

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1862.

THE CHARITIES.

The First Festival of our Masonic Charities for the year 1862, that of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows was held last week—and though the results have not been so large as last year, we cannot regard them, on the whole, otherwise than as satisfactory, upwards of £2000 having been added to the funds of the Institution; for though rather under that amount was announced, we cannot forget that the bulk of the subscriptions of West Yorkshire, as represented by seventeen absent lists, are yet to come in, having been delayed by various causes. In the first instance the brethren of West Yorkshire exerted themselves for this charity to a considerable extent last year, and were this year reserving their strength for one of the other Charities, when it was suddenly announced that their Prov. Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, would take the chair; and it was not, therefore, until after the publication of the first list of Stewards that a number of brethren from that province sent up their names as Stewards; then came the death of the Prince Consort, which, combined with commercial depression, has prevented for a time so full an attendance at various lodges throughout the country as usual; and lastly, a brother who had undertaken to collect the lists in West Yorkshire was, through illness, prevented at the moment from doing so, though we are informed that those lists may be safely calculated to add £200 to £300 to the subscriptions announced at the Festival, and which will make an aggregate subscription exceeding that of 1860, though some hundreds inferior to that of 1861. An average of £2000 a year, looking upwards, would, a few years since, have been regarded as altogether beyond the reach of the Institution; and when we were agitating for annual instead of triennial festivals—a collection of £1500 at which was something remarkable—we were told that we were tending to injure the Institution and also the other Charities, as the brethren could not stand so constant a pull at their purses. Experience, however, has proved the correctness of our prognostications, and the noble sum of upwards of £7000 has been added to the funds within the last three years, instead of the £1200 or £1500 which used formerly to be obtained in a like period, whilst the other Charities, so far from suffering, have rapidly increased in their subscription lists.

The Festival of last week, though not so numerously attended as some which have preceded it, was one of the most pleasant we have ever witnessed, the utmost order prevailing throughout the whole of the proceedings, and every attention

paid to the speakers, who throughout the evening confined their observations within fair and reasonable limits—a rare merit on these occasions. The speech of the D. Grand Master in proposing the toast of the evening was manly, straightforward, and to the purpose, and we heartily agree with his Lordship in recommending the brethren ever to recollect that however much they may do, there will always remain more to be done by the hand of charity; for as our Order grows in importance and numbers, so will there ever be brethren falling into distress, widows and orphans claiming our assistance.

There was one point in the proceedings to which, however, we would particularly wish to direct attention—the statement made by Bro. Stephen Blair, the Prov. Grand Master for East Lancashire, and reiterated by the Deputy Grand Master, that this Charity is not sufficiently known and appreciated in the provinces. If it is not so it is the fault of the brethren themselves, for no Charity ought to be better known. Every Lodge in virtue of a grant from Grand Lodge of £800 per annum, and every Chapter in virtue of a grant of £150 per annum, have votes for the election of annuitants; so that once in every year they have the objects of the Institution brought under their notice by the receipt of the balloting papers, which we do not find they are slow in using. The truth is, an impression got abroad in the provinces some years since that the Institution was mainly supported by Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, and when the Festivals were allowed to be held only like angels' visits, but few and far between, the claims of the Institution came so rarely under notice as to lend a colour to the impression; but that feeling ought no longer to exist, as, in addition to their proxy papers, each lodge now yearly receives an appeal from the Committee through their excellent Secretary, Bro. Farnfield, to support the Institution, either by sending a steward or subscriptions in aid of the Annual Festival, irrespective of the Annual Report, which is forwarded to them every June; and THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE can fairly boast that it has not been backward in keeping the claims of the Institution to support fully before the brethren. Moreover, in order that the difference between the income arising from Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, and the amount of the annuities, may be fairly understood, we now set it before the brethren, without reference to the necessary expenses of conducting the Institution:—

Annual Grant from Grand Lodge.....	£800
ditto from Grand Chapter	150
Together	£950
77 Male Annuitants after the Election in May last	1736
48 Female ditto	980
Together	£26127

So that £1866 has to be found by the Craft, of which about £600 arises from funded property, leaving nearly £1300 to be provided by subscriptions, irrespective of the cost of management; and how much the Institution is in want of aid is shown by the fact that there are at the present time nearly 40 male candidates and about 25 widows seeking to be admitted on the list of Annuitants.

The next festival will be for the Boys' School, before which we shall have a word or two to say on behalf of that Institution.

ARISTOCRACY IN FREEMASONRY

An American contemporary, the *New York Sunday Evening Courier*, which generally devotes about three columns of its space to Masonic matters (though a copy of the paper but rarely comes to our hands, notwithstanding it was arranged, three years since, that we should receive it regularly), has, we find, been taking us to task for having stated that the Grand Registrar, being "the Attorney General and Lord Chancellor of the Order—the legal adviser of Grand Lodge and the Grand Master," should be a lawyer, and from thence argued that a similar rule ought to prevail in the provinces, we observing—

"In the case of the death of a Prov. Grand Master, the Grand Registrar of England takes, *ex-officio*, the charge of the province until a new Prov. G. Master is appointed. Were the same rule in appointments to prevail in Grand Lodge as appears to exist in the provinces, we might find Bro. —, the eminent tinman of Whitechapel, presiding over the Masons of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. The force of absurdity could no further go."

Upon this our contemporary contends that we have outraged all the principles that should govern Masonry, "that preferment should depend upon merit and ability," and set up in its stead the doctrine that social position is alone to govern Masonic appointments. Upon this the writer says—"In fact if we admit the correctness of the doctrine, tinmen, tailors, and *clergymen* should be excluded, not only from Masonry, but from Prov. G. Masterships, and none but lawyers (Chancery, if possible,) appointed, otherwise the one or the other may be called on to preside over the Masons of Oxford or Cambridge."

We never made any such assertion, and we have in England more than one clergyman presiding as Prov. Grand Master over large bodies of Masons, and that too most efficiently, but we did contend that, and shall continue to do so, that certain officers in the Craft should, as far as possible, be always held by brethren whose pursuits in every day life best suit them to fulfil the duties of the position—thus a

Chaplain should be a clergyman—a Registrar or Law Officer, a lawyer—a Superintendent of Works, an architect—an Organist, one conversant with that instrument, and had we in this country, as they have in Scotland, a Grand Clothier, we should expect him to be a tailor. But in maintaining this doctrine how do we depart from the principle that in Freemasonry all men are on the level, and that preferment should be dependent on merit and ability. In laying down the proposition that certain offices should be held by men of certain professions we by no means say that every Tom Noddy who may belong to these professions, being Freemasons, are to be placed in such positions without regard to merit and ability, but we would seek out those brethren who are most distinguished amongst us, alike for their Masonic lore and the position they have gained in their profession, to be honoured by appointments in Freemasonry, so that the appointments might reflect lustre alike on the office and the holders thereof. And we do not go so far as to say that in Prov. Grand Lodges we would not sometimes prefer the appointment to the office of Grand Registrar of a brother, not being a lawyer, who had made Masonic laws and Masonic usages his peculiar study, than a lawyer who had never shown any interest in the Craft. But we have protested, and shall continue to protest against brethren being thrust into offices of responsibility, and the very names of which bespeak their character, who have no single qualification for them, beyond the position they hold in some particular lodge to which a Prov. Grand Master or Deputy Prov. Grand Master wishes to pay a compliment.

But our New York brother says:—

"If ever there was a *genuine* aristocracy on the face of the globe we imagined Freemasonry could lay just claims to be such. If exclusiveness had any pretensions to the designation, then could Masonry boast of its being the possessor, for the pre-requisites to becoming a Mason, were, that "the persons admitted members of a lodge, must be good and true men," which we thought clearly proved that no ignoble or unworthy persons could receive its benefit, and therefore, that those who entered our sanctuary were God's noblemen—nature's aristocracy. Indeed we did imagine that moral worth and personal integrity ennobled every man; that within the precincts of the lodge room, all *thus* endowed met upon the level; and therefore proved the truth of the 'Ancient Charge,' that 'all preferment among Masons is grounded upon real worth and personal merit only.'"

But he continues:—

"If the Editor of the London FREEMASON'S MAGAZINE, whose journal is published 'with the sanction of the M. W. G. Master of England, the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland,' be a true exponent of the principles of Masonry, our previous imaginings of its teachings have been day dreams. Preferment among Masons must no longer be grounded upon 'real worth,' or 'personal merit,' but social position in the profane world, is to be the *open sesame*."

Premising that the M.W.G. Master has nothing

whatever to do with the opinions published in this journal—all that we are indebted to his lordship for being his permission to publish reports of proceedings in Freemasonry in accordance with the regulations in the *Book of Constitutions*—we must emphatically deny that we have published one word inconsistent with the principle that honours in Freemasonry are to be conferred according to merit and ability—or that in lodge all Freemasons are on the level—but we should be going beyond Freemasonry were we to presume out of Masonry to disregard the social distinctions which regulate society. As to social position having something to do with appointments in Grand Lodge we do not pretend to deny it, and—notwithstanding the equality of all brethren in lodge—it must ever be so under the constitutions of even Freemasonry in this country, where all the appointments are in the hands of the Grand Master, whilst in other countries they are elective; though we have no reason to doubt that the Grand Master does to the utmost of his power and in accordance with the information he receives, endeavour to find brethren to fill the various offices whose merit and ability, as well as their social position, shall reflect honour on the Craft. Nor are the brethren themselves insensible to the advantages of having brethren of social position to preside over them, as is evidenced by the fact that the Earl de Grey and Ripon, as Prov. G.M. for West Yorkshire; the Duke of Newcastle, Prov. G.M. of Nottingham; and Lord Holmesdale, Prov. Grand Master, were all recommended to the Grand Master for appointment by the brethren of their respective provinces; and we must be allowed to add that we are not convinced that even under the system of electing every officer, those only attain power and distinction who have won it by their talent and ability—but are rather afraid that sometimes a noisy demagogue takes the place of modest merit. At all events we are content to believe that on the whole the English system works well; and though we are prone occasionally to find fault with appointments and with details of management, we have no wish to alter the system under which English Freemasonry has enjoyed so much prosperity.

We will now take leave of our New York contemporary, first, however, correcting a slight *lapsus* into which we fell in our article when we stated that the Grand Registrar (on the death of a Prov. G. Master) *ex officio* took charge of the province, the fact being that he does not do so until he has received a patent from the M.W. Grand Master for the purpose, and which is issued to him in virtue of his office. We make this explanation because we have heard the words *ex officio* cavilled at, though we must confess we can scarcely see the distinction between taking charge of a province *ex officio*, and being appointed to do so in virtue of the office held.

MASONIC FACTS.

(Continued from page 86.)

59. Kirkstall Abbey. The foundations were laid by Henry de Lacy, in 1147, who supplied the monks with grain, money, and other necessaries. The church was finished at his own expense in about thirty years.—*Chronicle of Serlo, the Monk, Whittaker's Craven*, p. 62. Figs. 11 and 12.

60. Roche Abbey, built between 1147 and 1186. The late Rev. J. Hunter, *F.S.A.*, was convinced, from the similarity of style, and many details, that this abbey and Kirkstall were built upon a plan sketched by the same architect. Fig. 13.

61. Dioti Salvi (or Allievi) constructed the Baptistery of Pisa, in 1152.—*Fergusson's Handbook of Architecture*, Vol. II., p. 515.

62. On the Church of Maqueloune, finished in 1178, is an inscription, which bears the name of the architect, Boiliviis, and the date.—*Felibien*, Arch IV., p. 200.

63. Norham Castle, built in 1121 by Bishop Flambard, and repaired in 1171 by Bishop Pudsey, who employed a person named Ricardus Ingeniator.—*Reginaldi Dunelm*, p. 112.

Richard is mentioned in the *Bolden Buke*, as having held of the See a moiety of Newton, near Durham.—*l. Marc*.

64. In South Sherburn, Durham, Christian, the Mason, held, in 1183, sixty acres, which the Bishop (Pudsey) gave him out of the moor, for 5*s.*; and two oxgangs, which were Arkill's, for 14*d.*; Christian was to be quit of these payments so long as he was in the Bishop's service in mason work.

In Pittington Churchyard there is a stone which once covered Christian's remains, and has upon it the following inscription:—

✠ Nomen (u) abens Christi tumulo tumultatur in isto.
✠ Qui tumulum cermit commendit cum prece Christo.”
—*Bolden Buke*, pp. 10 and 49.

65. Lambert, the marble-cutter (Marmorarius), had in Stanhope, Durham, thirty acres for his service, so long as he was in the Bishop's service (1183), and when he left he was to render two besants, or 4*s.*

Lambert doubtless provided the columns of Frosterley marble with which Bishop Pudsey adorned the Galilee of Durham Cathedral.—*Bolden Buke*, p. 65.

66. Walter of Coventry is supposed to have been the architect employed by Seffrid, Bishop of Chichester, to rebuild the Cathedral, after it was destroyed by fire, in 1187.—*Hay's History of Chichester*.

67. In the *Liber Albus*, compiled in 1419 by John Carpenter, town clerk, London, are the regulations ordered by Fitz-Alwyne's Assize of Buildings in 1189, and amongst them is one ordering that master carpenters and master masons were to be sworn in the following terms, not to make any encroachments—
“Item, ye touty maistres carpenters et masons de la citée soient jurrez quilz ne ferrount nulles purprises sur le ruves ne venelles deins la citée, ne la suburbe, ne prejudice dez veysins ou ils ferrount letz edefiementz, encountre les Estatuz de la citée d'ancein temps ordeignez.” *Munimenta Gildhallæ Londoniensis*, *Liber Albus*, p. 477.

68. In the 10th Richard 1st, (1199), Elyas, the Ingeniator, was allowed ten marks by the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex for repairs of the King's

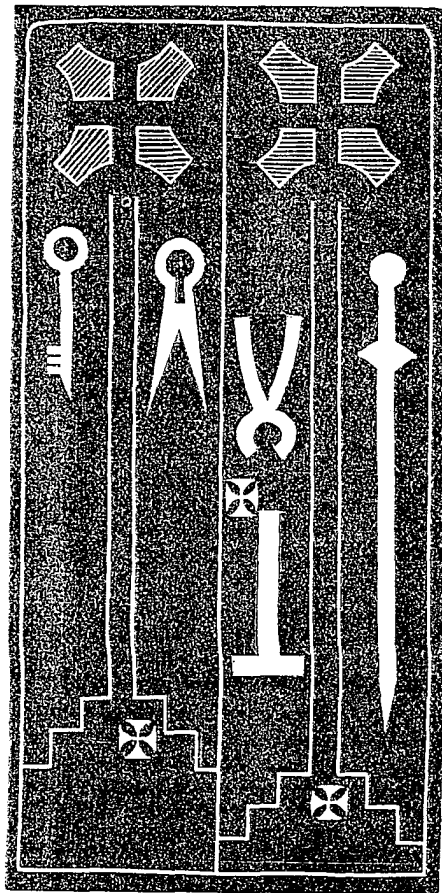


Fig. 14.—Tombstone at Aycliffe.

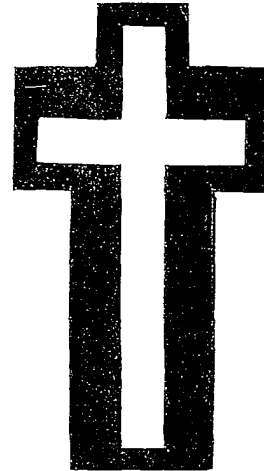
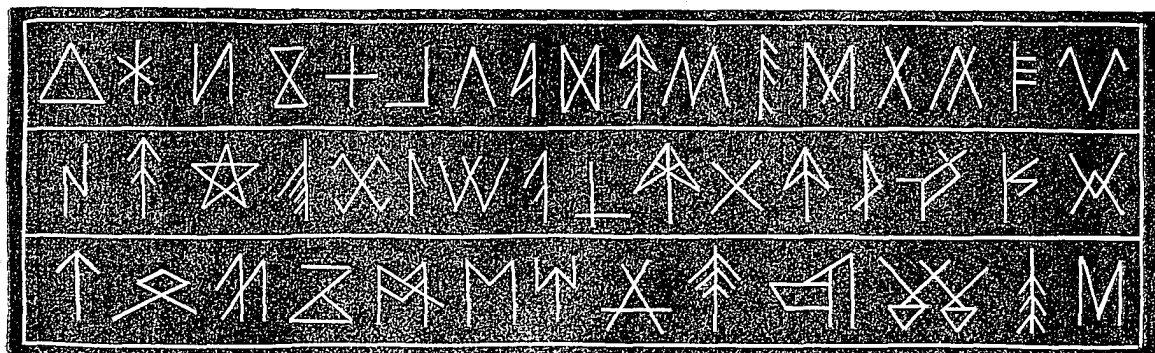


Fig. 11.—Block Plan of Kirkstall Abbey.



[Fig. 12.—Masons' Marks, Kirkstall Abbey.



[Fig. 13.—Masons' Marks, Roche Abbey.]

Houses at Westminster, by writ of Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury, Chief Justice. Et Elyae, Ingeniator x marcae ad reparacione Domorum Regis apud Westmonasterium; per Breve H. Cantuar Episcopi.—*Madox's Exchequer Rolls*, vol. ii., p. 206.

69. Gilbert de Eversold or Eversolt, an architect of St. Alban's Abbey in the 12th century.—*Matthew Paris, Hist. Vit. Abb.*, p. 103.

70. Antwerp was celebrated for its School of Masons, and sent out a great number of excellent architects during the 11th and 12th centuries.—*Semples Edition of Crawford's History of Renfrewshire*, Edin., 1782, p. 290.

71. Hugo de Goldcliff, an architect of the 12th century, employed at St. Alban's Abbey Church.—*Matt. Paris, Vitt. Abb. S. Albans*, p. 103.

72. There is a Slab in the transept of Marton Church, and on it a Calvary cross, a cross-hilted sword, and a Mason's square and level: date about the end of the 12th century.—*Ord's History of Cleveland*, p. 544.

73. At Aycliffe, Northumberland, there is a double tombstone of the 12th century (Fig. 14). Mr. Boutell, in his *Christian Monuments*, thinks that it belonged to an armourer and his wife—the key and shears being indicative of a female—and the sword and pincers that of the pursuit of the man. But what could an armourer want with a T square? this instrument is to set out right angled lines. The slab is interesting, as showing that this form of square was known in the 12th century.

74. Marchion de Arezzo, on account of his knowledge of Gothic Architecture, was appointed architect to Pope Innocent about the year 1200.—*Felibien*, p. 203.

75. A Bull was issued prior to 1200, giving an authority to the heads of Churches to build temples to the Divinity, attaching to them, as the magnitude or elegance of the structure required, a certain number of "liberi muratores," or Freemasons, to direct and execute the ornamental parts of the structure.—*Sir R. Westmacott, Archæological Journal*, vol. iii., p. 198.

76. Isennbert, who erected the Bridges of Xaintes and Koehelle, in France, was recommended by King John in 1201 to the citizens of London (by letter) as a proper person to finish London Bridge, which had been commenced by Peter of Colechurch.—*Maitland's Hist. of London*, vol. i, p. 45.

77. Matthew Paris, states that a fire broke out on the night of the Translation of St. Benedict, 11th July, A.D. 1212, which destroyed the Church of St. Mary, Southwark; the Chapel on the Bridge; a considerable portion of the City of London, and part of the town of Southwark. About 1000 lives were lost in this fire, which raged for ten days. A meeting was held in the Guildhall on the 24th of July, under the venerable Mayor, Henry Fitz-Alwyne, when a second assize or code of improved regulations, for rebuilding such parts of the city as had fallen a prey to the flames, was issued. Scotales (or freedom from a certain tax), was to be allowed to those who built with stone, and every person who should build a house was to take care "as he loved himself and his," that he did not cover it with reeds, rushes, stubble or straw, but only with tiles, shingles, boards, or lead.

The IV. regulation fixed the wages of Masons and Tilers. "Cementarii et tegulatores capiant idem

pretium. Servientes autem prædictorum cæmentario-rum et aliorum, accipian tres obolos cum conredio, vel tres denarios pro omnibus."

V. "Sculptores lapidan liberorum ii denarios obolum, cum conredio, vel quator denarios pro omnibus."

Those who did not observe these ordinances were to forfeit all their lands, houses, and chattels, which were to be taken for the benefit of the city. As to "strange workmen" little mercy was to be shown them. If they declined to abide by the scale of wages, their bodies were to be attached, to be held in duress, until they were brought before the Mayor and reputable men, "there to hear their judgment."—*Munimenta Gildhallæ Londoniæ Liber Custumarum*, vol 2, part 1, pp. 86, 87.

It thus appears that in 1212, Masons (cementarii), had 3d. per day with their table (that is their food), or 4½d. without. Their labourers (servientes), had 1½d. or 3d., as the case might be.

Cutters of freestone (Sculptores lapidum liberorum), had 2½d. per day with their table, or 4d. without.

78. Bishop Lucy established at Winchester a confraternity of workmen, in 1202, which was to last for five years.

"Anno 1202, D. Wintoniensis Godfridus De Lucy constituit confratram pro reparatione ecclesie Wintoniensis, duraturam ad quinque anno completos."—*Annales Wint.*

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

ORDER OF TEMPLARS.

Originally this Order was composed of three classes: the Knights, Chaplains, and Serving brethren, as well as three steps (often dispensed with), leading to Knighthood, Novice, Esquire, and Knight of the Temple, was the 3rd grade of Knighthood (Grand Cross), an original feature, or afterwards added in imitation of the Knights of St. John. Our French brethren have a grade of "Noviciate Esquire," which usually precedes Knighthood, and our Scottish brethren first create their candidates "Esquires." I presume (but should be glad to know on good authority), this is identical with the latter portion of our "first part of installation,"—the arming. The "Noviciate's" robe of humility is a custom coeval with the institution of chivalric religious ceremonies, and was ordered at the original institution of the Order of the Bath, by Henry IV.—A.

PRIESTLY ORDER OF MELCHISEDECH.

A few years ago, in Lancashire, a degree was conferred under the above title, I should be glad if any one could inform me whether it was a Templar ceremony, or had been the old installation ceremony of the High Priest (formerly 1st P.) of R.A. Chapter, and also whether the degree is now given and where?—A.

HIGH GRADES.

With your permission, would Ex. Ex. oblige us with his further notes on this subject, as it is well to hear all sides. The conduct of the S.C. to the Baldwin Templars, has been very unjust, though I have no sympathy with their schismatic election of a G.M.—A.

THE QUEEN OF SHEBA A BLOOMER.

In Harris's tracing boards, where Solomon is showing the magnificence of the Temple to the Queen of Sheba, the latter is drawn wearing a pair of Turkish trowsers, or "Bloomer continuations." Can you, Mr. Editor, or Bro. Watson, who was once before referred to in connection with that Queen, tell me whether the Bloomer costume is derived from that princess?—N.W.

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

In the private diary of Richard, Duke of Buckingham, we find the following relative to the origin of the tragedy of Othello:—"The Venetians know Othello. They have heard of Shakespeare, and are in ecstasies at Rossini's opera. But the story is a curious one. They have, since Shakespeare wrote and Rossini spoilt what he wrote, thought it right to make inquiries as to the foundation of the story of Othello; but no traces of it appear in any of the records of Venetian story. At length they have discovered what, probably, is the origin of the story on which Shakespeare wrote. There was, and is still, a noble Venetian family of 'Il Moro.' A story something like that of Othello is said to have happened in that family. The head of every noble Venetian family is usually spoken of in the third person; and Shakespeare, having either heard or read of the story as happening to 'Il Moro,' concluded that he was a 'Mauro,' or Moor, and wrote his play accordingly."

In the same work we meet with the following, as it would appear, prophetic dream of the fate of Stowe, which was broken up in the time of the Duke's son. The Duke, at the time of this dream, was residing abroad in consequence of his difficulties:—"As for myself, I am ashamed to say that I am more low than I should dare confess to anyone, by a dream which haunted me in my sleep, with a degree of precision which is really frightful. I was at Stowe, my dear and regretted home. All was desolate—not a soul appeared to receive me. My good dog met me, and licked my hand. Accompanied by him, I traversed all the apartments—all desolate and solitary: every room as I had left it. On my return from the state bedroom, I met my wife! She told me all my family were gone, and that she was left desolate—that even her little favourite dog, which had been her sole remaining companion, had died a few days ago. We went out at the north hall-door together, and all was solitude and desertion. I awoke with the distress of the moment, and I slept no more that night. I do not like to confess, how much effect this has had upon me. I have not the slightest faith in dreams, but this has strongly accorded with the feelings and tone of my mind, and I cannot shake it off. Those who will ever see this journal will, I am sure, not laugh at my feelings."

Mr. R. H. Patterson, in his recently published *Essays in History and Art*, thus speaks of slavery among the Chinese:—"Slavery exists in China not as a relic of barbarism, nor from the prevalence of caste or the absence of industry, but simply, it would appear, as the effect of a redundant population: it is a man's last shift for employment. We can give a most pleasing anecdote in connection with this point, which recently appeared in the *Java Bode* newspaper, published at Batavia, where there is a large Chinese population—which shows at once the good feeling of the Chinese in regard to the unfortunate objects of slavery, and the remarkable industry and self-relying spirit of the slaves themselves. In giving an account of a sale of slaves at the Chinese camp, it says:—"The slaves, who were twelve in number, having been placed upon the table of exposition, arranged in four lots, rattled some money in their hands, and addressed a few words, timidly and in low tones, to the assembly. A person who acted as their agent here stepped forward, and stated that his clients, having accumulated by long and painful labour some small savings, solicited the favour of being allowed to make a bidding for the purchase of their own persons. No opposition was offered; and the first lot of three, being put up to auction, made an offer, through their agent, of forty francs. No advance being made on this sum, the slaves were knocked down to themselves. The next lot, encouraged by their predecessors' success, offered only twenty-four francs for themselves. The public preserved the same silence, and they likewise became their own purchasers. The third lot took the hint, and were even more fortunate, picking themselves up, a decided bargain, for the modest sum of ten francs! The *Java Bode* rightly sees in these facts signs of a great advance in civilisation among the Chinese, who constituted the great majority of the persons present. Superficial writers on China judge of the whole nation by what they see of the population at Canton; and are profuse in their charges of lying, treachery and inhumanity,—as if it were even possible for four hundred millions of human beings to be nothing but one black mass of moral deformity! The monstrosity of the idea ought to have been its own refutation.

Such writers might as well conclude that the whole abyss of ocean is a turbid mass, because its fringing waves are 'gross with sand.' In truth, their conclusions are as unjust as if one were to judge of our own nation solely by the doings of the wreckers of Cornwall or the mobs of our great cities. The inhabitants of Canton are termed the 'Southern boors' by their own countrymen; and it may safely be stated of the people of Fokien and the southern coast of China, with whom alone foreigners come in contact, that they are all more or less addicted to piracy and smuggling, and have adopted the nefarious habits which commerce invariably engenders when carried on between nations who despise, and whose only desire is to overreach one another."

At her Majesty's desire Mr. F. Holl was recently employed to engrave, for her private pleasure, a very fine portrait of the late Prince Consort. The work is of peculiar interest, for it was not only executed under the Prince's own eye, but was "touched" with his own hand. Mr. Holl's work was most admirably performed; the drawing perfect, the light and shade pleasantly disposed, the character and expression well preserved. To say that it presents the Prince with the truth of photography and the brilliancy of engraving, is praise which it well deserves. Hitherto, the plate has remained in the custody of "Privy Purse," and the prints from it have been treated as an exclusively family possession. But her Majesty has graciously allowed a thousand impressions to be struck off, which the public may obtain from Messrs. Graves and Co., or from Messrs. Colnaghi and Co. It is distinctly understood that the plate remains her Majesty's property, and that Mr. Holl must return it to "Privy Purse" at the end of this year.

The *Illustrated Times* says Messrs. Groombridge announce a new periodical called the *Intellectual Observer*. A hasty perusal of the title might lead one to confound the new comer with an old-established Sunday journal. If, however, the promise held out in the adjective be only kept, there will not be the slightest danger of making a mistake.

A *Shakspeare Cyclopædia* is projected by Mr. James H. Fennell, to be published in twenty shilling parts. It will consist of a classified summary of Shakspeare's knowledge of the phenomena of nature, and of his allusions to zoology, botany, mineralogy, meteorology, medicine, agriculture, hunting, falconry, &c. The first part is promised in March, and will contain "Shakspeare's Natural History of Man."

The Army Lists of Charles I. and of Oliver Cromwell during Civil War will shortly be published by Mr. Hotten, of Piccadilly, printed by Whittingham. The lists will be edited with notes by Mr. Edward Peacock, F.S.A., from the comparatively unknown originals. As illustrations of county history, and to genealogists and antiquaries, the volume must prove highly interesting as showing on which side the gentleman of England were to be found during the great conflict between the King and Parliament.

Mr. Francis Galton, when last spring he published *Vacation Tourists in 1860*, promised that, should the volume prove successful, the publication might be continued annually. We are glad, therefore, to learn that Mr. Galton has a volume of *Vacation Tourists in 1861* in preparation, which will comprise papers on the Canadian Frontier; the Amazon and Rio Madera; Eastern Caucasus; Zoological Notes in Spain; Geological Notes on Auvergne; the Monks of Mount Athos; St. Petersburg and Moscow; From Vienna to Corfu, including interesting details of the present political and Social Condition of Southern Austria; the Modern Samaritans, &c.

The late Duke of Wellington, in 1825, sent Major General Sir James Carmichael Smyth to Canada to make a report on the state of the defences of that colony. The report made by Sir James the Duke ordered to be printed for confidential circu-

lation among official people only. All reasons for keeping the report secret being now deemed at an end, it will be forthwith published. The volume is entitled a *Precis of the Wars in Canada from 1755 to the treaty of Ghent in 1814, with Military and Political Reflections.*

The Right Hon. Joseph Napier continues his weekly lectures on Butler's Analogy, to the Dublin Young Men's Christian Association, meeting with them an hour before the lecture to talk over the one of the proceeding week.

The *Athenæum* announces that M. Gachard, keeper of the state archives of Belgium, has published a catalogue of the letters and documents, in French, in the legacy of Cardinal Granvella, of Madrid. These papers on the history of the Netherlands, Burgundy, France, England, Scotland, and Switzerland, are another treasure from the archives of Simancas. The library of Besancon, is in possession of important documents by Cardinal Granvella, referring to the history of the Netherlands; these have been collected by Abbé Boisot."

The importance of consolidating and improving the management of the British Museum by making it more responsible has often been discussed, and there seems some likelihood of this being realised. It has hitherto escaped public notice that at the end of the last session of Parliament Lord Henry Lennox, who had made himself master of the National Gallery question, and successfully prevented further expenditure in temporary patchwork of the edifice, gave notice of his intention to bring before the House of Commons the importance of insuring a Parliamentary responsibility for the expenditure of public money hitherto entrusted to trustees of various institutions. He specified in his notice the British Museum, where Parliament contributes about twenty times the amount which the trustees hold as a private corporation; also the National Gallery, where the management is divided between the Treasury and the trustees; also the National Portrait Gallery, where the same system obtains. The year of the International Exhibition is particularly appropriate for the discussion of subjects of science and art; and it is to be hoped that the House will apply some remedy to our present system. The first step in any reform is to ensure the greatest responsibility, and, in the words of John Stuart Mill, make it "apparent to all the world who did everything, and through whose default anything was left undone."

The *Critic* says the splendid library of the Middle Temple, it is said, has recently shown an ominous crack in its walls, which is considered to be caused by some defects in the foundation. It may prove of small consequence, and be easily remedied; but any such flaw in the settlements must be regarded with serious interest by the Templars, and, indeed, by all who admire the noble structure.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

THE HARTLEY COLLIERY ACCIDENT.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—I fully approve of the plan proposed by your worthy correspondent "Shilling," but I beg to rectify an error he has been led into. The nearest lodge to the accident is Blagdon Lodge (No. 957), at Blyth, Northumberland, and not St. Hilda's Lodge, South Shields. However, if the money is collected there will be no difficulty to get it sent to the Committee of the Hartley Fund of this town. Any

member of the Craft, or any Provincial Grand Officer of Northumberland will be very happy to hand it to the committee.

In the meanwhile I cannot but thank the worthy brother for his suggestion, and I am sure that everyone of the recipients of this bounty will be most grateful to any addition to the fund, let it come in pounds or shillings, or even pence.

I am, dear Sir and Bro., yours fraternally,

YOUR NORTHERN CORRESPONDENT.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Feb. 3, 1862.

THE LATE EARL OF EGLINTON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

SIR.—In the newspaper reports of the festival held the other day by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, the name of the late Earl of Eglinton appears among those of brethren whose loss Craftsmen have recently been called upon to deplore. Bro. Dr. Pritchard labours under a misapprehension when he supposes that Lord Eglinton was a member of the Order. Such was not the case, although he would have been both an honour and an ornament to it. But that his lordship felt interested in Freemasonry is evidenced by his having last year presented to the Grand Lodge of Scotland, through the Depute Grand Master, Bro. J. Whyte Melville, a copy of "The Memorials of the Montgomeries, Earls of Eglinton," in two handsome 4vo. volumes, containing some interesting records of the Scottish Craft, and for which the noble Earl received the thanks of the Grand Lodge.

Yours Fraternally,

D. MURRAY LYON.

Prov. J.G.W. Ayrshire.

Ayr, Jan. 31, 1862.

THE CHARITIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Shall I be considered Utopian if, looking somewhat beyond the present ken, I submit—in a rough and unpolished state 'tis true—some notions with regard to our charitable institutions, of which, strive as I will, I cannot divest myself, and which, I have no doubt, I shall live to see accomplished in some shape or other, provided only that my thread of life be not prematurely snapped?

Shall I be "written down" as a discontented specimen of the *mauvais sujet* if I venture to urge that these Institutions—I speak more particularly of the Schools—are not quite and altogether what they might be, being deficient in accommodation (the Boys' School sadly so), when the demands upon their resources are considered, and susceptible of considerable improvement, though of late years much in the right direction has been accomplished.

Shall I be condemned as less than truthful if I assert that the Craft, as a body, is only just being awakened to a sense of its duty in regard to those claimants on its aid and support? This is my conviction, founded on my experience! In how many fertile and beautiful valleys, hitherto uncultivated, are not those who have ploughed and sown already reaping a reward? On the sands of how many hitherto arid deserts are not the dry bones rapidly quickening into life? My enquiries lead me to believe that these things are so, and if so, what inducement to further labour?

Have I not been informed that the largest number of certificates ever issued were sent from the Grand Secretary's office during the last year? I do not say that Masonry ever was so insignificant as the grain of mustard seed, but surely it is rapidly becoming a tree beneath whose ample shade not only is pleasurable enjoyment to be found by those who share the smiles of Fortune, but amid whose protecting boughs the aged may find shelter and the young protection; within whose

hallowing influence the evils of poverty are mitigated, and lessons of good ceaselessly inculcated upon all.

Is it or is it not true that the great and influential of our land are joining in increasing numbers? Is it or is it not true that our Order, despite the sneers of the malicious and the cavils of the ignorant, was never more honourably regarded than now, its practical usefulness more thoroughly recognised, its power to cheer in misfortune, to soothe in distress, to console under trial, its wonderful adaptation to the wants and weaknesses of humanity, more readily recognised and acknowledged than now?

To what does all this tend? Whither do I wish to lead those who acquiesce in my views, thus—in the estimation of some, perhaps—visionarily expressed? To the material improvement of our Charitable Institutions! In what way? I, as I said before, thus roughly indicate my notions.

It is not beyond the pale of probability that, ere long, one or some, of the railway companies must or will require the site upon which the Girls' School now proudly raises its beautiful head! Already they are encroaching, and a slice of the narrow strip which separates the building from the neighbouring embankment is about to be taken. If my apprehension becomes reality, some other site must be found for a new building. Proposition the first.

The accommodation at the Boy's School is manifestly inadequate. From time to time we have heard of improvements, and still the building is inadequate for its purpose. I confess to having for some time taken a peculiar interest in this school, partly on account of what I believe to be its intrinsic merits, and partly owing to its comparatively neglected condition. From enquiries I have made of the Secretary and others with whom I have conversed, I find that it is under consideration to expend a further considerable sum of money to render the present building better adapted to the purpose it is now called upon to serve. I would advise its managers to wait. The money to be realised from the sale of the present property at Tottenham, with that contemplated to be expended in improvement, would very nearly, if not quite, suffice for the erection and fitting of a new building in a more favourable situation, and capable of receiving 100 boys.

There only remains the Asylum at Croydon. Let that be sold, and then—What then?

Seek out an eligible site in every respect—dry soil, fine air, abundant water, easy access. Erect a building on each side of an oblong space, to contain 100 boys and 100 girls, with suitable accommodation for the requisite staff—fitted, furnished, and provided in the most perfect manner possible, but without the slightest superfluous ornamentation. At the one end an equally suitable building as an asylum for the aged, and at the other end a commodious chapel, where under the ministration of a resident chaplain—whose duty it would be regularly to visit and inspect the Schools and Asylum, and take charge of the religious instruction of all,—old and young, with their friends and protectors, might meet and unite their orisons of praise to the Great Architect of the Universe, who had put it into the minds of the Masons of England—as aforetime he did to his ancient people in captivity—to raise a structure perfect in its parts and honourable to the builders.

Who will go up? Who?

I am, dear Sir and Brother,
CARITAS VIRTUTUM PRINCEPS.

London, February 3, 1862.

A MASONIC BARD.

THE LATE BRO. FRANCIS LOVE OF STEVENSTON.

(From the *Ayr Advertiser*.)

MR. EDITOR,—Considering the more than ordinary demand which the chronicling of Masonic matters has

this season made upon your space, it is with some reluctance that we venture to crave your further indulgence, while we endeavour to awaken an interest in the consummation of an act of justice to the memory of a brother—venerable for years, honourable for service, and rich in private virtues and graces,—who has now left the ranks of the Craft and joined the “silent lodge.”

It is nearly two years since the brethren of Stevenston Thistle and Rose lowered the remains of brother Francis Love beneath the sod consecrated by the emblems of “the salt and the evergreen,” yet his memory is still warmly cherished, and the sweet aroma of his muse continues to diffuse itself throughout the province of Ayr. At almost every re-union we have attended since Bro. Love's death, most feeling and heartfelt allusions have been made to the absence of our Masonic Bard, and which seem now to have fostered a general desire to give tangibility to these expressions of regret at his removal from among us—to record our testimony to his virtues, and our sense of the zeal which he ever displayed in behalf of Masonry,—in fact to

“ . . . raise a monumental stone,

To tell how Masons loved him.”

To enlist the interest of the influential portion of the Masonic community of Ayrshire in effecting such an object, it is not necessary that we enter upon the history of his life, or descant upon the many excellent qualities by which Bro. Love was distinguished. Suffice it to say, that all his labours were, in their spirit and tendency, for the general good of the Fraternity; and many of his poetical effusions are pregnant with Masonic symbolisms—a feature in Masonic poetry which few have been able to depict; and its profusion in his compositions proves how thoroughly he understood and appreciated the beautiful allegories in which our peculiar system of morality is veiled. Our aged brother possessed a rich vein of humour of the right sort, and was endowed also with the gift and taste of music. His whole soul seemed to be attuned to harmony; and the exquisite taste and feeling he was wont to throw into his rendering of Burn's “heart-fond warm Adieu” and some of his own pathetic songs, were such as a poet only could do, and seldom failed to cause the tears to start in the eyes of his rivetted listeners. Out of the lodge our octogenarian brother was characterised by a gentleness of disposition which gained the affections of all with whom he came into contact, the smile on his honest face was the expression of the true heart within, and the grasp of his hand seemed to be the index of his warm attachment; indeed, “heart, hand, and tongue” were uniformly influenced by the holy principles of genuine religion.

And now that he is gone from among us, to present his work to the Grand Master himself, it is surely meet that the brethren with whom for a season he journeyed on the great level, and who are now left behind, should, in illustration of that heaven-born Charity which extends beyond the grave, provide a fitting memorial of one whose work for the Craft is done, and well done, and who has now passed to that bourne whence no traveller returns,” and thus preserve from oblivion the last resting-place of him who, when in life, they so highly respected. We feel it a pleasure as well as a duty to commend the project to the kind consideration of the Craft, wheresoever dispersed; and in their efforts to raise a monument to one who was both an ornament and a support to their lodge, the members of Stevenston Thistle and Rose are well entitled to the fraternal sympathy of the sister lodges in this county.

The Committee's appeal, when issued, must call a warm and generous response from the bosom and purse of every true brother; and we may hope ere long to see the compass and square gleam over the grave of Ayrshire's Masonic Poet Laureate.

I am, &c.,

YOUR MASONIC REPORTER.

Ayr, Jan. 28, 1862.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

We understand that a subscription is about to be entered into to purchase the admirable portrait of Bro. Crew, painted by Bro. Green, and which attracted so much attention when exhibited at the Royal Academy a few years since, to be placed in the scene of his former labours, the Board Room of the Girls' School, as suggested in a letter of Bro. Warner Wheeler, P.G.D. We have seen a proposition for engraving the portrait, for each subscriber to the purchase to have a copy according to the amount of the subscription, but cannot recommend its adoption, as it would double the amount required to become the possessors of the portrait for the Girls' School, where we hope to see it at no distant day.

We hear it is on the tapis to apply for a warrant for a new lodge at Greenwich, and as the Lodge of Amity (No. 200), has removed to London. We think the Greenwich brethren are perfectly justified in their laudable desire still to have three lodges in their town.

We believe we are correct in stating that various alterations are about to be made in the Norwich Assembly Rooms at the expense of the owner, Bro. B. A. Cabbell, Prov. G.M., to adapt them for the convenience of the lodges, and that it is also Bro. Cabbell's intention to provide some, at least, of the furniture required.

We hear that a Knight Templars Encampment is about to be formed in Norwich, in connection with the Cabbell Lodge and Royal Arch Chapter, so that there will then be represented in the province three degrees under the name and auspices of the R.W. Prov. G.M.

THE HARTLEY COLLERY ACCIDENT.

We have received 2s. from Bro. W.R.D., Chester; 5s. M.W., and four other brethren of Bury, Lancashire.

METROPOLITAN.

ROBERT BURNS LODGE (No. 25).—The installation meeting of this very numerous lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday, the 3rd instant. The business before the lodge was the installation of Bro. J. D. Caulcher, S.W., a passing, a raising, and two initiations, the latter being Messrs. Jacob Lewis and Lewis Segar. A full board of Installed Masters having been formed, Bro. Caulcher was inducted into the chair of King Solomon, and appointed and invested the following brethren:—Bros. Lyons, S.W.; Matthews, J.W.; W. Smith, C.E., S.D.; Nicholls, J. D.; Allen, I.G.; Farmer, Treas.; Newton, re-invested Sec.; Newall, D. of Cers.; W. Watson, Steward; and Hammett re-invested Tyler. The brethren of the lodge numbered more than eighty present, besides the following visitors:—Bros. Grey, P.M. 209; Matthews, 80; C. Rowland, W.M. 1090; Phelps, 1122; Brown, 830; May, 177; Simpson, W.M. 211; Pringle, 1051; Avery, 902; Clarke, P.M. 22; Miller, 281; Dickie, P.M. 53; Matthew Cooke, Sec. 23; Randle, P.M. 309; Moore, P.M. 206; Jacobs, 223; and several others. The lodge having been closed, the brethren proceeded to banquet, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed; that of the D.G.M. and Grand Officers being coupled with the name of Bro. D. R. Farmer, A. G. Purst.—Bro. FARMER, in replying, said how very gratifying it would be to the Grand Officers, if they could have been present at that meeting, to have witnessed the enthusiasm with which their healths had been received. It was a demonstration that their conduct met with the approval of the Craft at large. The R.W.D.G.M. had strong claims to their approval, as every brother could testify who had seen his lordship's excellent presidentship at the late

Festival for the Royal Benevolent Institution for aged Masons and their widows. They had all been sorry to lose the Earl of Dalhousie, but he believed that in the Earl de Grey and Ripon, the post of D.G.M. had found no unworthy successor to the noble lord before referred to. He was sure it was the wish of the Grand Officers to do their duty to the Craft, and he thought he might say the utmost unanimity, on that point, reigned amongst them. As his name had been mentioned with the toast, he felt happy to be able to tender them his best thanks for the honour.—Bro. CALDWELL, P.M., rose to perform a very pleasant duty, having just left the chair. They now had a brother for their W.M., able to pay more attention to the lodge business than he had done during the past year. He was sorry that such had been his case, but he had been overwhelmed with business of great importance, and requiring the strictest personal attention. He was ardently attached to the Robert Burns Lodge, and would never leave it, for he had Masonry much at heart. However backward he had been during his year of office yet they had a certainty in their new W.M. of such punctuality, zeal, and ability that seldom fell to the lot of many Masons. To him, and success in his office, the next toast was devoted, and he therefore proposed "The health of Bro. Caulcher, their new W.M."—Bro. CAULCHER returned thanks for the toast with sincere pleasure. It had been his ambition from the hour of his initiation in that lodge to rise to that chair to which they had so kindly elected him, and he hoped that every one of his officers would do their best to attain the same position. He had openly avowed his intention of appointing only such officers as were capable to do their duties, and in pursuance of that determination he had had a private meeting when they each performed their duties to his satisfaction. He was a plain matter-of-fact man and would have them to understand him as such. His commands, as W.M. must be implicitly attended to, and he was sure they would all see if those views were carried out that he should be doing himself justice and give the lodge satisfaction.—The W.M. next said they had two foreign brethren, made Masons that night, then sitting at the board. He hoped that they would, by their attention, make good members and endeavour to do their duty in the spirit he wished to inculcate. The W.M. concluded by proposing "The healths of the Initiates."—Bro. SEGAR, on behalf of himself and Bro. Lewis, was very much obliged and they would both try to perform all that was required of them.—The W.M. had to bring before them the healths of those brethren who had kindly honoured them with their presence that evening. He had himself invited some whom he held in great esteem, and were of good standing in Masonry. [He then went partly through the list of visitors, paying sundry compliments as he proceeded, and finally winding up by stating it to be impossible to read all the names of the visitors.] The Robert Burns Lodge, he continued, had great pleasure in seeing so many distinguished visitors. That lodge stood high in the Craft, and it was his determination to keep it so. He then proposed "The Health of the visitors and Bro. Hart."—Bro. HART could not undertake to return thanks for more than himself in such a splendid specimen of a working lodge.—Bro. BROWN took up the matter, and returned thanks for the rest of the visitors.—Bro. CAULCHER then approached the P.M.'s, those brethren to whom he was greatly indebted for his position in that chair. Bro. Watson was the walking *Book of Constitutions*; if any one wanted information from him they could gain it, and it was not difficult to do so, as he was here, there, and everywhere. Bro. Apted, their late Treasurer, had held that office for some years, but had recently retired from it. Bro. Newton, their Secretary, did everything required of him with punctuality and care. Bro. Robinson was well-known for his good working. Bro. Clements had introduced no less than forty members. Bro. Gladwin had lately passed the chair, and most of them knew his efficiency. Bro. Farmer had been invested Treasurer that night, and the lodge ought to be proud to have a Grand Officer hold such a position amongst them. Bro. Caldwell, the I.P.M., had been deprived by his business avocations from a regular attendance, but what he did, when there, had been done to the best of his abilities. The W.M. then gave the toast of "The P.M.'s of No. 25."—Bro. CALDWELL returned thanks for the P.M.'s, excepting Bro. Watson, who would do it for himself. He felt sorry he had not been able to do his duty more frequently, but there were always plenty of good Masons among the P.M.'s ready for [any emergency that might arise. He was proud to see so many of them present, and if he could not claim to having been a worker, yet his heart was with them, and, when

he had a pound to spare, it was at the service of the Craft or the Robert Burns Lodge.—Bro. WATSON had for twenty years that day installed every W.M. in the chair in that lodge, and he still saw around him many of them as P.M.'s, and the reason why they were still to be found there was, that they gave their attention to their private duties, which enabled them to remain members, for if they neglected those for the purpose of Masonry, they would soon have no business to attend to, and the lodge would have but very few P.M.'s. The Robert Burns Lodge was highly favoured in members, although, at times, they might be absent. The P.M.'s ought to congratulate themselves for the very happy choice they had made in their W.M.; and, although Freemasonry was not to be summed up as a perfection of good working only, yet a good worker was sure to have the seeds of much that was good sown in his memory. Masonry was a society embracing all sects and religions strictly preserved as inherited from their predecessors, therefore initiates should look upon it with serious and proper consideration, considering themselves as being part of a numerous band whose chief aim was "to do as they would be done by." The P.M.'s ought to watch new members carefully, and see that they trod in the steps of their predecessors, and he hoped such would ever be the tenets of the P.M.'s of the Robert Burns Lodge, who gratefully returned their thanks for the honours of the toast.—"The Healths of the Officers" followed, and the evening was spent with much cordiality, much enhanced by some good singing by Bros. T. G. Carter, W. Carter, Exall, Herring, and Newall.

CITY OF LONDON LODGE (No. 1203).—This new lodge, held at the City of London Freemasons' Club, Bell-alley, Moorgate-street, was consecrated on Thursday, the 30th January. Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, P.G.D., performed the ceremony, and also that of installation. The W.M. is Bro. Charles Southall, who, on completion of the usual forms, invested his officers:—Bros. E. Sisson, S.W.; T. G. Collier, J.W.; E. Farthing, Treas.; W. Southall, Sec.; S. Osmond, S.D.; W. Weedon, J.D.; C. Smithers, I.G.; S. Couchman, Tyler. Mr. W. A. Higgs was then initiated, and the lodge closed in due form. There were present as visitors Bros. Banister, Prov. G. Dir. Cers. West Lancashire; J. Kindred, P.M.; H. Hasleham, P.M.; G. Gabsley, P.M.; J. H. Wynne, P.M., and a great number of influential brethren. The members of the lodge and some of the visitors reassembled at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, where a very handsome banquet was served up by Bro. Painter, and a very pleasant evening was spent, enlivened by some excellent music by Bros. Stuart, Tait, and Saqui.

PROVINCIAL.

CHESHIRE.

CHESTER.—Lodge of Independence (No. 1023).—The installation meeting was held on Tuesday, Jan. 24th, at their rooms, the Pied Bull Inn. The brethren assembled at five o'clock p.m. The lodge was soon after opened with the usual forms and ceremonies by the respected W.M., Bro. Burghall, when the solemn rite of installing the new Master for the ensuing year took place, and was ably performed by Bro. P.M. Lyon. The lodge being closed and opened in the first degree, the new Master Bro. Brown P.M. (who we are informed was W.M. of the Lodge of Independence (No. 482), held at this inn forty-seven ago) was pleased to appoint the following brethren his officers for the present year—Bros. Watts, S.W., late of No. 158, London; Dodd, J.W.; Burghall, P.M. and Treas.; Lyon, P.M. and Sec.; Ellis, S.D.; Bainbridge, J.D.; Street, I.G.; Duke, Tyler. The brethren being called from labour, formed in procession to partake of the banquet, which was sumptuously supplied by the worthy host, Bro. H. Thomas. Upwards of thirty of the brethren sat down, the chair being occupied by the new Master, Bro. Brown, supported on his right by Bros. Lord Richard Grosvenor, M.P., and S.G.W. of England; the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Chester, Bro. Trevor; Thomas F. Maddock, P.M.; J. D. Weaver, No. 615, P.M., Prov. G.S.D. Cheshire; Thomas Truss, P.M. No. 615, and Prov. G. Supt. of Works Cheshire; Joseph New, S.W. No. 701; S. Bidders, S.D. 206; and on the left by Bros. W. Butler, P.M. and W.M. of the Cestrian (No. 615); H. Platt, J.W. 615; Robert Meacock, W.M. Mersey Lodge (No. 701); Thomas Burghall, P.M. and Treas. 1023; J. A. Lyon, P.M., installing W.M. and Sec.; and the following brethren of 1023—Bros. Gerrard, P.M.; Henry Thomas, P.M.; A. F. Watts, S.W.; J. Dodd, J.W.; W. Ellis, S.D.; W. R. Bainbridge, J.D.; A. Street, I.G.; David Gwynn

Edward Tasker, A. C. Lockwood, J. Harrison, T. G. Gittins, &c. On the removal of the cloth, the Benediction was pronounced, and the following loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the throne—"Our most Gracious Queen," delivered with much feeling, in which every brother deeply sympathised, drunk in solemn silence. The National Anthem was effectively sung by Bro. Gerrard. The next toast was "Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, the Earl of Chester, and the rest of the Royal Family," the W.M. remarking that before the end of the year his Royal Highness (he had been informed) was to be initiated into the Craft. "The Army and Navy, and the Volunteers," coupling with the toast Lord Richard Grosvenor, who is a yeomanry officer, came next. Drunk with three times three. Bro. Lord Richard Grosvenor returned thanks at some length, and concluded by saying he firmly believed that the Army and Navy of Great Britain were in that state of discipline that England might bid defiance to the world. During the delivery of the toast, the W.M. gave a humorous description of the march of the Chester Volunteers to Stockport in 1810 to quell the insurrection in the Northern parts of Cheshire, observing that he was at that time a Rifleman, and one of those who composed the corps; and should needs be he should have no objection to shoulder his rifle again. (Applause). "The most W. Grand Master of England," responded to by the S.G.W. The W.M. then gave "The Right Worshipful Prov. G. Master of Cheshire, Field Marshal Viscount Comberbere," and "The R.W. D. Prov. G. Master, Bro. Col. Cotton."—The W.M. rose with great pleasure, and gave "The Right Worshipful the Mayor of this ancient city," and paid a well-merited compliment to Bro. Trevor for the services he had rendered to Chester, by his indefatigable energies and unwearied exertions to benefit their Institutions, particularly the Infirmary, and instigator of the new Market Hall; and he said, when men possessed such sterling abilities as those of Bro. Trevor, it was no surprise that he should be called by his fellow-citizens to fill the civic chair a second time. Lord Richard Grosvenor, in an eulogistic speech, proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and wittily alluded to the humorous description the W.M. had given them of the march to Stockport, observing, that it gave him great pleasure for the first time to visit a Chester Lodge, and for the very warm and cordial manner in which he had been received by the W.M. and brethren of 1023; stating that he should be happy to become an honorary member. The W.M. said he felt deeply the high compliment paid him by the noble brother, Lord Grosvenor, and the numerous and influential brethren who had honoured him with their presence that day, and the brethren who had so heartily responded to the toast. The W.M. said that he was made a Mason in that room 49 years ago, and two years afterwards was installed W.M. of the Lodge. At that time the number was 482, but since then the number of lodges under the warrant of the Grand Lodge of England, had increased to upwards of 1,100, which had given the Grand Lodge ample means to enlarge their charitable Institutions, four of which were well provided for and maintained, viz., the Royal Institution for aged Freemasons and their Widows, the Benevolent Institution for aged and infirm Freemasons, the Freemasons School for Girls, and one for Boys, with beautiful buildings erected for each Institution. (Applause). It was with pleasure that he informed them that, a few years ago, the W.M. and brethren of the Cestrian Lodge, succeeded in getting into the Girl's School a native orphan, whose father had been Master of a lodge in Chester; and the Cestrian, to ensure success, subscribed 10 guineas, which made the W.M. of that lodge a governor for a certain period. These excellent Institutions were well supported by nearly all the lodges under the Grand Lodge. The W.M. said he should not detain them longer, except to assure them that, if health permitted, he hoped, as the father of No. 615, and father and godfather of 1023, to see Masonry prosper extensively in his native city. Before resuming his seat, he begged to propose "The Lady Patroness of Masonry of this province, the Viscountess Comberbere," who contributed largely to the Masonic Charities in the county. "The W.M. and Brethren of No. 915." Bro. Butler, in a lengthened and truly Masonic speech, returned thanks. "W.M. Bro. Burghall, the late W.M., and Officers of 1023." Masonic honours. Acknowledged in a neat speech by Bro. Burghall, W.M. Bro. Meacock thanked the brethren in a speech of some length, with hearty good wishes. Lord Richard Grosvenor, the Mayor, and several Provincial Officers then retired, after which other Masonic toasts and songs were given; when the lodge was finally closed and adjourned, with the usual form and ceremonies.

CUMBERLAND.

CARLISLE.—*Union Lodge* (No. 389).—The brethren of this lodge assembled at their usual hour for business on Tuesday, the 28th ult., when Bro. Sherman, of Manchester, having been examined as an E.A., was passed to the degree of F.C. The lodge was then opened in the third degree for the purpose of installing the W.M. for the ensuing year. The unusual delay being caused by the members having elected Bro. Fred. W. Hayward to fill that office for the third year, he being the only one qualified to give the ancient charges and ceremonies of the Craft degrees, as Masonry had lain dormant for some years in this city; but under his presidency and unceasing exertions it had again resuscitated from 5 to 45 members. Accordingly a dispensation in his favour was applied for to the Most Worshipful Grand Master the Earl of Zetland; but upon the case being laid before his lordship he considered a sufficient reason had not been adduced, and, therefore, declined to suspend the general laws; but his lordship trusted Bro. Hayward would give his able assistance to his successor. Another nomination, therefore, took place when Bro. Captain Wilson, J.W., of Nent Hall, was elected. The ceremony of installation was impressively conducted by Bro. Dr. Greaves, of Penrith, P.D. Prov.G.M., and a board of Installed Masters. The newly appointed representative of King Solomon was saluted in the several degrees. He then appointed his officers, Bros. Hayward as D.M. and Treas.; Blacklock, S.W.; Howe, J.W.; Johnston, S.D.; Gilkerson, J.D.; Murray, I.G.; Fisher, re-elected Sec.; Story, Tyler. The P.D. Prov.G.M. invested the officers with the insignia of their posts, informing them of the several duties they had to perform, and exhorting them to the diligent discharge thereof. Mr. George Turnbull having been balloted for and unanimously approved was initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry. The lodge was then solemnly closed, when the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment, and enjoyed a social hour, sorry to part when the clock chimed eleven. The toasts of the evening were "The Queen, daughter of a Mason," "The Worshipful Grand Master Earl of Zetland," "The Deputy Grand Master Earl de Grey and Ripon," "The W.M. Captain Wilson and the newly appointed Officers," "The P.M. and retiring Brethren," "The Initiated Brother," "The Secretary." The Tyler Bro. Story has held this office for many years, and now considers it his peculiar privilege to wind up the proceedings with a favourite Masonic toast. The provincial toasts were omitted, the provincial lodge being in abeyance on account of the death of the lamented Bro. Sir Jas. Graham, Provincial Grand Master.

HAMPSHIRE.

WINCHESTER.—*Lodge of Economy* (No. 90).—The brethren of this lodge met in good strength at their rooms, adjoining the Black Swan Hotel, on Wednesday, the 29th January, when the principal business on the notice paper was the installation of the W.M. elect, and the investiture of officers to act for the ensuing twelve months. This meeting also constituted the 101st anniversary gathering of the lodge, a banquet being arranged to follow the closing of the formal ceremonies. In consequence of the regular monthly meeting night in December falling on Christmas day, and the principal officers being a long distance from the city on St. John's Day, the annual formalities attending the change of officers were postponed till this occasion. The lodge was close tiled at 4 P.M., there being then among those present the following:—The retiring W.M., Bro. J. L. Hasleham; the W.M. elect, Bro. Alfred Smith, B.A.; Bros. W. W. B. Beach, M.P. for North Hants, a brother standing high in the Fraternity; also the Installing Master, H. C. Levander, B.A., of well-known fame in the provinces of Wilts, Hants, &c.; F. La Croix, P.M., Treas.; G. Durant, P.M., Sec.; H. Huggins; Adamson, W.M. of Rye Lodge; J. A. Higgs; J. Naish, P.M.; H. Newman; W. Best; C. Sherry, P.M.; E. Sheppard; E. Carter, &c. The lodge having been opened with solemn prayer, while in the first degree the W.M. read some Grand Lodge correspondence, one communication was in reference to the general vote of condolence agreed to by the Grand Lodge, acting in unison with the general Masonic body throughout the kingdom. A letter was read from Bro. Hayward, ex-Mayor of Lymington, Steward of the Province this year for the Boys' Benevolent Institution, and in which he solicited the Winchester brethren for the usual support in the way of subscriptions. While on this subject, Bro. SHERRY spoke warmly in behalf of the institution, hoping to see increased subscriptions this year, as it was in want of funds; and as it

was probable a pretty good round sum would be sent in, he hoped No. 90 would not be behind hand with its benevolence.—Bro. SMITH also, in order to help the fund as much as possible, gave notice of a motion to raise the lodge's annual subscription this year to two guineas, and hoped this would be liberally backed up by their individual donations. The lodge then proceeded to the second and third degrees. P.M. Bro. Levander succeeding to the chair on the retirement of Bro. Hasleham, W.M., whose term of office, and that of his subordinates, now expired. The lodge being duly prepared, the ceremony of the installation of the W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. A. Smith, late S.W., was proceeded with. The working of this impressive ceremony was most beautifully performed by Bro. Levander, assisted by Bros. Beach and Hasleham. The immediate installation being gone through, the full lodge was recalled, and the regular honours were paid to the new W.M. in his seat of office. The next proceeding was the investment of the new officers. Bro. Smith, W.M., went through this agreeable task with his usual ability and suavity of manner, the following brethren being combined with him in the official conduct of the lodge for the present year:—Bros. J. A. Higgs, S.W.; E. Sheppard, J.W.; G. Durant, Treas.; S. Adamson, S.D.; J. Waterman, J.D.; E. Carter, I.G.; H. Huggins, Sec.; H. Grant, Tyler. The faithful and trustworthy old Tyler, who received his insignia of office this day for the forty-first year in succession, was highly complimented by the W.M., who expressed a hope soon to see his excellent subordinate rewarded in a more signal manner for his long and faithful services. After some further business Bro. HASLEHAM, P.M., moved, and Bro. NAISH, P.M., seconded, a vote of thanks to their respected Bro. Levander, in return for the able manner in which he had performed the ceremony of installation. Carried unanimously.—Bro. LEVANDER acknowledged the compliment; he trusted he should ever be found ready to do all in his power to forward the interests and assist the working of the lodge. It had only been at eight o'clock on the previous evening that he had received a telegraphic dispatch desiring him to come to Winchester to assist in the duties of the lodge. It had been somewhat difficult for him to come, as he was just shifting his residence and busily occupied, but he was glad he had contrived to attend. In reference to lodge banquets, Bro. Levander said, judging from his experience he thought the best plan was for a certain sum per year to be set apart for expenses of refreshments on lodge nights, and for the brethren partaking to contribute what deficiency then arose.—Bro. BEACH's experience coincided; the banquets produced a good effect, adding to the sociality and friendly feeling of the lodge, but it was wise for the individuals sitting down to pay some small amount, for though their general funds were intended partly for refreshment and partly for charity, yet it was better to be sparing in the first named branch of expenditure.—Bro. NAISH was glad to hear these opinions, because he had been the first to propose such a course to that lodge, and they had adopted it.—The W.M. said, during his Christmas vacation he had visited lodges in the North conducted on similar principles. He further added that during his year of Mastership he intended to continue the Lodges of Instruction on Saturday night, hoping also to meet his officers on the evening of Wednesday in each week. The lodge was then closed with solemn prayer, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The banquet took place at the Black Swan Hotel immediately afterwards, Bro. Sherry's elegant repast doing him very great credit. Wines, viands, and desert were all equally *recherché*. When the cloth was removed, the usual toasts were proceeded with.—The W.M. rose to propose "The Health of the Queen." He said that he could not but look back with an envying eye on the good fortunes of his predecessors, in the circumstances under which they had proposed this toast. For twenty years they had proposed, and the brethren had drunk the health of our Queen, with unmingled joy and pleasure, but this was now changed. He who had been the best beloved of our Sovereign Lady, her truest counsellor, her surest support, her firmest friend, he who led a spotless life, exposed to the gaze of millions, who had extorted from a nation peculiarly uncharitable to foreigners the most sincere respect, and the truest esteem, had been removed, amidst the tears of all. It was a melancholy circumstance, that within a few miles of the place in which they were assembled, the widowed Queen of England was now lamenting her irreparable loss, in that palace which had long witnessed so rare an example of domestic bliss and conjugal felicity. If her Majesty was dear to her subjects when she ascended the throne, in the flush of youth

and hope, if the spectacle of her pure life and domestic happiness fixed her most deeply in the affections of all, ten thousand times dearer was she in her hour of darkness and sorrow. He called upon the brethren to satisfy their sympathy with the Royal Widow and Orphans by drinking in solemn silence to "The Queen, and God Bless Her." This toast was most cordially and impressively responded to, in the manner prescribed by the W.M. The WORSHIPFUL MASTER then rose to propose the health of "The M.W. the Grand Master of England, the Earl of Zetland." He congratulated the brethren on being ruled over by so distinguished a brother and so eminent a Mason. It was true the Grand Master of England was not famous in the political world, but he was a genuine English nobleman; though he did not hold a Marshal's baton, he was elected by the free votes of Freemasons. (Loud cheers). He commended himself to all by his nobility of mind and Masonic virtues, and was not thrust on their unwilling suffrages by the impervious decree of one too powerful despot, to rule them in a manner befitting a hero without a victory, and a general without an army. The toast was received by the brethren with the most hearty applause.—The S.W., Bro. HIGGS, proposed the toast of "The Deputy Grand Master of England, which was duly honoured.—Bro. LEVANDER, proposed "The health of the M.W. Prov.G.M. of Hampshire, Sir Lucius Curtis, Bart," whom he described as a most indefatigable Mason of many years standing, during twenty of which he had been the head of that province, and none exceeded him in his zeal for the Craft. He would join with the same toast "Bro. Deacon, and the other Provincial Officers, past and present." Drank with enthusiasm, and responded to by Bro. Durant.—The W.M. said, under a pressure of circumstances, he would take upon himself thus early to propose "The health of an esteemed non-resident brother and member of the lodge, and who, he understood, was compelled to depart early to attend another engagement elsewhere; and he knew the brethren would be happy to hear him make a few observations before he left. He proposed "The health of Bro. Beach," knowing it would be received with the same pleasure that he gave it. The toast having been drunk with full honours—Bro. BEACH begged to return the brethren his most sincere thanks for the kind and marked manner in which the compliment had been passed. In visiting the lodge that day, he had not anticipated as a private member that his health would have been so prominently proposed. It was with very great pleasure he had attended, and he much regretted that he was obliged to depart early or lose the train, yet there was no reason the festivities of the evening should be shortened merely because he was compelled to leave them so soon. He had always felt the greatest interest in the prosperity of their lodge, and he had now been a member of it for a great many years. It was not always in his power to attend the meetings, but when he could come he did so, and he was glad and pleased to hear of and witness their progress in the study of the principles of the ancient Craft. Amongst the many avocations with which he was connected, he had many of a Masonic kind, but he did not regard the latter as a part of the common business of life, but rather in the light of a pleasing relaxation from his more general public duties, and if any one thing gave pleasure to him more than another it was his experience in connection with his Masonic duties, and of the kind, cordial, and thorough Masonic feeling he met with on every side. He found this universally the case with the fraternity, for his visits were not confined to lodges in the province of Hampshire, but extended to many others. He had travelled in a distant land, and had seen the working of Masonry throughout the States of America and Canada. There it was universally the same, great anxiety and zeal were evinced to welcome a brother amongst them, and if he came from a far distant land he was not the less but perhaps the more enthusiastically received. The hon. brother enlarged upon the peculiar traits of Masonry all over the world, and the remarkable advantages it conferred upon the members of the Craft under all or any circumstances, if at home or abroad; and then alluded to the successful working of the science in this immediate district. He said the Masonic Province so Hampshire was second to few in the country; it was under the presidency of a Grand Master whose acknowledged excellence was of very long standing, and who was for his good heart and exemplary style of government, thoroughly respected and beloved by all the brethren who came under the same, and under whose reign they had seen Masonry making real progress. He had in late years seen a new lodge rise in Hampshire, not far from his own residence (at Basingstoke),

and he was exceedingly glad to be able to bear testimony to the kindly feelings exhibited towards it by the members of the Lodge of Economy, and he was bound to acknowledge the frequent assistance rendered by the latter whenever it was required of them in conducting the ceremonies. He hoped the good feeling between them would long continue, and that Masonry would increase in the county, so that the benefits might be further extended, which emanated from the practice of those high principles upon which their ancient Order was founded.—Bro. HASLEHAM, P.M., then proposed the health of the newly-installed W.M. of the lodge, saying he rose with extreme pleasure to give the toast. He rejoiced to know that the Master, who now filled the chair, was a most able, expert, and painstaking Mason; and he would be sure to make an excellent Master for the ensuing year, which he hoped would be found generally a successful and prosperous one. He would not, then, venture to dilate upon the good qualities of their Master, but would be content to apply the common saying, that they had "the right man in the right place." He called upon the brethren to drink the health of the W.M. with hearty welcome. The toast was received and honoured with warm manifestations of respect and esteem.—Bro. SMITH, W.M., said after the very flattering manner in which his predecessor in office had introduced the toast, and the great cordiality with which the assembled brethren had received it, there was nothing left but for him, in the fewest possible terms, to return thanks and show his gratitude. Seizing, as a drowning man would catch at a straw, one observation that had fallen from the immediate Past Master, he hastened to express his ardent hope that he truly might be found "the right man in the right place," and it would not be for want of a wish to please if he failed to give satisfaction. It had been to him a matter of some regret that not more of the brethren had been present at the lodge that day. He was particularly indebted, however, to those P.M.'s who came to support him (Bro. Levander most especially), who had come to perform the ceremony of installation. That was not only the installation day of their lodge, but the meeting formed the 101st anniversary of the Lodge of Economy's foundation. If it was only that he had been appointed the 101st Master of the lodge in succession, he had much reason to feel proud of that honour, for he stood as the inheritor of a great deal of merit and fame for a store of good works. Notwithstanding the great age of the lodge, it could not boast of very plentiful funds, yet this was no subject for blame or regret, because they could not possibly acquire wealth and plenty whilst they continued to devote all their surplus funds to acts of beneficence and charity, especially as they had of late years; and these were, after all, the only works they cared to pride themselves in. Masonry was, at times, much joked about and sneered at; but it had always been the case, that many good arguments were ruined in effect by ridicule, and many a good cause injured by jest. In the face of ridicule and free joking of society, many a man would, as it were, feel glad to shrink away from notice and take his contemplated good with him into retirement. This Masonry, however, must be granted to have been a specific most useful in removing and counteracting the injurious causes to which he had alluded. The deeds it had done in secret had brought blessings to thousands, and its highly moral principles, its Christian benevolence, and its silent but effectual working, made it beloved by all good men who came within its influence. From the pulpit, and from the bench, how often had there been advocated, and the want regretted, of some social machinery for bringing all classes together in love and harmony. Could not any experienced Mason look up and truthfully say, here is Masonry ready at hand for the purpose? They felt Masonry to be good, and found themselves benefitted by it, and at the same time thought it a duty to extend the blessing to others; and though they were not expected to do this by solicitation, yet they could set forth in themselves the advantages realised, and others would be influenced by a disposition to partake of the same boon. The outward world accused the Masonic fraternity of looking with too much fondness upon festivity; of worshipping a dead formula; and of being inclined to superstition in their ceremonies; but how different was that which real experience demonstrated to the brethren, and what else but pity could move them when hearing of these charges so equally false and absurd? So far as his experience of Masonry went, he found from a diligent observation of its ritual and formula that it was always sure and safe, and his study of these gave him a very good introduction to the practical working of the science. To bring about the

smooth working, and thus to add to the ordinary pleasure of their lodge meetings, he intended in future to have two Lodges of Instruction in every week. The Saturday-night meetings had already been tried for upwards of twelve months, and the result had been extremely satisfactory to every brother who had made a practice of attending them. Sections had been worked on the several nights, and much had been learnt, the brethren also deriving much pleasure and satisfaction from the general Masonic conversation and social intercourse. On Wednesday evenings he should now like to see the ceremonies of the lodge worked regularly for half-an-hour or so, and he hoped to be supported in this by all his officers. He was quite ready to admit that all these observances indoors were useless for permanent benefit to any set of men without the virtues taught and the professions made were also carried out by them practically in the course of their every-day career; except this was so, their professions were all a sham and their creed a falsity. He hoped to see a consistent manifestation of brotherly love, and thus, whatever were their differences on points of every-day life, they would ensure that consideration and regard for one another, and that mutual love which could not but overcome all opposition, conciliate differences, and tend to make Masons as a body, respected in the outer world. Next to brotherly love, came relief; on that point they were safe. It did not require a knowledge of what had been done further back than two or three years to find more than sufficient to gain for the Masonic Charities the full approbation of the public. No appeal was ever made to the benevolence of the Masonic body, but an ample reply was sure to follow. And next in their motto came Truth. As men and as Masons how incumbent was it upon them to carry out this important virtue in their public life, a principle even more seriously important than the other two. How careful should they be to preserve a strict honesty and integrity of purpose one towards another, and also towards those not members of the Craft, and thus strictly follow out the beautiful principles the Order impressed upon them. It was only for a Mason to be consistent, and then, though their opponents may think nothing of their ritual and laugh at their ceremonies, they must perform respect him, and say, he is a Mason and an honest man.—Bro. HIGGS, S.W., proposed "The Health of the Immediate P.M., and the Past Officers generally of the Lodge," which was heartily received.—Bro. HASLEHAM, P.M., thanked the meeting in his own name and that of his brother ex-officers. He testified to the excellent zeal displayed by the several officers under him in the discharge of their duties during the past year. He hoped his successor in the chair would experience equally good fortune in finding such good material. And he still hoped, though out of office, to be of service to the brethren in the course of their labours. He loved Masonry for itself, and, as far as in his power laid, he should continue his endeavours to promote the interest of the lodge and the harmony of the brethren.—Bro. BEST then especially proposed "The Health of the Secretary of the Lodge," with thanks for the able and zealous manner in which he had performed the duties of that office, and the talent he had shown in reporting in the MAGAZINE various meetings held in the province.—Bro. H. HIGGINS briefly returned thanks, feeling honoured that his humble services in the lodge had been appreciated. The W.M. had especially thanked him that day for the heavy labours he frequently undertook in reporting the principal meetings of the Craft in Winchester and other places in the county, which, indeed, sometimes pushed hard upon his hours of rest and relaxation; but he had rendered those services cheerfully, and was only too happy to do what laid in his power for furthering the interests of Masonry. He hoped ever to be found industrious in the performance of his duties, and tractable in his position in the lodge.—Bro. NAISB, P.M., asked permission to propose a toast. He wished the brethren to know that their respected P.M. Bro. Levander, had come there that day at great inconvenience to himself; he was sure they must all have been highly gratified with the efficient manner in which the ceremony of the installation had been performed. He and the brethren could only express their great obligation, and hoping Bro. Levander might find his removal to a new locality for his benefit, he had much pleasure in asking the company to drink to his long life and prosperity. Drunk with warm applause.—Bro. LEVANDER, P.M., said it gave him very great pleasure to be present that day, though certainly, in regard to the time, it had been a little awkward for him, as he was leaving one place and going to live at another. He believed Lodge No. 90 had taken a right direction in regard to the Charities; he was not, perhaps, well up

in the proceedings of the province, having now for some time past been only concerned in the working of Wiltshire lodges, where a system had been organised which so far had worked very successfully. It was the paying a subscription from every lodge fund for the express purpose of giving the lodges a Life Governorship in the Charities, and he hoped to see ere long that each lodge would hold a Life Governorship in each of the three Charities; the Boys' and the Girls' Institution, and the Aged Masons and Widows. There had also been a good deal of relief given to individual Masons. When giving up his late office of Treasurer, he had handed over £52 to his successor. But he knew that in the Province of Hampshire the Lodge of Economy was A. 1, and he was especially glad at times when he saw anything in the MAGAZINE concerning its proceedings. Within the walls of that lodge the precepts of their Order had been truthfully and carefully taught, and industriously acquired by many who were now able Masons, and he knew also that Masonry was carried out not only in name but in truth and reality. He now begged to propose "The Health of the P.M.'s of No. 90," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Jacob, under whom he had been initiated, and who was his father in Masonry, and to whom he owed a great deal of what he had acquired in the science. Drunk most heartily.—Bro. JACOB, P.M., in the course of his remarks in responding to the toast, while acknowledging that all must feel an interest in the prosperity of Masonry, yet they need not look so much after getting lodges of great numerical strength as the securing a social body of men of thoroughly unanimous feeling, agreeing, loving, and respecting one another. He had never introduced many; he believed Bro. Levander was about the only friend he had ever proposed in that lodge, and if all Masons proved such as he, their lodges would always abound in that love and harmony so much everywhere wished to be seen and retained.—Bro. DURANT, P.M., also thanked the brethren on his part, and proceeded to observe that he had enjoyed so many pleasant meetings with Bro. Levander, and seen so much in him to respect, that he could not sit down without awarding him one meed of praise. He and all the brethren had been delighted with the very able manner in which he had performed the installation. Their esteemed friend, Bro. Beach, had been very well pleased with the working, and he, being a very good Mason, and very well up in the working of the ceremonies, knew when a thing was done well or badly. He hoped for many years to meet Bro. Levander, and wished him health and happiness.—Some further conversation ensued during the evening upon the subject of the Masonic Charitable Institutions, and Bro. SHERRY, P.M., said that in the course of Bro. Levander's remarks he had spoken of what had been done in Wiltshire, and asked concerning the movements in Hampshire. Perhaps the brethren would remember that some time back the Prov. G.M. (Sir Lucius Curtis, *Bart.*) had convened a meeting of the Fraternity, purposely for taking into consideration the claims of the Charities, and the result was the appointment of a committee, to act upon which one member of each lodge was nominated, and this was agreed to, the W.M. of each lodge to act also on the said committee. Since these appointments nothing in particular had been done; and he very much regretted to say that he feared the Province of Hampshire was not contributing in proportion to other provinces.—Bro. HASLEHAM, P.M., proposed "The Health of Bro. S. Adamson," who, though the installed Master of the Rye Lodge, yet had taken a subordinate position in their lodge (No. 90), for the second year. At the lodges of instruction on Saturday evenings, Bro. Adamson had been a most constant attendant, walking several miles into the city for that purpose every week. They were bound to thank him for his earnest zeal, and accord him their hearty good wishes for his prosperity. The toast was warmly received.—Bro. ADAMSON said he was much obliged for the compliment paid to him. As to his attendance at the lodges of instruction, the brethren owed him nothing; but, on the contrary, he owed the lodges of instruction much, for if it had not been for them, he should never have been able to fill the position to which he had lately been appointed by his brethren at Rye. He should be always happy to perform any service required of him.—The subscription list from Bro. Hayward, in behalf of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Boys, was handed round, and donations entered in the names of the brethren present.—The brethren did not separate till a late hour in the evening, and it was generally admitted that the meeting had been one of the most pleasant experienced during the past twelvemonth, in connection with the lodge.

LANCASHIRE (WEST.)

LIVERPOOL.—*Everton Lodge* (No. 1125).—The brethren of this well-to-do lodge held their regular meeting on Friday, the 31st January, at the Clarence Hotel, Everton, the W.M., Bro. Langley, presiding, though suffering from the effects of a recent severe illness, and the officers all appearing in their places. The usual preliminaries having been duly and properly observed, the lodge was opened in the third degree, and three brethren raised to the sublime degree of M. M. The lodge was then closed down to the first degree, and several gentlemen having been proposed for initiation, and sundry amounts voted for the relief of poor brethren, the W.M., in the name of several brethren of the lodge, presented to Bro. George Turner, the founder and first W. Master of the lodge, a very beautiful Past Master's jewel as a trifling acknowledgment of the deep debt of gratitude they owed to him for his zeal and perseverance in establishing the lodge, as well as their admiration of his character as a man, and his virtues as a Mason. Bro. Turner expressed in very appropriate terms his thanks for the token of good will thus so unexpectedly accorded him, and assured the brethren that he would esteem it, value it, and wear it, not so much for its extrinsic value as a jewel, but for those admirable virtues it represented of brotherly love, relief, and truth. The J.W. having proclaimed high twelve, the brethren enjoyed themselves with toasts, sentiment, and song, and finally the lodge was closed in time and perfect harmony. Visitors present; Bros. Banister, Prov. G.D.C. West Lancashire; Wade, Prov. G.P. Cheshire; and Pepper, P.M. 310, and Prov. Assist. G.D.C. West Lancashire.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

CREWKERNE.—*Parrett and Axe Lodge* (No. 1116).—On Tuesday, the 14th ult., the members of this lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John at the Lodge Room, George Hotel, when the installation of the new Worshipful Master for the ensuing year was performed in the ancient manner by Bro. Capt. Bridges, the Very Worshipful Deputy Prov. Grand Master, assisted by several Masters and Pastmasters of the province. There was a very numerous attendance, including visiting brethren from Yeovil, Highbridge, Bridgewater, Taunton, and Axminster. After the ceremony, and at the conclusion of the usual lodge business, a sumptuous banquet was served in the Lodge-room, in Bro. Marsh's usual style of excellence. Between forty and fifty were present. The W.M. presided, supported by the D.Prov.G.M., and by the P.M. of the lodge, the Rev. R. J. F. Thomas, Prov.G.Chap., and vicar of Yeovil. The other chairs, as usual, were occupied by the newly invested S.W. and J.W. The following were the appointments, each brother being duly invested with the distinguishing collar and jewel of office:—Bros. Geo. P. R. Pulman, W.M.; Rev. R. J. F. Thomas, P.G. Chap., P.M.; Gale, Treas.; John Webber, S.W.; John Budge, jun., J.W.; Harris, S.D.; Geo. L. Lang, J.D.; John Standfield, Org.; John Trask, I.G.; Howe and Bodenham, Stewards; March, Tyler. During the evening a very handsome silver snuff-box was presented by the W.M., in the name of the lodge, to the Rev. Past Master, who conveyed his thanks in a very feeling and fraternal speech. On the cover of the snuff box, which was elaborately ornamented, the following inscription was engraved:—"Presented by the members of the Parrett and Axe Lodge (No. 1116), Crewkerne, to the Rev. R. J. F. Thomas, Prov.G.C., and P.M. of that lodge, January 14, 1862." The rev. gentleman has taken a deep interest in the lodge, and, at great personal inconvenience, has been a constant attendant and a most efficient master. The evening was spent in a very pleasant manner, and there was every manifestation of kind feeling and of a truly Masonic spirit. The lodge was consecrated on the 10th July, 1860—an account of the consecration appeared in the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE of July the 21st—and now numbers twenty-seven members. Fifteen of that number have been initiated in the lodge, eleven of whom are now M.M.'s, three F.C.'s, leaving but one E.A. An addition will soon be made to the present number, as there are now parties waiting for initiation.

SUSSEX.

BRIGHTON.—*Royal York Lodge* (No. 394).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Old Ship Hotel, Brighton, on Tuesday, the 4th inst., Bro. W. Curtis, W.M., presiding. The lodge having been duly opened and the minutes of the previous meeting confirmed, a ballot was taken for W.M., when the unanimous choice fell upon Bro. W. Marchant, S.W.; Bros.

H. Sanders and G. Ancock were also unanimously re-elected Treasurer and Tyler. The report of the Committee of General Purposes was most satisfactory. Bros. Stride and Wren were duly passed to the degree of F.C. by the W.M., and Bros. Edmonstone and J. Curtis to the sublime degree of M.M. by P.M. Freeman and the W.M. A recommendation was signed in open lodge for an applicant to the Board of Benevolence. Messrs. Pearson and B. Chatfield were proposed as candidates for initiation and to join, and Bro. Capt. Sinclair as a joining member. A proposition for the presentation of a P.M.'s jewel to Bro. Freeman P.M., met with the warmest approval of the brethren and was unanimously carried. The lodge was then duly closed. The installation and banquet will take place on Tuesday, March 4th.

WARWICKSHIRE.

BIRMINGHAM.—*St. Paul's Lodge* (No. 51).—This lodge held its anniversary festival on the 27th ult., when Bro. Bill was duly installed into the chair by Bro. Thos. James, of Walsall. The W.M. then proceeded to appoint his officers as follows:—Bros. Foster, S.W.; Sproston, J.W.; Empson, Treas.; A. W. Suckling, Sec.; Fairfax and Blenkinsee, Deacons; Thomas, I.G. After the business, the brethren proceeded to the banquet, provided in Bro. Machin's best style. The W.M. was supported by Bros. Chas. W. Elkington, D. Prov. G.M.; James Motteram, Thos. James, Humphrey, Allen, Robinson Curzon, Lewis Cohen, Capt. Briggs, Machin, Barwell, P.M.'s, and about forty other brethren. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, the W.M. proposed "The Health of Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M."—Bro. Chas. W. Elkington, D. Prov. G.M., thanked the brethren for their kind reception. It was always a pleasure to visit the St. Paul's Lodge; with it he had many happy associations, and not the least amongst them was the almost first visit he paid when his highly-esteemed friend, Bro. James Motteram, had a splendid testimonial presented to him.—Bro. Elkington then proposed "The Health of their excellent Chairman, Bro. Bill," who was worthy of all that kindness could say of him. Bro. Elkington urged upon the brethren to stand firm to the Boys' Charity this year, not only by their presence on the 12th March, but by a large and liberal subscription to support the Charity and their noble Prov.G.Master.—Bro. Bill responded, thanking the brethren for the way they had received his health, and assured them every effort should be used to continue to possess their good esteem.—"The Visitors" having been drunk, Bro. James Motteram, the learned counsel, responded in a most eloquent speech, alluding to the many years he had been associated with the lodge, his long absence from Birmingham, and his hope to again become a member. The following toasts were then given: "The Past Masters;" "The Officers;" "Bro. Cohen, and better Health to him, and a speedy return home;" "The Brothers Suckling;" and the Tyler's Toast. Several excellent songs were sung during the evening, which was in every way an enjoyable one.

YORKSHIRE (WEST.)

ROTHERHAM.—*Phoenix Lodge* (No. 1206).—The first meeting of this new lodge was held on Tuesday, 4th inst., at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Masbrough, under dispensation from the R.V.D. Prov.G.M. Dr. Fearnley; the M.W.G.M. having acceded to the prayer of the petitioners, and granted his warrant. The dispensation having been read, and the usual preliminaries gone through, Bro. Wm. White, jun., P.M. 162, and Prov.G.D.C. West Yorkshire, opened the lodge. He was supported by Bros. J. B. Lambert, P.M. 375, 845, and 889, Prov.S.G.D. East Lancashire; Wm. Longden, P.M. 162, 373; T. Danby, P.M. 162, 373; Alex. Hay, W.M. 162; and many others.—Bro. Henry Webster, the W.M. designate, having given his assent to the ancient charges and regulations, was ably and impressively installed into the chair of K.S., according to ancient and solemn form, by Bro. White. He was then saluted, proclaimed, and presented with the working tools in the various degrees.—Bro. White having delivered the beautiful charge appropriate to the occasion, remarked that this was not the first lodge held in Rotherham, as it was well known that a lodge called the Phoenix had existed there many years ago, some of the furniture of which was now before them; but unfortunately they had, as yet, been unable to gain any information about its minute books, &c. Probably, now that a lodge was established here, again, which had adopted the name of its predecessor, some old Masons, who had been lost sight of, might come forward and give them information on the subject. In the minute

books of the Britannia Lodge, which he was happy to say were perfect from the formation of the lodge in 1765 to the present time, he found the Phoenix Lodge occasionally referred to; the first mention of it was as follows:—

"Friday, 22nd July, 1808.—Memorandum.—At the request of Bro. Wilkinson and other brothers of Rotherham and its vicinity, for a few of the brothers of the Britannia Lodge to open, or assist them in opening the Phoenix Lodge at Rotherham (late of Worksop). Bros. Rowley, Heathcote, Gallimore, and Fox, attended at Bro. Carnelly's, the Crown, in Rotherham, where the said lodge was opened by Rowley, W.M.; Heathcote, S.W., and Gallimore, J.W.; and after modernizing, Bros. Dixon, Carnelly, Holdsworth, and Flint, proceeded to instal Bro. Wilkinson as W.M.; Lockwood, S.W.; Carnelly, J.W.; Crofts, Sec.; Flint, Treas.; Holdsworth, Sr. St.; and Glossoy, Jr. St. They then proceeded to fix the regular lodge nights to be held on the Monday evenings nearest full moon; after which two lectures were given on the first and second degrees by Bro. Rowley, and the lodge was closed in due form. The last notice of it was on the 10th March, 1841, when "Bro. Eadon was requested to confer with Mr. G. Latham, to treat with Bro. Hudson, of the late Phoenix Lodge, Rotherham, for the property of the said lodge, to be deposited in the archives of the Britannia Lodge, as he, Bro. Hudson, was about to leave the house in which the lodge was held, and was in possession of the said property." It therefore appeared that the Phoenix Lodge had originally been held in Worksop, and had been transferred to Rotherham in 1808, where it had probably continued to exist till 1841, a period of about 33 years. Having now commenced a new existence under the command of such an excellent and indefatigable Mason as Bro. Webster, aided by several other zealous brethren, he trusted the lodge would continue in existence for many centuries. The W.M. then appointed and invested his officers, viz.:—Bros. R. Waterhouse, S.W.; J. Oxley, J.W.; J. Waring, Treas.; F. Walker, Sec.; E. Farran, S.D.; S. Smith, J.D.; J. K. Turner, I.G.; A. Hirst, Steward; and J. Gouldthorp, Tyler. The W.M. addressed each on the duties and responsibilities of his office, and afterwards the brethren generally, on the necessity of obedience to those in authority, and the advantages of uniting together to further the interest of the Craft, and to make each other happy. A very agreeable evening was closed by an ample banquet, which did great credit to the host. The brethren separated at an early hour, after honouring the usual Masonic toasts, and felicitating each other on the happy and auspicious commencement of the Phoenix Lodge.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

ADDRESS OF CONDOLENCE TO THE QUEEN.

On Tuesday, Jan. 28, a Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Museum-street, Jersey, for the purpose of voting an Address of Condolence to Her Majesty, on the melancholy occasion of the decease of H.R.H. the Prince Consort; also to nominate the Provincial Grand Officers, to elect a Provincial Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year, and for other general purposes. The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, J. J. Hammond, occupied the throne, and was supported by the V.W.D. Prov.G.M. Bro. Robert Cross; Lord Graves, D.Prov.G.M., for Devonshire; Bros. David Miller, Edward Ainsley, Matthew Gallichan, Samuel Hayes, and other P.Prov.G. Wardens of this Province, and by a numerous assemblage of P.Prov.G. Officers, W. Masters, and Wardens of the several lodges in this Island.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the following address, moved by the R.W.Prov.G. Master, and seconded by the D.Prov.G. Master, was adopted unanimously:—

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY.—The Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, the Grand Wardens, and members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Jersey, beg most humbly and respectfully to tender to Your Majesty their earnest expression of the deep grief and sympathy with which they have learnt Your Majesty's great bereavement and heavy tribulation; and to be allowed to submit to Your Majesty their unfeigned love and veneration for the memory of a Prince,

whose life has been devoted to the welfare and the prosperity of the nation, and whose virtues have so justly entitled him to the grateful remembrance of every one of Your Majesty's loyal subjects.

May the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe rest on Your Majesty, on His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and on the other Members of the Royal Family; and we shall ever pray, &c.

(Signed)

J. J. HAMMOND, Prov.G.M.
P. W. BENTHAM, Prov.G.S.W.
CHAS. JOHNSON, Prov.G.J.W.
F. A. GODFRAY, Prov. G. Sec.

The Prov. Grand Master then proceeded to nominate and invest his Prov. Grand Officers, as follows:—

V. W. Bro. P. W. Benham, Prov. G.S.W.; Charles Johnson, Prov.G.J.W.; J. N. Westaway (Advocate), Prov.G.Reg.; F. A. Godfray, Prov.G.Sec.; Thomas Kitchener, Prov.G.S.D.; Capt. Lamb, Prov.G.J.D.; Philip Richard, Prov.G.S.B.; W. F. Bridgman, Prov.G.Org.; Fred. Aubin, Prov.G.Purst.; H. L. Manuel, Prov.G. Dir. Cers.; J. Gabourel, A. Prov. G. Dir. Cers.; Thomas Gallichan, Prov. G. Supt. Works; and Bros. Mist, Leigh, Mannian, Hunter, and Woodey, Prov. G. Stewards.

After which, the V.W. Bro. J. T. Dujardin, Treas., was again proposed to fill that office, as also the W. Bro. J. Gibaut (Advocate); when Bro. DUJARDIN stated that having had the honour of holding that situation for a number of years, and seeing a particular friend of his in election, he freely and voluntarily resigned his pretensions in his favour; in consequence of which Bro. Gibaut was unanimously elected, and was then invested by the R.W. Prov. G.M., amid the congratulations and applause of all the brothers assembled.

The following brethren were afterwards appointed to serve on the local board for general purposes:—

Matt. Gallichan, P.M., 722; Cornelius Donaldson, P.M., 302; Philip Le Cras, P.M., 860; Edw. Ainsley, P.M., 302; Charles Kingsnorth, W.M. 306; and Philip Baudains, W.M. 860.

After the disposal of some routine business, the lodge was closed in due form, with solemn prayer.

SCOTLAND.

LODGE ATHOLE (No. 413).—On Tuesday evening, Jan. 28th, the members of this lodge enjoyed a treat of no ordinary kind, in the shape of a lecture by their Senior Warden, John Schaw, being the third of the winter series. The subject chosen by Bro. Schaw, viz., "Snuffing," occasioned no end of conjecture as to the nature of the remarks that would be offered *pro* or *con*, and although it was shrewdly expected that the lecturer, true to his allegiance as a "disciple of Taddy," would endeavour to place the character of the "institution" in a favourable light, yet his audience were scarcely prepared to hear the masterly defence and vindication from all the vituperations of public opinion which it has been the fate, hitherto, of this "nasal infirmity" to receive. The lecturer commenced with a violent diatribe against what "popular fallacy" has set down as the *kindred vice*, smoking, and denied there was any single point of resemblance or comparison between the two, asserting that their association was only calculated to invest the character of smoking with an air of respectability to which it was by no means entitled; and, passing on to the subject proper, placed snuffing, divested of all its disreputable associates, in the highest scale of social observances. The lecture, although not quite free from the little crudities almost inseparable from a first essay, was of considerable literary merit, sparkling throughout with a well-sustained fire of wit and quaint humour, with here and there flashes of eloquence which would have reflected no discredit on a practised orator. It would perhaps be invidious to make any selection of what we considered the best passages, and the following, taken at random, may illustrate the general tenour of the lecture as well as any single passage could do. Speaking of snuffers, and their intellectual, moral, and social qualities, it says, "Their countenance is an index of refreshing mirth and subtle thought, their wit sparkles brightest, their earnestness is the most pure, their counsels the most trustworthy, and their merry laugh and unfeigned admiration the most grateful tribute to your efforts in the art of pleasing. The snuff-box circulates, creaking on its hinges like the merry chirp of the cricket, the dust is inhaled, the moments fly, care is forgotten, and happiness is complete. The

patriarchal snuffer is an inexhaustible mine of quaint anecdote thrilling legend, and antiquated ballad. His nationality is unmistakable, his sympathies broad, and his antipathy to suffering and oppression uncompromising. Your discourse may haply run on to the discussion of some knotty point, as difficult of unravelment as the Gordian knot, but your mental giant here, the snuffer, grapples with the difficulty calmly and earnestly, and as he unlooses fold after fold, and exposes it to your admiring attention, following up every successful move with a well earned and eager snuff, which seals the success of his progress, he at last, with the accompanying aid of a terrific double-barrelled pinch, and the snort of a grampus, lays the whole matter before you in such simple detail that it may reach the understanding of a child." In addition to the members of the lodge, there was a large attendance of visiting brethren, whose loud and frequent plaudits fully testified to the merits of the lecture.—*Glasgow Herald.*

IRELAND.

MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL.

(From the *Dublin Express.*)

Among the many noble works of charity and beneficence by which the society of Freemasons have carried into practice the maxims of their order, the Masonic Female Orphan School, in Burlington-place, Dublin, may justly be regarded as a striking illustration. Interesting, however, as it must in a special degree appear to members of the Masonic body, it furnishes a less direct but not less useful lesson to the casual observer, as a training institution in which the soundest dictates of reason and common sense are carried out, a complete education, physical, moral, and intellectual, afforded, and a high cultivation both of the intellect and of the imagination shown to be not incompatible with a thorough training in the less shining but more useful homely duties of life. It is now some 15 years since the governors of the Masonic Female Orphan School, which had previously been in existence upon a smaller scale, obtained a grant from the late Lord Herbert of a site in Burlington-place, on which the present establishment was built by donations principally derived from members of the Masonic Order resident in this country, and anxious to provide a suitable refuge for the destitute daughters of their poorer brethren. The exterior of the edifice is plain and unpretending: no expense has been lavished on decoration, but probably there are few buildings which so thoroughly answer the object designed. In 1860, in consequence of the increasing number of eligible candidates for admission, an additional wing was erected, rendering the establishment capable of accommodating 40 girls. To accomplish this object, the funded property of the institution was reduced by nearly £1000, but this, it is hoped, will gradually be replaced by the increase of donations and annual subscriptions consequent on the augmentation of the number of inmates. The wisdom of the governors, not alone in the site adopted, but also in the construction of the edifice, is proved remarkably by the healthy condition of the inmates, and the almost total absence of sickness amongst them. In truth, the only part of the building that wears a deserted aspect is the hospital, which however, is a model of neatness and scrupulous cleanliness. The children have, of course, had their share of the maladies incident to juveniles: they have run through the usual infantile disorders of measles, whooping cough, and scarlatina; but no better demonstration can be afforded of the skill, care, and attention with which the medical officer, the matron, and her assistants perform their duties, than the fact that for the past 14 years not a single death has occurred in the establishment. This desirable result is attained by three important agencies—pure air, wholesome diet, and healthy and invigorating occupation. Every apartment in the building, from the kitchen to the dormitories, is spacious, clean, and well ventilated. Each girl is provided with a separate bed. The bedrooms are clean and airy, communicating with and adjoining the apartments of the matron and her assistant. The bedding, the walls, and the very floor are accurately neat and clean—a result obtained by the system of the establishment, by which each girl is required to make her own bed, take charge of and keep in repair her own clothes, and take her turn in washing and arranging the bedrooms. The lavatory (a separate apartment) is conveniently provided with the requisites with which each girl, even the youngest, is required not to "adore, with head uncovered, the cosmetic powers" but, what

is far better, to keep her person perfectly clean, her hair and dress neat, and to acquire those habits of tidiness and order without which personal beauty and intellectual accomplishments lose half their attractions. The refectory is a spacious and comfortable apartment, adjoining the kitchen, and communicating therewith by an aperture through which viands and dishes may be removed with great saving both of time and trouble. Every part of the building is thus kept with the most careful attention to order and system. The schoolrooms, of which there are two, one for the elder girls and the other for the younger, might well furnish examples worthy of imitation in many a fashionable academy. From their entrance into the institution, habits of order, neatness, and self-dependence are inculcated and enforced. Even the youngest girl is required to make her own bed, to keep and repair her own clothes and wait on herself at all times. As soon as she is of sufficient strength, she is required to assist in kitchen and laundry, and even to wash out the rooms, and to discharge those various domestic duties, the performance of which is essential to the comfort of a household. No excuse save that of illness is allowed; nor is the least difference made between one child and another. The daughter of the *quondam* wealthy merchant who had been ruined by over speculation—the child of the aristocratic country gentleman, who perhaps had been stripped of his possessions by an adverse lawsuit—is given the same education of heart, head, and hand, as the offspring of the humblest individual who ever wore a masonic apron. To make any difference between one child and another in this respect would not only be a manifest injustice, but would render it impossible to preserve either the discipline of the school or the equality and affection which subsist among the girls. Some time since, the parents of a girl, once affluent, but reduced by a series of reverses to poverty, died, leaving their daughter utterly destitute. Having been admitted into the institution, she for the first few days positively refused to make her own bed, or to perform for herself those offices which during her parents' lifetime, had been discharged for her by servants. The poor girl had yet to learn that the truest independence is that of self-dependence, and that the surest way both to acquire and to enjoy prosperity is learned from the lessons which adversity teaches. For three days she remained stubborn, but eventually the firmness, patience, and gentleness of the matron prevailed, and she ultimately became one of the most tractable and best conducted girls in the school. It may here be observed that corporal punishment is never resorted to in the institution, yet the perfection with which discipline is maintained and obedience enforced would be inexplicable to those who do not understand what Chalmers has so well described as "the omnipotence of loving-kindness." These details, and the recital of such homely occupations as those in which the inmates are engaged, may excite a smile; but their importance, as conducive to the usefulness, and consequent happiness of the girls in after life, is not to be appreciated lightly. For precisely in these qualifications, girls brought up in charitable institutions are usually most deficient. Who, that has observed the inmates of the female wards of some workhouses, can avoid perceiving how lamentably ignorant they are of the commonest domestic duties? Nor is the case much better at the opposite extremity of the social scale, for even in the fashionable boarding-school it will be often found that habits of self-dependence, neatness, and the "household virtues" which give every-day life its charm, cheer the domestic hearth, and shed light on the path of the obscure, are too much neglected. In this institution not only is the performance of domestic offices enforced, but the culture of the intellect and the tastes is not neglected. Besides the rudiments of English education they are taught singing, and even the pianoforte. Their household work over, each girl, before afternoon, is ready to take her place in the schoolroom. What a contrast do they present to the inmates of the workhouse! Neat and clean in appearance, plainly, but not ungracefully attired, with happy countenances and cheerful tones, they are, ranged, not in silent, listless groups, nor with pale and stunted forms, evincing, in their prematurely aged countenances, the seeds of scrofula and consumption; their rosy faces and happy looks bespeak the care and attention bestowed upon them. They exhibit neither the stolid stupidity nor the meanness and cunning so often found in children who have been supported in charitable institutions. They can sing a few snatches of song and play an air or two upon the piano with correctness and melody. The visitor can hardly help asking could these be the same girls who in the morning were on their knees busy with scrubbing-brush and dust-pan, and when answered, as he assuredly must be, in the affirmative, it furnishes a proof of the possibility of a girl's

being educated, and accomplished, and at the same time active, useful, and happy.

Some of these girls, were their history known, might furnish many an interesting episode in real life. It is not many years since a trader, who had by his own exertions managed to support his family in a position of respectability, died, leaving his widow, with nine children, utterly bereft of support. Through the intervention of some friends, a situation was obtained for the mother, and she proceeded with her family to Dublin in order to enter on her post. But the cup of her misfortune was not yet full, and a still sorer calamity was about to fall upon the unhappy children. The very day of their arrival in Dublin, as the mother was descending a flight of stone steps, her foot slipped and she sustained injuries which, after some days' suffering, terminated in her death. Of the bodily and mental anguish which this poor woman endured, racked by a painful disease, and with mind torturing itself by the variety of its sad forebodings as to the fate of her orphan children, few can form any idea. But on looking over the deceased's papers, the the Masonic certificate of the father of the children was found. This discovery led to their being assisted by some members of the masonic body. Two of the girls were eventually taken into the school, and provision was made for the others. The two girls were inmates of the school have since been both respectably married.

Among the girls who from time to time have been trained up in this estimable institution, a considerable proportion are daughters of men who once filled respectable positions in society, some were even in affluent circumstances and highly connected. Some years ago a gentleman, the proprietor of one of the most extensive estates in Ireland, lost it through railway speculations, and died, leaving a daughter in the deepest poverty. He had fortunately been a Mason for several years previous to his death, and through the assistance of some Masonic friends the girl was received into the school. A bandmaster in the army, a member of a highly respectable family, died, leaving a widow and two girls penniless. The mother emigrated to a distant colony, where she obtained a situation and sent a remittance to her children to enable them to join her. The passage-money had been paid, and the girls were in readiness to start on their long voyage when a letter came, announcing the death of their mother. They were left thus completely destitute, but their father having been one of the Masonic body, the girls were received into the establishment, and they are now both married to men in comfortable circumstances. It not unfrequently happens that those who have been inmates of the school testify in after life their grateful sense of their obligations to the institution by becoming subscribers. A girl was not long since sent to a situation in Australia, and, she last year sent as a mark of her gratitude a liberal subscription to the school, with the intimation that it would be continued annually.

Free admission is given in the Institution to the orphans of soldiers who have been Masons. It is a singular fact, that though several institutions exist, and in particular one noble establishment—the Royal Hibernian Military School—for the support and education of sons of soldiers, not one institution in Ireland opens its doors to the orphan daughter of the military man. To ladies this school appeals with peculiar force. It may not be generally known that in many cases institutions which have been founded for the support and training of girls have not answered the expectations of the founders, the girls not turning out as well as was hoped and anticipated. That this failure has in every instance arisen from some defect in the management, is shown by the perfect success of the Masonic Female Orphan School. The female orphan has, indeed, claims of peculiar force on the charity and kindness of all who can assist her, for, in addition to all the distresses to which boys are subject, she has to withstand temptations to which they are exposed; and who are so qualified to sympathize with and extend their assistance to their poorer sisters, as that better portion of mankind without which it has been said "the commencement of life would be without succour, the middle without pleasure, and the end without consolation?"

ROYAL ARCH.

GRAND CHAPTER.

The Quarterly Convocation was held in the Temple, on Wednesday last, Comps. T. H. Hall, acting as Z.; Patteson, as H.; Evans, as J.; Clarke, E.; Perkins, as N.; Potter, as P. Soj.;

McIntyre and Le Veau, Asst. Sojs. There were also present: Comps. the Rev. J. Huyshe, Prov. G. Sup. Devon; Roxburgh, G. Reg.; Pullen, G.D.C.; and the following P. Grand Officers: Spiers, Gole, Wheeler, Smith, Udall, Scott, Pullen, Bridges, Bradford, and Slight, and about twenty-five other Companions.

The Grand Chapter having been opened, a letter was read from the Right Hon. Earle de Grey and Ripon, G.H., apologising for being unable to attend.

The minutes of the last meeting have been read and confirmed, the following report was taken as read, and ordered to be entered on the minutes:—

The Committee of General Purposes beg to report that they have examined the accounts from the 16th October, 1861 to the 15th January, 1862, which they find to be as follows:—

Balance, 16th October, 1861.	£205 12 2
Subsequent Receipts	123 12 8
	£329 4 10
Disbursements	158 7 2
	£170 17 8

which balance is in the hands of Messrs. Willis, Percival and Co., Bankers of the Grand Treasurer.

The Committee have also to report that they have received the following Petitions, viz. :—

1st. From Companions Thomas Henry Hall as Z, John Deighton as H, the Duke of St. Alban's as J, and eight others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Isaac Newton University Lodge (No. 1161), Cambridge, to be called the "Euclid Chapter," and to meet at the Red Lion Hotel, Cambridge, on the last Tuesday in February, May, and November in each year.

2ndly. From Companions Herbert Aylwin, as Z, Benjamin James Price as H, Robert George Thomas as J, and seven others, for a Chapter to be attached to the South Australian Lodge of Friendship (No. 613), Adelaide, to be called the "South Australian Chapter of Friendship," to meet at the Supreme Court Hotel, Adelaide, South Australia, on the Wednesday immediately after the full moon of every month.

3rdly. From Companions William Harry Jenkins as Z, Edward Trewbody Carlyon as H, John Moyle as J, and eight others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Phoenix Lodge of Honour and Prudenceto (No. 415), Truro, to be called the "Royal Cornubian Chapter," and to meet at their private Lodge Rooms, High Cross, Truro, on the first Monday in the months of January, April, July, and October in each year.

These Petitions being in all respects regular, the Committee recommend that the prayers thereof be respectively granted.

The committee have likewise received a Petition from Companions William W.B. Beach as Z, Wyndham Spencer Portal as H, Ralph Augustus Benson as J, and eight others, for a Chapter to be attached to the Westminster and Key-Stone Lodge (No. 10), London, to be called the "Westminster and Key-Stone Chapter," and to meet at the Freemason's Tavern, Great Queen Street, London, on the third Wednesday in the months of January, March, June, and September in each year.

This petition is in all respects regular, but inasmuch as the Committee have on former occasions expressed their opinion that the number of Chapters in London is sufficient to serve the interests of the Order, and their opinion continuing the same: It was resolved, at their meeting held this day, to submit this Petition to Grand Chapter without further observation.

The Petitions for the various Chapters were then read, and after some discussion as to the necessity of a Chapter at Cambridge, and the propriety of giving a Charter to No. 10, in the course of which it was stated that it had 120 members, 50 of whom were Royal Arch Masons, the whole of the Charters were granted, that for No. 10, being subject to confirmation, as is the case with all Charities not recommended by the Committee. The Chapter was closed in solemn form with prayer.

Poetry.

THE POET LAUREATE AND THE LATE PRINCE CONSORT.

A new edition of the *Idylls of the King* contains the following dedication:—

These to his memory—since he held them dear,
Perchance as finding there unconsciously
Some image of himself—I dedicate,
I dedicate, I consecrate with tears—
These Idylls.

And indeed he seems to me
Scarce other than my own ideal knight,
"Who revered his conscience as his king;
Whose glory was redressing human wrong;
Who spake no slander—no, nor listened to it;
Who loved one only, and who clave to her—"—
Her, over all whose realms to their last isle,
Commingled with the gloom of imminent war,
The shadow of his loss moved like eclipse,
Darkening the world. We have lost him—he is gone.
We know him now. All narrow jealousies
Are silent, and we see him as he moved.
How modest, kindly, all-accomplished, wise!
With what sublime repression of himself—
And in what limits, and how tenderly!
Not swaying to this faction or to that;
Not making his high place the lawless perch
Of winged ambitions, nor a vantage-ground
For pleasure; but through all this tract of years
Wearing the white flower of a blameless life,
Before a thousand peering littlenesses,
In that fierce light which beats upon a throne
And blackens every blot: for where is he
Who dares foreshadow for an only son
A lovelier life, a more unstained than his?
Or how should England, dreaming of his sons,
Hope more for these than some inheritance
Of such a life, a heart, a mind as thine,
Thou noble Father of her Kings to be,
Laborious for her people and her poor—
Voice in the rich dawn of an ampler day—
Far-sighted summoner of war and waste
To fruitful strifes and rivalries of peace—
Sweet nature gilded by the gracious gleam
Of letters, dear to Science, dear to Art,
Dear to thy land and ours, a Prince indeed,
Beyond all titles, and a household name,
Hereafter, through all times, Albert the Good.

Break not, O woman's heart, but still endure;
Break not, for thou art Royal, but endure,
Remembering all the beauty of that star
Which shone so close beside thee, that ye made
One light together, but has past and left
The Crown a lonely splendour.

May all love,
His love, unseen but felt, o'ershadow thee;
The love of all thy sons encompass thee,
The love of all thy daughters cherish thee,
The love of all thy people comfort thee,
Till God's love set thee at his side again.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty and Royal family still remain in retirement, but Her Majesty has presided at a Privy Council to approve the royal speech in the opening of Parliament, The King of the Belgians has returned home. The Crown Princess of Prussia (the Princess Royal), is expected in England about the 12th inst., and it is supposed she will meet her brother, the Prince of Wales, in Germany on the 10th. It is stated that the Queen will visit Balmoral at an earlier date than usual this year. Some time about Whitsunside is said to be fixed for Her Majesty's departure, and it is understood that she will remain at her seat in Aberdeenshire about a month.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The Registrar General continues to report a high rate of mortality for the metropolis. The number of deaths last week was 1492, which, though lower by 77 than

the deaths recorded last week, was 78 above the usual ten years' average. It will thus be seen that the increase stands just midway between the one point and the other. The births are above the average—or 2020 against an average of 1969.—The attention of the Legislature was called last year to the means of preserving salmon in our waters. It appears the efforts of the conservators are considerably interfered with by the exposure for sale of salmon during the close season. The plea is that the fish are brought from the Continent or from Ireland, to neither of which places does the act interdicting "close time" fishing apply. Of course, it is not always easy to detect the falsehood of this plea; and even in truth does not prevent the fish so caught from being unwholesome. From the efforts that are now made to stop all these loopholes for evasion of the act we anticipate that Parliament will deal with the question in the ensuing session.—At the annual meeting of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce an important discussion took place on the "American question," and more particularly the blockade and the blocking up of the entrance to Charleston. Mr. Ewart, M.P., strongly denounced the stoppage of Charleston harbour, and expressed a fear that that measure would prove far more destructive to the port than Mr. Seward seemed to suppose. With regard to the blockade, "if the reports he had last heard were true, that of upwards of 100 vessels trading between Havana and the Southern ports of America only six had been captured, it was quite clear that the blockade could not be effectual, and that they would be perfectly justified in disregarding it." How far it would be politic to do so was, however, quite another question, and he hoped the Government would continue their present course of non-intervention, as he believed that before the lapse of many months, the civil war would be brought to a "satisfactory issue."—It is stated in the *Observer*, that the War Office authorities propose to supply Volunteers with accoutrements, as well as with cloth for their uniforms, from the Government stores, at cost price. The *Army and Navy Gazette*, on the other hand, asserts that no "equipments or ornaments of any kind" will be furnished. The *Gazette*, we may remark, shares Sir John Pakington's predilection in favour of scarlet as the most suitable colour for Volunteer uniforms.—One point with reference to the proposed Manchester Memorial of the late Prince Consort has been definitively settled. At a meeting of the Committee on Monday, a letter from the Mayor was read, in which His Worship offered to present to his native city a statue of the Prince, eight feet in height, of Carrara marble, provided that the Committee are disposed to erect out of the funds which may be subscribed and placed at their disposal a suitable building for its reception and preservation. It is scarcely necessary to say that this munificent offer was accepted; and the sub-committee appointed, will, therefore, now have to deal solely with what has been the knotty question all along—the form of the non-monumental part of the proposed tribute to the memory of His Royal Highness.—It was stated some time ago that an eminent firm in this country had proposed to lay down a new telegraphic cable between England and America, provided the Government would become responsible for a sum approaching three-quarters of a million sterling, required for the execution of the undertaking. Of the fate of this project nothing definite is publicly known, but we learn from the *Observer* that a rival scheme is on the tapis. The American government is stated to be most anxious that another attempt should be immediately made to connect the Old and New Worlds by means of a telegraphic cable, and Mr. Cyrus Field, who was so intimately connected with the unsuccessful effort made two or three years ago to accomplish that object, is said to have undertaken a mission to this country with the view of urging our Government to second the proposal of Mr. Lincoln and his Cabinet. The *Observer* tells us that the American authorities have offered to subscribe one half the amount required, and to grant the use of ships to assist in laying down the wire, provided the British Government will defray the remaining portion of the necessary outlay. It is added that no objection will be made to the selection of British territory as the transatlantic terminus of the cable.—Mr. Milner Gibson was presented on Tuesday with a testimonial for his exertions to repeal the paper duty at a breakfast in the Freemasons' Hall. Mr. William Ewart, M.P., was in the chair, and there was a sprinkling of other members of parliament present. The testimonial consisted of two silver gilt candelabra, with a centre flower-basket, the testimonial bearing an appropriate inscription. In his reply, Mr. Gibson disclaimed all

personal merit in the repeal of the paper duties, attributed the work to the Government of which he was a member, more especially the Chancellor of the Exchequer.—Mr. Roupell, M.P., addressed his constituents on Monday. He expressed his regret at the present position of the Reform question, and alluded in terms of sympathy to the manner in which the House of Commons vindicated its privilege by the repeal of the paper duties. Upon the war in America, he seemed to be unable to express any definite opinion, but he contended for the duty of absolute non-interference. The proceedings terminated with a vote of confidence in the hon. gentleman.—A large meeting has been held in Manchester to memorialise the Government, and of petitioning Parliament for the early removal of the protective duties of 10 per cent. on all cotton goods, and of 5 per cent. on all cotton yarns (now levied under the Indian tariff) when imported into British India. Resolutions in accordance with the object of the meeting were passed.—The Court of Aldermen had to sit in judgment on Tuesday, upon a somewhat singular question. Mr. Joseph, a gentleman of the Jewish persuasion, presented himself to take the usual oath required from brokers in the city of London. The Town Clerk, in handing the gentleman a copy of the Old Testament, requested him to put on his hat, that being the form usual among persons of his religion. Alderman Salomons asserted that the court had no power to require this act to be performed, but that it must be purely voluntary. Mr. Joseph having declared that the oath would be equally binding whether he took it with his head covered or not, the observance of the custom was not insisted upon; but Mr. Joseph afterwards, of his own choice, put his hat on. Thus a precedent has been established which will rule all similar cases in time to come.—The tragic fate of the poor fellows who perished in the Hartley colliery has produced a practical amount of sympathy most gratifying to contemplate, and equally pleasant to record. The Lord Mayor announced that at the Mansion House alone subscriptions amounting in the aggregate to £10,000, or half the sum that was deemed necessary, had poured in day after day in a steady, continuous stream. As the entire fund is now expected to reach nearly £30,000, his lordship considered it no longer necessary to ask the public to send in their contributions.—Mr. Dunn, the local inspector of mines, has been directed by Sir George Grey to make a searching inquiry into the cause of the late calamity at the Hartley Colliery. In this work Mr. Dunn will be assisted by Mr. Kenyon Blackwell, who will report the result of the investigation to the Home Office.—A fearful accident occurred last week at Sunderland, attributable, we fear, to the fashion of excessively ample skirts still in vogue with ladies. Mrs. Mounsey, wife of the proprietor of some recently-opened ironworks, was inspecting, with other ladies, a powerful machine for sawing iron, when her dress was caught by it, and before effectual assistance could be rendered, she was drawn into the machinery, and almost torn to pieces.—Our readers will remember the case of Maloney, who was convicted of murdering his wife in Westminster in October last, mainly on the evidence of a stranger who said he entered the house accidentally at the moment the prisoner stabbed his wife. As even upon his showing the murder appeared to be unpredicated, the convict, after long inquiry on the part of the Government, has had his sentence commuted to penal servitude for life. The man himself, however, persists in his first statement that his wife stabbed herself, and considers that he has been unjustly condemned.—A shocking crime, reminding us of Italian or Spanish scenes of violence, occurred in the High-street of Marylebone on Monday afternoon. Four or five drunken costermongers coming up the street seized hold of a cart loaded with bones at a respectable butcher's door, and commenced assulting the carter by throwing bones at him. The butcher came out of his shop to assist the carter, when the gang attempted to enter his shop, and on his resisting, one of them stabbed him with a knife, from the effects of which it is doubtful if he will recover. The whole of the gang are in custody, and several witnessesswear to the perpetrator of the cowardly act.—The February sitting of the Middlesex Sessions commenced on Monday. The cases were not very important; and though two of the convicted prisoners were sentenced each to ten years' penal servitude, it was rather on account of their bad character and their often-repeated previous convictions than for the offences which have for the present closed their career. A singular case of apparent impropriety on the part of the governor of the House of Detention, who had refused to allow a judge's commissioner access to two prisoners, though he had gone to take an affidavit from them with a view to have their cases removed

by *certiorari* to a superior court, was mentioned.—At the Middlesex Sessions on Tuesday, Captain Codd explained the circumstances under which a judge's commissioner was refused admission into the House of Detention, to take a prisoner's affidavit. The commissioner brought no letter from the judge. The Court held it to be irregularity which they hoped would not occur again. The policeman at Hendon, who nearly murdered his wife the other day in a fit of too-well founded jealousy, was found guilty of a common assault, strongly recommended to mercy, and was sentenced to two months' imprisonment.—A novel scene took place on Saturday in the Court of Exchequer. The celebrated painter, Sir Edwin Landseer, was summoned by a west-end tailor for the price of two coats, which he refused to pay for because neither fitted him. The plaintiff contended that the coats, as originally made, were a beautiful fit, and that even after Sir Edwin's whims had induced him to make several alterations for the worse, they still fitted reasonably well. Sir Edwin, on the contrary, declared that they never did fit, and he offered, as the coats were in court, to try them on and let the jury judge for themselves. This was acceded to; Sir Edwin donned the garments, and, one of the jurymen being a tailor, left the witness-box that he might examine their merits as "typed and moulded to the shape." His report to his brother jurymen appears to have been unfavourable, for they returned a verdict for the defendant.—Mr. St. Aubyn, the operatic singer, brought an action in the Court of Queen's Bench on Tuesday against the General Omnibus Company for having, through the carelessness of their servants, caused his wife serious injury, by driving off the omnibus before she had cleared the step on getting out. The Company denied, and brought evidence to confirm the denial, that it was any vehicle of theirs that caused the accident, but another omnibus independent of the Company though running under the same name. The plaintiff, of course, lost the action.—A startling accident occurred on Saturday in a tunnel on the Midland line between Belper and Driffield. It appears to have been a habit with some labourers to walk through this tunnel as a short cut to their homes. On Saturday five labourers were surprised in the tunnel by two trains coming from the opposite ends. Three of the men prostrated themselves close to the wall and escaped; the other two, who appear to have stood erect on the six-foot way between the lines, were caught; one was killed outright, and the other had his arm dreadfully shattered. Another of the Black Ball line of Australian packets—the *Empress of the Seas*—has been destroyed by fire. The *Empress of the Seas* had scarcely left Melbourne, on her way to England, with a number of passengers and a considerable quantity of gold and Government stores, when a fire broke out on board. She seems to have been entirely destroyed; but the passengers and gold were saved.—Mr. Lindsay will have to add another ship to his list of vessels which have run the American blockade. A brig, called the *Fanny Lewis*, which left Charleston on New Year's Day, with between 600 and 700 bales of cotton, contrived to evade the Federal squadron, and arrived in the Mersey on Monday.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The *Moniteur* gave an explicit denial to the statement made in a Brussels paper that Count Walewski had tendered to the French Upper Chamber, in the name of the Emperor, some assurances that the occupation of Rome was to be prolonged. In the first place, the *Moniteur* observes, no Minister having a portfolio speaks in the name of the Emperor. That duty belongs exclusively to the Ministers without portfolio. But in any case Count Walewski, the official organ announces, never made any statement to the effect which the Belgian journal described. The French Government have entered into negotiations with leading capitalists in this country for a loan of 4,000,000*l.* sterling with the object of promoting the financial measures of M. Fould. This necessity will raise the value of money here; and it may probably lead very early to an advanced rate of discount.—Letters from Frankfort makes a statement which we publish without by any means pledging ourselves to its accuracy. The statement is that an autograph letter has been addressed to the Emperor Napoleon by the Emperor Francis Joseph, intended to serve as the basis of an understanding with France on the affairs of Italy. Austria requires from the French Government to refrain from any interference in the aggressive policy of Piedmont, and promises not to depart from her defensive attitude.—Berlin letters announce that the committee of the Upper Chamber has adopted the measure upon the obligation of the military service without suggesting any modification. It is expected that the Chamber itself will follow, or perhaps has al-

ready followed, the same course.—The Prussian Chamber of Deputies have introduced this session something of a novelty into Parliamentary arrangements. It appears that there will be no address in reply to the speech from the Throne, and thus a long, impassioned, and, as the Deputies think, unprofitable debate will be avoided. The Chamber consider it most suitable and advantageous to discuss the several topics of foreign and domestic policy as they present themselves in the regular progress of business. Opinions are greatly divided in Prussia upon the advantage of this course of procedure. A debate on the Address is unquestionably a delay to actual business; but a *parliamentary assembly does not simply mean a body of persons gathered together to pass specific measures.* We doubt whether Prussian politics at present would not be the better for a good deal even of general discussion.—The nobles of Russia continue opposed to the new order of things arising out of the emancipation of the serfs and the changes that have been introduced into the financial system.—The Russian Government has just published its budget for the current financial year. According to this statement the revenue of the empire, arising from ordinary sources, amounts to 296 millions of roubles; and from extraordinary sources—namely, from the loan of 1860—to fourteen and a-half millions of roubles. The ordinary expenditure is represented to be 294 millions, and the extraordinary, sixteen and a-half millions of roubles.

INDIA AND CHINA.—Advices brought by the Bombay mail, state that the Indian government had prohibited the export of saltpetre, except to British ports; but we may presume that the prohibition will be removed as soon as intelligence of the pacific settlement of our quarrel with the United States shall reach India. An extensive goldfield was said to have been discovered in the southern Mahratta country; and a company had been formed in Bombay for the purpose of working it.—An anticipatory telegram *via* Alexandria intimates that the French have gained rather considerable successes in Cochin China. We also learn from the same city that Peking and Canton are quiet, but that Ningpo had fallen into the hands of the rebels, and that the export of tobacco from the Manillas had been prohibited.

BUENOS AYRES.—The Brazilian mail brings dates from Buenos Ayres to the 30th of December. The success of General Mitre, both by sea and land, was almost complete. General Urquiza's squadron had been captured, and there was little doubt that the defeated general would quit the country. Most of the provinces had declared themselves in favour of Buenos Ayres, and the rest would in all likelihood follow. When this takes place General Mitre would convoke the country for the election of the ordinary Congress, and there was no doubt that General Mitre would be elected President of the Republic.

MEXICO.—The *Moniteur* of Saturday publishes a letter from Vera Cruz, which, after stating that the excitement of the Mexicans was beginning to subside, and that the idea of an arrangement was no longer rejected, *à priori*, as treason against the nation, proceeds to say:—"There were serious indications that a party was forming which was disposed to repudiate a Government which had been so fatal to the country. The enlightened inhabitants did not wish for war, and the sound-thinking portion of the population demanded the unity of the country under an independent constitutional monarchy. A foreign Prince would doubtless rally all sympathies, but the allies should take care not to put forth any pretensions on their own account, as they would give rise to ideas of conquest, and could not fail to wound the national self-respect." Our correspondent thinks the letter has been written by order, and is evidence that the king-making scheme for Mexico is entertained by the Government.

AMERICA.—The most important intelligence contained in the American advices brought by the *Bohemian* and *Australasian* is an act of considerable defeat in Kentucky. It was "officially reported" that the Confederates attacked the Fedrels at Somerset; and that, after a severe engagement, in which heavy losses were sustained on both sides, and in which the Confederate General Zollicoffer was killed, the Confederates retreated to their intrenchments. During the night they abandoned their camp, and retired across the Cumberland river, and the Federal troops afterwards occupied their intrenchments, and captured some cannon and stores which had been left by the retreating Confederates. There was a rumour that the Southern army on the Potomac had fallen back upon Manassas; and General McClellan had issued orders that all officers of the Federal army should hold themselves in readiness for service,

and that no furloughs were to be granted. The "Mississippi expedition," which was said to be composed of about 25,000 men, had not made any movement from Cairo.—No intelligence had been received, or at least none had been published, respecting General Burnside's expedition. There were rumours that Norfolk was to be attacked by the Federal forces, and that all women and children had been ordered away from that place; but there did not seem to have been any certain foundation for these rumours. It was reported that a Federal war steamer, had fired into a French war steamer, "which had tried to run the New Orleans blockade;" but later intelligence states that the report was incorrect, and that it "arose from a collision between the French and Federal steamers." Congress had agreed to impose taxes to the amount of 159,000,000 dollars a year; but the precise nature of the new taxes had not been fixed, though it was said that they would partly consist of excise duties. The premium on gold at New York was 2½ per cent., and sterling exchange was quoted 112.—The government has adopted a fresh measure—which seems likely to be equally distasteful to both belligerents—to ensure the preservation of our neutrality in the quarrel between Federals and Confederates, and to avert the inconveniences which, as we have been shown by the sojourn of the *Nashville* and *Tuscarora* at Southampton, and by occurrences at Nassau, may be expected to arise from the presence of American cruisers in our ports. In pursuance of a letter addressed by Earl Russell to the Lords of the Admiralty, the armed vessels of the Southern and Northern States are alike forbidden to make use of British ports,—the harbours of the Bahama Islands being specially mentioned. If a cruiser belonging to either belligerent be driven into a British port by stress of weather, she may obtain a supply of provisions, and may take on board as much coal as will suffice for her voyage to the nearest port in the possession of her government; but in no case is a supply to be furnished twice in three months to the same vessel in the same port. Acting upon these instructions the Confederate war steamer *Nashville* has left Southampton. She steamed out on Monday afternoon, and when last seen she had made the passage of the Needles, and was "standing away for sea with all sail." The frigate *Shannon* took up a position near the Federal ship *Tuscarora*, with the view of preventing her from following the *Nashville* before the expiry of the 24 hours prescribed. Captain Peagrim and his officers seem to have kept their secret well, nothing whatever being known as to the destination of the *Nashville*. A large steamer has been seen off Cape Clear. She showed neither colours nor name, but from her general appearance and movements, she was suspected to be either a Federal or a Confederate war vessel.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—Parliament was opened on Thursday with the Queen's speech. Her Majesty after alluding to the death of the Prince Consort, states that her relations with the Courts of Europe are satisfactory and she has no reason to apprehend any disturbance of the peace of Europe. She alludes to the late Slidell and Mason affair, and states that these gentlemen having been given up, relations with the President of the United States remain unchanged. She complimented the people of British North America on their loyalty and spirit, and promises that the papers relative to the convention to tranquillise Mexico shall be forthwith produced. Bills for the improvement of the law, more especially as regards the supplying titles to land are promised together with other measures of usefulness. Her Majesty regrets the distress prevailing in some branches of industry, though she believes the general condition of the country to be sound and satisfactory.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mrs. ELIZA BAUER requests us to publish a letter thanking the governors of the Girls' School, for the care taken of her twin daughters. Being an advertisement, we cannot publish it in any other form, though we now make known the fact that she wishes to thank the governors for the benefits received by her daughters.

Bro. FISHER.—We shall, at all times, be happy to hear from you. We know too little of what takes place in your part of the country.

KENT.—In our report of the Royal Kent Lodge, Chatham, last week, we give Bro. Mudd as J.D., whereas he is S.D. The Lodge of Sympathy, Gravesend, is No. 709, not 732, as stated.