

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1862.

MASONIC FACTS.

(Continued from page 226.)

160. It is accorded in the 11th of Edward 3rd, 1336-7, that no man or woman, except the King, Queen, and their children, the Prelates, Earls, Barons, Knights, and Ladies, and People of Holy Church, which may expend by year an C li. of their Benefices at the least to the very value, shall wear no fur in his clothes, that shall be bought after the said Feast of Saint Michael, upon the forfeiture of the said fur, and further to be punished at the King's will.

It was enacted by 23 Edward 3, c. 5 (1349), that masons and other artificers, shall not take for their labour and workmanship above the sum that was wont to be paid to such persons in the said twentieth year, and other common years next before, as afore is said, in the place where they shall happen to work; under pain of being committed to next gaol.

Freemasons, first mentioned as such in Act of Parliament, A.D. 1350-1, 25 Edw. 3, stat. 21, c. 3.

Item. That carpenters, masons, and tilers, and other workmen of houses, shall not take by the day for their work, but in manner as they were wont, that is to say, a master carpenter *iii*d. and another *ii*d.

A master (Freemason), *iiii*d. and other masons *iii*d. and their servant *i*d. ob.

Mestre mason de franche pur *iiij*d. and autre *ij*d., and lour svantz *j*d. ob.

Tylers *iii*d. and their knaves (garceons), *i*d. ob., and other coverers of fern and straw *iii*d., and their knaves *i*d. ob. Plasterers and other workers of mudwalls, and their knaves, by the same manner, without meat or drink, i.s. from Easter to Saint Michael; and from that time less, according to the rate and discretion of the justices, which should be thereto assigned.

C. 5.—Enacted that excess of wages received to be refunded, and delivered to the collectors of the quinzime, in alleviation of the towns where such excesses were taken.

C. 9.—34 Edw. 3, enacted that labourers shall not be punished by fine under the statute 25 Edw. 3, stat. 2, ch. 5, but only by imprisonment. A penalty was fixed for bailing them.

C. 9.—Also enacted. And that as well carpenters and masons be comprised in this ordinance as all other labourers, servants, and artificers, and that the carpenters and masons take from henceforth wages by the day, and not by the week, nor in other manner, and that the chief masters of carpenters and masons take fourpence by the day, and the other threepence or twopence according as they may be worth; and that all alliances and covines of masons and carpenters, and congregations, chapters, ordinances and oaths betwixt them made, or to be made, shall be from henceforth void and wholly annulled, so that every mason and carpenter, of what condition that he be, shall be compelled by his master to whom he serveth, to do every work that to him pertaineth to do, or of freestone, or of rough stone, and also every carpenter in his degree, but it shall be lawful to every Lord or other, to make bargain or covenant of their work in gross, with such labourers and artificers when please them, so that they perform such works well and lawfully according to the bargain or covenant with them thereof made.

C. 10.—Enacted that labourers and artificers that absent them out of their services in another town or another county, that the party shall have the suit before the Justices, and that the Sheriff take him at the first day, as is contained in the statute, if he be found, and do of him execution as afore is said; and if he return, that he is not found, he shall have an Exigend at the first day, and the same pursue till he be outlawed, and after the outlawry a writ of the same Justices shall be sent to every Sheriff of England, that the party will sue to take him and to send him to the Sheriff of the county where he is outlawed; and when he shall be there brought he shall have there imprisonment till he will justify himself, and have made gru to the party; and nevertheless for the falsity he shall be burnt in the forehead with an iron made and formed to this letter F in token of falsity, if the party grieved the same will sue; but this pain of burning shall be put in respite till Saint Michael next ensuing, and then not executed unless it be by the advice of the Justices; and the iron shall abide in the custody of the Sheriff. And the Sheriff (and some Bailiff of the) franchise be attending the plaintiff to put this ordinance in execution, upon the pain aforesaid. And that no labourer nor artificer shall take no manner of wages the festival days.

The following enactments were made by Parliament in the 37th Edw. 3 (1363.)

C. 6.—Ordnained that artificers, handicraft people hold them every one to one mystery, which he will choose betwixt this and the said Feast of Candlemas; and two of every Craft shall be chosen to survey, that none use other Craft than the same which he hath chosen.

C. 7.—Master Goldsmiths shall have a mark by himself, and the same mark shall be known by them which shall be assigned by the King to survey their work and alloy.

C. 8.—For the outrageous and excessive apparel of divers people, against their estate and degree to the great destruction and impoverishment of all the land, it is ordnained that grooms, as well as servants of lords, as they of mysteries and artificers, shall be served to eat and drink once a-day of flesh or of fish, and the remnant of other victuals, as of milk, butter, and cheese, and such other victuals, according to their estate; and that they have clothes for their vesture or hosing, whereof the whole cloth shall not exceed two marks,* and that they wear no cloth of higher price of their buying, nor otherwise, nor nothing of gold nor of silver embroidered, dimeted, nor of silk, nor nothing pertaining to the said things; and their wives, daughters, and children of the same condition in their clothing and apparel, and they shall wear no veils passing *xiii*d. a veil.

C. 9.—That people of handicraft and yeomen shall take nor wear cloth of an higher price for their vesture or hosing, than within forty shillings the whole cloth, by way of buying, or otherwise; nor stone, nor cloth of silk, nor of silver nor girdle, knife, button, ring, garter, nor owche, ribband chains, &c.

C. 11. Merchants, citizens, artificers, people of handicraft, which have clearly goods and chattels to the value of vc. pounds, and their wives and children,

* Equivalent to £1 6s. 8d.

may take and wear in the manner as the Esquires and gentlemen which have land to rent to the value of £ li. by year.

C. 15. Clothiers shall make cloths accordingly, &c.

The Statute of Labourers, 23 Edw. 3, c. 5, was confirmed in the 2nd Richard 2, c. 8, and all Sheriffs throughout England were commanded to proclaim the same.

The 13 Rich. 2nd, stat. 1, c. 8, ordained that the Justices of the Peace in every county, in two of their Sessions to be holden betwixt the Feast of Easter and St. Michael, shall make proclamation by their discretion, according to the dearth of victuals, how much every mason, carpenter, tiler, and other craftsman, workman and other labourers by the day, as well in harvest as in other times of the year, after their degree, shall take by the day with meat and drink, or without meat and drink, between the two sessions before said.

It was ordered by the 12 Rich. 2, c. 6. That no servant of husbandry, or labourer, nor servant (or artificer, nor of victualler, shall from henceforth bear any (buckler) sword, nor dagger, upon forfeiture of the same, but in time of war for the defence of the realm of England, &c. They were, however, to have bows and arrows, and use the same on Sundays and holydays, and leave all playing at tennis or football, and other games called coits, dice, casting of the stone (Kailles), and other such importune games.

By c. 3 of the same act, artificers, as servants and apprentices, were compelled to serve in harvest, to eat, gather, and bring in the corn.

The 4 Henry IV., c. 14 (1402) ordained that no labourer be retained to work by the week, nor that no labourers, carpenters, masons, tilers, &c., shall take any hire for the holydays, nor for the evens of feasts, where they do not labour but till the hour of noon, but only for the half day, upon the pain of paying to the king for every time that he so doth the contrary, *xxx.*

161. In the Inquisition taken on the 19th day of March, 1345, at Stamford, before Matthew Brown, Escheator of the Counties of Lincoln, Northumberland (?), and Rutland, the following names occur in the list of officers of Croyland Abbey:—

Robert de Heten Carpentarius.
Simon de Elmington..... Comentarius.
Robert de Tatersall Plumber.

The six greater officers of the Abbey were the—
Magister Operis Master of the Works.
Eleemosynarius Almoner.
Pitanciarius Care of Pitances.
Sacristri Sexton.
Camerarius Chamberlain.
Celerarius..... Cellarer.

—*Bibliotheca Topographia*, Vol. iii., p. 51.

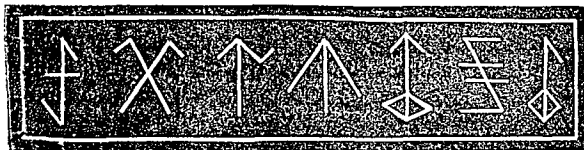


FIG. 43.

162. The foundation stones of Deerhurst Church, founded by Duke Odda, in 1053, and of Rewley Abbey, Oxford, founded by Ela Longespée, Countess

of Salisbury, 1230, are in the Bodeleian Library, Oxford.—*Gentleman's Mag.*, 1860, p. 622.

163. The Choir of Dunkeld Cathedral, built by Robert the Mason, 1318-1337.—*The Cathedrals of Great Britain*, Rev. Mackenzie Walcott, p. 335. (Fig. 48, Masons' Marks, Dunkeld Cathedral.)

The foundation stone of the Nave was laid by Bishop Robert Cardeny, on the 27th April, 1406.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

"Harry G." (Masonic Notes and Queries, No. 82.) asks for the names of buildings, on which Mason's marks have been found. I send herewith a list of those in my possession.—E. W. S., Leeds.

YORK—

Cliffords Tower, 11 Cent.
Monk Bar, 14 Cent.
St. Leonard's Hospital.
Multangular Tower, about A.D. 250.
St. Mary's Abbey, 1270.
Hospitium.
The Cathedral.
Crypt, 1070 and 1160.
N. and S. Transepts and Nave.
Ruins of the Archbishop's Palace.
Catterick Bridge
Ripon Cathedral, various dates.
Fountains Abbey, various dates.
Kirkstall Abbey, 1152.
Jervaulx Abbey, 1132.
Roche Abbey, 1147.
Furness Abbey, various dates.
Bolton Abbey.
Gloucester Cathedral, 1180.
Kirkby Lonsdale Bridge.
New Shoreham Church.
Bristol Cathedral, 1160.
Knaresbrough Castle, temp. Henry 3rd.
Ashby de la Zouch Castle.

MALTON—

Old Church.
The Lodge.
St. Michael's Chapel.
Reading Abbey.
Bradford Parish Church.
St. John's Church, Leeds.
Canterbury Cathedral.
Worksop Priory.
Haddon Hall Gateway, 1452.
Malmesbury Abby Church.
Loicester, St. Mary de Castro, 1320.
St. Mary, Redcliffe.
Lincoln Cathedral, 1200.
Melrose Abbey.
Roslyn Chapel, 1446.
Brecin Round Towers, 1020.
Maison Dieu, Brecin, 1264.
Melgund Castle, 1542.
Grantham Church.
Tewkesbury Abbey Church, 1102.
Chichester Cathedral.
Leicester Castle.
Carlisle Gateway, 1528.
Peterborough Cathedral, 1117.
Chapel Royal, Holyrood, 1128, 1180.
St. Mary's Holyrood.
Edinburgh Castle, Crown Room, 1600.
Holyrood Palace Tower, 1520.
Grey Friar's Church, Edinburgh.
Dunkeld Cathedral, 1227.
Cathedral of St. Magnus, Kirkwall.

Glasgow Cathedral, 1188, 1258.
 Inch Colme, Abbey 1272.
 Raglan Castle, temp. Edward 4th.
 Usk Castle.
 Valle Crucis Abbey.
 Chepstow Castle.
 Caerphilly Castle.
 St. Ital's Hermitage.
 St. Mary's, Youghal.
 Dunbrody Abbey, 1216.
 Church at Kinsale.
 St. Canice, Kilkenny, 1251.
 Ardmore Church, Waterford.
 Drumcliffe Church, Cork.
 Cologne Cathedral, 1248, 1322.
 St. Andrews Church, Cologne.
 St. Johns Church, Cologne.
 Church of the Apostles, Cologne.
 St. Cuniberts Church, Cologne.
 Strasburg Cathedral, 12 Cent.
 Rheims Cathedral.
 St. Radigonde, Poitiers.
 Presburg Cathedral.
 Copenhagen Cathedral.
 Church at Assens.
 St. Mary's, Flensburg.
 Roskilde Cathedral, 1150.
 Upsala Cathedral, 1287.
 Church at Tonköping, 1260.
 Drontherm Cathedral.
 Altenburg Churches, &c.
 Roman marks from Hersulaneum.
 " " " Hadrian's Wall about A.D. 129.
 " " " Risingham.
 " " " Pat Pierce Bridge.
 " " " Tower at York.
 " " " Acton Soot.
 Aqueduct and Fortifications at Malta.
 Al-Hadhr, Mesopotamia.
 Eski Khan.
 Cistern of 1001 Columns, Constantinople.
 Pyramids at Gizeh, 2120, B.C.
 Wada Yales, on the Jordan.
 Masada, Dead Sea.
 The Tajz at Agra.
 Fortifications at Allahabad.
 Altogether about 2000 Marks.

GRAND CONCLAVE AND THE BALDWIN ENCAMPMENT.

The question as to the Baldwin or Bristol Encampment owing fealty to the Supreme Grand Master will be set at rest by referring to their own regulations. In them they acknowledge the Duke of Sussex and his successors as the Grand Masters; after which conclusive evidence I think the Grand Master should no longer be subjected to make terms with rebels, at their proposal, but to require of them unconditional and humble application to be re-admitted into the order, which for a time, they have contumaciously forsaken. Their own words are their conviction:—"Laws and Regulations, to be observed by the Knights Companions of the Conclave of Baldwin from time immemorial. 1. That the Encampment of Baldwin from time immemorial, submit to the Grand Encampment of England, under the command of his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, *our Most Eminent Grand Master, and his successors.*" Extracted from *The Service of Masonic Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, Rhodes, Palestine, and Malta; likewise of Masonic Templars, of the Encampment of Baldwin, from time immemorial. Stationed in Bristol. To which are annexed the Regulations of this Encampment.* 8vo., without date. Imprint, Bristol: by Brother Joseph Routh, Narrow Wine-street. The Oath, before printed in the MAGAZINE, is inserted with this heading: "The following Oath was taken by our Provincial G. Superintendent, W. H. Goldwyer, Esq., on Good Friday, 1813, and is to be re-

peated by each succeeding Grand Commander of the Encampment of Baldwin, in token of his submission to our Supreme Grand Master, his R. H. the Duke of Sussex."—M. C. G. O. ✕.

THE LATE BRO. PETER THOMSON.

Was the late Bro. Peter Thomson any relation to the well-known brother of the same name, and what lodges did he belong to?—M.H.—[He was his son. Initiated in the Lion and Lamb Lodge (No. 227), in December, 1835, and was W.M. in 1838. He was a member of the Jerusalem Chapter (No. 218), in which he was exalted in 1849, served as J. 1854, H. 1855, Z. 1856. He died on the 31st of December, 1861, and at that time held the office of Secretary in his mother lodge, never having been, we believe, connected by membership with any other lodge or chapter than that he was initiated and exalted in.]

REASONS FOR SECRECY IN MASONRY.

I am often asked "If Masonry is so good as you represent it, why is it kept secret?" Assist me with a few reasons to give when I am next called upon in this way.—FABER.—[Freemasonry has been denounced and suspected, in consequence of its being a secret order. Secrecy in all things where secrecy is maintained, is not only consistent with innocence, but is also imperatively enforced by necessity, as well as demanded by every consideration of policy. The direct benefits flowing from Masonry are, of course, intended for, and should be participated in, only by its members—by those who have been regularly initiated into its mysteries, and contribute to its support. They are secured by a knowledge of a *universal language*, which is used as a test of brotherhood. This universal language (universal to Masons) is, under no circumstances, communicated to the world at large. The words and signs of it are secret, for to communicate them would at once destroy their utility. And, strange as it may appear to the uninitiated, our society professes to have no secrets beyond this. There is little, very little, in the lodge to gratify the eye of the inquisitive. We do not tempt them with offers to unfold some mighty mystery; we can impart to them no super-human wisdom; we possess not the elixir of life, nor the philosopher's stone, nor the spells of the Tarshah; we cannot and do not profess to be bound by any ties but such as are consistent with our duty towards ourselves and families, our neighbours and our God. About the general nature of lodge transactions, every one here can know as much as any of its members, but for fear of any misapprehension on this subject, we would briefly state that nowhere are order and decorum more strictly enforced than in our lodges. Our business there is charity and brotherly love and communion, the admission of candidates, and the transaction of such other matters as necessarily pertain to every association. Now, all this is of such a character that it may with great propriety be left to ourselves. We are brothers—members of a large family—met for the purpose of transacting our own business, with which the world has no concern, and why should the world be permitted to witness its disposition? Does a needy brother require assistance and receive it, it is not for us to vaunt it, and it might not be agreeable to him to proclaim his wants before strangers, nor the fact of his being relieved published; and it would certainly be impolitic and uncharitable by publicity to trammel the discussion of character, and how could the announcement of the rejection of candidates for our confidence be otherwise than prejudicial to us, by exciting enmity and disaffection in the world, made up of a thousand creeds. Our objects are few and their pursuit is quiet and secret, and we have, as Masons, naught in common with mankind. We do not meddle with politics, nor the extension of a creed by proselytism. We seek only to cultivate the social virtues among ourselves, to benefit each other by deeds of love, and indirectly benefit the world by our own improvement.]

GRAND LODGE BUSINESS PAPERS.

When did the Grand Lodge first order that a "business paper" should be circulated amongst the brethren and where can a perfect set of these documents be seen? —* *

STATUTES OF THE 33°.

I want to see the statutes of 33°. Where can I obtain them?—K.—H.—[Certainly not in this country. Bro. Albert Pike published, in America, 1859, or 1860, *Statutes and Regulations of the Ancient and Accepted Rite*, but as it was for private circulation, how you are to see it we do not know. Three copies, however, passed through our hands; one for the Duke of Athol, one for the Duke of Leinster, and one for Dr. Leeson.]

TOTNES MASONIC HALL.

When was the Masonic Hall, at Totness, destroyed by fire?—TAU.—[January 20th, 1860.]

DEATH OF THE DUKE OF SUSSEX.

In what year did H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex die?—TAU.—[1843, on the 21st of April.]

UNION OF HIGH GRADES AND RIGHT TEMPLARS.

The separation of the High Grades from the Templar Order, has caused much heartburning. They are, however, the Natural Allies of the Templars. If the Grand Conclave would pass a law to require the Rose ✕ (which includes a Royal Arch degree), instead of Royal Arch, the expense would be about the same, and a Templar Commander would fulfil his O.B. This, however, would serve little unless the S.C. would allow Grand and Prov. Grand Conclaves to form councils and confer the degree of Grand Cross of K.D.S.E., for which they might receive warrants from the S.C. The 33° would thus become a Supreme Council of Rites, embracing every order and degree, and all would probably be satisfied.—A.

BRITISH OR GENERAL GRAND LODGES AND CHAPTERS.

We cannot draw too closely the bonds of fraternal union; "A three-fold cord is not easily broken." There is much unseemly difference in laws, &c., between the three Grand Lodges of the United Kingdom; might not these be smoothed away under a British Grand Lodge? The present Grand Lodges to be considered the heads of provinces, and their Grand Masters *ex-officio*, to fill three principle offices in the General Grand Lodge. The Supreme Grand Master to be elected from the three Grand Masters, and an equal number of G. G. Officers appointed out of the (at present) three Masonic Kingdoms. The British Grand Lodge only to have the power of granting warrants, and all the existing lodges to be registered thereunder. The same suggestion is fraternally made to the Templars, to whom it is still more applicable, if the ancient customs and traditions of the order are any argument. Formerly the Grand Priors of Scotland and Ireland were subordinate to the Grand Prior of the Temple at London, but all were appointed by the Great Master and General Chapter.—† Δ.

GRAND MASTERS OF THE TEMPLE.

I find Mills (*Hist. Chiv.*) gives a complete list of the G.M.'s of the Temple. For easy reference we may add the following to those already given:—

24. Thomas Theobaldus, Alexandrinus.....	1324-1340
25. Arnoldus de Prague.....	1340-1347
26. Johannes Claramontanus.....	1347-1357
28. Johannes Arminiacas.....	1381-1392
29. Bernardus ".....	1392-1419
30. Johannes ".....	1419-1451
31. Johannes Croyns.....	1451-1472
32. Bernardus Imbaultius, Vic. Mag. Afric. (Regens).....	1472-1478
34. Galeatus de Salazar.....	1497-1516
36. Gaspardus de Salceaco, Javannencis.....	1544-1574
38. Caralus Valesius.....	1615-1651
39. Jacobus Ruscilius de Fraucio.....	1651-1684
46. Claudius Matheaus Radix de Chevillon.....	1792-1804

Admiral Sir Sydney Smith being the 48th Grand Master.
—A.

BRO. GILES FONDA YATES.

Is Bro. Giles Fonda Yates still living?—E. T.—[No. He died December 13th, 1859, aged 60 years.]

THE WORKING OF THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

As you have of late given several papers relative to the foundation and working of Supreme Grand Councils, I beg to forward the following, on one of those bodies, embodied in a report of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana.—Ex. Ex.

"It is well known that in Louisiana both the York rite, the Scotch rite, and the French rite are used, and some confusion has arisen therefrom. The gist of the argument is that the Lodges in Louisiana should be permitted to work in the York, French, or Scotch rite, or in all, as they please. Bro. Fellows contends that so far as the principles of the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason are concerned, they are in substance, the same as in all the rites. We have not room for his argument; nor are we capable of judging of its force; but sincerely hope that the dissensions at present existing in Louisiana, growing out of these cumulations of rites, may be speedily healed. The chief fomentor of them seems to be a certain Jacques Foulhouze, who claims to be Sovereign Grand Commander of 'the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, 33d Degree, Ancient and Accepted Scotch Rite for the State of Louisiana,' a body which claims authority to establish Lodges in the first three degrees of Masonry, thereby conflicting with the authority of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. This Council is alleged to be clandestine, and is so regarded by the other Supreme Grand Councils in the United States, and by the Grand Orient of France, from which Mr. Foulhouze obtained his grade as a Sovereign Grand Inspector General. As explanatory of the history of the origin of these funds we give the following extract from Bro. Fellows's report, for the information of the Craft in this jurisdiction:

"The difficulties within our jurisdiction—growing out of the revolt of some of our lodges, the withdrawal of others, and the efforts of certain disaffected individuals, in our midst, to create, by various means, a schism in our ranks—especially, by a pretended superior organization, or at least, one claiming powers co-extensive with those of the Grand Lodge—has been the occasion of the receipt of several of these foreign communications from private individuals; mostly devoted, however, to inquiries as to the actual state of facts existing here, and requesting information. Many of these will, no doubt, have been answered by the Grand Master, by private letter, or in his address; and yet, as several of them have been laid before your committee, we feel it our duty to present to you our views upon the points of inquiry. They are nearly all upon the same subject matter, alluded to above; and, hence, one answer must do for all. Nor in this, shall we state each question in detail, and our answer thereto: but, by giving a simple narrative of facts, as we know them to exist, make the substance of these inquires known to you in that way, and which, we trust, will be ample to satisfy the various querists, and those whom they represent. Our Grand Lodge was formed (organized) in 1812, by the concurrent union of five lodges, and claimed exclusive jurisdiction to form new Lodges in this State. Its authority has never been interfered with until quite recently, though there were two other Lodges then (1812), in the state, which did not unite in forming the Grand Lodge, and which were, nevertheless, recognized as legal by it. These two Lodges, Louisiana and Harmony, continued to work by themselves for several years, but, finally (since 1820), ceased labors as such—the members, or most of them, taking out charters, under similar names, from our Grand Lodge. These seven Lodges, were York Rite Lodges of South Carolina, Pennsylvania, and New York, as such, and as York Masons, received charters at the formation of our Grand Lodge, in 1812. Indeed, no charter was issued by the Grand Lodge prior to 1832, in which the words 'Ancient York Masons,' were not used. Charters or 'warrants of constitution,' for bodies of various higher grades of Masons had been obtained by the Masons of New Orleans, prior to 1832, including charters for Royal Arch Chapters, Councils of Royal and Select Masters, and Encampment of Knights Templars, Chapters of Rose Croix, and Councils of Kadosh, all of which bodies did much work, as would appear from the date at which many of our old Masons received their several degrees, etc.

"In Louisiana, peopled as it is by men of all nations, you could ever find many Masons made such in the countries or

States from which they emigrated, and who brought with them the forms of their own initiation, and to which they adhered with the usual amount of prejudice and pertinacity, which all have experienced in such matters, and perhaps have exhibited in our own individual cases. Of these, many had been initiated in Lodges which worked the three degrees after (or under) the French and Scottish Rites, and in time diffused much of the peculiarities of those Rites into the working of Lodges, until at last, Lodges were found, which worked exclusively as one or the other of those Rites. Indeed, such was the case with Polar Star Lodge (No. 5), from nearly the first, as to the Scottish Rite; and so with respect to some others, as to the French or Modern Rite. To this, some who thought more of form than of sense, of shadow than of substance, objected, under the then order of things; the result of which was, the making of a radical change in the regulations of the Grand Lodge, by which the three Rites were not only recognised, but the Grand Lodge authorised the issuing to any Lodge requesting and paying for the same, three distinct charters or warrants—one for each of the three Rites, York, Modern, or Scottish—or either of them, as the Lodge may wish; and at the same time established chambers for the Modern and Scottish Rites in the Grand Lodge, that is, committees who should have exclusive control over the affairs peculiar to these Rites, and thus, in effect, establishing in this State three distinct Masonries, where, in fact, but one really existed. To this, which we must term foolish distinction, we easily trace all our difficulties and differences, past, present, and future. Had the leaders of those days in our Order, but sought after the true principles of Freemasonry, and found, as they would have done, that each so-called Rite was, in effect, but a different name for the same thing; had they then abolished all distinctive appellations of York, French, and Scottish, and substituted in the constitution of the Grand Lodge, and in the warrants it issued, 'Ancient, Free and Accepted,' for the words, 'York, Scottish, or French;' had they but looked after the substance more, and the shadow less, the reality more than the name, and been less anxious for high sounding titles and distinctions, the troubles of 1848 to 1850, and of the present time, would never have existed. The slight discrepancies in the work, which have become more distinct and irreconcilable by the course of 1832, would have entirely disappeared, and we should now have in name what is almost a reality—but one Masonry in the State of Louisiana, and but one Rite—that of Freemasonry. This we tried to effect in 1850, at the convention in Baton Rouge, in the formation of the late constitution, and which would have been already accomplished, but for the designs of an ambitious, disaffected few; who, acting upon the prejudices and ignorance of some, by representing to them that nothing was Masonry but Scottish Masonry, and that this was prohibited by the Grand Lodge, led to the revolt of 1850, and of 1857.

"This brings us to another branch of the inquiries made of us, namely: in regard to those so called Superior Bodies, in whose name these revolts have been made. Some time prior to 1830, certain Masons, who had, in France or elsewhere, received some or all of these higher degrees, acting, we know not upon what authority (nor does it much concern us to know), organised a body in New Orleans, known as the Grand Consistory of the 32nd Degree for the State of Louisiana. This body, if properly organized, claimed authority and control over Lodges of Perfection (14th Degree), Councils of Princes of Jerusalem (16th Degree), Chapter of Rose Croix (18th Degree), Councils of Kadosh (30th Degree), and all Masons possessing those and the intermediate degrees, from the 4th to the 32nd, inclusive; at any rate, due obedience was given to the Grand Consistory by all over whom the authority was claimed. There was nothing out of the way in all this; nor would there ever have been had not certain ambitious men, in some way, obtained the 33rd, or last degree of the Ancient and Accepted Rite; and, by virtue of that title, attempted to exercise powers which never belonged to that degree, but which was pretended, by virtue of a certain draft of powers (quite recently discovered to have been forged), such as the right of making Masons at sight, and the right of constituting Symbolic Lodges of the Rite. These powers, exercised and claimed to exist in each and every individual who had received the 33rd Degree, we have said was based on a forged document; yet they were exercised, in part, at least, in this State, some years ago, and, quite frequently, within the last two years. The result of several having received this degree was the formation, in 1839, of the Supreme Council of New Orleans, who claimed control over the whole of Masonry in

Louisiana. Indeed, we know of instances in which, so late as 1844, it expelled members of the Grand Lodge, and required that body to simply declare the brother expelled merely by reason of his expulsion by this Supreme Council. All this went well, so long as the members of this Supreme Council had control of the Grand Lodge, and this they had contrived to possess by the various complicated provisions of the Regulations of 1832, before alluded to. The tyrannical and unmasonic exercise of power by these rulers, was the chief, if not the sole cause of revolt in 1847, and the formation of the Louisiana Grand Lodge, through the intervention of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi. The result we have above intimated in the adoption of the constitution of 1850. It was then that this Supreme Council began to exercise its more than doubtful powers, by the chartering of Lodges and other similar acts of jurisdiction, in conflict with that of the Grand Lodge.

"But, fortunately for us, perhaps, it was discovered that this Supreme Council was illegal and spurious, and had been organized within the immediate jurisdiction of another Supreme Council (that for the southern jurisdiction of the United States, sitting at Charleston, South Carolina). This discovery led to the immediate dissolution of the body, and the union, in 1854, of its members, and all its subordinates, with a Grand Consistory, which had been already legally organized in the State, by the Supreme Council at Charleston. By this proceeding, all the lodges under its control fell to the ground, and subsequently returned to the Grand Lodge; and thus were all divisions supposed to be healed. The Supreme Council at Charleston renounced all claim to jurisdiction over the three Symbolic Degrees; the present Grand Consistory of Louisiana does not dream of any such claim; and there should be nothing, apparently, to disturb our harmony and quiet.

"There were a few disaffected ones, however, who never came back to the Grand Lodge. These claimed to be 33rds, and, as such, to possess the right to make Masons at sight, and to constitute Lodges of the three Symbolic Degrees. They, in defiance of their obligations as 33rds, if they really are such, next proceeded to form a "Supreme Council for the Sovereign and Independent State of Louisiana," and have made Masons (of course clandestine), and chartered several lodges and higher bodies (also clandestine), of the exact number of which we are ignorant. It is with this body we have to contend, and this only. It is this so-called Supreme Council, which neither the Grand Orient of France, nor any other Masonic body whatever, has recognised; and we think ourselves safe in saying, that no body of regular Masons will ever recognise it. Yet, through the ignorance as to the difference—or rather the want of difference—between the several Rites, and the prejudices growing out of race, and made permanent, as it were, by ignorance, a portion of several of our lodges have withdrawn from us, and taken charters from this spurious and so-called Supreme Council. And here we feel the result of admitting ignorant men into our Order—more fully portrayed in another place—and the necessity of a correct knowledge of the true principles of Freemasonry being instilled into the mind of every initiate."

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

The first volume of Mr. Elwin's edition of the *Life, Letters, and Works of Pope* is in the press, and will, we hear, comprise many facts of high interest never ascertained before.

The Golden Precepts of Prince Albert, selected from his speeches, and printed on toned paper, will be published immediately.

Dr. Goodwin, Dean of Ely, has a fifth series of Parish Sermons nearly ready.

What fabulous numbers, gossips the *Literary Gazette*, have not been mentioned at dinner-tables and other places conducive to an excess of good nature, as representing the total circulation of the admirably conducted *Cornhill Magazine*—200,000, 150,000, 100,000, and so on. A hard-working news-agent and magazine dealer, who knows to a nicety what the members of his trade use, and the numbers turned out by the bookbinders—which body, by the way, cannot very well be ignorant of the quantities that pass through their hands—forwards the follow-

ing list of circulations attained by the new shilling magazines:—*Cornhill Magazine*, 30,000; *Macmillan*, 14,000; *Temple Bar*, 15,000; *St. James's* 13,000. Of course we do not vouch for the entire accuracy of the above figures, but we think, from inquiries made in another direction, that they very fairly represent the circulation of the magazines in question.

The enormous influx of visitors to the reading-room of the British Museum (remarks the *Queen*) is beginning to excite alarm and consternation among the *habitués* of that place of literature. The room itself is barely capable of accommodating 300 readers, and yet it is no unfrequent occurrence to have upwards of 600 applications for admission in a single day. Where this any real criterion of the progress of national education, we should be the first to congratulate the country on the circumstance. Such, however, is not the case. No sooner are the doors thrown open, than this half-fledged swarm of literary locusts makes a sudden irruption into the building, settles down upon all the vacant places, and in another moment is revelling in the stolen sweets of Bohn's translation, diving into the classic depths of Smith's dictionaries, or culling the fairest flowers that bloom in the gay *parterre* of the *Penny Cyclopædia*.

Mr. Mason Jones, whose lectures on Milton, Swift, Garibaldi, and other celebrities, were so much admired in London the last two seasons, is about to deliver a series of sacred orations on St. Paul, Elijah, Job, and Moses, in her Majesty's Concert Room, Hanover-square, on Sunday afternoon, giving the public free admission.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

ANCIENT AND MODERN MASONRY.

LETTER 5.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The earliest traces of Speculative Freemasonry in England do not, according to any authority that I have met with, go back further than the year 1400, and the Charter of Colne asserts that the name of Freemason was first conferred at Valenciennes in 1440, and that then any candidate for initiation must be of the Christian faith. Arch Deacon Mant, no mean authority, says all Templars were Masons and according to the traditions of the Baldwyn Encampment, one of the oldest in England, the seven orders of Christian Knighthood were introduced at Bristol on the return of the Crusaders from the Holy Land, under Richard Cœur de Lion, in 1193. The Mount Calvary or early Grand Encampment of England, has also practised the same degrees with S.G. and W. from time immemorial.

The Rose Croix Degree, instituted in Palestine in 1188, was brought to England by the Templars, and Prince Edward, son of Henry 3rd, was admitted into the Order; by Raymond Lulle in 1196, and upon the suppression of the Order, in the reign of Edward II, in 1309, the Arch Bishop of York who was appointed to investigate the charges against the Templars, whilst giving a very favourable account stated that some gnostic customs appear to have crept into the Order, commiserating the sad state of the Templars in his diocese left destitute of maintenance, charitably disposed of them in the Monastery of St. Mary and other religious foundations under his jurisdiction, and it is not unlikely that the Arch Bishop was a member of the Masonic lodge established under the authority of the Templars, and held in the Crypt under York Minster; this fraternal bond may account for the unusual leniency shown by him, and for the preservation and continuance of the Order, and

it is a curious coincidence that the earliest Encampment of Masonic Knights Templar in England, now extinct, was formerly held in the city of York. The Royal Order of H.R.D.M. was founded by Robert Bruce, 1314.

If these dates are correct, and I see no reason to doubt them, Christian Masonry may fairly claim to be at least as old, if not older, than Speculative or Modern Masonry, and indeed our Craft Ritual contains innate evidence in support of such an assumption. The degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason differ but little from the chivalric steps Esquire, Knight Companion, and Knight Commander; and many learned Masons are of opinion that the myth-historical murder of our Master H. is but a type of the real fate of the Grand Master of the Templars, Jaques de Molay, who endured excruciating tortures, and suffered a cruel death rather than betray the secrets of his Order. Many of our rites, too, assimilate very closely with those of the higher degrees. The Royal Arch, that strange anachronism, tells its own date; neither the Egyptians, Jews, or Greeks understood the principle of the Arch, and no Roman Arches can be proved to be of a period anterior to that of the Christian Era. But though I may entertain doubts about the great antiquity of St. John's Masonry, I reverence the Craft; I consider it as at present constituted, as perfect as any human Institution can be. I look upon it as a consecrated and time-hallowed platform, upon which our Masonic brethren of whatever creeds, nations, or languages, may meet on terms of mutual equality and brotherly love. This universal bond would, however, be injured, if not irremediably broken by any allusions to Christianity being introduced into Craft Masonry, or if any attempt was made to prove, or try to prove that the first three degrees or the Royal Arch had a Christian reference. I would not, therefore, alter a line, word, or sign in her ceremonies, or remove a single landmark of the Order.

Our highly-esteemed and learned Bro. the Rev. G. Oliver, D.D., is anxious to establish this very connection, for he says, *Landmarks*, vol. ii., p. 665, "If Freemasonry does not contain any direct reference to our holy religion, its morality, beautiful though it be, would not be sufficient to save it from public obloquy in this Christian country. "In the absence of such an admission, Freemasons might reasonably be deemed a useless and frivolous pursuit, and it would be difficult to remove the popular objections which have been arrayed against it, but if we admit with him, "that Freemasonry has been made a vehicle to embody the most prominent types of the Messiah, the founder of the Christian religion celebrated in Blue Masonry as the G.A.O.T.U., and in Red as the king, priest, and prophet of his people," it is impossible to deny that the light on this subject becomes clearer in each succeeding degree, and is brought to a full effulgence in the exquisite mysteries of the Rose Croix under the veil of which is concealed some of the most sublime truths of Christianity; and the doctrine of human redemption when the noblest stately soldier of the Temple walks forth armed in all parts with the whole and invincible armour of God to fulfil his glorious mission. Why, then, this want of brotherly union between the high and low grades? Why is Craft Masonry commonly known as St. John's Masonry, and why are the lodges dedicated to St. John the Baptist but because he was the forerunner of our Saviour and laid the first parallel line of the Gospel. Let us therefore follow the example of the second St. John, who finished by his learning what the other commenced by his zeal. Let us lay aside all petty jealousy, and work henceforth with true brotherly love, and let our only emulation be to do the work of our Lord, and finally place the great corner-stone of our salvation upon an edifice perfect in all its parts, and creditable to the builder.

M. H. SHUTTLEWORTH, 30,
G. V. Chancellor.

Buckhurst Hill, March 24, 1862.

PORTRAIT OF BRO. CREW.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am much obliged to you for having inserted, in your MAGAZINE, my former letter upon the subject of the proposed portrait of Bro. Crew (late Secretary of the Freemasons' Girls' School.) A committee has since been formed, with the approval of the M.W. Grand Master, and I am glad to say that we have good promise of success. As our brother was widely known and respected, I believe that many of our country brethren would take pleasure in contributing towards such an object; but that possibly they might be deterred from doing so, by the idea that the sum collected will be more than required. It has however been suggested, that should there be a sufficient surplus, it should be invested under the name of "Crew's Memorial Fund," and the interest appropriated each year to the use of the most deserving of the girls, who may be leaving in the institution, in the shape of prize money. This would be an additional incitement to good conduct and study on their part, and I much wish that our subscriptions may be large enough to carry it out.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours truly and fraternally,

R. WARNER WHEELER.

United University Club, Pall Mall, March 26th 1862.

P.S.—Subscriptions can be forwarded to Bro. E. W. Patten, P.G.S.B., Hon. Secretary to the Committee, 16A. Great Queen-street, Lincolns' Inn Fields.

THE CHANNEL ISLANDS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—A letter appeared in your last number criticising one from myself published on Feb. 22nd. As your correspondent announces his intention not to trouble you again, I shall content myself with doing little more than pointing out what appears to me to be misconceptions on his part. A controversy would be unwise, as necessitating an exposure of matters which ought to come before another tribunal rather than public opinion. I trust, therefore, that this will conclude the subject.

I am glad to find that Omega addresses you from London, which leads to the supposition that he objects to my course on general grounds, not from any knowledge of the case. He observes that all the letters of the character mentioned are signed H. H., and that "no one takes the slightest notice of his remarks in the shape of a reply." Allow me to suggest a reason for this, namely, that they are unanswerable; also to mention, that though the correspondence bears my initials, it expresses sentiments by no means confined to myself; that it has in all cases, before insertion, and on the present occasion also, been submitted for the approval of many brethren; that in some instances alterations have been made at their suggestion; and moreover, that it has subsequently received the approbation of a much larger number. I should indeed be glad, could I "hope that the evils complained of would have been speedily removed;" in such case, no one would be more willing than myself to desist, but I am not by any means singular in a strong impression that such a change is most improbable, judging from past continuance, present existence, and other circumstances, of which not the least prominent are the urgent personal remonstrances of members of the Craft to the individual complained of.

Omega will excuse me if I observe that I did not state that "the matter has been inquired into." My objection was not to the verdict, but rather that a verdict was

given without inquiry, for on one point my expressions were, "a decision was given without examination, on the bare word of one individual against that of upwards of forty honourable men and Masons;" and on another point I said, "though I gave ample references to those who could prove the truth of my statements, no examination was made." After due enquiry held, I shall undoubtedly feel myself, "as a Mason bound by law to acquiesce in that decision," whatever it may be, or to retire from the Craft, a course I should deeply regret, especially as by my Masonic career, and by my published works on the subject, I am committed to a thorough appreciation of its beauties and advantages.

Omega is respectfully informed that No. 4 on the Agenda of the Board of General Purposes does not apply to us here. Quite aware that it was illegal "to permit circumstances reflecting upon his conduct out of lodge to be discussed in lodge and entered on the minutes," we have been careful not to violate the law in this respect. Nor do the proceedings in regard to the Prov. G.M. of South Australia affect us, the circumstances not being analogous.

As to a high officer in Jersey, "having decorated him with the highest honour he could give him," the designations appended to my initials below will correct the error into which Omega has fallen. I beg to say, however, that if, by possibility, such could be offered to me here in the present state of things, I should respectfully decline to receive them. I have for some time acted on this feeling by refusing to wear in a lodge in Jersey the badge of a Provincial Grand Officer, under the conviction that when half-a-dozen Masons just initiated are decorated with the purple, and thus made rulers in the Craft, the distinction conveys no honour. It is very different when I visit my original province in England, in which I filled the chair of a lodge of high character founded in 1733, and for seven successive years was a Provincial Grand Officer, under a Prov. G.M. who may with justice be pointed out as a model for others to imitate. Let it be distinctly understood that my observations on the new Masons who have been advanced "over the heads of those" long ago "initiated in this province" convey no reflections on them personally, for they are well known as gentlemen of talent, high character, and undoubted social position; as such they are worthy of all respect, and their accession to the body is a matter of congratulation. Omega is clearly mistaken in the supposition that I have been placed "over the heads of those initiated in this province" of Jersey.

No one more than myself desires to promote peace and harmony in Freemasonry, and I unhesitatingly affirm that my antecedents in Warwickshire will justify this assertion; but at the same time I cannot but feel that so happy a result may be purchased too dearly by a sacrifice of principle and honour. We are enjoined ourselves to carry out, and, as far as may be, to induce in others, "the practice of every moral and social virtue," as well as "the sacred dictates of truth, of honour, and of virtue," and though silence as to the failings of a brother is in most cases desirable, there are circumstances where, for the sake of the character of the Craft, it becomes impossible.

Agreeing with your correspondent that "it were better far he should retire rather than disturb the harmony of the province," I have repeatedly expressed a wish to send in my resignation as a member of a lodge in Jersey, from which I have been withheld solely by the urgent request of many esteemed brethren, not to desert them in their protest against proceedings of which they disapprove. If all who unite with me in sentiment were to do so, the province would be deprived of a considerable number of honourable, conscientious, zealous Masons.

Yours fraternally,

H. H., P.M. 51,

and Past Prov. G.S.W. for Warwickshire.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—My attention has been called to the "Agenda" paper inserted in your number of the 1st inst., in which it is stated in the report of the Board of General Purposes, in the case of Lodge No. 1056, that one of the charges upon which the board was to decide, was "and for closing it (the lodge), without having the minutes books for confirmation," that the board decided "That Bro. Potts was fully justified, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, in pursuing the course he had adopted."

As this decision has led some to believe that a lodge may be closed without the minutes being put for confirmation, and as any Master in doing so might feel himself justified under the particular circumstances of his case. I have been requested to ask you to give us, if possible, the particulars of the case of 1056, that we might know when we are justified in not putting the minutes for confirmation, and not leave the matter entirely to the opinion of the presiding officer, who might be led astray by such a vague decision, and consider his case a peculiar one.

I remain, yours fraternally,

YOUR NORTHERN CORRESPONDENT.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, March 26th, 1862.

[It is not in our power to state the nature of charges brought before the Board of General Purposes.]

MASTERS AND WARDENS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am obliged to R.E.X. for the information contained in his letter. The regulation mentioned by him had escaped my notice, as affecting the subject in question, in consequence of its being included amongst the rules relating to the Grand Lodge. Still my query is not entirely satisfied; in the lodge of which I am a member, neither the W.M. nor any of the P.M.'s, of whom there are six, are competent to conduct either of the ceremonies; under these circumstances, is it legal for the S.W., who is able to do so, to initiate, &c., in their presence?

Yours fraternally,

EXCELSIOR.

[The Warden cannot claim the right to do so—but the W.M. has the power to ask his assistance and allow him to perform the ceremonies.]

AGED MASONS' WIVES.

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

I wish to call the attention of the brethren of our Order to a class of individuals apparently overlooked by the Committee of the Aged Masons Benevolent Institution. Aged Masons are elected year after year, as also widows who are awarded annuities from £20 and upwards per annum, but there is no consideration for the wife, on whom the aged brother has to look for many comforts by her assistance in his declining years, and when he is awarded only £20 per annum, the sum allowed to those elected under 70 years of age, it is too small a sum for any two persons to subsist upon, and it is often the case that they can get no assistance from relatives or friends. I would therefore suggest that a sum not exceeding £10 per annum be allowed for each brother's wife in addition to his annuity of £20 per annum, or £5 per annum for those receiving £25 per annum, to be discontinued on the death of the wife, unless the husband should become incapacitated from doing for himself through paralysis, blindness, or any other affliction.

Should the wife outlive her husband she will then become a candidate for the pension as a widow for the £20 annuity per annum as the law now stands. No wife who has not been married to her present husband at least ten

years previous to his election should be eligible to receive the allowance of £10 per annum as before named. These measures, if adopted, would add much to the comforts of the married annuitants. Trusting this proposition will meet with approval, I submit it with all respect.

AN AGED MASON.

HELE.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Last week two correspondents published a reply to my letter, which appeared in the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE of the 15th inst., and I beg your permission to be heard again on the subject in question.

One of them says, "had it been pronounced Hèle (Hell) there would have been two I's." This would be true if any one had maintained that the word should be pronounced like "Hell," but the vowel being long, I must confess I do not see the force of the argument. As the quotation with which he concludes does not contain the word, nor any analogous one (the e in cattelle being short), it appears to me to have no bearing on the question.

The argument of your second correspondent is that "if the first e in 'Hele' were pronounced as a, the final e would also have to be sounded." As far as I know a silent e may terminate any word, whatever the previous vowel may be. How does he apply his dictum to the word "there?" Does he mean to say that because the first e in "there" is pronounced a, the final e must therefore be sounded?

Having thus briefly considered the arguments of your correspondents of last week, permit me to repeat my opinion that the word "Hele," however spelled, should be made to rhyme with "fail," for the following reasons:

1st. Because it is almost a pure Anglo-Saxon word, never properly naturalized in our modern English, and should therefore be pronounced like other adopted words, such as fête, tête à tête, &c.

2nd. In the corresponding word in other languages I find the first vowel pronounced a, not e. See the Latin celo; French, celer; German, hehlen, &c. In fact in all languages, except modern English, the character e is what we call a.

3rd. The fact of our ancient brethren spelling the word hail, however mistaken their orthography, shows clearly how they pronounced it. I have a book dated 1802 wherein it is so spelled.

As I do not wish to occupy your space with a subject in which your readers generally may feel little interest, I shall not trouble you again; but if any brother would like to prolong the discussion, a letter addressed to the following initials, Exchange News Room, Liverpool, would receive my best attention.

J. H. Y.

HIGH PRIESTHOOD.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—In answer to L's query in "Notes and Queries" of last week's MASONIC MIRROR, "What are the priestly orders?" he will find in Mackey's *Lexicon* a degree called the Order of High Priesthood; I quote from the work:

"This is an honorary degree, conferred only on the High Priest of an Arch Chapter; it may be conferred by three High Priests, but when the ceremonies are performed in ample form, the presence of nine High Priests are required; in it is communicated an ancient circumstance which occurred to a priest of god." I have no doubt this is the order L. seeks information about; it is most probably American.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

J. T. A., a High Priest under the Constitutions of the Grand Chapter of Ireland.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

A Committee has been appointed to obtain a portrait of Bro Crew, the late Secretary of the Girls' School, to be placed in the Institution. The Committee, whose proceedings are sanctioned by the M.W.G.M., have passed the following resolutions:—

"That the portrait of Bro. Crew be painted by Mr. G. P. Everett Green, for the sum of one hundred and fifty guineas, he presenting the sum of fifty guineas to the Institution, thereby making himself a Vice-President."

"That the Committee be authorised to receive subscriptions, viz., 5s. and upwards from private individuals, and £1 ls. and upwards, from Lodges and Chapters."

We may observe that Bro. Poulton, the photographer of the Strand, has just published an admirable *Carte de Visite* of Bro. Crew. The likeness is excellent.

Bro. M. Furnell, Prov. G.M. for North Munster, has taken up his residence at North Munster Villa, Sydney Parade, Merion, near Dublin.

A movement is being made in Devonshire to obtain from the M.W.G. Master, the appointment of the Rev. Bro. Huyshe, D. Prov. G. Master, as Prov. G. Master. Bro. Huyshe having made himself justly popular amongst the brethren. Bro. Huyshe has been 40 years a Mason, and 38 a member of the Royal Arch, having been initiated in the Apollo Lodge, Oxford. He is also an active magistrate of the county, in which he is highly respected.

METROPOLITAN.

GRAND STEWARD'S LODGE.—The half-yearly public night, when all brethren are invited to hear the lectures worked in their pure and ancient form, was held in the Temple, on Wednesday last, Bro. Hinxman, *M.D.*, P.M., presiding, in the absence of the W.M., from indisposition. There were also absent from the same cause, the Junior Warden, and three or four other brethren, so that the working fell into comparatively few hands, viz., Bros. Watson, Secretary; Warren, P.M.; Nutt, J.W.; Smith, I.G.; and the W.M., some of whom showed that they had been called upon to take extra duties, almost without notice. At the conclusion of the working, Bro. Ll. Evans, P.G.S.B., President of the Colonial Board, moved a vote of thanks to the W.M., for the excellent working, expressing his regret that only a comparatively few brethren were present, owing, he had no doubt, to the unpropitious weather. He felt that the brethren were deeply indebted to the Grand Stewards for these public nights, the beauty and accuracy of their work being unexcelled, and it being impossible for the brethren to listen to it without both profit and pleasure, the instruction conveyed being of a very high order. Bro. Richard Spencer seconded the resolution, which, having been carried unanimously, was briefly acknowledged by Bro. Hinxman, acting W.M., who assured the brethren that the Grand Stewards' Lodge was determined to do its best to make the working attractive and instructive to the brethren. The lodge was then closed in due form.

LODGE OF SINCERITY (No. 203).—This lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 19th. The W.M. was supported by a large number of its members, and also of brethren visitors. The lodge was opened in due form, with solemn prayer. After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, Bros. Steel and Thomas were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in ancient form, the ceremony being most effectively performed by Bro. Bulmer, immediate P.M. of the lodge, the W.M. having been compelled to vacate the chair through indisposition. A few remarks were then made by Bro.

Thompson, Treas., in reference to the Royal Institution for Boys, he having kindly filled the office of Steward, at the Festival on March 12th. This concluding the Masonic business of the evening, the lodge was closed with solemn prayer, and the brethren proceeded to a most liberally supplied banquet. The cloth having been withdrawn, the usual toasts were given and responded to. Some excellent comic and sentimental songs were given by many of the brethren; Bro. Saqui kindly and ably accompanying them on the pianoforte. Bro. Clark, of High Cross Lodge, rose and returned thanks on behalf of himself and brother visitors, for the toast of the W.M., and the hearty and unanimous response of the brethren. He expressed his great pleasure and gratitude with the liberal reception they had met with, and for the kindly feelings that the brethren had evinced towards them, stating that he felt as though he were indeed in commune with "brethren." A most delightful and happy evening was spent, the brethren, reluctantly yielding to that severe master, "Time," separated at an early hour.

NEW CONCORD LODGE (No. 1115).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Friday evening, March 21, at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton. Bro. John Bertram, W.M., presided, supported by his officers and a large body of visitors, amongst whom were Bros. Nicholson, P.M. 201; Manly, P.M. 201; Davies, P.M. 112; Schwabe, P.M. 257; Shaboe, P.M. 812; Smith, 1044; Gate, 1044; Madge, 1181; Sloman, 25; Farthing, P.M. 118; Thompson, 206, &c. Two brethren having been passed to the second degree, and one brother raised to the sublime degree of M.M., the W.M. vacated the chair, which was taken by Bro. Emmans, P.M., who proceeded to instal Bro. Swinnoek, the W.M. elect, into the chair of K.S. The brethren having given the customary salutes, the W.M. appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Levisohn, S.W.; Osmond, J.W.; Estwick, S.D. and Treas.; H. Wild, Sec.; Baker, J.D.; and Boyce, I.G. Bro. the Rev. J. W. Laughlin was re-appointed Chaplain to the lodge. The installation addresses were then delivered by Bro. Emmans, and in a style which elicited the greatest approbation from all who had the privilege of listening to them. Bro. the Rev. J. W. Laughlin then, in suitable terms, presented Bro. J. Bertram, P.M., with a jewel which the brethren had been pleased to award to him as a small token of their appreciation of his services, dwelling upon the efficient way in which he had discharged his duties as Master of the lodge during the past year, and his liberal support of the Masonic Charities.—Bro. BERTRAM, P.M., returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him, expressing the great pleasure he should ever have in wearing that jewel, and said he hoped that the day might be far distant when he should cease to be connected with the New Concord Lodge. Bro. the Rev. J. W. LAUGHLIN then said that he should not defer to the banquet, but would embrace that opportunity of returning thanks to the brethren for the high honour they had conferred upon him in electing him as the first honorary member of the New Concord Lodge. He had been unable for some time to be as punctual in attendance at the lodge as he could desire, half of the year from pressure upon his duties, and the other half from illness, but he trusted for the future he should not be absent from the lodge and should be able to attend to his duties. The lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, provided on this occasion by mine host of the Anchor, Cheapside. After the cloth had been removed, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts responded to, Bro. Bertram, P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and extolled the many excellencies which he possessed and his great zeal for Freemasonry. The W.M. returned thanks to the brethren for the very kind manner in which they had drank his health, but considered that he was undeserving of the eulogiums which Bro. Bertram had been pleased to pass upon him. He was very desirous of progressing in Freemasonry, and if he could at any time give them satisfaction in the performance of his duties that would be to him a sufficient reward.—Bro. EMMANS, P.M., said he had the permission of the W.M. to propose the next toast, which was that of "The Visitors," and his only regret was, that he could not enumerate their qualities as he ought to do. Bros. Shaboe, Thompson (G.D.C. for Hereford), May, and Schwabe, returned thanks; Bro. Thompson congratulating the lodge that at the Festival for the Boys' School the largest subscription on behalf of the Masonic charities had been received, amounting to nearly £1000, and although many were unable to obtain admission they left their tickets at the door, and also their subscriptions.—Bro. the Rev. J. W. LAUGHLIN then proposed a toast which was most congenial to his feelings

as a minister of religion, which was "Prosperity to the Masonic Charities." It was their duty not only to support the Masonic Charities, but to have their interest in their hearts. The New Concord Lodge had not been backward in supporting them, for they had sent stewards to them, and he hoped they would continue to do so. He believed that no Mason would join their order from the low motive of benefit, but at the same time, under the blessing of the G.A.O.T.U., they would feel that under any circumstances those nearest and dearest to them, would not be neglected, and would not be left to the cold of the world; and when the hand of death was on them, they would have the consciousness that their wives and children would not be neglected. He concluded by proposing "Prosperity to the Masonic Charities," which was drunk with great enthusiasm.—The W.M. next proposed "The health of the Past Masters."—Bro. BERTRAM, P.M., said he rose with great pleasure to return thanks on behalf of the P.M.'s of the New Concord Lodge, for the first time. He thanked them for the kind manner which they had supported him during his year of office, and for the jewel they had presented him with, which no words could express. The jewel bore the following inscription: "Presented to Bro. John Bertram, P.M., for the zeal and assiduity displayed by him while presiding as W.M. of the New Concord Lodge, (No. 1115)—March 21, 1862."—Bros. EMMENS and LAUGHLIN also returned thanks. Some other toasts were given and responded to, and the evening was spent in the greatest harmony, Bro. Sloman contributing greatly to the amusement of his brethren by one of his extemporary poetical effusions. Bro. Hunt, of the Lodge of Confidence, also contributed some choice vocal music, which was greatly applauded.

INSTRUCTION.

SINCERITY LODGE (No. 203).—The annual banquet of this Lodge of Instruction took place on Monday, the 24th inst., at Bro. Wright's, Cheshire Cheese Tavern, Crutched Friars, Bro. S. B. Wilson, P.G.D., in the chair, supported by Bros. Hicks, P.M. 203; Rawley, P.M. 203; Fentiman, P.M. and Sec. 203; Langford, J.W. 203, and other distinguished brethren. After enjoying a first rate repast, served up in Bro. Wright's usual good style, Bro. Wilson gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. He then read an able address on "Adoptive Masonry," and after several toasts, including those of "Bro. Wilson," of "The Officers of the parent Lodge," of "The Treasurer" (Bro. Hicks), and "The Secretary" (Bro. Newton), of "The Lodge of Instruction," of "The Worthy Host and Hostess," &c., the brethren separated, having spent a very pleasant evening, their enjoyment being increased by the harmony of Bros. Fentiman, Grausund, Colston, &c.

PROVINCIAL.

DEVONSHIRE.

FESTIVAL OF LODGE FIDELITY (No. 281).

It having been known that Lodge Fidelity deferred its annual festival until it would suit the convenience of those two worthy and eminent brothers, Rev. J. Huyshe and Denis Moore (who are honorary members of the lodge) to attend the festival, a very large assemblage was expected, and notice that those brothers would be present having been given at each of the previous Masonic meetings (at which the members of both those lodges would be welcome, and a union of brothers would thereby be effected at the festive board), the result was most gratifying. At four o'clock, accordingly, on the 19th inst., after the holding of Prov. Grand Chapter, the brethren sat down to a most sumptuous repast at the Royal Hotel, Plymouth, at which Bro. Samuel Pearse, P.M., fulfilled all that could be expected of him as a caterer, and for which he received an especial vote of thanks, proposed in most eulogistic terms, by the Past M. Prov. G.M.

The beautiful banner of the lodge was placed conspicuously at the head of the room, and the chair was taken by the W. Bro. W. Heath, supported on his right by Bros. the Rev. J. Huyshe, G. Supt. of R. A. Masons; Br. James J. Cluse, P.M. P. Prov. Grand Der. Cers.; Rev. J. C. Carwithen, Prov. G. Chap.; W. Dix, P. Prov. G.S.B.; Laidman, P. Prov. G.R.; W. Bro. Capt. Ridgway, P. Prov. G.S.D.; Bro. Bellerby, &c.; and on his left by the V.W. Bros. Denis Moore, P. Prov. G.J.W., and F. Prov. G. Sec.; L. P. Tripe, P. Prov. G.J.D.; W. B. J. M.

Mackay, Immediate P.M. of the lodge 284; John Mackay Prov. G.S.; R. Rodd, Prov. G.R.; W. A. Clark, P.M. P. Prov. G. Treas.; Samuel Pearse, P.M.; B. Phillips, P.M., P. Prov. G. Treas.; R. Pomeroy, P. Prov. G.S.; S. Chapple, P.M., Prov. G.S.; Channing, P.M., P. Prov. G.P.; James Rowe, P.M.; Chapman, P.M.; Finemore, Joll, Scott, Mead, G. Cluse, Rains, John Clarke, Linde, Rodda, Stoneman, &c. The vice-chair was occupied by the S.W. Bro. Henry G. Cole, and the J.W.'s chair in the south was ably filled by Bro. Thomas Johns, supported by various members of the lodge 280.

After the cloth was removed, and grace said by the Rev. Bro. Huyshe, the W.M. gave the toast of the "Queen and the Craft," which having reference to the recent affliction of her Majesty, was received in solemn silence. The toast of the "Earl of Zetland, Grand Master," next followed. In very glowing terms the next toast, "The Health of Bro. Huyshe," was proposed by the W.M., who took occasion to express the very highest gratification he felt at welcoming him on that happy occasion, and the high honour which that Rev. Brother and Bro. Moore had done the lodge in consenting to become honorary members, and to favour it with their presence on that festival.

Bro. HUYSHE'S rising to respond was the signal for applause, loud and long continued. In a most fraternal address, replete with all the most Masonic, fraternal, holy sentiments which the order inspires, he expressed his deep sense of the gratitude which he felt on that and all other occasions on which he met with his Plymouth brethren, and referred to the fact that he had been 40 years a Mason, and the longer he lived the more he esteemed the order, whose principles were immutable. He proceeded to refer them at some length to the interest which he took in the inauguration of the Fortescue Masonic Memorial Amniatant Fund, which he earnestly recommended to the attention of the brethren, as a means whereby they might illustrate their principles by carrying out that which was the distinguishing characteristic of his heart whose memory they sought to perpetuate, in the way he would have most decidedly chosen for another, by making his memory precious to those who, from circumstances over which they had no control, were placed in the lowest depths of poverty and distress, by extending relief and consolation to them in the hour of their affliction.

The remarks of the brother were seconded by Bro. Rev. J. C. CARWITHEN, P. Prov. G. Chap.; who informed the brethren present that Bro. Huyshe had given effect to his own recommendation by a contribution of £50, and desired to add only one sentence, "Go and do thou likewise."

At a latter period of the evening it was announced that the result of the appeal of those two Rev. brethren was £250, in addition to the £200 already in the hands of trustees, which was received with loud plaudits.

The next toast was then given and received most enthusiastically.

Bro. DENIS MOORE, in reply, expressed his deep sense of the kindness shown him by the lodge in receiving him as an honorary member, and of the very great courtesy and attention he had ever met through the whole province during the many years he had filled the office of Grand Secretary, and stated that up to a very recent period he had fully intended to resign the similar office he held in the Grand Chapter, but that when he came to the point he confessed he was loth to sever the connection; so he expected he should like to die Grand Secretary and Grand Scribe.

The toast of the "Worshipful Master" was next proposed by Bro. Huyshe.

Bro. HEATH, in reply, gave some statistics showing the increase of the numbers and the prosperity of the lodge, and assured his brethren of his continued zeal for the prosperity of the lodge.

In proposing "Prosperity to the Royal Arch Chapter," Comp. JAMES ROWE spoke favourably as to the progress of the several chapters in the neighbourhood, and this was confirmed by E. C. Lorenz Tripe, P.G.H., who made an eloquent speech in praise of the principles of the order and its leading characteristics—Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.

Bro. MOORE, in giving "The Wardens," remarked on the great importance of their office, and of their assisting the W.M. in his work.

Bros. Cole and Johns responded.

Bro. COLE, S.W., proposed "The Prov. Grand Lodge of Mark Masters," which was responded to by Bro. C. J. Laidman.

Bro. the Rev. J. HUYSHE, proposed the toast of "The Past Master, the Treasurer, and Secretary of Lodge Fidelity."

Bro. W. A. CLARK, in responding, made some interesting remarks on the decadence and the resuscitation of the lodge. He believed Freemasonry had the principle of vitality in itself—that it never died; that it might be depressed, but would be sure to rise again.

Bro. JAMES CLASE, in acknowledging the compliment as the Secretary, said that the success which had attended the lodge since its removal from Tiverton had amply repaid him for his trouble, that he must have been insensible to kindly feeling if he did not deeply appreciate the kind manner in which he had been received by the brethren then present, as well as on all other occasions. He also desired to express his very great obligation to the R.W.D. Prov. G.M. for the very flattering manner in which he had introduced his name. He hoped that the time would soon arrive when he should not have to call our Rev. Bro. Deputy, but the Grand Master of this province. He was sure that if the democratic principle were applied to this question, not only would there be a tremendous majority of votes recorded in Bro. Huyshe's favour, but that throughout the whole county of Devon there would not be one brother who would not most readily put him at the head of the province, so mild and conciliatory had been his rule for a period of twelve years. He (Bro. Clase) would venture to predict that if it should please the Grand Master to make the appointment, the meeting for installing Bro. Huyshe as Prov. G.M. would be the largest ever assembled in Devon for Masonic purposes.

The mention of Bro. Huyshe as the possible future G.M. of the province was so heartily received by the applause of the brethren that it was some minutes before Bro. Clase was enabled to proceed with his speech.

The W. MASTER proposed "The Sister Lodges of the Three Towns," which was acknowledged in an able speech Bro. Harfoot, W.M. of St. John's (No. 88).

Bro. Captain A. RIDGEWAY, in responding to the toast of "The Strangers," dwelt more particularly on the universality of Freemasonry, and its adaptability for promoting the best interests of mankind.

After Bro. C. J. Laidman had very happily acknowledged the honour done to the wives and sweethearts of Freemasons, the usual "sympathetic toast" brought to a close the united banquet of Lodge Fidelity, the H.R.A., P.G. Chapter, and the Prov. Grand Lodge of Mark Masters, which will be long remembered by many Freemasons as a most interesting and happy meeting.

During the evening, in a most effective speech, the R.W.D. Prov. G.M., at the request of the subscribers to a testimonial to Bro. J. Rogers, P.Z. and P.M. of Lodge Friendship, for his zeal in promoting the welfare of the order, presented that brother with a P.Z. jewel as a recognition of his valuable services.

Bro. ROGERS, in a few remarks, expressed his deep sense of the kindness of his brethren.

Bro. Harfoot, 78, Union-street, Plymouth, and Bro. James Clase, 18 Fore-street, Devonport, will be happy to receive subscriptions for the benefit of Bro. Rogers, who is in delicate health, to be applied in such a manner as a committee, duly appointed, shall decide to be most conformable to the necessities of that brother.

In the course of the proceedings the brethren had the rich treat of hearing Br. James Rowe in one of his excellent songs, and Br. Rodda's Cornish Stones were inimitable, and added much to the hilarity of the evening.

HAMPSHIRE.

WINCHESTER.—*Lodge of Economy* (No. 90).—The monthly meeting of this lodge took place on Wednesday evening, March 26th, when there was a good attendance of the brethren, the W.M., A. Smith, B.A., presiding. Some preliminary business having been arranged, the brethren proceeded to ballot for a candidate for initiation, namely Mr. Wilson Fisher, a Professor of Mathematics at the Winchester Garrison. That gentleman having been duly and unanimously elected, he was properly prepared, admitted, and initiated as a Freemason, the ceremony being performed by the W.M. in a very perfect manner; the working tools being explained by Bro. Hasleham, P.M., and the initiation charge given by Bro. S. Adamson, S.D. On the question being put by the W.M., "has any brother anything to propose for the good of Freemasonry?" Bro. SHERRY, P.M., rose and said: W. Master, by the contributions of some of the brethren of the lodge, and the assistance of the lodge charity box, I have been enabled to pay, through Bros. Hayward and Stebbing, the Hampshire Stewards this year, for the Boys'

School Festival, the sum of ten guineas, which will entitle No. 90 to another life governorship. I had the pleasure of accompanying Bros. Hayward and Stebbing to the Festival, and I am happy to report that the result was very satisfactory, both as to the numbers of brethren who attended, and the amount subscribed, but as to the comfort or the brethren present, I must say that it was anything but what it ought to be; the crowded state of the Masonic hall was fearful, and I hope that before the festival of next year, the Board of General Purposes will think it right, in their wisdom, to recommend to Grand Lodge a plan for building a much larger room, and improving the present Tavern property so as to make it worthy of the Craft. They ought to bear in mind that the Masonic body has been for some years past very rapidly increasing, and has outgrown the present accommodation. Whilst on this topic, I trust the W.M. will allow me to say that I should also like to see a plan adopted by the Board that may enable the Provincial (when in town) and the London brethren to meet together by means of reading and refreshment rooms at the Tavern. I believe that immense good would result to the Craft if a daily intercourse of this kind could be established. I have a great objection to money belonging to the Craft being spent, but I think in this case it would prove a very profitable investment. I must congratulate Bro. Binckes, the Secretary to the Boys' School, on the result of his able and indefatigable exertions, which produced, I believe, the largest sum ever subscribed—over £3500, which he has been principally instrumental in collecting. I think Bro. Binckes deserves the thanks of the Craft for his exertions, and also for the comprehensive pamphlet he has so punctually and promptly prepared and circulated with the report. By this publication I have been reminded that I neglected to pay my annual subscription last year, and it may surprise some of the brethren to hear that the lodge subscription is in the same plight, and I have no doubt that many others may have unintentionally been guilty of the same omission. Attached to this pamphlet are the rules of the Institution, and I wish to call the attention of the brethren to Rules 51 and 52, not yet confirmed by the Quarterly General Committee:—"Rule 51. Any person may place a properly qualified child in the Institution, provided such child can be conveniently admitted, upon payment in one sum, of one hundred and twenty guineas, without voting in respect of any part thereof." Rule 52. "Any person subscribing two hundred and fifty guineas, in one payment, and without voting in respect of any part thereof, shall be entitled during his or her life, to keep one properly qualified child in the Institution." I consider these rules will open the road to abuse; and if allowed to stand, may at some future time, materially alter the object for which the institution was founded, in charity. I think, if sufficient means could be made available for an extra building, as an auxiliary to the present school for the sons of Freemasons, who have the means of paying such sums as those named in these rules, together with a small annual subscription for each boy, sufficient provision could be made for their education, under the present staff, with the addition of extra assistants. By these means the cost of their maintenance, clothing, &c., would be very moderate, whilst they would be well cared for, and receive an education to fit them for whatever situation they may be called on to fill. But I certainly must protest against any of our present means being applied to such purposes as proposed. I think such a school as I have named, ought to be made to answer, and help to benefit the boys on the foundation. I have merely thrown out these suggestions with a view to call attention to them if they are worth anything; if not, I hope to be forgiven for occupying so much of your time. I beg to thank you, W.M., for giving me this opportunity of bringing these matters under the notice of the brethren of No. 90.—Bro. HASLEHAM, P.M., thought the thanks of the brethren were due to Bro. Sherry for his clear and able statement. He accorded entirely with him, and thought the W.M. should be deputed to represent the opinions of the lodge upon the matter at the next Quarterly Court. He considered the evils pointed out by Bro. Sherry to be very serious, and calculated, if not checked early, to subvert the original intentions of the founders, do harm to the institution, and allowing the privileges to fall into the hands of a few, destroy the practice of charity.—Bro. BIGGS, P.M., recognised the inroads open to be made on the charity; this was not the first time there had been encroachments attempted upon charities. There was scarcely a public school of ancient date in this country, but had in some way or other suffered. King Edward's School, in London, commonly called Christchurch, and also the College of Win-

chester, had been founded for very different objects to those they were now appropriated—for instance, we find that the scholars on the original foundation were required that they should be poor and indigent, and that if any one of them (except the founder's kin) should come into spiritual or temporal possession of the value of 100 shillings, he should be expelled. How did the case now stand? They found that instead of the poor and indigent, or sons of the middle classes, the scholarships were all filled by the wealthiest classes; and if the system was adopted in their Masonic schools by admitting boys on the foundation by purchase, their excellent institution, the Boys' School, would eventually be entirely wrested from its intended purpose.—Bro. NAISH, P.M., said, in a commercial point of view there was no school in the country where a boy could be so advantageously placed as under the circumstances alluded to by Bro. Sherry in his statement; and whence came the means to make up the deficiency? Why, from the gratuitous gifts of that and other private lodges throughout the country.—The W.M. said it would happen luckily for his convenience when the Grand Lodge next met, and he should only be too happy to attend and represent the lodge on that occasion, and he certainly fully agreed with the complaint advanced. The subject then dropped.—Bro. NAISH, P.M., called attention to the fact communicated by Bro. Newman, that the emblematical monument prepared for the cemetery to the memory of their departed Bro. Cowen was now complete and ready for erection. Some other less important items of business were gone through, and then the brethren adjourned for refreshment. In proposing "The Health of the Queen and the Craft," after the banquet, the W.M. said he could not express a better wish for Her Majesty than that all her sons may become Freemasons, and all the royal sons and daughters parents of Masons.

KENT.

GRAVESEND.—*Lodge of Freedom* (No. 91).—This lodge held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, the 17th inst., at 7 o'clock, when Bro. Thomas Nettlingham, W.M., proceeded to initiate Mr. Payne into the mysteries of the Order, also to pass to the second degree Bros. Hollingham and Jacobs. Several matters connected with the lodge were arranged, and the W.M., Bro. T. Nettlingham, proposed and Bro. J. Everest, P.M. of 91, seconded that a vote of thanks be recorded to Bro. Dobson, D.Prov.G.M., for his zeal in Masonry, particularly the efforts he used in carrying out the office as Steward at the late festival for the Boys' School, which was carried unanimously. Bro. Dobson replied in his usual excellent and kind manner, expressing himself proud at all times to have the opportunity of doing good service to the Craft and its charities; he was very pleased to find the brethren in the province rally round him in the good work on all occasions.

LANCASHIRE (WEST.)

LIVERPOOL.—*Ancient Union Lodge* (No. 245).—The brethren of this lodge assembled on the 20th inst. for their monthly meeting, there was a large attendance. The W.M., Bro. Crawford, and other officers being assembled the lodge was duly opened in the first degree, and the minutes of the last Lodge of Emergency, of March 4th, read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Mr. Wm. Radcliffe, who was duly elected and received first degree. The ballot was taken for Bro. C. J. Bannister, Prov. G.D.C. and P.M., 267, as a joining member of this lodge, and duly elected. Bro. Crompton, Sparks, and Low, were raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons by Bro. M. P. Coleborne, P.M. Bro. C. Bramley, P.M., in accordance with his notice of motion, proposed that the following sums be given to the London charities. He said this was not the first large sum given by the Ancient Union Lodge, for they had voted the sum of £200 to the building of the Liverpool Masonic Temple, and in 1860 £105 to West Lancashire Educational Fund, he had very great pleasure in proposing that the sum of £42 be given to the Girls' School, £21 to the Boy's School, £10 to the Building Fund, £20 to the widows of Freemasons, £10 to aged Freemasons, making a total of £103. Bro. Coleborne, P.M., said he had great pleasure in seconding the motion, and hoping soon to be able to give a like sum from another lodge, it was supported by Bro. Young, P.M., and carried without a dissenting voice. Visitors: Bro. Lewin, P.M., 701; Merycock, W.M., 701; Whitehead, 864, &c. The business being over, the lodge was closed in harmony and brotherly love.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

GATESHEAD.—*Lodge of Industry* (No. 56).—This lodge was opened on March 25th, by the W.M., Bro. William Bryden, assisted by Bro. R. J. Bawing, S.W.; Bro. Smith as J.W., and the rest of the officers, and a good attendance of the members. The minutes of last regular lodge were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened to the second degree, and Bro. C. J. Banister, P.M., and P. Prov. G.S.D. Durham, took the chair. The W.M. elect. was then presented by Bro. W. Bryden, W.M., and Bro. Wm. Morrow, P.M., to the Installing Master, who explained the qualifications of every one to that office and duly obligated the candidate. After the lodge was raised Bro. Banister installed Bro. R. J. Banning, M.D., W.M. of this lodge, in his usual earnest and impressive manner, proclaimed him in due form. The W.M. invested the following brethren officers of the lodge:—Bros. Wm. Bryden, P.M. and Treasurer; Josh. Heaward, S.W.; Wm. Robinson, M.D., J.W.; J. C. Emmerson, Sec.; R. S. Bagnall, S.D.; Nicholson, J.D.; J. A. Cowan, I.G.; Trotter, Tyler. The Installing Master delivered the charges to the W.M., Wardens, and the brethren, each being listened to with great attention. Visitors present: Bros. Lieut. Col. G. H. L. Hawks, W.M. 985; Anty Clapham, P.M. and P. Prov. G.R. Durham; A. Gillispie, P.G.R. Northumberland; A. Legge, P.G. Sup. Works; Geo. Lambert, P. Prov. G. Sup. of Works; Wm. Morrays, P.M.; W. M. Scott, W.M. 614; Wyergang, P.M. 614; Thomas Cumming, P.M.; Thomas Miller, S.W. 614; Thos. Smith, Sec. 614, &c. The lodge was closed down in the several degrees, and the business of the lodge finished it was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. The banquet was presided over by the W.M. of Lodge 56, having on his right Bro. Scott, W.M. of the Borough Lodge (No. 614), this being a joint festival for the two sister lodges, the W.M. 614, being installed at the regular meeting of that lodge, also on the right of the two W.M.'s were Bros. C. J. Banister, A. Gillispie, A. Legge, G. H. L. Hawks, &c.; on the left Bros. W. Bryden, P.M.; Wm. Morrow, P.M.; A. Clapham, Wyergang, G. Lambton, S. Cummings, Wm. Robinson, M.D.; J. C. Emmerson, Sec., and about thirty brethren. "The Queen," "Albert Edward Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," "The Army and Navy," responded to by Lieut. Col. G. H. L. Hawks, in good style; "The M.W.G.M., Earl of Zetland, and his Deputy, Earl de Grey and Ripon;" "The Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland;" "The P.G.M. of Durham and his Officers," replied to by Bro. A. Clapham; "The P.G.M. of Northumberland and his Officers," responded to by Bro. A. Gillespie.—Bro. BRYDEN proposed "The Health of Bro. Scott, W.M. of Borough Lodge," who replied and proposed "The Health of the W.M. of Lodge of Industry (No. 56)," in a very neat speech.—Bro. HAWKS proposed the health of the immediate P.M. of Lodge 56, Bro. Bryden, with true Masonic spirit.—The W.M. proposed prosperity to the Masonic charities, and never failing good health to Bro. C. J. Banister, who had served the office of Steward to the Royal Benevolent Institution and the Boys' School, and was now before them as a Steward for the girls.—Bro. BANISTER thanked the brethren most heartily for their kindness, and hoped that the lodges of the province would follow the good example of Lodge 56, their W.M. being a life governor to all the charities so long as the lodge exists, and hoped now that he had advocated the cause of the charities for the last three years; other brethren would come forward to assist him for the future in that labour of love. Before sitting down, he proposed "Health and Prosperity to Bro. Hawks, W.M. 985, and Prosperity to his Lodge," which Bro. Hawks responded to in a truly Masonic manner, promising to aid Bro. Banister for the charities.—Bro. JACOBS returned thanks for the visitors. The evening was much enlivened by various songs from the brethren. The poor and distressed were not forgotten on this occasion, and Bro. Banister added other names to his list of subscribers to the charities.

NEWCASTLE.—*Newcastle Lodge* (No. 24, *Instruction*).—This lodge was opened on March 25, by Bro. Loades, W.M. of the mother lodge, assisted by Bros. C. J. Banister, as P.M.; Hugel, as S.W.; Smith, as J.W.; Haywood, Sec.; Scott, P.M., Purveyor; Ridley, I.G., &c. The minutes of the last meeting were read over and confirmed, £5 being then voted to increase the books of the library. In the absence of Bro. Wm. Bryden, who was elected Lecture Master, Bro. Banister delivered the lectures on the tracing boards, and instructed the brethren generally in the three degrees. Bro. Wm. Bryden, P.M. of the Lodge of Industry, was again elected lecture master. The other business over, the lodge was closed in due form at 9 o'clock.

YORKSHIRE (WEST.)

BAILDON.—*Airedale Lodge* (No. 543).—This lodge held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 19th. There was an average attendance of brethren, and amongst those present were the W.M. Bro. J. C. Read; S. Jackson, S.W.; J. Denby, J.W.; P.Ms., Jo. Walker, John Walker, Henry Smith, Frederick Taylor, Nicholas Walker, Jesse Denby; Bros. John Mann, J. Ambler, Smith, Renard, &c. After the minutes had been disposed of, a letter was read from the Secretary of the Lodge of Hope, (No. 379), and apologies from Bros. William and Wainman Holmes, absent in London. The W.M. called upon the P.Ms. to assist him in the ceremony of initiating Mr. Charlesworth into our ancient order, it being his desire to distribute the duties so as to keep off the rust necessarily accumulating on the minds of those seldom called upon for service, the ceremony being brought to a close by Bros. P.M. Henry Smith, Jno. Walker, and Nicholas Walker giving respectively the charge, working tools, and short lecture. The lodge was closed at nine o'clock, after which the brethren enjoyed a pleasant evening in the refreshment-room.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.—*Lodge La Césarée* (No. 860).—An emergency meeting was held on Wednesday, March 19th, for the purpose of initiating two candidates, one of whom is expected shortly to leave the island. The brethren assembled to the number of upwards of fifty, about seven o'clock. The lodge was opened in the first degree by Bro. Schmitt, P.M., Bro. John Durell acting as S.W., and the J.W., Bro. Le Sueur, occupying the third chair. The W.M., Bro. Baudains, having taken his place, the Secretary read a letter in recommendation of the Rev. Francis De La Mare and Mr. Philip Le Brun as candidates for the privileges of Freemasonry. Several brethren having supported the proposition from personal knowledge of their character, the ballot was held and declared to be unanimous in their favour. An apology was received from the first-named gentleman, who was detained by indisposition. Mr. Le Brun was then introduced, properly prepared, and duly initiated by the W.M. The charge was effectively given by Bro. Schmitt. As no other business could be transacted at an emergency meeting, the lodge was closed at an early hour, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. It may with propriety be added, that matters are still progressing in preparation for the erection of the Masonic Temple. The land was purchased long ago, and plans were prepared by Bro. Le Sueur, but as these involved too great an expense, he undertook to modify them. These, as amended, are now ready to lay before the Committee, for which summonses have been issued.

SCOTLAND.

A Quarterly Communication of the Ayr Lodges took place on March 21st. R.W.M. George Wilson, of the Operative Lodge, in the East; Bro. William Martin and Charles Picken occupying respectively the South and West. The business coming before the meeting was of a routine character; but when it is mentioned that only some four or five shillings had been dispensed in charity since last communication, brethren at a distance will be very apt to suppose that in Ayrshire there are few or no indigent Craftsmen, widows, or orphans to aid. There are many such, however, but this kind of charity seems to be at a discount among the fraternity here, for besides this close-fistedness in the bestowal of casual doles of relief to "poor and indigent brethren," not one of the Ayr Lodges contribute directly to the Benevolent Fund administered by the Grand Lodge. And this apathy is not confined to Ayrshire alone, but seems to pervade the whole country, for out of thirty Masonic provinces, embracing about 400 lodges, with a membership of somewhere about 30,000, the total income of the Scottish Masonic Benevolence Fund, during the years 1860-61 amounted to the magnificent sum of £307 13s. 5d. From last issued Grand Lodge Reports, £131 5s. 0d. of this sum was divided among 41 applicants, and £2 of it in casual charities.

GLASGOW.—*Lodge Athole* (No. 413).—The fifth, and last lecture of the winter series in connection with this lodge, was delivered on Tuesday evening last, the 11th inst., by Bro. E. T. Smith, the Junior Warden. The attendance was all that could be desired, and the brethren were more than satisfied with the rich intellectual treat which it was their privilege to enjoy. The lecturer selected "The Passions" as the subject of his oration, and, from the manner in which he treated this department of our inner being, betrayed a keen knowledge of the many dark windings and secret recesses of the human heart, while throughout the lecture there was blended that wholesome chastening advice, which is the true end of all metaphysical disquisition. The lecturer had this subject so completely at his fingers' end, that it seemed as if he had ranged the whole of the human passions on an imaginary key-board there to exert his manipulatory cunning for the delight and benefit of his audience. The deep bass of the baser passions was told out with a horrible grandeur, while the sweet psalm of the higher and holier affections was breathed with a winning charm, which effectually led a listener heavenward. The general style and diction of the lecture were alike pure, terse, and elegant, and delivered with a rhetorical power of no mean order. Although the subject was perhaps rather metaphysical for a general audience, yet the frequent plaudits of the brethren testified their appreciation of the manner in which it was treated by Bro. Smith. We beg to append a short extract, which although but a small modicum, may convey an idea of the whole. Under the head of love he said:—"When the Almighty Architect, with the strong right hand of His Majesty, began to put in execution the vast design of creation, He united the multitudinous portions of His great handiwork by an all-powerful cement, extracted from his own divine essence of love. With the trowel of His omnipotence, the Great Master Builder spread that universal bond of union, which combines in such magnificent harmony the great system His divine manipulation has called into existence. Every new discovery in science and philosophy but tends to fill the puny mind of man with wonder and admiration at the wisdom, strength, and beauty displayed in the mighty grandeur of this sublime undertaking, united in one grand whole by that primary principle of gravity or attraction, that bond of union, that cement, which is neither more nor less than the great principle of love. This great principle reigns universally in heaven above and earth beneath, and when the lungs of man were first inflated, it was by a breath of that divine essence, that great principle of love breathed into his nostrils by his creator, and thereby imparting to his undying soul an infinite blessing, by which when released from its earthly tenement, it might soar upwards and again seek its divine source."

INDIA.

BENGAL.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE.

(Abridged from the *Indian Freemasons Friend*.)

The Quarterly Communication of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal, held at the Freemason's Hall, on the 27th December 1861, St. John the Evangelist's Day, was fully attended. R.W. Bro. J. J. L. Hoff, D.Prov. G.M., presided in the Eastern Chair.

Bro. the Rev. T. C. Smyth, D.D., P.D.Prov. G.M. of the Eastern Archipelago, was conducted into the District Grand Lodge by a deputation appointed by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

The D.Prov. G.M. :—"Brethren! Since we last met, R.W. Bro. Ramsay has retired from the high office of Prov. G.M. of this Province, which he so long and so worthily filled: and I have now to announce to you the appointment, as his successor, of one who has held high Masonic rank, and who, when he was in Calcutta, was universally esteemed. Indeed, to know him is to like him. I allude to R.W. Bro. Major-General A. H. E. Boileau. The Prov. G.Sec. will read the correspondence between the Grand Secretary in England and Bro. Boileau, and the Patent of Appointment."

The various documents were here read.

The D. Prov. G.M.—"I believe it is the intention of Bro. Boileau to take the up-country lodges under his own control, leaving the Lower Provinces to his Deputy.

"I have received photographs of the Testimonial voted by us to Bro. Ramsay when he was leaving India; and as the brethren would no doubt be glad to see the design, I will thank the S.G.D. to carry one of the impressions round to all."

Bro. H. FRASER, P. Prov. G.S. of Works—"Right Worshipful Sir,—Having just returned from England, I may inform you that I have seen the Testimonial itself and that it is on a much larger scale than the photographs, and is a very beautiful work of art."

Bro. CLARK, P. Prov. S.G.W.—"The proceedings which have just taken place, remind us that we have a grateful duty to discharge to the R.W. Bro. who has just laid down the Hiram of the District Grand Lodge. Without indulging in comparisons, which might seem invidious, I am sure I may say with safety, that Bro. Ramsay, stands second to no Prov. G.M. who preceded him in ruling over this large and important province. Whether we call to mind his intercourse and association with us—marked by a kindness and sympathy which indicated the generosity of his nature; his direction in the affairs of the province,—tempered by judgment, prudence, forethought, and wisdom; the manner in which he presided in person over our Masonic conclaves,—characterized by a dignity and impressiveness which commanded respect and deference, we are bound to confess that Bro. Ramsay's rule over us was pre-eminently successful. Some of us were personally acquainted with him, and possessed his confidence; many of us have seen him in a variety of circumstances, and sometimes in circumstances of trial and difficulty: yet in every relation, in every situation, Bro. Ramsay exhibited qualities of mind and heart which inspired sentiments only of regard, esteem, and admiration. It is with these feelings that I now propose the following resolution for the adoption of this District Grand Lodge:—

"That on the occasion of the retirement of R.W. Bro. Ramsay from the office of Prov. G.M. of Bengal, the District Grand Lodge of this Province contemplate with feelings of peculiar satisfaction their association with that esteemed Brother throughout the period he held the exalted position; and they now desire to record a vote of affectionate acknowledgement and cordial thanks to him for the kind and fraternal spirit which characterised his intercourse with the brethren, and for the judgment, honesty, independence, moderation, and impartiality with which he governed the Province."

Bro. ROBERTS, P. Prov. S.G.W.—"I rise with peculiar feelings of pleasure to second the motion. If ever words were rightly applied, those just uttered are! Bro. Ramsay was devoted to our interests; he had a sincere love for the Craft; and in times of difficulty and excitement, he ruled with temper and dignity, and yet with firmness! Bear in mind, Brethren, what self-control, in such a position, must be exercised, lest an unguarded expression, hastily escaping, might wound the self-love of some. It is well to reflect how we should ourselves behave if so situated. But it would be superfluous to make a long speech regarding one whom we know so well, and to whom we have repeatedly offered our tribute of affection and admiration. It is sufficient for me to say, that I consider our R.W. Bro. Ramsay to be deserving of every mark of honor that it is in our power to accord to him."

W. Bro. ABBOTT, Prov. G. Steward—"R.W. Sir, I have no desire to intrude my opinions; but Masonry being free, I hold that every Freemason has the inalienable right of giving free expression to his honest convictions. I would have gladly supported Bro. Clark's motion to its full length, if it had appeared to me that Bro. Ramsay was deserving of praise for the last two years of his administration. I do not believe that any man could have ruled better than he did, up to the time that he finally left India; but to hold on the Hiram of the Province for two years, when he had no intention of returning to us, and when you, R.W. Sir, as good a man as he, and perhaps others, were available for the appointment, does not receive from me, at all events, hearty admiration. I therefore propose that the Resolution of the District Grand Lodge be limited to the period that Bro. Ramsay was actually ruling the Province, before he finally returned to England."

DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER—"I must inform you, Bro. Abbot, that it was not from any wish of his own that R.W. Bro. Ramsay continued to hold the Hiram on his return to England. When he was leaving India, he advised us strongly to choose a successor, as it was not his intention to come out again; when we did nothing, he laid his resignation in the hands of the Earl of Zetland, but was requested to continue in office. Further time passed, and still nothing was done by us, and Bro. Ramsay then renewed his solicitation to be relieved; but the Grand Master again refused to receive his resignation. Bro. Ramsay having thus sacrificed his own wishes for our interests, I shall

be sorry if the opinions expressed by you are conveyed to Bro. Ramsay."

Bro. C. T. DAVIS, W.M. of Lodge 126, rose to second Bro. Abbott's amendment.

Bro. JENNINGS, Prov. S.G.W.—"I heartily concur in the sentiments expressed by Bro. Clark, to the full length to which he goes, knowing as I do that Bro. Ramsay did resign the office of Prov. G.M., and that it was only out of regard for our interests, and in deference to the wishes of the Grand Master, that he continued to hold it.

Bro. ROBERTS—"It addition to what has fallen from the Dep. Prov. G.M., I would observe that, during the time that Bro. Ramsay has been in England, many questions have arisen materially affecting the interests of Masonry in this Province, and that, so far as those questions were concerned, it was a fortunate circumstance that we had in England one who could lay them so well before the Masonic authorities there."

Bro. ABBOTT—"I would add one word to my remarks. I have known Bro. Ramsay intimately and well for years. Personally, I have a high regard for him. In putting forward my proposition, therefore, I have not been actuated by any desire to give him pain. I have merely been prompted by a sense of what was fitting and right."

The Prov. G. Sec. was of opinion, that Bro. Ramsay deserved as much of our hearty admiration for the last two years of his administration as for any former period; for when Bro. Ramsay found he could not consult his own wishes by retiring from office, he cheerfully watched over our interests in England. If it had been possible for him to lay down his Hiram in spite of the command of the Earl of Zetland, the Provincial Grand Lodge, which "emanates" from the Prov. G.M., would have instantly ceased to exist, and the whole Province would have been thrown into confusion.

Dep. PROV. G.M.—"Brethren, you have heard Bro. Abbott's amendment; it is to exclude from the resolution proposed by Bro. Clark, the last two years of Bro. Ramsay's administration of this Province. If no other brother has anything to say on the subject, I shall put it to the vote."

Bro. ABBOTT—"Before the votes are taken, I wish it to be clearly understood that I have not proposed a vote of censure."

The amendment being put to the vote, was carried by a majority of 4 votes, there being 24 in support of it, and 20 against it.

The DEP. PROV. G.M. objected to a demonstration made by some of the brethren with their feet. A brother who had sat in the Grand Lodge of England, observed that it was the practice of the Grand Lodge. The Dep. Prov. G.M., however, was of opinion that the District Grand Lodge of Bengal was not bound by the *practice* of the Grand Lodge; and it was further pointed out that, while such demonstrations were generally unobjectionable when made in the course of speech, they were obviously improper when made after any measure had been carried by a majority of votes, for then they sounded like a note of triumph over those in the minority, and were consequently unmasonic.

The DEP. PROV. G. M.—"Brethren! It is at all times a grateful duty to reward merit. I lately visited Lodge St. John, for the purpose of conferring the rank of a Past Junior Grand Warden on a brother who has laboured quietly, but zealously, as a Mason, but upon whom I could not, with due regard to the claims of others, confer such a high distinction at any former period. I allude to W. Bro. John William Brown, Prov. J.G.D. I have already presented him with a Patent of his appointment, and have recorded a Minute, which the Prov. G. Sec. will read."

After the PROV. G. SEC. had read the minute alluded to, Bro. John William Brown was invested with the jewel of the rank to which he had been raised, and received the congratulations of the Dep. Prov. G.M.

The DEP. PROV. G. M.—"Bro. Brown's promotion having caused a vacancy, I have filled it by advancing Bro. Clark (Civil Engineer) from the rank of Prov. G. Supt. of Works, to which he had been appointed specially on account of his professional character, but which I did not think it right that he should continue to hold when promotion offered itself, especially when it could be filled as appropriately by another Brother of the same profession. I have therefore promoted Bro. W. Clark, C.E., to the office of Prov. J.G.D., and have appointed Bro. W. Bourne, C.E., to be Prov. G. Supt. of Works, subject to the confirmation of the R.W. the Prov. G.M."

After investing the above Officers, the Dep. Prov.G.M. stated that there was a question lying over from the last Quarterly Communication of the District Grand Lodge, namely, as to the manner in which the rent paid for the Freemasons' Hall should be made up by the several lodges, and hoped the brethren had come prepared to vote on the subject.

The Prov.G. Sec. read the following extracts from the minutes of the last meeting :—

"The Finance Committee entered upon the general question of the manner in which the amount paid as rent for the Hall should be made up by the several lodges, and resolved upon recommending the plan for the consideration of the District Grand Lodge, as being based upon an equitable principle, viz., that the lodges should be charged for rent at the rate of eight annas per mensem for each subscribing member, the Prov.G. Treas. being guided by the quarterly returns furnished to the Prov.G. Sec., and the bills being made out quarterly; but that the minimum payment by any lodge should be ten Rupees per mensem.

"Bro. Roberts considered it very objectionable that the scheme which had been lately adopted for making up the rent, should be so soon upset.

"Bro. Jennings, seconded by W. Bro. Martin, proposed that the recommendation of the Committee should be adopted, with effect from the 1st January 1862.

"The Officiating Provincial Grand Master was of opinion that the lodges should first take the question into consideration, as it affected their finances, and that they should instruct their representatives how they should vote at the next Quarterly Communication. Therefore, under bye-law fourteen of the District Grand Lodge, he adjourned the motion."

Several of the representatives of lodges stated that they had not heard the subject discussed in their lodges, and it was suggested that the Prov.G. Sec. should issue a circular drawing attention to the proposed scheme. The Dep. Prov.G.M. stated that printed copies of the Proceedings containing the proposal, had been circulated to the lodges.

Bro. C. T. DAVIS considered it doubtful whether it was proposed to alter the 15th bye-law of the District Grand Lodge, which provides as follows :—"Lodges holding their meetings at the Freemasons' Hall shall pay such monthly sum as they can afford towards the liquidation of the rent of the premises, the balance, if any, being paid by the District Grand Lodge. In the event of a lodge, by a reduction of its members, or from any other cause, being unable to continue paying the stipulated sum, the Master may apply either for a diminution, or a total cessation, of its quota of rent, for a temporary period, with a statement showing the necessity for granting the indulgence."

Bro. EVANS, W.M. of Lodge No. 282.—"I beg to say a few words in explanation of the circumstances in which this question originated. On taking up the Hiram of Lodge Marine, I found that the lodge was assessed at twenty-five Rupees a month as its contribution towards the rent of the Freemasons' Hall. But as the lodge was composed of only eight members when it reopened, I applied to the Prov.G. Treas. for a reduction of the amount. I heard nothing on the subject, until, to my great surprise, I found it brought forward in the District Grand Lodge, which, with reference to the 15th bye-law, it appeared to me need not have been done. A lodge which may happen to fall to a nominal muster, should pay considerably less than one which may have a hundred or more members. If I were to be permitted to put in a suggestion, I should say that a sliding scale might be prepared which would meet every case, and entail no hardship on any lodge."

Bro. ROBERTS.—"I never understood until now what had suggested the idea of disturbing the established arrangement; but Bro. Evans has put me in possession of the circumstances in which the question originated. Now, under the existing rule there is no permanently fixed payment; the assessment fluctuates according to the ability of lodges to pay much or little, at different times, and is subject to revision annually. That rule would have met the requirements of Lodge Marine; and if Bro. Evans had written for a remission of rent, not to the Prov. G. Treas., but to the Prov.G. Sec., I warrant he would have received a reply in three days; whereas now we have already had two discussions, and there is a third one in prospect."

Bro. JENNINGS proposed that the question should be further postponed. The motion was seconded by Bro. J. Martin, Prov. G. Standard Bearer, and was carried.

The Dep. Prov.G.M.—"I have to announce that the Warrants of Lodge Star of Delhi (No. 1180), of Delhi, and of Lodge

Faith, Hope, and Charity (No. 1190), of Roy Bareilly, and Warrant of confirmation for Lodge Harmony (No. 611), of Cawnpore, have been received by me from England."

Bro. T. C. SMYTH, D. D., having been present at the opening of the Delhi Lodge in 1857, enquired whether the lodge had received its old Warrant again, or a duplicate of the original.

The Dep. Prov.G.M. stated that the lodge had been extinguished by the mutiny before it could receive a Warrant. It had opened under a dispensation, and never possessed a regular Warrant.

The Dep. Prov.G.M.—"I prominently bring to notice the establishment of a lodge of Instruction in Calcutta, in connection with Lodge Marine (No. 282.) The lodge is now working, and has framed a code of bye-laws for itself.

"I lately received a letter from an old and respectable Mason in Chunar, Bro. Cant, who was formerly Master of the lodge at that station, drawing my attention to the destruction caused by the recent flood. Forty-one houses, belonging to invalid pensioners and widows, had fallen down or been in some way injured, besides other buildings, and among them the house which was formerly the property of the lodge. On receipt of that letter, I sent round a proposal to Brothers Roberts, Clark, Jennings, Sandeman, and other senior members of the Craft, that we should contribute something towards the relief of the sufferers. The result was that we decided upon giving a donation of 300 Rupees from the fund of the District Grand Lodge, subject to confirmation. The amount was duly forwarded by me, and I hold the receipt of the Rev. Mr. Carshore."

Bro. J. MARTIN, seconded by Bro. J. W. Brown, proposed that the grant of the above donation should be confirmed. The motion was carried.

The Dep. Prov.G.M.—"Though last, not least, I have to notice a Masonic sheet almanac for the year 1862, compiled by Bro. Hugh Sandeman, who intends to make over the surplus proceeds to the Fund of Benevolence. It has been very carefully and neatly got up."

After some conversation on the subject Bro. SANDEMAN congratulated the Dep. Prov.G.M. and the brethren on the gratifying manner in which St. John's Day had been celebrated. The brethren had mustered in goodly numbers, both at the procession and in the District Grand Lodge; the service had been well conducted; the organ had been well played; and an excellent sermon had been preached.

It was then moved by Bro. Sandeman, seconded by Bro. Clark, and carried, that "the thanks of the District Grand Lodge be communicated to the Rev. Dr. and Bro. Smyth, for the excellent sermon preached by him this day at St. John's Church, and that he be requested to allow the District Grand Lodge to print the same."

Bro. SMYTH felt very grateful for the compliment, but did not consider the sermon worthy of being printed, as it had been hastily prepared, and containing merely an exposition of truths which, though important, were well known.

Bro. SANDEMAN, however, was of opinion that those who had heard the sermon were the best judges of it, and he therefore hoped that Bro. Smyth would yield to their wishes.

The Dep. Prov.G.M. having concurred in this opinion, Bro. Smyth stated that it would be disrespectful in him to urge any further objection, and that it would give him great pleasure to make over the sermon to the Dep. Prov.G.M. for publication.

It was then proposed by Bro. Roberts, seconded by Bro. Dr. F. Powell, of Lodge 715, and carried, that 100 Rupees from the District Grand Lodge Fund be added to the collection made at Church.

The Prov.G. Treas., reported that the collection amounted to about 500 Rupees.

Bro. C. J. EVANS brought to the notice of the Dep. Prov.G.M. an irregularity which existed in Calcutta. The hospitality of the Indian Lodges was well known; but it ought not to be abused, as it was by some unattached brethren, who, after taking one or more degrees, ceased to be subscribing members of any lodge, without ceasing to be regular visitors of the lodges, in contravention of the law which provides that "a brother who is not a subscribing member to a lodge, shall not be permitted to visit any lodge in the town or place where he resides more than once during his secession from the Craft." (*Constitutions*, head "Of Visitors," sec. 2.)

Bro. Dr. SMYTH cordially concurred with Bro. Evans in denouncing the impropriety alluded to, adding that in Singapore the law was carefully kept in view.

The Dep. Prov.G.M. observed that it was the duty of the

Masters of Lodges to be careful that all rules were attended to, and that the Prov. G.M. could only take notice of any special case which might be reported to him. To his knowledge, the law quoted by Bro. Evans was not lost sight of in some of the up-country lodges, and he thought the same might easily be done in Calcutta. It appeared to him that it would be sufficient to issue a circular to the Masters of lodges, drawing their attention to the rule, with reference to what Bro. Evans had stated.

The PROV. G. SEC. read the report of the Finance Committee. The balance in hand of the District Grand Lodge Fund amounted to 3782 Rupees, and of the Fund of Benevolence 2651 Rupees. The committee had noticed that there was a large balance against the fund for musical instruments.

Proposed by Bro. W. H. Abbott, seconded by Bro. A. J. Whitten, Senior Warden of Lodge 80, and carried, that the Report be received.

Bro. C. T. DAVIS, seconded by Bro. A. F. Manly, of Lodge No. 715, proposed a remission of the sentence passed at the last Quarterly Communication upon Bro. J. R. Douglas who, he had heard, had subsequently paid up the full amount of the demand of the District Grand Lodge, and who, as a Mason of twenty years' standing, was deserving, he thought, of merciful treatment.

Bro. C. J. EVANS opposed the motion, observing that Bro. Douglas had evinced a contumacious spirit, not for one month, or for six months, but for more than two years, and had persisted in his contumacy and disrespect up to the last moment, when he was leaving the District Grand Lodge, at the Quarterly Communication in September. It was for contumacy, and not for the non-payment of fees, that Bro. Douglas had been punished.

The motion made by Bro. Davis was put to the vote, and was lost.

The District Grand Lodge was then closed in form, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet.

ROYAL ARCH.

DEVONSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER.

On Wednesday, March 19th, the Rev. J. Huyshe, Grand Superintendent of Royal Arch Masons of Devonshire, held his Prov. Grand Chapter at the Prince George Hotel, Stonehouse, in the chapter-room of Fortitude, 122. The attendance of the various companions was very large, and the appearance of the chapter, when fully assembled, was of the most imposing description, and will not easily be forgotten by those who were present. Every chapter, with only one or two exceptions, was represented. On motions duly made, grants of money for a distressed brother and the widow of a companion were severally made, after which the excellent superintendent proceeded to appoint and invest his various provincial grand officers:—Ex. Comps. Tripe, 280, H.; Bremridge, J.; Isaac Watts, Treas.; Denis Moore, E.; R. Rodd, N.; C. J. Laidman, 1st. Standard Bearer; James Rowe, P.S.; John C. Hancock, 1st. A.S.; Frederick Nettleton, 2nd A.S.; Merryn Drake, G.S.B.; John Killingly, G. Supt. of Works; James Clase, Dir. of Cers.; Thomas Harfoot, 2nd standard bearer; James Gregory, Janitor.

The musical portion of the chapter was ably presided over by Companion Richard Rowe, to the great approbation of all present.

After the ceremonies of investiture were concluded, the grand chapter was closed in due form with solemn prayer.

DEVONPORT.—*Chapter of Fidelity* (No. 280.)—On Friday, 14th March, 1862, a convocation of this chapter was holden at six o'clock, for the double purpose of installing Comp. J. Mackay into the chair of J., and of exalting several brothers, many of whom are very well known for their zeal and active labours in the cause of Masonry in this province. Additional interest was imparted to the meeting from the fact that it was the first time the chapter had been opened since its removal from Tiverton in October, 1861, excepting a merely formal meeting for necessary preliminaries, which gave the brethren also an opportunity of visiting the compact and pretty suite of apartments recently fitted up for the use of the lodge and chapter. The ceremony of initiation was duly performed by Bro. John Rogers, P.Z., who received the compliments of all the assembled com-

panions for the very perfect way in which he performed that and the subsequent ceremony of exaltation, assisted by Comps Jenkin Thomas as H. Among the companions present were Comp. J. C. Hancock, P.Z.; Comps. J. Rowe, P.Z.; J. R. Brener, Dupré, Rodda, Jew, Watts, Harfoot, Scott, Elphinstone, Arnold, Murch, Crocker, Fox, Roberts, H. A. Woodhouse. The following brethren were then exalted:—W. Bros. W. A. Clark, P.M. 280, P.G.T.; James J. Clase, P.M. 280, P. Prov. G.D.C.; S. Chappel, P.M. 280, P.G.S.; Bro. Cole, S.W. 280; Linde, S.D. 280; R. Taylor, 280. The E. Comp. L. P. Tripe, P.Z., formerly of Chapter Sincerity (No. 224) was duly elected a member of the chapter, and also to the 1st Principal's chair of the chapter. Comp. Rogers was nominated to the chair of H. Comp. Clarke nominated to the office of P.S. and Treasurer; James Clase, E.; J. Chappell, N.; Cole, 1st A.S.; Linde, 2nd A.S. A hearty vote of thanks was then proposed and carried, to the companions assembled, who had so kindly assisted in the work of launching the chapter, to which E. Comp. J. Thomas feelingly responded, and an assurance was expressed that in the hands of the newly exalted brethren, whose zeal would not be less in Royal Arch than in Craft Masonry, Fidelity Chapter must prosper. Several more members will be exalted very shortly.

YORKSHIRE WEST.

BRADFORD.—*Chapter of Charity* (No. 379.)—A meeting of the above chapter was holden in the rooms of the Lodge of Hope on Monday evening, March 24th, at seven o'clock. The M.E.Z. being prevented by sickness from attending, the chair was occupied by P.Z. Thos. Hill, who at once proceeded with the duties of exalting Bros. Ibbetson, Armitage, and Briggs, of the Lodge of Hope, assisted by Comps. C. H. Taylor, H.; I. T. Robinson, J.; John Gaunt, P. Soj.; Jas. Lumb, S. E.; L. C. Hill, S. N., and the rest of the officers. There were also present, Comps. M. Rogerson, H. Smith, P.Z.'s, Wm. Duckitt, H. Butterworth, Manoh Rhodes, H. Berlon, &c., and J. C. Read, of the Chapter of Moravia (No. 543) Baildon. The ceremonies being concluded, Comp. Thos. Hill vacated the chair, which was taken by Comp. P.Z. Henry Smith, when the companions proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year. The following companions were proposed and unanimously accepted: Comps. C. H. Taylor, M.D., Z.; J. T. Robinson, H.; James Lumb, J.; Alexander Hunter, P. Soj.; J. J. Schaeppi, S.E.; H. Berlon, S.W., P.Z.; Thos. Hill, Treas.; J. H. Buckley, P.Z., Janitor; and J. J. Holmes, Assist., being re-appointed. The whole proceedings were of a most pleasing and harmonious character; the chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to the banquet-room, where refreshments were served. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been disposed of, the vocal powers of several companions, aided the president in satisfactorily conducting this not unimportant part of the meeting.

SCOTLAND.

THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF SCOTLAND.—We believe the disjunction is contemplated of the Chapters in Ayrshire from the Provincial Grand Chapter meeting in Glasgow. At the last Quarterly Communication of the Supreme Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, a petition was presented from several leading Royal Arch Companions, resident in Ayr, praying the Supreme Grand Chapter to erect Ayrshire into a province. Grand Chapter having considered the petition, remitted the matter to Comp. Dr. Walker Arnott, Prov. G. Supt., to report. It is understood that Comp. Arnott is favourable to the proposed disjunction of Ayrshire from the extensive district at present under his supervision; and it is not improbable that the new province may embrace Ayrshire and Galloway.

AYR KILWINNING CHAPTER (No. 80.)—A meeting of this chapter was held a few nights ago, at which was received and accepted the resignation of Comp. Wm. G. Cunningham, who has for several years filled the office of Scribe E in his mother chapter. Comp. Cunningham carries to Liverpool with him the good wishes of the Companions of Chapter No. 80, for the very efficient way in which he discharged the duties pertaining to the post from which his business engagements have compelled him to retire. A cordial and unanimous vote of thanks to their past Scribe E was minuted, and a grateful remembrance of his many private and Masonic virtues will long be retained in the memory of those with whom Comp. Cunningham has been so closely associated in the working of the Ayr Kilwinning Chapter.

CANADA.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The fifth annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada, was holden in the Masonic Hall, Albion Buildings, in the City of London, on Wednesday, the 19th Feb., and continued in session three days. The Throne was occupied by M. E. Comp. J. C. Franck, G.Z.; R. E. Comp. Edwin Heathfield, G.H.; and R. E. Comp. W. B. Simpson, G.J.; a large number of Grand Officers and Representatives from the Subordinate Chapters being present. The M.E.Z. delivered an excellent address to the Companions at the opening of the Grand Chapter, which embraced many important questions for the consideration and action of that Grand Body. An address of condolence was adopted by the Grand Chapter, to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, on the subject of her late bereavement. The following is a complete list of the Grand Officers elected and appointed for the ensuing Masonic term, viz.:—M. E. Companion J. C. Franck, re-elected Grand Z.; Comps. G. F. La Serre, Grand H.; D. Curtis, Grand J.; Thomas B. Harris, re-elected Grand Scribe E.; G. W. Whitehead, re-elected Grand Scribe N.; James Moffatt, Grand Prin. Soj.; Marcellus Crombie, Grand Treasurer; Oliver Gable, Grand Registrar; James M. Rogerson, Grand 1st Assist. Soj.; E. H. Parker, Grand 2nd Assist. Soj.; James Wilson, Gd. S. B.; C. W. Matheson, Gd. Std. B.; C. J. Starling, G. Dir. of Cers; James Seymour, Grand Organist; A. Huntington, Grand Pursuivant; E. Morris, H. P. Brummel, George Twomley, and E. J. Barker, Grand Stewards; James Foreman, Grand Janitor. Grand Superintendents of Districts:—Comps. E. Heathfield, London dist.; C. Kahn, Wilson do.; C. Magill, Hamilton do.; F. Richardson, Toronto do.; James A. Henderson, Central do.; George T. Morehouse, Eastern Townships do.; Richard Pope, Quebec do.

MARK MASONRY.

METROPOLITAN.

OLD KENT LODGE.—A special meeting of this lodge was held at the George Tavern, Commercial-road, on Saturday last the 21st inst., at 4 o'clock. Present: Bros. Binckes, as W.M.; Purdy, P.W.M.; Briggs, P.W.M.; Peter Matthews, W.M.; The Rev. D. Shaboe, M.A., S.W.; Thompson, Elliot, and Williams. The lodge being opened in due form, Bros. Day, W.M.; McLean, S.W., and Bond, S.W., 1163; Shuttleworth, P.M. 225; Swan, Dromtra, Smith, and Speght, were advanced to the Mark Degrees. The ceremony being most ably performed by Bro. Binckes, G.S. Bro. Shaboe was then unanimously elected W.M.; Bro. Thompson, S.W.; Bro. Williams, Treasurer; Bro. Speght, Tyler. There being no further business before the lodge, it was adjourned until the 7th of April. A lodge of Ex. and Sup. Ex. Masters was then opened, and the advanced brethren were passed through the veils by Bro. Purdy, in that impressive and admirable manner which distinguishes that brother in all his Masonic ceremonies. The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet, having partaken of which the "Health of Her Majesty the Queen" was given by the W.M., followed by that of the "Earl of Carnarvon, G.M. of the Order," "The Officers of Grand Lodge," and "The W.M. elect," who replied in a few words, and promised to perform the duties of his important office to the extent of his ability. Bro. Biggs then proposed the "Health of Bro. Matthews, W.M.," who responded to it, and gave "The Healths of Bro. Binckes," "The newly-advanced Brethren," "Bro. Purdy and Bro. Williams." The brethren severally returned thanks, and the business of the evening was concluded at an early hour.

On the 19th instant, the R. W. Prov. G.M. of Mark Masons of Devonshire, met the brethren at the Brunswick Masonic Hall, Union-road, Plymouth, where a large number from various parts of the province were present. The usual business was transacted and the official appointments made, including the names of Rev. Bro. J. C. Carwithen (whose honoured father so long presided over the province as D.Prov.G.M., and G. Supt. of R.A. Masons in Devon), Bros. Rev. J. E. Risk, G. Chap., John Mackay, John C. Hancock, R. Rodd, S. Chapple, J. G. Richards, Richard Rodda, Henry Miller, Bellerby, and other brethren, while the Grand Stewardship of the province was unanimously conferred on the V.W. Bro. C. J. Laidman, whose zeal and assiduity hitherto fully justified the choice the brethren made, as evidencing that the interests of the Mark

Masons of this Province could not have been entrusted to more worthy hands. After the business of the Grand Lodge had been concluded it was closed with solemn prayer.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE NORTHUMBERLAND AND BERWICK-ON-TWEED LODGE.—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemason's Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne, March, 26th. It was opened in due form by the R.W.M. Bro. H. G. Ludgwig, assisted by Bros. G. Lambton, Treasurer, as S.W.; C. J. Banister, J.W.; Sancter, Sec.; Loades, S.D.; Tanson, J.D.; B. Levy, &c. The minutes of last regular meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. W. Evans, P.M. Lodge 114, being unanimously elected some time back, was advanced to this degree by the R.W.M. The J.W. delivered the lecture to the candidate. The business of the lodge over, it was closed in due and solemn form, and the brethren spent a happy hour at refreshment, to the instruction of each.

YORKSHIRE (WEST.)

SHEFFIELD.—*Britannia Lodge* (No. 53).—This lodge met in the Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, on Friday evening, 14th inst. Bro. Wm. White, jun., W.M., and J.G.D. of England, presided, and was supported by Bros. Drury, S.W.; Stuart, J.W.; Moseley, Sec.; Webster, S.D.; Waterhouse, J.D.; Garnett, I.G.; Primrose, Smith, Arnison, Oxleys, and others. There were also present as a deputation from the ancient Minerva Lodge of Mark Masters at Hull, which has recently received a warrant of confirmation from the Grand Lodge of England: Bros. Thos. Sissons, W.M.; Thos. Walton, M.O. and Lecturer; M. C. Peck, Sec.; and W. Reynolds, J.O. The object of the deputation was to see the working of the Britannia Lodge, which they had heard highly spoken of, and to adopt any portion of it which might appear superior to their own; as, on acknowledging allegiance to the Grand Lodge, they were wishful to conform to its rules and ritual as closely as possible. There being no candidate in waiting, Bro. Peck offered himself as a substitute, and the ceremony was ably worked by the W.M. and his officers. Bro. Drury explained the working tools; Bro. Stuart gave the charge, and Bro. Webster delivered the lecture. The Hull brethren expressed themselves highly pleased with the working of the Britannia Lodge, which they said corresponded in its main points with that practised in their own, but was superior in many things, and it was their intention to adopt the Sheffield working in order that there should be uniformity among the Yorkshire Mark lodges. The Sheffield brethren likewise derived some profit from their visitors, and determined to adopt several suggestions thrown out by them. Bro. Capt. Hirst, of Rotherham, who was marked in Dublin, was also present as a visitor, and said that so far as he knew, the ceremony was very similar to that practised in Ireland in the lodge in which he took the degree. After the lodge was closed the brethren partook of a capital supper provided by Bros. Garnett and Arnison, the Stewards, who are so unweary in their attention to the comforts of their brethren. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to; that of the "M.W.G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon," was very heartily received, as also was the "R.W.D.G.M., Lord Holmesdale, and the Grand Officers." It is the intention of the brethren of the Britannia, ere long to return the visit of the brethren of the Minerva.

PURE WATER.—Few of us understand, or if we understand, do not properly value the importance of pure water. The loveliest face is not always the most innocent; nor is the brightest stream always the purest. Eoctor Letheby, the medical officer of health for the City of London, in his report to the Commissioners of Sewers, on the sanitary state of the City of London, makes some highly pertinent remarks on the condition of the water we drink. During the past few months he has analyzed the water from thirty-four of the City pumps, and the results, he tells us, show an enormous amount of saline and organic impurity. In every case the water has been fouled with surface drainage. There is not one of these pumps that derives its supply from the deep strata of the London basin; and excepting the pump in Glover's Hall Court, and that in Guildhall Buildings, none of them furnish water fit for domestic purposes.

NOTES ON MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Tamberlik is at present in Paris in full possession of his "ut de poitrine." Whether he has lost or added a high note to his "voix d'airain," we shall soon be in a position to know, since he was shortly to make his "reentrée" at the Italian Opera as Othello. Madame Charton-Demour, who, it will be remembered, many years ago belonged to the company at St. James's Theatre, under the management of Mr. Mitchell, and was the chief attraction of the Opera Comique, will fill the part of Desdemona. Verdi has passed through Paris, on his return from St. Petersburg, where "*La forza del destino*" has been compelled to await its trial till next season.

The *Gazette Musicale* announces that the Darmstadt Opera, in a body, intends to come to London during the Exhibition, to give performances to which Herren Ander, and Nieman (it is said) will contribute. The *Männer-gesang Verein* of Vienna, too, we are told by the same authority, will visit England during the same time, and give three concerts.

M. Berlioz writes in a high strain concerning the pianoforte music and playing of M. Dupont, a Belgian artist who has been just giving a concert at Paris.

Mr. Gye will commence his Opera season earlier than has been stated—on the 8th of April. Miss Pync's benefit closed the English Opera season on Saturday. It is said that the company will transfer itself to Drury Lane during the Exhibition season, and will commence its operations with the new opera by Mr. Wallace.

Mr. Fechter is preparing for representation a play of which he is the author, entitled *The Golden Dagger*. It will be produced at the Princess's Theatre, in a few days, M. Fechter in the leading part.

The numerous friends of Mr. Howard Paul will regret to learn that he has been confined to his room in Glasgow for the past fortnight with an attack of scarlatina and bronchial derangements.

THE WEEK.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the House of Lords on Thursday, March 20, the Bishop of Oxford inquired whether it was intended in the new minutes of education to provide that the scholars in night schools should be examined with the scholars in day schools. He observed that he regarded evening schools as the most important part of a system of national education, for they supplied instruction to a class of children who, without them, would receive none, and also enabled children that were taken away from day schools at an early age to keep up the benefits of their early training. The class who attended them did so of their own accord, and the necessity for examining them did not exist to any great degree; but if they were examined with the other children, a sense of degradation might drive them away from the schools altogether. Earl Granville said that there would probably be separate examinations for evening schools, and he thought that in the revised minute the Council of Education had shown a disposition to afford greater assistance to this important class of schools.—On Friday, a number of petitions against the "revised code" were presented. Amongst the peers entrusted with these protests, was the Earl of Ellenborough, who, however, took the opportunity of stating that, instead of sympathising with the remonstrants, he heartily wished the Government success in their effort to keep the grants for educational purposes within reasonable limits.—On Monday, the Lord Chancellor's Lunacy Bill passed through

Committee, without any important alteration. Lord Chelmsford attacked one of the clauses, but on a division, Lord Westbury had the satisfaction of seeing his rival in a minority of twelve.—On Tuesday, the Earl of Carnarvon called the attention of their Lordships to the state of affairs in Poland. His Lordship spoke in a tone very friendly to the Polish nation, and he expressed especial regret that the circular of Prince Gortchakoff, issued in the early stages of the recent troubles, which was believed to offer important concessions to the Poles, had not been acted upon. He thought the present time opportune for friendly representations to Russia on behalf of the Poles. Earl Russell, in reply, intimated that it would not be possible for the Government to interfere in this question; but he indulged a hope that considerable concessions would be granted by Russia, and that the condition of Poland would improve with that of the governing country.—On Thursday, the 20th, the House of Commons went into Committee on the Fairs and Markets (Ireland) Bill, and on resuming went through the other orders of the day.—On Friday another long discussion took place on the question of colonial defence. Mr. Baxter moved "that the multiplication of fortified places in distant possessions involves a useless expenditure, and that the cost of maintaining fortifications at places not being great naval stations, in self-governed colonies, is not a proper charge on the imperial treasury." The resolution was supported by Mr. Childers and Mr. Adderley, and opposed by Sir G. C. Lewis and other members; and ultimately, the member for Montrose withdrew his motion. Sir John Hay moved that an address be presented to the Queen, praying her Majesty to take into her most gracious consideration the case of the naval captains on the reserved list. The Hon. Baronet alleged that those officers had been very unfairly treated by the Admiralty, while Lord Clarence Paget denied that they had any just cause for complaint. A debate followed, and on a division the motion of the member for Wakefield was rejected by a majority of 6.—On Monday, the Attorney-General stated, in reply to a question from Mr. Vance, that it was not the intention of the Government this session to propose an amendment of the New Bankruptcy Bill. Mr. Layard, in answer to a question from Mr. Gregory, said the capture of the British ship *Labuan* by a Federal cruiser had been brought under the notice of the Government, and Lord Lyons would communicate with Mr. Seward on the subject.—On Tuesday, after some not very important questions on foreign affairs had been replied to by Mr. Layard, Mr. Walpole rose to bring forward his motion that the House "resolve itself into a Committee to consider the best mode of distributing the parliamentary grants for education," in order to introduce certain resolutions. The right hon. gentleman acknowledged considerable defects in the present system of State education, but contended that these would not be in any way remedied by the proposed changes. All the discipline and management of the school, he said, would go for nothing under the revised code if circumstances were unfavourable on the day of examination. Sir George Grey, on behalf of the Government, acceded to the proposition that the House should go into Committee, and hoped the discussion of the principles involved would be taken at that stage. He proceeded, however, to defend in general terms the course of the Government. After speeches from Mr. Banks Stanhope, Mr. Buxton, and Lord R. Cecil, Mr. W. E. Forster described the effect which he believed the changes proposed by Government would have in such a town as Leeds. There, he thought, the middle-class schools, and those of the rich mill-owners, would be fostered; whilst the poorer schools, which required assistance the most would be neglected. On the motion of Mr. Whiteside, the debate was adjourned.—On Wednesday,

the Register of Voters Bill and the Chancery Regulation Bill both passed through Committee. So also did the Whipping Bill (No. 2), with the addition of an amendment moved by Mr. Stanley, providing that children shall only be punished with a birch. Heretofore, as the returns show, the cat has been freely used upon boys of tender years. The Turnpike Tolls Exemption (Scotland) Bill was thrown out; and the Law of Property Amendment Bill was read a second time.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The decrease in the rate of mortality last week, as shown in the Registrar-General's report, is very remarkable. The number of deaths for the week was 1271, which was lower than they have been in any week in the present year. In the first week of the present month the number was 1505. The average for the last ten years was 1410. It is satisfactory to find that the number of deaths from typhus fully partakes in the general decrease. The births of 1805 children during the week falls as far below the average, which is 1959.—At the late meeting of the British Association, the meteorological section determined to make certain experiments on the air by means of a balloon. The first of these took place at Wolverhampton on Saturday, and the Royal Cremorne balloon, that has made several ascents from the Cremorne Gardens, being the largest balloon in England, was engaged for the purpose. Unfortunately, it proved unairworthy. It was intended to ascend an elevation of five miles, but before the aeronauts rose one mile from the surface, the gas began to escape, and the machine came to the earth from sheer inanition. It is thought, however, that the balloon can be sufficiently repaired to justify another attempt in the course of the next few days.—On Saturday, the personal friends and professional admirers of Mr. Charles Kean, presented that gentleman with a magnificent table service of plate, as a "tribute to his genius as a great actor, and in recognition of his unremitting efforts to improve the tone and elevate the character of the British stage." There was a numerous attendance, and in the absence of the Duke of Newcastle, who was summoned to attend the Queen, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in an eloquent speech, presented the testimonial to Mr. Kean, who, in a few earnest and touching words, expressed his thanks.—A meeting of maltsters has been held in the Corn Exchange Coffee-house, Mark-lane, to represent to the Government the grievances under which they lie under the new system of short credit, by which six weeks only is allowed between the assessment of the tax and the time for its payment. There was a general agreement in the condemnation of the mode of levying the tax. A deputation was appointed to wait on the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the subject.—An important deputation of gentlemen connected with the fire insurance offices have waited on the Lord Mayor to represent to him the danger arising to life and property from the way in which petroleum, or rock oil, now imported into this country in large quantities, was stored in the neighbourhood of London. The oil, they represented, was extremely inflammable and explosive, igniting when flame was brought within an inch of it, even in a low temperature; and as it would not mix with water, but floated on the surface, water would not extinguish the flames. Yet several thousand casks of this dangerous substance were stored up in different wharves, without any extraordinary precautions. The Lord Mayor intimated that he or any other of the metropolitan magistrates would have jurisdiction in case of apparent danger; and he added that while they ought not to discourage such a valuable product of nature, care should be taken so as to regulate its storing, that what Providence intended for a boon should not be a source of disaster.—The Home Secretary has been busy dealing with the cases of the murderers that have been convicted in the present assizes. The boy Devereux, who stabbed the crimp in Whitechapel, and Hall, who

shot Lord Dillon's gamekeeper, having been previously respited, are now condemned to penal servitude for life. The man Jones, who caused his wife's death near Merthyr Tydvil, by striking her with a spade in a fit of jealousy, has obtained a respite.—We have another pretended confession of the Road murder. A man jumped into the Thames from the Waterloo-bridge, on Friday evening, leaving behind him an incoherent and wretchedly-spelled letter, in which he alleges that he was "one who don this awful murder." The suicide is believed to have been insane, and the police attach no importance to his confession.—Garotting is evidently on the increase. Another fatal case has come to the knowledge of the coroner. Two rough-looking fellows, it appears, attacked a man of 62 years of age, and the brutality of the robbers was such that the man has died in the hospital.—The use of the knife is becoming alarmingly frequent in the streets of London. A young man was brought before the magistrate charged with stabbing two men. From the evidence it appeared that the provocation given was of the most trifling description, and, if one of the wounded men is to be believed, quite accidental; but it sufficed to lead to a quarrel, when the prisoner stabbed one man in the face, and on being pursued and secured by the other, he stabbed him also. The severity of the punishment which this offence is properly visited, appears to have little effect in checking the cowardly practice.—The man Thorley, who in February last murdered a young woman who had rejected his addresses, at Derby, has been sentenced to death at the Derby Assizes.—At Brighton, a day or two ago, a young man, named Belsey, made a desperate attempt to shoot a young woman to whom he was engaged, on the very day of their intended marriage. The motive thus far appears inexplicable.—A suspicious death took place on Saturday night in a coffee-shop in Euston-street. A man and woman came to the place and engaged a bed for the night, but in the course of about an hour after they retired the woman aroused the landlord, and said the man was dying. Help was procured, but he was dead, from disease of the heart, as proved on the Coroner's inquest.—The actions against the London and Brighton Railway Company to recover compensation for injuries sustained in the fatal collision which took place in the Clayton tunnel on the 25th August, have commenced at Lewes. The first case heard was that of Mr. Swaysland and his wife, who sustained severe injuries by the accident. The company paid £700 into court, and the jury awarded an additional £300. The grand jury ignored the bill against Mr. Charles Legge, the Brighton station-master, and a verdict of not guilty was formally taken.—Henry Cross, a solicitor, who was charged at the police court, a short time ago for fraudulently obtaining 50*l.* from a lady to whom he was paying his addresses, under pretence of investing it in a more profitable manner, has been tried before Mr. Bodkin, at the Middlesex Sessions. The case was clearly proved against him, and some aspersions against the lady's character were not only disproved, but repudiated by the prisoner himself, when he saw the case going against him, though it was shown that he had himself inserted these insinuations in the instructions to the counsel who undertook his defence. He was found guilty, and sentenced to imprisonment for two years.—The court-martial which has been sitting in Dublin, investigating the charges preferred against Captain Robertson, of the 4th Dragoon Guards, has at length been brought to a close. The prisoner was charged, in the first place, with not having taken the proper steps to obtain satisfaction for an insult offered to him by Colonel Dickson, in October, 1860; and, in the next place, with having alleged, as a reason why he wished to withdraw an application to be permitted to retire from the service, that he had submitted that application to the military authorities "entirely through intimidation." The evidence which has been brought before the court has been of the most conflicting and extraordinary character, and, in all probability, some time will elapse before the "finding" is made public.—A case perfectly new in English law has been decided by Vice-Chancellor Page Wood. A gentleman devised certain legacies to the widow of a deceased relative of his, annexing the condition that if she married again she was to lose the benefit of his bequest. The lady did marry again; and in answer to the trustees under will, who called on her to resign its benefits, she pleaded by her counsel that the condition was void, as it was against public policy so to restrain marriage. The Vice-Chancellor, in giving judgment, remarked on the singular circumstance that this question had never before been raised in the courts. For a husband to annex such a condition to his will in the case of his own widow was a matter of every-day

occurrence; but it had never before occurred, as far as he had been able to discover, that a testator annexed such a condition to his will in favour of somebody else's widow. But as the law allowed a husband to restrain the marriage of his own widow, it could not be said that a restraint imposed on another man's widow was against public policy, and he therefore decided the case against the lady.—The *Gazette* contains a notification to the effect that the Commercial Treaty between this country and Turkey, came into operation on the 13th instant.—The statement which appeared some time ago, to the effect that Mr. Peabody, the eminent American banker in London, had determined to devote a large sum of money to purposes of charity in the metropolis, is confirmed by a correspondence published in the *Times*. The sum is one of no less than £150,000, and the object of the munificent donor is to "ameliorate the condition and augment the comforts of the poor who, either by birth or established residence, form a recognised portion of the population of London." This fund has been entrusted to a committee, consisting of Mr. Adams, the American Minister in London, Lord Stanley, Sir J. E. Tennent, Mr. C. M. Lampson, and Mr. Morgan (Mr. Peabody's partner); and the principal condition attached to the gift is that "now and for all time there shall be a rigid exclusion from the management of this fund of any influences calculated to impart to it a character either sectarian as regards religion, or exclusive in relation to local or party politics." The trustees are left to deal with the money in the manner they may deem most likely to give effect to the object aimed at; but Mr. Peabody suggests that a portion of it, at least, may be applied in the construction of improved dwellings for the poor.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—Russia, among her other movements of reform, is about to modify the censorship of the press. An Imperial decree has been issued, ordering several alterations in the censorship of printed matter; a commission has been appointed to revise the law on the press, and the censorship of works published by scientific societies has been abolished.—The King of Prussia has issued a decree, ordering the necessary steps for new elections to be immediately taken. In this decree he declares that it is the duty of officials to give the electors "explanations which leave no doubt as to the principles of his government, and to oppose the influence of hostile parties who endeavour to unsettle the natural tendencies of the public mind, as was manifested on the occasion of the last elections." He firmly adheres to the principles which he announced in 1858; but erroneous interpretations of those principles have, the King says, "produced complications, the happy solution of which is the task of the present government."—The Lower House of the Austrian Council of Empire has been engaged in a debate upon the financial measures of the Government. The Finance Minister's published defence of his policy was attacked; but the Chamber accepted the condition of Europe in 1860 as a justification of the increased military force. The press prosecutions in Austria have resulted just now in two condemnations—the editor of the *Wanderer* to eight months' imprisonment, and the editor of the *Press* to fourteen days.—The programme agreed on by Kossuth, Klapka, and Turr, in reference to Hungary, has been published in an Italian paper; according to which Hungary is to be established as a constitutional kingdom, to the exclusion of the House of Hapsburg; civil equality to be enjoyed by all the inhabitants; and an offensive and defensive alliance to be formed between Hungary, Servia, Croatia, and Roumelia.—The new Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs has issued a circular explaining the policy which the Turin Cabinet will pursue. In this circular it is declared that Rome ought to be at once the residence of the Pope and the centre of Italian government. "A solution of the Italian question, in conformity with the wishes of Italy," is asserted to be indispensable, because the present state things exposes the peace of Europe to constant dangers.—Garibaldi, who arrived at Milan on Friday night, was enthusiastically received by the inhabitants, the whole city being illuminated; and a series of political demonstrations ensued. Shouts of "United Italy," and "Rome and Venice," were uttered by excited crowds; and in a speech made from the balcony of the Town Hall, Garibaldi promised that Rome and Venice should be freed from a foreign yoke, and urged his hearers and all Italians to train themselves to the use of arms, as a necessary preparation for the deliverance of the remainder of Italy. On Saturday evening a banquet was given to Garibaldi, and in his speech, proposing the toast of "Victor Emmanuel, the regular army, and the volunteers," he said that many foreign martyrs had perished for Italian freedom, and that it behoved

Italy to be grateful to the Hungarians and the Poles. General Turr likewise made a speech, declaring the cause of Italy to be that of Hungary; and "The Wallachians" and "The alliance and community of all nations," were likewise toasted. Following the popular demonstration at Milan, we hear of similar enthusiasm at Verona, though Garibaldi has not appeared on the scene. Many Italian soldiers, it is also said, have been arrested at Mantua.—A despatch from Athens assures us that a deputation from the insurgents at Nauplia has arrived in the capital, for the purpose of soliciting King Otho's clemency; and it is likewise stated that the revolt which broke out in the island of Syra has been completely quelled.—Advices from Constantinople announces that, on Thursday night last, there was a collision in the Sea of Marmora, between the English steamer *Laconia*, and a Russian steamer bound to Salonica. The Russian vessel sank immediately, and fifty-two persons perished; but the *Laconia*, though much damaged, succeeded in reaching Constantinople.

AMERICA.—By the *Arabia*, we have intelligence from New York to the morning of the 12th inst. We learn that the Federal army, on the Potomac, had at length made a forward movement. The advance, it appears, commenced on the 10th. The army met with no opposition. Centreville, which was supposed to be held in force by the Confederates, was found deserted, and on arriving at Manassas that was also entirely abandoned. The Confederates had burnt everything they could not carry away, had destroyed the railway bridges, and left nothing but desolation behind them. The Federals have occupied all the positions abandoned by the Confederates. An important naval battle, or rather two battles, have been fought in the Chesapeake. On the morning of the 8th inst., the Confederate iron-clad ship *Merrimac*, accompanied by two war steamers, attacked the Federal sailing frigates *Cumberland* and *Congress*, at the mouth of the James river. The *Merrimac* made two separate dashes at the *Cumberland* with her iron prow, and at each succeeded in knocking in her sides, and ultimately left her to sink. Seeing this, the *Congress* struck her colours and surrendered. The victory of the Confederates was complete. On the following night the Federal iron-plated Ericsson steamer *Monitor*, arrived at Fortress Monroe, and in the morning the *Merrimac* went out and attacked her. These two iron vessels were engaged in close combat for five hours; when the *Monitor* succeeded in forcing a hole in the port side of the *Merrimac*, which then returned with the Confederate fleet to Norfolk. According to the Northern accounts, the *Monitor* was uninjured. This is the first fight that has ever taken place between iron-clad vessels. The victory of General Curtis over Generals Price and McCulloch in Arkansas is confirmed. The loss on each side was reported to exceed 1000. Commodore Dupont's naval expedition had proceeded to Cumberland Sound, and gained some successes over the Confederates. The Confederates were supposed to be making a stand at Chavenom, in Tennessee, a place of great natural strength. On the Mississippi the Confederates were fortifying an island a little below Columbus, and as General Beauregard had gone to take the command, it is likely they will make a stand at that point. The House of Representatives had passed a resolution in accordance with President Lincoln's suggestion for abolishing slavery.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

P.M.—Lodge 25 on the Irish Register, meets in Dublin.

MERTHYR COLLIERY ACCIDENT.—We have received a post-office order for fifteen shillings, on behalf of the sufferers by the late accident at the Cethin Colliery, from the brethren of the Vitruvian Lodge (No. 423), Ross, which we have forwarded to the Lord Mayor as requested.

EXCELSIOR.—There are no direct laws relative to honorary members of lodges, and they are more often elected by show of hands than by ballot. We look upon the privileges of a honorary member as merely nominal. He should not hold office in the lodge. He may however have a vote or not, as determined by the members. There is no necessity to return him to Grand Lodge: if you do so, it has been ruled he must pay a small fee, anything above the quarterage to the Fund of Benevolence.

We have received a copy of *Lectures on the Ancient and Modern Drama*, by Bro. Jones, which shall be noticed next week.