O. of Italy on the subject of the purification and reconstitution of the Order in that noble country, it is well to point out that, for diverse reasons, 25 Lodges have been broken up, while the same fate awaits many others. It is the fixed and immovable determination of those who rule Italian Freemasonry, to have done with all those meetings which are Masonic in name only.

By way of crowning the edifice of Italian Masonry, there is, at this moment, being prepared, in the very heart of Rome itself, a temple, which will be elegantly decorated, though not to the extent demanded by the grandeur of that ancient city, which was once the seat of Empire of the world. It will suffice, however, to demonstrate the power which Masonry exercises. We rejoice to see this work approaching its completion, and cordially felicitate our Italian brethren thereon. Henceforth the pilgrims of civilisation who shall visit Rome in order to admire these new triumphs of Liberalism will have a common point of meeting, where they will encounter that fraternal welcome which is the special as it is certainly the finest characteristic of our cosmopolitan society. There the representatives of all the Masonic powers of the world will be able at all times to knit more closely together those bonds of love and solidarity which for some time past have linked the youth of Italian Masonry with the older and more venerable members of the Masonic family. Thus it is that Freemasonry in Italy, which has rendered such invaluable service in the regeneration of that magnificent country, replies on the one hand to the malignant insinuations of its enemies, and on the other, to the splendid anticipations of those who have always appreciated its merits at their true value.

MASONIC MINSTRELSY.

LEST the title of this article should mislead the reader, we take leave to assure him at the outset that we have no intention of discussing those lyric flights of fancy which sometimes enliven the post-prandial proceedings of the brethren. We never heard on any of these occasions a song with any pretensions to Masonic origin, except the one devoted to the E. A., and that we always regarded as the first crude conception of the nonsense verse so popular in our own time. It has been our lot upon more than one "occasion" to "gaze on" an estimable brother "Mason" struggling with lines terminating in the words we have just quoted, and always with a sense of wonder that any person could be brought to utter such incredible bathos of commonplace.

The singer whose "tuneful throat" informs us that

"Antiquity's pride
We have on our side,
Which maketh men just in their station,"

must be a lineal descendant of the immortal Gamp, or a humourist of the highest order, if he preserves his gravity through such an ordeal. That this remarkably bald, and for the most part incomprehensible lyric, should rival the

patriarchs in age, surviving a century and a half of ridicule, is explained in the circumstance that it is no worse than any other effusion of the kind, that it is in fact a fair sample of ancient, or rather pseudo-ancient, Masonic Minstrelsy. The first collection of Masonic songs of which we have any knowledge appeared in an appendix to the *Constitutions of the Freemasons*, published in 1723 "over against St. Dunstan's Church in Fleet Street." This collection was reprinted some fifty years afterwards in that notable work *Ahiman Rezon*, with many additions, which rivalled, if they did not surpass, the older effusions in pompous absurdity, but not one of them can be properly described as ancient. They, one and all, display in its grossest form the ridiculous affectation which characterised the fugitive literature of the first George's reign, and which is fatal to the simplicity necessary to the composition of a lyric poem. Most of them were in all probability composed for the convivial meetings of the "Antient Brotherhood" at the "Five Bells" in the Strand, or similar resorts, during the first decade of the eighteenth century. Doubtless they lived their night, and it is likely enough that the roofs of the old "Apple Tree" and the "Goose and Gridiron" many a time resounded to Masonic applause of the verse that to us appears the embodiment of prose run mad. In those days there was possibly nothing absurd in any one singing in praise of—

"The Temple that wise King Solomon raised,
For beauty, for order, for elegance praised,
To what did it owe its *elegancy*?
To the just formed rules of Masonry,"

attuned to the air of "Polly, you might have toyed and kissed." But let any reader attempt such a performance for himself, and we promise him he will soon experience the ludicrous effect produced by incongruity of tune and subject; unless, indeed, the descent from King Solomon to Mrs. Peachum—from Mount Moriah to a thieves' kitchen—should provoke a graver feeling against the genius that designed it.

It is only occasionally throughout these old songs that the reader is directed to the tunes, but whenever the direction is given, there appears a similar insensibility to the fitness of things. The effort to "varnish nonsense with the charms of sound" serves in these cases to render the nonsense more and more intolerable. "Arise, gentle muse, and thy wisdom impart," was and is, for all we know to the contrary, the recognised form of invocation to the spirit of song. But when we are instructed to intone the prayer after the lilting melody, "Dear Tom, this brown jug," we feel at once that such a muse must be a slattern at best, and one likely to be better acquainted with the garrets of Drury Lane than the groves of Parnassus. We could multiply instances of this sort from our "ancient" collection, but *cui bono*? These songs, anthems, or glees, are in no sense representative of Masonry or its belongings, and we dare say it will be news to many a brother that such things were ever brought into the world of song begotten of our Order.

Throughout the collection there is not a single composition above the level of a Grub Street broadsheet of the period, not to say worthy of the exalted theme by which their authors in most cases professed to be inspired. If we turn to a later collection, brought out in 1852, we find little to reward our research. This one indeed is even more aggravating in its effects than the other, from the circumstance that our hopes are raised upon the first page by a valedictory lyric from Burns, and upon the second dashed into a gulf of bathos, in which antique inanity and modern flippancy maintain an equal struggle for precedence. The compiler, unmindful of the proverbial worthlessness of "old songs," gathered them into his net, and, from a tenderness which, however misplaced, was, we doubt not, due to unquestioning love for the Craft and its traditions, helped to prolong the existence of absurdities offensive to good taste, and in no way creditable to the literary power of our Order. In this work, as in the older one, we are confronted with the dissonant conjunction of pretentious theme and commonplace melody, to which we have already adverted, and need not therefore waste another drop of ink in its condemnation. It is, we are happy to think, a species of buffoonery of which the writers of these songs! may have been altogether unconscious, and therefore perfectly innocent. A musician is at all times willing enough to wed his music to "undying verse," but it is not given to him to predict an immortality which, after all, can never

be assured, and which, while the critical faculty exists, must always be problematical.

Our authors, deprived of such potent aid, must necessarily have resigned their productions to the careless fancy of the vocalist, who, after the manner of his kind, would bestow more consideration upon the exigencies of his voice than upon the suitability of the air adopted to the words he had to sing. Assuming this to be the case, we acknowledge that songs, when considered apart from the music to which their authors might wish them to be allied, should be exempt from the accepted rules of literary criticism.

The character of the music imparts force or feebleness to words expressive of contrary qualities, and it is within every one's experience that phrases which offend the eyes and ears of a reader may trip smoothly enough from the tongue of a sweet singer. Nevertheless, we believe that not even Music, heavenly maid though she be, and "Sovereign of the willing soul," could ever impart the faintest whisper of harmony to the unmixed twaddle of which our so-called Masonic Minstrelsy is chiefly composed.

CHARITY, AND ITS APPLICATION.

AMONG the historical records of this country, perhaps none can be found more valuable than those legacies of love and regard, wisdom and piety, which have been handed down by our forefathers in the names of gifts and charity. It is well known that many of these glorious gifts have been both misapplied and perverted. This, however, does not justify the spirit that would check the genial current of benevolence, and to refuse all aid to our poorer brethren of humanity. Those who, by a selfish economy, would debar, under the name of individual independence, those who from deep sympathy with their suffering from rendering assistance to the needy and the fallen, are not imbued with faith, hope and charity, which are the trinity of those virtues which should ever be deemed the directing powers of human life. When the rich man dies, and leaves his wealth to aid the poor, it is a recognition of his gratitude to the country in which he became prosperous, and to the people among whom he lived. It is a re-distribution of wealth accumulated in prosperity, to aid and succour those who have fallen into social adversity. It is one of those elements of fraternal power that binds the past with the present, and prolongs the memories of those whose deeds in life live after death, in affectionate remembrance of the grateful recipients of their bounty. Attempts have recently been made, by men in high authority, to take all the public charities out of the hands of local trustees, and place them under a centralising governmental power. This is an attempt at imperialism, and subversive of the great fundamental principle of representative government. This is not the time for the people to give up the control of those immense funds that are every year distributed throughout the land by earnest and honest citizens. Let no undercurrent ever induce the public to part with those treasures of benevolence that have been bequeathed to future generations by the great and noble benefactors of the past. The cold, calculating, political followers of Mr. Malthus have not made much progress, or made many converts the last few years. This doctrine was repugnant to the holiest instincts of human nature and family ties, and, coming from a minister of the Christian faith, seemed to be a violation of every social principle, and high treason against that religion which he professed to teach. It is all very well to advise care, prudence and economy, but what is the use of that advice to the many thousands of industrious, intelligent working men whose circumstances have steeped them in penury, poverty and misery? It is an insult to their reason, and a mockery of their sufferings. The cry of improvidence is uniformly made against the poor at periods of distress, when their claims are most urgent. It would be as well if those who think it a duty to exhort the poor to the practice of economy, as being the one thing needful to ensure to them continual prosperity, and to a habit of saving as the only safeguard against the day of adversity, would point out in what this economy is to consist, and where the saving is to begin. It is true that by the exercise of some self denial, an artisan of the lowest class may contrive to put by a small sum weekly, as has been proved by the experiment of Provident Societies, but it must be remembered that the chief benefit that such a man derives from his connection with one of these societies consists in his being

brought by it into intercourse with his rich neighbours, who have thus the opportunity of knowing and appreciating his character without any degrading efforts on his part to obtain their notice, and who are enabled to render him timely aid and kindly offices in a manner the least offensive possible to his self-respect. These are advantages which he may enjoy conjointly with the wholesome feeling that, in some way, he is entitled to them from his own efforts after independence. The chief benefit does not consist in his having realised a sufficient fund from his own savings. But it is well known that however resolutely and perseveringly one of this class may put by a portion of his wages, the accumulated sum must necessarily be so trifling in amount that the first casualty or illness, or a burial, or a dearth of employment, soon swallows up the little fund, and leaves him burdened with debt. And have not the poor motives enough to save, independently of the exhortations and advice of their more comfortable neighbours? Have they not the strongest that can appeal to human nature—the good of their children—their respectability amongst their fellows—their fear of the Workhouse? yet they do not and cannot provide against the evil day! No; providence there may be, economy their must be, but saving is next to impossible. Let the reader just remember that the Government returns of the population of this country estimate that, on an average, the families of England are represented as five: husband, wife and three children. With the recent advance of the wages of the agricultural labourers they cannot be more than 14s per week. If one penny per head is allowed for each of the four meals per day, the sum expended will be 11s 8d, leaving only 2s 4d (even supposing they live rent free) to meet all the expenses of clothing and other contingencies of human life. A review of these facts should teach the nation to guard, with a jealous eye, every attempt that may tend to narrow the boundaries of charity, or check the flow of a warm and genial benevolence. A State, to be wise, should look to its own security in the equality and brotherhood of all, in their interests linked to its own; in their prosperity by its machinery, as the paramount object, with which no other system should be allowed to interfere, whatever its pretensions, or however high its claims.

A MEDIUM ON "FREEMASONRY."

THE Spiritualists are a strange sect. We are not about to enter upon polemics which are forbidden ground, but give certain extracts from an oration delivered by Mrs. Tappan at Cavendish Rooms on the evening of Sunday, the 24th ult., reported by a Spiritualists' Journal, called *The Medium and Daybreak*. Mrs. Tappan, whose eloquence was much noticed in the press after her first appearance in this country, some months since, is a so-called "inspirational" lecturer, purporting to be the mouthpiece of a "circle" of departed philosophers of the spirit-world. The Lecture, we notice, is entitled *The Most Ancient Angel*, and forms part of Series II. upon *Statics*, the first series, of twelve orations, having been denominated *Dynamics*.

"The Most Ancient Angel connected with the ministration of spiritual dispensations of the earth, was known to the ancients by the name of Orissas, or the Osiris of the Egyptians, and represented the spiritual power of which the material expression was the sun, or light of day. . . . It was under his dispensation that the Order of Melchisedec was founded. . . . It was in the beginning of the reign and under the control of Orissas, that the first thought of the Ancient Order of Freemasonry was founded, where the All-seeing Eye represented the light of day, the various implements of mechanical toil and worship the symbols of creative power, and where the arc of circle and the angle represented the contact of the Divine Mind with Nature in the production of life and of mechanical force. Under his reign those most subtle laws and forces were revealed, whereby the atom which is globular, is pierced by the angle or point of vital life and thus made to reveal itself as the symbolic expression of vital power upon earth. Under his reign all those arts now scattered or lost, were concentrated for the perfection and perpetuation of physical life, symbolising some force in spirit or mind; and while the records are lost and there are but few remnants of the most mighty nation of that period, there still remains sufficient to confirm the connecting link between that remote past and the present; Egypt being but the latest expression of the reign of Orissas (other nations and continents were then in existence, who expressed it with even greater splendour). . . . Atlantis, then under the dispensation of this mighty angel, tradition has often pointed out was submerged, and what is now known as the New World, must in reality have been peopled by a race whose splendour outlived in the reign of Orissas the pomp of the ancient Egyptians. . . . As Orissas represented the physical life, and the life of the sun, so Brahma administered

the next stage of spirit. . . . And what Orissas represents in an angel having the greatest advancement, every order of beings between him and the earth represents in a relative degree. That is why many nations in the East yet cling to that form of worship, because the wave of that life has not entirely left the Eastern continent, while each succeeding wave has born its fruits, passed, and left some remnant of its expression. That is why the nations worship so variously to-day. . . . That is why there are those who believe in the All-seeing Eye in its religious instead of its pure Freemasonic sense. . . ."

What think our readers of this for transcendentalism. We should pronounce it, in conception Goethe-like, and in description Schilleresque. Could we be assured of its truth, then indeed:—

"Mächtig lössten wir der Dinge Siegel,
Nach der Wahrheit lichte Sonnenhügel
Schwäng, g'sich unser Flügel!"

FREEMASONRY IN THE UNITED STATES DURING AND AFTER THE REVOLUTION.

WE are indebted to a history of Philadelphia, by a Mr. Thompson Westcott, now current in one of the American journals, for the following particulars, which cannot fail to be in the highest degree interesting to our readers. During the earlier revolutionary movements, the Masonic Lodges of Ancient York Masons continued to meet with occasional interruptions. Lodge No. 3, met at Daniel Smith's City Tavern, in Philadelphia, on St. John's day 1775, and participated in a banquet. On this occasion, we are told, thirteen members are said to have met, and, measuring all their proceedings by the patriotic number thirteen (in honour of the thirteen States), they had thirteen dishes of meats, banquetted thirteen hours, drank thirteen toasts, sang thirteen songs, and, with a capacity which must astound our brethren of this generation, drank thirteen bottles of wine and thirteen bowls of toddy, and it is added that, by way of consistency, the landlord's bill amounted to £13. During the occupation of the city by the British troops, its Lodges were interfered with, and, perhaps, suspended; but one, probably connected with the Royal forces, appears to have met at Second Street and Elfreth's Alley. When, however, the city was evacuated, the return of the Whigs gave new spirit to Masonry. The brethren re-assembled, and though, as the issue of the contest was yet doubtful, no formal assertion was made at the time that the ties connecting them with the Grand Lodge in England were severed, a feeling prevailed that the declaration of National Independence had virtually established a ground for such rupture. Certainly, American Masons were in no way restrained in what they did by any regard for ancient authority. P.G.M. William Ball was charged with the important duty of organising the Grand Lodge, and he summoned the brethren to meet on 16th December 1778, when Bro. Rev. William Smith was appointed Secretary *pro tem*, and Grand Officers were elected. On St. John's day of the same year, the Grand Lodge and subordinate Lodges celebrated the day by a procession and other ceremonies, the occasion being honoured by the presence of Bro. George Washington, who took part in the procession, supported by the Grand Master and his Deputy. Divine service was held in Christ Church, after which they returned to the College, and afterwards dined in their respective Lodges, a collection amounting to £400, for the relief of the poor, appropriately closing this portion of the proceedings. At the meeting of Grand Lodge in this year, a committee was appointed to present a new code of laws for its future government, and, in November 1781, Bro. Rev. William Smith presented an abridgement of Dermot's "Ahiman Rezon," with alterations and additions; and it was unanimously accepted. In 1780, this abridgement was published, under the title of "The Abridged Ahiman Rezon, as a help to all that are, or would be Free and Accepted Masons," and it is now known among the Craft as "Smith's Ahiman Rezon."

In the meantime, an attempt was made by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to establish a Grand Lodge of the United States, even before the Revolutionary War was over. A special communication was held for this purpose, in 1780, and resolutions were adopted in favour of a General Grand Lodge, with General George Washington as General Grand Master for the whole of the United States, but the proposition was coldly received by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and afterwards fell through. In 1785, a

Sublime Lodge of Perfection, according to the rites recommended by the King of Prussia, extending the Masonic degrees to 33, was constituted in the new Grand Lodge room in Black Horse Alley, and at the banquet which followed at the City Tavern, the occasion was dignified with thirteen toasts, the first being in honour of the King of Prussia, and the second of Bro. George Washington. The new room in Black Horse Alley could not have been occupied for a long time, for in the year following the meetings were again held in the Old Masonic Hall, built by the modern Masons in Lodge Alley. This branch of the Order, however, declined very rapidly, and in 1785, an Act was passed by the Assembly of Pennsylvania, ordering the sale of the Masonic Hall. The revenue from the rents and profits was to be given, two-thirds to subscribers and one-third to the first Lodge, and two-thirds of the proceeds of the sale were paid to subscribers then living, and one-third to the first Lodge for charitable purposes. The sale was effected in 1792, the first Lodge handing over its share to the City Corporation in 1793, to form a fund for the purchase of fuel for the poor. In December 1786, the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, which had rented the Masonic Hall for some time, resumed its meetings in Vidells Alley, where they had been held before the outbreak of the Revolution.

As might, perhaps, have been foreseen, a severance from England of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, when once the Independence of the United States was established, was soon determined upon. A special meeting of Grand Lodge, with subordinate Lodges, was held in September 1783, when it was "Resolved, that it is improper that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania should remain any longer under the authority of any foreign Grand Lodge." At a convention subsequently held, it was unanimously resolved that the heretofore Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania should be determined, and the Lodges under its jurisdiction should form themselves into a Grand Lodge, to be called "The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and Masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging," and to be holden in Philadelphia. When Franklin died in 1790, the Masonic Lodges took no part in the funeral procession, he being a modern Mason, but an address of respect had, some years previously, been presented to him. But, when General Washington died, in December 1799, Congress requested the society of Freemasons to attend as mourners, and this request was complied with, Lodge L'Amenité No. 73, holding also a Lodge of sorrow in honour of the deceased brother. The Craft were also present on the occasion of the funeral solemnity, on 22nd January 1800, Grand Lodge being present, and the following Blue Lodges, L'Amenité, No. 73; Philadelphia Lodge, No. 72; Orange Lodge, No. 71; Concordia Lodge, No. 67; Washington Lodge, No. 59; Harmony Lodge, No. 52; Lodge No. 19; Lodge No. 9; Lodge No. 3 and Lodge No. 2; between three and four hundred Masons being in the parade.

As regards Military Lodges during the Revolution, these were held under direction of officers of regiments, the ceremonies being made as complete as could be under the circumstances. It is known that before the war, brothers of the 17th Regiment British were granted a warrant to work as a Lodge by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and this was designated Lodge No. 18. The present Lodge, No. 19, or Montgomery Lodge, was established by warrant granted in May 1779, to the "First Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteer Artillery." This Lodge travelled with the Pennsylvania line during the war, and in 1784 its warrant was surrendered to Grand Lodge, a new one, under which it is still worked, being issued in place thereof in 1786. Other warrants for travelling Lodges were issued by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, not only to Pennsylvanian lodges, but to those of other states, among them being warrant No. 29 to North Carolina Regiment Continental Army; Warrant No. 27 to Maryland Regiment ditto; Warrant No. 36 to New Jersey Brigade ditto.

The subject of Royal Arch Masonry appears to have caused some difficulty to the Order in Pennsylvania. According to "Ahiman Rezon," the first Royal Arch Chapter in America of which any account exists was held in Philadelphia before 1758. This chapter worked under the warrant of Lodge No. 3, and had communication with a military chapter working under a warrant granted by the Grand Lodge of England. In 1795, one Molan,

under the warrants of Lodges No. 5, 19, 52 and 67, and a Maryland and Georgia Lodge. But the Grand Lodge stepped in and suspended these Lodges, further declaring that Molan ought not to be received as a Mason by any of the Lodges under its jurisdiction. The suspended Lodges were afterwards restored, and it was resolved to erect a Grand Royal Arch Chapter, under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. This was the first Chapter established in the United States. In 1798 it was decreed that no warrant for a chapter should be granted by the Grand Chapter, except to be worked under the warrant of a regular subsisting Lodge. Innovations, however, were meditated in other parts of the Union. In 1797, a convention of several chapters in the northern States was held at Boston, delegates from Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont and New York attending. By this convention it was declared, in opposition to the Pennsylvania precedent, that "no Grand Lodge had any authority to exercise any authority over any convention or Chapter of Royal Arch Masons," and co-operation was invited to assist in the opening of a Grand Chapter at Hartford, towards the end of January of the ensuing year. This was done, and a Grand Chapter erected, having authority over the above States. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania protested against this action, but in vain. The innovation spread, causing much inconvenience to the Royal Arch Masons of Pennsylvania, with whom it became a subject of great complaint.

MANY A MICKLE MAKES A MUCKLE.

A GOOD tale needs no varnishing. Plunge we, therefore, at once, in the manner prescribed by Horace, *in medias res*. Last year an excellent plan was devised, by our esteemed Bro. Constable, for the purpose of augmenting the funds of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Its very simplicity no doubt commended it to the members of the Craft, and a marked success was the gratifying result. Bro. Constable had printed and circulated among the brethren, some two thousand shilling tickets, each of which entitled its owner to take part in a ballot or drawing for certain Life Governorships to the Institution, the number of such being determined by the amount realised by their sale. By this means Bro. Constable was enabled to hand in, as steward of the anniversary festival, held on 28th January 1874, the highly respectable sum of £100. The same plan is proposed this year, on behalf of the Girls' School. Four thousand tickets have already been distributed, every two hundred and ten of which—or ten guinea's worth—representing a Life Governorship or two Life Subscriberships, at the option of the winner. Thus—to deal with even figures for the better exemplification of the scheme—if between the date of issue and the 28th April next, the day fixed for the ballot, 4,200 tickets shall have been sold, the proceeds will represent two hundred guineas, or the value of twenty Life Governorships. The holders of these 4,200 tickets will then assist at the ballot for the 20 prizes, and the names of the twenty winners will be forwarded to the Secretary of the Institution, for the purpose of enrolment among the Life Governors. By this means two hundred guineas—without any deduction whatever, be it remarked—will be added to the funds of the school. These figures represent, we believe, approximately, the amount of success which has thus far attended the project, but there is no limit whatever to the sum proposed to be raised in this manner. There is ample time between now and the day fixed for the ballot to increase the number of tickets twofold or threefold, in which case the two hundred guineas we have spoken of would be increased to four hundred or six hundred guineas and the number of Life Governorships from twenty to forty or sixty.

We have said the plan is simple; it possesses also these further advantages. There are many Masons who can ill afford a contribution of one guinea, or even of half-a-guinea, and yet have the heart to contribute, out of their limited means, some smaller sum. There are many, again, who, possessing this will, would yet hesitate to put their names down for such trifling contributions in a subscription list filled with donations varying from one to ten or even more guineas. Bro. Constable's scheme just meets the case of these brethren. According to the number of tickets they can afford to purchase, by so many shillings will they have increased the funds of the Institution.

They will further possess the inward satisfaction of feeling that though less wealthy than other, and more fortunately circumstanced members of the Craft, they are in no wise less charitable. Their pride too, in the charity of the Craft, will have a juster, and, we may add, a more extended basis to rest upon. Our Masonic Institutions will thus become, in every sense, a credit to the whole Craft, instead of being a credit to only a limited number of its wealthier members. It only remains for us to add, that the plan has our warmest wishes for its success.

We cannot do better, perhaps, than close these remarks with the following pertinent extract from the speech of the Marquess of Ripon, our late Worshipful Grand Master, delivered at the Festival of the Boys' School, on the 11th March 1874:—

"What I want to impress upon you to-night is this: that it is far better that these institutions should be supported by small subscriptions from large numbers, than that they should be supported by large subscriptions from a few. You who can subscribe and do not, have no right to say that the Boys' School is a credit to Freemasonry; it is a credit to its subscribers; it is no credit, but a discredit to those who do not subscribe. And I earnestly beg you to reflect that these institutions are the proofs which are held up, and which we ourselves hold up to our fellow countrymen, of the advantages of the spirit by which the Craft in this country is animated; but they are only proofs in the degree in which they are supported, throughout the length and breadth of the Craft, by every one who can give any support at all. Do not let any brother be ashamed to give a small subscription. A great many small subscriptions will, in the end, come, as you well know, to a great deal more than a few large ones, and what you want is that these institutions should rest upon the widest possible basis, that they should be truly representatives of the spirit of this ancient fraternity; that what we say after dinner we may say deliberately at all times, without fear of contradiction, that the spirit of the Craft is to be judged by the fruits which it bears in institutions like this, because these institutions do not rest upon the generosity of the few, but because they are founded upon the broad and staple basis of the general support of the Craft."

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

Parliament was opened yesterday by Royal Commission at 2 p.m. The following is

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

It is with great satisfaction that I again meet you and resort to the advice and assistance of my Parliament.

I continue to receive assurances of friendship from all foreign powers. The peace of Europe has remained, and I trust will remain, unbroken. To preserve and consolidate it will ever be a main object of my endeavours.

The conference held at Brussels on the laws and usages of war has concluded its sittings. My government have carefully examined the reports of its proceedings; but, bearing in mind, on the one hand, the importance of the principles involved, and, on the other, the widely divergent opinions which were there expressed, and the improbability of their being reconciled, I have not thought it right to accede to proposals which have been made for further negotiations on the subject. The correspondence which has passed will be presented to you.

The Government of Spain, presided over by Marshal Serrano, has ceased to exist, and the Prince of Asturias has been called to the throne under the title of King Alfonso XII. The question of formally recognising, in concert with other powers, the newly restored monarchy, is at this moment before my Government, and its decision will not be long delayed. It is my earnest hope that internal peace may be speedily restored to a great, but unfortunate country.

The exertions of my naval and consular servants in the repression of the East African Slave Trade have not been relaxed, and I confidently trust that they will bring about the complete extinction of a traffic equally repugnant to humanity and injurious to legitimate commerce.

The differences which have arisen between China and Japan, and which at one time threatened to lead to war between those States, have been happily adjusted. I have learnt with pleasure that the good offices of my Minister at Peking have been largely instrumental in bringing about this result.

The past year has been one of general prosperity and progress throughout my Colonial Empire.

On the Gold Coast, a steady advance has been made in the establishment of civil government, peace has been maintained, and I have procured the assent of the protected tribes to the abolition of slavery. Henceforward, I trust, freedom will exist there, as in every part of my dominions.

In Natal I have found myself under the necessity of reviewing

the sentence which had been passed upon a native chief, and of considering the condition of the tribes, and their relations to the European settlers and my Government. I doubt not that I shall have your concurrence in any measures which it may become my duty to adopt for ensuring a wise and humane system of native administration in that part of South Africa.

Papers will be laid before you on these several matters.

The King and Chiefs of Fiji having made a new offer of their islands unfettered by conditions, I have thought it right to accept the cession of a territory, which, independently of its large natural resources, offers important maritime advantages to my fleets in the Pacific.

An ample harvest has restored prosperity to the provinces of my Eastern Empire, which, last year, were visited with famine. By the blessing of Providence, my Indian Government has been able entirely to avert the loss of life, which I had reason to apprehend from that great calamity.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

I have directed the estimates of the year to be prepared and presented to you without delay.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

The condition of the finances is satisfactory. The trade of the country in the past year has somewhat fallen short of that of the year before, but the general prosperity of the people, supported, as it has been, by an excellent harvest, as well as by the great reductions lately made in taxation, has led to a steady increase in the consumption of all the necessaries of life, and of those articles which contribute to the revenue.

The various statutes of an exceptional or temporary nature now in force, for the preservation of peace in Ireland, will be brought to your notice with a view to determine whether some of them may not be dispensed with.

Several measures which were unavoidably postponed at the end of last Session, will be again introduced. Among the most important are those for simplifying the transfer of land, and completing the reconstruction of the judicature.

Bills will be also laid before you for facilitating the improvement of the dwellings of the working classes in large towns; for the consolidation and amendment of the Sanitary Laws; and for the prevention of the pollution of rivers.

A measure has been prepared for consolidating and amending the laws relating to friendly societies. Its object will be to assist, without unnecessarily interfering with, the laudable efforts of my people to make provision for themselves against some of the calamities of life.

A Bill for the amendment of the Merchant Shipping Acts will be laid before you.

Your attention will be moreover directed to legislation for the better security of my subjects from personal violence, and for more effectually providing for the trial of offences by establishing the office of a public prosecutor.

Although the report of the commission issued by me to inquire into the state and working of the law as to offences connected with trade has not yet been made to me, I trust that any legislation on this subject which may be found to be expedient may take place in the present Session.

You will also be invited to consider a measure for improving the law as to agricultural tenancies.

I commend to your careful consideration these and other measures which may be submitted to you, and I pray that your deliberations may, under the Divine blessing, result in the happiness and contentment of my people.

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

—:o:—

MAGAZINES OF THE MONTH.

Considering the tendencies of *Blackwood* towards Conservatism, its survey of "Politics at Home and Abroad" is very impartially written. No one can deny that the Liberal party is somewhat disorganised at present, or that its re-organisation is desirable. Nor will any of our readers cavil at the sketch of American and Continental politics. None, we think, will gainsay the accuracy of the writer's statements on these matters. But the most attractive reading in the present number will be found in the article headed, "The Payment of the Five Millions." We hardly know which to admire most, the description of the manner in which this marvellous operation was carried out, or the apparently inexhaustible resources of the country which has paid so immense an indemnity, and is yet prosperous, even more than before the war. The short tale, "Giannetto," is concluded. The materials were slight, but the writer has worked them up and has formed of them a well planned story. We must note that "The Story of Valentine and his Brother" is brought to a close. It has been one of the chief attractions of *Blackwood* for several months past. Few stories, indeed, have afforded us greater pleasure.

There is a capital contribution to *Temple Bar* on "The Universality of Superstitions connected with Sneezing." "A Few Weeks with Hans Andersen," the well-known Danish writer, gives us an insight into the character of one of the ablest writers for youth of this, or, indeed, of any age. Mrs. Edwards's tale of "Leah; a Woman of Fashion," and "Patricia Kemball," are quite as interesting as ever. Nor should we pass over unnoticed the articles on "Benvenuto Cellini" and "Mirabeau and Madame de Nehra."

There is, as usual, abundance of agreeable light reading in *London Society*, and the illustrations are excellent. "Some of the Difficulties of Dramatic Literature," by Augustus W. Dubourg, "Gastronomical

Rambles," by Sarcelle, and "How the World Wags," by Rapier, are among the best of the occasional papers, the last containing criticisms dramatic, artistic, literary and meteorological. Guy Roslyn's poem, "Old Love and New," is not the least of this month's attractions, nor should Mr. Henry Blackburn's paper, "On some Illustrated Gift Books," in which are discussed the merits of such works as "Doré's Atala," "Our British Landscape Painters," by W. B. Scott, and others, be lost sight of.

The contents of the *Argosy* are worthy of all praise. Whether we turn to the serial tales—"Darkwater," and "A Secret of the Sea,"—"Margaret Rymer," by Johnny Ludlow, to "Madge's Sacrifice," by E. M. Alford, or to "Round about Barmouth," by the author of "A Welsh Ramble," we shall find ourselves equally pleased.

The *Gentleman's* maintains the high character it has so long held, and especially under the present editorship. Mr. Justin McCarthy's "Dear Lady Disdain," and Mr. Frank Percival's "Al Lyn Sahib," are becoming more and more interesting as the features of the two stories gradually develop themselves. Mr. D. Christie Murray's contribution of "A Scrap of Crimean History," Camille Barrère's "Mademoiselle Desclée," and Mr. Arthur Clive's "Trammels of Poetic Expression," are also to be commended.

Belgravia contains a contribution by Mr. Sala, "Cobbett's Comedy," "Ballets and Ballet-dancers," by Dutton Cook, "A Model Epic," and an article "On Pains and Anodynes," by Charles Kidd, M.D. The "Notes from a German Band" is an affecting story, effectively told. The serials are "Hostages to Fortune," and Mrs. C. Reade's "A Study in Gray." We must not omit to state that the illustrations are admirably drawn.

In *Fraser* is continued the account of "The Early Kings of Norway." Among the other contributions we must single out the papers on "Vegetarianism," by Mr. Newman; on "German Home Life," anent the subject of "Furniture;" on the "Brussels Conference," by Mr. Henry Otley; and on "The Finance of New Zealand," by the Premier of the Colonial Government. The first of these will find many readers, but we do not anticipate any very considerable abandonment among our brethren of their early instilled regard for flesh food. We do not admire vegetables less than we ought to do, but meat seems more acceptable, and, to our mind, more nutritious likewise. Not the least valuable of the contributions this month is a singularly well written paper by Mr. Forsyth, "On the Limits of Science." We are sure our readers will be highly gratified with the ability displayed by the writer. Karl Blind's "Personal Recollections about Ledru Rollin" is worthy also of praise.

We can single out from the *Contemporary* but two or three articles which are likely to prove of general interest. These are, Principal Tulloch's sketch of "The Author of Thorndale," Mr. Newall's "The Municipality of London," Mr. J. FitzJames Stephen's remarks on "The Laws of England as to the expression of Religious Opinion," and Father Bridgett's Paper on "The Sanctity of Dirt," in which, as we think, he fully vindicates the Church in the Middle Ages from Dr. Lyon Playfair's aspersions. Father Bridgett is evidently master of sufficient facts to upset the ex-Postmaster-General's statements. There is, moreover, in the worthy Father's method of handling his subject, a marked geniality of manner which cannot fail to influence the reader in his favour. The rest of the number is undoubtedly interesting, but to the select circles of the learned only.

Baily can never, by any possibility, be otherwise than capital reading. It always contains a good selection of subjects, and these are invariably well-handled. "The Turf in Ireland," "Sport in the Italian Alps," by "the Old Shekarry," and Country Quarters, together with "Our Van;" these are the principal attractions of the present number, which is further adorned with an apparently life-like portrait of the "Earl of Pembroke."

The opening and closing papers of *Cornhill* are devoted to fiction—Mr. Black's "Three Feathers" heading, and "Miss Angel" concluding the programme. The intermediate articles are highly interesting. "Have we two Brains?" is discussed very learnedly, and "Thoughts about Thinking" will probably set our readers thinking, even if they do not go somewhat further, and admire the thoughts of the present writer. There is also a paper on "The Coming Arctic Expedition," with the purport of which very few will be found to disagree.

Tinsley's is chiefly devoted to serial fiction—"With Harp and Crown," by the authors of "Ready Money Mortiboy," and Mr. Farjeon's "Love's Victory," being the most attractive. Dr. Maurice Davis's "The Social Status Quo," and "Full Measure," by Minnie Young, are perhaps the best of the occasional papers. But the whole number is, as usual, excellent.

We have received the first number of the *Boy's Athenæum*, a new periodical commenced this year. From the prospectus, forwarded some weeks since, we gather that the intention of the promoters is to provide a better class of magazine for boys of middle age, who were certainly placed in a gulf between *Little Folks* and the usual class of magazines. If the promise of this number is realised in the future, we think this requirement will be satisfied. The contents are varied, and the style, tone, and matter are generally good. The *Boy's Athenæum* has our very good wishes for its prosperity.

The December and January numbers of *Le Monde Maçonnique*,—an organ of French Masonry—contains an admirable collection of news, both local and foreign, of great interest to our readers. Some excellent details of Swiss, Italian, and American news will be found in its pages. The article, indeed, on Masonry in Italy, is so encouraging that we have had it rendered into English, and it will be found in another part of our columns.

Macmillan's opens with a review, by Sir Samuel Baker, of "The Last Journals of David Livingstone," which will be doubly interesting from the eminence achieved by both the journalist and the reviewer in the same field of labour. Among the other articles, Mr. Munro's on "Recent Latin Verse,"—a criticism on a recent article thereon,

Mr. W. Baptiste Scoone's "On the Civil Service of England," and A. H.'s brief, but excellent obituary of Charles Kingsley, are chiefly to be commended.

Cassell's Family Magazine contains further chapters of the "Manchester Man" and "Pretty Miss Bellew," besides a capital selection of papers on various subjects. Among them may be noted Mr. Payne's very sensible article on "Kitchen Economy," and Mr. J. E. Taylor's "English Forests under the Sea."

In the *Leisure Hour*, *Sunday at Home*, *All the Year Round*, *Good Words*, *Good Things*, and in *Little Folks*, *The Quiver* and other periodicals issued by Messrs. Cassell and Co., will be found the usual quantum of readable matter. A word as to the *Popular Educator*, the new edition of which, after a course of three years, is completed this month. No more useful work of this kind exists, so far as we know, embodying, as it does, all the best information obtainable on nearly every subject under the sun. Shortly the first number of the *Technical Educator* is announced to take the place of the *Educator*. We doubt not its success will be quite as signal as that of its predecessor.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Letters and communications must be addressed to the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, 67 Barbican, London, E.C.

SUBSCRIBER (York).—Thanks for your suggestion. We have considered the matter and will see what can be done.

J. G. L.—Why not purchase the book? Bro. Kenning will supply it; the price is 1s 6d.

R. A. B.—Thanks for your communication, which you will see we have made use of.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.

THE ARCHÆOLOGY OF THE CRAFT.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—Your article on the above subject has impressed me very deeply. Having devoted much time to the study of the History and Antiquities of Egypt, I have long held the idea that the real birthplace of Masonry as a Science is the valley of the Nile. Recent research has clearly demonstrated that the ancient people who lived at the head of the Mediterranean derived the elements of science and civilisation from Egypt. It is well known that Greece was indebted to the land of the Nile for the principles of Art. The severe beauty of the Greek temple is merely a refinement of the massive outlines which characterised the temples of Memphis and Thebes. The hand of the Greek gave to Egyptian forms a beauty they did not before possess, and the stiff conventional forms of the Egyptian artist were transformed, by the skilful hand of the Hellenic sculptor, into those graceful outlines which are still the admiration and despair of the artistic world. In proof of this we have only to turn to any good work on the grammar of art, and we shall find that the shaft, base, and capital of the column, for example, are substantially the same in Egyptian and Greek architecture. The Greek improved the proportions of the shaft, added the plinth, and reduced the capital to these severe and beautiful outlines, which are models for the architects of the modern world. The people of Tyre undoubtedly derived the arts from the Nile, and their architecture of course partook of the main features of Egypt. I have taken the trouble to compare the ground plan of the great Egyptian temples, as given in Fergusson's Handbook of Architecture, with the very full description of Solomon's Temple in the Book of Chronicles, and I venture to affirm that the main features of the latter are identical with those of the former. The so-called porch, was, no doubt, as its proportions show, merely an obelisk, or, at all events, a tower, akin to the architectural fronts of the Egyptian temples.

Trusting that you will pursue this most interesting subject further, I remain, dear Sir, yours fraternally,

Lincoln, 4th February.

ROYAL ARCH.

P.S.—Josephus affirms that the Grecian style of architecture was used in the building of the Temple at Jerusalem, but the proportions of the porch do not agree with any of the structural features of Greek architecture.

THE LIFEBOAT ENDOWMENT.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The effort being made, through the medium of your columns, to establish an Endowment Fund for the Lifeboat which has been presented to the National Association is worthy of support, and I hope to see that steps will shortly be taken to carry out this laudable movement, to assist in which I will contribute the mite of

Yours fraternally,

A YOUNG MASON.

CLUB HOUSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picked 1s 3d per pack, 14s per dozen packs. Do. seconds 1s per pack, 11s per dozen packs. If by post 1½d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bézique, Écarté, &c., Mogul Quality 10d per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, E.C.

THE THEATRES, &c.

COVENT GARDEN.—At 7.0, THE VIVANDIERE. At 7.45, THE BABES IN THE WOOD.
DRURY LANE.—At 7.0, TEN OF 'EM. At 7.30, ALADDIN.
HAYMARKET.—A FAIR ENCOUNTER, HOME and THE SERIOUS FAMILY.
ADELPHI.—At 7.0, THE DREAM AT SEA and THE CHILDREN IN THE WOOD.
PRINCESS'S.—At 7.0, THE LANCASHIRE LASS and BEAUTY AND BEAST.
LYCEUM.—At 6.50, FISH OUT OF WATER. At 7.45, HAMLET.
OLYMPIC.—At 7.0, TWENTY MINUTES WITH A TIGER. At 7.30, THE TWO ORPHANS.
STRAND.—At 7.0, INTRIGUE. At 7.30, OLD SAILORS. At 9.15, LOO AND THE PARTY WHO TOOK MISS.
PRINCE OF WALES'S.—At 7.45, SWEETHEARTS and SOCIETY.
GAIETY.—At 7.0, BENGAL TIGER. At 8.15, MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR.
GLOBE.—At 7.0, A PRETTY PIECE OF BUSINESS. At 8.0, BLUE BEARD.
ROYALTY.—At 8, AWAKING. At 9, LA PERICHOLE.
VAUDEVILLE.—At 7.0, A WHIRLIGIG. At 7.45, OUR BOYS. At 10, ROMULUS AND REMUS.
CHARING CROSS.—At 7.30, MR. JOFFIN'S LATCH KEY. At 8.15, THE NEW MAGDALEN.
OPERA COMIQUE.—At 7.30, HOUSEHOLD FAIRY. At 8.15, LADY OF LYONS.
COURT.—At 7.30, DREADFULLY ALARMING. At 8, MAGGIE'S SITUATION. At 9, BRIGHTON.
ALHAMBRA.—At 7.0, THE TWO BONNYCASTLES. At 7.45, WHITTINGTON.
CRITERION.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS, &c.
AMPHITHEATRE, HOLBORN.—At 7.0, THE IRISH EMIGRANT. At 8.15, BLUE BEARD.
SURREY.—FORTY THIEVES and THE SECRET.
PHILHARMONIC.—THE WATERMAN and THE BOHEMIAN GIRL.
HENGLER'S CIRQUE.—At 2.30 and 7.30, LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD.
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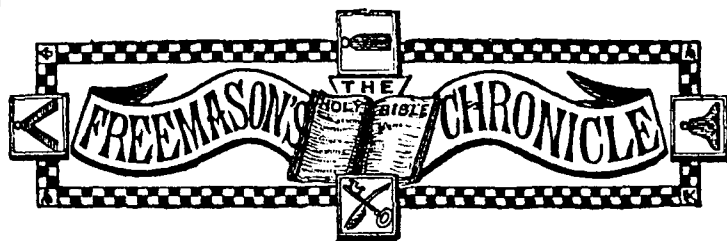
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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

CURRENT EVENTS.

WE cannot too heartily congratulate ourselves on the utter absence of excitement which marks the opening of the present Parliamentary Session. In no other country are the evidences of perfect contentment with the *status quo* so manifest as in England. France is in the full heat of constitutional discussion, endeavouring to settle, if only for the next few years, what shall be her form of Government. The rule of Von Bismarck is endured, for Germany needs a strong arm and an iron will to guide it safely through the present ecclesiastical dissensions. The several parts of the new Empire can hardly yet be said to have been welded together into one whole, certainly not into one harmonious whole. Bavaria, during the whole course of its existence as a State, has always been intensely Romish, and Bavaria forms no inconsiderable section of the Empire. Hanover, no doubt, will bide its time, and may yet struggle to regain its autonomy when a favourable opportunity presents itself. The rule of blood and iron cannot last for ever, for the rulers are not immortal. Had Prussia been Germanised, the stability of the empire would have been more assured. As the case stands now, Germany is Prussia, Bavaria and the other small States being little more than conquered provinces. The old struggle to prevent the supremacy of any single power in Europe may be renewed at no distant date, and the boasted German unity of to-day, may once again resolve itself into its original discordant elements. Then the goodwill of Russia is not always to be relied on, and France will not soon forget her recent humiliation. Surely there is enough here to excuse any rejoicing that our United Kingdom is differently constituted from the Prussianised German Empire.

But still more satisfactory is it to feel that any serious party struggle is in the highest degree improbable. It is, of course, on the cards that the Ministry may commit some serious blunder. The sections of the Opposition may find some common ground of action, and display unwonted energy to the damage of the Conservatives. But at present, at all events, there is no sign whatever of any disturbance of the political atmosphere. The Session has commenced. The programme of the year's Parliamentary labours is before the country. It seems plain and business like, and if the year 1875 may find nothing to boast of in the way of sensational legislation, we do not doubt it will be in a position to congratulate itself on a fair amount of good and useful work. After all a year's rest from serious political excitement will do us a world of good.

Of home news there is very little to record which is not equally gratifying. The health of Bro. Prince Leopold is so far restored that we are told no further bulletins will be issued. Every one will rejoice at this intelligence, and none more than his brethren "of the mystic tie." The knotty point who shall lead "Her Majesty's Opposition" is also settled. The Marquis of Hartington is the successor of Mr. Gladstone, and the choice, perhaps, was the best that could have been made. The meeting at the Reform Club passed off admirably. Mr. Bright took the chair, and among the speakers were Messrs. Whitbread, Fawcett, C. Villiers, and S. Morley. The two former proposed a resolution of thanks to Mr. Gladstone for the services he had rendered his party; the two latter that his successor be the Marquis of Hartington. It is needless to add that both these resolutions were accepted *nem con.* The meeting then dispersed, after a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Bright for presiding. It only remains to be seen if the whole of the Liberal party will accept the newly chosen leader. We sincerely hope so, for the reasons stated a week or two since, that a strong Opposition is almost as necessary to the State as a strong Government.

Death has been busy of late among our leading public men. Last week the Rev. Canon Kingsley, author of "Westward Ho!" and "Alton Locke," and Lord St.

Leonards, some time Lord Chancellor, first of Ireland, then of England, passed from among us. This week a third eminent man, Professor Sir Sterndale Bennett, has been added to the list. A graceful tribute to the memory of the first of these worthies will be found in the pages of the current number of *Macmillan*. Lord St. Leonards had reached the ripe age of 94, and will be remembered as probably the profoundest lawyer of his day. In one sense, perhaps, the death of Sir Sterndale Bennett is the greatest loss of all, for in him we lose our greatest classical composer, the friend and pupil of Mendelssohn. It will be very, very long before the gap thus created in the musical world can be refilled; it may, indeed, be never. The funeral takes place to-day at Westminster Abbey, and there his last resting place will be, appropriately, with the great in literature, in science, and in statecraft, both of the past and present ages.

There is little to add. The party leaders have held their official banquets. The South Wales strike is in full vigour. The usual number of deputations have waited upon sundry of the Ministers. Abroad, the French Assembly, by a majority of 200, have accepted a Republic virtually, if not definitively. In Spain, the Carlists appear to be getting the worst of it. According to the latest advices, the Alphonist Army is within a few miles of Estella, the chief position of Don Carlos. But we must not forget that had all the Madrid telegrams of the last year or two proved true, the Carlist forces must have been renewed and annihilated at least half-a-dozen times. It matters little, perhaps, to England whether Spain is ruled by a Don Carlos or a Don Alphonso. Certainly, the latter who is supposed to be a Constitutional King, or, at all events, his ministers on his behalf, have a happy knack of putting their foot down somewhat heavily on Protestants and Freemasons. In the United States, the action of the Federal Authorities in Louisiana appears to be universally condemned. It is long since there was so much excitement in the land of the Stars and Stripes. However, *sufficit diei sua veratio*.

The Agricultural Returns for 1874, issued by the Board of Trade, contain some interesting, and, at the same time, somewhat remarkable facts, first, as to the reclaiming of waste land, and secondly, as to the conversion of arable into pasture land. England and Scotland have alone reclaimed 1,311,000 acres between them—of which 970,000 fell to the share of the former—within the last six years. The conversion of arable into pasture land seems to meet a national *desideratum*. The effect is, of course, to increase our live stock by as much as we reduce our corn supply. The meat-eating community in these islands has increased so enormously that during the past few years the supply has not been equal to the demand, and consequently the price of meat has risen about 40 per cent. The butcher's bill is the *bête-noir* of every small household. Now it is far easier to import corn than meat, for the former keeps well. Between 1868 and 1874, over a million acres of arable land were converted into pasture in England, Scotland, and Wales. Reckoning an acre to each bullock, it requires little arithmetic to compute that such a conversion would find grazing for a million head of cattle. We imagine that if cattle-rearing and dairy produce became more generally developed in this country, the consequent loss in the corn supply might fairly be left to importations from France, Russia, and America—countries eminently productive of grain.

The Right Worshipful Robert John Bagshaw, Provincial Grand Master for Essex, has appointed Bro. Matthew Edward Clark, of London, to be his Deputy P.G.M. This appointment has been vacant since the death of Bro. Andrew Meggy in January 1873.

A correspondent in the province of Gloucestershire writes to us, suggesting that the Masons of London and its environs should contribute towards the fund now being raised for the restoration of St. Paul's Cathedral. The suggestion is a good one, and certainly merits the attention of our Metropolitan brethren, especially as the architect of that magnificent temple—Sir Christopher Wren—was a distinguished member of our Order, and ruled it for many years as Grand Master. As evidence of what our provincial brethren have done towards the restoration or

adornment of provincial churches, our correspondent has forwarded an account of the sum contributed in 1873, by the Gloucestershire Lodges towards the erection of the Reredos of Gloucester Cathedral. The amount collected was somewhat in excess of £1,068, including £200 from Prov. Grand Lodge, £102 7s 6d from Lodge No. 592 (Cotteswold) and £331 7s from Lodge No. 899 (Royal Gloucestershire).

In a former number we alluded to the unpunctuality of the local trains on the Great Northern Railway, and suggested that an improvement might be looked for when the new line between Finsbury Park and Broad Street was opened. Whether it is to be attributed to this circumstance or not, we are glad to hear that, lately, the evil complained of has nearly disappeared, so far as the morning trains are concerned. There appears to be great irregularity, however, in the evening traffic, which the new line does not seem to have remedied.

The Masonic Ball at the Corn Exchange, Coventry, surpassed in magnificence almost anything of the kind which has been seen in Coventry for many a year. The room had been specially decorated by a committee of Freemasons, and the manner in which the work was carried out was fully recognised by the visitors. The plan of decoration adopted was that of a capacious drawing room, every niche around the room being draped with crimson damask, over which hung some magnificent pictures, kindly lent by Mr. Ralph Smyth, of High Street. The spaces in the corridors were also hung with crimson of a similar material, and white muslin curtains, and in the centre of each space was a beautiful plant. The orchestra, on this occasion, was perhaps the *coup d'œil* of the whole scene. It was draped with crimson damask curtains, the head piece being fringed with a deep white lace or muslin, and at the foot was placed a number of plants and flowers. Similar plants were to be seen at conspicuous points around the room, the intervals being filled in with couches and furniture. Viewed from either end, the large room presented a scene of simple magnificence, without a touch of the gaudy being discernible in any part. The ball commenced at nine o'clock; and towards ten the company began to arrive in large numbers. By midnight most of the *élite* of Coventry had assembled. The success which attended the efforts of the committee was well merited. The musical arrangements were carried out under the superintendence of Mr. George Buckingham, bandmaster to the volunteers, whose talented quadrille band gave great satisfaction. The decorations were superintended by Mr. Ralph Smyth. The refreshments were controlled by Mr. Thomas Iliffe, Drapers' Hall. The following is the programme of the dances:—Quadrille, valse, lancers, galop, valse, quadrille, schottische, galop, lancers, valse, quadrille, galop, valse, lancers, valse, quadrille, polka, galop, valse, lancers, galop, valse, galop. The number present was estimated at 300.

The lock-out in South Wales has, so far, resulted in no disturbance, with the exception of a mischievous propensity displayed by some of the idlers to lift the brakes of the waggons, causing them to run down the inclines and smash either themselves, or any obstacle they may meet in their course. The police seem to be on the alert, however, and we may expect to hear no more of this kind of amusement. A considerable number of the miners appear to have found employment with the non-associated masters. Thus, in the Rhondda Valley, out of 10,000 men usually employed, 2,000 have found work. Even where the miners are idle there are no signs of distress at present. They are said to have laid up a little store for a "rainy day," and can hold out for some time yet. We hope this is correct, for the sake of their wives and families.

According to a writer in *le Monde Maçonique*—the Grand Lodge of Indiana, U.S., included in 1818, five Lodges. Between 1818 and 1839, thirty-six new Lodges were constituted, and in 1854, there were 164 Lodges. From its foundation, this Grand Lodge has granted Constitutions to 545 Lodges, of which about one-sixth have died out. The increase in the number of Masons has been still more rapid. In 1850, there were 112 Lodges, with an average of twenty-eight members per Lodge; in 1860, 269, with an average of thirty-six; in 1870, 421, with an

average of fifty-five members. This average in 1873, had been raised to fifty-seven. It is further noticeable that, in 1850, there was in this State one Mason to every 345 inhabitants; in 1860, one to every 139; and in 1870, one to every seventy-one. The Grand Master of this flourishing Grand Lodge is Bro. Lucian A. Foote; the Grand Secretary, Bro. John Bramwell. There are, at the present day, in the United States, thirty-seven Grand Lodges, numbering 555,200 members, the States which contain the most Masons being New York, with 79,848; Illinois, 35,583; Pennsylvania, 34,772, and Ohio 30,300.

The formation of a tunnel under the sea between Dover and Calais has often been mentioned, but has hitherto been confined to rumour. Within the last few days the project of building this tunnel between Dover and Calais has assumed a more definite shape, and we may soon expect to hear of the actual commencement of the undertaking. We hear that a company is being formed for this purpose. We need only mention such names as Sir John Hawkshaw and Monsieur de Lesseps to have faith in the practicability of the scheme.

On Thursday, the 28th ult., in the Masonic Hall, Limerick, a presentation of plate was publicly made to Lord Dunboyne, in recognition of his services as Provincial Grand Master. His lordship, in acknowledging the compliment, promised that so long as he was spared, he would do all in his power to further the interests of the Craft. In the evening there was a sumptuous entertainment, his lordship being the principal guest.

The honours of the great American Billiard Handicap have been eventually secured by J. Roberts jun., who defeated A. Bennett in the final game. The meeting was highly successful; it brought together such celebrities as Cook, Roberts, A. and J. Bennett, Stanley, Taylor, Kilkenny and Timbrell. The financial results are also gratifying; the admissions, together with a gift of £100, by Messrs. Burroughes and Watts, having produced about £550, which, after deduction of expenses, will be divided among the eight competitors.

Our brethren of Lincolnshire are coming well to the front. They headed the list of Provinces subscribing to the Boys' School last year, and are now in the same honourable position with regard to the R. M. B. I., their contribution to which is £573. One of their Stewards, the Rev. Bro. Daniel Ace, D.D., who has for two years officiated as Provincial Grand Chaplain, and who now holds similar office under the Mark Degree, is well known for his forcible Masonic Sermons, and luminous treatment of advanced social problems.

We read that the Second King of Siam has fled for protection to the house of the British Consul-General. We presume this to be the same Prince who, under the rule of the late First King was so esteemed and respected by Europeans for his tolerance and love of European literature. He is, we believe, one of the few Siamese *literati* who possess the key to those remarkable inscriptions which are still legible on the enormous ruins, of forgotten cities in the dense forests bordering upon Siam and Cambodia, which but few have ever reached after weeks of tropical travel, up the pestilential river that winds through the dense jungle which has overrun them.

Bro. Clarence Holt has created a *furor* at the Oxford, by his delineation of the characters of Sir Walter Scott. Bro. Holt's faithful representations nightly receive well-merited applause.

A Lodge of Instruction, under the warrant of the Egyptian Lodge, No. 27, will be held at Bro. T. J. Maidwell's, the Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall Street, every Thursday evening. Commencing on the 11th inst.

The St. James Union Lodge of Instruction, No. 180, has removed from the Horse and Groom, Winsley Street, Oxford Street, to the Union Tavern, Air Street, Piccadilly. On Wednesday last the 15 sections were worked by the

members of the Salisbury Lodge of Instruction. Bro. J. Mander W.M. occupied the chair, and above forty brethren were present on that occasion.

That the energies of Masons, when roused to energy, can produce excellent results is shown by the following figures, representing the sums severally contributed by the seven East-end Lodges who sent stewards to the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

		£	s	d
Sincerity, No. 174	Bro. E. J. Hilliard	.	.	51 10 0
Yarborough, No. 554	" J. J. Berry	.	.	168 10 0
Duke of Edinbro', No. 1259	" S. Weatherill	.	.	165 0 0
Bardett Coutts, No. 1278	" W. J. Cratch	.	.	103 10 0
Clapton, No. 1365	" C. R. Miles	.	.	65 0 0
Longthorne, No. 1421	" C. W. Ashdown	.	.	40 0 0
Prince Leopold, No. 1445	" W. T. Howe	.	.	105 5 0
Amounting in the aggregate to		.	.	£698 15 0

On Ash Wednesday the Moore and Burgess Minstrels will give their entertainment at the Theatre Royal Drury Lane, in consequence of their own Hall being closed on that date, pursuant to the Act of Parliament of the 25th of George II. We understand the company will be greatly augmented on this occasion.

A complimentary farewell banquet was tendered by the Sydney Lodge of Mark Masters to Brother Senior Warden John Leveson, Past Master of the Zetland Lodge, No. 655, E.C., Past 2nd Principal H. Zetland Chapter of Australia, No. 390, E.C., Past Pro. G. L. Officer, New South Wales, E.C., on his approaching departure for England, which was numerously attended.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

FRIDAY.

THE actual commencement of a lock-out in South Wales, with its attendant evils, is not the least important event in the commercial annals of the week. In a business view also the strain upon our coin reserve has been unusually severe the last few days, but it is hoped that the necessity for such heavy withdrawals as have recently taken place, will soon have ceased to exist, and the balance at the Bank restored to its normal condition. The fact of no change having been made in the quotation after the meeting yesterday is looked upon with a certain amount of satisfaction, as it seemed to be accepted as more than probable that a move to a higher figure would have to be resorted to. Such not being the case, the markets are gaining ground a little, although there are circumstances which require to be taken into account when reviewing the situation, of an exceptional character. The late trial for libel in the *Times* has had its effect on the public mind, and the investigation now going on in another case is not without some influence in deterring speculators from entering into fresh engagements. For these reasons, then, the markets may be described as extremely quiet, and there is evident reluctance to deal with many of the new properties that have lately been brought forward. The instances of "plunder" have been too numerous, unfortunately, in recent times, to be easily forgotten, and it behoves the investor to watch carefully and inquire closely before parting with his or her money. What are known as Trust investments are, although a new medium of employing capital, a recognised feature in the Stock Exchange list, and as we intend occasionally to point out the merits of different undertakings, we propose to supplement the remarks which have, from time to time appeared here, with a few words respecting "Trusts." The principle on which these Trusts are based, is that of averaging the risk of investments by the division of capital amongst a number of different securities. The capital of the trust is put into a number of Stocks of that particular class, with which it deals, and the dividends arising therefrom, are employed, in most cases, in paying interest on the Trust Certificates at a certain fixed rate, and the surplus, in reducing the certificates by drawings. These are the leading features, although not all, but as a rule, the security is considered fairly good, and in cases where the design confines the Trust solely to the investment of its capital in different stocks, the character of the security must depend on the discrimination which has been used in dividing the capital and employing it. In selecting one of these Trusts for an investment all the best available information should be obtained, the last report of the directors or trustees, the report of the last meeting of certificate holders, and if possible a list of the securities held in trust.

The English Funds are fairly quoted, and no adverse movement is reported in this quarter.

For Home Railways there has not been quite such a brisk demand, although the proceedings have not actually changed to weakness. Good dividends have been notified in several instances, and it is to be greatly regretted that a want of harmony in working arrangements between companies prevents the shareholders from reaping the benefits that would otherwise be secured.

The foreign market is moderately firm, and if indications of smoothness could be relied upon, in connection with the money market, it is probable that a firmer feeling would lead to still better prospects.

There are scarcely any new features in regard to American or

Miscellaneous Shares. Colonial Government Bonds have, however, been actively taken up at higher values.

The half-yearly meeting of the Great Northern Railway Company will be held on the 20th inst., to receive the directors' report, and to authorise the raising of fresh capital.

The directors of the Imperial Gas Light and Coke Company announce to their customers that there will be a reduction in the price of gas supplied by the company, from the 1st January last, to the extent of 11d per 1,000 cubic feet. The reduced price for the current year will be at the rate of 3s 9d per 1,000 cubic feet.

Messrs. Crawshaw have given their colliers, in the Forest of Dean, notice of a reduction of 5 per cent. in wages.

A new service of trains have been organised on the Metropolitan Railway, running through to Liverpool Street for the Great Eastern line. A large number of passengers have already availed themselves of this new extension system.

The Corporation of Dublin, it is said, intend presenting a memorial to the Lord Lieutenant, praying that the Government will lend them a sum of £150,000, in addition to the £350,000 which it will be remembered was borrowed some short time since to carry on the main-drainage scheme for Dublin, originally proposed by Sir J. Bazalgette. The rate of interest to be allowed is 3 per cent.

The following statement shows the receipts for traffic on the undermentioned railways for the past week, as compared with the corresponding week in 1874:—

Railway.	Miles open.		Receipts.	
	1875	1874	1875	1874
Caledonian	737	731	52,774	49,690
Glasgow and South Western	315	315	15,416	15,251
Great Eastern	763	762	44,657	42,101
Great Northern	515	513	53,237	50,112
Great Western	1,525	1,502	97,502	102,183
Lancashire and Yorkshire	430	428	62,069	59,034
London and Brighton	376	376	24,912	24,433
London, Chatham and Dover	153	138	15,122	14,058
London and North Western	1,582	1,575	163,380	157,524
London, Tilbury and Southend	42	42	—	—
Manchester and Sheffield	259	258	31,359	28,902
Midland	944	883	110,136	101,470
Metropolitan	7½	7½	8,722	8,373
„ „ District	8	6½	5,250	4,469
„ „ St. John's Wood	1½	1½	—	—
North British	839	820	40,481	37,987
North Eastern	1,379	1,379	120,727	118,271
North London	12	12	6,797	6,695
North Staffordshire Railway	190	185	10,526	10,442
„ „ Canal	118	118	1,577	1,697
South Eastern	350	347	28,122	27,837

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Ever Useful.—The afflicted by illness should look their diseases fully in the face, and at once seek a remedy for them. A short search will convince the most sceptical that these noble medicaments have afforded ease, comfort, and oftentimes complete recovery, to the most tortured sufferer. The Ointment will cure all descriptions of sores, wounds, bad legs, sprains, eruptions, erysipelas, rheumatism, gout and skin affections. The Pills never fail in correcting and strengthening the stomach, in restoring a deranged liver to wholesome condition, in rousing torpid kidneys, to increase the secretions, and in re-establishing the natural and healthy activity of the bowels. Holloway's are the remedies for complaints of all classes of society.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be greatly obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the kingdom would favour us with a copy of their summonses each time of issue.

SATURDAY, 6th FEBRUARY.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Middlesex and Surrey, on Saturday, 6th February, Bridge House Hotel, London-bridge, at 5.
General Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
142—St. Thomas's, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.

SUNDAY, 7th FEBRUARY.

K. T.—Prince Edward, Stansfield.

MONDAY, 8th FEBRUARY.

5—St. George and Corner Stone, Freemasons' Hall.
29—St. Albans, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
59—Royal Naval, Freemasons' Hall.
90—St. John's, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
136—Good Report, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
173—Temple Lodge of Mark Master Masons, Green Dragon, Stepney, at 5.
193—Confidence, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
222—St. Andrews, London Tavern, Rishopsgate-street.
957—Leigh, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 22—Mount Zion, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
R. A. 720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
R. A. 1319—Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.
75—Love and Honour, Masonic Hall, Falmouth.
296—Royal Brunswick, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
1221—Defence, Masonic Hall, Leeds.

TUESDAY, 9th FEBRUARY.

46—Old Union, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
96—Burlington, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
166—Union, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
180—St. James's Union, Freemasons' Hall.
198—Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
211—St. Michael's, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
228—United Strength, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell.
235—Nine Muses, Queen's Hotel, Cork-street, Bond-street.
548—Wellington, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.
834—Ranelagh, Clarendon Arms Hotel, Hammersmith.
917—Cosmopolitan, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
933—Doric, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
R. A. 145—Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 185—Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall.
495—Wakefield, Masonic Hall, Wakefield.
603—Zetland, Royal Hotel, Cleckheaton.
R. A. 228—Fidelity, Leeds.

WEDNESDAY, 10th FEBRUARY.

Committee, Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 3.
3—Fidelity, Freemasons' Hall.
9—Albion, Regents' Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street.
11—Enoch, Freemasons' Hall.
13—Union, Waterloo, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich.
15—Kent, Freemasons' Hall.
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth.
147—Justice, White Swan, High-street, Deptford.
238—Pilgrim, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
749—Belgrave, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, Limehouse.
1017—Montefiore, Freemasons' Hall.
1260—Hervey, Freemasons' Hall.
1305—St. Marylebone, Eyre Arms Tavern, St. John's Wood.
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Tavern, High-street, Wapping.
1018—Shakespeare, Freemasons' Hall, Bradford.
R. A. 280—Prosperity, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.

THURSDAY, 11th FEBRUARY.

19—R. Athelstan, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
91—Regularity, Freemasons' Hall.
206—Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
263—Bank of England, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
534—Polish National, Freemasons' Hall.
657—Canonbury, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
860—Dalhousie, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
870—Southwark, Southwark Park Tavern, Southwark.
1076—Copper, Marine Hotel, Victoria Docks, West Ham.
1216—Macdonald, Head Quarters 1st Surrey Volunteer Corps, Brunswick-road, Camberwell.
1471—Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury.
R. A. 140—St. George, Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich.
R. A. 538—Vane, Freemasons' Hall.
R. A. 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
139—Britannia, Freemasons' Hall, Sheffield.
K. T.—Salamanca, Halifax.

FRIDAY, 12th FEBRUARY.

33—Britannic, Freemasons' Hall.
134—Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
157—Bedford, Freemasons' Hall.
177—Caveac, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
1420—Earl Spencer, Freemasons' Hotel, New Wandsworth.
R. A. 6—Friendship, Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.
458—Aire and Calder, Ouse-street, Goole.
1001—Harrogate and Claro, Masonic Rooms, Harrogate.

SATURDAY, 13th FEBRUARY.

108—London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
173—Phoenix, Freemasons' Hall.
1323—Granite, Freemasons' Hall.
1361—United Service, Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey.
1426—Great City, Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
1446—Mount Edgecumbe, Swan Tavern, Bridge-road, Battersen.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—145—St. Stephen, St. James's Hall, Writer's-court.
TUESDAY—1—Mary's Chapel, Waterloo Hotel, Waterloo-place.
WEDNESDAY—2—Canongate, Kilwinning-street, St. John's Chapel, St. John's-street.
R. A. 1—Edinburgh, Freemasons' Hall.
THURSDAY—3—Journymen, Blackfriars-street, High-street.
FRIDAY—56—Canongate, Kilwinning-street, St. John's Chapel, St. John's-st.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England.—This Chapter was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, on the 3rd instant., Comp. Hugh Sandeman D.G.M. (Bengal) as G.Z., Col. F. Burdett P.G.M. (Middlesex) as H., A. Rawson D.G.M. (China) as J., J. E. Saunders P.G.D., S. N. Rucker G.P.S. P.S., Snell 1st Assistant G.S.S., J. Num 2nd Assistant G.S.S. being present. The minutes of the last quarterly convocation having been read and confirmed, the following report of the Committee of General Purposes was read and adopted:—

The Committee of General Purposes begged to report that they have examined the accounts from the 21st October 1874 to the 19th January 1875, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows:—Receipts, including a balance on 15th July of £306 15s 4d, £690 9s 4d; disbursements, including a balance in hand amounting to £526 4s, £690 9s 4d. It should be added that the balance is in the hands of Messrs. Willis, Percival and Co., bankers of the Grand Treasurer. The Committee likewise reported that they had received the following petitions, viz:—

1st.—From Companions Henry Elmhurst Reader as Z., John Le Marchand Carey as H., Peter Alexander Chavannes as J., and seven others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Pacific Lodge, No. 517, Wellington, New Zealand, to be called "The Wellington Union Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Wellington, New Zealand.

2nd.—From Companions William Henry Jones as Z., Antoine Louis Le Franc as H., Prosouno Coomar Dutt as J., and thirteen others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Anchor and Hope Lodge, No. 234, Calcutta, to be called "The New Union Chapter," and to meet at the Freemasons' Hall, Calcutta, Bengal.

3rd.—From Companions George Blake as Z., William Henry Mackesy as H., Henry Thomas Tanner as J., and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Mayo Lodge, No. 1413, Rawul Pindce, to be called "The Locke Chapter," and to meet at Rawul Pindce, Punjab.

4th.—From Companions Thomas Stalkartt Carter as Z., John Lowthin as H., William Cutbush as J., and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385, Barnet, to be called "The Gladsmuir Chapter," and to meet at the Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, in the County of Hertford.

5th.—From Companions George Keen Lemann as Z., William West Smith as H., Henry McPherson as J., and eleven others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Hornsey Lodge, No. 890, London, to be called "The Hornsey Chapter," and to meet at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, in the City of London.

6th.—From Companions William Stephens as Z., Charles Robert Miles as H., William Lutwyche as J., and six others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Clapton Lodge, No. 1365, Clapton, to be called

"The Clapton Chapter," and to meet at the White Hart Tavern, Upper Clapton, in the County of Middlesex.

7th.—From Companions the Rev Spencer Robert Wigram as Z., Edward England Phillips as H., Albert Lucking as J., and eight others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Priory Lodge, No. 1,000, Southend, to be called "The Priory Chapter," and to meet at the Middleton Hotel, Southend in the County of Essex.

The foregoing petitions being in all respects regular, the Committee recommend that the prayers thereof be respectively granted.

The Committee have likewise received the following petitions:—

8th.—From Companions Robert Scott as Z., Charles Henry Phillips as H., Charles Frederick Besson as J., and eight others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Royal Philanthropic Lodge, No. 405, Trinidad, to be called "The Royal Philanthropic Chapter," and to meet at Port of Spain, Trinidad, in the West Indies.

9th.—From Companions James McDonald Reid as Z., Paulin Josse De Lisle as H., Charles Frederick Oda Rooks as J., and seven others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Prince of Wales' Lodge, No. 876, Trinidad, to be called "The Prince of Wales' Chapter," and to meet at Port of Spain, Trinidad, in the West Indies.

These two petitions, subject to the confirmation of the new law No. 51, passed at the last Convocation of Grand Chapter, rendering Foreign Past Masters eligible for election to the chairs in an English Chapter, are in all respects regular, and the Committee recommend that the prayers thereof be respectively granted.

The foregoing resolutions having been unanimously confirmed, the Grand Chapter was closed. Among those present were Companions James Brett, J. Smith, Browning, H. Browne, Griffiths, Smith, Stephens, C. Hogard, Hadley, H. Muggeridge, Robinson, Dodd, Derry, Parkinson, T. Fenn, H. Thomas, White, H. Massey, H. G. Buss, Copestake, Frampton, Birdseye, H. M. Levy, &c.

Grand Lodge of Scotland.—The quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Scotland was held on Monday, the 1st inst., in Freemasons' Hall, George-street, Edinburgh. There was a large attendance of the brethren, the West of Scotland being especially well represented. In the unavoidable absence of the Most Worshipful Grand Master (Sir Michael Shaw Stewart), the throne was occupied by Brother Henry Inglis of Torsonce, Past Substitute Grand Master, supported by Brother Wm. Mann (Past Grand Warden) Acting Senior Grand Warden, Bro. F. A. Barrow (Senior Grand Deacon) Acting Junior Grand Warden, Rev. A. Thomson Grant Grand Chaplain, Bro. Laurie Grand Secretary, &c. Amongst the other brethren present were W. Hay J.G.D., J. Coghill G.D.C., Capt. Colt of Gartsheine G.S.B., D. Robertson G.B.B., and M. Mackenzie C.G.M., &c., Mr. Roger Montgomerie, M.P., and Mr. Charles Dalrymple, M.P. The Grand Lodge was opened in due form, and apologies for unavoidable absence were intimated from Sir Michael Shaw Stewart M.W.G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Rosslyn P.G.M., Captain J. T. Oswald S.G.M., Major H. Ramsay of Garion, Bro. F. S. Melville President of the Board of Grand Stewards, Bro. W. Officer P.G.D. &c. There were laid on the table presents from the Grand Lodges of Franco, Nova Scotia, Brazil, Ohio, Egypt, Missouri and Hungary, being the published reports of their Grand Lodges. The minutes of the Grand Committee were afterwards read. Petitions for charters for the following Lodges were presented:—"La Vallée de France," Lima; "Independencia," Callao; "Virtud y Union Reguierada," Lima; "Constancia y Concordia," Tacna; "Salem," Ahmedabad; "The Bonnie Doon," Patna; "Star of the West," Parkes N.S.W.; and "Lodge of Polynesia," Fiji. The petitions were granted, that for the "Bonnie Doon" having created discussion, but being ultimately agreed to by a large majority. There was also presented a petition for charter to the lodge, "Dailly Ferguson, St. James," in Ayrshire, which had been sent to the Secretary that day, and it was remitted to Grand Committee, with powers, should they see fit, to grant the charter. On the recommendation of the Grand Committee, Bro. J. M. Reid was appointed Prov. Grand Master for Trinidad, and Sir John Ogilvie Bart. P.G.M. for Forfarshire, in room of the late Earl of Dalhousie. A communication from the Grand Lodge of England was intimated, stating that it would be pleasing to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales G.M. elect of the Grand Lodge of England if the representative at that Grand Lodge, in room of the late Sir James C. P. Murray, were conferred on the Earl of Rosslyn P.G.M. of Scotland. On the communication being read, the appointment was unanimously agreed to. The credentials of the Earl of Dunmore, as representative in Scotland of the Grand Lodge of Hungary, were presented, and his Lordship's appointment was confirmed. Letters of condolence on the death of the Earl of Dalhousie were read from the Grand Orient of France and the Lodge Dalhousie, Mass., U.S., and it was remitted to the Grand Committee to prepare and transmit appropriate replies. Notice was given of a motion, to be tabled for next meeting, having for its object the constitution of Immediate Past Masters as members of Provincial Grand Lodges. This concluded the business, and Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

Kendal Castle Chapter, No. 129.—The annual Convocation of this flourishing Chapter, was held at the Masonic Hall, Stramondgate, Kendal, at high twelve, on Thursday, 28th January. The Chapter was opened in due form by their excellencies, Comp. C. G. Thompson M.E.Z., T. Wilson H., H. Ranthmel J.; assisted by M. E. Comp. Colonel Whitwell M.P., P.Z., P.G. P.S. of England, John Bowes P.Z., P. Prov. G.S.B., John Holme P.Z., William Dodd P.Z., &c. There was a numerous attendance of companions, and amongst the visitors Comp. Thomas Tunstall Asst. Soj., Chapter of Elias Ashmole 148. On the invitation of the M.E.Z., E. Comp. Bowes, assumed the chair of Z., and announced that Bros. John Talbot and Godfrey had been duly elected at the previous Convocation, and were now in attendance and bade the P.S. to do his duty. In due course the two brethren were introduced and solemnly and duly exalted, the acting M.E.Z., being most efficiently assisted by the P.S. Comp. Nelson. After the transaction of some routine business,

M.E. Comp. Colonel Whitwell presented the principals elect, Comps. T. Wilson, H. Ranthmel and the Rev. Canon Ware to E. Comp. Bowes, as Installing Principal, for the benefit of installation; after which they were addressed, and retired, and afterwards severally admitted into solemn conclave of installed principals according to ancient custom. The newly elected officers were then invested, and on the completion of the ceremonies, M.E. Comp. Col. Whitwell proposed, in eulogistic terms, a cordial vote of thanks to the Installing Principal for his valuable services that day. The Chapter was then duly closed.

Union Lodge, No. 129, Kendal.—This old Lodge held its annual meeting on Thursday, 28th January, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. There was an unusually large gathering of brethren. W.M. Bro. Joseph Bintley, Prov. G.S. of Wks. assumed the chair, and, assisted by his wardens, opened the Lodge. The minutes having been read and confirmed, and the Lodge opened in the second degree, the W.M. invited W. Bro. John Bowes P.M. P. Prov. G. Reg. to take the chair. The W.M. then presented Bro. John Talbot S.W., W.M. elect, for the benefit of installation, which ceremony was impressively rendered, in ample form. At the request of the installing master, W. Bro. W. Dodd P.M. P. Prov. G.P. delivered the addresses to the W.M. and Wardens. The new officers having been invested, the thanks of the brethren were accorded to Bro. Bowes for his valuable services, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the King's Arms Hotel, for the banquet, which was of a *recherché*, character, and gave unqualified satisfaction in every respect. The W.M. Bro. Talbot presided, and was supported by the R.W.D. P.G.M. Colonel Whitwell, M.P., Bros. Rev. J. Chaplain, Dr. Page W.M. No. 1074, T. Wilson P.M., W. Dodd P.M., Rev. Wright Chap., Joseph Bintley I.P.M., John Bowes P.M. &c., John Holme P.M. P. Prov. G.S.W., Thomas Tunstall J.W. No. 148, and about sixty brethren. Grace having been said by the chaplain, the W.M. proposed the usual loyal toasts in appropriate terms. Bro. John Bowes P.M. proposed the next toast, "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon M.W. Prov. G.M., the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale R.W. D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers." He said that those brethren who were present when the Noble Lord installed the Prov. G.M. of East Lancashire, in the great Free-trade Hall in Manchester, would not soon forget the able and impressive manner in which that ceremony was rendered by their noble brother. Of Lord Skelmersdale he could say a good deal, and from personal knowledge; he was essentially a "working" Mason, and they felt proud that such noblemen came willingly forward to promulgate the genuine principles and tenets of their noble Order. The other Grand Officers were at all times chosen, not only for their high social rank, but also from the warm interest they took in the Craft. Happy indeed was he to be able to couple with the toast one of themselves, a brother dear to all of them,—their own Deputy Grand Master. He was indeed a distinguished brother, and one ever ready to prove the dignity and high importance of Freemasonry. That the Grand Master should appoint Colonel Whitwell one of his Wardens in the Grand Lodge surprised none of them. He then called upon Colonel Whitwell, M.P., to respond. The D.P.G.M. replied in eloquent terms. After giving expression to the pleasure it gave him to meet his brethren in his Mother Lodge, he referred to the hold that Freemasonry had upon people of all nations. He traced its history from time immemorial, and pictured the importance of its symbolism. When he joined their time-honoured Craft, some of his friends outside their sacred precincts expressed their belief that Freemasonry was a "delusion," yea more, "a snare." Not long ago, when they lost their highly esteemed head, the unlightened thought their days, as a society, were numbered; but what was the fact? They lost a nobleman, to obtain a prince of royal blood! Colonel Whitwell concluded by congratulating the W.M. and all present on the great increase in their numbers locally, and the more general desire to become better acquainted with the deeper meaning of their various teachings. The health of the W.M. was proposed by Bro. Colonel Whitwell who said that the position Bro. Talbot held that day was a proof of the high estimation in which he was held by his brethren and fellows. He congratulated the Lodge at having at its head a brother whom to know was to esteem. The toast was most enthusiastically drunk. The W.M., in responding, said he was fully sensible of the great responsibility he had taken upon himself that day; but he hoped that with the aid of his officers he should be enabled to merit the approbation of the brethren. Bro. C. G. Thomson P.M. P. Pro. G. Reg. proposed the health of the I.P.M. Bro. Joseph Bintley, whom he highly eulogized. They were a large, strong and united Lodge, and Bro. Bintley had contributed his full share to their prosperity and well being. Very cordially, therefore, he proposed his health. The I.P.M., in responding, referred at length to the great zeal and ability of his predecessors, and said that if his efforts to promote the general good of the Lodge met with their approval he had every reason to be satisfied. He then pointed out how necessary it was for the subordinate officers to render ready and willing service to the W.M., and concluded his remarks by a complimentary reference to the W.M. Bro. D. Page M.D. W.M. No. 1074 proposed "The wardens and officers of No. 129." Bros. Grayson, Nelson and Rev. J. Chaplain responded. Bro. John Holme P.M. P. Prov. G. Warden proposed "The visiting brethren." Bros. Dodd, Bell, Pnsey, Tunstall and others responded. The S.W. having proposed "The Masonic Charities," the W.M. called upon Bro. Bowes to respond to the same, which he did, and gave a succinct account of each of the charities, and advocated the formation of a local one, similar in character and design to the West Lancashire Educational Institution. Bro. Holme said there was one toast which did not appear on the list, but which was nevertheless an important one. They had done honour to the officers past and present, from the W.M. downwards, but the bulk of the brethren were not aspirants for office, and yet they contributed materially to the prosperity of the Lodge. He had pleasure in proposing their good health; Bro. Tattersall responded. Bro. Baron proposed the final toast,

which was drunk in solemn silence. We must not omit to notice the excellent singing, under the direction of the Organist, Bro. Godfrey. Both songs and glees were well rendered, by Bros. Godfrey, Eli Cox, Thomas, Tunstall, Pusey and others.

Industry Lodge No. 186.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 26th January, at The Restaurant, No. 2 Westminster Chambers, Bro. Seex P.M. occupied the chair in the absence of the W.M., Bro. D. Beck Wylie S.W., Dyer J.W., W. Mann P.M. Secretary, and Bros. Noehemer, T. S. Mortlock, Price and Tallant P.M.'s, Bros. Allison and Beach were passed to the second degree. Messrs. Harry and Weil were initiated into the Order by Bro. W. Mann P.M. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. J. E. Wylie S.W. was installed into the chair by Bro. Seex I.P.M. in a very perfect manner. The W.M. then appointed his officers as follows, viz., Bro. Dyer S.W., Black J.W., Lake P.M. Treasurer, W. Mann P.M. Secretary, Duggett S.D., Mole J.D., Noehemer P.M. D.C. A sum of £10 10s was placed on the list of Bro. Seex, who is steward at the next festival for the Boys' School, and in the course of the evening a P.M.'s collar, with a very elegant silver jewel attached, with suitable inscription, was presented to that brother for the able and efficient manner he had conducted the duties of the chair during the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. Beck. A very excellent banquet was given, and the usual routine toasts followed, and found very able exponents, particularly the visitors, among whom were Bros. C. A. Cottebrune P.G.P., F. Binckes P.G.S. and Secretary Boys' School, Parsons W.M. St. James's Union, Headon W.M. Great City Lodge, Moody P.M. Great Northern, Coard P.M., Wallbancke P.M., &c. A very agreeable and harmonious evening was passed, to which Bros. Chubb, Smith, Carter and Smith, and the Misses May, Woodville, Bliss and Florence Woodville lent their valuable assistance, under the direction of Bro. Hook.

Lodge of Joppa, No. 188.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 1st inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street. Bros. S. L. Hickman W.M., A. Dodson S.W., L. Lazarus J.W., A. Auerhaan Treasurer, E. P. Albert P.M. Secretary, Miller S.D., A. Auerhaan I.G., P. E. Van Noorden Organist, Woodstock Tyler. Past Masters Bro. O. Roberts I.P.M., L. Alexander, H. Berkowitz, B. W. Aaron, I. Abrahams, Hunt and H. M. Levy. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. I. Botibol and S. Botibol were raised to the third degree, and Bros. Samuel, Skinner and Pearce were passed to the second degree. Mr. Elias Harriss, being in attendance, was duly initiated into the Order by the W.M., in a very excellent manner. Bro. H. M. Levy P.M. then proposed, and Bro. Israel Abrahams P.M. seconded, that a letter of condolence be sent to the Right W. Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon Prov. Grand Master expressing the united sympathies of the brethren on his sad bereavement, and also that the same be entered on the minutes of the Lodge. The resolution was carried unanimously. Bro. Joel Emanuel P.M. 205 was proposed as a joining member. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to slight refreshment. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Bro. B.W. Aaron P.M. returned thanks for the Benevolent Fund very eloquently. He stated the newly initiated candidate, Bro. Harriss, had given 21s to that Fund. Bro. Israel Abrahams then gave the sum of 5 guineas to the Benevolent Fund attached to the Lodge, and the W.M. gave the sum of 21s. Bro. Roberts proposed the toast of the W.M., and spoke of his capital working and able presidency. The W.M. responded; he then proposed the toast of the visitors, Bros J. Levison P.M. 656, Sydney, Monington 890, C. Hogan I.P.M. 205, Franks 212, Praeger 15, Crump 1227, T. Smith 1155, Walter 87, Phillips 205, Birch 192. Bro. C. Hogan P.M. 205, and W.M. 453, returned thanks. Bro. O. Roberts returned thanks for the Past Masters. The toasts of the Wardens and Officers followed, also that of the Treasurer and Secretary, the former being unavoidably absent through indisposition. The Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable evening.

New Concord Lodge.—The above Lodge met on Thursday, 28th Jan. at the Rosemary Branch, Hoxton, Bro. T. Bartlett P.M. W.M. (who occupied that chair for the second year), H. J. Gabb S.W. T. Gallant J.W., Cusworth S.D., Harper J.D., W. M. Main P.M. Secretary, Harriss I.G., Wilkinson D.C., Walesby Organist, Stead, S. J. Emmens P.M., and a numerous attendance of the brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Gabb, Shipway and Swales were raised to the third degree, and Bros. Foye and Baylis were passed to the second degree. Mr. Westfield L.C.P. F.R.S.A., principal of Leyton College, Essex, was initiated into the Order by the W.M., whose perfect working is a pattern worthy of imitation by the Craft. Bro. Cusworth S.D. announced his intention to act as steward for the Boys' School. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was provided by Bro. Gabb. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Bros. Hubban, Vernon, Walesby, Morrison, W. S. Taylor and Wicks contributing to the harmony. The visitors were Bros. Parker P.M. 619, Turner 754, Denham 41 and Hall 898.

Lodge of Israel, No. 205.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, the 26th inst., at the Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, Bro. Joel Emanuel W.M. in the chair; Buckland S.W., supported by the Wardens, Officers and Past Masters. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Messrs. Fulford, Jones, Plattelli and Hyams were initiated into the Order. Bro. F. Buckland W.M. elect and S.W. was then duly installed into the chair by Bro. C. Hogan P.M., in a careful and perfect manner. The newly installed W.M. then appointed his officers as follows, viz., Bros. L. Jacobs S.W., A. Auerhaan J.W., G. Coote P.M. Treasurer, A. M. Cohen P.M. Secretary, Cohen S.D., Hall J.D., Bassington I.G., and Vesper Tyler. The Lodge was then called off, and the brethren partook of a very capital banquet, provided by Bro. Sidney Spencer, and superintended by Bro. Silver. The usual loyal and Masonic

toasts were given, also the health of the W.M. In proposing the toast of the Past Master who had just vacated the chair, the W.M. had pleasure in presenting him, in the name of the Lodge, with a very elegant and artistically designed epergne and a Past Master's gold jewel in recognition of his services during the past year, and those valuable gifts were duly acknowledged by the recipient, Bro. Joel Emanuel I.P.M. The Officers, Wardens, and the Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable evening. For the toast of the visitors, Bro. Hickmann W.M. 188, and Bro. Constable W.M. 185, returned thanks. Among those present we noticed Bros. Grunebaum W.M. 1017, E. P. Albert P.M. 188, Llewellyn P.M. 34, Saunders 889 and 1503, Bond 889, Honeville 889, Vinette 1194, Porter 889, Stephens 449, L. M. Auerhaan 118, L. Lazarus J.W. 188, Abraham 898, Dobie (St. Paul's), Kent 1297 and Martin 188.

Royal Oak Lodge, No. 871.—A meeting of this Lodge was held at the White Swan Tavern, 217 High-street, Deptford, on the 28th January. Bros. G. Andrews W.M., Lewin S.W., Tuson J.W., Andrews P.M. Treasurer, Fk. Walters P.M. P.G.P. (Middlesex) Secretary, Pakes S.D., H. J. Wells J.D., J. Baxter Langley I.G., Fisher Organist, Dawe M.C., Linn W.S., P.M.'s Gerryatt Collington, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. J. Grindley, G. Jones, T. Frith and W. M. Chartres 1423, were passed to the second degree. The election of the W.M. took place, and Bro. Lewin S.W. was unanimously elected to fill that office. Bro. W. Andrews P.M. was re-elected Treasurer, and Bavin Tyler, The Lodge was then closed. The visitors were Bros. H. R. Harker 79, Beaver 700, W. Laing P.M. 1326, Baldwin 1423, Chartres 1423, &c.

Priory Lodge, No. 1,000, Southend.—This flourishing Lodge held its annual meeting on Tuesday, 26th ult., in the Lodge room, at the Middleton Hotel, Southend, for the installation of the W.M. The Lodge was opened at two o'clock. After the preliminary business had been disposed of, the W.M. elect, Bro. Albert Lucking P.M. No. 160, and Provincial G.A.D. of Ceremonies, was duly installed Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by the Worshipful Bro. Rev. S. R. Wigram P.M. and P.Z. No. 214. Worshipful Bro. William Pissey P.M. No. 160 and P.P.J.G. Warden, acting as director of the ceremonies. The W.M. afterwards appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. E. E. Phillips P.M. No. 379 (Bath) as S.W., Rev. S. R. Wigram P.M. and P.Z. No. 214, and P.P.G. Chaplain, as J.W. and Chaplain, Frederick Wood P.M. No. 1,000, and P.P.S.G.W. re-elected Treasurer, J. A. Wardell P.M. No. 1,000 W.M. No. 160 and P.P.G.D. reappointed Secretary, W. Frost S.D., W. P. Bellis J.D., Rowley P.M. 1,000 D.C., Chignell I.G., S. J. Weston and F. Cantor Stewards, Mountain Tyler. After the Lodge was closed, the brethren—about thirty-two in number—sat down to a sumptuous banquet, provided by Bro. F. Cantor, of the Middleton Hotel. The following Past Masters, Past and Present Provincial Grand Officers and visitors were present:—A. Lucking P.M. No. 160, W.M. No. 1,000, Prov. G.A.D.C., Frederick Wood P.M. No. 1,000 and P.P.S.G.W., James Willing J. W. No. 877 (Domatie), and W.M. No. 1507 (Metropolitan), William Pissey P.M. No. 160 and P.P.J.G.W., Joseph Clarkson P.M. No. 865 and W.M. No. 1457 Bagshaw Lodge, Savage P.M. No. 174, J. R. Hemman I.P.M. No. 1000, John Weston No. 25 (Ireland), S. Lilloy Bagshaw Lodge No. 1,457, E. E. Phillips P.M. No. 379 (Bath), J. A. Wardell P.M. No. 1,000, W.M. No. 60 P.P.G.D., H. Rowley P.M. No. 1,000 P.P.S.G.D., F. T. Dawson P.M. No. 211 P.P.G.O. During the evening W. Bro. J. R. Hemman, the I.P.M. of the Lodge, on retiring from the chair that day, was presented by the W.M., Brother A. Lucking, in the name of the Lodge, with a Past Master's jewel. Brother Hemman returned thanks in a suitable manner. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the evening was enlivened with songs from Brothers Dawson, Phillips, Rowley, Savage, Berry, &c., &c.

Asaph Lodge, No. 1319.—This Lodge, consisting chiefly of members of the musical and theatrical professions, met at 2 o'clock, on Monday last, at Freemasons' Hall, thus enabling the duties of Freemasonry to be carried out, and the brethren to pursue their professional avocations. Bros. Frewin W.M., Jekyll S.W., W. A. Tinney J.W., W. Coote jun. Treasurer, E. S. Jones P.M. Secretary, E. Terry S.D., H. J. Tinney I.G., E. Swanborough D.C., and Past Masters J. Weaver I.P.M., Charles Coote and Chamberlin; Bros. H. Cox, Egerton, A. Hemming, Horton, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Mr. E. Coles was balloted for and approved. Bros. C. H. Stevenson, Smith and Henson, being in attendance, were passed to the degree of Fellow Crafts, and Bro. Hilton was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The ceremonies were delivered correctly and impressively by the W.M., and all the officers were equally perfect. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated. Bros. J. Fitzgerald 79, H. P. Hall 541, J. H. Riley 188, and H. M. Levy P.M. 188 were present as visitors.

Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385, Barnet.—This Lodge held its installation meeting on the 29th ult., at the Red Lion, Barnet, Bro. W. Cutbush W.M. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the last meeting, as well as of the emergency meeting on 16th ult., having been read and confirmed, the ceremony of installing Bro. Hayward Edwards W.M. elect was proceeded with, Bro. Lowthin P.M. officiating in a very effective manner. The W.M. then elected for his officers Bros. J. Cutbush S.W., Dr. Livingstone J.W., W. Cutbush Treasurer, Askew Secretary, Young S.D., Venables J.D., Patterson Organist, and Crauston I.G.; Bro. Goddard being re-elected Tyler. Bro. Cutbush, retiring W.M., and Bro. Humphrys, retiring Secretary, were then presented with the jewels of P.M. and Secretary respectively. The W.M. having received the congratulations of the visitors, the Lodge was closed. The brethren then adjourned to banquet, at which Bro. J. Lowthin P.M., in the unavoidable absence, through domestic affliction, of the W.M., most ably presided. The

usual toasts were given, interspersed with songs and recitations, the Tyler's toast bringing a most agreeable evening to a close. In addition to a strong muster of the members, there were present among the visitors, Bro. Terry, Secretary Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Bro. Binckes, Secretary Boys' School, Bros. W. Booth, C. A. Booth, Captain Wordsworth, Dr. Iles, Duffy, Marks, T. S. Carter, Cocks, Kirby, Hickman, Laxton, J. Reynolds, Fowler, &c., &c.

Stability Lodge, No. 217.—This Lodge held its usual meeting at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Tuesday, 2nd inst., at 5 p.m. Bro. Henry Marfleet W.M. presiding, supported by Past Masters Taylor, Sillifant, Hughes and James, with a goodly array of members. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed; Bro. Marfleet vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Taylor P.M. and Secretary, who proceeded to re-install Bro. Marfleet, who had been re-elected in December last, by unanimous vote of the Lodge. Bro. Taylor performed the ceremony in an admirable manner, and Bro. Marfleet then invested his officers for 1875 as follows:—Bro. Fuchs S.W., Theobald J.W., Nixon S.D., G. T. Seaborne J.D., R. G. Seaborn I.G., Hodden D.C., Sillifant P.M. Treasurer, Taylor P.M. Secretary, Gullick T. At the subsequent banquet Bro. Hughes (in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Drummond I.P.M.) responded for the Past Masters, and drew attention to the Lodge of Instruction, held under the sanction of this Lodge, at Masons' Tavern, Masons' Avenue, E.C., every Friday at 6, between August and May, and of which the annual festival would take place at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on 30th April, at five o'clock. The lecture of the second degree to be worked in sections. Brother Fuchs S.W. returned thanks for the officers. Bro. Taylor P.M. and Secretary responded to the toast of "Secretary," and gave a very interesting, though brief account of his experience in Stability. Initiated in November 1854, he had the honour to be appointed to office I.G. 1856, J.D. 1857, J.W. 1858, and W.M. 1859. The Lodge then unfortunately passed through a period of trial and tribulation, and from internal dissensions was in imminent peril of dissolution; but he, in conjunction with Bro. Sillifant and the late lamented Bro. Brodey, by very strenuous exertions, managed to pull it through. In the prosecution of which he again, in 1861, served I.G., in 1863 S.D., and in 1868 W.M. Since which period, as well as during the year 1867, he had filled the office of Secretary. He had also inaugurated some changes from the old routine, by being the first member of the Lodge to serve a stewardship, and as retiring W.M. to instal his successor, a system which was now being well carried out. After again thanking the brethren, Bro. Taylor wished health, happiness and prosperity to Stability 217, and resumed his seat amid much applause. The Tyler's toast brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

Shrewsbury Lodge, Staffordshire.—The following are the Worshipful Master and officers of this Lodge, which was consecrated, on the 20th ult., by the Right. Hon. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot Prov. G.M. of Staffordshire. W.M. Bro. W. Jones, who chose James Taylor as his J.W., John Lloyd Griffiths J.W., Z. B. Smith Treasurer, Daniel Taylor Secretary, James Rowley S.D., Benjamin Love J.D., Tom Bayliss D.C., F. Piggott I.G., and T. Nickols 539 Tyler.

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THE DRAMA.

Home at the Haymarket—The Bohemian Girl—The New Royalty.

OUR American Cousin has been withdrawn from the Haymarket bills to make room for the late Mr. Robertson's adaptation of M. Emile Angier's powerful drama, *L'Aventurière*. *Home*, as the English play is entitled, is somewhat more than a mere translation of the original. The incidents are, indeed, the same, with a few unimportant variations, but the general tone and style of the comedy are changed. Mr. Robertson contrived, so to speak, to bring the story more within the range of commonplace experience and sympathies. Instead of the fifteenth, he chose the eighteenth century, and in place of Italy, as the scene of the comedy, he selected England, whilst the rhyming metre of the French version was made to give way to plain prose. But he did more than this; he managed to instil into the play a genial homely spirit entirely his own. *Home* is possibly a less picturesque production than *L'Aventurière*, but to an English audience, at least, it could scarcely fail to prove a more successful one. As originally produced at the Comédie Française, some quarter of a century ago, MM. Régnier, Goffroy, and Mmes. Plessy and Favart sustained the leading characters, giving to them a distinctiveness and power befitting a comedy of the very highest order. The character of the adventuress herself, indeed, as interpreted by Mde. Plessy, might be said to have exhibited at times much of the intensity of tragedy. For the English version however, the colours were softened, and the general current of the play took a milder form. Mr. Sothorn played the part of Alfred Dorrisson, which, in the original was sustained by Goffroy, whilst Mr. Compton and Miss Cavendish were allotted the parts of Captain Montraffe, and Mrs. Pinckbeck, originally sustained by Régnier and Mde. Plessy. This was the cast when *Home* was first produced, but in the absence of Mr. Compton and Miss Cavendish from the Haymarket Company, the last two characters are now being played by Mr. Rogers and Miss Ward. The revival has, notwithstanding, been most favourable received, and a visit to the theatre during the continuance of the present programme is certainly to be recommended. We may add that Miss Minnie Walton and Miss Linda Dietz, appear to charming effect in two of the subordinate characters, and that Mr. Lytton Sothorn makes a satisfactory *début* in another.

It is not often that London playgoers have the opportunity offered them of being present at a performance of English Opera. Italian Opera and French Opera Bouffe they have no lack of, but English Opera is only to be witnessed on very rare occasions. One of these occasions is now being offered at the PHILHARMONIC THEATRE, where Balfe's *Bohemian Girl* was produced on Saturday last, with every appearance of complete success. It can scarcely be doubted that the melodies of Balfe, and other of our English composers, possess the necessary elements of popularity if they be but adequately rendered. Our theatrical managers have been searching in every direction for musical pieces, forgetful, apparently, of the fact that a mass of most valuable material lies ready to their hands. We cannot help thinking that if the same care were bestowed upon our English Operas as upon the *Operas Bouffes* imported from abroad, that they would prove at least equally successful. At the PHILHARMONIC, the part of Thaddeus is taken by Mr. Nordblom, that of Arline by Miss Munroe, whilst Devilshoof is played by Mr. Marler, Arnheim by Mr. Rosenthal, and the Gipsy Queen by Mlle. Manetti. The piece is fairly put upon the stage, and very creditably executed.

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