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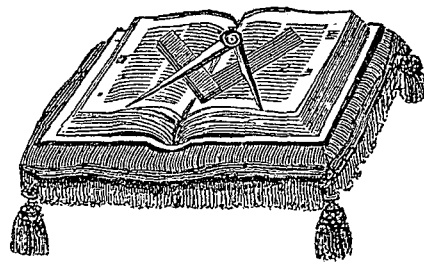
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AND

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THE
F R E E M A S O N S M A G A Z I N E
AND
M A S O N I C M I R R O R.

ADDRESS TO OUR READERS.

WITH our present number another volume is closed, and we trust it will be regarded by our subscribers as containing a fair reflex of the proceedings of the Craft during the past six months—a period in which Freemasonry has made considerable progress, and during which nothing has occurred to disturb the harmony of the Craft.

With the close of the first half of the year we to some extent take leave of our London brethren for three or four months, whilst our Provincial brethren will be brought more immediately before the Craft through the medium of their Provincial Grand Lodges, the meetings of which have just commenced.

The most gratifying feature of the half year, and one upon which we most sincerely congratulate the brethren, is the great and unparalleled success of the Masonic Festivals—the three Charities having been benefited to the extent of nearly seven thousand pounds, through the exertions of the Stewards and the liberality of the brethren. Such a result is the more gratifying because the country brethren are now fairly taking their place at the labouring oar, and some of the heaviest lists of subscriptions have come from the Provinces, where the universality and value of our benevolent institutions—alike for the old and the young—are becoming better understood and appreciated. We believe we may without undue vanity take some part of the credit of this to ourselves; for one of the chief missions of the *Freemasons' Magazine*, under its present management, has been to extend a knowledge of the advantages of these Institutions, and by making them better known, to add to the support which we were aware they were at all times sure to receive from Freemasons' if their claims to support were properly brought before them. Indeed we are convinced that until within the

last few years the very existence almost of our noble Charities was unknown to nine tenths of the brethren—more especially in the Provinces—through the want of local organization and an efficient organ in the Press to bring them under the constant notice of the Craft.

If the past six months have been generally, however, marked by circumstances of a congratulatory nature we have not been without those losses which remind us of the fleeting of mortality. Bro. Masson, who held a distinguished position amongst the Knights Templar—and others, have passed away—we trust to other and happier realms.

But if we have lost some friends, we believe we have gained many more amongst the continually increasing body of Masons, whose good opinion and confidence it shall be always our endeavour to retain by our unceasing efforts to add to the Masonic and literary value of our journal, as well as by our constant advocacy of those measures which after mature deliberation we honestly consider are best calculated to benefit the Craft and to advance its high position in the eyes of the outer world.

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THE
FREEMASONS MAGAZINE
AND
MASONIC MIRROR.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1860.

LONDON v. COUNTRY.

It is not often that we find matter in the proceedings of private Lodges for editorial remark, nor is it desirable we should do so, for, as a rule, the sayings and doings of these Lodges should be such as to lead as little as possible to difference of opinion amongst the brethren; but there are occasions when we should be wanting in duty to the Craft, and unworthy the position we hold as journalists, were we to pass unnoticed the observations of brethren, which, founded in exaggeration or error, are apt to mislead other brethren at a distance who may not have immediately at their hands the means of correcting them. And such an occasion we have in some recent observations of Bro. Sherry, at Winchester. It appears that at the last meeting of the Lodge of Economy Bro. Sherry again introduced the subject of voting by proxy in Grand Lodge, in moving for a committee to communicate with other provincial Lodges, and endeavour to create such a union as would conduce to the carrying of that measure. We are not here going to discuss the question; nor shall we deny the right of Bro. Sherry or any other brother to challenge the acts of the executive, or to endeavour to obtain the reversal of a decision of Grand Lodge on any question in which they feel a deep interest, though upon the proxy question no decision has yet been come to—all Grand Lodge did being to receive a report of the Board of General Purposes expressing an opinion against it. We have the honour of the personal acquaintance of Bro. Sherry, and know him to be as sincere in his desire to benefit the Craft as any other brother of the institution; but that very fact is only an additional reason why we should not allow his exaggerated statements to pass without notice; as statements coming from a brother known to take an active interest in every thing that appertains to the Order will be attentively listened to, whilst, were they to come from others who have shown themselves less zealous in the cause, they would pass almost unheeded. At the meeting to which we have alluded a notice of which appears in another part of our *Magazine*, (and of the truthfulness of the report we can have no doubt, coming as it does from so practised and able a reporter as Bro. Huggins, whose talent and faithfulness of reporting was justly acknowledged at the meeting under review) Bro. Sherry, in support of his argument that country brethren were unfairly represented in Grand Lodge, owing to the preponderance of London brethren who attend it, made the following startling statement:—"To show one of the cases in which he saw the necessity of a change, he would call the attention of the Lodge to the fact of the President [of the Board of General Purposes] lately bringing forward a scheme for the expending of a large sum of money—£50,000 or £60,000—in pulling down and rebuilding those extensive buildings in Great Queen-street, and erecting others still larger, which however were entirely unnecessary."

It would be altogether out of place were we to endeavour to defend or condemn such a scheme, because this is the first time we have heard of it—nor do we believe it to exist any-

where excepting in the imagination of Bro. Sherry himself; and sure we are it never emanated from the President of the Board of General Purposes—for the only time upon which we find him speaking officially with regard to it was at Grand Lodge on the 1st of December, 1858, when he said—

"There have gone forth amongst the Craft very large rumours as to what the Board intends to propose; but we have come to you with no extravagant proposition—nothing which will forestall one penny of your income. We shall rather endeavour to determine how you can make the best use of your present property, than build more. *We shall see how little, and not how much, can be built.*"

Here is no proposition for pulling down the most magnificent and most substantially built hall in London to rebuild on a larger scale, or, as Bro. Sherry phrased it in another part of his speech, "castles;" and farther, the President of the Board emphatically declared against any such large expenditure as that alluded to by Bro. Sherry, in the following words:—

"It has been proposed to lay out £40,000 in building a suitable hall and tavern, *but where is the money to come from?* You could not propose to Grand Lodge to borrow the amount, *nor, if you did, would Grand Lodge be likely to sanction such a scheme.*"

But, leaving delivered speeches, let us see what the Board said in a deliberately penned circular sent to every Lodge in the kingdom. This document, which bears date the 10th of January, 1859, has these words:

"It is further to be considered—if any great alterations should be proposed—that they can only be carried out upon the expiration of the present lease, which has now three and a half years to run; and it is reasonable to expect that during that time a further surplus of at least £6,000 will be accumulated, which, with the sum now in hand, would leave at the disposal of the society an amount of (say) £12,500; *and the Board suggests that it would be most undesirable to entertain any scheme which would involve a greater outlay at any one time than the funds will be equal to meet immediately on its completion.*"

Now, if any suggestion for the laying out of from £50,000 to £60,000 in building "castles" can be found in the quotations we have made—and we Masonically declare we have been most scrupulous in our extracts—we must confess that the import of language is altogether unknown to us, and that it must have been used in even more than a Talleyrand sense, to conceal intentions.

But passing onwards—only stopping to remark that, when Bro. Sherry asserted that the memorial of the Winchester Lodge to the Board of General Purposes, relative to the voting by proxy, "had been refused to be entertained," he must have forgotten that he had in the early part of the evening stated it "had been returned to them very unsatisfactorily answered,"* thereby showing it must have been entertained—we come to a part of the speech which we consider of the deepest interest, as tending, if allowed to pass unanswered, to sow dissensions amongst the London and country brethren, which of all things we most strongly deprecate. Bro. Sherry insinuates, nay asserts, that the country brethren are purposely kept off the Board of General Purposes that the London brethren may promote their own views; and states that the country want to see "such men as Bro.

* We have since ascertained that the reply was a courteous reference to the previous decision of the Board of General Purposes.

Stebbing, for instance, upon the Board, well knowing his capabilities on all matters of business connected with the Order, and the general justness of his conclusions." So do we, and so do, we undertake to say, nine tenths of the London brethren; and moreover, we will even guarantee that either Bro. Stebbing, or even Bro. Sherry himself, would be elected if he would pledge himself to attend to the business—the Board meeting once in every month, its sittings sometimes extending to three or four hours, to say nothing of various committees into which it is subdivided. But if Bros. Stebbing, Sherry, or other country brethren, have not been placed on the Board of General Purposes, is it wholly the fault of the Board, or of the London brethren—or have not the friends with whom they usually act had something to do with it? Let us see. In 1857, Bros. the Rev. G. R. Portal, and the Earl of Carnarvon, entered into a contract with certain brethren on the dais, for the formation of a list for the Board of General Purposes, and not one member from the country did they propose, though they were then agitating the provincial brethren for support; but Bros. Portal and Carnarvon were amongst the elected, though Bro. Portal *forgot* a pledge which he gave to another brother only three days before, and was, we believe, the first to propose the omission of his name, as too independent for either party. Bro. Portal will understand the allusion when we state, that there were more "detectives" in the field than one on that occasion.

How well or how ill the brethren to whom we have alluded attended to the duties of the offices they undertook, it would be impossible, with the secrecy which the members of the Board of General Purposes are bound to maintain, for us to say; but a sufficient excuse for nonattendance on the part of the noble earl would be found in the fact that he shortly afterwards became a member of her Majesty's government. Whether our reverend brother attended to his duties we know not, but this we distinctly assert, that he soon found that close attention to business without the opportunity of forensic display did not add to notoriety; and though he has acknowledged that he had a hand in arranging the list for the next year, 1858, *still forgetting his country friends*, he joined with the Grand Master in denouncing the impertinence of a brother who could put him in nomination, "without his authority," for a position the duties of which he never properly fulfilled.

In 1859, a list was arranged without the assistance of Bro. Portal, and then came the denunciation of brethren who had not paid due attention to the country interests—who had the bad taste to nominate brethren for office, not one of whom was undistinguished for their services to the Craft either through their personal exertions or by their purse, without consulting Bro. Portal.

But Bro. Sherry tells us—

"Many Lodges in the country disliked giving their money (for they all contributed their quota to the general fund) for any other purposes than charity, especially to the otherwise spending of large amounts. No application for relief by distressed Masons should be refused if any funds were in hand. Men had been refused year after year, though in their previous life of prosperity they had contributed to the same funds, from which they might, and properly should, receive relief: and he believed there was sufficient to meet every eligible claim that had ever been made."

Here we are again bound to take exception to the statements of our worthy brother, and declare that they are unfounded; in fact, that they are the direct opposite to the truth. No brother worthy of relief has ever been refused by the Board of Benevolence—and, if he had, it would be the fault of the Masters of Lodges, who, being all throughout the Order members of the Board of Benevolence, have neglected to perform their duties by attending—and here we would appeal to Bro. Sherry to obtain a return of the number of London and country brethren who have attended that Board—the real almoners of the charitable funds of the Order. Here we wish it to be distinctly understood that

we draw a great and substantive distinction between those funds which are raised by quarterly payments throughout the Craft for the relief of the distressed, and those admirable institutions which, though no part of the constitution of Masonry, are most beautiful adjuncts thereto—the two schools and the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows; the whole of which are, and we trust ever will be, mainly supported by the *private* benevolence of the brethren, though to some extent assisted by Grand Lodge; and sorry indeed should we be to see that assistance so far extended as to sap the springs of private benevolence.

We are told by Bro. Sherry, that the country brethren contributes as largely to the funds of Grand Lodge as the London; but what are the facts? The London brother has to pay four shillings per annum to the fund of benevolence, whilst the country brother has to pay two shillings; and here we may be fairly answered that the country brother may be called upon for a like amount for his Provincial Grand Lodge. But we would ask, has it ever made any difference as to the amount of relief afforded to country brethren; and whether they have not fared as fairly through the administration of London brethren as they could through that of country brethren who have neglected their duties by not attending (or deputing some Past Master of their Lodge, as they have the power to do) to the Board of Benevolence, to look after the interests of candidates for relief from all parts of the kingdom—nay, all parts of the world?

But we are further informed by Bro. Sherry—

"If they do not do what has been proposed (*i. e.*, build "castles"), then the amount of money so saved could be applied as it ought to be, that is, to charitable purposes. They could then meet all claims upon the Order in the way of charity that yet remained in existence and unrelieved. With the large amount of funds in hand they had quite sufficient to minister to every case of distress that had been heard of."

Bro. Sherry appears to have forgotten that Freemasonry is not a benefit society; that its charities are only graceful additions to the Order; and that the funds of Grand Lodge are divided into sections—one, the benevolent, consisting of four shillings per annum from every enrolled London brother, and two shillings from every enrolled country brother; and a general fund, arising from the payment of one pound seven shillings and sixpence upon the initiation and registration of any London brother, and seventeen shillings and sixpence for every country brother; and the latter payment it is which creates a fund available for the general purposes of the Order apart from charity, otherwise fairly provided for; the benevolent fund ever having been kept sacred and intact for the purposes for which alone it is subscribed, and the votes from which during the last year amounted to no less than £1,884.

If the London brethren have some few privileges, by reason of their position, over those in the country, it must not be forgotten that they have also fairly accepted the responsibilities of that position: we do not wish to refer to the report of the committee upon charities, in which it was shown that nine tenths of the support came from the London brethren, because it must be fairly owned that since the publication of that report many country brethren have been labouring hard to reduce the proportion, and none more so than Bro. Sherry himself, who, upon the occasion of serving the stewardship of one of the charities, produced a list of subscriptions from Hampshire which could well vie with any other steward's list; but we may be allowed fairly to call attention to the approaching festival of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows, where we find that in round numbers 130 London Lodges send 36 Stewards, and the 600 country Lodges only 12, who come from Oxfordshire, Warwickshire, Isle of Wight, North and East Yorkshire, Somersetshire, Durham, and Hampshire, no question ever being asked as to what part of the kingdom the candidates have belonged, and there being at the close of

the last election, on the funds—20 London and 42 country brethren; and on the female fund 16 London widows and as many from the country—some of the London candidates, though having the larger number of votes, not being admitted, the rules not allowing a greater number of annuitants from London than the country.

We have penned these remarks in no spirit of uncharitableness, but only to evince to our country brethren that those in London are not unmindful of the general interests; that if they take a more active part in the management of the affairs of the Craft, it is not to exclude the country brethren, but only to prevent an undue pressure upon their time; and that being brought more immediately in connection with the governing power, they are also more immediately acquainted with the distress existing amongst their poorer brethren, and therefore do their utmost to alleviate it.

We should be unjust were we to close this notice without acknowledging that it has been written with pain, inasmuch as if there be any one brother in the kingdom to whom we are more deeply indebted than another for his exertions to promote the interests of the *Magazine*, it is Bro. Sherry; and had we been as liberally supported throughout the kingdom as we have been by the Winchester brethren—and that through the influence of Bro. Sherry—we should be the managers of one of the most prosperous literary organs in the kingdom.

CLASSICAL THEOLOGY.—V.

JUPITER AND JULY (CONTINUED).

THERE have been, and may be not a few, who have studied so deeply the spiritual miracles of the holy histories, and have thereon founded such singular theories, as absolutely to dream that the amalgamation of sulphur, saltpetre and charcoal into gunpowder was no secret to Moses, and that with it or by its aid he accomplished one at least of his most wonderful or apparently supernatural works. The power of those earthly lightnings, which we now call electricity and gunpowder, was doubtless known to one to whom it was given to comprehend the complex system of the universe; but to suppose that God required deceptions, or to believe that Moses would dare to assert or desire to use a deceptive power in the place of the Almighty, who he knew in a few moments could blast the world into ashes, is incompatible with true knowledge and wisdom.

Was it with fire Elijah divided Jordan? There was a time, we are told, when all Israel was gathered unto Mount Carmel; and with them four hundred and fifty of the prophets of Baal, and of the prophets of the groves four hundred, which "ate at Jezebel's table." A wondrous and awful scene was about to be enacted. We, feeble commentators, can add no line to strengthen the sublimity, the aptitude, or the beauty of the simple narrative:—

"So Ahab sent unto all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together unto Mount Carmel. And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word. Then said Elijah unto the people, I, even I only, remain a prophet of the Lord; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men. Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it to pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under; and I will dress the other bullock, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the Lord: and the God which answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken. And Elijah said unto the prophets of Baal, Choose ye one bullock for yourselves, and dress it first: for ye are many; and call on the name of your gods, but put no fire under. And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, O Baal, hear us! But there was no voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped upon the altar which was made. And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is on a

journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awakened. And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them. And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded. And Elijah said unto all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the Lord, that was broken down. And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, unto whom the word of the Lord came, saying, Israel shall be my name: And with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord: and he made a trench about the altar, as great as would contain two measures of seed. And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock in pieces, and laid him on the wood, and said, Fill four barrels with water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice, and on the wood. And he said, Do it the second time. And they did it the second time. And he said, Do it the third time. And they did it the third time. And the water ran round about the altar: and he filled the trench also with water.

"And it came to pass, at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and all Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel, and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word. Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the Lord God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again.

"Then the fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. And when all the people saw it they fell on their faces; and they said, The Lord, he is the God; the Lord, he is the God.

"And Elijah said unto them, Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape. And they took them; and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there."

Then Elijah the Tishbite pointed to the sky that his prayers had kept cloudless for the many days of three years, and spake to Ahab that he might go up to the feast, for there was "a sound of abundance of rain." So mysterious and impressive, and indeed solemn and anxious, are the concluding incidents of the holy verse in the page before us, that even young children can lisp the name of Elijah, and tell of the arising of "a little cloud out of the sea, like unto a man's hand." The priests of the high places, or the sacerdotes of Jupiter, as Elijah well knew, could speak or prophecy by the voices from the chest, or in the head, or else by *Baalim* the genii whom the Greeks called *Dæmons*; but they had no descending spirit who would come at their call, or, if they had, it must have been subordinate before the spirit which answered the cry of Elijah. The *dæmons* were believed to be the ostensible messengers between the human and superhuman races and the celestial gods. Furthermore, as we have alluded to the cave of Trophonius, we may as well observe that it was in a cave that the word of the Lord came to Elijah; but it was not in the great and strong wind that rent the mountain as the Lord passed by, neither was it in the earthquake, nor in the fire, but after them, that he heard a still small voice, and there came, there and then, a voice unto him.

As the world advanced by stages of change and knowledge, it is obvious that the schismatic Jews (so distinct from the righteous remnant left which had never bowed the knee to Jupiter, as Baal, Sol, and the astral gods, with those of other nations) had come to worship Jove as Jehovah. Here we discern the leaning and leading of the Holy One's merciful care towards all his creatures, as we will more circumstantially explain in the prophetic words of Hosea:—

"And it shall be in that day, saith the Lord, thou shalt call me Ishi; and shall call me no more Baali, for I will take away the names of Baalim out of her mouth (Jezebel's), and they shall no more be remembered by their name. And it shall come to pass in that day, I will hear, saith the Lord, I will hear the heavens, and they shall hear the earth . . . and I will say to them which were not my people, Thou art my people: (the Gentiles) and they shall say, Thou art my God."

Τριόβηλος (*Triobolis*) was also a title given to Jupiter by the Grecians, because they represented him with three

eyes, and thought by that number to express his attributes. With the right eye he was supposed to observe heavenly affairs, with his left eye to watch the earth, and with his central eye to keep in view the sea. In the time of Priam, the wooden statue of Jupiter, on the summit of Larissa, so representing him, was in the palace or Pergamus of Troy; and, according to report, the patron deity of Priam. This unfortunate king, while that part of his city nearest the Hellespont was in a roar of flames and shoutings, fled for refuge to that temple of his tutelar deity, which was too soon to be stained with his royal blood. At the shrine and feet of this god he was slain by Pyrrhus, the son of Achilles. Accordingly, we are told, that in the division of the spoil the statue fell to Sthenelus, the son of Capaneus, which is to account for its being brought to the ancient and noble city of Argos, called also Larissa, from the name conferred on its citadel in honour of the daughter of Pelasgus.

Pliny has described among the wonders of art, and of the world, a statue image of Olympus, in the temple of the city Olympia, of "prodigious size," carved with inimitable execution and skill by Phidias.

Jupiter was called Tarpeius, from the Tarpeian Rock, on the top of which he had the first temple that was erected in Rome. Tarquin the elder vowed to build it; Tarquin the Proud raised it; and the Consul Horatius dedicated it.

At the *Latine Ferie*, *Latialis*, or *Latium* festivals, to which all the cities of Italy poured out their throngs, desirous to bring oblations and partake of the several joyful solemnities of those times, a bull was always sacrificed to Jupiter in the collective name of them all, whereof every one present conformably participated. There was another most famous statue of his divinity at Praeneste, afterwards translated to Rome.

The pagan religious system made Zeus the supreme governor of heaven. We will therefore more distinctly exhibit him by comparison of some of his names; for in the far and broad expanse of the world he was revered with religious homage. It would seem that as an idol or object of idolatry, the empyreal deity, which was known as the Dies of the Cretans, the Ammon of the Libyans, the Bel of the Assyrians, the Baal of the Chaldeans, the Moloch of the Canaanites, the Baal-peor of the Moabites, the Saturn of the Carthaginians, the Osiris of the Egyptians, and the Jupiter of the Greeks and Romans, was fated prophetically to cause the national destruction and desolation of the Jews.

Judah and Israel had been taught at last, by suffering experience, to abjure all false gods, and had been warned by the angel of God, or by his prophets. The sacred law awarded condign punishment and even death to any who should retain or introduce a profane image or marked idol of any nature within the gates of the once all holy city of Jerusalem. This would have been well but for the misplaced zeal which followed. There was the cry of the blood of the innocents calling justly to be expiated. There was the sacrifice of the Holy One of Christendom and angels to be appeased. The old oracles had to be fulfilled, the new oracles to be manifested as brotherly love, instruction, fraternity and mercy.

Jesus Christ was born in the eighth century of Rome, during the reign of Augustus, and crucified in that of Tiberius, being then four and thirty years of age. In about another century from the time of his birth, Aelius Adrian rebuilt Jerusalem, then called Hierosolyma, renamed it *Ælia Capitolina*, and settled a colony there. In the same place where the temple destroyed by Titus had stood, for the "city was finally razed to the ground," he built another in honour of Jupiter. This so incensed the Jews, that they armed as one man, and renewed the war with more fury than ever, under the commandership of Barcochebas. Adrian, in addition to other skilful generals whom he employed, sent for Julius Severus out of Britain, by whom ultimately the Jews were subjugated, and "utterly destroyed," there being more than five hundred thousand of them slain by the sword, be-

sides an undeterminable multitude that were consumed by fire, pestilence, and famine; so that the nation and very name of the Jews were lost, and Palestine was nearly reduced to a state of desolate solitude. From that time forth until long after, the Jews were forbidden, under the penalty and the pain of death, to come to Jerusalem except on one day in the year, that they might lament its loss and their own misery.

THE SAILOR FREEMASON.

[From the *American Masonic Journal*.]

"It was in the winter, when the *Cherokee* sloop of war dropped anchor in Leith Roads, after a very stormy cruise. Having for some time laboured under a pulmonary disease, from cold, I was sent ashore to recruit my health; and from the longboat I made my way to a Leith stage coach—one of the most lubberly conveyances I ever travelled by, for the horses had scarcely anything like legs to stand on, and fairly came to anchor once or twice in ascending the steep called Leith Walk, the connecting link between the port and city of Edinburgh, whither I was bound.

"On my arrival in the city, a Highland porter assisted me to alight, and preceded me to my dear home, where I was cordially received by my mother, brothers, and sisters; and here my shattered hulk was laid up for repair, and thanks to my family, I soon found myself in shipshape order to move about and revisit the scenes so dear to my boyish days.

"It was one night, during my stay at home, that I accompanied my brother and sister to the ball of the Celtic Lodge of Freemasons, in the Calton Convening Rooms. The company consisted chiefly of Masons, their wives and relatives—many of them dressed in the Highland garb, or sporting ribands and sashes of clan tartan. On entering the hall, my brother and party were received, with every welcome demonstration, by one of the strangest looking characters I have ever beheld. My brother, perceiving that I was laughing, informed me that this was Bro. Richard Simpson, the W.M. of the Celtic Lodge; and I therefore struggled to contain myself in the presence of the worshipful figure now before me.

"He was a man about five feet six inches high, very lame, and short on one leg, which required the sustentation of a handcrutch. His outward man was clad in a rich Highland costume, bedizened with Masonic emblems, which strangely contrasted with his ungraceful gait. But his head—and such a head!—was inexpressibly ludicrous. He had lost the sight of one eye, the sightless orb protruding far beyond the socket, which ever and anon rolled about as he addressed his guests; but to complete the picture, on his head he wore a 42d Highland shako, with a huge plume of black undertaker's feathers, on one side of which was stuck a red feather, towering over the whole, and when he walked its undulations resembled those of a pendulum.

"However, 'Dickey Simpson,' as he was familiarly called, was with all his oddity a kind hearted, well meaning creature, for he seemed not to notice, or else not to care, for the mirth which his presence created; and he was moreover an enthusiastic Mason. Although out of place, I may here mention that the Celtic Lodge was then in its infancy, and has since been presided over by several eminent brethren, it being now one of the most respectable Lodges in Edinburgh. The ball went off gallantly—many reels, dances, and strathspeys, were tripped either to the band or the bagpipe, and the company did not 'go home till morning.'

"Some days after the fête, I asked my elder brother if he would advise me to become a Mason. He told me what I then thought a strange reply, that he could not possibly advise me; I was at liberty to follow my own free will and accord. However, as he made no objection, I went to the Celtic fraternity, and the next Lodge night received the first degree.

"After work, the brethren adjourned for refreshment, the same Bro. Simpson being in the chair, with his ponderous head gear waving proudly from the throne. All the Celtic brethren were also covered, according to the custom of the country. The repast consisted of a cold collation of sandwiches, which we washed down with porter and ale. After supper, quart bottles of wine negus and whisky toddy were placed before the respective brethren, which had been brewed for the occasion. The conviviality of the evening then commenced, and was kept up till twelve o'clock, at which hour we separated. I afterwards received the other degrees; and as I was for some time at home, I spent much of my leisure in visiting all the Lodges round about, until my returning health enabled me to join my ship.

"From that time I became enamoured of Freemasonry, and while on board ship I gave my mind up to that study, and frequently on our cruising excursions dropped ashore to visit some Lodges on the coast. It was a common remark on board, that if sailors had sweethearts in every port, I had brothers in every harbour. On one occasion I went ashore at Greenock, when a remarkable circumstance occurred, worthy of record. On entering the Lodge, to my great surprise, I found one of my superior officers there before me. Till that moment I was not aware of his being a brother, for on board ship he was rather austere and repulsive in his manner to all beneath him in command—a deportment which I believe many of our commanders assume from a notion that it is best calculated to secure obedience and respect. On this occasion our eyes met; and we were for the first time on an *equality*: and I shall never forget the hearty manner in which he saluted me—not in the voice which thundered terrors to the crew, but in the bland tones of a brother. Thou heaven descended beam of light, beauty, and perfection! How often has the endearing epithet of Brother reconciled the most conflicting interests, and united the firmest friends!

"While I remained in His Majesty's service, and it was not long, I experienced many acts of kindness and civility from my gallant superior, who often conversed with me on Masonic topics. Obligated to return home in bad health, I was only in part enabled to resume my Masonic friendships; but during that period I enjoyed much tranquillity, when with book in hand I visited the classic caves of Gortin and Hawthornden, or scanned the rich entablature on Roslin's ruined college, or sought the mouldering castle of the lordly St. Clair—

"Lifting o'er blooming groves its head,
In the wan beauty of the dead;"

and gazing upon the loopholed retreat on the varied tints of a sylvan paradise—

"A lovely scene but sadly sweet,
Like smiles and tears on beauty's face;
Far may we wander ere we meet
So dear a dwelling place,
That formed by hand of nature seems
For lovers' sighs and poets' dreams!"

"Amidst scenes like these I found quiet and repose; and ere summer clothed the hawthorn tree with bloom, my spirits with my health began to rally; but I yearned for my favourite element; and as I did not wish to be burdensome to my dear friends, I left them once more, contrary to all parental and fraternal entreaties, and joined the merchant service, thinking that a foreign voyage might perhaps recruit my health.

"My leave taking of my brother was most solemn and affecting; he entreated me to return back with him; but I would not. He shook his head mournfully, and murmured 'Farewell!' I could see him keeping his eyes on the vessel, till the figure became like an atom, and presently it vanished from my anxious eyes.

"Our voyage was tempestuous; the evening of our departure was greeted by no solar ray; and the wind, which in gloomy murmurs gave 'fearful note of preparation' for a coming storm, soon increased to a hurricane. Our little world was tossed about at the mercy of the waves; the night was spent in fear and anxiety. 'Twas then I thought of home; I imagined I heard my brother beseeching me to return; but to hear a voice then was impossible; the thunder rolled, and the forked lightning flashed in awful majesty. The morning came, but the tempest raged with unabated violence, threatening to hurl us into the yawning abyss. In this manner we were tossed about for two days at the mercy of the wind and waves, having lost two masts. On the night of the second, we were driven on shore on the coast of Norway, near Bergen. The captain, who was a cowardly fellow (in mercy to whom I do not name the ship) went ashore with four others, in the only boat we had, promising to return. I was certainly offered a place beside the chickenhearted commander, but I preferred to await the return of the boat, in company of those that remained.

"Hanging to the wreck for hours, no boat came to our rescue; and, as the vessel was now under water, I resolved on swimming ashore, where I saw lights moving to and fro—no doubt to aid the wreckers in their greedy business. Seeing a spar floating by, I jumped upon it, and I was soon away from the vessel; the tide seemed to aid my efforts, for I was carried towards the shore. In my eagerness to hold on by the spar, my watchglass was broken into pieces, which were lodged in my side, and this, no doubt, brought on fainting from loss of blood. But there is a wonderful tenacity in life, and I still held fast although unable to make any effort. I became insensible; a gurgling noise assailed my ears, and I sank as it were into a dreamy sleep. In this situation I was cast on shore, and how long I remained in this

state I know not. I heard voices in the midst of the storm, and the sound of footsteps near, but I could neither speak nor open my eyes. My first sensation arose from the rough handling of some of the people, who talked together in, to me, an unknown tongue. Still unable to open my eyes, or move, I was lifted from the strand into the arms of a foreign Brother. He held some spirit to my lips, and, after a shiver or two, I opened my eyes upon a scene of wreck and ruin. I was conveyed to the house of my preserver, the glass was picked out of my side, and I was consigned to a couch, where I was carefully watched.

"By the kind attention of my newly-found Brother, I soon recovered, and heard that all had been lost; for what had been saved from the deep had fallen into the hands of the wreckers.

"The kind hearted fellow who had acted the true Samaritan introduce me to the consul (also a Brother), who supplied me with clothes and other necessaries. As soon as I was in a fit state to move about, I determined on returning home, for I had a presentiment that death had put its mark upon me, as my pulmonary complaint increased daily. Accordingly, I took the first ship which was bound to the port of London." Here ends the sailor's narrative.

He arrived in London much emaciated, where he found an asylum in his sister's house; but he longed to see his old mother once more, and with staff in hand, the frail, weather beaten fellow went and secured a berth in one of the Leith smacks (there were no steamers then) which was to sail the next day. He returned back, his luggage was put on board, and he retired to rest with the hope that he would once more see his parent, who having been apprised of his intention, anxiously awaited the arrival of the ship. It arrived, but her boy was not there; the captain knew not how to account for the mystery, for he had seen him the night before with his own hand write his name on a piece of paper, and pin it to the curtain of his bed; and there it remained. By next post his afflicted family were made acquainted with his dissolution.

His last filial effort was too much for him: he died two or three hours before the vessel sailed. He was only twenty-five years of age; his voyage is o'er, and with him "the dream of life is past;" his shattered hulk is now free from earthly storms, awaiting, it is to be firmly and devoutly hoped, a translation to the Grand Lodge above.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

THE OLD MASONIC COAT OF ARMS.

You some time since gave an engraving of the coat of arms borne by the York Masons. It is said, by a brother with whom I correspond, that they represent the Royal Arch bearings, and allude to the four standards; be this as it may, please describe this heraldically in your next.—FRATERNITAS.—[ARMS. Quarterly per squares, countercharged *vert*; 1st quarter, *az.*, a lion rampant, *or*; 2nd, *or*, an ox passant *sa*; 3rd, *or*, a man with hands uplifted, *ppr.*, robed in crimson and ermine; 4th, *az.*, an eagle displayed, *or*. CREST. The Ark of the Covenant, *ppr.* SUPPORTERS. Two Cherubims with wings extended. MOTTO. "Holiness to the Lord."]

BRO. THOMAS SANDBY, R.A.

"A Master Builder" inquires, in a recent number, if the architect of Freemasons' Hall was eminent in his profession; and as he speaks of him as a brother of our ancient Craft (which he most probably would be), I will follow his example, presuming that he has not done so from conjecture. Perhaps some one will be kind enough to supply the information as to when and where Bro. Thomas Sandby was initiated, with any further particulars as to his proficiency in speculative Masonry. For the present, the following few particulars concerning Bro. Thomas Sandby are perhaps the best answer in the affirmative to "A Master Builder's" questions. Thomas Sandby, R.A., was born at Nottingham, in the year 1721, and was descended from a branch of the family of Sandby of Babworth. He was brother to, and four years older than, Paul Sandby, R.A., the founder of the English school of water colour painters. Both the brothers seem to have shown in early life a natural talent for delineating with the pencil like skilful artists; but our object at present must be to briefly trace the career of Thomas, who is said to have at first had his mind directed to architecture as a profession, in consequence of his having discovered a new and readier mode of drawing perspective. His drawings procured for him such approbation in Nottingham and its vicinity, that he determined to try his fortune in London, and, in 1743, he was appointed draughtsman to the chief engineer in Scotland. He was at Fort William, in the Highlands, in August,

1745, when Prince Charles Edward, the young Pretender, sailed from Port St. Nazaire, and succeeded in landing in the Hebrides; and as the Craft has ever been noted for its loyalty, it is interesting to know that Bro. Thomas Sandby was the first person who conveyed intelligence of that event to government. His talents and loyalty immediately procured for him the appointment of draughtsman to William, Duke of Cumberland, and after the rebellion was subdued in Scotland, he followed "the royal butcher" in his campaigns in Flanders. In 1746, the duke appointed him deputy ranger of Windsor Great Park, an appointment which he held until his death, fifty-two years afterwards. If "A Master Builder" has ever visited that lovely sylvan tract, stretching from Windsor Castle to the village of Sunnyside, and has treasured up in the chambers of his brain pictures from the park and forest to gaze upon with his mental vision, when far away from the original scenes, he has just cause to be thankful for Bro. Thomas Sandby's appointment to the sub-rangership, for there he made art and nature go hand in hand. That one instance is a sample of his true taste. Near the village I have just mentioned, until 1754, there was a noisome swamp, into which a Falstaff once pitched headlong would never have crawled out again to revel at the Garter. But Bro. Thomas Sandby, though he could not drain this bog, on account of the lowness of the situation, hit upon the happy expedient of forming the largest artificial lake in the kingdom—Virginia Water. It is due to Bro. Thomas Sandby to state that the bad taste of erecting artificial ruins belongs to a later period and a weaker brain. A series of eight folio views, published by Bro. Thomas Sandby about that period, will give "A Master Builder" some idea of the architect's abilities as a landscape gardener and artist, as they illustrate the improvements he had made about Windsor. His skill in drawing or delineating the intended building in a draft or plan was such, that he received the appointment of architect to the king previous to his labours just mentioned. In 1755, I find him labouring to establish an English academy for the cultivation of the arts; in 1766, he was a member of the Society of Incorporated Artists of Great Britain; and when the Royal Academy was formed, in 1768, he was considered qualified to be appointed the first Professor of Architecture, and he annually delivered lectures on architecture, illustrated by his own drawings, from the opening of the Academy to the period of his death. In 1768, he gained the first prize for a design for the Dublin Royal Exchange, equally with Thomas Cooley, but the latter received the commission in consequence of his being an Irishman. I need not tell "A Master Builder" that Freemasons' Hall, in London, was erected in 1775, from a design which Bro. Thomas Sandby drew for the guidance and instruction of the operative craftsmen; though Bro. Preston, in the twelfth edition of his "Illustrations of Masonry," 1812, omits all mention of Bro. Sandby's name in his account of the hall. The lectures to the Royal Academicians never were published, but the late John Britton presented the original manuscript to the library of the Royal Institute of British Architects; and "A Master Builder" will find a great number of drawings by Bro. Thomas Sandby in the Soane Museum, and in the print room of the British Museum. He was the author of a much admired design for an ornamental bridge over the Thames at Somerset House, which was never erected, on account of the expense. He died on the 25th of June, 1798, in the seventy-seventh year of his age, and his body was interred at Old Windsor. Perhaps some other brother may be able to add to this information, so as fully to satisfy "A Master Builder" and other readers of your interesting "Masonic Notes and Queries"—a feature in the *Magazine* likely to accomplish much good.—GEORGE MARKHAM TWEDDELL.

PAUL SANDBY, R.A.

Was the Paul Sandby, R.A., mentioned in the foregoing "Note," a member of the Craft? And, if so, when and where was he initiated?—GEO. M. TWEDDELL.

MASONIC STATUE OF WASHINGTON.—General Washington was a member of the Masonic Lodge at Fredericksburg, Va., and was initiated November 5th, 1752. The fact is especially a source of pride to the old Lodge at Fredericksburg. It has been deemed proper to procure a statue of Washington, by Powers, and an order to that effect was given some time since. The statue arrived at New York from Leghorn a few days since. It is the property of the Fredericksburg Lodge, and has been paid for by voluntary contributions of the Masonic Order generally. It cost \$5,000, and is somewhat larger than life. It was proposed also to erect a building at Fredericksburg suitable for the statue, and to inaugurate it with appropriate ceremonies.—*Rob Morris's Voice of Masonry.*

Literature.

REVIEWS.

A Life-Long Story: or, Am I my Sister's Keeper? Facts and Phases for the Times. Dedicated to the Women of England. By ONE OF THEMSELVES. London: Simpkin, Marshall and Co.

We had hoped, for the honour of poor humanity, that the religious novel had become pretty nearly obsolete; for it is a painful thing to find one sect bitterly accusing another, and that too in a work of fiction, an acknowledged falsehood. With some persons the end is often pleaded as a sanction to the means, but try them on this ground and assail their weak points, and they will burst forth in a mighty cry of shame.

Then again the motive is paraded before us as an excuse for all the gall and bitterness that can be heaped on their opponents' heads. This is lamentable, and such principles cannot expect to find favour among Masons, whose watchword is,

"Peace on earth; goodwill towards man."

We are told in the preface that—

"To the literary epicure, revelling in a measured and majestic flow of thought, or to the reading dissipationist (*sic*) seeking to satisfy an unhealthy idealism in records of startling adventures by 'flood and field,' the story will have no charms."

This statement we can fully endorse; for story, in the usually accepted sense of the word, there is none. The book is an indescribable jumble of unintelligible meaning, dealing freely with the name of the Author of all good, and perverting the holy scriptures in every possible way to wrest a meaning from them that will suit the preconceived intentions of the writer.

So, also, with another paragraph of the preface, we cordially agree, that "there is nothing new under the sun," and, "of making books there is no end;" probably it may be less needful to produce "things new" than to reproduce the old with a fresher pathos. Many, if not all, of the subjects introduced into these pages have been dealt with, and dealt with infinitely better. We are then told that in the *chronos* "there are some inaccuracies;" we believe it. There are not some, but many.

We must not say what we think of the performance of even the preface, but will ask our readers if they can understand the following extracts, which are far above our comprehension:—

"ALL THINGS —! the last death-sob of those illustrious men—Lawrence, Havelock, Hodson, and a sacred band—whose memory will never grow old, and from whose graves shall issue a stream of light and glory till the Reaping Angel shall lift up his hand and swear 'that time shall be no longer.'"

We are then treated to three more paragraphs that touch on "ALL THINGS —!" and to a final "And yet once more —!" The force of folly can no further go.

We come upon another passage, more painful, because of its utter profanity. We are told, "There lacketh, even in the heart of God's people, more reverence for the teaching of God's word than at this day appeareth among us;" and then we have the name of the Great Architect of the universe bandied about in all sorts of doggerel lines, which we pass over, as they contain a long tirade against the Pope and in honour of the flag of Protestantism. And all this is part of the preface of a book, a novel, that is published to show how badly sempstresses are treated, and in favour of the early closing movement.

We have not patience to take our readers through the work, but offer a copious extract, taken haphazard, to show the writer's style:—

"Say now, you whose hearts have not been preserved in ice, and are not cutting fragments of flint and steel, never nearing each other to produce fire and warmth, is it wonderful that as her trusting cry fell on his ear, and her gentle bosom pulsated for one moment close to his own as the fair creature clung to his encircling arm, his love smouldering and stifled—down as it was, attracted by its kindred essence, should have leaped out and united with hers into one pure, bright flame, destined to burn for ever and ever?—and though, as some frigid beings—who would have made capital inmates of the ice-palace of the imperial murderess of Russia—declare that 'it is very wrong for ministers to have feelings and affection like other people,' we prefer appealing to those who have loved, and struggled, and sorrowed, to judge our young pastor; let the sinless east the first stone.—"

"Reader, can you?"

"No, you cannot! Ah, 'tis even so. 'If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves.'"

"And now we may go over the old philosophically macadamized road, and add to the skeleton-worn remarks, 'What a strange thing the human heart is! How it is ever playing at cross purposes!'"

"What a mysterious thing love is, ever eluding the dictates of policy and prudence and ensconcing itself with a mischievous chuckle into the most unlikely corners!"

"What a singular marriage Miss So-and-so made!"
 "Who would have thought of Lord This-or-that fancying such a mere child?"

"I wonder—but when we have multiplied these wonders and truisms, *ad infinitum*, we shall at last find ourselves just where we set out on our exploring mania, for there is very little in this great whispering gallery, 'Self-balanced on its centre hung,'

that is not a mystery.

"What are the stars, the flowers?"

"What is Life, and its shadow Love? Death, and its twin-brother Sleep?"

"What is the Soul, and its first-born Thought?"

"What is Time, and what Eternity?"

"But is there not a still greater Mystery; a mystery the loftiest intelligences of heaven yearningly desire to look into, while we, dots in the vast creation, waste our precious hours on aught beside, though joy or woe interminable hinges on our reception of it, the science and song of all eternity:—

'Tis mystery all, the Immortal dies
 Who can explore the strange design?
 In vain the firstborn seraph tries
 To sound the depths of love divine.
 Amazing love! how can it be
 That Thou, my God, should die for me?"

"Only in the light of this wondrous love can we catch faint streaks of life's lesser mysteries; and when, from her glory home, the enfranchised soul looks on all the ways (rough and thorny and mysterious though they have been) by which she has reached at last her rest, how will the exulting anthem ring through the abiding city,—

'True, and just are all thy ways, thou King of Saints!'

Conscious even to agony that under the impulse of terror she betrayed her love. Mary shrunk from herself and others," &c.

It is not a pleasant task to review works like this; the mingling of the human and divine—the glib and irreverent calling upon or appealing to the Creator for every trivial incident, makes us come to the conclusion that the extract we have given above, capitals, italics, punctuation and all, is to be summed up in one word—*Cant*.

The intention of the authoress was, we doubt not, good, but the execution fully illustrates the proverb—that a certain place is paved with good intentions.

Rob Morris's Masonic Almanack for 1860. Kentucky: Morris and Montsarrat, Louisville.

This Almanack, though of course more adapted to the wants of the American than the English brethren, will be found a useful and welcome visitor wherever it finds its way. It contains a great amount of Masonic information, conveyed in the briefest phraseology, and must, we should think, command an immense sale, seeing that in the United States Bro. Morris has a constituency of something like 200,000 free and accepted brethren to address, thousands of whom are always looking out for something new to emanate from his pen, in which they are sure to take an interest. We shall find occasion to make good use of its pages, we hope, alike for the instruction and amusement of our readers.

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

We hear that the Birkenhead steam launch having proved a failure, Dr. Livingstone has sent home orders for the construction of another, at an estimated cost of £2000. This cost Dr. Livingstone proposes to defray out of his own pocket, from the means set aside for his children out of the profits of his "Travels." "The children must make it up for themselves" was in effect his expression in sending the order for appropriation of the money.

M. Guizot, says a Paris letter, who is giving the last touch to the third volume of his memoirs, has lately received a very flattering compliment from his townsmen of the city of Nîmes. The honorary presidency of the academy of Nîmes having been offered him, the illustrious statesman hastened to reply by a letter in which he accepted the appointment. M. Guizot added that, notwithstanding his advanced age, he hopes to render his presidency effective.

M. de Lamartine's paternal estate of Monceaux, near Maçon, is advertised for sale by auction at the chamber of notaries in Paris, on the 7th of February next. The upset price is fixed at 1,000,000 francs. The French papers publish, on behalf of M. de Lamartine, a contradiction of the report, which it seems, has been circulated, that he proposes to deliver public lectures. He had arrived in Paris from Maçon, and is working at his serial, the *Entretien Littéraires*.

Not less than 43,000 copies of the pamphlet "Le Pape et le Congrès," have been sold. Whoever may lose, M. Dentu, the publisher, is not the man.

Dr. Justus Liebig, in the supplements to the *Allgemeine Zeitung*, has commenced the publication of a new series of popular letters on the

subject of agricultural chemistry. They are addressed to Alderman Mechi.

The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland has recently transferred its museum and library to new quarters, under the auspices of government. The celebrated "Maiden," the supposed original of the guillotine, so fraught with recollections and associations, has, we presume, with the rest of the varied objects of interest, found a more appropriate and special resting place. The collection of antiquities has received an important accession in a series of Egyptian antiquities, presented by Mr. A. H. Rhind, and which were excavated under his personal superintendence. The same collection possesses some curious fragments of painting, and a copy of the "Confession of Faith," headed by the signature of Montrose.

At the meeting of the Royal Society on the 22nd ult., the chair was taken by Sir Benjamin Brodie, the president. B. Woodcroft, Esq., was admitted a fellow of the society. The following papers were read:—"On the Electro-conducting Power of Alloys," and "On the Specific Gravity of Alloys," by A. Matthiessen. "On the Structure of the Chorda Dorsalis of the Plagiostomes and some other Fishes," by Prof. Kölliker. "On an extended Form of the Index, the Index Symbol in the Calculus of Operations," by W. Spottiswoode, Esq. Admiral FitzRoy, Superintendent of the Meteorological Department of the Board of Trade, gave an oral account of the late storms of the 25th and 26th of October and the 1st of November.

The Society of Antiquaries met on the same day, when J. Bruce, Esq., one of the vice presidents, took the chair. Mr. J. G. Nichols presented a broadside elegy on the death of Edward Jones, the famous *Gazette* printer in the Savoy. Mr. Charles Reed exhibited some early certificates of Quaker marriages. The Rev. J. S. Hiley exhibited a bronze celt and two Roman coins, found in Charnwood Forest—one of them was of Vespasian, and bore the numerals LXXXIII in countermark. Mr. B. Wilmer, the society's local secretary for Normandy, exhibited drawings of a glass Roman vase, which had been cast in a mould, the figures on it being represented in high relief. Mr. W. M. Wylie communicated some remarks on this rare example of Roman art. Mr. J. J. Howard exhibited, by permission of Dr. Iliff, an ivory signet ring, bearing the arms of Francis Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury. The president communicated a transcript of a document in his possession relating to the defeat of the Spanish Armada, on which some remarks, by Mr. R. Lemon, were read.

Colonel Sykes presided at the last meeting of the Statistical Society, when S. Whitbread, Esq., the Rev. E. T. Rogers, M.A., J. Coles, H. J. Phillips, and H. R. Sharman, Esqs., were elected Fellows of the society. Mr. D. Chadwick, Treasurer of Salford, read a paper "On the rate of wages in Manchester and Salford and the manufacturing districts of Lancashire, during the last twenty years."

DEATH OF LORD MACAULAY.

England and European literature have sustained an irreparable loss by the sudden death of Lord Macaulay, which took place at his residence in Kensington, at eight o'clock on Wednesday week. Although in 1852 he had a serious and protracted illness, from declared disease of the heart, the attack was subdued, and till within the last month his health was tolerably good. About three weeks since he had a second attack, from which, however, he rallied, and his medical advisers considered him out of immediate danger, but a relapse took place, and terminated fatally. Lord Macaulay was never married, and the title dies with him. He was born at Rothley Temple, Leicestershire, in the year 1800, and was consequently only fifty-nine years of age. The son of Zachary Macaulay—a man worthy to be named along with Clarkson, Wilberforce, and Stephen, for his exertions and sacrifices to promote the abolition of the slave trade—Mr. Macaulay had doubtless an excellent early training. He entered Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1819, carried off prize after prize, and having on leaving the University chosen the bar as his profession, he selected the Northern Circuit as the sphere of his legal career. About this time his celebrated article on "Milton" appeared in the *Edinburgh Review*. The publication of that article was a literary event, and it was soon felt that a new luminary was rising in the literary hemisphere. Subsequent articles of equal ability led to Mr. Macaulay's being made a Bankruptcy Commissioner, and to his introduction to Parliament, under the auspices of the Marquis of Lansdowne, as member for Calne, and to office as Secretary to the Board of Control. The right honourable gentleman in 1832 accepted an appointment in the Supreme Council of India, and at the end of two years and a half returned to England. To his residence in India we owe his essays on Lord

Clive and Warren Hastings—two of his most brilliant productions. Mr. Macaulay's subsequent political career in England was somewhat less active than that previous to his departure for the East; but he still contributed—as M.P. for Edinburgh, Secretary at War, and Paymaster of the Forces—to the stores of our parliamentary eloquence. The loss of his election for Edinburgh, in 1847, owing to his views on the Maynooth question, induced him to retire and to devote his time to literary pursuits. While his admirers were deploring the fact of a man known to fame as a poet, essayist, and orator, being thus displaced by a constituency so important and intelligent, they derived no small consolation from the rumour that he was to devote his leisure to the grand project of writing a History of England. His peculiar qualifications for the task, his parliamentary career, his official knowledge, his social experience, his historical information, his familiarity with ancient literature, and the art he was known to possess of writing what people like to read, as well as dealing skilfully with the less attractive parts of a subject, raised high expectations; and when, in 1848, an instalment of two volumes appeared, with the title of "The History of England from the accession of James the Second," they met with an enthusiastic reception, and elicited universal praise. In the majestic sentences with which he introduced his work to the public, Mr. Macaulay stated that he would cheerfully bear the reproach of having descended below what is called the dignity of history, if he could succeed in placing before the English of the nineteenth century a true picture of the life of their ancestors. He made the sacrifice, and accomplished his object. By a judicious selection and arrangement of materials; by retaining only what was interesting of itself, or could be rendered so by the artifice of style; and by adorning his pages with biographical sketches of the principal actors in the scenes he treated of, Mr. Macaulay succeeded in producing a book which few can peruse without gratification. In 1848, Mr. Macaulay was chosen Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow, and delivered an inaugural address, memorable for its ability. In 1849 he was nominated Professor of Ancient History in the Royal Academy. In 1852, when a general election occurred, he was by his friends put in nomination for Edinburgh. Mr. Macaulay, however, stood haughtily aloof from the stirring contest; neither issuing an address, nor appearing as a candidate on the hustings. Nevertheless, the electors restored themselves to the good opinion of the world by replacing him in his former position; and going northward in the autumn, he delivered a speech that did much to clear a way for the coalition government, which he subsequently supported in the House of Commons, by two orations deemed not quite worthy of his ancient reputation. In 1853, Mr. Macaulay's various speeches were collected and published. In 1855, the third and fourth volumes of his "History of England" were hailed with an enthusiasm which marked them out for a popularity hardly less extensive than that which attended their predecessors. In 1856, Mr. Macaulay resigned his seat for Edinburgh, and on September 10th, 1857, he was raised to the peerage; but a chronic cough, which of late years prevented his speaking for more than a short time, probably induced him to refrain from ever addressing the Upper House. The author had expressed a hope that he might be enabled to bring down the history of his country to a date within the memory of living men; but unhappily this hope is very far from being realized. For some time it has been currently rumoured that the fifth and sixth volumes of the work were about to appear, but we believe, whatever materials may have been accumulated, no such extensive addition to the history is ready for the press.

THE LATE EDWARD WRIGHT.

We extract the following graphic sketch from the columns of the *Athenæum*:—"After a quarter of a century of hard labour—the labour of being perpetually comic before a London audience—Mr. Wright of the Adelphi has 'shuffled off this mortal coil.' He has left many an older brother actor who commenced his career of player before Mr. Wright was born; but the latter had been rendered old by long suffering, and he died last week:—according to dates, in the forty-sixth year of his age—according to constitution, a very much older man. Like Murphy's "Apprentice," Mr. Wright was stagestruck at an early period, and left "commerce" (otherwise the "counter") for the "boards" when he was barely out of his teens. His course shows what may be effected by study, perseverance, and self respect. He was a very poor actor when the curtain first rose for him, but he became the first in his peculiar line before many years had passed. That line was "farce," in all its varieties, from the lightest and airiest to the very broadest; but even the latter never ran into vulgarity, and his lowest humour had a touch of refinement in it. His vocation was commenced five and twenty

years ago at the Queen's Theatre, a little house which, in the days of the Beverleys, was a nursery for growing players, and where, with very small resources, pieces were put upon the stage with remarkable care and neatness. There Wright proved himself weak among the inefficient, but he abandoned the latter that he might become strong. In a few months he was the pet of Birmingham; and, in 1837, when Braham produced him at the St. James's, he became a favourite, and soon the familiar friend, of the London public. His home was at the Adelphi; but he served under two dynasties at the Princess's—those of Medex and Kean,—rendering the last memorable by his creation of the character of *Queen Bee*, in Douglas Jerrold's charming play of "St. Cupid." Wright's musical voice and knowledge, and his graceful dancing, were advantages of which he knew how to make admirable use; but, like an accomplished artist, he could turn defects to profit, and render a certain hesitation of speech available for the expression of laughter from his audience. Many other merits were his, but we will specify but one more—his identification with his part—as, for instance, in the old retired coachman in some screaming farce, when the veteran John tottered on his weak limbs taking permanently the form into which they had been shaped during fifty years' occupation of the box seat. This appearance he never forgot for a moment throughout the piece. For a brief period he was at the Lyceum, where he was shelved, as he was at the Princess's. "Wright of the Adelphi" exactly indicates his home and his style. It was he who made screaming farces not merely endurable, but enjoyable. The fun of them he carried away from the stage to his house and garden at Surbiton, where the same servant dressed his wigs and reared his cauliflower. Let us add, that the mirth he raised was legitimately produced. Honest fun was the result. He lived before the days when the stage became profane by burlesques of the most sacred stories of the affections and mockeries of the greatest patriots in history. He died, on the 22nd instant, at Boulogne, exhausted by continued disease. To such complexion had the great comic actor come at last."

A MASONIC LIFE OF WASHINGTON.—We have known for a considerable period that a work of this character was in the course of preparation by the skilful hand of Bro. Sidney Hayden, of Athens Pa., but did not feel at liberty to announce it until specially permitted by the author to do so. To gather material for so important a work, Bro. Hayden has expended much time and money in a personal examination of old Lodge records in New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia, and is yet engaged in such researches. He has corresponded extensively with old Lodges in different sections, to gather up notes from their records and archives relative to the subject of his investigations. To make his personal written appeal more effectual he has, in many States first obtained the approbation of Grand Masters for soliciting such notes, &c. This sort of investigation is indeed laborious, but has been in its results successful. Much good matter has been secured, both from Masons and non-Masons, the latter looking with interest upon his labours as promising a contribution to American history. This is a correct view to take of the subject. We have an object in alluding to Bro. Hayden's labours beyond that of furnishing a paragraph; we have to request on his account, and for the sake of the institution in general, that every person who is in possession of incidents or items relating to Washington as a Mason, or the old military Lodges, will communicate them to him at Athens, Pa., as soon as possible, that they may be incorporated in his forthcoming work. All such matter will, we guarantee, be personally and duly acknowledged. We are sure that this book will be a real addition to the literature of Masonry and to American history. Too much has been advanced by orators and writers as reliable Masonic facts, which has no solid foundation. Such stuff, as Bro. Hayden well observes, is like the bubble which has just substance enough to exhibit colours of reflected light and please the fancy for a moment, and then to burst. Masonic history, to be worthy of the present age, should be like the diamond, with its (fabled) eternal light. We sincerely hope that Bro. Hayden will build up this work, a monument of honour to himself and to us all.—*Rob Morris's Voice of Masonry.*

A TOUCHING INCIDENT.—At the Masonic festival in Medina, Ohio, on the 24th June, 1858, there was a banquet in the evening. Among those present was Ossian E. Dodge, who, of course, was called on to sing. The song he selected to sing was the "Snow Storm," written by Seba Smith. Mr. Dodge, before singing the song, narrated the incident to which it related. In the year 1821, Mrs. Blake, with her husband and child, were crossing the Green Mountains during a snow storm, and lost their way. When discovered by some persons in search of them, Mrs. Blake was frozen to death, and Mr. Blake almost unconscious. Near the dead body of Mrs. Blake was a little hillock of snow, on removing which was found a bundle, which, when unwrapped, was found to contain the babe alive and well, wrapped in the clothing the mother had taken from her own person. During the singing of the piece a gentleman and lady were deeply affected. The gentleman was the Hon. H. G. Blake, son of her who had perished in the snow and brother of the babe, and the lady was his wife.—*American Paper.*

Poetry.

A SONG TO THE CRAFT.

BY BRO. DALLENGER.

I.

A SONG to the Craft—the ancient Craft,
That for ages unnumber'd hath stood;
Here's health, strength, and might, to the sons of the light,
And our own dear brotherhood.
There's virtue and truth imparted to youth,
When the Charge from the Master is given;
And it pointeth the way to those who obey
Its precepts, for they lead to heaven.

II.

In the ancient time, when its secrets sublime,
Great Solomon with his brethren would share;
At the temple of old, its proud altar of gold
Was built by the aid of the square.
Now the builder is dead, and its glory hath fled
Like a dream from the human brain;
But its mysteries live, and power still give
To the Craft, which for aye shall remain.

III.

Here's to Hiram's great name, whose undying fame,
Like the Craft, shall for ever endure;
May all Masons still be as faithful as he,
And the vows they have made ne'er abjure.
With heart and with hand, in Masonry's band,
Let us aid and assist one another;
That all men may see, that our actions agree
With the creed that's profess'd by a brother.

THE VAIN REGRET.

Oh, had I nursed when I was young
The lessons of my father's tongue,
(The deep laborious thought he drew
From all he saw and others knew),
I might have been—ah, woe is me!
Thrice sager than I e'er shall be.

For what says time?

Alas! he only shows the truth
Of all that I was told in youth.

The thoughts now budding in my brain—
The wisdom I have bought with pain—
The knowledge of life's brevity—
Frail friendship—false philosophy—
And all that issues out of woe—
Methinks were taught me long ago.

Then what says time?

Alas! he but brings back the truth
Of all I heard (and lost) in youth!

Truths hardly learned and lately brought
From many a far forgotten scene,
Had I but listened as I ought
To all your voices, sage, serene,
O! what might I not have been
In the realms of thought?

TRUE WISDOM.

BY J. C. PRINCE.

Who are the wise?

They who have governed with a self control
Each wild and baneful passion of the soul;
Curbed the strong impulse of all fierce desires,
But kept alive affections purer fires;
They who have passed the labyrinth of life,
Without one hour of weakness or of strife;
Prepared each change of fortune to endure,
Humble, though rich, and dignified, though poor;
Skilled in the latent movements of the heart—
Learned in that lore which nature can impart;
Teaching that sweet philosophy aloud
Which sees the silver lining of the cloud;
Looking for good in all beneath the skies—
These are the truly wise.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

PAST MASTERS' JEWELS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—A very knotty point of practice has arisen, which we should be glad if you will solve for us in your next number.

The Lodge to which we belong gave orders, some time since, for a die to be made so that the Past Masters' presentation jewels should all be of one pattern or design. This die remains in the hands of the Masonic jeweller. Our present Master, about to leave the chair, has had very considerable doubts of the Lodge voting him one of such jewels, and accordingly he has been to the Masonic jeweller, and ordered and paid for a jewel for himself, to be taken from the Lodge die. We want to know how to proceed in the matter, for we are not anxious that he should wear this jewel. Can we prohibit him from doing so, and how? The property of the Lodge is vested in him; but does that give him a right to use what he would only be entitled to by vote of the Lodge, although in strict legality he is a part proprietor with the other members? Also, from whom should the jeweller receive such an order? The Secretary, by common custom, orders everything by direction of the Master, and, of course, he has no more to do in the affairs of the Lodge than what he is ordered; but is not the proceeding an exceptional one when the Master deals with the Lodge property without consulting any brother, or giving the order through the Secretary? Can the Lodge, when the subject comes before it, pass a vote of censure on the Master and refuse him admission to the Lodge while he comes decorated with the jewel he has ordered so unfairly, if not fraudulently?

We are, Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

THE P.Ms. AND OFFICERS OF THE — LODGE.

[There can be no doubt that the Master has acted most foolishly and indiscreetly, and must indeed be a weak man thus to decorate himself, though in many Lodges the P.Ms. always have to pay for their jewels. The jeweller had a right to suppose the W.M. had the power to order the jewel. In future, keep the die in your own hands, and only issue it when a jewel is wanted. You can pass the vote of censure and refuse the brother admission to the Lodge, but he will have a right of appeal to the Board of General Purposes.—ED.]

THE BLACKHEATH MEETING OF AUGUST, 1858.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In the last number of your *Magazine* (viz., Dec. 24), under the head of "The Blackheath Meeting of August, 1858," "A Member of West Kent Masonry" begs to ask "the result of that meeting as far as the charities are concerned;" and as my name is mentioned amongst others as one "of the prominent leaders of the meeting," I feel very confident that your sense of justice will afford me space in your next issue to state, as far as I am concerned, all I know about the affair; first supporting you in your statement that Bros. Crew, Thiselton, and yourself were only present in your official capacities. The scheme, as far as I can recollect, originated with the Deptford brethren, for the purpose of bringing together the members of the various Lodges of West Kent; after one or two meetings of the committee had been held, my name was added thereto, and I now am enabled to speak from personal knowledge; it was proposed, in order to benefit the charities, that fifteen shillings should be charged for each dinner ticket—twelve shillings to be paid to the landlord, and three shillings to be reserved for charity, after deducting the expenses of printing, &c. So far from the gathering being a failure, it was the reverse, as the room could barely accommodate the number of brethren present; and I believe I was not singular in the opinion, that a surplus of about fifteen pounds would be at the disposal of the committee for charity.

I have since the festival called several times on Bro. Figg Wright, urging a settlement of the account; I have also waited upon Bro. Prowse, and visited the Deptford Lodges, urging that no time should be lost; but all to no effect. Where the blame lies it is not for me to say, as I should be sorry to impute more than error in judgment to any brother.

Since Saturday I have again called upon several of the brethren, and Bro. Prowse says he is now in possession of the accounts, and will at once call a meeting of the committee; so that I hope all cause of complaint will speedily subside. I have learned upon inquiry that several of the brethren have not made any return of their tickets, not knowing who to pay the money to: this difficulty will be removed; and when we take into consideration that of a few tickets not used, yet paid for—the full amount of fifteen shillings, and three shillings, the overcharge of those actually presented at the dinner—there ought to be available for the charities, minus the expenses, a good sum yet to be shown as a balance.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours truly and fraternally,

H. J. HINXMAN, M.D.,

Blackheath, Dec. 27th, 1859. Chairman at the Festival.

MODEL LODGES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The differences in the workings and the uncertainty of authority in matters of Masonic jurisprudence, point out the necessity of some duly appointed Board or Lodge by supreme authority, as the most economical and satisfactory source of reference.

Compare the workings in the province of Kent with those of the province of Devon, and afterwards with those of Gloucestershire; the result would be a convincing proof of such necessity.

Something is wrong, and the sooner it is corrected the better, to give confidence to all. No brother would willingly acknowledge to a differing brother that his mode was not correct; all observe a courteous bearing, but retain their individual opinions.

The "Gratified Brother" suggests that the "Grand Stewards' Lodge" should undertake the initiative, and claim for itself the privilege of sending forth missionaries to promulgate the working adopted in that Lodge. Such Lodge has no such privilege. If adopted, it would not give confidence to differing brethren in the provinces; and the expense of a number of delegates from that Lodge, making a tour through the provinces, at the costs in all things of the Lodges they may visit, would be more than the members would willingly bear, and, by a natural consequence, they would not be pleasantly received.

It matters not from whence the decision of disputed points issues, so far as it comes by authority of the M.W. Grand Master; and as I have the pleasure of knowing some of that celebrated Lodge, I am acquainted that there are differences of opinion between them and those of high degree, whose fame has spread far and wide as eminent in the Craft, and to whom many look up as of superlative authority, for want of a better.

In my humble opinion, more confidence can be given to the provinces by the Provincial Grand Officers attending the congress, as proposed, and visiting their own Lodges as part of their common duty, their costs of conveyance and entertainment being defrayed out of the Provincial Grand Lodge funds, if required. Some Lodges would be able to bear the expense of the visit whilst others would not—it would be a disproportionate tax. All subscribe their quota to the Provincial Grand Lodge funds in accordance with their numbers, and if such expense be not allowable out of such fund, every Lodge in the provinces would, I am confident, contribute an extra *pro rata* sum to defray it.

The Emulation Lodge of Instruction, to which I have the honour to belong, is almost constantly presided over by that eminent brother, S. B. Wilson, who would, I confidently assert, be ready to afford to the "Lodge of Delegates" any information they might require.

I venture to inform "Fidelitas" that the reasons why the stone, timber, and metal were raised, felled, fused and cast, marked, numbered, and prepared for the temple erected by the wisest of kings, in the forests of Lebanon and plains of Zeredethah, &c., were to save the cost of freightage and inconvenience in conveying all waste, superfluous knobs and excrescences, and unnecessary materials to Joppa, where the landing was at all times difficult from the precipitous nature of the shore; that "the house when it was in building should be built of stone, made ready before it was brought thither; so that there was neither hammer, nor axe, nor any tool of iron heard in the house while it was in building." (1 Kings vi, 7.)

With respect to tavern accommodation to the brethren and the banquets, the time has gone by for just and upright Masons to fear improper influences. When a banquet is held, it is for a purpose, the effects of which have been excessively felt by the increase of the funds of our different charities. Experiments have been made by festivals to bring the attention of brethren of rank and fortune to the necessities of those establishments, with a most

beneficial result. A festival without a banquet would result in deficiency by hundreds. Such meetings have been patronized by the highest authorities in the land; brethren of the highest degree have presided at the banquets, and have not thought it derogatory to exchange the sceptre for the trowel. Such is the character of Englishmen, aye, and of other countrymen, that their assistance, be the object ever so good in its principle, can only be obtained in one way, and I fearlessly (but with every kind feeling towards "Fidelitas") assert, that their sympathies towards suffering brethren have been more called into existence at such assemblies than by any house to house collection that ever was exercised; *vide* the very large sums that have been collected at the table for such purposes during the last few years.

Institution does not make holy men—confirmation, Christians—initiation, Freemasons—castigation, good boys. Men must be treated according to circumstances—men become the sport of circumstances when circumstances become the sport of men; they may be induced to practise the principles inculcated in each of the degrees, but preventing their natural enjoyments and sometimes emergent necessities, will not make good Freemasons.

Admit them to your confidence, and you may gradually lead them to the exercise of those fine attributes which may justly be denominated the distinguishing character of Free and Accepted Masons.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

31st Dec., 1859.

R. E. X.

LODGE APPOINTMENTS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Intending to visit the "Cheetham and Crumpsall Lodge" last evening, I repaired to the Crumpsall Hotel, (as advertised under "Appointments" in the *Freemasons' Magazine* of Saturday last), when I was told that the Lodge had been removed long since to an inn called the "Mile House." Retracing my steps thither, I was informed of the postponement of the meeting till the following Monday.

If you would be good enough in future reports of Lodge meetings to correct the above error, you would confer a great favour on brethren who, like myself, might feel inclined to visit the "Cheetham and Crumpsall Lodge."

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

J. L. H.; P.M., No. 90, Winchester.

Manchester, Jan. 3rd, 1860.

[We insert only such Lodges in our Appointments as have made us returns, and the error is therefore due to the members of the Lodge—not to us.—Ed.]

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

METROPOLITAN.

THE GIRLS SCHOOL CHRISTMAS TREAT.

WE understand that the Christmas treat at the Girls School, at Clapham-common, is postponed till Thursday, the 12th instant, on account of Bro. Crew, the Secretary, having to represent this institution at the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, at Doncaster, last Wednesday. We can assure the brethren that if they can make it convenient to visit the institution on that occasion with their lady friends, they will receive a hearty welcome and spend a pleasant evening. The girls have an enormous Christmas tree.

ROBERT BURN LODGE (No. 25).—This Lodge met at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday last, the 2nd instant. Bro. D. R. Farmer, W.M., opened the Lodge and raised Bros. Charlton and Thorburn to the third degree, the ceremonies being most correctly performed. The ceremony of installing the W.M. elect, Bro. W. Gladwin, then took place, Bro. Farmer officiating, assisted by an unusually large board of installed Masters. When the brethren were readmitted, the Lodge room was most inconveniently crowded. Bro. Gladwin invested the officers as follows: Bros. Caldwell, S.W.; Caulcher, J.W.; Apted, P.M., Treas.; Newton, P.M., Sec.; Braham, S.D.; Lyon, J.D.; Matthews, I.G.; Watson, P.M., S. Smith, and Nicholls, Stewards. Four candidates were then initiated into the Order by the W.M., viz., Messrs. Cater, Cockerell, Barnett and Baker, and several candidates were proposed for initiation in February. The brethren retired to a dinner, which was well served by Messrs. Elkington and Shrewsbury, and to which nearly ninety sat down; the only drawback to the comfort of the guests being the insufficiency of room. The P.Ms. present were Bros. Tomblinson (the father of the Lodge); Street; W. Watson; Apted, Treas.; Newton,

Sec.; Farmer, Robinson, Bennett, Clements, Dyte, and Le Gassick. Bros. Watson, Apted, and Newton were indefatigable in their attention to the visiting brethren, among whom we recognized, Bros. Farnfield, A.G.S.; Hewlett, W.M., Grand Stewards' Lodge; States and Wyatt, P.Ms., No. 166; Cater, No. 25; Street, P.M., No. 25; Bromley, W.M., No. 276; Durrant, W.M. No. 752; Bushor, P.M. No. 209; Avery, S.W., No. 902; Mason, No. 578; Thompson, No. 211; Moore, No. 206; Almond, No. 218; Clarke, No. 745. The usual loyal toasts having been responded to—Bro. Hewlett returning thanks for the visitors, and congratulating the Lodge upon its prosperity—the W.M. said he had now a most pleasing duty to perform, that of presenting to Bro. Farmer, the immediate P.M., a P. Master's jewel, in testimony of the high regard in which he was held by the Lodge over which he had so ably presided. Bro. Farmer was a child of that Lodge, but being a most zealous and talented Mason, he soon saw that in a Lodge so large as the Robert Burns that it would be a long time before he could reach the chair. He had therefore taken honours elsewhere, but he had not forgotten his mother Lodge; but having patiently passed through every office, had at length reached the highest object of his ambition—that of being a P.M. of his mother Lodge. He had well earned the jewel, and he was sure Bro. Farmer would reflect quite as much honour upon the jewel as it reflected upon him. Bro. Farmer gracefully returned thanks, and assured the brethren that it should ever be his care to do his utmost to promote the interests of the Robert Burns Lodge. The health of the W.M. and other toasts having been cordially responded to, the W.M. gave the "Masonic Charities," coupled with the names of Bro. Farnfield, Secretary to the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows, and Bro. Smith, who has undertaken to represent the Lodge at the approaching festival. Bro. Farnfield replied, and called the attention of the brethren to the various charities of the Order, all of which were excellent; and as there were about fifteen distressed brethren, and fully as many widows, seeking the benefits of the institution which he had the honour to represent, he trusted they would rally round Bro. Smith, the steward from the Lodge, at the approaching festival, in order that as many as possible might be received on the funds of the institution at the election in May. Lodge having been resumed, the business was closed about twelve o'clock. The musical programme of the evening was excellent, being almost exclusively devoted to the songs and glees of Burns, which were admirably sung by Bros. Fielding, George Perren, and Lawler, Bro. Edney presiding at the piano forte.

UNITED MARINERS' LODGE (No. 33).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, the 21st Dec., at Bro. Harris's, the Three Tuns Tavern, Southwark. Bro. Thomas Cogdon, W.M., presided, assisted by Bro. Jegels, S.W., and Bro. Johns, J.W. The business consisted of two raisings and one passing; both ceremonies being admirably performed. The next business was the election of a W.M. for the ensuing year, when the brethren unanimously elected Bro. Philip Jegels, W.M., and Bro. Richard Barnes, Treasurer, for the ensuing year. It was then resolved that a requisition, signed by the W.M., Wardens and officers of the Lodge, be forwarded to the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M., soliciting his lordship to take into his favourable consideration, the propriety of granting to the members of this Lodge his lordship's sanction to wear a centenary jewel, in commemoration of the Lodge having been in existence upwards of one hundred years. The Lodge also considered the necessitous circumstances of Bro. S. S. Wood, P.M. of the Lodge, a candidate for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Annuity Fund, and it was unanimously resolved that the necessary printing be done at the expense of the Lodge, and that circulars be forwarded to the London Lodges, soliciting their strenuous support of so deserving a case, at the election in May next. All business being concluded, the Lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was supplied by Bro. Harris, in a style befitting the festive season. The loyal toasts having been disposed of, Bro. Gibbs, P.M., proposed "The health of the W.M." Bro. Cogdon thanked the brethren for that continued mark of their esteem, and trusted his year of office had given proof of his zeal for the Craft, and the welfare of the Lodge. The healths of Bros. R. Barnes, Treasurer, and R. E. Barnes, Hon. Secretary, were given and responded to by the brethren in the most hearty manner, for the long and valuable services rendered by them to the Lodge. Bro. Barnes severally thanked the brethren, in terms expressive of their due appreciation of the honour conferred upon them, and trusted the course which they had hitherto pursued would continue to distinguish their Masonic career. The health of "Bro. Jegels, W.M. elect," was next proposed, which he acknowledged in most appropriate terms. The health of the "Wardens and officers of the Lodge" terminated the proceedings of the evening, and the brethren parted soon after ten o'clock in the true spirit of Masonry. Bro. Marsden acquitted himself in a very efficient manner in matters preparatory to taking the third degree.

LODGE OF PROSPERITY (No. 78).—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, Dec. 28th, at Bro. Morris's, the White Hart Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. In the absence of Bro. Goodwin, W.M., Bro. A. Day, P.M., presided, assisted by the Wardens of the Lodge. The business of the evening consisted of four raisings, two passings, and two initiations. The sum of five guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and the Lodge having been closed in due form, the brethren adjourned for refreshment. The usual loyal toasts

having been duly honoured, Bro. Day proposed the health of Bro. Goodwin, deeply regretting his absence. He next gave the health of the visitors, Bros. R. M. Barnes, P.M., Nos. 15 and 33, P.Z., No. 13, and Marsden, of No. 15. Bro. R. E. Barnes, in reply, sincerely thanked the brethren for the high compliment paid to himself and brother visitor. He assured them he felt great pleasure in visiting that Lodge, having been associated with it and its members for very many years. He was truly gratified to see that it was in so flourishing a condition, and more especially so at the true spirit of Masonry practised in it, by extending relief and consolation to their distressed brethren and their children in the hour of need. As an earnest of their truly charitable intentions, he was delighted to notice the zeal of two brethren, viz., Bro. Alfred Day, P.M., who had undertaken the duties of steward for the Boys School, and on whose list up to that time there were subscribed upwards of one hundred pounds; also Bro. H. J. Thompson, Hon. Sec., who was a steward for the Widows Fund, who had obtained subscriptions exceeding sixty pounds on behalf of that institution. He felt convinced that such zeal for their charitable institutions would be an incentive to the brethren to lend their helping hand to the work so nobly carried out in Lodge No. 78, at the approaching festivals. He hoped their example might resemble the star in the east, and shine forth with true Masonic lustre. The health of the P.Ms. was given and responded to, and also the healths of their initiated brethren. Bro. G. L. Davey thanked the brethren for his admission into their Order, and would to the utmost endeavour to carry out its principles. Several other toasts were given, and the brethren adjourned at an early hour.

LODGE OF UNITED PILGRIMS (No. 745).—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, December 28th, when Bro. Batley, the W.M., assisted by his Wardens and officers, raised Bros. Rawles and Skipper to the sublime degree of Master Mason. The Lodge was then resumed to the second degree, when Bros. Wood, Ball, and Twelvrees were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The Lodge having been resumed to the first degree, the W.M. initiated Mr. Charles Wormald into the mysteries of the Order; the whole of the ceremonies being performed in a manner which reflected the highest credit on the working of the Lodge. Bros. Qualch, No. 902; Wood, No. 1022; Ball, No. 1022; Harris, No. 218; Wright, No. 25; James, No. 85; Francis, No. 211; Terry, No. 201; and Reid, No. 1044, were amongst the visitors, who at the closing of the Lodge proceeded to the festive board. After the usual Masonic toasts the W.M. proposed "The health of the Visitors," which was briefly but expressively responded to by Bro. James. "The health of the P.Ms." being proposed, the W.M. remarked that it gave him unusual pleasure in proposing it on this occasion, as by one of the by-laws of the Lodge every Past Master of that Lodge was entitled to a jewel if merited, but from some cause which had never been understood, it had been overlooked with respect to the two immediate P.Ms.; it was however never too late to mend, and he felt it a high honour to be able during his year of office to place the jewels awarded by the Lodge on the breasts of Bros. Neats and Farmer, who thanked the Lodge in a very impressive manner for the token of respect. Several toasts then followed and the brethren (upwards of forty in number) separated after spending a most agreeable evening.

CRYSTAL PALACE LODGE (No. 1044).—The weekly meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday evening, at Bro. Hill's, the City Arms, West Square, Southwark. Bro. Robertson presided as W.M., and worked the ceremony of initiation. After which the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh degrees, were worked by the brethren. It being announced that Bro. R. M. Smith, P.M. of the Lodge, had consented to act as steward at the coming festival, for the benefit of aged Freemasons, contributions were voted from the funds of the Lodge towards both the aged men and aged women's funds. A handsome P.M.'s signet ring, in addition to a P.M.'s jewel, was presented to Bro. Smith, and the Lodge was closed in due form.

INSTRUCTION.

JOPPA LODGE (No. 223).—The weekly meeting of this Lodge was held at the St. James's Tavern, Duke Street, Aldgate, and was very numerously attended. The first business of the evening was the ceremony of installation, which was most ably performed by Bro. A. Saqui, P.M. of Nos. 223 and 247, installing into the chair of King Solomon, Bro. De Solla, W.M. elect of the Ephraim Lodge. This sublime ritual was most ably performed by Bro. Saqui, and gave the highest satisfaction to every brother present. The officers of the Lodge having been invested in due form, and the customary addresses given, the W.M. proceeded with the ceremony of initiation, Bro. H. Solomon being the candidate, after which the first, second, third, and fourth sections of the lecture were very ably worked. A vote of thanks was then ordered to be recorded on the minutes to Bro. A. Saqui for the very efficient and impressive manner in which he had performed the ceremony of installation that evening. Bro. Saqui, in responding, thanked the brethren for that renewed mark of their kindness, and said, that although he had been thirty years a Mason, and had for upwards of twenty-three years as a lecture master imparted its beautiful ritual to others, yet he felt as much interest in it and as great a desire to continue to do so as ever. As long as the Great Architect should spare him, he should at all times and all seasons be ready to promote the high principles of their Order, and most cordially did he thank the brethren for the honour they had conferred upon him by that recognition of his exertions to inculcate the

noble tenets of Freemasonry. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren separated at ten o'clock.

LODGE OF CONFIDENCE (No. 228).—At the meeting of this Lodge, at the Bengal Arms, on Wednesday evening last, Bro. Jackson, P.M., presiding as W.M., the fifteen sections were worked as follows:—first lecture, Bros. Chancellor, Moss, Rogers, Burch, Anslow, Brett, and Moss; second lecture, Bros. Warne, H. Thompson, Brewer, Anslow, and Brett; third lecture, Bros. Rogers, McNally, and Moss.

PROVINCIAL.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

CAMBRIDGE.—*Lodge of the Three Grand Principles* (No. 645).—The brethren of this Lodge met on Tuesday, 27th ult., at the Red Lion Hotel, to celebrate the festival of St. John the Evangelist, and for the purpose of installing the W.M., Bro. Deighton, upon whom the brethren at their last meeting conferred the highest honour in their power by reelecting him W.M. for the ensuing year. The imposing ceremony of installation was performed in the most admirable manner by Bro. Massey, P.M., in the presence of a large number of brethren; the customary salutes having been given, the W.M. proceeded to appoint his officers as follows: Bros. Stretton, S.W.; Hagreen, J.W.; D. Hall, Sec.; Gibson, S.D.; H. S. Scott, J.D.; Maryland, I.G.; when a ballot was taken for Treasurer of the Lodge, and the choice of the brethren fell upon Bro. O. J. Jones, who is also Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of the province. The Lodge having been adjourned from labour to refreshment, about thirty of the brethren sat down to a very handsome dinner, served by Bro. Moyes, in his usual excellent style. The various Masonic toasts were given and responded to in the manner peculiar to the fraternity, when the Lodge was recalled to labour and closed after an evening spent with that harmony and brotherly love to be found to the same extent only amongst Masons. To show the flourishing condition of this Lodge, the W.M. remarked that during the last three years it has trebled its number of members, being the very best test of the high repute in which it is held.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.—*Lodge La Cécure* (No. 860).—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Dec. 29th. The Lodge was opened in the first degree by the W.M. Bro. LeCras, the Wardens' chairs being occupied respectively by Bros. Baudains and Binet. A ballot was taken for Bro. Ph. Canning as a joining member, which was unanimous in his favour. The Lodge having been opened in the second degree, the chair was taken by Bro. Schmitt, P.M.; and the questions were put to Bro. Carcand. It was opened in the third degree, and this brother was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. The chair was then taken by the W.M., who resumed in the first degree; the usual questions were put to Bro. Le Sueur; it was opened in the second degree, and this brother was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. It had been intended to enter on the question of the Masonic temple, preparations for which were commenced some months ago, but as no entry had been made on the circular, it was necessary to postpone the consideration. A desultory conversation on the subject ensued, and it was determined to hold an emergency meeting for the express purpose. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment.—H. H.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

CHELTENHAM.—*Foundation Lodge* (No. 97).—The members of this Lodge, which has existed upwards of a century, and is held at the Masonic Hall at Cheltenham, met to celebrate the anniversary of St. John, on Tuesday, the 27th of December. Some of our readers have no doubt had the privilege of attending the Lodge at its regular meetings and its banquets afterwards, thus combining that which is allowed in Masonry—"labour and refreshment." On the present occasion a large number of Masons assembled to witness the installation of Bro. Charles F. Eleum as W.M. for the ensuing year, all the brethren who know him being anxious to express by their attendance their appreciation of his kind and gentlemanlike disposition and conduct, as well towards his brethren in Masonry as in all the other relations of life. The Lodge was opened shortly after five o'clock, and among the brethren present were Bros. G. F. Newmarch, D. Prov. G.M.; Bro. Gwinnett, P. Prov. G.W.; the Rev. T. A. Southwood, P. Prov. S.G.W., and P. Prov. G. G. Chaplain; J. Brooke Smith, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Thomas G. Palmer, Prov. G. Treas., and P. Prov. J.G.D.; T. J. Cottle, Prov. S.G.W.; W. S. Wallard, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Amos Slead, Prov. G.S.B.; J. O. Smith, Prov. G. Org.; Alexander Shirer, Prov. G. Purs.; George Atkins, P.M. No. 97; Gabb, Jessop, Gale, Leighton, Ridge, &c., &c., of No. 97; and amongst the visitors were Bros. Edgell, Hampton and Mullings, of the Cotteswold Lodge, Cirencester; Broker, of the Sherborne Lodge, No. 1004; Power, W.M. elect of the Royal Union Lodge, No. 307, and many others who were not known to us. The Lodge room exhibited a most imposing appearance on the admission of the brethren, and the ceremonies were greatly enhanced by the music of the organ, which was admirably played by Bro. Smith, the Prov. G. Organist. The Lodge was opened in the first and second degrees by Bro. the Rev. H. T. Fried, the W.M., and the chair was taken by the installing Master, Bro. Amos Slead, P.M. No. 97, and Prov. G.S.B., by whom the ceremony of installation of Bro. Eleum was most impressively performed.

The W.M., Bro. Eleum, then proceeded to invest the officers of Lodge as follows: Bros. T. J. Cottle, S.W.; A. W. Gabb, J.W.; H. T. Price, Chaplain; T. G. Palmer, Treas.; C. F. Gale, Sec.; W. S. Wallace, S.D.; T. Leighton, J.D.; Gurnett, P.M., I.G.; and Diggins, Tyler. The Lodge was then closed in the third and second degrees, and the usual proclamations were made. Two brethren, namely, Bros. James and Crawford, were proposed and seconded as joining members of the Lodge, and there being no further business, the Lodge was closed in due form, the brethren having been greatly pleased by the manner in which the respective ceremonies had been performed. The business of the Lodge having terminated, the brethren adjourned to refreshment in the banquet hall of the Lodge, when about thirty brethren assembled and addressed themselves to an elegantly served dinner, after which the usual toasts were given by the W.M., interspersed and enlivened with songs *à propos* of the toasts. Among them were "The G.M., the Earl of Zetland," "The Prov. G.M., the Hon. J. Dutton," "The D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Newmarch," who returned thanks in his usual happy manner, and proposed "The health of the W.M., Bro. Fried, the installing Master," "Bro. Slead of the Royal Union Lodge, and the other Lodges of the province," &c. A very delightful evening was passed, and we were much pleased to see the unanimity and truly Masonic spirit which pervaded the brethren, shewing the great progress which has been made, and is still taking place in Masonry throughout the province of Gloucestershire, which is mainly attributable to the active interest of the Prov. G.M. in the art, and the indefatigable exertions and popularity, well deserved, of his D. Prov. G.M., aided by the support of the brethren themselves.

DURSLEY.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 1063).—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge took place on Tuesday, the 20th ult. The Lodge having been opened in the first degree, the minutes of the previous Lodge were read and confirmed. The Lodge was then opened in the second and third degrees, and Bros. Rev. T. Boggis, and W. P. Want, were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, the ceremony having been performed by the W.M. Rev. G. A. M. Little, in a most pleasing and impressive manner. The Lodge having been finally closed, the brethren retired to refreshment, and spent the remainder of the evening in harmony.

HAMPSHIRE.

WINCHESTER.—*Lodge of Economy* (No. 90).—Tuesday, the 27th ult., being St. John's day, the brethren held their annual meeting and banquet, combining with the same the business of the monthly meeting, which would otherwise have fallen on the following evening. The Lodge was summoned for four o'clock in the afternoon, soon after which a large number of the brethren had assembled. The W.M. for the past year (Bro. Hasleham) was unavoidably absent, Bro. S. Everitt, P.M., officiating in his stead; and there were also present during the sitting the S.W. and W.M. elect, (Bro. F. La Croix); Bros. Larkin, J.W.; Jacob, P.M.; Carter, P.M.; Sherry, P.M.; Oakshott, P.M.; Cowen, Best, Butcher, Newman, Huggins, E. Sherry, Higgs, Elson, Smith, Waterman, Gerrard, Hubbersty, &c. The following visitors were also present:—Bro. Biggs, P.M., (No. 247); Bro. Jefferies, P.M., (No. 201). The Lodge was close tyed at five, and duly opened by the W.M. *pro tem.*, Bro. Everitt.

The Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, which were duly confirmed. The next business transacted was the balloting for two candidates for initiation as members of the Lodge—Mr. John Conduit, of Winchester, and Mr. Robert Alfred Wright, of Paris. In both cases the ballot proved unanimous. Mr. Wright being in attendance, at once went through his initiation, the degree being given to him by Bro. Everitt with his accustomed good effect. The ancient charge was delivered by Bro. Oakshott in an impressive manner.

The next ceremony was the installation of the W.M. elect (Bro. F. La Croix). The ceremony was undertaken and performed throughout by Bro. Everitt, and the arduous duty was executed in a very able and impressive manner, obtaining the commendation of all the P.Ms. present. The newly installed W.M. afterwards appointed his officers for the ensuing year, as follows:—Bro. H. Newman, S.W.; Bro. H. Butcher, J.W.; Bro. Rev. G. Portal, Chaplain; Bro. S. Everitt, Treas.; Bro. Huggins, S.D.; Bros. Higgs and Waterman, Stewards; Bro. Oakshott, Dir. of Cers.; Bro. Cowen, Sec.; Bro. Grant, Tyler. The collars of the J.D. and I.G. were only conferred *pro tem.*

Representation in Grand Lodge.—Bro. SHERRY again introduced this subject to the attention of the brethren. He implied that he still advocated all he had of late demanded in behalf of provincial brethren in respect to their right to the privilege of voting by proxy in the election of part of the body to serve as the Board of General Purposes; and with a view of getting the question further considered and perfectly ventilated, he had resolved upon adopting a new course. Their memorial to the Board had been returned to them, very unsatisfactorily answered; and though their prayer had been refused on the ground of "justice," it was very evident they could not obtain justice without setting another way to work. His present object was to introduce and move a series of resolutions to the Lodge for their consideration and adoption; and as their time was rather short, and likely to be fully occupied, he would at once read the resolutions to the brethren. They were as follow:—

"1. That the W.M., the two Wardens, and the Past Masters of the Lodge of Economy, Winchester, (No. 90), be appointed a committee

for the purpose of obtaining the right of all members of Grand Lodge to vote by proxy in the election of the fourteen members of the Board of General Purposes, who are annually elected by the Grand Lodge.

"2. That the said committee be authorized to receive subscriptions for the purpose of communicating with country Lodges, with a view of receiving suggestions and procuring a united action on this important subject.

"3. That the said committee have power to add to their number any actual Masters, Wardens, and Past Masters, who are members of Grand Lodge, and who may be willing to cooperate for this desirable object."

Bro. A. SMITH said he should have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the resolutions.

In accordance with a wish expressed by some of the brethren, and with the consent of the W.M., Bro. Sherry curtailed his remarks on this subject at the present period, contenting himself with merely the formal moving of the resolutions till after the banquet, when a further opportunity would offer of continuing the discussion on the interesting question.

Bro. SMITH concurred with the postponement of the discussion on the resolutions, saying that if any spare time intervened between the conclusion of the other business and the banquet, he should much prefer listening to a lecture on the tracing board from Bro. Biggs, who would be happy to so officiate if space allowed.

Bro. SMITH, continuing, said he felt glad the power had been put in his hands, though he feared he might be thought presumptuous in undertaking the pleasurable duty he was about to perform. It must, he was quite sure, have been noticed by every brother present in what a commendable way the business of that afternoon had been conducted by the two able Past Masters who had officiated in the ceremonies. Those two brethren must surely be looked up to as lights of the most perfect kind, and as sources from whence emanated the best and fullest instruction in the mysteries of the noble Craft. He would therefore beg to move that the best thanks of the Lodge be given to Bros. Everitt and Oakshott for the excellent manner in which they had presided and assisted in the carrying out of the ceremonies of the day.

Several brethren rose to second the motion, but it was carried by acclamation.

Bro. EVERITT assured the Lodge that he deeply felt the compliment and was sincerely grateful. He had, and always should, feel a distinguished pleasure in doing whatever he could to advance the interests of Freemasonry, in respect to that Lodge especially. He had always felt great pleasure in giving his personal assistance in conducting their ceremonies, and as long as his services were considered of use he should be happy to give them. He only wished many others present were more competent than himself; he should be glad to see at least twelve brethren fully able to initiate a candidate; the ceremony was easy enough to acquire if they only gave their minds to it for a short time. (Hear.)

Bro. OAKSHOTT said this was a honour he had not for a moment anticipated. He did not know what he had done materially to assist in the ceremonies, but he was very much gratified to hear that his efforts to assist were so appreciated. He had thought himself that he had not given the charge so well as at other times when he had officiated, and a slight temporary ailment was his only excuse. He had not expected his name to be included by Bro. Smith in the vote of thanks, but that brother having done so, he thanked him, and the brethren collectively, for their kindness.

The hour fixed for the banquet being now long exceeded, the intended lecture was necessarily postponed till a more convenient period.

THE BANQUET

took place in the convenient assembly room of the Black Swan Hotel, adjacent to the Lodge rooms. It was well attended, and proved another decided success in the catering experience of Bro. Sherry.

The W.M. (Bro. La Croix) took the chair, supported by his Wardens and other new officers; there being present the following Past Masters:—Biggs, Patten, Carter, Everitt, Durant, R. W. Smith, (surgeon), Jacob, Oakshott, Sherry, Russ; and Bros. Cowen, Best, Higgs, Newman, Butcher, Gerrard, Huggins, Birt, Hubbersty, A. Smith, Elson, Waterman, Wright, E. Sherry, &c.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts, of a complimentary character, were ably given by the W.M. in a series of brief speeches, and all duly honoured by the company.

Bro. DURANT then obtained permission to propose a toast. He said that was the first time the brethren had met their respected Bro. La Croix as the Master of the Lodge, and he was quite sure they would experience very great pleasure in again meeting him on the twelve or thirteen other occasions when he would preside over them during the year. The oftener they met him, he was convinced the better they would like him, as he felt confident their new W.M. would do much honour to his office, and perform his duties creditably both to himself and the Lodge. He would not there expatiate upon Bro. La Croix's private virtues, as they were so well known to them all. He was assuredly convinced that whatever the W.M. could do to further the interests of the Lodge, would be done; therefore he had great pleasure in proposing his health and prosperity. (Cheers). Drunk with Masonic honours.

The W.M. said he should feel it to be unwise on his part to occupy much of the company's time in responding to a compliment, in paying

which he feared too much had already been advanced in his favour. He perfectly well knew the value of more conventional terms, though he likewise knew they had all complimented him in full sincerity of heart; but the less he said the better in regard to any past good qualities they might have fancied they perceived in him. He was well aware that a man's good name and character were rather to be established by the things he did, than what he promised or what was flatteringly anticipated of him. (Hear). He could only hope that, while he was their Master, their present anticipations of his efficiency and what he might do would not prove wrongly founded. As far as he was concerned, he was determined to do his best both in and out of the Lodge to advance their prosperity and interests, and not only in regard to Masonry, but in the matters of every day common life he heartily wished them all well, and hoped they might yet all meet many times and oft happily together. (Hear). He hoped the Lodge would continue to show an equal, or an increased prosperity to recent times; and whatever they did by their united efforts for the Lodge generally, he trusted they would be able to show to the outward world that their fraternity was kept up for something more than mere purposes of pleasurable indulgence. He hoped that when the time came for his retirement, he should leave the chair with the same good opinions and wishes on the part of his brethren as they had now given utterance to. (Loud cheers).

The W.M. said the next toast was an important one, it being the health of a gentleman whom they that night had the pleasure of initiating into their Order,—and a gentleman also whom apparently they might securely trust and believe would do honour to them and their Lodge. He expected that what the initiate had already heard and seen was quite enough to convince him that their body was not composed of mere winebibbers, as it had been said of them on some occasions elsewhere, but that something far more noble and valuable actuated them in pursuing the avocations of their ancient and honoured Craft. He gave "The health of Bro. Wright," hoping he would never find cause to regret taking the step he had made that day. (Hear, and loud cheering).

Bro. WRIGHT expressed his grateful acknowledgments. He felt highly honoured in being admitted into such a noble Craft as Freemasonry, and hoped his conduct as a brother would be found creditable to himself and the Lodge.

The W.M. then proposed the health of the P.M.s. of the Lodge, coupling with it the name of Bro. Durant. Drunk with loud cheers.

Bro. DURANT, in responding, said he recognized several bright lights in Masonry present that evening, whom he did not very often enjoy the pleasure of meeting. It had given him exceeding satisfaction to witness the able manner in which the various officers had worked the Lodge since his connection with it, and if those who came into office hereafter were only equal in talent and energy, the character of Lodge No. 90 would not lose its present high position. As the senior P.M. he had to return thanks for the honour done in drinking the toast. Bro. Durant eulogistically mentioned the various names of those who had with credit filled the chair of the Lodge, and paid an especial compliment to Bro. Cowen, the Secretary, who was one of the oldest and most experienced Masons in that or any other province. They all, he well knew, wished to see Masonry flow on prosperously, and would do their utmost one and all to secure the same.

The Proxy Question.—Bro. SHERRY reintroduced this question, with the permission of the W.M. He said he had in the afternoon formally moved the adoption of some resolutions by the Lodge, and perhaps the brethren would feel called upon to resume the discussion on the same at the present opportunity, especially as there were more in attendance. The proposed resolutions being reread, Bro. Sherry said, most of them present would recollect that the subject had been mooted several times in their Lodge, and that a memorial had been adopted to the Board of General Purposes in London, though the reply from the Grand Secretary had informed them that the prayer of such memorial had been refused to be entertained. He believed, however, that the subject comprehended a point so essential for the prosperity of Masonry throughout the country, that it would yet be thought advisable to urge it upon the London executive more imperatively than had already been done. He could see no excuse in justice for denying to provincial members of Grand Lodge the right of voting by proxy in the election of the Board of General Purposes, any more than for denying their right of attending London, and voting personally in Grand Lodge, which was objectionable to provincial brethren, because of an enormous expense and loss of time rendered necessary in order for them to be there—inconveniences which were almost entirely unknown and unfelt by members who resided in London, though the privileges were supposed to be the same for all. To show one of the cases in which he saw the necessity of a change, he would call the attention of the Lodge to the fact of the President lately bringing forward a scheme for the expending of a large sum of money (£50,000 or £60,000) in pulling down and rebuilding those extensive buildings in Great Queen-street, and erecting others still larger, which however was entirely unnecessary. The great majority of London members of Grand Lodge always in attendance, consequent upon their greater facilities for being present, gave them a power of exercising their own will almost hopeless to think of counteracting, unless the facilities of voting were made more equal in the election of the executive. He found by returns which had been published, that the average attendance of provincial brethren at Grand Lodge, in the course of a year, amounted to less than thirty, while that of the London brethren amounted to nearly one hundred and seventy. This was an immense preponderance,

giving a large share of power to the latter. He was convinced that they should enter into further efforts for the purpose of carrying out the objects they had memorialised about. If they had the power to stop an objectionable course, it was for the benefit of the Craft, and only exercising their duty, that they should endeavour to obtain a general benefit. The London members seemed to say, "We will do this, and if you (provincial brethren) bent us, you can only do so by coming up in a body." [Bro. BIRT—If the Board do not do what you say they want to do, what then? What benefit would it be to us?] If they do not do what has been proposed, then the amount of money so saved could be applied as it ought to be, that is, to charitable purposes. (Hear.) They could then meet all claims upon the Order in the way of charity that yet remained in existence and unrelieved. With the large amount of funds in hand, they had quite sufficient to minister to every case of distress that had been heard of. The Board had an idea of building "castles," and so spending the funds; and the country members of Grand Lodge were practically excluded from exercising the choice of the men sitting on that Board in consequence of the unequal expense and inconvenience caused to them by attending in London in person at the elections. The remedy was to allow the provincial brethren to vote by proxy for the men to go on the Board, and then there would be more chance of getting men selected who were opposed to such schemes as he had referred to, and men who would legislate more for the general benefit. There was a large sum of money in hand which it did not appear the executive knew exactly what to do with. The provincial districts ought to have a fair voice in deciding how such money should be expended; and surely it could not be an injustice to give all members of the Grand Lodge equal privileges. The provincial interest might only hope to attain fair representation by putting such men as Bro. Stebbing, for instance, upon the Board, well knowing his capabilities on all matters of business connected with the Order, and the general justness of his conclusions. He brought forward the resolutions already read in order to elicit the general views of the Lodge, and he intended that the committee to be formed might enter into inquiry, and put the whole of the provincial brethren in a position to know exactly how the matter stood. [Bro. CARTER—Has not the Board power to set aside certain sums of money for special purposes, of which building is one?] The intention he sought was not to interfere with the powers to be exercised by the Board of General Purposes. Some of the brethren did not seem to exactly understand the bearing of his resolutions. He only wished to affect the mode of electing the Board, so that provincial brethren might have the chance of getting on some who might advocate their views, as well as others. Many Lodges in the country disliked giving their money (for they all contributed their quota to the general fund) for any other purposes than charity, especially to the otherwise spending of large amounts. (Hear.) No application for relief by distressed Masons should be refused if any funds were in hand. Men had been refused year after year, though in their previous life of prosperity they had contributed to the same funds, from which they might, and properly should, receive relief; and he believed there was sufficient to meet every eligible claim that had ever been made.

Bro. GERRARD made some observations, intended, it is presumed, to show the uselessness of interfering in the matter of Grand Lodge expenditure, whether the Board of General Purposes intended to build largely or not. He did not, however, express any objection to the stated desirability of obtaining for provincial brethren the power of voting by proxy in the election of that board.

Bro. COWEN also spoke, though not to the point in discussion. He spoke of pecuniary matters in connection with his own Lodge, and advocated larger payments or less expenses.

Several brethren expressed an opinion that the discussion should not be prolonged at the present time.

Bro. SHERRY said he only wished for the opinion of the Lodge upon the resolutions. He could not find any objection in the Lodge to obtaining the power for members of Grand Lodge to vote by proxy.

Bro. SMITH said he should be sorry to offer one remark upon this matter, if he was not of opinion that it had been purposely postponed for further discussion that evening. Some misunderstanding seemed to exist on the part of certain brethren. Bro. Birt had asked what benefit was likely to arise to them. The benefit would be in this respect, supposing the voting by proxy carried—the money that went to Grand Lodge from the provinces would be more likely to be expended or distributed in unison with the feelings of provincial brethren. Bro. Gerrard had seemed to think all this discussion that had passed was solely upon the point whether or not Grand Lodge intended to construct hotels or club houses. The provincial brethren had not in a regular way obtained a notice of the intention so to expend money. It had only oozed out that it was so contemplated to spend largely. Bro. Cowen's observations had simply reference to the funds of the Winchester Lodge. He was sorry if there was a paucity of funds, and for one he should be glad to increase the payments, so as to get more for charitable purposes. He thought Bro. Sherry's intention that day had been to show the brethren generally, that the power of London brethren, and therefore that of the Board of General Purposes, was greater than the provincial Masons themselves contemplated. The Board of General Purposes might in effect be considered as Grand Lodge itself; as, whatever the Board decided upon was sure to be carried under present circumstances. Bro. Smith quoted from the "Book of Constitutions" to show the peculiar powers of the Board. The published figures, showing the respective total

attendance in London of London and provincial brethren, as quoted by Bro. Sherry, sufficiently proved the state of things to be as he had argued that day, and also on previous occasions, and the objections remained unanswered—Grand Lodge and the Board of General Purposes were virtually one thing. He took it that Bro. Sherry proposed that at the "quarterly communications" of Grand Lodge, all members entitled to be present should have the privilege and convenience of voting by paper proxy. There was nothing in that opposed to the Constitutions themselves, or likely to counteract the interests of Masonry generally. He looked upon the expense inflicted upon provincial brethren, if they personally attended the London meetings, as only in the light of paying further dues to Grand Lodge than the London brethren had to pay. He therefore felt great pleasure in seconding the resolutions before that Lodge, believing and considering that they would lead to annihilate a great wrong and restore a great right; that they would take away an existing illegitimate share of the power of representation; that they would tend to the carrying out of the Constitutions without prejudice to any; and that they would further tend to do away with past bickerings, and strengthen the efficiency of Masonry in general. (Hear.)

Bro. CARTER feared the proposition might be deemed a declaration of war against Grand Lodge; and would rather appeal to the Board in a more conciliatory manner.

Bro. SHERRY reminded all present that the course just recommended by Bro. Carter had already been adopted without avail. The Board had replied, and stated that they (the provincial brethren) should not have what had been applied for in the memorial. The only means now left was to endeavour to get a better hearing, and that by working their own cause through a committee as he proposed.

Several brethren had now left, the discussion having been so prolonged. When the W.M. put the resolutions to the brethren still assembled, they were carried unanimously. There was some disposition to continue the discussion, but Bro. Sherry expressed himself content, having gained his object.

During the remainder of the evening many other toasts were proposed, duly honoured and responded to. Among the toasts was the health of Bro. Huggins, proposed by Bro. Sherry, with the thanks of the Lodge for the able and correct manner in which he had voluntarily taken and forwarded to the *Magazine* reports of the meetings during the last twelve months.

Bro. HUGGINS responded, expressing the pleasure he experienced in finding himself useful.

The health of Bro. R. W. Smith, a P.M. of the Lodge, was proposed and duly honoured, and an energetic speech followed in response, advising brethren generally to a more decidedly Masonic bearing in all the proceedings of the Lodge, and business connected with it.

After the enjoyment of many able songs (to which Bro. Wright very materially contributed), the Lodge closed at the hour of high twelve.

BOURNEMOUTH—*Hengist Lodge* (No. 230).—This Lodge held its annual festival of St. John on Tuesday last. The general business of the Lodge having terminated, Mr. J. Briggs was unanimously elected and duly initiated. It was then proposed by the W.M., Bro. W. E. Rebbeck, that Bro. Bayly, P.M., be elected W.M. for the year ensuing, which was unanimously agreed to. After alluding to the valuable services of Bro. W. B. Rogers upon all occasions, it was proposed by Bro. Bayly and seconded by Bro. McWilliam that he should be re-elected Treasurer for the next year, which was carried unanimously. The Lodge having been closed, some ladies sent a present to the Lodge—of needlework executed by themselves, consisting of a cushion and hassock for the W.M.'s pedestal, together with a pair of slippers exquisitely worked with Masonic emblems. The following letter accompanied the present:—"Worshipful Sir,—Officers and Brethren of the Lodge of Hengist.—We beg to present you a small tribute of our regard, and the respect in which we hold yourself and the members of the Lodge over which you have the honour of presiding, as well as Masonry in general, and may prosperity attend you in all your several callings, individually and collectively.—Emma Bayly, M. Tuck, Jane Macey, Eliza Hooper." The W.M. in the name of the Lodge replied in appropriate terms, and the Secretary was directed to acknowledge the gift on behalf of the Lodge. The business of the Lodge being over, the brethren re-assembled in their hall, and sat down to dinner, accompanied by their wives. The following toasts were given:—"The Queen and the Craft;" "The M.W.G.M. the Earl of Zetland;" "The R.W.D.G.M. Lord Pamure;" "The R.W. Prov. G.M. Sir Lucius Curtis;" "The R.W.D. Prov. G.M. C. Deane, Esq." Bro. S. W. Tuck proposed the health of the W.M., complimenting him on the zeal he had shown for Masonry during the period he had filled the chair. The health of the ladies was then given from the chair in a very appropriate speech. Bro. Briggs, the newly initiated member, duly responded to the toast. Bro. S. W. Tuck proposed the health of the W.M. elect. Bro. Bayly responded. He said—I thank you for the handsome manner you have responded to the call, and to my worthy brother for proposing my health. The ladies, I perceive, with their keen, penetrating eyes, are looking to catch every word whereby they may obtain the secret of our art. I will not long keep them in suspense, but tell them plainly what Masonry is. It is a system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols, symbols that are used by the operative mason, but which we as speculative or free and accepted Masons apply to a moral account. Instance the twenty-four inch gauge, the common gavel, and the chisel;

the first of which points out to us how we should dispose of the twenty-four hours of the day, a portion of which we have to devote to our general pursuits, for the necessary support of ourselves and families, and part to render assistance to the distressed of mankind, particularly those of our Order, and a part in prayer and praise to the Great Architect of the world. The gavel points out to us that we are to exclude from our minds all unbecoming thoughts during that period. The chisel, which to the operative mason is to prepare the stone for the experienced workman, so the chisel points out the advantages of education, which polishes the mind, and renders the man fit for enlightened society. So in like manner does another emblem represent, faith, hope, and charity in its true sense. This is what the ladies must have seen when working that with which they have this day presented us—I mean the volume of the Sacred Law on which Jacob's ladder rested on the ascending and descending of the angels. They had also an eye to the time when God said to Moses at Mount Sinai, at the burning bush "Put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the ground whereon thou standest is holy ground." Yea, my brethren, and this is holy ground, for the Lodge stands on holy ground, and will conduct its members (if they adhere to the principles laid down) to that great Lodge above, where the world's great architect lives and reigns for ever. Before I conclude, I must beg to make a few observations relative to the character of this Order. In the first place we have a provincial fund, and a fund of benevolence, both of which are immediately applicable. Then we have an amnuitant fund for decayed Masons and their widows, and asylums for the same. Then we have the Boys and Girls Schools—so that you perceive we not only look to the aged, but to the young—in all of which we feel an interest, particularly that of the Boys School; and it is usual at Masonic festivals to make a collection for some one or more of the charities, I shall therefore propose that we follow the example for the benefit of the Boys School. This appeal was responded to by a collection of one guinea, which was ordered to be transmitted to proper quarters. Various other toasts were given and duly responded to. The day ended with a ball, which was attended by a select party, and was kept up with great hilarity until a late, or rather, early, hour.

LANCASHIRE (EAST).

BURN.—*Lodge of Relief* (No. 50).—The members of this Lodge celebrated their 126th feast of St. John the Evangelist on Tuesday, December 27th, at the Hare and Hounds Inn, when an excellent dinner was provided. In the absence of Bro. E. Barlow, W.M. (occasioned by the death of his brother, James Barlow, also a member of the Lodge), Bro. John Redfern, Dir. of Cers., officiated as Worshipful Master, and having opened the Lodge, proceeded to install Bro. John Parks, *M.R.C.S.*, as W.M.; after which he invested the officers, as follow:—Bro. Thomas Fishwick, P.M., as S.W. and Treas.; Bro. George M. Tweddell as J.W.; Bro. John Smith, P.M., as Sec.; Bro. Alfred Coop as S.D.; Bro. John Leach as J.D.; and Bro. James Spencer as I.G.; Bro. Cooper continuing to act as Tyler. The two last mentioned brethren, we understand, have regularly attended to the duties of their offices as guardians of the entrance to the Lodge for the last fourteen years. Bro. Spencer, who is an aged man, earning a scanty existence as a hand loom weaver, and residing three miles from the Lodge room, has set an example which the younger members of the Lodge, whatever their station in life, will do well to copy; for whatever may be the state of the weather, Bro. Spencer punctually appears, and both in and out of the Lodge faithfully observes the high moral teachings of Freemasonry. The natural consequence of such well regulated conduct is that Bro. Spencer has won for himself a place in the hearts of all the brethren of the Lodge, who are about to recommend him as a fit and proper brother for the consideration of the Board of Benevolence. The Lodge having been duly closed, and the meeting declared adjourned until Thursday nearest the full moon in February, the brethren retired from labour to refreshment, and spent a very harmonious evening. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk, several appropriate addresses and recitations given, and the meeting considerably enlivened by the excellent singing of Bros. Wroe, Edmondson, Binns, Grimshaw, and others, accompanied on the pianoforte by Bro. Joshua Openshaw.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

LIVERPOOL.—*Merchants' Lodge of Instruction* (No. 294).—The 3rd inst. being the regular Lodge night, the ceremony of installation was worked by the W.M. Bro. Younghusband, of No. 294; and in commemoration of this being the anniversary of the Lodge, a handsome silver snuff-box, bearing a suitable inscription, was presented, on behalf of the brethren, by Bro. Kearne to Bro. Younghusband, who acknowledged the same in feeling terms. The Lodge was then closed according to ancient custom, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 348).—The annual festival of this Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, on St. John's day, the W.M. Bro. Holland in the chair, when, among others, the following Past Masters were present:—Bros. Kelly, D. Prov. G.M.; Pratt, Crawford, Pettifor, Windram, Underwood, Gill and Morris. Visitors:—Bros. Willey, (W.M.), Paul and Garner, of the John of Gaunt Lodge, No. 766. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the former meeting, recording the election of Bro. Alfred Cummings (S.W.) as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, having been read and confirmed, the Lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bro. Underwood per-

formed the ceremony of installation, assisted by the D. Prov. G.M., who delivered the address to the W.M. The W.M. having been duly proclaimed and saluted in the three degrees, proceeded to appoint and invest the officers for the ensuing year, as follows:—Martin Nedham, S.W.; John Sloane, *M.L.D.*, J.W.; R. Crawford, P.M. (reelected), Treasurer; Henry Gill, P.M., Sec.; H. Denton, S.D.; W. H. Marris, J.D.; W. Jackson, I.G.; James Bombridge, Tyler. A favourable report was received of the financial position of the Lodge, and thanks were voted to the Treasurer, Bro. Crawford; a similar vote was also passed to the late W.M., Bro. Holland, which were duly acknowledged. Some further business of a routine character having been transacted, the brethren adjourned to the banquet. It may be well to record, for the information of brethren visiting the town, that both the local Lodges have ceased to meet at hotels since June last, although the *Calendar* for 1860 still mentions the Bell and Three Crowns Hotels as their places of meeting. The Crown Inn, Hinckley, also still appears in the *Calendar* as the place of meeting of The Knights of Malta Lodge, No. 58, although that Lodge has regularly met at the Town Hall for the last year and a half.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

NEWPORT.—*Silurian Lodge* (No. 693).—On St. John's day, December 27th, the installation of Bro. Thomas Beynon (J.W.) as Worshipful Master of this Lodge, took place at the Masonic Hall, Dock-street, when the following appointments were made:—Bros. Whitechurch, S.W.; Henry L. Williams, J.W.; Wyndham Jones, Treas.; W. Williams, Sec.; S. Hancock, S.D.; J. H. Willmetts, J.D.; James Horner, I.G.; and Macfee, Tyler. In the evening the commemorative festival was held at the King's Head Hotel. The banqueting room was most tastefully decorated. The chair was taken by the Worshipful Master, and the vice chair by the Senior Warden, and the proceedings were admirably conducted. The first toast, loyally honoured in the accustomed manner of Freemasons was, "The Queen and the Craft," followed by "The Prince Consort and all the Royal Family, including the Prince of Prussia." "The Army and Navy" was responded to by Bro. Captain Homfray for the former service, and by Bro. Pickford, P.M., for the latter; the P.M. expressing a strong wish that the necessary means were adopted for increasing the commercial navy of this port. "The M.W. the Grand Master of England, the Deputy Grand Master, and the members of the Grand Lodge;" "The R.W. the Prov. Grand Master for Somerset, and thanks for his kind present of game;" "The R.W. the Prov. Grand Master for Monmouth;" "The R.W. the Prov. Grand Master for the eastern division of South Wales;" and "The R.W. the D. Prov. Grand Master for Monmouth, Bro. Rolls, and the Members of the Prov. Grand Lodge," were pledged in succession. Bro. PICKFORD, P.M., proposed, in eulogistic terms, "The health of the W.M., Bro. Beynon," which was drunk with full Lodge honours and much enthusiasm. In acknowledging the toast the Worshipful Master assured the brothers of his desire and determination to perform the responsible duties of his position in a manner that, while it might secure commendation for himself, should also prove beneficial and satisfactory to the Lodge. "The Immediate P.M., Bro. Pickford," was pledged heartily, the Worshipful Master complimenting that worthy brother on the excellent manner in which he had performed the duties of his year of office just expired. Bro. PICKFORD responded in a brief speech, assuring the brothers that his aim had always been the exaltation of Masonry while in office, as it would ever be in whatever position he occupied. Having enlarged on the philanthropic principles of the Order, and pointed out the advantages conferred on the widows and orphans and aged Freemasons by the Royal Benevolent Institution, the claims to support of which he had advocated urgently and successfully in the Grand Lodge of Monmouth and other Lodges, the worthy Past Master resumed his seat amidst applause. "The Worshipful Master, Officers, and Brethren of the Isca Lodge," being drunk with Lodge honours, Bro. W. W. MORGAN, of the Isca, acknowledged the compliment with much pleasure. With the toast of "The Visitors," proposed by Bro. WELLS, P.M., the name of Bro. Henry Bridges, of Bridgewater—an energetic and truehearted philanthropist—was heartily pledged. In returning thanks, Bro. BRIDGES alluded to the pleasure he had experienced in performing the distinguished duties allotted to him in the installation that day of the Worshipful Master of the "Silurian;" and he complimented the Lodge on its officers and its progress. He then adverted to the Royal Benevolent Institution—the success of which he had deeply at heart, and in the cause of which he had long laboured with zeal, and, he hoped, to the attainment of much success for that admirable institution. The names of volunteer subscribers to this charity was then taken, and the result was announced to be about twenty guineas. Bro. Morgan, of the "Isca," then gave "The Officers and Brethren of the Silurian Lodge," which the visiting brothers warmly pledged. Bro. John WHITECHURCH, S.W., ably responded, and gave "The Companions of the Royal Arch Chapter," expressing his wish to see that exalted branch reestablished in Newport. The toast was duly honoured, Companion John Hyndman acknowledging the compliment, and, with Comps. Edward Wells, Bridges, and others of that branch promising its speedy reestablishment here. "The Board of Governors of the new Masonic Hall," was drunk with applause, and acknowledged by Bro. G. W. JONES. Bro. HANCOCK, S.D., proposed "The Ladies," who were pledged with gallantry, and ardently honoured. Bro. John LLOYD, jun., Masonically responded for the "dear creatures." Bro. West, P.M., in his usually facetious and happy manner, gave "The Press," coupling the name of Bro. J. M. Scott therewith; and

the toast, being pledged with honours, was responded to by Bro. SCOTT. The health of the Secretary was drunk with honours, and acknowledged by Bro. Williams, and the toast "To all poor and distressed brethren, wherever situated," &c., having been drunk, the proceeding terminated. In the course of the evening there was some excellent singing by Bros. Philpotts, Whitechurch, Scott, Wells, Kirkham, and others.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

PETERBOROUGH.—*St. Peter's Lodge* (No. 646).—The brethren assembled at their Lodge room on Tuesday, December 27th, at one, P.M., to celebrate the festival of St. John. The Lodge having been opened in the first degree, the minutes of the last Lodge were read and confirmed. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, when the W.M., Bro. Geo. Cattel, proceeded to install his successor, Bro. H. Porter, M.D., into the chair for the ensuing year. After the ceremony the W.M., Bro. Porter, invested as his officers:—Bros. J. Ruddle, S.W.; R. Ellis, J.W.; J. Swann, S.D.; Nesbitt, J.D.; and Harrison, I.G. The Lodge was then adjourned until four, P.M., when the brethren partook of dinner, the W.M. presiding, who introduced the toasts in very appropriate terms. The J.W. having called the brethren from refreshment to labour, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren separated at an early hour, having spent a very agreeable and delightful evening.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

NEWCASTLE.—*Newcastle-on-Tyne Lodge* (No. 24).—The brethren of this old Lodge met on the 27th ult. (St. John's day), in the Lodge room, Freemasons' Hall, Blackett-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, for the purpose of installing Bro. Andrew Gillespie, the W.M. elect, into the chair for the ensuing year. The Lodge was opened in due form by the W.M., Bro. B. H. Harding, assisted by the following board of P.Ms.:—Bros. Wm. Johnson, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Henry Hotham, P. Prov. J.G.W.; John Barker, Prov. G. Treas.; A. Clapham; T. Alexander, Prov. Asst. Dir. of Cers.; W. E. Franklin, P. Prov. S.G.D.; H. Saniter (W.M. No. 586), Prov. S.G.D.; H. G. Ludwig, Prov. G. Reg., and a numerous attendance of brethren. The ceremony of installation was most ably and impressively performed by that excellent Mason, Bro. W. Johnston, P.M. No. 24, assisted by Bro. Henry Hotham, P.M. No. 24, as Dir. of Cers; the brethren below the chair having retired. On reentering the Lodge, Bro. W. Johnston, P.M., informed them that in their absence the board of installed Masters had duly installed into the chair Bro. Gillespie, as the W.M. for the ensuing year, at the same time expressing his opinion that the brethren of No. 24 had exercised a very great amount of judgment in unanimously electing so good, worthy, enthusiastic, and hard working a Mason as Bro. A. Gillespie to be their W.M. for the next twelve months. The W.M. (Bro. Gillespie) in thanking the brethren for the high honour they had that day conferred upon him, assured them that their confidence inspired him with the strongest determination to use his best exertions to promote the prosperity of the Lodge; and if it did not continue to prosper during his year of office (as he was glad to have it in his power to say it had done for the last few years), it should not be for want of attention to his duties. Knowing the certain support he would have from his office bearers, and from the kindly feeling which he generally received at the hands of his brethren, prosperity was certain to attend their efforts. The W.M. then proceeded to appoint the following brethren as his officers, remarking that he had been anxious to select such only as would, by their good attendance, behaviour, and brotherly love, cement together the brethren of No. 24; he was certain many able brethren were unavoidably passed over, his only regret was that he had not offices for them; the fact was, and he was glad it was so, that probably no Lodge possessed a greater number of members perfectly qualified in every way to take office than their good old Lodge, and this was chiefly owing to their attendance to the Lodge of Instruction held under their warrant. The Worshipful Master then, with appropriate remarks, invested his officers, viz.:—Bros. B. J. Harding, P.M.; A. Clapham, L.M.; Rev. S. Atkinson, Chaplain; Henry Hotham, Dir. of Cers.; A. Legge, S.W.; A. M. Loades, J.W.; A. Legge, Treas.; Geo. Lambton, Sec.; Thos. Roberts, S.D.; W. J. Harding, J.D.; Ralph Hopper, S.S.; W. C. Bousfield, J.S.; John Bousfield, Purveyor; John Anderson, I.G.; Alex. Dickson, Tyler. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to dinner at Bro. Wm. Brodie's, Turk's Head Hotel, at five o'clock, where, at the joint festival of Lodges Nos. 24 and 793, sixty of the brethren partook of a most excellent dinner, which reflected great credit on Bro. Brodie. Bro. Gillespie, W.M. No. 24, presided, assisted in the west by Bro. Thos. Anderson, S.W. No. 193, and Bro. Alfred Legge, S.W. No. 24; and in the south by Bro. Albert M. Loades, J.W. No. 24, and Bro. Smailes, J.W. No. 793. After dinner the Worshipful Master gave "The Queen," which was most heartily responded to by the brethren. The usual Masonic toasts were then given, including "The M.W. Grand Master" and "The R.W. Deputy Grand Master." "The Grand Masters of Scotland and Ireland, with their Deputies"—all these toasts were cordially responded to in real Masonic style by the brethren. The W.M., in giving the next toast, "The Prov. Grand Master of Northumberland, and his Deputy," could not refrain from occupying their time for a few moments, although he knew it was quite unnecessary to do so by any remarks of his, every brother present being perfectly aware how singularly fortunate this province was in having such a R.W. Prov. G.M. as Bro., the Rev. E. C. Ogle, whether in his capacity as a country gentleman, a magistrate, or a Mason. The brethren having

done ample justice to this toast, in Masonic style, the W.M. gave "The R.W. Prov. Grand Masters of Durham and Cumberland, and their Deputies;" after which he called upon the brethren to join in the toast, "The present and past Officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Northumberland," coupling with it the name of Bro. John Cook, Prov. J.G.W. Bro. Cook having responded, the W.M. (Bro. Gillespie) said the next on the list was the W.M., (Bro. Sept. Bell), officers and brethren of the sister Lodge, No. 793. He deeply regretted the absence that day of the W.M., of No. 793, caused, he was sorry to say, by severe indisposition, from this the joint festival of the two Lodges, Nos. 24 and 793. In bringing this toast before the brethren, he must be allowed to say that he considered that Lodge de Lorraine, No. 793, had chosen one of the best Masons in Newcastle, aye in the province, to rule over them for the next twelve months. He said this from his own observation, and concluded a neat speech by calling on the brethren to respond to the toast in Masonic style; and in the absence of the immediate P.M. of that Lodge, Bro. Alexander, he begged to couple the name of Bro. J. S. Challoner, P.M., with the toast. Bro. Challoner having responded, Bro. John Barker, P.M., No. 24, called, by permission of the chairman, for the brethren to give their heartiest response to the toast he was about to give. Bro. Barker concluded a few very pertinent remarks by calling on the brethren to drink to the health of their worthy chairman, Bro. A. Gillespie, W.M., No. 24; long life and prosperity to him and his. This toast was enthusiastically received. Bro. GILLESPIE replied in a few feeling remarks, and concluded by giving "The Past Masters of Lodge No. 24," coupling with it the name of Bro. B. G. Harding, the immediate P.M., and his predecessor in the chair. In thanking the brethren for the manner in which they had received, and the W.M. for the manner he had proposed this toast, Bro. HARDING remarked he had great satisfaction in doing so; their cordial manner convinced him that he had his brethren's good opinion and their brotherly love. It was with the utmost gratification he compared the present financial state, good working and general prosperity of his mother Lodge, No. 24, with her condition a few years ago. Let it go forth to the world that Lodge No. 24 was not now behind any of her sister Lodges in the kingdom, however much she might have been a few years since. He trusted the brethren would rally round Bro. Gillespie and the Lodge, No. 24, which number he might remind the brethren was the highest, with one exception, in the provinces. The Lodge was free of all debt, had recently purchased an entire set of Lodge clothing, and had a handsome balance in the bank—so much for *strict economy*, and a stern determination to make the Lodge prosperous. The W.M. having proposed "The Lodges of the province of Northumberland, other than those already proposed," coupling the name of Bro. B. J. Thompson, W.M., No. 985, Prov. G. Sec., with it. After ample justice had been given by the brethren to this toast, Bro. THOMPSON responded, and amongst other judicious remarks, said he could not let the opportunity pass without saying something on the subject of a general Masonic hall, where the brethren might meet under one roof, yet keep their Lodges perfectly distinct; where the Craft might have such accommodation as would not only promote their individual comfort, but would likewise bring their ancient institution before the eyes of the public in a manner worthy the Order, so that the uninitiated or popular world without might be convinced that there was really something in Freemasonry. He would also advocate schools in connection with the hall, either in the same premises or adjacent. The brethren would doubtless remember that during the early part of this year an attempt was made by some of the Craft to supply this want; unfortunately that scheme did not meet such support as was desirable—a few, and a few only, of the brethren giving that scheme a most determined opposition; however he (Bro. Thompson) still cherished the hope that the important and wealthy town of Newcastle would have its hall, and that some site might be found to meet the conveniences of all the brethren; trusting that all jealousies might be buried in oblivion, and the brethren work together, success was with themselves. After a few more Masonic toasts, the brethren separated at nine o'clock, having spent a very pleasant evening. We must not forget to mention the very excellent singing of Bros. Joel, J. Rutter, and R. Hopper, of No. 24, contributed much to enhance the pleasures of the festival.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

TAUNTON.—*Lodge of Unanimity and Sincerity* (No. 327).—Thursday, Dec. 29th, being the day appointed for the double purpose of celebrating the festival of St. John and of installing the W.M. for the ensuing year, a large number of the brethren of this rapidly increasing Lodge assembled in the Lodge room at an early hour. Bro. Bluett proceeded to open the Lodge; the minutes of the former meeting were read and confirmed, and other routine business gone through, when the arrival of the R.W. Bro. Randolph, D. Prov. G.M., was announced, who was duly received with full Masonic honours. Bro. Bluett having vacated the chair in favour of the D. Prov. G.M., the latter congratulated the brethren on having selected so expert a Mason as Bro. Capt. A. W. Adair to preside over them in the capacity of W.M. for the ensuing twelve months. The D. Prov. G.M. then proceeded with the ceremony of installation, which was performed in a manner so masterly as to command the admiration of the assembled brethren. The newly installed W.M. proceeded with the investiture of his officers, and delivered an appropriate address to each, reminding them of their duties to the Lodge and the fraternity generally. The officers appointed are—A. L. Clarke, S.W.;

T. Muzter, J.W.; C. Lake, Treas.; W. B. Butler, Sec.; G. Denham, S.D.; H. Ball, J.D.; J. D. Woollen, I.G. The business of the day having been completed, the brethren retired to an excellent dinner, the arrangements giving the greatest satisfaction to all present. The usual toasts were proposed from the chair in a forcible and happy style. The evening was spent in true Masonic unanimity; and it will be long remembered by those brethren who had the gratification of attending No. 337.

WALES (SOUTH).

SWANSEA.—*Indefatigable Lodge* (No. 288).—Tuesday last, the 27th ult., being the festival of St. John, the brethren of this Lodge assembled in goodly numbers for the purpose of assisting in the installation of Bro. Edward Morris, Prov. J.G.D., as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The impressive ceremony was most ably conducted by Bro. F. D. Michael, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. After which the Worshipful Master having expressed to the Lodge his acknowledgment of the honour conferred upon him, proceeded to appoint his officers for the year in the following order: Bros. William Cox, S.W.; J. W. Hallam, J.W.; Horrel W. Williams, S.D.; James Richardson, J.D.; Frederick Ternon, I.G.; W. Jones, Sec.; Charles Bath and T. J. Evans, Stewards. Bro. Thomas Powell, P.M., was unanimously reelected Treas., and Bro. John Probett was also reappointed Tyler. A cordial and unanimous vote of thanks was then accorded to Bro. Matthew Moggridge for the great ability and kind feeling with which he had conducted the affairs of the Lodge during the past year. The Worshipful Master having called attention to the resolution passed at the last Prov. Grand Lodge, reminded the brethren that it was now their duty to elect a member to represent their Lodge at the committee formed with a view to assist in obtaining additional funds in aid of the Masonic charities, and proposed that Bro. Moggridge, their much esteemed late W.M., should be elected to fill the office of representative of their Lodge. Bro. Cox, S.W., having warmly seconded the proposition, it was carried with acclamation. The brethren afterwards dined together, in conformity with usual custom, at the Mackworth Arms Hotel, when about fifty sat down to partake of the excellent fare provided for them by Bro. Viner. The Worshipful Master presided, supported by his officers. Among those present, in addition to those above named, were Bros. Dr. Bird, D. Prov. G.M.; M. Moggridge, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Theodore M. Talbot, Prov. G. Reg.; J. G. Hall, P. Prov. J.G.W.; G. A. Monro, P. Prov. G. P.M.; G. T. Stroud, P.M.; William Edmund, Jno. Trevellian Jenkin, Rev. John D. Davis, R. A. Essery, and others. Among the visitors who honoured the Lodge with their company were Bros. John Nelson, Past J.D., P.M. of the Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 324, London; F. J. Lloyd, P. Prov. J.G.D., Bristol; F. McKeirnon, W.M. of the Llanelly Lodge, &c. The greatest harmony characterized the proceedings of the evening, which passed off most pleasantly. The musical arrangements were most praiseworthy. Bro. Edward Fricker ably presided at the pianoforte, and the excellent singing of Bros. Cox, H. W. Williams, W. Bowen, Arnold, and W. Jones, contributed much to the enjoyment of the evening.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

FAREWELL DINNER TO BRO. WIGGINTON.

DUDLEY.—Bro. Wigginton, S.W., No. 819, member of No. 730, and Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. for the province of Worcester, being about to leave Dudley owing to engagements in London, several friends invited him to a farewell dinner at Bro. Deeley's, P.M., No. 819. At first it was intended to have been a strictly Masonic meeting, but as it was thought this would to some extent have restricted the company, this idea was abandoned, and several of the uninitiated were present. About thirty dined together, the chair being occupied, in the unavoidable absence of the mayor, by Bro. Holder, ex-mayor, P.M., Nos. 819 and 313; Bro. Burton, W.M. elect of No. 313, being vice. The health of Bro. Wigginton was proposed by Bro. Holder, who regretted that, owing to the short notice of the dinner taking place, and the rather private way in which it had been brought about, a greater number were not present to say farewell to Bro. Wigginton. He however felt as confident that he was expressing the sentiments of those around him as he was his own, when he said that they heartily wished all happiness and prosperity to Bro. Wigginton in the new sphere of life to which he was about to remove. Although there might have been differences of opinion with Bro. Wigginton, as of course there would always be between various members of society, still he felt sure they would give him credit for the best intentions and purest motives, and he would take with him the heartiest desires of many for his future welfare and success. Bro. Emspon alluded to the period when Bro. Wigginton held a situation in his office, and was glad to bear testimony to his professional capabilities as well as readiness to do at all times anything in his power to promote the good of those around him. Bro. Wigginton with much feeling appropriately responded, and assured his friends that whilst it rendered his parting with them more painful, such a manifestation as he had witnessed that evening would still be cherished and remembered as an expression of their kindness and goodwill, and would take away much of the pain of saying goodbye to many of those friends whose friendship he had so much reason to appreciate and value. Some appropriate songs were sung by Mr. Mainwaring Bro. Burton, and others; the health of the chairman, vice chairman, &c., were given and duly responded to, and the party broke up with a hearty goodbye to Bro. Wigginton.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

MIDDLESBOROUGH.—*North York Lodge* (No. 376).—The annual meeting of this Lodge was holden on Tuesday, the 3rd January, at three, P.M., at the Town Hall, when the W.M. elect, Bro. I. A. Manners, was duly installed according to antient form, by Bro. G. Marwood, D. Prov. G.M. for the North and East Riding, Yorkshire; who on this as on every other occasion, kindly undertook the office. There was a numerous attendance of the brethren; no less than fourteen installed Masters were present. Amongst the visitors were Bros. J. H. Handyside, P.M. and P. Prov. J.G.W. for North and East Yorkshire; the Rev. I. Milner, P. Prov. G. Chaplain, Durham; J. Dudds, Prov. G. Reg., Durham; W. Best, W.M. of the Tees Lodge, No. 749, who was accompanied by several brethren from his Lodge. There were also deputations from the Cleveland Lodge, No. 795; St. Helen's Lodge, No. 774; and the Harbour of Refuge Lodge, No. 1066. During the ceremony three anthems were sung, Bro. G. H. Armstrong, Prov. G. Organist for North and East Yorkshire, presiding at the harmonium. After the Lodge was closed, the brethren retired to Bro. C. Watson's, where the dinner was held, and a pleasant evening passed, enlivened by the singing of Bros. J. P. Horning and G. H. Armstrong, accompanied by the latter on the piano.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

SHEFFIELD.—*Britannia Lodge* (No. 162).—The Worshipful Master and brethren of this Lodge dined at the Angel Hotel, Sheffield, on Wednesday evening, December 27th, on the occasion of presenting Bro. W. H. Bailes with the insignia of his office as Prov. Senior Grand Warden of West Yorkshire. Bro. E. Harrison, W.M., presided, and Bro. Wm. White, jun., S.W., occupied the vice chair. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, the Worshipful Master, in an appropriate speech, presented Bro. Bailes with the very handsome clothing and jewel of the high office which he holds. He eulogized his untiring efforts for the good of Freemasonry, and his unceasing kindness in instructing the younger members of the fraternity in their several duties, and instanced him as an example that diligence and persevering research into the secrets and mysteries of the Order, and a constant attention to its duties, will in time obtain their own reward by winning the love and esteem of the brethren and gaining those distinguished honours which Masons so well know how to appreciate. Bro. Bailes, being duly invested, returned thanks in a feeling manner for the honour conferred on him, and said that it would always give him great pleasure to impart the knowledge he possessed to any of the brethren who were desirous to become good Masons, and he assured them that they would find their labours well repaid. A number of other toasts, interspersed with songs, filled up the evening, and the brethren separated after doing ample justice to the good cheer provided by Bro. Wilkinson. The present consists of a handsome case, containing full dress, apron, collar, and gauntlets, richly trimmed with double gold lace and fringe, with P.M. squares and badge of office embroidered in gold, and a splendid oval shaped enamelled jewel of gold, with inscription on one side and a level within a triangle upon the other. The whole are worth nearly £20.

AMERICA.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The M.W. Grand Lodge of Antient Freemasons of South Carolina closed its annual session on Friday, November 25th. There was a larger attendance of delegates at this session of the Grand Lodge than has ever been known since its organization. Eight new Lodges were chartered—one, the jurisdiction of which is located in the island of Cuba. This is a preparatory step to the restoration of Masonry in that island, where it has been excluded for many years by the government, and the formation of a Grand Lodge of Cuba. The Grand Lodge determined to elect a competent brother to write a history of Masonry in South Carolina, and Dr. A. G. Mackey was elected Historiographer of the Grand Lodge. The Rev. W. D. Haley, Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of the district of Columbia, was present as a visitor, and addressed the Lodge on the subject of the Masonic Home for Widows and Orphans, which the Craft of the United States propose to erect in the city of Washington.—*American Masonic Journal*.

SAN FRANCISCO.

The Masons of San Francisco, California, have purchased a lot on the corner of Montgomery and Post-streets, for 92,000 dollars, and will erect a building worth 100,000 dollars on it.

TURKEY.

CONSTANTINOPLE.—*Oriental Lodge* (No. 988).—At the meeting of this influential Lodge, held on the 14th October, a very pleasing duty devolved on the W.M., Bro. S. Aznavou, in presenting a testimonial to Bro. William Williams Evans, Secretary of the Lodge, beautifully written on vellum, with the capitals, ornaments and borders in gold and colours, finished in the highest style of illumination. In presenting this testimonial the W.M. most feelingly remarked that it was highly gratifying to him in so full a Lodge to present to so greatly esteemed

and worthy a brother this record as a small recompense for the valuable services rendered by him while acting as Secretary of the Lodge. Bro. Evans in a brief speech returned thanks for the kind manner the W.M. had been pleased to speak of his services, and thanked the members for the handsome gift presented to him. This testimonial was executed at Bro. R. Spencer's Masonic Depot, London, by a first rate artist in his employ, and was intended for presentation in December last, had the one sent out not been at the bottom of the sea in the steamer *Dutchman* when she foundered and returned completely spoiled, consequently the present jewel was substituted.

Obituary.

BRO. THOMAS WILLIAM ABBOTT.

THIS excellent brother finished his earthly career on the 24th of December, 1859, at his residence, 23, Great Pulteney Street, Golden Square, London, aged twenty-nine years, having for a long portion of that time been one of the most able assistants and managers in the works of Gray and Davison, organ builders, in the New-road. Beloved by all who had the privilege of being under his guidance, highly respected by his employers as a man well skilled in the art of voicing and construction, and enjoying their utmost confidence. He became a member of the Loyal Berkshire Lodge, No. 839, in July, 1858, and was about to be married with every prospect of mutual happiness and prosperity.—His death has been severely felt by his sorrowing relatives and numerous friends. He was the organist of Brunswick Chapel, Portman-square. We understand that the Lodge intends to mark their appreciation of his merits by an address of condolence to the bereaved and distressed.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Royal family are all in good health at Windsor; the Queen and Princesses ride and drive daily in the neighbourhood; the Prince Consort and Prince of Wales shoot and hunt. On Sunday, New Year's Day was duly kept at the Castle, and on Monday her Majesty's annual distribution of food and clothing to about 660 poor persons of the Windsor and Clewer parishes took place in the Riding House; the Queen and Prince Consort, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, Prince Arthur, Prince Leopold, Princess Alice, Princess Helena, Princess Louise, and Princess Beatrice, were present at the distribution, which was under the direction of the Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor, the Clergy of Windsor and Clewer and the District Visitors for the relief of the poor. The members of the clothing club (established under her Majesty's patronage) received at the same time articles of clothing according to the amount of their contributions (as on former occasions), with the additions provided by her Majesty. The Duchess of Kent, Prince and Princess Leinengen and the French princes from Claremont, have visited the Queen this week.—On Wednesday morning her Majesty presented the Victoria cross to several gallant officers and soldiers who had been declared deserving of that noble testimonial. The ceremony took place in the Quadrangle of Windsor Castle, where all the troops in garrison at Windsor were drawn up to witness it. With her Majesty were the Prince Consort, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Alice, and several of the younger members of the royal family. The Duke of Cambridge and others of the War Department were present.

FOREIGN NEWS.—On Sunday, being New Year's Day, the usual official reception by the Emperor of the French took place at the Tuilleries, when the foreign ministers were presented, with the Papal Nuncio at their head. His Majesty received them graciously and made a short speech, in which he declared that he had always been in favour of peace, and that he always would be so. A singular affair took place before the Tribunal of Correctional Police of Paris. A charge having been made against M. Vacherat for the publication of a book called "La Democratie," he was defended by M. Emile Ollivier, one of the most eloquent advocates in Paris. The Procureur Imperial, having made a very acrimonious speech against M. Vacherat, M. Ollivier began his answer as follows:—"I will not follow the example of the public prosecutor by appealing to passions;" when he was stopped by the president, who accused him of insulting the public prosecutor, and desired him to retract what he had said. M. Ollivier denied having done so, and refused to retract, on which he was suspended from practice for three months. The feeling of the members of the bar may be judged of regarding this despotic act by the fact that M. Ollivier was immediately embraced by the whole of the advocates present.—The Dictator Farini has decreed the temporary union of Parma, Modena, and the Romagna, under the title of the Royal Provinces of the Emilia.—The *Nazione* of Florence states that on the 27th ult., two English ladies were seen in the Piazza del Duomo of that city writing on the walls "Long live Ferdinand III. Down with the government!" The ladies were arrested by a carabinieri, who saw them doing this, and they were conveyed away in a hackney coach; and there, says the *Nazione*, the matter ended.—An important item of foreign news arrives by telegraph from Rome. It is said that the Duke de Grammont has positively stated that the pamphlet, "The Pope and the Congress" does not represent the views of the French government.—From Pesth we learn

that every effort was making by the Viennese government to suppress the publication of anything that may reveal the state of feeling in Hungary, and so far is this practice carried that foreign journals are influenced to contradict the statements respecting the oppression inflicted on the unfortunate Hungarians which appear in the English papers.—A telegram from Madrid informs us that the Spanish Squadron had burnt and blown up the Moorish forts at the mouth of the Tetuan. Three vessels, under English colours, had been taken with contraband of war on board and carried into Algeiras. Gibraltar advices are to the 24th. Marshal O'Donnell was awaiting reinforcements to hold his position in front of Ceuta, before moving on against Tetuan.—The steamship, *Persia*, has arrived at Liverpool with dates from New York to the 21st December. The House of Representatives had not achieved the task of electing a speaker, and the message of the president remained in abeyance. A very influential demonstration in favour of the maintenance of the Union had taken place at New York. A treaty between the United States and the Juarez government has been ratified, providing for the perpetual right of way across the isthmus of Tehuantepec from Rio Grande to Mazatlan, and from Guayamas to Arizona.—With reference to the case of M. Ollivier, the order of French Advocates have met, and decided that the suspension of M. Ollivier was an attempt to tamper with the right of defence, and that the decision of the court should be appealed against. M. Placque, annual chairman of the order, is to be M. Ollivier's counsel on the occasion. An *avertissement* has been given to the *Esperance* of Nancy, on account of an article, which, by its alleged violence, is deemed "insulting to the institutions which France has chosen for herself." The *Constitutionnel* states that it is authorized to contradict an assertion in the *Independence* of Brussels, that the archbishop of Paris had expressed to the Metropolitan Chapter profound uneasiness as to the state of the church.—The Spanish navy was engaged for a whole fortnight in landing 30,000 men at Ceuta, along with their horses, artillery, and camp equipment, although it was done with as much ease as landing passengers from a steam packet. In the Crimea the whole of the English and French contingents were landed under twelve hours. The *Epoque*, of Madrid, says that the difference between Spain and Mexico has been arranged, and that diplomatic relations are about to be resumed.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—Two cabinet councils have this week been held at the premier's official residence.—The returns of the revenue for the quarter and for the year respectively, made up to the 31st of December, exhibit a satisfactory state of the national resources. This is particularly the case with the customs and excise, which are the best tests of the external trade and the home consumption of the country. On the former the increase on the year amounts to £732,000, and on the latter to £1,075,000. Upon the whole the annual receipts for 1859 come up as nearly as possible to the receipts of 1858; and if allowance be made for a decrease of £683,000 under the head "Miscellaneous"—always an uncertain and fluctuating item—exceeds it by half a million; and if we add to this the decrease of a million and a half from the reduction in the income tax, the revenue of 1859 exceeds that of 1858 by nearly two millions.—The effects of the recent cold, coupled probably with the succeeding sudden changes, are more fully developed in the Registrar General's return of deaths for last week than they were in the preceding one, the rate of mortality having risen from 1543 to 1677, the latter number being 221 over the average rate. The total number of births during the week was 1958.—Lord John Douglas Montagu Scott died on Tuesday at his seat Caneston Lodge, near Rugby. He was a keen supporter of our national sports, particularly the turf and the chase. The deceased was second son of Charles William, fourth Duke of Buccleuch and the Hon. Harriet Katherine Townshend, fourth daughter of Thomas first Viscount Sydney, and was born July 13th, 1809, and married, March 16th, 1836, Alicia Anne, eldest daughter of Mr. John Spottiswoode.—On Tuesday a conference of schoolmasters was held in the room of the Society of Arts, in the Adelphi, to take into consideration the present state of the whole question of the university local examinations. The chief point of discussion was a suggestion that there should be but one annual examination at each local centre. Resolutions in reference to this and other minor matters were agreed to.—This week the session of the Central Criminal Court for January was opened before the Lord Mayor, Recorder, and other functionaries. The first addition of the calendar contained the names of forty-two prisoners. The learned Recorder congratulated the grand jury on the small number of prisoners for trial. The only case calling for particular attention was a charge of infanticide, a crime which he feared was on the increase. The grand jury having retired to their room, the court proceeded with the trials.—Joseph Pomeroy and Elizabeth Sophia Pomeroy were indicted for making counterfeit sixpences. It appeared in the course of the trial that they had been in the practice of coining bad money, and they were found guilty. Inspector Brennan then said that the male prisoner had by his conduct driven his daughter mad, and brought his wife to her present condition. The court sentenced the male prisoner to fourteen years' penal servitude, and respited the judgment on the woman.—Wm. Jones, nineteen, and Michael Hayes, twenty-two, were each tried on indictments for assaults of a murderous character on warders in the house of correction. The first prisoner pleaded guilty, and admitted that he intended to murder the warder. The Recorder ordered sentence of death to be recorded, but said it would not be carried into execution; he would, however, be kept in confinement for the greater portion of the remainder of his life.

The second prisoner was found guilty of a most violent and unprovoked attack upon another warder, from the effects of which he had not been able since to resume his occupation. He was sentenced to six years' penal servitude.—At the Surrey General Quarter Sessions there were only thirteen prisoners for trial. The chairman, in charging the grand jury, said their labours would be very light. The grand jury then retired to their room. At one o'clock the election of a chaplain took place, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of the Rev. Mr. Hatch. There were thirty-five candidates, but the Rev. Mr. Hallward was, after a contest, chosen to fill the office.—A coroner's inquest has been held yesterday morning on the bodies of Mr. John Thaine, linen draper, and Thomas Theobald, his assistant, whose deaths resulted from the fire that occurred in Mr. Thaine's shop, in Exmouth-street, on Christmas eve. A number of witnesses were examined, from whose evidence it appeared that the fire was occasioned by some goods becoming ignited in one of the windows in which they were hung up for show. In summing up the evidence the coroner remarked upon the danger arising from the present mode of dressing out windows. The verdict of the jury was "That the deceased were accidentally burnt to death, resulting from a fire occasioned by carelessness in hanging the goods in the windows."—On Saturday evening a sad calamity occurred at Liverpool, by which it is feared twenty-three persons have lost their lives. Twenty-nine men, most of them riggers, got into a small boat to return to shore from a ship they had been placing at her moorings, when the boat swamped, and but six of the unfortunate passengers were rescued.—Charles Normington, the murderer of Mr. Broughton, has suffered execution at York. The wretched criminal was but eighteen years of age.—A Frenchman, known amongst half a dozen other names as Anguste Gustave Gilson, was brought before Mr. Selge, at the Thames Police Office, charged with obtaining by fraudulent pretences an oil painting worth £240, from M. Schendell, an artist of Brussels. The amateur, it was stated, had represented himself as employed by an English nobleman to purchase the picture; but it is believed that the so-called employer is a peer of the Frenchman's own creation. In the meantime Gilson is committed to Clerkenwell Prison, to be brought up for further examination on Friday.—An alarming collision of two passenger trains has occurred near the Tilbury junction of the Eastern Counties Railway. The one train had got partly round the junction when the other dashed into it, the engine striking the last carriage and smashing it, literally, to shivers. Providentially this carriage was empty. Some of the others, filled with passengers, were overturned and dragged along the line, while the engine crossed the permanent way and became embedded in an embankment. Many of the passengers are seriously injured, although it does not appear that, as yet, any fatal results have followed.—At the conference of schoolmasters in the Adelphi on Wednesday, the leading deliberations of that body had reference to the substitution of the title of "Literate of Oxford and Literate of Cambridge," for the title of "Associate in Arts" in connection with successful middle class examination; but ultimately, after a long discussion, it was resolved that the subject should be left to the universities themselves, as the more gracious course, leaving them to affix the meaning to the title to be employed, and after the transaction of some general business the conference separated.

COMMERCIAL; AND PUBLIC COMPANIES.—The accounts of the condition of trade in the manufacturing districts continue to be of a satisfactory nature. Owing, however, to the circumstance of stock taking and balancing of accounts, which has been in progress during the last week, a partial cessation of activity has resulted. This is not expected to be of longer duration than the turn of the Christmas holidays, the healthy tone of trade and the hopeful views entertained by the manufacturers generally giving fair promise of renewed animation in all the various seats of productive industry. The reports from Birmingham, Bradford, Halifax, Leeds, Leicester, and Sheffield, represent business as quiet, but firm; the Nottingham lace trade remains rather dull, but good spring orders are anticipated. From Huddersfield the reports are decidedly favourable, and trade is said to be extending and improving. Wolverhampton exhibits general activity in the hardware department, but the trade in iron is said to be quiet, several of the blast furnaces having been blown out. The Hull shipping and general trade is represented to be increasing, but that of Newcastle has not in the least degree augmented, though what is passing seems to be of a steady character.—At the half yearly meeting of the London Dock Company, a dividend of £1 10s. 3 cent. on the company's stock for the six months was declared, but not free of income tax. The balance standing to credit of profit and loss on the 30th November was £200,863, out of which the proposed distribution is to be made; this will absorb, £57,253, leaving £143,609 to be carried forward. The balance of £200,863 includes a sum of £161,093, the amount of outstanding charges due to the company on warehouse goods. Although the payment is at a reduced rate compared with former years, the chairman, on behalf of the board, expressed his belief that the worst has been passed, and that the future will show a large increase in the tonnage and receipts.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—At this elegant theatre the drama of "The Cricket on the Hearth" has for the last three evenings superseded the "Wonderful Woman," in which Mr. Augustus Harris has so successfully

proved his claim to be considered one of the best actors of light comedy that we have. The Christmas entertainment at this house is a pantomime entitled "Jack the Giant Killer; or Harlequin King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table." It has a capital burlesque opening, written by Mr. Byron, and admirably acted by Miss Louise Keeley, Mr. Shore, Mr. Saker, Mr. R. Cathcart, and Miss Kate Laidlaw; beautifully painted scenery, with a gorgeous transformation scene; capitally arranged ballets, danced to perfection by Monsieur Espinosa, Mlle. Marietta Rosetti, and a charming *corps de ballet*, and a harlequinade overflowing with fun, and supported by a most graceful and active harlequin, and one of the best clowns in London. The transformation scene is a marvel of scenic display. It is so excellently arranged that the most perfect harmony reigns throughout, and a gorgeous haze hangs over the whole, which, while fully displaying the brilliancy of the scene, does not hurt the eye by too violent a blaze of splendour. Miss Louise Keeley, as *Jack*, acted with the greatest spirit, and her exquisite singing would alone repay a visitor. The harlequinade is supported by Mr. Cormack as Harlequin; Miss Caroline Adams as Columbine; Mr. Paulo as Pantaloon, and Mr. A. F. Forrest as Clown. Mr. Cormack is as active as ever; Miss Adams as graceful; Mr. Paulo the much enduring pantaloon that he always has been. Mr. Forrest combines agility with humour, and his pantomime is distinguished by a breadth of fun that is irresistible. The Princess's Rifle Corps of pretty women perform the evolutions, which have been arranged for them by Mr. Oscar Byrne with much precision and effect. The clever little Delepiere children are also engaged, and their concert forms an agreeable variety.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—The entertainments this week have been the somewhat stupid comedietta of the "Head of the Family," which is relieved from insipidity only by the acting of the ever charming Mrs. Stirling. The farce of the "Base Impostor" stills holds its ground, thanks to the ability of Mr. Horace Wiggin as an actor. The great feature of the evening's amusement has been, of course, the new burlesque, "Alfred the Great," by Mr. R. B. Brough, in which, according to the taste of the day, the adventures of the patriotic monarch are turned into laughter moving farce. The author, however, has succeeded in constructing a most effective part for Mr. Robson, and the audience, who go to be amused and not to discuss the proprieties of high art, are perfectly satisfied and immensely delighted with the peculiar humour of their favourite actor in this new character. The puns in "Alfred the Great" are more than usually numerous and atrocious. The dresses are superb, and the scenery is excellent; the fun runs fast and furious, and Mr. Robson excels himself as the *Minstrel King*, "the author of Trial by Jury," as he is termed in the bill. The songs are patriotic, sentimental, and humorous, and have full justice done them by Mr. Robson himself, Miss Nelson, and Miss Hughes. In the course of the piece there is a beautiful scene of that famous place the "Neatherd's Cottage," which is one of the finest stage representations we have seen for many years. Mr. Robson's thinking of his kingdom and burning the bread, is an exquisite effort of low comedy. The concluding scene, a sacred grove, with a statue and altar of Odin, is neat and excellently painted, and the extravaganza concludes with a tableau, not very gorgeous but exceedingly neat, representing the Channel fleet under full sail, and concluding with an emblematic and patriotic trophy, beautifully arranged. The management of this theatre do not aim at the dazzling splendour of their neighbours, but extreme elegance is the characteristic of the effects studied here, and in the new burlesque they have been more successful than usual.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Mme. Celeste has this week resumed her character of *Genevieve* in the "Sister's Sacrifice," with undiminished ability and pathos. In addition to this attraction, the audience at this house have been delighted with some unrivalled Spanish dancing by the beautiful Dona Isabel Cubas and Don Juan Ximenes. The new entertainment produced for the holidays by Mme. Celeste is an "extravaganza pantomime," written by Mr. Francis Talfourd, and founded on one of the world wide popular German tales of the brothers Grimm. Its title is "King Thrushbeard, the Little Pet, and the Great Passion; or, Harlequin Hafiz and the Fairy Good Humour." The harlequinade is the joint production of Mr. Cormack and George Ellis. The legend, which bears a great resemblance to the plot of Tobin's "Honeymoon," has been treated by Mr. Talfourd more in the vein of elegant extravaganza than with the broader humour of burlesque. He has travestied a scene from the "Taming of the Shrew," and he has filled in a few lyrical parodies with considerable ingenuity and verbal felicity. The dresses are most gorgeous, the scenery, by Mr. William Calcott, superb, and the acting really excellent. Miss Julia St. George as the *King*, and also as the beggar, sings and acts with great spirit; and Mr. John Rouse is the *beau idéal* of a determined, intemperate, absolute monarch. The transformation scene presents one of the prettiest conceivable stage effects. A grove of ferns, beautifully painted, with brilliant revolving columns in the distance, is discovered; gradually the ferns in the centre are raised, and from the wings are lowered fairies in various graceful postures. As they descend they are reflected in a large sheet of water, which spreads before the ferns. At the same time from the sides the good people are pushed forward reclining on mossy couches, and the transformation begins. The whole scene is beyond question the finest that has for years been produced at this theatre, if indeed it has ever been equalled in London. The harlequinade which follows is enlivened by the fun of Mr. H. Marshall as Clown; Mr. J. Marshall as Harlequin; Mr. Naylor as Pantaloon; and

with Miss Rosine as a pretty and effective Columbine. The "comic business" is exceedingly amusing and well arranged.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—The effective drama founded upon Dickens's "Christmas Carol" has since Christmas replaced the "Dead Heart" of Mr. Watts Phillips, and is very carefully and effectively acted. Mr. J. L. Toole's impersonation of *Bob Cratchit*, as a bit of genuine eccentric comedy, is nearly perfect, exhibiting the humorous phases of the character, yet never forgetting the pathos which marks the experience of the poor underpaid clerk. As *Mrs. Cratchit*, Mrs. A. Mellon most ably seconds the efforts of Mr. Toole, while Mr. Selby, as *Ebenezer Scrooge*, gives a very impressive reading of the character. A "grand new spectacular extravaganza" follows, called "The Nymph of the Lurlineburg; or, the Knight and the Naiads," founded on the legend of Lurline, which has been pretty closely followed by the author, Mr. H. J. Byron. *Sir Rupert the Reckless* (Mrs. A. Mellon) is a very hard up knight, who is not rich enough to marry the *Lady Una* (Miss Kate Kelly) whom he loves, and who therefore dives down to the bottom of the Rhine in company with his seneschal (Mr. J. L. Toole), where he obtains from Lurline (Miss Eliza Webb), under the promise of marriage, a variety of valuable jewels. Returning to *terra firma*, he is about to carry out his matrimonial views, but his seneschal, who has silently hated him for years, defies him to mortal combat, and threatens to take possession of his entire property. Lurline heads a light company of Amazons who gallantly deliver the lover from the hands of the bloodthirsty attendant. Mrs. Mellon is, of course, irreproachable as *Sir Rupert*, dressing, acting, fighting, making love, and singing, with the taste and volubility which have long distinguished her as the most efficient representative on the stage of this particular species of hero. Mr. J. L. Toole was very good as the *Seneschal*, whom he made up into a most hideously picturesque figure, and whose peculiar disposition he indicated with extraordinary force and originality. There is also a pompous Baron *Witz* most efficiently represented by Mr. Paul Bedford, after his usual well known style. With such an efficient body of actors almost any piece would be sure to go well, and though perhaps the burlesque at the Adelphi is not equal in comic power to some previous works of the same dramatist, it would be unfair to deny that the puns, songs, and dialogue, answer the end of producing shouts of laughter; and that author and artists together keep the audience in good humour throughout. The burlesque has been admirably produced under the care of Mr. W. C. Smith, the able acting manager. The scenery and costumes are on the most liberal scale, and the effects are surprising, and some of them very beautiful. There is a ballet in the course of the piece, which gives room for some dancing of a high order.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—After the "screaming" farce of "Garibaldi's Englishman" in which Mr. Charles Young nightly succeeds in convulsing the audience of this theatre, has been presented, the "Magic Toys" which Miss Lydia Thompson has made one of the celebrities of London. A very delightful *petite* comedy follows, called "A Household Fairy," which gives scope for some excellent acting on the part of Miss Wyndham, who has become a member of this company since Christmas. The plot turns upon the influence exercised by a young girl over a man who has spent all his money, and because he is too proud to work, determines to put an end to his existence. Contact with the fresh, simple minded girl puts new life into him, and the sketch concludes most happily. The special Christmas entertainment provided for his patrons by the energetic lessee, Mr. Chatterton, is a pantomime, the first ever produced at this theatre and certainly not the least successful one of the season. It is entitled "Punch and Judy; or, Harlequin and the Fairy of the Crystal Caves," and is written and played throughout with great spirit and humour. The scenery is admirable, especially "The Home of Queen Mirth," and the transformation scene, which are noticeable for their artistic excellence. The national drama of "Punch" is not strictly followed in the opening of the pantomime; that terrible reprobate, however, indulges in his usual wife-beating propensities. But he is the special favourite of the *Spirit of Burlesque*, who takes him under her patronage in order that he may be pitted against *King Humbug*, whose patroness is the *Spirit of Mischief*. The opening exhibits the fight between *Punch* and *Humbug*, and it abounds with allusions to the topics of the day, conspicuous amongst which are Big Ben, the *Great Eastern*, and the Four Liverpool Merchants. Mr. Robins, Mr. James Francis, Miss Rance, Miss Evans, and Miss Nelly Moore, all acted with great spirit, in the opening. The harlequinade is supported by two clowns, Mr. Paul Herring and Mr. Arthur Glanville; Mr. Parker, as Pantaloon; Mr. Ash, as Harlequin; and Miss Fowler, as Columbine; who all are efficient pantomimists. Mr. Chatterton, following the example of his brother managers, gives a morning performance every Wednesday; and this week those notorious playgoers, the Duke of York's boys, indulged in the dissipation of a visit to the St. James's Theatre preceded by their excellent band.

STRAND THEATRE.—This little theatre, which has acquired a well-earned reputation for its cleverly written and admirably acted burlesques of what may be termed the drawing-room class, has produced for the holidays a piece which sustains the fame of the management, with its patrons of high and low degree. It is styled "Tell, and the Strike of the Cantons; or the Pair, the Meddler, and the Apple," and, supported as it is by the abilities of such artists as Misses Charlotte Saunders, Wilton, and Oliver, and Messrs. Clark and Rogers, we need scarcely add that it is a perfect success. The author has transferred *William Tell* into fairy regions, and the *dramatis persone* are divided into three classes—inhuman beings, human beings, and superhuman beings. Of

course among the first is *Gesler*: of the second, *Tell* forms the principal; and the only most attractive of the "supers" are *Freedom* and *Helvetia*. We have a grand *pas d'intoxication* by *Gesler*, not resulting in the stationhouse. *Tell's* chalet in the morning is very refreshing. Then of course the market-place; and *Gesler's* cap, whether on his head or on the pole receives due homage, and the whole is wound up with a grand ballet, in which Miss Rosina Wright introduces a Savoyard dance with great effect. A set of dioramic pictures, as if seen through an inverted opera glass, are presented of the embarkation, the passage across the lake, the storm, the wreck and the escape of *Tell*, who arrives just in time to have a terrific combat with the tyrant *Gesler*; and the piece concludes with a gorgeous display of golden pippins.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE.—The romantic play of the "Fool's Revenge" still holds its place on the boards of this theatre, the critics notwithstanding; the magnificent acting of Mr. Phelps is admirably supported by the subordinate artists, who sustain the other characters in the play; and the completeness of the whole performance would seem to leave nothing to be desired in order to attract crowded and discriminating audiences. Mr. Phelps, however, is well aware that at this season of the year the claims of fun must be satisfied as well as those of pathos, and accordingly he provides the usual pantomime fare in the style of excellence for which Sadler's Wells under his management has become renowned. His pantomime combines the pristine comicality for which this theatre has earned a name ever since the days of Grimaldi, with the refinements and decorative excellence which the improved taste of this particular audience now demand. The title is "Harlequin Hans and the Golden Goose; or, Mother Earth, the Little Red Man, and the Princess whom Nobody could make Laugh." Poor *Mother Earth* is in sad tribulation, being annoyed by six griffin headed demons, representing the horrors of war, a Chinaman, a Negro, a Yankee, and European, rush on armed and ready for attack, and then John Bull. To furnish amusement to dispel the gloom of *Mother Earth*, a pantomime must be provided, and the *Little Red Man* (Miss Eliza Collier) is ready to answer the summons. This is the quaintest rubicund morsel of humanity imaginable, looking as if the elfin mannikin had come red hot from somewhere, and had never given himself time to cool. How the *Little Red Dwarf* becomes a great moral teacher, and how the good hearted *Hans* is rewarded for his better disposition, the public must learn from the representation itself. The characters are eventually transported to the "Arcadian Home of Peace in the Palace," of all sorts of silver palaces. The pantomime was admirably sustained throughout, the tricks were new, ingenious, and well contrived, and not a single "hitch" took place. Mr. Charles Fenton is a Harlequin who carefully preserves the traditions of a good school, and is ably seconded by the Columbine (Miss Caroline Parkes); Mr. C. Laurie is a Clown well known as an active and facetious pantomimist; Mr. H. Lauri is a most commendable Pantaloon, and takes his thumps and bumps with an equanimity worthy all praise for the physical endurance manifested. The scenery, by Mr. Charles Stanfield James, is of great merit; indeed none but a real artist could have produced the beautiful views which top up the excellences of Messrs. Phelps and Greenwood's Christmas entertainment.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"THE BUILDER."—A brother made in a foreign Lodge can be affiliated with a Lodge holding under the English Constitution. The expense will be according to the Lodge the brother wishes to join—the fee is usually from one to five guineas, and in some instances higher. As the Lodge will have to register the brother in the Grand Lodge books, an additional fee of £1 7s. 6d. (the cost of registering) will most probably be charged.

"R. T. I." or "R. T. T."—Our correspondent using these, or similar, initials, is requested to write again more legibly. We cannot undertake to decipher hieroglyphics.

"R. H. W."—It is not customary in English Lodges for Master Masons to wear such jewels. All Scotch Master Masons, however, wear them as described. We have also seen them in English Lodges, and do not know of any real objection to them. Strictly speaking, the Masonic Bible does not include the New Testament; no part of our ceremonies being, according to our tradition, founded upon it.

DR. HINXMAN.—The brother who was elected W.M. last year, and has never been installed, will not take rank as a P.M. Bro. Sir Thos. Hesketh, having been invested as J.G.D. by proxy, will not lose his rank in consequence of never having attended to his duties; the only penalty being the forfeiture of as many guineas as there have been Grand Lodges; the default in payment of which will forfeit the rank.

NORTH SHIELDS.—The report of St. George's Lodge will appear in our next.

LODGE OF JOPPA.—Acknowledged with thanks.

BERKHAMSTEAD.—Our correspondent's favour arrived too late for this impression.