

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1860.

MASONIC SYMBOLISM

WITH REFERENCE TO THE MEANING AND ORIGIN OF THE WORDS "FREEMASON" AND "COWAN."

"Although the origin of our fraternity is clouded with darkness and its history is to a great extent obscure, yet we can confidently assert that it is the most ancient society in the world; and we are equally certain that its principles are based upon pure morality, that its ethics are the ethics of Christianity, its doctrines the doctrines of patriotism and brotherly love, and its sentiments the sentiments of exalted benevolence. Upon these points there can be no doubt." So writes De Witt Clinton, Governor, of New York U.S., 1824. I have already, I trust, sufficiently proved in a former article (Freemasonry and its Insitutes in connection with the Laws and Religions of Antiquity) the antiquity of the science, and shown the relation it bears to the superstitions or religions of the ancient world; my endeavour now, then, will be to show the true meaning and the origin of the term "Freemason," and also of its antagonistic term "Cowan." Freemasonry was practised in early times under the several appellations of Noachidæ, Lux, Mescouranes, Philosophy, Geometry, Fraternalitas Latomorum, &c., as its operative or speculative divisions prevailed. Masons were originally called Noachidæ or sons of Noah, from Noah, who was considered the Grand Master of those ages, and whose tenets and doctrines they followed and inculcated. Pythagoras gave it the name Mesouranes, because he esteemed the central fire the supernal mansion of Jove, as the most excellent body ought to have the most excellent place, *i.e.*, the centre. Geometry among the Mathematical sciences is the one which has most especial reference to architecture, and we can therefore, under the name of Geometry understand the whole art of Freemasonry. Latomus is a Latin word derived from the Greek *λατομος* a stone-cutter; thus, as in the early and middle ages the noblest works of architecture were the work of Freemasons, they were called the Fraternalitas Latomorum. The term Lux or Light is aptly applied to Masonry, because it removes the mists of error and superstition from the understanding, leaves the soul open to impressions which awaken all the energies of Faith, Hope, and Charity, and because, looking beyond the narrow limits of particular institutions, whether civil or religious, it enables the true Mason to view, in every son of Adam, a brother of the dust.

Many definitions have been applied to Freemasonry. By one it is called the science which embraces every other; by another, it is styled the Religion of Benevolence; by a third, it is said to be a peculiar system of morality veiled in allegory, and illustrated by symbols, because the light is in some measure communicated by the assistance of hieroglyphical emblems. These three definitions are all applicable, as every true Masons knows, but the latter one comprehends both of the former,

and using it as my text and by continually bearing it in mind, I shall hope fully to elucidate my subject. I have already shown the relation which exists between the ancient religions and Freemasonry. Histories of the fabulous gods of paganism were, under the semblance of truth, transmitted from age to age, and under the reign of ignorance and superstition received as real facts; to assist them in carrying out their designs, and also to preserve their real secrets and hidden truths, the priests had recourse to symbols; these symbols possessed a double signification, one for the vulgus profanum, the other for the esoteric or the higher grade of priests. To secure its principles and tenets from the rude gaze of the idolatrous world, Freemasonry also used the language of signs and symbols, and thus proceeded on her heavenly mission, spreading the blessings of mercy and charity around her, and keeping inviolate the secrets and mysteries of her art. "We are sometimes amazed," says M. Pluche, "at the conformity found in many respects between the practices of the Hebrews and those of the nations given over to the grossest idolatry." Most of the learned, in order to account for a similitude of usages, say that false religions only copied and mimicked the true, and from the conformity of some particulars of mythology with sacred history, they think themselves authorized to affirm that the heathen had the communication of the Holy Scriptures, or must have frequented the company of, and imitated the Hebrews. The Grecian and Roman mythology, which was derived from the Egyptians, has been much inquired into by the learned, and, says the pious and learned Wm. Jones, "whoever considers the form of religious instruction in the Church of God, will plainly see, that the mystical or mythological form among the heathens was derived from it, and set up against it as a rival. It pleased God to prefigure the mysteries of our faith from the beginning of the world by an emblematic ritual: this manner, therefore, the heathens would necessarily carry off with them; and when they changed the object of their worship, and departed from the Creator to the creature they still retained the mystical form, and applied it to the worship of the elements of the world; describing their powers and operations under the form of fable and mystery, and serving them with a multitude of emblematic rites and ceremonies. Because the true God taught his people by mystical representation, they truly would have their mysteries too: and I take this to be the true origin of the fabulous style in the Greek mythology; though it makes a wretched figure in many particulars; as the woolly headed negro savage does, when we consider him as a son of Adam descended from paradise. The whole religion of Heathendom was made up of sacred tradition perverted, a customary ritual and a physiological fable; but the emblematic prevails in every part alike." The convenience of that language which rendered itself intelligible to the eyes, and in some sense made animals and even stones themselves, to speak, by degrees became more common. It was extended to everything, and

Symbolism was made use of among the people to perpetuate the knowledge of the most important truths, to serve as the rule of morals and to inculcate their principal duties. This method of saying or showing one thing to intimate others, is what induced among the Eastern nations the taste for Allegories. Hence arose the language of signs and symbols, for language may include all signs, marks, or indications that are employed to make known or signify something different from themselves, thus the ringing of a bell the sounding a trumpet, are acts performed not for their, own sake, but for the purpose of conveying some communication which has been connected or associated with them. "Without what logicians call common terms, that is signs spoken or written to stand for classes of objects, no process of reasoning can be carried on. For all reasoning consists in referring what we are speaking of to some class concerning which we know, that so and so does or does not belong to the whole of it."* By this process of reasoning we are distinguished from the brutes or irrational animals. We find then that symbolism has existed from the earliest ages, but it was used not only by depicting figures with the brush or chisel, but also in other ways. Thus Sextus Tarquinius having gained possession of Gabii sent a messenger to his father asking what course he should pursue, no answer was returned, but the old Tarquin walked in his garden and cut the heads off his tallest poppies: Sextus on being informed of this, recognised the symbol, and immediately beheaded the chief artificers of Gabii, and the town soon fell into the hands of Rome. The practice of bringing earth and water to an enemy, in the east, was an acknowledgment of his superiority and the bringer's submission. Again in the middle ages in England we find an example, when the Earl of Gloucester learnt that King Edward was about to destroy his brother in arms Robert Bruce, afterwards king of Scotland, he sent him a piece of gold and a pair of spurs. This was sufficient, and the Bruce sought safety in flight: but even in the present day we teach children by symbols in their alphabets, where a large letter A and a picture of an archer are often associated together, with "A was an Archer" &c. Freemasons have always used symbols; the tools belonging to operative masons are by Freemasons used symbolically, applied to their morals. The lodge itself is a symbol of the world. "The form of a Masonic lodge (says Bro. A. G. Mackey, U. S. A.), is said to be a parallelogram or oblong square—its greatest length from East to West, its breadth from North to South. Now as the world is a globe, or to speak more accurately an oblate spheroid, the attempts to make an oblong square, its symbol would seem at first sight to present insuperable difficulties. But the system of Masonic symbolism has stood the test of too long an experience to be easily found at fault, and therefore this very symbol furnishes a striking evidence of the antiquity of the order. At the Solomonic era—the era of the building the temple of Jerusalem—the world, it must be remembered, was

supposed to have been that very oblong form, which has been here symbolized. If for instance, on the map of the world, we should inscribe an oblong figure whose boundary lines would circumscribe and include just that portion which was known and inhabited in the days of Solomon—these lines running a short distance North and South of the Mediterranean sea, and extending from Spain in the West to Asia Minor in the East would form an oblong square, including the South coast of Europe, the North shore of Africa, and the West district of Asia, the length of the parallelogram being about 60° from East to West, and its breadth being about 20° from North to South. This oblong square thus enclosing the whole of what was then supposed to be the habitable globe, would precisely represent what is symbolically said to be the form of the lodge, while the pillars of Hercules in the West on each side of the straits of Gades or Gibraltar, might appropriately be referred to the two pillars that stood at the porch of the Temple." This view of Bro. Mackey is carried out by the passage in Acts c. 11, v. 5, which speaks of "devout men, out of every nation under heaven," and in verses 9, 10, and 11 the names of those nations are given, *i.e.*, "Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, Cretes and Arabians." The quadrangular form of the earth, is preserved in nearly all the Scriptural allusions to it. Isaiah 11, v. 12 says:—"The Lord shall gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth," and we find in Rev. 20, v. 9, "four angels standing on the four corners of the earth." And Herodotus in his 4th book, c. 36, ridicules the idea of the earth being round; and again in his 2nd book c. 16, he states that the Ionians affirm that Europe, Asia, and Libya constitute the proper division of it. A Masonic lodge then, is symbolical of the world. Ragon says that the word "Lodge" is derived from the sanscrit "Loga," the world. By a lodge is generally understood the room in which a regularly warranted and properly constituted body of Freemasons meet; the term is also applied to the members who meet there as forming the lodge. It will not be foreign to my subject to mention that cities, rivers, countries, and even various parts of the world, had their proper symbols as well as Royalty and Government, and also the characteristics, peculiar not only to each nation and tribe, but also those appertaining to each individual, which were derived either from some trait in their character, habit, or formation, or from some deed which they had done. Thus Asia was depicted as a woman with a mural crown, holding an anchor, to denote that the way thither was across the sea. Cities were represented by women with towers on their heads. The east, by a woman in a car, drawn by four horses ascending; while the west is a female in a car with two horses descending, preceded by a genius, thus denoting the setting sun.

* *Introductory Lessons on the Mind.*

The power of empire by a rod or sceptre. In the Iliad of Homer, the priest of Apollo is distinguished by a crown on his head and a sceptre in his hand; which is called the *στέμμα θεοῦ* the crown of the God, because the glory of the priest was supposed to be derived from the deity he represented. Among the North American Indians the braves or warriors each have their peculiar "token" or symbol, and their names also apply to some characteristic, either of body or mind, thus the bounding stag, the bending willow, are applied to a person remarkable in the tribe for speed of foot, and to a girl of graceful and flexible figure. Sentiment and science were expressed in every age under signs and symbols. It is the excellence of this mode of speaking that it is not confined to the people of any particular nation or language, but applies itself equally to all the nations of the earth, and is universal. "It was not," (says Jones), "intended for the Hebrew or the Egyptian, the Jew or the Greek, but for man; for that being who is composed of a reasonable soul and a fleshy body; and therefore it obtains equally under the Patriarchal Jewish, and Christian dispensations; and is of common benefit to all ages and all places."

R. B. W.

(To be Continued.)

CHRISTIAN MORALS.

(Concluded from page 323.)

One of the early Latin Fathers, Lactantius, in his *Institutiones*, Bk. vii., ch. 7, tells us that all religious truth and every Christian doctrine is contained, here a little, and there a little, in the writings of Greek and Roman poets and philosophers; and any one, but fairly acquainted with the writings of those men, will be able to state from his own knowledge that there is a very great deal of truth in the assertion of Lactantius.

For example, Lucretius believed in the creation of the world, arguing it could not have existed from all eternity. Ovid and others speak of a primitive age of innocence and happiness. The deluge is a theme that many have dwelt upon. The advent furnished Virgil with the subject of an eclogue. The immortality of the soul is the chief topic of one of Plato's dialogues. A future state was taught by the poet of the *Odyssey*; a judgment after death by *Vigil*. Lucretius believed in the future destruction of the world by fire, and the eclogue above mentioned speaks of a restitution of all things.

We now return to "Cebes his table." We gave the main outlines of that little work in a previous number of this *MAGAZINE*, and hinted there at its Masonic character. We purpose now showing that from it, as from the works of other heathen writers, fragments of Christian truth may be gathered up by any one who has a mind and leisure for the work; fragments connected—not with great events in the world's history, such as the creation, the deluge, or the final conflagration—but with man's inner life, with his moral and spiritual being.

The sacred volume tells us that all men have the law of God written on their hearts, and that if they transgress they are without excuse. The same truth is expressed by Cebes in an allegory, where he makes a mythological being, who is identical to some extent with conscience, point out to each man what path in life to take, so that it may be his own fault if he goes wrong. All, however, do go astray from their very birth. Scrip-

ture and the "Table" alike dwell upon this fact, and they agree, moreover, in ascribing it to causes that operate within the man—to a corruption of his nature, or a moral poison—and not to any mere love of imitation, nor to the corrupting influence of bad example only, though to this also due weight is given, "for evil communications corrupt good manners," as an inspired writer, borrowing from a Greek poet, says.

But even when Cebes ceases to generalize, and no longer treats human nature as everywhere the same; when he descends, that is, into particulars, and divides men into their several characteristic classes, the same undesigned Christian element not unfrequently peeps forth. His lowest and meanest class, Fortune's devotees, bear witness to the truthfulness of those who write, that riches make themselves wings, and fly away, and that the love of money is the root of all evil. Some, however, of these, who are the off-scouring of human kind, after they have lost all, and plunged into all vice, are represented in the "Table," like the prodigal son in the Gospel, as finding Repentance, and being rescued by her.

Again, as regards the class that Cebes ranks next higher in the scale of humanity, where shall we find "Science falsely so called," better symbolized than in his head culture, or false education (*pseudopaidéia*, as the Greek term is)? Or what heathen philosopher has come nearer to saying that not many wise men after the flesh are called, than Cebes has, when he tells us that his educated, and respectable class are "more immoveable," less inclined, that is, to go onward and upward, than those whom he described as ignorant and grossly vicious; that these latter precede the former in entering the Inner Sanctuary, or court of truth and happiness? The openly vile enter into the kingdom of Heaven, before the good, and the wise in their own eyes.

Turning next to his highest style of man—him, who has been brought by repentance to forsake his vices, and to estimate fortune and literature at no more than their real worth—we see him as a victor, wearing a victor's crown. And, would we know in what he has been victorious, we are told in symbolic language that he has fought with wild beasts, that is, with his passions; that he has overcome them, and brought them into subjection; and that this is the good fight he has won. The following little dialogue, however, reads almost like a paraphrase of a passage in Holy Writ. One of the interlocutors says, "Do you see a narrow gate, and a path before the gate, which is not much frequented, but very few walk on it, as it seems in bad repair, and rough, and rocky?" A. I see it plainly. Q. And do you see a steep hill, and a very straight ascent, with deep precipices on this side, and that? A. I do. Q. This then is the road that leads to true education."

The curious reader may detect in the "Table," traces of other doctrines, hard to be understood—doctrines like those, in attempting to unravel which, Milton says the fallen angels even argued in vain, and

"Found no end, in wandering mazes lost."

We allude to two passages; in the first, something very like, or analogous to, final perseverance is propounded. It is in the 26th chap., where Cebes says that those who have attained to truth and happiness, and have entered the inner court, can never give themselves up again to their former course of life; they may return indeed for a time to the middle or outer court; but they make it not their home, and if any evil assails them there, they have an antidote, and can receive no harm. The other passage to which we refer, occurs in the next chapter (the 27th), and it appears to contain the germ, as it were, of the doctrine of reprobation. Cebes in it mentions

some, who, though they would fain reach happiness, and though they offer themselves to true education, yet are rejected by her, as reprobates, and are disowned. The blessings they seek, it seems, are not for them; though we are not told that they come improperly prepared to receive them.

We will conclude by noticing what may seem a defect in the "Table." It is that there is no mention of a Supreme Being in it. But perhaps this is a seeming, and not a real defect. At any rate one of our own sacred books, that of Esther, contains no mention of, or allusion to, a deity.

We have now finished with the "Table"—its imagery, morality, Christianity, and Masonry; and could wish the little work were more generally read in schools.

T. H. P.

VISIT TO STRATFORD-ON-AVON AND ITS VICINAGE.

BY BRO. GEORGE MARKHAM TWEDDELL,

Author of "Shakspeare: his Times and Contemporaries," &c.

"Far from the sun and Summer gale,
In thy green lap was Nature's Darling laid,
What time, where lucid Avon stray'd,
To him the mighty mother did unveil
Her awful force: the dauntless child
Stretch'd forth his little arms, and smiled.
'This pencil take,' she said, 'whose colours clear
Richly paint the vernal year:
Thine too these golden keys, immortal boy!
This can unlock the gates of Joy;
Of Horrors that, and thrilling Fears,
Or 'ope the sacred source of sympathetic Tears.'"

GRAY'S Ode on the Progress of Poetry.

There are few things afford me greater pleasure than to visit sylvan scenes and historic sites; and, much as I would like to see other lands, I have no wish to go abroad until I have thoroughly explored every nook and corner of my native isle. I am well enough content to know other countries only through the medium of pictures and books: but for this dear old Albion—the land of my forefathers and of myself, the birthplace also of my wife and our children—this beloved island for which so many brave men, whose blood is in my own veins, have lived and laboured, have fought and died—I have an intense desire to see it, from the Land's End to John o' Groats; to look from every mountain down upon the plains and valleys, and from the plains and valleys up to the sky-kissed hills; to linger by lakes and rivers, and to thread my way through what yet remains of our ancient forests; to muse on the sands and cliffs of the sea-shore; to worship in old churches and cathedrals; to contemplate by the ruins of castles and monasteries; to tread battle fields, once red with human gore, now green with the grassy sward on which the lambkin plays without dismay; to look upon every spot where a martyr has died; to enter the birthplace of the gifted and the good; and reverently to visit those tombs of the departed great, which so forcibly remind one of the great truth, that "a time will come, and the wisest of us know not how soon," when our own brief lives will be brought to a close, as those of the bravest, the wisest, and the best have been before us. But most especially had I longed, from my childhood, to visit the good old town of Stratford-on-Avon; the place where my beloved Shakspeare was born and reared; the town with which, even during his residence in London, he never ceased to have some connection; and to which, after his retirement from the stage, he returned to spend the evening of his life, and to lay his mortal remains, after his matchless spirit had "shuffled

off," its "mortal coil." But ever had there been some barrier to my visit. Sometimes I had duties to perform which would not admit of my absence from home; but oftener, because I was, like certain "tenant bodies," mentioned by our brother, Robert Burns—"scant o'cash," and the funds necessary for the journey were obliged to be devoted to other purposes. More than once had I not, without considerable effort, got money and time apparently to unite in favouring me with a good opportunity for my long wished for pilgrimage; but, alas! when the time came, interest and duty alike told me that it would be wise on my part to forfeit my own trip, and spend the money over "change of air" for one of the best of wives, who in all difficulties has stood firmly by me, when less fragile forms perhaps would have forsook me. Difficulties are not always a curse, though to the coward and the base they are ever so; but, to the brave of heart, they are only trials; and, if we will but learn to endure them with patience and humility, the Most High will eventually turn them into blessings for us "with healing on their wings." And now that I look back upon my visit to Stratford-on-Avon—for I *did* get it at last—it does not diminish from the exquisite pleasure of the recollection, that Whitsuntide after Whitsuntide, I forfeited my life-long wished for trip, in order that the faithful wife of my bosom, and the mother of my children, might have her failing health reinvigorated by an "out" (as the Lancashire people say) instead; for, as my true friend, Charles Swain, has truly in his delightful poem of "The Mind:—"

"Love? I will tell thee what it is to love!
It is to build with human thoughts a shrine,
Where Hope sits brooding like a beauteous dove;
Where Time seems young—and Life a thing divine.

All tastes—all pleasures—all desires combine
To consecrate this sanctuary of bliss,
Above—the stars in shroudless beauty shine,—
Around—the streams their flowery margins kiss,—
And if there's heaven on earth, that heaven is surely this.

Yes, this is love,—the steadfast and the true;
The immortal glory which hath never set;
The best, the brightest boon the heart e'er knew:
Of all life's sweets the very sweetest yet!
Oh, who but can recal the eve they met
To breathe in some green walk their first young vow,
Whilst summer flowers with moonlight dews were wet,
And winds sigh'd soft around the mountain's brow,—
And all was rapture then, which is but memory now.

The true Freemason will always find pleasure in the performance of his duty, whether it be to God, his neighbour, or himself; or, what is most Masonic of all, to the three combined, not to speak it profanely, as a sort of trinity in unity. For, as one (Wordsworth) who was a Freemason in his heart, though perhaps he knew it not, has well observed:—

Possessions vanish, and opinions change,
And passion holds a fluctuating seat,
But, subject neither to eclipse nor wane,
Duty remains.

Great, therefore, was my joy, when, at Whitsuntide, 1859, I was enabled to reconcile my visit to Stratford-on-Avon and its vicinage, not only with convenience but with duty; and when I inform the reader that, though previously, my whole life had, with little exception, been passed among bucolic scenes, for upwards of four years I had been pent up in the cotton district, labouring to teach and elevate poor ragged children, whose clothes had, many of them, been picked out of rag-bags, and nearly all were loaded with miasma, and that our premises were considered about the worst adapted for the work of any in England, I shall not task human

credulity when I ask for belief in my assertion that this ramble in a fine sylvan part of the country, hallowed by its historical recollections, was alike invigorating to my body and my mind; for, as Wordsworth, the great high-priest of nature, beautifully expresses it in his noble poem, "composed in 1798, a few miles above Tintern Abbey, on Revisiting the Banks of the Wye:"—

"Not for this

Faint I, nor mourn, nor murmur; other gifts
Have follow'd, for such loss, I would believe,
Abundant recompense. For I have learn'd
To look on Nature, not as in the hour
Of thoughtless youth, but hearing oftentimes
The still sad music of humanity,
Nor harsh, nor grating, though of ample power
To chasten and subdue. And I have felt
A presence that disturbs me with the joy
Of elevated thoughts; a sense sublime
Of something far more deeply interfused,
Whose dwelling is the light of setting suns,
And the round ocean, and the living air,
And the blue sky, and in the mind of man;
A motion and a spirit that impels
All thinking things, all objects of all thought,
And rolls through all things. Therefore am I still
A lover of the meadows and the woods
And mountains, and of all that we behold
From this green earth; of all the mighty world
Of eye and ear, both what they half create
And what perceive; well pleased to recognise
In Nature, and the language of the sense,
The anchor of my purest thoughts, the nurse,
The guide, the guardian of my heart and soul,
Of all my moral being."

On Saturday morning, the 11th June, 1859, after an early breakfast, I left the Bury station of the East Lancashire Railway, by the first "cars" for Manchester, in order to catch the Parliamentary train from that city to Birmingham. The weather was unsettled when I left Bury, but by the time the train reached the Salford station, the terminus of the East Lancashire line in that direction, the rain was falling in torrents. All the cabs are presently engaged, and I have no alternative but to walk to the London Road Station, at Bank Top, and "bide the pelting of this pitiless storm;" for, like the night in the second scene of the third act of *King Lear*, it "pities neither wise men nor fools."

Reader, was't thou ever in Manchester on a thoroughly wet day? Except for variety, thou needst not wish to be. A good umbrella overhead, and some good cowhide under foot, tanned with genuine oak-bark by Bro. Martin, of Great Ayton, saves me pretty tolerably from the wet; though the smoke it penetrates my lungs until I am nearly suffocated, and irritates my eyes until they are quite painful. Right glad am I, therefore, after securing a ticket, when the ring-ting-ting of the porter's bell, and cries of "take your seats for Stafford, Wolverhampton, and Birmingham," announces the time for departure. Punctually at half-past eight o'clock in the morning we leave Manchester; and, after calling at Longsight, Levenshulme, Heaton Chapel, and Heaton Norris, within twenty minutes from the time of starting we arrive at Stockport. Hitherto I have not got out of the cotton district, but now that we have reached the fine pastoral county of Cheshire, I know that my lungs will soon cast off the smoke which they have been breathing, and regale themselves with an unlimited supply of oxygen. My eyes too will be refreshed by looking once more upon bucolic scenes. Thank God for railways! for without them how could the inhabitants of our great hives of industry ever get their bodies out of the smoke into the fresh air, or gladden their eyes and ears with the soul-purifying sights and sounds of nature?

Past Cheadle, Handforth, Wilmslow, Alderley, Chelford, Holmes Chapel, and Sandback stations, and by ten o'clock in the forenoon, after already having glimpses of fine sylvan scenery, we have arrived at Crewe. There is no time, however, to inspect the hall designed by Inigo Jones, whom Bro. Preston informs us "was nominated Grand Master of England, and was deputed by his sovereign to preside over the lodges." I may, however, mention that during the civil wars it sustained two assaults, having been occupied alternately by Parliamentarians and Royalists. It could not be otherwise than interesting to the brotherhood if intelligent members of the Craft would visit the buildings of interest in their own neighbourhoods, and report, through the pages of the *MAGAZINE*, how much yet remains of the structures by our ancient brethren before the divorce of operative and speculative Masonry.

But the train is off again; and after passing the stations of Basford, Madeley,* Whitmore, Standon Bridge, and Norton Bridge, we arrive at the metropolis of Staffordshire. Stafford is a place of considerable antiquity; and the fortress-looking jail and fine old cruciform church of St. Mary, show well from the railway, as indeed, does the whole city with the rich pastoral country around it for a relief. The ride from the commencement of Cheshire, and until we are past Stafford is a very pleasant one; indeed you cannot judge by the scenery where Cheshire ends and Staffordshire begins. But we are presently off from Stafford, famous for its manufacture of shoes, and, passing the stations of Penridge, Spread Eagle, Four Ashes, and Bushbury, in three-quarters of an hour we arrive at Wolverhampton, formerly called Hampton, until Wulfrava employed certain of our brethren to erect a monastery in the tenth century, which she endowed, and from her the place came gradually to be called Wolverhampton. It has long been celebrated for its manufacture of locks and keys—things which, were the whole human race truly actuated by Masonic principles would be totally unneeded; as we should only require latches or *snecks* to keep the wind from blowing our doors open. As I watch the slow-moving barge in the canal, I cannot help thinking of Charles Dickens's *Little Nell*, of whom my poor departed friend, E. M. Heavisides, has well observed:—"It must be a hard heart indeed that can read with indifference the history of the life and death of this promising child—a coarse and unfeeling mind that can turn from it without experiencing its softening influence—and a dull spirit that can perceive in it no rays of heavenly brightness, nor hues of everlasting and unfading beauty."

In five minutes we are off from Wolverhampton, up the once pleasant Stour Valley, which now looks for all the world as if some grim demon had scorched up every blade of grass, withered every tree, and desolated the district with floods of lava. Oh! that Dante could have seen it before he wrote his *Inferno!* for he has nothing in his whole poem so demoniacal as it appears to be, judging from the view I could obtain from the railroad. And yet, doubtless, there are noble hearts even here; but if I considered one portion of the human race more in need of the sublime teachings of Freemasonry than another, I should say that it is the men doomed to pass their existence in such sterile scenes as these. The colliery districts of Durham and the cotton districts of Lancashire are some of them unpoetical enough, but I never saw anything so hideous as the iron districts of Staffordshire. Dash away, then, past Etingshall Road

* The church of Madeley, I am informed, contains some interesting monuments, &c.

and Bilston, Deepfields, Tipton, Dudley Port Junction, Albion, Oldbury and Bromford-lane, Spon-lane, Smethwick, Soho, and Edgbaston stations, and let us come at once to Birmingham.

It is one o'clock at noon when we reach the New-street station, and my next destination is Redditch, where I have arranged to spend Whit Sunday with my friend Richard Wyers, whose "drilled-eyed needles" and fish-hooks are well-known throughout the country. As the train does not leave until 4.25 I have leisure to stroll through the market, and visit the Bull-ring, of which one hears so much, and with which, I confess, I was very much disappointed. After refreshing myself, I have just time to see the exterior of the principal public buildings near the station, the only one that I was inside of being Edward VI.'s Grammar School, a very collegiate-looking building, erected from a design drawn or delineated by our late brother, Sir Charles Barry, R.A., F.R.S., etc. I was much pleased with this structure, and also with the civility of the woman who showed me the school. I may mention that the statue of the late Thomas Attwood, founder of the Birmingham Political Union, had only been inaugurated two days before, and therefore the white marble of which it is composed was quite clean from the hands of the sculptor. It stands at the head of the outlet from the station of the London and North Western Railway in the centre of the New-street, and I was delighted to see that the sculptor, Mr. J. Thomas, had represented his hero in an English frock-coat, instead of donning him in a Roman toga. It is an artistic lie purposely to represent men in dresses they never wore, and, had brave Benjamin West been the most miserable painter who ever handled a brush, I for one would have honoured him for the good sense he displayed, in opposition to the advice of Sir Joshua Reynolds and the other artists of the day, in representing every soldier in his picture of the Death of Wolfe, not in Grecian and Roman habiliments, but in their true costume. We have, thanks to West, returned to nature in clothing figures correctly in paintings. Why should we outrage common sense and good taste in sculpture?

I would have liked to have visited a lodge in Birmingham, but my train was soon due, and, as the line to Redditch was not completed, my friend had instructed me not to book through, but get off at Barnt Green, from which station the company provided an omnibus for the remainder of the journey.

Passing the stations of Camp Hill, Moseley, and King's Norton, without calling, we are presently at Barnt Green, for this was the "fast train." The scenery all the way from Birmingham was a pleasant relief from that soul-withering desolation we had passed through before reaching the great emporium of buttons, steel pens, guns, and jewelery. But the Lickey Hills, though a great ornament to this part of the country, are not to be compared for a moment with the fine range of the Cleveland Hills, which are perhaps not to be equalled in England for beauty. But I must secure a seat for Redditch before I examine the scenery any closer.

There are an old-fashioned stage-coach, painted red, an omnibus, and a phaeton in waiting for passengers at the station. Whether the phaeton was provided by the railway company or not I do not enquire; but as I find the old red coach and the omnibus are, I choose the top of the former, for I always liked the outside of a coach in fine weather, and besides not having ridden on one of this sort for some years, it is just of that description which, like a windmill, a rustic cottage, a church spire, or a good bridge, make such a pleasant object in

a landscape. But gently, for this coach is, as the saying goes, "on its last legs," and if we are not careful the back seat will tumble down with some of us. If I had not been so "tarnation poor," as the Yankees say, I would have bought this relic of a bygone age, and presented it to some museum, for I fear that it will be with the stage-coach, as with the British war-chariot and the more modern *whisky*, no one will have thought it worth while preserving one as a remembrancer of the times of our forefathers. The driver, too, is unique in his way; a respectable looking man, of modest manners, dressed in a genuine old-fashioned coat and top-boots. But crack goes the whip, and we are off, down the fine rustic lanes of Worcestershire, with on every hand trees whose stems are literally covered with ivy.

(To be Continued.)

ARCHITECTURE AND ARCHÆOLOGY.

LONDON AND MIDDLESEX ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the members of this society was held on Thursday, October 25th, in the Library of Westminster Abbey. The chair was taken by the Very Rev. the Dean, one of the vice presidents.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read, and other formal business disposed of,

Mr. W. H. HART read an interesting paper descriptive of the library and of some of the principal books contained in the collection. He stated that the present building was adapted to its purpose by the Lord Keeper Williams in the year 1622. In 1664 the books suffered from a conflagration, which also destroyed some of the manuscripts. The library now contained 11,000 volumes, including Walton's Polyglot Bible, Cranmer's Bible, and various ancient copies of the Sacred Scriptures in Greek, Latin, and Hebrew. It was also rich in works of the ancient fathers, in theology, and history. The first edition of the works of Plato, printed in 1513, was one of the most valuable books in the collection. Many of the works were gifts by Camden, and were signed by him. Not the least interesting in the collection was a series of narratives of local and historical value, being accounts of the coronation ceremonials of the Sovereigns of England. In connection with this subject the visitor could not fail to be struck with the gradual falling off of the decorative art as applied to those records, the account of the coronation of Queen Victoria, for instance, being merely stitched together without care, and almost without decency. The manuscripts, for the most part, perished in the fire; but among those which escaped might be mentioned the celebrated "precious Psalter," in two volumes, profusely illuminated, and formerly the property of William Littleton, Abbot of Westminster. This magnificent book bore the date 1373, and must have entailed immense labour in its production. It contained not only the office of the mass, but special services for State occasions, coronations, consecrations, funerals &c. Another curious manuscript was devoted to natural history. It was illustrated with a multitude of quaint-looking animals in very uncomfortable attitudes. Many ancient specimens of binding were also to be found in the library. "Rubblings" of these were exhibited, and the "toiling" and other ornamentation was of a curious and elaborate description. Mr. Hart next referred to the organ in the cathedral. The original organ was, with many others, destroyed by the fanatical miscreants of the Parliamentary army, who are responsible for so much havoc among the ecclesiastical treasures of the kingdom. After the restoration organ-builders were in great request, and Bernard Smith was employed to build the organ for St Paul's Cathedral, and also that now in use in the Temple Church. Bernard Smith was succeeded by his apprentice Schuieder (who subsequently became his son-in-law), and he it was who built the magnificent instrument in the Abbey Church

of St. Peter, Westminster. It was opened in the year 1730, with the anthem "O give thanks." It was to be regretted that a great number of the service books of the abbey were destroyed. In early times church music was preserved with pious care, and the singing men and boys were enjoined, when using service books, to interpose the sleeve of the surplice between their hands and the books, with a view to the preservation of the latter. In the subsequent morose age of Christianity cathedral music was denounced as "Popish and sinful superfluities," and destroyed with remarkable energy and acrimony.

The thanks of the Meeting having been unanimously awarded to Mr Hart,

Mr. JOSEPH BURTT made some observations on certain early documents found in the ancient treasury beneath the library. These records were brought to light some few years ago by Mr. Gilbert Scott, the architect to the cathedral, who found a quantity of muniments beneath the rubble in a narrow passage which had formerly been a portion of the treasury. In ancient times the King's treasures were deposited in this room, and in the reign of Edward I. (1303) property to the then value of £100,000 (now representing £2,000,000) was stolen, and the Abbot of Westminster and forty of his monks were sent to the Tower on suspicion. Owing, however, to the vigorous steps taken by the King, who wanted the money to pay for the Scotch war, a great portion of the plate and valuables was recovered, and it is due to the memory of the Abbot to add that the crime was proved to have been committed by a travelling merchant, assisted by the sacristan of the abbey and the keeper of the King's palace. The manuscripts accidentally found by Mr. Scott included a letter of Thomas of Woodstock, date 1360 (written on paper), and a great number of documents connected with the Courts of Record at Westminster Hall. Specimens of the curious manuscripts, and also some ancient dies, keys, seals, buckles, spurs, and other objects were exhibited in the library. Many of the manuscripts (all written in Latin) were in excellent preservation, and may be read with ease by persons familiar with black-letter characters.

At the conclusion of Mr. Burt's observations, the members proceeded to the interior of the abbey, and there, in the western nave, standing immediately above the grave of Robert Stephenson, Mr. Gilbert Scott explained the principal architectural points of interest in the abbey, and exhibited diagrams, showing the original formation of the church, and also the portions which have succumbed to the influence of time.

Mr. HENRY MOGFORD subsequently commented on the monuments as a museum of sculpture.

Mr. JOHN HUNTER also read a paper in Henry the Seventh's chapel on the institution of the Order of the Bath.

In the afternoon several of the members attended Divine service, and at the conclusion the meeting was resumed in the chapter-house, which was explained by Mr. Scott and Mr. Burt. From thence the members proceeded to the Jerusalem Chamber, where a paper was read by the Rev. THOMAS HUGO descriptive of the building and its contents.

GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL INTELLIGENCE.

The first stone of West Cowes (Isle of Wight) National Schools was laid on the 24th ult. The building now in course of erection is intended for an infant school, 60 feet by 20 feet, and about 23 feet high, affording accommodation for 150 children. By the general plan it is intended to erect three schools of the same dimensions, affording accommodation for 450 children; also residences for the master and mistress.

The structure erected in the Saw Close, Bath, for the Blue Coat Schools has been opened with some ceremony. It contains two school-rooms,—one for boys, and one for girls,—with committee-rooms and offices, and a residence for the master and mistress. During the removal of the building a portion of a Roman tessellated pavement was found near the foundations. This was removed, and has been relaid, under his superintendence, in the entrance-hall of the master's private residence.

The corn-market, Berkhamstead, which for some years has been discontinued in consequence of the destruction of

the old market-house by fire, has been re-opened in the new building which has been erected, containing a market-house for the sale of corn on the ground-floor, and two rooms over, one of which is to be used as a library, and the other for the accommodation of the members of the Mechanics' Institute. At the back there is a hall 52 feet by 32 feet, for holding meetings, balls, &c.

Designs of buildings proposed to be erected (at a cost of £1000) for the Bradford Volunteers have been on view in St. George's Hall, Bradford. The buildings will include a large drill-room, 97 feet long by 60 feet broad, in the centre; a gymnasium, 44 feet long by 20 feet broad; and sergeants' orderly room, 20 feet by 15 feet, on the other side. A residence for the drill-sergeant will stand at one corner, in the rear of the building. The elevation, in the Italian style of architecture, presents a broad entrance, with folding-doors in the centre, and has a verandah, with seating beneath, running along its entire length.

The new church of St. John the Evangelist, Twinstead, (Essex) has been consecrated by the Bishop of Rochester. The church is in the style of the fourteenth century. The internal walls are all worked with black, white, and red bricks, into arcades, arches, and geometrical designs. The nave is benched with open seats, and is separated from the chancel by three arches with ornamental brass work, in the centre of which is fixed a large gilt cross. The pavement is of encaustic tiles, which in the chancel are of blue tint. There is an altar screen of stone with carved angels with wings extended at the corners, divided into compartments painted and gilt in the Mediaeval style, with scenes in the life of the patron saint of the church. Above is a painted window with the Crucifixion in the centre light, and there are other windows of stained glass in the chancel. The roofs are stained. There is a small vestry, and organ chamber, a gable and bell, and ornamental crosses at the apex of the roof.

The church of Cople, Bedfordshire, has been re-opened, after a renovation of the interior. The whole area both of nave and chancel has been cleared out, and new floors laid. The blocks of sittings are arranged on a more convenient plan. The best of the old oak seats have been re-erected, but by far the greater portion are new, of pitch-pine or red deal. Those in the nave, with the pulpit, are varnished, with a few mouldings pricked out with colours. The pavements are of Portland cement, with tile borders and coloured mosaic patterns in the centre.

St. Michael's Church, Leafield, Oxfordshire, the first stone of which was laid by Lady Churchill on All Saints' Day, 1858, was consecrated on the 19th ult., by the Bishop of Oxford. The style of the new edifice is Early English. It consists of a nave, with north and south aisles; a chancel, also with aisles; and a vestry at the north-east corner, with a vault under for hot-air apparatus. There is a central octagonal tower, and spire, surmounted by a weather-vane, rising 145 feet 6 inches from the ground line. The tower is ornamented by four double lancet windows, with Milton stone shafts, moulded bases, and carved capitals; and the spire by four gabled single lancets, similarly decorated. The nave is divided from the aisles by an arcade of four bays on either side, supported by circular piers, with moulded bases and square capitals, from which the arches spring square, with labels over them, above which are inscriptions painted on zinc: the clerestory windows are square-headed triplets, with detached mullions, standing fair with the inside of the wall. The tower is supported by four piers, with carved capitals and moulded arches, which rise nearly to the bell floor. The whole of the roofs are of stained deal, open framing, plastered between the rafters, and covered with felt under the Stones-field slate. The sittings are open, of pitch-pine, stained and varnished, and will accommodate about 500 persons, 250 free. The church is entered from the west by a recessed doorway, with a carved medallion in the tympanum, and on the south by a porch. It is built of local stone, the external face of the walls being hammer-dressed, and the internal finely chopped and pointed. The whole of the dressings are of Milton stone. The length of the nave is 66 feet by 21 feet 6 inches wide, and the chancel, including the choir and sanctuary, 41 feet by 16 wide; the height, from the floor to the ridge of the roof, 43 feet 6 inches: the total length of the church internally is 107 feet.

The restoration of the old priory church of Christchurch, Hants, is making progress under the superintendence of Mr. Ferrey. The north porch has been completed, and its groining restored: a lozenge tiling, red and black, has been laid down, but the open ironwork gates remained to be added. The interior of the north transept, also the Norman arcade, and series of Decorated windows in the south aisle of the nave, and the window in the apsidal chapel of the south transept have been restored. The large east window of the north choir-aisle has been filled with stained glass, the gift of Admiral Walcott, M.P. for the borough. It is now proposed to make use of the large triforia of the nave for congregational accommodation; to remove the flat ceiling of the lantern and expose the old timber roof, and, at the same time, open the roof of the south transept, and throw down the block of masonry which divides the latter from its chapels. £2,000 have already been spent upon the works, but external help is desired for their completion, as the population is neither large nor affluent.

The little parish church of Crosscombe, near Wells, Somersetshire, which has been for some time past closed for repairs and restoration, has been re-opened. The alterations consist principally in the removal of a gallery which formerly stood at the western end of the church. The organ has been removed to the north side of the chancel and, in preparing a place for it, it was found necessary to make some alterations, which brought out an arch that had been previously filled up, the vestry being behind it. The removal of the gallery has exposed to view the western arch of the church, and a window has been placed above the entrance. This window is plain, but is to be replaced as soon as possible by stained glass. The belfry, which was on a level with the floor of the church, has been removed to the next floor above. The removal of the belfry and gallery has made the western entrance available for use. The high-backed pews and the carved wood screen and pulpit have been cleaned and varnished, as also has the carved wooden roof. The roof and the windows have been repaired. The cost is about £100, besides £100 for improvement of the organ.

St. John's Church, Bishop's Castle, Bridgnorth, having become deeply buried by the soil of the surrounding graveyard, the walls untrustworthy, and the accommodation for worship insufficient, it was considered desirable that something should be done to improve it. The parishioners accordingly borrowed £1,000 from the Public Works Loan Commissioners, on security of the parish rate; and £1,000 was raised in the parish from voluntary contributions: the Earl of Powis, patron and proprietor, contributed £1,000 and Beriah Botfield, Esq., M.P., £500. The Diocesan Church Building Society voted, £350; the Incorporated Church Building Society, £250; and a remainder was given by friends. The new church contains sittings for 750 persons on the ground floor. It has been re-opened for divine service.

The parish church of Wolstanton, one of the oldest, it is believed, in North Staffordshire, has been rebuilt and re-opened. The stone was brought from Alton, and corresponds with the former red sandstone of the church and the existing stone of the steeple. The church has been restored on its original foundations. The roofs have also been restored. The steeple has been added to the church internally by the throwing open of the tower arch. The exterior has been repaired and pointed, the window tracery restored, the former parapet replaced by one in keeping with the rest of the church, having pinnacles at the corners, and the staircase carried up as a spirelet. The spire itself, which had been struck by lightning and was defective and unfinished at the top, has been taken down some distance, and then carried up higher, and surmounted, as well as the spirelet and pinnacles, with iron crosses and vanes. The moulded pillars and arches inside have been reproduced from the old ones, of which the stone was found to be too friable to re-work. The church is fitted up throughout with long pews, having standard and carved poppy-heads and low doors. It is paved with Minton's tiles, and the whole of the pillars, arches, windows, and doors internally are executed in clean stonework. The chancel arch has been widened several feet, still preserving the original mouldings, &c. The entire building is warmed by a hot-water apparatus.

The whole of the windows are filled with stained glass. The work of rebuilding the church commenced in the month of January, 1860, and is just completed. The chancel is enriched with three painted windows, the gift of Mr. Edward Wood, as indeed are all the other windows in the church, with one exception. The large window at the east end is figurative of the Ascension of Christ, the two others in the chancel being designed as memorials. That to the memory of Mrs. Wood has two principal figures—one of John the Baptist, illustrative of the passage of Scripture, "After me cometh a man which is preferred before me," and the other of "St. Margaret," to whom the church is dedicated; the lower compartment being filled with representations of the Baptism of Christ and the Crucifixion. The other, to the memory of Mr. Wood's daughter, has two principal figures, expressive of the passage, "He shall gather the lambs in his arms," and "Behold I stand at the door and knock;" the lower portion representing the adoration of the shepherds, and the Saviour's command to Peter, "Feed my lambs." A window in the body of the church, the gift of Mrs. Stanier, illustrates the texts of Scripture. "I was an hungered and ye gave me meat;" "I was naked and ye clothed me;" "I was sick, and ye visited me;" "I was a stranger, and ye took me in." The total cost including the chancel will, it is supposed, be about £4,500, towards which, coupled with the painted windows, the stalls in the chancel, and many of the fittings and ornamentations of the interior, Mr. Wood has contributed more than one-half. The expenditure of Mr. R. Sneyd, who, in addition to rebuilding the chancel, has assisted the general building fund, must have exceeded £750.

The restoration of St. Mary's Church, Leicester, is now completed. Within the last twelve months, alterations, additions, and improvements have been made, at, if we are rightly informed, the sole cost of Mr. Nevinson. The works have been carried out, under the direction of Mr. Scott, by Mr. B. Broadbent. The north arcade of the nave is rebuilt, and moulded arches are substituted for the old dilapidated plain ones. There is also a new clerestory upon the model of the ancient one, taken from the portion of the old arcade found remaining at the west end, with lancet, lights of the Early English period, and a carved new corbelled parapet. Carved oak doors, copies of the original Perpendicular doors, have been hung to the Norman doorway on the north side, and the west-end doorway, formerly blocked up, has been thrown open, and a new oak door hung. Carved oak doors, similar to those at the northern entrance, are to be hung to the south doorway, and the porch doors are to be ornamented with foliated ironwork. The parishioners, it is said, purpose filling in with stained glass one of the east windows in the chancel. The organ is of carved oak, in keeping with the style of the church, and the cost, which will be defrayed by voluntary subscription, is between £500 and £600. It has three rows of keys, thirty-three registers, thirty notes of German pedals, and four composition pedals.

The new church at Bamford, Derbyshire, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, has been consecrated by the Bishop of Lichfield. The style of architecture is the Early English Decorated, and the edifice contains a chancel, nave, and north aisle. The floor is laid with encaustic tiles; the part within the chancel with tiles and Derbyshire marble, the steps being marble; and the wall at the back of the communion-table is also inlaid with marble. The windows are filled with stained glass. The seats are all free. The tower and spire are each 54 feet—together 108 feet high—and there are six bells of steel.

St. Barnabas's Church, Birmingham, which has just been completed, and is situated in Ryland-street, North, has now been consecrated. The front of the building is surmounted by a decorated spire. The church is fitted with low deal pews, and paved with Broseley quarries of red and black. A gallery runs round three sides of the building. The roof of the nave is high-pitched, boarded, and supported on laminated principals. The building, including the gallery, will accommodate nearly 900 persons, the dimensions being, length, 80 feet; width, 44 feet 4 inches; height, 50 feet; and side walls, 20 feet. The cost of erection exceeds £3000.

The chief stone of a new Unitarian chapel at Upperthorpe,

Sheffield, has been laid by Miss Urith Lydia Shore, of Meersbrook. The edifice is being built on a plot of ground adjoining the Crookesroad, and will accommodate about 550 people. It will be a plain stone building, with gallery at one end for the use of the school children; and the cost will be about £1400.

The foundation-stone of "Salem Free Chapel," Pemberton-street, Sunderland, has been laid. The building will be 68 feet by 42 feet, and will be capable of accommodating 600 persons. It will be so constructed as to allow of the erection of a gallery at some future time. The material will be bricks with stone dressings. The interior will be fitted with a fan light, by which it will also be ventilated. The whole of the seats will be open benches and free. Behind the chapel will be a building 40 feet by 27 feet, of two stories, to be used as Sunday school-rooms, capable of accommodating about 400 scholars. The schools will be so adapted that they can be thrown into the chapel. The total cost will be near £1000.

A school church was opened on the 18th ult., at Reach, a hamlet in the parishes of Swaffham Prior and Burwell, Cambridgeshire, and once an important Saxon town. This little place, though within sight almost of the University of Cambridge, and partly in the parish whence its chief revenues are derived, and from whence the grand towers of Ely are visible, has been allowed to remain in a state of utter destitution of secular or spiritual instruction as far as the Church of England was concerned; and, although the east window, and gable of a chapel standing on a piece of waste ground belonging to the Vicar of Burwell (*i.e.*, the University of Cambridge), gave evidence of a happier state of things, and suggested a revival of some of the old Christian spirit, nothing was attempted to be done till the present vicar of Swaffham Prior undertook the work, and has now the satisfaction of seeing a really handsome little building, in which school can be held every day, and the services of the church celebrated on Sundays. As it has double requirements to fulfil, more care was demanded in the plan and more attention was bestowed by the architect on the details than is usual in an ordinary country school-house, and the result is highly satisfactory to the parties concerned, and creditable to the designer. A parallelogram, 50ft. by 20ft., is terminated by a central arch of wood tracery, and two smaller ones of clunch, on isolated columns, beyond which is a small apse. In front of one of these small arches is the desk, in the other the pulpit, which is of clunch. Small transepts, 16ft. wide, contain respectively an infants' gallery and the fixed desks, while a small vestry and place for the harmonium complete the arrangements. At the west end are double doors with an enclosed lobby for caps and bonnets. The fireplaces are at the angles of the transepts, and being four in number are consequently small and unobtrusive. The windows are single and in pairs, with pointed heads, except the west window, which is three-light, under one arch with a pierced cinquefoil over, filled with stained glass. At the east end also is a stained glass window representing the Good Shepherd, but except this all the windows are in ornamental patterns of green and violet tinted glass. The walls are of clunch, a material peculiarly good in this district, with red and white bricks in the voussours of arches, cornice weathering of buttresses, &c. Casterton stone has been used for the columns, west window, and partly in the turret which surmounts the west gable. This contains a bell and is prepared for a clock, so that in the end the whole will be much more complete than the generality of village schools. Ventilation is provided for at the wall-plates by several gratings in the wall beneath the eaves, opened or closed at pleasure inside, while some of the windows also are fitted with casements. The total cost, including pulpit, bell, stoves, &c., but without benches and desks, is under £600. The Rev. Canon Selwyn-Margaret, Professor of Divinity in the University of Cambridge, and the Rev. H. E. Preston, of Tasburg, Norfolk, took part in the opening services, together with the Rev. J. W. Cockshot, vicar of Burwell, and the Rev. Thomas Preston, the vicar of Swaffham Prior, to whose exertions everything is due. It may be interesting to add that Swaffham Prior is commonly called Swaffham-two-Churches, on account of their being two churches in the same churchyard. One of these is now

a picturesque ruin, with the remains of a transitional Norman tower commencing on a square base and becoming successively octagonal and polygonal, and formerly crowned with a low spire. The tower of the other church, which is the only portion of the old building remaining, is also a curious example of a perpendicular octagonal belfry on a square base.

The foundation-stone of St. Stephen's, Spitalfields, was laid a few days ago. The style of architecture of the building is Gothic, but there is a peculiarity in its structure, inasmuch as it has an apse at the west end similar to that of the German churches, with a porch on one side of it, and a tower on the other. There are no galleries except at the west end of the building, and it is calculated to contain sittings for 800 people. Adjoining the church there is to be erected a residence for the incumbent.

Pontefract New Market Hall was lately opened by Lord Palmerston. The site of the building was formerly a waste piece of ground. When the subject of erecting a market-house was mooted, this site was selected by the corporation and purchased at a cost of £1700. The hall stands on the north side of the market-place. The building is of the composite or Corinthian order of architecture, and is built of delf or Halifax stone. The actual measurement in the inside is 77ft. on one side and 80ft. on the other, with a width of 68ft. The stalls in the interior are placed lengthwise, and divided into two rows. Galleries run round two of the sides and the upper end, and they will be appropriated on market days to the sale of various articles. They are 60ft. in length and 10ft. 6in. in width. The interior is principally lighted by glass windows in the roof. The pediment bears an inscription, to the effect that the foundation-stone was laid in 1859 by the mayor (Mr. Richard Moxon). A medallion on the centre arch bears a representation of the borough arms, with a Latin motto. Above the keystone of the centre arch is a representation of a bull's head, and the other two keystones contain other appropriate representations, very well executed. The cost of the erection is between £2000 and £3000.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

COSTUME OF A TYLER IN THE LAST CENTURY.

The following order of lodge, under date of May 25th, 1791, extracted from the minute-book of St. John's Lodge, in this town, No. 562 (now 348), is worth preservation among your "Notes and Queries," as a curiosity of Masonic costume. "Resolved that the Tyler be clothed at the expense of the lodge, with a blue-coat and waistcoat, and corduroy breeches, the whole with yellow buttons: a pair of white stockings and a three-cornered hat, and also that he be furnished with a hairy cap, to wear on public occasions, the latter to remain the property of the lodge." Was it the general custom of the period for the Tyler of lodges to wear a similar uniform, or did the resolution originate in a bright flash of inventive genius on the part of one of the "Johnians" of the time. I recollect an aged Masonic friend, now deceased, who was formerly a member of the Grand Steward's Lodge, informing me that, when he was a young man, the members of the lodge in which he was initiated, wore as a uniform, a blue-coat with brass buttons, bearing either the name or number of the lodge. When did this practice cease?—WILLIAM KELLY, D. Prov. G.M., Leicester.

THE W.M. WEARING A HAT WHILST PRESIDING IN LODGE.

In the Newstead Lodge, Nottingham, it is customary for the Worshipful Master to wear his hat whilst presiding, except during the prayers. I also recollect the late respected Prov. G.M., Colonel Wildman wearing a three-cornered hat, at a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge. The meaning is obvious, but is the custom merely a local one, or an ancient one generally fallen in to disuse?—WILLIAM KELLY, Leicester. [It is still in practice in the Hebrew Lodges.—Ed.]

FREEMASONRY IN THE ROYAL HORSE GUARDS BLUE.

I am unable to reply to the query of your correspondent at p. 308, respecting the Lodge of Truth, formerly attached to the First Life Guards, but it has recalled to my recollection

an analogous subject, on which I had long since intended seeking information in your pages. In the months of July, August and September, 1801, a considerable number of the Officers of the Royal Horse Guards Blue, were initiated, and several of them passed and raised, in St. John's Lodge, in this town, the meetings being also attended as a visitor, by Capt. W. Miller, of that regiment, a member of the "Wallace" Lodge (No. 53). The officers initiated were Lieutenants John Horsley, Augustus John Foster, William Chery, and John Butcher; and Cornets John Thoys, Henry Thornhill, Robert Packe, and Brotherton Brown. Cornet Richard Hunter Bird, of the 12th Light Dragoons, and Thomas Draper, a private in the Blues, were also initiated, the last mentioned probably as a Tyler, with the intention of forming a lodge in connection with the regiment. My chief object, however, is to seek information respecting the military, rather than the Masonic career of those brethren, and whether any of them distinguished themselves in the war in the Peninsular, and in the subsequent battles in which the British Army was so nobly engaged up to the crowning victory of Waterloo, and also whether any of them are still living. One feature of our newly erected Masonic Hall is intended to be a collection of original or engraved portraits of distinguished brethren, connected with the province, and among those not the least worthy of honour would be portraits of any of those members who had deserved well of their country on the battle-field, fighting for the independence of Europe. Of the career and fate of one of those warriors, I need not seek information, that of the gallant Major Packe, who so nobly fell at Waterloo, and to whose memory his brother officers, as a tribute of affection and respect, erected a monument in the Military Chapel, at Windsor. A monument was also placed in the Church of Prestwold, on the family domain in this county, now the property of his nephew, C. W. Packe, Esq., M.P. This cenotaph, which is admirably executed by Rossi, in alto-relievo, represents a charge at Waterloo, and beneath it the following lines, said to be the production of Sir Walter Scott:—

Though manly vigour, withered in its bloom,
Has called thee early to the silent tomb,
We will not weep for him who raised his hand,
To guard the glories of his native land,
And seal'd, observant of his country's claim,
A life of honour with a death of fame.
Pride of thy parents! gallant spirit, rest!
In life belov'd, and in thine end how blest!
When wild ambition raised his banner high,
Fearless and foremost thou hast dared to die,
And nobly won, on England's brightest day,
A victor wreath that shall not fade away.

WILLIAM KELLY, D. Prov. G.M. Leicester.

COUNT BERTOLA'S "L'ORIGINE DE LA MAÇONNERIE."

I have recently picked up for our Masonic Hall Library, from a London bookseller's catalogue, a privately printed work hitherto unknown to me. It is entitled "De L'Origine Morale et Religieuse de la Maçonnerie, de sa Mission et de L'Epoque Positive de son Institution Materielle, Par le comte S. de Giorgi Bertola, de Rome, chevalier du Christ et membre de la Franche, Maçonnerie aux rites Français et Ecosais, &c." The work, which is dedicated to the Duke of Sussex, was printed in London in 1841. What is known of the author's connection with the order?—WILLIAM KELLY, Leicester.

MASONIC SYNONYMES.

Some of the Turkish Masonic terms, I have heard, are *Masone* for Mason, and *Masonryk* for Masonry, but in lodge the officers are designated by their English names.—HYDE CLARKE, Constantinople, Oct., 1860.

FOUNDERS' TABLETS.

In the lodge-room of the Oriental Lodge of Constantinople (No. 988), which does so much credit to the zeal of the brethren, there is rather a novel and praiseworthy feature. This is a framed inscription, commemorating the names of the brethren who were the founders of the lodge. This is a mode of decorating lodge walls which might be turned to account. In the chamberlain's office at Guildhall are framed addresses to those who have received the thanks of the corporation; and, as we have many

calligraphers, so might we have votes of thanks, lists of 1 embers, founders, &c.—HYDE CLARKE, Constantinople, Oct., 1860.

ST. PAUL'S LODGE.

In reply to "Genealogicus" in your last number, page 327, you may if you please say that the St. Paul's Lodge (No. 229) adopts a device which is something like St. Paul preaching, which they use upon their seal, and that the Percy Lodge (No. 234), whether right or wrong in doing so, have for many years used a common seal, an impression of which is deposited with the Grand Secretary at his office. The seal used by the latter lodge is the Arms of the Duke of Northumberland, which they use for all lodge purposes and seal their lodge certificates with, when they are given to members on leaving the lodge, as required by the Book of Constitution.—LEX, 30th October, 1860.

THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, 1793.

I copy the following advertisement from *The York Herald* of Saturday, September 7th, 1793, and I forward it for insertion in your "Masonic Notes and Queries," thinking that which has interested myself may possibly interest others.—GEORGE MARKHAM TWEDELL.

"Dedicated, by permission, to the Right Worshipful and Right Hon. the Earl of Moira, and the rest of the officers composing the Grand Lodge of England. This day was published, price 1s. 6d., No. III. of *The Freemason's Magazine; or, General and Complete Library*. Beautifully embellished with two very grand and magnificent engravings, viz. :—1. A striking likeness of the Right Hon. the Earl of Moira, acting Grand Master of Masons of England, from an original painting by Sir Joshua Reynolds, and engraved by Jones, engraver extraordinary to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and principal engraver to His Royal Highness the Duke of York. 2. A very capital vignette, being the coronet of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cumberland, supported by Fame and Virtue near the Masonic Obelisk, which is inscribed to Her Royal Highness, who is the Patroness of the Freemasons' Charity, &c., designed by Mather Brown, Esq., and engraved by a capital artist. This magazine is not entirely devoted to Masonic researches, but contains every useful and entertaining subject, and is conducted upon a plan perfectly novel and original, uniting every subject of art, science, information, and amusement, necessary to promote the interest of general society and the individual happiness of all its members. Original works, written in a modern and elegant style, by eminent authors, the publication of which has long been intended and reserved for this magazine, under the immediate inspection of William Dolben, L.L.D. The rapid sale of this work having induced the publisher to reprint No. I., it may now be had equal to the first edition (as also No. II.), both in respect to the embellishments and letter press. In order to give this work the most decided superiority over contemporary publications, and that none may boast of the most trivial advantage which it will not possess, anecdotes and refined poetry, political intelligence in its various branches, shall be given, with all that variety of fugitive matter necessary to suit the diversity of taste, consistent with the strictures of delicacy, and the principle of indiscriminate improvement, to which will be added a faithful register and journal of the whole transactions of the month, foreign and domestic, marriages, deaths, promotions, preferments, &c. London: Printed and published by J. W. Bumby, No. 7, Newcastle-street, Strand; and sold by W. Stewart, opposite York House, Piccadilly; Scatcherd and Whitaker, Ave Maria-lane; H. D. Symonds, Paternoster-row; and all Booksellers and Newscarrers in town and country."

A LAWYER'S MISTAKE, AND HOW HE GOT OUT OF IT.—"I had," says Lord Eldon, "very early after I was called to the bar, a brief in business in the King's Bench, as Junior to Mr. Dunning. He began the argument, and appeared to be reasoning very powerfully against our client. Waiting till I was quite convinced that he had mistaken for what party he was retained, I then touched his arm, and, upon his turning his head towards me, I whispered to him that he must have misunderstood for whom he was employed, as he was reasoning against our client. He gave me a very rough and rude reprimand for not having sooner set him right, and then proceeded to state that what he had addressed to the court was all that could be stated against his client, and that he had put the case as unfavorably as possible against him, in order that the court might see how very satisfactorily the case against him could be answered; and, accordingly, very powerfully answered what he had before stated."—*Men Who Have Risen*.

Literature.

REVIEWS.

The Long Run. A Novel. By HENRY OWGAN, LL.D., author of *Out on the World, My First Romance, &c.* London: L. Booth, Regent-street.

The author of this remarkable work had, we infer from its title-page, already produced two novels before the publication of *The Long Run*. Whether the success of either of them suggested the title we cannot say; but, after careful examination, we can find no other clue to its meaning in the book itself. At the same time we are puzzled to imagine what class of readers delight in Dr. Ovgan, or how, after publishing two of his stories, any bookseller could be induced to give the world a third. Is the solution of the riddle to be found in the fact that the great Mudie has stamped with his critical approval either of its predecessors by admitting them to that charming selection of fiction from which, we are told, "novels of less than average merit are almost invariably excluded?" The average of merit must indeed be low if *The Long Run* is to be considered as equal to it. It is totally wanting in delineation of character or construction of plot. But, to make up for this, a number of outrageous incidents are strung together in the compass of one short volume, which would suffice for at least a dozen of the poor old, much-abused "Minerva Press." The hero goes through as many adventures as Sinbad the Sailor; and, after enduring all kinds of peril through fire and water, from love, war, and poverty, is found at the end of the volume to have risen, in the course of two or three years, from a penniless subaltern to a K.C.B., who makes a wonderful treaty with Persia, and comes home to find his first love quite at liberty to marry him, though the author remorselessly kills off the poor lady before the happy event can come off. Let it not be supposed, however, that our novelist has not made use of the incident matrimonial. There are three heroines, one of whom, the blighted flower aforesaid, is married once; another is a sort of female Mephistophiles who, for some inexplicable reason, brings about the ruin of a whole family, thereby causing the death of two respectable gentlemen by apoplexy and suicide. This charming creature has two husbands. The third lady at the beginning of the book is a ballad singer in an Irish village; afterwards an actress who plays in the same tragedies with Macready; next a countess; and, finally, the lovely bride of the K.C.B., her third husband, to whom she proposes the day after her spouse, the earl, has broken his neck. In the course of the story, we meet our old acquaintance the forged will; and, of course, the discovery of the true one. Indeed, with Mr. Puff, the author may very fairly say that his work is "all incident." None of the usual ingredients in novel compounding are wanting, except a duel, though one nearly comes off, prompted by a respectable old gentleman just come home from India, where he very suitably filled the office of a judge!

Though *The Long Run* is contained in one volume, the author is not content with this *embaras de richesses*, but, to give us breathing time between every fresh marvel and its successor, interlards a page or two of philosophical sentiment or sentimental philosophy, which, we fear, the novel reader will skip as irrelevant, if not incomprehensible. But, as the critics say, "we must leave our readers to discover for themselves the other beauties of the work before us," having no doubt whatever that the admirers of Dr. Ovgan's *First Romance* will find his last equally entertaining.

GOOD SOCIETY.—Good society is undoubtedly a most desirable accompaniment of the business of life, and with some people it even takes of that business itself; but if the reader imagines that he is to put his book of etiquette into his pocket, and quitting his old friends and acquaintance with disgust, to push himself into sets for which perhaps his position itself does not qualify him, he is much mistaken as to the object of cultivating the habits of good society. His proper objects are these; to make himself better in every respect than he is; to render himself agreeable to every one with whom he has to do; and to improve, if necessary, the society in which he is placed. If he can do this, he will not want good society long.—*Habits of Good Society.*

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

A Glossary of Mineralogy, by Mr. W. H. Bristow, is in the press. Charnwood Forest, a region well-known to the English geologist, is thus beautifully noticed in Mr. Mott's interesting *Guide to Country Lodgings* before alluded to in our columns:—"The beauty and the freshness of the hills of Charnwood are indeed scarcely even yet appreciated at their full value. In that far off geological age, when the broad ocean filled the valley of the Soar, the slaty ridges of Charnwood appeared above the surface as a rugged sea-girt island, in dimensions about nine miles by six, with a magnificent harbour on the north-west, running up three miles among the hills, and of capacity sufficient to shelter any pre-Adamite fleet which may have ranged the tranquil seas of the latest new red sandstone epoch. Since that period, the whole of Great Britain has been swept over by icebergs and ocean currents, but no important disturbance from below has altered the contour of Leicestershire, and, from the summit of Bardon, Charnwood Forest still has the appearance of an island, although the waves of the ocean are changed into green meadows and slumbrous woodlands, fading off upon the distant plain, far as the eye can reach, into a network of fields and hedges. To this island character may doubtless be attributed, in part, the great salubrity of our Forest. The winds from every quarter have full play among its ridges; nor are its valleys so deep, or its passes so intricate, as to allow of the accumulation of stagnant air. And as to moisture, the soil of the hill sides is nowhere deep enough to hold water for any length of time; the hard rock will not absorb it; and the marshy hollows are now all drained for the growing of corn, to the infinite discomfiture of botanists, and others who delight in the curiosities of nature. There are no rivers breeding dangerous mists after the heat of a summer's day; but multitudes of brooks, babbling among great stones, and overhung with oaks and alders, bring down the water from perpetual springs, which bubble out among the recesses of the hills. Certainly there is not in the Midland Counties, perhaps not in all England, a more health-restoring region than these ancient hills of Charnwood; nor one more thoroughly adapted for the enjoyment of children."

Mr. James Blackwood has the following works in preparation:—*The history of a Pilgrim, with some account of the Shrine to which he journeyed; Annie, a Romance of Indian Life; and the Christmas Tree for 1861, a Book of Instruction and Amusement for all Young People.*

Messrs. Macmillan and Co., have in the press *The Volunteer Scrap Book*, by the Author of *The Cambridge Scrap Book*.

A number of the best works in Sanskrit and other Oriental languages will shortly be offered by public auction. They formed the valuable library of the late distinguished Orientalist, Horace Hayman Wilson, Esq., who was Boden Professor of Sanskrit at Oxford, author of several learned works, and translator of others, and member of most of the learned societies of Europe.

Another portion of the magnificent library of M. Guglielmo Libri, who is leaving London, on account of ill health, will soon be brought to the hammer. The sale, it is expected, will extend over twenty-four days.

The select collection of Greek, Roman, and English coins, and of Assyrian, Babylonian, Etruscan, and Greek gems, formed by the late William Waring Hay Newton, Esq., of Edinburgh, will be sold by auction in a few weeks; as will also the collection of Greek coins belonging to Mons. De Carneirff, of St. Petersburg.

Dr. Lankester, whose lectures on the *Uses of Animals in relation to the Industry of Man*, delivered at the South Kensington Museum, have just been published, has in the press his lecture *On Food*.

The Rev. W. Pitt Dickson is about to publish a translation of Dr. Mommsen's *History of Rome, from the Earliest Time to the Period of its Decline*. The translation is made under the sanction and revision of the Author; and an introduction is supplied by Dr Schmitz.

Mr. J. Cordy Jeaffreson, in his *Book about Doctors*, just published, relates the following anecdote of an English physician of the days of our Grand Master Sir Christopher Wren.—“Dr. Cadogan, of Charles the Second’s time, was, like Sir John Eliot, a favourite with the ladies. His wont was to spend his days in shooting, and his evenings in flirtations. To the former of these tastes the following lines refer:—

‘Doctor, all game you either ought to shun,
Or sport no longer with the unsteady gun;
But, like physicians of undoubted skill,
Gladly attempt what never fails to kill,
Not *lead’s* uncertain dross, but physic’s deadly pill.’

Whether he was a good shot we cannot say; but he was sufficiently adroit as a squire of dames, for he secured as his wife a wealthy lady, over whose property he had unfettered control. Against the money, however, there were two important points figuring under the head of ‘set-off’—the bride was old and querulous. Of course such a woman was unfitted to live with an eminent physician, on whom bevyies of court ladies smiled, whenever he went west of Charing Cross. After spending a few months in alternate fits of jealous hate and jealous fondness, the poor creature conceived the terrible fancy that her husband was bent on destroying her with poison, and so ridding his life of her execrable temper. One day, when surrounded by her friends, and in the presence of her lord and master, she fell on her back in a state of hysterical spasms, exclaiming:—‘Ah! he has killed me at last. I am poisoned!’—‘Poisoned!’ cried the lady friends, turning up the whites of their eyes. ‘Oh! gracious goodness!—you have done it, Doctor!’—‘What do you accuse me of?’ asked the doctor, with surprise.—‘I accuse you—of—killing me—ee,’ responded the wife, doing her best to imitate a death struggle.—‘Ladies,’ answered the Doctor, with admirable *nonchalance*, bowing to Mrs. Cadogan’s bosom associates, ‘it is perfectly false. You are quite welcome to open her at once, and then you’ll discover the calumny.’”

Mr. Hobbs, whose fame as a locksmith is world-wide, is about to return to the United States, and to retire into private life,—at least so far as business is concerned.

Among the notices of literary auctions we observe that the entire stock remaining on hand of Mr. Henry Mayhew’s *London Labour and the London Poor*, as also of his *Great World of London*, will be sold next month.

The *Illustrated Horse Doctor*, by Mr. Edward Mayhew, appears to have been a success. A French firm is in treaty with Messrs. Allen and Co., the English publishers, to produce a translation in that language, while American publishers are negotiating for its production in the United States.

Report says that the interesting article in the new number of the *Cornhill Magazines*, entitled “The Rival Liberators of Italy”—i.e., Cavour and Garibaldi—is from the pen of Mr. Thomas Trollope, brother of the prolific and clever writer who has eclipsed, for this generation, his mother’s reputation as a novelist. Mr. Thomas Trollope is well read in Italian history, mediæval as well as modern, and is known both by his books on subjects from that history, and as Florentine correspondent of one of our contemporaries.

The announcement of the approaching publication of the *New Encyclopædia*, undertaken by the Brothers Pereire, has created a great sensation in France. Guizot and Cousin, Villemain and Thiers, are to be associated in its composition, Proudhon and the Père Enfantin, with Gerge Sand and Michelet!

An Account of the Late Indian Rebellion has recently appeared at Paris, from the pen of the well-known *littérateur*, M. Emile Forgues, and few books published in France have borne such high testimony to the character of the English Government, army, and people.

We have much pleasure in stating that while Sir B. Brodie’s health is excellent, his eyesight has improved to such a degree as to give his friends the strongest hope that he will shortly regain to a very great extent the use of his eyes.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

MASONIC ARMS.

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

SIR,—I have been not a little interested in the correspondence lately evoked in your columns by some remarks upon the armorial insignia of the Oakley Lodge, Hants. The subject of the arms of private lodges has always appeared to me to be deserving of more attention than has hitherto been bestowed upon it by the Craft; and I must enter my protest against the doctrine enunciated by one of your correspondents, that the insignia of private lodges are mere devices, and that disgrace to blazonry (which looks as if it had been stolen from an advertising undertaker’s window, or the banner of an odd-fellows’ procession)—the arms of Grand Lodge—is the only authorised Masonic coat. But, though I cannot see anything in the letter or spirit of the *Book of Constitutions* to support this theory, yet I do not hesitate to express my conviction that the use of personal arms as insignia of lodges (especially when, in the instance referred to, the armorial bearings have nothing of a Masonic character about them) is, to say the least of it, undesirable, and that it would be highly beneficial to the Craft to make the office of Grand Pursuivant something more than a mere matter of form, by investing its holder with the supervision of the ornaments and especially the heraldry of each lodge. While the Craft can boast such names as those of our Bro. Albert Woods and J. W. Papworth, there could be no want of ability to fulfil the duties of the office, and I may even say that nearly every province could furnish a brother fully competent to give effectual assistance in his own neighbourhood.

As a specimen of what I consider a Masonic coat of arms, I append the description of one recently assumed by the Howe Lodge (No. 857), which your heraldic readers will observe combines the wolves’ heads of Howe with the bend lozengy of Birmingham—thus: azure, on a bend argent cotised lozengy; or, three wolves’ heads coupled sable—on a coniton of the third a square and compasses of the first.

I beg to remain fraternally yours,

A PROV. G. OFFICER OF WARWICKSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WILTSHIRE.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I cannot allow your remarks on Bro. Oliver’s speech at the late provincial grand meeting of Wiltshire, and which appeared in your last number, respecting the unbusinesslike manner in which the scrutineers performed their duty with regard to the candidates for the Widows’ Fund to pass unnoticed, as you insert a paragraph at the foot stating, “*That the Wiltshire brethren are notorious for never having supported that or either of the other charities. Those always complain the most who do the least.*”

Had you been able to refute the charge as being an erroneous statement, it would have been more to the purpose in removing the want of confidence the country brethren feel in the managers of the charity, and would have tended more to increase the funds from the provinces than such an observation applied to so worthy a brother’s remarks as the son of our justly-celebrated Masonic writer Dr. Oliver, who, the Wiltshire brethren feel satisfied, would not make such a statement unless warranted in so doing.

We will now see how far the Wiltshire brethren are deserving your observations. In the vol. for 1857 of your MAGAZINE, page 751, you will find the sum of £20 was voted at the Provincial Grand Lodge at Devizes towards the Masonic charities, being, I think, the first vote, as you must not forget that the Prov. G. L. was instituted, to the best of my knowledge, in 1851. On the 24th of August, 1858, at the Prov. G. L. held at Trowbridge (recorded in page 422), it was carried that £25 *per annum* be paid to the Provincial Charity Committee in aid of the Masonic charities. Again, in page 154, you have the report of the Prov. G. L. held at Chippenham, August 23rd, 1859, when it was resolved that the following plan be inserted in the bye-laws of the different lodges in the province to increase the fund

to purchase life governorships in the different charities in rotation, according to the largest amounts paid by the respective lodges: that every W.M. do pay on his installation a fee of 10s. 6d.; the Wardens 5s. each; each chair in the chapter 5s.; assistant officers 2s. 6d.; and candidates, on initiation, 2s. each; the above payments to be made at the end of each year to the Prov. Grand Treasurer at the same time as the Prov. G.L. dues. The Treasurer to open a separate account for the charity fund. At the same time, Bro. Oliver suggests that, as the Lodge of Rectitude was *already* a Life Governor of the Royal Benevolent Institution, it would be better to give that lodge a governorship of one of the schools, instead of another governorship in the same institution. Again, in page 335, you have a report of the Wiltshire Lodge of Fidelity, held at Devizes, 19th April, 1860, when I had the pleasure of carrying a vote of ten guineas to purchase a Life Governorship in the Boys' School, and that from the funds of a lodge whose warrant was not four years old. It is as well a recorded fact that our highly esteemed, right worthy, and worshipful Bro. D. Prov. G. M. Gooch not only took the office of Steward, but presented *from this notorious uncharitable province* one of the best lists on that occasion—*considerably* over £100. The exact amount I cannot now name, as I have no figures to quote from, but hope, when the returns are sent me, to give you full particulars for a future number of all the *uncharitable* doings of the Wiltshire province, feeling sure that the R.W. Prov. G.M. and his Deputy have the true principles of Masonry too much at heart to allow for one moment so important a duty to be neglected. The observations you make are also very ill-timed, after the observations made by Bro. Crew, who rose to return thanks for the support given by the Provincial Grand Committee to the Girls' School, who had that day voted two life governorships for two lodges, by virtue of their resolution of August 23rd, 1859, and who, at the same time, had to thank our Worshipful Brother Col. Goddard, P. Prov. G.S.W., for taking the office of Steward for the next year. How, then, does it appear that, if the Wiltshire lodges are so notorious for not supporting our charities, that Bro. Crew should feel himself called on to return thanks in open Prov. G. L. for that which he (as Secretary of one of them) could never have received!

I fear I have trespassed too much on your valuable space; but feeling that a stigma, not only on our province, but also on our Prov. G.M. and D. Prov. G.M., was conveyed in your remarks, which I could not let pass unnoticed; and I am sure the Masonic world, from these extracts, will feel that our province is presided over by brethren who have the Masonic charities at heart, and who are not so notorious as you would make them out to be.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
WILLIAM BIGGS, P.M. 247 and 261, Prov. G. Reg., Wilts.

[We shall accept our brother's challenge, and show in an early number that Bro. Oliver, of Bath, has been making political capital out of a pure error, which was immediately corrected by the Committee, who have given pounds against the shillings or sixpences of those who complain.—Ed.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

SIR AND BROTHER,—I fear your representative was too busily engaged in his enquiries for my name to catch what I said at the late Prov. G. Lodge for Wilts when seconding Bro. Oliver's motion, noticed at page 354 of the MAGAZINE. He would not otherwise have reported me as saying "that no sane man would support the Benevolent Institution while under the present system."^{*}

I shall not trouble your readers with what I did say, but shall merely assure them that no member of the Prov. G. Lodge of Wilts, no member of No. 420, and most assuredly not its J.W. would, otherwise than repudiate with just indignation, as I do now, a sentiment so foreign to their and my own feelings.

I am not a resident in Wilts, possibly, therefore, though that province possesses ample means of justifying itself, I may spare the feelings of my Wiltshire Brethren by pointing on their behalf to the statements contained in your report of the proceedings of the same Prov. G. Lodge, as amply

* Our reporter has again referred to his notes, and finds the words used to be exactly as reported.

refuting your foot note. The Province of Wilts has for the last two years possessed an organization supported by taxation imposed under the bye-laws of every lodge within its limits, and resulting in a handsome yearly provision for the charities. Add to this consideration, that the W.M., of No. 420 was, previously to the inauguration of this plan, a Governor (by donation) of the Benevolent Institution, and I think you will admit that the note in question was erroneous and withdraw the slur you have doubtless unintentionally cast on a province, equalled by few in its arrangements for the support of our admirable charities.

I am Sir and Brother, yours &c.,
Bath, November 7th, 1860. J.W. 420.

THE CHARITIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In your correspondent's letter of last week, he will not allow the Socrates Lodge (No. 511) to be a subscriber to the Boys' School. In December, 1858, I sent ten guineas that the W.M., might be a life governor to the Boys' School. In March, 1860, I sent five guineas to the Widow's Fund, that the W.M., might be a life governor for 15 years. The Provincial Grand Lodge sent in July, 1859, ten guineas to the Boys' School, and ten guineas to the Girls' School; June, 1860, five guineas to the aged Freemasons' and in July 1860 five guineas to the Widows' Fund.

As regards the candidate Ridgway, his father belongs to a lodge at Spalding, in Lincolnshire. It appears his mother resides at Fletton, in Huntingdonshire, but we know nothing of the case and were never solicited for our votes.

I am Dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally
Huntingdon, Nov. 5th GEORGE M. FOX, Sec., P.M.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Your volume of 1857 contained a circular from the Grand Encampment of Knight Templars in America, calling upon the various encampments throughout the world for co-operation "To elucidate the mystery which hangs over our Order since the death of De Molay. To investigate the claims of these and other (if there be any) branches of our common family to legitimacy. To unite them, if possible, as of yore, and to ascertain the real connexion between Freemasonry and Templarism, at what time it occurred, and whether it should be continued." Permit me to enquire through your pages whether anything has yet been done either in Europe or America to forward these desirable results?

Every member of the Order must feel the unsatisfactory position in which it is placed from the want of unity between the different bodies, who appear to have little or no communication with each other. Why our Grand Conclave does not mutually appoint representatives with those of Scotland, France, Ireland, &c., I cannot understand, since we are stated to be on the best of terms with them, and through that means come to some understanding with regard to uniformity of laws and ritual.

It would appear, from a preface to the Scottish Statutes of the Order, where its progress since the suppression is briefly traced, that the Order in that country is divided into two classes—Chivalric and Masonic, the only difference in the present day being the recognition of the former by a patent from the "Grand Master or Sovereign of the cosmopolite body."

From the differences to which I have already alluded, it would be almost an impossibility to unite the Masonic Templars, but if the Scottish Templars from whom all others doubtless derive their origin, were to admit the Masonic Templars of other countries into the Chivalric branch, those of England, America, and Ireland (and perhaps France might be brought to participate) would most likely be glad to cement under one Grand Master, as suggested by our American fraters.

Perhaps some of the Scottish Templars who are acquainted with the views of their Chapter General, would kindly inform us through your pages, whether the Chivalric body would be likely to assent to such arrangements, and what terms and qualifications would be enforced from the Masonic Templars of other countries?

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

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

A lodge of Instruction has been opened under the authority of the New Concord Lodge (1115), to meet every Thursday evening at the Rosemary Brauch Tavern, Hoxton.

The Joppa Lodge of Instruction (No. 223) has removed to the Red Lion Tavern, Basinghall-street.

METROPOLITAN.

GRAND STEWARDS' LODGE—PUBLIC NIGHT.

On Wednesday, the 31st ult., the Grand Stewards Lodge gave an extra public night, in the Temple adjoining Freemasons Hall, the free use of which had been kindly granted by the Board of General Purposes. The programme of the evening was one of unusual attraction, and nearly two hundred brethren were present, amongst whom we observed Bros. Harris, P.G.D., President of the Board of General Purposes; Bro. Eavers, P.G.S.B., President of the Colonial Board; Bro. W. G. Clarke, G. Sec.; Bro. S. B. Wilson, P.G.D.; Bro. Le Veau, P.G.S.B.; Bro. Patten, P.G.S.B.; Bro. Smith, P.G. Purst., Bro. Farnfield, Assistant G. Secretary, &c.

The Lodge was opened by Bro. Watson, acting as W.M., with Bros. Hinxman as P.M.; Nutt, S.W.; Samuels, J.W.; Hewlett, P.M. S.D.; Merryweather, J.D.; Warren, Sec. The acting W.M. then proceeded with the ceremony of consecrating a lodge, being assisted by his various officers, and a very excellent oration was delivered by Bro. Hinxman, with much point and effect. The musical part of the ceremony was performed by Bro. Matthew Cooke, who presided at the organ, and Bro. Donald King, who kindly afforded their valuable assistance. The ceremony was most efficiently performed—and the corn, wine, and oil was distributed from the beautiful consecrated vessels belonging to Grand Lodge.

At the conclusion of the ceremony of consecration, the chair was taken by Bro. Nutt, P.M. of 32, the Senior Deacon of the lodge, and the W.M. Bro. H. G. Warren, having been presented by Bro. Watson for installation, that ceremony was performed by Bro. Nutt, in so far as it may be in the presence of uninstalled Master Masons, in a manner to call forth general commendation—the addresses to the Master, Wardens and Brethren being admirably delivered by Bros. Merryweather P.M. 324, and Watson P.M. 23.

Bro. WARREN, W.M. then rose and said:—In appearing before the brethren for the first time in the character of a lecturer, and taking for his theme the workings of Preston and Webb, he had been induced to do so from the works of those brethren being the acknowledged authorities of the Craft of the two great nations of the Anglo Saxon race, separated from each other by the Atlantic, and from some attention having been drawn to the subject, through the visit of a brother, still amongst them, who had during the past year been giving illustrations of American working in various parts of the country. In the cursory remarks he should make and which he had called a lecture, he begged it to be observed that he used the term more in its popular than its Masonic signification, trusting that if he could afford no great information to the brethren, they would at least give him credit for his endeavour to assist them in the pursuit of Masonic knowledge, he having long held that it would be much to the advantage of the craft if some of the brethren would occasionally favour them with more elaborate illustrations of the principles of the order, its distinguishing characteristics, cardinal virtues, and the various sciences to which it was allied, than were to be found in their regular lectures. Before entering on his subject, he would premise that between the Illustrations of Preston and Webb's Monitor, there was no real difference, the latter being in fact nothing but a piracy of the former. It was true that Webb in his original preface, stated that his work was "principally taken from the Illustrations of Wm. Preston," but no one, even under that description, would suppose that it was a mere abbreviation—a transposition of words, sentences and chapters, many of which were reproduced verbatim. The proper title of Webb's Monitor should be Webb's Preston, by which any one would at once recognise it as the work of one brother edited by another. What should be its title, however, was probably of less consequence, when Webb first published the work in the United States, than at present, for it was not likely that he ever anticipated that the time would come when a brother would cross the Atlantic to seek subscribers for American Masonic publications in England, and explain to the English brethren the principles of Masonry as practised in his country, those explanations being based on a work which was only a piracy from an English authority. He (Bro. Warren) was, however, astonished that a brother of the standing of Bro. Rob. Morris

in the United States, in issuing a new edition of Webb's work (which was now publicly advertised in England), and which he had illustrated by some valuable notes, did not give it its proper title, more especially as he was himself the publisher of an edition of Preston in its original form. He might observe that in illustrating the three degrees Preston divided them into six, four, and twelve sections respectively, whereas Webb condensed them into three, two, and three, and to show how close they run he would quote from

PRESTON, pp. 10, 11.

"If the secrets of Masonry are replete with such advantage to mankind it may be asked, why are they not divulged for the general good? To this it may be answered:—Were the privileges of Masonry to be indiscriminately dispensed, the purposes of the institution would not only be subverted; but our secrets being familiar, like other important matters would lose their value and sink into disregard."

Again, in the following page we find:—

PRESTON.

"Did the essence of Masonry consist in the knowledge of particular secrets, or peculiar forms, it might, indeed, be alleged, that our pursuits were trifling and superficial."

WEBB, pp. 21, 22.

"If the secrets of Masonry are replete with such advantages to mankind it may be asked, why are they not divulged for the general good of society? To which it may be answered:—Were the privileges of Masonry to be indiscriminately bestowed, the design of the institution would be subverted; and being familiar like many other important matters would soon lose their value and sink into disregard."

WEBB.

"Did the particular secrets or peculiar forms prevalent amongst Masons constitute the essence of the art, it might be alleged that our amusements were trifling and our ceremonies superficial."

The last extract was an ingenious specimen of transposition, and so it was throughout the work. The 1st chapter of Webb and the 3rd section of Preston were almost verbally the same, with the exception of slight abbreviations, and the omission of the last paragraph in Preston, and the same again with the 2nd chapter of Webb and the 5th of Preston—excepting that in Webb allusion was made to degrees not recognized in England, and of which Bro. Morris, the editor of Webb, writes: "This is according to the *American system*. . . . All the degrees of the chapter here named are intensely *Americanised*." The only recommendation in Webb he could see—if recommendation it was—was that he entered rather fully into an explanation of the jewels and working tools—a knowledge of which Preston recommended should be attained by a regular attendance at Lodges. Bro. Warren then proceeded to illustrate the difference between English and American working—the latter of which he expressed an opinion was too dramatic, and without the utmost perfection in all the workers or actors, would be more likely to create ridicule than inspire the candidate with that awe and reverence of the majesty of the Most High, which it should be at all times their great object to produce in the minds of their members. He also pointed out how the American system, as laid down in Morris's edition of Webb, connected Masonry with Christianity, and thereby deprived the former of that universality which was one of its proudest boasts. Bro. Warren also dilated upon the variations between the English and American obligations—the latter of which he regarded as too stringent, and likely to drive many of the best thinking men from the order, being sure it would have that effect in England. But into this part of the subject it is evident we cannot enter in print. He concluded by thanking the brethren for the attention with which they had listened to him, assuring them that if he found it likely to be acceptable, he would, on a future occasion, draw a comparison between the ancient and modern workings.

The W.M. having resumed his seat,

Bro. HAVERS, P. G.D., President of the Board of General Purposes, said that, having obtained the permission of the W.M. to move a resolution, he should make use of the privilege by asking the visitors present to join him in requesting that a vote of thanks might be entered on the minutes of the lodge to the W.M. and the brethren for the very instructive evening which they had afforded them. As to the accuracy of the ceremony of consecration, he could scarcely offer an opinion. The ceremony there worked was one with which he was not familiar, but it was one in which he believed great latitude was allowed, and it was evident that the brethren had deeply studied it, and were anxious to give due effect to it in its performance. Reverting to the part of the proceedings in which the W.M. had taken the prominent part, he was glad to observe that that brother had come forward with his remarks on American Masonry, for, looking at the antecedents of other Grand Lodges, and at the position of the Grand Lodge of England, it was most important that they should keep their system as pure as possible; and he had that day received a letter from a well-known clergyman who had been spending his

summer in the United States, and who forwarded him a book, and had given him such information as convinced him that the ceremonies were very loosely worked in America, in fact that many of our beautiful ceremonies were travestied to a degree which made them ludicrous. To adopt an expression made use of by the W.M., he must say that they were certainly Americanised, and they would see the necessity of having some authority to which they could look for the accuracy of their ceremonies, when he told them that their American cousins professed to impart no less than five or six degrees in Craft Masonry unknown to the Grand Lodge of England, from which they originally derived their instruction and authority. Useful and important as were the various Lodges of Instruction in England, he must repeat that it was most important that they should have some authority to which they could readily refer to correct those little inaccuracies and innovations in their ceremonies, which almost insensibly crept in. In past times the Grand Steward's Lodge stood alone as a Lodge of Instruction, now there were other and most valuable Lodges of Instruction; still were the Grand Steward's Lodge to devote themselves to that object, and hold their public nights a little oftener than they had hitherto done, they would afford a great advantage to the Craft. He remembered that lodge in the days of its prosperity, and had listened with pleasure to its instruction. It had since, like other lodges passed through its days of depression and trial, and he was glad to see it again asserting its right to the proud position it held in the Craft. It had been his fortune in Grand Lodge some years since to defend the privileges of the Grand Stewards when attacked, and should the time ever come again, he had no doubt that they would find defenders besides himself, able and willing to preserve to them the peaceable enjoyment of the privileges which had been accorded to them for their past services by Grand Lodge. Again thanking the W.M. for his interesting lecture and the brethren of the Grand Stewards Lodge for the very agreeable evening they had afforded them and trusting that they would reap the full fruits of their well directed exertions, he would conclude by proposing his resolution.

Bro. J. L. EVANS, P.G.S.B., President of the Colonial Board seconded the motion which was carried by acclamation.

The W.M. briefly acknowledged the complimentary manner in which the resolution had been proposed by so distinguished a Mason as the President of the Board of General Purposes, and the kindness with which it had been responded to by the brethren. He thanked them on behalf of the Grand Stewards Lodge for the very numerous attendance with which they had honoured the lodge that evening and assured them that it would be the utmost endeavour of the members of the lodge to render their public nights as attractive as possible by the correctness of their working and close adhesion to the laws of the order. Their next public night would be on Wednesday, Dec. 19th, when the Grand Stewards would be proud to see as many brethren present as could make it convenient to attend.

The lodge was then closed in due form shortly after ten o'clock.

[We have received a note from Bro. Elisha Cooke protesting against the observations both of the W.M. of the lodge and Bro. Haversas tending to give a partial and one-sided view of Freemasonry in the United States.—Ed.]

INSTRUCTION.

THE ALBION LODGE (No. 9).—This lodge held its usual weekly meeting at seven o'clock on Sunday, the 4th inst., at Bro. Hartley's, Western Masonic Hall, 10, Old Bond-street, and was well attended, Bro. Cobham, of the Lodge of Faith, W.M.; Bro. Simpson, of 211, S.W.; Bro. Barnshaw, W.M., elect of the Zetland, 752, J.W.; supported by Bro. Woodstock, P.M., 1051 and several other P.M.'s and brethren. The ceremony of initiation (Bro. Ardin, 752, as candidate), and the seven sections of the first lecture were ably worked by Bro. Cobham, the presiding W.M. Bro. Bone, of 211, was elected a member of this lodge. Bro. Simpson was elected W.M. for the ensuing Sunday. The Secretary announced that on the last Sunday in November the three ceremonies with their lectures, in the fifteen sections would be worked. Bro. Woodstock, P.M., of the Belgrave, 1051, was unanimously elected to preside on that occasion. There being no other business to transact, the lodge was closed in ancient form. This lodge meets every Sunday evening at seven o'clock, and being attended by several eminent brethren, offers to those who are engaged on the other days of the week excellent opportunities of acquiring sound Masonic knowledge.

ST. THOMAS'S LODGE, No. 166.—This lodge met at the Freemasons Tavern, on Saturday last, when the following officers were at their posts: Bros. E. C. Cockcraft, W.M.; Hewitt, S.W.; Ugenon, J.W.; Gilbert, S.D.; G. States and Luce, P.M.'s; William Watson, P.G. Steward, visitor. The business transacted

was as follows:—Lodge opened, minutes of last lodge, and lodge of emergency, both read and confirmed. Opened in the 2nd degree, Bro. Woodford passed to that degree, by the W.M., in a manner that reflected the highest credit on his masonic zeal and knowledge. The lodge was closed down and after solemn prayer the brethren dispersed.

LION AND LAMB LODGE (No. 227).—This lodge which is one of the many, that through altered circumstances of the proprietors of Hotels, has had to make many removals, and is now on a journey of discovery, as to where to fix its tent. It met on Thursday Nov. 1 at the London Coffee House, the October meeting having been held at the Three Tuns in the Borough. Bro. Lewis Balfour W.M. presided, and after passing Bro. Backerack to the second degree, resigned the chair to Bro. Marsh, who initiated Mr. Arthur Langlois, whom he had introduced. A motion of Bro. Breiling seconded by Bro. H. Muggeridge, to present the widow of Bro. Mc. Carthy with two guineas, was carried unanimously. It is not decided where the future location of the lodge is to be fixed.

EUPHRATES LODGE (No. 257).—At the regular meeting of the lodge held on Tuesday, Nov. 6th, at the White Hart Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, Bro. J. de Solla, W.M., presided, when besides the officers there were present P.M.'s Bros. Shaen, Schwabe, Coventry, Galck, and others. Bro. Devas was raised to the third degree in a most able manner by the W.M. Proposals for new members were offered, and it was announced that Bro. Hatton would represent the lodge at the next festival of the Boys' School. There being no further business, the lodge was closed and adjourned to December, when the election of W.M. will take place. Twenty of the brethren afterwards partook of supper, and in the course of the evening the W.M. proposed as a toast "Prosperity to the Benevolent Fund," and in response Bro. Schwabe, as one of the trustees, made a most gratifying report of the gradual increase of that fund, which he informed the brethren was safely invested in the Savings Bank. Bros. Davis, How, and Valentine were visitors.

FITZROY LODGE (No. 830).—This military lodge held its first meeting of the season on Friday October 26th at the head quarters of the Royal Artillery Company, Finsbury. Bro. Capt. Rough, P.M. presided in the absence of the W.M., and passed Bro. Fletcher Norton to the second degree. After the disposal of the routine business of the lodge the Brethren adjourned to the banquet. Between thirty and forty were present, and among the numerous visitors, were Bro. Sharp, P.G. St and P.M. 14; Bro. G. England, P.M. 38, and P. Prov. G.S.W. Surrey; Bro. Bentham P.M. 593, P. Prov. G. Surrey; Bro. S. Myers, P.M. 1117; Bro. H. Sowdon, P.M. 57; Bro. J. How, Prov. G.D.C., Herts; Bro. Pain, Bruton, and Gorman, 11; Bro. Beningfield, 72; Bro. W.E. Cole, 1115, and Bro. C. Horsley, 38. Dinner ended and the bounty of T. G. A. O. T. U. gratefully acknowledged, the brethren adjourned to another room where the dessert was laid, after due honour had been paid to the usual loyal Masonic toasts, Bro. Eglese, P.M., rose and after alluding to the course taken by their actual Master in sending his resignation ere he had completed his year of office—which was regretted by every member of the lodge—said even for such emergencies the Fitzroy was prepared. It was their pride that there were among the P.M.'s those, who were ready for any duties to which they might be summoned, and he especially referred to the estimable brother, who filled the chair on that occasion, whose able conduct in lodge, and courtesy at the banquet, diffused a halo of happiness on all around. Bro. Captain Rough said the pleasure he felt in again presiding over the lodge, and thus being commended, was somewhat alloyed by the resignation of Bro. Long; at the same time it was his earnest desire as P.M. to sustain the good order and reputation of the lodge. The W.M. then said he had next to give what the "Fitzroy" always considered the toast of the evening, "The Visitors;" they were numerous and he could not attempt to particularise, or name one more than another some they were well acquainted with, others then paid their first visit, but to each and all they offered a hearty welcome. To this Bro. England made a brief reply, acknowledging their kind reception. The W.M. next proposed the health of the Past Masters, and especially referred to the active services of those present, Bro. Eglese, the Secretary, Bro. Matthews, the Treasurer, and Bro. Newton, the Director of Ceremonies, and he could fearlessly assert that for zeal and ability in these several offices, three such Past Masters were not to be found in the craft. Bro. Eglese in reply, said there was such a unity of good feeling among the members, that any duty was pleasing. Bro. Matthews said his duties were ever easy and agreeable, for he found the members always so ready to pay their subscriptions into the treasury, that he never had to ask for money, and he was happy to say they had always means to afford a good welcome to their friends. The Officers, and some other toasts were drunk, and the evening brought to a close.

VICTORIA RIFLES' LODGE (No. 1124) CONSECRATION—On the first of this month the above lodge was formally opened at the Queen's Arms, Kilburn Gate. The business of the first meeting consisted in the consecration of the lodge, and installation of the W.M. by Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, P.G.D. After some accidental delay, Bro. S. B. Wilson proceeded to consecrate the lodge, in which he was assisted by Bro. Fenn, who performed the duties of Chaplain in a very efficient manner, and Bro. Matthew Cooke, who undertook the musical portion of the ceremony, Bro. Watson acting as S.W., and Bro. G. Barrett, as J.W. The petitioners named in the warrant, and who were present, were Bros. William Lewis Collins, W.M. elect; Capt. John A. Campbell, S.W. elect; Lieut. Booth Scott, J.W. elect; James Burton, Hon. Sec.; James A. Abbott; Joseph Braithwaite; and A. Crossly. There were several visitors present among whom may be mentioned Bros. William Watson, G. Barrett, G. Lambert, Nutt, Croft, Fry, Fenn, and others. After the board of installed masters had placed the W.M. in the chair of King Solomon, he invested the following brethren his officers:—Capt. Campbell, S.W.; Lieut. Booth Scott, J.W.; — Croft, M.D. Treas.; Burton, Hon. Sec.; Braithwaite, S.D.; Abbott, J.D.; Achilles, I.G. Several members of the corps were proposed as joining members, and there was a large list of candidates for initiation at the next meeting. The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet, after which the W.M. gave the first toast of the evening, that loyal demonstration of attachment to the sovereign that always meets a warm response amongst masons and no less so amongst the Victoria Rifle brigade whose very name was that of the august lady whose health he proposed, coupled with her loyal subjects, the Craft. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm and Bro. G. Lambert sang "God save the Queen," capitally. The W.M. next gave the M.W.G.M. the Earl of Zetland, and said he had been so long absent from the Craft that he quite forgot his Lordships qualifications and he regretted this was owing to himself. The toast of the D.G.M. Lord Pannure and the Past, and Present, Grand Officers followed, coupled with the name of Bro. S. B. Wilson, whom the W.M. had not known till that day, but from his readiness to assist them, as strangers, he regretted he had not made his acquaintance before. He was not given to flattery but he must call Bro. Wilson both kind and amiable, feeling sure that he was both a good man, and a good Mason, and hoped to have the pleasure of his company for many years, for he felt that the lodge must last for a very many years, and be a bond of union in the corps. Slight checks, such as they had experienced, were useful in making them all cautious, and in his own case he could but express his thanks to all for their ready aid. He acknowledged his deficiency in really knowing next to nothing of his duties, but promised to make himself as competent as he could, and he believed his brethren of the corps would take the will for the deed. Again, he would thank Bro. Wilson for his aid, and hoped to see him for many years, in which he was sure he should be backed by the lodge, who would show their appreciation of his kindness by drinking his health in conjunction with the toast. Bro. S. B. Wilson said, as a Past-Grand Officer, it gave him great pleasure to be enabled to return thanks for so excellent a brother as Lord Pannure, and he had but one regret that it should fall to his lot to do so, for had their D.G.M. been present, he felt certain, well knowing his feeling towards everything military, that he would have been happy to have been amongst them. For his own part, only a portion of their W.M.'s encomiums were just, for he attended to do his duty, in which he always took a pride, and it was a proud occasion to be instrumental in adding one more lodge to the roll of the Grand Lodge. He saw one before him who was also anxious to do the same, but as he would have an opportunity of speaking for himself, he (Mr. Wilson) would not say all he could in his favour. On any, and every occasion, his assistance was theirs; he was happy to render it, and always hoped to be ready and at the service of the craft. Bro. S. B. Wilson, rose again and addressed the lodge, stating that he wished to propose the health of the W.M., and in so doing, he felt proud it had fallen to his lot. Although their W.M. knew much less of his duties than he had anticipated, yet his abilities would soon carry him over that difficulty, for however rusty he was at present, there could be no question that he would soon make an efficient member of the craft, and those that nominated him would have no cause to regret his appointment, but feel gratified they had been enabled to place him in that onerous position. The name of the lodge was a sufficient guarantee that all would be well. The Victoria Rifles ranked A.I., and their W.M. was not the least distinguished in that corps. And as they ranked in patriotism, so he hoped they would rank masonically and become second to no lodge in the universe. Wishing the W.M. long life and prosperity, he called on every brother to do honour to the toast in a bumper.—The W.M. returned thanks very sincerely for the kind way in which his health had been received. Bro. S. B. Wilson had spoken very properly, and given him good advice. When first he was asked to become their W.M. he objected, as he had but little time to make himself efficient, and

his chief aim was to make himself a thorough officer of the Victoria Rifle Corps. However, they wished to have one of the officers for their first W.M., and as he was already a mason of some standing, he could not very readily back out. If he could find time, he would do his best to become efficient, and with gratitude for their kindness, and a hope that they would overlook his imperfections, he resumed his seat. The W.M. said there were always two toasts of importance at every meeting of Masons—"The Visitors and Initiates." They had the first but not the second there that evening, and, what was more pleasing, they were numerous. Bro. W. Watson was a first-rate Mason, and the W.M. had known him from Queen Anne's time, or some antediluvian period. Dr. Croft was also well known; Bro. Lambert at all times ready to tell what he knew, and afford every assistance; Bros. Nutt and Barrett both well known and estimable brethren. Bro. Fenn was a stranger to him, but he had done his portion of the ceremony so properly that he (the W.M.) had enquired if he was a cleric? for no clergyman could have done it better, and he must say that never, for his own part, during the seventeen years he had been a Mason, had he thought so well of Masonry as during Bro. Fenn's address. Bro. Barrett had been known to him a long time, indeed ever since he went and kicked up a row in the Bon Accord Lodge. (Laughter.) He did not know he could say more, and so would couple with the health of the visitors Bro. Watson and Fenn's names.—Bro. WATSON, on behalf of all the visitors, was much pleased with the hospitality the lodge had shown them. The South Middlesex had set the example of having a lodge attached to its corps, and he thought it one of the best movements that had been made for a long time. The volunteers were an honour and service to the country; and, if anything could further add to their union, it was to find comrades and brothers in their corps. He felt sure the Victoria Rifles Lodge must prosper, and, in the name of the visitors, wished it every prosperity.—Bro. FENN said he felt called upon to confess he did not please himself in his part of the ceremony, but it was only due to Bro. S. B. Wilson to say that he (Bro. Fenn) was indebted to him alone for the words they so much admired, they were Bro. S. B. Wilson's own, and he ought to reap the credit.—The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the S.W. Captain Campbell," late of the 1st Royals, and now of the Victoria Rifles, in both of which he was held in the most deserved esteem, as he was a universal favourite, and would, no doubt, prove the same in the lodge. He had been very anxious to establish it, and had attended the preliminary meetings at great self denial; and, as a personal friend of the W.M.'s and most of the members, as well as their first S.W., his health was proposed by the W.M., and warmly received by the brethren.—Captain CAMPBELL, S.W., did not know what he was to say, after such praise. He owed his position to the W.M. and J.W., and was very rusty, for he belonged to a lodge when in the 1st Royals, which lodge had been shut up by an old general when they were quartered in Cork, and, if it had been at work, why he might have been more efficient, but he felt prouder to be in the Victoria Rifle Lodge, and much more so at being in the corps than in any regiment in the service. He had but to assure them the compliments paid him were quite unmerited, but he should study to deserve some portion, in future, by doing his best to work well.—The W.M. said he liked to praise talent where it was exhibited. Bro. Scott, the J.W., was indefatigable in all he undertook, he hunted up the Masons, and kept all going. He was a punctual man, and that was of great service. Indeed, the W.M. could not say what he was not—and, to be brief, summed it up as the Rifles knew him, the Masons respected him, and their visitors, when they came to know more of him, must appreciate him. After which the W.M. gave the health of the J.W. Bro. Scott.—The J.W., Bro. SCOTT, said he was anxious to see that brethren in arms were also brothers in Freemasonry. He felt great satisfaction at seeing the lodge started, and believed it would, in course of time, rank as one of the best in the metropolis.—The W.M. had one more toast to propose, which was the health of Bro. George Lambert, who had taken a great deal of trouble on behalf of the lodge, and did many acts of kindness to (the W.M.) he was considered a first-rate sort of Mason, and warmly esteemed as a friend and a Mason, ever ready to do a service, cheerful, and jolly.—Bro. LAMBERT, as a member of the Queen's corps, was very happy to meet their companions of the Victoria Rifles, more particularly on that day. He knew the advantages of Freemasonry; for, being blessed with a polyglot language, he had seen its spread on the Continent; but, unfortunately, there it was mixed up with all sorts of wild dreams of liberty, and that was its ban amongst the well-disposed. To counteract this, he had endeavoured to establish a lodge in France, in which he had been successful, and also to establish a charity in connection with it; and it was a strange fact, that through the Freemason's fund, the papal brigade had been relieved and assisted in returning home. He was much gratified at what he had witnessed that day. He had a great respect for the movement

he had joined, and his best wishes were for the prosperity of the Victoria Rifles' Lodge.—The W.M. gave the healths of the Treasurer, Secretary, and other officers, which were briefly responded to; and left the chair.

PROVINCIAL.

KENT.

ASHFORD.—*Invicta Lodge* (1011).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge took place in the Assembly Rooms, on Friday the 2nd of Nov., Bro. W. Sheppard, W.M., in the chair, when a ballot was taken for the election of Worshipful Master and Treasurer for the ensuing year. Bro. J. S. Eastes was declared duly elected as W.M., and Bro. B. K. Thorpe as Treas. The following resolution was then unanimously voted "That the thanks of this lodge are due, and are hereby tendered to the W.M. and brethren of the Gravesend Lodges 91 and 709 respectively, for their kindness and hospitality at the recent festival. The brethren of the Invicta Lodge are further desirous of expressing their admiration of the very excellent general arrangements on that occasion, which rendered the reception worthy of the inauguration of a new era in Masonry in the province of Kent." A variety of business having been disposed of, the lodge was closed, and adjourned until the first Friday in December, which will be the annual festival.

NORFOLK.

PROPOSED MASONIC HALL IN NORWICH.—The movement for procuring a Masonic Hall for this city and province has been taken up in a very earnest spirit by some influential brethren, and there is every prospect that the wish expressed by the R.W. G.M. of the province, Bro. Bond Cabbell, at the banquet lately given in his honour, will be carried into effect, and that Norwich will soon possess a suitable building for the meeting of the local lodges, as well as of the Prov. Grand Lodge, which, it is understood, will in future assemble in this city, instead of peregrinating, as heretofore, round the county. The following influential committee has been appointed to arrange the preliminary details of the project:—The R.W. Bro. Sir Henry Stracey, Bart., M.P., P. Prov. G.S.W., chairman; Bro. A. J. Cresswell, treasurer; Bro. T. M. Wilkin, Prov. G.S.W., and W.M., Lynn; Bro. A. F. Morgan, Prov. G.S.W., and W.M., 110; Bro. Wright Seaby, W.M. 60; Bro. E. Hyams, W.M., 258; Bro. H. J. Mason, W.M., 110; Bros. E. S. Bignold and C. S. Boulton, S.W. and J.W., 60; Bros. J. D. Ellis and G. E. Simpson, Wardens of 110; Bros. Stevens and F. Colsey, Wardens of 258; Bros. George Minns and H. B. Woolsey, Wardens of 110; Bros. Dawbarn and Redgrave, Principals Royal Arch; Bro. J. Barwell, Prov. G. Treas.; Bro. W. Leedes Fox, Prov. G. Sec.; Bro. the Rev. F. W. Freeman, (D. Prov. G.M., Suffolk) W.M. 100, Harleston; Bro. G. Wright, W.M. Yarmouth; Bro. W. Smith, W.M. North Walsham; Bro. the Hon. F. Walpole; Bro. Sir W. M. Foster, Bart.; Bro. A. Tyssen Amherst; Bros. C. Gurney, F. Keith, J. B. Morgan, the Rev. F. H. S. Hodgson, Chaplain of 110, and J. Hanly (J.D. 258) hon. sec., with power to add to their number. The first meeting of the Committee was held at the Royal Hotel, Norwich, on Monday last, Bro. Sir Henry Stracey in the chair, and was very well attended. Bro. Sir Henry Stracey, in taking the chair, said he was sensible of the honour done him in appointing him chairman of the committee, but considering his many private as well as public engagements, he could not have undertaken the position, if it had not been for his conviction of the great social value of Freemasonry, and of the advantages which their excellent order would derive from the consummation of the present project. He was sure they must all feel that the province of Norfolk and the lodges in this city ought to possess a Masonic Hall, and that the credit and character of the order were intimately concerned in the success of this movement, which he trusted would be carried on with energy and determination. Some conversation then took place as to the most expedient mode of procedure, and a general opinion was expressed in favour of purchasing a suitable building in a central situation which could be adapted without much expense to the purposes of a Masonic hall and club; and which could also, with the object of making the undertaking successful in a commercial point of view, supply a want much felt in Norwich by providing a good room for balls, concerts, and entertainments—smaller and more comfortable than St. Andrew's hall, and more spacious and convenient than the assembly rooms, the only two places at present available for such purposes in this populous and important city, and each of them equally unsuitable in the majority of cases. Bros. G. Simpson and G. W. Minns were appointed a sub-committee to make enquiries with respect to a suitable building. A vote of thanks having been passed to Bro. Sir Henry Stracey for presiding, the Committee adjourned until the sub-committee is prepared with its report. The subject of the proposed hall was mentioned for the first time in the Union Lodge (60), at its usual monthly meeting, at the Norfolk Hotel, on last Tuesday evening, when Bro. Barwell, Prov. Grand

Treasurer, explained the general scope of the Committee's intentions, and forcibly advocated the importance of every brother co-operating in the movement. No resolution was moved, but the feeling of the brethren present appeared to be decidedly in favour of the project, which in fact, has nowhere, as far as we can learn, met with a single unfavourable or dissentient voice, but has enlisted a considerable degree of cordial support, not only among the members of the city lodges, who are most closely interested in the scheme, but also among the brethren residing in other parts of the province.

MARK MASONRY.

LEICESTER.—*Fowke Lodge* (No. 19).—A meeting of this lodge was held at Freemason's Hall on Wednesday, the 31st ult., under the presence of the W.M., Bro. Kelly, Prov. G. M. of the Mark. Bro. W. Foster, of the John of Gaunt Lodge, No. 766, was duly advanced to the degree. Bro. Smith was also ballotted for, but was not in attendance. It being the period for the election of Worshipful Master, a ballot took place, when Bro. Capt. Bankart, S.W., was declared unanimously elected to that office. Bro. Sutton Corkran, of No. 4, Dublin, was proposed as a joining member, after which the lodge closed in due form.

HOWE LODGE (No. 21).—At a later hour of the evening a meeting of this lodge was held at the same place, at which, in the absence of the W. M. (Bro. Underwood), Bro. Kelly again presided. A ballot took place for the W. M. for the ensuing year, which resulted in the election of the Senior Warden, Bro. Pettifer. Bro. W. Jackson, of St. John's Lodge, No. 348, having been proposed as a candidate for advancement, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

ROYAL ARCH.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The quarterly convocation of Grand Chapter was held in the Temple adjoining Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, the M.E. Comp. Hall, G.J., presiding as M.E.Z.; Comp. W. H. White, P.G.E. as H.; Comp. Havers, P.G.S.B. as J.; Comp. W. G. Clarke, G.E.; Comp. J. L. Evans, G.N.; Comp. Potter, P.G.S.B. as P. G. Soj.; Comp. A. Perkins, Asst. G. Soj.; Comp. Le Veau, P.G.D.C. as Ass. G. Soj.; Comp. Harcourt, G.S.B.; Comp. Bridges, G.D.C.; Comps. Bradford, P.G.S.B.; Slight, P.G.S.B.; J. N. Tomkins, P.G.S.B.; T. R. White, P.G.S.B.; S. B. Wilson, P.G.S.B.; Gale, P.G.Std.B.; Bradford, P.G.D.C.; E. G. Pocock, P.G.D.C.; Smith, P.G.D.C., and about thirty other companions.

The minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed,

The M.E.Z. called attention to a circular which had been placed in his hands canvassing members of the Grand Chapter to attend and support a petition for a new chapter to be attached to Lodge 38, it being the custom of the General Committee not to recommend the granting of new chapters in London. Such a circular was decidedly opposed to all Masonic regulations, and more likely to do an injury to the cause it was intended to benefit than otherwise.

The Comp. who signed the circular having acknowledged that he had done so,

Comp. WILSON regretted the course that had been taken, but expressed a hope that it would not be allowed to influence the companions, but that they would be guided in their decision solely by the merits of the case.

The G.S.E. then read the report of the General Committee, published at page 355 of our last number, which on the motion of Comp. Smith, seconded by Comp. Adlard, was ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

The petition for a chapter to be attached to the Lodge (No. 781) Hobart Town, South Tasmania, was then granted; for a chapter to be attached to Lodge (No. 310) Liverpool postponed, under the circumstances stated in the Committee report; and for the removal of Chapter 280 from Tiverton to Devonport granted.

THE BRITANNIC LODGE.

The petition for a chapter to be attached to the *Britannic Lodge* (No. 38) having been read Comp. H.G. WARREN moved its adoption on the ground that though the *Britannic Lodge* was held in London, it was differently situated to most other London Lodges, the majority of its members being resident in the country, in fact, spread all over the kingdom, and representing a very important interest, having constant professional intercourse with each other, who could, in his opinion, have no better point of reunion than a Masonic Lodge or Chapter, and certainly no place was so centrally situated for such a reunion as London. He therefore, thought this application stood as an exception to the general rule laid down by the committee, on the policy of which he was not going then to express an opinion.

Comp. HENXMAN, M.D. seconded the motion.

Comp. SLIGHT as a Past Master of the Lodge (No. 38) thought that the present was not the time to consider the petition, which had never been submitted to the lodge. That lodge, would meet on Friday, when the matter might be taken into careful consideration, and until after that time he considered the petition should be postponed, and at the same time he must remark that its adoption had been moved by two companions neither of whom were members of the lodge. He therefore moved that the consideration of the petition be postponed.

Comp. BRIDGES, G.D.C., being also a Past Master of the lodge, bore out the statement of Comp. Slight that the petition had not been brought before their lodge, and seconded the amendment.

Comp. WARREN in reference to the observations of Comp. Slight explained that he had brought forward his motion for granting the petition as a member of the General Committee of Grand Chapter, in order to show his opinion that this case was exceptional to the general rule with regard to London lodges.

Comp. HIXXMAN also explained that he had seconded the motion on the merits of the case, and as an independent member of Grand Chapter.

Comp. HAYERS, acting G.J., felt strongly that since the Grand Master had relaxed the rule against the granting of warrants for new lodges in consequence of the large increase in the number of Freemasons, the Grand Chapter would do well to follow the example with regard to new chapters. He knew also that the Britannic was a very large and respectable lodge of influential brethren, but seeing that this was a petition only of a small number of them, and not of the lodge in its corporate capacity he thought they would be best consulting the interest and harmony of the lodge to postpone the further consideration of it until it had been brought before the lodge.

In reply to a question the G.S.Z. stated that the petition was recommended by the Master, the two Wardens, the Treasurer, the two Deacons, the Secretary and a number of other brethren.

Bro. GORE referred to rule 2 page 14, of the Royal Arch regulations to show that it did not appear requisite that the petition should be recommended in open lodge, or even by the Master or Wardens of the lodge, all that was required being that a charter should be applied for by nine regular Royal Arch Masons.

The M.E.Z. stated that in that case any nine Royal Arch Masons might apply for a charter to attach a warrant to a lodge in which they had no interest.

Comp. LeVEAU had never disguised his feelings in favour of extending Royal Arch Masonry by the granting of warrants whenever properly applied for, but seeing that in this instance the petition was merely recommended by a few of the members instead of the lodge itself he thought it would be for the interest of the lodge and the future prosperity of the chapter, should the charter be granted, that the consideration of the petition should be postponed.

On the show of hands being taken the amendment was carried by seventeen to thirteen.

On the motion of Comp. White, acting G.H. the circular alluded to in the early part of the proceedings was referred to the General Committee for consideration.

THE WELLINGTON LODGE.

The next petition brought forward was for a chapter to be attached to the Wellington Lodge (No. 1086) Deal, which the Committee reported was regular in all respects, excepting that the three principals nominated were not installed Masters as required by the regulations of the order, and that therefore they could not recommend the granting the application.

On the petition being read,

Comp. H. G. WARREN called attention to the fact that the recommendation did not say that it was agreed to in open lodge, but only at a meeting "of brethren of the lodge." He did not wish to raise any technical objection to the petition, but only to point out the course which must be adopted in future if Grand Chapters were to abide by the decision they had come to with regard to the petition last before them.

Comp. S. B. WILSON, P.G.S.B., said he had a letter in his pocket which showed that the recommendation had been arrived at in open lodge.

Comp. WHITE, acting G.J., moved that the petition be granted and contended that rule 7 of the regulations of Private Chapters upon which the Committee appeared to have acted did not refer to new Chapters. That rule said:—

"All officers are to be elected annually, except the assistant sojourners, who are to be appointed by the principal sojourner. No companion of any subordinate chapter shall be eligible to be elected to either of the principal chairs, who is not at the time of such election the actual master or past master of a craft lodge, nor until he shall have served the office of scribe or sojourner of a private chapter for a year.

It was certainly laid down in that rule that no companion should be elected to a principal's chair who had not filled certain offices—but

in a new chapter the Principals were appointed by Grand Chapter, and not elected—the same as in a new lodge the principal officers were appointed by the Grand Master, and though no lodge could elect a brother as master who had not served the office of Warden, yet the Grand Master, on the formation of a new lodge could appoint a master who had never filled a Warden's chair, and in like manner Grand Chapter might appoint Companions as Principals of a new chapter who had not held the subordinate offices.

Comp. WILSON, P.G.S.B. agreeing with Comp. White as to the powers of Grand Chapter, seconded the motion.

Comp. HAYERS, acting G.J., was astonished to hear the doctrine advanced by the late Grand Scribe, for nothing in his opinion could be more opposed to the law, and even the Grand Master could not override the law. He considered that it was a very different thing for a Master Mason who had not filled any office to be nominated as the Master of a lodge, and the placing of such a brother in a Principal's chair of a Royal Arch Chapter. It was perfectly true that the regulations stated that a chapter might be granted on the petition of nine regular Royal Arch Masons, but it was equally true that they said that no person should be eligible to a Principal's chair until he was the installed Master of a Craft Lodge. He was aware that Grand Chapter could nominate to either of the Principal's chairs a companion who had not previously filled any one of them, but they had no power to raise to those chairs a companion not being an installed Master, having no power to give them the secrets of that degree without the possession of which they could not perform the duties of a Principal in a Chapter. It was one of their ancient landmarks that no companion could fill the office of Principal without being first placed in possession of the secrets of an Installed Master, and if Grand Chapter had no power of giving those secrets, as he did not believe anyone would contend

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they had, it was impossible that any brethren who had not been regularly installed into the chair in a regular lodge, could be installed into the office of Principal of a chapter.

After some conversation in which it was stated that there would be little difficulty in obtaining duly qualified comps. to take the chairs of the chapters,

Comp. H. G. WARREN, stated that he should be very sorry for the petition to be altogether dismissed, and he would therefore move that it be remitted to the lodge with a view to its amendment, with regard to appointment of Principals, and its further consideration postponed for the present.

Comp. BLACKBURN, P.Z. 25, seconded the amendment, which, after a few observations, was put and carried.

A resolution was then carried, that the recent alterations and amendments in the Royal Arch regulations, be printed and given gratuitously to all companions applying for them.

The business of the Grand Chapter being ended, it was closed in ample form.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Ogle Chapter (No. 624).—The Annual Convocation of this flourishing Chapter, was held in the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, the 25th ult., when a good assemblage of companions took place. Amongst those present were M. E. Comps., E. D. Davis, Z.; W. Berkley, P.Z.; B. J. Thompson, P.Z., Prov. Gr. Sc. E.; R. B. Ridley, P.Z., 292; W. Morrow, Z. 614; W. Twizell, H. 624; J. G. Tulloch, P.H. 624; H. Hewison, H. 292; C. J. Banister, H. 267; A. Clapham, H. 614; J. J. Oliver, J. 292; T. Alexander, J. 614; S. Bell, J. 24; J. N. Buckland, &c. After the confirmation of the minutes of last convocation, M. E. Comp. E. D. Davis, Z., proceeded to instal the officers for the ensuing year:—M. E. Comps. William Twizell, as Z.; John Graham Tulloch, P.H. as J.; Edward Shotton, as E.; Hans Christian Hansen, as N.; James Nathaniel Buckland, as P.S.; and John Evans Janitor. M.E. Comp. Crawford, the H. elect, was unavoidably absent. The following M.E. Companions having been duly elected in their respective chapters, and the minutes of election confirmed, were presented to the Board of Principals and duly installed as follows:—M.E. Comps. Anthony Clapham, as Z., and Thomas Alexander, as H. of "De Burghi," Chapter (No. 614), Gateshead—and Septimus Bell, as H., of "De Swinburne," Chapter (No. 24), Newcastle. After the labours of the day, the Companions adjourned to Bro. Manning's, Albion Hotel, and sat down to a sumptuous dinner, after which, M.E. Comp. Twizell, Z., on behalf of the Companions of the Ogle Chapter, presented a handsome piece of silver plate to M.E. Comp. Edward Dean Davis, P.Z., in consideration of the valuable services rendered to the chapter since its consecration.

A *Life of Edward Forbes, the Naturalist*, is in the press, by George Wilson, M.D., late professor of Technology in the University of Edinburgh, and Archibald Seikie, F.S.T. of the Geological Survey.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty and family continue at Windsor in the enjoyment of excellent health.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The Registrar's weekly return of the mortality of the metropolis testifies to a continued favourable state of the public health, the numbers for the ending Saturday last being 130 below the average for this season of the year. There were, from all causes, 1049 deaths in the week. The births registered in the same period were 956 boys and 919 girls, in all 1868. In the City, according to the medical officer's report, there is a steady decrease in the rate of mortality, the total number of deaths being 45 for the week. During the same period, the births of 60 children were registered.—The Bishop of Oxford on Wednesday, delivered his triennial charge to his clergy assembled at Woodstock. Amongst other matters, his lordship dwelt at considerable length on the question of church rates, deprecating any change in the present law concerning them; he also expressed himself very strongly against the revision of the Liturgy, and protested against the attempt to render valid marriages with a deceased's wife sister. His lordship's address was listened to with great interest by the very large number of clergy who were present on the occasion.—The latest novelty emanating from the Volunteer movement is a letter received from the Emperor Napoleon's secretary by a gentleman who is busying himself with a projected excursion of rifle volunteers to Paris. His Imperial Majesty is pleased to express his approval of the project. The Volunteers had better stay at home. If they want to visit Paris they can do so as private gentlemen.—On Friday a spirited match at Panshanger, the seat of Earl Cowper, drew together a concourse of 900 rifles, and about 5000 spectators. The shooting proved very fair at ranges of 200, 400, and 600 yards. Cups, medals, watches, and sums of money formed the prizes, which the lucky—or, it should rather be said skilful—winners received from the hands of the Dowager Countess Cowper. The distribution of prizes to the successful competitors at the Chester artillery and rifle contest, which took place at Hightown, and came to a close on Monday afternoon, was made on the evening of the same day, the Chancellor of the Exchequer addressing the assembly on the occasion, when he properly told the Volunteers of England that the movement must have some other basis than that of a fear of immediate danger if it is to possess any character of permanency.—The Road murder, it seems is not to be allowed to rest without some further efforts to fathom the mystery. Mr. Saunders, a Wiltshire magistrate, commenced a new investigation on Saturday, authorised by the Bradford bench. So far as this new step has gone, judging from what has been elicited, it is to be feared that its result will prove as barren as those more formal investigations which have preceded it.—An accident of a frightful character took place on Saturday afternoon on board the steamer *Tonning*, off Yarmouth. The vessel stopped on her voyage from Tonnage to London for the purpose of taking in a quantity of fish, having already about 700 head of cattle on board. Just as orders were given to start the boiler burst, blowing into the air all within reach of its force—men, cattle, sheep, and fragments of metal and wood, in one promiscuous mass, and setting the ship itself on fire. Eleven men were killed, and several persons were seriously injured.—On Tuesday morning, as a train on the Eastern Counties Railway was proceeding from London *via* Cambridge, and approaching Brandon station, the top of one of the carriages took fire. Fortunately it was observed, and the train being brought to a stand, extinguished before any personal injury was sustained. Spontaneous combustion in some passenger's luggage is supposed to have been the origin of the accident.—The November General Middlesex Sessions commenced at Westminster on Monday. The criminal business was opened with the trial of John Violet, against whom there were not fewer than nine charges of fraud. He had practised his business pretty successfully amongst servant girls by borrowing money under certain representations, and leaving a brass watch and chain in security for its repayment. The broken English of the prisoner did not serve him so well with the jury as it had done with the servant girls, as, in spite of his attempts not to speak English, he was found guilty, and sentenced to five years' penal servitude. During the week Samuel Black, traveller, was convicted of robbing his employer of property worth about £350. Sentence was respited till next session for the purpose of affording the prisoner an opportunity of stating where the goods were pawned. John Davis, an old convict, was found guilty of stealing £14 from a house, and received sentence of fifteen years' penal servitude. Edwin Devonport was sentenced to nine months' hard labour for sundry acts of theft and purloining in the War Office and other places where he had been employed. George Richards was charged with committing a burglary in the house of a gentleman at Camden Town, and assulting the policeman who apprehended him

with a life-preserver. In this case the servant girls had displayed a considerable amount of courage; and were awarded a gratuity of £2 each. The prisoner was found guilty, and sentenced to ten years' penal servitude. A man named John Lloyd, convicted of stealing a watch, and sentenced to four years' penal servitude, was stated to be one of the gang concerned in the murder of Mr. Bellchambers in Westminster about a dozen years ago.—On Saturday night a dissipated woman, named Bridget Harrington, living near King's-cross, attacked her poor old mother, 70 years of age, with a poker, and inflicted such injuries on her head that she lies without hope of recovery. The inhuman and unnatural daughter is in custody. It is stated that the refusal to deliver up a small sum of money in her possession led to the commission of what may turn out to be a barbarous murder.—The convict Mullins has been busying himself in drawing up a kind of memorial to the Home Secretary, in which he endeavours to explain what he calls "some difficulties" that appeared against him at the trial. He pointed out what appears to him as certain discrepancies in the evidence, besides altogether denying its conclusiveness. But as the murderer Youngman disapproved of capital punishment "on principle," so it may be presumed will any other criminal disapprove of the evidence that brings him to such a fate.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—Garibaldi and Victor Emmanuel are again victorious. Capua surrendered to the former on the 2nd, the garrison being allowed to retire with military honours. The Garibaldian troops were then quickly thrown across the Garigliano. Here Victor Emmanuel was operating with his forces, and on the 3rd he assailed the Bourbon army in front, while his fleet attacked it in flank, and obtained a complete victory. The Royal forces fled from the field, leaving in the hands of the Piedmontese their tents, waggons, and *materiel*, besides a large number of prisoners. General Sonnaz pursued the enemy, and afterwards occupied Mola and other positions commanding Gaeta. There now only remain the walls of Gaeta between the Bourbon forces and their victorious pursuers.—Something like a correct account of the interference of the French Admiral with the Piedmontese squadron near Gaeta is given by the *Toulonnais*. On the 27th ult., that journal inform us, a small Piedmontese squadron of six sail attempted to effect a landing, but were compelled to sheer off by the command of Admiral Tinan. On the 30th Admiral Persano himself arrived at the same spot with ten men-of-war, and although a French squadron was sent to order him off he refused, and informed the French admiral that he was ordered to land troops at the mouth of the Garigliano, and would do so at all cost. On this the French admiral sent home for further instructions, and Admiral Persano, we presume, landed those troops, who so successfully attacked the Bourbon flank in the late action on the Garigliano.—The voting in the Roman States is highly favourable to annexation. In the meantime the Emperor of the French, is forwarding large quantities of stores and war material for the use of his army.—Lord John Russell has written a dispatch on the Italian question to our Minister at Turin, who is instructed to give a copy of it to M. Cavour. Lord John starts with his reason for writing the dispatch. It is, that after the protests and acts of the Governments of France, Russia, and Prussia, it would scarcely be just to Italy, or respectful to the other great powers of Europe, were the Government of her Majesty any longer to withhold the expression of their opinion. He then points out the questions which appear to be in issue, namely—Were the people of Italy justified in asking the assistance of the King of Sardinia to relieve them from governments with which they were discontented? And was the King of Sardinia justified in furnishing the assistance of his arms to the people of the Roman and Neapolitan States? "Upon this grave matter" (the noble lord says):—"Her Majesty's Government hold that the people in question are themselves the best judges of their own affairs. Her Majesty's Government do not feel justified in declaring that the people of Southern Italy had not good reasons for throwing off the allegiance to their former governments; her Majesty's Government cannot, therefore, pretend to blame the King of Sardinia for assisting them." The noble lord then argues the question whether the revolution is a spontaneous one, or whether it was fomented by the intrigues of Sardinia, and arrives at the conclusion that it was spontaneous, and arose from the bad government of the ruling powers. Lord John finishes with these remarkable words:—"Such having been the causes and the concomitant circumstances of the revolution of Italy, her Majesty's Government can see no sufficient ground for the severe censure with which Austria, France, Prussia, and Russia have visited the acts of the King of Sardinia. Her Majesty's Government will turn their eyes rather to the gratifying prospect of a people building up the edifice of their liberties, and consolidating the work of their independence amid the sympathies and good wishes of Europe.—A conflict of a somewhat serious nature has broken out between the two Chambers of Hesse Darmstadt relating to the civil rights of

the Catholic Church in the duchy. The Second Chamber wish these rights to be regulated by law, and the First Chamber contend they can only be settled by a concordat.—The Order of Citizens and the Order of Peasants of Sweden have adopted an address to the Crown, praying for a reform in the national representation.—Count Rechberg, in a note addressed to the Austrian Foreign Ministers, informs them that the Warsaw interview was intended to bind more closely the personal relations of the three princes, and to concert principles for the regulation of their conduct in view of certain eventualities, on which a perfect understanding was established; and that it is clearly to be understood that non-intervention in the affairs of Italy was agreed upon.

CHINA.—Official accounts have been received of the taking of the Taku Forts. The whole force left Pehtang on the 12th of August, and marched on the town of Sinhai, with the view of attacking the cavalry camps and the fortified works fronting the same. On nearing the town, after much difficulty arising from the nature of the ground, they were attacked by a large force of Tartar cavalry, which led to a general action, in which the Tartars behaved with great bravery, yet the allies succeeded in carrying the entrenchments, and afterwards took possession of the town. On the 13th the forces advanced on Tang-koo, by the north bank of the Peiho, and with their whole artillery force in line, bombarded the fortifications, which, after a fierce resistance, they succeeded in capturing. On the 20th orders issued for the attack of the Taku Forts, and at five o'clock a.m. of the 21st the English and French artillery having taken up his position, they opened a tremendous bombardment on the north fort, while the gun boats assisted them on the south side. At seven o'clock the grand magazine of the fort exploded, but the garrison, undaunted, continued the defence until eight a.m., when, after immense difficulties, the allies gained a footing on the walls, and ultimately drove the gallant defenders out of the fort at the point of the bayonet. At three p.m. the remaining northern forts surrendered, and in the evening the governor-general of Pecheli surrendered the southern forts and the province of Pecheli on a cessation of hostilities being guaranteed. Our total loss in killed and wounded was 22 officers and 180 men, while that of the French is about 130. The Tartars proved themselves to be "foemen worthy of our steel." Our own troops, as usual, exhibited the utmost coolness, courage, and intrepidity, and many of our officers highly distinguished themselves.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

Mr. Bayle Bernard's drama, *The Wept of the Wish-Ton-Wish*, was revived at this theatre on Monday, for the purpose of again introducing to the public Madame Celeste in one of her favourite characters, and that of a class in which she has always been especially successful. As the Indian girl Narramatta, these faculties of expressive pantomime, energy of gesture, and romantic action, which are so eminently characteristic of Madame Celeste, are called into play most advantageously, and help materially in developing the strong dramatic interest of the story, which is full of striking situations. The drama was followed by a new piece called *The Pets of the Parterre*, by Mr. Sterling Coyne. The new production is neither exactly a burlesque, spectacle, ballet, nor operetta, but partakes of the qualities of all. We have ballads, choruses, and concerted pieces by Mr. George Loder, mixed up with a story that might almost be that of a ballet. To amuse the hours of a young countess's widowhood, a bevy of friends arrange a floral *fête*, in the course of which the continued affection of an old lover is made apparent, and the gentleman himself introduced to the not unwilling object of his early affections. The drama and the music are alike slight, but graceful, and the acting is of a character to suit both. Miss Maria Ternan, as the countess, was appropriately interesting; while Miss Neville, as her cousin, bore in a great measure the vocal burden of the piece, and acquitted herself much to the satisfaction of the audience. Miss Lydia Thompson, as a lady's maid, who assumes the disguise of a zephyr, was equally at home in each of the characters, lively as the one and light-footed as the other. The dances are prettily arranged, and a scene in which a combination of floral effects is rendered conducive to the conduct of the plot is admirably managed. The piece was, as it deserved to be, perfectly successful.

SADLERS WELLS.

Mr. Phelps has recently revived the beautiful drama of *Cymbeline*, and as usual, neither pains, stage appointments, nor expense were spared to represent it in a style worthy of public applause—the part of Imogen, being excellently rendered by Mrs. Charles Young, an actress of considerable grace, and the parts of *Cymbeline* (Mr. A. Rayner), *Posthumus* (Mr. Vezin), *Belarius* (Mr. Barrett), *Iachimo* (Mr. H. Marston), and *Cloten* (Mr. L. Ball), being equally well sustained. The after piece was the light and laughable farce of the "The Secret."

NOTES ON MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Madame Goldschmidt has arrived in England from Sweden.

M. Flotow is writing another opera.

A first opera, by Herr Ressel, "St. John's Eve," has been given at Stuttgart, apparently in vain.

A Madame Cash appears to have been "starring" successfully in Berlin as *prima donna*.

A most grim and elaborate melo drama has just been produced at the Theatre Ambigu-Comique by M. Henri de Kock, son of the popular novelist, and whose predilection for what is far fetched, ferocious, and horrible contrasts strangely, as M. Janin remarks, with the easy and domestic burgher-humour of his parent.

Madame Clara Novello's "Formal Farewell" concert is fixed for the 21st of November, to take place at the St. James's Hall.—She will sing, among other music, the *solo* part in Mr. Benedict's *Cantata*, "Undine," which is to be performed, we are told, on the same scale as at Norwich.

The *Athenaeum*, in speaking of the prospects of the Opera houses pertinently asks:—Why not revive "Maid Marian," with the book somewhat re-arranged and such pieces of music added by some competent hand, as would bring the opera into conformity with the forms and requirements of the present time? We have long imagined such revival—and not merely of this opera by Bishop, but also of some half-dozen others, in which much of our most beautiful English music is shut up. We are satisfied (Mr. Planché being at hand) that such revivals, well carried out, might give half a dozen stock operas to the English Opera stage.

The *Gazette Musicale* states that Madame Miolan-Carvalho is studying the part of Dinorah in German, with a view of singing it on the stage at Berlin. There is a talk there of reviving the "Nourmahal" of Spontini.

At Leipzig the repertory has lately included Adam's "Postillon," "Le Pardon," and "Robert."

At Vienna, the Philharmonic Concerts are about to revive a Masonic *Cantata*, by Mozart; and another Society to execute Mendelssohn's *Antigone* music.

A new five-act drama, "Rédemption," by M. Octave Feuillet, has been produced at the Théâtre Vaudeville with great success. M. Janin warrants for its being well written, and commends the acting of Mdlle. Fargueil and M. Ribes, a young artist whose name is new to us.

A Mdlle. Karoly is described as making some sensation in tragedy at the Odéon Théâtre, in Paris.

The Dublin papers are speaking in praise of Mr. Drew, as an Irish comedian, from whom something is to be expected. We hear that he is engaged at the Lyceum.

The winter concerts at the Crystal Palace were resumed on Saturday last, with Madame and Signor Palmieri as principal singers, and, for instrumentalist, Mr. W. Cousins.

The Monday concerts, at the St. James's Hall, will begin on Monday next.

The next year will see two important festivals, those of Birmingham and Leeds, at which, it is said, will be heard new oratorios by Signor Costa and Dr. Bennett.

"The powers that be" in France, it is said, have taken the production of "Tannhauser," at the Grand Opéra, under their especial protection, and have ordered for it the most splendid scenery and dresses that can be devised, to be paid for at Government cost.

An anonymous friend, we read in the last number of the *Gazette Musicale*, has signified to the manager of the Théâtre Lyrique, that £2,000 are at his disposal, on the opening of the new theatre, to assist in putting the inaugural opera there, "Les Troyens" (words and music by M. Berlioz), with due splendour.

The singer selected to introduce the part of Dinorah in M. Meyerbeer's last opera to New York is Madame Birde-Ney. If she don't fail it will be a marvel.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

BRO. SWAINSTON.—There is such a brother as Elisha Cooke in existence. We have shown him your letter and he has promised to forward you his address. He states that he cannot account for the non-arrival of the *Voice of Masonry*.

J. B.—At an early day.

PLEAIDES LODGE.—The account of the presentation of a testimonial to Bro. Bridges, G.S.B., is again postponed through the neglect of the engraver.

P. PROV. G.M.—Our correspondent who signed himself as above last week, erroneously placed Stockton-on-Tees in the Province of the North Riding of Yorkshire instead of Durham.

S.—Your letter (but without your name or address) has been forwarded to the author of "Classical Theology," and shall be duly attended to.