

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1861.

GRAND LODGE.

The first Grand Lodge for the dispatch of business of the Masonic year 1861-2 was held on Wednesday, and rarely have we seen such a muster of the actual Grand Officers of the year present—the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and both the Grand Wardens being in their places—an event which certainly has not occurred for the last three years, and which augurs well for Freemasonry in the coming year.

The crowded state of our columns must be our apology for but briefly referring to the proceedings this week. The most important business was the giving the M.W. Grand Master the power of conferring past or brevet rank on brethren who have distinguished themselves by their services to the Order, and increasing the number of Grand Deacons to four—a measure called for by the growing strength of the body, which renders it difficult, on occasions of divisions in Grand Lodge, for the numbers on the respective sides to be accurately ascertained with only two authorised tellers; whilst at the same time the increased number of lodges fairly demanded that the honours of Masonry should, to a small extent, be increased, though no one would more strongly deprecate the making those honours *too cheap than we should*.

A resolution, expressive of the regret at the retirement of Earl Dalhousie from office, was also unanimously passed, and ordered to be emblazoned on vellum, and presented to his Lordship. We would it had taken a more imposing form, and extended itself into a fitting address, which might have been signed by the Grand Master and his principal officers on behalf of the Grand Lodge; but probably the simple resolution will be equally acceptable to his Lordship.

SENSIBLE LAWS.

At the recent meeting of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, a very important point was raised by Bro. Warren, relative to the interpretation of the laws, and decided by the President of the Institution, the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, in a sense which almost entirely destroys the power of the subscribers, and renders any amendment of the laws, unless recommended by the Committee, next to impossible.

By the rules of the Institution, the Annual Meeting is appointed to be held on the third Friday in May, for the transaction of general business, the election of ten members of the Committee, and of such number of annuitants as the Committee may determine. This

meeting is held at twelve o'clock, and the ballot for annuitants is opened at one, so that the whole time allowed for the dispatch of business is practically reduced to one hour; for, the moment the poll is opened, the confusion becomes so great, from the preparations and negotiations of the brethren in support of their respective candidates, and so many are taken from the general business before the meeting to serve as scrutineers, or takers of votes, that all decisions, should the business not be previously completed, are left to about a dozen brethren, the majority of whom are themselves anxious to take part in the election, so that anything like argument is burked, and there is no opportunity of obtaining a fair consideration of a proposed alteration of the laws, be it ever so important.

In the majority of institutions, such an objection is met by allowing the discussion of alteration of the laws at a special meeting, and so would appear to have been the intention of the framers of the laws of the Benevolent Institution; for it is specially laid down in Rule 8, page 6, that "A Special General Meeting shall be held on the requisition in writing of Twelve Life Governors, to be delivered or sent to the Secretary, stating the object for which such meeting is to be held; at which meeting no business shall be discussed except that specified in the Requisition; and at least seven days' notice of such meeting shall be given in three daily papers."

What such a meeting can be called for, unless it be to consider an alteration in the laws, we are at a loss to understand, inasmuch as all appointments of paid officers are in the hands of the Committee, and any vacancy which may occur amongst the elected trustees, it is specially provided, shall only "be filled up at the next ensuing Annual General Meeting;" and yet the Most Worshipful Grand Master has determined that an alteration of the laws can only be considered at the Annual General Meeting, because Law 45 says, "No motion for any new Regulation or Law, or the abrogation or alteration of any existing Regulation or Law, shall be entertained at the Annual General Meeting, unless a copy of the same shall have been communicated to the Committee of Management at or previous to their Meeting in February, and the Committee shall direct notice of such motion to be inserted in the balloting paper."

Now, though it is as clear as the sun at mid-day, that no motion for the alteration of the laws can be taken into consideration at the Annual General Meeting without a certain notice, yet we contend that there is nothing in the law we have quoted to prevent such alterations being considered at a Special Meeting, on requisition duly presented in accordance with Rule 8; and yet the M.W.G. Master has determined that the law does so operate. At the last General Meeting, Bro. Warren

had a notice of motion on the business paper for a most important alteration in the laws, which—seeing that it wanted but 10 or 15 minutes to 1 when he was called upon to bring it forward—he was anxious to withdraw, with the view of calling a special meeting for its consideration; but the Grand Master not only ruled that he could not do so, as a motion for an alteration in the laws could not be brought forward at any but the Annual General Meeting, but that no adjournment of that meeting or of a subject under discussion could take place.

We do not propose here to discuss the merits of the motion of Bro. Warren, as we shall have plenty of opportunities of doing that, neither shall we attempt to combat the ruling of the Grand Master; but we shall be glad to be informed by some of the brethren, more learned in the law than we can pretend to be, what business may be transacted at a "Special General Meeting," or whether Rule 8 is altogether unmeaning surplusage.

Further, we shall be obliged by being informed how far the various acts performed under the laws since 1857 are legal, seeing that they were agreed to at a meeting specially called for the purpose on March 28th of that year, Bro. W. H. White presiding, under the law which then stood precisely as it does at the present moment, with the exception that it required eighteen to call the Special Meeting instead of twelve; and, furthermore, two of the requisitionists for that meeting were Bro. W. H. White, P.G. Sec., whose knowledge of the laws of our institution is unsurpassed by that of any man, and Bro. John Savage, now a P.G.D.

If the ruling of the Grand Master be correct, the sooner the laws are made consonant with common sense, the better.

MEMOIRS OF THE FREEMASONS OF NAPLES.

(Continued from p. 423.)

King Ferdinand, in the hope of conciliating the revolutionary party, consented to grant a constitution such as his experience must have assured him could have no durability, and such as its promoters never intended should endure. It was far, however, from satisfying the leaders of the Carbonari, who, perhaps, were disappointed at his compliance with their demands; and they proposed such a modification of this constitution, or rather such organic changes in it, as would have destroyed the monarchical principle entirely. Other concessions were then demanded which would immediately have left the king at the mercy of the National Guard. The army was to be reduced, the Swiss regiments disbanded, and the castles and forts of Naples given up to the guardianship of the civil soldiers. The Carbonari now elected certain members of their own body, whom they termed the "Legislative Assembly," and although they were not yet constituted, nor their powers legalised, about eighty of them met together at the Palazzo Gravina, and proceeded to deliberate on State affairs, or, in other words,

to assume an attitude of open defiance towards the King and his Cabinet. As the schemes of the bolder and more desperate of their number were developed, the prudent and nervous retired from the assembly, leaving a rabid minority to organise sedition and issue their illegal manifestoes. In this difficulty, the King sought the mediation of popularly elected peers, and tried to win back the dissenting deputies to reason. All his efforts were vain; he reiterated his promises to respect the constitution he had granted, and to guarantee all the concessions extorted; the truculent deputies refused even to listen to the proposals of the mediators. "Down with the peers! we will have no peers!" was the only reply they offered to the temperate remonstrances of the deputation. "The chambers are not yet assembled," said the ambassadors. "You are not yet a constituted body, and all your acts are illegal." These calm and undeniable representations were met with no reasonable answer, and the deputation retired amidst clamour and confusion. A more moderate section of the deputies assembled in another place, leaving the anarchical *conciabulum* at the Palazzo Gravina, now reduced to no more than twenty members. What they wanted, however, in numerical force, they made up in vehemence; they were warmly seconded by their communistic friends in the city and the provinces, and the Carbonari under General Pepe declared themselves revolutionists. The Pope now gave his sanction to their actions, with the understanding that he should at all times be consulted by them; General Pepe observing, "It was well to make use of the old woman; they could turn him adrift whenever they pleased." In the provinces, the people were all Carbonari and more violent in their acclamations than in the city. Mr. MacFarlane thus describes a public meeting at Messina, at which he says there were a great number of priests and women:—

"All were talking at the tops of their voices; all were, or seemed to be, in a passion. There was no order, or any attempt to obtain order. The scene presented the very counterpart of a French Jacobin, or Cordelier Club of 1792. Stacks of pikes, dirty flags and banners suspended from some of the ceilings, and printed manifestoes and proclamations to the sovereign people, completed the resemblance. In the principal streets all the door posts, and nearly all the lower part of every house, church, or convent, were covered with placards, some printed, some manuscript. I read some scores of them, shuddering as I read. I had fancied that the French Jacobins had gone as far as decency could allow; but the Sicilian Carbonari out-Heroded Herod. Many papers were read to the people, written in a strain of the most pompous exultation; others, however, were written in a less confident tone, betraying doubts, misgivings, and dark suspicions; all calculated to excite in other men's minds the perilous passion of suspicion; that passion and rage to which the Sicilians, like all these people of the South, are so naturally and habitually inclined. One fellow, who gave a fictitious and classical name, called upon the sovereign people to keep their eyes open, to be watchful by night and day, as it was a well-known fact that there were many spies and partisans of the tyrant in the city. Another intimated that the *rich* were not making sacrifices enough for the cause of liberty and independence. One opined that the revolution was not going fast enough. A very Trinculo of a demagogue proclaimed that the sovereign people, being sovereign and divine, ought to govern themselves by themselves—without either king or parliament; that the Sicilians did not yet sufficiently understand the signification of the words democracy, liberty, equality, and fraternity. An-

other patriot proposed a new 'conquer or die' oath, as necessary to be taken by the whole fraternity, with instant death to those who would not take it."

Early in the morning of the 15th May, 1820, a fierce multitude entered the city of Naples, all declaring themselves Carbonari, there being many women and priests among the number. The mob was led by a burly priest, fierce and loud in his anathemas against those who refused to join in the work of regeneration. Their principal object was to blockade the royal palace, and to secure the person of the King. The insurrection was permitted to proceed with little interruption, from the extreme anxiety of the King to avoid the effusion of blood. The poor old King remained in his palace, agitated, shocked, and pained at the ingratitude of his subjects. Neapolitan officers of all grades and of every party repaired to the palace, and even General Florestano Pepe, brother to the notorious anarchist, but of a very different character, contrived, though attenuated by sickness, to reach the presence-chamber, where his advice might be useful, though the strength of his arm had withered. "Gentlemen," said the King, "how have I deserved this treatment from my subjects? I have granted them the constitution; I have performed my promise. I have tried to avoid the effusion of blood, and this is my reward—I am blockaded with my family in my own palace." General Nunziante now entered the room, and reported the good disposition of the troops; he assured the King the insurrection should soon be quelled. "Sire, we will soon reduce this *canaille* to reason." The King interrupted him—"Do not call my people *canaille*; they are misguided men, it is true, but they are Neapolitans and my subjects; make prisoners, but do not kill—spare my misguided subjects."

So strict were the royal orders, and so complete was the obedience of the officers in command, that the motive of their inaction was misinterpreted, and the insurgents resolved to commence the attack they could not provoke. Two shots were fired on the royal troops—one officer was killed and another wounded; this forced an engagement, but the insurgents were not prepared for the result. The bravery of the troops at this time saved the kingdom of Naples from a state of anarchy.

SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN AND HIS TIMES.

(Continued from page 427)

The merits of Wren's plan were very clear. It was based upon a simple plan of redistribution, with converging lines laid out to suit old tracks of traffic; parish churches at the prominent angles, and the cathedral and the exchange placed centrally. There seems to have been little straining at effect; and even now the arrangements are often quoted as those of common-sense practicability. When more utopian schemes were set aside it was found that public and Parliamentary opinion took two distinct lines of opposition to the plan, and no more. One of these stood upon the inviolability of property, and claimed the old streets, the whole of the old streets, and nothing but the old streets, with brick instead of timber for building, and no more; the other proposed a compromise between this and the plan of Dr. Wren,—new streets on the old lines, widened and improved as far as possible; but nothing beyond this. The project of the great architect, as we all know, was never carried out; and the denunciation of City meanness and City obliquity of vision has not ceased since that day. But I venture to ask fair play even for the city. To exhibit an admirable plan of the sort of Wren's is one thing, and no doubt a very great achievement; but if law is to be law, and property property, to realise it in bricks and mortar, and satisfy all interests concerned, is quite another thing. Imagine the case in practice. What a wilderness of purchases, with consent,

and without consent,—repurchases, sales, and compensation cases,—friendly references, and decidedly unfriendly references,—questions of law and of equity, and of fact, and of custom,—of freehold and leasehold, and copyhold, and no hold,—injunctions in chancery, and motions to set aside an award,—and all the lawyers and surveyors in the country hard at work,—what a picture of professional felicity! The happy hunting grounds of law and valuation certainly could not lie beyond this! In short, Wren's plan of London, like many another admirable scheme, sank of its own weight into the abysses of the impossible.

The old Cathedral of St. Paul was, of course, surveyed once more,—surveyed, indeed, and resurveyed for several years. Whether the considerations were economical or archaeological, I cannot affirm, but people could not agree to pull it down. I fear they were chiefly economical, for the expression used to signify the process advocated by the upholders of the fabric, is not restoration or anything of the sort, but patching. Wren had at the first advised the building of an entirely new edifice; but the patching party carried their opinion for a long time, and no doubt considerable sums of money were expended accordingly, during two years; but at length part of the edifice actually falling to the ground, Dr. Wren was sent for, and the intention determined upon to rebuild the cathedral on a grand scale. But the adherents of reparation were not even yet defeated; although the king's government had ordered the pulling down of the ruins, the matter was still debated, and it was not until 1673, seven years after the fire, that designs were ordered for the new edifice. Sir Christopher Wren (as he now became) was appointed architect of the work, and one of the commissioners for the management of it. His salary, by the bye, was £200 a-year, equal to perhaps £500 of our money. The foundation stone of the present St. Paul's was laid two years afterwards, on June 1st, 1675. The age of the architect was now forty-three years.

Meanwhile he had attained to the name of Surveyor-General by the resignation of Denham in 1668. He also found himself employed by all the chief authorities in the kingdom. The churches of London were placed in his hands, with a salary of £100 a year. Up to the date of the commencement of St. Paul's he had begun the building of the London Custom House, the Exchange, Temple Bar, the Monument, St. Mary-le-Bow, St. Stephen's, Wulbrook, and various works of less note; and many of them he had brought to a conclusion.

The scientific position of our still learned and active philosopher must not be forgotten all this time. He continued to be one of the most prominent members of the Royal Society; his theories of motion attracted much attention, and are considered to have led the way for Newton's great discoveries of some twenty years later. In 1672, the year of Dr. Wren's knighthood, Newton was elected F.R.S. It was only in the following year that the architect of the proposed new cathedral was obliged by press of business to resign his professorship of astronomy at Oxford. The next year, 1674, made him Vice-President of the Royal Society. We may also anticipate a little, and observe that six years afterwards he was elected to the very high honour of President.

I do not know that we ought to overlook the private affairs of our hero. It was not till the third year of his knighthood that the philosopher permitted himself to marry a wife. The poor lady soon left him a widower, and he married again. His first wife was the daughter of a Sir John Coghill; his second of Lord Lifford. It is thus rendered plain, therefore, if it had not been so before, that the world looked upon him to be a gentleman of social consequence, not only as a philosopher and artist, but probably much more as son of a Dean of Windsor, and nephew of a famous bishop. We do not depreciate his merits if we bear in mind the ways of the world. If he had been the son, not of a quiet dean, but of some powerful Roundheaded preacher, and the nephew of a grim old Ironsides, instead of a persecuting bishop, who made East Anglians face the east in spirit of their teeth, St. Paul's and the City churches might have been the work of some Sir John Denham, and their graceless facades and shapeless towers we might now dismiss with less regret.

I do not propose to enter upon any artistic criticism of the works of Sir Christopher Wren. These have their faults, and oftentimes those faults are grave; but to him who scrutinizes, however severely, what may be called the makeshifts of St. Paul's,—say the double dome and the screen-walls of the nave,—one thing must always be apparent,—that these are at least the makeshifts of marvellous ingenuity and still great artistic power. They are falsities, it is true; but they are those of a master mind. They are no common vulgar fibs, but great grand lies of genius.

From the commencement of St. Paul's, the professional engagements of Sir Christopher Wren were incessant till he reached old age. The numerous churches of the City, Greenwich Hospital, Chelsea Hospital, the College of Physicians, and other works, and above all the stupendous structure in the midst, carried him through a period of altogether forty-seven years' practice, to the year 1710. In that year, being of the age of seventy-eight, he laid by the hand of his son the highest stone of the lantern of St. Paul's: no doubt with heartfelt joy. We can fancy the venerable little gentleman, drawn up in a chair, as was his custom, to the giddy summit, casting a thoughtful glance around upon the City below, and far backwards into time,—a proud glance, too, in its thoughtfulness,—for he remembered a waste of smoking ruins where stood that forest of graceful spires; and he remembered, too, the echo of a youthful voice in Gresham College long ago,—the voice of a "rare and early prodigy of universal science," people used kindly to say; and humble, and retiring, and gentle little man as he was, there was nevertheless a whisper in his ear that he had done well.

The building of St. Paul's, of thirty-five years' duration, led the architect through various political vicissitudes,—past the pitiable death of Charles II. and through the brief reign of the unlovely James; it witnessed the Revolution and the reign of William and Mary; and it closed in the days of Queen Anne. When a new and foreign king brought new and somewhat foreign times, there arose some petty disputes, with a little pamphletting and the like, which vexed him, because he had grown old and infirm, and had not perhaps the vigour in him with which a certain old uncle of his, in long bygone days would have handled such enemies. The Government committed the egregious folly of dismissing him from the office of surveyor-general, at the age of eighty-six years, in favour of one Benson, a court favourite: it would have been only good policy to retain the name of so eminent an officer, for the few more years he had to live, among the servants of the Crown. It is with very natural satisfaction, therefore, that I notice the fact that Benson, within one short year, fell into terrible disgrace, and made his friends repent bitterly of their bargain.

The Parliament in the reign of James, in 1683, numbered amongst its members Sir Christopher Wren, then about fifty years of age. He sat for Plympton, in Devonshire. After the Revolution he was elected for New Windsor. In 1700, again we find him sitting for Weymouth. His parliamentary career, therefore, extends over some twenty years or more. He seems to have aimed at nothing of a political kind.

After his ungracious treatment by the Government, the aged architect retired to his house at Hampton Court. He came to London occasionally to inspect the repairs of Westminster Abbey, of which he held the office of surveyor till his death. Once a year he was carried to St. Paul's just to look at it again before he died. He still pursued his studies in science, and no doubt often talked with the pardonable garrulity of age of the difference of men's ways and opinions since the days, seventy years ago and more, when he used to busy himself about his *penna duplex* and his weather-clocks, and his *Micrographia*; and we may fancy that we hear the little old gentleman still laugh pleasantly when he remembers his transfusion of the good strong ale into the veins of unoffending Pincher till he became as drunk, sir, as a lord.

And when they led him to discourse upon the art by which he had attained to such high eminence, and perhaps would sometimes hint, as many of us may do when we reckon up the matter, that if he had left art to other men, what might he not have done in science!—we can fancy him bowing to the compliment as modestly disclaimed it, but

glorying rather in the destiny which had enabled him to give his native country so many objects of just pride. "For architecture has its political use," are his own words; "public buildings being the ornament of a country; it establishes a nation; draws people and commerce; makes the people love their native country, which passion is the origin of all great actions in a commonwealth."

He lived at Hampton Court for five more years of extreme age, till at length he was ninety-one. His annual visit to St. Paul's was a great delight; the building of such a work being, in the words of Walpole, "an event which, one cannot wonder, left such an impression of content on the mind of the good old man, that it seemed to recall a memory almost deadened to every other use."

At last one day, the 25th of February, 1723, on the occasion of a visit to London, resting at his house in St. James's street, he dined, and, as his custom was, went to sleep in his chair. He slept longer than was usual; an attentive servant came to see that all was well. He had fallen asleep—pleasantly asleep—for ever. His body was buried in peace, and as was meet, in splendour, in the silent crypt of St. Paul's. They built him no monument, for he had built his own. They put up this simple record, more majestic in its simplicity than would be the oratory of Cicero upon the marble of Chantrey; they put up this simple record of plain English truth:—

Beneath is laid the builder of this Church and City, Christopher Wren, who lived above ninety years, not for himself, but for the public good. Reader, if thou seekest for his monument, look around.

ROBERT KERR.

Mr. Ashpitel, at the conclusion of the paper, proposed that the meeting should give its most cordial thanks to Mr. Kerr, for the able communication just afforded to them. If interesting to them all, it was still more so to himself, who had shortly before gone over the same ground while writing the biographies of Vanbrugh, Wren, and several other English architects, for the new edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*. He was much pleased to find, that from the same sources the lecturer, had arrived at very much the same opinions. To enter into a criticism of the merits of all the buildings of Wren, would, as Mr. Kerr had said, occupy too much time. In fact, such a disquisition would fill volumes. He might, however, be permitted to call the attention of the meeting to a very valuable collection of drawings of this great man, preserved in the library of All Souls' College, Oxford. These had been exhibited to him by the kindness of Professor Max Müller, and were carefully cherished among the gems of that library. They consisted of original sketches of designs for various buildings, and seem to have been first got out in block, then to further scale, then often set up in perspective, but all of which evinced an extraordinary genius for invention, and that based on the soundest principles of construction. Mr. Ashpitel, however, ventured not exactly to differ from Mr. Kerr as to what he had said on Gothic architecture; for there was no doubt, in his early career, Sir Christopher Wren had proposed to classicise the nave of Old St. Paul's. But it must be remembered that it was not long after he steadfastly refused to do so with the west front of Westminster Abbey. Wren was not in the position we now are, with a perfect knowledge of Mediæval detail, and with workmen ready to carry out our wishes in the most careful way. All old traditions had been worn out: new fashions had come in: new contours had been recognised as the only correct type for mouldings, and other detail; and Wren was much in the same situation as Wyatt and the other architects who endeavoured to revive Mediæval art some fifty years ago. But when he (Mr. Ashpitel) looked at the general composition, the general masses of the west front of the Abbey, and still more so, the noble tower of St. Michael's Cornhill, the curious and able spire of St. Dunstan's in the East, the front at Christ's Church, Oxford, and many other works in the same style, which it would be impossible to detail at length; he believed that, had Sir Christopher Wren lived in the present time, with "the appliances and means to boot" which we have, he would have been not only the greatest classic, but the greatest Gothic architect of the day. He would

venture a word or two as to St. Paul's. Wren's genius must not be judged of by the present building. His original idea was that of a noble edifice in the form of a Greek cross, with a grand dome fully as large as that of St. Peter's. The Duke of York, afterward James II., had influence, however, sufficient to force him to alter his plan; and it is recorded when the expedient of the false screen wall was forced on him, that he was so moved, though by no means an old man, that he sat down and burst into tears. It is a very curious fact, however, though but little known, that Westminster Abbey has also what closely resembles a screen wall. It was only a short time ago this fact was made known to him by the talented gentleman now engaged on the works of the Abbey. The meeting would remember over the lower windows are a range of triangular windows: these give light to a sort of ambulatory over the groining of the aisles, but through this space the flying buttresses of the nave pass, showing (to say the least of it), that the wall and triangular windows were an afterthought. It is curious that both our metropolitan cathedrals should have a sort of screen wall, and it is not improbable the arrangement at the Abbey may have suggested that at St. Paul's.

GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL INTELLIGENCE.

On Whit-Sunday, Tuddenham Church, Suffolk, was reopened. A new east memorial window has been erected. The subjects of the window are the following: in the centre light are the Nativity and the Crucifixion; in the left, Noah in the Ark, and St. Peter falling into the Sea, the Saviour taking him by the hand; on the right, the Priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant over the Jordan into the Promised Land, and St. Paul taking leave of the Ephesian converts and elders on the sea-coast. The principal tracery-light contains the subject of the Resurrection of the Saviour: the two minor tracery-lights contain an angel each, with musical instruments. The ancient monuments in the church have been restored. An altar table has been placed upon a raised dais composed of tiles. Beneath the window is a casing of stone and string course. The east gable has been adorned with stone coping, surmounted with a cross, and the cross on the east gable of the nave restored.

The foundation-stone of a congregational chapel and school has been laid at Hove, near Brighton. The chapel will abut on North-place, which will form the direct approach to the suggested new railway station. Villas also are to be erected to the north of the chapel; so that, in time, it will become central. The style is Early English. The chapel is calculated to hold 800 persons; but that will not be commenced just yet. The schools will consist of a principal hall, or school-room, 60 feet by 30 feet, with an additional class-room, 30 feet in length.

The parish church of Coates, Gloucestershire, has been reopened. The restorations, now completed, have not affected the general plan of the church. The works just completed consist of an internal restoration, the substitution of a chancel arch for the plain Norman arch, which has been rebuilt in the north wall, to give access to a vestry hereafter to be added. The chancel, which was formerly shut off from the greater portion of the church, is thus opened. A change has been effected by the removal of a western gallery, which concealed from view the stone arch, and by the removal of the old high pews which boxed up the arcade columns, and substituting for them open benches throughout. These are of stained deal, with oak cappings. The chancel has been rearranged, a raised sanctuary formed laid with tiles inclosed within bands of stone in ornamental patterns. The chancel has been re-roofed with an open arched timber roof, and a new east window, with tracery, replaces the debased window formerly existing. The roofs of the aisles and chapel have been stripped of their plastered ceilings, repaired and restored to their original condition; but, on opening the nave roof, it was found that the timbers were too much decayed to allow restoration, and a new stained deal roof has been erected. The accommodation in the area of the church has been increased from 180 to 211 seats. The cost of the restoration has somewhat exceeded

£600 and an additional £200 will be needed to accomplish the entire restoration contemplated.

The foundation-stone of a new church has been laid at Rhyl, Flintshire. The proposed church is estimated to cost about £8000. Of this sum £2000 only have been promised; but so urgent is the need of the church, that the committee resolved to commence at once; and have, accordingly, entered into a contract for the nave and the aisles, which will accommodate about 800 persons. The works have been begun; and, on Whit-Monday, the foundation-stone was laid. The church will be built in the early English style; and, when complete, will consist of nave, north and south aisles, chancel and tower at the east end of the north aisle, with a north porch. The length of the nave will be 99 feet, and the total width of the church rather more than 63 feet: the chancel will be 40 feet 9 inches long by 30 feet wide. The height of the tower and spire to the top of the vane will be 193 feet, and the tower will be 24 feet square, built in three stages. The fittings inside will be of pitched pine, with open roof, stained and varnished. The inside dressings will be of Bath stone, and the outside of Cefn stone, with intermediate surface of dressed limestone. The windows of the aisles are plain couplets: the east window will be a three-light window, and the west a four.

The parish church of Prestwich has been reopened. During several months past various alterations and improvements have been in progress. The chancel has been extended and restored, and has had a new east window put in, with roofing to match the old portion. A new vestry has been built. A new stained-glass east window has been inserted. It is also intended to insert stained glass in a new window west of the font, the gift of Mr. Percival, of Manchester. The whole of the ceiling of the nave, and the old portion of the chancel, have been restored, and decorated in colours and gilding, in a manner similar to ancient painting found on the old timbers. A portion of the chancel has been re-seated with open oak benches, with carved ends; and one of the recent improvements has been the re-seating the nave in a similar manner, the whole of which re-seating is free.

St. John's Servants' School, Paddington, instituted by the Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, M.P., and his wife, was opened on the 16th May, by a public meeting of its friends; the Earl of Shaftesbury in the chair. The principal supporters of of this school are Mr. and Mrs. Kinnaird. Upwards of £6000 out of £9000 required have already been raised. The Bishop of Sodor and Man, in his address to the meeting, stated that the intention of the institution was to provide the public with a class of superior and trustworthy servants, on whom all so greatly depended for their comforts.

The Committee of the British Schools, with the advice of the Committee of the Council of Education, are about to erect new school-rooms and a teacher's residence at Ashford, Kent, towards the carrying out of which the latter have offered a grant of £586. The Committee have accordingly secured an eligible site, near Chart-terrace, and the cost of erection, &c., will be from £1400 to £1600.

New schools have been opened at High Ercall, Salop. The buildings have been erected midway between the church and vicarage. The schools are intended for girls and also boys until old enough to go to the free grammar school in the village. The buildings are of brick and stone. The style is plain Middle Pointed. The school is surmounted with an oak bell-turret. The cost, including the fence walls, will be about £600.

The Town Hall at the Cross, Glasgow, erected so long ago as the year 1636, but very much deserted and neglected, and applied to questionable purposes of late, is to have another chance of resuscitation, according to the local papers. It is proposed to convert it into a spacious library for the use of the citizens, and this is to be done through the instrumentality of a joint-stock company.

A new Town Hall has just been erected in St. Andrew's, from the designs of Mr. James A. Hamilton. The structure is in the old Scotch Baronial style. The council hall is 38 feet in length by 24 feet in breadth, and 18 feet in height. The great hall is 75 feet in length, 36 feet broad, and 28 feet high. The structure altogether measures about 130 feet by 90 feet. The external elevation is enriched with various shields, devices, and coats of arms, among which is that of

the late Sir Hugh Playfair, to whom the improvements in St. Andrew's are mainly due, and by whom this building was originated and carried out.

A public meeting has been held at Leith, for the purpose of considering the propriety of having powers conferred on the public authorities for widening the streets, and otherwise improving the town. The Provost occupied the chair, and referred particularly to the necessity of having a new slaughter-house, a large supply of Lochend water for sanitary and manufacturing purposes, and a public park in North Leith. Resolutions favourable to the purpose of the meeting were unanimously passed.

Literature.

REVIEWS.

Ten Weeks in Japan. By GEORGE SMITH, D.D., Bishop of Victoria (Hong-Kong). Longmans: London.

Books of travel are not often written by bishops, but if spiritual peers are possessed of such really good powers of observation as the Bishop of Victoria, we should not be at all sorry to see a few more itineraries from the pens of the members of the episcopal bench. Dr. Smith, it must be confessed, has had considerable experience of Chinese life, and hence it is not difficult to suppose that the Japanese character was not to him altogether such a novelty as to Capt. Sherrard Osborn, or Mr. Oliphant.

We can only draw inferences by comparison on subjects with which we are unacquainted, but, without in any way undervaluing the labours of Capt. Osborn or Mr. Oliphant, the work before us is as superior to either of them as it is possible for two books on the same subject to be. Dr. Smith shows that the Japanese exclusiveness is not so very unreasonable after all. The vast wealth of the Daimios is almost beyond belief; the Prince of Kanga, the great Lord of the Empire, having a revenue of £2,334,825 per annum.

"The Prince of Kanga (says the bishop) has 40,000 men of arms in the capital dispersed over his various palaces in the city and suburbs of Yeddo. He is regarded as the head of the Conservative party of Daimios, and the principal supporter of a reactionary policy in regard to foreign nations. In the interval of time between the original drafting and the final signing of Mr. Harris's treaty, during which the formal assent of the Mikado and the great Daimios was procured to the official act of the Tycoon, the powerful Prince of Kanga is reported to have advocated strong measures of resistance against foreign encroachments, and to have placed his hand on his sword-hilt in a passionate outburst of patriotic enthusiasm, declaring that it would be better for the Japanese nobles to die fighting for their country's honour than to sign their consent to the revolutionary provisions of such a treaty. The Princes of Satsumer, Hizen, and Mito are among the reputed Liberals of the empire; but the most advanced Liberal in Japan is probably a being very different from the idea conveyed by the term in the phraseology of European politics. The smaller Daimios and Siomios, who amount in all to some hundreds in the empire, are apt to shelter themselves behind the more powerful leaders of their order, and united together on any one point of foreign or domestic policy, they form a closely compacted front of array which no Tycoon or Council of State can dare to offend."

The bishop touches, guardedly, on the customs of the great, and their lives and manners, and these are told with no small amount of descriptive power, as the following extract will prove:—

"The proud independence of the great Daimios prevents a visitor from entering within their spacious and richly planted grounds. The more powerful among their number are said to assume a somewhat defiant attitude even towards the Siogoon himself, and to refuse admission to the agents of the supreme government for the purpose of taking a census of their retainers. In all the arrogant bearing of semi-barbarian pride and a keen sensitiveness to the most trifling semblance of humiliation or insult, these powerful barons generally keep themselves aloof from each other's society, and lead lives of idle dissipation in the midst of their armed dependents. Habits of intoxication are also reported to be very prevalent among them. Contests of precedence and mutual jealousies drive them

far asunder; and these extensive enclosures within which imagination pictures the ordinary population of a small town, are probably occupied by fendal chiefs, each separated from familiar intercourse with his class, and exempt from all the humanising refinements of civilised society. A long wall of dark-coloured chunam, crossed by square or diamond-shaped white trellis-work of the same material, is the only object which is visible from without. The basements alone are generally constructed of solid stone material. What we are accustomed to dignify with the name of a palace is probably a one-storied building covering a vast area and having only in a small portion of its space any upper-rooms—huge comfortless structures containing few articles of luxury or appliances of art beyond specimens of lacquered cabinets, porcelain vases, and the ordinary furniture of a Japanese dwelling. A European gentleman who has visited the interior of the Tycoon's palace, represents even the abode of imperial majesty as containing furniture of only the plainest description, and as being entirely destitute of gold, diamonds, and the glittering ornaments of barbaric display. What gives to Japanese houses of the middle and upper class their characteristic attraction is the universal neatness of the interior, and the air of cleanliness which generally prevails. Everything in this official quarter of the Daimios appears, however, on a large, rather than a magnificent scale,—fine macadamised roads, extensive parks and groves, a grand sweeping slope of undulating lawn, a large serpentine sheet of clear water in the moats, and a long range of palace-wall inclosures, covering a vast area of space, though of moderate elevation, adapted to the insecure foundation of this region of earthquakes."

The bishop does not seem so smitten with the nude simplicity of the natives as Capt. Osborn and his officers, who, because the people seemed indifferent to decent clothing, at once supposed them to be primitively pure. In his remarks upon their famous baths, where both sexes bathe at one and the same time, his lordship says they are one of the most licentious races in the world. The following notes upon the habits of the common people will be found interesting:—

"There is one particular in which the Japanese are superior to their Chinese neighbours. The fortune-tellers' tables and gambling stands so numerous in the cities of China are here nowhere to be seen. The laws of Japan interdict gambling by the severest punishments; and no gamester dares to pursue his calling in public. The nearest approximation to gambling which I witnessed was a species of betting on the feats of a tame mouse. A man was generally observed in one of the thoroughfares exhibiting the little animal. Its owner opened a wooden drawer, from which it forthwith escaped, crossed a miniature bridge, pulled open a small door, drew out one of ten papers each enclosing its own number, brought it thence to its master, and then running up his full loose sleeve, buried itself in its folds. Purchases of fruit, sweetmeats and cakes, or a stake of money, were decided by the chance number which the mouse singled out from the parcel.

"In other respects the Japanese manifest a peculiarity of their own in the absence of shops for selling opium,—their exemption from lawless mobs and jostling crowds,—no fights, quarrels, or violence in the streets,—the habit of self-control and the universal ascendancy of law preventing a breach of the public peace. Many of the offensive sights and odours common in Chinese thoroughfares are also absent from the scene; no filthy jars and disgusting spectacles in the public resorts. But if some of the disagreeable objects in the Chinese streets are absent, it must not be understood that the Japanese have in all these respects attained to an English standard of good breeding. The Japanese norimon-bearers are often very offensive in their violation of decency; and the delicacy of a foreign lady must often be solely tried by the habits of the common Japanese. Even when the thermometer stands below 70° of Fahrenheit, the Japanese labourers and artisans throw aside their upper garments, and pursue their work with nearly their whole person exposed to view. A small strip of cloth or a cotton rag three inches wide by half a dozen in length, connected with a slight piece of string running around the body, is the nearest approach to a loin-cloth and the flimsiest apology for a covering. The children run about at such times of temperate season in a state of perfect nudity. The women suffer their bosoms to remain exposed, and sometimes divest themselves of sleeves, which hang in a loose bundle from the tightened girdle confining their nether dress, and thus lay bare the whole upper half of their persons. Naked infant selving to the bare breasts of their semi-nude mothers are a frequent spectacle in the streets. Though they are generally neat and cleanly in their habits, and scavengers may be seen sweeping their dwellings and the sides of their streets, it must not be supposed that the favourable verdict is given so much after an European as after an Asiatic standard of judgment. Even in the matter of personal cleanliness there is a strange combination of opposite qualities. Bodily ablutions and unwashed clothing mark

the habits of one and the same individual. When they lie down at night, the same clothes which they have worn during the day are taken from their person to become, with the quilt of the mattress on which they sleep, their only covering in the shape of bedclothes. Their garments are worn sometimes for months, or even a longer period, without being washed; and a warm bath for washing the person appears to be with many of the lower classes an economical provision for saving the trouble and inconvenience of washing their clothes."

In common with all who have recorded their experience of the public inns of Japan, the good bishop seems to have been much pleased, and it would appear that there are many worse places to be found for a sojourner than in one of the Japanese houses of public entertainment, for Dr. Smith tells us:—

"While my native attendants were resting and refreshing themselves with a meal of rice and potatoes of sakee in the neighbouring outbuilding, I was escorted by the Japanese proprietor into a suite of elegant saloons, opening one beyond another and capable of being separated into private rooms by closing the folding screens and sliding panels, which extended down the length of the building, and were easily moved in their grooved lines across the several apartments. The walls were covered with neat white-flowered silken-grained paper, with native paintings and little ornaments tastefully arranged in each angle; and the floor was covered with the usual clean matting, padded and fitted into square or oblong compartments. A chair was brought for me to sit in European style; and the Japanese landlady, a middle-aged black-toothed personage of comely looks and polite manners, made her appearance. Her husband soon rejoined our party; and both combined their endeavours to ascertain our wants and meet our requirements. She was soon followed by three young waiting-damsels, wearing their natural sets of glittering white teeth, with their native ruddy complexion enhanced by a little artificial addition of pearl dust and rouge, and their lips stained with a dark purple crimson. These young waiting-girls are always selected as the most beautiful and prepossessing of their sex, and demeaned themselves with simple, artless modesty. In all parts these public hotels are served by the most handsome girls; and I was informed that they are a well conducted class, and that Japanese law rigidly protects them while filling such a capacity in these houses of refreshment. On this occasion the landlady and her native damsels overburdened me with their attentions, placing my chair in the most convenient spot, rearranging my travelling coverlets, wiping my shoes, placing a cushion on my seat, and anticipating every want. Cakes, soup, rice, and sweetmeats were brought in succession. One laughing, bright-eyed damsel approached me kneeling, with a cup of tea in her hand; another held some sugar, kneeling on the opposite side; while a third from her lowly posture on the ground held to my lips a boiled egg, already broken and peeled, with the spoon containing the inviting morsel, duly seasoned with salt. With garrulous vivacity they anticipated every look, and when my wants were supplied, they remained kneeling close to my side, and vying in their endeavours to be the first to bring me their native dainties. They afterwards examined my dress; and every portion of my equipment formed the subject of exciting comment and humorous wonder. European shoes, stockings, woollen cloth, and umbrella were eagerly examined, and afforded matter for renewed curiosity and mirth. Even my Chinese servant received his share of observation, and submitted patiently to have his long plaited queue handled and examined by their fair hands."

We cannot take leave of this work without warmly commending its perusal to our readers, as containing vast stores of knowledge about a country which may be said to be only just becoming known to us, nor must our extracts be looked upon as showing the sound knowledge of men and manners contained in Bishop Smith's work. Like all who cater for a particular class of readers, our selections have been made *ad populum*; but there is sterner stuff in the volume before us which will well repay perusal by those interested in the history of peoples and their state of civilisation. We have scarcely ever read a volume which abounds with more information than *Ten Weeks in Japan*.

The Englishwoman's Magazine. S. O. Beeton, Strand.

Such of the brethren as have wives, sisters, or daughters, cannot do better than present them monthly with this Magazine, which certainly is a marvel of cheapness, the number now before us containing (on a separate sheet) a full sized engraved pattern of a child's frock; a steel plate

of the fashions; and a pattern for a black cloth and cloth *applique*, sofa cushion or table cover, together with, several interesting tales, notes of the month, an account of the fashions, and various other subjects of interest to the fairer portion of creation. Of the patterns and description of the different kinds of work we cannot pretend to give any very positive opinion of our own; but we are informed by *Materfamilias* that any one of the patterns, one of which is presented with every monthly number, is worth the whole price of the Magazine, and that the descriptions of the various kinds of plain and fancy work are thoroughly reliable, and renders this periodical an almost indispensable adjunct to the work table.

The Boys' Own Library—Wild Sports of the World, Nos. 1 and 2. S. O. Beeton.

We have before us the first parts of a new serial, which is sure to become popular amongst the class to whom it is addressed, for few topics can be more interesting to boys than a description of sports which are attended with personal danger, the more especially when accompanied with a good natural history, conveyed in plain language, avoiding as far as possible technical, scientific terms, which tend, for the young, rather to destroy, than to, add to the interest of a work. These two numbers are occupied with a description and anecdotes of the elephant and the lion, well and pleasantly written, and illustrated with excellent coloured engravings, and numerous woodcuts, all admirably executed. A large sale must be secured to render 6d. a month re-munerative to the publishers.

The Boys' Own Magazine for June.

This is another of Mr. Beaton's publications, and is published at the low price of two-pence a month. The number at present before us contains, under the title of 'Normans and Saxons,' a good description of the battle of Hastings, and the subsequent coronation of William the Conqueror; the Cold Heart, a tale of demonology, yet having an excellent moral; the Life of Bernadotte, a prize paper written by a boy subscriber to the *Magazine*; the Wreck of the Pirate, a continuous tale, of which, as we have not seen the previous parts, we can scarcely form an opinion; an excellent scientific paper, but not too scientific, on the microscope and microscopic objects; the Reminiscences of a Raven; a Life of Washington, very appropriate at the present moment; Elephant Hunting, charades, poetry, &c.; the whole profusely illustrated with wood engravings—verily, a brave two-penny-worth.

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

The Rev. John Selby Watson, M.A., in his *Life of Richard Porson, M.A., Professor of Greek in the University of Cambridge from 1792 to 1808*, relates the following anecdotes of the intemperance of the greatest Greek scholar which this country has ever produced:—

"Horne Tooke used to say, as Mr. Malby tells us, that 'Porson would drink ink rather than not drink at all.' Indeed, adds Mr. Malby, he would drink anything. He was sitting with a gentleman after dinner, in the chambers of a mutual friend, a Templar, who was then ill and confined to bed. A servant came into the room, sent thither by his master, for a bottle of embrocation which was on the chimney-piece. 'I drank it an hour ago,' said Porson."

On another occasion:—

"When Hoppner the painter was residing in a cottage a few miles from London, Porson, one afternoon, unexpectedly arrived there. Hoppner said that he could not offer him dinner, as Mrs. Hoppner had gone to town, and had carried with her the key of the closet which contained the wine. Porson, however, declared that he would be content with a mutton-chop and beer from the next alehouse; and accordingly stayed to dine. During the evening Porson said, 'I am quite certain that Mrs. Hoppner keeps some nice bottle for her private drinking in her own bedroom; so, pray

try if you can lay your hands on it.' His host assured him that Mrs. Hoppner had no such secret stores; but Porson insisting that a search should be made, a bottle was at last discovered in the lady's apartment, to the surprise of Hoppner and the joy of Porson, who soon finished its contents, pronouncing it to be the best gin he had tasted for a long time. Next day Hoppner, somewhat out of temper, informed his wife that Porson had drunk every drop of her concealed dram. 'Drunk every drop of it!' cried she. 'My God, it was spirits of wine for the lamp!'

And he quotes the following from Rogers's *Table Talk*:—

"One Sunday morning, when he was at Eton, he met Dr. Goodall, the provost, going to church, and asked him where Mrs. Goodall was? 'At breakfast,' replied the Doctor. 'Very well, then,' rejoined Porson, 'I'll go and breakfast with her.' He accordingly presented himself at Mrs. Goodall's table, and being asked what he chose to take, answered 'porter.' Porter was in consequence sent for, pot after pot, and the sixth pot was just being carried into the house when Dr. Goodall returned from church."

The son of a poor weaver and of a shoemaker's daughter, and indebted for his initiation into learning to the kindness of a poor country clergyman, named Hewitt, and remarkable through life for his thorough honesty, not less than for his familiarity with the Greek poets, there is much to admire in the character of Porson; and we quote the foregoing from no morbid love of showing up the failings of great men, but rather as a warning to those who may peruse our columns. It is easier to rival poor Porson in his failings than in his many merits, and we will do well ever to have in mind that temperance in all things is one of our Masonic virtues. It is stated that, in 1803, the London booksellers offered Porson the handsome sum of £3,000 for an edition of Aristophanes, which he was fully capable of executing in a few months, but he could not be induced to undertake the task, although the Greek Professorship only brought him a paltry £40 a year. Well might Porson be poor!

A building of some historical importance, the palace of the East India Company in Leadenhall-street, is now up for sale. The Secretary of State in Council of India, at noon of Thursday, the 20th inst., will attend at the India-office, Victoria-street, Westminster, to open sealed tenders from persons desirous of purchasing the once famous East India House. No tender will be received unless accompanied by a deposit of £5,000. The highest tender is to be accepted, provided that the amount shall exceed a reserved price determined by the Secretary of State, and placed under seal prior to the opening of any of the tenders. Our own opinion is, that Government ought to have made of the East India House (what it before was on a small scale) a museum of everything relating to our immense Asiatic possessions.

Mr. John Petherick, F.R.G.S., Her Britannic Majesty's consul for the Soudan, in his recent book, *Egypt, the Soudan, and Central Africa*, thus describes an African Patriarch of the present day:—"Long before the appointed time, Dood and a crowd of men and striplings, with their inseparable accompaniments of clubs and lances, on the shore, awoke me from my slumbers; and as I appeared on deck, a rush took place towards me, with cries of 'The Benj! the Benj!' (the chief), followed by salutations innumerable. As soon as these shouts subsided, Dood, disembarassing his mouth with some difficulty of a quid of tobacco the size of a small orange, sat down by my side. My first remark was astonishment at the number of his followers, having expected none but his sons. 'Oh, it's all right: you don't know my family yet; but, owing to your kind promise, I sent to the cattle-kraals for the boys; and with the pride of a father, he said, 'There are my fighting sons, who many a time have stuck to me against the Dinka, whose cattle have enabled them to wed.' Notwithstanding a slight knowledge of negro families, I was still not a little surprised to find his valiant progeny amount to forty grown-up men and hearty lads. 'Yes,' he said, 'I did not like to bring the girls and little boys, as it would look as if I wished to impose upon your generosity.' 'What! more little boys and girls! what may be their number, and how many wives have you?' 'Well, I have divorced a good many wives—they get old, you know; and now I have only ten and five.' But when he began to count his children, he was obliged to have recourse to a reed, and, breaking it up into small pieces, said, 'I take no notice of babies, as they often die, you know: women are so foolish about children that I never care for them until they are

able to lay a snare.' Like all negroes, not being able to count beyond ten, he called over as many names, which he marked by placing a piece of reed on the deck before him; a similar mark denoted another ten, and so on until he had named and marked the number of his children. The sum total, with the exception, as he had explained, of babies and children unable to protect themselves, was fifty-three boys and twenty girls,—viz. seventy-three."

The Royal Gold Medal of the Institute of British Architects, which is every third year given to some foreign architect of distinction, has this year been awarded to M. Lesueur, of Paris, who designed the Hotel de Ville of that metropolis.

Dr. Fischer, writing in the *Wiener Allgemeine Zeitung*, states that vomitings after inhaling chloroform may be prevented by the patients taking a glass of wine before the inhalations.

The Government Astronomer at Madras has discovered a new planet, which is to be called the Asia.

J. Henry Bennet, M.D., Physician-Accoucheur to the Royal Free Hospital, writing in the *Lancet*, says:—"The authors whose works I have read on winter climates have, it appears to me, made an extraordinary but all important omission. They have studied winds, sunshine, cloud, temperature, protection, and all the various elements which constitute climate, forgetting *hygiene*. And yet are not the laws of hygiene of more importance to the invalid than all the rest put together? Of what avail is it to place a patient suffering from a constitutional disease, such as phthisis, in the most favourable climatic conditions if every law of hygiene is violated—if he is made to live in the midst of a foul, badly-drained, badly-ventilated town, such as Florence, Rome, or Naples? In these unhealthy centres of southern population, where the mortality is habitually very high amongst the healthy natives (much higher, as we have seen, than in our most unhealthy manufacturing localities), what right have we to expect the general health of our patients to rally? In reality, it would be as reasonable to send consumptive patients, in the summer months, to live in the worst parts of Whitechapel, Liverpool, or Glasgow, as it is to send them in winter to live in the centre of these unhealthy Southern towns. In former days, when the laws of hygiene were ignored by the medical profession as well as by the non-medical public, when fevers and plagues were merely studied and treated as inscrutable dispensations of Divine wrath, it was, perhaps, excusable for writers on climate to devote their undivided attention to meteorological questions. But now that the mist and darkness have been dispelled, that typhus fever and other town diseases have been traced to their cause, filth, defective drainage, &c., we know that attention to hygienic laws is even more necessary for the recovery of health than it is for its retention. In choosing a winter residence, therefore, hygienic conditions should be first considered, even before warmth and sunshine. If we are to be guided by such considerations, however, I must candidly confess that I have not yet seen a large town in the South of Europe, the hygienic state of which is such as to render it a safe winter residence for an invalid. In most of those towns, moreover,—Rome, Florence, Pisa, Naples,—the positions selected for, and devoted to invalids are central, and owe their protection in a great measure to buildings, which secure to them the town atmosphere undiluted. Thus is explained the frequent deaths from 'fever' amongst our countrymen, ill or well, residing in them, which we every year see chronicled. On the spot you are told that they have died from the fever of 'the country.' But this fever of the country, as far as I could gather, from minute inquiry, is no other than our old enemy, typhus, under a continental garb. Its characteristic features may be modified by some malarious or catarrhal element, but the type is the same. The cause, too, is identical, in the Italian marble palace and in the St. Giles's hovel—foul air inside and outside the house everywhere."

According to Mr. J. R. Hind, the comet approached the nearest to the earth on the 5th ult., when it was upwards of thirty millions of miles from us. Its brightness will now gradually diminish, and it will soon entirely disappear. We cannot call it a very near neighbour at any time.

The Lectures on the Science of Language, recently delivered at the Royal Institution of Great Britain, by Professor Max Muller, M.A., Fellow of All Souls' College, Oxford, are preparing for immediate publication.

William Fairburn, Esq., C.E., LL.D., F.R.S., F.G.S., &c., is now preparing for publication the second volume of his *Treatise on*

Mills and Millwork, which is to complete the book. In this second volume, transmissive machinery will be first treated of, including the teeth of wheels, shafting, couplings, and disengaging gear; and then examples of various descriptions of mills will be given, showing the details of their arrangement, including corn mills, cotton mills, flax mills, and woollen mills, all of which are to be carefully analysed for the guidance of the engineer and millwright.

Dr. Travers Twiss, Regius Professor of Civil Law in the University of Oxford, and one of Her Majesty's Counsel, is preparing *A Treatise on the Law of Nations*. Part I., treating more especially of the rights and duties of nations in time of *Peace*, is now in the press; and the second part, which is to complete the work, will comprise the rights and duties of nations in time of *War*.

Messrs. Longman & Co. are preparing for publication a new library edition of *The Statesmen of the Commonwealth*, by John Forster, Esq., thoroughly revised, and with the addition of much new matter. The first volume will comprise Eliot, Strafford, and Hampden; the second, Pym, Marten, and Vane; and the third, which completes the work, Oliver Cromwell.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

ORDER OF HARODIM.

Several inquiries having been made as to the order of Harodim, the following may be of interest.

"Excellent Companion, 3rd March, 1792."

"The third meeting of the sixth session of the Grand Chapter of the Order of Harodim (being a meeting in the second class) will be held at Free Masons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on Monday, the 19th instant, at which the honour of your attendance is requested.

"Dinner will be on table at half-past four—Chapter will be opened at seven, and the Public Lecture begin at half-past seven o'clock precisely.

"Such companions as chuse (*sic*) to dine at the chapter are desired to send their names to the Secretary two days previous.

"The Council of Harodim will be held on Friday the 16th instant, at seven o'clock in the evening; at which propositions will be received, and initiations take place.

"By the Chief Harod's command,

"Thomas Harper, Secretary,

"No. 207, Fleet-street.

"N.B. The Chapters in March, October, and December (being meetings of the second class), no Visitors can be admitted; but at those in April and November, being of the first class, Visitors will be received, by Ticket, as usual.

"* * * The Harodim Lodge will meet at Free Masons' Tavern, on Thursday, the 8th inst., at seven o'clock in the evening.

"[Raising] T. Harper, Sec."

The above is addressed to "Gen. Rainsford, Soho-square," and has, written in another hand, "Major Fish exalt." A second summons reads thus:—

"Order of Harodim.

"Excellent Companion, 11th February, 1793.

"The second meeting of the seventh session of the Grand Chapter of the Order of Harodim (being a meeting of the second class) will be held at Free Masons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on Monday, the 18th instant; at which the honour of your attendance is requested.

"Dinner will be on table at half-past four—Chapter will be opened at seven, and the Lecture begin at half-past seven o'clock precisely.

"The Council of Harodim will meet on Friday, the 15th instant, at seven o'clock in the evening; at which the Assistant Council, Lecturers, Sectionists, Clauseholders, &c., for the current year will be appointed, and such companions as are desirous of holding clauses are requested to attend this meeting, as no companion can be appointed to any office, but on personal application to the council. [Such companions as are not of the second class are requested to attend this meeting of Council for the purpose of initiation.]

"By the Chief Harod's command,

"Stephen Jones, Secretary,

"No. 1, Swinton-street,

"Gray's Inn-road.

"* * * The subscription to the chapter for the present year is two guineas, entitling every companion to dine at the chapter meetings."

This is also addressed to General Rainsford, Soho-square. Another summons connected with the Order reads as follows:—

"Chapter of Observance of the Royal Order of H.R.D.M. K.D.S.H. Palestine, 1st and 11nd Column of the seven degrees, III, V, VII, IX. . . . LXXXI. Ne plus ultra.

"Sir Knt.,—You are respectfully requested to attend the duties of this chapter, at the Surrey Tavern, Surrey-street, Strand, on Wednesday, the 21st day of December, at seven o'clock, p.m. precisely.

"December 15th, A.L. 5800, A.D. 1796, A.O. 678, A.C. 482.

"N.B.—Installations." B. Cooper, Sec."

The above is addressed to "Dr. Sibley." In turn, I would inquire what is known of General Rainsford, and is not the last document an early summons of the Observance Encampment?—MATTHEW COOKE.

BRO. PETER LAMBERT DE LINTOT.

On a sheet of paper bearing an allegorical engraving by Bro. de Lintot, surrounded by the following inscription, "1314, Lodge of St. George, 1736, De L'observance, No. 53 C. P.R., of all degrees Masonry, VII^o," is written an—

"Inventory of Manuscripts, drawings, jewels, &c., of the late Bro. Peter Lambert de Lintot. Books and Papers, *English*. Sundrie Symbolic. Little Elected of 9. Elected of 15. Ditto of the Unknown. 3 books of Architect.

History of Grand Scots } R. Arch.
Sacred Numbers }

Knts. of the Eagle, Ros^a Crucis and part of the Knts. of Palestine.

3 books of Grand Elected. 2 books of Knts. of the East. 2 books

of Knts. of the East and West. Grand Inspector, 2nd section, 7th

degree. Knt. of the Sun. Fire of the Sylphs. Invocation of

Minerva. Ladies' Masonry. 1st and 2nd book of Antiquites.

General and particular statutes. Royal Arch by Zerubbable. 3

papers of Grand Commander of the East, 1 of Sovereign Commander

of the East.—*In French*. Sundrie Symbolic. Little Elected of

9. Elected of 15. Architect. 5 books Royal Arch. Knts. of the

Eagle, Rosa Crucis and Tripple Cross. Knts. of Palestine, with an

history of the Columns. Knts. of the East and West. Grand

Inspector, 3 books. Kilwinning Templar. Sylphs. Princes of

Jerusalem. Grand Commander of the East. Ladys' Masonry with

the drawing of the Lodges in three sections. Philosophic Sylphs.

Chaos open. Illustrations on several degrees, and Sundrie Scraps

in both languages. *Drawings*. Opening of the 7 seals, &c. a ditto.

The 9 arches. Temple of Brouma, and solar system. Hieroglyphic.

Symbolic and Architect. Knts. of the East. Architect. Templars.

The 9 arches of Enoch. Sovereign Commander. Israel returning

from Babylon under Zerubbable. Templars. a ditto. Chaos, 7th

degree. Adam. Sylphs. Stadhaacad, Grand Inspector, 2nd sec.

7th degree. Hierarchy. Royal Arch by Solomon.—*Metal*. A

Copper Plate for the frontispiece as on this paper. Three plates

for Masonic seals. A brass ring for the finger. *Stone*. The cubic

Scientific curiously engraven. A superficial ditto, curiously

engraven. A small cube plain. *Jewels*. 1. A small cross,

mother of pearl, with 9 stones. 2. a ditto, mettle, plain. 3. a

small square, mother of pearl, with stones, a cross, mother of

pearl, engraved, a circle with an Heptagon engraved, silver.

4. A Royal Arch (mettle) neatly engraven, a star of six points

M. pearl, with lustres, fixed to a black collar edged with white

Red cross, silk. 5. A mettle circle ornamented with lustres, in the

centre a Triangle from which issues a glory; the reverse side

curiously engraven with Masonic emblems and mottoes, on a black

collar edged with white. 6. A star, mettle, of seven points orna-

mented with lustres, circular centre piece engraven and a Triangle

composed of stones, pendant a small cross ornamented; the whole

pendant to a black collar with a silver orris on the interior edge.

7. Mettle. A square plate with the 2 pillars of Enoch (M. pearl) a

circle, a triangle and a glory, with stones. Engraved on the re-

verse the 9 arches, with a small cross pendant at the bottom, on

the top the figure of the Sun. A Red Collar edged with black.

8. Mettle. A mathematical compass 180 degrees, with a silver

star of seven points, pendant to a purple collar edged yellow.

9. Silver cross and star of 7 points on a black Collar. 10. Cross-

pens, silver."

The above has been copied exactly as it was originally written; and I take it to be a curiosity of no small importance, because it makes us acquainted with many degrees, allusions, dress, and other matters of which we know but little. I have latterly found several other things, equally curious, which will in due time appear.—MATTHEW COOKE.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.

THE "HIGHER GRADES."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Charity is a Masonic virtue, and I should be sorry to be found deficient in it to those who differ with me in opinion. I am quite willing for my brother Masons to play at being Sir Knights and Most Wise Sovereigns, if it pleases them; but I cannot allow them to under-rate our ancient and beautiful Craft, to which they still owe fealty, whatever other degrees they may choose to take. Your correspondent, "P.M., P.Z., &c.," and myself must "agree to differ" on the antiquity of the "higher degrees." I do not wish to force my opinions either upon him or others, and I thank him truly for the courtesy of his reply, notwithstanding that he has rather too hastily set me down as uncharitable. But my own opinion is, that the Craft and some portions of the Mark are the only degrees that are really and truly ancient. Of course, from time to time, there has been much variation in what we may call *non-essentials* in those; and, though I have no wish, even if it were possible, to pen up operative Masonry in tyled lodges, yet I think the divorce has been carried to far, and that architecture ought yet to be a necessary teaching in the Craft.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
BROTHER PETER.

Never-Mind-Where, June 1st, 1861.

THE LATE BRO. EVANS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

SIR AND BROTHER,—On behalf of Mrs. Evans I beg and acknowledge the following addition to the subscriptions on her behalf.

Amount acknowledged in THE MAGAZINE for	
May 25th	£28 1 0
Bro. A. Perrier, Lota, Cork.....	1 0 0
Bro. G. Haward	1 1 0
Bro. H. A. Isaacs.....	5 0
Total ...	
	£30 7 0

With many thanks to yourself, Mr. Editor, for your consideration in allowing these weekly communications of mine, I remain, faithfully yours,

JOHN MOTT TPEARLE.

BURNS'S MOTHER LODGE.

"The brethren o' the mystic level
May hing their head in woefu' bevel,
While by their nose the tears will revel,
Like ony bead;
GREED'S gi'en the lodge an unco devel—
ST. DAVID'S dead."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

SIR,—The indignation of the Craft has been justly excited by the appearance in the columns of that widely-circulated journal, the *Ayr Advertiser*, of a Masonic advertisement of a novel and unusual character. Most unfortunately for the credit of Masonry, the charter and minute-books of Tarbolton St. David's have been allowed to fall into the hands of some two or three individuals in the village of Tarbolton, who, so far from preserving, inviolate their sacred trust, have wounded the feelings of the Craft universal, and the Scottish brethren in particular, by offering for public sale Masonic documents which were never intended to meet the eye of the uninitiated. St. David's was instituted in 1773, and is well known as Burns's Mother Lodge—being that in which Burns was "entered," and under whose charter the immortal poet was "raised" to the summit of ancient Craft Masonry. The career of this lodge has indeed been a chequered one, and its past history could afford rich and ample material for one of Rob Morris's best Masonic tales: but the present episode in its existence eclipses all its predecessors, inasmuch as the contemplated act of spoliation

(viz., the sale of the charter and books), if allowed to be perpetrated, would by every zealous and intelligent brother be looked upon as nothing short of a desecration of Masonry, and a repudiation of the most solemn of all Masonic covenants. We believe the persons implicated in this business think they are doing nothing amiss, but in this they prove themselves to have been very superficially instructed in the laws and constitution of Freemasonry, and lay themselves open to the charge of being too intent on their own personal aggrandisement to care much for the interest of the Order, of which they are, nominally at least, members. Could the poet have foreseen the fate to which a few mercenary and unmasonic spirits should consign the charter of his mother lodge, one of his stinging satirical epitaphs would have immortalised the trio in a way different to that in which he has rendered famous the sister lodge of Tarbolton—Kilwinning St. James. But apart altogether from the impropriety of offering for sale the charter and books of a Masonic body, the gentlemen holding possession of these documents have no special right of property in this case over any other Mason who may have been made in St. David's Lodge at any period prior to its becoming dormant in 1843. There are many such alive—some within a tolerably moderate "cable-tow's" length of the village of Tarbolton, and whom we are glad to know are bestirring themselves for the protection of the honour of their mother lodge. They have an undoubted right to interfere—nay, it is their bounden duty—to prevent the alienation of the charter and minutes to other than Masonic purposes; and any arrangement that both parties might agree upon, as to removal or transfer of the charter, must meet the approval of, and be ratified by the Grand Lodge of Scotland. A Masonic charter is not a piece of merchandise, and can never be held as private property: it is granted to the brethren named in it, and to their successors in office—to be worked by them in connection with, and under the government of, the Supreme Body of Freemasons granting the charter, and can be cancelled or taken possession of by them at any time. If the would-be sellers of the property of St. David's, or the other members of the lodge opposed to such a step, have no wish to work the lodge, then let them return the charter to the Grand Lodge, or what would be to my mind a more graceful and appropriate compliment to the memory of the Ayrshire Bard and Brother, hand the charter, books, and paraphernalia over to the Master and Wardens of Tarbolton Kilwinning St. James's, for preservation, along with the other relics of the poet, in the archives of the lodge to which his "heart-warm fond adieu" was addressed, and in which his "last request" is still most religiously complied with. The brethren in the county should remain no longer quiescent in this important matter: every lodge should raise its voice in protest against the act, and petition Bro. Sir James Fergusson to summon a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, to authorise the interdict of further proceedings on the part of those attempting to traffic in Masonry. The Southern taunts the Scot with having sold his king: let it never be recorded to the disgrace of the cradle-land of Scottish Masonry, that the fraternity in Ayrshire permitted the sale of Burns's Mother Lodge.

Yours fraternally,
D. MURRAY LYON,
J. W. Mother Kilwinning.

Ayr, May 30th, 1861.

P.S.—Can any of your correspondents inform the Craft as to how the symbols of the 3 G. LL. of Masonry, with the flag, and the funds belonging to the Lodge St. David, have been disposed of?
△ +

PROVINCE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

In your account of the installation proceedings at Leeds, on the 23rd ult., I find no mention made of the presence of our R. W. Bro. Wm. Thos. Greaves, D. Prov. G. Master for Cumberland, and two other brethren representing the Senior and Junior Wardens of that province. It is considered a point of the highest pride and gratification amongst West Yorkshire Masons to show courtesy to, and suitably acknowledge the presence of, visiting brethren from other provinces, whatsoever may be their rank or standing. Our esteemed Bro. Greaves was with us during the whole

cerecmony of installation, was my right file in the procession, and seated on my immediate right hand at the banquet.

Under these circumstances the omission of his name certainly seems singular, and I hope you will do me the favour of inserting this in your next number, as I should be deeply pained if our R. W. Bro. or his colleagues should for a moment think us insensible of the high honour conferred upon us by their presence on that occasion.

Yours faithfully,

GEO. FEARNLEY, M.D., D. Prov. G.M.

Dewsbury, June 3, 1861. West Yorkshire.

[It is not singular that in so large an assembly some of the names of even well-known brethren should have been omitted, especially seeing the very little care those in authority took to obtain a faithful record of their visitors, and prevent the intrusion of strangers.]

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR,—In your report of the proceedings of Grand Conclave, you report that addresses of congratulation were presented from the Provinces of Kent, Staffordshire, Lancashire, Northumberland, and several private encampments, naming them, but you do not notice the Observance Encampment. This omission I hope you will rectify, as I should much regret that the encampment of which our most E. Commander is a member, should appear to the world as not participating in the general rejoicings at the installation of our dearly beloved Bro. Sir Knt. Stuart.

I beg, therefore, to inform you that I had the honour of presenting for that ancient encampment an address expressive of the fealty of the Knts. of the Observance Encampment.

I remain, Dear Sir, yours truly and fraternally,

† . H. J. HINXMAN, M.D., E.C. Observance.

DEAR SIR KNT.—In your report of Grand Conclave, held on the 10th ult., we find several new officers created, viz., Grand Seneschal, Earl of Carnarvon; Grand Mareschal, Lawrence Ormerod; Grand Provost, Rev. E. G. Bolling. To whom are we indebted for these, as no such officers are named in the Book of Statutes. I of course admit the authority of the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, but am led to believe that to some sub-officer Lord Carnarvon owes the honour of being appointed Grand *Superintendent of Feasts*, otherwise *Grand BUTLER*. Will he have to uncork our wine at the banquets; of Grand Mareschal and Grand Provost, as both would be head of a department, why place them so low in the scale of officers?

I am, yours truly and fraternally,

A LOVER OF REGULARITY.

MICHAEL ANGELO AND POPE JULIUS.—Through the envious intrigues of Bramante, M. Angelo was engaged to paint the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. In vain he represented that his art was sculpture, and proposed Raphael in his stead. The Pope was inflexible, and in May, 1508, the ceiling was commenced. Being ignorant of fresco painting, M. Angelo at first engaged mediocre artists to assist him with his work; but one day in a fit of irritation he drove them away, and erased all they had accomplished. Another difficulty was caused by the scaffolding. Hitherto the rude plan had been adopted of nailing a beam from timber to timber, which, being pulled down after the painting was completed, left the unsightly marks of the nails' indentures in the plaster. This did not satisfy M. Angelo. His ready wit designed a scaffolding, which should meet every necessity, and which is the model of those used with but slight alteration at the present day. Meanwhile, he shut himself up alone in the chapel, exciting the curiosity of the Pope, and disputing angrily with his messengers. Julius was in a fever of excitement. The man who had boasted that he "was lord and master of human cattle" had at last found one not so ready to bend to the yoke. "When will you have done?" roared the Pope's legates. "When it is convenient," quietly replied the painter. At last they tore down the scaffolding, and amidst a clamour of admiration, the Dante of painting was revealed to the world. In November, 1509, "Rome itself," says Vasari, "rushed to the Sistine Chapel." Julius was the first to go. "You must put a little gold on the figures," said he. "My chapel will seem very poor." "Those whom I have painted were the poor of this world," proudly rejoined M. Angelo. And the paintings remained untouched. —*Eclectic Review*.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

THE GIRLS' AND BOYS' SCHOOLS.

The election for Secretary to each of these institutions took place at the Freemasons' Tavern, when Bro. E. H. Patten, P.G.S.B., was elected as Secretary to the Girls' School, and Bro. Binckes, Secretary to the Boys' School.

GRAND LODGE.

The quarterly communication of Grand Lodge was held in Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday last, the M.W. Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, on the throne; the R.W.D.G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon; Bros. Lord Richard Grosvenor, M.P., S.G.W.; Novelli, J.G.W.; the Rev. Dr. Senior, G. Chap.; S. Tomkins, G. Treas.; Roxburgh, G. Reg.; W. G. Clarke, G. Sec.; McIntyre, S.G.D.; Gregory, J.G.D.; Daukes, G. Supt. of Works; Woods, G.D.C.; Symonds, A.G.D.C.; Hyde Pullen, G.S.B.; W. Parnfield, Assist. G. Sec.; Adams, G. Purst., and Farmer, Assist. G. Purst. There were also present Bros. Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M., Warwickshire; Col. Vernon, Prov. G.M., Staffordshire; H. C. Vernon, Prov. G.M., Worcestershire; Fawcett, M.P., Prov. G.M., Durham; and Bagshaw, Prov. G.M., Essex. Bros. F. Dundas, and A. Perkins, P.G.W's.; Bro. the Rev. Sir Warren Hayes, P. G. Chap.; Bros. Havers (President of the Board of General Purposes), Slight, Scott, T. H. White, Crombie, Savage, Hopwood, Potter, Giraud, Udall, Phillips, and King, P.G.D's.; Bros. Jennings and Chapman, P.D.G.C's.; Bros. Evans (President of the Colonial Board), Spiers, Bridges, Patten, Le Veau, and Walmisley, P.G.S.B's.; Bros. Smith and Breiting, P.G. Pursts.; Dr. Hinxman, W.M. Grand Steward's Lodge, and a large number of other brethren.

The minutes having been read and put for confirmation.

Bro. GREGORY, J.G.D., rose to put a question to the Grand Master on a point of order. Without in any way wishing to interfere with the vote of £200 to Bro. Watson, he had given notice of a motion for altering the fund from which it was to be taken. What he wished to be informed was, whether he could so frame a motion, or whether in the confirmation of the minutes, a resolution must be confirmed or rejected in its entirety.

The M.W.G.M. said that on the question for confirming the minutes, it was competent for any brother to move the omission of any part of them, but he had ruled in 1858 or 1859, he could not tell which, that a resolution once passed must be confirmed or rejected in its entirety; and though in his own opinion the proper fund for the grant to have been made from would have been the Benevolent Fund, they could not now alter it, and the resolution as passed at the last Grand Lodge must be confirmed or rejected in its integrity.

The minutes were then put and confirmed, as were also those of the Grand Festival.

The scrutineers for the election of the Board of General Purposes were appointed.

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED MASONS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

The M.W.G.M. rose, pursuant to notice, to move,—“That Article 4, page 17, of the Rules and Regulations for the Widows' Fund of the Royal Benevolent Institution be altered by omitting the words 'not exceeding the age of 65 years, £15,' and 'from 65 to 70 years, £20,' and inserting in place thereof, 'from the age of 55 to 70 years, £20.'” He had great pleasure in proposing this resolution, which had been unanimously passed at the Annual Meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Benevolent Institution on the 17th ult., and which he hoped would be approved by Grand Lodge.

Bro. HORWOOD, P.G.D., warned the brethren to be cautious how they increased the annuities granted by the Benevolent Institution, lest they should go beyond their means. They naturally desired to extend their charity to the utmost, but they must be careful to see that in increasing the annuities they did not endanger their means of giving them altogether.

Bro. SYMONDS, Asst. G. Dir. of Cers., trusted he might be allowed to call the attention of Grand Lodge to the real position in which the motion came before them. The Annual General Meeting of the Benevolent Institution had unanimously agreed to this increase, but it could not be acted upon until the resolution had been submitted to Grand Lodge. Now, though it was necessary to have the approval of Grand Lodge to their resolutions, in order that laws should not be passed inconsistent with the principles on which the institution was established, he took it for granted that Grand Lodge would never wish to interfere with the

details of management which were properly left to the Committee and the subscribers at their General Meeting. This resolution had not been brought forward until after due consideration, and with the conviction that it could be carried out without detriment to the institution.

Bro. UDALL, P.G.D., confirmed Bro. Symonds with regard to the consideration which had been given to the resolution by the Committee, who had, moreover, been influenced in fixing the number of candidates to be elected by the consideration that £5 would have to be added to all the annuities under £20.

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

The M.W.G. MASTER said the next resolution he had to move came as a necessary corollary to the one first passed, viz.,—"That Article 4, page 17, be suspended, so far as relates to Female Annuitants at present receiving £15, and that for the future their annuities be increased to £20."

The motion, having been seconded, was passed.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The G. SECRETARY next read the report from the report of the Board of Benevolence, which stated that, at the meeting on the 20th March, Bro. Jos. Smith, P.G. Pursd. in the chair, eleven petitioners were relieved by grants to the extent of £107 10s. On the 17th April, Bro. Faudel, P.G.D., presiding, thirteen petitioners were relieved with grants amounting to £160; and, on the 22nd May, Bro. John Udall in the chair, thirteen petitioners were relieved with grants to the extent of £145 10s., and the following grants were recommended to Grand Lodge:—Bro. Morris Schlesinger, of the Grenadiers' Lodge (No. 79), London, £100; William Dodd, of the St. Andrew's Lodge (No. 281), London, £50; Charles Lawrence, of the late Castle Lodge (No. 36), London, £50.

On a motion being put for confirming the first grant, a conversation ensued, in which it was stated that the £100 had been recommended under a misconception of the services which Bro. Schlesinger had rendered to Masonry and the charitable institutions connected with it; and that Bro. Schlesinger had himself explained how the misconception arose, and had authorised Bro. Savage to state that he would rather have £50 at once than wait three months for the confirmation of the grant of £100, which he would, according to the laws, have to do. Under these circumstances, the grant was reduced to £50. The other grants recommended were unanimously approved.

NEW GRAND OFFICERS.

The report of the Board of General Purposes having been taken as read, was ordered to be received and entered in the Minutes.

The PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES rose and said, in moving the first resolution arising out of the report, he trusted he might be allowed to depart from the usual course, and without any disrespect to the noble Lord, address himself more immediately to the brethren instead of the M.W.G.M., as was the usual custom, inasmuch as it proposed to extend to the M.W.G. Master powers at present only possessed by Grand Lodge, viz., that of conferring past rank on brethren of eminence and ability. In deference to advice which he had received from some of his legal brethren, he proposed to modify the resolution as it appeared in the printed report, by striking out the words "and to confer upon them," and to substitute the word "with," so that the resolution would read as follows:—"That the M.G.W.M. be empowered to appoint brethren of eminence and ability to be members of Grand Lodge, with such rank and distinction as he may think proper." He could assure Grand Lodge that the Board of General Purposes, of which he was the representative, had not arrived at the determination to recommend the resolution to their adoption without much consideration, and having had under review the great increase which had taken place in Freemasonry, without the corresponding increase in the means of rewarding brethren who had rendered distinguished services to the Craft. From 1813 to 1817 there were not more than 460 working lodges, although there were between 600 and 700 on the list, many of which never met at all. The number of lodges now on the roll was between 1160 and 1170, and the number of Masons had increased in still greater proportion; for whereas, ten or fifteen years since, 1,000, 1,100, or 1,400 members per annum was considered a large number to admit into their Order, during the present year the increase had been going on at the rate of more than 100 a week, and was likely to continue, and therefore it was that it was thought the power of conferring honours on the brethren should be increased. He spoke on the part of the Board of General Purposes when he stated that throughout the country there were a number of good and true men who were entitled to rewards. The G.M. had ever devoted his talents and time most honourably to the good of the Craft, and he felt that in giving the G.M. the power now proposed, it would be most sparingly exercised; for, indeed, if it were largely made use of it would lose its value. He wished to assure the brethren that he was not proposing to do anything which was not acknowledged and acted upon in other parts of their social system. There were

admirals who had never commanded a fleet, and colonels who had never been appointed to a regiment. The brevet rank given by Her Majesty was well known and acknowledged, and they now only proposed to give to the G.M. powers which the Grand Lodge could itself now exercise, and no one who knew how particular the G.M. was in the discharge of his duties could doubt that, if given, the power would be otherwise than most judiciously used. Occasionally the G.W.M. would select to confer position upon two or three brethren who had devoted themselves to the interests of the Craft, and by their services merited some reward. This power would be the more particularly useful in rewarding brethren in the country but it was not proposed in any way to limit the powers as regarded the persons on whom these honours might be conferred, and he would therefore at once propose his resolution in the terms he had read.

Bro. MCINTYRE, S.G.D., as Vice President of the Board of General Purposes, seconded the resolution, which had been deliberately and most carefully considered at the Board. By the *Book of Constitutions*, Grand Lodge had the power of granting past rank upon distinguished brethren, and it was now proposed to extend the power to the Grand Master, who had better opportunities of judging of the claims of brethren to distinction. He had canvassed the Craft to a considerable extent, and had found the proposition received with almost universal approbation.

Bro. GIRAUD believed that, if the Grand Master was likely to live one thousand years, there might be little objection to the rule; but they were all mortal, and he looked upon the proposed alteration in the laws as a gross innovation of the Order. The power was so large that he did not consider it should be trusted to any man, as it would give the Grand Master power to swamp Grand Lodge, if he were so disposed. (No, no.)

Bro. MASON did not think that the proposal could be fairly designated as a gross innovation of their principles, but he thought it one that deserved the approval of Grand Lodge. There were many brethren of distinction who had not the opportunity of making themselves known to Grand Lodge, whilst their claims to reward might fairly be known to the Grand Master. So long as the present ruler of the Craft remained in the office which he so much adorned, there could be no danger of the power being abused; and as regarded future Grand Masters, they must recollect their election was in the hands of Grand Lodge, and it was their duty to elect as Grand Master a brother in whom they had sufficient confidence to believe that he would only confer honour where honour was due.

Bro. HOLMES COOTE would remind them that there had been a proposition before Grand Lodge for electing the Grand Master annually, and he would ask if such a system should hereafter be carried out, what security they would have for the proper exercise of the power now proposed to be granted?

Bro. STEBBING said that, having advocated the claims of D. Prov. G. Masters to greater consideration than they had hitherto received, he adopted the proposition with pleasure, thinking that it would be a means of fairly rewarding distinguished Provincial brethren. He thought, however, that there must be some mistake in proposing to make brethren "Members" of Grand Lodge, but that it should rather be, Officers of Grand Lodge. He suggested some slight alteration in the resolution to carry out his views, and stated that whilst the present Grand Master held office, there could be no doubt such appointments would be limited by prudence; and if any future Grand Master attempted to abuse the power, why, they must turn him out. (Cheers and laughter.)

Bro. INGRAM, of Gibraltar, supported the resolution, saying that there were very many brethren in the colonies, who, whilst doing good suit and service to the Craft, had no opportunity of reaping any of its higher honours; and he trusted the measure, if carried, would be extended to the colonies.

Bro. R. H. SMITH was understood to object to the motion.

Bro. HAYERS felt himself in the curious position of having to reply only to friends. He was rather surprised at the objection taken by Bro. Giraud. It was not likely the Grand Master would ever be actuated by anything but the strictest honour in the discharge of his duties. The Grand Master had ever been most careful as to the manner in which he used his prerogative, and it was not likely that he would be otherwise than as careful in the future. They now only proposed to give to the Grand Master powers which had been exercised by his predecessors; and H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex was in the habit of bestowing rank on whoever he pleased—Sir Cuthbert Sharp being the last brother who was so honoured. Again, in the colonies the Prov. Grand Masters were in the habit of bestowing brevet rank on their officers. He agreed with Bro. Ingram that there were many brethren in the colonies whose services deserved recognition, and this resolution would enable the Grand Master properly to recognise them. Bro. Stebbing had objected to the proposition of making members of Grand Lodge, but in that he had followed the words of the *Book of Constitutions*, which stated that distinguished brethren might,

by vote of Grand Lodge, "be constituted members of the Grand Lodge, with such rank and distinction as may be thought proper," and he wished to bestow the power on the Grand Master as unfettered as possible. It might be said that no brother could have rendered any very great service to Masonry unless he were a Master or P.M., and, therefore, a member of Grand Lodge. But he would imagine a case: a brother might have been initiated at Oxford or Cambridge, and passed through the Warden's or even the Master's chair, and then removed to a distant part of the country, especially if he were one of their clerical brethren. Well, suppose such a brother were to be situated in Yorkshire, and having lost his position in Grand Lodge by reason of not having been a subscribing member for twelve months, but afterwards joined a lodge and worked assiduously and usefully for twenty or thirty years as a Grand Chaplain, should such a brother, because he had accidentally lost his position as a member of Grand Lodge, be debarred from the rewards which were otherwise justly his due? He thought not, and therefore it was that he proposed the resolution in its present form.

The M.W. GRAND MASTER wished publicly to declare that he had had nothing to do with the proposition, either directly or indirectly. He should ever respect and protect the privileges of the Grand Master, but, wishing for no extension of them, he should not put the resolution, but ask his Right Worshipful Brother the D.G. Master to undertake that duty.

The DEPUTY GRAND MASTER said the delicacy displayed by the Grand Master, and the few words he had addressed them, was a sufficient evidence of the manner in which he would exercise the privilege if conferred upon him. With regard to any future Grand Master, the brethren must remember that the election was in their own hands, and if they could not trust themselves, he did not know whom they could trust. (Cheers and laughter.)

The motion was then carried with one dissentient.

The PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES said that the next resolution was founded on the enormous increase in the number of lodges between 1817 and 1861. In proposing a resolution for adding to the number of Grand Officers, he should again, at the suggestion of others, make a slight alteration in the words as they stood on the printed paper; and he believed that, were an angel to propose a resolution, it would be impossible to do it so as to avoid all objection. It had been proposed to appoint two Assistant Grand Deacons, to rank at the close of their turn of office as P.G. Deacons; but it had been suggested that they could not rank as P. Deacons if they had not actually held that office, and therefore it was proposed to substitute the word "Additional" for "Assistant." He would explain why, in proposing to add to the number of Grand Officers, the office of Deacon had been selected. They were the officers who had really the most important duties to perform in Grand Lodge, having to count the numbers in cases of divisions, and in crowded meetings it was impossible for two of them satisfactorily to perform that duty. He therefore moved that, "At and after the Grand Festival in 1862, two additional Grand Deacons shall be appointed, whose duties shall be to assist the Grand Deacons, who shall be required to have the same qualifications and be subject to the same regulations as those in force with reference to Grand Deacons, and who shall, after their year of office has expired, take rank as Past Grand Deacons."

Bro. MCINTYRE seconded the resolution, which was carried by acclamation.

THE BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS.

The PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES next moved "That the cost of printing the *Book of Constitutions* being considerably less than formerly, and it being desirable that every facility should be given to the fraternity generally to possess copies of the laws, the board recommend that instead of the present system under which each copy was charged at 2s. 6d., and a discount was allowed upon taking a number, that the price for the future shall be 1s. 6d. for each copy, and that there shall be no further allowance."

The resolution was seconded and passed *nem. con.*

ERASURE OF LODGES.

The PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES could have wished that the last act of his official life should have been of a pleasurable nature, whereas he had now the painful duty to perform of moving that several lodges should be called upon to show cause why they should not be erased for not having made their returns to Grand Lodge. The pain of that duty was, however, somewhat mitigated by the fact that since the list had been prepared one lodge had made a return, and he had caused that lodge to be withdrawn from the list. Since he had been in that hall, the Grand Secretary had informed him that three other lodges had made their returns, and two more had promised to do so. He would, therefore, move that the following lodges be called upon to show cause why they should not be erased, and he should be much pleased if they could all do so.

143 Derbyshire Lodge, Longnor.

658 Marquis of Granby Lodge, Eastwood.

667 Union Lodge of Barnard Castle, Barnard Castle.

788 Royal Burnham Lodge, Burnham, Essex.

817 North Essex Lodge, Bocking.

820 Zetland Lodge, Guisborough.

875 St. John's Lodge, Wellington, Shropshire.

910 South Suffolk Lodge, Sudbury.

940 Peveril of the Peak Lodge, New Mills, Near Stockport.

Bro. MCINTYRE seconded the motion, which was carried.

Bro. HAYERS then moved that the remainder of the Report of the Board of General Purposes be received and adopted, which was duly seconded and carried.

THE CANADAS.

The Report of the Colonial Board having been taken as read,

The PRESIDENT (Bro. Ll. Evans) rose to move its adoption, and called attention to the principal points in it reminding Grand Lodge that, when the independence of the Grand Lodge of Canada was acknowledged, the rights of lodges who elected to still hold under the Grand Lodge of England was specially reserved. It appeared, however, that the Grand of Canada Lodge had declared the St. Lawrence Lodge at Montreal, No. 293 on the English Register, to be working in an irregular manner, and had interdicted its recognition as a regular lodge. They had probably arrived at this decision upon what they believed to be good evidence that that lodge had first put itself under the Grand Lodge of Canada, and then withdrawn. The lodge, however, denied that they had ever done so, and a representation from the Colonial Board of England having been made through the representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada to the Grand Lodge of England, to Bro. Harrington, the Grand Master of Canada, he had caused the operation of the resolution of the Grand Lodge of Canada to be suspended until after the next annual meeting, when it could be reviewed, and when he (Bro. Evans) had no doubt justice would be done to the St. Lawrence Lodge.

The resolution was seconded by Bro. SMITH, and carried.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE P.D.G. MASTER.

Bro. BINCKES said that it was no doubt in the knowledge of the majority of the brethren present that on the previous Monday he had had the honour to be elected as the Secretary of the Boys' School. Whilst thanking his friends for the position in which they had placed him, he thought it was but proper that he should withdraw from the position which he had held in Grand Lodge for some time past, lest anything he might be led to say might in any way damage the institution with which he was now intimately connected, and in order that he might devote his energies to the development of the resources and the interests of that institution. (Cheers). He had now only to thank the members of Grand Lodge for the courtesy which had been displayed towards him, and to express his regret if at any time he had either done anything, or used a single expression which could hurt the feelings of any one. (Cheers). In conformity with the rule which he had laid down for his future conduct, he must now ask Bro. Stebbing to propose the resolution of which he had given notice.

Bro. STEBBING had great pleasure in accepting the task, and in proposing "That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge the retirement of the Right Hon. and R.W. Bro. the Earl of Dalhousie, from the office of Dep. Grand Master, after so long a period of distinguished service in connection with Freemasonry, is an event which demands especial notice; it is therefore resolved that the cordial and fraternal thanks of the brethren in Grand Lodge assembled be presented to the Right Hon. and R. W. Bro. the Earl of Dalhousie, in recognition of the zeal and ability with which he has invariably discharged the duties of the offices which from time to time he has been called upon to fill during the last twenty years; of the courtesy and urbanity by which his conduct has always been characterised, whether in presiding over, or in participating in, the deliberations of Grand Lodge; and of the zeal and assiduity which he has constantly maintained in promoting the interests and prosperity of the Craft. That such vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes, and that a copy thereof, emblazoned on vellum, be presented to his lordship." In moving this resolution, he could not but express his regret at the retirement of Bro. Binckes from Grand Lodge, as he should thereby lose the services of a most valuable coadjutor; though he was sure in devoting his talents to the service of the Charity with which he was now connected, he would confer invaluable benefits upon it. He would now proceed to propose his resolution, and he did so with great pleasure, inasmuch as, after a career of twenty years, the noble Earl had parted from his brethren, not from any difference in his opinions as to the value of Freemasonry, but from ill health. When he first entered upon his career as Senior Grand Warden as the Hon. Fox Maule, he won the esteem of the brethren. When next he presented himself as the representative of the Grand Lodge of

Scotland to that of England, his presence was hailed with pleasure; and when the M.W.G.M., in his wisdom, prudence, and foresightedness, appointed Lord Pannure (for as such the Earl of Dalhousie was best known) appointed him as Deputy Grand Master, he conferred a blessing on Freemasonry which would never be forgotten. To the discharge of the duties of his high office the Earl of Dalhousie brought great talent, a kindness and a courtesy which at once disarmed opposition and secured him the love of the brethren (cheers); and when, in the absence of the M.W.G.M., he presided on the throne, he always commanded the respect and attention of the brethren, and he said it without any disrespect to their M.W.G.M., that whenever it was known that Lord Pannure was to preside a thrill of delight ran through Grand Lodge; and he was sure he might appropriately apply to Earl Dalhousie the words used towards another distinguished Mason in another place, "We are all proud of him." (Cheers.) He was glad to hear that the counsels of the noble Lord were not to be altogether lost to Freemasonry, and he was sure that whenever his knowledge and experience was availed of it would be to the advantage of the Craft. (Cheers.) In conclusion, he would only express his fervent hope that Earl Dalhousie might long be spared; for whether as a nobleman, a statesman, or a Mason he would ever be endeared to those who had come into contact with him, and his most ardent wish was to see him again amongst them in the enjoyment of health and strength. (Cheers.)

Bro. BLAKE seconded the motion, feeling assured that every member of Grand Lodge would cordially concur in it.

The resolution was then put and carried by acclamation.

THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

The scrutineers now appeared and made their report as to the voting, which resulted in the election of the following:—

P. MASTERS.

Bro. Meymott, W. J. (No. 14)	181
„ Cox, Ed. (955)	180
„ Creaton, J. L. (2)	178
„ Haydon, S. (1079)	164
„ Smith, R. H. (1010)	154
„ Heale, J. H. (167)	150
„ Stewart, R. W. (963)	130

MASTERS.

Bro. Dickie, Thos. G. (No. 53)	152
„ Stebbing, J. R. (152)	139
„ Sargood, A. (109)	130
„ Empson, H. (275)	122
„ Savage, Jun. (19)	113
„ Adlard, Fred. (7)	100
„ Thompson, T. W. (203)	99

Bro. Price, G. (680), also polled 99, but the casting vote remaining with the G.M., he gave it in favour of the oldest lodge. The unsuccessful candidates were—

Bro. Levinson, J. (No. 72)	98
„ Nutt, S. E. (32)	97
„ Wilson, S. B., jun. (70)	87
„ Verrall, W. (338)	77
„ Haward, G. (108)	63
„ Young, Wm. (72)	54
„ Thearle, J. M. (82)	20

The GRAND MASTER then nominated Bro. McIntyre, S.G.D., as President; Bros. W. H. White, P.G. Sec.; Gregory, J.G.D.; Jno. Hervey, P.G.D.; S. B. Wilson, P.G.D.; A. W. Woods, G. Dir. of Cers.; Jno. Symonds, Asst. G. Dir. of Cers.; Jennings, P.G. Dir. of Cers.; Ll. Evans, P.G.S.B.; Le Veau, P.G.S.B.; and J. Smith, P.G. Purst.

The following brethren were elected members of the Colonial Board:—Bros. Bradford, Nicholas, P.M. (No. 54); Hopwood, John S. S., P.G.D.; Lambert, George, P.M. (No. 234); Mason, James, P.M. (No. 168); Shuttleworth, Mark, P.M. (No. 225); Wilson, Stephen Barton, P.G.D.; Young, William, P.M. (No. 72).

The GRAND MASTER nominated Bros. Ll. Evans, P.G.S.B., as President; A. W. Woods, G. Dir. of Cers.; and J. Smith, P.G. Purst.; Bradford, P.G. Purst., Vice-President.

The following brethren were elected on the General Committee, the Committee of Management of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows:—

Bro. Aldrich, Samuel	P.M. No. 196
„ Cox, Edward	W.M. „ 955
„ Davis, Edward W.	P.M. „ 112
„ Day, Alfred	P.M. „ 118
„ Gale, Samuel	P.M. „ 19
„ Gurton, John	P.M. „ 211

„ Head, Benjamin	P.M. „ 5
„ Masterman, W.S.	P.M. „ 11
„ Symonds, John	P.M. „ 21
„ Thompson, Thomas W.	P.M. „ 203

The Grand Master nominated Bros. A. Perkins, P.G.W.; W. G. Clarke, G. Sec.; W. H. White, P.G. Sec.; M'Intyre, S.G.D.; Gregory, J.G.D.; Giraud, P.G.D.; Hopwood, P.G.D.; Evans, P.G.S.B.; Breitling, P.G. Purst.; and Smith, P.G. Purst.

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

Bro. WYNNE, P.M., No. 118, next moved—"That out of the amount of Stock in the 3 per Cent. Consols, now standing in the names of the Trustees of the Fund of Benevolence of Grand Lodge, the Grand Treasurer be directed to transfer the sum of £2,000 3 per Cent. Consols into the names of the Trustees of the following Masonic Charities, namely:—

"£1,200 to the Royal Benevolent Institution for Granting Annuities to Aged Freemasons.

"£800 to the Royal Benevolent Institution for Granting Annuities to Widows of Freemasons."

The W. brother founded his motion on the fact that out of 25 male candidates at the late election on the 17th ult., only 12 could be elected, and out of 17 female candidates, they could only take 12 into the Institution for want of funds, and one poor woman, after applying for seven times, was again, at the age of 75, unsuccessful. They were told that the Charities had plenty of money, and yet these poor creatures were to be left almost to starvation for want of funds for their relief whilst large sums were being accumulated in their Benevolent Fund. He urged the brethren to recollect the charge that was given to them when they entered into Freemasonry, and use their best exertions to rescue their poor brethren and widows from distress by extending the benefits of the Benevolent Institution, which they could do by the vote he now proposed.

Bro. the Rev. D. SHABOE seconded the motion, contending that it was a disgrace to the Craft for brethren to have to apply to the Annuity Fund three or four times for relief.

Bro. GREGORY would like, before giving a vote on the subject, to know the opinion of those who attended to the working of the Institution with regard to the resolution, as they must be the best able to form an opinion as to the wants of the Institution.

Bro. SYMONDS, as a member of the Committee, stated that the matter had not been brought before them, and the resolution was in fact the same in substance as that of Bro. Smith, which, after being before them from September to March, was then fully discussed and negatived. He did not think it fair to Grand Lodge that the same question should time after time be brought before them. The Institution had now an annual instead of a triennial festival, and he had no doubt that the difficulties which had stood in their way for providing for the various candidates would rapidly disappear.

Bro. STEBBING said it was the solemn duty of Grand Lodge not to forget the future. They were now providing for the wants arising from a past age, from about 600 lodges, all that existed 30 or 40 years since; and they must not forget that 30 or 40 years hence they would have to provide for the wants arising from 1200 lodges. They had only to exert themselves, and he had no doubt of their Charitable Institutions being well supported from other sources than the funds of Grand Lodge.

Bro. SAVAGE did not like to object to the motion, but he could not forget that their funds only amounted to £20,000, and were already charged to the extent of £800 per annum in support of the Benevolent Institution, whilst they only produced £600, so that £200 had to be taken out of the receipts of the current year to meet their engagements to this fund.

Bro. WYNNE replied, and on a show of hands the motion was lost by an overwhelming majority.

BRO. WATSON.

Bro. SAVAGE, P.G.D., moved "That the vote of £200 towards purchasing an annuity for Brother William Watson, of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, and Past Master of the Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25, be paid to the President of the Board of General Purposes, to Brother John Savage, P.G.D., the mover, and Brother Joseph Smith, P.G.P., the seconder, or to any one of them, upon the receipt of the three for the purpose of carrying out the Resolution of Grand Lodge of the 6th March last, and that such receipt shall be deemed sufficient authority for the payment of the said sum of £200."

Bro. SMITH, P.G. Purst., seconded the motion, which, on the suggestion of Bro. McIntyre, was modified by leaving out the President of the Board of General Purposes, thus providing for the payment of the money to Bro. Savage and Bro. Smith.

The resolution as amended was carried.

The G. SEC. announced that he had received a letter from Bro. Geo. Barrett withdrawing his notices of motion, and no other business offering, Grand Lodge was closed in due form shortly before eleven o'clock.

PROVINCIAL.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

STONY STRATFORD.—*Scientific Lodge* (No. 1144).—This prosperous lodge, under the presidency of Bro. J. E. McConnel, W.M., met on Saturday, the 1st inst., at the National School Rooms. There was a numerous attendance of the brethren. The following brethren, who had been passed at the previous lodge meeting, were raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons viz.:—Bros. W. Webber, J. Meadley, W. Scott, and J. G. Allan. The initiates of the evening were Messrs. D. Chalmers and J. Duke. Apologies were received from several brethren who had been balloted for and received as joining members of this lodge, but who were unable to attend the present meeting, as also from some gentlemen who had been balloted for and approved for initiation. Some additional propositions for joining members, and candidates for initiation having been made, appointments were then made from amongst the brethren to fill some of the vacant offices. The lodge adjourned to the Cock, where an excellent banquet was served. After the usual toasts had been given, and all Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed in due form, and the meeting separated.

CORNWALL.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

On Tuesday, May 28th, the several Masters, Wardens, and other officers of the various lodges throughout the province of Cornwall, assembled at Penzance for the purpose of holding the Annual Provincial Grand Lodge and Festival.

The lodge was closed tyled at 10.30 a.m., and after the business had been concluded, the brethren, walking two and two, in number about 120, and bearing their jewels, banners, and other insignia of the Craft, repaired to the church of St. Mary. The morning service was choral throughout, and the efficient choir were ably accompanied by Mr. Nunn, the organist. The sermon, an erudite Masonic discourse, was delivered by the Rev. H. Grylls, of St. Neots, the Provincial Grand Chaplain, founded on Proverbs, 10th chapter and 25th verse. "The righteous is an everlasting foundation." The discourse was a somewhat elaborate apology of the principles of Freemasonry. The preacher said the institution was universal in its charities and benevolence, its object was to take advantage of every excellent social influence; and to use its power as a body for the promotion of every good purpose. Many apparent serious objections to the order were next answered. The best men of every class of society had been, and still were, members; statesmen, philosophers, and divines: for they believed the principles to be sound and good. The teachings of Freemasonry were symbolical; symbols were in nature everywhere. The Order of the Garter, at the administration of which the Sovereign and two Prelates of the church preside, was symbolic, and yet had never been objected to on that ground. Several eloquent passages inviting the members to earnest Christian duty and fidelity to the principles of true religion and of the order, closed the discourse.

The service terminated by singing the 100th Psalm and prayer. Mr. Nunn then showed off the fine organ, by giving the Hallelujah Chorus in magnificent style. Indeed, the whole choral service was thoroughly effective. At the conclusion of the service, the brethren again fell into a procession, and, headed by the Penzance Rifle Corps band, and accompanied by the Cornish Militia brass band, perambulated the principal streets of the town, and then reassembled at the lodge room. Here the various matters appertaining to the province were duly discussed, after which Bro. Augustus Smith, the D. Prov. G.M., announced the following brethren as Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year: Sir Charles Lemon, Bart., Prov. G.M.; Augustus Smith, M.P., D. Prov. G.M.; John Moyle, Chacewater, Prov. G.S.W.; Thomas Mills, Redruth, Prov. G.J.W.; Rev. H. Grylls, St. Neots, Prov. G. Chaplain; Richard Pearce, Penzance, Prov. G. Treasurer; John Roscorla, Penzance, Prov. G. Registrar; Reginald Rogers, Carwinion, Falmouth, Prov. G. Secretary; Charles Read, Penzance, Prov. G.S.D.; William Blight, Helston, Prov. G.J.D.; Robert Bell, Truro, Prov. G.D.C.; George S. Denbigh, Penzance, Prov. G. Superintendent of Works; William Pengelly, Penzance, Prov. G. Sword Bearer; James Oates Mayne, Truro, Prov. G. Assistant Secretary; William Derry Pearce, Lameston, Prov. G. Assistant D.C.; Samuel Harvey, Truro, Prov. G., Purs; James William Niness, Chacewater, Prov. G. Organist; Edmund Boynes, Penzance, William Holmes, Penzance, Richard Lanyon, Falmouth, Thomas Chirgwin, Truro, Thomas Solomon, Truro, and Philip Rich, Bodmin Prov. G. Stewards; Sergeant Major John Wing, Truro, Prov. G. Inner Guard.

At about 3.30 p.m., the business of the lodge being concluded, the whole of the assembled brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet at the Union Hotel, prepared for them by Bro. Ball.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly responded to, but at 6.35 p.m. a great number of the brethren were

obliged to leave the banquet, in order to proceed to their several destinations by the last up train from Penzance. Those who remained concluded, in the utmost harmony, a day of great Masonic festivity, and one that will be long remembered by those who were able to meet their brethren on this, the great Masonic festival of the year.

DEVONSHIRE.

TOTNES.—*Pleiades Lodge* (No. 1012).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Room, Seven Stars Hotel, Totnes, on Thursday, May 30, 1861. The minutes of the last lodge having been read and confirmed, Messrs. F. D. Bewes, Adjutant, and A. H. Robertson, Captain, were initiated into the order of Freemasonry. The following vote of congratulation was accorded with acclamation to Bro. H. Bridges, on his appointment to the office of D. Prov. G.M. for Somerset:—

To Henry Bridges, Esq., P.G.S.B., D. Prov. G.M. of Somerset, &c.

We, the undersigned, being members of the Pleiades Lodge (No. 1012), having heard with unfeigned pleasure of the exalted and prominent position in the Craft, to which you have somewhat recently been advanced, desire to tender you the expression of our very warm feelings on the occasion. We beg, however, whilst offering you our sincere congratulations on being appointed to the office of D. Prov. G.M. of the Province of Somerset, to assure you that in no province in general can your Masonic excellencies be appreciated more fully than in that in which it is our fortune to be placed; whilst in no lodge in particular can they be more highly valued than in Pleiades (No. 1012). We desire further to assure you that, as we ever contemplate with high satisfaction the privilege of having had you as the founder of the lodge, we sincerely hope so to pursue the principles of the Craft as not to cause you to remember with dissatisfaction the Masonic body you have in this place been the means of calling into existence.

Signed, JAMES POWNING, W.M.

Pleiades Lodge (No. 1012), May 30, 1861.

Signed on behalf of the lodge, in accordance with a unanimous vote, on the proposition of Bro. Edmonds, P.M., and seconded by Bro. Bryett.

DURHAM.

GATESHEAD.—*Lodge of Industry*.—A meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, May 27th, at the Grey Horse Inn. The lodge was opened by P.M. Bro. Anty. Clpehan, in the absence of the W.M. Bro. Thompson, being in attendance, was passed to the second degree by the acting W.M. Bro. P.M. C. J. Banister explained the Tracing Boards in the first and second degrees. The business of the lodge completed, it was closed in form.

OXFORDSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was held on the 24th ult., when the Prov. G.M., Bro. Capt. Bowyer, presided. The Prov. G. Sec. read the Report of the Charity Committee, and stated that Bro. the Rev. H. A. Pickard, M.A., of Christ Church, was entitled to the Charity Jewel of the province, whereupon the Prov. G.M. invested Bro. Pickard with it, and stated that it was awarded to him as some slight acknowledgment of his valuable services as Steward for the Girls' School in 1860, and for the Boys' School in 1861. He paid a tribute to Bro. Pickard for the zeal which he had displayed in Masonry, for the services which he had rendered the Craft in general, and the Apollo Lodge in particular, and congratulated the province on having a brother so distinguished for his charity, zeal, and ability.

Brother PICKARD, in returning thanks, remarked that none but those who had been present at the Festivals of the Girls' and Boys' Schools could sufficiently appreciate the pleasure felt by the Stewards, while none but those who had on any occasion represented the Provincial Grand Lodge of Oxford could adequately feel the honour which was always paid to the representative of so important a Province.

The Treasurer's Report having been read, the Prov. G.M. proposed, and the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Ald. Spiers, seconded, the reelection of Bro. Randall, which was carried unanimously. The Report of the Prov. G.M. on the state of the Lodges in the Province was then read, and was of a most satisfactory character.

The Prov. G.M. then appointed and installed his officers as follows:—Prov. S.G.W., Bro. Rev. B. W. Norman, M.A., Exeter College; J.G.V., Bro. E. Rainsford; Grand Chaplains, Bro. Rev. J. T. H. du Boulay, M.A., Exeter College, and Bro. Rev. E. C. Adams, M.A., Worcester College; Grand Registrar, Bro. Blakiston, St. John's College; Grand Secretary, Bro. F. W. A. Bowyer, Christ Church; Senior Grand Deacon, Bro. J. Scroggs, Deddington;

Junior Grand Deacon, Bro. C. J. Vincent; Grand Superintendent of Works, Bro. H. C. Risley, Exeter College; Grand Directors of Ceremonies, Bro. E. C. S. Thompson, Trinity College, and Bro. G. Taunton; G.S.B., Bro. H. Walrond, Christ Church; Assistant Secretary, Bro. Hobbs; Grand Organist, Bro. W. Harrison, Brasenose College; Grand Pursuivant, Bro. Bossom; Grand Stewards, Bros. Cave-Brown-Cave, J. Steane, Samman, Gandy, A. T. Pyne, and Charles Fowler.

The following subscriptions were unanimously voted to the under-mentioned charities:—Masonic Boys' School, £5 5s.; Masonic Girls' School, £2 2s.; Masons' Annuity Fund, £5; Widows' Fund, £5; Radcliffe Infirmary, £3 3s.; Medical Dispensary, £2 2s.; Blue Coat School, £1 1s.; Anti-Mendicity Society, £1 1s.

The following distinguished visitors attended the Provincial Lodge:—Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, Bart., C.B., Prov. G.M. for Hampshire; Bro. T. H. Hall, M.A., F.R.S., Prov. G.M. for Cambridgeshire; Bro. Dr. Kent, Prov. G.M. for South Australia; Bro. C. J. Vigne, P. Prov. S.G.W. for Somerset; Bro. Hopwood, P.G.D. of the Grand Lodge of England; Bro. Dr. Jones, P.M. No. 7; Bro. Dr. Hinxman, W.M. of Grand Stewards' Lodge; Bro. J. Llewellyn Evans, P.G.S.B.; Bro. Dr. Goodlen, of St. Thomas's Hospital; Bro. Dr. Harcourt, P.G.D.C. of Grand Lodge; Bro. Morse, Trinity College, Cambridge, S.W. of Isaac Newton Lodge, Cambridge. The above-mentioned brethren, on entering the lodge, were received with all the honours due to their high position, and for which Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis returned thanks on behalf of himself and other visitors.

In the evening the brethren, numbering between 80 and 90, dined together in the banquet-room. The Provincial Lodge having been held under the auspices of the Apollo University Lodge, the entire arrangements were undertaken by that body, and it is due to them to say that nothing could be more complete or satisfactory.

The banquet was of a most *récherché* character, and was provided under the direction of P.M. W. Thompson, Treasurer of the Apollo Lodge. The Prov. G.M., Capt. Bowyer, presided, and was supported by the visitors mentioned above, as well as by the Mayor of Oxford (P.M. Bro. Ald. Sadler), the Prov. G. Officers, a large number of Past Masters, as well as officers and brethren of the Apollo, Alfred, Cherwell, and Churchill Lodges. The usual loyal and appropriate toasts were introduced in the most appropriate terms by the Prov. G.M., whose return to Masonry, after his long indisposition, was marked with the most enthusiastic welcome.

Admiral Sir LUCIUS CURTIS, in returning thanks for "The Visitors," remarked that he had served his country for seventy years, and was ready to serve it again wherever duty called him. As a Mason he loved the Order; he had for forty years belonged to the fraternity, and never had for one moment regretted that he had joined it. He considered it to be one of the most noble institutions that ever existed, for it was a society where every man could meet his fellow man on terms of brotherly love, and in that kindly and truly Christian spirit in which all men should meet. He never was so happy as when in a Mason's lodge; his happiest moments had been passed there, and he hoped that the Great Architect of the Universe might be pleased to spare him a few years longer to enjoy that pleasure. He assured them that himself and his brother visitors felt highly flattered with the way in which they had been received, and they should ever remember with feelings of lively satisfaction the kind, the courteous, the hospitable, and fraternal treatment they had experienced at the hands of their Oxford brethren. They would carry away with them many pleasurable recollections and associations, and he cherished the hope that it might be their happy lot to have the opportunity of meeting them again on some future occasion. He congratulated the province on the unanimity which existed, on the zeal and ability with which everything was conducted, and concluded by wishing health, happiness, and prosperity to the brethren individually and collectively. [The gallant veteran was loudly cheered, and the earnest, impressive, and eloquent manner in which he gave utterance to the outbursts of his heart made a great impression upon his hearers.]

The PROV. G.M. of CAMBRIDGESHIRE also spoke in eloquent and strong terms, and alluded to the recent consecration of the Isaac Newton Lodge in the University of Cambridge, adding that they hoped to profit by the example of the Apollo University Lodge of Oxford, and to tread in their footsteps.

Some eloquent and stirring addresses were also made in the course of the evening by the Mayor of Oxford, a Mason of 46 years' standing, and Bro. P. M. Faber, whose speech was, as usual distinguished for its originality, wit, humour, and happy illustrations. On the whole, the Provincial Meeting this year, and especially the banquet, was a great success.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

HIGHBRIDGE, BURNHAM.—*Rural Philanthropic Lodge* (No. 367).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Room, Railway Hotel, Highbridge, on Friday, May 24, 1861. The

minutes of the last lodge having been read and confirmed, Mr. William Rowe was initiated into the first degree of Freemasonry, and received the charge from Bro. H. Bridges, D. Prov. G.M., and Bro. A. Wilson was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Bro. William Tiver, of Lodge of Perpetual Friendship (No. 157), Bridgewater, was proposed as a joining member; and Mr. James Rich, of Bridgewater, as a candidate for Freemasonry, to be balloted for at the next lodge meeting, to be held on the 21st of June, 1861. The lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and heartily responded to, and the evening spent in a very agreeable manner.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

HANDSWORTH.—*St. James's Lodge* (707).—On Monday, 3rd of June, twenty-nine of the brethren of this lodge, 707, held their monthly meeting at Bro. Franks', New Inn, Handsworth, Birmingham when Major F. Meyer, R. B. Turner, W. Lewis, and M. H. Simpson were initiated. Bro. Franks was elected a joining member. The S.W., Bro. E. L. Bullock, was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and the other officers in rotation. Among the visitors were, Sir John Ratcliff, W.M. 696; F. Empson, P.M. 51 and 786, P.P.S. G.W.; and H. W. Edmonds, 22, King Solomon, Toronto, Canada. Business being over, the brethren adjourned to the banquet hall, and spent a pleasant evening.

WARWICKSHIRE.

NUNEATON.—*Abbey Lodge* (No. 625).—A numerous meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday evening, May 29th. The lodge was opened with solemn prayer by Bro. E. Nason, P.M. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Mr. W. Darlinson, a candidate for the honour of Freemasonry, who was unanimously elected. A ballot was then taken for Mr. Pumolo, which proved unanimous. The former gentleman being in readiness, was introduced to the lodge by Bro. W. S. Bithrey, of the John of Gaunt Lodge (No. 766), Leicester, and the W.M. (*pro tem.*) proceeded in a very impressive manner to initiate him into the mysteries of Freemasonry. By the W.M.'s request, Bro. Bithrey delivered in a very pleasing and instructive manner the lecture on the Tracing Board of the first degree. The Entered Apprentices having retired, the lodge was opened in the second degree, and the W.M. called upon Bro. Bithrey to favour the brethren with the lecture on the Tracing Board of that degree, which was also most ably rendered. At the conclusion the W.M. (*pro tem.*) thanked Bro. Bithrey in very eulogistic terms for his kindness, and expressing the very great pleasure he had experienced, as also the brethren present. After an unanimous vote of thanks to Bro. Bithrey, the lodge was closed in harmony, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

BATLEY-CARR, DEWSBURY.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 1129).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the lodge-room, Saw Inn, Batley-Carr, on Monday evening, the 27th ult, when, owing to the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. Abraham Wilson, S.W., presided, and transacted the necessary business, after which the lodge was closed in peace and harmony. The brethren adjourned to the festive board, when Bro. Edward Chadwick, P.M. and P.G. Standard-bearer, entered and occupied the chair for the remainder of the evening. The usual loyal toasts were given, after which followed the health of the M.W.G.M. and officers of the Grand Lodge. The chairman then gave the health of the R.W. Prov. G.M., Bro. the Right Hon. Earl de Grey and Ripon, and made special allusion to his recent installation, remarking that it was, he believed, the wish of every brother in the province that their noble and distinguished brother should be appointed to that office, and observed that the ability displayed on that occasion by his lordship proved him to possess those rare talents so essential to the proper government of a province like that of West Yorkshire. The toast was received with genuine Masonic heartiness.—The next toast was the health of one well known for his unwonted zeal in the cause of Freemasonry; of one who was beloved and esteemed by all who knew him; of one whose kindly bearing was diffused alike to all; it was that of the health of the R.W.D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Dr. Fearnley. He was too well known to require at the hands of the chairman any eulogy; the mention of his name being sufficient to produce in the hearts of all present an unanimous and generous response.—The W. Master then deputed Bro. John Armitage, Hon. Sec., to propose the next toast, who, on rising, said that he felt proud of the honour of having to propose so noble a toast as that of the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, whose conduct at the installation elicited the approbation of all assembled in the Provincial Grand Lodge, coupling with it the name of Bro. Edward Chadwick, Prov. Grand Standard-bearer, whose services to this lodge can never

be forgotten. The toast was received with prolonged applause.—Bro. Edward Chadwick responded to the toast in a manner which was peculiarly marked for its dry humour and genuine worth, and expressed his sense of the high honour at being appointed P.G. Standard-bearer.—The next in succession was the health of the W.M., whose absence was a source of regret, as the brethren of his lodge look upon him as being a host in himself. Then followed the rest of the officers of the lodge, which were suitably responded to, when the brethren left for their homes, after spending a very agreeable and pleasant evening.

LEEDS.—*Philanthropic Lodge* (No. 382).—A lodge of emergency was held at the private rooms, Bond-street, Leeds, on Wednesday, the 15th ult., when there were present, Bro. John Batley, W.M.; W. White, W.M. Britannia Lodge (162), Sheffield, as S.W.; E. W. Shaw, J.W.; S. W. Newsam, Sec.; J. C. Browne, S.D.; Dr. Scott, P.M., Lodge of Harmony (342), Huddersfield, as J.D.; J. J. Wiggins, I.G.; W. Highton, Tyler; and a large number of members of the lodge and visitors. The ballot was taken for the following gentlemen as candidates for Freemasonry:—Mr. James Kitson, (Mayor of Leeds), Mr. John M. Smith, Mr. D. R. W. Porritt, and Mr. William V. Robinson, which proving unanimous in each case, they were severally introduced and regularly initiated, the ceremonies being performed by the W.M. The Tracing Board of the first degree was then explained by Bro. White, P.M. 162. Bros. S. English, W. Hardwick, T. A. Titley, and A. Loftus, being unanimously approved of, were admitted joining members.—On the motion of Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.M., seconded by Bro. J. Lee, P.M. the thanks of the lodge were voted to Bros. Dr. Scott, P.M., 342, and W. White, W.M. 162, for their frequent visits to the lodge, and for the kind assistance rendered by them in working the ceremonies on this and many other occasions.—Bro. Scott, in returning thanks, expressed the pleasure he felt in visiting the Philanthropic Lodge, not only from the kind reception always accorded to him by the brethren, but also from the correct manner in which the Masonic working was performed. He hoped that the brethren who had been that evening admitted into the Order would endeavour to raise to that station to which their abilities might entitle them.—Bro. White made it a duty to visit the Philanthropic as often as his engagements permitted, and could assure the brethren that any of them who would pay a visit to the Britannia Lodge might be certain of a hearty welcome. The business having been disposed of, the lodge was duly closed.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.—*Césaire Lodge* (No. 860).—The anniversary meeting was held on Thursday, May 30th, at two o'clock in the afternoon. The attendance was very limited, in consequence of the inconvenience of the hour, and engagements of some of the members in matters of special local interest unconnected with the Craft. Bro. Schmitt, P.M., opened the lodge in the first and second degrees, the chairs of Senior and Junior Warden being occupied by Bros. Adams and Binet, in the absence of the proper officers. Bro. Rive, who had been initiated and passed in the Royal Sussex Lodge (No. 722), being about to leave the island, was, at the request of the W.M. of that lodge, presented as a candidate for the rank of M.M., and submitted to the usual tests of proficiency. During the preparation of the candidate for the ceremony, Bro. Baudains, W.M., assumed his place in the Master's chair, and on his return administered to him the third degree. The ballot was taken for Bro. Dixon, Le Couteur, P.M. 722, as a joining member, which was unanimous in his favour. The lodge was resumed in the second degree, and the chair was again taken by Bro. Schmitt. The report of the auditors was read, from which it appeared that on the receipt of available amounts due, and after the payment of all liabilities, there would be a balance in hand of about £15. The accounts were unanimously passed. A statement was made of the proceedings of the Committee for the erection of the Masonic Temple, in regard to the advance of money made in compliance with the resolution of the lodge at its last meeting. The requisite sum had been paid for the purchase of the land, and the contract passed in court, so that the distribution of the shares and the constructions of the plans by the architects must now be proceeded with. Bro. Baudains having been re-elected to the Mastership of the lodge, the ceremony of installation was administered in an abridged form. On its conclusion, the following appointments of officers were made for the next year, and such brethren as were present were duly invested. Bros. Le Neven, S.W.; P. Le Sueur, J.W.; T. Dorey, S.D.; C. Le Sueur, J.D.; Alavoine, Sec.; John Leigh, I.G.; H. L. Manuel, D.C.; G. Orange, Assist. D.C.; Rev. C. Murett, Chaplain; G. Ratier, Orator; H. Dujardin was also invested as Tyler. It was proposed that a French Masonic periodical entitled *L'Initiation* be taken in by the lodge, but the consideration

of it was postponed. The lodge was closed in the usual manner, and the brethren adjourned to the annual banquet at La Pomme d'Or, at five o'clock. On the withdrawal of the cloth the customary Masonic honours were paid and duly responded to, and the brethren, after enjoying social intercourse, enlivened by songs and by Bro. Bridgeman's performance on the concertina, separated at an early hour.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

DOMATIC CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION (No. 206).—The anniversary of this excellent chapter of instruction, now held at the City Arms, West-square, was held at Comp. Ireland's, Falcon Tavern, Fetter-lane, on Tuesday evening—Comp. Ladd acting as M.E.Z.; Greenwood, H.; Thomas, N.; Maney, N.; Murr, E.; Sisson, P. Soj. From some cause, we presume beyond control, the attendance was very limited, not more than half the Stewards being present, and many of the principal workers as announced being also absent. After the opening of the chapter, Comps. Greenwood, Dr. R. Farmer, Sisson, Murr, and Thomas, worked a portion of the lectures. The ceremony having been first gone through, Comp. Ladd afterwards lucidly explained the bearings on the various banners, the jewel, and the five platonic bodies, which he gave with that ease for which he is so well known. At the conclusion of the business, a cordial vote of thanks was given to Comp. Ladd for his very excellent explanations and teaching. The Comps. then adjourned to dinner, and passed a very pleasant evening, the only cause of regret being that there should be so few present to partake of a banquet, which had been most liberally provided for more than double the number. In reply to his health being drunk, Comp. Ladd expressed his regret that the attendance at the chapter of instruction had not been so good of late as formerly, and promised to give every possible attention to the chapter, with the view of restoring the prestige which it held a year or two since; he not having of late been so constant an attendant as formerly, owing to the pressure of his professional engagements, and feeling that there were now so many perfect workers in the section that his services were less required.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

WATFORD CHAPTER (No. 580).—A regular convocation was held on Monday, May 27, at the Freemasons' Hall, Watford, E. Comp. George Francis, as M.E.Z.; E. Comp. Burchell Herne, H.; and E. Comp. H. C. Finch, J.; Comp. J. How taking the duties of P.S. The chapter was opened, and, after the confirmation of the minutes of the previous chapter, a ballot was taken for the admission of Bros. Wilson, Iles, and Basil Birchill, of the Watford Lodge, which, being unanimous in their favour, and they being in attendance, were received and exalted into Royal Arch Masonry. A ballot was taken for the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following result:—E. Comps. W. Tootell, Z.; C. H. Finch, H.; C. F. Humbert, J.; Goodyear, Scribe E.; C. Davy, Scribe N.; C. M. Layton, P.S.; Thomas Rogers, Treasurer, and Thomas Thornes, Janitor. A member of the Watford Lodge was proposed for exaltation at the next chapter. Comps. Capt. Layton and Rev. R. T. Branson were admitted as joining members. The E. Companions afterwards banquetted together.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

OXFORDSHIRE.

OXFORD.—*Cœur de Leon Encampment*.—This encampment met on the 23rd ult., when the Commander, E. Rainsford, appointed the following to be his officers for the year:—Sir George Grant, Bart., Christ Church; W. Oswell Thompson, Exeter College; Alderman R. J. Spiers, Alderman Dudley, Lieut. Holmes; F. W. A. Bowyer, Christ Church; Rev. C. M. Styles, St. John's College; and Capt. J. A. Fane. At the same encampment Viscount Adare was installed. The following distinguished members of the Order were present at the encampment:—The Provincial Grand Commanders for Oxfordshire, Dorset, South Australia, Kent, and Hants, as well as many others who hold high rank in Masonry. In the evening the annual banquet took place, and every thing passed off most successfully.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

HANDSWORTH.—On Wednesday, 29th of May, the Beauceant Knts Templars held their encampment at Bro. Franks' New Inn, Handsworth, near Birmingham. It was attended by P.G.M. Col. Vernon, Staffordshire, and many of the officers and brethren, who spent a very happy day together.

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

ROSE CROIX.—The half yearly meeting of the Vernon Chapter of Sov. P.R.C., 18°, was held at Birmingham on the 31st ult. The following illustrious brethren of the 33° were present:—Sir Knt. C. J. Vigne, Lt. G. C., 33°; Sir Knt. Colonel Vernon, P.G.M., and P.G. Com. K.T., Staffordshire; and Sir Knt. H. Vernon, P.G.M., and P.G. Com. K.T., Worcestershire. Of the 32°, Sir Knt. Dr. Bell Fletcher; Sir Knt. Ward, P.D.P.G.M., Staffordshire; and Sir Knt. Dee, Recorder. Of the 31°, Sir Knt. Edwards; and of the 30°, Sir Knt. Lewis. In addition to the above there was a good attendance of the officers of the Chapter and of its members. The Chapter being opened in due form, a ballot was taken for the admission of Bro. Sir John Ratcliffe, Bro. S. Tucker, *M.A.*, and Bro. T. James. This being unanimous, and the intermediate degrees having first been summarily conferred by Sir Knt. Ward, Act. M. W. Sov., the three candidates were admitted and exalted to the degree of S.P.R.C. The ceremony was performed by Bros. Ward, Col. Vernon, and Vigne; and nothing could exceed the solemn impressiveness and unexceptionable precision with which these three very distinguished brethren acquitted themselves in the task imposed upon them; indeed, the beautiful working of the Chapter altogether was the subject of general eulogium during the evening. A banquet of unusual excellence was provided by Bro. Dee, who, as a caterer for and arranger of such matters, cannot be too flatteringly spoken of. It was presided over by Col. Vernon, Dr. Bell Fletcher filling the vice chair, and was not brought to a termination till 11 p.m.

Obituary.

BRO. GIBBS CRAWFORD, D. PROV. G.M., CHESHIRE.

We regret to announce that Bro. Gibbs Crawford Antrobus, Esq., D. Prov. G.M. of Cheshire, expired at his residence, Eaton Hall, near Congleton, on Tuesday, the 20th ult., in the 68th year of his age, mourned by a large circle of neighbours and friends. Our deceased brother had been commander of the Congleton troop of Cheshire Yeomanry for thirty-three years, but had recently resigned the command to his son. He was an active Mason, doing good and working hard for the welfare of the Craft for upwards of 40 years, and had been four times elected W.M. of Lodge 777; he was also W.M. of the Lodge of Unity (No. 403), Crewe. As a magistrate he was just, merciful, and candid; as a Mason he was firm, true, and kind to the indigent; as a landlord he was not only respected, but loved by his tenantry; and as a master he was revered by his dependants, for he manifested an urbanity and Christian sweetness of temper to all who served beneath his roof or otherwise.

For some time our deceased brother had been suffering from declining health, but during the past few weeks he had somewhat recovered, and though an invalid, so sudden and fatal a relapse was not anticipated. The day previous to his death he took a short drive, and on the day of his death, he had been sitting at a window, and had derived much pleasure from witnessing the sports of the children in the park, where the scholars had been holding their annual tea meeting. About nine o'clock in the evening he retired to his chamber, and his two daughters were on the point of leaving him, having wished him good night, when they observed him stagger, and immediately he sank into a chair, and expired in a few minutes. Our deceased brother was buried on the following Tuesday, and on Sunday, June 2, two funeral sermons were preached in Ashbury Parish Church; that in the afternoon by the Rev. J. Firmin, and that in the evening by the Rev. J. Hughes. A procession was formed to the church, and included the corporation and tradesmen of Congleton, and a large body of the Masonic brethren. Amongst those present were Lord de Tabley, P.S.G.W.; Bro. Smith, of Longley, P.G.W. Cheshire; the Rev. Dr. Armstrong, Dr. Davenport, *M.D.*, &c. The following lines, written on the occasion of the funeral, are from the pen of Bro. M. Wardhaugh:—

Gently place him in his grave;
On the stone his ashes lay:
He was kindly, true, and brave,—
Let him softly down, I pray.

Cerements bind his noble frame,
Lead and wood do hold him in;
Earth her own again doth claim,
Tenant of her regions griu.

But his deeds of memories pure,
Live in harmonising hearts,
Lay him down, of this be sure,
He hath play'd life's holiest parts.

He hath squared his labours well,
Compass'd all his sweet designs:
He hath levelled death and hell
By his Master's words and signs.

Lay him in his latest home,
With his loved ones fair and dear;
Leave him where no shadows come,—
Life no pain, and death no fear.

Poetry.

THE RAPID.—ST. LAWRENCE.

All peacefully gliding,
The waters dividing,
The indolent batteau moved slowly along,
The rowers, light-hearted,
From sorrow long parted,
Beguiled the dull moments with laughter and song:
"Hurrah for the Rapid! that merrily, merrily
Gambols and leaps on its tortuous way;
Soon we will enter it, cheerily, cheerily,
Pleased with its freshness, and wet with its spray."

More swiftly careering,
The wild Rapid nearing,
They dash down the stream like a terrified steed;
The surges delight them,
No terrors affright them,
Their voices keep pace with their quickening speed:
"Hurrah for the Rapid! that merrily, merrily
Shivers its arrows against us in play;
Now we have entered it, cheerily, cheerily,
Our spirits as light as its feathery spray."

Fast downward they're dashing,
Each fearless eye flashing,
Though danger awaits them on every side;
Yon rock—see it frowning!
They strike—they are drowning!
But downward they speed with the merciless tide:
No voice cheers the Rapid, that angrily, angrily
Shivers their bark in its maddening play;
Gaily they entered—heedlessly, recklessly,
Mingling their lives with its treacherous spray.

SANGSTER.

NOTES ON MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Mr. Mapleson's opera season at the Lyceum Theatre is advertised to consist of twelve subscription nights, to commence this evening with 'Il Trovatore.' His engagements and promises are as under:—Mdlle. Titiens and Mdlle. Sedlatzek, Mesdames Gassier, Lemaire, and Alboni; Signora Belart, Mercuriali, Palmieri, Giuglini, Gassier, Delle Sedie, Casaboni, Vialetti, Mr. Patey, Herr Hermanns;—Conductor, Signor Arditi; Leader, Mr. H. Blagrove. Mr. Mapleson's repertory will be selected from the following operas—'Il Trovatore,' 'La Sonnambula,' 'Lucrezia Borgia,' 'Luci di Lammermoor,' 'La Traviata,' 'Don Giovanni,' 'Norma,' 'Martha,' 'Les Huguenots.' It is further (says the advertisement) the intention of the lessee to produce Verdi's new opera of 'Un Ballo in Maschera.'

A festival of parochial choirs was held the other day in the nave of Peterborough Cathedral. "The choir comprised more than one thousand singers," says a contemporary.

A critic in Dwight's *Journal of Music*—an America periodical—performs a *fantasia* on the theme of 'The Star-spangled Banner,' worth introducing to English ears. "This song has one of the noblest melodies ever written. In breadth and grandeur of theme, in intensity of musical effect, in magnetic inspirations, it is almost unrivalled. It is far in advance of the French Marseilles Hymn, the British 'God save the Queen,' or the Austrian 'God save the Emperor,' and its only rival in the world is the Russian National Hymn by Lvoff. But, unfortunately, it has some defects which injure it for a popular melody. In the first place, it is not American in origin. In the next place, the melody has so wide a range from low to high that few voices can be found capable of singing it

with effect; and, thirdly, the tune is not capable of an easy and convenient arrangement into parts, so that it can be sung, in chorus, by male voices; for it is, of course, by such that it must be given, as a general thing. The English Anthem is much better in all these respects, though it lacks the fire and spirit of 'The Star-spangled Banner.'"

Twelve Wednesday concerts, with a most liberal list of singers and players, are about to be given at the Surrey Garden Concert-room, conducted by that remarkable amateur and excellent head of an orchestra, Prince George Galitzin.

Miss Anna Whitty is again in England, and has been singing at a concert in her own town, Liverpool; local journals declare with great success.

Signor Biletta, one of the most graceful Italian composers now writing, has just, according to report, finished one of those drawing-room operettas which the performance of such polished artists as Madame Sabatier and M. Jules Lefort has made popular in Paris. The words, it is said, are by Mr. Palgrave Simpson. The more of this sort of entertainments the better. All who trace the course of the wind by straws must be aware that the popularity of the aimless, disconnected concert, whether private or public, made up of familiar pieces, spiritlessly performed, is on the decline. Purpose and connection—we are happy to add, neatness of preparation—are increasingly in request. The artists disposed to bewail themselves because the world will change, and their hackneyed airs and graces no longer charm, may be re-assured that never, at any period of our social history, was England so bent on amusing itself with music as now. Let them try for variety, in place of sighing over their 'old songs' at home.—*Athenæum*. [In the present state of the law, such operettas, however ennobling, dare not be performed in the English concert-room or hall.]

The *Gazette Musicale* informs us that the project of reviving Gluck's 'Alceste' at the Grand Opera at Paris, with Madame Viardot for heroine, has been abandoned.

What a tale of the power of Gluck and of his interpreter is conveyed in the fact that, after "a run" which began in November, 1859, the Théâtre Lyrique seems still unable to let go "Orphée"—an opera without tenor or bass! The number of its last representations which have been advertised outnumber even the farewells of Madame Grisi.

In the meantime, if 'Alceste' is not to be at the Grand Opera, Gluck's second 'Iphigenia' (states the aforesaid *Gazette*) is to be given—with Mlle. Sax, MM. Michot and Faure.

Dr. Marschner has been in court against M. Aulagnier, the well-known French publisher, on the following quarrel:—Some years ago a Belgian composer added recitatives to his opera, 'Der Vampyr,' which were purchased and published, together with the original music, by M. Aulagnier. Dr. Marschner has applied for the suppression of all the copies so amplified, and the *Tribunal de Première Instance* has decreed that this should be done; and, further, that M. Aulagnier should pay damages to the amount of 500 francs. The defendant has announced his intention of appealing.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—On Saturday evening Her Majesty, who was accompanied by the King of the Belgians, the Prince Consort, and the junior members of the Royal family, arrived at Buckingham Palace from the Isle of Wight. Prince Louis of Hesse, who has recovered from his indisposition, also formed one of the Royal party. On Wednesday, the 19th inst., the Queen holds her first drawing-room for the season, at St. James's Palace. On Wednesday morning Her Majesty visited the new Horticultural Gardens, South Kensington, and in the afternoon they were formally opened by the Prince Consort, who afterwards presided at the meeting of the Society of Arts, in the evening. An Irish paper states that the Prince of Wales has accepted an invitation to a ball which will shortly be given by the Lord Mayor of Dublin.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the HOUSE OF LORDS on Thursday, May 30th, the Lord Chancellor laid on the table the report of the Committee on the Bankruptcy Bill, and stated that he should ask their Lordships to consider the subject on Monday week. The Government-bill, providing for the creation of a reserve of naval officers from among the captains and mates of the merchant service was opposed by Lord Hardwicke, who moved that it be read a second time that day six months. Lord Grey strongly supported the

measure, which, on a division, was read a second time, by a majority of three.—On Friday a short conversation took place on the subject of the report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the salmon fisheries—Lord Malmesbury objecting to some of the proposals made for the preservation of salmon. The Marquis of Tweeddale presented a petition from the Cotton Supply Association, and took occasion to urge upon the Government the policy of promoting the cultivation of cotton in India. The noble Marquis threw out several suggestions which were highly approved by Lords Harris, Brougham, and Ellenborough; Lord De Grey and Ripon assured the House that the Government was most desirous to further this great object, but he thought that in many respects private enterprise would be more effectual than official interference.—On Monday Lord Chelmsford intimated his intention of moving a clause in Committee on the Bankruptcy Bill, preventing the measure from operating retrospectively with regard to non-traders. Lord Normanby presented a petition praying for the continuance of the Galway contract and also moved for certain official correspondence relative to the cancelling of the subsidy.—On Tuesday Lord Clanricarde made a statement on behalf of Father Daly, with the view of showing that the Rev. gentleman had made no corrupt proposals to Lord Palmerston on the subject of the Galway contract. Lord Brougham said he was not satisfied with the explanation; and there the matter was allowed to drop. Three bills were advanced a stage, and their Lordships adjourned.—In the HOUSE OF COMMONS on Thursday, May 30th, several questions were addressed to Lord Palmerston on the subject of the Galway contract. The noble Viscount explained that an elaborate document, embodying the case of the Galway company, was still under consideration. The adjourned debate on the paper duty clause of the customs and Inland Revenue Bill was resumed by Mr. Mellor, who supported the Government proposals. Mr. Disraeli followed, and while accepting the statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer that a surplus really existed, he urged that other taxes had a preferential claim to remission. The Right Hon. gentleman strongly opposed the proposed repeal of the paper duty, and sketched out the financial policy he should adopt if placed in Mr. Gladstone's shoes. He repudiated the insinuation that he had become bold in consequence of the supposed hostility of the Irish Liberal members to the Government, and totally denied the existence of a Tory-Irish intrigue to upset Lord Palmerston. Lord John Russell warmly contradicted the assertion that the Government had sought to gain a majority by yielding to the representations on behalf of the Galway contract. The debate was continued by Mr. Peacocke, Captain Talbot, Sir W. Jolliffe, and Sir M. Farquhar, all of whom opposed the clause, which was supported by Sir J. Shelley, Mr. Lindsay, and Mr. Bernal Osborne. Mr. Cobden, Mr. Thomas Baring, Mr. Gladstone, and other speakers followed, and, on a division, the numbers were:—For the clause, 296; against, 281; majority for Government, 15. The other clauses were then agreed to, and the bill passed through committee. Lord Palmerston gave a laughable account of an interview he had had with Father Daly, who wished him to receive a deputation of Irish members relative to the Galway Steam Packet Contract (put an end to by the Government) and who stated if his Lordship did not do so, the Irish members must take "action" in the House of Commons, i.e. oppose the budget bill.—On Friday, Sir C. Wood stated, in reply to Sir G. Bowyer, that a commission had, on economic grounds, reported in favour of a wholesale reduction of the Indian army, but as yet, no decision had been arrived at on the subject by the Home Government. Sir John Pakington then drew attention to the relative strength of England and France in iron-cased ships of war, and stated, on the authority of Admiral Elliot, who had recently visited the French dockyards, that our allies had fifteen vessels of this class either afloat or in course of construction, besides nine floating batteries—on an improved principle. In this respect France was far ahead of this country, and he urged the Government to lose no time in taking steps to secure our naval supremacy. Lord Clarence Paget, while admitting that the French Government were making vigorous efforts to increase their naval forces, thought the capabilities of the ships in course of construction were greatly exaggerated. The intention of the Admiralty at present was to build five additional armour-plated vessels. The House then went into Committee of Supply.—On Monday, Lord John Russell stated, in reply to Mr. W. E. Forster, that Her Majesty's Government had determined to prohibit the privateers and armed vessels of both the Northern and Southern States of America from bringing prizes into British ports. He had also communicated with the French Government on the subject, and had ascertained that privateers would not be permitted to remain in French ports beyond twenty-four hours, and that while there, they would be strictly prohibited from disposing of their prizes or cargoes.—On Tuesday, the Lord Mayor of Dublin, availing himself of an *ex-officio* privilege, appeared at the bar, and presented a petition in favour of the restoration of the Galway subsidy.—

On Wednesday, on the motion of Mr. Sotheron-Estcourt, the Friendly and Assurance Societies Bill was read a second time. Mr. Locke moved the second reading of the Criminal Proceedings Oaths Relief Bill, the object of which was to allow persons who had conscientious and religious scruples to taking an oath to make an affirmation instead, with the leave of the presiding judge. After some conversation, the second reading was carried by 65 to 31. On the motion for going into committee of supply, Colonel French, adverting to the recent interview of the Rev. Mr. Daly with Lord Palmerston on the subject of the Galway contract, and speaking on behalf of the Irish members, declared that there was not a shadow of foundation for the statement that those gentlemen desired an interview with the noble lord, and he believed no one of them would so far forget his position and character as to ask it under such circumstances. Lord Palmerston said that he thought the disclaimer of Colonel Dunne was altogether unnecessary after the statement which had been made by Mr. Esmonde, the hon. member for Waterford. With regard to what had passed between Mr. Daly and himself, however, he abided entirely by what he had stated on a former evening—the facts being simply as he had related them. He now understood Mr. Daly had acted without authority. After some conversation, in which several Irish members defended their recent vote on the budget, Lord C. Paget said the grievance complained of was more imaginary than real, as, in point of fact, out of 91 of those officers not less than 71 were in receipt of an increase of pay on account of their services. The House then went into committee of Supply, but, at a quarter to six o'clock, the Chairman reported progress without any vote being proposed.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—A considerable improvement is shown to have taken place in the public health during the past week by the metropolitan bills of mortality. For whereas the weekly death-rate has been upwards of 1,200 through a long period, the present returns give a decrease of 1,069. The births registered, on the other hand, were 1,959—972 boys and 987 girls. A mean height of 29.809 inches was recorded by the barometer, and the average temperature of the air was 57.7 degrees.—The new Horticultural Gardens at South Kensington were opened by the Prince Consort. The address by Professor Lindley was a history of the undertaking, and the reply of the Prince dwelt upon its artistic advantages. His Royal Highness was accompanied by the Prince of Wales and several members of the Royal family.—M. Blondin made his first appearance at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, and performed his wonderful feats in the centre transept without accident, and to the astonishment of the multitude who had assembled.—At the meeting of the Society of Arts in the evening, Mr. W. Hawkes read an important paper on the International Exhibition of 1862. He took a very sanguine view of the prospects of that great enterprise, and expressed his belief that foreign industry and skill would be as fully represented in it as it were in the Exhibition of 1851. He recommended that, in order to secure as large an attendance of the working classes as possible, a smaller sum than one shilling should be charged for admission. The Prince Consort presided, and Lord Granville also took part in the proceedings.—Of Volunteer proceedings on Saturday may be noticed the presentation of the colours of the Old Westminster Volunteers to their successors, the Queen's. The Corps paraded at Westminster Hall and marched to the Horse Guards, where the ceremony took place amid a brilliant assemblage of spectators. Captain Robertson, R.A., the son of the colonel of the old regiment, presented the King's colours, and Richard Twining, Esq., son of the lieutenant colonel, presented the regimental colours.—The *Gazette* announces the appointment of Sir George Grey, the Governor of the Cape, to the Governorship of New Zealand.—A very remarkable case was heard before the Sunderland bench, on Thursday week. Last year, a large number of houses in that borough were broken into and robbed, the police being fairly outwitted in their attempts to lay their hands upon the dexterous robbers. It now appears that a young boy, named Barnes, was the leading spirit in no less than thirty-two of these cases of house-breaking; that he was assisted on thirty occasions by a second youth, and on one occasion by a third lad; and that the instigator to this frightful amount of crime was a "marine stores" dealer, named Margaret Taylor. Barnes was caught a few days ago, in the act of plundering a house, and thus it was that this almost incredible affair was brought to light. Taylor—a type, we fear, of a too numerous class of Pugins—and the three boys have been committed for trial.—Messrs. T. and R. Raikes & Co., bankers of Hull (Hull and East Riding Bank), have suspended payment. A notice to that effect was posted on the bank doors on Monday—causing no little excitement, owing to the high reputation borne by the firm. The accounts are now being made up, and will be submitted to the creditors of the bank in a few days. The liabilities are stated to

be about £66,000. It is reported that the estate may show 17s. in the pound.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The *Moniteur* of Monday published an official note condemning the passionate manner in which some of the French newspapers have recently attacked the Catholic clergy, and warning them that perseverance in such a course will lead to Government interference. Two pamphlets which especially directed their strictures against the clergy have been seized, and the publishers of them are to be prosecuted. Count Cavour, who had been suffering from fever, expired on Thursday morning.—It is rumoured that Garibaldi contemplates a voyage to America in a month or two, if war in Italy should not appear likely to arise.—Francis II. has issued a new protest. This time he protests against the loan which the King of Italy is about to contract, and warns all capitalists that he will never himself consent to recognise it in so far as it applies to Naples and Sicily. The announcement will probably be received with composure.

AMERICA.—The *Great Eastern* arrived on Tuesday, and brought intelligence that the Washington government had fairly opened the campaign against the Secessionists; on the night of the 23rd ult. some 13,000 federal troops quitted Washington, and crossed the Potomac into Virginia. They occupied the town of Alexandria without opposition, and captured a troop of Secessionist horse, and likewise, according to another account, several hundred other prisoners. They proceeded to secure their hold of Alexandria and of the chain of positions selected on the Virginia side of the Potomac, and their vanguard is said to have been pushed as far as Fairfax Courthouse. About the same time, General Butler, with some 4,000 federal troops, embarked from Fort Monroe, and landed at Lynnhaven, for the purpose of attacking the works raised by the Secessionists at a place called Sewell's Point. He was to be aided by ships of war, which were to assail Sewell's Point from the water; and as some 10,000 or 15,000 Secessionists were assembled between Sewell's Point and Norfolk, it was thought likely that he would experience a sharp resistance. A movement was also rumoured to have been made by the federal troops against Harper's Ferry. The Kentucky Legislature had formally passed a resolution declaring that the state will remain neutral; and in Missouri an arrangement has been made between the federal General Harney and the commander of the State Militia, the practical result being probably that the state will preserve neutrality. The transmission of the mails to the seceded states had been stopped; and all the telegrams on file in the telegraph offices throughout the Northern states have been seized by the government. The British barque *Hiawatha*, which was alleged to have attempted to pass the blockade of the Chesapeake, had been captured and sent to New York. A later telegram announces that a battle which was said to have been fought at Alexandria had proved to be a hoax. It is satisfactory to learn that the arrival of the Royal proclamation, forbidding British subjects to take part in the war and announcing a strict neutrality on our part, had produced a favourable impression.

INDIA.—The Bombay mail brings us details of Mr. Laing's financial measures, which will, we are assured, produce a surplus of £250,000, instead of the great deficit which has for several years been inevitable. The Indian army is to be reduced to 200,000 men, and altogether the expenditure is to be diminished by no less a sum than £3,600,000. There is to be an increase of £2,080,000 in the receipts, although the income tax and the licence tax are to be abandoned, and the import duty on cotton yarns is to be lowered to 5 per cent.; but a sum of £500,000 is to be raised by local taxation in a manner which is not detailed in the brief summary that has reached us. The European soldiers of the local army have volunteered almost universally for the new line regiments; and many local officers have likewise intimated their wish to enter the Queen's general service. The oppressions of the Bengalee usurers have once more caused excitement among the Sonthals; but no serious disorders have occurred.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Bro. MENZIES is thanked. His suggestions shall, as far as possible, be attended to.

J. S. and OTHERS.—It is not necessary for the Master of the Freemasons' Boys' School to be a member of the Craft.

R. R.—We still hold to our opinions on the subject, and shall resume its agitation at no distant day.