

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1860.

CLASSICAL THEOLOGY.—VI.

CERES AND AUGUST—(CONTINUED.)

As a fountain in a desert, giving existence, nourishment, and vigour to its little paradise of umbrageous palms, bananas, mossy grass, and sweet flowers; and not the less inviting to its free and hospitable shelter the weary and dying who have sought it as their last hope and found it to be a sacred spring—Janus, amid a wilderness of paganism, stood alone in his symbolic character as significant of God's saving health and probation unto all nations, and the personification of God the Saviour and God the Prince of Peace. This truly figurative language or symbolism of figures, has become to a certain extent generally known through the interpretations of many of the most esteemed ancient authors, some of whom we may conclude must have been admitted into the *Janian* or *Bifronian* mysteries which show, in one respect at least, a *Hebraic etymon*; the Jews indeed under many of their kings initiated heathens into their mysteries. Janus, however, described as Noah, will bring us at once to the point in accordance with the second era of Mason-craft.

In the statue of Janus, are there any marks or significations (inquires the reader) indicative of his having been a Freemason? We say there are; and in no other way can we account for that personage being the only purely wise and holy hero of all Paganism. In Freemasonry, doubtless, there is much hidden that can never be found by the outer world, however much similarity the learned may discern between some of our offices, and the solemn ceremonies and sacrifices in honour of Janus, who, we may here remark, was well represented by Ovid and Virgil as *Bifrons Deus*, though otherwise not always so visaged.

The foundations of the city of Rome were laid by Romulus during the festival of the *Palicia*, observed in honour of the goddess Pales. Near a beautiful fountain that suddenly sprung up there, the king built the temple of Janus. Some time after when the Sabines, a neighbouring nation, under the command of Tatius their king, favoured by Juno and a moonless night, attempted an attack upon Romulus by surprise, and had so far succeeded in their approach, unobserved and in silence, as even to surround and enter the city, it is related that at the instigation of Venus, Janus commanded the *Naiades* to loose the sources of his fountain and pour its overwhelming torrents upon the midnight enemy in his stealthy and assassin-like attack. While this unexpectedly cool reception damped the ardour and impeded the operations of the Sabines, the Romans had time to arm themselves; the rush of waters then subsided, and streams of blood soon supplied their place; a desperate conflict issued, which added to the renown of the victorious Romans. The Sabines ceded their original possessions, and came to settle in Rome. The two kings, Romulus and Tatius, having made a league to that effect, ratified the conclusion of peace by setting up an image of Janus Bifrons, thereby intending significantly to confirm their equal sovereignty. This united sway continued about six years, when, Tatius being slain, Romulus reigned in sole possession of their united dominions. Numa afterwards built a temple, so constructed as to have double doors, and dedicated it with solemn praise to Janus. When Falises, a city of Etruria, was taken, there was found the image of *Janus Quadrifrontis*, or Janus with four faces, whereupon the temple of this god was built with four gates.

Let us here observe that there were two Rheas; the one also called Ilia, was the daughter of Numitor, the king of the Albanes, and the son of Procas, that monarch in whose reign the two lovely and loving divinities, Pomona and Vertumnus from Etruria were introduced into Latium. To his two sons, this king left the joint possession of his throne. Such an arrangement ill suited with the ambitious notions of Amulius, Ilia's uncle, who soon contrived the securing of his

brother's rights, and the succession of the crown, as he thought, to his own descendants. He caused Numitor to be expelled from Alba, and decreed the murder of the youthful prince, his nephew, the brother of Ilia; while the princess herself, in all her youthful beauty, he consecrated as one of the *Vestales Virgines*, or priestesses in the service of the goddess Vesta, who were required in fulfilment of their vow to remain in perpetual celibacy, or suffer the punishment of being buried alive. What is considered strange by one country has often been attributed to ignorance by another. Among the ancients an immaculate conception was easily accounted for, and believed to be, as an occurrence, more sacred than esteemed extraordinary; their *Di Indigetes*, or demigods and heroes, were most of them acknowledged to have been of no other birth. Nor can we pass over the fact that, in some parts of Asia to this day there is believed to exist, as a natural event, an occasional incorporeal connexion and incomplete parturieney, which, in a religious point of view is honoured with reverence, and devoutly expected and besought. Ilia Rhea became the mother of twins, and proclaimed their paternity to be of the god Mars. The Pythoness and the Sybil were consulted and pronounced against Amulius, declaring his precautions to be in vain, and that the children were the sons of Mars, who would himself protect his offspring. Ilia named them Romulus and Remus, who, as soon as they had reached the age of early manhood, under the directions of their martial father the god of war, raised the cry of usurpation, and gathered forces against their treacherous uncle Amulius. He was vanquished, and they reinstated their grandfather, Numitor, on the throne, who was the eldest brother to whom properly the right of succession appertained from Æneas, the twelfth king of the Latins. Historically, the name of Numitor's only daughter was Sylvia; but whether her two sons were exposed in the forest to the tender mercies of wild beasts by their cruel uncle, till Faustulus the shepherd found the little innocents, and privately fostered and educated them as his own; whether also Romulus despatched a rival in the death of his brother, are drifts unessential, if attainable, to our inquiry. Yet, still, since Æneas was called the son of Venus and Anchises, there are the same staple grounds to support the avement of Mars and Ilia being the parents of Romulus and Remus, who built the world's "eternal city," in the year 753, B.C.

Although we read in the pages of ancient history of events occurring in several reigns of the gods as kings upon earth, we must go to the sacred volume for their actual names, when we shall find that real personages, especially the patriarchs, have been gratuitously converted into gods by a prosopical assumption of their celestial titles and denominations. Thus Adam, as the father of mankind, is Janus, as the father of the deities; and in like manner Noah, as the *Biceps* of Ovid, is described as a monarch who ruled over that part of Italy formerly called Latium, at the time Saturn fled from the anger of his son Jupiter. It is said Janus so kindly and hospitably received him, that as a grateful return and mark of esteem, he endowed him with the rarest powers of wisdom and prudence, through which he became associated in the government. We have no doubt that Janus received Saturn in a most friendly manner; but after all there is but the combination of similar events—what is said of the one has been said of the other.

Their reign is made the consummation of that remarkable period, when contentment, religion, and tranquillity breathed, united, and lived together on the earth, which brought forth her fruits consequently in abundance; and there was peace and prosperity, and a good will among all men, at least

"No fences parted fields; no marks, nor bounds,
Distinguished acres of litigious grounds."

"Nec signare quidem aut partiri limite campum
Fas erat."—*Georg.* 1. 1.

"Peace and plenty came ;
And thence the Golden Times derive their name."—Æn.

To Juno belonged the calends or first days of the months, and she consigned them to the superintendence of Janus, in which capacity he is known as Junonius, and Janitor (as of the year as regulated by Numa) the first month of which, January (Januarius) takes its name from him ; or, so to express it, he opens the *januæ* or gates of the year. To come to a more accurate explanation—Janus is the first star at the beginning of this period which makes its appearance above the horizon. Martial also observes that the government of the year was committed to Janus : and in this respect he had in his temple twelve altars dedicated to him, and likewise proportional to the number of the months, twelve small chapels. It was in this temple that the Roman consuls were inaugurated, and from thence it was relatively said they "opened the year," that is to say, upon the calends of January ; at which time, according to Macrobius, and on the calends of March, a new wreath of laurel was placed on the head of Janus and the withered one was removed : of which, as mentioned by Ovid in his *Fasti*,

"Laurea flaminibus, qua toto perstitis anno,
Tollitor, et frondes sunt in honore novæ."

"The laurel of the old year yields its place,
Unto the garland of the new year's grace."

Pliny thought this custom arose in honour of Janus's sovereignty over the year—"Because," says he, "Janus was not only the projector of the laurel crown, and the tree itself a favourite of winter, but the statue dedicated to Janus by Numa had its fingers so arranged as to typify three hundred and sixty-five, the number of days in a year, for he was by his annular knowledge and indications, the god of time and of ages." By all account we have of Janus, he was the first creator of temples, shrines, and altars, and institutor of religious rites and ceremonies. To quote Juvenal and Servius here would only be to echo Festus in giving his reason why prayers and sacrifices were in the first place offered to Janus. They agree in stating that all men were thought to have received their organic being from this first god of Italy (so deified) and as Ogyges, according to some chronological dates of Greece too : for although many of the gods were called "father," yet Janus was particularly so named. For this, among other reasons adduced by Fabian, he says, "In all sacrifices they begin their rites by the setting forth of corn bread and wine to Janus, before there was an offering up of anything to any other deity."

THE DOMICAL FORM OF BUILDING.

BY JOHN WILSON ROSS.

THE qualities of the dome render it peculiarly applicable to all the grand styles of horizontal architecture. In a church it is truthfully significant of sanctity ; to a secular building it imparts an appropriate dignity ; in countries where the classical style is in vogue, it may be applied with the utmost fitness to every structure designed for civil purposes—whether it be a palace or a House of Parliament, a government office, or a court of law, a picture or sculpture gallery, or a lecture or concert room, a market, town hall, or largely frequented place of commercial resort. In all these instances of its application it never fails to call up and assert dignity, if but properly treated. An architect—necessarily an authority on the matter—Mr. Samuel Huggins, in a masterly treatise on this subject (from which, by the way, the ideas in this paper are borrowed), has further said, that there is another purpose to which it might be applied with great propriety and effect—as a shelter from our inclement sky for our outdoor statues ; and that triumphal domes might be constructed, as more expressive of the sentiment of triumph, and more emblematic of greatness than triumphal arches. Here, then, as he says, is an entirely new and noble

object with which to adorn the streets of our cities—a triumphal dome.

Not restricted only to express sublimity, the dome ought not to be excluded from embodying grace and elegance. The erection of the reading room in the British Museum has shewn that a ceiling raised in a domical form is the best suited to a circular room : in a saloon or hall so built, the ceiling—to save the apartment from an appearance of discordance in respect to its disposition—should be shaped in the spherical form. With equal propriety domes might be distributed in a beautiful series over large mansions ; semicircular rooms should be covered with semidomes ; and apart from their use and decorative beauty, great grandeur and a general effective picturesqueness would be lent to halls of imposing size by the introduction of proportionally large semicircular recesses.

In all the sublime forms of architecture the dome seems to be essentially required on account of its character and tendency. Its orbed expanse forcibly seizes on the imagination in ecclesiastical edifices, resembling as it does the mighty ceiling of the earth itself, the vast concave of which spreads out above us so sublime, from the breadth and grandeur of its spherical form. This is as the dome in the interior presents itself to the eye : externally it swells up like a huge rotund mountain, with an ennobling expression of commanding size and loftiness. Within and without, it is, in addition, of all architectural surfaces the one which is the most conveniently adapted to yield softness and delicacy of gradation in light and shade.

Nearly all modern architects have, in the erection of the dome, taken that of the Pantheon of Agrippa as their model, adopting it in its form, relative height, and mode of application. Its proportions have been particularly kept in view and approached in some Romanesque baptisteries, in the church of St. Sophia, and the great Turkish mosques of Achmet and Solyman in Constantinople ; and in the Indian tomb of Mahomed Shah at Bejapore. In these the dome has the best shape it can receive, from the height being proportioned to the horizontal surface. Its artistic treatment, as exhibited in this Saracenic tomb in India, and in these mosques in Constantinople, show that edifices of grave and solemn character are most consistently finished above when it is their crowning. That its simple, uninterrupted curve harmonizes and comports with solemnity of expression, is visible in the dome of the Cathedral at Florence—the work of Brunelleschi—in Michael Angelo's St. Peter's at Rome ; in Sir Christopher Wren's St. Paul's ; in that of the Church of St. Isaac, at St. Petersburg—though that is but a servile copy (in the circular peristyle as well as in the dome) of the beautiful design of St. Paul's—in that of St. Geneviève, in Paris ; of St. Mark's, in Venice ; and of others. The aim in most of these great domed churches in Europe has been to embody all the sublimity of which the great classic style is capable.

"The lantern in these great domed churches," says Mr. Huggins, "detracts from true simplicity and dignity, and by destroying the effect of the spherical form of the dome, obliterates that which is peculiarly commendatory of it—the character of grandeur." If the sole crowning of the magnificent dome of St. Paul's had been, in his opinion, only its golden cross, it would have had more of dignity, and a greater air of freedom, though he admits that the peristyle and dome of the metropolitan cathedral are not to be surpassed for their beauty by any other domed building in the world. "The dome," he says, "which properly belongs to broad and horizontal composition, like a bridge carries the eye over the building after detaining it in contemplation of what is below ; and if it be crowned by a lantern, the eye is carried off upwards to its terminal form, which in this case is an undignified member." The vast surface, unbroken by a lantern, of the celebrated dome of Mahomed Shah's tomb at Bejapore, Mr. Huggins compares to a planet in the solar

beam, when seen in a brilliant effect of sunlight. It seems that the most beautiful crowning of the dome is a statue, or group of statues, genii or winged beings, some graceful animal or bird, some small cyclostylar shrine of four or five columns, or some regular geometrical figure.

The ancient Romans built but one dome, making no exterior one to cover and protect the inner one. The vault seen without was the vault seen within; but the modern European architects turn two domes, an inner and an outer. This, however, is a matter of mechanical detail into which architects only enter and find interesting; it does not affect the dome as a feature of beauty. The grandest of all domical forms, according to Mr. Huggins, and the noblest possible crowning to an architectural pile is, a dome approaching the hemisphere. The most considerable amount of taste and judgment is required in harmoniously joining together the dome and the structure it surmounts. The domes of the Byzantine architects, which are expressive of such solemn shades of character, and which were such an essential, predominant, and lawgiving feature in their architecture—nay, to such an extent as to be the nucleus out of which the rest grew—are indebted for their universally admired beauty quite as much to the employment of the curvature below among the gables, as well as to their excellent form and proportion, and their admirable connection with the substratum. Mr. Huggins believes that the most exquisite embodiment of combined grace and grandeur is when the dome is received by the rotunda, when round the rotunda there is a continuous Corinthian colonnade, behind which rises the attic, whence the dome immediately springs, and so forms one whole out of the Etruscan round temple, the Greek peristyle, and the Roman dome.

PROGRESS OF FREEMASONRY IN GERMANY IN 1859.

BY BRO. I. G. F.

[The following paper is translated from our able German contemporary, *Die Bauhütte*. We reprint it as a matter of interest, without, of course, endorsing all the peculiar opinions put forward.]

THE league of Freemasonry, the bond of bonds, has the same problem to resolve, the like mission to fulfil, in a collective sense, as the individual Mason, namely—the attainment of the greatest degree of perfection. To remain stationary is a step in a backward direction; and an obstinate adhesion to the same position is an act of treachery to himself as well as a sin against the everlasting order of Nature. Hence the admonition to the brethren, “Examine and know yourselves;” an injunction not only to the individual Mason, but to the whole body corporate of Freemasons, who support the principles of self examination and self elevation, and whose motto is “wisdom, strength, and beauty,” as emblazoned in the Masonic banner. The light of reason must guide the corporate body, as well as each individual, on the road towards a perfect development, so that by a steady and regular progress all may arrive at this enviable point of ambition—the utmost possible state of perfection. As the individual Mason is bound from time to time to undergo self examination, so must the general bond of Freemasonry, as a whole, have its stated periods for the same purpose, to judge how much nearer the brethren are approaching the object in view—the greatest possible state of perfection, as before mentioned.

In reviewing the last year, taking one thing with another, the brotherhood has cause to rejoice; a peaceful course of life, and continuous labour, having been the characteristics of the German society of Freemasonry. This assumption is supported by the reports of the internal working of the Lodges, as well as the external progress of Masonry through the literary activity which has been displayed by several of the brethren in Germany. The spiritual nature of the works of the various Lodges of our fatherland all testify to the high

position at which the body of German Freemasonry has now arrived. In respect to this there is only France to be compared with us, as appears by “*Le Monde Maçonniqne*,” the contents of which are of the highest interest. Still we rank above that nation, while England and America (the German “Triangel” excepted) bear no comparison with us in Germany.

This statement becomes the more convincing, when we refer to the Masonic literature of the past year, which has given birth to several more works of importance than 1858. We have only to allude to the “Lecture on Freemasonry to Serious Non-Masons,” a book which is destined to live in future, and has met with a present reception highly flattering to the author. There is also Bro. Winzer’s work “On the Brotherhoods of the German Middle Ages,” replete with researches as to the origin of Freemasonry; Bro. W. Keller’s “History of Freemasonry in Germany,” which is very lucid on the subject, and has been alluded to in our correspondence; the “State of Freemasonry in Hanover,” with a history of the three Lodges there; together with other interesting volumes alluded to from time to time in *Die Bauhütte*. The number of the members of the Craft, as well as the Masonic Lodges, has considerably increased. There has been no less than nine fresh Lodges inaugurated, viz., at Eisenach, Zeitz, Frankenstein in Silesia, Spandau, Leer, Rudolstadt, Essen, Swabian-Halle, and Linderhausen. We have also news of the formation of several Masonic clubs, for instance, those in Ludwigslust, Pfortzheim, Nordheim, Eilenburg, Caven, the Voigtland Travellers’ Club, &c., in which the true spirit of activity reigns within and without, much to the credit of the united brethren. Two circumstances are worthy of note, and we hope will lead to favourable results, namely, the establishment of a “Widows and Orphans’ Relief Society” at Heidelberg, and the choice and formal installation of our most worthy brother, Prince William of Baden, as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, “Royal York,” in Berlin. The customary May festivals took place at Küssenland and Heidelberg, and became the centre of attraction for the brethren of various distant Lodges, members of clubs in Löben, Münden, Wolfenbüttel, &c. It is pleasing to reflect that our bond of Freemasonry has not been subjected to any persecution in the past year, unless it be some partial manifestation of clerical intolerance, like that exhibited in Goslar, Aix la Chapelle, and Coblenz, when the episcopalian mandates, in the shape of pastoral letters to the people, were re-echoed by some of the newspapers. On the part of the brotherhood, no inducement whatever has been offered for complaint, or ill will on the part of the authorities. Everywhere in the Lodges of our fatherland, there has been but one feeling in favour of cooperation for the common good, and the building up of the invisible temple of man’s happiness. It has, however, been a source of grief to every true Mason to observe the conflicting state of the political world in distant places, which was only relieved by the joyful proceedings at the “Schiller” festivals, in which the brethren, within and without the Lodges, took such a lively interest. It only remains for us to notice the fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of the Masonic Lodges in Schneberg and Frankenthal, and the Freemasons’ jubilees, which take place at Butchersbuch in Osnabrück, Steffner in Mersberg, Lichtenfels in Turgau, Eger in Chemnitz, Polick in Rostock, Sachse in Altenburg, Auschütz in Leipzig; and the “Regeneration Festival” of the “Baldwin” Lodge. In addition, we may allude to those other events of importance, the union of the four Hessian Lodges, formerly belonging to the Eclectic Bond of Fraternity, with the Grand Lodge of Darmstadt; the discussion of the grand question, “whether non-Christians can be accepted as Freemasons, or not,” resuscitated through a petition to the Grand National Maternal Lodge of the Three World Circles, by Brothers Levisohn and Genossen, and the motion of Brother

Weidtman, of the Elberfeld Lodge, in support of this petition ; and finally the reestablishment of a mutual representation between the Grand Land Lodge (Swedish system) and the Grand Lodges of Dresden, Hanover, and Hamburg—a symptom of the brotherly unity now existing amongst the Lodges on different systems, and something like a guarantee for future harmony.

The year we have just glanced at has now for ever vanished, and another, with its various duties and vicissitudes, has just commenced. May it be attended with a greater degree of development of the grand principles of Freemasonry—truth and perfection.

TASTE AND WANT OF TASTE IN DECORATION.

PROFESSOR THIERSCH, in his Academical Lectures, says that "all representation of the beautiful is called art." Hence, from the reverence entertained by the ancient Greeks for the beautiful, the implicit belief prevailed among them that some higher power accorded to the artist a protecting aid; they crossed the threshold of their temples with awe; they stood with veneration before their sculptors in the Parthenon; they looked upon art as a divine worship; they bent to its followers as to high priests, as to those holy men who alone might approach their altars and prepare their sacred offerings; in fine, they regarded art as destined for some ulterior higher end than the mere gratification of the senses. If in these days art has failed to exercise such influence, it is on account of the absence of its high appreciation, and of the belief that its cultivators do not rise so very high above the common earth. Still, in these days as of yore, it is the peculiar province of art to give to life, and to spread over its bare necessities and arrangements, the charm of grace. Incalculable are the effects of this; and yet we cannot trace the thousand hidden ways by which the "representation of the beautiful" arrives, at exercising an influence over our natures; we cannot determine the measure of that influence; we cannot even tell when, or in what it has shown itself. All we know is, that we receive impressions as we imbibe principles; they steal upon us unconsciously; gently they come, but indelibly they leave their mark behind. Harmony of tone is allowed to be not without its effect on the mind. Will not those same persons concede a like power to harmony displayed in the forms of things? If they deny it, it is only because in the latter case it is less apparent from being less direct. Though not so immediate, it is more durable in its consequences. And we rely upon it for working a change in men's minds, making them susceptible of the grand or beautiful; softening their manners, and preventing them from being brutal. Beauty of form has, most marvellously, a plastic power over the mind, though the change it effects is gradual, in common with all things which are moulded into shape. To render art, genuine art, accessible to the people, to make its contemplation a matter of rare occurrence, is therefore to be looked on as a matter of positive importance. The debtor account of outlay or of trouble, may not be balanced by an exact creditor for so much improvement in taste and manners; yet, the venture will not be a losing one. Let those by whom the production of the art manufactures are put in circulation, have a thought as to the price by which they are to be obtained. Let them be widely disseminated, be accessible to those whose means are not ample, but who are notwithstanding willing to expend somewhat more than the mere common jug would have cost, for the pleasure of possessing something that gives elegance to the table or the shelf, and affords satisfaction as often as it is looked upon. It is already something gained, when they feel they are the possessors of a work of art; they begin to take an interest in what the artist produces, as even for them his genius has been employed.

Domestic decoration must ever be an object of importance to all who take an interest in the advancement of art, because taste is insensibly moulded and formed by the effect of familiar objects in daily use. We should hope for little artistic judgment from persons whose lives were spent in rooms where the principles of correct taste were violated in every article of furniture. In domestic economy utility must always hold a higher place of estimation than mere beauty; but there is an advance when the decorative art is made applicable to objects and purposes that were previously regarded as merely useful, and were on that account tolerated in spite of their unsightliness and deformity. Our stove grates and fire places have long been objects which the genial influence of a comfortable fire could alone render tolerable; the beauty of the marble chimney piece could not atone for the heavy mass of metal it enclosed: the effect was that of a magni-

ficent frame surrounding a detestable picture; and the mass was almost equally bad, whether it assumed the form of polished steel, or shone in all the honours of black lead. The Dutch tiles in which our ancestors rejoiced, and which may still be seen in a few old houses, were better than the new walls which now guard and disfigure our hearths; coarse as they were, and wretched as were the figures with which they were adorned, they were still suggestive, and the family circle assembled round the social hearth could often derive amusement and instruction from their contemplation. The great objection to these tiles, independent of the coarseness of their execution, was the small size, which gave to their use the effect of a pavement set up perpendicularly. The experiment long remained untried of producing slabs of earthenware; and still more, slabs of porcelain, that would resist the action of fire as perfectly as any metal, and would at the same time be susceptible of decoration derived from the highest work of art. It is only within the last few years that the slabs of porcelain have been made of sufficient size to render them applicable to the interior decoration of the fire place, and the very rich effect was attained which they now produce. The flowers in the several designs are all painted in their natural colours; and these colours having been vitrified in the process of manufacture, are, of course, indestructible. We believe that at most of the manufactories in Staffordshire, and also at the porcelain manufactory in Worcester, these slabs are now produced; and that the manufacturers generally are giving to the article very great attention—considering it a staple of their trade, one upon which taste can be largely exercised. We have often noticed the almost instinctive anxiety of persons to associate flowers with the means of warmth. Even the poorest persons love to have posies displayed on the mantelpiece, and wreaths of flowers are among the most common decorations of our metal stoves. The manufacturers of porcelain slabs have followed this apparently natural taste, and bestowed a large share of their attention on floral decoration; indeed, some of those panels are among the most beautiful specimens of flower painting we have seen for many a long day. We have seen several slabs with Saracenic decorations in the style of Owen Jones's great work on the Alhambra, and their effect is particularly gorgeous and magnificent. Porcelain panels are susceptible of ornament in high relief, as well as pictorial decoration, and we have seen both combined with the happiest effect at the exposition in Paris, and at several show rooms in London. We have dwelt chiefly on the application of these panels to fire places, because this is likely to be one of the most popular forms in which they can be used, not merely on account of their beauty, but also on account of their convenience, a wet sponge being sufficient to clean them in a minute, and their radiation of heat greatly contributing to the warmth of an apartment. The latter quality was the chief recommendation of the Dutch tiles to our ancestors, and we have heard old people lament their disappearance, declaring that when they were used, fires gave out double their present heat. But these porcelain slabs are applicable to many other purposes. They are beautiful tops for toilet tables, being much lighter than marble, susceptible of much greater decoration, not more fragile, and quite as easily kept clean. They might be introduced into the decoration of conservatories with the most excellent effect; and we have seen panelled surbases, which to the merits of cheapness and cleanliness superadded a very pleasing picturesque effect. In short, in winter, they add largely to the comfort and elegance of an apartment; and in summer they render unnecessary the usual mode of hiding a fire place—by classing it among the most agreeable attractions of the room.

In one of our rambles through some of the avenues, streets, and thoroughfares, lined with villas, crescents, terraces, detached and semi-detached houses, with which the suburbs of our great metropolis abound, we fell to meditating on our changeable seasons that give us a taste of the climates of every country. The day which had commenced with an intense frost, with a glimmering of sunshine, turned to rain, giving an appearance of gloom to everything, which was considerably increased by our passing a crescent with balconies and verandahs to the first floor windows, and, in addition, a plantation of trees in front. We thought how dreary must be that sitting room, that excluded the slightest natural warmth of the sun. We are no enemies to verandahs, as in summer they are agreeable; but for that very reason, in winter they are disagreeable. Again, the window itself came down to the floor, and opened into the balcony—vastly agreeable in those months when we may lounge outside and read a book, but as disagreeable on a winter's evening, as its many draughts prevent the room getting thoroughly heated by the largest fire. "What then, are we to have our windows plain enough for a workhouse?" some one may exclaim. No, for a summer room should be shaded and open to

the air, while a winter room should be open to the sun. Verandahs should be used only in the summer months, and removed on the near approach of winter. We are in favour of balconies, especially when graced by a few flowering or creeping plants, and would suggest, that in small houses, instead of the common sill to windows, a stone shelf should project about a foot, with light ironwork round it. This would enable all who had a taste for flowers to place their pots without endangering the heads of those below. We are no friends to creepers against brickwork, knowing their destructive powers; yet, we confess that Albert and Victoria villas become almost pleasing when covered by verdure. Who does not recollect the old ivy house in the Upper-street, Islington? The destruction of that house did more to bring Islington into London, than all the plastered houses built before its demolition.

On entering our churches and cemeteries, especially in and around the metropolis, the cultured eye is at once struck with the crude and inharmonious black and grey marble backgrounds, against generally white walls, of the various mural monuments which disfigure, in too many instances, rather than adorn our houses of prayer, increased by the deplorable neglect, after once fixing, that these matters experience, the fee being only for the permission to fix, and does not, as it ought, include the proper care and cleansing afterwards. Among the various reasons for these strong, or cold and inharmonious contrasts being so generally used, is no doubt the association these have with mourning, their being most easily obtainable in marbles, and that such works have been too much practised as a mere trade, or directed or dictated by tasteless committees or individuals. In the time of black patches, such contrasts might have been admired, but now that taste in art is advancing, these are not only eyesores, but loudly cry for remedy; and we are called upon, without violating the rules of mourning, to produce unobjectionable contrasts and inharmonious blendings. To effect this, we must first consider that our statuary marble is of a cold tone (not like the fair one's cheek that received the black patches), and can only be successfully relieved by bring a warm colour to its aid, which exists not in the black or cold grey marble. No one can but acknowledge the beauty and brilliancy of marbles or plaster casts against a red papered wall, and red braise is commonly used when such works are exhibiting. Again, how enhanced is a statue relieved by a sunny painting, and not more so than the painting, if good, and not too near the statue. A few carefully arranged marbles and casts in the picture rooms of the Royal Academy, to rest the eye upon, would relieve many a sickened brain and confused mind from the glare of colour that meets, without relief, at every point, the wearied spectator. Nature gives us the lesson; and of her we learn that cold colour should ever be relieved by warm, and warm colours by cool tints. In monumental works, therefore, if a background be required (for where there is a warm stone ground it is not), and a warm medium cannot be got in marble, we would recommend the use of fresco or encaustic, or other endurable material, by which appliances a vast field is opened to the range of taste and discernment. For with these, without violating, as we have before said, the rules of mourning, warm greys of every variety of tint might be substituted for the one miserable, cold dove colour, and in some instances more positive tints might misplace the melancholy black. And not only would the artist's work be rendered infinitely more pleasing by this substitute; but the church would at the same time receive an equal benefit. The monumental tablets are altogether incorrect, of whatever order, with the sacred walls, we believe; but being introduced, our aim is to render them Christian in character, reposeful, cheerful, and harmonious. Those who merely know our churches as they are, with their cold washed walls, the colder marbles and their colder grounds, will wonder at these bold suggestions; but those who know and find by daily experience the great care taken by our ancestors, and the chaste and elegant decorations they introduced into these same whitewashed buildings, as the first fruits of art and labour offered to the great Being whose houses they are, will, we are sure, excuse our earnestness for wishing to substitute tasteful art for tasteless statuary.

The improvement which has taken place in interior decorations, within a comparatively recent period, we view with much satisfaction. The general arrangement of the principal room at Simpson's Divan, opposite Exeter Hall, Strand, shows considerable talent in invention, together with great beauty of effect. The ceiling is intersected by five beams, three grouped together, across the middle; these beams are somewhat unsatisfactory in appearance, as some are supported over voids, which, however, we remark without knowing what may be their structural office. The soffits are painted with guilloche ornaments, and the coves by which the beams are united to the ceiling, have the honey-

suckle ornament, red colour being employed with good effect. The spaces of the ceiling are painted with ornaments of rather a poor character in regard to design and drawing, and relieved by shading. This ornament is arranged in geometrical compartments, similar in design in each division of the ceiling, which gives some of them rather a cramped appearance, from the widths of each division not being the same. There is also a greater mixture of style in the ornament than would have been desirable; but this is a common error. The dark colour introduced in some of the circular ornaments seems to us to be too dark, giving rather a patchy appearance. The walls are divided by pilasters and are panelled in light green colour, with a pattern of lighter tint, the whole painted in imitation of morocco leather. In the centre of these panels are bas-reliefs, much resembling in design and material those in the Lyceum Theatre. These subjects are in ornamental gilt frames, oblong and circular, and are relieved by pink grounds. The panels are defined by gilt mouldings. The pilaster panels are painted with a pattern in brick red colour, to which some of our remarks on the ceiling would apply. The general tone of colour is light, of a warm buff hue, relieved by red colour and by ornaments in various tints. The furniture is of a novel character. Long pier glasses and console tables are placed between the windows, the general lighting, independently of chandeliers, is by sconces of two lights, each supported by a figure ranged along the walls. There is a fire place at each end of the room; the chimneypieces are black, with imitation of inlaid ornament. Beneath the sconces are seen serpents twisting from the wall; these, the use of which we should have long been in doubt about, the visitors have turned into hat pegs. We take this opportunity of urging that in every design the purpose should be apparent, and that the design should be subservient to that purpose; but the true principle, in several extensively circulated designs, seems to be wholly unconsidered. In the present case, the thing wanted was, simply and perspicuously, a hat peg, not something which might be turned to that office. We must not omit to notice the design of the street lamps in front of the building. They are improvements upon the tasteless forms which are seen elsewhere, reminding us how wasteful we are of opportunities of contributing to the pleasure which is derived from looking at beautiful works.

A club intending to spend only a limited sum of money on the repainting and embellishing of its room, would do well to imitate the style of decoration adopted in the drawing room, and two libraries of the Oriental Club, in which, by simple means, and without the aid of superior artistic talent in the execution, considerable effect has been produced; moreover, it is one very suitable for public buildings, and more particularly so in this instance, the architecture being in style Greekish, if not Greek. That is, the ornament is all painted perfectly flat and mosaic like. The effect produced solely relying on the merits of the general design, and on the arrangement of colour, the execution requires no more than great nicety in the workmen. The general design and the ornamental details, are of a strictly architectural nature, and the only painting in light and shade introduced, is in two figures, Europe and Asia, in the niches of the drawing room. Strong colours were chosen for the walls, in order to add to the rooms a degree of comfort and richness which lighter colours could not have produced, and which was the more desirable, as curtains to the windows are entirely dispensed with. The general tone of the drawing room is red, and that of the libraries green. Some full length portraits, formerly in large and clumsy gilt frames, projecting nearly a foot, have been fixed to the walls, and enclosed with suitable gold panel mouldings, so that they now form, as it were, a part of the room, and do not obtrude by any overpowering quantity of gold. The door and window architraves, as also the dados, are painted in imitation of marbles (and exceedingly well done), and the doors and shutters in imitation of wood, suiting the arrangement of colour in the various rooms. The result of the whole is very satisfactory.

The Lyceum Theatre exhibits a refined class of artistic results very superior to those of any other theatre in this country; and they will most probably exercise an important influence in fostering a demand for that highest range in ornamental art which consists in representing animated nature in relieve. The embellishments are chiefly from the atelier of the artist, modeller, or sculptor, and with the exception of the fronts to the uppermost tier of boxes, pictorial art is only sparingly applied. Nevertheless, this exposes a remarkable contrast between the energy of the respective efforts of chisel and pencil, when directed to the purpose of embellishing spacious places. The group of well-modelled boy figures, being placed amidst clustering foliage and branches which stretch forth to support the two rows of chandeliers ranged around the theatre, have a purpose and business-like air. Figures

are seated on the entablature; and groups encrust the main columns, on a level with the front of the first tier of boxes, above the dress circle. The foliated scroll work, supporting birds of paradise, are exquisitely modelled in alto-relievo, and the arrangement on the front of the dress circle is highly artistic in design. The front is formed by a bold ogce-shaped groundwork, on which a continuous foliated scroll in basso-relievo is placed, suitably ornamented with wild cats and serpents in alto-relievo. The whole of these embellishments are manufactured in a durable material (carton pierre), coloured and varnished to appear like china, etch gilt. We are indebted to the exquisite skill of Grinling Gibbons in representing birds, in alto-relievo, for applied decorations; he contributed greatly to render this superior class of art popular in this country down to the end of the eighteenth century, evidences of which may be practically gleaned from the cherubs on the tombstones of nearly every village churchyard in England.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

At the meeting of this society on the 11th of January, the chair was taken by Mr. Pettigrew, one of the vice presidents. The Rev. Dr. McCaul, of the University of Toronto; Mr. T. Greenhalgh, of Bolton-le-Moors; Lieut. Uwin, of Norwood; and Mr. John Millard, of Charing-cross, were elected associates. Presents were received from the Society of Antiquaries, of Scotland; the Royal Dublin Society, &c. Mr. Briggs, of King's Newton, sent a drawing of a mural painting, discovered on the north pillar, supporting the central tower of Melbourne church. It represents the "Temptation of Our Lord by the Devil," who, with his imps, is figured in a very grotesque manner. An inscription on it reads—"Hic est relictus a diabolo." Mr. Brushfield sent a drawing of a diminutive effigy, only eighteen inches in height, sculptured in sandstone, and now in Zolgrave churchyard, where also are two diminutive sculptured sepulchral slabs from Bakewell church. Mr. Bateman sent some Celtic antiquities, found at Wilmston, in Cheshire. They consist of an urn, sixteen inches high and thirteen broad, a bone stud, and a small bronze dagger. Mr. Bateman also sent a beautiful gold button, of Anglo-Saxon workmanship, ornamented with garnets and ivory. Mr. Patrick produced rubbings from brasses in Bexley church, one of which was to Thomas Sparrow, a merchant, of 1555. Mr. Allom exhibited an iron mount of the butt of a large pistol, richly chiselled, with a hinged lid in its centre, covering a little magazine in the stock, where the picker was deposited. It was found on the battlefield of Culloden. Mr. A. Syor Cumming exhibited five brass medals relating to this battle. Mr. Pettigrew read the first portion of a paper "On Monumental Crosses, Copper Slabs, and Effigies," illustrated by various drawings, executed by Edward Falkener, Esq.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

SHAKESPEARE LODGE, WARWICK, NO. 356.

This Lodge, as it now stands in the register, was originally a travelling military Lodge in the old Warwick militia. Turning to one of its early minute books, its working and meetings are recorded with its former number (501) in the following places:—Norwich, Gravesend, Chelmsford, Dublin, Drogheda, Colchester, Bury St. Edmunds, Huntingdon, Stilton, Norman Cross, Ipswich, Colchester again; and at last, in January, 1802, home to Warwick, where the Lodge has rested, with varied fortune, until the present time. It can now be justly called one of the first Lodges in the province. I shall endeavour shortly to send an impression of the old Lodge seal, and send my communication with a query, viz.—"Why was the Lodge styled "Royal Arch Lodge, Warwickshire Militia?" We are not aware that any Royal Arch Chapter was attached to the Lodge until a few years ago.—H.

LORD BROUGHAM A MASON.

As you have inserted some particulars of the Masonic career of Wellington and the elder Buonaparte, perhaps the following note upon another *ἀναξ ἀνδρῶν* may be acceptable.—HORATIO NELSON JENKINS.—Lord Brougham's name appears in the records of the Fortrose Lodge of Stornoway, under date 20th August, 1799. Henry Peter Brougham, Charles Stewart, Robert Campbell, and Putney Stroud, who were all raised to the degree of Master Mason on that date, constituted a party who visited the island of Lewis in a yacht known as the *Mad Brig*, and the circumstance of their becoming Freemasons in a place so remote as Stornoway then was, originated no doubt in one of their wild freaks. It is a stock

anecdote of the Lodge, that when Lord Brougham was being initiated, he at first emphatically but irreverently demurred to one of the conditions, offering cogent reasons for remaining free, and completely posing for the moment by his volubility and powers of argument the simple-minded brethren, who however eventually succeeded in binding him.

LODGE OF FREEDOM (NO. 91), GRAVESEND.

Will some brother of the above Lodge tell me if they have among their records a copy of the following pamphlet, of which I have seen the title page, viz., "Two Masonic Addresses delivered in the Lodge of Freedom, No. 89, Gravesend, December 27th, 1803, being the Anniversary of the Festival of St. John the Evangelist. By Bro. Killiek, R.W.M.; and Bro. John Bryan, J.W. Published at the request of the Lodge. Svo., London, 1804?"—ΕΚΘΟΟ.

HEREDOM, HERODEM, OR HARODIM.

In Mackey's "Lexicon of Freemasonry" I find the following under the word Heroden. "Heroden," says a MS. of the Ancient Scotch rite, in my possession, "is a mountain situated in the north west of Scotland, where the first or metropolitan Lodge of Europe was held. Hence the term Sovereign Princes of Rose Croix de Heroden." The French Masons spell it Hérédom, which I imagine is simply a Gallic mode of expressing the Jewish title "Harodim." Which way is correct? Is there a mountain in Scotland called Heroden; and what is the Jewish title Harodim?—TRIPLE TAU.

LODGE OF PERFECTION.

There is a Lodge of this rite existing in Paris. The degrees constituting the rite are considered the same as the Ancient and Accepted Scotch Rite. Now I have promised fealty to the Ancient and Accepted Rite of England; should I, therefore, if in Paris, be acting contrary to my loyalty by visiting the Lodge of Perfection alluded to?—KXV. E. W.

CLINCH ON FREEMASONRY.

In Lawrie's "History of Freemasonry" there are frequent allusions to Mr. Clinch and his work on Masonry. Can you tell us the title?—SCOTIA.—[It is not a separate work, but consists of an "Essay on the Origin of Freemasonry," by J. Bernard Clinch, and appeared in four numbers of the "Anthologia Hibernica," Svo., Dublin, 1794.]

FRENCH ABBREVIATION.

What is the meaning of "A. L. G. D. G. A. D. L'U.:" which I recently received at the head of a brother's note?—D. D. MOORE.—[It is the French method of abbreviating "A la Gloire du Grand Architecte de l'Univers," which is the heading of all Masonic documents, and is formed by taking the first letter of the words of any sentence you wish to condense, and inserting between each three dots in a triangular form, thus:—.]

JOHN CODRINGTON, ESQ.

Wanted particulars of the life of John Codrington, Esq., D. Prov. G.M., of Devon, in 1770. The inquiry is made more with a view to identify him with one of the worthies of the county than for any other object.—J. C.

EARLY BRITISH HISTORIANS.

I propose to read some of the early English historians, such as those printed in Bohn's "Antiquarian Library," for the purpose of endeavouring to trace from them any of the doctrines or principles of Freemasonry; but how am I to ascertain who they were and what works they wrote?—H. E. I.—[We doubt our correspondent's finding much to repay his labour in wading through some two hundred or more folio volumes of crooked English, and still more crabbed Latin; but if he chooses to do so, he may find all of them and their works enumerated in the Rev. W. D. Macray's "Manual of British Historians to A.D. 1600." Svo. Lond., 1845.]

ROYAL ARCH REVISION.

When, and by whom, was the ceremony and ritual of the Royal Arch last revised?—A NEW COMPANION.—[In 1835, by the Rev. Adam Brown, who was one of the chaplains of H. R. H. the late Duke of Sussex, G.Z. of the Order.]

FIRST LODGE IN FRANCE.

Who established the first Lodge in France, and when?—X.Y.Z.—[Charles Ratcliff, titular Earl of Derwentwater, in 1725, and he became the first Grand Master of France. The Lodge was held at the house of one Huse, a *traiteur*, in the Rue de Boucherie.]

CRIMSON AND GREEN BORDERED APRON.

What degree is it that uses an apron with crimson and green borders?—JNO. B. O.—[Our querist has not described it rightly; it should have been "an apron bordered with a crimson riband from one and a half to two inches broad, having a green rosette from the centre of the flap, and one near each of the lower angles." Then the apron is for a member of the councils of the Knights of the East and West. They also wear a sash of crimson four inches broad, hung over the left shoulder, and descending across the breast to the right side, where, at or near the extremities, there is a green rosette].

SIR RICHARD STEELE.

Have we any right to boast of the celebrated Sir Richard Steele, the colabrateur of Addison, as being a member of the Craft?—PEDAGOGUS.

MASONRY DURING THE INTERREGNUM.

Inigo Jones is reported to have been the Grand Master at the time of Charles the First's martyrdom, and that during the usurpation the Lodges met privately for mutual improvement. Can any authorities be pointed out that bear on this assertion.—T. JONES.

MASONIC SONG ON THE BATTLES OF ALMA AND INKERMAN.

At the close of the Russian war I heard a song sung in a Lodge which had reference to the heroes of Alma and Inkerman, but I am unable to charge my memory with a single line of it, yet I know it was Masonic. Perhaps you, or some of your correspondents, can help me to it.—XXIII FOOT.—[Perhaps the song in question is called "A Toast," written by Bro. Robert Fisher, of Lodge No. 706, and printed at p. 149 of the *Masonic Mirror* for 1855. The burthen slightly varied, to each of the three verses, is the following:—

"Green be the memory of the brave, the foremost in the van,
The Masons who for freedom died at Alma, Inkermann!"

HIGH GRADES.

What are the degrees which a Rose Croix Chapter can confer? I have taken this degree, the eighteenth, I believe, but I want to know what are the intermediate steps?—ROSE CROIX.—[It is not impossible that "Rose Croix" has taken this degree; but it seems very improbable that he should not know what his Rose Croix certificate states. He may have taken the degree very lately and not yet received that diploma, and if so, upon his sending his name and address to us, in confidence, he shall be answered fully; but we are inclined to look upon the query with suspicion, and when we suspect, we practice a Masonic virtue—silence].

GENTILE, JEWISH, AND CHRISTIAN MASONRY.

In conversation with an elderly brother he used the uncommon terms to me, of Gentile, Jewish, and Christian Masonry. Politeness withheld me at the moment from asking an explanation, for several other brethren had addressed him, and I found no opportunity afterwards. Perhaps you, or some of your contributors, can enlighten me as to the exact meaning of these three divisions, I having always believed Masonry to be universal, and apart from all sectarian denomination?—ALPHA.—[Among the Scottish, Irish, continental, and American Masons, we believe this classification does exist. With us it cannot, because by the Book of Constitutions we only acknowledge the three degrees, and that of the Holy Royal Arch. Yet, to a certain extent, we are not as catholic as our correspondent imagines, for no Royal Arch Companion will deny that the ceremonies of that degree are Judaical; but, as we shall not enter upon the subject more fully here, we would point out to "Alpha" how the assertion of the brother he alludes to is correct. The three degrees, E.A., F.C., and M.M., are essentially gentile, or catholic, *i.e.*, universal. The Jewish are those of Mark, Past, Most Excellent Masters, and Royal Arch Masonry, with other collateral degrees, not much known in England. And the Christian degrees are those of the orders of knighthood, such as the Knights Templar, Knights of Malta, Rose Croix, &c.]

ROSE CROIX, OR ROSY CROSS.

Which is the right description, Rose Croix, or Rosy Cross?—A. A. A.—[They are two distinct orders. The Rose Croix is the *Croix Rouge* of the continental Masons, and the eighteenth degree of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. The Rosy Cross is peculiar to Scotland; and the supreme head of the order is the king of Scotland, or in default, and by the terms of the union, the king of England. Rose Croix members are admitted members of the "Royal Order," as it is termed, or Rosy Cross, upon the payment of reduced fees.]

Literature.

REVIEWS.

The History of Freemasonry and of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, &c., &c. By WILLIAM ALEXANDER LAURIE, Secretary to the Grand Lodge of Scotland, F.R.S.A., &c., &c.

[Second Notice].

HAVING in the first part of his work considered the ancient history of the Order, the author now proceeds to sketch the progress of the royal art through the middle ages to the present day. Here, of course, we are naturally introduced to those fraternities of travelling Masons who have sown the seed of instruction in so many nations of Europe. During the time that these were spread over the continent, enriching its cities with their architectural labours, and improving society by their cultivation of the liberal sciences, they were favoured with especial privileges and consideration by the heads of the Romish church. This seems strange enough when we recollect how unfriendly in the sequel have become the relations between the two bodies, but the explanation of the paradox lies in the combined circumstances that the comparatively restricted power and influence of the body of Freemasons at that period was not sufficient to alarm the papal hierarchy; and next, that the abilities and genius of the craftsmen were necessary to sustain the pride of the mighty churchmen in the construction of those edifices, the elaboration of which (in many instances) was intended as much for the glorification of the priestly builder, as for honour to the Being to whose praise they were professedly erected. In our own country particularly (as well as in Scotland) the principal examples of the glorious Gothic architecture—which, beyond all doubt, is the most elevating and appropriate style for religious edifices which the world has ever seen—bear undoubted evidence of having been designed and reared by skilful masters of our royal secrets; and, at the same time, the various potentates of the ancient church of the realm—Bishop this, or Abbot such an one—under whose auspices the work was nobly carried on, have raised to themselves by this means a monument "*ere perennius*," on which their names shall be handed down to admiring posterity. But this condition of affairs, as our author judiciously, and with probability argues, was brought to an end by the increasing numbers of the Masonic brethren, and the cessation of a demand for their services; while the efforts of the brethren of our Order, in the cause of education, science, general enlightenment and philanthropy were distorted and misconstrued by the papal body into heresy of the worst kind. The animus against Freemasonry was increased by the well known tendency of the Order to resist, directly as well as indirectly, every species of temporal and spiritual tyranny; thus the dislike and fear of the Romish church grows stronger in each succeeding age, until it at length culminated in downright persecution and denunciation.

In the year 1140, a body of skilled Masons, who had escaped from the turmoils of the continent of Europe, arrived in Scotland, and on its western coast, in the time-honoured but humble village of Kilwinning, found a safe retreat. In this manner, says our author, Britain became the sanctuary of those glorious precepts and secrets of the brotherhood which in after years were so widely spread and so deeply venerated in foreign lands where they had been either neglected or completely unknown; while the comparative peacefulness of their new abode enabled the brethren to consolidate and disseminate the ancient lore of which they were the custodians.

Bro. Laurie here enters into a long and learned disquisition upon the order of Knights Templar; the objects of which he maintains, were purely and solely Masonic. He says:—

"It is almost beyond a doubt that their chief and primary intention was to practise and preserve the rights and mysteries of Freemasonry. We know at least that they not only possessed the mysteries, but performed the ceremonies and inculcated the duties of Freemasons; and it is equally certain that the practising of these rites could contribute nothing to the protection and comfort of the Catholic pilgrims. Had they publicly avowed the real object of their institution, instead of that favour which they so long enjoyed, they would have experienced the animosity of the Church of Rome. But as they were animated with a sincere regard for the Catholic faith, and with a decided abhorrence for the infidel possessors of Judea, it was never once suspected that they transacted any other business at their secret meetings but that which concerned the regulation of their Order, the advancement of religion, and the extirpation of its enemies. The prodigies of valour which they exhibited against the infidels; the many charitable deeds which they performed towards the distressed pilgrims; and the virtues which adorned their private character, procured for them from the rulers of Europe

that respect and authority to which they were so justly entitled, and which they so long maintained."

The principal points in the history of the illustrious Order of the Temple are then dwelt upon, down to its suppression by Philippe Le Bel of France, at the instigation or at least with the connivance of Pope Clement the Fifth. At that time the Templars were ruled by the venerable Jacques de Molay, whose fair fame and the honour and virtues of the brotherhood over whom he presided, are defended by our author at somewhat unnecessary length. The readers of history in our time need hardly to be told that the greatest crimes of the Knights of the Temple were their wealth and influence, which were viewed with envious jealousy by the sovereigns of Europe. As for the atrocious crimes attributed to the brethren, the source whence those charges arose was so infamous, that had the principles of common sense or simple justice been allowed to carry any weight against an already foregone conclusion, the monarchs of England and France would never have lifted a hand against either the revenues or the persons of the illustrious De Molay and his ill-used followers. Bro. Laurie has however thought it needful to go into details upon the subject, and especially with regard to the strictures of the Abbé Barruel, who with an effrontery only equalled by his gross ignorance, has heaped upon the Order of Freemasons the most absurd and unfounded charges. Barruel and his book against Freemasonry are alike forgotten now, except when a student like Bro. Laurie rakes up the lucubrations of the old priest from the congenial dust heap upon which they have so long reclined. But since our author attaches so much importance to the aspersions of this feeble slanderer, we will introduce his sentiments in his own words:—

"In order to form an impartial judgment respecting any sentence which has been passed without proper evidence, either against individuals or associations, it is necessary to be acquainted with the motives and character of the accusers, and with the benefits which might accrue to them and the judges by the punishment or liberation of the accused. In the case before us the latter had been disgraced and imprisoned by the former. Sordid and private motives actuated their chief prosecutor and judge, and many rival Orders, which had been languishing in obscurity and indigence, propagated with assiduity slanderous accusations, in the hope of sharing in those ample possessions and that public favour which had been acquired by the superior abilities of the Templars. To all ranks of men, indeed, the veneration which their name inspired was an object of envy. Their revenues were calculated to create uneasiness in a covetous mind, and the remarkable regularity of their conduct was no small incitement to detraction. Such were the motives and prospects of their judges and accusers. Let us attend now to the accusations which were brought against them, and we shall find that these could scarcely come under the cognizance of law, as their pretended crimes were committed against themselves and not against society. Did they perpetrate murder upon any of their fellow citizens? This was never laid to their charge. Did they purloin any man's treasures? Of theft they were never accused. Did they instigate to rebellion the subjects of any government, or plot destruction against the person of any king? Under such a character they were never known till Barruel called them traitors and regicides; because, forsooth, it was his opinion that their successors, the Freemasons of France, were accessory to the murder of their sovereign. What then were their crimes? It was said that they burned their own children! And yet an instance was never adduced in which the child of a Templar had disappeared, and in which the tenderness of a mother, as certainly would have happened, remonstrated against the murder of her infant. They were said to have committed the most horrible of all crimes! And yet no individual produced a specific instance which he could corroborate by indubitable proof. They were accused of insulting the cross of Christ; and yet they had shed their blood in the defence of His religion. Of deeds like these one may conceive a depraved individual to have been guilty; but to believe that a respectable fraternity, consisting of thousands of members, could be capable of such enormities, requires a degree of faith to which the most credulous will scarcely attain."

The fatal false step was taken by the aged De Molay of advising a part of his brethren to confess themselves guilty of heretical practices; this shur upon the old knight's character we can only account for by the infirmities of age and the overwhelming anxiety and perplexity in which he was placed by the critical circumstances of the Order. No sooner was the ill-judged mandate issued, than it was repented and recalled; and to the honour of the knights be it said, few, if any, adopted its recommendation. As for De Molay himself, nobly did he atone for the only error in his spotless career, when on the fatal scaffold he uttered the memorable words which follow, to the assembled multitude before whom he and his brethren had been brought by Philip to confess the enormities of which they had been guilty:—

"It is but just that in this terrible day, and in the last moments of my life, I lay open the iniquity of falsehood, and make truth to triumph. I declare then, in the face of heaven and earth, and I confess to my

eternal shame and confusion, that I have committed the greatest of crimes; but it has been only in acknowledging those that have been charged with so much virulence upon an Order which truth obliges me to pronounce innocent. I made the first declaration they required of me only to suspend the excessive tortures of the rack, and mollify those that made me endure them. I am sensible what torments they prepare for those that have courage to revoke such a confession; but the horrible sight which they present to my eyes is not capable of making me confirm one lie by another. On a condition so infamous as that I freely renounce life, which is already but too odious to me, for what would it avail me to prolong a few miserable days when I must owe them only to the blackest of calumnies."

Among the other follies of which Barruel was guilty, conspicuous was his assertion that the Templars in their time of trial divulged the secrets of the Craft, in the vain hope of conciliating their stern judges; and to give a semblance of truth to his story, he has invented (or borrowed from those who have invented) a most absurd collection of rites and oaths, which he avers to have been submitted to by the members of the Order. Such ridiculous assertions with regard to Freemasonry have been current long before and also since, the time of M. Barruel, and with the same result—the derision of the uninitiated; nor do we believe that these absurd fictions with regard to the Craft have ever deterred one single individual from seeking its privileges—the weakest listener will think it strange that accounts of these mysteries vary so greatly, and are so entirely without corroboration; the acute reasoner will ponder the value of evidence tendered by one who by the very act confesses himself a perjurer and an impostor. Upon this head Bro. Laurie remarks:—

"If ever the secrets of Freemasonry were betrayed, they must have been betrayed by men who were completely destitute of religious principle, who paid no respect to those ties which unite the members of civil as well as secret associations; who, in short, neither feared God nor regarded man. Suppose, then, that a person pretending to be a Freemason offered to communicate either to an individual or to the public the rites and ceremonies of his Order. What degree of credit should men of probity attach to the information which they might in this way receive? A person addresses them under the character of a perjurer, offering to violate the most solemn engagements, and to divulge mysteries which have been concealed for ages. He may give them accurate information, or he may not. If the secrets which he offers to betray have been hitherto unknown, there is no possible method of ascertaining the truth of his deposition, and it is rather to be suspected that he will dupe his hearers by a fictitious narrative than trample upon an engagement guarded by the most awful sanctions. He might indeed confirm by an oath the truth of his asseveration, but as he must have violated an oath equally solemn, no man of sense will give him the slightest credit. But granting that he really divulges the rights and ceremonies of Freemasonry, it is either clear that he has not understood their true import, or at least that they have made no impression upon his mind; and it is almost certain, therefore, that from ignorance or misapprehension of their meaning, he will exhibit under an aspect calculated to excite ridicule, that which, if properly explained, would command respect. If, then, it be so difficult for the uninitiated to discover those secrets, and still more so to ascertain their signification if they should discover them, what must we think of those who open their ears to every slanderous tale against Freemasons, which unprincipled individuals may impose upon their credulity?"

The remaining portion of this part of Bro. Laurie's work is devoted to a comparison between the institutions of Freemasonry and chivalry, and an examination of their numerous points of resemblance, and even of identity. The way in which the author traces the adoption of Masonic observances by the Knights Templar is novel to us. He refers to the fact of the existence of Masonic fraternities in Syria, which have flourished for many ages, and were doubtless in full vigour at the time of the foundation of the Templar order in Palestine; he thinks it likely that the first determination to a Masonic tendency originated through the Christian knights becoming affiliated to these Eastern Lodges; and in support of this opinion Bro. Laurie quotes Adler (*De Drusis Montis Libano*), who expressly declares his conviction to the same effect.

We had intended to have concluded our notice of this interesting volume in our present number; but our remarks have run to so great a length, that we must defer what more we have to say until next week.

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

THE *Inverness Courier* publishes, as from "a literary friend who may be relied upon," the following:—"There are stories going the round, to the effect that Lord Macaulay's MSS. of the next two volumes of his history are illegible. The fact is that the fifth volume is quite finished and right. It abounds in interest, chiefly of the Queen Anne period, and of the contests respecting the privileges of the Lords and

Commons; with descriptions of the inner life of the country never before published, or indeed discovered. Volume six is so far advanced as only to need a little arrangement from Lord Macaulay's great friend, Mr. Ellis, who is left his literary executor. Lady Trevelyan is chief executor, almost everything being left to her; and in her hurry preparing to go out to Sir Charles, at Madras, the precious MSS. and other valuables are for the present deposited in Drummond's bank safe—not to be kept there long, I hope."

The Camden Society has nearly ready for issue to its members the two following promising works:—1. "Letters of George Lord Carew, afterwards Earl of Totness, to Sir Thomas Roe," edited by John Maclean, Esq., F.S.A. 2. "Narratives of the Days of the Reformation, and the Contemporary Biographies of Archbishop Cranmer; selected from the papers of John Foxe the Martyrologist," edited by John Gough Nichols, Esq., F.S.A.

A fund is being raised for the benefit of the family of the late Mr. Bayle St. John, the biographer of Montaigne, author of the "Subalpine Kingdom," "Purple Tints of Paris," and many other lively and striking works. Subscriptions are received by Messrs. Twining, Bankers, 245, Strand, payable to the joint account of Mr. Edward Copping, Mr. John Smith, and Mr. Horace St. John.

Earl Stanhope inaugurated the statue of Lord Clive, at Shrewsbury, on Wednesday week. The statue is by Baron Marochetti, and is well known to the London public—having, until a few days ago, stood on a pedestal in front of the Privy Council Office.

Samuel Johnson's god-daughter, for whom Messrs. Charles Dickens, John Forster, and Thomas Carlyle, a few years ago succeeded in raising a subscription, has not survived long to enjoy the annuity which was its result. The following announcement of her death was advertised in the *Times*:—"On the 15th instant, at No. 5, Minerva-place, Hatcham, S.E., Ann Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the late Mauritius Lowe, Esq., of the Royal Academy, Gold Medallist, and god-daughter of the late Samuel Johnson, LL.D., aged 82."

Mr. Murray's long-announced edition of Pope is being seen through the press by Mr. Elwin, the editor of the *Quarterly*.

At the meeting of the Society of Antiquaries on the 12th January, J. Bruce, Esq., a vice president was in the chair, and Mr. Charles Spencer Percival and the Rev. Robert William Eyton were elected Fellows. Mr. Godfrey exhibited a tilting helmet. Mr. Godfrey Faussett exhibited a finger ring, set with an engraved stone, the work of the fourteenth century. Sir W. C. Trevelyan communicated copies of Roman sepulchral inscription, at Leiria, in Portugal. Mr. B. Williams communicated remarks on the locality called "Stane," in the Saxon Chronicle. A letter was read from M. Troyon, addressed to Mr. Wylie, "On Recent Discoveries of Early Antiquities in the Beds of the Swiss Lakes." Mr. Hart read transcripts of "Expenses of the Sheriff of Hampshire on the Trial of Sir Walter Raleigh, Lord Cobham, and the other Conspirators in the Arabella Stuart Plot, 1603."

On the same day Sir Benjamin Brodie presided at the Royal Society. The Right Hon. Lord Stanley was admitted into the Society. The following papers were read: "On the Forces that produce the Great Current of the Air and of the Ocean," by Mr. T. Hopkins. "On the Movements of Liquid Metals and Electrolytes," by Mr. Gore. "Notes of Researches on the Polyammonias," No. 7, by Dr. Hofmann, F.R.S.

Astronomers (says the *Saturday Analyst*) have for some time been anxious to discover the planet or planets which were suspected to produce certain aberrations in the movements of Mercury, and the recent observation of one small body by M. Lescaubault, has induced M. le Verrier and others to look for a plurality of revolving bodies instead of a single orb. Concerning the newly recognized member of the solar system, M. le Verrier says that if its orbit were circular, half its major axis would be equal to 0.1427, taking half the major axis of the earth's orbit as unity. He concludes that its period of revolution is nineteen days seven hours. Being only one seventeenth of the bulk of Mercury, and very near the sun, it has been easy for it to have escaped observation, and it is no small credit to an amateur astronomer, with rude imperfect apparatus, that he should have been the first to detect its existence, although scores of practised star gazers were directing the best instruments in the direction where it was supposed to exist.

In addition to the search for more planets, those learned in celestial ways will shortly be on the look out for another great comet, which is expected to flourish as grand a tail as the memorable one of '58. This comet was looked for on the 2nd August, 1858, but as it did not then appear, and there was an uncertainty of ten years in the astronomical data, it is now expected in the August of the present year. If Pio Nono

keeps an astrologer, he will watch its advent with alarm, for on its appearance in 1264, Pope Urban VI. fell sick, and died on the night that it passed away from human sight. This comet was described by eye witnesses as the most magnificent that had ever been seen, and is supposed to be identical with that of 1556, whose brilliancy was less remarkable. The coming eclipse of July 18th, 1860, occupies much attention, but it will not be visible in this country. A "Revised Path of the Moon's Shadow" has been issued from the "Nautical Almanack" office, and Professor Airey has published instructions for observations on Mars. It is expected that photography will render valuable aid in recording some of the phenomena of the eclipse. It will be employed to copy the forms of the coloured flames if they should appear, and to obtain images of the solar ring. Mr. Faye intends to take a photographic apparatus to Spain, which will register the precise time between the beginning and the termination of the total obscuration. It will contain a band of sensitive paper, which will be exposed to the light as concentrated by a lens, and will be wound off at a given rate per second.

Talking of the sun we may mention some curious discoveries recently made by M. de Chacornac and Professor Secchi, the one occupying himself with the light, and the other with the heat, and arriving at analogous results, from which it appears that the light and heat giving powers of the great luminary are unequally distributed over his surface. The central space possesses these powers in the highest degree, and a zone nearer the circumference only emits one half the intensity of the former. Another solar phenomenon of interest was the sudden outburst of a batch of brilliant light on the 1st of September, 1859, which was noticed by Mr. Carrington, and by Mr. Hodgson of Highgate. The former estimated the velocity of its motion at the rate of thirty-five thousand miles during the five minutes it was seen. Also, on the 22nd October, Mr. Daves noticed a bright streak, whose edges projected beyond the disk.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

We understand that a petition has been presented for a charter for a new Lodge in Norwich, to be called the "Cabbell Lodge," (after the respected Grand Master of the province), and to meet at the Star Inn.

A SUBSCRIPTION has been opened for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Bro. Dorling, Prov. Grand Secretary of Suffolk, as a "mark of personal esteem, and of appreciation of the energy and ability with which he has discharged his Masonic duties for a period of eighteen years. The list of subscriptions is headed by the names of Bro. Roxburgh, G. Reg. and acting Prov. G.M.; and the Rev. F. W. Freeman, D. Prov. G.M. Bro. Mills, P. Prov. S.G.W., is the Treasurer, and Bro. Aldrich the Secretary.

A PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE for Leicestershire will be held at the Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Tuesday next.

ROYAL FREEMASONS' GIRLS SCHOOL.

A MEETING of the General Committee was held at the offices, on Thursday, Bro. John Udall, Y.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the House Committee having been confirmed, and other formal business gone through, notice of motion was given for the next quarterly court to the effect, that in future any steward whose list of subscriptions at the annual festival should amount to £250, should, on the same being paid, be elected a vice president of the institution.

It was resolved that the thanks of the committee be given to Bro. Francis Crew, Secretary, for attending the Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, and for his earnest appeal on behalf of the institution, contributing very materially, in their belief, to the vote of £105 subsequently carried in Prov. Grand Lodge.

That the thanks of this committee be also given to Bro. E. H. Patten, P.G.S.B., for his readiness in accompanying Bro. Crew, and for his constant efforts to promote the interests of this charity.

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED FREEMASONS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

THE first anniversary festival of this excellent institution, in succession to the triennial festivals hitherto held, came off in Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday last, and was a most complete success. The chair was occupied by Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M. for Warwickshire, who was supported by Bros. Lord de Tabley, S.G.W.; Col. Burton,

P. Prov. G.M. for Bengal; Slight, J.G.D.; Gray Clarke, G. Sec.; Potter, P.G.D.; Chas. W. Elkington, P.G.S.B. and P.G.W., Warwickshire; Smith, G. Pura.; Hyde Pullen, D. Prov. G.M., Isle of Wight; Rev. Ryland Bedford, Prov. G. Chaplain, Warwickshire; Harry Winton, Prov. G.D., Sussex; and nearly two hundred other brethren, of whom close upon fifty came from Warwickshire to support their Prov. Grand Master. Amongst the Warwickshire brethren present, in addition to those already named, we observed Bros. Jno. S. Newton, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Frederick Empson, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Thos. Clarke, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Geo. Hudson, Prov. G. Pura.; E. Nason, Prov. G.S.B.; Chas. Ratcliff, P.M. No. 689; J. T. Collins, P.M. No. 689; W. B. Briggs, W.M. No. 51; Wm. Barwell, W.M. elect, No. 51; Jno. Machen, W.M., Shakespear Lodge; Henry Mulliner, W.M., Guy's Lodge; J. H. Hobbes, W.M., Bard of Avon Lodge; Chas. Read, W.M., Trinity Lodge; C. Coke, W.M. No. 88; Rev. J. Lucy; E. A. Linjarn, Prov. S.G.D.; Jno. Goode, P. Prov. J.G.W.

After dinner grace was sung, and

The CHAIRMAN then rose to propose the first toast. He said he believed that there was not in the United Kingdom a more loyal body of men than the members of the Craft, and therefore it was peculiarly appropriate that he should call upon them to drink the health of their most gracious sovereign the Queen—a monarch who justly reigned in the affections of her people. The toast having been drunk with all the honours,

The CHAIRMAN said he had next to propose to them the "Health of H.R.H. the Prince Consort, the Prince of Wales, and the other branches of the Royal Family." As Masons they had a peculiar pleasure in claiming one member of that family as a member of their Order. (Hear, hear). There were no doubt many brethren present who recollected the appearance of Prince Frederick William of Prussia in that hall—(hear, hear)—and here he was reminded that the present was a most auspicious occasion of drinking the toast he had mentioned to them, for it was the anniversary of the marriage of that illustrious brother with the beloved Princess Royal of England. (Hear, hear). He trusted they would soon be able to drink the health of the Prince of Wales as a brother Mason, for he could not do better than follow in the steps of his brother-in-law, and of his late uncle the Duke of Sussex, formerly the Grand Master of the Order, whose beautiful statue crowned the room in which they were assembled. (Cheers).

This toast having met with a hearty response,—

The CHAIRMAN proceeded to say that the next toast he had to propose to them was one which he was quite sure would be cordially received by all present (hear, hear), and he had only to regret that the subject of it was not present to fill the chair which he (Bro. Lord Leigh) so unworthily occupied. (No, no). Everyone who was acquainted with their Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland, must feel an admiration and respect for his manly and courteous conduct, for whether they met him in Grand Lodge or in private life, they found him alike courteous and kind. (Cheers). He felt that it was unnecessary for him to add anything more to what he had already stated, except to observe that perhaps there were many present who were not aware that one branch of the charity, on whose behalf they were assembled, received his lordship's sanction in 1850, and had been since greatly indebted to him for his support. (Hear, hear).

The CHAIRMAN then observed that he had great pleasure in proposing to the brethren the next toast, namely, "The health of the Deputy Grand Master, Lord Panmure, and the rest of the Grand Officers past and present." They might, he thought, congratulate themselves upon having Lord Panmure as their Deputy Grand Master, distinguished as he was alike in public and private life. (Hear, hear). With respect to the other Grand Officers, he was pleased to see so many of them present, and among them his noble brother, Lord de Tabley, one of the principal officers of Grand Lodge, whose name he would couple with the present toast.

Bro. Lord DE TABLEY, in returning thanks for the compliment, said he wished the task of replying on behalf of the Grand Officers had fallen into better hands than his. He was, however, sure he spoke their sentiments when he said that their utmost efforts would be devoted to the promotion of the great interests and sublime principles upon which Masonry was based, and that they would never be found wanting in the performance of their duty. For himself he hoped he would be permitted to express the gratification which he felt in seeing so many of his brethren met together to promote one of the principal characteristics of the Order, which they were always ready to do, when that sacred principle was held up as a rallying flag for the relief of the distressed. (Cheers).

The CHAIRMAN next called upon the brethren to fill a bumper, to drink the toast of the evening, and in inviting them to do so he hoped, that should he fail in doing justice to the noble charity which he had the honour to advocate, the brethren would kindly excuse him. (Hear, hear). They were probably aware, that one branch of the institution—he meant the Asylum for Aged Freemasons, had been founded by the late M.W. Grand Master, the Duke of Sussex, in 1842, and he was happy in being able to tell them, that since that time one hundred and forty-nine aged Freemasons had been received into it, among whom there had been distributed no less a sum than £14,203 15s. (Hear, hear). With regard to the Widows' Fund, it had been founded—or rather as he had before observed, it had been sanctioned by the present Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland, in 1850; and to show the amount of good which it had accomplished, he might observe that during the nine years it had been in existence, it had sheltered forty poor females, the widows of deceased brethren, and that they had received in alleviation

of their wants, £2,535 12s. 6d. (Hear, hear). He was informed that there were at present upon the list of approved candidates the names of fourteen of their brethren, and that there were applications from fifteen other brethren, whose claims had not as yet been laid before the committee, to be placed in the same position. With regard to the candidates for admission to the female branch of the charity, there were already the names of fourteen upon the approved list, and there were now awaiting the consideration of the committee the names of four others. (Hear, hear). He had often heard it said by those who did not understand what Freemasonry really was, that Masons did nothing else but eat and enjoy themselves, but when these facts were borne in mind, he would leave them to judge if the brethren did not do something more than indulge themselves at convivial meetings. Since their last meeting there had been put aside for the building fund the sum of £100. (Cheers). They might, therefore, augur well of the success of the institution, and that the funds they might raise would be expended in the cause of true charity.

This toast was drunk with enthusiasm.

Bro. Colonel BURLTON then said that he had permission from the noble chairman to propose a toast, for which he hoped they would all fill to the brim. It was no unusual thing for one placed in his position to find his task lightened when the toast he had to propose was one which would strike upon their hearts with a sympathetic tone, and call forth acclamations of heartfelt pleasure; and though he who had to propose might be like himself only a rude and unlettered soldier, one in whose education elocution had been overlooked and forgotten, he might, when he knew that the toast he had to propose was a popular one, throw aside his fears and misgivings, and boldly step forward to discharge the duty imposed upon him. (Hear, hear). It was thus that he undertook to be the humble means of laying before them the name of their noble brother—the Chairman. (Loud cheers). He thanked them heartily for the warmth with which they had received the mention of the name of his noble friend, since it proved that he was a true prophet; but no one could feel surprised at their enthusiasm who was acquainted with his lordship's character as a Mason and as a man, for as Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire, he was most active, most zealous, and most popular in the performance of his duties. He knew what those duties were, and he performed them in regularly visiting the Lodges in his province. He was constantly among the brethren, and heart and soul he joined in all their undertakings. If any proof of that were needed, he would simply point to the table before him, which was entirely filled by brethren from Warwickshire who had come up to London, regardless of personal inconvenience, to do honour to their Prov. Grand Master. Yes, there were brethren there from the fat pastures of Warwick, from smoky Birmingham, from the classic towns of Kenilworth and Coventry, from the more fashionable Leamington, and last, not least, from Stratford upon Avon, the birth place of the immortal Shakspeare. (Hear, hear). It must be, he thought, a proud thing for his lordship to see so magnificent an assembly met together to support him, but still it was not to be wondered at, for on referring to that valuable and excellent publication, the *Freemasons Magazine and Masonic Mirror*, he found that on retiring from the chair of his mother Lodge, the Lodge of Light, at Birmingham, he received from his brethren a valuable testimonial of his services, and the very next day he was again installed Master of the Lodge at Stoneleigh, and from that Lodge he received a magnificent gold snuff box, from which he (Col. Burlton) had just taken a pinch of excellent snuff. The mention of Stoneleigh brought to his mind the princely hospitality with which, on a recent occasion, his lordship received two hundred of his brethren in his own mansion (hear, hear), and where Masonic greeting was heard where prebends and monks formerly revelled and grew fat. He did not say this offensively, for they were men who, in their time, did a great deal of good, but they also knew how to enjoy themselves to an extent, which they might not have done had they been better acquainted with the laws of sanitary science. (Hear, hear). He was sure that the institution for which his lordship was now pleading was deeply indebted to him, and if he (Bro. Col. Burlton) were to say anything more in his praise, he would merely mention, that his lordship, as lord lieutenant of the county, stood nobly forth in the performance of his duties, and was a perfect specimen of what a British nobleman ought to be. He would now call on them to drink "The health of their noble Chairman, Lord Leigh."

Immense applause followed the proposal of this toast.

The CHAIRMAN, in acknowledging the compliment, observed that although his gallant brother beside him had at the outset excused himself as not accustomed to public speaking, he (the Chairman) could only say that he envied him his eloquence. In responding to his brethren for the kind manner in which they had drunk his health, he would only say, ever since he had undertaken the duty of Deputy Grand Master he had never met with a drawback or with a cantankerous brother, and he would personally thank those of them who had come up from Warwickshire on the present occasion to see him fill the office which had been imposed upon him by the M.W. the Grand Master, whose order it would be an unmasonic act to disobey.

Bro. FANFIELD, the Secretary of the Institution, and who had also acted as honorary Secretary to the Board of Stewards, here read the list of subscriptions, the highest amounts of which came through Bro. C. W. Elkington, of Warwickshire, £250 1s.; Bro. Henry Bridges, Somersetshire, £204 10s.; and Oxfordshire, £133 15s.; other provinces also swelling the amount by excellent lists. The M.W. Grand Master sent

£21, with a note expressing his regret at being unable to attend the festival. At the close of the list,

Lord LEIGH rose and said, he trusted they would allow him to congratulate them on the very handsome collection of the evening, which had amounted to no less than £2,096 18s. 10d., with two or three lists yet to come in. (Cheers). At the same time he must be allowed to correct a little error into which Bro. Farnfield had fallen, in stating that he (Lord Leigh) had subscribed two sums, £21 and £52 10s. He could not take to himself the credit of such liberality, for what he had personally given was £21, the £52 10s. coming from the Prov. Grand Lodge of Warwickshire. The fact was, the Prov. Grand Lodge at its last meeting placed one hundred and fifty guineas at his disposal, to make him, as their Grand Master, a vice president of each of the charities—(cheers)—the Benevolent Institution and the two schools—so that it was not to him but to the Prov. Grand Lodge of Warwickshire, they were indebted for that amount, and he should have retired most unhappy had he allowed the brethren to separate without making this explanation. (Cheers).

Bro. the Rev. RYLAND BEDFORD, Prov. G. Chaplain for Warwickshire, said that being but a young Mason, and this being the first occasion of his appearing before a meeting like that he saw before him, he could not but feel considerable anxiety—yet speaking upon the subject which had been entrusted to him, he felt they would readily throw the veil of indulgence over any little imperfections of his. He felt there was a spring in the heart of every Mason—nay, of every man, from the depths of which was drawn a feeling for their fellow man. What was it that gave the greatest pleasure to the successful conqueror—what was it that was most regarded by the man of science, but the admiration and respect of their fellow men? But the day must come when the fame of the warrior would be obscured by those words *cui bono*—all would pass away; and the sage had been told in sacred writ that of making many books there is no end. Vanity of vanities, all is vanity! But there was a living reputation beyond that of the conqueror, or the sage, when they were told by the merciful Judge, “Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of these my little ones, ye have done it unto me.” (Cheers.) He felt inadequate to do justice to the toast which had been placed in his hands, but he knew they would receive it with sympathy and drink it with all heartiness, it being “Success to the other Masonic Charities.” (Cheers.) The Masonic charities—what meaning was conveyed in those words. They were different from other charities, where sometimes assistance was afforded in a lordly spirit, as though the giver were above the receiver—as though Providence did not alike shed its rays upon one as upon the other. In Masonry they advanced to the question in no spirit of superiority or despondency—they looked for no return for what they gave, but they would never be ashamed to seek the shelter of the Masonic charities if they required it. (Cheers.) They gave to their brethren with the hope that they should never require assistance themselves, but with the full conviction that that aid which they afforded to their poorer brethren would hereafter be given unto them if they required it. (Cheers.) Belonging, as he did, to a high and sacred calling in the land, as a minister of religion, he must be allowed to express his admiration of the charities of Masonry, as carrying out the highest principles of religion—(cheers)—a spirit of love, of charity, and goodwill to all, that spirit being deeply enjoined throughout their entire system. (Cheers.) He was not one who would interfere with or deprecate wholesome hospitality, or carp at meetings like this, as he believed they were not only useful in creating kindly feelings amongst men, but that they could eat and drink without losing sight of their duties to the Great Architect, whose glory they were bound ever to bear in mind. (Cheers). In saying this, however, he trusted the funds of Freemasonry would never be diverted to any other object than that to which they legitimately belonged—charity (cheers); the promotion of brotherly love and relief. (Cheers). He hoped to see the various provinces zealous in the cause of charity, and each Lodge trying which could best vie with the other in the support of these institutions; and he believed that remissions, like this did much to increase the funds and promote the efficiency of their charities. He believed that Warwickshire, in determining to make their Prov. Grand Master a vice president of each of the Masonic charities, had only followed the good example of other provinces, and he hoped that ere long it would be the rule, and not the exception, to place their Prov. Grand Masters in such a position, and that a friendly rivalry would grow up, so that they might have a Masonic race—province against province—country Lodges against London Lodges, as to which could do most good in supporting their excellent charities for the aged and for youth. (Cheers). Their other charities consisted of two excellent schools, and no man could doubt the advantage derived through them, or the propriety of doing the utmost for their support. (Cheers). Their standard was planted on high places, people looked up to them, and it was their duty to see whether Masonry could not do much to allay party strife, promote brotherly love and charity amongst all men, and perhaps he might be allowed to conclude by observing, in the words of the poet—

“Oh that the voice of clamour and debate,
That prates of peace while it disturbs the state,
Were hushed, in favour of thy gen'rous plea,
The poor thy clients, and heaven's smile thy fee. (Cheers).

Bro. CREW had hoped that some person of greater consequence than himself would have returned thanks for the toast so eloquently proposed and so kindly responded to. It would be impossible for him to attempt to follow the eloquent appeal of the reverend and worthy brother

who had just sat down, and his simple object in rising was to return thanks to them for the interest they had shown in the prosperity of this noble charity by so handsome a subscription of £2100—liberally bestowed, on behalf of their brethren who had fallen into decay. When some time since he was asked whether he thought the holding of annual festivals on behalf of this institution would injure that with which he was connected, he had replied—No; because he felt sure that care for the young would also provide for the aged. (Cheers). And what was the result? Why, at this time last year they subscribed £2,100 for the charity to support which they were then met, and within a month or two afterwards £2,200 were subscribed for the Boys' School (cheers), nor did the charity with which he was connected suffer. (Cheers). He thanked the noble lord in the chair and the brethren of Warwickshire, so many of whom had come to London to evince their interest in this charity, for what they had done that evening, and glad should he be if he could witness a similar demonstration—if he could see all the same brethren collected in support of the Boys' School. But a few years since and they looked upon £300 or £400 as a good subscription for the Boys' School; but last year they obtained upwards of £2,000, and he told them they should want a like amount this year, and the next, and again the next after that; for now, instead of having their boys scattered all over the kingdom, they had bought a large house, and gone to great expense to bring the boys under one roof, where they could have the best of instruction, and where the committee who superintended the school would be enabled to look after their welfare. There was one thing of which he was particularly proud, viz., that though they were honoured with the presence of two noble lords, both most worthy brothers, yet they were little indebted to the aristocracy for the handsome subscriptions of that evening, but it came from the middle classes, the men in whose sphere he was proud himself to move. (Cheers). Having said something for this institution and the Boys' School, allow him to state, that he had eighty little girls—he could not help looking upon them almost as his own—(cheers)—in the institution with which he was connected, and he felt assured that the generous support of the brethren would never be wanting to maintain it in the utmost efficiency. (Cheers). Already had seven hundred and fifty children passed through that school, many of whom would perhaps, but for the consideration and liberality of the brethren, have been houseless wanderers in the great world. He again returned them, in the name of the governors and house committees of the Masonic charities, his grateful thanks for the manner in which the toast had been proposed and responded to. (Cheers).

Bro. Lord DE TABLET said a toast had been entrusted to him which he could have wished had fallen into other hands, did he not know that it was one which would at once command their attention and be cordially received. The noble president proposed to them one toast of the evening—one which appealed to the head and the ear; but he felt that he had one of equal importance, as it would appeal to their eyes and their hearts—“The Health of the Ladies in general—(cheers)—and especially those who had honoured them with their presence that evening.” (Cheers). He need not ask them to drink it with all their hearts, for he knew that whilst they drank to the ladies in general, each brother would see in his glass one particular face which would outshine the others in radiance. (Cheers.) He might be allowed to add masonically, he was sure they had derived great pleasure from the presence of the ladies, the influence of whose bright eyes had done so much to add to the enjoyment of the evening; and he trusted the brethren would receive from them a return of that sisterly regard and kind feeling which he knew they felt towards them. (Cheers).

Bro. CHAS. RATCLIFFE, of Birmingham, returned thanks on behalf of the ladies, and expressed the great gratification they felt in having had the opportunity of being present on so interesting an occasion.

The CHAIRMAN then gave the last toast, the health of a body of brethren to whose exertions they were greatly indebted, not only for the arrangements, but the success of that evening. He was informed by Bro. Farnfield that already had twelve brethren promised to serve as stewards for the next festival, and he would be happy to receive the names of others; and here he might add that his noble brother, Lord de Tablet, had just expressed his intention of being a steward on the next occasion (cheers), and Bro. Chas. Elkington added there would also be one or two from Birmingham. (Cheers).

Bro. Col. BURLTON, as President of the Board of Stewards, acknowledged the compliment, expressing the gratification of the stewards at the success which had attended their efforts; and the company separated after spending one of the most agreeable meetings we ever remember at a Masonic festival, the most perfect order prevailing throughout the evening.

The musical arrangements, under the direction of Bro. George Todder, were excellent, comprising the talents of Miss Susan Pyne, Miss Rebecca Isaacs, Mrs. Paget, and Bro. Young, Bro. Wilhelm Ganz presiding at the pianoforte.

METROPOLITAN.

ROYAL YORK LODGE OF PERSEVERANCE (No. 7).—One of the always happy meetings of this distinguished Lodge took place at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, the 18th inst., under the presidency of Bro. Richard Jenkins, W.M. The business of the evening consisted only of the installation of the new W.M., Bro. Thomas Bohn, P.M.,

No. 201, and P.M., No. 955, and the appointment of officers for the ensuing twelve months. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, P.J.G.D., to the great gratification of all present. Bro. Bohn afterwards invested Bros. G. Roberts, S.W.; Murton, J.W.; P. Adlard, P.M., Treas.; W. A. Harrison, P.M., D.C.; Daw, S.D.; Hooper Harper, J.D.; Warr, I.G.; and Rice, Tyler; and reappointed Bro. John Hervey, P.S.G.D., in his absence abroad, Sec. The Lodge having been closed, the brethren retired to refreshment, presided over by Bro. Bohn. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were received with due honour, "The health of the D. Grand Master and the Grand Officers" being responded to by Bro. Savage, S.G.D. Bro. Jenkins, P.M., then proposed "The health of the W.M., Bro. Bohn," in very complimentary terms. The W.M., in returning thanks, assured the brethren that it would be his pleasure, as well as his duty, to exert himself in preserving the harmony of the Lodge, and in endeavouring to add to the comfort of the members; and he hoped that by attention to the important duties entrusted to him he might discharge them with credit to himself and satisfaction to the Lodge, and not altogether without, he hoped, some advantage to the ancient institution to which he had the honour of belonging. "The health of Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson" was next proposed by the W.M., thanking him for the excellent manner in which he had performed the ceremony of installation. Bro. S. Barton Wilson returned thanks in appropriate terms. "Bro. Kennedy, P.G.S., and the Visitors," was the next toast. Bro. Kennedy, in acknowledging the compliment, remarked upon the great treat he and his brother visitors had had that evening in witnessing the able manner in which Bro. S. Barton Wilson had discharged the duty of installing Master, and congratulated the Lodge on the elevation to the chair of Bro. Bohn, whom he had known as an efficient and excellent Master of the Old Concord Lodge, in which he and Bro. Bohn were initiated. "The Past Masters," acknowledged by Bro. Hopwood. "The Treasurer, Secretary, and Director of Ceremonies," "The Wardens," "The Assistant Officers," &c., &c., were all proposed by the W.M., and most kindly received by the brethren present. Bro. Adlard, P.M., who has held the office of Director of Ceremonies of the Lodge for seventeen years, appeared to be quite out of his place in his new office as Treasurer; the visitors, however, recognized an excellent successor to Bro. Adlard, in the person of Bro. Harrison, P.M. The proceedings of the evening gave the utmost satisfaction to all parties, and especially to the visitors, among whom we observed Bros. John Savage, S.G.D.; S. Barton Wilson, P.J.G.D.; E. J. Kennedy, P.G.S., and P.M., No. 201; Stone, P.M., No. 663; Underwood, No. 201; Galli, No. 201; Redpath, No. 32; Cole, No. 1022; C. Higgins, No. 955; Winn, No. 955; Garrod, P.M., No. 228; Wiltshire, No. 1006; Edney, Lee, and others.

TUSCAN LODGE (No. 14).—The annual meeting of this Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday last, when Bro. Sharpe passed a brother to the second degree and raised another to the third. Bro. Sharpe, then, in a highly impressive manner proceeded to install as his successor, Bro. B. H. Freeman. The new W.M. having appointed his officers, the brethren adjourned to a very elegant dinner, there being several visitors present, including Bros. W. Browning, A. Browning, B. T. Smith, B. Shopper, B. Foster, Dr. Holman, Greatrex, &c. The evening passed off most satisfactorily, the toasts being relieved by some excellent singing by Bros. Smythson and Young, and certainly not the least, Miss Ransford, under the direction of Bro. W. E. Ransford. Bro. Ransford, Sen., P.G. Org. was unable to attend, as he is still suffering from an accident he met with at Brighton about two months since.

UNITED MARINERS' LODGE (No. 33).—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 18th instant, at Bro. Harris's, the Three Tuns, High-street, Southwark. The business of the evening consisted of a raising, installation of the W.M., and appointment of officers for the year ensuing. Bro. Pownceley having been raised to the sublime degree of M.M., a Board of installed Masters was formed, consisting of Bros. R. Barnes, P.M.; R. E. Barnes, P.M., No. 15; R. L. Harris, P.M., No. 33; Thomas Cogden, P.M., No. 33; Jesse Turner, P.M., No. 33; and C. C. Gibbs, P.M., No. 15. Bro. Jagells was in ancient form installed as W.M. of the Lodge. The customary addresses having been given, the Worshipful Master then appointed the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. Thomas Johns, S.W.; J. W. Dyer, J.W.; W. J. Harris, S.D.; George Dyer, J.D.; Pickering, I.G.; Richard Barnes, Treas.; R. E. Barnes, Hon. Sec.; John Wigg, Steward; and Rowe, Dir. of Cers. All business being concluded, the Lodge was closed in due form and the brethren adjourned to banquet, and after the usual loyal toasts had been given, Bro. COGDEN, P.M., proposed "The health of their newly installed Master, Bro. Jagells," who had by his judicious selection of officers given to each an opportunity of evincing to the Lodge their zeal for its prosperity. He trusted that during his year of office the members generally would give him that support which should enable him fully to carry out the true principles of the Order. Bro. JAGELLS, W.M., thanked the brethren for the proud position in which they had placed him, and assured them of his determination to use his best exertions to promote the interests of the Lodge and the well being of its members. The Worshipful Master next proposed "The health of the P.Ms." Bro. COGDEN, in reply, thanked them for the honour conferred, and as their immediate P.M. he felt bound to acknowledge the assistance he had received from his brother P.Ms. during his year of office, more especially the Bros. Barnes, under whose able tuition he was enabled to perform the various ceremonies. He was delighted to see

the unanimity which prevailed amongst the brethren, and sincerely did he trust that it might long continue. Bro. BARNES having obtained the gavel, said he again appealed to the brethren in behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Annuity Fund, and particularly so, as their Bro. Samuel Stracey Wood, who had for twenty-three years been a member of that Lodge, was for the second time a candidate for the benefits of that institution. He sincerely trusted that every member would use his utmost endeavours to secure his election in May next. The next toast was "The health of the Treasurer and Honorary Secretary." Bro. R. E. BARNES said, I cannot refrain from expressing my gratitude for the eulogiums passed on myself and my worthy father, your Treasurer, and for the very complimentary manner in which our healths have been received on this occasion. Believe me, brethren, though I have been honoured by special notice at former meetings, never have I been received with more unequivocal marks of attention and kindness than now. I trust I shall be able to evince, by constant attention to your Masonic interests, that I am duly sensible of the value of your good opinion, and while I thank you for this expression thereof, allow me to say, that we have but one end in view, which is the cultivation and improvement of the mind; and while we take a retrospect of the great and many changes which time has wrought amongst us, realized in the mode of transit and the means of communication—while by the aid of steam man has almost been able to grasp the poles, and by the instantaneous action of electricity, to bound his thoughts and wishes over time and space—yet the principles of Freemasonry have not so changed with time, for its attributes and perfections were still the same, for time has only shewn that the virtues of our ancestors can be prized and revered by the present generation. You will, I am sure, all be willing witnesses to the truth that with us kindness and affection preponderate, and that the great principles of our Order—brotherly love, relief, and truth, have ever been the guiding stars of the United Mariners' Lodge. (Cheers.) The WORSHIPFUL MASTER next proposed "The health of Bro. C. C. Gibbs, P.M.," for his kindness in acting as installing Master on this occasion, and the very proficient manner in which he had performed the duties thereof. Bro. GIBBS assured the brethren of his willingness at all times to render any assistance they might require at his hands, thanked them for the very kindly feelings evinced towards him, and hoped he should be enabled to perform that office for many years to come. "The Officers of the Lodge," was given and responded to. The Tyler's toast having been given, the brethren parted at an early hour, having passed the evening in the true spirit of Masonry.

ST. GEORGE'S LODGE (No. 164).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday evening, January 18th, at the Globe Tavern, Greenwich. Bros. Robinson, W.M.; Edington, S.W.; Collington, J.W. There was a full attendance of the brethren, and several visitors, among whom we noticed Bros. Collard, P.M., No. 163; Durrant, W.M. No. 172; Jno. Stevens, J.D., No. 805; Bmary, No. 11; and Davis, who was elected a joining member to the Lodge. The Lodge was opened and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Moffatt answered the usual questions and was duly passed, at the request of the W.M., by Bro. Collard. The next business was the ceremony of installation, and Bro. Collard proceeded in a most impressive manner to install Bro. G. W. Edington, W.M. elect, to the chair, and the usual salutes having been duly given, the W.M. appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Collington, S.W.; Greatrex, J.W.; Dent, S.D.; Mourilyan, J.D.; Scott, I.G. The brethren adjourned at nine o'clock to a banquet admirably placed on the table by Bro. Moore. On the withdrawal of the cloth the W.M., after the usual toasts, gave "The health of the Visitors," associating with it the name of Bro. Collard, whose talent and ability displayed in the performance of the ceremony of installation, while it reflected credit on himself, could not have failed to delight every brother who witnessed it. Bro. Collard in returning thanks, said, being a visitor to this Lodge was an unexpected pleasure; and if any one had told him such would be the case some few days since, it would greatly have surprised him. He was asked by an old friend the day before to come down to Greenwich to perform the ceremony of installation this evening, and he readily complied with his request; being at all times anxious to render all the services he could for the good of Freemasonry; in fact he had travelled on one occasion two hundred miles to oblige his friends, and he hoped to be able to do so again if required. He had often heard of the St. George's Lodge, and now he could fairly bear testimony to their liberality; he was delighted with the reception he had met with, and quite sure he could speak on the part of his brother visitors in saying, he hoped it would not be the last time they should have an opportunity of visiting the Lodge of St. George. Bro. J. P. WRIGHT, P.M., in the absence of the immediate P.M., proposed "The health of the W.M.," wishing him happiness and prosperity. The W.M. said he felt proud at being placed in that chair as W.M. to the Lodge, but he had not accepted the office without being fully aware of the responsibility of its duties; he should endeavour to carry them out to the best of his ability. They would always find him at his post in the Lodge, and when his services were required out of it, they would never find him wanting when called upon. The next toast, "The P.Ms. of the Lodge," was responded to by Bro. Wright. "The Officers of the Lodge," was next given by the W.M. Bro. COLLINGTON said he felt highly honoured by the distinguished position he had been appointed to in the Lodge. He had filled the offices of J.D., S.D., and lastly J.W., into which chair he was honourably appointed by Bro. Robinson, P.M., and if he had performed the duties of those offices to the satisfaction of the brethren,

and he trusted with honour and credit to himself, he could assure the W.M. he should not fail in the office of S.W. to render him every assistance in the execution of his arduous duties during the period of his Mastership. He had the prosperity of the St. George's Lodge at heart, and he trusted the manner in which he conducted the duties of his office would gain him the respect and esteem of all who knew him. Several other toasts were given; and the evening was passed in harmony and goodwill and the Lodge closed in peace.

PRUDENT BROTHERS LODGE (No. 169).—The annual meeting of this Lodge was celebrated at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday last, when Bro. Blackburn, P.M., raised Bro. Pullen to the third degree. Bro. Watson, P.M., as an old friend of the W.M. elect, whom he introduced into Freemasonry, proceeded to install Bro. John Boyd as W.M. for the ensuing year. At the close of the ceremony, which was admirably performed, the W.M. invested the officers as follows:—Bro. Hooper, S.W.; Bro. Graygoose, J.W.; Bro. H. G. Warren, P.M., Treas.; Bro. Blackburn, P.M., Sec.; Bro. Exall, S.D.; Bro. Norman, J.D.; Bro. E. Lowenstark, I.G.; Bro. Purkiss, Steward. A P.M.'s jewel having been voted to Bro. C. Hart, the immediate P.M., and other business transacted, the Lodge was closed. The brethren then adjourned to a very elegant dinner, and spent a most agreeable evening; Bro. Bohn, W.M. of No. 7, returning thanks on behalf of the visitors, Bros. Ireland, Collard, J. Watson, Elsworthy, &c., &c. The toasts were proposed and responded to in due form; the harmony of the evening being much enhanced by the singing of Bros. Graygoose, C. Hart, Exall, and others belonging to the Lodge—and above all, by the kind assistance rendered by Bros. Edney, Smythson, the Misses Edney and Miss Ransford—the latter young lady singing two songs, with great spirit and finish, which were rapturously applauded. The Misses Edney also were warmly and deservedly applauded for the purity of style with which they rendered various duets and songs—the great improvement they have made in their profession during the last two years auguring for them a brilliant future.

LODGE OF TRANQUILITY (No. 218).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday evening, January 16th, at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, Bro. M. Ansell, W.M., presided. The Lodge having been opened in ancient form, the first business of the meeting was to raise Bro. Nathan Defries to the sublime degree of M.M. Afterwards Bro. Sydney Woolf was passed to the second degree. A ballot having taken place and terminating in their favour, Mr. David Davis and Mr. Pheneas Abrahams were severally introduced and initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry. The next business was the election of a W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler, for the ensuing year. After a ballot, Bro. Henry Isaacs was elected W.M., and Bro. John Peartree, Treasurer, in the place of Bro. Alexander Levy, who resigned, after having filled that office for several years. The following members were elected on the Benevolent Fund Committee:—Bros. Harris, Davis, Hammond, and S. Solomon. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of a good dinner, after which the usual toasts were given, the health of the initiates being responded to by a liberal donation to the Benevolent Fund. Amongst the visitors, were Bro. Ball, No. 745, and Bro. Joseph Davis (whose brother was initiated), from Australia. The evening was spent in complete harmony.

CANONBURY LODGE (No. 955).—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 12th inst., Bro. W. Cox, W.M., presiding. After the minutes of the last Lodge were confirmed, Bro. J. Benson was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. The W.M. then presented Past Masters Filer and Bohn with the Lodge jewel, which had been voted to them for very valuable services rendered to the Lodge. The W.M. then vacated the chair, and Bro. Sinclair was very impressively passed to the Fellow Craft degree, by Bro. Hill, P.M. A motion was afterwards brought forward by Bro. Filer to present the retiring W.M. with the Lodge jewel, but was negatived by a very large majority. This will, doubtless, act as a salutary lesson to those in the Craft who have the impression that these honours should be indiscriminately given without being properly deserved. All business concluded, the brethren adjourned to an excellent dinner, provided by Bro. Todd, P.M.

INSTRUCTION.

LODGE OF JOPPA (No. 223).—The usual monthly meeting of this Lodge was held on Sunday evening, at the St. James's Tavern, Duke Street, Aldgate. Bro. H. Thompson, of No. 208, presided as W.M., and after opening the Lodge in due form, proceeded with the ceremony of installation, Bro. Barnard, of the Lodge of Israel, being the candidate. The W.M. then put the questions in the first, second, third, and fourth sections of the lecture, the answers respectively by Bros. H. Solomon, J. Solomon, Harris, and Moss. The fifth section of the lecture was then asked—the questions by Bro. Moss, the answers by Bro. Saqui. A donation to the Benevolent Fund was announced by Bro. Defries. It was agreed that the fifteen sections should be asked in this Lodge on Sunday next, upon which occasion Bro. Saqui, the able lecture master of this Lodge, will preside. A good attendance of the brethren is anticipated. The Lodge was closed in due form at ten o'clock.

PROVINCIAL.

CHESHIRE.

CHESTER.—*Cestrian Lodge* (No. 615).—On the 11th inst., the brethren held their monthly regular Lodge at the Royal Hotel in this city. The

Lodge was duly opened at three p.m., by Bro. Willoughby, P.M., acting as Master, when the solemn ceremony of installing the W.M. elect (Bro. McIntyre) was most ably performed by Bro. Willoughby, assisted by the Bro. H. Bully as Senior and Junior Warden during the installation. The new Master having been regularly inducted into the chair, proceeded to appoint his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. Tibbets, S.W.; Thomas Smith, J.W.; H. Roberts, Treas.; S. Brown; Sec. and D.C.; E. Cuzner, S.D.; H. Platt, J.D.; and C. H. Hitchin, I.G.—Bro. Boothroyd was appointed by the Lodge, Tyler. The Masonic business of the day being concluded, the brethren retired to the ban, quiet-room, where a sumptuous repast awaited them, served by Bro. McGregor in his usual style of excellence.

DEVONSHIRE.

PLYMOUTH.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 182).—The ceremony of installation of the W.M. took place on Tuesday, December 27th, Bro. S. Clarke being the unanimous selection of the Lodge. The W.M. appointed the following officers: Bros. Mitchell, of Devonport, S.W.; R. Howe (Stonehouse), J.W.; Browne, S.D.; Hooper, J.D. St. John's Day was, of course, celebrated with all due honours, and there was a good attendance of the brethren. The dinner reflected credit upon Bro. Isaac Watts, and the brethren did not fail to testify the same. The usual patriotic and Masonic toasts were drunk, and the proceedings closed in accordance with the name of the Lodge.

PLYMOUTH.—*Brunswick Lodge* (No. 185).—The brethren of this Lodge met, according to custom, on St. John's Day, in their Lodge room, Union-road, and proceeded to install the Master elect, Bro. Chaple, of Devonport, for the ensuing year. The installation was ably performed by the late Master, Bro. Dennetford. The W.M. appointed the following brethren as his Wardens: Joseph Elliott, S.W.; and Peter James, J.W. After the conclusion of the ceremony, the brethren adjourned to Moorshead's Royal Hotel, Devonport, to celebrate the festival of St. John.

STONEHOUSE.—*Lodge of Fortitude* (No. 122).—The members of this Lodge met on Tuesday, December 27th, in the Lodge room, Prince George Hotel, Stonehouse, for the purpose of installing the newly elected Master, Bro. W. B. Peters, which ceremony was performed by Bros. May and Phillips, P.Ms., and the following officers were appointed: Bros. Saull, S.W.; Patch, J.W.; Wm. May, S.D.; Luscombe, J.D.; Thuell, I.G.; and Bros. Phillips and Pomeroy, P.Ms., Stewards. Bro. James Rose was appointed Secretary, and Bro. W. Chapman, Treasurer, after which the brethren adjourned to a banquet. Bro. S. Cave having filled the chair as W.M., for two years successively, now takes his seat as P.M. in the regal chair, which was presented to Lodge Fortitude by his late majesty William the Fourth, who was initiated into Masonry in that Lodge.

TORRES.—*Pleades Lodge* (No. 1012).—A terrible fire, which has destroyed the Masonic Hall in this place, broke out on the morning of Friday, the 20th inst., by which the whole of the paraphernalia, jewels, and plate of the Lodge were consumed. We have not as yet received a special account from our own correspondent; and therefore copy the following from a contemporary:—"The loss sustained by the owners of the house property is very considerable, while the Freemasons alone, by the destruction of their new decorations, fittings, plate, and jewels, will lose upwards of £500. These premises were anciently known as the Tolmes Theatre, on the stage of which the late Mr. Keam and other celebrated actors, including Miss Foote, have before now performed. The contents in the Freemasons' Lodge were only insured in £150. It appeared at one time inevitable that a large extent of house property and waterside premises would become a prey to the devouring element; fortunately, however, a plentiful supply of water could be obtained from the river, and after great exertions, in torrents of rain, the fire was subdued."

[We hope to present our readers with full details of this occurrence in our next week's impression.]

HAMPSHIRE.

BOURNEMOUTH.—*Lodge of Hengist* (No. 230).—This Lodge met on the 5th of January, in accordance with their by-laws, for the purpose of installing their old and much respected Bro. Samuel Bayly again as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. J. Sydenham, of the Lodge of Amity, Poole, No. 160, in his usual perfect manner, assisted by the P.Ms. On the conclusion of the ceremony the W.M. entered on his duties, and appointed his officers for the year, as follows:—Bros. W. B. Rogers, S.W.; S. Ingram, J.W.; J. McWilliam, S.D.; J. Macey, J.D.; E. Crossby, I.G.; J. G. Lawrence, Sec.; F. Graham, Tyler. A fortnightly Lodge was held on the 19th inst., when Bros. William Roberts and Edward Crossby were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason by our very able and efficient Bro. S. Bayley, W.M. The other business of the Lodge having terminated, the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

PORTSEA.—*Royal Sussex Lodge* (No. 428).—On Wednesday, Jan. 18th, the brethren assembled in their Lodge room, Freemasons' Hall, St. George's-square, for the purpose of installing Bro. Tuohy in the chair for the ensuing year. There was a goodly gathering of the Craft from

Lodges in the locality, and after the fraternal greeting usual on such Masonic occasions, Bro. Joseph Ogborn, P.M., went through the installation ceremony in a very imposing and admirable manner. After which Bro. W. Tuohy, the W.M. elect, selected his officers to support him in his year of office, as follows:—Bros. E. Emery, S.W.; W. H. Fishley, J.W.; W. Kelk, S.D.; J. Webber, J.D.; B. Harris, I.G.; H. Emanuel, D.C.; J. Ogborn, Hon. Sec.; R. T. Elliott, Hon. Treas.; and G. Wilkins and Gunnell, Stewards. The usual kindly advice was then given by the W.M. to his officers, to be "good and true men." He then regularly initiated Bros. Stapleford and Kinsey into the mysteries and privileges of the first degree; afterwards passed Bro. Huley into the second degree of Fellow Craft, and finally gave one of the most impressive charges we have ever heard, especially from so young a brother in the Craft. After the usual business the Lodge closed down, and the brethren retired to dinner, and the evening was very pleasantly spent and enlivened by the excellent singing of Bros. Emery, Dyer, and Cullenford; when night brought all things to a close, the brethren parted with the usual Masonic honours.

KENT.

CHATHAM.—*Lodge of Antiquity* (No. 34).—The anniversary of this Lodge was celebrated on Wednesday, January 18th, at the Sun Hotel, the usual place of meeting. After the usual solemnities, upwards of forty brethren sat down to an excellent dinner, under the presidency of Bro. C. Isaacs, W.M. Amongst the guests were Bros. Ashley, P.D. Prov. G.M.; Keddell, Prov. S.G.W.; Cooke, Prov. S.G.W.; Spencer, Prov. J.G.W.; Pottinger, W.M. of No. 91; Batchellor, Prov. G. Chaplain and W.M.; Sanders, Prov. G. Treas.; Cooley, P. Prov. Dir. of Cer.; Windeyer, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Day, W.M. No. 741; Pearson, Prov. S.G.D.; Day, P.P.; Langridge, No. 81 Bristol; Bathurst, Goldfinch, and Greaves, of the lately resuscitated Lodge of Sheerness, No. 155; C. H. White, of Rotherfield, No. 34; Capt. Wedderburn, No. 437; Capt. Miller, No. 884; Blundell, No. 432, &c. &c.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—*John of Gaunt Lodge* (No. 766).—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge took place at the Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday evening, the 19th instant, when there were present Bros. Kelly, D. Prov. G.M.; Willey, W.M.; Clephan, Hardy, Millican and Smith, P.Ms.; Brewin, S.W.; Johnson, Sec.; Davis, S.D.; Spencer, J.D.; Bithrey, I.G.; Paul, &c. Visitors—Bros. A. Bernstein (Jewish Rabbi), of the Lodge of Virtue; Reunies, France; F. Schlam, Loge Perseverante Amitie, de Paris; James Bedam, No. 228; A. Cummings, W.M.; Gill, P.M., No. 348; and S. S. Stallard, formerly of this Lodge. The Lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, Bro. Spencer called the attention of the brethren to the by-law respecting the illegality and irregularity of brethren voting in Lodge whose subscriptions are in arrear, and requested its enforcement in future. It was resolved, on the proposition of the Senior Warden, that a list of the names of the subscribing members be suspended in the anteroom, and that their subscriptions be marked off when paid, so that it may be at once seen who is qualified to vote. There were three passings and three raisings due, but none of the candidates were able to be present. The Lodge having been opened in the second and third degrees, and closed down to the second degree, Bro. Brewin, S.W., delivered the lecture on the tracing board, after which, the Lodge having been resumed in the first degree, the D. Prov. G.M. delivered the lecture on the tracing board of that degree. A letter was read, inviting the brethren to attend a Masonic ball, to be given under the auspices of the Knights of Malta Lodge, No. 58, at the Town Hall, Hinckley, on Tuesday, the 24th inst., a dispensation for which has been granted by the Prov. G.M.; several of the brethren intimated their intention of being present. The D. Prov. G.M. presented, for the use of the members of the Order generally, a copy of *The People's Music Book*, in three volumes, and drew attention to the desirability of losing no further time in making the nucleus of a Masonic library in the possession of the Lodge, available by the works being properly arranged, and provision made for the reception of donations. A vote of thanks was cordially tendered to Bro. Kelly for his present, on the proposition of Bro. Hardy, P.M., seconded by the S.W., those brethren speaking in very complimentary terms of the Masonic services of the D. Prov. G.M. through a long series of years. A committee was subsequently appointed, consisting of Bros. Brewin, Johnson, and Spencer, to act with an equal number to be appointed by St. John's Lodge, as the library committee, in providing proper shelves, and in superintending the arrangement of the library, several brethren, and the S.W. in particular, intimating their readiness to contribute books when a proper place of deposit had been provided. The Lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to supper, and spent a few hours very pleasantly, the usual Masonic toasts being interspersed with excellent songs, Bro. Gill presiding at the piano forte. In returning thanks for the visitors, Bro. Schlam addressed the brethren in French, expressing the gratification he experienced in visiting so worshipful a Lodge, and at the reception which he had met with, and concluded by proposing "Prosperity to Masonry throughout the world." He afterwards obliged the brethren by singing a French song. Bros. Gill, Hardy, Cummings, and Stallard also contributed to the music of the evening.

NORFOLK.

NORWICH.—*Union Lodge* (No. 60).—The members of this Lodge have elected Bro. Wright Searly, S.W., and Prov. S.G.D., as W.M., and he

has appointed the following officers:—Bro. E. S. Bignold, S.W.; Bro. J. W. Boulton, J.W.; Bro. P. Back, S.D.; Bro. G. Wilkinson, J.D.; Bro. N. H. Caley, I.G.; and Bro. Gardiner Stevens, Secretary.

NORWICH.—*Social Lodge* (No. 110).—Bro. A. F. Morgan, S.W., has been elected W.M. of this Lodge, and will be installed at the next meeting in February. The installation banquet will take on the same evening at the Royal Hotel.

NORWICH.—*Perseverance Lodge* (No. 258).—At the monthly meeting of this Lodge, on Tuesday evening, January 17th, which was numerously attended, Bro. Emanuel Hyams was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year; and the ceremony of installation was impressively performed by Bro. James Dawbarn, P.M. The W.M. appointed the following brethren as his officers:—Bro. W. H. Stevens, S.W.; Bro. F. Colsey, J.W.; Bro. J. Darken, S.D.; Bro. John Hanley, J.D.; Bro. R. Thorns, I.G.; and Bro. R. Gidney, Sec. A new brother was then passed to the second degree by the W.M., in a manner which showed that Bro. Hyams is well qualified for the office to which he has been raised. The members of the Lodge being desirous of paying some mark of respect to their late W.M., Bro. James Dawbarn, in recognition of his assiduous and zealous discharge of his duties, and his services to the Lodge, which has had a considerable accession of members during the past year, resolved to invite him to a banquet, which is to take place at the Rampant Horse Hotel, on Thursday evening, February 2nd.

SURREY.

REIGATE.—*Surrey Lodge* (No. 603).—The usual meeting of this Lodge was held on Saturday, the 21st instant, at the Swan Inn, the W.M., Bro. A. Sisson, in the chair, supported by Bros. Smith, S.W.; Holman, J.W.; Hart, Sec.; P. Martin, Treas.; Morrison, S.D.; Lees, J.D.; and Carruthers, I.G. The Lodge having been opened in due form, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. then proceeded to pass Bro. Rogers to the second degree, and raised Bro. Harris to the sublime degree of M.M. The usual routine business having been disposed of, the W.M. said he had now a most pleasing duty to perform, which was to present, in the name of the Lodge, to their Bro. J. Ll. Evans, Prov. G.S.B., a P.M.'s jewel, in acknowledgment of the valuable services he had rendered in resuscitating the Surrey Lodge, No. 603, and for his kind instruction and able working as their W.M. for the last two years, thereby elevating the Lodge to its present position. The W.M., after suitable expressions of gratitude, then affixed the jewel on the breast of Bro. J. Ll. Evans. Bro. P. MARTIN, P.M., said it would perhaps be interesting to Bro. Evans to know that it was not customary in the Surrey Lodge to present a jewel on the Master leaving the chair, and that the only other instance in which a jewel had been presented was about twenty-four years since, when a similar presentation was made to the late Bro. Lord Monson, for his eminent services rendered to the Lodge as its founder. Bro. J. LL. EVANS said he thanked the brethren most sincerely for the distinguished mark of their favour, which he should regard with great pleasure, as he esteemed it a mark of high regard, and not an empty compliment; it was a matter of congratulation to himself that he had the honour of assisting in resuscitating the Surrey Lodge, and still more to see it in its present position, both as regards the working and the number of its brethren; he believed the zeal of the brethren would maintain the Surrey Lodge in a high position; he congratulated the Lodge on the ability which the W.M., Bro. Sisson, had shown that day, and which proved how earnest the brethren were for the good of the Craft. The W.M., in consequence of the resignation of the Senior Warden, Bro. Barne, appointed Bros. Holman, S.W.; Morrison, J.W.; Lees, S.D.; and Carruthers, J.D., as his officers. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to dinner, the W.M., Bro. Sisson, presiding, when the usual Masonic toasts were given and responded to. Bro. EVANS, P.M., alluded to the Masonic charities, and especially to the meeting of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, on Wednesday, and having stated that he had already presented the sum of £5 to that charity, which sum had been subscribed at the last banquet, urged that the charity was in want of annual subscriptions, and suggested that the brethren individually should become annual subscribers, if only for small sums. The brethren present immediately responded to the appeal, and the names of a considerable number were received. We recommend a similar charitable proceeding at other Lodges, so that our charities may be properly supported, and that the toast of "All poor and distressed Masons," &c., may not be an unmeaning one. The Tyler's toast was the signal for dispersion, and the brethren separated.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

YARBOROUGH CHAPTER (No. 812).—The annual convocation of this flourishing Chapter was held on Wednesday, January 18th, at the George Hotel, Commercial-road East, when, in the absence of Comp. C. A. Betiger, Comp. George Biggs presided as M.E.Z., and exalted into this supreme degree Bros. George Leach and James McLean of Lodge No. 78, also Bro. Richard Strangman, of Lodge No. 107. This ceremony ended, Comp. Biggs, in the presence of six other Past First Principals, installed the Principals elect, viz., Comps. James Kindred, M.E.Z.; Robert Taylor

H.; and Alfred Day, J.; in their respective chairs. The auditors' report showed a most satisfactory state of the financial affairs of the Chapter, and a handsome balance in the hands of the Treasurer having been presented, Comp. Wynne, P.Z., moved "That the Chapter subscribe to the Aged Masons and Widows' Funds," which was carried. The other officers are—Comps. Williams, Treas.; John Purdy, Scribe E.; Mobbs, N.; H. Thompson, P.S.; and E. W. Davis, Steward. Comps. E. H. Patten, J. How, and E. Mancy, were visitors on the occasion. Some proposals were made for the admission of other brethren into the Chapter, and a most successful year is anticipated, Comp. Kindred's efficiency in Craft Masonry being an augury of his equally well discharging the onerous duties of the first chair in the Chapter. All business ended, the Companions assembled at dinner, and departed at an early hour.

PROVINCIAL.

PLYMOUTH.—Chapter *Sincerity* (No. 224).—The regular quarterly convocation of the above Chapter took place in the Freemasons' Chapter room, St. George's Hall, on the evening of the 13th instant, when the following Companions were unanimously elected as officers of the Chapter for the ensuing year:—M. E. Comps. R. Dowse, M.D., reelected to the chair of Z.; F. C. Hancock, H.; R. R. Rodd, J.; W. Hunt, E.; Lord Graves, N.; Rev. G. Knowling, P.S.; R. Ridley, S.S.; R. H. Rae, Asst. S.; A. Narracott, P.Z., Treas.; J. Rogers, Jan. The Chapter was then closed in solemn form and the meeting adjourned (agreeably to the by-laws) to the evening of Friday the 20th, at seven o'clock, when it was again opened in due form for the confirmation of the minutes of the former meeting, the installation of the Principals, and investing the officers. The ceremony of installing the Principals, H., and J., into their respective chairs was admirably performed by the M.E.C.Z., assisted by Past Zs., Pollard, Thomas, and Narracott. The officers were then invested with the badges of their respective offices, and there being no other business before the Chapter, the same was closed in solemn form at half-past nine o'clock. This Chapter has within the last two years, risen, as it were, out of chaos, and will now bear comparison as to its furniture and decorations with most other Provincial Chapters.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

METROPOLITAN ENCAMPMENTS.

KENEYS TYNTE ENCAMPMENT.—At an Encampment held on Friday, January 20th, in Freemasons' Hall, Woolwich, there were present—Sir Knights Major Henry Clerk, E.C.; Henry John Hinxman, Prov. G. Chaplain, as Prelate; J. H. Alderson, First Captain; J. Figg, Second Captain; W. Smith, Registrar; J. How, as G. Expert, and others, when Comp. Matthew Cooke was installed as a brother of this eminent Order of Freemasonry.

ENCAMPMENT OF OBSERVANCE.—This Encampment held its first meeting of this year at the Thatched House Tavern, St. James's-street, on Thursday, the 19th of January, when Sir Knt. Wm. Ranger, was duly installed Eminent Commander, according to ancient form, in the presence of a numerous body of Prov. Grand Commanders, Past Eminent Commanders, and members. He appointed the following officers for the year:—V.E. Sir Knt. Matthew Dawes, Prov. Grand Com., Prelate; Sir Knights H. J. Hinxman, Prov. Grand Com., First Captain; A. W. Spratt, Second Captain; John Masson, (Grand Chancellor,) Registrar; P. Graves, Almoner; J. S. Tulloch, Expert; Thos. Stephens, First Standard Bearer; S. H. Clarke, Second Standard Bearer; Henry Ward, Capt. of the Lines; A. W. Clark, Herald; Dawes and Smith, reappointed Esquieries. After which Comp. William Leuchars was installed in due form, and became a joining member. Sir Knt. J. L. Rickards, of Union or Rougemont Encampment, was balloted for and elected a joining member. The Knights then repaired to refreshment, and contributed to the charity fund in their usual manner.

INDIA.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF BENGAL.

The quarterly communication of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal was holden at Freemasons' Hall, Calcutta, on Thursday, the 22nd September, 1859, when there were present the R.W. Bros. J. L. Hoff, D. Prov. G.M., as Prov. G.M.; Samuel Smith, P. Prov. G.M.; Henry Howe, P.D. Prov. G.M., as D. Prov. G.M.; William Clark, Prov. S.G.W. and Prov. G. Tyler; John B. Roberts, Prov. J.G.W.; William J. Judge, P. Prov. J.G.W.; John G. Llewellyn, P. Prov. J.G.W.; and Bros. William H. Hoff, Prov. G. Sec., as Prov. G. Reg.; Frederick C. Hoff, as Prov. G. Sec.; Frederick Jennings, Prov. S.G.D.; Chas. F. Tomnerre, Prov. J.G.D.; Thomas Jones, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Henry Fraser, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Thomas E. Carter, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; William Handford, Asst. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Robert F. Ross, P. Prov. G.S.B., as Prov. G.S.B.; George O. Wray, P. Prov. G.S.B.; John E. Clinger, Prov. G. Org.; Louis A. Emanuel, P. Prov. G. Org.; Richard T. Callan, Prov. G. Steward, as Prov. G. Purs.; David J. Daniel, Prov. G. Tyler. Representatives also were present from Lodges No. 80, Star in the East; No. 126, Industry and Perseverance; No. 265, True Friendship;

No. 279, Humility with Fortitude; No. 282, Marine; No. 551, Courage with Humanity; and No. 715, St. John's.

The District Grand Lodge having been opened in form, before confirming the minutes of the quarterly communication held on the 24th June last, R.W. Bro. Judge pointed out that he had not been mentioned in the printed report as having officiated as D. Prov. Grand Master at that meeting. The Prov. Grand Secretary apologised for the omission, and it was directed to be recorded now as an erratum. The minutes were then confirmed.

The Prov. Grand Secretary then read an extract from a letter from the Prov. Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Ramsay, dated London, the 1st July, 1859, to the address of the D. Prov. Grand Master, intimating that it is the wish of the M.W. Grand Master that he should continue in his office of Prov. Grand Master for the present, and requesting that the D. Prov. Grand Master should continue to act for him. The D. Prov. Grand Master stated that he had placed his services at the disposal of the Prov. Grand Master, and would continue to act as his Deputy till he may be relieved, provided he had the goodwill and support of the brethren. This announcement was received with acclamation.

The D. Prov. Grand Master stated that he had received a letter from the Grand Secretary in England, forwarding, for distribution to the Lodges in this province, copies of a circular letter regarding some Lodges at Smyrna, which appear to have been irregularly formed. A copy of the circular letter alluded to having been sent to the Lodges for their information, the D. Prov. Grand Master directed that the Grand Secretary's letter and enclosure be placed upon record.

The Deputy Prov. Grand Master, with reference to the melancholy intelligence he had received of the recent demise of R.W. Bro. John King, P.D. Prov. G.M., and P. Prov. G. Treas., addressed the District Grand Lodge as follows:—"Dear brethren—This meeting of the District Grand Lodge is the first since the intelligence has reached us of the death of a brother whose personal character and Masonic worth are known and prized throughout the whole of this province, but more especially in Calcutta, the scene of his earnest and successful Masonic career. I feel therefore that no apology is necessary for recalling to your remembrance the name of our departed friend and brother, John King. Those who knew Bro. King as well as I did, will, I am confident, join me in recording our deep sorrow for the loss which Masonry has sustained by the death of one so highly esteemed and beloved. I wish, therefore, to propose to you the propriety of perpetuating, in some suitable manner, the name of Bro. King in the District Grand Lodge. What the memorial shall be—whether a mural tablet, or any other appropriate tribute—should, I think, be left for the consideration and determination of a committee. If you agree in this proposal, I shall nominate a committee; and for your information, and their guidance, I subjoin a brief sketch of our deceased friend and brother's Masonic career. The Lodge in which Bro. King was made is not known; but he joined Lodge Humility with Fortitude, then No. 402, now No. 279, on the 16th February, 1828. After having served in the offices of Deacon, Warden, and Treasurer, he filled that of Master of the Lodge for four years, viz., 1831, 1832, 1835, and 1838, with credit to himself and benefit to the Lodge. From my own membership in, and close connection with, Lodge Humility with Fortitude for many years, I can bear testimony that the services rendered by Bro. King to that Lodge were most conducive to its prosperity. Bro. King continued his connection with that Lodge, and at his demise was an honorary member of it. In 1840 Bro. King assisted in constituting the St. John's Lodge, in Calcutta, now bearing the number 715 on the register of the Grand Lodge of England. His services in this Lodge were fully as valuable as those he had rendered to Lodge Humility with Fortitude. Though holding the rank of a Past Master, Bro. King performed the duties of Secretary of St. John's Lodge for several years. At a regular meeting of St. John's Lodge, held on the 22nd December, 1843, the late R.W. Bro. Henry Torrens, W.M., in the chair, and in the presence of our late venerable and R.W. Bro. Blaquiere, and many other visitors, Bro. King was presented with a testimonial. The following is an extract from the proceedings of the Lodge on this occasion:—

"The R.W. Master, adverting to the resolution of the members, communicated at the last meeting, of their desire to present to the Secretary a testimonial of their estimate of his services as their Secretary from the establishment of the Lodge. In March, 1855, Bro. King felt the necessity of retiring from the office of Secretary to St. John's Lodge, on which occasion the W.M., in the name of the Lodge, thanked him in suitable and complimentary terms, for his long and faithful performance of the duties of Secretary. Bro. King resigned his membership in the Lodge in September, 1856; and on his return from Europe in January last, he was elected an honorary member. Besides having been an honorary member of the two above mentioned Lodges, Bro. King held the same honourable position in three other Lodges, viz., True Friendship, No. 265; Courage with Humanity, No. 551; and Kilwinning in the East, No. 740. In the District Grand Lodge of Bengal, after having served in a minor office for a short time, Bro. King was appointed to the office of Prov. Grand Treasurer, from the year 1840 to 1850, and again in 1853. It is needless for me to recall to your recollection the essential services rendered to the District Grand Lodge by our dear and departed friend, not only as Treasurer for a period of twelve years, but in every possible way in which he could promote the interests of Masonry in this distant dependency of the Grand Lodge of England; and these valuable services have been repeatedly acknowledged by the several Prov. Grand

Masters, in the District Grand Lodge. On the 27th December, 1850, Bro. King was appointed a Deputy Prov. Grand Master for Bengal, while I held a similar appointment for the N.W. provinces. In 1851, when on the eve of departure for Australia, Bro. King was presented with a testimonial. The proceedings connected with this presentation having been recorded in the minutes of the District Grand Lodge, I have to refer you for them to the printed report of the quarterly communication held on the 21st March, 1851, which I have appended to this paper. I would propose that the expense to be incurred in giving effect to this resolution should be defrayed out of the funds of District Grand Lodge. Probably the numerous friends of the late Bro. King would prefer contributing towards the object; but as it is intended to preserve his memory in the District Grand Lodge, in which his services were rendered for many years, and in which he was held in high esteem, the expense should, I think, be most appropriately met from the general fund of the District Grand Lodge." Carried unanimously.

The Prov. Grand Secretary being about to leave Calcutta for a time, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master announced the appointment of W. Bro. F. C. Hoff, Master of Lodge Courage with Humanity, No. 551, to officiate in that capacity.

The Deputy Prov. Grand Master stated that he had, with much regret, accepted the resignations of V.W. Bro. Gray, Prov. G. Reg., and W. Bro. Wray, Prov. G.S.B. Bro. Gray having withdrawn from his Lodge as a subscribing member, tendered his resignation in March last, but it was not then accepted by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, owing to his unwillingness to make any change in the offices of the District Grand Lodge under the uncertainty of his own tenure of office; but as it appears now that he is to continue acting for the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Gray's resignation has been accepted.

Several brethren who had rendered meritorious services to the Craft, and who, by reason of their absence from Calcutta, were unable to hold office in the District Grand Lodge, having been rewarded by the Prov. Grand Master by having honorary rank conferred upon them, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master announced his intention of conferring the rank of a Past Prov. Junior Grand Warden on W. Bro. Henry Wickham, P.M. of Lodge Star of Burma, No. 897, at Rangoon, in consideration of the valuable services he had rendered, and the estimation in which he is held by the Craft. The Provincial Grand Treasurer's accounts for the second quarter of 1859 were examined and found correct; and on a motion made by W. Bro. Wray, seconded by R. W. Bro. Judge, the Provincial Grand Treasurer's accounts, as audited, were passed. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master intimated that, in the mutiny and massacre at Cawnpore in 1857, the Lodge there—Harmony, No. 641—had been utterly annihilated; but that an application has now been received by him for the revival of that Lodge. A letter was read from the W.M. of Lodge Courage with Humanity, No. 551, dated 8th August, reporting the exclusion from that Lodge, of Bro. W. Merton, for inebriety and conduct most unbecoming a Mason. This exclusion has been confirmed by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master brought before the District Grand Lodge a case which had been forwarded to him by R.W. Bro. E. K. Money, Pro Deputy Provincial Grand Master, N. W. P., at Umballah, regarding the unmasonic conduct of Bro. the Hon. Walter Harbord, late a member of Lodge Himalayan Brotherhood, No. 673, at Simla. It appeared that this young person after his initiation, had (probably from a natural tendency to weakness of intellect) allowed himself to be guilty of most unmasonic language with regard to the Order and its ceremonies, he having only received the first degree. The W.M. of No. 673 (Bro. Hoghton) we regret to state did not display the firmness of a Hiram, nor the wisdom of a ruler in the Craft. He resigned his post without investigating the matter. Bro. Major J. C. Curtis, who succeeded, insisted upon explanations from Bro. Harbord; when that very silly young person was permitted to resign the Lodge, after having expressed his regret at hurting the feelings of the members of the Lodge. He continued to abuse the Order, saying that he betrayed no secrets, and was entitled to express his opinion; and this conduct having caused great scandal and astonishment among non-Masons, the D. Prov. G.M. thought it his duty to bring the matter before the District Grand Lodge. After due consideration by a Committee of the District Grand Lodge, it was recommended that sentence of expulsion from the Antient and Honourable Order be passed upon Bro. William Harbord.

On a motion made by R. W. Bro. Roberts, seconded by Bro. Whitten, it was unanimously resolved, "That Bro. the Hon. W. Harbord be expelled from Freemasonry, for grossly unmasonic conduct, at Umballah, on or about the 1st June, 1859, and subsequently."

Formal proclamation of Bro. Harbord's expulsion from Freemasonry was then made by the Provincial Grand Pursuivant.

Bros. W. Kirkpatrick and E. M. Rebeiro, who had been suspended from Masonic privileges at the last Provincial Grand Lodge, having been found still contumacious, the duration of the sentence was extended to the next meeting of the District Grand Lodge.

The District Grand Lodge was then closed in antient and solemn form.

A U S T R A L I A.

SYDNEY.

CAMPBELLTOWN.—A Grand Masonic Ball was held at the Masonic Hall, Campbelltown, under the patronage of the D. Prov. Grand Master and

Officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge of England, on Thursday, the 17th November, being the anniversary of the Southern Cross Masonic Lodge. The Worshipful Master, Officers, and brethren of Lodges under the different constitutions in the colony, appeared in great numbers, and being in full costume, contrasting with that of the non-Masons present, and the dresses of the ladies presented a very pleasing *coup d'œil*. The ball was well attended, and everything passed off in the greatest harmony.

SOUTH AMERICA.

PERU.

The following letter appears in the *American Mirror and Keystone*, addressed to the editor:—"Callao, Nov. 27, 1859.—You will remember that in the year 1857 a considerable number of the Masons of Lima and Callao, in consequence of the tyrannical acts of the Supreme Grand Council, separated themselves from the jurisdiction of that body, and formed themselves into a Symbolic Grand Lodge. I have now the pleasure to inform you that a reunion has taken place between both parties, for, in consequence of repeated acts of oppression on the part of the Supreme Grand Council, all the Symbolic Lodges, Chapters, and Encampments working under their charters, separated themselves from that body; after which they invited the former seceders to a general meeting, which was held on Sunday last, 20th inst., there being present about three hundred and fifty of the brethren of Lima and Callao, at which meeting the Masters and Wardens of all the Lodges in this jurisdiction—symbolic and otherwise—formed themselves into a Grand East, claiming for themselves the jurisdiction of the whole Masonic body of Peru. They have appointed a committee to frame a new constitution, to be based on liberal principles, which is afterwards to be submitted to the decision of the Grand East, for their approval or reform. But the old Supreme Grand Council, with a perseverance worthy of a better cause, seem determined that the light which has so long emanated from that body, shall not be snuffed out of existence without an expiring effort to re-establish their authority; for, since the secession of all their subordinate Lodges—they numbering among themselves some twenty members—have formed two Symbolic Lodges; whereas the seceding party, including Chapters and Encampments, count seventeen working Lodges.

MEXICO.

We (*American Mirror and Keystone*) call the attention of our readers, announcing to them the organization of a spurious Supreme Grand Council of the 33° and last degree of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, in and for the Republic of Mexico, by Messrs. James Foolhouse Atwood and Co., all expelled Masons, who have no right whatever over the sublime degrees of the said Ancient Rite. The officers of the new spurious body are:—M. de la Concordia, M.P.S.G. Commander; T. Gomer Cano, Lieut. Grand Commander; J. Dinias Gongora, Grand Orator; V. L. Contrero, Grand Sec. of the H.E.; Elizio Zabulon, Grand Treas. We caution our brethren, and especially the Spanish Masons, not to have anything to do with said clandestine body. Ill. Bro. Andres Cassard, 33°, of New York, has been appointed by the Supreme Grand Council for the southern jurisdiction of the United States, as Special Deputy and Representative over the Island of Cuba, West Indies, Mexico, and Central America, with full powers in all appertaining to the ancient rite, with the authority to establish one Supreme Grand Council of the 33° in Cuba, and one in Mexico. We are aware that a Supreme Council of the 33° has been established in Cuba for the whole island and all the West Indies, and that the said Bro. Cassard has made the proper arrangement for the establishment of a legal Supreme Council in Mexico, for the Mexican Republic, and Central America. We hope that we shall be able to announce to our brethren the establishment of this new body in a very short time. In the meanwhile the brethren must be on their guard in regard to the spurious body recently established by Foolhouse and Co., the head of which is M. de la Concordia.

WEST INDIES.

ST. CHRISTOPHER.

(From a Correspondent.)

On Monday, the 19th of December, A.D. 1859, A.L. 5859, the Lodge Mount Olive, holding of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, No. 336 (formerly No. 241), assembled at its rooms, at 7 o'clock, P.M., for the election of office bearers for the ensuing year, when the brethren, of which a list is appended, were elected office bearers. On the 27th, being the festival of St. John the Evangelist, the R.W.M. was duly installed, and the office bearers were invested, some in person and others by proxy, with the exception of the Rev. Chaplain, whose translation to the bishopric of Sierra Leone had been in the meantime made known.

The following is a list of the office bearers:—Joseph H. Wakley, W.M.; William Daniel Beard, S.W.; Edward G. Rawlins, J.W.; Rev. Edward H. Beckles, Chaplain; Joseph L. Foster, Treasurer; John Cardin, Secretary; James Gordon, S.D.; Robert Bruce, J.D.; William R. Ball, I.C.; H. N. Johnson, Tyler.

Encouraged by the invitation "To our Colonial Brethren," a short sketch of this ancient Lodge (the survivor of five Lodges which had hitherto existed in this island) may not be uninteresting.

On the 17th July, 1789, several brethren of the mystic tie held their first meeting as a Lodge, by the style and title of Mount Olive Lodge, at St. Christopher, under warrant of constitution from the Provincial Grand Lodge of St. Christopher (of the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland), dated 11th July, 1769; this warrant was duly confirmed, ratified and approved by the M.W. and Right Honourable the Grand Master Mason of Scotland and the Grand Lodge thereof, by warrant of confirmation given at the Grand Lodge held in the city of Edinburgh, hon to 7th November, 1791.

It appears that at this time the custom obtained in the Lodge of electing the Master and Treasurer for six months only, on the feasts of St. John the Baptist, and St. John the Evangelist.

In the year 1799, the Lodge being possessed of a sum of £500 currency (then equal to £250 sterling), invested it on real security, and subsequently in the same year became the purchasers of its freehold, (situate at the east end of the town of Basseterre), commonly called "Baker's Corner," which by deed, duly executed and registered, was conveyed to certain trustees, "to be used and employed as a Freemasons' Lodge, by all such persons as were then, or at any time thereafter, should become, or be admitted subscribing members of the said Lodge, No. 241, called or named 'Mount Olive, and for no other purpose whatsoever."

The records of the Lodge afford ample testimony of its flourishing condition for a series of years, when, owing to the death and emigration of many of the members, it began to decline, and eventually ceased to work.

In the year 1834 the slumbering brethren were aroused, and the Lodge (being at the time when it ceased its labours then the survivor of the other Lodges) assembled for the noble and glorious purpose of reviving Freemasonry in St. Kitts, a memorial was presented to the Grand Lodge, praying it to revive the old charter or to grant another charter: the prayer was granted in the alternative, and by dispensation dated 10th August, 1835, authority was given to the memorialists to hold a Lodge under the name and title of "Mount Olive, No. 336, formerly No. 241." On the 9th day of November, of the same year, the Grand Lodge of Scotland issued a charter, under which the Lodge at present holds its meetings.

The Lodge for some years continued its working, and gave promise that it would again shine in its pristine glory; but a dark cloud appeared in the east, brethren became lukewarm, arrears to the mother Lodge began to accumulate, and it bid fair to sink again and be forgotten, when happily, in 1844, the laying of a foundation stone for a new church in the parish of St. George, once more stimulated the brethren, and they resumed their labours. Arrears, however, had to be looked after, and in 1847 these having been paid up, the Lodge has steadily persevered and held together, though at times it has barely exceeded the number to make it "just, perfect, and regular," till it has found itself at the close of the year 1859 having already initiated, passed, and raised five brethren, with eleven candidates, of whom the tongue of good report has been heard.

Obituary.

BRO. GILES FONDA YATES.

This distinguished American Mason and writer has gone to his last home. On Thursday, 15th December, there gathered around his coffin, friends who had known and loved him in life, to pay the last tribute of respect which man can pay his fellow. He has lived long and well, and died as a Mason should die—in humble trust in the great Master, and in the hope of a blissful immortality. There are many who walked with him the Mosaic pavement, to regret his loss; none to cast a stigma on his memory. He was emphatically the man to be respected and loved. His kind and gentle temper, his courteous and affable deportment, won the hearts of all who associated with him. The unkind word, or harsh rebuke, never came from his lips. Conscious himself of the weakness of human nature, as every true man is, he could find something to praise, where others were lavish of censure. "I am not fit, myself, to judge another," were the ready words, when oburgation and reproach came from other lips.

As a Masonic writer, Bro. Yates held high rank. His style was terse and concise, rather calculated to induce in the reader reflection, and elicit mind, than to produce superficial admiration. The short poems which he has left are remarkably characteristic in this respect. These are deficient in musical rhythm, but filled with sparkling gems of thought—all his productions show the pen of the scholar, who had drunk from the wells of English undefiled. The subjects on which, in later years, especially, he delighted to write, were abstruse, and therefore not adapted to the capacity of the many.

The Masonic fame of Bro. Yates rested principally on his antiquarian knowledge. In this field he had no rival. It was the passion of his later life to dig deep down and bring up rich ore, which he moulded into massive forms. To ineffable Masonry, as illustrating the history and philosophy of the Order, developing its symbolism, and thus strengthening its columns, he devoted years of study and research. To his indefatigable industry and patient care, ineffable Masons, in this section of the country, are indebted for the prominent position they now occupy. He contended for years against what appeared insuperable

difficulties, until success crowned his efforts, and the old man's eyes were blessed with the sight of what his imagination had often pictured—a fitting home for his cherished branch of the Order. Had he lived a little longer he would have left to ineffable Masonry a rich legacy. He had been gleaning, for many years, material for a manual. It would have comprised all that an ineffable Mason can want; history, philosophy and work. He had just prepared to put the matter in shape, when the summons came. He had long before received the "token" that the golden bowl would soon be broken, and that he must be prepared for the coming of the "messenger," for trouble had pressed heavily upon him, and sickness had weakened his frame; still he hoped and prayed that life might linger on until life's work was completed.

Bro. Yates, in civil life, had held high position. He was for many years surrogate of his county (Schenectady) and as editor of a leading paper, exerted great influence in his district. But he desired to be known as a Mason. He cared but little for worldly honours. He disliked the glitter of show, and the pomp of fashion. His aim was, what should be the aim of every true man and Mason—a life of truth and virtue. He was not righteous in his own eyes, but God fearing and God serving, he passed from time into eternity. — *American Mirror and Keystone.*

[We, though unacquainted with Bro. Yates personally, have had the honour of corresponding with him, and must be allowed to bear our testimony to the talent and amiability which shone through even the lines of a private letter, and the great consideration he appeared to have for the opinions of others.—Ed.]

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

ST. JAMES'S UNION (No. 211) BALL.

This annual treat came off on Tuesday, January 17, at St. James's Hall, Regent Street, under the presidency of Bro. H. A. Stacey, W.M. of the Lodge, assisted by Bro. J. Gurton, P.M., as Vice President, and the following stewards:—Bros. E. S. Garner, P.M.; W. Carruthers, P.M.; Smethurst, S.W.; T. Simpson, Sec.; T. W. Sedgwick, J.D.; H. Robinson, I.G.; G. W. C. Dean, J.W.; H. King, J.S.; H. Hart, C. Amoot, E. C. Cockcroft, J. Clarke, W. Kretzschmar, W. Luce, J. F. Paul, J. Price, and C. Jackson, S.W., Hon. Sec. The band was under the direction of our esteemed Bro. Adams, A.G.P. and P.M. The music was of the best description, and was played with precision and vigour, and the president, stewards, and the M.C. were all indefatigable in their attentions to their guests, and they, as they fully deserved to be, were very successful in their endeavours to please every one. We heard several ladies express their opinion that it was the best conducted ball that they had ever attended, and it gave all satisfaction. About three hundred and fifty brethren sat down to supper, comprising everything that the most fastidious could desire. After partaking of the repast, the president rose and said—Ladies and gentlemen, the first toast I shall introduce to your notice is that of an illustrious lady, who by her many virtues has endeared herself to every subject of these realms, and I would state that by no society or institution is it received with greater loyalty, respect, or cordiality, than by the Freemasons. I therefore ask you to be standing, and drink the health of "Our Most Gracious Majesty, the Queen, and the rest of the Royal Family." This was received with acclamations. The president then gave "The Ladies" in the following words:—Gentlemen—It is with great gratification I call upon you to drink to this all important toast; it is really the toast of the evening, for without the kind aid and smiling faces of the ladies, how tame and unsuccessful would be our annual gatherings. It is entirely owing to their delightful presence we feel so happy, and we are particularly desirous of giving them a hearty welcome, and we sincerely trust we shall have the great pleasure of meeting them all again on many similar occasions. We know all ladies admire and practise charity; therefore, it may be interesting for them to know that by our three former balls we realized a surplus of nearly £100, which sum has been devoted to the charities, so that while we are enjoying ourselves we are contributing to the happiness of our unfortunate brethren and sisters. With these few observations, I ask you to drink to the ladies, and wish them every happiness. (Cheers.) This was done with all the honours. Bro. E. C. Cockcroft, W.M. (168), and a member of this Lodge, returned thanks in a neat and effective speech. The vice-president gave "The President," who returned thanks in a suitable manner, and gave "The Vice-President and Stewards." Bro. Gurton, P.M., returned thanks in an eloquent manner. Dancing was resumed with great spirit, which was kept up till a late hour, every one leaving highly pleased and delighted with the whole arrangements.

GRAND MASONIC BALL AT LIVERPOOL.

The eleventh annual ball of our Liverpool brethren took place on Tuesday evening, the 10th instant, in the spacious and magnificent suite of rooms at the Town Hall, the use of which had been kindly granted by the town council. The ball was in aid of the funds of the West Lancashire Masonic Institution for the Education and Advancement in Life of Children of Distressed Masons, the funds of which

flourishing institution will doubtless be very considerably augmented by the result. This annual gathering of the brethren, while it is one of the finest displays periodically held in the town, is looked forward to with warm interest by the Craft and the fair sex, as a reunion of one great family, bound together by the sacred ties of brotherhood. It appears that there are now eight children recipients of the charity, who, after being educated, are placed to some trade or profession by the aid of the funds of the institution, which are in a prosperous state; indeed such is the pecuniary position of the charity, that applicants for benefits are warmly invited. Shortly after nine o'clock the company began to arrive, and were received at the grand staircase (so much admired by Her Majesty when on a visit to Liverpool), by several of the committee. The staircase is adorned by an admirable marble statue of the late George Canning, once M.P. for the borough; and excellent portraits of Bro. Joshua Walmisley, the founder and treasurer of the institution, and Bro. Horatio Gambell, P. Prov. G. Purs. of Lancashire, the indefatigable secretary, were also exhibited. Bro. G. W. Wielopolski Phillip's two excellent quadrille bands were in attendance, and gave great satisfaction. The rooms presented a gay and fascinating scene, the ladies elegantly attired, the brethren dressed in all their insignia of rank and office; a number of the brethren appearing in the full uniform of the various rifle corps to which they belong. The ball was under the patronage of the Countess of Zetland; the Hon. Mrs. Wellington Cotton; Lady Arabella Hesketh; the Hon. Mrs. Bootle Wilbraham; the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M. of England; the Right Hon. Lord Panmure, D.G.M. of England; Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie, Esq., R.W. Prov. G.M. of West Lancashire; Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., R.W. Prov. G.M. of Shropshire and North Wales; Lieut. Col. George Augustus Vernon, R.W. Prov. G.M. of Staffordshire; Sir Thomas George Hesketh, Bart., R.W.D. Prov. G.M. of West Lancashire; Stephen Blair, Esq., R.W. Prov. G.M. of East Lancashire; Albert H. Royds, Esq., R.W.D. Prov. G.M. of East Lancashire; G. Crawford Antrobus, Esq., R.W.D. Prov. G.M. of Chester; E. H. Dymock, Esq., R.W.D. Prov. G.M. of Shropshire and North Wales; Thomas Littledale, Esq., V.W. Prov. S.G.W. of West Lancashire; Matthew Dawes, Esq., V.W.P. Prov. S.G.W. of East Lancashire; James Billinge, Esq., V.W.P. Prov. J.G.W. of West Lancashire; the Hon. Major Wellington Cotton, V.W. Prov. S.G.W. of Cheshire; William Courtenay Cruttenden, Esq., V.W. Prov. G. Reg. of Cheshire; the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, V.W. Prov. S.G.D. of West Lancashire. The arrangements were in every respect excellent, and great praise is due to the committee and their zealous secretary, Bro. Allender, P.M., No. 368, and Prov. G. Steward of West Lancashire, for the creditable manner in which everything passed off. Bro. Morrish, of the Merchants' Dining Rooms, supplied the refreshments in excellent style. The usual overcrowding of the mayor's dining room, where the refreshments are supplied on these occasions, was overcome by leaving open in addition the coffee room, and placing a substantial cold collation in the council chamber. Some idea of the magnificence of the ball may be gathered from the fact that there were upwards of eight hundred persons present, five hundred of whom at least were dancing in the large hall at one time. The result must necessarily yield a large surplus for the funds of the institution. The ball closed at five o'clock on the following morning, with many expressions of delight and satisfaction at the proceedings.

BRO. G. GENGE'S CONCERT AND BALL.

This especial favourite of the public gave his annual concert and ball on Tuesday evening, January 17th, to a full and fashionable assemblage of his friends and brethren. The principal vocalists were Misses S. Cole, Eyles, Emma Martyn, Medora Collins, Leffer, Annie Cox, Warcup (pupil of Bro. George Genge); Bros. Winn, Lawler, W. Distin, and a Bro. Melchior Winter, who made his first public appearance in London, gave the romance from "Martha" with such good effect as to receive an encore. One of the events of the evening was the *debut* of a pupil of Bro. Genge's—Miss Warcup. This young lady possesses a soprano voice of pure quality, powerful and flexible; she has evidently been well trained, and in Glover's song of "The Blind Girl to her Harp," was most successful, taking with her the most enthusiastic plaudits. She does credit to her clever master. All parties were delighted with the musical treat which had been afforded them, and the large majority retired to enjoy the mazy dance, tripping it on the light fantastic toe till a very early hour told it was time to depart.

BRO. JOHN DISTIN'S FAREWELL CONCERT AT EXETER HALL.

We beg to call the attention of our musical friends to the grand farewell concert of Bro. Distin on the 1st February next. This artist has served his country well as a trumpeter some fifty years and more, commencing his career in the Devon Militia as a boy, then in the foot Guards, then in George the Fourth's private band, when at his death he and others were all sent to the right about without a pension. After a long service under the crown he had to commence a new career as a solo and orchestral trumpeter, and with his sons, giving concerts throughout the kingdom. The case of Bro. Distin deserves the support of the British public. Few men have made sweeter noises in the world, and now—having lost, from great and continued pressure, the whole of his front teeth—he seeks to obtain some sort of provision by means of a concert to exempt him from the sufferings of an indifferently provided

for old age. The trumpet is an instrument by which but little can be accumulated, however long the service. Who can forget old John Distin's "Soldier tired of war's alarms," or

"Let the bright seraphim in burning row,
Their loud uplifted angel trumpets blow."

In how many ears these words will awaken the echo of Distin's trumpet as its music soared, triumphing and dallying with its strength and sweetness—how it sympathised with the singer in her highest flights in the days of vocalists past, and gone and forgotten by the present generation. It is now to be hoped that many high in the land will patronise the old musician, and contribute to the fund to be raised for the worn out artist on this occasion. Madame Catherine Hayes, Miss Georgina Stabbach, several glee unions, and a host of talent of the highest order have volunteered their services on this interesting occasion.—*Eru.*

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty, with the Prince Consort and the Princesses Alice and Helena, left Windsor on Monday morning and arrived at Buckingham Palace at twelve o'clock. A Privy Council was held at three, at which the royal speech was approved. The new Great Seal of England was submitted to her Majesty in Council, approved of, and delivered to the custody of the Lord Chancellor. The old Seal, by the Queen's command, was defaced. Her Majesty then pricked the list of sheriffs for the counties of England and Wales for the present year. On Tuesday the Queen in state opened the new session of Parliament. The streets were as crowded with spectators as usual, notwithstanding the day was anything but "Queen's weather," being cold and wet. Directly after the ceremony the Royal Family returned to Windsor, where they arrived early in the afternoon. Some of the Orleans princesses have been visiting the Queen this week.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—On Tuesday the second session of the sixth Parliament summoned by the present Sovereign was opened by the Queen in person. Shortly after two o'clock the Commons, summoned by the Usher of the Black Rod, arrived at the House of Lords, and her Majesty forthwith read the royal speech, which commenced by stating that our relations with foreign powers continue to be on a friendly and satisfactory footing. An invitation has been received from Austria and France for England to join in the Congress for the settlement of Italian affairs; whether in Congress or in separate negotiation, the Queen's government will endeavour to obtain for the people of Italy freedom from foreign interference by force of arms in their internal concerns. The speech touches upon the measures in progress for extending the commercial intercourse between France and England; and the joint expedition to China which is in preparation. The dispute with America will, it is not doubted, be amicably arranged, and the country is congratulated on the termination of the Indian revolt. Some important topics are thus introduced at the end of the speech. "I have accepted with gratification and pride, the extensive offers of voluntary service which I have received from my subjects. This manifestation of public spirit has added an important element to our system of national defence. Measures will be laid before you for amending the laws which regulate the representation of the people in Parliament, and for placing that representation upon a broader and firmer basis. I earnestly recommend you to resume your labours for the improvement of our jurisprudence, and particularly in regard to bankruptcy, the transfer of land, the consolidation of the statutes, and such a further fusion of law and equity as may be necessary to insure that in every suit, the rights of the parties may be satisfactorily determined by the court in which the suit is commenced. I am deeply gratified to observe that the great interests of the country are generally in a sound and thriving condition; that pauperism and crime have diminished; and that, throughout the whole of my Empire, both in the United Kingdom and in my colonies and possessions beyond sea, there reigns a spirit of loyalty, of contentment, of order, and of obedience to the law.— In the HOUSE OF LORDS the address was moved by Lord Fitzwilliam and seconded by Lord Truro. Lord Grey moved an amendment, but subsequently allowed it to be negatived. Lord Derby strongly deprecated the policy of the government with reference to the commercial treaty, and called upon them to furnish more information with respect to the part they had taken in Italian affairs. The House of Lords, like the people of England, are in favour of nonintervention.— In the HOUSE OF COMMONS the address was moved by Mr. St. Aubyn, and seconded by Lord Henley. The two speeches were little more than a repetition of the royal speech. Mr. Disraeli said that he had no wish to move an amendment, and that any reform bill the government might introduce would receive the candid consideration of the opposition. With respect to the commercial treaty, Mr. Disraeli admitted that it was a sign of the most cordial feeling of friendship between England and France; but believed that a treaty was utterly unnecessary for the purposes which were held in view, and that the policy of the Coalition Cabinet would shake to its centre the commercial system which had been at length established by a liberal administration. As to the foreign policy of the government, abundant opportunities will presently occur for discussing the subject at greater length; but in the meantime Mr. Disraeli pointed out that we are not yet in possession of sufficient reasons to justify the

course which ministers are said recently to have pursued. Lord Palmerston persisted that the government had pursued, with entire good faith, the policy of nonintervention, denied the rumours to which Mr. Disraeli had alluded, and contended that the treaty of commerce with France was an exceptional arrangement. Lord Palmerston ought to know that it is exactly for this reason that the public desire to be fully informed of everything relating to it.—Lord John Russell is to bring forward his reform bill on the 20th of next month; that Sir G. C. Lewis will introduce, on Monday next, a bill for the better regulation of the corporation of the city of London; and that Lord John Manners will move for leave to bring in a bill giving power to the Court of Probate and Divorce to sit with closed doors. Altogether, the session promises to be unusually busy. On Wednesday Mr. Packe moved for a return of all the parishes in England and Wales where church rates had ceased to be collected, of the sums raised during the seven years previously to the cessation of the rate, and of the sums raised subsequently for the repair of the churches. Sir G. C. Lewis made no opposition. Mr. McMahon obtained leave to bring in a bill to secure the right of appeal in criminal cases. Mr. Cardwell promised an Irish Reform Bill. Lord Palmerston complained that it was impossible to satisfy every one, that every measure that had been promised could not be brought forward at the same time, but that the "government had adopted the course they thought most likely to bring the deliberations of the house to a satisfactory result."

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The usual banquets were given on Monday evening by the heads of the ministry and of the opposition to their respective supporters. Mr. Disraeli, on account of the recent death of his sister, received no company.—The public health, on account of the increased mildness of the weather, improved slightly in the metropolitan districts during the last week; the ravages of small-pox still continue, but bronchitis is the prevailing cause of death.—The death of the Right Hon. M. T. Baines took place at half-past twelve o'clock on Monday morning, after only three weeks' illness.—Mr. Edwin James has moved for a rule calling upon Mr. W. F. Pratt, an attorney, to answer certain charges made against him by the Rev. H. J. Hatch, recently convicted of an indecent assault, and condemned to four years' hard labour. The court granted the rule for this day.—After a full investigation of the circumstances connected with the alleged murder of the negro seamen on board the ship *Anna*, Mr. Thomson, the American consul at the port of Southampton, has obtained evidence sufficiently strong to justify him in placing the mates under arrest, in order that they may be sent home to the United States for trial. The two men were brought up on Saturday before the magistrates at Southampton. They were sent to the borough gaol till Tuesday next, when they will be brought up again, in order that the evidence of one of the witnesses may be taken to justify their detention.—At the Court of Bankruptcy, a sitting was held for the last examination of John Edward Buller, the solicitor, of Lincoln's Inn Fields, who, it appears, has been engaged in several transactions (to use a mild term) of an exceedingly "irregular" nature. An adjournment was ordered for two months, the accounts not yet being prepared.—Isaac Nathan, merchant, of Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, was adjudicated a bankrupt. He is supposed to have absconded, and the liabilities at present ascertained exceed £10,000.—The last examination meeting in the case of R. Aylward, wine merchant, Doctors' Commons, was adjourned *sine die*, in consequence of the unsatisfactory nature of the accounts and the paucity of assets. A dividend of nominal amount was declared under the bankruptcy of Messrs. Whitmore and Wells, bankers.—Robert Heywood, a grocer, in High-street, Homerton, applied for a certificate. The Commissioner reserved his judgment. The charges made against the bankrupt were of a serious description.—In the case of "Beatson v. Skene," Mr. Edwin James, Q.C., moved for a rule, on Saturday, to show cause why the verdict should not be set aside and a new trial granted, on the ground that it was against the evidence; that the judge should have exercised his power and have ordered the production of certain documents in the possession of the authorities at the War Office; and on the ground of misdirection. The Court took time to consider their judgment.—Disasters seem to pursue the Great Eastern and all connected with her. Brunel is dead, the directors and shareholders are quarrelling; but a calamity happened on Saturday morning which, in an age of superstition, would have made men believe that the great ship was doomed. Early on that day Captain Harrison left the Great Eastern for Southampton, accompanied by the surgeon of the ship, a young boy named Ley, and with a boat's crew of six men. The distance was not far, but a heavy gale was blowing, and on reaching the jetty, at the entrance of the tidal dock, with a lug sail set, the boat was caught by a sudden squall and upset. The accident was observed by Captain Weeks, of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steam ship *Indus*, who sent off two boats. It was also seen from the docks, and every possible exertion was made. The six men were recovered, as well as Dr. Watson, but Captain Harrison and young Ley were drowned. Captain Harrison's body was picked up, but all efforts to bring him back to consciousness were unavailing. An inquest was held and a verdict of accidental death was returned. Later in the day the coxswain of the boat also died.—A most distressing accident has occurred at one of the pits belonging to Mr. H. B. Whitehouse, at the New Cross Colliery, near Wolverhampton, which caused the instant death of seven poor fellows. They were in the skip, with a view of descending the

shaft, when the chain gave way, the skip and all the men being precipitated to the bottom of the pit, which was deep. The chain came down with great force upon them, causing death immediately.—We owe it, it would appear, to the present foreign secretary, that the Spaniards will be allowed, without a protest, to occupy a strong position on the African coast, separated by only a narrow strait from the British possession of Gibraltar. Year after year a similar demand has been made, a similar concession requested by Spanish negociators, but it has been reserved for the foreign minister, in a coalition cabinet, to yield a point which has hitherto been sought in vain. No sooner had the British government consented to a temporary occupation of Tangier by the Spaniards than war became inevitable. The Spaniards had won their cause, and they could thus satisfy, as they chose, their lust of territorial aggrandisement. On the other hand, the Moors made few preparations to meet the invaders, confiding in the traditional policy of this country to maintain the integrity and independence of their territories. The wrong in this miserable war is on the side of the Spanish Government, and it is humiliating to Englishmen to think that their own minister of foreign affairs should have aided and abetted so disgraceful an infraction of international law.—A great Roman Catholic demonstration, to express sympathy with the Pope, has taken place at Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Nearly six thousand persons are reported to have been present, chiefly labourers employed in the docks and manufactories. A certain Father Suffield was the principal speaker on the occasion. The business of the meeting was concluded by the adoption of an address to the holy Father.—A remarkable case, affecting the French Protestant Church of London, was decided on Tuesday last by the Master of the Rolls. The pastor, M. Daugars, had been displaced, and the question was whether the congregation had the right to eject a lawfully appointed minister. Sir John Romilly decided in favour of the pastor.—The Upper and Lower Houses of Convocation met at Westminster on Wednesday; and the Lower House made a demonstration against the suppression of church rates.—Yesterday the funds, after fluctuating about $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., were steady at the close, consols for money and the account being $94\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$. The efflux of bullion from the Bank has not diminished, and the amount taken was about £96,000. It was stated, but without any full confirmation, that the directors will be under the necessity of further increasing the rate of discount.

FOREIGN NEWS.—The treaty of commerce between Great Britain and France is said to have been signed on Sunday evening at Paris; but the announcement has not yet been made on official authority. It is, however, most probable that the Treaty has been agreed to. The details will probably be published in the *Moniteur* on the morning of the day on which Mr. Gladstone makes his financial statement in the House of Commons. There is reason to believe that the Emperor has not succeeded without difficulty in carrying out his new financial policy. M. Magné and M. Billault are said to have offered their resignation, but, in spite of the fierce and formidable prohibitionist party, there can be little doubt that the programme recently published in the *Moniteur* will, before long, become law. Addresses have been received by the Emperor from the chief commercial towns in France, and, so far as can be ascertained, the public opinion in France is favourable to the imperial scheme. Meanwhile there is some reason to believe that the Emperor is desirous to establish a "complete assimilation of the French and English flags in the maritime intercourse, direct or indirect, between both countries and their respective colonies, to revise the English and French customs tariffs, to abolish tonnage dues, and to come to some definitive settlement as to the Newfoundland fisheries question." It is generally expected that the duties paid on wines in this country will be much reduced.—At the address delivered by the Minister of Public Instruction to the pupils of the Polytechnic and Phylotechnic Associations, the Minister remarked that Italy would owe her freedom to France, and become French from sheer gratitude. He alludes, in rather ambiguous phraseology, to "complications which may compel the most loyal resolutions to be modified," and adds that France can never promote anarchy and impiety.—Count Cavour has formed his Government. The members of the new Cabinet are Cavour himself, General Fanti, Signor Cassini, Signor Vegezzi, Signor Mamiani, and Signor Jacini. It is curious to observe how the idea of annexation is carried out even in the choice of ministers. Each of the distinguished men, whose names we have here given, represents a different place or state or province, the object being to form an administration which should adequately represent not only Sardinia but a new kingdom of Northern and Central Italy. Cavour has insisted that the Parliament should be assembled as soon as possible for the despatch of business, and it is by no means an insignificant fact that Ricasoli has proposed that Tuscany, Parma, Modena, and the Romagna should elect deputies, who shall claim a right to hold seats in the Parliament about to be called. If the threatened Congress should ever meet it would, perhaps, find that its work had been already done.—The report that Verona and the adjacent territory had been declared in a state of siege is now said, on official authority, to be "premature." There is, however, too much reason to fear that the Cabinet of Vienna is still obstinately determined to make no concessions, and that it still refuses to take the proper steps for preventing the calamities which seem to be impending. We hear, from Berne, that the Emperor of Austria has expressed to the Swiss Chargé d'Affaires his satisfaction at the loyal manner in which Switzerland observed neutrality during the war of 1859.—The Pope is as obstinate as ever. He is said to

be backed in his opposition by powerful friends. By whom? Not surely by Russia, and we all know that Austria has enough to do at home. The address presented by the Roman nobility to the Pope has been numerously signed, and conspicuous among the rest is the name of Prince Joseph Bonaparte. The address was presented by Prince Orsini, Prince Borghese, and Marquis Antici Mattei. Several of the municipalities of the provinces have also sent addresses, and much enthusiasm has been created among the adherents of the Pope by the announcement in the *Giornale di Roma* that the Holy Father "has deemed it a matter of conscience to reply in the negative to the advice of the Emperor Napoleon."—From Naples, we learn that a ministerial crisis has taken place there, and that the king has sent for Signor Troja Murena. The reason for the fall of the ministry is said to be the project, attributed to the king, of sending Neapolitan troops to the aid of the Pope.—The war in Morocco goes on slowly, but, according to the most recent intelligence, the Spaniards are now in a strong position, nine miles from Tetuan, on the southern slope of the Cane Negro chain.—We have news from New York to the 11th instant. Late news from San Juan states that General Scott's course of action had created great dissatisfaction, and that the American inhabitants were inclined to support General Harney. It is added that a great deal of excitement prevails in Mexico in consequence of the new American treaty, and that Miramon's government had formally protested against it.—The *Moniteur* contains the financial report of M. Magne to the Emperor. The Minister represents the French exchequer to be in a most flourishing condition. A year ago the arrears were 800 millions of francs; they now do not exceed three-fourths of that sum. The French public would doubtless be glad to be supplied with a more detailed account of the national expenditure, but that is no business of ours. What does concern us is that the calculated expenses for the army exceed by a large sum—£264,000 sterling—the expenditure of last year. The budget of the navy is also larger. The *Patrie* gives some details as to the new commercial treaty. It says, that the import duty on French wines in England will be reduced from 150 to 30 per cent.; that silk will be admitted free; that the duty on iron imported into France will be seven francs per 130 kilometres; and that wool and cotton manufactures will be still protected by a duty not exceeding 30 per cent. It is added that the treaty will come into force, so far as England is concerned, this month.—A letter has been received from Rome, giving some details as to the answer sent by the Pope to the Emperor Napoleon. His Holiness is said to have replied that when he ascended the Pontifical throne he had sworn to maintain the independence of the States of the Church; that he is actuated by no motives of personal ambition, but that he cannot break a solemn oath. He is, therefore, bound to protest against the separation of the Romagna.

COMMERCIAL; AND PUBLIC COMPANIES.—The reviews of the condition of trade in the several manufacturing districts speak of a steadily increasing activity, with marked indications of more developed animation. The prominent feature appears to be an improved demand for the staple productions of each respective locality. At Birmingham the home trade is said to be improving; the linen department at Barnsley is likewise better; in Nottingham there is rather a hopeful feeling in the lace trade, and hosiery is in brisker demand. From Halifax, Huddersfield, Leicester, and Leeds, the advices state that decided activity prevails, the carpet, woollen, and cloth trades being particularly good. At Bradford, woollens are in request, but owing to the very high prices demanded the sales have not been numerous, as would otherwise have been the case. The accounts from Manchester are more satisfactory, and the India and China export business from this town has considerably improved.—At the meeting of the London Discount Company, the dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum was declared, and the report and accounts were unanimously adopted. The result of operations was considered encouraging, the return of profits being about 9 per cent.; but the advantage of increasing the reserve fund, so as to provide against extraordinary contingencies, was fully admitted, and the course pursued was therefore, generally supported.—The National Bank have declared a dividend for the past half-year at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, with a bonus of 15s. per share, free of income tax, being together equal to 14 per cent. per annum on the paid up capital of the bank.—It is stated that some of the members of the committee appointed to inquire into the affairs of the Great Ship Company have already resigned, but it is nevertheless believed that the practical and working portion remain, who will, at the proper period, furnish a report to the proprietors.—At the meeting of the Australian Agricultural Company, the report and accounts were adopted, and a dividend of one pound per share, as recommended, was agreed to. The prospects of the undertaking appear more favourable, but the proceedings exercised no important effect upon the value of the shares.—At the meeting of the North British Australian Company, the dividend declared was 6½ per cent., being 1s. 3d. per share, free of income tax, and the report and accounts were carried.—The notices of motion on the first night of the present session supply evidence of the increasing preponderance in this country of commercial over all other questions. Mr. Crawford, as member for London, gave his promised notice for a committee to inquire into the laws affecting shipowners; and Mr. W. S. Lindsay, as member for Sunderland, also announced a nearly identical intention. Mr. Lindsay's notice had precedence, and, as the double step did not occur from any conflict of view, Mr. Crawford will waive any further proceeding. Two statements were likewise made regarding the mail contract and tele-

graph systems, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announcing that he will move to-morrow for the reappointment of the committee of last session, and Captain Vernon notifying that, on the 7th of February, he will endeavour, by resolution, to bring these subjects on for discussion.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

BRO. LAMPTON, (Newcastle)—Your communications will be at all times welcome.

"BETA" is thanked.—The subject shall have due attention.

"L. F."—We have no doubt you were taught so. If after the word "star" you leave out the "and" and subsequently "other," you will be correct. The proposed alteration as sent to us would be only introducing unnecessary tautology.

MARK MASONRY.—J. W. writes "Be kind enough to inform me whether Lord Leigh's Grand Mark Lodge has met, or when it will? If the meeting has been held, please give us a report of it in the *Magazine*."—We have not heard of its meeting, and from what we have heard, we believe it is dying out. Mark Masonry has, generally, not taken in London.

THE *Masonic Journal*, Haverhill, Mass., U.S.—Bro. G. W. Chase has resigned his connection with this excellent little American journal in its sixth volume, owing to a pressure of other matters, finding that, like other Masonic editors, he has been compelled to edit it "outside of our 'bread and butter' business," never expecting or receiving any material income for it. Luckily for Bro. Chase, Bro. the Rev. Cyrus Pearl has come to his relief and purchased the copyright of the *Journal*, which will in future be published at Portland, Mobile. We wish Bro. Pearl success in his undertaking and Bro. Chase prosperity in his retirement.

BRO. KARL KAUFFMAN.—The W.M. is bound to sign your petition to the Board of Benevolence—you having been initiated in that Lodge in 1843, and being still a member, unless some good cause can be shown against you, which we presume cannot be the case, or the brethren would not have allowed you to continue a member. As to whether you have been relieved by the Manchester Lodge, which you deny, or twenty Lodges, has nothing to do with the question. We know, however, that the Robert Burns Lodge having a benevolent fund of their own, are very tenacious of allowing any of the members of their Lodge applying to the Fund of Benevolence, excepting in cases of dire necessity when all other means of relief have failed to meet the case.

"SYLVIA."—We never saw the work, nor do we want to do so.

"A YOUNG COMPANION."—Having only been a Master Mason under the English Constitution one month, the fact of your getting exalted in Scotland whilst on a business excursion there would not entitle you to visit an English Royal Arch Chapter. It is un-masonic to attempt to evade the laws of the country in which you live.

"P.M."—Examine the Book of Constitutions and judge for yourself.

"AN OLD SUBSCRIBER."—You may rest assured that the form of the *Freemasons' Magazine* will never again be altered whilst it is in our hands—and we have no intention of parting with it at present.

"AN AMERICAN BROTHER" can join an English Lodge if properly vouched, and he wishes to do so. The expense of registration to the Lodge will be the same as though he were initiated in the Lodge.

"C." asks five questions.—1. If a brother gives a written notice of his desire to leave the Lodge at a certain time, and pays up his dues, is he a member of that Lodge after the period has elapsed—and ought the W.M. to permit him to attend and take part in the business of the Lodge (he not subscribing to any other Lodge) without being balloted for and re-elected?—If the brother's resignation was accepted he cannot legally take part in the proceeding of the Lodge until he has been re-elected a member. 2. If a Lodge was consecrated on the 1st July, 1859, when will the period of the W.M.'s year of office terminate?—On the 1st July, 1860; but if he has not before served the office of W.M. it is not absolutely necessary for him to serve twelve months, should it be the wish of the Lodge that the annual installation shall take place on any other day. The other questions we cannot print, but we may answer—3. Hailing.—4. Master Masons.—5. Entered Apprentices.

"S. S."—We are not acquainted with the brother alluded to,