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BUSINESS OF GRAND LODGE.

APART from some communications from Tasmania, which we have treated at great length in another article, and one from Canada, with the nature of which we do not pretend to be accurately acquainted, the business to be brought before Grand Lodge on Wednesday next appears to be comparatively of little moment, if we except the re-election of the Grand Master and the Grand Treasurer. With the first notice of motion by Bro. Binckes—"That it is inexpedient to publish the discussions in Grand Lodge in the printed minutes of proceedings of the quarterly communications as issued from the Grand Secretary's office"—we in the main agree, and should support it, did we not feel that to those quarterly documents many Lodges, especially in the distant colonies, alone look for information with regard to what is going on at home, and that were their publication to be hastily stopped, we should be doing a great injustice to our colonial brethren.

Bro. Stebbing proposes "That no alterations or improvements in the buildings proposed to be devoted to the purposes of Grand Lodge, and the Masonic body generally, will be satisfactory to the non-resident brethren, unless provision be made for affording sleeping accommodation, even though that accommodation is but gradually brought about." Here we think Bro. Stebbing a little premature, for Grand Lodge can hardly be expected to express an opinion in favour of any given course of action until the whole measure is before them, and the replies to the circular of the Board of General Purposes have been received from the various Lodges; though we are far from disagreeing with Bro. Stebbing. It may be desirable to afford such accommodation hereafter, if upon due consideration it is found to be practicable without entailing any material loss on the general funds.

To Bro. Barrett's proposition, "That one thousand five hundred pounds, from the Fund for General Purposes, be given or lent to the

Royal Masonic Boys' School, towards the enlargement of the school house at Tottenham" we believe there can be but one reply. Grand Lodge is not in a position to make the sacrifice, having regard to the proposed improvements in the property of the Craft. Moreover it is to be hoped that the liberality of the brethren at the approaching festival, on the 30th inst., will render any such grant or loan altogether unnecessary.

We now come to the last and most important notice of motion—most important, because we look upon it as an attempt to overrule the decision of last Grand Lodge, for devoting a portion of our property solely to Masonic purposes, by a side word—and giving a clue to what was the real intention of Bro. Whitmore's motion for the appointment of a committee to act in concert with the Board of General Purposes, at last Grand Lodge. The words of this resolution, as now proposed by Bro. Whitmore, are as follow :—“That, inasmuch as the property of the Masonic body in Great Queen-street does not in its present state, afford sufficient facilities for the transaction of Masonic business—and inasmuch as it *is not desirable* to devote that portion of it known as the ‘Freemasons’ Tavern and Hall’ *exclusively* to Masonic purposes—a committee be appointed to examine and report to the Grand Lodge, as to the best means of providing for the necessary requirements of the Craft at large.” Should this resolution be affirmed—and we trust it will not—all that Grand Lodge determined upon at its last meeting, will be wholly set aside, and rendered of no avail,

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#### TASMANIA.

WE had hoped to have been spared the necessity of again referring to the unfortunate disputes between the Rev. Bro. Ewing, the Provincial Grand Master for Tasmania, and the members of Lodge No. 781, at Hobart Town, unless to congratulate all parties upon a display of mutual forbearance, and an amicable settlement of the matters in dispute. But it is not so; and two notices on the business paper for Grand Lodge on Wednesday next, and the various communications we have received, compel us to break our silence. In the Grand Lodge *agenda* we find first, a notice that “The Most Worshipful Grand Master will lay before Grand Lodge a communication received from Bro. Charles Toby, accompanying the return of the warrant of the Tasmanian Union Lodge, No. 781, at Hobart Town;” and secondly,

a report from the Colonial Board "That a communication has been received from the Provincial Grand Master for Tasmania, dated the 12th of November last, from which it appears that he has released from suspension sixty-two members of the Tasmanian Union Lodge, No. 781, Hobart Town, who had petitioned for release, after recognising his appointment and authority as Provincial Grand Master, and pledging themselves to work within the laws and constitutions of the Craft; but that such release was to be contingent on any steps that might have been taken by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, or the Grand Lodge; and altogether pending the approval or disapproval of the supreme authorities." As in our opinion the two documents to be laid before Grand Lodge on Wednesday should be considered together, we shall endeavour so to treat them, premising that from the first we expressed our opinion that both parties were to some extent in the wrong; and from the documents before us, we are bound to confess that as they began so have they ended, and every step in the right direction has been immediately followed by one directly opposed to it.

In order that our readers may the better understand the question to be brought before them on Wednesday next, we will briefly narrate the proceedings which have taken place subsequent to the decision of Grand Lodge to uphold Bro. Ewing in his authority, and to reject the appeal of the Hobart Town brethren to be taken from under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Grand Master of Tasmania. It appears that upon this decision reaching Hobart Town, Bro. Charles Toby, the Worshipful Master of No. 781, called a meeting of the Lodge, to consider what course should be taken. This meeting was held on the 3rd of June, and the following resolution carried by a majority of twenty-eight to five—"That this Lodge in obedience to the decision of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, conveyed in the letter of the Grand Secretary, dated 11th March last, recognises the appointment of the Rev. R. K. Ewing, as Provincial Grand Master, and begs to be reinstated in its Masonic functions." On the following day Bro. Toby addressed a letter to Bro. Ewing, communicating the result of the meeting, and expressing a hope that he would "immediately restore the Lodge to its Masonic functions, and also legalise the proceedings while working, pending the decision of Grand Lodge." This letter remained unanswered for eight days, when the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master apologised for the delay, on the ground of "excess of occupation," and proceeded to say—

"The submission of the Brethren to the command of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, has given me, as his representative in the province, much satisfaction, and I may accept it as a well intended pledge of a harmony that you and the Brethren of No. 781 will endeavour to maintain among the Craft in Tasmania.

"I am glad that so many of the Brethren present were agreed as to the course adopted; and in taking the requisite steps for restoring matters to a proper footing, I will thank you to furnish me with a list of the names of the

brethren who voted for the minute you have sent me, and the names of the five who voted against. I shall then lose no time in having the necessary documents made out.

"I beg to state however, that I have not the power to legalise the proceedings of the Lodge which took place during the period of suspension. To give them effect, they must be done over again, if required, so soon as the Lodge is at work. Such meeting or meetings of the Brethren, as were held at the request of the Grand Lodge, or my own, with a view to the settlement of differences, are, upon that request, legal, and form part of the records of No. 781; but beyond this, all business transactions, from the time of suspension sustained by Grand Lodge, is in itself wrong. You will, I am sure, therefore perceive that I cannot make right what both the Constitution and the Grand Lodge pronounce wrong. When the necessary documents are completed, I shall be happy to visit Hobart Town."

To this Bro. Toby replied on the following day, stating that he had no record of the brethren voting against the resolution—four of them having immediately retired from the room on being placed in a minority; and praying that as the Lodge had been suspended *en masse*, so might it be restored to its functions *en masse*. Although this communication was dated on the 12th of June, no reply was received until the 5th of August, a period of nearly two months, and then only on the receipt of a "refresher"—as our legal brethren would say—from Bro. Toby, calling his attention to the length of time which had intervened since he wrote to him; and here it would seem that Bro. Ewing, looking at the importance of the question under consideration, had placed himself in the wrong, did we not bear in mind that he was in a measure forced to be cautious, owing to the position in which he was placed, and the eagerness with which every word and act was seized upon by some of the brethren to his prejudice. In the letter of August 5th, Bro. Ewing stated that he had come to the conclusion, "that it would be unwarrantable and unmasonic," to restore the lodge *en masse*, and "that each member must himself renew his allegiance ere he can hope for the benefit of release." Here there can be no doubt that the Provincial Grand Master was right, as Bro. Wilkinson with one or two others had placed themselves in distinct opposition to his authority, and declared, that rather than place themselves under the control of the Provincial Grand Lodge, they would retire altogether from Freemasonry. With the letter of the 5th of August was also sent a form of petition, for the Brethren who wished to be restored to their Masonic functions to sign. This Bro. Toby immediately did, and proceeded to obtain the signatures of other brothers, determining however not to present it until he received information of the Grand Lodge of England having confirmed the decision come to in March. This information appears to have reached the colony on the 19th of October; and on the same day the petition was forwarded to Bro. Ewing—Bro. Toby remarking that many of the brethren had had no opportunity of signing it, owing to their absence from the colony.

On the 26th, Bro. Ewing acknowledged the receipt of the petition,

and an accompanying letter, putting however (as he says with the advice of his Board of General Purposes) what we must be allowed to designate the following absurd questions :—

“1st. Has any communication, memorial, or letter, bearing directly or indirectly on the subject matter in dispute between the R.W. the Prov. G.M., and No 781, or on the R.W. the Prov. G.M. personally, been sent to the Grand Secretary, or to any member of Grand Lodge, by No. 781, either by or through its W.M., board of P.Ms., Secretary, or any other officer or any member signing the petition ?

“2nd. In the *Hobart Town Daily Mercury*, of 26th August, an article from a Masonic journal\* was reprinted at the request of a large number of the Craft. Has any member signing the petition, acted, or been interested, directly or indirectly, in seeking or causing the publication in the *Mercury* of the said article ?

“3rd. In the *Hobart Town Daily Mercury*, of 7th September, Bro. Wilkinson caused to be printed a letter sent officially from the Secretary of Hope, No. 901, to the Secretary of No. 781, containing a part of the ceremonial of Lodge working; and which letter, of course, was preserved among the records of Lodge No. 781 : will you inform me by whose authority, and by what means that letter became available to Bro. Wilkinson, and whether any member signing the petition, was concerned either directly or indirectly, by act or knowledge, in the publication by Bro. Wilkinson, of the letter of Bro. A. Learmonth, Secretary of Hope, No. 901.”

This communication was considered at a meeting of the Brethren of No. 781, on the 3rd of November, and the following resolutions come to :—

“That the members of No. 781, present at this meeting, after hearing from Bro. Toby the communications received by him from the Prov. Grand Master relative to the release of the members of Lodge, No. 781, from suspension, and requesting to be furnished with information concerning communications to the Grand Master, and the publication of the various articles upon Masonry, which have appeared in the public journals, consider that the information so requested has nothing whatever to do with the question at issue, namely, the release of the Lodge.”

“That a large majority of the members of No. 781, having, in obedience to the decision of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, recognised the appointment and authority of the Rev. R. K. Ewing as Prov. Grand Master of Tasmania, by signing the petition forwarded by him for release, and praying to be restored to their Masonic status, and pledging themselves to work within the laws and constitutions of the Craft—it is the opinion of this meeting that all that was required by the Prov. Grand Master, as set forth in his letter of the 5th of August, accompanying the petition, has been complied with. It is therefore resolved that Bro. Toby be desired to request the Prov. Grand Master—in case he shall not have decided before the 9th instant to reinstate the members of Lodge No. 781 who have signed the petition—to return such petition to him by that date, in order that it may be forwarded with the correspondence relating thereto to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, by the next overland mail.”

On the 8th of November, Bro. Ewing wrote that his Board of General Purposes had decided “My questions are met—the release, &c., will be posted to-morrow.” Being now in a fair way of settling

\* *The Freemasons' Magazine.*

all disputes, any one would have thought Bro. Ewing, and his Board of General Purposes, would have been satisfied, and congratulated themselves upon having so easily got rid of a troublesome and vexatious question; but on the following day another letter was dispatched in these terms:—

“The Board of General Purposes took yesterday the recent correspondence between No. 781 and myself into consideration. Touching the first of my questions submitted to you in my letter of the 26th ult., it was held that your letter of the 4th instant contains a sufficient answer; the second question was not held to be vital, the more especially as it was concluded that the parties who caused the reprinting of the articles complained of have, to some extent, atoned by the recent reprint of Lord Pamure's speech in answer to Bro. Warren's motion; concerning the third question, it was held that the Secretary should be alone responsible. Bro. Drake is not therefore released, and I shall make an especial representation of his case to Grand Lodge. Bro. Learmonth's letter was published since the 6th of August, after the receipt of the petition I sent you; and during the period of suspension as the custodian of the document referred to he is responsible to the Craft for its being printed. In the printing of it, (see No. 3, p. 74, “Of Members and their Duty”) the Book of Constitutions, has been violated. It will be for me to recommend to Grand Lodge the enforcement of that law unless Bro. Drake can give me a satisfactory explanation as to the manner in which Bro. Wilkinson became possessed of it; Bro. Wilkinson's conduct in printing it is already before Grand Lodge.”

On the next day, November 10th, a protest was entered against the decision with regard to Bro. Drake, it being clearly shown that the document alluded to had been printed in the first published correspondence on this unfortunate dispute—a copy of which many of our English Brethren will remember to have received about twelve months since; and the probability was that Bro. Wilkinson had reprinted it from that correspondence. The exclusion of Bro. Drake from the act of grace was, however, continued, and, moreover, the following peremptory demand was sent to Bro. Toby, the Worshipful Master of No. 781.

“I also summon you to place under cover and seal, in my possession by the 20th of the month, the minute book of No. 781, and the minutes and records of every meeting of No. 781, and of all committees and boards of P.Ms. that have taken place since 1st January, 1857.”

This the restored Brethren held to be exceeding the power of the Provincial Grand Master, as laid down in the Book of Constitutions—

“The Provincial Grand Master may summon any Lodge or Brother, within his district, to attend him, and to produce the warrant, books, papers, and accounts of the Lodge, or the certificate of the Brother—”

The result was that at the first meeting of the restored Brethren on the 18th November, as a Lodge, they came to the resolution with two dissentients, to dissolve the Lodge and return the warrant to the Most Worshipful Grand Master. This, Bro. Toby at once did, without giving due notice to the absent members of his Lodge, and without waiting, as he should have done, for the confirmation of the

resolution, accompanying it also with the charter of the Grand Chapter; and, as will have been seen by the notice in the business paper for Wednesday next, the documents are now in the possession of the Grand Master. How far Bro. Toby and those who have acted with him have been justified in the course they have pursued, we are somewhat doubtful, as at page 65 of the Book of Constitutions, we find the following words:—

“Should the majority of any Lodge determine to retire from it, the power of assembling remains with the rest of the members who adhere to their allegiance; but if all the members of a Lodge withdraw, the warrant becomes extinct;”

and it is clear from Bro. Toby's statement that all the members have not withdrawn, there being a minority, or only a bare majority of the restored members present, and amongst them, two dissentients to the proposition for dissolving, irrespective of absent Brethren who might claim to be allowed to work the Lodge.

We have laid the case dispassionately before the Brethren, to enable them the better to understand it when brought under their consideration on Wednesday, and we believe that they will agree with us that both parties are to some extent in the wrong—if the one is too exacting and overbearing, so is the other too impulsive and precipitate. What may be the course recommended by the Grand Master, we shall not attempt to prophecy; but we think that as the Hobart Town Brethren are not likely ever to work in common with Bro. Ewing, we may be allowed to entertain a hope that the Most Worshipful Grand Master, looking at all the circumstances of the case, will feel that as head of the Craft he may exercise his authority so as to restore the Brethren of Hobart Town to their Masonic functions (should they ask for that mark of favour direct from his lordship), without regard to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Tasmania; as we feel that, according to the Book of Constitutions, with his lordship alone rest any future proceedings with regard to the restoring the returned, or the granting of new warrants.

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A TRIANGLE IN A QUADRANGLE; DR. KETTLE.—His brain was like a hasty pudding, where there was memory, judgment, and fancy, all stirred together. If you had to do with him, taking him for a fool, you would have found in him great subtlety and research: *à contra*, if you treated him as a wise man, you would have mistaken him for a fool. A neighbour of mine told me he heard him preach once in St. Mary's church, at Oxon. He began thus:—“It being my turn to preach in this place, I went into my study to prepare myself for my sermon, and I took down a book that had blue strings, and 'twas sweet St. Bernard. I chanced to read such a part of it, on such a subject, which hath made me to choose this text,—.” I know not whether this was the only time or no, that he used the following way of conclusion:—“But now I see it is time for me to shut up my book, for I see the Doctors' men coming in, wiping of their beards, from the alc-house.” As they were reading, and circumscribing figures, said he, “I will show you how to inscribe a triangle in a quadrangle. Bring a pig into the quadrangle, and I will set the college dog at him, and he will take the pig by the ear; then come I and take the dog by the tail, and so there you have a triangle in a quadrangle.”—*Aubrey*;

## OUR ARCHITECTURAL CHAPTER.

The Brethren in Calcutta have been doing a Masonic duty by laying with Masonic ceremonial the foundation stone of the hospital at Howrah, a suburb of that city on the other side of the Hooghly, which has now become of importance, because there is situated the terminus of the East Indian Railway.

We may observe that the Brethren in Calcutta possess a very good hall belonging to the Craft, enrolled in our list of Freemasons' Halls. It is not a stone building, as stone is scarce and not a favourable material, but formed of the usual substance—brick.

The Freemasons' Hall in York-street, Sydney, must be of some extent, for we find that the Provincial Grand Lodge can assemble there to the number of one hundred and twenty. The new hall will be larger.

It will be remembered that we recorded the fact that in 1746, above a hundred years ago, authority was given by the Grand Lodge of England for the formation of a Masonic hall at St. John's, Antigua, in the West Indies; but in an account in our last number of the proceedings of St. John's Lodge in that island we do not feel sure that "the Lodge room" in which they assemble represents that hall, which may, in such a length of time, have fallen a victim to one of the earthquakes.

We do not get on so well as we could wish with corrections to our list of Masonic halls. We know it is very imperfect, and we published the statement in the first instance in the hope that it might stimulate Brethren to communicate information.

"A Yorkshire Mason" having shown the baneful effects of Masons being seen to frequent taverns, has promised to say something about the Freemasons' Hall and the proposed alterations, which we anxiously await.

Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal, it will be seen, corrects our observations on his suggestions regarding Mr. G. G. Scott. We regret that we misunderstood his remarks at Grand Lodge. While concurring with him in admiration for the talents of Mr. Scott, we do not agree that there is any reason on that ground for opening the competition for the hall to him providing he is not a Mason; for there is no need to mediævalise the hall, and there is no impropriety in a Grand Lodge building following the style of the Grand Master Wren.

We find it useful to recapitulate the particulars of the Lodge room of the Phoenix Lodge at Truro, No. 445, which we have to add to our list. The rooms include a Masonic hall, thirty-three feet by sixteen feet, and eleven feet high. This is far from being high enough for purposes of effect or convenience, being only the height of a common



sitting room. The height of a Lodge room is always liable to be diminished to the eye by the raised seats of the officers. This hall is laid out and decorated with strict Masonic propriety. The banqueting room is of the same height, and twenty-three feet long by sixteen feet broad. There are besides, a preparing room and a reception room, with suitable conveniences. The rooms are said to be handsomely decorated. It is pretty well known that a preparing room is too often one requisite neglected, and in some places the candidate is passed across a common passage. Indeed it cannot be reasonably expected that a tavern built for other purposes, or assembly rooms, should be found suited for the purposes of our ritual.

If we understand rightly, the Druid's Lodge, No. 859, at Redruth, have their own rooms.

The Freemasons' Hall, Lewes, is not connected with a tavern, but is devoted to Masonic purposes, and the banquets are held at a tavern.

The Freemasons' Hall at Newcastle-on-Tyne is in Blakett-street. It is used for Masonic purposes, and banquets are held at hotels.

A Freemasons' Hall at Dumfries has to be recorded in our pages.

At Dunfermline is a hall, called the St. John's Hall, where the Lodges meet, but we do not know whether it is solely appropriated to Masonic purposes.

The Masons of Nos. 13, 73, and 338, of the Irish register in the city of Limerick, are reported to have Lodge rooms.

The Masonic hall in Humber-street, Hull, was built in 1827, of which some particulars will be found at p. 186, where it is described as substantial and second perhaps to none in the provinces, as being free from debt, provided with an endowed fund, and possessing elegant and costly Masonic furniture and paraphernalia; whilst during the period that the Lodge met in taverns its career was frequently marked by adversity.

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#### MASONRY IN AFRICA.

The *West African Herald* is probably the smallest weekly newspaper in her Majesty's dominions. It consists of four small quarto pages, each of which may contain as much as one and a half of this journal. It must by no means however be considered an insignificant organ of public opinion; on the contrary, in perusing its columns, we are impressed with a weighty sense of its importance—an aristocratic air pervades the whole; the very news-agents are all "Esquires"—though we must confess that those who act for the *Herald* in London and Manchester have selected as their residence somewhat obscure, not to say low, localities. It ought, therefore, without doubt, to be considered no small compliment to the Masonic fraternity, that nearly half of this limited (and we presume valuable) space, in the number for December 30th, is devoted to the proceedings of the Gold Coast Lodge, who three days before had given a "grand ball" at Government House, Cape Coast. We are glad to find that the Brethren

of the Order form such an important body at the Gold Coast, and that they have been so fortunate as to gain the approbation of the *Herald*. We read:—

“The arrangements altogether were excellent throughout. The courtesy and extreme and delicate attention to the guests on the part of the Masons, the exact regularity and absence of fuss that characterised the refreshment department, the kindly feelings that appeared to reign amongst the company generally, rendered this evening party by far the most complete and agreeable that we have ever witnessed on this coast. Nothing could exceed the kindness of the Brethren of the mystic tie; and when we consider the tasteful and artistical manner in which they had decorated the apartments, the perfect order, comfort, and judicious plenty that prevailed in the refreshment rooms and on the supper tables, the courtesy and earnest attention of the Masons towards their guests, and the genuine happiness that reigned among the company, we cannot help pronouncing that the ball given by the Gold Coast Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons on St. John's day, 1858, was far the best and most complete entertainment of the kind that we have ever witnessed on the Gold Coast of Africa.”

The party was more select than numerous, mustering altogether only thirty-two persons, of which twelve only were ladies—these latter being “chiefly African.” We find here a marked contrast to the dulness which too frequently prevails on similar occasions at home. Languor and fatigue appear to have been banished for this occasion at any rate, and a mercurial spirit developed which one would almost imagine impossible in that climate. Our journalist remarks:—

“One very remarkable feature of this interesting party was, that though the lively men were brisk and lively as usual, the grave, and quiet, and retired men beat them hollow. It was nothing new to see that the influences of music, the society of ladies, and refreshment, had developed the gay disposition of such as were naturally joyous among the party. But what was certainly most unexpected and most pleasing was, to see men, ordinarily of the most steady and serious demeanour, and whom it might be thought hardly any external influences of this sort would throw into gaiety, become as lively and as cheerful as if balls were their natural element. Nothing could be a greater proof than this, that the entertainment was more than good. Men who on these occasions usually sneak to bed at twelve, were discontented when they found, at half-past three, that they really must depart at last. The time flew too quickly and too pleasantly.”

As no enjoyment in this sublunary sphere is without alloy, the *élite* of Cape Coast found the pleasures of the evening in danger of being marred by a circumstance which however was duly met by the energy of the brethren, who appear to have supplied the want of an institution under which we flourish in London—“Policeman X.” Thus we find:—

“One great nuisance that afflicts large entertainments in this country, is the intrusion of uninvited and unwelcome persons into the house, and very frequently into the apartments where the guests are assembled. A number of people find the means of entrance, and stick themselves at the doors, inundate the galleries, invade the refreshment rooms, and by their presence, their noise, and their proceedings, disgust and annoy every one. At the ball on Monday last, it was pleasing to observe the absence of this affliction. We believe an attempt was made to carry out the abominable practice, but it was promptly put down by the stewards.”

Brother Derecourt covered himself with glory, and proved himself equal to the emergencies of a sultry climate:—

“The refreshments and the serving of them were under the superintendence of Brother Derecourt, who, entrenched behind a tempting array of bottles, distributed the needful to the guests, with the most admirable cheerfulness and rapidity.”

A shameful advantage appears to have been taken of the innocence of

the dark beauties, How could the brethren thus trifle with the prevailing foible of the sex!—

“There was what is called the Apron Dance Quadrille. Eight Freemasons took off their aprons, and tied each to his partner. During the third figure, every Mason was to whisper the Masonic secret to the lady who was his *vis-à-vis*; at least so it was understood. Accordingly there was great excitement and expectation among the gentler sex. We placed ourselves behind a lady who had agreed to whisper the secret to us as soon as she had learnt it; and as the third figure commenced, our heart beat, our hands nervously clutched the coat of a friend standing by. Oh, the agony of such suspense! Our lady friend has advanced, returned, then the *balancez*. Couples have changed places, advance of lady and gentleman, the latter (it was the mayor) has bent down, he is whispering something to the lady. She smiled—she has returned to her place. She seems ashamed to look us in the face. ‘What is it?’ we ask, as impatiently as politeness will allow, and in faltering accents, ‘CHEESE!’ is the answer.—We enquired afterwards of all the ladies who had joined in the apron dance. One declared that the secret was ‘Beef and Greens,’ another that it was ‘Bacon and Cabbage,’ another said it was ‘Potatoes,’ and in every case the answer was evasive.”

“To crown the whole, we find an appetite for the good things of this life developed which must, we should think, be classed as a blessing indeed so near the line:—

“The supper was excellent. Everybody was hungry, thirsty, and cheerful, and when the ladies had been attended to, the gentlemen set to, with a dogged determination, to enjoy themselves, cost what it might—really we never witnessed a scene where there was such universal enjoyment. Those who couldn’t eat, drank—those who wouldn’t drink, ate—those who would neither eat nor drink, talked to the ladies.”

The brethren’s exertions have been made, we find—as becomes Masons, in the view of ameliorating a deficient condition of society. That they will succeed in their endeavours we cannot doubt; since in addition to their object being good in itself, they have the invaluable aid of the *West African Herald*, whose remarks are concluded in the following words:—

“Looking at the Masonic ball in every point of view, we must say that the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren, of the Gold Coast Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, have achieved a great triumph whereof they may justly be proud. They have inaugurated a new and agreeable state of things. They have brought together people who ought to have known, but did not know, each other. They have proved beyond all dispute that there are on the Gold Coast abundant materials for pleasant and intelligent social entertainment. It remains now, for the residents of the Coast to follow up the excellent example that has been set them.”

THE BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.—Every Master of a Lodge is a member of the Board of Benevolence, on which he ought never, on any account, to neglect attendance—because his absence might cause expenditure which his presence would probably check; or be the means of preventing a more liberal dispensation of relief; in either case the Master is reprehensible; for in the one the funds would be abused, and in the other some unfortunate brother would necessarily suffer loss.—*Dr. Oliver.*

## NOTES ON MASONIC BIBLIOGRAPHY.

BY HYDE CLARKE, D.C.L.

*(Continued from p. 310).*

To the list of works on Masonic bibliography must be added—

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- Avery Allyn, who gave a list attached to the Ritual of Freemasonry, published at New York, in 1852.
- R. Barthelmes, M.D.; Bibliography of Freemasonry in America.
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- Ahiman Rezon. Philadelphia, 1825. Svo., pp. 274.
- Doni Cermean? New York, 1821. 18mo., pp. 255. [A Masonic work, in Spanish].
- The American Masonic Register. By Luther Pratt. New York, 1820. Svo.
- An Introduction to Freemasonry. By a Brother. London, 1820. 12mo., pp. 118.
- Beauties of Freemasonry. By an Ancient Brother. 1820., pp. 684.
- Annales Chronologiques de la Maçonnerie des Pays Bas. Brussels, 1822-8. [An account of Masonry in the Netherlands from 1814 to 1828].
- David Bernard; Lights on Masonry. Utica, 1829. 12mo., pp. 538. [Partly a republication of Morgan's book, with the seven French Degrees].
- B. Allen; An Oration at Phoenix Lodge, Chester, Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, 1828. Svo., pp. 24.
- The Ancient Order of Freemasonry. By a Candid Man. New York, 1828., pp. 40. [A Vindication of Freemasonry].
- The Masonic Minstrel. London, 1828.
- Constitution of the Freemasons. Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1830. Svo.
- Henry Green. A Narrative of the Proceedings of the Bank Street Church, Philadelphia, as to the Reception of an Adhering Freemason, with an Examination of Masonic Oaths. Philadelphia, 1836. 12mo., pp. 36.

- Abstract of the Proceedings of the anti-Masonic State Convocation of Massachusetts, held at Boston, Dec. 30th, 1829. Boston, 1830. 8vo., pp. 32.
- Proceedings of the first anti-Masonic Convention held at Philadelphia, Sep. 11th, 1830. Philadelphia, 1830. 8vo., pp. 142.
- Address of ditto ditto, Philadelphia, 1830. 8vo., pp. 22.
- Proceedings of the second ditto, held at Baltimore, Sep. 30th, 1832. Boston, 1832, 8vo., pp. 88.
- Lebbeus Armstrong. *The Man of Sin Revealed*. A sermon. Saratoga, 1829. 8vo., pp. 48. [Anti-Masonic].
- Masonry proved to be a Work of Darkness. Hertford, Connecticut, 1835. 12mo., pp. 40. [Anti-Masonic].
- History of the Outrage on the Family of Elder George Wetherell, at Hertford, New York, Sep. 7th, 1830. 12mo. [Anti-Masonic].
- Catalogue of the Masonic Institution. Boston, 1852. 8vo., pp. 281. [Anti-Masonic].
- Le Grand Livre de la Nature. Paris, 1839. [A treatise on the Rose Croix, &c.]
- La Maçonnerie considérée comme les Religions Egyptienne, Juive et Chrétienne. Par le F. M. de S. Paris 1842. 4 vols. 8vo., with plates. [A work much esteemed in France].
- J. O. Halliwell. *Early History of Freemasonry in England*, illustrated by an English Poem of the fourteenth century, with notes. London, 1843. 12mo. [A second edition, 8vo., was published in 1844].
- Mare Bedarrid; De l'Ordre Maçonnique de Mizraim. Paris, 1845. 8vo., 2 vols. [A description of the famous rite of Mizraim].
- Albert G. Mackey. *The Mystic Tie*. Charleston, 1849. 12mo., pp. 228.
- M. C. Trevelian. *A letter on the anti-christian character of Freemasonry*, to Wm. Carwithen, D. Prov. G.M. of Devon. Bath, 1849. 8vo. pp. 255.
- G. Crook. *Freemasonry, a Type of Christianity*. London, 1850. 8vo., pp. 34.
- Robert Macey. *The Masonic Manual*. New York, 1852. 24mo., pp. 49; three hundred common engravings.
- The Masonic Journal*. Mariette. 4 vols., 8vo. 1852.
- Dr. Mackey. *Lexicon of Freemasonry*. Charleston 1845. [Other editions in 1852 and 1855.
- The following works (\*) are by Bro. Dr. Oliver:—
- \* *The Historical Landmarks, and other Evidences of Freemasonry, Explained*. In 2 vols. 8vo.
  - \* *The Antiquities of Freemasonry; comprising illustrations of the Five Grand Periods of Masonry, from the Creation of the World to the Dedication of King Solomon's Temple*.
  - \* *An Apology for the Freemasons*.
  - \* *The Golden Remains of the Early Masonic Writers..* In 5 vols. 12mo. Edited by Dr. Oliver.
- The First Volume contains an Introductory Essay on the Masonic Literature of the eighteenth century. By the Editor. Lecture 1. On the Rise and Progress of the Order. No date.—2. A Defence of Masonry. By the Rev. James Anderson, D.D., S.G.W., published 1730.—3. On the Advantages enjoyed by the Fraternity. By Martin Clare, Esq., A.M., F.R.S., D.G.M., 1741.—4. On the Connection between Masonry and Religion. By Rev. C. Brockwell. 1749.—5. On the Social Virtues of Freemasonry. By Isaac Head, Esq. 1752.—6. A Search after Truth. Delivered at Gloucester, before the Lodge No. 95. 1752.—7. On Masonic Light, Truth, and Charity. By Thomas Dunckerley, Esq., P.G.M., and G. Sup. for Fourteen Counties. 1757.—8. The Moveable Jewels, illustrated by the Aid of Moral Geometry. Anonymous.—9. On the Government of the Lodge. By John Whitmash, Esq., W.M. 1765.—10. On the Design of Masonry. By John Codrington, Esq., D.P.G.M. 1770.—11. On Masonic Duties. By the Rev. R. Green, of Durham. 1776.—12. On Brotherly Love. By the Rev. John Hodgets, A.M. 1784.
- The Second Volume contains Masonic Principles. By William Calcott, P.M., 1769; and Capt. G. Smith, Prov. G.M. for Kent, 1783, with an Introductory Essay on the Social Position of Symbolical Masonry in the eighteenth century. By the Editor.

- The Third Volume contains an Introductory Essay on the Usages and Customs of Symbolical Masonry in the eighteenth century. By the Editor. Chapter 1. Detection of Dr. Plot's Account of the Freemasons. 1755.—2. An Apology for the Free and Accepted Masons. Occasioned by their persecution in the Canton of Berne, &c. 1738.—An impartial Examination of the Act of the Associated Synod of Scotland against the Freemasons. 1757.—4. The sufferings of John Coustos in the Inquisition, on account of his being a Freemason, in 1745.—5. Answer to an Attack on Freemasonry in the "Gentleman's Magazine." 1795.—6. The Misrepresentation of Barruel refuted. 1795.—7. Modern Persecutions of Freemasonry.
- The Fourth Volume contains "Masonic Doctrines." By the Rev. Jethro Inwood, P.G. Chaplain for Kent. 1793. Contents. An Introductory Essay on the Masonic Tests of the eighteenth century. By the Editor. With a Tract on Scripture Masonry. Anonymous. 1737.
- The Fifth Volume contains "Masonic Morality." By the Rev. Thaddeus Mason Harris, P.G. Chap. of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. 1794. With an Introductory Essay on the Cypher Writing used by the Masons of the eighteenth century. By the Editor.
- \* The Spirit of Masonry, in 12mo. By Bro. W. Hutchinson, F.S.A. A new edition, with copious notes, critical and explanatory, by Dr. Oliver.
  - \* The Masonic Manual. By the late Rev. Jonathan Ashe, D.D., M.M. A new edition, with Annotations and Remarks, by Dr. Oliver. In 12mo.
  - \* The History of Freemasonry, from 1829 to 1841. In 12mo.
  - \* Illustrations of Masonry. By the late William Preston, Esq., Past Master of the Lodge of Antiquity, Acting by Immemorial Constitution. A new edition, with copious Notes, and bringing the History of Freemasonry down to the year 1829, by the Rev. George Oliver, D.D., late D.P.G.M. for Lincolnshire, &c. from 1829 to 1841. In one thick vol., 12mo.
  - \* The Origin of the Royal Arch Degree, with a lithographic engraving of an ancient Royal Arch Tracing-board lately discovered in the city of Chester. 8vo.
  - \* The Insignia of the Royal Arch Degree, Illustrated and Explained. With several Woodcuts. 8vo.
- The Book of the Lodge and Officers' Manual; to which is added, A Century of Masonic Aphorisms. In 12mo.
- Brief History of the Witham Lodge (No. 374), holden in the City of Lincoln; with a Description of the Ceremonial used at the levelling of the Foundation Stone of a New Masonic Hall, and the Sermon preached on the occasion, 15th April, 1841.
- The Star in the East; showing the Analogy which exists between the Lectures of Masonry, the Mechanism of Initiation into its Mysteries, and the Christian Religion.
- \* A Mirror for Johannite Masons, in a series of letters to the Right Hon. the Earl of Aboyne, P.G.M. for Northampton and Huntingdon, &c. In Foolscap 8vo.
  - \* A Dictionary of Symbolical Masonry, including the Royal Arch degree, according to the system prescribed by the Grand Lodge, and Supreme Grand Chapter of England. Compiled from the best Masonic authorities. In 12mo.
  - \* The Revelations of a Square; exhibiting a graphic display of the sayings and doings of eminent Free and Accepted Masons, from the revival in 1717 by Dr. Desaguliers to the re-union in 1813 by their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Kent and Sussex. In one volume, 12mo.
  - \* The Symbol of Glory; showing the object and end of Freemasonry, in thirteen lectures. In demy 8vo.
  - \* Signs and Symbols; illustrated and explained in a course of twelve lectures on Freemasonry. In 12mo.
  - \* The Theocratic Philosophy of Freemasonry. In twelve lectures on its speculative, operative and spurious branches. In 12mo.
  - \* Stray Leaves from a Freemason's Note Book. By a Suffolk Rector.
- The Freemasons' Quarterly Magazine and Review for 1850, 1851, 1852.
- New Series of the Freemasons' Quarterly Magazine for 1853, price 12s., bound in Masonic gilt cloth boards: and for 1854, price 9s. 6d., bound in Masonic gilt cloth boards, or in quarterly numbers, price 2s. 6d. each.

- History of the Foreign Masonic Lodges.  
 Sandy's Short View of Freemasonry.  
 Clarke's History of the Minden Lodge.  
 The History and Illustrations of Freemasonry.  
 Single Lectures and Sermons by Cox, Dakeyne, Moody, Margoliouth, Poole, Roberts, Slade  
 Denk-münzen der Freimaurer Bruderschaft (commemorative medals of the Masonic Brotherhood, by Mersdorf), Oldenburg, 1851. Svo., p. 151.  
 Klotz; History of Freemasonry in France. 2 vols.,  
 Masonic Mirror, 1820 (a periodical), 3 volumes and more.  
 Avery Allyn; A Ritual of Freemasonry. New York, 1852. 12mo., pp. 300, 30 plates. [This is an expensive book, but intended for the amusement of the vulgar, and includes Odd Fellows' Proceedings].  
 Hy. C. Atwood. The Master Workman, or True Masonic Guide. New York, 1851. 12mo., pp. 360. [Gives an account of the Scotch, Egyptian, French, and Ancient and Modern York Rites].  
 Ahiman Rezon for South Carolina. Charleston, 1852. Svo., pp. 254.  
 Jeremy L. Cross. The Templar's Chart. New York. 12mo. [Three editions. The last in 1852].  
 ——— The Masonic Text Book. New York, 1825. 24mo., pp. 285.  
 ——— The True Masonic Chart. New York. 12mo., pp. 354. [This book has passed through sixteen editions—the last in 1851].  
 A Key to the First Chart of the Masonic Mirror. New York, 1852. 24mo., pp. 109.  
 Alfred Creigh; Masonry and Antimasonry. Philadelphia, 1854. [A History of Freemasonry in Pennsylvania since 1792].  
 Augustus Arnold; Philosophical History of Freemasonry and other Secret Societies. New York, 1854. 12mo., pp. 283.  
 Circular Letter of the M.W.G.M. of New York. New York, 1854. Svo., pp. 59.  
 W. Tucker; Masonic Charges. Taunton, 1854. 12mo.  
 G. R. Crofts; The Mysteries of Freemasonry. New York, 1852. [A pamphlet professing to give all the degrees].  
 R. Barthelmes, M.D.; Bibliography of Freemasonry in America. New York, 1856. Svo., pp. 54.  
 Albert G. Mackey; The Principles of Masonic Law. New York. 1856. 12mo., pp. 382.  
 American Quarterly Review of Freemasonry. (A periodical now in progress).  
 Freemasons' Quarterly Review. London. (A periodical).  
 Freemasons' Magazine and Masonic Mirror. London. (This periodical. Floreat!)  
 What is Freemasonry? An address delivered before Rickland Lodge No. 39, Ancient Freemasonry at Columbia, South Carolina, on St. John's Day, A. I. 5807. By Theodore S. Gourdin, P.M. of Landmark Lodge, No. 76, Columbia, United States. 1857.  
 Franc Maçon. (Paris periodical, now in progress).  
 Cincinnati Masonic Review. Cincinnati, United States. (A periodical now in progress).  
 American Freemason. (A periodical).  
 Universal Masonic Library. A series of Masonic Literature published in the United States. (See *Freemasons' Magazine*, May 1858, p. 165).  
 Bibliographie der Freimaurerei (Bibliography of Freemasonry). By George Kloss Frankfort, 1844. (See *Freemasons' Magazine*, May 1858, p. 169).

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THE ORATOR.—In the continental Lodges we find an officer called by this name, whose business is to relieve the Worshipful Master from the most burdensome part of his duty, by delivering charges and instructions to newly initiated Brethren, and ventilating and explaining any detached subject that may profitably engage the attention of the members.—*Oliver*.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

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

## MASONIC PRACTICE IN IRELAND.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In a late number of your publication, at page 204, you state, in reply to the query of "H. I. I." that "the ambitious initiate, if he chanced to hear how easily the degrees are conferred in the sister countries, would often make a journey with no other view than that of obtaining them." If the foregoing be correct as regards Ireland, I can only say we do not act up to the rules of the governing body, which prescribe that candidates' names shall remain on Lodge books for one month before ballot; and that a month at least must intervene between the conferring of each degree. Now, as I can speak particularly with reference to our Lodge here, I beg to say that these directions are strictly adhered to; and, as an instance of a practice which is uniform in No. 935, allow me to mention that, upon a late occasion, when a titled brother who had been initiated upwards of a year previously in a London Lodge wished to obtain the F.C. and M.M. degrees in Wexford, he was informed by the Lodge that they could not be given until his mother Lodge would signify its concurrence in such a course. You will therefore perceive that the facility to which you allude, if existing, is not general; nor is it to be supposed such would be sanctioned by the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

Believe me, fraternally yours,

J. S.,

Wexford, 16th Feb., 1859.

Sec. to Lodge No. 935, Wexford.

## THE GLOBE LODGE.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I still maintain that I gave all the necessary proofs of my being a Mason in the various degrees correctly, and having done so, ought to have been admitted when I presented myself at the Globe Lodge. Even if I had produced my certificate I am convinced I should not have been in any better position to be admitted. The first objection I met with was, after having signed my name in a book, that the



Lodge was about to close—there was no business on hand; and as regards the vulgar threat, which Bro. Blackburne states I made use of, I beg to deny it. What I said, was this—I should communicate with the editor of the *Masonic Magazine*—which I think was not at all unbecoming, after the cool and suspicious manner in which I was received.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,  
HENRY WILSON.

“NO TREETOTALLER, BUT A FOE TO JOBBERY.”

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Your constant attendance at No. 25, in former days, about eighteen years ago, must have made you familiar with my signature. Should you, however, have forgotten it, please to remember that I was proposed in that Lodge by Bro. Clark, of Vigo Street, and initiated therein in 1841. You were the first Brother who afforded me Masonic instruction, for which purpose you attended me at my house.

Circumstances have occasioned or caused my removal to this place. When I resided at Stockton-upon-Tees, the Tees Lodge was founded, at which I assisted, and joined immediately on its formation; after which the St. Helens, Hartlepool, was consecrated, which I also joined, and was thus a subscribing member to Nos. 25, 749, and 774 at the same time. Of the latter Lodge I am the oldest subscribing member. I have just obtained the warrant for No. 1066, West Hartlepool, in which I am J.W.

The above is my Masonic career. Can you as a Brother say, that I have shewn any laxity of zeal in promulgating the principles of the Craft? As an old Brother, and a personal friend of “auld lang syne!” I may be permitted to say that I never have prostituted the Masonic emblems by placing them above my shop, or had them printed on my cards or bill-heads, or even worn them on my person (except at a Masonic festival). Nor did I ever solicit a Brother for an order, always leaving my brother Masons the privilege of using such patronage voluntarily. I have always observed my Masonic obligation; and I leave it to others to do the same. As to Brother Murray, he is a personal friend of mine, and has been for fourteen years past. He not only founded the Tees Lodge, No. 749, but furnished it at his own individual cost! As regards the charge of “jobbery,” &c., on the part of Bro. Murray, I can only say that your correspondent exhibits the most lamentable ignorance of our arrangements. In the first place, Bro. Murray has not taken any active part in the formation of the Lodge (as the Prov. G.M. can testify) for the whole of the correspondence has been confided to myself; and secondly, we are not to have hot suppers, but a simple repast. As regards the rooms in question, Bro. Murray, to show his Masonic zeal, most generously deferred making any charge for them until we were in possession of such funds as would enable us to pay rent for them. Is such liberality to be questioned—and is such a liberal, true-hearted Brother to have his generosity distorted into self-interest, by some tyro who does not understand the true principles of the Craft. This letter shows an utter want of charity, and an entire ignorance of the subject upon which he so feebly attempted to address you. I need make no remark about “Masonic Halls” further than to ask your correspondent where the money is to come from to found them? The formation of a Lodge at an hotel, with furniture,

jewels, and the proper paraphernalia, costs a large sum, and is generally found to be as much as most Brethren are willing to afford for a commencement. If your correspondent can point out the way to found "Masonic Halls" without running into debt, and the plan appears to be feasible, I will cheerfully enlist under his banners, as far as their establishment is concerned, but no further—for his want of charity, and readiness to violate the most sacred obligations of the Order, renders him, in my opinion, a Brother rather to be avoided than courted or imitated. It is to be hoped that the small modicum of reason with which he has been endowed may be increased; and thus his mind be the better prepared to receive the lessons which Masonry inculcates, and which it is the duty of all her sons to practice.

The very flimsy texture which you have thrown over the whereabouts of your correspondent, fails not to discover his local habitation, which you must and do know! You must know his name! and also his residence!—if not, the post mark would prove to you the locality from whence it emanated. You, as a public journalist, ought to use the utmost caution in examining all articles previous to publication, to guard against any such vulgar, ignorant, and half-witted attacks of scurrility as that alluded to. I trust, however, that this will operate as a caution to you, and that your pages will be reserved for communications likely to cement the brotherhood in the bonds of fraternal regard, and thus render it a useful and instructive publication, deserving the universal patronage and support of the fraternity.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

JOHN BERNARD MUNKENBECK,

*West Hartlepool, Feb. 19th, 1859.*

Nos. 774 and 1066.

[We are glad to renew our acquaintance with an old friend whose signature we certainly did not recognize at a distance of seventeen or eighteen years—but we cannot allow him to lecture us upon our duties. Accompanying the letter, which, in obedience to demand we now publish, was one which he marks "private," containing threats as to the course he purposes to take. We are not going to be intimidated by threats, and we certainly do not think it will tend to cement the "bonds of brotherhood" for us to give up the names of our correspondents.—ED.]

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EXCLUSION OF VISITORS.—When any business of a private nature, such as a discussion on the state of the funds, or any other topic which cannot be interesting to a stranger, occupies the attention of the Brethren, due notice having been given to every member, it would be indelicate to invite visitors to be present, as the financial affairs of the Lodge might be in such a state of disarrangement and confusion as it would be undesirable to communicate to any who were not members, and who, consequently, could feel no interest in the proceedings. And, therefore, in some Lodges the by-laws are imperative on this point, and direct that no subject of local importance to the Lodge shall be discussed in the presence of visitors. When, therefore, such discussions are unavoidable, visitors may be courteously requested to withdraw.—*Dr. Oliver.*

# THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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## MASONIC MEMS.

A NEW Lodge, the Royal Alfred, No. 1092, is to be opened at the Rising Sun Tavern, Stamford Bridge, Fulham, on Friday next, Bro. Jos. Smith, Grand Purs. being W.M. There are seven candidates for initiation, but we regret to see that they are all strangers to the neighbourhood. The consecration is to be performed by Bro. Wm. Watson, P.M. of No. 23, the music being under the direction of Bro. Matthew Cooke.

At the meeting of the Board of Benevolence on Wednesday last, seventy pounds was granted for the relief of six cases, and one hundred and seventy pounds recommended for three more.

WARRANTS for the following new Lodges have been granted since our last return :—No. 1073, Castle Lodge, Castle Hotel, Windsor; No. 1074, Pilgrims Lodge, George Inn, Glastonbury; No. 1075, Gold Coast Lodge, Cape Coast Castle; No. 1076, Southern Coast, Forbes Hotel, Campbelltown, New South Wales; No. 1077, Miramichi Lodge, Chatham, New Brunswick; No. 1078, Avalon Lodge, St. John's, Newfoundland; No. 1079, Royal Alfred Lodge, Angel Inn, Guildford; No. 1080, not yet issued; No. 1081, Ferrers and Ivanhoe Lodge, Town Hall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch; Royal Alfred, Rising Sun, Stamford Bridge, Fulham.

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## GRAND LODGE.

BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2ND, 1859.

The Regulations for the government of Grand Lodge, during the time of public business, to be read.

Minutes of the quarterly communication, 1st December, for confirmation.

Election of M.W. Grand Master.

Election of Grand Treasurer.

The M.W. Grand Master will lay before Grand Lodge the communications that have passed between himself and the Grand Lodge of Canada since the last quarterly communication, and will state his views thereon.

The M.W. Grand Master will also lay before Grand Lodge a communication received from Brother Charles Toby, accompanying the return of the warrant of Tasmania Union Lodge, No. 781, at Hobart Town.

The report of the Colonial Board of the 11th November, 1858.

The report of the Board of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for grants to

Brother John F. Taylor, of No. 689, Birmingham ..... £50  
 „ William Higson, of No. 150, Bury, Lancashire... 40

The Widow of Bro. Wm. Gillam, of No. 279, Calcutta £100  
 Bro. Joseph Hainsworth, of No. 365, Huddersfield ..... 30

The report of the annual audit of Grand Lodge accounts.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

The Board of General Purposes beg to report that they have received and adjudicated upon the following complaints preferred by the Board of Benevolence, viz:—

1. *Against the Phoenix Lodge, No. 111, Sunderland, for having certified to the petition of a Brother, that he had been a regular contributing member for the space of twenty-nine years, whereas the Grand Lodge dues had been paid for only twenty-seven years. It appeared from the books, that the Brother in question had joined the Lodge in Nov., 1828, and in the following month had been appointed to office, yet that his name had not been included in any return made to Grand Lodge until the year 1831; the Board ordered the arrears for two years to be paid up, and imposed a fine of one guinea to the Fund of Benevolence.*
2. *Against the St. John's Lodge, No. 409, Wigton, for certifying to the petition of a Brother, that he had been a contributing member for the space of twenty years, whereas the Grand Lodge dues had been paid for seventeen and a half years only. The Board, believing that the error had arisen from an accidental circumstance, ordered the arrears for two and a half years to be paid, and that the W.M. and Officers be admonished to be more careful for the future.*
3. *Against the Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25, London, for certifying to the petition of a Brother that he had been a regular contributing member for the space of six and a half years, whereas the Grand Lodge dues had only been paid for five and a half years. The W. Master and his Wardens having attended pursuant to summons, it was shown to the satisfaction of the Board that there had been an accidental error in making the return, and that no money had been retained which was the property of the Grand Lodge, the Board cautioned the W. Master and Officers to be careful for the future in ascertaining the accuracy of their certificates.*
4. *Against the Lodge of Economy, No. 90, Winchester, for certifying to the petition of a Brother, that he had been a regular contributing member for the space of fifteen years, whereas Grand Lodge dues had only been paid for thirteen years. The Lodge admitted their error, and explained that it had occurred in consequence of some irregularity in the books about the year 1828. The Board ordered the arrears for two years to be paid up, and admonished the W. Master and Officers to be more careful for the future.*

Complaints having been made of the facility with which degrees may be obtained in Scotland, and it having been alleged that occasionally three degrees have been conferred on English Masons on the same evening, the Board, believing that such practice is likely to lead to very injurious results, beg to recommend that a friendly representation be made to the Grand Lodge of Scotland, drawing the attention of that Grand Lodge to the circumstances, and suggesting that private Lodges in Scotland should not be permitted to confer degrees upon English Masons visiting that country, within the periods prescribed by the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England.

The Board has also to report that their attention has been directed to the hardship which may possibly occur from the limitation of the period to two years, within which the widow of a deceased Brother may petition the Board of Benevolence for relief, and, for the purpose of removing this limitation, they beg to recommend that the following alterations be made in the Book of Constitutions.

sec. 13, p. 99; viz.—In the eighth, ninth, and tenth lines to leave out the words, “the application be made to the committee within two years after the death of the husband or father, and,” and to add at the end of the section, the following words:—

“When application for relief is made on behalf of children only, such application must be made within two years of the death of the father.”

The Board also report that they have caused to be printed and circulated amongst the Craft, an Address, embodying the main facts relating to the possessions and financial position of the society, and have included in that address such questions with reference to the future disposal of the property as they trust will have the effect of eliciting the opinions of the Brethren generally on this important subject.

Then follows the Cash Account.

Freemasons' Hall, February 16th, 1859.

(Signed) JOHN HAVERS,  
President.

#### REPORT OF THE COLONIAL BOARD.

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

The Colonial Board beg to report that a communication has been received from the Provincial Grand Master for Tasmania, dated the 12th of November last, from which it appears that he has released from suspension sixty-two members of the Tasmanian Union Lodge, No. 781, Hobart Town, who had petitioned for release, after recognizing his appointment and authority as Provincial Grand Master, and pledging themselves to work within the laws and constitutions of the Craft; but that such release was to be contingent on any steps that might have been taken by the M.W. Grand Master, or the Grand Lodge; and altogether pending the approval or disapproval of the supreme authorities.

(Signed) JOHN LL. EVANS, President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, 15th February, 1859.

#### NOTICES OF MOTIONS.

By W. Bro. Frederick Binckes, P.M. No. 11.

“That it is inexpedient to publish the discussions in Grand Lodge in the printed Minutes of proceedings of the quarterly communications as issued from the Grand Secretary's office.”

By W. Bro. J. Rankin Stebbing, W.M. No. 555.

“That no alterations or improvements in the buildings proposed to be devoted to the purposes of Grand Lodge, and the Masonic body generally, will be satisfactory to the non-resident Brethren unless provision is made for affording sleeping accommodation, even though that accommodation is but gradually brought about.”

By W. Bro. George Barrett, W.M. No. 212.

“To move that £1,500, from the fund of General Purposes, be given or lent to the Royal Masonic Boys School towards the enlargement of the school house at Tottenham.”

By W. Bro. J. Whitmore, P.M. No. 320.

“That, inasmuch as the property of the Masonic body in Great Queen-street does not, in its present state, afford sufficient facilities for the transactions of Masonic business; and inasmuch as it is not desirable to devote that portion of it known as the ‘Freemasons' Tavern and Hall’ exclusively to Masonic purposes; a committee be appointed to examine and report to the Grand Lodge as to the best means of providing for the necessary requirements of the Craft at large.”

## METROPOLITAN.

## APPOINTMENTS.

*Wednesday, February 23rd.*—Lodges, Antiquity (2), Freemasons' Tavern; Mount Moriah (40), ditto; Prosperity (78), White Hart, Bishopsgate Street; United Pilgrims (745), Manor House, Walworth; Prince Frederick William (1055), Knight of St. John, St. John's Wood. *Chapter.*—Union of Waterloo (13), Woolwich.

*Thursday, 24th.*—Lodges, Neptune (22), Radley's Hotel; Grenadiers (79), Freemasons' Tavern; Shakspeare (116), Albion Tavern. General Committee of Girls School, at 12.

*Friday, 25th.*—Lodges, Universal (212), Freemasons' Tavern; Joppa (233), Albion Tavern; Fitzroy (530), Head Quarters Royal Artillery Company; High Cross (1056), Railway Hotel, Northumberland Park, Tottenham; Royal Alfred (1082), Rising Sun, Stamford Bridge, Fulham. *Chapter.*—Friendship (6), Thatched House Tavern. House Committee Boys School, at 3.

*Saturday, 26th.*—Lodge, Unity (215), London Tavern.

*Monday, 28th.*—Lodges, Somerset House and Inverness (No. 4), Freemasons' Tavern; Castle Lodge of Harmony (27), Thatched House; Old King's Arms (30), Freemasons' Tavern; Pythagorean (93), Globe Tavern, Greenwich; Salisbury (630), German Club, Dean Street, Soho. *Chapter.*—Joppa (223), Bridge House Hotel.

*Tuesday, March 1st.*—Lodges, Albion (9), Freemasons' Tavern; Old Dundee (18), London Tavern; Temple (118), Ship and Turtle; Old Concord (201), Freemasons' Tavern; Euphrates (257), White Hart, Bishopsgate Street; Stability (264), Green Dragon, ditto; La Tolerance (784), Freemasons' Tavern. *Chapter.*—St. John's (196), Radley's Hotel.

*Wednesday, 2nd.*—Grand Lodge, at 7, for 8. Lodge, Westminster and Keystone (10), Freemasons' Tavern; Florence Nightingale (1008), Freemasons' Tavern, Woolwich.

*Thursday, 3rd.*—Lodges, Egyptian (29), George and Blue Boar; Strong Man (53), Falcon Tavern; Good Report (158), Radley's Hotel; Lion and Lamb (227), Bridge House Hotel; St. Andrew's (281), Freemasons' Tavern; Yarborough (812), George, Commercial Road East; Crystal Palace (1044), Crystal Palace. *Chapter.*—St. James (No. 2), Freemasons' Tavern.

*Friday, 4th.*—*Chapters*, Fidelity (3), London Tavern; British (8), Freemasons' Tavern.

*Saturday, 5th.*—Lodge, London (125), Freemasons' Tavern. Committee Boys School, at 4.

[The appointments of Lodges of Instruction will appear in the last number of each month.]

ST. ALBAN'S (No. 32).—On Monday, the 14th, the monthly meeting was held at the London Coffee-house, Bro. S. E. Nutt, P.M., officiating as W.M., Bro. Spencer Herapath as S.W., and Bro. Hyde Clarke, P.M., as J.W. Two Brothers were raised. The propositions of the Board of General Purposes were brought forward, and their further consideration will be resumed at the next meeting. Bro. J.W. Cole, a P.M., was invested as Director of the Ceremonies, a Brother of great zeal and attainments, and well known in Masonic literature. At the banquet, Bro. Boards, W.M., in the chair, thanks were returned for the Grand Officers by Bro. the Rev. J. E. Cox, P.G. Chaplain, who complimented this ancient Lodge on the admirable and impressive working he had witnessed.

CALEDONIAN LODGE (No. 156).—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, Feb. 11th, at Bro. Painter's, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street, Bro. P. M. Downes presiding, in consequence of the lamented death of the late excellent master, Bro. Kennett. The Lodge was opened at a quarter to five, when Bro. P.M. and Sec. Downe presented Bro. John Grant, W.M. elect, for installation, the ceremony being impressively and ably performed by the presiding W.M., in the presence of several P.Ms. of the Lodge, and Bros. P.M. Biggs, Prov. G.D.C., Wilts; Liddell, of Doncaster; Terry, of Sincerity; Hughes, of Liverpool, &c. The Master appointed and invested as his officers, the following Brethren:—Bros. Collinge, S.W.; James Taylor, J.W.; W. H. Holsey, S.D.; W. Hutchinson, J.D.; Burnham, I.G.; Pereira, Dir. of Cers.; Downe, Sec. Bro. Taylor was also invested as Treasurer, and Bro. Dawes, as Tyler. A beautiful gold P.M. jewel (subscribed for by the Brethren) was then presented to Bro. Pereira, P.M., by Bro. Downe, in a remarkably neat and appropriate speech, as a token of their fraternal affection and appreciation of

his long and distinguished services as father of the Lodge. The present was gracefully and feelingly acknowledged by Bro. Pereira, in a short but excellent speech. Bro. Joshua Nunn then presented to the Lodge a number of beautifully-designed Masonic notices, and it was proposed by Bro. Downe, seconded by Bro. Pereira, that the best thanks of the Lodge be given to Bro. Nunn for his elegant present, and that the same be entered in the minutes of the Lodge, which was carried unanimously. The Lodge was then closed, and the Brethren adjourned to refreshment.

**DOMATIC LODGE (No. 206).**—This Lodge held the monthly meeting on Monday, 14th Jan. at Bro. Ireland's, Falcon Tavern, Fetter-lane; Bro. Baker W.M., assisted by Bros. Haydon and Moore, Senior and Junior Wardens, and other officers, opened Lodge, and passed Bros. Stead, Davis, Phillips and Markham to the second degree, and raised Bro. Lowther, the ceremonies being excellently performed. The other business of the Lodge having been disposed of, the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet. Bro. Joseph Smith, G. Purst, and also P.M. of the Domatic, acknowledged the toast of the Grand Officers, taking, at the same time, the opportunity of largely expatiating upon the beauties of the order. Bro. Smith said, he had further a pleasing duty to perform, that of acquainting the brethren that this was the 73rd birthday of the Domatic, it having been constituted on the 14th of February 1786, at the Ship Tavern, Little Turnstile, Holborn. The number being (according to the old calendar) No. 234. Bro. John Wood being the first W.M., and Bros. Charles Broad and John Perkins being the first Senior and Junior Wardens. Several other toasts followed, including "the Visitors Bros. Gretorex, Taylor, and Bruton," the last named brother responding; "the P.Ms. Bros. Brett, Elmes, W. Carpenter, J. Smith," &c., Bro. Carpenter replying in his usual happy manner. Some good music by Bros. Bruton, Beckett, Taylor, Carpenter, &c., added to the zest of the evening.

**ST. JAMES'S UNION LODGE (No. 211).**—This Lodge held the second meeting for the year on Tuesday, Bro. Stacey, the recently installed W.M., presiding. Bros. Enders, W. Smith, H. Wells, N. Thomas, and W. Davies were duly raised to the sublime degree of M.M. After which, Bros. Berry, J. Miles, and J. Price were passed to the Fellow Craft degree. Bro. Thomas Filmer, of No. S16, Folkestone, was elected a joining member.

**WESTBOURNE LODGE (No. 1035).**—The first anniversary of this thriving Lodge was held on Thursday, February 17th, at Bro. Bailey's, the Manor House Tavern, Westbourne-terrace-north, Paddington. Bro. A. D. Loewenstark, W.M., presided, and passed Bro. Hannibal Gardener to the second degree. Bro. Tyrrell, P.M. No. 168, then presented Bro. C. H. Cottebrune, the W.M. elect, for installation, and that ceremonial was most ably performed by Bro. Loewenstark. The W.M., though a young Mason, promises to be a most able worker, and his manner of investing and addressing his officers was worthy of remark. He invested Bros. Loewenstark, P.M.; Benj. Russen, S.W.; John Caldwell, J.W.; H. A. Stacey, Sec.; F. A. Dietrich, S.D.; W. Harrison, J.D.; A. Radinn, I.G.; Lyne, Steward. Bro. J. Turner was elected Treasurer, and Bro. Bradley, Tyler. Bro. Loewenstark delivered the usual addresses to the W.M., Wardens and Brethren. The report of the auditors showed a most satisfactory condition of the finances and prosperity of the Lodge; there have been eighteen Brethren initiated during its first year. The Lodge having been closed, the Brethren present—thirty—assembled at a very capital banquet, and the health of the W.M. having been proposed by Bro. Loewenstark, Bro. Cottebrune, in reply said none but those who had passed through a similar career, could understand his feelings at that moment. A native of France, he, in early life, lost his mother, and his other parent, immersed in business, had no time to show his child much paternal tenderness; hence he knew not, till he entered Masonry, a warm and friendly greeting. He was made a Mason in France, and on leaving his mother Lodge, on his arrival in England, he soon found friends; and by unremitting attention, he was enabled to qualify himself for the distinguished position in which he had been placed by the Westbourne Lodge. His best endeavours would be given to conduct the affairs of the Lodge with satisfaction to the members and the Craft. The W.M. then, in kindly terms, spoke of the conduct of his predecessor

and placed on his breast an elegant jewel, bearing this inscription:—"Presented to Bro. A. D. Loewensark, P.M., by the members of the Westbourne Lodge No. 1035, as a token of the high respect and esteem they entertain towards him, as the founder and first W.M. of the Lodge. February 17th, 1859." Bro. Loewensark, in acknowledgment, assured the Brethren his success was mainly to be attributed to the assistance he had received, and he hoped the Brethren appointed to office, would as readily aid his successor. He tendered his grateful thanks to the Lodge for the elegant testimonial, which would, he hoped, be preserved by his children, for years to come. Among the visitors present, were Bros. Tyrrell, P.M. No. 168; T. Suter, P.M. No. 219; T. R. Sheen, P.M. No. 237; T. Allen, P.M. No. 276; and Simpson, No. 217.

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## PROVINCIAL.

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### BRISTOL.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, March 1st, Beaufrt (120), Freemasons' Hall, at 7; Wednesday, 2nd, Moira (408), ditto, at 7; Friday, 4th. *Instruction*.—Ditto, at 7½. *Chapter*.—Thursday, 3rd, Hospitality (221), ditto, at 7.

ROYAL CLARENCE LODGE (No. 81)—The regular stated fortnightly meeting of the above Lodge was held on Monday, 14th inst.; there was a numerous attendance of the Brethren, important business having been announced in the summons, besides a fraternal visit from the W.M., Officers, and Brethren of the Royal Sussex Lodge of Hospitality, No. 221. The communication from the President of the Board of General Purposes, relative to the conversion of the Grand Lodge property, having been read at the last Lodge, the Brethren were specially summoned to take the same into consideration. After a short discussion, from which it was apparent that the feeling of the Brethren on the matter was perfectly unanimous, the following resolutions were proposed by Bro. F. A. Ware, Sec., seconded by Bro. Samuel Bryant, P.M., (Prov. G. Com. K.T.), and carried without a dissentient.

"1. That this Lodge is of opinion that a library, reading room, and refreshment rooms, attached to Freemasons' Hall, London, where Brethren from the provinces, as well as London members may find appropriate accommodation, are requisite, and would be found acceptable to the Craft generally.

"2. That if, with due regard to financial results, it is found practicable to devote the whole of Freemasons' Hall solely and exclusively to Masonic purposes, such result would be the most desirable.

"3. That a moderate diminution of annual income, for the purpose of keeping such property sacred to Masonry, would be amply compensated for by the moral influence which such a step would exert, and is a subject of minor importance in the consideration of a scheme which cannot fail very materially to elevate the character and position of Freemasonry.

"4. That no outlay for the purpose of extending the 'tavern system,' however productive in its results, would be either expedient or desirable."

The W.M. promised to forward a copy of the above resolutions to the Grand Sec., as an expression of the sentiments of the Lodge on the subject referred to. The following letter was read from the R.W.D. Prov. G.M. :—

*February 10th, 1859.*

"My dear sir and Worshipful Brother,—I have to ask the favour of your bringing before your Lodge a subject in which I feel the deepest interest, in the hope that every Brother, with yourself, will aid me in carrying out my most anxious wish, that of restoring a portion of St. Mary Redcliff church.

"My late father assisted, with many others, in laying the foundation stone of the north porch of that beautiful fabric, and it ever was his earnest desire that the Craft would at some future period, take a part of the building under their



special care; and in his last days he frequently expressed his wish that, if ever, I should be in a position to promote an object so decidedly worthy of our Order I would not fail to embrace the opportunity.

"I now feel the time has arrived, and seeing that Freemasonry was never in a more prosperous state in the province than it now is, I venture to lay the case before the Brethren, through the W.M.s. of the several Lodges, and I have every confidence I shall not make the appeal in vain.

"At a meeting of the W.M.s., Wardens, and Past Masters, held on the 4th inst., I referred to this subject, and I rejoice much at the favourable reception it met with, as I doubt not it will with every brother Mason in the province.

"The course I would advise to be adopted is, to raise a fund from the Lodges and from individual members; and as soon as the amount can be ascertained, to appoint a survey committee to meet the architect and the chairman of the restoration committee, at the church, and then select a part of the building which our funds will enable us to complete, and hand down to posterity as the work of a body of men possessing the pride and satisfaction of knowing they were Freemasons. Such I believe would really be worthy of us and the principles we profess and love. Our forefathers, Free and Accepted Masons, built the church, surely we can help to restore it.

"I fully rely on your favourable reception of this letter, to which I beg a reply at your early convenience.

"Believe me to be, my dear sir and Worshipful Brother, yours very fraternally,

"Wm. POWELL, D. Prov. G.M., Bristol,

"Bro. Thos. Sainsbury, W.M. Royal Clarence Lodge, No. 81."

Whereupon it was resolved, "That a committee, consisting of the W.M., P.M.s., Wardens, and Secretary, be appointed to take into consideration the best means to be adopted for carrying out the suggestion of the R.W.D. Prov. G.M."

Two gentlemen having been proposed as candidates for initiation at the next Lodge, the W.M., Officers, and Brethren of the Royal Sussex Lodge were reported, admitted in due form, and received by the Brethren with customary honours. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bros. Harrison and Scott passed to that degree, the ceremony being performed by the W.M., Bro. Sainsbury, in an admirable manner, who also delivered the charge; whilst a lecture on the tracing board was ably given by Bro. S. Bryant, P.M. The Lodge being closed down, the W.M. addressed the W.M. of the Royal Sussex Lodge, thanking him, together with his officers, for the honour they had conferred upon him by paying him the first special visit he had received during his tenure of the chair, and stated that it was his intention to carry out, to the full, the custom which had so long prevailed amongst the Bristol Lodges, of paying frequent visits to their sister Lodges. The W.M. of the Royal Sussex Lodge of Hospitality, Bro. Low, in reply, expressed the pleasure he experienced in paying a visit to the oldest, the most numerous, and the most flourishing Lodge in the province, and dilated upon the value and desirability of these interchanges of visits between the various Lodges of a province, both as an expression of fraternal regard, and with a view to that uniformity of working which was so essential. The W.M., Officers, and Brethren of the Royal Sussex Lodge then retired, and Bro. S. Bryant, P.M. having given a notice of motion relative to the subscriptions to the Masonic charities, the Lodge was closed in perfect harmony at ten o'clock.

#### CHANNEL ISLANDS.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodge*.—Wednesday, March 2nd, Hammond (829), Masonic Hall, Guernsey, at 7½. *Chapter*.—Tuesday, 1st, Hammond (129), Masonic Hall, Guernsey, at 8.

ST. HELIER.—*Lodge la Cesarée*.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on the evening of Friday, February 11th, at the Masonic Hall, Museum-street, St. Helier, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Le Cras, who, being quite *au fait* in the work, ably performed the ceremony of passing three entered apprentices to the second degree. In a portion of this, he received the efficient aid of Bro. Dr. Cuquemelle, P.M., who is always prepared to render assistance when required. By him the lecture on the tracing board was delivered in so lucid a manner as

more than ordinarily to excite the attention of those who then heard it for the first time. Subsequently the chair was resumed by the W.M., who initiated into the mysteries of the Craft a gentleman who was on the point of leaving the country. Of course a favourable report had been previously received from the commission appointed for the special purpose (as in all other cases in this Lodge) as to the character of the candidate, and his fitness in other respects. This plan, recently brought into operation, having been found to work exceedingly well, in securing due precaution as to the admission only of suitable men, is strongly recommended for general adoption. The ceremony of initiation was followed by an *extempore* discourse (according to custom) on the rough ashlar, delivered by the Orator, Bro. Rathier, in his usual eloquent and fervent style, and with true Masonic feeling. The Brethren are indeed highly privileged on all such occasions, in having an opportunity of hearing the principles of the Order so faithfully and energetically expounded by one of their number, who is eminently qualified, not only by his command of language, but by his extensive knowledge of the subject, for the performance of the duty. The chief object of the meeting was then entered upon, namely, the formation of a Masonic library. After some discussion, the arrangements having been considered to some extent on previous evenings, it was determined to appropriate the sum of four pounds from the funds of the Lodge, for the immediate purchase of a few Masonic books, as a nucleus to solicit donations of works on the subject, and though last, not by any means the least important, to take in the *Freemasons' Magazine and Masonic Mirror*. The Lodge having been closed, the members spent a pleasant hour together, while partaking of that light and moderate refreshment which is quite in accordance with our principles, and for which only provision is made. It may be added that the proceedings of this Lodge are conducted entirely in the French language, the English form of ritual having been most faithfully translated for the purpose some years ago by Bro. Dr. Cuquenelle.

#### CHESHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Chapter*.—Wednesday, March 2nd, Fidelity (701), Angel Inn, Birkenhead, at 6.

#### DEVONSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, March 1st, St. John's (83), Masonic Hall, Plymouth, at 7; Wednesday, 2nd, Brunswick (185), Masonic Hall, Plymouth, at 7; Perseverance (109), London Hotel, Sidmouth, at 7.

TOTNES.—*Pleiades Lodge* (No. 1012).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, on Thursday, Feb. 17th, Bro. the Rev. W. Y. Daykin, Prov. G. Chaplain, W.M., in the chair. The Lodge was opened in the first degree, and the minutes of the previous Lodge confirmed. The report of proceedings at the last Prov. Grand Lodge was laid on the Secretary's table for the perusal of the Brethren, and a letter from the R.W. and Rt. Hon. the Prov. Grand Master, on the subject of the Devon Masonic Benevolent Fund, read. An address of sympathy with the Most Worshipful Grand Master with respect to the attack made upon him by the *Masonic Observer*, and expressing unabated confidence in his just and upright rule, was read, and being unanimously approved, signed by the W.M., Wardens, and Secretary, on behalf of the Lodge. Mr. Thomas Pollard, of Slapton, was initiated, and, in accordance with the rule of the Lodge, presented with a copy of the Book of Constitutions, and the by-laws. Bro. Bridges, P.M., at the Master's request, passed Bros. Coulton and Manning to the second degree. It was resolved that new seats for the better accommodation of the Brethren, and new curtains for the hall, should be prepared previous to the next meeting. Bro. Lidstone, S.D., announced that as soon as he found a good design he would place a P.M.'s chair in the Lodge. The Lodge was closed in ancient form, and with solemn prayer. A Mark Master's Lodge is about to be opened, under the Leigh Constitution, at the Masonic Rooms.

## DORSETSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Wednesday, March 2nd, Faith and Unanimity (605), Freemasons' Hall, Dorchester, at 6; Amity (260), Masonic Hall, Poole, at 7; Thursday, 3rd, Unity (512), Town Hall, Wareham, at 7.

## DURHAM.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, March 1st, Marquis of Granby (146), Freemasons' Hall, Durham, at 7; Wednesday, 2nd, Phoenix (111), Phoenix Hall, Sunderland, at 7; Thursday, 3rd, Tees (749), Mason's Court, Stockton, at 7; St. Helen's (774), Masonic Hall, Hartlepool, at 7; Friday, 4th, Lambton (521), Lambton Arms, Chester-le-Street, at 2.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—*St. Hilda's Lodge* (No. 292).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held in the Lodge room, at Bro. Carmen's, Golden Lion Hotel, on Monday evening, the 14th February, the W.M. Bro. J. J. Oliver presiding, supported by Bros. J. Hinde, S.W.; J. M. Buckland, J.W.; and the other officers. The W.M. was supported on his left and right by Bros. Ridley, P.M., and Twizell, P.M., No. 624, and Prov. J.G.D. for Northumberland; there was also a very numerous attendance of visiting Brethren. The minutes of the last Lodge having been read and confirmed, two gentlemen were initiated, three passed, and one raised, the duties devolving upon the W.M., assisted by Bro. Ridley, P.M. The brethren then adjourned to refreshment. Bro. J. Watt, Prov. G. Org., presiding at the harmonium. Subsequent to the business of the evening a proposition was made to form a library consisting of Masonic works, in connexion with the Lodge, and a committee nominated to report thereon.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, March 1st, Sherborne (1004), George Hotel, Stroud, at 5½; Wednesday, 2nd, Royal Union (307), Freemasons' Hall, Cheltenham, at 5.

## HAMPSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodge*.—Thursday, March 2nd, Pamure (1025), Royal Hotel, Aldershot; at 6. *Chapters*.—Wednesday, 2nd, Southampton (555), Freemasons' Hall, Southampton, at 7; Thursday, 3rd, Royal Gloucester (152), Freemasons' Hall, Southampton, at 7.

## ISLE OF WIGHT.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Wednesday, March 2nd, Yarborough (800), High Street, Ventnor, at 7.

## KENT.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, March 1st, Adam's (184), Masonic Hall, Sheerness, at 6; Wednesday, 2nd, Royal Naval (621), Royal Hotel, Ramsgate, at 7; Invicta (1011), George Hotel, Ashford, at 8; Thursday, 3rd, United Industrious (34), Freemasons' Tavern, Canterbury, at 8; Friday, 4th, Union (149), King's Head, Margate, at 7.

GRAVESEND.—*Lodge of Freedom* (No. 91).—A meeting of this Lodge was held at the Town Hall, Gravesend, on the morning of Monday last, the 21st inst., Bro. E. Wates, W.M., when a candidate was initiated, one brother passed, and a third raised.

## LANCASHIRE (EAST).

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Thursday, March 3rd, Affability (399), Masonic Rooms, Manchester, at 6; Friday, 4th, Anchor and Hope (44), Swan Hotel, Bolton, at 6. *Mark*.—Thursday, 3rd, St. John's (S. C.), Commercial Hotel, Bolton, at 6. *Chapter*.—Friday, 4th, Concord (44), Swan Hotel, Bolton, at 6. *Encampment*.—Thursday, 3rd, St. Michael, Newchurch.

BURY.—*Prince Edwin's Lodge* (No. 150).—At the monthly meeting of this Lodge on Wednesday, the 16th inst., held at the Bury Bridge Inn, the Lodge being opened up to the third degree by Bro. Veevers, W.M., Bro. Richard Briggs was raised to the sublime degree of M.M., by Bro. John Barlow, P.M., after which, the W.M. initiated Mr. S. H. Green, surgeon, into the mysteries of Freemasonry.

BURY.—*Lodge of Relief* (No. 50).—The monthly meeting of this flourishing old

Lodge was held at the Hare and Hounds Inn, Bolton-street, on Thursday evening, the 17th inst. The W.M. being confined to his bed by sickness, his place was ably supplied by Bro. John Redfern, the much respected Master of Ceremonies, whose services are always cheerfully given when required either by his own or neighbouring Lodges. Bro. John Parks was present as S.W., and, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Wormahl, his place as J.W. was occupied by Bro. Tweddell. The Lodge was opened to the third degree, and after being closed down to the first, the ballot was taken for a lewis who had been proposed at the former meeting, and was unanimously in his favour. Three candidates were then proposed for initiation, and the Lodge was adjourned from labour to refreshment.

#### LANCASHIRE (WEST).

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, March 1st, Alliance (965), Stanley Arms, Roby, at 4½; Wednesday, 2nd, St. John's (971), Caledonian Hotel, Liverpool, at 6½; Bllesmere (1032), Red Lion Inn, Chorley, at 6; Thursday, 3rd, Mariners (310), Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6; Friday, 4th, Mariner's Instruction, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. *Chapter*.—Tuesday, 1st, St. John (245), Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.

BLACKBURN.—*Lodge of Perseverance* (No. 432).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, February 17th, at Bro. Bolton's, Old Bull Hotel, when there were present Bros. John Bell, W.M.; Thos. Clough, P.M., as S.W.; William Peel, J.W.; James Houliker, P.M.; Richard Redcliffe, P.M.; James Pilkington, P.M. and Treas.; Jos. Pearson, P.M. and Tyler; Charles Tiplady, Hon. Sec. and J.D.; G. P. Hartley, I.G.; and other brethren. The only visiting brother on the occasion was I. G. Beaumont. The minutes of last regular Lodge and subsequent emergency meetings were then read and confirmed. Bros. Heath, Bannister and Clayton, having given proof of their efficiency in the second degree, were raised. The Lodge having been closed down, the W.M. presented the Lodge with a very handsome square and compasses, (furnished by Bro. C. Robinson, of London) which he said, would form an appropriate accompaniment to the volume of the sacred law, presented a short time ago, by Bro. Alex. Wm. Paterson, and concluded a few well timed remarks, touching the management of the Lodge during his year of office, by wishing No. 434 every prosperity, and that the conduct of its members might always be characterized by the morals so powerfully inculcated by the working tools he had presented. After the transaction of some routine business, and the proposition of a gentleman for initiation, the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren adjourned to refreshment. After the usual loyal toasts, had been given, the healths of the Earl of Zeilaud, M.W.G.M.; Lord Panmure, R.W.D.G.M.; the Grand Masters of Scotland and Ireland; Bros. Blair, Prov. G.M.; and Albert Hudson Royds, D. Prov. G.M. for East Lancashire, were given and responded to with the greatest enthusiasm. The prosperity of this Lodge may be gathered from the fact that since the installation of the present W.M. in December last, no fewer than twelve gentlemen have been initiated into the mysteries of the Order, and from the zeal displayed by several of its members, it bids fair to become one of the most flourishing in the province. The efficiency of the officers and Brethren is mainly attributable to the indefatigable exertions of Bro. Clough, P.M. and P. Prov. G. Reg., East Lancashire, who is ever ready to communicate knowledge to the anxious and inquiring Brother.

SOUTHPORT.—*Lodge of Unity* (No. 889).—A meeting of the members of this Lodge was held on Monday, February 14th, at the Scarisbrick Arms Hotel, under the presidency of Bro. George Woods, W.M. Shortly after the business had commenced the Right Worshipful Grand Master of East Lancashire, Bro. Stephen Blair, entered the Lodge, accompanied by Bro. T. R. Bridson, P. Prov. G. Treasurer, and other officers. He was received with all respect due to his high office and character, and took his seat on the right of the dais, and remained until the Lodge business, consisting of the passing of Bro. Starwick, and raising of Bro. Walker was nearly concluded. Prior to the Prov. Grand Master retiring the W.M. expressed the great pride and gratification felt by himself, the officers, and brethren of the Lodge, at the presence of the Prov. Grand Master, and trusted that he would again honour the Lodge with his presence. The Prov. Grand Master replied in feeling

terms to the kind reception he had received from the W.M., Officers, and brethren of the Lodge, and expressed his satisfaction at the skilful and correct manner in which the business had been conducted, particularly the working of the third degree, which he had never seen surpassed in any Lodge; and as a young Lodge it did them great honour. On retiring he was saluted with the grand honours, superintended by Bro. J. B. Lambert, P.M., and Director of Ceremonies, and enthusiastically joined in by all the members. Bro. Blair, evidently affected by this token of esteem, shook hands cordially with the W.M. and retired. The Lodge then formed itself into committee to take into consideration a motion made on the previous Lodge meeting, respecting the propriety of the Lodge being held at a private room, instead of an hotel. After considerable discussion, the proposition was put from the chair and carried by an overwhelming majority. A committee of six was then appointed to decide on a proper room for the purpose. The committee met in the forenoon of Tuesday, and decided to take one of the large rooms in the premises of the late Mr. James Mawdesley, the Assembly Rooms, No. 2, in Lord-street, and there the Lodge will assemble at its next monthly meeting. The room will be called the Masonic Hall, and the entrance decorated with a suitable Masonic device.

## LEICESTERSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Wednesday, March 2nd, St. John's (348), Bell Hotel, Leicester, at 7.

## LAYING THE CORNER STONE OF FREEMASONS' HALL.

In the middle ages, when the fraternity of Freemasons, privileged by royal charters, and personally patronised by kings, many of whom were enrolled amongst its members, travelled from town to town over the face of Europe, and divided into Lodges, each under the rule of its Master and Wardens as overseers of the work, erected those glorious churches and cathedrals many of which still remain to be alike the wonder and admiration of the architect and the delight of the man of taste, it was customary on the commencement of any noble edifice for the foundation stone to be laid with much pomp, and in solemn form, by some royal patron of the art, like Edward the Third; some eminent prelate, like William of Wykeham (Grand Master of the Order); or, in the instance of country churches, by some potent earl or mail-clad baron, whose piety or whose superstition, as the case might be, led him to apply a portion of his revenues to founding the sacred edifice. Within the stone, were usually deposited an engraved plate and other records, descriptive of the purposes for which the structure was erected, together with the names of its founders and patrons, and also a glass vessel containing coins of the reigning sovereign. After the stone was fixed, the founder usually deposited upon it the deed of gift of the land and building, and other eminent persons in the assembly offered thereon their contributions to the good work.

The members of the Order in this province have recently purchased a site in Halford-street, Leicester, for the erection of a hall, in which, on its completion, the meetings of the local Lodges are to take place, which, of necessity, in this town, have hitherto been held at hotels; and the Provincial Grand Lodge was convened on Tuesday, February 18th, to lay the corner-stone of the building. The Prov. Grand Lodge was opened at the Bell Hotel, at half-past three o'clock, and among those present, were Bros. the Right Hon. Earl Howe, *G.C.M.*, Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master; W. Kelly, Deputy Provincial Grand Master; C. Morris, Senior Grand Warden; the Right Hon. Earl Ferrers, Junior Grand Warden; Rev. J. O. Picton, *M.A.*, Grand Chaplain; J. Underwood (ex-Mayor), Grand Treasurer; F. Goodyer, Grand Secretary; W. Pettifor, W. Hardy, W. J. Windram, E. Clephan, Past Grand Wardens; W. Millican, Grand Superintendent of Works (the architect of the building); R. Brewin, junr., and A. Cummings, Grand Directors of Ceremonies; George Bankart, Grand Deacon; H. E. Emberlin, Grand Sword Bearer; J. D. Paul, Grand Pursuivant; Martin Nedham, C. J. Willey, T. Sheppard, and James Bouskell, Grand Stewards; W. S. Bitlrey, Grand Organist; W. Weare, W. Johnson, Harry J. Davis, Junior Warden, Lodge No. 58; J. Law, James Thompson, Joseph Hames, P.M. No. 348; J. H. Bobart, II. T. Bobart, W. Mason, and John

Redfern, of Lodge No. 1081 (about to be opened at Ashby-de-la-Zouch); Gregory Knight, N. Bloxham, John Spencer, J. H. Garner, H. Phungst, Commercial Lodge, Nottingham; J. W. Goodwin, Past Grand Sword Bearer; W. H. Marris, &c., &c.

After the Lodge had been opened, and the business of the province partly transacted, the brethren adjourned privately to the site of the hall, it not being deemed desirable, owing to the season of the year, and the state of the health of the noble and reverend Provincial Grand Master, that the public procession to church and from thence to the site of the building, as usual on such occasions, should take place at the present time, but should be deferred until the inauguration of the hall in the early part of the summer.

The brethren met at the residence of Mr. George Read, adjoining the ground, which had most courteously and kindly been placed at their disposal by that gentleman, and moved thence in procession to the stone, which, as prescribed by the ancient ritual, was placed at the north-east corner of the intended hall.

Platforms had been erected for the convenience of the friends of the subscribers (among whom were many ladies), who were admitted by ticket to witness the proceedings, but owing to the position of the stone being at the extreme corner of the ground, in contiguity to a lofty building, we fear that comparatively few of those present could obtain a good view of the mystic doings.

The Provincial Grand Master standing near the lower stone, with his principal officers and the Masters of Lodges in the province, near him, and the other officers and brethren grouped around, addressed the assembly in the words of an ancient charge, as follows:—

“Know all of you, that we be lawful masons, true to our country, and established of old, with peace and honour in most countries, to do good to our brethren, to erect great buildings and to fear God, who is the Great Architect of all things. To-day, we are here assembled in the presence of you all, to build a house for Masonry, which we pray God to prosper, if it seem good to him, that it may become a building for good men and good deeds, and promote harmony and brotherly love, till the world itself shall end.”

The brethren responded, “So mote it be!”

The Architect (Brother Millican, Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works), then presented the plan of the building to the Provincial Grand Master, which his lordship returned to him, after signifying his approval of the design.

The Provincial Grand Treasurer, Brother Underwood, then presented the glass vessel containing a vellum roll, inscribed with the names of the subscribers to the building, the Provincial Grand Officers for the time being, and the principal officers of the several Lodges and Chapters in the Province, the printed scheme for the erection of the Hall, the circulars for the meeting, copies of the by-laws of the various Lodges, and other records connected with the craft, and a copy of the *Leicester Journal*, of February 11th, which, together with a phial containing coins of her present Majesty, the Provincial Grand Master deposited in the cavity of the lower stone.

The Prov. G. Secretary, Brother Goodyer, then read the following inscription, engraved on a brass-plate:—

“I.T.N.O.T.G.A.O.T.U.”

“On the 15th February, A.D. 1859, being the 22nd year of the reign of Queen Victoria, and of the era of Masonry 5859, the Right Hon. Richard William Earl Howe, *G.C.H.*, Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Freemasons for Leicestershire, according to ancient form, and amid the acclamations of his brethren, laid the corner stone of this Hall, dedicated to Masonry, which may God prosper! Bro. Wm. Kelly, R.W., Dep. Prov. G. Master.; Bro. Chas. Morris, V.W., Prov. J. G. Warden; Bro. the Right Hon. Earl Ferrers, V.W., Prov. J. G. Warden; Bro. William Millican, Prov. G. Supt. of Works, Architect; Messrs. Hutchinson and Smith, Contractors.”

The Provincial Grand Master, after depositing the plate over the hollow of the stone, spread the cement upon it, after which the upper stone was lowered to its place.

The Prov. G. Chaplain, Bro. Picton, in a most impressive manner, then offered up the following prayer:—

“May the Almighty Architect of the universe, who has disposed all things in order, according to the excellency of his will, who made the heavens for his majesty, the sun and stars for his glory, and our comfort, and the earth as a place for our obedience to his laws; look down upon us, Master Masons, now endeavouring to build a house according to the rules of charity by the bond of love. May this house, of which we have placed the corner stone in the earth, be a habitation for good men, meeting together to do good; may their secret assemblies be convened in law, proceed in honour, and end in charity. May all Masons that enter under the shadow of its roof, remember that ‘the secret of the Lord is with them that fear him.’ May the work done prosper; may the hearts of all the workmen be comforted; may no strife, brawling, or unseemly words, be heard within its walls; may our going out and our coming in be blessed for evermore; may our baskets be filled with plenteousness, and the voice of joy and thanksgiving abound; may there be no mourning nor sorrow of heart; and may the wayfaring Mason find a comfort in his journey to his home, when he passeth the gates of this house. O Lord, prosper thou our work; yea, prosper thou our handywork; and teach us in all times and in all places, to build up in beauty that temple of our souls, which thou hast given us to adorn with all good works, till we arrive at the Grand Lodge above, where all things are perfect, and there is no more labour, but peace and happiness for evermore.”

The Brethren responded “So mote it be!”

The Prov. Grand Master then said—Brother Provincial Junior Grand Warden, what is the proper jewel of your office?

Prov. J.G.W. (Earl Ferrers)—The plumb rule.

Prov. Grand Master—Have you applied the plumb rule to the external edges of the stone?

Prov. Junior Grand Warden—I have, Right Worshipful Grand Master, and the Craftsmen have done their duty.

Prov. Grand Master—Brother Senior Grand Warden, what is the proper jewel of your office?

S.G.W. (Bro. Morris)—The level.

Prov. Grand Master—Have you applied the level to the stone?

Senior Grand Warden—I have, Right Worshipful Grand Master, and the Craftsmen have done their duty.

Prov. Grand Master—Brother Deputy Provincial Grand Master, what is the proper jewel of your office?

D. Prov. G.M. (Bro. Kelly)—The square.

Prov. Grand Master—Have you applied the square to those parts of the stone which should be square?

D. Prov. Grand Master—I have, Right Worshipful Grand Master, and find the stone perfect.

Prov. Grand Master—Having full confidence in your skill in the royal art, it remains with me to finish the work.

The Prov. Grand Master then taking the mallet, gave the stone three knocks, and said—May this undertaking be conducted and completed by the Craftsmen, according to the good plan, in peace, harmony, and brotherly love.

Response—So mote it be!

The W.M. of the John of Gaunt Lodge, No. 766 (Bro. Clephan) scattered some grains of wheat on the stone, saying, “I strew this corn as a symbol of plenty.”

The Senior Warden of St. John’s Lodge, No. 348, (Bro. Cummings, in the absence of the W.M., Bro. John Holland, jun.) sprinkled wine upon the stone, saying, “I sprinkle this wine as a symbol of cheerfulness and joy.”

The Junior Warden of the Knights of Malta Lodge, No. 58, Hineckley, (Bro. H. J. Davis, representing the W.M., Earl Howe,) poured oil on the stone; and the Provincial Grand Chaplain said, “As Jacob, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham, fleeing from the face of his brother Esau, and going out of Beersheba towards Haran, lighted on a certain place and tarried there all night, making to himself a pillow of stones, on which sleeping, he dreamed he saw the gates of heaven, and when he awoke he anointed the stones with fresh oil, calling that place Beth-el, or the House of God: so do we anoint this stone with pure oil, praying that in the

building which may arise from it, none but good men may be admitted, and men that fear God and love the brotherhood."

The Provincial Grand Master then scattered salt upon the stone, and said, "I scatter this salt as a symbol of fidelity, friendship, and hospitality; and may the Most High bless this ancient borough, the county, and the empire at large, with abundance of corn, and wine, and oil, and all the necessaries, comforts, and conveniences of life, and may the same Almighty Power preserve the inhabitants in peace, and unity, and brotherly love."

Response—So mote it be!

The Brethren then returned to the Bell Hotel.

The building, which is to be devoted solely to Masonic purposes, consists of two floors; the upper and principal floor affords a Lodge-room sixty feet long, twenty-five feet wide, and twenty-two feet high, for the ceremonies of Masonry and for holding Masonic balls; to adapt it for which latter purpose an orchestral gallery is placed over the entrance to the room at the south end. On this floor is also a dining-room, twenty-four feet by seventeen feet, and other rooms necessary for the purposes of the Craft. The communication from the ground floor is by a spacious staircase, six feet wide, leading to an open landing, which forms the approach to the principal room. On the ground-floor are the entrance-hall, ante-room, kitchen, and residence for the Tyler. The front, externally, is of Italian character, and of red dressed brick with Bath stone dressings and cornice; the front is set back from the street line, and will be enclosed by an iron pallisade fence. The entire cost of the building and site will be about £1,500, which sum is raised among the Brethren of the Order. It is proposed to hold a ball in the building at its completion in a few months time.

#### NORTHUMBERLAND.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, March 1st, St. David's (554), Salmon Inn, Berwick, at 8; Northumberland (985), Assembly Rooms, Newcastle, at 8; Thursday, 3rd, Newcastle (24), Freemasons' Hall, Newcastle, at 7; St. Helen's (774), Masonic Hall, Hartlepool, at 7½.

#### OXFORDSHIRE.

OXFORD.—*Apollo University Lodge* (No. 460).—This Lodge assembled at the Masonic Hall, on Wednesday, February 16th, when the Worshipful Master elect, Bro. the Rev. A. H. Faber, *M.A.*, Fellow and Tutor of New College, was installed; the ceremony of installation being performed in an admirable and impressive manner by Bro. W. W. B. Beach, *M.P.* for Northern Hampshire. On the conclusion of the ceremony, the W.M. appointed his officers for the ensuing year, as follows:—Bros. the Rev. R. W. Norman, *M.A.*, Exeter College, S.W.; T. M. Talbot, Christ Church, J.W.; Rev. H. S. Andrews, Christ Church, Chaplain; Dr. Elvey, New College, Organist; W. Thompson, Treas.; V. A. Williamson, Christ Church, Sec.; A. T. Blakiston, St. John's, S.D.; T. Cochrane, Oriel, J.D.; W. W. Harrison, Brasenose, Dir. of Cers.; Sir G. Grant, Bart., Christ Church, Assist. Dir. of Cers.; A. C. Wilyams, New College, I.G.; J. Gundry, Merton; E. Hester, Wadham; J. K. Hitchins, University; P. Dickens, New College; B. K. Pearce, University; F. W. A. Bowyer, Christ Church; R. E. Watson, Exeter; Tyler, B. Bull; Stewards, In the evening, the Brethren commemorated their annual festival with a banquet, at which about sixty were present, including the Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire, Capt. Bowyer, of Steeple Ashton; Bros. W. W. B. Beach, *M.P.*; Sir Michael Edward Hicks Beach, Bart.; Sir G. Grant, Bart.; W. Bequer, W.M. of the Alfred Lodge; Alderman Sadler, Alderman Dudley, several other Past Masters of the Alfred Lodge, and officers and brethren of the Apollo Alfred, Churchill, and Cherwell Lodges. The newly installed W.M., Bro. Faber, presided, and fulfilled the duties of the chair with great tact and judgment, introducing the various toasts, in his peculiarly happy and humorous manner. A happier gathering has rarely been witnessed, for toast and song followed in regular succession, and rarely have we heard a greater variety of songs, or better sung. In the course of the evening, the W.M. mentioned the intention of the Masonic body to give some balls and entertainments at the ensuing commemoration in the first week of July; and expressed his desire that they



should be carried out in such a manner, that those who honoured Oxford with a visit on the occasion, should leave it with favourable impressions.

SHROPSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge.*—Friday, March 3rd, St. John's (375), Bull's Head, Wellington, at 4.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges.*—Thursday, March 3rd, Royal Cumberland (48), Masonic Hall, Bath, at 8; Benevolent (653), Town Hall, Wells, at 7.

YEOVIL.—*Lodge of Brotherly Love* (No. 412).—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the "Three Choughs," on Wednesday 16th inst., Bro. Edwards, W.M., presiding. The ballot having been taken for two gentlemen who had been previously proposed and approved, they were introduced and initiated. The ballot was also taken for an Australian brother, as joining member, with a favourable result. A vote of thanks was passed, to several Brethren who had kindly exerted themselves in decorating and refurnishing the Lodge room, which although in an un-Masonic building, is of course affectionately regarded by its regular frequenters. The Brethren were gratified by the presence, as a visitor, of Bro. Brydges; and the ceremony of installation, worked during the evening under his presidency, afforded much pleasure to all. At refreshment, the usual toasts were given, including that of "The Visitors," which was received with great enthusiasm, partly to be explained by the presence of an esteemed brother who, having been enlightened in this Lodge nearly thirty years ago, and since then having seen much of this world and its contrariety of events, had signified his intention of seeking admission to his mother Lodge as a rejoining member, thereby to partake of that genuine and genial affection which characterizes the Order. The newly initiated were not forgotten, and after witty, but evidently hearty responses, the veteran Bro. Highmore, P.M., sang the "Entered Apprentice" and "To the Lodge we'll go," to the great delight of all concerned. The Brethren separated in harmony, at a late hour.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges.*—Thursday, March 3rd, St. Peter's (607), Star and Garter, Wolverhampton, at 7; Portland (920), Town Hall, Stoke-upon-Trent, at 7. *Chapter.*—Friday, 4th, Staffordshire Knot (920), Town Hall, Stoke-upon-Trent, at 5.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—*St. Peter's Lodge* (No. 607).—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Thursday, February 3rd. The W. Bro. Chas. H. King occupied the chair, in the absence of Bro. T. B. Stanway, the W.M., (who is still too unwell to be present), with the proper officers attending. Bros. Forrest, Lewis, and Huntley were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Mr. Geo. Proudman was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. One brother was proposed as a joining member, and two gentlemen for initiation. The business of the Lodge being ended, the brethren retired to the banqueting room, and for a short time enjoyed themselves in love and harmony.

SUFFOLK.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge.*—Wednesday, March 2nd, Doric (96), Private Rooms, Woodbridge, at 7. *Chapter.*—Wednesday, 2nd, Royal Sussex of Perfect Friendship (522), White Horse, Ipswich, at 7.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

A special meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Suffolk was held on Wednesday, Feb. 16th, at the White Horse Hotel, Ipswich. At four o'clock, the time named in the summons, about fifty Brethren were in attendance, and the Prov. Grand Lodge was opened in the large room used by the Lodge of Perfect Friendship. There being present, the V.W. Bro. the Rev. F. W. Freeman, *M.A.*, D. Prov. G.M.; the V.W. Bro. Robert Martin, P.D. Prov. G.M.; Bros. Spencer Freeman, Prov. S.G.W.;

J. S. Gissing, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. J. Sanderson, Prov. G. Chaplain; James Franks, P. Prov. G. Reg.; Edward Dorling, Prov. G. Sec.; J. Richmond and I. Ludbrook, Prov. Grand Deacons; T. Downes, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; I. Tracy, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; H. Ball, Prov. G. Org.; W. C. Randall, Prov. G. Purs., and also Bros. Richmond, sen., Jack, Head, Turner, Jennings, Harris, Breckler, John, Townsend, Pitcher, Schulen, and other Prov. Grand Officers, the Masters of Lodges, &c.

The V.W.D. Prov. G.M. directed the roll of the Lodges to be called over, and all were represented on the occasion, save three, and from two of them it appeared letters had been received, concurring in the resolutions to be proposed, and expressing the entire confidence of those Lodges in the M.W.G.M., to whom they suggested an address should be presented.

The circular summoning the Brethren was then read, stating that "at the last Provincial Grand Lodge for Suffolk, held at Ipswich, on Friday, September 24th, 1853, some observations were made upon the unwarrantable, scurrilous, and abusive attack to which the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland, had been subjected in the *Masonic Observer*, imputing to him unworthy and improper motives in the appointment of his Masonic officers. Now, the Most Worshipful the Grand Master having always been held in high estimation by the Brethren of this province, the remarks which were offered on the subject of that attack met with a hearty and ready approval from the Brethren present. This has been characterized by certain Brethren, as "sickly sycophancy," and other attacks upon the Suffolk Brethren, still more offensive, have been made. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, therefore, deems it his duty to call the Brethren together to repudiate this vile aspersion on their Masonic character."

The V.W.D. Prov. G.M. said that he considered it his duty to call the Brethren of the province together to express their opinions on a gross attack made upon the honour and independence of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Suffolk, involving as it did their character as men and Masons; and that they might thus, as a body, give a solemn denial to the foul charge made against it. They were aware that Suffolk was, in the absence of a Prov. G.M., under the control of the Grand Registrar; and at the Prov. Grand Lodge held in September last, Bro. Roxburgh, who by virtue of his office presided, was accompanied by several Masons of eminence from London; and at the banquet, in proposing the health of the M.W. the Grand Master, thought proper to allude to a most gross attack that had been made on that distinguished nobleman, in the *Masonic Observer*, a publication which, till then, they in Suffolk had never heard of; the charge being that he had prostituted his powers, in the appointment of Grand Officers, to political purposes; his Lordship had indignantly repelled the slander, and the Grand Lodge of England on the occasion echoed his manly denial. Bro. Havers afterwards followed Bro. Roxburgh, with some observations on this "most unwarrantable, unfounded, and wicked attack" on the Earl of Zetland, than whom, as Bro. Havers said, "England's peerage does not possess one nobleman whose honour is more pure and spotless, and whose integrity and singleness of purpose is more unquestionable." The Prov. Grand Lodge of Suffolk took no part in this matter, for they were till then in ignorance of the matter, and for listening to these statements, they were now charged, forsooth, with "sickly sycophancy." The brother who made that charge should have remembered his Masonic obligation—neither to slander a brother Mason himself, nor suffer another to do so. The wisest man had truly said "Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth. As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire; so is a contentious man to kindle strife." Bro. Freeman then read Bro. Binckes's letter, in which the Prov. Grand Lodge of Suffolk was charged with "sickly sycophancy." Now the first charge he thought might be treated with contempt, but seeing how it had been followed up by Bro. Binckes, one of the "*Observer* party," he decided on calling them together as early as convenient, and having thus laid the matter before them, he would leave the resolutions in their hands.

Bro. Martin, P. Prov. D.G.M., in rising to move the first resolution, referred to to the scandalous charge made against the M.W.G.M., and the difficulty that he must find in so filling the few offices that were annually at his disposal, as to satisfy all who were ambitious of Grand Lodge honours. The Earl of Zetland had, by his conduct and character, won the esteem of the whole Craft, save this small clique,

who would disturb his rule. With regard to Bro. Binckes's letter, nothing, in his opinion, could be more unmasonic, and having removed the slander, as it first seemed, from Bro. Havers, and brought to our own doors, it was their duty to repel it in the strongest terms; and entirely concurring in the summons, he moved the first resolution as follows:—

“The Provincial Grand Lodge of Suffolk having a high consideration of the candour and integrity of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, desires to express its great regret that any man or body of men should impute false, dishonourable, or disgraceful motives to him, such as those suggested in the *Masonic Observer*.”

The resolution was seconded in a few words by Bro. Spencer Freeman, Prov. S.G.W., and carried unanimously.

Bro. W. P. Mills, P. Prov. S.G.W., had no hesitation in saying, that the proceedings of all assemblies should be open to fair comment; but such notices should be candid and just. He firmly believed the conduct of the M.W. Grand Master was undeserving the slanderous attacks made upon him, and he considered the Grand Lodge had by its unanimous voice avowed that sentiment. Masonry was a universal brotherhood; as men and Masons they acknowledged themselves the children of one Father, and it behoved the brother that had cast this unjust reproach upon the Masons of Suffolk, to call to mind, “How sharper than a serpent's tooth it is, to have a thankless child.” He then moved the second resolution:—

“The members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Suffolk beg to offer to the Most Worshipful Grand Master their regret and unqualified sympathy upon the occasion, and to express to him their continued and unabated confidence in his honour and strict impartiality in the discharge of his Masonic duties.”

Bro. Gissing, Prov. J.G.W., in rising to second the resolution, considered that the Deputy Prov. Grand Master had but done his duty in calling them together to express their sentiments on the subject, for if such aspersions were allowed to pass unnoticed, the structure of Masonry would soon fall. Detractors might talk as they would, but he was satisfied, and so were others, that Lord Zetland had put the right men in the right places. With regard to Bro. Havers, he would take the opportunity of saying, that he had known that worthy and excellent brother for many years; they were fellow students; and from an intimate personal acquaintance, he had no hesitation in avowing, that he had so high an opinion of Bro. Havers, that he was sure, if the Grand Master swerved from his duty, Bro. Havers would be the first to tell him so. A better man and a better Mason did not exist.

The Rev. Bro. Sanderson, Prov. G. Chaplain, said, that besides expressing their confidence in one they had trusted for fifteen years, they had now to perform a duty to themselves. They heard at their Prov. Grand Lodge how Bro. Havers vindicated the Grand Master; and at the same time Bro. Roxburgh suggested—as was quite true—that it was probable they had never heard of the offending journal; and for being quiet auditors, Bro. Binckes—he supposed he must call him Brother—accused them of “sickly sycophancy.” He would ask, were these such epithets as ought to pass from brother to brother? He called on them by the respect they owed to themselves as Masons, and by their fidelity to the Grand Lodge under whose banners they meet, to repudiate the vile attack made upon them, by adopting the resolution he would now propose—

“The Provincial Grand Lodge also most indignantly repels the offensive term which has been applied to them, of “sickly sycophants,” and would merely refer any brother, or the editor of any Masonic publication using such terms, to that portion of the obligation of a Master Mason which has more particular reference to ‘slander.’”

Bro. Jennings could not give a silent vote on so important a matter. Every brother must feel that a most gross charge had been made against the Masons of Suffolk. He had endeavoured to discover what should justify Bro. Binckes in applying such terms to them. He was quite satisfied that the charge made against Lord Zetland, that he had allowed politics to govern his appointments, was “wicked and unfounded,” and the Grand Lodge of England, by its vote, virtually said so; and because they, the Masons of Suffolk, found the charge was unfounded, and agreed with the Grand Lodge, they were to be thus foully stigmatised by this Bro.

Binckes. Respected and esteemed as the Grand Master was, they were naturally pleased to see he had vindicated his character. The party having thus failed in their first attack, Bro. Binckes thought fit to throw a stone at some one, and aimed it first at Bro. Havers, but that brother hurling it back, the assailant then says, "it was not intended for you—you are too near me; I'll throw it at Suffolk."

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

The resolutions proposed having been thus carried, Bro. C. T. Townsend rose to move that a committee be appointed to prepare a suitable address for presentation to the M.W. Grand Master.

Bro. Geo. Turner, Prov. G. Steward, in seconding the motion, said they ought, as Masons, to be proud of being presided over by so able a nobleman, for the way in which he conducts the business of the Order meets with the approval of all but such jaundiced persons as were alluded to. On a recent occasion he had witnessed the disgraceful behaviour of a certain clique, who united in a factious opposition to the Earl of Zetland and the dais; the manner of one in particular, a reverend brother, he was sorry to say, being such, as if allowed to continue, would render the Grand Lodge a bear garden. He was quite sure such conduct would not be tolerated in their own Prov. Grand Lodge. Bro. Turner then named the committee to prepare the address, which consisted of the D. Prov. G.M., the Grand Wardens, Grand Chaplains, Grand Secretary, Bro. Jennings, and the mover and seconder.

Bro. James Franks, P. Prov. G. Reg., then moved a vote of thanks to the D. Prov. G.M. for calling the Prov. Grand Lodge together, which was carried by acclamation.

The D. Prov. G.M. said he was led to call the meeting by the terms of a clause in the by-laws:—"A Provincial Grand Lodge of emergency may be convened by the Provincial Grand Master, or in his absence, by his Deputy, whenever special circumstances, or the good of the Craft may require it: but the particular reason for convening such Lodge of Emergency shall be expressed in the summons, and no other business shall be entered upon at that meeting."

IPSWICH.—*Lodge of Perfect Friendship* (No. 522).—In consequence of the meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge, on Wednesday, February 16th, there was a full attendance of Brethren at the Lodge in the evening of the same day, at Bro. Guiver's, the White Horse Hotel. Bro. Henry Luff, W.M., presided, and initiated Mr. William Chapman, passing Bro. H. Grean to the second degree. The ceremonies are most fully gone through at this Lodge, the practice being for the Past Masters, who are many and able, to take part with the W.M., one giving the charge, another the lecture, &c., and thus aided by instrumental music, adding much to the solemnity. In course of the evening, the W.M., referring to the business of the Prov. Grand Lodge, was pleased to make some remarks on the conduct the *Freemasons' Magazine*, and complimented the editor on his impartial, as well as independent mode of conducting it. Considering it had not the support it deserved, he urged on the Brethren, as a duty, to subscribe for it.

#### SUSSEX.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, March 1st, Royal York (394), Old Ship, Brighton; Wednesday, 2nd, South Saxon (390), Freemasons' Hall, Lewes; Thursday, 3rd, Union (45), Council Chamber, Chichester.

#### WALES (WEST.)

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Tuesday, March 1st, Prince of Wales (360), Thomas Arms, Llanelly, at 7.

#### WORCESTERSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, March 1st, Harmonic (313), Freemasons' Tavern, Dudley, at 6½; Wednesday, 2nd, Worcester (349), Bell Hotel, Worcester, at 6½.

#### YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, March 1st, Camolodunum (958), Freemasons' Hall, at 7; Thursday, 3rd, Constitutional (371), Assembly Rooms, Beverley, at 8; Friday, 4th, St. Germain's (527), The Crescent, Selby, at 7.

## YORKSHIRE (WEST).

APPOINTMENTS—*Lodge*.—Friday, March 4th, Alfred (384), Griffin Hotel, Leeds, at 7. *Instruction*; at 8; Truth (763), Freemasons' Hall, Huddersfield, at 7. *Chapter*.—Sincerity (874), Freemasons' Hall, Bradford, at 8.

## MARK MASONRY.

## LEICESTERSHIRE.

## PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTERS.

The first meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Bell Hotel, Leicester, on the 15th inst., after the Craft Lodges, as given below, were closed; the same Brethren being present.

The Prov. Grand Lodge having been opened, Bro. Clephan, acting as Prov. G. Sec., read the patent from the Right Hon. Lord Leigh, Grand Master of the Order in England and Wales and the colonies and possessions of the British crown, dated June 23rd, 1858, appointing Bro. William Kelly to be Prov. Grand Master of Mark Masters, in the county of Leicester; and that Brother having been installed, took the chair, and proceeded to make the appointments of Prov. Grand Officers.

The Prov. Grand Master having announced, in complimentary terms, that he had appointed Bro. Joseph Underwood (ex-mayor of Leicester) W.M. of the Howe Lodge, No. 21, to be Deputy Prov. Grand Master, the patent of appointment was read, and Bro. Underwood was invested and installed in the chair of Deputy Prov. Grand Master.

The Prov. Grand Master then expressed the sense which he entertained of the honour conferred upon him, by the noble peers, in being permitted to appoint as his Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Bros. the Right Hon. Earls Howe and Ferrers, who, in the kindest manner, had at once accepted those offices. The following Brethren were then appointed to the other offices, and those who were present were duly invested:—Bros. Pettifor (elected) G. Treas.; E. Clephan, G. Sec.; E. Morris, G. Reg.; W. J. Windram, G.M. Overseer; W. Hardy, G.S. Overseer; J. J. Kinton, G.J. Overseer; G. Bankart, G.S. Deacon; H. Kinder, G.J. Deacon; R. Brewin, G. Dir. of Cers.; W. Millican, G. Sword Bearer; W. S. Bithrey, G. Organist; A. Cummings, G. Pursuivant; and Bros. W. Weare, J. Holland, jun., J. D. Paul, H. E. Emberlin, T. Sheppard, and C. J. Willey, G. Stewards.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Masters was then closed in due form.

HOWE LODGE (No. 21, L. C.)—A quarterly meeting of this recently established Lodge of Mark Masters, was held at the Bell Hotel, Leicester, on Wednesday, the 9th instant, when the following Brethren were present—W. Kelly, Prov. G.M. of the Mark for Leicestershire; W. Pettifor, J.W.; W. Hardy (of the Fowke Lodge, No. 19), as J.W.; H. E. Emberlin, as Sec. and Reg.; J. Sheppard, No. 19, as S.D.; A. Cummings as J.D.; Robt. Brewin, No. 19, as I.G.; E. Clephan, W. Millican, and W. Johnson, of No. 19, and J. Pennock, Tyler. The chair was taken by Bro. Kelly, who stated that he had been requested by the W.M., Bro. Underwood, to apologize for his unavoidable absence in London, and a letter was read from Bro. Windram, J.W., apologizing for his absence on account of indisposition. A ballot was taken for Bros. John Sloane, M.D., Thomas Herbert, and Henry Gamble, all of Leicester, and members of St. John's Lodge, No. 348, and the two former, being in attendance, were duly advanced, as were also Bros. Martin, Nedham, and James Bouskell, of the same Lodge of Master Masons, who had been balloted for at the first meeting. A ballot was also taken for Bro., the Right Hon. Earl Howe, G.C.H., Prov. G.M. for Leicestershire, as a candidate for the Mark

Degree, on the 15th instant. The by-laws proposed at the former meeting having been adopted, the Lodge was closed in harmony.

A Lodge of Emergency was held at the Bell Hotel, Leicester, on Tuesday, the 15th instant, for the advancement of the Right Hon. Earl Howe, *G.C.H.*, (who, as Prov. G.M. for Leicestershire, had at an earlier hour laid the corner stone of the Freemasons' Hall, Leicester); the appointment of officers, which, owing to the absence of the W.M., had been postponed from the last meeting and; other business. Among the Mark Masters present were—Bros. W. Kelly, Prov. G.M. of the Mark for Leicestershire, (who presided and performed the ceremonies of the degree), J. Underwood, W.M.; W. Pettifer, S.W.; W. J. Windram, J.W.; H. E. Emberlin, A. Cummings, M. Nedham, W. Weare, and Charles Morris. Visitors—P. Goodyer, S.W., No. 19; George Bankart, J.W., No. 19; R. Brewin, T. Sheppard, J. D. Paul, W. Johnson, E. Clapham, W. Hardy, H. J. Davis, W. S. Bithrey, Geo. Hawkins, all of Lodge, No. 19, and J. Pennock, Tyler. In the course of the evening, a ballot was taken for Bros. J. H. Bobart, P.M.; John Redfern, P.M.; H. T. Bobart, and Wm. Mason, of Ashby de la Zouch, and members of the Ferrers and Ivanhoe Lodge, No. 1081, about to be opened at that place, under the Mastership of the Right Hon. Earl Ferrers, who were duly elected as candidates for the Mark Degree. The Right Hon. Earl Howe was then duly advanced as a Mark Master, as were also the above-mentioned Brethren; Bros. J. D. Paul and T. Sheppard, the Deacons of Lodge, No. 19, acting in that capacity during the ceremony in a very efficient manner. The W.M., having taken the chair, appointed his officers for the year, as follows, and invested those who were present:—W. Pettifer, S.W., and W. J. Windram, J.W., (named in the warrant), M. Nedham, Sec., E. Morris, Reg. of Marks; H. Kinder (elected) Treas.; W. Weare, S.D.; J. Sloane, *M.D.*, J.D.; A. Cummings, Director of Music and Ceremonies; H. E. Emberlin, I.G. Bros. Kelly, Prov. G.M.M.; Goodyer, S.W.; Bankart, J.W., and Hardy, the founders of Lodge, No. 19, were proposed by the W.M., and seconded by the J.W., as hon. members of this Lodge. The Lodge was then closed with the usual ceremonies.

FOWKE LODGE (No. 19, L.C.).—A meeting of this Lodge was subsequently held at the same place; present, Bro. Kelly, Prov. G.M.M. and W.M., in the chair, the Right Hon. Earl Howe, and the other brethren above mentioned. The minutes of the last Lodge having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Bros. Underwood, W.M.; Pettifer, S.W., and Windram, J.W., the founders of Lodge No. 21, as honorary members: and for Brothers the Right Hon. the Earl Ferrers, John H. Garner, and John Willis Goodwin, of the John of Gaunt Lodge, No. 766, as candidates, all of whom were duly elected. Bros. Earl Ferrers and Garner were duly advanced as Mark Masters, after which, and the delivery of the lecture of the degree by the Prov. G.M.M., the Lodge was closed in due form.

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## ROYAL ARCH.

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### METROPOLITAN CHAPTER.

UNITED PILGRIMS' CHAPTER (No. 745).—A convocation of this Chapter was held on Tuesday evening, Feb. 15th, at the Manor House, Walworth, for the purpose of exalting Bro. Mare, who is about to proceed to Antigua on a government appointment. There were present—Comps. Thomas, M.E.Z.; Ireland, H.; Farmer, J.; Garrod, E.; J. R. Warren, Pr. Sej.; and Comps. Webb, Well, and several others. The ceremony was performed in Comp. Thomas's usual careful and impressive manner, and afforded great satisfaction to all present.

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**KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.**


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**METROPOLITAN.**

THE OBSERVANCE ENCAMPMENT held its first meeting this season at the Thatched House Tavern, St. James's Street, on Thursday, the 20th Jan., when Sir Knight James Merryweather, *M.D.*, was duly installed Eminent Commander, according to ancient form, for the year 1859, in the presence of a numerous body of Prov. Grand Commanders, Past Eminent Commanders, and Knights, when he appointed the following officers, viz.—Sir Kts. Wm. Ranger, *C.E.*, 1st Capt.; J.S. Tulloch, *M.D.*, 2nd Capt.; Matthew Daves (Prov. Grand Com.) Prelate; H. J. Hinxman, *M.D.*, Expert; Philip Graves, Hospitaller; Thomas Stevens, Captain of the Lines; John Masson (*P.E.C.*), Registrar; H. W. Spratt, 1st Herald; S. H. Clarke, 2nd Herald; Daws and Smith, Equerries. At the meeting of the 17th Feb., after the report of the audit committee was read, Sir Kt. John Masson, *P.E. Com.* and Grand Chancellor, was unanimously re-elected Treas. for the twenty-third time. The visitors were, Sir Kt. Col. Alexander Gordon, Royal Engineers, Prov. Grand Com. for Berkshire, and Sir Kt. Deacon, *D. Prov. Grand Com.* for Hampshire.

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**COLONIAL.**


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**MAURITIUS.**

PORT LOUIS.—Masonry appears to have increased during the last twelve months in this town. A Lodge was established in the 4th King's Own Regiment in 1857, and during the time that Lodge was here twenty-eight gentlemen were initiated and affiliated. On the departure of that regiment, seventeen members of the Lodge remained behind in Mauritius, and have formed themselves into a new Lodge, which is to be installed by the British Lodge on Monday next, the 27th instant, being St. John's Day. The British Lodge was itself installed by the 4th King's Own Lodge on the 22nd of October last. We also hear that it is the intention of the members of the British and Military Lodge to attend divine service on Monday next, in the cathedral church of St. James, at 5 p.m. when a sermon appropriate to the occasion will be delivered by the Rev. M. C. O'Dell, who no doubt will be able to count amongst his hearers the greater part of the Masons in Mauritius.—*Commercial Gazette, Dec. 24th, 1858.*

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**INDIA.**


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**BENGAL.**
**MEETING OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.**

At a special meeting of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal, held at Howrah, on Friday, the 10th December, 1858, present, R.W. Bro. J. J. L. Hoff, *D. Prov. G.M.*, as Prov. G.M.; the several Officers and Past Officers of the District Grand Lodge; and the Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of Lodges in Calcutta; and as visitors, the Master, Past Master, and Wardens of the Scotch Lodge, St David in the East, No. 371; the District Grand Lodge was opened in form. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master adverted to the object for which this special meeting of the District

Grand Lodge had been held, namely, to lay the foundation stone of a General Hospital at Howrah, which the Prov. Grand Master had been requested to do by the committee of the hospital some time ago. He then adjourned the District Grand Lodge; and a procession having been formed by the officiating Grand Director of Ceremonies, the brethren proceeded to the site.

On arrival at the north-east corner of the intended building, music was played. The stone being prepared, the officiating Grand Chaplain offered up a suitable prayer. The inscription on the plate was then read by the Grand Superintendent of Works, and the coin was deposited by the officiating Grand Treasurer. Corn, wine, and oil having been poured on the stone, the officiating Grand Master descended to the trench and proved that the stone had been properly adjusted, after which he gave three knocks on the stone with the mallet, and delivered the implements to the architect. The plan and elevation of the building being then shewn to, and approved by the officiating Grand Master, he reascended the platform, and an appropriate glee was sung by the brethren, led by W. Bro. Emanuel, P. Prov. G. Org. The officiating Grand Master then delivered the following address:—

“It may be asked by some here present why the presence of Freemasons and the ceremonials we have just seen enacted by them, are considered advisable and desirable on occasions like the present. I reply that tradition informs us that the ancient founders of our Craft were the greatest benefactors to mankind, and the earliest instructors in the arts and sciences. Tradition informs us that the stupendous works of old, the remnants of which are the wonder of modern times, were planned and completed by these worthies. Modern Freemasonry is, therefore justly associated with ideas of architectural science; and we believe we are in possession of the signs and symbols used by our illustrious predecessors in their guilds and corporations. It is from this feeling that a custom has arisen to apply to the fraternity to assist at the commencement of any public work dedicated to useful and benevolent purposes, and hence our presence here to-day. It is true we are no longer operative masons, but our laws and rules enjoin us to apply to our minds and actions, those principles of order and justice which our forefathers successfully applied to the rough rocks and timbers with which the most magnificent works ever seen were happily completed. But you have not assembled here to listen to a lecture on Freemasonry, but to celebrate the erection of a building dedicated to the relief of human pain and suffering. You are not to suppose that this important suburb of the metropolis of British India has been hitherto without anything in the shape of an asylum for sufferers from disease and pain; such is not the case. A committee of resident gentlemen have for years past aided the efforts of the station medical officers in supporting such an institution, and it has been maintained to the extent of the means at their disposal. These means were limited; but the great increase to the population of Howrah that the recently established works in this place have caused has rendered that institution utterly inadequate. The committee determined to solicit the aid of the public in providing an establishment more in unison with the wants of the place. That call has been made and liberally responded to. Two thirds of the estimated cost of the proposed building have been subscribed for. The East India Railway Company have contributed an annual sum to it, and the government of Bengal has granted the land for the site of the building, the services of a subordinate medical officer, and the gratuitous supply of medicines. Thus encouraged, the committee considered they were warranted in commencing the erection of the building; and they trust to the benevolence and good feeling of the European and native public in Howrah and Calcutta and its vicinity to aid their undertaking, by supplying the sum still required for its completion, and which does not amount to more than 18,000 rupees. Under the able direction of our worthy brother Dr. Palmer, the present medical officer of the station, aided and supported by the committee who have so zealously performed their part up to the present time, I think no fear need be entertained for the future success and welfare of this benevolent and useful undertaking. In the name of the Freemasons of Bengal, I wish them all success; and may the Great Architect of the universe bless and prosper the good work they have begun.”

The ceremony being ended, the brethren returned to the railway station in the same order as before. The District Grand Lodge having been retyled, the Deputy



Provincial Grand Master proposed a vote of thanks to R.W. Bro. Le Geyt, for his kindness in having presided on this occasion, which was seconded and carried unanimously. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master also tendered his own thanks to W. Bro. Wray, for the trouble he had taken to officiate as Grand Director of Ceremonies. The District Grand Lodge was then closed in form.

#### WESTERN INDIA.

##### MEETING OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

A quarterly communication of this body, under Scottish Constitution, was held at Colaba, on the 11th of October, 1858; present: R.W. Bros. H. D. Cartwright, Prov. G.M.; L. Acland, D. Prov. G.M.; W. H. S. Crawford, officiating Prov. G.S.W.; J. Jamieson, officiating Prov. G.J.W.; W. Trevor Roper, officiating Prov. G.S.D.; Ali Mahomed Khan, officiating Prov. G.J.D.; A. Jordan, Prov. G. Sec.; C. Stephens, jun., Prov. G.I.G.; H. Hazells, Prov. G.O.G.; J. McKinlay, Prov. G. Jeweller; C. McKinlay, Prov. G. Sword Bearer, &c., &c.

The Prov. Grand Lodge having been opened in ample form, the proceedings of the regular quarterly committee, held on the 8th July, 1858, were read and confirmed.

The Prov. Grand Secretary submitted to the Prov. Grand Lodge several letters and correspondence received since the last quarterly communication; the most important being that portion relative to a new Lodge to be founded at Mhow, entitled the Lodge of St. Paul.

With reference to paragraph 10 of the last quarterly communication, the Prov. Grand Secretary reported that he had addressed further letters to Bros. Clements and Hector McLean, on the subject of their election as honorary Grand Wardens of the Prov. Grand Lodge. A reply from Bro. Clements had since been received; the first official intimation to that brother having miscarried, the Prov. Grand Secretary was instructed to send him another copy of the intimation of his election as honorary Grand Warden of the Prov. Grand Lodge; and to address Bro. Hector McLean again, who is stationed at Butcher's Island.

The following brethren were then appointed to fill vacancies in the Prov. Grand Lodge:—V.W. Bros. W. H. S. Crawford, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; J. Jamieson, President of Grand Steward's Lodge; Ali Mahomed Khan, Prov. G. Sword Bearer; J. P. Cornforth, J. Firth, Prov. G. Marshals; E. Marshall, J. Hodgart, H. P. Owen, Prov. G. Stewards.

The Prov. Grand Secretary then read the report of the sub-committee appointed to inspect the ground for the erection of a Lodge room, with copy of a plan. The R.W. the Prov. Grand Master stated, that he was sorry that the report of the sub-committee was not favourable to the acceptance of the generous offer made by Bro. M. Cursetjee, in consequence chiefly of the situation of the ground being considered undesirable for the erection of a building of such a nature as that required; in addition to which, it appeared to the committee that the conditions attached to the grant might have a tendency, at some future period, to cause some misunderstanding as to proprietorship. The Prov. Grand Lodge having concurred with the Prov. Grand Master, the Prov. Grand Secretary was instructed to communicate the substance of the above to Bro. M. Cursetjee, at the same time thanking him cordially for his generous offer.

Bro. J. Jamieson brought to the notice of the Prov. Grand Lodge, that he understood there was a building somewhere near Byculla, suitable for a Masonic Hall, where meetings had been held years ago, and the proprietor of which was a brother Mason, although unknown to him: and suggested that the committee should communicate with the proprietor, who might be willing to fit it up so as to make a Lodge room. The R.W. Prov. Grand Master requested that the committee would inquire into the subject.

Other business having been transacted before the Prov. Grand Lodge, it was closed in harmony at a quarter past seven o'clock, P.M.

## MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

### THE TEMPLE LODGE BALL.

The annual ball in connection with the Temple Lodge, No. 118, which was held in aid of the Masonic charities, took place on Monday evening last, the 14th instant, at Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars, and was most numerously attended. The ball room presented, on our entrance, a most pleasing and animated scene, graced by the presence of a select and elegantly dressed assemblage of ladies, which, with the Brethren in full Masonic Craft costume, had quite a picturesque effect. A first-rate programme, aided by Bro. Taylor's band, an efficient M.C., and the untiring exertions of Bro. Beard, the Honorary Secretary, and Bro. Farthing, J.W., (and Treasurer of the ball committee), contributed to make a most delightful evening's entertainment. The ball room was elegantly and artistically decorated by Bro. Tatell, a member of the Lodge.

### THE WEEK.

THE Queen held a court on Thursday afternoon, at Buckingham Palace. The Sheriffs, Alderman Hale and Mr. Conder, had an audience, to receive her Majesty's commands with respect to the reception of an address from the corporation upon the birth of her grandson. Her Majesty appointed yesterday for the reception of the address. Her Majesty and the Prince visited the Princess's Theatre on Thursday. It is Her Majesty's intention to hold levees at St. James's Palace, this day, and on the 2nd of March, and to hold a drawing room and another levee before Easter.—The French government organ, the *Moniteur*, announces that the conference of Paris will reassemble. The first questions that it will discuss, are the proposed modifications in the Danubian "Act of Navigation." The conference has also to decide on the legality of the late double election of M. Alexander Couza, as Hospodar of Moldavia and of Wallachia. Whether the state of affairs in Italy will be another subject for consideration is at present unknown. The French government are said to be preparing a list of grievances against Austria. The minister of war continues his preparations for invasion. The agglomeration of *matériel* at Lyons, Marseilles, and Toulon, is immense. At Lyons, the municipal authorities complain of the enormous quantity of powder in the magazines in and about that city. The emperor will command in person the army in Italy. A letter from Paris says:—"I learn from a private source, in which I place confidence, that the emperor is preparing tents, horses, arms, uniforms, &c., to take the field in person. I am as convinced as it is possible to be of any proposition not mathematically demonstrated, that his bosom burns with ambition to command an army in actual warfare." A paper has appeared in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, on naval steam warfare. It has attracted some attention, from the supposition that it was written by the Prince de Joinville. Several foreign journals were seized on Friday and Saturday, at the Paris post office, the supposed reason being the publication of M. Delangle's circular to the prefects. The effects of the war movement are manifest in the depressed state of trade, the numerous failures among the commercial body, and the agitation of the Bourse. In spite of all this, however, preparations for war are actively going on.—A Vienna correspondent writes, that Austria will send representatives to the Paris Conference, provided England and Prussia guarantee that the Italian question shall not be mooted. Count Buol has addressed a circular despatch to the German courts, with a view to sound their intentions, if not to demand their concurrence, in the event of the Italian question ending in a conflict. It is said that Prussia has

informed Austria that she will remain neutral, should war break out, unless the German possessions of Austria are attacked. It is stated in high military circles that Marshal Prince Windischgratz is going on a mission to Berlin. A telegram from Milan, of Saturday, says that trade there is completely stagnant; that many Austrian deserters had crossed the frontier into Piedmont; and that the Grand Duke of Tuscany intends to grant his subjects a liberal constitution.—Great activity is perceptible in the bureaux of the different sections of the Prussian war-office, the object of which is to place the army in an efficient state, to be prepared for any emergency. It was expected that a general amnesty would be granted for all political offenders on the occasion of the recent addition to the royal family; events have induced the Regent to postpone its execution. A Berlin letter states that during a recent shooting excursion, in the neighbourhood of Sans Souci, the Prince Regent of Prussia had a narrow escape for his life. The gun of an officer, who was of the party, accidentally went off, and the charge passed close to the Prince.—*The Madrid Gazette* contains a series of addresses to the Queen from the authorities and public bodies of Cuba, expressing indignation at the proposition to purchase the island made by the President of the United States, and protesting fidelity to the Queen. The Queen has issued a royal order, in which she thankfully acknowledges these assurances of fidelity.—With regard to the health of the King of Naples, little is positively known, except that his malady, whatever it was and is, must have been much more severe than was at first imagined. He is still at Bari, and it is unlikely that he will leave it before the end of the month. A medical opinion is that the malady of the king is water round the heart, a disease of which his father died, and to which the royal family are subject. Great anxiety is felt about the health of his Majesty by those around him. No British vessel of war has visited Naples for now three weeks or a month, and so few vessels are there on the Mediterranean station that the admiral is not in a position to send one up there. In the meantime the French and Russian squadrons are being augmented.—The proposition made in the Hanoverian upper chamber to restrain the exportation of horses gave rise to a warm debate, in the course of which it was contended that any French attack on the Po and Rhine would be a *casus belli*. Prussia's dilatory policy was denounced as anti-German. The proposition was unanimously agreed to.—A letter from Rome, speaking of the Prince of Wales's audience of the Pope, says his tutor and the British diplomatic agent accompanied him; the Pope addressed the Prince in the most courteous terms; the heir to the throne of the British Empire was respectful, and appeared much gratified by the Holy Father's urbanity. The Prince is frequently seen in the streets and in the public buildings. His object appears to be to acquire as much information as possible.—A special service has been performed in the churches at St. Petersburg to return the thanks of the nation for the recovery of the empress dowager. By the 13th January the nobility committees of six provinces had finished and sent in their preparatory labours on the serfdom abolition question. The number of male serfs living in these districts amounted to as much as a million and a half.—Letters express doubts whether the Sultan will receive the Moldavian deputation. 15,000 Turkish troops are stationed along the banks of the Danube. Frequent conferences have taken place between Sir Henry Bulwer, Baron Prokesch, and the Porte. Reports of ministerial changes continue current. Hussein Pacha has been named Governor of Candia, in the room of Sami Pacha, who will be sent as ambassador to Paris. M. Musurus will probably be appointed representative of the Porte at the Paris conferences.—In Sardinia, the ministerial measure was carried by an overwhelming majority, and it is believed that the amount of the loan (£2,000,000) will be subscribed in a great measure by Italians, if not in Italy. The apartments of the late Queen of Sardinia are being prepared for the reception of a new inmate. The Russian marriage of the King is believed to be decided upon. The *Avenir* of Nice says that the entire Russian Mediterranean squadron is expected there in the month of March.—*The Wurtzburg Gazette* says that the Bavarian minister of war has sent orders to the various commanders of troops to adopt the necessary measures for placing the army on the footing of preparing for the eventualities of war. It appears from all reports that the popular excitement in Bavaria is as great as in any part of Germany in favour of Austria. A return of French despotism is dreaded as the worst calamity that could happen.—The death of the hereditary Grand Duchess

at Naples is announced by telegram from Marseilles. Her illness, it seems, was typhus fever, complicated by her pregnancy at the time.—A despatch dated Athens, February 10th, says that advices have been received from Corfu. A large majority of the members of the Ionian Parliament appear determined to refuse the discussion of the reforms proposed by Mr. Gladstone, and it is expected that, should the parliament be dissolved, the present members will be re-elected.

—The *Etna* arrived at Southampton on Friday; she brings New York news to the 6th instant. The democratic caucus on the tariff question is looked forward to with great interest. It is believed a resolution against changing the tariff will be adopted, with the important understanding that the decision is not to be binding on any member. The republican votes, however, in each house could carry a modification of the tariff. From Mexico we learn that both political parties in that country are sorely pressed for money to prosecute the war, and the Juarez government is much embarrassed by the English and French admirals demanding prompt payment of the interest due on the conventional bonds.—The steamer with the Bombay mails to the 25th January has arrived. The *Bombay Times* of that day states that Oude is completely pacified. Public notice has been given that the provinces of Oude and Rohilcund are again open to European families. Lord Clyde has applied for authority to pursue the rebels to Nepal. He will return to England in the month of February. A battle, with great slaughter, has taken place at Nizam. Colonel Campbell has been surprised and wounded, and his baggage captured. In an engagement which took place with 30,000 rebels of Rohilcund, who were defeated with great loss, and pursued for some distance, two other colonels were wounded, one of them mortally. Lord Canning has given an increased extension to the amnesty, and has forbidden any executions to take place unless previously sanctioned by him.—From China we have news of Lord Elgin's whereabouts. His excellency had gone as far up the river as a place called Hankew, and had returned to Shanghai on New Year's day. The garrison of Canton had been operating in a small way against a nest of native disturbers in the neighbourhood with success.—The case of *Dickson v. the Earl of Wilton*, was concluded on Tuesday, having occupied the time of the court for five days. The primary cause of the trial would seem to be a disagreement about mess accounts. Lieutenant-Colonel Dickson sued Colonel the Earl of Wilton for imputing misconduct to him in his office as Lieutenant-Colonel of the 2nd Tower Hamlets Militia. One act of slander and two libels were charged. The libels were contained in two letters written by the Earl of Wilton, and addressed to his superior officer, Lord Combermere, the Lord-Lieutenant of the Tower Hamlets. Lord Wilton replied that the slander and libels complained of were true, and, moreover, that they were privileged communications. The jury found for Colonel Dickson upon all three points, awarding to him £5 damages for the two libels, and £200 for the slander. On the 28th of December, 1858, there appeared a notice in the *Gazette* to the effect that Colonel Dickson had been removed from the army. Nothing could have been more unfair; and upon Colonel Dickson's dismissal the *Times* remarks, "The proceeding seems most unreasonable, for Colonel Dickson was at least entitled to know upon what ground so serious a step as his dismissal from the service had been taken."

—On Friday morning, the Archbishop of Canterbury proceeded to hear the appeal of the Rev. Alfred Poole, curate of St. Barnabas, against the revocation of his license by the Bishop of London, on account of alleged habitual hearing of confession. His grace was assisted by Dr. Lushington, who acted as assessor. Mr. J. B. Lee, solicitor the Bishop of London, was present on his lordship's behalf. Dr. Phillimore appeared for Mr. Poole. Mr. Bovill, Q.C., and Mr. Coleridge, followed on the same side. Mr. Montague Smith, Q.C., and Mr. Raymond, appeared for the Bishop of London. The hearing was resumed by the archbishop, on Saturday morning. The counsel for the respondent argued that there was sufficient ground in Mr. Poole's own admissions to justify the bishop in revoking his licence. His grace has now heard the case fully argued; and, after due consideration, will give his decision in writing.—The court of appeal in Dublin has confirmed the judgment given by Judge Longfield in favour of the London and County Bank, which will put an end to the contest between that bank and the Tipperary Bank, unless an appeal is made by the latter to the House of Lords, which it is reported will be done.—The *Newcastle*

*Daily Chronicle* says:—"We understand that a man at present under sentence of four years' penal servitude in Portland prison, has confessed to having shot poor Mr. Stirling, the young surgeon whose distressing death caused such a sensation in this district, about three years ago. The home secretary has sent the statement of the person who declares he did the horrid deed, to the mayor of this borough, and no doubt, his worship will take the necessary steps to investigate the correctness of the allegation."—The Winton schoolmaster, who was taken into custody, charged with being accessory to the death of Elizabeth Hall, as we mentioned last week, has been remanded by the Darlington magistrates. The coroner's jury, however, have returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased died from mortification, resulting from violent means to procure abortion, but by whom used does not appear.—The government have resolved to issue a commission to inquire into and report on the recruiting system of the army. The greatest despatch is exhibited in fitting out new steam line-of-battle ships at Chatham. The *Trafalgar*, 320, *Rodney*, 90, and *Severn*, 50, are in a forward state.—The Marquis of Bristol died on Tuesday, at the age of ninety. He is succeeded by his eldest son, formerly Earl Jermyn, who has himself reached the ripe age of fifty-eight, and has two sons.—The Duchess of Leinster expired on Tuesday morning, at Carlton House, near Dublin, in the sixty-sixth year of her age. The deceased was third daughter of the third Earl of Harrington, and married the present duke in 1818.—Mr. Samuel Warren, M.P., recorder of Hull, and the author of "The Diary of a Physician," has accepted the office of Master in Lunacy, just vacated by Mr. Higgins. The representation of Midhurst thus becomes vacant.—In the House of Lords on Tuesday, Lord Stanley, of Alderley, asked if the government intend to reverse the repeal of the Navigation Laws. Lord Donoughmore replied in the negative. On Thursday, Earl Grey asked if the reports of proposals for a change in the constitution of the Ionian Islands recommended to the Ionian parliament by Mr. Gladstone, were with the approval of the Government? Lord Derby declined to discuss the question in its present state. He deprecated any anticipation of a question about to be discussed in the Ionian parliament, as prejudicial to the public interests. On Friday, the only business of interest had relation to Lord Derby's reply to a question put by Lord Airlie, that no bill as yet had been prepared by government for the improvement of the system of education in Scotland, but communications were being had with various Scotch members, with the view of preparing a bill that would be acceptable to the different religious sects. On Monday the threatened debate on the Ionian Islands affair, was averted by an earnest appeal from the Earl of Derby. In the House of Commons on Tuesday, Mr. Clive repeated a question he had put on the previous day, respecting the appointment of Mr. W. F. Higgins to the office of Master in Lunacy. The Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that Mr. Higgins had spontaneously resigned the office. Lord John Russell moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend and consolidate the laws of bankruptcy and insolvency. Leave was given. On Wednesday Viscount Bury moved the second reading of the Marriage Law Amendment Bill. Mr. Beresford Hope, in a speech of great power, opposed the bill as a legalizing of incest. Gen. Thompson and Sir George C. Lewis supported, and the Home Secretary opposed the measure. Lord J. Russell gave his opinion in its favour. On a division the majority proved in favour of the second reading. Baron Meyer de Rothschild took his seat for Hythe. There are now three Jews in the house, two Rothschilds and a Salomons. On Thursday Mr. Ayrton introduced a measure for the repeal of certain acts restricting the liberty of the press, which are now never enforced, having become obsolete. Leave was given. On Friday Sir B. Hall renewed the discussion on the new public offices; and this occupied some time, but came to nothing. Mr. Turner explained the reason why the report on the Weedon investigation had not yet been presented. The reason was, the accounts were in such a complicated condition that it would be impossible to render in an intelligible report for two or three months at least. Mr. Kinglake wished to know why the papers relative to the Charles et Georges French slaver had not been laid before Parliament. Mr. S. Fitzgerald said the papers would be produced at the earliest period. He hoped the papers would be in the hands of the House by Monday or Tuesday. The discussion on the Indian Loan was re-

sumed. Lord Stanley entered into an explanation of certain discrepancies between his statement the other night and some official returns, and afterwards moved a formal resolution for power to raise money in England for the service of India. Sir Charles Wood and Sir Erskine Perry took a gloomy view of Indian affairs. Eventually Lord Stanley's resolution was carried. On Monday, notice was given of two hostile motions; one by Mr. Maguire, on the arrests in Ireland, the other by Mr. Monckton Milnes, on the recent consular appointments in Japan. Mr. Walpole introduced his resolution on church-rates. The government proposition is, first, that landowners may charge the average amount of rates upon their estates; secondly, that the holders of limited estates should have the power of making that perpetual which is now annual; thirdly, that the property created be invested in the incumbent and churchwardens; fourthly, that voluntary benefactions may be invested in the same way, and the rate cease by order of the Queen in council. Mr. S. Estcourt brought in two bills connected with the poor law administration; and some other unopposed bills were forwarded.—To-day is the nomination in Marylebone, and both sections of the liberal party appear to be making the best use of the brief intervening period. Mr. Edwin James, on Monday, in addition to being engaged in a long case in the court of Queen's Bench, which occupied him nearly the whole day, addressed no fewer than three meetings in the borough. Colonel Romilly's meeting was considerably interrupted and the motions barely carried. Mr. James is evidently the popular candidate. Sir Benjamin Hall and Sir William Hayter are understood to have used their utmost influence in favour of his retirement. Mr. Charles Thompson, of the Edgware-road, has issued an address. He advocates radical principles, but he does not state that he will go to the poll.—The election for the West Riding took place on Monday, Sir John Ramsden being returned without opposition. Sir John delivered a long speech, in which he recapitulated his political opinions. He would not pledge himself to support any particular measures of reform.—The Pope, it is said, intends publishing a manifesto, in which the statements of the pamphlet *Napoleon III. et l'Italie* with reference to the Roman States and the temporal power of the Papacy are to be refuted.—A meeting of the members of the National School Choral Society was held at the Albion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, on Saturday afternoon, for the purpose of presenting to Mr. G. W. Martin an elegant *baton*, in recognition of his valuable services as conductor of the National Schools Choral Festival at the Crystal Palace in May last. The Rev. T. Garnier, incumbent of Trinity Church, Marylebone, occupied the chair.—On Saturday orders were issued to the officials having charge of the English portion of the National Gallery and Vernon collection of paintings at Marlborough-house to prepare for their removal to the building erected for their reception at Kensington Gore, where they are to be exhibited to the public at Easter.

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#### PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

THE report gains ground that Her Majesty's Theatre, once the nucleus of all that was beautiful and fashionable in this great metropolis, is about to be transformed into a monster hotel, on the "American" system—heaven save the mark! Should this prove to be true, the circumstance must be regretted by every person with the smallest pretensions to taste. The theatre is the most commodious and elegant temple of the drama, whether lyric or not, that Europe has seen; and fulfilled to perfection many requirements which are wanting in more modern establishments. There is however comfort for the distressed *virtuoso*—it appears that there are legal impediments to the change, which for our own part we trust may be found insurmountable.—At Covent Garden Miss Louisa Pyne, Mr. Harrison, and their excellent company, continue to demonstrate to the musical world that it is unnecessary to seek for foreign talent to interpret the works of modern *maestri*, since English voices are equal to any emergency; while Mr. Balfe's dulcet strains

would convince the most sceptical that this chilly clime of ours, which in olden days produced a Purcell and fostered a Handel, is still favourable to the growth of song. Last evening her Majesty with the Prince Consort and the Princess Alice were present at Covent Garden, on which occasion "The Rose of Castille" was given—and given in a style as near perfection as possible. The absurdities of the libretto have been brought into reasonable bounds and made to interfere as little as may be with the efforts of the composer. The most fastidious ear must be pleased with the silver notes of Louisa Pyne, and the most critical eye may rest with pleasure upon the beautiful scenery and the pretty faces and forms that are grouped in each succeeding scene. Though considered, and justly, less important than the opera, the pantomime at this house has done its part in bringing up the fortunes of the management to their present height; supported by such admirable mimers as the Paynes even a stupid burlesque (which this is not) could scarcely fail to make a success. W. H. Payne, "e'en from our boyish days," has been the legitimate representative of truculent barons of intemperate habits, and absurdly ill-domeesticated monarchs who labour under difficulties in the treasury and culinary department; in saying that Bro. Payne is as thoroughly ridiculous as ever, we feel that we are paying him the highest compliment in our power; though Christmas has long passed into the sear and yellow leaf, the attraction of the pantomime appears to be undiminished.—Drury Lane presents the same bill of fare to its patrons; a change, however, we believe, is shortly to be anticipated.—Mr. Tom Taylor's comedy, "The Unequal Match," is again attracting admirers to the Haymarket; the quaintness of Bro. Buckstone's impersonation of the eccentric doctor is as amusing as ever. The artistic taste which has been displayed in the production of "Undine" is universally appreciated, and preserves the reputation which this theatre has gained for the poetic feeling of the pictures placed upon the stage.—At the Princess's the weird-like "Midsummer Night's Dream" is again the *pièce de resistance*.—The Lyceum is crowded nightly by the admirers of Madame Celeste who is playing the two pieces, "The Lost Hope" and "The Chilp of the Wreck;" the peculiar style of this lady proves so attractive that we hear her engagement at the Lyceum is likely to be a prolonged one. Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams have been enlisted in this *troupe*, and "The Leprechaun," which was one of poor Power's most successful and picturesque Irish comedies, will be produced forthwith.—At the Adelphi, "Masks and Faces," and the efforts of Mr. Wright to amuse the public, have met with the success which they deserve; we wish this gentleman a better part in which to display his talents.—The Strand Theatre has now taken rank as the fashionable theatre of London; a more complete revolution can hardly be imagined than that which has been made in the style of the habitués of this house; and so long as the performances are sustained at their present pitch of excellence, there can be little fear of a decadence in the opinion of its patrons.

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## NOTICES.

THE Brethren and others are requested to notice, that George W. Bower has no connection with the *Freemasons' Magazine*; and all persons are cautioned against paying him anything on our account.

Emblematic covers for the last volume of the Magazine for 1858 are now ready, price 1s.; or the volumes (containing twenty-six numbers) may be had bound, price 14s. 6d., or with gilt edges 15s. 6d. Brethren can have their volumes bound at the office if they desire it, for 1s. 6d., or with gilt edges 2s. 6d.

Advertisers will oblige by forwarding their favours at the latest by 12 o'clock on Monday morning.

We shall be happy to receive essays or lectures on Masonic subjects returning them (should they not be accepted) if desired.

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### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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"A P. PROV. G. OFFICER OF BERKS AND BUCKS" complains that at the last meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge two young brethren, neither of whom were entitled to wear the purple, were called upon to officiate as Provincial Grand Wardens for the day, notwithstanding the presence of old Provincial Grand Officers, none of whom were invited to take part in the proceedings.

"W. H."—We regret that after full consideration we cannot publish your last communication; though ourselves agreeing with you in the views you wish to advocate. Though Masonry is not a religious institution, properly so called, it certainly is not opposed to religion; and the members of every creed ranged under its banners would have a right to complain of our want of impartiality were we to continue to publish letters advocating the purely Christian view of the question, and refuse insertion to their replies. Masonry is universal, without regard to sect or creed; but that it is not opposed to Christianity is sufficiently proved by the number of eminent divines who belong to the Order, and who take every legitimate opportunity of testifying their admiration of the doctrines it teaches.

"A SUBSCRIBER, EXETER."—The Royal Arch sash is worn over the left shoulder. The members of a Lodge cannot legally pass a by-law that no recognised brother, other than themselves, shall at any time enter their Lodge until he has paid a visiting fee, no matter what the amount. They may, if they see fit, prevent his sitting down to a banquet until the fee is paid.

"AN INQUIRING BROTHER."—The cost of the *Freemasons' Monthly Magazine*, edited by Charles W. Moore, and printed at Boston, Massachusetts, America, is fifteen shillings the year. Subscribers' names are received by Bro. R. Spencer.

"H. W." is thanked for his suggestions, which we shall not lose sight of at the proper time.

"S. F."—The report in question was forwarded to us from our regular correspondent in the province.

"JUNIOR DEACON."—The privileges you desire will be conferred upon your attaining the chair of a Warden.