
THE CANADAS.

IF a slight misunderstanding has arisen between the Grand Lodges of England and Canada with regard to the extent of jurisdiction to be assumed by the latter, we see no reason for regret—if indeed there are not good grounds for congratulation, inasmuch as it has put us in possession of the admirable and fraternal letter addressed by Bro. Wilson, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Canada to the noble Earl who has so long presided as Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, and which gives us a clue to the real grounds upon which the Grand Lodge of Canada has been founded—grounds so noble and honourable in themselves that had they been advanced two or three years ago, they would not only have received the earnest co-operation of the Grand Lodge, and we are sure we may add of the Grand Master of England, in carrying them out—but they would have prevented all those disputes and heart burnings which for two or three years have disfigured our institution, and which have been taken advantage of by those whom we are convinced are no friends of the Craft, for purposes into the nature of which we do not care to inquire.

At a time when we thought—and justly thought—that the Canadian brethren had good grounds to complain of the manner in which they were treated by the officials in Great Queen-street, we hesitated not to express our opinion boldly and fairly with regard to them, and to call upon the Executive to give that attention to the claims of our brethren at a distance which we were sure could not have been refused to those nearer home. When, however, the Grand Master came forward gracefully to acknowledge errors in the past, and to offer concessions to the wishes of the brethren in the colonies which we believed to be just, we were certainly astonished to find that moment selected by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West to throw off its

allegiance; and we expressed our conviction that there must be something more behind the scenes than the mere complaints against the past errors of the Grand Lodge of the mother country, to induce them to take such a course.

Nor does it appear that we were far wrong in our estimate of the relative bearings of "cause and effect"—for the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Canada writes:—

"Without, therefore, referring directly to the more immediate causes which led to the organization of the Grand Lodge of Canada, there was a consideration which, I may state incidentally, powerfully impelled the brethren here to take that important step; and that was a desire to be in a position to imitate the noble example set by the Masons of England, in the establishment of their benevolent institutions for charitable and educational purposes. In order to enable them to take the necessary steps to secure this most desirable object; and fully believing, at the same time, that the best interests of Masonry would be advanced and secured by the establishment of an independent Grand Lodge, the Masons of united Canada, without any diminution of fraternal regard or respect for those grand bodies from which they formerly hailed, declared their Masonic independence."

We can easily understand, that in order to carry out institutions such as these, which do so much honour to the Masonic body in England, it was desirable that all the Masons of Canada should be brought under one jurisdiction, and that whilst there were Lodges holding under the respective Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, and Ireland, that unity of purpose could not be relied upon, nor even be expected to exist, which would have tended to the prosperity of institutions for benevolent and educational purposes; as, however well intentioned might be the managers, jealousy of some kind would necessarily arise—and that therefore it was desirable to establish a Grand Lodge of Canada, which should unite under one head the Lodges previously holding under the three Constitutions. This being conceded (and we believe no one will deny the proposition) the question naturally arises—did our Canadian brethren take the most straightforward course to obtain the object they had in view; and here we must be allowed to say, we think they did not. Admitting, as we do, that the Canadian brethren had great cause of complaint against the Executives at this side of the water (for be it remembered the Grand Lodge of Ireland has come in for its share of blame with that of England—though perhaps not to the same extent, inasmuch as it acknowledged the independence of Masonry in Canada even whilst it was evidently arrayed in two parties), we believe it would have been more straightforward, more conducive to the general good, and more in the spirit of fraternity, had the Canadian brethren, sinking all causes of dispute, come forward and asked to be relieved from their

allegiance to their respective Grand Lodges, that they might unite under one head—in order that by the establishment of a better community of feeling one with another, than could exist under three jurisdictions, they might devote their energies to the foundation of benevolent and educational institutions which should vie with those of England and Ireland in their usefulness and importance. Such an appeal (however much we might have regretted the loss of the sovereignty over the main body of the Canadian Lodges) would, there can be no doubt, have at once been met in the true spirit of brotherhood; and, instead of years of discussion and misunderstanding of the position and objects of each other, not only would their request have been cordially responded to by the Grand Lodge and the Most Worshipful Grand Master, but we doubt not that the English brethren would have extended a friendly and liberal hand to assist them in their noble and Masonic desires.

That such a course was not pursued we may regret, but it is now too late to look back or undo what has been done, and instead therefore of recalling the bickerings of the past, we trust the brethren alike in Canada and in England will recollect only that they are joined together in bonds of fraternal friendship one with the other; and that independence was assumed only to enable the brethren of Canada the better to express their admiration of the principles which govern English Freemasonry, by imitating “the noble example set by the Masons of England in the establishment of their benevolent institutions for charitable and educational purposes.” May the Great Architect of the universe speed and prosper their endeavours.

THE GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

As the period approaches for making returns to the circular of the Board of General Purposes relative to the future disposition of the property of Grand Lodge, the subject is being discussed in various Lodges fairly on its merits; and it is most gratifying to find that the general opinion of the brethren (so far as we have yet been able to gather it) is in favour of the decision which Grand Lodge has already come to—that it is desirable to have a portion of the property set aside for Masonic purposes only; and that, if found practicable, even a small diminution in our annual income may be advantageously incurred. We have already expressed our belief, that no such sacrifice will be required, but that differences of opinion should exist, on mat-

ters which must of necessity be to some extent speculative, is not at all to be wondered at; indeed it would be most extraordinary if they did not. As a rule, therefore, we have abstained from remarking on the decisions come to by various Lodges, preferring to wait until we have before us the result of their opinions, as evidenced through the report of the Board of General Purposes, in the replies to their questions submitted to the Lodges. But as we have remarked one decision, arrived at evidently from a want of understanding, if not of due inquiry on, the subject—we feel it our duty to call attention to it, lest others from reading the report should fall into the same error. Under the head of Worcestershire, in another page, will be found a notice of the proceedings at a recent meeting of the Harmonic Lodge, No. 313, Dudley, at which we find that a decision was given against the proposition of the Board of General Purposes, on the ground that it is not right to risk any diminution in the fund subscribed for charitable purposes, which ought to be kept sacred for the purposes for which it was funded. We find no fault with the decision, nor have we any right to do so; but we do complain of the grounds upon which it has been arrived at. There has never been from the first the slightest proposition for touching the Benevolent Fund of the Craft for any purposes connected with the property—the only funds proposed under any circumstances to be dealt with being those for general purposes, which no one can deny are fairly applicable to the improvement of our property. Indeed when the question was first brought before Grand Lodge, in December last, the President of the Board of General Purposes explicitly declared it was to the Fund of General Purposes alone to which in all his calculations he should refer, for “of course,” he said, “we cannot touch the Fund of Benevolence,” and that under no circumstances should we be justified in expending our Benevolent Fund for building purposes, much less risk the loss of any portion of it. We have continually reiterated this opinion through the pages of the *Freemasons' Magazine*. Furthermore, in the circular issued by the Board of General Purposes, in January last, and published in our number of the 19th of that month, page 108, the Fund of Benevolence is never once alluded to, but it is stated—

“—As to the fund for General Purposes—from which fund alone means can be looked for to defray whatever expenses may be incurred—on January 1st, 1850, in consequence of the completion of a large purchase, there was no funded property to the credit of General Purposes, and at that date

“The society was indebted to the Grand Treasurer and

	Bankers - - - - -	£1483	12	11
”	has since given away - - - - -	7553	3	0
”	has expended in purchase of property - - - - -	5450	0	0
”	has invested, and now holds, in Reduced			
	Three per cents - - - - -	6500	0	0
”	had cash in hand, Nov. 13th, 1858 - - - - -	811	13	1
	Making a total excess of receipts over			
	current expenditure of - - - - -	£21,782	9	0

“This sum divided by 8½ years, shows an average excess for that period of about £2500 per annum.

A portion of the income from which this average excess of income over expenditure, amounting to two thousand five hundred pounds a year is derived, may be represented by eight hundred pounds, the net average rental of the tavern ; and it is with regard to the latter sum alone that the Craft are called upon to consider whether, in order to secure the “necessary property solely and exclusively to Masonic uses” they are “prepared to submit to some diminution of their annual income.” For our own parts, even were the whole eight hundred pounds to be sacrificed to secure the setting aside of so much of the property as may be requisite, “solely and exclusively to Masonic uses,” and giving us the advantages of “a library, reading, and refreshment rooms,” we should consider the improved status it would give us in society, and the opportunities afforded us for more constant communion with the brethren—not only of the metropolis, but from all parts of the country—as cheaply purchased. But that the whole of the rent cannot be sacrificed, we think self-evident, when it is remembered that, even at the present moment, as the circular of the Board states, “the members of the society pay back to their tenants, for the banquets of private Lodges, and for their festivals, a sum of five thousand pounds per annum—from which sum it is reasonable to suppose that the tenants derive a fair profit.”

Now no one can suppose that a business of five thousand pounds a year, with the prospect of what would be expended in a Masonic coffee room, is so utterly worthless, as not to command a rental or commission for the privilege of undertaking it—even if not another Lodge (though we believe many more would do so) held its meetings on our own property—more especially as the committee inform us that “there are meeting in London one hundred and twenty-four Lodges and twenty-eight Chapters; of the former, thirty-eight, and of the latter, eight, hold their meetings in the tavern, leaving eighty-six Lodges, and twenty Chapters who find their accommodation elsewhere.”

Indeed we are inclined to think, that probably for the first few years at least, and if found to work well, for a continuance, it would be desirable that the Craft, taking into its own hands the entire management of the building, should farm the banquets and the arrangements of the coffee-room, in the same manner as is done in some of the oldest established clubs—a system which has been found to work satisfactorily to both parties. We believe that this mode of managing a difficult part of the business was suggested at a very early period of the consideration of the scheme ; and we have little doubt that able and enterprising men can be found who would willingly undertake it. Moreover, it is clear that under new arrangements which set the Lodges free from the regulations of a tavern, they must, in justice to the rest of the Craft, (who are equally proprietors of the property with themselves), pay a small rent for the accommoda-

tion afforded them, which would go in further reduction of the loss which might by possibility be incurred—a loss which we believe would be readily converted into a profit by the opening of a subscription, reading and coffee room. We should not have deemed it our duty again to have alluded to the subject, at least for the present, did we not feel bound to show to the Craft that the decision of the brethren of Dudley has been arrived at in a misconception of the facts of the case; and that under every circumstance the Benevolent Fund must be held *sacred to the purposes for which it was subscribed.*

In conclusion, we beg the brethren to notice that the fifth question is put as an alternative. We are led to this remark by observing that some of the Lodges in their replies have answered *all* the questions in the affirmative—this we need hardly say destroys the value of the reply. We would also remind the brethren that the replies are to be sent in to the Board of General Purposes on or before the 31st of March, a period which is rapidly approaching.

OUR ARCHITECTURAL CHAPTER.

WE are very glad to receive communications in correction or extension of the statements we make in these Chapters, as they afford a proof of the growing interest that is taken in the subject. Thus we learn from Leicester that the arrangements for the Hall there have been carried out in a much better manner than the first project led us to conceive, and that improvements have been made which are of general interest.

The original plan was to constitute the undertaking as a share concern—an arrangement very defective, which, as our correspondent shows, would have had the effect of making the trustees personally liable, and accountable to any individual subscriber—a responsibility which it is most desirable to avoid. While the form of a limited liability company gives a certain protection to the parties interested, it does, as already shown, bring with it other liabilities, which might be the fruitful source of litigation. There is besides, this fundamental objection—that the undertaking is made subservient to purposes of revenue and profit, as we think needlessly for any financial requirement.

The main basis of the funds for any such institution consists of the voluntary contributions of individual members, and the appropriation of Lodge funds; and in the course of time these will always be found adequate to provide the whole capital. This is, however, a work of time, and it is requisite to provide funds to complete the building at once, in anticipation of the receipts. The usual way of meeting this want is by way of shares, creating thereby a perpetual proprietorship, and the danger of the shares, the property, and the control of the establishment passing into strange hands. There are, however, two

other modes, one by way of loan without interest, and the other by loan on interest or mortgage.

A brother may be well enough disposed to give an absolute donation of a limited sum in proportion to the contributions of other Brethren, but it does not follow that he chooses to find funds for the unwilling, or to provide an endowment for his successors and relieve future initiates. Still he may feel such a deep interest in the institution that he will readily make a temporary advance, without interest, to promote the early realization of the design and the personal enjoyment of the benefits of a Masonic building—provided he can do so without injury to himself or family, and with full security for repayment. Thus, beyond absolute money donations, there is always a considerable fund to be obtained from loans without interest, not only from individual brethren, but, by proper organization, from the Lodges.

Although some Lodges are in a bad financial condition, yet others have a considerable balance without interest, from which they could for a short time lend a small sum to a Masonic hall in their province, or the adjoining province. In many cases two or three hundred pounds lent for a year, in anticipation of coming subscriptions, would solve the financial difficulty now obstructing the progress of a hall, and make it easy of accomplishment.

In fact, were the funds in possession of the Order properly applied, they would greatly promote the cause of Masonic construction. Whenever a hall is built, the Provincial Grand Lodge might apply to neighbouring Grand Lodges and Lodges for temporary assistance, pledging its own credit, and of course placing itself in the position of promising similar aid when called upon. There are many of the large towns where the aggregate of Lodge balances is considerable, and is now scattered among several banks. In the metropolis the amount must be many thousands, and enough to provide for the establishment of a Masonic cash department or small bank, where each treasurer could keep his account, and on which he could give cheques.

The last measure to be adopted is to raise money at interest; but still, if for the time all other methods have been exhausted, this must be resorted to. The employment of Masonic charity funds is a justifiable appropriation of the funds, whilst it is better to obtain money from the Craft than from strangers. The last resort would be to strangers, by way of mortgage. It will, however be seen that any such measure entails charges for stamps and legal documents beyond the interest; whereas free loans from the Craft and its members are attended with no such further expense.

The great object should be to avoid any expenditure for stamps, law, or interest, so as to apply the whole contributions of the brethren to the construction of the building. As these contributions are in most cases aided by the proceeds of concerts and collections, and in some instances a rent is obtained for the hall, a considerable fund is made available for the discharge of the debt. The interest-bearing

debt should be first paid off, and then the non interest-bearing debt ; but efforts should be made to bring in new free loans constantly, so that the old lenders should be paid off, and no one be subject to being long kept out of his money. In case of need, an interest-bearing debt should be raised to pay off the free loans to avoid pressure.

We are sorry to see a proposition at Leicester to pay dividends to such subscribers as may desire it, for we would rather see the capital paid off, whereas a considerable sum will be disbursed in dividends, and the original debt remain.

Our correspondent places the contribution of Bro. Millican, Provincial Grand Senior Warden, in its just light, and makes known the liberality of Bro. Morris, late Provincial Grand Registrar, who has kindly afforded legal assistance gratis, besides giving a handsome donation.

We are pleased with the proposition to send the *Freemasons' Magazine* a plan and engraving, for we may observe professional zeal does not go so far as yet. We do not know whether the *Freemasons' Magazine*, not being published in Scotland, is considered a foreign publication, but we must say we have been surprised that Bro. David Bryce, Grand Architect of Scotland, has not thought proper to send us any design of the hall at Edinburgh, though he has sent to the *Illustrated Times*, as acknowledged by the editor in his number for February 26th, wherein appears the interior of the new hall. We regret this the more as the hall appears to be a structure of considerable interest from the view of the interior there given, though it does not do justice to its grandeur, for the dimensions are, eighty feet long, thirty-eight feet wide, and thirty-six feet high to the centre of the coved ceiling. The windows of stained glass are said to be very beautiful, and are filled with emblematical designs, and over them is some good sculpture by W. J. Thomas, of London, representing St. Andrew, supported on either side by the allegories of Faith, Hope, and Charity. In such a building there must be many interesting details which the architect can best supply, and these we still await from Bro. Bryce.

Among the additions we have to record to our architectural collections are a few notes.

We do not know that we have recorded the name of Brother Robert Munn, junior, as Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works for East Lancashire.

Among the Masonic establishments at Cape Town, South Africa, is to be enumerated a Masonic hotel.

By the bye, while speaking of Masonic hotels, we are glad we gave a list of them lately, because it shows how widely spread throughout the world are these establishments, in which a Mason is sure to find a brotherly attention to his wants. To the brethren in a distant part, such a sign must be always welcome.

We may say a few words about the floors of Lodges, and of the adjacent rooms. Where Lodges are held in rooms not belonging to

the Craft, suitable floors and carpets cannot be expected, nor is their display desirable, but in Masonic Halls, which are now rising around us, they claim the attention of the Grand Superintendent of Works.

The floor of the Lodge and its adjoining rooms should be of marble or parquetry, of suitable emblematical design. The tracing board of the first degree may be made a permanent feature on a large scale in a Lodge room, being covered when other tracing boards are exhibited.

Lodge carpets is a subject we have treated upon heretofore, and have given an account of their manufacture. These we recommend to Lodges; but we want other accessories. Such for instance are oil cloths of suitable designs, for vestibules and for borders.

More particularly do we want substances for deadening sound, such as matting, and under this head cocoanut fibre matting is very good; but there is a material now coming largely into use, which deserves especial notice, we mean kamptulicon. The late George Walter, the originator of the Greenwich railway, and many useful establishments, was, we believe, the inventor of kamptulicon; at any rate he succeeded, after a hard battle, in bringing it into use. There were at first two kinds of kamptulicon, one made of india rubber and sand, and the other of india rubber and sawdust. The first kind is that which was used for paving in the Admiralty courtyard, to deaden sound, and in the government barracks for paving, as a more comfortable material for the horses than the cold stones. It is the other kind of kamptulicon which has been applied, instead of oil cloth, to stairs, lobbies, and vestibules, as a means of deadening sound; it has been extensively applied in the grand library at the British Museum, and it has been recommended by the best authorities for other libraries. It is very conveniently washed and cleaned, and is durable. We have seen some of it used on a staircase for about fifteen years, with great advantage. We believe this material could be decorated with Masonic emblems, and be employed for Lodge purposes.

The means of deadening sound should be carefully attended to by the Grand Superintendent of Works, and particularly as regards flooring, which, instead of being constructed in the English manner, should be filled up as in Paris, where the houses being let out in flats, each flat can be conveniently used without annoyance from neighbours overhead or below.

Besides this, have to be considered the means of not deadening sound, for the architect must carefully take into account the effect of the hangings and furniture of his Lodge, which may be likely to affect hearing. Indeed, altogether there is good scope for observations on Lodge arrangements, and for careful study; because we have no good models open for inspection, and no good set of drawings, while necessarily many things which must be carefully attended to are not fitting matter for publication. Indeed in a work like ours we have carefully to guard ourselves on this head; a Masonic publication, otherwise, instead of being a great benefit, may become a great pest.

We say this the more particularly, because some of our readers

press us for more information in various parts of the journal, and send us questions, that were we to answer them, would justly subject us to severe censure. While Masonic literature is of great use within bounds, we need scarcely say that much of what is put forward as Masonic literature is only calculated to feed morbid appetites and to do mischief. If we are to minister properly in our vocation, we must use some reserve, and our readers must support us by refraining from improper exactions, and by so making themselves acquainted with their duties that they may adequately apprehend a subject when sufficiently explained, without requiring not only their ignorance to be satisfied, but the ignorance of other people. Many Masons think we might go beyond what we publish, to give interest to the *Freemasons' Magazine*—little thinking that though we might begin such subjects, we could not adequately pursue them.

MILTON'S GENEALOGY.

THE students of Milton's career are aware, that, notwithstanding the researches of Mr. Joseph Hunter, Professor Masson, and others, many interesting points in his family history remain undefined, or are left to the vague traditions of Aubrey and Phillips. Not even the name of the poet's grandfather, or the seat of his family was settled. Bro. Hyde Clarke, D.C.L., has been lately engaged in researches on these points among the city authorities, and last week he obtained from the records of the Scriveners' Company, through the zealous co-operation of Mr. Park Nelson, the clerk of the company, a series of entries which settle many important points, when taken in connexion with the other discoveries. First it appears that the name of the grandfather was Richard, for it is recorded that on the 27th Feb., 1599, John Milton, son of Richard Milton, of Stemston [*sic*], Co. Oxon., and late apprentice to James Colbron, citizen and writer of the court letter of London [the term for scrivener], was admitted to the freedom of the company. This shows, secondly, that according to Mr. Hunter's conjecture, the grandfather was Richard Milton, of Stanton St. Johns, who was, in the 19 Eliz. (1577), assessed to the subsidy rolls of Oxfordshire, and in the latter period of her reign twice fined £60 for recusancy, confirming so far Aubrey's tradition, that he was a bigoted Roman Catholic. It provides, thirdly, for the application of Masson's discovery, that the father of Richard Milton was Hy. Milton, of Stanton St. John's, whose will is preserved, containing many family entries, including the great grandmother's name, Agnes, and the names of their children, Rowland, Isabel, and Alice. Rowland is conjectured by Professor Masson to be Rowland Milton, of Beckley, who was alive 1590. Fourthly, it corrects Aubrey's account, that

John Milton the elder "came to London, and became a scrivener (brought up by a friend of his: was not an apprentice), and got a plentiful estate by it," for it is clear the father was an apprentice in the usual course, and did not become a scrivener by redemption, or purchase of his freedom, which would in those days have cost a considerable sum. Fifthly, it suggests a very different date for the birth of Milton the scrivener, to that assigned by Professor Masson, who thinks he may have been coeval with Shakspeare, and born about 1562 or 1563, whereas according to Bro. Clarke he would have been apprenticed, according to the custom of London, at fourteen or fifteen; admitted to the freedom at the age of twenty-one; have been born in the beginning of 1578 or end of 1577; and at the time of his death, in 1647, have been sixty-nine years of age, and not eighty-three. It is shown further, that the period of Milton's beginning practice, would be about 1599, and that soon after, say in 1600, he married. Mr. Clarke considers that the tradition of his having been at college at Oxford is unfounded, though he may have been at a grammar school there before his apprenticeship, as Stanton is only four and a half miles from Oxford. He considers it very unlikely that a difference on account of religion took place between Henry and John Milton previous to the time of apprenticeship, but that in all likelihood John was apprenticed by the father, that he conformed while in London, and thought it expedient to conform on engaging in practice, and that hence the difference arose. According to Bro. Clarke, Colbron was not the original master of John Milton, and upon this head and several others there is now an opening for investigation; but now that the right track has been found, there can be no doubt many most interesting discoveries will be found of his Oxfordshire connexions.

ANCIENT RECORDS.

A correspondent has sent us a couple of pages from an ancient minute book which he some time since received from a tradesman—which shows how well Masonic records are preserved. An inspection of these minutes will prove that our brethren of the last century could not be accused of wasting their substance on the pleasures of the table, the whole expenses of the evening scarcely exceeding, and in some cases not equalling, the allowance now made to the Tylers by the metropolitan Lodges. The following are the contents of the fragment:—

"Lodge of Fortitude, held at the Roe Duck, in Oxford Street, Wednesday, the 2nd August, 1780, being the 3d night in the Quarter. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last Lodge night were read and confirmed. Present—Bro. Artz, R.W.M.; Bro. Connor, S.W.; Bro. Moze, J.W.; Bro. Stokes, P.M.; Bro. Poole, Treas., P.T.; Bro. Maze, Sec., P.T.; Bros. Smyth, Tatham, Hewson, Smeeton, Mackay, Martin, Bradley, Taylor, Devenet,

" Cash br. forward	£2	8	3
" House Bill and Tyler	0	14	9
			6
" Cash in Hand	£1	13	6

" Business being over, the Lodge was closed in due form. J. H. Moze, Sec."

" Lodge of Fortitude, held at the Roe Buck, in Oxford Street, Wednesday, the 16th August, 1780, being the 4th night in the Quarter. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the Minutes of the last Lodge Night were read and confirmed. Present—Bro. Artz, R.W.M.; Bro. Connor, S.W.; Bro. Moze, J.W.; Bro. Taylor, P.M., P.T.; Bro. Poole, Treas., P.T.; Bro. Harrison, Sec.; Bros. Tatham, Smecton, Hewson, Devenet, Bradley, Martin, Tozer, Williams. Visitor—Bro. Moody, Mr. of the Lodge of Brotherly Love.

" Cash br. forward	£1	13	6
" Visitor	0	0	9
			3
" House Bill and Tyler	0	12	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
			6 $\frac{1}{5}$

" Business being over, the Lodge was closed in due form. HARRISON, Sec."

THE INDIAN RELIEF FUND.

The Camp, Colchester, 8th March.

Bro. Captain A. Clarke, Prov. G.M. for Victoria, Australia (English Constitution), presents his compliments to Bro. Editor, and would feel much obliged by the publication of the enclosed correspondence in the Masonic intelligence of the *Freemasons' Magazine*.

(COPY.)

"Camp, Colchester, Essex, 14th Feb., 1859.

" Sir,—I have the honour herewith to transmit the first of a bill of exchange for the sum of two hundred and eighty-five pounds ten shillings and sixpence (£285 10s. 6d.), drawn on the London and Westminster Bank, as a contribution from the members of the various Masonic Lodges under the English Constitution, in Victoria, Australia, to the fund for the relief of the sufferers by the late mutiny in India.

" I take this occasion of mentioning, that the contribution from the Order in Victoria would have been much more considerable, had the brethren been satisfied to confine the whole of their donations to the subscription list of the various Lodges. But this has not been so, as the members have almost invariably, in addition to their subscriptions to this contribution, also subscribed as colonists to the general fund which has been raised in Victoria.

" You will consequently be kind enough not to measure the amount of interest and sympathy felt by the Freemasons of Victoria for their fellow countrymen in India by this contribution, but to accept it as a simple recognition on their part of one of the fundamental principles of their Order.

" I have the honour to be, sir, your most humble servant,

(Signed)

" ANDREW CLARKE,

" The Chairman of the General Committee for the Fund for the Relief of the Sufferers by the Mutiny in India."

" Prov. G.M., (E.C.), Victoria.

(COPY.)

"Fund for the Relief of the Sufferers by the Mutiny in India.

"27, Cannon-street, E.C., London, 28th Feb., 1859.

"Sir,—I am instructed by the General Committee, to acknowledge your letter dated the 14th inst., inclosing a bill of exchange for £285 10s. 6d., for which I enclose a formal receipt.

"In reply, I am directed to communicate to you the thanks of the General Committee, for the sum subscribed by the Masonic body in Victoria, and to request that you will do the General Committee the favour to communicate their sense of this very liberal contribution, and the generous sympathy which has been evinced by the members of the various Masonic Lodges in that colony.

"The Committee direct me to observe, that they are very sensible that the present remittance represents only a portion of the amount contributed to the General Fund by the members of the Masonic Lodges in Victoria.

"I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

"T. PARRY WOODCOCK, Hon.-Sec.

"Captain A. Clarke, Colchester."

SOLEMN ADOPTION OF A MASON'S CHILDREN.

WE read in Bro. Rob Morris's *Voice of Masonry*, published in Kentucky, United States, that at the recent funeral of Bro. Wintersmith, towards the close of the ceremony, "Past G.M. Wintersmith, a cousin of the deceased, after the grave had been filled up, placed and held by each hand the two small orphan children of the deceased at the head of the grave of their father and said, with an utterance faltering with his own grief:—

"Brethren, I present you these orphan children of our deceased brother. They are indeed orphans. They have neither father nor mother. Both have gone to their long and final resting place; we hope they are in a brighter, better world. I charge you to protect and take care of these little ones, as you have often promised, and guard and shield them from danger. Be to them father and mother, for they are helpless and alone. And I trust you will raise your hands and register with me now a vow in heaven which shall be kept sacred and never broken."

"The brethren all raised their right hands to heaven, while Bro. Wintersmith repeated the following:—

"Here, at the grave of their father, and before Heaven and this congregation, we solemnly vow that we will watch over, protect, defend and sustain these little orphans, and whenever they shall need our help or interposition it shall be freely and certainly bestowed—that we will never wrong them nor suffer it to be done by others—that as long as we have raiment, food, or shelter, or the means to procure them, they shall want for neither—that it shall be our special charge to see that they are reared and educated properly and well, and that we shall guard them as our own children, so help us God."

"During this ceremony the eyes of the congregation and the brethren were raining copious tears."

Selections

FROM POETRY OF THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

E A S T E R D A Y.

BY HENRY VAUGHAN.

Thou, whose sad heart and weeping head lyes low,
 Whose cloudy brest cold damps invade,
 Who never feel'st the sun, nor smooth'st thy brow,
 But sitt'st oppressed in the shade.

Awake! awake!

And in his Resurrection partake,
 Who on this day, that thou might'st rise as He,
 Rose up, and cancell'd two deaths due to thee.

Awake! awake! and, like the sun, disperse
 All mists that would usurp this day;
 Where are thy Palmes, thy branches, and thy verse?
 Hosanna! heark! why dost thou stay?

Arise! arise!

And with his healing blood anoint thine eyes,
 Thy inward eyes; his blood will cure thy mind,
 Whose spittle only could restore the blind.

T I M E ' S B O O K.

BY THE SAME.

As Time one day by me did pass,
 Through a large dusky glasse
 He held, I chanc'd to look,
 And spyed his curious Book
 Of past days, where sad Heav'n did shed
 A mourning light upon the dead.

Many disordered lives I saw,
 And foul records which thaw
 My kinde eyes still, but in
 A fair white page of thine
 And ev'n'smooth lines, like the Sun's rays,
 Thy name was writ, and all thy days.

O bright and happy Kalendar!
 Where youth shines like a star
 All pearl'd with tears, and may
 Teach age the Holy way;
 Where through thick pangs, high agonies,
 Faith into life breaks, and death dies.

As some meek night-piece which day quails,
 To candle-light uncoils ;
 So by one beamy line
 From thy bright lamp did shine
 In the same page thy humble grave,
 Set with green herbs, glad hopes and brave.

Here slept my thought's dear mark ! which dust
 Seem'd to devour like rust ;
 But dust, I did observe,
 By hiding doth preserve ;
 As we for long and sure recruits,
 Candy with sugar our choice fruits.

O calm and sacred bed, where lies
 In death's dark mysteries
 A beauty far more bright
 Than the moon's cloudless light ;
 For whose dry dust green branches bud,
 And robes are bleach'd in the Lamb's blood.

Sleep, happy ashes ! blessed sleep !
 While haplesse I still weep ;
 Weep that I have outliv'd
 My life, and unreliev'd
 Must, soul-lesse shadow, so live on,
 Though life be dead, and my joys gone.

SONNET.

BY SIR WALTER RALEIGH.

Sweet violets, Love's paradise, that spread
 Your gracious odours, which you couched bear
 Within your palie faces,
 Upon the gentle wing of some calm-breathing wind,
 That plays amidst the plain ;
 If by the favour of propitious stars you gain
 Such grace as in my lady's bosom place to find,
 Be proud to touch those places !
 And when her warmth your moisture forth doth wear,
 Whereby her dainty parts are sweetly fed ;
 Your honours of the flow'ry mead I pray,
 You pretty daughters of the earth and sun,
 With mild and sweetly breathing straight display
 My bitter sighs that have my heart undone.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

MASONIC HALLS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I observe that in your Architectural Chapter in the *Freemasons' Magazine* of February 23rd, you complain of neglect on the part of the Craft generally, as regards communications in correction of the list of Masonic halls given by you on January 26th. Had I been earlier aware of the remark which was appended at the close of it, I should probably have contributed my mite to render such a charge unnecessary. Even now it is not too late; for it may be regarded as the duty of every member of the Order, not only to exemplify our principles in his own life and conduct, but to endeavour to remove whatever motives may exist to prevent the exercise of their legitimate influence on his brethren, whether near or distant. And further; it is most desirable that the manner and place in which our peculiar rites are carried out, should be such as to command the admiration and respect of our unprivileged friends in the external world, many of whom do not fail, as opportunities occur, to condemn us, simply because they form conclusions based on observation of what takes place openly, but have no means of ascertaining the great amount of good which lies concealed from public gaze. This appears to be a point of the highest importance, not only as regards its effect on ourselves, but on a due appreciation of our claims for superior incentives to the practice of every virtue. As an example, a letter was received a few days ago from a non-masonic friend, to whom, in a previous communication the institution had been strongly recommended and vindicated, and who had therein been requested to deliver some letters to Freemasons in the town in which he resided. In his reply he says, "I have duly delivered the documents to ——— and ———, neither of them I should think model Masters. I hope they will be of use to the Masons here, for they certainly have the reputation of cultivating the appetites rather than the virtues. I don't like an institution which takes men away from their families, and which requires an interest which they cannot share." Now, sir, this is an instance of unfounded aspersions based on false assumptions, of which there is good proof, for in the course of a few days, one of the brethren alluded to gave practical evidence that the documents were considered as "of use to the Masons," and were duly appreciated. This is a case from which we may learn how desirable it is to maintain a character in accordance with our profession, and to take care that our own proceedings shall always be such as to add credit to the Fraternity.

Of the outward marks by which Freemasonry is judged unfavourably, no one is more significant than that the meetings are for the most part held in hotels; and, as has been often pointed out—whether or not prejudicial inferences may justly be drawn from the fact—no one can deny, that there is at least a danger of temptation to prolong absence from home and family under such circumstances, and to indulge in habits and associations of a doubtful character, which would be effectually removed if every Lodge occupied a Masonic hall, or where this cannot be accomplished, a private room. Our records show that numerically the Craft has of late years made rapid progress, and with this there has been a continually increasing conviction of the importance of separate places of meeting, undisturbed by other influences, as your hitherto incomplete register shows. I believe that I only express the opinions of a very large number among us, in saying that there is perhaps no subject of greater importance, and it is to be hoped that you will be encouraged in your praiseworthy efforts still farther to advocate the cause.

A writer in your number of February 23rd, at page 354, observes,—“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.” It appears to me that the matter is not very difficult, and I do not know that a better explanation of the mode can be given, than by stating the course of proceeding adopted by the Howe Lodge at Birmingham. I hope that I shall not give offence to any of the members by recounting the circumstances; on the contrary, I believe that they are so much interested in seeing the principle universally adopted, that they will be pleased to be instrumental in inducing others to follow their example. This Lodge was established in 1850. The subscription was fixed at £2 2s. per annum, and the initiation fee at £6 6s., now raised to £10 10s. It was determined that no part of the funds thus raised should be expended otherwise than for strictly Masonic purposes. The Lodge met for a time in a hired room; it was well worked, and thus gained a reputation which soon brought an accession of members of the right stamp, some by initiation, and others as joining members by secession from other Lodges which met at hotels—that is to say, of gentlemen able to appreciate the high objects of the Craft, independently of social festivity. I do not mean to say that there were no banquets, but they were never held to the prejudice of the Lodge funds; indeed it is a question whether, on some occasions, individual members have not been too lavish, or let us rather say generous, in this respect, and have established precedents which it might be difficult for others to follow. After an existence of four or five years, the question of a more permanent location was introduced; when a desirable house being offered for sale at a fair rate, the purchase was made. The rooms previously existing furnish ample accommodation for the residence of the Tyler and his family, for committee and preparing rooms, a Secretary's office, and an apartment for social purposes. Alterations in the building were made at an expense of a few hundred pounds, by which Lodge and banqueting rooms were constructed, each forty feet long, twenty wide, and twenty high, a double cube. Now as to the means of raising the money for these purposes; of this a portion was in hand from the accumulation of annual subscriptions, and initiation and joining fees; the rest was raised among the brethren, by each one engaging to lend £10, some more than that amount, for which it was calculated that three per cent. per annum might be offered as interest, since the rooms and furniture would be available for other Lodges, which would pay a rent. The principal is to be paid off as soon as possible, but even if this cannot be done, the loss in each case is

but small, and the original contributors will have the satisfaction of feeling, not only that they have lent a helping hand in the accomplishment of a good and highly important work, but that they have shown the facility with which different bodies of the Fraternity may free themselves from undesirable trammels. The result has fully justified the expectations originally formed—nay, more; for various brethren, whose means were ample, and their inclinations equally good, feeling a just pride in their fixed habitation, have been induced to make numerous presents, which have materially added both to comfort and to usefulness. Allow me to add, that not being a member of this creditable Lodge, I have no motive to sound its praises, other than a general desire to advance the best interests of the Order.

An objection may be made, that in small towns which will not support several Lodges, no annual revenue can be expected by letting the rooms. In such cases less pretension may be made, and such accommodation be found as will at any rate be equal to that afforded by a temporary apartment in a hotel, for which, in some form or other, the landlord must be remunerated. The actual expense would in the end not be found to be greater; in all probability it would be much less. This is one method of getting over the difficulty. Perhaps some of your correspondents whose experience may have been different, are able to suggest and to give us the benefit of others. Under any circumstances the information would be interesting and useful to those who desire to rid the Order of a constant source of accusation and of stigma, and as such cannot be considered as otherwise than valuable. Many would doubtless be led to think of the matter, who otherwise would deem the obstacles insuperable. If I remember rightly, there is an excellent Masonic Hall at Hull, belonging to a Lodge which has not only been able to pay for its construction, but has since accumulated property to the extent of several thousand pounds, the interest of which is devoted to Masonic and charitable purposes. An account of the means by which so great success has been realized might aid the cause.

And now, in conclusion, allow me to make a few remarks in correction of your register of Masonic Halls. You mention two such in Jersey. One of these is the property of Bro. Jewel, and was at one time used as a synagogue. Subsequently it was appropriately fitted up, at considerable expense on the part of the proprietor, for Masonic purposes; but for some reason or other has been abandoned, and is now entirely unoccupied. The other rooms, in Museum-street, belong to Bro. David Miller, and here all the Lodges of the island meet, paying a rent, including one under the Irish registry, except the Yarrowborough Lodge, No. 302, which still adheres to the Exeter Inn. It may be remarked that neither of the buildings alluded to is the property of the Masons. The hall which you mention at Kidderminster as the place of meeting of No. 523, no longer exists. That Lodge assembles at the Black Horse Inn, for I took part in the proceedings there in the course of last year. The hall to which you allude was the location of No. 730, the warrant and furniture of which have been transferred to Dudley, and I regret to have to say that this Lodge is now settled at an inn. The mention of a Masonic hall at Worcester, as such, is incorrect. You do remark that it is attached to the Bell Hotel, of which it is in reality the large public room, and is used by Lodge No. 349 as well as by the Chapter, and for the ordinary purposes of the proprietor in connection with his trade. I believe that I am quite correct in making this assertion, having visited it within a year. A new Masonic hall has just been opened at Birmingham by the Athol Lodge, No. 88, the members of which have recently purchased the building, used for many years (to my personal knowledge more than forty),

as a synagogue, lately rendered vacant by the removal of the Jews to a new and handsome edifice. I am told that the brethren of No. 88 have thus obtained possession of a hall admirably adapted for the purpose.

Yours faithfully and fraternally.

H. H.

MASONRY IN INDIA.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—How is it that the nomination of Provincial Grand Masters is not published in your periodical? Colonel William Pitt Macdonald has just been appointed Provincial Grand Master for Coromandel, consequent on the resignation of Worshipful Bro. H. Williamson, his lordship the Grand Master's brother-in-law. Many in England would be glad to know this, for his lordship could not possibly have made a better selection than this really popular man, and first rate Mason; and his having recommended this officer for the high honour, speaks well for our ex-*Prov.* Grand Master.

Colonel Macdonald is very much respected and beloved by all who know him, and particularly so by his brother Masons; he is most kind, affable, and ready and willing at all times to assist any one, and to go out of his way to do so, be they Masons or not. How many are there who owe him more than thanks. Who has ever been to Madras, and not known "good old Pitt Macdonald?" I can assure you, that the Masons in this distant land hail the colonel as their head with very great satisfaction. May our Grand Master above spare him long to us in his high office, and bless him with every blessing.

Colonel Macdonald, who by the by, is the godson of the celebrated statesman after whom he is named, is no ordinary Mason; his whole life has been spent in the advancement of Masonry; indeed, all his family appear to have devoted themselves to the Craft—one brother, formerly of the Royal Sussex Lodge, so exerted himself in the cause, that his Royal Highness the late Duke of Sussex presented him with a gold medal, and our *Prov.* Grand Master has several sons in this country, all Masons.

The gallant old officer has been thirty-nine years in India, without once leaving it, except for the war in China, for which Lord Gough recommended him for brevet rank, and C.B. ship; but unfortunately his papers were lost in the wreck of the steamer *Mennon*, going home, and by the time copies could be forwarded, his grace the late Duke of Wellington, then Commander-in-Chief, had closed his books against any more honours for China. In his present office of paymaster at Madras, he has more than ever shown a kindness to all, and a readiness to oblige; it is quite a comfort having such a one to deal with; we indeed hail his appointment with joy, and trust, that under so good a man and Mason, the interests of the Craft in Coromandel, long stagnant, will revive. We are glad to find he is also Grand Superintendent of Royal Arch Masonry. There is, however, a custom in this province, which I trust he will break through. All Provincial Grand Officers are selected from the Masons of the head quarter Lodges, as if all Masons of Southampton only were Provincial Grand Officers for Hampshire, instead of selecting from all in the province. Again, our Lodges are neglected in many ways. No up-country Lodge, working under this Provincial Grand Lodge, has had the least intimation that the Provincial Grand

Master is changed. Surely this is very wrong; it is suchlike neglects that keep back Masonry in India, especially up-country Lodges. If the head does not work well, the body will not. All this, we sincerely hope, the new Prov. Grand Master will correct, but in his new home he has much to do; still he is well able, and I know willing, to put things right. Wishing him every success in his high office, and every happiness here and hereafter,

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,
AN OLD WARDEN.

[In answer to our correspondent's opening question, we reply, that we do publish the appointments whenever they are communicated to us.—ED.]

COUNTRY LODGE ROOMS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—A few weeks since I addressed you on the above subject and pointed out some of the objections to holding Lodges in taverns. I was gratified to find my remarks not entirely unheeded, as proved by the able letter they elicited from "A Yorkshire Mason," and I will now venture to lay before you an illustration of the baneful tendency of the practice alluded to.

Two or three days ago my affairs called me to a neighbouring town, and on consulting the Calendar I found I could make my arrangements include attendance at the regular monthly meeting of the Brethren in that place. I therefore resolved to visit them, and for that purpose inquired for the — Inn. My friend seemed surprised at the question, wondering no doubt what could be my pleasure or business at what I afterwards discovered to be a third rate inn. However, I called at the place in question, and saw mine host, who told me "Yes, there is a Lodge, and we shall be glad to see you, we have a very nice supper."

At the hour of assembly I again presented myself, hoping and expecting to participate in the working of the Lodge, in order to compare it with what I had seen elsewhere, and thus acquire experience and instruction.

Guess, then, my disappointment and disgust at seeing no one but the landlord aforesaid (who, I grieve to say, had so set the first cardinal virtue at defiance as to render him unfit for admission into any Lodge), and the Tyler; after waiting half an hour I asked the latter if there were any probability of the Lodge being opened, and was answered "I don't expect any of them will be here before supper time!" A few more questions sufficed to convey the humiliating intelligence that this was one of the "knife and fork" Lodges which are neither useful nor creditable to the Order, and whose very existence cannot be viewed with any feelings far removed from disgust by the members of respectable Lodges, as a discredit to the Craft, and a scandal to society. Surely a society of *gourmands* might choose some more appropriate excuse for their orgies than the badge of a Free and Accepted Mason.

You will, I am sure, grieve with me to know that such prostitution and abuse of our privileges actually exists.

Now, had this Lodge been held in a Masonic building it would either have ceased to work, or far more probably, have been exercising its legiti-

mate influence for good on an extensive scale. The Tyler told me there were many good Masons in the place, but that they were not subscribers. Likely enough, I thought, as I put my apron in my pocket and came sadly away.

Pardon the length of this letter and the very insufficient way in which it denounces the great retarding circumstance connected with provincial Masonry.

Yours very fraternally,

J. O. E.

March 8th, 1859.

THE MASONIC SCHOOLS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Much occupation has prevented my taking earlier notice of a letter signed, "A Life Governor," in the *Freemason's Magazine* of 16th February last.

The privilege of placing a child in the Girls' School, may be acquired for a much smaller sum than that named by a "Life Governor." By the 76th law of the institution it is enacted, that:—

"Any person may place an eligible child in the institution upon the payment of one hundred guineas in one sum, subject to the rules and regulations of the school, but no right of voting or other privilege shall be allowed for such payment."

No such law yet exists for the Boys' School. Until the building is enlarged to a sufficient size to admit all the boys willing to enter, such a law could not be brought into operation without disorganizing all the domestic arrangements. When that enlargement is effected (and it is hoped the liberality of the Craft at the approaching festival will enable this most urgently needed work to be brought to a speedy conclusion), the question of establishing some such law may be fairly brought forward, and discussed upon its own merits.

I cannot think, however, that our provincial brethren contemplate acting on the principle that the Masonic schools are only to be supported by any province for the sake of the benefit which such province may derive therefrom. I own to having been much pained by one sentence in "A Life Governor's" letter. He says, "Where there are duties to perform, there ought also to be certain rights; and it is rather too much to expect of the provinces, that the paying of contributions alone should be stimulant sufficient to preserve their interest in these institutions unabated." The rights which every Lodge and every individual acquire, from donations and subscriptions, are precisely the same for all contributors, wherever resident; no special rights or privileges being reserved for the London brethren. The quotation just given, would seem to imply that the provinces had not heretofore contributed to the schools as much as they might have done, because they have not had equivalent advantages. Now the lists of both institutions show that of the amount annually contributed only about one sixth is derived from the provinces; whilst of the children in both institutions those from the provinces form the majority. This will shew the erroneousness of the inference deducible from the above quotation—that the provinces do not derive their fair share of the advantages of the schools. But, as I have already said, I cannot believe that this question of direct benefit to be derived from subscribing, is to be the moving principle by which provincial brethren will be guided in increasing their contributions. Both institutions

are intended for the children of brethren who have seen better days; of brethren, some of whom, from perhaps unavoidable circumstances of calamity and misfortune, are reduced to the lowest depths of poverty and distress. I trust the question propounded in each province will simply be—how far can we go, collectively and individually, without detriment to ourselves or connections, in lending a helping hand to these unfortunate children. That the votes of the brethren in any particular province should be given in favour of a child from that province, who may be in a position to require them, is natural and praiseworthy. But I much misjudge the Masons of England, if, seeing how ready the brethren by whom the institutions are mainly supported have been and are to help really deserving cases, without regard to locality, the direct advantage to be gained from subscribing is to be their only guiding principle.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours, truly and fraternally,
 3, Ingram Court, Fenchurch Street. JOHN SYMONDS.

P.S. As regards the Boys' Festival, on Wednesday, March 30th, blank lists for subscriptions were sent to all the Lodges, and it is hoped that those Lodges which have not sent Stewards will return their lists in sufficient time to be announced at the festival.

MASONIC COSTUME.

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

SIR AND BROTHER,—Perceiving in the *Cheltenham Journal*, of the 27th ultimo, an account of a fancy dress ball, given by the bachelors of that town; and in the list of persons attending the same, that "Captain ——" appeared in "Masonic costume," I shall esteem it a favour if you will give your opinion, in the next number of the *Magazine*, on the subject.

Though a young Mason, I consider the brother in question has acted with great impropriety, in appearing in Masonic clothing at a public ball; at least I think the Prov. G.M. of Gloucestershire ought to be cognizant of the fact.

I remain, Sir and Brother, yours respectfully and fraternally.

A COUNTRY SUBSCRIBER.

Nottingham, March 13th, 1859.

[If the person alluded to was a Mason, he has certainly subjected himself to the censure, if nothing more, of the authorities.—ED.]

THE MAIDA HILL COLLEGE.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Permit me to add to my thanks, for your able review of Bro. Bellew's address at the inauguration of my new college buildings, a request that you will correct an inadvertence which relates to myself.

Your review would lead readers to imagine, that I was once a master in

King's College School; and I can easily imagine, that any one reading Dr. Major's testimonial, to the effect that I was for some time in such a post at King's College School, under him—that much devolved upon me in the management and superintendence of others, and sometimes of the school generally—would come to the same conclusion as you appear to have arrived at. But the Doctor (he will always be “the Doctor” in the affectionate and reverential esteem of his old pupils), did not mean that I was anything more than the head of the school; an office which involves the personal performance of much scholastic work as chief monitor of the highest form. As some readers may think it disingenuous in me to silently accept the inadvertent statement I have alluded to, I beg to simply point out the error, and request you will have the goodness to let this explanation appear in your next number.

I remain, Sir and Brother, yours very faithfully,
 CH. S. A. DICKINSON,
 Principal of Maida Hill College.

WORK.—All true work is sacred; in all true work, were it but true hand-labour, there is something of divineness. Labour, wide as the earth, has its summit in heaven. Sweat of the brow; and up from that to sweat of the brain, sweat of the heart; which includes all Kepler calculations, Newton meditations, all Sciences, all spoken Epics, all acted Heroisms, Martyrdoms—up to that “Agony of bloody sweat,” which all men have called divine! O brother, if this is not “worship,” then I say, the more pity for worship; for this is the noblest thing yet discovered under God's sky. Who art thou that complainest of thy life of toil? Complain not. Look up, my wearied brother; see thy fellow-workmen there, in God's Eternity; surviving there, they alone surviving: sacred Band of the Immortals, celestial Body-guard of the Empire of Mankind. Even in the weak human memory they survive so long as saints, as heroes, as gods; they alone surviving; peopling, they alone, the immeasured solitudes of Time! To thee heaven, though severe, is not unkind; heaven is kind—as a noble mother; as that Spartan mother, saying while she gave her son his shield, “With it, my son, or upon it!” Thou too shalt return home, in honour to thy far-distant home, in honour; doubt it not—if in the battle thou keep thy shield! Thou, in the eternities and deepest death-kingdoms, art not an alien; thou everywhere art a denizen! Complain not; the very Spartans did not complain.—*Carlyle.*

WILLIAM PITT.—Pitt was proud, but his pride, though it made him bitterly disliked by individuals, inspired the great body of his followers in Parliament and throughout the country with respect and confidence. They took him at his own valuation. They saw that his self-esteem was not that of an upstart who was drunk with good luck and with applause, and who, if fortune turned, would sink from arrogance into abject humility. It was that of the magnanimous man, so finely described by Aristotle in his *Ethics*, of the man who thinks himself worthy of great things, being in truth worthy. It sprang from a consciousness of great powers and great virtues, and was never so conspicuously displayed as in the midst of difficulties and dangers, which would have unnerved and bowed down any ordinary mind. It was closely connected, too, with an ambition which had no mixture of low cupidity. There was something noble in the cynical disdain with which the mighty minister scattered riches and titles to right and left amongst those who valued them, while he spurned them out of his own way. Poor himself, he was surrounded by friends on whom he had bestowed three thousand, six thousand, ten thousand a year. Plain Mister himself, he had made more lords than any three ministers that had preceded him. The Garter, for which the first dukes in the kingdom were contending, was repeatedly offered to him, and offered in vain.—*Lord Macaulay.*

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

THE Provincial Grand Lodge of Bucks and Berks will meet on Wednesday, the 23rd inst., at Reading, to lay the first stone of a new Masonic Hall.

THE annual festival of the Stability Lodge of Instruction will take place on the 29th April, when Bro. Beadon, P.G.W., will preside.

WE hear that a new Lodge is about to be opened at the East and West India Dock Tavern, under the title of the Naval and Mercantile.

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED MASONS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

At the monthly meeting of the Committee of this valuable institution, on Wednesday, the 9th inst., Bro. Patten, *V.P.*, presiding, the Secretary, Bro. Farnfield, reported the death of Bro. Scott, a pensioner of £20 a year, which he had enjoyed from May, 1848.

It was ordered that £800 stock should be purchased for the Male Fund, and £500 for the Widows' Fund, leaving a balance of about £300 at the bankers.

There are now thirty-five candidates seeking the benefits of the Male Fund, (fourteen of whom have presented their petitions since the last annual meeting), from which number it has been resolved to place twenty-two on the list of annuitants in May next—certainly a very goodly proportion.

There are also sixteen widows seeking admission on the funds of the institution, (three of them being new candidates), of whom six are to be elected; and it is worthy of remark that not a single vacancy has been caused in either list of candidates by death since the last election.

The Board of Stewards for the late festival have handed over a balance of £12 from the guarantee expenses fund, to provide fuel for the inmates of the asylum at Croydon.

We may state, for the information of brethren intending to serve as Stewards at future festivals of the institution, that the total cost to each Steward was only £2 2s. (including two ladies' tickets, for which the proprietors of the tavern receive 8s. 6d. each.)

A donation of £10 to the funds of the institution has just been received from the Oriental Lodge (No. 988) Constantinople, the members of which regret that, owing to the Lodge having been so recently established (only eighteen months) it is not yet in a position to forward a larger amount.

METROPOLITAN.

APPOINTMENTS.

Wednesday, March 16th.—Lodges, *Grand Stewards' Public Night*, Freemasons' Tavern; Royal York (No. 7), ditto; United Mariners (33), Three Tuus, Southwark; St. George's (164), Globe Hotel, Greenwich; Sincerity (203), Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars; Oak (235), Radley's Hotel; Nelson (1002), Red Lion, Woolwich. *Encampment.*—Wednesday 16th, Kemeys Tynte, Freemasons' Tavern, Woolwich.

Thursday, 17th.—Lodges, Globe (23), Freemasons' Tavern; Gihon (57), Bridge Hotel; Constitutional (63), Ship and Turtle; St. Mary's (76), Freemasons' Tavern; Temperance (198), Plough Tavern, Rotherhithe; Manchester (209), Anderton's Hotel; Westbourne (1035), Manor House Tavern, Paddington. *Chapter.*—Yarborough (812). *Encampment.*—Thursday, 17th, Observance, Thatched House Tavern.

Friday, 18th.—Lodges, Middlesex (167), Thatched House; Jordan (237), Freemasons' Tavern. *Encampment.*—St. George, Radley's Hotel.

Saturday, 19th.—Lodge, Honour and Generosity (104), London Tavern.

Monday, 21st.—Lodges, Grand Master's (No. 1), Freemasons' Tavern; British (No. 8), ditto; Emulation (21), Albion Tavern; Felicity (66), London Tavern; Tranquillity (218), Bridge House Hotel; Panmure (1022), Swan Tavern, Stockwell. *Chapter.*—Prudence (12), Ship and Turtle.

Tuesday, 22nd.—Lodges, Tuscan (14), Freemasons' Tavern; Moira (109), London Tavern; Prudent Brethren (169), Freemasons' Tavern; Industry (219), Dick's Coffee House; Prince of Wales (324), Thatched House. *Chapter.*—Cyrus (21), London Coffee House.

Wednesday, 23rd.—Lodges, Antiquity (2), Freemasons' Tavern; Mount Moriah (40), ditto; Prosperity (78), White Hart Tavern, Bishopsgate Street; United Pilgrims (745), Manor House, Walworth; Prince Frederick William (1055), Knights of St. John, St. John's Wood. Lodge of Benevolence, at 7.

Thursday, 24th.—Lodges, Peace and Harmony (72), London Tavern; Grenadiers (70), Freemasons' Tavern; Shakspeare (116), Albion Tavern. *Chapter.*—Domestic (206), Freemasons' Tavern. House Committee Girls School, at 2½.

Friday, 25th.—Lodges, Universal (212), Freemasons' Tavern; Jerusalem (233), ditto; Fitzroy (830), Head Quarters Hon. Artillery Company; High Cross (1056), Railway Hotel, Northumberland Park, Tottenham. House Committee Boys School, at 3.

Saturday, 26th.—Lodge, Unity (215), London Tavern. *Chapter.*—St. George's (5), Freemasons' Tavern.

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

ESSEX LODGE (No. 11).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge took place on Wednesday, March 9th, at the Freemasons' Tavern, when the W.M., Bro. James Pain, presided, most ably passing Bro. Fox and raising Bros. Wakeling, Winterton, and Britton. The brethren, after business, retired to refreshment and spent a pleasant evening.

KENT LODGE (No. 15).—The installation meeting of this old established Lodge was held on Wednesday, March 9th, at Bro. Harris's, the Three Tuus tavern, Southwark. Bro. E. Dresser Rogers, W.M., presided, and Bro. Bates was raised to the third degree. After the transaction of routine business, and receiving the report of the audit committee, which showed a prosperous financial statement, Bro. Matthew Mariner, the W.M. elect, was presented for installation to Bro. Gibbs, P.M., who had undertaken the ceremony, which he performed to the entire satisfaction of all present, twelve Past Masters being among the number. The ceremony of installation concluded, the W.M. proceeded to appoint his officers, but as the passing over a brother in his selection gave offence to some others, nearly all of them resigned their appointments. Bro. Barnes, the venerable and respected father of the Lodge, who had of course been re-elected (for, we believe, the thirtieth time) Treasurer, was invested, and his son, Bro. E. E. Barnes, P.M., reappointed Secretary, Bro. Cossens, the J.W., alone retaining his office among the new appointments. There were three proposals for new members. Prior to closing the Lodge, the W.M. said he had by virtue of his office to discharge the very pleasing duty of presenting to his predecessor a Past Master's jewel, unanimously voted to him by the members of the Lodge, in acknowledgment of his indefatigable services and atten-

tion to the welfare of the Lodge and the happiness and comfort of the members. The jewel bore the following inscription—"Presented by the Kent Lodge, No. 15, to Bro. Edward Dresser Rogers, P.M., to mark the high sense entertained of his Masonic conduct, also the zeal and assiduity evinced by him in the faithful discharge of the duties of W.M. March 9th, 1859." Bro. Rogers said, at that late hour he would express his feelings as briefly as possible. He felt proud when he was elevated to the chair, and during his year of office he had done his best to advance the interests of the Kent Lodge. It was a source of happiness to him that the important event of the centenary of their Lodge had occurred during his year of office. When he was called to the chair he found the Kent Lodge in a proud position, and he thought he left it none the worse. He concluded by thanking the brethren for the kindness he had at all times received, and particularly for the handsome testimonial of their esteem. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the usual banquet.

ROBERT BURNS LODGE (No. 25).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge took place on Monday, March 7th, the W.M., Bro. Farmer, presiding. Bros. Gray, Smith, and Jones were raised to the degree of M.M., and Bros. Wright and Betty passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Messrs. Winterson, Longman, and Mills were then introduced and duly initiated into the Order. At the close of the regular business, Bro. J. H. Great Rex solicited permission from the chair to say a few words, and then addressed the Lodge as follows:—"Worshipful Master and Brethren: it is with feelings of pain, yet at the same time mingled with pleasure, that I now address this meeting. In the words of the great bard, I must say, 'I am no orator as Brutus is, and little shall I grace my cause in speaking for myself, yet by your gracious patience I will a round unvarnished tale deliver.' There is amongst you an old and much esteemed brother, now on the verge of eighty years, who was initiated in this Lodge on the 2nd day of March, 1829, (thirty years since), and who served the office of W.M. two consecutive years, in 1833 and 1834. He has also represented the Lodge as steward for the Masonic charities, and is now a life governor of them all; he was treasurer of this Lodge for fourteen years, and is its oldest member. The services rendered by him to the Order have been many, reflecting honour on himself, and it is to be hoped that the brethren will be stimulated to follow so good an example. You are doubtless anxious, my brethren, to learn the purport of this address, therefore I'll briefly come to the point. In 1803 the brother alluded to was pressed into the navy—captured, if I may use the term, in Russell-square; served his country bravely and honourably for many years, and could doubtless tell of many a hard won fight and blood stained deck. He fought on board the *Milford*, the *Ocean*, and *Victory*; was present when the immortal Nelson received his death-wound; he was in fifty engagements, and now stands before you as the evergreen, much respected, much revered Bro. Thomas Tombleson. He will have the pleasure of learning this night that his image will be left behind when 'the acacia sprig buds o'er his tomb.' Brethren, we must feel that in the course of all human events, the span of life allotted to man does not often extend beyond fourscore years, therefore I have presumed to offer to the Lodge a portrait of Bro. Tombleson, as truly and faithfully delineated as science and art will admit. I at the same time couple with it another portrait, that of your present W.M., Bro. Farmer. I trust the members will acquit me of any selfish motive beyond that of proffering honour to whom honour is due, and so long as I am a member of No. 25, I anticipate the pleasure of handing down to posterity, in like manner, each succeeding Master, whom I hope may live as long, and become as useful in propagating the principles of our ancient and distinguished Order, as our dear father and brother Tombleson, who may truly be said to be of 'mature age, sound judgment, and strict morals.'" The brother having concluded, was greeted with a burst of applause. The portraits were much admired as splendid specimens of photography, and thanks were unanimously voted to Bro. Great Rex. Bro. Tombleson on receiving these kind marks of attachment said, "He felt deeply the expression of regard which had always greeted him, but more particularly on this occasion. His actions through life had been more in deeds than in words, therefore he would not take up their valuable time by a lot of palaver, but simply

thank them; at the same time he wished it understood that he didn't care about the allusion to his age, he meant to live ten years longer at least." The Brethren then adjourned from labour to refreshment, the W.M. presiding. The toasts following the banquet were eloquently introduced. Bro. Watson acknowledged the toast of the P.M.s., making some allusions to the changes that had taken place since he first sat in the chair of this Lodge seventeen years ago—a sad change had come o'er the spirit of his dream since March 7, 1842—which, by the bye, happened to be the anniversary of his birth. The only members of the Lodge at that time now present were himself and Bro. Tombleson. He (Bro. Watson) hoped to be among them yet many years, and when called to that "bourne from whence no traveller returns," he might carry with him the goodwill of all men. Bro. Farmer replied to the toast of the health of the W.M. in a neat speech, and a happy evening passed away. Among the Past Masters present we observed Bros. Watson, Apted (Treasurer), Tombleson, Le Gassick, Robinson, Clements, Dyte, Newton (Secretary), and James Wilder Adams. The visitors comprised Bros. Carter, No. 1,022, Meynott, No. 14, Evingham, No. 75, Plumpton, No. 83, McDavite, No. 360, E. S. Hogg, No. 164, and others. On Monday, the 14th, an Emergency meeting was held, Bro. Farmer, W.M., presiding, supported by Bros. Apted, Watson, and Newton, P.M.s., and about twenty-five other brethren. Mr. Oscar Elliatte (a Wallachian Boyard) was initiated, the ceremony being interpreted by Bro. Wm. Jeffs. Mr. Richard Parker was also initiated. The circular of the Board of General Purposes was taken into consideration, the unanimous opinion of the Lodge being given in favour of appropriating so much of the property as may be necessary to Masonic purposes, and dispensing with a Tavern.

ST. THOMAS LODGE (No. 166).—This Lodge met on Saturday, March 5th, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Bro. Luce, W.M., presiding. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed, after which a ballot was taken for Mr. Gilbert who was subsequently initiated into Masonry, the W.M. performing the ceremony in a most impressive manner. The ceremony of passing was also well gone through, the working being quite in keeping with the celebrity this Lodge has obtained for excellence. The Lodge was then closed.

[We hear that the subscription to the Lodge has been reduced and the banquets dispensed with. So far so good; but a St. Thomas's dinner club has been formed for the purpose of excluding one or two brethren; and at this club the brethren dine in their clothing and drink Masonic toasts with the accustomed honours. This is neither Masonic nor legal.—Ed.]

ST. LUKE'S LODGE (No. 168).—The members of this Lodge held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, March 7th. After the initiation of a gentleman into the Order, Bro. Cellard, P.M. of the Lodge, brought forward a motion, of which he had given notice,—“That a fund be raised in the Lodge to be devoted to the exclusive benefit of the four Masonic charities.” And after some discussion the following resolution was adopted by a large majority,—“That five shillings per annum out of each member's yearly subscription be set apart for that purpose.”

PUEUX LODGE (No. 202).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Saturday, March 12th, Bro. W. Watson, P.M., presided as W.M., and Bro. Harrison, P.M., occupied the Senior Warden's chair, the other officers filling their proper places in the Lodge. Mr. Ed. D. Bradley was duly introduced and initiated into the Order, and Bro. Dr. O'Connor, of the Royal Free Hospital, was raised to the third degree—the ceremonies being admirably performed. Bro. Henry G. Warren, P.M., next brought the circular of the Board of General Purposes under consideration, when it was resolved that it is desirable to found a library, reading, and refreshment rooms, and in the opinion of this Lodge they would prove generally acceptable to the Craft; that if practicable, it is desirable to devote the necessary property exclusively to Masonic purposes; and that this Lodge believes the Craft are prepared to submit to some diminution of their annual income for the purpose of keeping the property sacred to Masonry. The fourth question—whether the brethren would support refreshment rooms by

a small subscription—was considered to be answered in the affirmative by the carrying of the previous resolution; and the last—"If it can be shown that a considerable outlay for the purpose of increased accommodation to the Craft, and at the same time very much extending the tavern, would be productive of an adequate return would such proceeding be desirable and expedient?"—was unanimously negatived. At the close of the business the brethren adjourned to refreshment. Bro. Sharman, W.M., presiding—the harmony of the evening being much enhanced by the vocal exertions of Bros. T. Distin, Weeks, (professionally Percy), Williams, Fielding, and Sloman; the four part glees by the first-named brethren being particularly admired.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 206).—A meeting of the members of this Lodge was held on Monday, March 7th, at the Masonic hall, Fetter-lane, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propositions of the Board of General Purposes, relative to the Grand Lodge property. The meeting was very well attended, and amongst those present were Bros. Brett, P.M.; Snow, P.M.; Elmes, P.M.; Haydon, Dietrich, &c. Bro. Baker, W.M., presided. The following questions were submitted for the consideration of the Lodge:—1st. Are a library, reading, and refreshment rooms requisite, and would they be acceptable to the Craft generally? 2nd. If it be found practicable, will it be desirable, to devote the necessary property solely and exclusively to Masonic uses? 3rd. Are the Craft prepared to submit to some diminution of their annual income for the purpose of keeping such property sacred to Masonry? 4th. If it should be found desirable hereafter that an annual subscription (which would necessarily be of very small amount) should be required to entitle brethren to the uses of separate reading and refreshment rooms, what support would it probably receive from your Lodge, or the members thereof? Lastly—If it can be shown that a considerable outlay, for the purpose of giving increased accommodation to the Craft, and at the same time very much extending the tavern, would be productive of an adequate return, would such a proceeding be expedient and desirable? After some discussion, it was resolved that answers in the affirmative should be given to the first three queries, but it was considered impossible to give any definite answer to the fourth without further information. The meeting then adjourned.

ST. JAMES'S UNION LODGE (No. 211).—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge took place on the 8th inst., at the Freemasons' Tavern, Bro. Stacey, W.M., taking the chair at five o'clock, supported by Bro. John Gorton, P.M., and Treasurer, as S.W.; and Bro. Cockraft, as J.W.; Bros. Gill and Smethurst, the regular officers, being absent through domestic affliction. The minutes of last meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. Miles and Scott were introduced, and received the degree of M.M.; after which a ballot was taken for the admission of Messrs. H. Walker, Richard Tatner, J. L. Levitt, Paul Addington, and John Hamilton, who were elected, and duly initiated. The ceremonies were performed by Bro. Stacey, in such a manner as to uphold the dignity of the Lodge, and reflect credit on himself. Some other business having been discussed, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. Among the visitors to the Lodge we observed Bros. Crew, P.M., No. 1; Everingham, No. 75, United States; Batty, P.M., No. 166; Walkley, P.M., No. 367; J. H. Great Rex, No. 164; Reilly, No. 1,051; and Collard, P.M., Nos. 209 and 168; the last named brother acknowledging the health of the visitors, in his usual eloquent manner; Bro. Crew responded to "The Charities," thanking the W.M. for his kindness in consenting to represent the Lodge at the Girls School. He understood that Bro. Stacey was also a steward of the Boys School Festival, which is to take place at the end of this month. It was a great honour to a Lodge, when a Master thus comes forward in support of the charities; and in this Lodge the Master is well supported by the other members, speaking volumes for the truly Masonic feeling of the St. James's Union. He would urge brethren to visit the schools, and form their own opinion upon the merits of these charities. Fifteen years ago, when first he became an officer of the Girls School, the amount subscribed at the festival subscription was about eight hundred pounds; last year it reached two thousand pounds, showing that brotherly love and charity were on the increase. He regretted to add that the love and

charity alluded to, were chiefly confined to London, as the charities were but feebly supported by country brethren. All honour to those who did assist; but in the provinces they were but few. Having alluded to some ill-judged remarks which had been made by a brother in the country in reference to the excursion to Brighton which the children enjoyed last year, Bro. Crew observed that he should not have mentioned the subject at all, but that an impression might get abroad amongst the Craft, that the funds of the institution were not judiciously applied. He believed that the good sense and kind feeling of the brethren generally would approve any innocent amusement that could conveniently be provided for the little ones confided to their care; indeed that such was the case was shown by the benevolent acts of many brethren who had contributed to the enjoyment of the girls on different occasions—he particularly mentioned Bros. Bond Cabbell, and Smith. In conclusion, he would assure the brethren, that not one penny of the subscriptions to the school had ever been used but for the purposes for which it was subscribed. The various speeches were interspersed by songs from Miss Ada Taylor, Bros. Crew, John Gurton, and others. Bro. Taylor presided at the pianoforte.

LODGE OF JOPPA (No. 223).—The members of this Lodge met on Monday, March 7th, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, when the W.M. passed Bros. Andrade and Joseph to the degree of Fellow Craft. He also raised Bro. Levy to the degree of Master Mason. The Brethren then dined together. Among the visitors were Bros. Hill, P.M., No. 955; Neesham, J.W., No. 70; Rothschild, late No. 247; S. Cohen, No. 65; Hull; and Raphael. The pleasures of the evening were greatly enhanced by the exquisite singing of Miss Rothschild and Bro. Russell Grover.

LODGE OF UNITED STRENGTH (276).—A meeting of this Lodge took place on the 8th of March, at the Old Jerusalem Coffee House, Clerkenwell. Two gentlemen were initiated by Bro. Cooper, P.M., and a brother exalted to the third degree by Bro. Allen, P.M. The Lodge was then closed, after which the brethren, twenty in number, adjourned to the banquet, which was presided over by the W.M., Bro. T. H. Bromley. This Lodge has determined upon increasing its subscription four shillings per annum, which is to be devoted solely to the Masonic charities.

BELGRAVE LODGE, (No. 1,051).—This Lodge held its last meeting for the season at the Gun Tavern, Lupus Street, Pimlico, on Wednesday, March 9th, when, owing to the unavoidable absence of the W.M. (Bro. Woodstock) in the early part of the evening, Bro. Allen, P.M., proceeded with the Lodge business, and was well supported by Bro. Froud, S.W., and Bro. Runting, J.W., in the ceremonies of passing Bro. Grogan, jun., to the degree of Fellow Craft, and raising Bro. Ough to that of M.M. After some propositions for initiations and joinings, the Brethren, about thirty in number, (including as visitors, Bros. John Gurton, P.M., No. 211; Collard, P.M., No. 168; Guest, P.M., No. 248; Frampton, W.M., No. 248; Wakley, P.M., No. 367; Taylor, J.W., No. 18; Sedgwick, I.G., No. 211; and Thoms, I.G., No. 219), sat down to a most elegant banquet, at which Bro. Woodstock, W.M., presided with his usual tact and ability. The usual Masonic toasts followed, and were duly honoured, that of "The Visitors" being eloquently acknowledged by Bro. Taylor, J.W., No. 18. Bro. Suter, P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," congratulated the Lodge in having such a Master to preside over them, for to him was to be attributed the success of so young a Lodge as that of the Belgrave, and he had no doubt his zeal on behalf of the Lodge would have the hearty support of the officers and members generally.—Bro. Woodstock, in acknowledging the compliment, briefly adverted to the formation of the Lodge, and tendered his thanks to the officers of the St. James's Union Lodge for their valuable assistance in obtaining the warrant. After an agreeable evening, to which the vocal powers of Bros. Taylor, Thoms, Runting, and Evenden greatly contributed, the brethren retired at an early hour, well pleased with their meeting.

INSTRUCTION.

PERCY LODGE (No. 234).—The annual festival of this excellent Lodge was celebrated on Saturday evening, March 5th, at Bro. Ireland's, the Masonic Hall, Fetterlane, and the meeting was very numerously attended. Amongst the visitors were—Bros. Orford, Prov. J.G.D. for Kent; Burton, No. 9, Prov. G.S.B. for Herts; Gardner, No. 1,022; Morelli, No. 1,022; Dames, No. 234; Rhodes, No. 183; Gladman, No. 234; and several other brethren. Bro. Tyreman, W.M. of the parent Lodge presided. The first business of the evening was the ceremony of consecration, which was performed by Bro. Farmer, W.M. of the Robert Burns Lodge, in a manner which elicited the admiration of all who witnessed it, especially as it was the first time he had undertaken the task. The ceremony was rendered most interesting by the accompaniment of the appropriate music, Bro. G. Taylor presiding at the pianoforte, and taking part in the anthems incidental to the ceremony, in which he was assisted by Bro. Woode Banks. At the conclusion of the consecration, Bro. Farmer performed the ceremony of installation, and the officers of the Lodge were invested in due form. The ceremony of initiation was then worked, Bro. Gladman being the candidate. Several new members were admitted, and the Lodge was closed with solemn prayer. The Lodge business being ended, the Brethren retired to the banquet. On the withdrawal of the cloth, the W.M. gave the usual toasts, which were heartily responded to, and the Brethren separated at an early hour.

PROVINCIAL.

BRISTOL.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Wednesday, March 23rd, Royal Sussex (221), Freemasons' Hall, at 7; Friday, 25th. *Instruction*.—Ditto, at 7. *Chapter*.—Tuesday, 22nd, Beaufort (120), ditto, at 7.

CUMBERLAND.

APPOINTMENT.—*Encampment*.—Monday, March 21st, Holy Trinity, Grapes Inn, Whitehaven.

CORNWALL.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, March 21st, Phoenix of Honour and Prudence (415), Masonic Rooms, Truro, at 7; Wednesday, 23rd, Peace and Harmony (729), Dunn's Hotel, St. Austell, at 7. *Encampment*.—Friday, 25th, Cornubian, Masonic Hall, Falmouth.

DEVONSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Thursday, March 24th, Friendship (236), Lord Hood Hotel, Devonport, at 6. *Encampment*.—Thursday, 24th, Trinity in Unity, Assembly Rooms, Barnstaple.

DORSETSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Thursday, March 24th, Science (640), Private Rooms, Bourton, at 7.

DURHAM.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, March 21st, Borough (614), Gray Horse Inn, Gateshead, at 7; Fawcett (959), Lord Seabam, Seabam Harbour, at 7; Thursday, 24th, Palatine (114), Bridge Hotel, Bishop Wearmouth, at 7.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

F APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge.*—Wednesday, March 23rd, Foundation (97), Freemasons' Hall, Cheltenham, at 5.

DURSELY.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 1063).—This Lodge was duly consecrated at the Bell Hotel, on Tuesday, March 1, when it was attended by brethren from many other Lodges in the province, including Bros. the Hon. J. Dutton, Prov. G.M.; James Newmarch, D. Prov. G.M.; James Cornwall, P.M.; H. Gardiner, W.M.; Thomas Williams, W.M.; Wm. Hazeltine, W.M.; Robert Pierce, W.M.; Bro. H. Bloxsome, John Strange, and others. Bro. G. W. Little opened the ceremony with solemn prayer, and read a lesson from the Holy Scripture, and the Lodge was constituted, Bro. E. Bloxsome being installed as W.M.; Bro. Little, S.W.; Bro. Partridge, J.W.; Bro. Morse, Treasurer; Bro. Watson, S.D.; Bro. Long, J.D.; Bro. Vizard, I. G.; Bro. Champion, Tyler. After the conclusion of the proceedings, a banquet was held in the lodge-room. After the cloth had been removed, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and drunk in true Masonic style, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

HAMPSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges.*—Wednesday, March 23rd, Phenix (319), Private Rooms, Portsmouth, at 7; Thursday, 24th, Royal Gloucester (152), Freemasons' Hall, Southampton, at 7.

SOUTHAMPTON.—*Royal Gloucester Lodge*, (No. 152).—This Lodge assembled at the Freemasons' Hall, Southampton, on Tuesday, the 10th March, at 7 p.m.; the W.M., Bro. F. Perkins, presided. After the reading and confirming the minutes of the last lodge, the Provincial Grand Master, Admiral Sir L. Curtis, Bart., was announced and received by the brethren with the usual salutation. The Lodge then proceeded to ballot for a joining brother, and afterwards for a candidate for initiation; after which, the W.M. proceeded to initiate Bro. Biddlecombe, a young and highly respected townsman. The ceremony was gone through in that impressive manner which renders the working of the Worshipful Master a source of so much pleasure to the Brethren; the charge was delivered in a most impressive manner by Bro. Abraham, P.M. Bro. J. R. Stebbing, P.M. addressed the Lodge upon the decease of Bro. Firmin, which painful event had occurred since the last Lodge meeting. After some appropriate preliminary remarks, he proposed the following resolution:—That the members of this Lodge learn with the deepest pain and sorrow, that it has pleased the Great Architect of the universe to take from this sublunary scene their late most worthy and ever to be deeply lamented brother, Thos. Norcross Firmin, twice Worshipful Master of this Lodge; Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden, and Provincial Grand Secretary of Hampshire; for more than thirty years an active, zealous, and valuable member of this Lodge; one of its never-failing guides; a light in Masonry—a faithful friend, a loving husband, a kind parent, and an honest man. That this Lodge feels that it is almost impossible to supply the vacancy caused by the loss of our late brother either as Secretary of this Lodge, as one of the officials of the town, as a friend and adviser of the afflicted, or as a comforter and supporter in all difficulties and dangers that befel his friends and fellow townsmen. That a copy of this resolution, which is intended to be an expression of unmitigated sorrow, and a recognition of the Masonic and public usefulness of our worthy and lamented brother, and a tribute to his warm-hearted and affectionate nature, be respectfully forwarded to his afflicted widow and family in the truest spirit of sympathy and condolence, with the earnest and heartfelt prayer that the Almighty Disposer of all things, who tempers the wind to the shorn lamb, and is the help of the widow and Father to the fatherless, may extend to them every comfort and support in their affliction, shield them through life from every other care and sorrow, and ever bless them in mind, body, and estate. Bro. Booth briefly seconded the resolution. Sir Lucius Curtis said, he could not allow that resolution to be put to the brethren without expressing his hearty concurrence in the sentiments there expressed; he regretted the death of the deceased and deeply lamented brother as a great loss to himself, and a severe one to Masonry.

As an old and highly valued member and Secretary of that Lodge his services would be very much missed; as Provincial Grand Secretary, he had filled his office with so much zeal, efficiency, and industry, that he feared he should experience much difficulty in finding his equal. The R.W. brother concluded by expressing his entire approbation of the motion. The Worshipful Master said, he felt convinced that it was quite unnecessary to submit this resolution to the vote except as a matter of form, he knew that every brother of that Lodge, whether present or absent, concurred in it. For himself, he could bear witness to the worth, uprightness, courtesy, and talent of their deceased brother, as well as to the true Masonic feeling which influenced all his actions; it was with a feeling of poignant grief that he looked upon the void which his loss had left in the Lodge and in the province. The resolution was carried unanimously. Upon the Lodge proceeding to consider the propositions of the Board of General Purposes with regard to the property of the Craft, the Prov. Grand Master addressed the brethren at considerable length, analyzing the financial statements of the proposers seriatim, and expressing his opinion that much which was placed to the credit side of their account should be transferred to the debit side. He doubted the policy of the change as suggested because he feared that the funds would be absorbed to such an extent as to prevent the Grand Lodge from carrying into execution other schemes, which he thought calculated to effect much good, one of which was a system of education in the Girls' School, not uniform, but varied according to the capacity of each child. He considered that if a child had a talent for music, drawing, or language, that such a natural gift should be cultivated, instead of its being trained as children of a meaner capacity. He quite agreed with others, that a change was required with regard to accommodation at the Grand Lodge; and he believed that a library, reading room, and refreshment room, might be established in connection with Freemasons' Tavern, reserved exclusively for the Craft, and placed under the management of the proprietor, subject to certain conditions. Bro. J. R. Stebbing, P.M., expressed his desire to support, as far as he could, the views of the R.W. brother who had just addressed the Lodge; although he did not quite agree with some of his views. He had prepared a resolution, which he considered embodied the views of the R.W. Prov. Master, which he would support, reserving to himself the right of coming to a different conclusion in the other Lodges with which he was connected. He followed this course, because he believed we all ought to concede something to the opinions of others, consequently he begged to move, "That this Lodge is not satisfied that the extensive alterations and necessarily expensive management and outlay that would be required to carry out the first, second, third, and fourth propositions, can be met by the present surplus income; and even if it could be so met, it would be at the loss of large sums of money, which would otherwise be appropriated to the several Masonic charities, the large sum of £5,553 having been so given during the last nine years; therefore it is resolved that the following replies be forwarded to the President of the Board of General Purposes, acknowledging the call for increased accommodation; but in due consideration of the financial question doubting the propriety of carrying the extensive scheme suggested into effect—Question 1. Yes; making it subject to the above remarks. 2. Practicability doubted. 3. Not to cause any diminution of moneys voted to charities. 4. Many would undoubtedly subscribe, and some liberally, if this accommodation could be given. Lastly. This Lodge considers this proposition as the most feasible." The resolution being duly seconded, Bro. G. M. Clarke said, he regretted having to differ with Bro. Stebbing; they generally agreed, and he believed they should do so finally upon this question. Bro. Stebbing had told them that he did not entirely agree with the resolution he proposed, consequently he hoped it would be withdrawn, and that what he was about to propose as an amendment might take the place of the original resolution. Bro. Stebbing said he should press his resolution. Whereupon Bro. Clarke moved that this question be referred to a sub-committee, composed of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master; the Deputy Prov. Grand Master; the Worshipful Master; the Past Masters and Wardens of the Lodge; and that they send their report to the Committee of General Purposes. Bro. Passenger, S.W., considered the course recommended by Bro. Clarke preferable to passing the resolution proposed by Bro. Stebbing. He would recommend that the sub-com-

mittee should make its report to the next Lodge meeting, instead of the Board of General Purposes, so that the reply to the propositions before them might be forwarded to their Secretary in the usual manner. Upon these conditions he would second the amendment. The amendment having been altered as suggested, was put to the Lodge, and also the resolution: The W.M. declared the resolution carried. Two candidates for initiation were then proposed; after which Bro. Passenger moved, "That this Lodge expresses its pleasure at seeing the R.W. Prov. Grand Master present this evening, and desires to congratulate him upon this evening, both mental and physical, as made evident by his exertions displayed his evening;" which motion was agreed to most cordially, and conveyed to the R.W. brother in a most unique manner by the W.M. The Lodge was then closed in harmony, and the brethren afterwards sat down to their usual banquet, the W.M., Bro. F. Perkins, in the chair, supported by the R.W. Prov. Grand Master. In the course of the Masonic toasts, the memory of the late Bro. Firmin was drunk in deep silence; and the proceedings of the evening were conducted without the usual vocal and instrumental entertainment, as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased brother.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Tuesday, March 22nd, Hertford (378), Shire Hall, Hertford, at 4.

KENT.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, March 21st, Freedom (91), Town Hall, Gravesend, at 7; Tuesday, 22nd, Emulation (376), Bull Inn, Dartford, at 7.

RAMSGATE.—*Royal Navy Lodge* (No. 621).—A Lodge of Instruction has lately been formed in Ramsgate, and is held every Monday evening, at the Shipwrights' Arms Tavern, during the months of the mother Lodge meetings. On Monday evening, the 28th ultimo, the Lodge was opened in the first degree, and the ceremony of initiation was ably gone through by Bro. Feakins, W.M. of the Union Lodge No. 149, Margate, after which the 1st, the 2nd, and the 3rd sections of the 1st Lecture, were very ably given by Bro. Finch, J.W. The Lodge was then opened in the 2nd and 3rd degrees, for the instruction of the brethren present, and closed in peace, harmony, and brotherly love.

LANCASHIRE (EAST).

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, March 21st, Tudor (689), Red Lion, Oldham, at 6½; Wednesday, 23rd, St. John's (434), Three Tuns, Bolton, at 6½.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Wednesday, March 23rd, Derby (1026), Derby Arms, Bootle, at 5; St. George's (35), Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, at 4; Thursday, 24th, Downshire (664), Freemasons' Arms, Liverpool, at 6. *Chapters*.—Unity (815), Wheatsheaf, Ormskirk, at 4. *Encampment*.—Tuesday, 22nd, Faith, Rose and Crown, Pendleton.

CARSTON.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 267).—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Wellington Hotel, Carston, on Monday, March 7th. In the absence of the W.M., Bro. C. J. Banister, P.M., took the chair, Bro. Marshall, P.M., acting as S.W.; Bro. Phillips, P.M., as J.W.; Bro. Moreton, as S.D.; Bro. Pierpoint, the J.D., and Bro. Holme as I.G. Bro. Wm. Wood, being in attendance, was examined and passed to the second degree, and Bro. Hewit was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. by the acting W.M. with his usual earnestness. The business of the Lodge being over, it was closed in form, and with solemn prayer.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Wednesday, March 23rd, Lindsey (1014), Public Buildings, Louth, at 8.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Tuesday, March 23rd. *Instruction*.—Freemasons' Hall, Newcastle, at 7.

SHROPSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Wednesday, March 23rd, Salopian of Charity (135), Lion Hotel Shrewsbury, at 7.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Wednesday, March 23rd, Sincerity (327), Clarke's Hotel, Taunton, at 7. *Chapter*.—Monday, 21st, Tynte (52S), Milscom Street, Bath. *Encampment*.—Monday, 21st, Bladud, Milsom Street, at 8.

TAUNTON.—*Lodge of Unanimity and Sincerity* (No. 317).—The usual monthly meeting of the brethren of this Lodge was held on the 23rd ult., the Worshipful Master, Bro. Charles Bluett, presiding. Bro. D. Woodforde, an old Past Master of the Lodge (but who had retired from Masonry for several years) was unanimously reelected a member thereof. Bro. Greenslade was raised to the third degree by Bro. Butler, P.M., who kindly undertook that duty for the W.M. Several important communications were received and discussed by the brethren until a late hour in the evening, after which the Lodge was closed in harmony.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Encampment*.—Friday, March 22nd, Beauscant, New Inn, Handsworth.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—*St. Peter's Lodge* (No. 607).—This Lodge held its regular monthly meeting at the Lodge room, Star and Garter Hotel, on Thursday, March 3rd, Bro. Charles H. King, P.M., in the chair, the officers of the Lodge attending in their places. Bro. W. Fenton of No. 786, Walsall, was elected as a joining member, and the ballot was also unanimously in favour of Messrs. James Walker and Jesse Ayscough as candidates for initiation. Bros. Moore, Cartwright, and Proudman were duly passed as Fellow Crafts. Messrs. Walker and Ayscough were then admitted in due form, and initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. The whole of the ceremonies, including the charge, were ably performed by our respected Bro. C. H. King, who expressed his regret that severe indisposition prevented their much esteemed W.M., Bro. Thos. B. Stanway, from attending, and he prayed that the Great Architect of the Universe may speedily restore him to health. It was suggested that the brethren should appear in mourning, in token of respect for their late Bro. Abraham Beddow. The Lodge business being ended, the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, followed by "The health of the initiates." Bros. Walker and Ayscough severally returned thanks, expressing their grateful acknowledgments in being admitted members of that ancient and honourable Fraternity. The brethren separated well pleased with the kindly and brotherly feelings which at all times pervaded the meeting of the Lodge.

SUFFOLK.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Monday, March 21st, Providence (544), King's Arms, Halesworth, at 7.

SUSSEX.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Tuesday, March 22nd. *Instruction*.—Old Ship, Brighton.

WARWICKSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Wednesday, March 23rd, Abbey (625), Newdegate Arms, Nuneaton, at 7.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Tuesday March 22nd, Stability (824), Talbot Inn, Stourbridge, at 6½.

DUDLEY.—*Harmonic Lodge* (No. 313).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge took place on Tuesday, March 1st, when a large number of brethren were in attendance. The Lodge was opened in due form by the W.M., Bro. Sheppard, with his staff of officers. A candidate being in attendance for initiation, the ceremony was very im-

passively performed by Bro. Clark; afterwards a lengthened discussion took place on the proposition of the Board of General Purposes, respecting the contemplated alterations of the Masonic property in Great Queen-street, London. After a variety of opinions from the brethren, it was ultimately thought that the alterations would cause a serious diminution of funds applicable to the charities, which could not be consistently spared, such money having been subscribed solely for the purposes of relief and charity; and that the contemplated alterations would not be of any great advantage to the country brethren; neither was it thought that the objects for which the alterations were intended would tend to elevate the character of the Craft, when it was considered that an ornamental building was erected at the cost of relief and charity. With these views the brethren passed an unanimous resolution condemnatory of the project, which was ordered to be sent up to Grand Lodge. Two candidates were proposed for initiation, after which the brethren, with Bro. Horton, W.M. of Lodge No. 838, and Bros. Bradley and Dickens, repaired to the evening banquet, where the usual toasts and harmony prevailed.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, March 21st, Union (287), Masonic Hall, York, at 7; Wednesday, 23rd, Minerva (311), Masonic Hall, Hull, at 7; Friday, 25th, North York (876), Station Hotel, Middlesbrough, at 7. *Chapter*.—Friday, 25th, Humber (65), Freemasons' Hall, Hull, at 8; Minerva (311), Masonic Hall, Hull, at 8.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Thursday, March 24th, Fidelity (364), Freemasons' Hall, Leeds, at 7; Friday, 25th, St. George's (298), Town Hall, Doncaster, at 7; Alfred Instruction (384), Griffin Hotel, Leeds, at 7. *Encampment*.—Monday, 21st, Faith, Bradford.

MARK MASONRY.

METROPOLITAN.

THISTLE LODGE (Holding under Warrant from the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown.)—The Brethren of this Lodge assembled at Dick's Coffee-house on Friday, March 4th. The Lodge being opened and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, Bro. Cottrell, W.M., addressed the members as follows: "Brethren, it will be in your recollection that at a meeting of this Lodge, held on the 28th September, last year, a committee was appointed to confer with the other Lodges on the subject of a communication from the Masters of certain Mark Lodges holding under Scottish Constitution, and to report thereon. You will also remember that the subject of such communication was the unsatisfactory condition of the Mark degree in this country, arising from the anomalous position which the Mark Lodges under different jurisdictions bear to each other, and urging the desirability of adopting measures to unite with the English Mark Lodges. It will also be in your recollection, that at a subsequent meeting of the Lodge held on the 3rd December last, the committee brought up their report, which was cordially agreed to, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. On that occasion the brethren unanimously concurred in the recommendation of the committee, as to withdrawing allegiance from Scotland, and uniting at once with the Lodges holding under English authority. Furthermore, the Lodge fully empowered me to take such steps for carrying out that object, as might appear expedient. Having waited since December last in the hope that the whole of the Anglo-Scotch Lodges would in a body pass over to the Grand Mark Lodge of England, or that some one of those Lodges would take the initiative in the matter, and

finding many of the brethren of this Lodge impatient for action, I called on the G. Reg., Bro. Ridgway, with a petition for a warrant from the English Grand Lodge. The warrant has been granted accordingly, and Bro. Ridgway having had a copy of our original charter engrossed, and its correctness certified in the margin thereof by a notary public, with the official seal attached thereto, has, by my authority derived from you, returned the said charter to the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland; and this Lodge now meets for the first time under English authority; and may the G.O. of the universe bless and cement the union, and render it productive of mutual advantage." The W.M. then called on the Secretary to read a copy of the petition, as well as the warrant granted from the English Grand Mark Lodge. The W.M. then declared this to be a duly constituted Lodge of Mark Masters, holding under the authority of the Grand Lodge of England and Wales, and the colonies and possessions of the British crown. The following resolution was proposed by Bro. Binckes, S.W., and seconded by Bro. Lippmann, J.W., and carried unanimously—"That the thanks of this Lodge be tendered to Bro. Cotterell, W.M., for the highly efficient manner in which he has conducted to a satisfactory termination the negotiations and arrangements for a union of the different constitutions of Mark Masters in this country; and that the same be recorded on the minutes." A ballot was then taken for the following candidates, viz., Bros. Luff, P.M., No. 318, P.G. Steward; Smith, No. 25; Radine, No. 55; Lumon, No. 219; Hollyer, No. 219; and Curtis, No. 387; which proving unanimous, they were introduced and advanced to the dignity of Mark Masters, the ceremony being performed by the W.M. with his accustomed care and precision. Several brethren were proposed for advancement, and the business being completed, the Lodge was closed. The brethren then adjourned to an elegant banquet, and the same harmonious and fraternal spirit prevailed at the festive board, which had so eminently characterized the other proceedings of the evening. The usual loyal toasts being given, Bro. Ridgway, G. Reg., in feeling terms, replied to that of the Dep. Grand Master and the Grand Officers, and took a brief but interesting review of the progress of the Mark degree in this country, introducing many illustrative remarks thereon, and concluding by expressing his hope that the union now happily formed would be productive of a beneficial influence. In proposing the health of the W.M., Bro. Sheen, P.M., took occasion to congratulate the Lodge on the auspicious event which had been referred to, and passed a well merited eulogium on the tact and ability evinced by the W.M. in carrying out the necessary arrangements. The W.M. in returning thanks, expressed in suitable terms the satisfaction he felt in having the opportunity of contributing to so desirable an object. He would briefly state that his efforts had ever been directed to promote the interests of the Thistle Lodge, and if any incentive were wanting to increased exertions, it would be in the realization of that union so unanimously decided on, and so enthusiastically carried out. Bro. Luff, P.G. Steward, acknowledged the toast of "The newly advanced Brethren," and expressed their high appreciation of the beauties of this attractive ceremony; regretting on his own part that he had not been advanced to the Mark degree at a much earlier period. Bro. Binckes, S.W., replied in eloquent and appropriate terms on behalf of "The Officers of the Lodge;" and the brethren retired at a somewhat late hour, well pleased with the proceedings of the evening.

ROYAL ARCH,

METROPOLITAN CHAPTER.

MOUNT SION CHAPTER (No. 169).—This Chapter, which has altered its day of meeting from the fourth Monday to the second, met on Monday, March 14th, at Radley's Hotel, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars. Comp. John Johnston, presided;

Comp. C. B. Dean, as H.; Comp. J. How, as J. There were also present, Past Principals Partridge, Goodwin, Muggerridge, and Sharpe. Bro. Charles Swan of No. 227, was exalted, and Comp. Joseph Ashwell of Chapter No. 218, was admitted a joining member. A sum of money was voted for Mrs. Hookey, the widow of the late Janitor.

PROVINCIAL CHAPTERS.

CHELTENHAM.—*Chapter of Unanimity* (No. 97).—This excellent Chapter held a meeting at the Masonic Hall, Cheltenham, on Tuesday, March 8th, for the purpose of installing the Principals who had been elected at the previous meeting—Comp. Trinders as Z.; Comp. Hon. J. H. L. Dutton, (Prov. G.M.) as H., and Comp. Leath as J. The first and third Principals were installed by Comp. W. Watson. Great regret was expressed at the unavoidable absence of the Provincial Grand Master, H. elect, from indisposition. Five brethren were exalted to the supreme degree of the Royal Arch, the first and third chairs being admirably filled by the newly installed Principals, and the second chair by Comp. Watson. Too much praise cannot be given to the Companions of this Chapter for the most excellent way in which they worked this beautiful ceremony. After business the Companions sat down to an excellent banquet, which was served in their own hall.

NORWICH.—*Perseverance Chapter* (No. 258).—The first quarterly meeting of this Chapter was held at the Rampant Horse Hotel, St. Stephen's, on Thursday, the 3rd inst., having been removed from the Lamb Inn, together with the Lodge to whose warrant it is attached. In the absence of Comp. William Cooper, M.E.Z., Comp. William Wicks, P.Z., officiated, most ably assisted by Comp. James Dawbarn, H., and Emanuel Hyams, J., who, though but recently installed, discharged their several duties in the most creditable manner. The other officers also performed their allotted duties most efficiently, thus indicating that neither zeal nor perseverance shall be wanted on their parts in furthering the prosperity of our ancient and noble Institution. Comp. Henry John Mason, P.Z., who undertakes the duties of Principal Sojourner, deserves great praise for the clear and impressive manner he delivers the portion of the ceremony which belongs to that office, as well as for his explanation of the mystic symbols. Had it not been for his extreme devotion to the Order, and his indefatigable exertions towards its renovation, there is little doubt but that this supreme degree would have been lost to the Province of Norfolk. The business of the evening consisted of the exaltation of Brothers Samuel Harvard and Robert Louth, of Social Lodge, No. 110. Within twelve months twenty exaltations have taken place, with every prospect of several others, when time and circumstances shall have qualified many who are yet but young in the Craft. A vote of thanks was given to Comp. the Rev. Samuel Titlow, Provincial Grand Chaplain, for his services to the Chapter, who, in acknowledging the kind reception he had at all times experienced on his visits, most willingly accepted the proffered honour of becoming a member. The Chapter was then closed, and the Companions passed the evening in a truly Masonic spirit.

TAUNTON.—*Chapter of Sincerity*, (No. 337).—The companions of this Chapter held their usual quarterly meeting on Thursday, the 3rd inst. Comp. Waghorn M.E.Z. presided, and Brothers Meyler and Denham, two of the subscribing brethren of the Craft Lodge of Unanimity and Sincerity, at Taunton, were duly exalted to this beautiful degree; after which, the newly elected Principals for the year were installed into their several chairs, Comp. Kingsbury being the M.E.Z. for the year. Comp. Butler was appointed P. Sojourner. Comp. Cave, P.Z. of Yeovil, kindly attended and performed the ceremony of installation, which he went through in his usual correct manner. The Companions, after the close of the Chapter, spent a most agreeable and social evening together.

YORK.—*Zetland Chapter* (No. 287).—At the last convocation of the Zetland Chapter, No. 287, the following officers were installed by Comp. Hollon, P.Z.:—E. Comp. Simpson, Z.; E. Comp. Newton, H.; E. Comp. March, J. The M.E.Z.

then appointed his officers, and after several exaltations the Companions adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, and the evening was spent in that love and harmony so characteristic of the Craft.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

PROVINCIAL ENCAMPMENT.

MANCHESTER.—*Jerusalem Encampment.*—A meeting of this well conducted Encampment, one of the oldest working under the Grand Conclave of England and Wales, the warrant having been granted by Grand Master Dunkerley, was held at the Masonic Room, Cross-street, on Tuesday, March 1st, for the purpose of installing the E.C. elect and other business. After the confirmation of the minutes of the preceding meeting, the E.C. Sir Knt. Lyons Wright, proceeded to install Sir Knt. H. A. Bennett, P.E.C. of the William de la More, First G. Standard Bearer, and Prov. G. Hospitaller, as his successor in office, who appointed the following Knights as his officers:—Benj. St. John B. Goule, Prov. G. Org., Prelate and Org.; Beeby Bowman Labrey, 1st Capt.; John Smith, 2nd Capt.; John Yarker (reappointed), Reg.; Joseph Lancaster Hine, Prov. Second Grand Herald (previously elected), Treas.; W. Romaine Callender, E.C. of the William de la More, First Grand Herald, and Prov. G. Almoner, Expert; Joseph Bowker, and Wm. Bagshaw Robinson, First and Second Standard Bearers; John Collinge, Almoner; S. P. Leather, Capt. of Lines; John Merrill, and Henry Hargreave, Heralds. Under the management of the foregoing officers, we doubt not this Encampment will maintain the high character it has attained. A discussion on the by-laws, and also respecting the alteration of the day of meeting, followed, when it was finally resolved that in future the Encampment meet on the second Friday in the months of March, June, September, and December. May the Order long flourish to keep us in remembrance of those valiant warrior Knights, who sealed their faith with their blood, under the banner of the cross, and at no distant period rival its *pristine lustre*.

SCOTLAND.

EDINBURGH.

OPENING OF THE NEW MASONIC HALL.

On Thursday, the 24th of February, the new Masonic Hall, Edinburgh, for the Grand Lodge of Scotland, was opened and consecrated by his grace the Duke of Athole, Grand Master of Scotland, assisted by Sir James Ferguson (acting in the absence of Henry Inglis, Esq., G.S.W.); and Major-Gen. Swinburne, J.G.W. There were present representatives from upwards of two hundred metropolitan and provincial Lodges, numbering in all about six hundred members.

The hall, which occupies the area extending from behind George-street to Rose-street-lane, is a spacious and well lighted apartment, upwards of seventy-five feet long, thirty-six feet wide, and with a height of thirty-three feet from the floor to the top of the arched ceiling. It is modelled in the style of an Ionian temple. The ceiling, which is in the form of an elliptical arch, is supported by broad fluted Ionic pilasters, ranged round the walls, and surmounted by an entablature the frieze of which is ornamented by a floral

scroll running round the room. The ceiling is divided into panelled compartments with ornamental mouldings. The pediment at the south end of the hall, fronting the entrance, is filled up with a sculptured group in white marble, representing St. Andrew, supported by Faith, Hope, and Charity. The figures are of life size, and have been executed by Mr. John Thomas, of London. At the north end, and over the entrance, is placed a handsome balcony, which will be used as an orchestral gallery for balls, assemblies, &c. The hall is lighted by three large windows in the south end, and by a series of glazed apertures in the roof. The large windows are double sashed, the inside sashes being filled with stained glass, after designs prepared and executed by Mr. James Ballantyne. By an arrangement of gas jets between the sashes, these beautiful windows will be as effectively displayed at night as during the day. The hall is entered from George-street, by an elegant porch, and a corridor, whose length corresponds with the breadth of the tenement behind which the new building is placed. From this corridor rise staircases, giving access to the Grand Lodge committee room, the library, the Grand Secretary's and Grand Clerk's rooms, &c., which occupy the three storeys over the shop flat.

The hall was decorated for the occasion with banners and masonic insignia. The Rev. Messrs. A. R. Bonar, and W. Grahame, officiated as Grand Chaplains.

The M.W. Grand Master, the Grand Officers, and Grand Stewards, met in the anteroom of the great hall, where, having been clothed in the proper regalia of their respective offices, the Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. A procession was then formed, and the Grand Master, preceded by the Grand Stewards with their rods, together with other Office Bearers, &c., passed into the great hall, where they were received by the brethren, all standing, with the usual Masonic honours, during which the organ played until the Grand Master was conducted to his place. The Grand Master having taken the chair, stated to the brethren that the Grand Lodge, according to ancient custom on similar occasions, had been already opened. The V.W. the Grand Chaplain then commenced the ceremony of consecration, by offering up the following prayer:—

“O adorable Lord God, Maker of all things, and Judge of all men, regard, we humbly beseech thee, with thy special favour, this our present undertaking, and grant that the work which we now commence in thy name may conduce to thy glory, and to the good, temporal and eternal, of thy dependent creatures. Let a scrupulous regard to the obligation which, in thy name, and under thine all-seeing eye, we have entered into, distinguish all upon whom our privileges have been conferred,—that they, abounding in all holy conversation and godliness, may become true and worthy members of our venerable Order, and that their practice may, in all things, correspond with their profession.”

Response by the brethren—“So mote it be!”

The grand honours having been given by the brethren, and solemn music played, an oration on the “Nature and Objects of Masonry,” was delivered by the V.W. the Grand Chaplain.

The anthem “When earth's foundation first was laid,” was next sung.

The Grand Architect then laid upon the table the jewels of the Grand Master, who desired the President of the Grand Stewards to deliver to the proper officers the jewels of their respective offices, viz., the compasses and square to the Deputy Grand Master; the square to the Substitute Grand Master; the level to the Senior Warden; and the plumb to the Junior Warden; which being done, the Grand Secretary, in an address, informed the M.W. Grand Master that it was the wish of the Fraternity to dedicate the hall to Masonry; after which the Masonic anthem, “Great light to shine,” was sung, followed by the chanting of verses 1 to 7 of the 95th Psalm.

The V.W. the Grand Chaplain next offered up the following prayer:—

“Great Architect of the universe! Maker and Ruler of all worlds! deign, from Thy celestial temple, from realms of light and glory, to bless us, in all the purposes of our present assembly. We humbly invoke thee to give us at this, and at all times, wisdom in all our doings, strength of mind in all our difficulties, and the beauty of harmony in all our communications. Permit us, O thou Centre of light and life, great source of love and happiness, solemnly to consecrate this hall to thy honour and glory. Amen.”

The consecration elements, corn, wine, and oil, were here successively sprinkled on the hall by the Grand Master, who at the same time invoked the blessing respectively on each element, thus:—

“May the bountiful hand of heaven ever supply the inhabitants of this city, as well as all the brethren throughout the world, with abundance of corn, wine, and oil, and all the necessaries and comforts of life.”

After which the Grand Chaplain offered up the following prayer:—

“Grant, O Lord our God, that they who are invested with the government of this Grand Lodge, may be endued with wisdom to instruct their brethren in all duties: May brotherly love and charity always prevail among the members thereof, and may this bond of union continue to strengthen the Lodges throughout the world! Bless all our brethren, ‘the children of the widow,’ wheresoever dispersed, and grant speedy relief to all who are either oppressed or distressed. We humbly commend to thee all the members of thy whole family. May they increase in the knowledge of thee, and in the love of each other. Finally, may we finish all our works here below with thine approbation; and then have our transition from this earthly abode to thy heavenly temple above, there to enjoy light, glory, and bliss ineffable. Amen.”

After the usual grand honours, the brethren perambulated the hall three times, and saluted the Grand Master.

The Grand Master, after an address, declared the Hall to be the Freemasons’ Hall of Scotland, and dedicated the same to Masonry; and subsequently, another anthem having been sung, the following benediction was read by the Grand Chaplain:—

“May the Freemasons’ Hall of Scotland, now dedicated to Masonry, be ever the sanctuary and receptacle of virtue, universal charity, and benevolence; and may the Great Architect of the universe bless all here assembled, and all the brethren throughout the world, henceforth and for ever. Amen.”

After the benediction, the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

At seven o’clock the various representatives held a grand banquet, the Duke of Athole presiding. The usual loyal toasts were duly proposed by his grace, and success to the various Provincial Grand Lodges: “The Edinburgh District,” was responded to by Dr. McCowan, of St. Mary’s Chapel; “The Ayrshire,” by Sir James Ferguson, Bart., in a most appropriate speech, in which he pointed out the beauties of Masonry; Bro. Whyte Melville returned thanks for “Fifehire;” Bro. Erskine Wemyss, of Wemyss, for “Perthshire;” Mr. W. Downing Bruce, of Kilbagie, in the absence of Sir A. Maitland, for “Stirlingshire and Clackmannanshire.”

A M E R I C A.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

[We continue the ceremonies and charges to be observed upon the constitution of a new Commandery, and the installation of officers, from our number of March 2nd, at page 427.]

INSTALLATION.

The Eminent Commander elect is then presented to the Grand Commander by the Marshal, who says:

“Right Eminent,—I have the honour to present you the Eminent Sir —, who has been elected to the office of Commander of this Commandery. I find him to be well skilled in our sublime mysteries, and observant of the noble precepts of our forefathers, and have, therefore, no doubt but he will discharge the important duties of his office with fidelity.”

The Grand Commander then asks—“Eminent, are you ready to subscribe to the

oath of office?" On his answering in the affirmative, the Grand Commander will draw his sword, and, holding it horizontally, the edge toward the Eminent Commander elect, who will place his left hand on the same, and his right hand on his left breast, and repeat as follows—

"I, A. B., do solemnly promise, upon the honour of a Knight Templar, that I will, to the best of my knowledge and ability, faithfully discharge the various duties incumbent upon the office to which I have been elected; that I will support and maintain the by-laws of this Commandery, and the laws and constitution of the Grand Commandery, under whose immediate authority I act; also, the constitution and edicts of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America."

The Grand Commander will then address the Eminent Commander elect as follows—

"Eminent Sir,—Having been elected to the important and honourable station of Eminent Commander of this [new] Commandery, it is with unfeigned pleasure that I enter upon the discharge of the pleasing duty of installing you into your office. As the head of an institution founded upon the Christian religion, and the practice of the Christian virtues, you will sensibly realize the great responsibility of the new relation in which you now stand to your brethren; and, I am fully persuaded, will so conduct the important interests about to be committed to your hands, as to reflect honour upon yourself and credit upon your Commandery. It now, Sir Knight, becomes my duty to propose certain questions to you, relative to your office, to which I must request unequivocal answers:—

"I. Do you solemnly promise, upon the honour of a Knight Templar, that you will redouble your endeavours to correct the vices, purify the morals, and promote the happiness of those of your brethren who have attained this magnanimous Order?"

"II. That you will never suffer your Commandery to be opened, unless there be present nine regular Knights of the Order?"

"III. That you will not confer the Orders upon any one who has not shown a charitable and humane disposition, or who has not made a considerable proficiency in the foregoing degrees?"

"IV. That you will promote the general good of our Order, and on all proper occasions be ready to give and receive instructions, and particularly from the General and State Grand Officers?"

"V. That, to the utmost of your power, you will preserve the solemnities of our ceremonies, and behave in open Commandery, with the most profound respect and reverence, as an example to your brethren?"

"VI. That you will not acknowledge or have intercourse with any Commandery that does not work under a constitutional warrant or dispensation?"

"VII. That you will not admit any visitor into your Commandery who has not been knighted in a Commandery legally constituted, without his first being formally healed?"

"VIII. That you will pay due respect and obedience to the instructions of the General and State Grand Officers, particularly relating to the several lectures and charges, and will resign the chair to them, severally, when they may visit your Commandery."

"IX. That you will support and observe the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, and the General Regulations of the Grand Commandery under whose authority you act?"

"X. That you will bind your successor in office to the observance of the same rules to which you have now assented?"

"Do you submit to all these things; and do you promise to observe and practise them faithfully?"

Assents.

CHARGE TO THE EMINENT COMMANDER.

Eminent,—You will now permit me to invest you with this badge of your office: It is a cross, surmounted by rays of light. It is an appropriate and beautiful emblem of the sublime principles of this magnanimous and Christian order of knighthood. The cross will remind you of him who offered up his life as a propitiation for the sins of the world; and the refulgent rays that emanate from it, of those

divine teachings and sublime precepts which he has left to guide and direct us in the paths of truth and holiness.

I present you the charter of your Commandery. You will receive it as a sacred deposit, and never permit it to be used for any other purpose than those expressed in it, and safely transmit it to your successor in office.

I also commit to your hands the Holy Bible, the great light in every degree of Masonry, together with the cross swords. The doctrines contained in this sacred volume, create in us a belief in the existence of the eternal Jehovah, the one only true and living God, the Creator and Judge of all things in heaven and on earth: they also confirm us in a belief in the dispensations of His providence. This belief strengthens our faith, and enables us to ascend the first step of the grand Masonic ladder. This faith naturally produces in us a hope of becoming partakers in the promises expressed in this inestimable gift of God to man, which hope enables us to ascend the second step. But the third and the last being charity, comprehends the former, and will continue to exert its influence when faith shall be lost in sight, and hope in complete enjoyment.

The cross swords, resting upon the Holy Bible, are to remind us that we should be "strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might;" that we should "put on the whole armour of God," to be able to wrestle successfully against principalities and powers, and spiritual wickedness in high places.

I also present to you the constitution of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America; the rules and regulations of the Grand Commandery of this state, and the by-laws of your Commandery. You will frequently consult them yourself, and cause them to be read for the information of your Commandery, that all, being informed of their duty, may have no reasonable excuse to offer for the neglect of it.

And now, Eminent, permit me to induct you into the chair of your Commandery, and, in behalf of the Sir Knights here assembled, to offer you my most sincere congratulations on your accession to the honourable station you now fill. It will henceforth be your special duty to preserve inviolate the laws and constitutions of the Order, to dispense justice, reward merit, encourage truth, and diffuse the sublime principles of universal benevolence. You will distribute alms to poor and weary pilgrims travelling from afar; feed the hungry; clothe the naked, and bind up the wounds of the afflicted. You will inculcate the duties of charity and hospitality, and govern your Commandery with justice and moderation. And, finally, my brother, may the bright example of the illustrious heroes of former ages, whose matchless valour has shed undying lustre over the name of Knight Templar, encourage and animate you to the faithful performance of every duty.

Sir Knights,—Behold your Commander. [The Knights rise, and present arms.] Recollect, Sir Knights, that the prosperity of your Commandery will as much depend on your support, assistance and obedience, as on the assiduity, fidelity and wisdom of your Commander.

The remainder of the officers are then duly qualified, by taking the oath of office, in the form and manner before stated. The Grand Marshal then presents the Generalissimo.

CHARGE TO THE GENERALISSIMO.

Sir,—You have been elected Generalissimo of this Commandery. I now invest you with the badge of your office, which is a Square, surmounted by a Paschal Lamb. When beholding the lamb, let it stimulate you to have, at all times, a watchful eye over your own conduct, and an earnest solicitude for the prosperity of the kingdom of the blessed Immanuel, the spotless Lamb of God, who was slain from the foundation of the world.

The square is to remind you that the institution of Freemasonry and the Orders of Knighthood were formerly governed by the same Grand Masters, and that the same principles of brotherly love and friendship should for ever govern the members of both Orders. Your station, Sir Knight, is on the right of your Commander; your duty is to receive and communicate all orders, signs and petitions; to assist your Commander in his various duties, and, in his absence, to preside in the Commandery. The exercise of all your talents and zeal will be necessary in

the discharge of your various duties. I charge you, therefore, to be faithful to the Knights with whom you are associated; put them often in remembrance of those things which tend to their everlasting peace. Finally, "preach to them the word; be instant in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine;" ever remembering the promise, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

CHARGE TO THE CAPTAIN GENERAL.

Sir,—You are elected Captain-General of this Commandery. I now invest you with the badge of your office, which is a Level, surmounted by a Cock. As the undaunted courage and valour of the cock stimulates him to conquer his competitor, or yield himself a victim to the contest, so should you be stimulated to the discharge of every duty. You should have on "the breast-plate of righteousness," so that with patience and meekness you may ever travel on the level of humility, and be so supplied with divine grace as to prevent you from selling your God or denying your Master. Your station is on the left of your Commander. Your duty, among other things, is to see that the proper officers make all due preparation for the various meetings of the Commandery; that the council chamber and asylum are in suitable array for the introduction of candidates and the dispatch of business. You are also to receive and communicate all orders issued by the eminent Commander, through the officers of the line. You are to assist in Council, and, in the absence of your Commander and Generalissimo, you are to govern the Commandery. The distressed widow, the helpless orphan, and the innocent of the weaker sex, you are ever to assist and protect. But, above all, you are to stand forth, having your loins girt about with truth, in defence of the Christian religion from all its enemies. And now I exhort you, that with fidelity you perform every duty; and "whatsoever ye do, do heartily as to the Lord, and not unto men: continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;" ever bearing in mind the promise, "Be not weary in well-doing, for in due time you shall reap, if ye faint not."

CHARGE TO THE PRELATE.

Sir,—You are elected Prelate of this Commandery. I have the pleasure of investing you with this Triple Triangle, which is the badge of your office, and a beautiful emblem of the Eternal Jehovah. Your station is on the right of the Generalissimo; your duty is to officiate at the altar; to offer up prayers and oblations to Deity. The duties of your office are very interesting and highly important, and will require your early and punctual attendance at every meeting. Your jewel is to remind you of the importance of the trust reposed in you; and may "He who is able, abundantly furnish you for every good work, preserve you from falling into error, improve, strengthen, establish and perfect you;" and finally greet you with, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

CHARGE TO THE SENIOR WARDEN.

Sir,—You are elected Senior Warden of this Commandery. I now invest you with the badge of your office, which is a Hollow Square and Sword of Justice. It is to remind you that, as the children of Israel marched in a hollow square, in their journey through the wilderness, in order to guard and protect the Ark of the Covenant, so should you be vigilant in guarding every avenue from innovation and error. Let the sword of justice, therefore, be ever drawn to guard the Constitution of the Order. Your station is at the south-west angle of the triangle, and upon the right of the first division. You will attend pilgrim warriors travelling from afar, comfort and support pilgrim penitents, and recommend them, after due trial, to the favour and protection of the Eminent Commander. You will be assiduous in teaching your division their duties and exercises. You will, on all occasions, form the avenues for the approach and departure of your Commander, and prepare the lines for inspection and review.

[The remaining portion of this interesting document, shall be given at the earliest opportunity].

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

BRO. ADAMS'S ANNUAL BALL.—This delightful annual re-union—the twenty-third, a proof of the estimation in which Bro. Adams is held—took place at Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's, on Tuesday the 8th instant, when nearly fifty ladies and gentlemen were present, a large number of the latter being members of the ancient Craft. The music, under the immediate direction of Bro. Adams, was most excellent, and dancing was kept up with great spirit until somewhat late in the morning.

LIVERPOOL.—The proceeds of this ball, which was held in January last, at the Town Hall, for the benefit of the West Lancashire Institution for the Education and Advancement of Children of Distressed Masons, reached the handsome sum of one hundred and fifty-four pounds and a few shillings. The funds of the institution are in a flourishing condition, the interest alone being ample for the education of those children who are entitled to the benefit. The origin and establishment of the present Liverpool institution are due to Bro. Joshua Walmsley, who takes a great interest in its success, and has expended a considerable amount of time and money in its formation and development.

EDINBURGH.—The annual Social Meeting, Concert, and Ball, of the Lodge of Journeymen (No. 8), took place in the new Freemason's Hall, George Street, on Friday, March 4th. The Hall was beautifully decorated, and from the rich ball dresses of the ladies, and the Masonic costume of the brethren, presented throughout the evening a most brilliant appearance. Upwards of 320 persons were present. The chair was occupied by Bro. Wm. Hunter, the Master of the Lodge. After a supply of refreshments, the chairman gave an introductory address, in the course of which he said that he considered it fitting that the Lodge Journeymen should be the first constituted body to hold a meeting in the new Hall, after its consecration and inauguration, as for more than 150 years it had not merely professed, but had actively taught and practised the principles of Masonry, and had sent forth brethren to all parts of the world to scatter its moral and scientific light, and bind men more closely together in the endearing ties of its brotherhood. On the previous Thursday, the Hall had been solemnly dedicated to charity and benevolence. The Lodge Journeymen had its origin in regard to these very virtues. At the commencement of last century the Journeymen connected with the Lodge and Incorporation of Mary's Chapel of this city, considered that sufficient relief was not extended to the poor widows and orphans of the Incorporation, and finding their remonstrances and their efforts to obtain redress ineffectual, they held a meeting, constituted themselves into a Society, and raised a fund for the benefit of the poor and needy. Great were the difficulties and obstructions with which they had at first to contend, but still they battled on, and finally overcame them all. From that time downwards they had unremittingly prosecuted their mission of charity and benevolence. Through all the vicissitudes of time, through all the commotions in church and state, and through all the seasons of national calamity, the Journeymen, in the dark and pestilential retreats of the old town, had continued their exertions to promote peace and goodwill among men, to soothe the bed of suffering humanity, and console the bereaved heart of the widow and the orphan. It was fitting, then, that the Journeymen should be one of the very first associations to assemble in a new temple specially devoted to Masonry and to charity. Bro. A. Kerr then delivered an instructive address on the subject "Where there's a will there's a way;" and Bro. George Lorimer gave an interesting sketch of the origin and career of the Lodge Journeymen. The concert, which was conducted principally by brethren of the Lodge, was excellent. The floor having been cleared, and the orchestra reinforced by a portion of the band of the 16th Royal Lancers, dancing commenced about eleven o'clock, and was kept up with unabating spirit till five next morning.

THE WEEK.

THE Queen and her family continue well. On Monday her Majesty gave another grand dinner; among the guests were several of her ministers, with Lord Palmerston and some of the parliamentary opposition. Her Majesty held a Court on Monday, at which the Portuguese Minister presented, on behalf of the King of Portugal, the insignia of the Order of the Tower and Sword for the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred.—Last week Paris was astonished by the announcement in the *Moniteur* of the resignation by Prince Napoleon of the ministry of Algeria and the colonies. Count Prosper de Chasseloup-Laubat, deputy, and manager of the Western Railway, was appointed successor to the Prince. It is said that the Prince offered his resignation to the Emperor immediately after the appearance in the *Moniteur* of the article which seemed to him in contradiction with the policy followed by the Emperor since New Year's-day, and more particularly with the promises made to his father-in-law, the King of Sardinia. The apologists of the Prince attribute his retirement from the ministry to the antagonism subsisting between him and MM. Fould and Walewski. The friends of Prince Napoleon believe that his retirement from the ministry is only temporary, and that before the lapse of many weeks he will again be in power, but not with the same colleagues. If this be true, M. Walewski's tenure of office will be very brief indeed. Diplomatic communications between Paris and Turin are now very frequent. The preparation of state apartments at Fontainebleau is for the Grand Duke Constantine and his Duchess. An aide-de-camp of General Goyon has arrived in Paris from Rome, charged with a mission to the minister of war. The facts of the statement in the *Constitutionnel* as to the Austrian armaments in Italy, are said to have been forwarded to that journal direct from the Tuileries, having been gleaned by the spies of M. Cavour in Lombardy, and by him sent to Louis Napoleon. There was an impression in Paris last week, that Lord Cowley's mission had failed. The official news that the King of Sardinia has called out his reserves is looked upon as a confirmation of the rumour. Prince Napoleon is believed to be higher in the Emperor's favour and confidence than ever. It is possible that the ministers opposed to him may shortly be overthrown, and that the Prince may return to power with more *éclat* than ever. The Emperor had a very long conference with Count de Moray on Thursday, after which rumours of ministerial modifications were current.—A declaration of foreign policy made by the Prussian foreign minister, last week, was received with applause by the Prussian Chamber of Deputies. The government expresses a decided opinion that, with the co-operation of England, it will succeed in getting existing treaties respected. England and Prussia are described as holding a most favourable position in mediating between France and Austria. The Prussian Minister also affirms that while there has hitherto been only a moderate hope of peace, matters are so changed that the peace is not likely to be broken.—The *Gazette of the Senate* of Tuesday published the treaty of commerce and navigation concluded between Russia and England, and ratified last January.—On Tuesday, the official *Vienna Gazette* published a long article, stating several reasons, founded on international law, why Austria will insist upon the complete maintenance of its special treaties with the Italian states. Lord Cowley left Vienna on Thursday morning at half-past seven for London *via* Prague. His lordship had an audience of the Emperor on Tuesday, to take leave. It is said that Lord Cowley is the bearer of counter-propositions of a hopeful character. Things are in a very unsatisfactory state at Milan, and those persons who have the means of doing so are about to quit the city. At Vienna, the state of the public health is extremely bad. All the hospitals are overfilled, and there is hardly a house in the city in which there are not sick persons. The prevalent complaints are typhus fever, pulmonary and bronchial affections, and the smallpox.—A circular note of the Federal Council of Switzerland has been addressed to the European Powers

stating that Switzerland will, in case war should break out, defend, with all her power, as well her own integrity and neutrality, as also that of Savoy, the neutrality of which has also been guaranteed by treaties. The military and financial departments have been ordered to commence all necessary preliminary works.—A letter from Naples informs us that it is affirmed that the king is suffering from a disease in the articulation of the thigh bone, producing such extreme pain as to render life almost insupportable. This disease arises from an attack which his majesty had some years back. In addition to this, the king suffers from a nervous fever which induces frequent delirium; and, altogether, the complication of disorders is so severe that even medical men do not hesitate to say that the case is incurable.—Advices from Constantinople to the 2nd instant state, that the army of observation on the Danube has been increased to 30,000 men, and that the Porte claims the right of appointing the hospodars. Sir Henry Bulwer is believed to have advised the Porte to grant concessions to the Principalities. The French Ambassador has procured the dismissal of the Governor of Rodosto. Nassib Pacha has instituted a council for financial affairs, composed of four Turks and three Europeans.—A letter from Rome says—"There are crowds of foreigners in Rome, and the Carnival has been as brilliant as on any occasion before 1848. The Prince of Wales has a window in the Corso, and is an object of great attraction. His royal highness is living a quiet, unostentatious life, and is pursuing his studies with great attention. It is reported that the king of Naples has offered to furnish the Pope with four battalions of Swiss troops.—A letter from Turin, says that the emperor Napoleon has excited hopes in Italy, which his recent declarations must, it is presumed, completely dissipate. There is but one sentiment respecting the note in the *Moniteur*. Everywhere the utmost indignation is expressed. People bluntly say that Piedmont has been "betrayed" by Louis Napoleon. Volunteers continue to arrive every day, and are at once enrolled in the Piedmontese ranks. In Paris conjectures are thrown out that M. de Cavour will be unable to stand up against the blow administered to his hopes and his ambition from the Tuileries; and, if he falls, the war party in Piedmont will be utterly and hopelessly worsted.—The Calcutta and China mails, with dates from Calcutta to February 9, and Hong-Kong to January 29, arrived at Malta on the 11th. There is no stirring news in the political world, and little change in commercial affairs.—The steamer *Africa* has brought news from New York to the 2nd inst. A sad tragedy had occurred in Washington. Daniel E. Sickles, a member of Congress, had shot down in the public street, Mr. P. E. Key, the Attorney for the district of Columbia, who died on the spot. Sickles charged Key with seducing his wife. The boilers of the steamer *Princess* exploded while on a passage to New Orleans; 400 passengers were on board, and it was reported that 200 were either killed or missing. Nothing had been done in Congress on the tariff question, or for the relief of the financial embarrassments of the Government.—Japan is now attracting attention as an opening for foreign trade. There have been eight or ten ships cleared for Nagasaki since the late treaties were signed, the Japanese Government admitting them under the Dutch treaty until ratifications are exchanged.—Advices from Hayti to the 30th of January state that the new Government was looked upon with much favour by the people. All the excitement of the revolution had passed by, and business had revived.—John Buchanan, and Archibald Mitchell, engineers of the steamer *Bogota*, were charged before the Liverpool magistrates on Tuesday with causing the death of a fireman named Launder. Several witnesses saw the man tied to a ladder within thirty-six inches of the furnaces, and stated that he cried most piteously to be released from his position. Life was nearly extinct when he was brought from the stoke-hole, and no subsequent applications caused him to rally. The men said they dared not interfere lest they should be punished. Mr. Mansfield remanded the case, but admitted Buchanan to bail.—At the Court of Bankruptcy, the certificate (third class) of Captain George Washington Chassecaud, who was described as a merchant in Cornhill, was suspended for three years without protection; and the commissioner said that, if any naturally indignant creditor chose to vindicate public justice by putting the bankrupt into prison, any application would be disregarded until he had suffered at least six months' incarceration.—A communication from Fremantle, Western Australia, announces the arrival of

Robson, Redpath, Agar, Tester, and Seward, *alias* Jem the Penman. They are all engaged on the public works, making roads, &c. Redpath and Robson are engaged wheeling stones, with shackles upon their persons. Their health appears to be good, but they seem wretched and dejected, and weary of their lives. The celebrated Rev. Dr. Beresford, who, with a living of £1,000 a year, committed forgery to an enormous extent, has also arrived in the above named colony, and is employed daily in sweeping the wards in the new convict prison.—Public meetings have been held all over the country during the week to discuss the government reform bill, and very strong resolutions have been carried against the measure. At a great meeting at the Guildhall on Friday, presided over by the Lord Mayor, a body of chartists, headed by Mr. Ernest Jones, were present, and created great uproar.—One event of the week is of a very interesting character. An American ship was seen to enter the harbour of Queenstown, and a very little time elapsed before it was known that she had on board some seventy exiles, lately captives in the dungeons of Naples, and that amongst them was no less a person than the virtuous and heroic Poorio. Shipped by order of the Neapolitan government for America, they had reached the bay of Cadiz, when they made such representations to the captain of the vessel as induced him to steer for the Irish coast, and the fugitives are now safe, under the protection of British laws. Their ultimate destination is as yet undetermined.—The new breech-loading cannon, invented by Mr. Warry, has been again experimented with at Chatham. The inventor has effected another great improvement in the method of firing it, by which nearly twenty rounds per minute can be discharged. Mr. Warry's breech-loading invention can be applied to any metal guns, of whatever size, which can be rifled and rendered fit for service at an estimated cost of one-fourth the expense of turning out one of Sir W. Armstrong's rifled cannons.—The greatest despatch is used at all the dockyards in getting men-of-war ready for sea. At Chatham, Woolwich, and Pembroke, many hundred extra shipwrights and other artificers have been taken on, and are working extra time upon the various men-of-war.—In the House of Lords on Tuesday, Lord Wodehouse moved for additional papers in the matter of the Charles et Georges, and censured the conduct of government in that affair. Lord Malmesbury and the Earl of Derby defended their foreign policy, and the motion was withdrawn. On Thursday, the Lord Stanley of Alderley called attention to the settlement of Singapore, and asked what form of government had been determined on. The Earl of Carnarvon said that nothing had yet been settled. The Lord Chancellor introduced a bill to amend the law of grand juries. In the House of Commons on Tuesday, Mr. Gladstone took his seat on his re-election for the University of Oxford. Mr. Kinglake made a similar motion to that of Lord Wodehouse in the Lords, with regard to the Charles et Georges, and censuring government. A long debate ensued, in the course of which Lord John Russell expressed opinions favourable to ministers. The debate was eventually adjourned. The subject of discussion on Wednesday was the Church Rates Bill of Mr. Walpole, which was strongly opposed by Sir John Trelawney and many others, and supported by the whole strength of the government. Ministers suffered a defeat, the measure having been lost by 254 to 171. On Thursday, after notice had been given by Lord John Russell, Mr. Miles, and Mr. Wyld, of sundry amendments to the new reform bill, the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that it was not intended that any person should be disfranchised, and in fact gave the house to understand that his bill would be modified to satisfy all parties. A very late sitting was occupied by debates on the law as regards savings banks, on military organization, on church rates, and on the state of our relation with France as to the Newfoundland fisheries. On Friday, further notices of amendments to the new reform bill were given, and the house went into a committee of supply, in the course of which a long discussion was originated by Lord Clarence Paget on the state of the navy. On Monday, Sir J. Packington said, in consequence of the statement by Lord C. Paget, that out of the money granted during the last eleven years for dockyards an amount of not less than £5,000,000 had been recklessly squandered, he should, on the earliest day, lay on the table a full and detailed statement as to the way in which the money had been appropriated. With reference to the main drainage of the metropolis, Mr. Tite said that

the works had been commenced, and it was expected the whole would be completed in four years. The money (three millions) had been lent by the Bank at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

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.

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

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"W. C. B."—A brother who was raised to the third degree, on the 25th March last, may be exalted on the 24th inst., twelve "lunar" months having intervened between the raising and exaltation. The full moon in March last was on the 29th. This year it will be on the 18th.

DR. CULLEN'S LENTEN PASTORAL.—We shall take an early opportunity of referring to the archbishop's strictures upon Freemasonry.

"A BROTHER."—We do not know the ruling initiation fee "throughout the United States," but we do know that in some portions of the Union it is a less number of dollars than we charge pounds. Hence the universality of Freemasonry in America.

"PADDY FROM CORK."—The Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Ireland state that "Every Master and Warden at his first attendance at Grand Lodge shall, if called upon, undergo such examination as the presiding officer may appoint, and if not found duly qualified, shall not then be received as a member of the Grand Lodge." We do not know how often this rule is acted upon by our brethren across the channel, but most assuredly were it introduced nearer home and regularly enforced, it would conduce to the advantage of the Order.

MASONRY AND THE POST OFFICE.—The Post Office authorities at Liverpool must be in rather an unenlightened state, for a letter addressed R. W. Le Gendre N. Starkie (the Prov. Grand Master), Masonic Temple, Liverpool, was returned lately to the brother who wrote it, with the endorsement "Insufficient address." Liverpool, March 5th.

"INQUIRER."—The law referred to will be found at page 57 of the Book of Constitutions, in these words, "No brother shall be Master of more than one Lodge at the same time, without a dispensation from the Grand Master." The reason why you did not find it in the Book of Constitutions bearing date 1847 is, that the law was not enacted until November of that year, when a special Grand Lodge was held, the minutes of which were confirmed in December, whilst an edition of the Book of Constitutions was published in the early part of the year.

"A COLOURED BROTHER" had better remain in England. He will find but little support from the brethren of America, if we are to judge from the tone of their Masonic publications regarding negro brethren.