

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1862.

CLASSICAL THEOLOGY.—LIV.

X.—VESTA AND DECEMBER.

The initiated into the mysteries of the Temple of Harpocrates, whence came the proverb *reddere Harpocratem* (to make a person mute) were esteemed worthy of a place among the gods. It is said the god himself was the son of Osiris and Isis, and came to be the personification of silence. His image had one hand upon its mouth; and in his temples he was not only revered, as in the tribunals of Themis, but symbolised to the wise inhabitants of Egypt that secrets should be kept sacred in the councils of kings, and should no less be so held inviolable in the privacy of their domestic homes; for as silence is maintained in the sanctuaries and assembles of the gods, so it ought to subsist in the courts and convocations of justice. Also, as of old, so now, silence may be considered as a spirit, a gift, or an attainment of heaven. At all events we have the exhortation of St. James, which we, who can hear with our ears, and see with our eyes, believe can never be too often brought before the mental senses for their most constant and very requisite meditation:—

"If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body. Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body.

. . . The tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity; and so (in that way) is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell. For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind; but the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren these things ought not to be. . . . Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? Let him show out of a good conversation his works with meekness and wisdom. But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthy, sensual, devilish. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. That the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace. . . . Do ye think the Scriptures saith in vain, the spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? . . . Submit yourselves there-

fore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Therefore we should carefully discern which are our good spirits, and consider the word *devil* to personify our evil spirits. Cupid not liking to return to his mother, and finding himself in need of counsel, resolved to repair to the Court of Harpocrates. On presenting himself before this divinity, he found him, as often represented, in his magnificent temples sacred to the inhabitants of Egypt and Nubia, seated on a throne, and, although in his appearance seemingly young, of a serious and severe expression of countenance; he wore, if not in spirit, at least as further personified, a bifidated or two-pointed mitre or *infula*; in his left hand he held a sigil, and the forefinger on his right hand pressed upon his lips. Consecrated by his votaries, an altar stood before him covered with fruits, herbs, and flowers, artificial tongues pierced by arrows, indicative of silence, and hearts interspersed in sculpture, symbolical of the sacred recognition and receptacle of secrets, decorated the halls or temples of the god or spirit of silence. Cupid having been instructed in the mysteries of the worshippers of Harpocrates, was at once enveloped from his head to his feet in a veil. By this investment he understood that he was to act under cover; in particular to disguise his proceedings unto his mother, and remain unknown to the object of his attachment, lest Psyche should divulge the secret of his conquest, and bring the vindictive vengeance of Venus upon her, and not less upon him to the involvement of their mutual ruin.

In the meanwhile the parents of Psyche (who we take to represent the *anima*, or feminine soul as the *animus* is the masculine), incited perhaps by the Spirit of Curiosity or some more tempting, inducement consulted the oracle of Apollo respecting the (all wisely withheld) future destiny of their lovely, affectionate, and guileless daughter. The answer, as it was given, harrowed the inmost tenderness of their hearts, for their trust was far from being perfect before their Heavenly Father. "Thy daughter," announced the oracle, "is decreed to be in the possession of one of the most suspicious, jealous, unreasonable, malicious, and vindictive of all creatures. You are cautiously enjoined in mitigation of the fatal consequences that may result from this awfully inexplicable union and alliance, to submit your offspring, Psyche, in bodily abode, which rival even those of the goddesses—alone to her own thoughts and the deepest solitude of the Gargarus."

In the midst of the general dismay and affliction so solemnly and severely caused by the decision and injunction of this great oracular deity, Psyche herself remained in that tranquil state of self-serenity which is constantly the firm support and conscious recompense of a virtuous and benignant soul. "Have I not always from my childhood revered the gods," she mentally said, "and derived my greatest trust and happiness in the study and practice of obeying their divine laws—the deeply wise and devised prescience of their divinity. I have no fear of their harming me. If from this mortal dwelling they should seek to take me, I shall carry with me the regards and regrets, the prayers and benedictions, of the friends I have made in their hours of calamity, their houses of mourning, and their trials of distress."

MASONIC FACTS.

(Continued from page 285.)

176. Extracts from the *Account Rolls of Coldingham Priory*, preserved among the muniments of the Dean and Chapter of Durham, and published by the Surtees Society.

1333 (?). *Expensæ factæ per fratrem Nicholaum Thokerington circa reparacionem cancelli de Edenham.*

Willielmo cementario per tres Septimas, pro tabula et ixs. vjd.

Item, eidem emendanti duo gabula cancelli, per quatuor dies, xvijd.

Cuidam mulieri operanti per septem dies, xiiijd.

Uni cementario daubanti fenestras et gabula cancelli per j diem iiijd.

Roll without date, early in 14th century.

Willielmo.....pro stipendo ad.....equo ad festum.....Apostoli, per xij. Septimanas, xxjs. viiijd.

Fabro pro reparacione instrumentorum cementarii, vjd.

In ducentis et lx. Estlandbordis emptis in Berwico, xivs.

Roll of William de Insula, Sacristan of Coldingham, 1354.

Item in stipendio cementarii et pro mensa sua, viijs.

Roll, 1364. Fratrem Simon de Levynghthorp, Sacristan.

Item. *Johanni Lewyne*, cementario laboranti a Dunelmo, in Coldingham et retro, et alii cementariis a Jedworth in Coldingham et retro, pro dicta ecclesia videnda, viijs.

Item in cccc dimid 'Estlandborde cum cariagia per batellos a Berwico in Coldingham, precium de c xxxjs. vijd. ob.

Roll 1365. Item in construccione unius novi stabuli infra abbatiam in omnibus expensis ut patet per particulas, ixs. iiijd. ob.

Item, in reparacione unius gabelli in Cruce boriali ecclesiæ de Coldingham, cum argento soluto magistro cementario, vide licet in cxs.

Roll, 1366. Et de vijl. xvs. vjd. mutuatis de Willielmo Burthy burgense de Hadington.

Johanne Dydinsale latamo, et aliis creditoribus.

Item in reparacione gabelli boralis in ecclesia de Coldingham cum gabello Australi, et argento soluto magistro cementario vide licet, xzl. xs.

177. Pension of William Hoton, Senr., Master Mason at York Cathedral.

To all children of our Holy Mother Church, to whom these presents shall come, the Chapter, &c. (the Dean thereof being absent), everlasting health in the Lord. Know ye all that we, on account of the skilful industry and labour of William de Hoton, mason, son of Master William de Hoton, mason, employed and hereafter to be employed about the fabric of our Church of York, have given, granted, and assigned to him ten pounds of silver as a yearly pension, together with a dwelling within the close of the Church of York aforesaid, which Master Thomas de Pacenham, occupied while he lived, which we assign to the aforesaid William, after the decease of the aforesaid William his father, for the term of his natural life, in whatsoever state it shall be provided, only that he do not superintend any other works, whereby our work might be omitted, neglected, or in anywise de-

layed; to be received yearly by two equal portions, at the two terms of the year, namely, at the Feast of Pentecost, and of Saint Martin, in the winter, at the hands of the keeper of the Fabric; to which the said William, the son of the aforesaid William, assents and agrees, that if it should happen, that he should be hindered by blindness or any other calamitous disease, from working, or from directing the said work in a fitting manner, from that time he shall pay yearly to the under mason, who is the *second master of the mason's work*, one half of the salary of the aforesaid under mason, out of his pension aforesaid of ten pounds, while this hindrance shall continue.

And if it shall happen, through the negligence of the said William, son of William, while able to work and superintend the said fabric, or through his voluntary omission, or through his occupation in other matters, that the work of our church shall be neglected, omitted, or in any other manner delayed, from thenceforth, the aforesaid pension shall cease altogether, for which we do not intend to be further bound to him in any wise, and the present writing shall be wholly without force and effect.

In witness whereof our seal has been appended to the part of this indenture in the possession of the said William; and to the other part remaining in our possession the seal of the said William has been appended. Given at York, the first day of the month of October, A.D. 1351.—*York Fabric Rolls.*

178. *Issue Roll of Thomas de Brantingham*, Bishop of Exeter and Lord High Treasurer.

45 Edward III. (1371).—To Peter Maceon, of Nottingham, 300 marks, which the King owed him for a table of alabaster made by him, and placed upon the high altar, in St. George's Free Chapel of Windsor.

44 Edward III. (1370).—To *Henry de Yeveley*, mason, sent to various parts to retain divers masons to be sent over in the retinue of the Lord the King beyond seas. In money delivered to him, by his own hands, for the wages of twenty-five masons, coming to London, there dwelling and awaiting the passage and will of the King for nine days, each of them receiving 6d. per day, by command of the Chancellor, Treasurer, and others of the Council, by a general writ of Privy Seal, amongst the mandates of Michaelmas Term, last past, £5 12s. 6d.

A precisely similar entry follows the above, substituting the name of William de Wynneford, for that of Henry de Yeveley.

179. In 50 Edward III. (1376), a commission was issued to John de Multon or Manton, and John Atte Hyde de Eggleton, constituting them conjointly and separately, overseers of the houses, edifices, and walls of the Castle of Oakham, to the same amount of expenditure authorised in the preceding year.—*Archæological Journal*, vol. v., p. 134.

180. It appears from the rolls for building the kitchen to Durham Abbey that the work lasted one and a half years, and was commenced in 1368. The names of the masons and other workmen are mentioned weekly. The wages to masons varied from 3s. 8d. to 1s. per week.

Johannes Lewyne, Magister cementariorum, had 6Gs. 8d. for each quarter, and a robe of the value of 13s. 4d. The pavours had 4d. a day, and there is

occasionally a charge for "ad potum." The name of *Peter Dryng*, a young mason, occurs; he afterwards contracted for building the dormitory. The names of the workmen are chiefly local, and near Durham, some came from a distance, as—

John de Lincoln.
Will. de Selby.
Will. de Audirstowe.
Ric. de Goldisburgh.
John de Lyndesay.
John de Stokesley.
John de Benyngburgh.
Robert de Walden.
John de Rippon.
John de Meddiston de Hertipole.
Robert de Gisburgh.
Will. de Harwode.
Alex. de Eboraco.
Hen. de Eboraco.
Rob. de Esteby.
John de Lethome, &c.

Other names occur as—

Rob. Ewen.
Walter Bagman.
William Morthyng.
John Palfrayman.
Thomas Buggy.
Peter Drynge.
John Kay, Sen. and Jun.
Robert Salter.
John Pye.
Rob. Qwyte.
Thos. Ryngrose.
Rob. Copperman.
Adam Mason.
Thos. Collerfawe.
Will. Sturdy.
Will. Waller.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

SIR KNT. MASSON.

When did Sir Knt. Masson die?—+. V.—[April 28th, 1860.]

NEW COSTUME OF AMERICAN KNIGHTS TEMPLARS.

What is the new costume adopted by American Knights Templars on the 13th of September, 1859?—+. V.

ROUGH ASHLARS.

Is it necessary that a rough Ashlar should be of a particular kind of stone and of what kind?—S. S.

RELIEF.

I send a note of Masonic relief, heartily given at a pressing time, and which should never be forgotten. In Saxony, in the year 1772, provisions were exceedingly dear, and a famine was apprehended, when the lodges at Dresden, Leipzig, and Sachsenfeld collected 2874 Rix-dollars, equivalent to £574 sterling, which they distributed amongst 2000 poor families, who otherwise would, most probably, have perished through want.—M. M.

THE LODGE OF ST. JOHN AT MARSEILLES.

In 1756 there was a very elegant lodge-room, or hall, built at Marseilles, and known as the lodge of St. John. I have a description of the pictures, &c., but want to know if it is still in existence?—LETTA.

DUTCH LODGES.

Does the Grand Lodge of Holland authorise Dutch lodges, holding under it, to practise the higher degrees?—LETTA.

FIVE-POINTED STAR.

I observe on the card of a Masonic jeweller a very floridly engraved five-pointed star, having a square and compass on it, and, in the centre, the letter G. To whom does it appertain to wear such a decoration?—L. C. E.

LADY MASONS.

What is the peculiar inducement in joining a lodge of Lady-Masons, such as those lately revived in Scotland?—EVERY DEGREE.—[None that we know of, unless to become the presiding officer, who is entitled to kiss all the candidates, a practice which very few Masons here would like to see applied to their wives, sisters, or daughters.]

ROSE CROIX ALPHABET.

Can you give an engraving of the Rose-Croix Alphabet, in one of your numbers?—18°.—[No—certainly not! If you are properly entitled to know, address us privately, and, if we find you have the degree, we will oblige you with it.]

REFERENCE WANTED.

Where can I find the line,

"Masonry is the daughter of Heaven?"

—P.—[It is not poetry. The words are "Masonry is the daughter of heaven, and happy are those who embrace her!" It occurs in Bro. Captain George Smith's *Use and Abuse of Masonry*, page 258, *sub voce*, "Defence of Masonry in general against Bulls, Edicts, &c."]

AMERICAN MASONIC STATISTICS.

Is there any means of arriving at a proximate number of lodges and brethren in the American states?—M. R. C. [The following table may be considered very nearly correct: it has been made up from the Grand Lodge reports of the various states as undermentioned.]

Names of Grand Lodges of States.	When Organized.	No. of Lodges.	Number of Members.
Alabama	Dec. 11th, 1821	248	8,102
Arkansas	Nov. 25th, 1838	135	5,419
California	April 19th, 1850	194	5,036
Connecticut	July 8th, 1789	58	5,116
Delaware	June 7th, 1806	13	653
Columbia	Feb. 19th, 1811	11	800
Florida	July 5th, 1830	41	1,265
Georgia	Dec. 16th, 1784	229	10,868
Illinois	—, 1823	298	11,473
Indiana	Jan. 13th, 1818	250	8,811
Iowa	Jan. 8th, 1844	142	4,216
Kansas	Mar. 17th, 1856	15	438
Kentucky	Oct. 16th, 1800	313	12,100
Louisiana	July 11th, 1812	118	4,672
Maine	June 24th, 1820	97	3,520
Maryland	July 31st, 1783	41	2,038
Massachusetts	Mar. 8th, 1777	103	4,112
Michigan	July 31st, 1826	122	5,816
Minnesota	Feb. 23rd, 1853	23	833
Mississippi	Aug. 25th, 1818	243	10,119
Missouri	May 4th, 1821	187	6,211
Nebraska	Sept. 23rd, 1857	7	157
New Hampshire	July 16th, 1789	43	1,907
New Jersey	Dec. 18th, 1786	53	2,786
New York	—, 1787	433	26,740
North Carolina	Dec. 16th, 1787	133	5,680
Ohio	Jan. 2nd, 1809	118	13,209
Oregon	Sept. 15th, 1851	21	623
Pennsylvania	Sept. 25th, 1786	159	6,719
Rhode Island	Jan. 25th, 1791	17	1,381
South Carolina	Mar. 24th, 1787	71	3,290
Tennessee	Dec. 27th, 1813	218	11,419
Texas	April 16th, 1838	217	9,016
Vermont	Oct. 19th, 1794	49	2,398
Virginia	Oct. 30th, 1778	173	6,840
Wisconsin	Dec. 18th, 1843	114	3,936
Washington	Dec. —, 1858	8	206
		4464	207,726

MASONIC BAPTISM.

Where is the ceremony of Masonic Baptism performed, and am I eligible to be present at one, being a P.M. of two lodges?—*EUCLID*.—[It is done on the continent and in America—not in England. We believe every Master Mason can be present if known to the Venerable of the lodge, who undertakes the duty. For further particulars see Clavel.]

ORATOR'S JEWEL.

Some lodges have an officer named the Orator. What is his distinctive jewel?—*COSMOS*.

EMBLEMATIC SUMMONSES.

What lodges use emblematical borders, &c., to their summonses?—*G. S.*

BRO. CHAPMAN IVES.

Who was Bro. Chapman Ives, living about 1801? I have seen a letter of his containing Masonic gossip of that date.—††.

THE DEGREES OF MASONRY.

We are so repeatedly asked to what jurisdiction the various degrees of Masonry belong that, at a very large sacrifice of time, we have determined on drawing out a table which, necessarily imperfect as it must be, is we believe, the first of its kind. It is published in the hope

that our brethren, who see inaccuracies or omissions in it, will kindly supplement our labours by corrections and additions, *always giving us the authority or exact reference* for their statements, each of which should be as full and accurate as possible, it being an endless task to verify every item. It must be distinctly understood that, for this, our present purpose, we take Masonry to be, in the most comprehensive sense of the word, all orders, rites, and degrees, practised throughout the world; but we are not to be held responsible, because they are here inserted, for their validity. Our plan is to assist, by an alphabetical arrangement, the enquirer after any degree and to show under what authority it is administered. In the present instance we commence with giving a list of all the known orders, rites &c., and showing from whence they derive their jurisdiction. By order, or rite, must be understood any series of degrees that are administered by a distinct body of Masons. To save space we shall, after the first time of mention, contract frequently recurring words, such as G. Lo. for Grand Lodge; G. O. for Grand Orient; S. G. C. for Supreme Grand Council; K. T. for Knight Templar; and many others which will be equally obvious to the brethren.

Name of Rite, Order, &c.	Where Practised.	Under what Authority.	General Remarks.
Adonhiramite Masonry	France	Grand Orient	Established about 1750—70.
Adoptive Masonry	{ 1. France; 2. Scot- land; 3. America }	{ 1. Grand Orient; 2 and 3. Unknown.. }	{ Founded in France about 1730, for the ad- mission of Females into Lodges, in order to repel the most scandalous aspersions on Masonic morality.
African Architects	Prussia	Frederick II.	{ Founded by Baucherren, in 1767, princi- pally for Masonic historical research.
Ancient and Accepted Rite	{ In every Country where Masonry is tolerated, and in others where it is not	{ Sup. Grand Councils of the 33°	{ Derived from the Egyptians. Arranged in its present form under Frederick II., about 1738
Ancient Masonry	{ Formerly in England but now the sys- tem in America... }	.....	Another name for the York Rite, <i>q. v. infra</i> .
Ancient Reformed Rite	Holland and Belgium..	{ A Supreme Grand Council of the 33° }	{ Slightly varied from the Ancient and Ac- cepted, or Scotch Rite.
Androgynous Masonry .....	.....	.....	{ Another name for Adoptive Masonry, <i>q. v.</i> above.
Athol Masons .....	.....	.....	The same as Ancient Masons.
Bahrdt's Rite	Halle	{ Prince of Anhalt, Bernburg	{ Extinct. His lodge was called the German Union.
Blue Masonry	Everywhere	Grand Lodges	The three degrees of E.A., F.C., and M.M.
Charles XII., Order of	Sweden	{ The King of Sweden, its G.M. }	{ Only 27 Knights admitted, all of whom are the great dignitaries of the kingdom, but must be Freemasons.
Christ, Order of	Portugal	The King, G.M.	{ The Order of the Temple, or Knights Tem- plar, who, on their dissolution, were in- corporated under this title in Portugal.
Council of Royal and Select Masters ...	America	Unknown .....	.....
Council of the Trinity	America	Unknown .....	.....
Crown, Princesses of the	Saxony	Unknown	{ Founded 1770. Supposed to be extinct, as separate from Adoptive Masonry, of which it was a branch.
Dove, Knights and Ladies of the	Versailles	Unknown	{ Practised about 1784, and was similar to the Adoptive Masonry. It is now extinct.
Druids	Britain	The Egyptians.....	See Bro. Godfrey Higgins's <i>Celtic Druids</i> .
Eclectic Masonry	Frankfort	Baron Knigge	{ Formed 1783. A few lodges exist, but are dying out.
Egyptian Masonry	Marseilles	Cagliostro	{ There are some of these lodges yet existing in various parts of Europe, but they are all deemed spurious.
Egyptian Mysteries	Egypt	Osiris and Isis	See Faber's works.
Eleusinian Mysteries	Greece, Italy, &c. ....	.....	See Faber's works.
Emperors of the East and West	Paris, Berlin, &c.	Frederick II.	{ Now incorporated in the Ancient and Ac- cepted Rite.
Essenes	Judea .....	.....	See Josephus's History of the Jews.

(To be continued.)

TEMPLAR QUERIES.

1. Did the term *Captain Commanding Column* originate with the "Modern Order of Jerusalem Sols?" The term apparently was unknown to the Ancient Templars. The Marshal commanded all below his own rank, and a Knight Preceptor led every ten knights.

2. About A.D. 1300, the Knights of Malta passed a law to prohibit brethren appearing in chapter armed; the French Templars arm—the reverse of our mode—is this the custom elsewhere?

3. Our Grand Conclave has properly re-assumed the title of Malta; would it now again be considered legitimate for the old Knights of Malta in our encampments to form Commanderies and admit to the Order (as a separate degree)? if so, some statute regulations should be made on the subject. I am inclined to think the junction of the Templars and a portion of the Knights of Malta, took place at the Reformation. The Order was dispersed in 1798, and some foreign degrees were about that time introduced into our encampments by refugees. Thirty years after this the French Templars state they made overtures to unite with them.

4. A Knight high in authority prohibits the wearing of the Rose Croix Jewel in Templar meetings. Why is this, and who has the right to require it? not being *contrary* to the statutes.—A.

GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

Being a member of Grand Lodge, and, I suppose, entitled as such to about a brick and a half of the Grand Lodge property, must not my consent be asked before the scheme proposed can be carried out?—B. F.—[It has been asked. Grand Lodge has referred the matter to the Board of General Purposes, who have to report on it, but before they can do anything with it they must obtain the consent of the Trustees, in whom your supposed brick and a half is vested, and over whom you have no power, for if you had what would there be to hinder you walking off some time with your valuable share of the property?]

THE ESTATE OF THE ROYAL COMMISSIONERS FOR THE EXHIBITION OF 1851.

(From the *Building News*.)

The disproportion between projected plans and what is actually accomplished is everywhere written on the pages of history. Nations and rulers from time to time essay great things. Seldom it is that they are not forced in the end to content themselves with a mere fraction of what they desired, and ruefully to count the cost at which that modicum even has been obtained. There are few men of middle age but will confess that the realisation of their pet schemes has fallen lamentably below the height to which their sanguine hopes once ardently soared. Not only is this the experience of individuals in the narrow details of private life, but, more strikingly so, of those who would fain have elevated the people, but have found that their words have been wasted on cold and inattentive hearers. Non-success, while probable enough in questions concerning social and political matters, is the almost certain result of all efforts which demand cultivation of the mind. If the multitude would slide into the groove so temptingly laid before their very feet, if they had eyes for what we, who wish to be regarded as their teachers, insist upon; is their interest, society would undergo a transformation hard even to imagine. Whether it be that this assumption of superiority on our part repels instead of attracting, or that the majority find an unconquerable dryness in all that relates to science and art, and are, consequently, slow to appreciate the advantages held out to them, or that the daily struggle for daily bread leaves little time and less relish for mental provision; certain it is that schemes which aim at the intellectual improvement

of the mass, are too frequently miserable failures. Their birth-throes are separated by a brief interval from the moment of dissolution. Sometimes, if longer-lived, and fairly launched with favouring wind and tide, they founder in sight of shore, and sink to a depth far beyond all soundings.

Who, that hears the name of South Kensington, and looks on what was, within half-a-dozen years, fields and lanes, can fail to be reminded of the swelling project that emanated from the councils of the Royal Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851? Who, that sees those bran-new stucco palaces, can help comparing this picture with that—the evidences of a brilliant commercial speculation with the proposal for concentrating all public institutions in one grand focus?

Not that the Royal Commissioners have, even now, altogether abandoned their first love; but, by little and little, their heart-hold has grown fainter and fainter, till at last, they retain only fifteen acres applicable to a scheme that once appeared so vast and important as to demand ten times this extent of land. They may, perhaps, persuade themselves into the belief (as would seem to be the case) that, in one way or other, they really have done something towards carrying into effect the magniloquent design, which was conceived by them in the heated flush kindled by the success of the Exhibition in Hyde-park. They may point to the South Kensington Museum, and connect its existence and the creation of the Department of Science and Art with the animated aspirations that found a voice in their second report. Unhappily, the facts are against this view. The various art-schools and industrial institutions had a being quite independent of the South Kensington Museum, which was added to them—not they to it—the whole being fused into a Governmental Department.

What are main features of management at Brompton? The purchase of objects of ornamental art and a system of circulation. Both these methods of imparting public instruction were suggested by a Committee of the House of Commons in 1836. As far back as 1840 a considerable sum in one grant (£10,000) was voted to purchase examples of art for the Schools of Design. Improvements have, it is true, been grafted on the tree of knowledge that grows at Brompton. What wonder if its branches shoot out with vigour, when its roots are watered with £100,000 a-year!

However, let us do no less than justice to the Royal Commissioners, and hasten to admit that this illustrious body, in conjunction with the Society of Arts, formed an "Animal Produce Museum" on which large sums were spent; that they erected, at their own cost, the refreshment and retiring-rooms, of which, when completed, they made a free gift to the Department; and that they also provided fittings for various sections of the Museum.* But, in making this concession, little beyond providing a building site seems to have been added to the opportunities before enjoyed by the public—little, that is to say, as proceeding directly from the Commissioners.

To be told that the general taste has improved within the last ten years is to be told that England has not been standing still, but has marched on with the rest of Europe. What has this decennial period not done for architecture? Both schools, Classic and Gothic, will agree on this point at all events—that there has been progress of a decidedly hopeful character. Still, it would be difficult as well as invidious to point out any one in the profession who could be said to be the leader in the onward movement. Happy he who is content to share with others his renown, and thus attain the summit of dignity within reach of the true artist—humility?

It boots little to recur to what was once thought of and has now well nigh vanished, except that the threatened

* Museum Building and Collection of Animal Produce presented to the Government, £7,476 12s.—Appendix N, Fourth Report.

removal of the British Museum Collections has brought the Kensington Gore Estate prominently forward, and may, even at the eleventh hour, give a body to the will-o'-the-wisp that has eternally danced away from the feet of those who followed in its track. For this reason, then, we believe that it will be not uninteresting to pass in review the history of the Royal Commissioners' proceedings, and to learn the terms on which the nation may obtain a part of their estate for public purposes.

The year following that of the Great Exhibition, the green sward grew again over the area which the building had covered, and of its existence no trace was left but a pump and two blighted elms. The Commissioners found themselves embarrassed with a considerable surplus fund. Then it was that ambitious promptings stirred their minds, and they put forth a notable proposition, which was lacking in one most important requirement—that medium, by the aid of which alone is there any hope of erecting structures of a description more substantial than castles-in-the-air. They conceived a most comprehensive plan, which was nothing less than founding an institution that should extend over the British Empire the influence of science and art upon the productive industry. This institution was to be established in the metropolis, and to be rendered, by various means, capable of affiliating local establishments in this country, in India, and throughout our colonies, for the purpose of spreading, as widely as possible, the benefits of its labours, and keeping up a constant interchange of information between the parent institution and the various bodies with which it was associated. Not only our own people and dependencies were to share in the advantages conferred, but, with true cosmopolitan spirit, it was laid down that the citizens of foreign countries should enjoy equal facilities.

In the midst of their sounding periods, misgivings appear to have shaken the minds of the Commissioners, and they expressed themselves sensible of the fact, that the sum at their disposal was altogether inadequate to the execution of such a plan as they were contemplating. The aid of the State, and of the public at large was absolutely necessary for its development and completion.

The first want was, necessarily, land on which to build, and this was found without much difficulty. It happened that a Commission,* appointed "to consider the question of a site for a new National Gallery," had reported in favour of the neighbourhood of Hyde-park and Kensington, and the Government had made some overtures for a piece of ground, situated at Kensington Gore. The negotiation was broken off, and the Commissioners (through the instrumentality of Mr. Kelk) obtained possession of the land for which the Government had been treating. This was known as the "Gore House Estate," and consisted of 21½ acres, with a frontage to Kensington-road of between 500 and 600 feet. The sum paid for it was £60,000.

Availing themselves of the ample powers conferred by the Crown in a supplemental charter, dated 2nd December, 1851, which allowed them to invest the surplus fund "in such manner as they might think fit," and to "hold lands and hereditaments in any part of her Majesty's dominions, and to apply or dispose of them" at their own pleasure, the Commissioners passed a resolution authorizing the outlay of a sum not exceeding £150,000 in the purchase of land (including their first purchase), on condition that the Government would engage to recommend to Parliament the contribution of a similar amount, for a separate, or joint account, or for division, as might afterwards be determined.

Having obtained an assurance of support from the Government, the Commissioners next turned their attention to the land adjoining the Gore House Estate, and bought 48 acres of the Baron de Villars for £153,500, paying down a deposit of £15,000.

* Lord Seymour, Lord Colborne, Sir Charles Eastlake, Mr. Ewart, and Sir Richard Westmacott.

In fulfilment of the promise given by the Government, the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Disraeli), brought the subject before the House of Commons (6th December, 1852), and Parliament granted £150,000. Eventually the Commissioners obtained a private Act to enable them to stop certain roads and make new ones on their property; and they resolved to advance a further sum of £15,000 retaining in their hands a balance of £21,000* for current expenses and contingencies. Application was made to Parliament for a contribution, supplemental to the original vote, and a grant was made of £25,000, which was subsequently increased to £27,500. Thus a total fund of £342,500 was raised, of which £177,500 was voted by Parliament, and £165,000 supplied by the Commissioners.

The extent of land secured was 86 acres.

	Acres.	Cost (including interest.)	Average per acre (in round numbers.)
Gore House Estate	21	£60,834 7 8	£2,900
Villars do.	48	155,793 11 0	3,250
Harrington Estate and houses in Gore-lane	17	—	—
Total	86		

Inconvenience having arisen from the joint tenancy as well as from inaction, the partnership between the Government and the Commissioners (in whom the legal title had been vested), was dissolved with mutual consent by means of a Bill, brought in by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mr. Spooner, and which received the Royal Assent, 12th July, 1858. Under this Act the lands of the Commissioners were released upon repayment by them of the monies granted in aid of their funds.

The monies set forth in the Acts as due consisted of the Parliamentary grants before mentioned, together with a moiety of the net rents received up to 31st March, 1858, amounting to £3,879 4s. 2d., and made altogether the sum of £181,379 4s. 2d. Under clause 2 of the said Act the Government retained the piece of land, containing 12 acres, in the occupation of the Department of Science and Art, together with the buildings thereon, known as the South Kensington Museum. The value set on these twelve acres was £60,000, and the Royal Commissioners repaid the difference, or £121,379 4s. 2d., with a loan from the Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital of £120,000 at 4 per cent., on mortgage of their estate. In order to defray the yearly interest, the outlying portions of the property, four in number, and containing about 12 acres, in lots of, respectively, 3¼, 2½, 5¼, and 1½ acres, were let on building leases.

The estate is thus distributed:—

	Acres.
Retained by the Government for the Department of Science and Art	about 12
Leased to Horticultural Society	" 22
Lent to the Society of Arts for the International Exhibition of 1862	" 16½
Outlying pieces let for building purposes	" 12
Devoted to roads	" 9
Unappropriated	" 15
Total	86

The space which remains at the disposal of the Commissioners lies partly along Prince Albert's-road on the west, Kensington-road on the north, and Exhibition-road on the east of the main square. At the corner of Kensington and Exhibition-roads a small property of two acres, belonging to Lord Auckland, called Eden Lodge, intervenes.

* The Exhibition surplus was £166,436 18s. 6d.—Third Report.

+ A portion of this land (on which the houses called Queen's-gate-terrace are built), is exchanged for land belonging to Mr. Aldridge, in Kensington-road, eastward of Gore-lane.

‡ Four more acres were afterwards allowed to be temporarily taken for the annex.

The acreage of the unappropriated land is as follows:—

	Frontage.	(about)	Acres.
Prince Albert's-road	W.	"	6½
Kensington-road.....	N.	"	5
Exhibition-road	E.	"	3½
Over the entrance to the Horti- cultural gardens, which would have to be arched over	W.	"	¼
Total			15

In a Parliamentary paper, ordered by the House of Commons to be printed February 15 1860, is a report from a Special Committee of the Trustees of the British Museum. It is there assumed that a site can be had at South Kensington for £5,000 an acre. The joint ownership was cancelled in January, 1859, and from that time the Commissioners have had an absolute right to dispose of this land on any terms they please. When their attention was drawn to the above-given statement,* they considered what sum they would be prepared to take for these (or any portion of these) 15 acres, if application were made to them, they decided to ask £10,000† an acre, and £5,000 per acre for that part—a quarter of an acre—where the necessity of arching over the ground under the agreement with the Horticultural Society would leave no ground floor space available. The marketable value of the land would, it is believed, be understated at £20,000 an acre; for a piece of about 2½ acres, on the west side of Prince Albert's road and south of Gore-road, is let on lease for 99 years at a ground rent equivalent to £20,000. Here the frontage was valued at £3 per foot by a depth of about 200 feet, and that on the east side of Prince Albert's-road is considered to be also worth £3, whereas the frontage to Kensington-road cannot be put at less than £4 a foot by 200 feet deep; so that, adopting the same proportion, the value per acre would actually be £26,000 or £27,000; and this for land which was bought ten years ago at £3,000.

The main square of the estate, bounded by the four great roads, contains about 55 or 56 acres, of which 53 belong to the Commissioners. The remainder, about 2 acres, is (as already stated) the property of Lord Auckland, and situate at the north-east corner, fronting to Kensington-road.

The property is laid out upon the principle of erecting buildings round the border only of the square, leaving the centre unbuilt upon. The latter, to the amount of 22½ acres, is let to the Horticultural Society on a lease of 31 years from the 1st of June, 1861, at a contingent rental *if they earn profits*. The lease is renewable for a further period of 31 years, on application being made two years previous to the expiry of the first term. In case the Commissioners decline to renew the lease they are to pay to the Society, by way of compensation, a sum of not less than £15,000, and which, in certain contingencies, may be greater. The Commissioners, having undertaken to erect arcades and execute earthworks at a cost of £50,000, raised this amount by a second mortgage loan from Greenwich Hospital, at the rate of 4½ per cent. interest.

The 16 acres lent to the Society of Arts for the International Exhibition, are granted, rent free, up to the 31st of December, 1862, and will be reserved for another Exhibition in 1872, on payment of £10,000. A plot, on which stand the picture galleries facing Cromwell-road, is let on lease for 99 years to the Society, on condition that the permanent buildings shall be used solely for holding exhibitions, that they do not cover more than an acre of ground, and that they have a sum expended on them at first of not less than £20,000, to be increased, if required, by the Commissioners, to £50,000, at the close of the Exhibition, in order to give the facade a suitable architectural character, and to avoid any disfigurement of the estate. The Trustees of the Exhibition subsequently obtained four more acres between the Horticultural

Gardens and Prince Albert's-road, with the stipulation that they should build permanent walls to two arcades and a roof to the south arcades in place of the temporary structures which the Commissioners had agreed to erect. In consideration of the saving effected, the latter have agreed to credit the Trustees with a sum of £1,300, if the Exhibition of 1862 should yield no profit.

Mr. Bowring, in his evidence before the committee on the British Museum, speaks of the cost of the estate as £5,000 an acre. It will be seen, from the items already given relating to the Gore House and Villars estates, that 69 acres were bought at rather more than an average rate of £3000 an acre. With the plan before one, it is impossible to be blind to the fact that it is precisely the two just mentioned properties with which the public will have to deal, if at all. The nation could have had—indeed, did own—the Gore estate at £3,000 an acre. Granting that from first to last the cost has exceeded £5,000 on the average over the whole property; still, here is an advance of price to double the amount. We are to pay £10,000, and this (as we have seen) is half, or less than half, the marketable value.

The Commissioners say that they "offer the land, at a lower price than the market value, because they consider the British Museum to be an important national institution. If Parliament wish to remove any part of the collections to Kensington, the Commissioners are anxious to afford every facility in their power, and feel that they should not deal with the question as a purely mercantile transaction." Yet the sum asked has something exceedingly like a "mercantile" look of 100 per cent. profit. The Government can most certainly be alleged to be perfectly free from any commercial taint, for they have evidently, somehow or other, made rather a dubious bargain in the public interest.

It should be borne in mind that the money spent on the Commissioners' estate has been applied in the most extraordinarily profitable manner. The outlying land is let on building leases for ground-rents which pay the interest of the loan from Greenwich Hospital. It is calculated that the fee simple of them would, if sold, produce £120,000. The main square is valued at £500,000. Here, then, we have the enormous amount of £620,000, exclusive of the 12 acres retained by the Government, and which are now supposed to be worth £100,000. The utmost penny that the estate has cost has been £382,051 13s. 9d.*

* We have been at some trouble to prepare the following:—

Account of the Receipts and Expenditure of Her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, from 20th February, 1852, to 31st December, 1860.
[Vide third and fourth Reports.]

RECEIPTS.	February 20th, 1852.	£	s.	d.
Balance from general account being surplus fund carried to estate account	January 12th, 1850.	186,436	18	6
Value fixed by the Lords of the Treasury for the land retained by the Department of Science and Art	60,000	0	0	
Loan from Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital	120,000	0	0	
Loan from Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital	April 27th, 1860.	50,000	0	0
Rents, &c., received to this day	December 31st, 1860.	£11,944	0	3
Deduct moiety of rents paid to Government up to 31st March, 1858 (Act 21 and 22, Vict., c. 36.)	January 12th, 1850.	3,879	4	2
		8,064	16	1
PAYMENTS.	December 31st, 1860.	424,501	14	7
For purchase of land, leases, &c.	£313,904	16	9	
For making roads and improving estate ...	15,181	7	2	
For surveyor's charges, Parliamentary and law expenses	7,796	6	4	
For interest on mortgage loan	6,213	0	2	
For loss on sale of Exchequer Bills	757	15	5	
		6,970	15	7
For museum building and collection of animal produce presented to the Government	7,476	12	0	
For printing, office expenses, salaries, wages, &c.	4,677	3	1	
For repairs to houses	£323	16	8	
For taxes on houses	1,417	16	3	
		1,741	12	11
For outlay on arcades on account of contracts	24,300	0	0	
		382,051	13	9
By balance, cash, and securities	42,450	0	10	
		£124,501	14	7

* Founded evidently on the price allowed by the Lords of the Treasury for the space in the occupation of the Science and Art Department.
† Probably this decision applies only to five acres, or thereabouts, which are talked of as required for the British Museum.

Our opinion as to the removal of any portion of the British Museum Collections to South Kensington has been so recently given that we need not here repeat our objections. It is very possible that we have been looking at the silver-side of the shield—from the point of the shilling public. Truly, to pass over to the golden-side—shall we say with the guinea folk?—is to be sensible of a decided change in the effect produced on the mind. What can be more agreeable and delightful than to drive from the Park to the Horticultural Gardens, and stroll through the grounds in genial summer weather, of which, in the budding leaves, we begin to recognise the promise? When satiated with the gardens, to lounge and eat ices in the arcades, and thence to pass to the picture galleries in Cromwell-road; or, if the Natural History Collections shall be transferred to Kensington-gore, to gratify yet another taste: how very pleasant is all this! Let us not omit the South Kensington Museum, with its multifarious objects. Then, if the National Gallery can be moved to the same spot, and present towards the Park its (undesigned) grandiose front, we know of no aristocracy that would be so well provided as our own with all that appeals to the finer and more cultivated feelings of a humanity, which (we could almost doubt that) they share with the toilers and workers of London.

Be it so. But let us make no pretence about consulting public convenience. Why not boldly confess that we held a Great Exhibition; that a large surplus fund was built up of the contributions of the people; that we talked and pottered, pottered and talked, till, at last, we contrived the most charming places of recreation for the idle and the wealthy within the closest neighbourhood of their usual gay haunts; that we went to Parliament and charmed to sleep the senators, who, though they arrogate to themselves the title of the people's champions, yet raise their bold voices in any and every place but the right one; that we moved our national collections of pictures and natural history; and, more than all, that we actually succeeded in making everybody believe that we could do and did all these things for their benefit, not in the interest of a section, but in that of the whole public?

Our columns may yet have to record the successful, though gradual, prosecution of these schemes which appear to be ripening. When we remember the weighty names and high influence that can and will infallibly be brought to bear, the issue seems no longer doubtful. Well, we shall have had the satisfaction of having uttered one protest, and shall enjoy the consolation of knowing that, to the last, we denied and denounced the invention of the centre of London.

STREET ARCHITECTURE OF LONDON.*

The street architecture of London is a subject which I feel may be treated in many different ways, and which admits of a much larger amplification than I at all contemplated when I ventured to put my name down in the list of lecturers, with a promise to say something upon it.

Thus, the associations attaching to the different streets and houses; the way in which this great city has gradually grown since that not very remote period when old London wall was its boundary, and the outworks of the Barbican stretched into the adjacent fields, till it has reached its present gigantic dimensions; the origin of the names of divisions of the city, and of streets, and many other peculiarities—might all afford the subject of interesting disquisitions, but which would most of them be more antiquarian in their character than would be suitable to the special views which this society desires to advocate. I will step aside, however, to point out one practical result of the "metropolitan improvement" going on in the present day, which is perhaps overlooked, but the serious consequences of which will certainly be discovered by future inquirers; and that is, that the new system now carried right and left, according to which the names of streets are simplified,

while subsidiary names are done away with altogether, and the entire numbering altered, so as to expunge all minor distinctions where possible, ranging a long line under one appellation, will certainly tend to obliterate numberless spots of interest for which the future antiquary or lover of art reminiscences will search in vain. But it is not, after all, so much that old spots are marked under new designations, and old streets dubbed with new names, as that a very great demolition and rebuilding of entire streets to make way for new or of old houses in old streets, is taking place; so that if London is not being transformed as quickly as Paris has been, it is at all events undergoing the process as completely, though more slowly, and at the present rate some fifteen years hence will witness almost as great an alteration; and this, be it remarked, is not done by any means upon that well-ordered system and under that controlling power which exists in the foreign capital. How far such a system as that would be beneficial to us is a question which I shall just touch upon in the course of what I have to say.

The antiquary may experience a pang at the disappearance of the old landmarks of history, and of spots hallowed by the footsteps of those great in literature or art; but for the most part the lover of the fine arts can afford to view these inroads at least without regret: occasionally, indeed, he may find cause to grieve, but this is rather when some object of beauty becomes lost or obliterated. For example, I observed very recently that the old hall in Bishopgate, built for Sir John Crosby in 1471, interesting to the antiquarian as having been the council chamber where Richard of Gloucester held his secret council, and whence he ordered Hastings to the block, and worthy of notice from the lover of art on account of its architecture, has at last descended to fulfil the very ordinary purposes of a wine merchant's cellar—a fate which the handsome old hall hardly deserved, and which we must all regret. That the old houses of the early part of the last century, with their originally careful, but now more or less dilapidated, brickwork, their window-frames flush with the face of the wall and fitted with heavy sashes, wooden cornices and doorways (well designed though those latter often were), should make way for modern structures, no one need regret; the roofs of these buildings were often picturesque in their outlines, but on the whole they had very little art about them externally, and they did but prepare the way for the Harley and Baker streets of more recent era, whose day I trust is gone for ever.

London, perhaps, has fewer remains of its former self than might have been expected from its age and long and ever-growing prosperity—though, in truth, it is this very prosperity which has had much to do with the demolition of old buildings. Old London, unlike some of the better preserved Continental cities, was built mostly of wood, plastered over; liable, therefore, to decay, and quite unfit for many purposes to which buildings of stronger construction might have been applied when altered circumstances came, and which thus might have been preserved. Buildings of stone walls and oak floors would have made very good warehouses: not so the old half-timbered houses, with their gabled fronts overhanging story beyond story.

London in many parts may certainly be called picturesque, full of sites offering fine opportunities for effect. One part has grown out of another, as occasion made necessary. No generally dominant idea can be said to prevail; it has spread, and that to a most inconvenient extent—unfortunately, not upwards, by which it might have become a far finer city; but a great growth of area has taken place, adding nothing at all to the general effect. The sites I allude to are not such as Oxford-street or the Strand—broad, straight streets, which might be flanked on either side by lofty buildings, with a predominance of long, level cornices and lines in their composition, like the new Parisian boulevards—but Holborn-hill, Ludgate-hill, Fleet-street, Cheapside, Whitehall, Piccadilly, &c.—localities which, all of them, invite that particular treatment which we find exemplified in the new buildings in Bishopgate-street, opposite Crosby Hall, a coachbuilder's premises near the Park, in Piccadilly, and those very striking schools in Bloomsbury, with others I might name. In the situations above named, how can the eye be satisfied unless there is a broken and well-defined sky-line, a certain amount of irregularity, order within disorder, in that which we call picturesque, an acceptance of every little difficulty in order to clothe it with beauty and meaning.

There is something so oppressive to the imagination if one pictures sites like these as being rebuilt in the studied, carefully cut-up, divided, and subdivided styles of Italian architecture, as practised in this day, that one would almost rather

*Paper read before the Society for the Encouragement of the Fine Arts, 10th April, by Mr. James Henderson.

they remained as now, with little or nothing to boast of architecturally, as a whole; and let it be specially borne in mind that you, who are not building houses yourselves in these localities, may yet be able to influence others who do so. Every building will become an item in the final result, and I know how often everything is overlooked except mere utility—nay, more, that the architect is often blamed if he is supposed to give much attention to external appearance.

Writers in the public papers commonly speak of the architect as being the ruling power in all cases. Indeed, he is no such thing, and in the majority of instances he is obliged to give up many points which he would far rather have maintained; and in many more cases he knows beforehand that to attempt what his client would call wild vagaries, or pretentious display, or needless outlay, would lose him his business, and soon conpe him to retire, without even what the advertisements call “a moderate competency.” Where there is an intentional and studied effect visibly apparent, and the result of which is bad, of course the architect should be blamed; but this is not the reason of failure in the great majority of instances which excite adverse criticism. If I see a design, in one part of which the architect has set his thought, which he has filled with the impress of his own mind, where he has ventured to indulge in some piece of good and effective design, and as dared to introduce some judicious and well-studied ornament—almost by stealth, as it were—I know I must absolve him from blame if the rest of the design be bald and uninteresting, flat and commonplace, or even in some aspect of proportion or arrangement offensive.

In street architecture the surface decoration has, for the most part, a secondary office to fulfil; the buildings are seen in a sharp perspective, and the projections, reveals, and soffits contribute most to the effect, particularly bay windows or corbelled turrets, and an effective treatment of the roof, which latter, I think, should not have too much projection, but should cut well against the sky, and should obscure as little as possible of the upward view; in street architecture especially do the roofs play a most important part, both by the picturesque outline they may present, and by the more varied effects of light and shade which they contribute where the light may fall. I cannot well imagine any street ugly where there is a general harmony of main lines, and a well studied and picturesque treatment of the sky-line; while I cannot imagine a plain row of houses looking very well, where there may be an elaborate care bestowed in the treatment of the flat surface, but which ends only with a plain level parapet, presenting one never varying effect against the sky, and throwing one dead shadow on the opposite side.

In truth, the elements of good effect, if not of beauty, in street architecture are much simpler than most people imagine; if the main outlines and general proportions are good, if the architect's practised hand and trained eye have thrown the parts together with a regard to fitness and simplicity, the absence of ornament and costly decoration will hardly be felt at all—not that the capability to impart this satisfying and happy result is the easy and early attainment of the architect; on the contrary, it is, perhaps, one of the last things he learns, for it is an easier matter to design an ornamental feature, good in itself, than to know well beforehand, on the paper, how to give the best effect to the masses of buildings in execution, where so many extraneous causes may conspire to make or mar the success of the composition. Grouping of the masses and telling outline against the sky are certainly the main things to be observed. The building erected opposite Crosby Hall, and before alluded to, is very ornamental in its details, but if nearly all that ornament were dispensed with it would still look almost as well; this may also be said of the new “Life” offices, in Bridge-street, Blackfriars, and of some of the new hotels which have recently been erected; but for admirable outline, balance of parts, and grand general effect, what can exceed St. Paul's, as seen from Ludgate Hill? Is it the sculptured pediments or other architectural enrichments which attract the eye, and fix the building on the mind of the beholder? or is it the towering magnificence of the lofty dome, and the play of light and shade, the solidity and repose, the breadth at once and the lightness of effect of the whole composition? I know of nothing to surpass the view obtained of the Cathedral from the point above named. As the roof in Gothic architecture, so the dome and cupola is the great element of picturesque treatment in Classic architecture; and it is partly, perhaps, because roofs are more common and more useful than domes, and that lowness of pitch will harmonise with Classic architecture and not with Gothic, that the latter

has gained so much in public favour. That the want of a fitting accessory of this kind is felt and acknowledged is sufficiently proved by the fashion lately set in, of making high and steep sloped roofs with or without a flat top, and in this way Classic architecture redeems itself almost entirely from reproach in this respect. I may instance the Tuileries as a striking proof of this; and among ourselves we have many instances—the most recent, perhaps, is the Duke of Buccleuch's house, at Whitehall-gardens, though whether the feature here is treated altogether judiciously may be a question for the critics.

The bright clear sky of Greece, Egypt, and Southern Italy may, perhaps, form the very best background for the beautiful temples, with their long straight cornices and flat pediments cutting clearly against it, and they may be the most appropriate forms to be relieved by it; but in our northern climate the sky is hardly ever clear of clouds, which present forms of every possible variety in every direction and inclination, and mostly of curved outlines; it is not harmonious to rule against this background long level lines without break or intermission, but, on the contrary, the steep, straight, or swelling gable, plain or stepped, the curved dome or roof, and every other feature giving play of line against the sky, is harmonious, and in unison with that background in connection with which they can alone be seen.

Will any one deny that in a long continued façade of building—say the Rue de Rivoli—it is not most refreshing and agreeable to come to a break where there is a design of another character, successful in the particulars to which I have alluded? It is, however, not because the design may be what is called “Gothic” that it will prove deserving of favour above classic; there are some new Gothic houses on both sides of Cheapside, but they both of them fail to give so pleasing an effect as a smaller and less pretentious building now just finished in Old Broad-street; because, in the former cases, the old level line of parapet is adhered to, while in the latter a gabled roof finishes the design. A merely curved or sloped roof, so long as it can be seen from below, will go far to supply what is wanted. The French are fully aware of this, and always let their roofs be seen; and, among others, I may mention the Universal Marine Offices, in Cornhill, as an instance of the truth of this remark, giving the whole building a more pleasing form, and one which the eye readily singles out, in spite of the ornamental and towering structure occupied by Messrs. Sarl, in the neighbourhood.

What I have said is, however, perhaps rather as hoping to influence the future, through those who may agree with me, than as speaking of the present. Our street architecture is, upon the whole, lamentably deficient in this attribute; and when one really feels how wonderful the change would be if any of our fine main thoroughfares could be remodelled with careful study as to the roofs, it is impossible to help dwelling on the point, and very earnestly entreating all who can do so to consider and to advocate the subject as opportunity arises, the difficulties interposed by the Metropolitan Building Act notwithstanding.

There is, however, another point in connection with our street architecture not easily to be dealt with, but which it would be most desirable to control if it could be done, which is, that it constantly happens that new buildings very much spoil one another, and very needlessly; every man considering just exactly what he has before him, and utterly ignoring what will exist on each side of his design when executed. The result is most painful; moulding and cornice are abruptly cut off, every feature is utterly at discord in each case with the others; no pains even is taken to render the design complete in itself, and the front looks as if it had been intended to be one of a row, which, by some change of intention, was never continued. To enumerate instances would be needless, every main thoroughfare exhibits them, and strangers must be struck with this state of things as a peculiarity of municipal management of a most extraordinary character.

I fear no ordinary means are sufficient to cure this state of things. In the present state of architectural feeling, while the battle of the styles is either breaking out in open fury, or smouldering out of sight and ready to break out, there is an habitual disregard of other than personal feeling, and rather a delight in showing contempt for all work of a different character brought into juxtaposition. It becomes, for example, an article of faith to show as much as possible how the creed professed by the disciple of Gothic architecture differs from that of the Classic architect, who has been at work on the next plot of ground, and *vice versa*, though, perhaps, the injury sustained is at least equal to that inflicted. All this is wrong, and is, perhaps, at the

present moment the greatest bane of our street architecture, every integral part destroying its neighbours as far as it can, whereas the study should be to make the whole as perfect, as a whole, as possible. Now, far be it from me to recommend that public censors should be established in matters of art, or that there should be any additional legislation in such matters; still I do think that some general rules might be laid down applicable to our main thoroughfares, and which would injure no one, interfere with no private rights, and which would succeed in reforming to some extent the present state of chaos. For example, just as a certain line of front is established, let certain main lines of elevation be fixed, which shall not be departed from; let the height of the ground-floor stories be fixed, the line of the top of the one-pair windows, the line, say, of the coping or finishing gutter, leaving all above that free. Now, this would only so far control designs as to enable the architect to show his talent, which would enable him to keep these main lines as boundaries, while he would fill up between them as suited the requirements of the work in hand. He might in the interval have fewer or more stories than his neighbour, he might divide them differently, and an absence of all sameness would be secured; but there would be just so much control over the ensemble as would tend to promote a general harmony of effect. And if, instead of every man cutting off his projections ruthlessly just where the centre of his party-wall may come, he was compelled, in a give-and-take way, to return and finish them properly, while the lines of one composition were made either to lead out of those already established or else to be made properly distinct, I can believe that a great gain in our architecture would be accomplished, while there would be as much freedom as there is now. A government or a municipal body has something to answer for in this respect. What shall be said if the re-arrangement of the new Government offices at Whitehall is not complete as a whole, every part helping every other part? How admirable is this carried out in the capital to which we have before referred. I think it is a disgrace to our "local management" that the beauty of our city is not cared for in its several districts as well as the cleanliness, and I believe it might practically be done.

Many new streets and approaches are now being laid out, some of the most important relating to the Thames' embankment, and now is the time for making some effort in this direction. The present Chief Commissioner, Mr. Cowper, I am able to say, is most ready to listen to suggestions; and when a deputation waited upon him some weeks back to point out the desirability of laying out the new streets so as to lead off to many points, and to gain the best advantage for existing buildings, as well as to open the view to new buildings in the best way, he requested the Institute of Architects to appoint a small committee to bring into form and to discuss these very questions, with a view to insuring the best attention to them. And this state of things—the representative of the Government, working with the representatives of the lovers of art in carrying out great public improvements—is an encouraging guarantee that wisely-directed efforts will not be made in vain.

London is not a "show city"—not a place of European resort for pleasure and gaiety—but the great banking-house of the wide world, the busy mart of the universe, too much taken up hitherto with contemplation of its own growing prosperity, with very little care of external appearances, like a rich merchant, who, well knowing the filled coffers at his banking-house, cares little for the threadbare appearance of his outward garb; yet there are spots which the busy citizen daily treads without observation, but which may well arrest the stranger, and must not be passed without remark.

What can be more striking than the views of the great city from some of the bridges as you approach from the southward, especially London and Blackfriars bridges? Walk up Ludgate-hill, stand at almost any point about the Exchange, or in Holborn, where you can take in the view of the rising hill and some part of the broad roadway beyond; stand where the several great thoroughfares meet at the northern end of London-bridge, or look upward from the lower ground as you approach its southern end; and while from many of these positions you will see examples of architecture of which any country might be proud, mixed with buildings of the commonest character, and in the worst taste; you will, if you can look with the unaccustomed eye of the stranger, forgetting for the moment how constantly you tread these spots intent upon anything rather than giving them the least attention, you will see much to admire, much to be struck with as a whole; you will be conscious of a general

impression as powerful as any you ever experienced when looking for the first time on great cities in other lands, and the imagination of the artist will find ideas the most suggestive and varied.

I might single out many buildings recently erected, and which go very far to redeem our streets from the architectural barrenness of which I have complained, but I feel it would be somewhat presumptuous for me to do so, and that the task is better left in the hands of a non-professional critic. You have heard the treatment which I advocate, and doubtless several examples of it will have occurred to you during my observations. If you should not agree with me, you will at least judge and compare as you have opportunity, and you will arrive at a determination, one way or other, in your own minds. If architecture does not progress as it should, it is because there is a public apathy and want of interest, arising from a lack of knowledge upon the subject not credible to us as a nation, and which, of course, begets a lack of taste, or, perhaps, a bad taste founded on no principles and guided by no rules; so that we occasionally hear in high places most extraordinary reasoning upon this subject when some great occasion brings it to notice—or we find an individual absolutely appointed to foster, encourage, and promulgate art, able to convince himself that architecture is a mere mechanical effort, not exactly of heaven-born genius, because any one may perform it, nor yet of mental training, because, says an authority, there have been great architects who, it seems, have had little of this; so that careful loving study of the subject, with toilsome experience in it, go for nothing. All very unworthy, mistaken, and contemptible fallacies, which, if they could have any weight at all, would end to undo every good that has been of late years effected, and would end by extinguishing one of the three fine arts entirely. Such mistaken statements stand rebuked by the great monuments of past ages as well as by a thousand efforts in more modern times, and, I may add, stand exposed in their absurdity by every effort to act upon, or to give any practical effect to, them.

I ask the members of the society to guard with a jealous care any attempt to lower the standard of art, or to introduce meretricious views with respect to it. It may be false taste in sculpture, or wrong principles in painting, or a benumbing influence, a cold shade, a cruel detraction thrown over the noble art of architecture, which, if it were possible, would destroy all that has been done this twenty years and upwards to excite higher aspirations and truer feelings, but which shall not prevail, but shall be once for all condemned by an enlightened public opinion, true to itself and to what is due to the national honour in these respects.

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

Mr. George Thomas Lloyd in *Thirty-three years in Tasmania and Victoria*, thus describes the result of an expedition undertaken against the native tribes:—"But sorrow for the fallacy of poor Colonel Arthur's hopes! A few days subsequent to the capture of the two natives, beheld the noble army of tattered volunteers, surrounding, not the murderous tribes of artful savages, but the well-stored depôt of the commissariat department, established for the occasion at the afore-mentioned rendezvous, in charge of the much-esteemed and efficient officer Mr. Lempière. Party after party arrived, all eagerly asking the question, 'Have the natives passed over the Neck?' Each inquiry, however, was met with a jeering negative; nor had a single black been seen—with the exception of the two captured by Mr. Walpole, and the lucky savage who gave me the slip—by any of the troops who reached the final destination on the first day. On the morning of the second, however, the remnant of my original detachment made their appearance, and set all further doubt at rest by informing His Excellency that the Oyster Bay tribe of savages must have effected their escape through the ranks of the line, on the second night previous to their arrival; leaving a spear in the pea-jacket of 'Mikey O'Brien, number tin,' as a parting testimonial. East Bay Neck now presented a most animated scene. The requisite supplies of clothes and provisions for the homeward route were issued with a liberal hand, and the hundreds of weary pilgrims returned as wise and as bootless as they first set out. Singular to say, the only man who received a wound during the whole campaign, was my clever friend Walpole; and that too at my hands. * * * My wounded

friend, Walpole, was presented by His Excellency, in due course, with a grant of 800 or 1000 acres of land; whilst a few men of his party—prisoners—received free or conditional pardons, as a reward for ridding the country of a pair of wretched low-caste savages, who were captured at the high premium, and mainly at the cost of the commissariat treasury, of somewhere about £18,000 per head, £36,000 being the estimated expenditure incurred in this futile scheme." Mr. Lloyd next explains how, what the whole colony with its governor at the head, could not effect, was successfully accomplished by a single individual:—"About eight or nine months before the institution of the *cordon*, Mr. G. A. Robinson, a worthy colonist, an architect and builder at Hobart Town, was inspired with a most original idea, a scheme, considering the fierce animosity of the aborigines towards the colonists, that appeared even more impracticable than that of the memorable *line*. Seeking an interview with the bewildered Governor, the bold artisan communicated the plan he had conceived for delivering into the hands of the authorities, single-handed, every native then at large in Tasmania, and at a trifling cost to the Government; leaving the question of reward, in the event of a successful result, entirely at the disposal of His Excellency. Notwithstanding his very dubious reception in official quarters, he was fully determined against all obstacles to prosecute his unprecedented and dangerous mission. The Governor, not without a show of reluctance and scepticism, gave his sanction, and ordered the necessary supplies for the expedition. The intrepid adventurer soon embarked on his novel enterprise; and in company with a few blacks who had been previously captured and half civilized, was landed on the southern shores of the island. From thence, strapping his rug and knapsack to his sturdy shoulders, and totally unarmed, he forthwith penetrated into the midst of the gloomy and inhospitable forests. Toiling and marching with heroic perseverance, meeting every discomfort and deprivation like a Stoic, this bold and patriotic man, confident of complete success, ever felt that he was led on by some good genius that told him, 'Persevere, and the bloodthirsty savages shall be delivered into your hand.' At the end of a few weeks, his sable companions imparted a thrill of delight to his heart, by the discovery of naked footprints, denoting that some tribe had very recently passed the spot on which they were standing. Now came the exciting trial, for, in the next moment, the enterprising patriot and those whose dreaded presence he sought, stood face to face! Stern menaces, and war whoops, uttered by serried ranks of warrior spearmen marked his first reception. But lo! after a few magic signs and words were delivered by the sable interpreters, the serrated spears were cast aside, and those hands that had been too often red with the blood of helpless victims, were now most warmly proffered. The wondrous missionary was received with marks of genuine delight; and thenceforth the olive branch was once more miraculously planted between the bitterly hostile and contending races. The surprise of the colonists may easily be conceived on witnessing the almost incredible sight of a wild and ferocious tribe of savages quietly, and with a confidential air, following in the train of the worthy man who had charmed them so wisely, through miles of forests, roads, and sundry villages, into the very heart of the capital of their enemies. At the expiration of four or five years, Mr. Robinson had succeeded in inducing every tribe in Tasmania, one after another, to accompany him to the Governor; promising not only that they should receive no ill-treatment at the instance of his countrymen, but that the Government would also provide them with abundance of food and warm clothing. On the faith of these promises, the blacks yielded."

Mr. John Ericsson, the designer and builder of the *Monitor*, is by birth a Swede. His name is well known to the engineers and mechanics of this country. As long ago as 1826 he introduced to the scientific men of London, his "flame engine"—a machine intended to work without steam, by simply condensing the flame. The engine was found, however, not suited for mineral fuel—our most important product, and the scheme fell to the ground. In 1829 a prize was offered by the Liverpool and Manchester Railway for the best locomotive. Ericsson competed for it, and the result was an engine from his hands that could travel with ease fifty or sixty miles an hour. The railway system was then in its infancy, and the public were thunderstruck at the wonderful foreigner who could travel at

such a furious rate. But Ericsson's most famous invention was his "caloric engine," which he submitted to the scientific world of London in 1833, and which was subsequently made the motive power of a large ship of 2200 tons burthen. The ship named the *Ericsson*, after the inventor, performed a partially successful trial trip, but unfortunately foundered in a squall during her return.

Mrs. E. B. Mason has a volume in the press, entitled *Eighteen Years amongst the Wild Men of the Burmese Mountains*.

"Lord Bacon's Bible Thoughts," selected from his writings, with a preface by the Rev. Dr. Cairns, of Berwick, will be published shortly.

Mr. G. H. Lewes has a work in the press on Aristotle, being a chapter in the history of science, and an analysis of the philosopher's works.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

THE HIGH GRADES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—I thought in the few papers I had contributed to the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, I had carefully abstained from anything that might lay me open to the charge of dogmatism, preferred against me by our esteemed Bro. Woodford; on the contrary, there is, I hope no Mason more open to conviction or more ready to acknowledge errors, when convinced of them, than myself. My first object in writing these letters was to show that the Christian Degrees were necessary to complete the grand and entire scheme of Freemasonry, and I was gradually drawn into some speculative ideas of the channel through which the Masonic Mysteries had descended to us. I never intended to assert that we owe Craft Masonry to the Temple Order, but I gave a few of the data accessible to any ordinary reader, that led me, with far more learned Masons, to such a conclusion; but I am by no means wedded to that opinion, on the contrary nothing would gratify my antiquarian predilections more than to find the high antiquity ascribed to speculative Freemasonry, supported by genuine historical documents, but not by mere Masonic tradition. I hope no passage in my letter will justify Brother Woodford's accusations, that I consider the admission of Jews and Hindoos to a participation in Masonic privileges, entails on Christian Masons the startling description of a body of men who do not believe in christianity, but I asserted, and still do assert that the Masonic guilds who built the roman catholic cathedrals, were at least professing Christians, for no prince, prelate, or monk, would in those days have consorted with any body of Jewish workmen, however skilful they might have been in the knowledge of their Craft.

But though I indignantly deny that the spirit of Freemasonry is anti-christian, it is another thing to say that it teaches christianity, though it lays great stress upon the practice of faith, hope and charity, it does not teach Jesus Christ and Him crucified. It is to do away with this reproach that I so strongly advocate the high grades. I would not close the Craft lodge, but I would open wide the portals of the temple.

I agree with Dr. Johnson that a man will always write better for understanding his subject, and I assure Bro. Woodford that I have paid great attention for many years to Mason's marks, and I draw a very broad distinction between what are commonly so called, and which are still in use in working Mason's lodges, and the regular and geometrical figures common to all

ancient religions. I may perhaps, with your permission, at some future time, enter a little more fully into this and some other points, but my space warns me that I must for the present conclude, and remain,

Dear Sir and Brother, yours most fraternally,
M. H. SHUTTLEWORTH, 30°
Buckhurst Hill, April 10th, 1862.

ANCIENT AND MODERN MASONRY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—It is rather amusing to notice the difference of opinion manifested by Bros. Shuttleworth, Woodford, and Leeson. May not both views be nearly correct?

The Craft or operative Masons of the dark ages, derived their mysteries from the Dionisian artificers, who were initiated into the mysteries of Bacchus, and in right of such initiation were permitted to be present at the celebration of those of Isis. Pythagoras remodelled these mysteries, and this may be a link in the chain of transmission.

The Templars also were possessed of the same mysteries but, they derived their knowledge in the east, through the school of Wisdom, established at Cairo in the 11th century, where philosophy and mathematics were taught and nine degrees conferred. This order was also of Egyptian origin.

Our order of the Temple in all probability has come to us in nearly its present form, from the monks and priests whose establishments were suppressed at the reformation, but owing to the secrecy in which, until recent times, it was necessary to shroud the proceedings of the Templars, it is impossible to say, with any degree of certainty, at what period the Templar lodges and those of the Freemasons became undistinguishably amalgamated, but doubtless the Rosicrucian Order (which is said to have been invented by an Egyptian priest converted to christianity) formed a link in the gradual process.

Permit me to recommend this view to these eminent brethren.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
Manchester, April 12th, 1862. J. Y.

HIGH GRADES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—You were so good as to insert in a recent number a very long letter of mine on this subject; I do not propose, therefore, again to trespass equally on your limited space, or the kind patience of your readers.

But I am anxious, with your permission, to enter a timely protest against many of the statements contained in Bro. Shuttleworth's letter of March 24th.

It certainly is a new and alarming phase in our Masonic discussions when a brother well known like himself, in his own province and elsewhere, does not disdain in *propria persona*, to resuscitate the idle and exploded theories of a French writer, a non-Mason, and to lend the sanction of his own name to statements, and to disquisitions, which serve only to inflict a cruel wound on our common *alma mater*, altogether irreconcilable, as they are, with any arguments enforced, or any conclusions arrived at, on the surer and safer ground of historical truth and common sense.

Among many startling remarks and unproved assertions I venture specially to call attention here, to his unwise allusions to certain old and sacred Masonic traditions which he terms "myth-historical," though he at the same time favours us with a very striking traditional account which might fairly, I think, be called myth-historical, of the institution of the Rose Croix degree in

1188, and of the "Masonic Lodge established under the authority of the Templars, and held in the crypt under York Minster."

Thus Bro. Shuttleworth declares his willingness to surrender at once most solemn traditions of the Order, for the absurd and idle visions of a foreign opponent of Masonry. I am, indeed, surprised that Bro. Shuttleworth does not himself see now, that even on his own grounds, and with his own peculiar creed, such a view of the case is utterly untenable.

I must beg also to ask Bro. Shuttleworth for his authority for the statement, that "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."

So far from such a statement being in any sense correct, Bro. Shuttleworth need only look to Belzoni's illustrations of his Egyptian researches, to find out, that the Egyptians at any rate, perfectly understood the principle of the arch, long before the Christian era. As regards the Greeks, Romans, and Jews, it is but a vulgar error, long since given up by scientific writers on architecture that the principle of the arch is comparatively a modern discovery, or that the principle of the arch was unknown to the ancients, though it is no doubt true, that to christian architecture and to our operative forefathers, the arch is indebted for its fuller, more graceful, and more perfect development. As regards the Jews, the most recent discoveries at Jerusalem have opened out long subterraneous chambers with concave roofs, raised on arches, and which the skilful explorer unhesitatingly assigns to the time of King Hezekiah.

Bro. Shuttleworth has therefore neither history nor authority of any kind, to warrant that passage in his recent letter, which every true mason must read, as I did with mingled feelings of surprise and pain, viz:—"the Royal Arch, that strange Anachronism."

I would in conclusion, once for all, respectfully protest against that desire and endeavour, seemingly increasing, to exalt Christian Masonry and to depress Craft Masonry, nay even to extol the superior attractions and authority, of these unknown degrees, at the expense, of ancient and undoubted Masonry.

Such a line of argument, is not only altogether unjust and unfounded in itself, but comes with a very ill grace from anyone who calls himself a Craft Mason at all, as it can only tend, if perversely persevered in, to weaken, if not to assail, the very foundation of our free and accepted brotherhood.

I am Dear Sir and Brother, most fraternally yours,

A. F. A. WOODFORD,
P. Prov. G.W. West Yorkshire.

Swillington, Leeds, April 14, 1862.

VISIT OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH.

During the approaching season, it is expected that many illustrious foreigners will honour the Metropolis with their presence; conspicuous among whom will be the French Monarch and the Empress. As usual during such royal visits, the establishments of the principal London tradesmen will be inspected; but we doubt whether so much gratification will be experienced at any, as will be, even by their critical taste, at the magnificent emporium, No. 154, Regent-street, where Messrs. T. A. Simpson and Co. seem to have taxed all the efforts of art and talent to produce perfection. Combining the most valuable materials, with the most graceful creations of artistic skill, they have collected an assemblage of wares, that, to quote the nursery ballad, is indeed fit "to set before a king." There is therefore little doubt but that several of Messrs. Simpsons' *chefs d'œuvres* will hereafter find a treasured home in many Continental palaces; unless our own English nobility and gentry, who daily visit 154, Regent-street, be first in the field, and obtain a prior right to the possession of the much-admired articles of utility and elegance with which this establishment abounds.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

It is probable that the Foundation Stone of the Devonport Hospital will be laid with Masonic honours. There is no doubt the G.M. will be petitioned for a dispensation to allow the brethren to appear in procession with Masonic clothing.

The R.W. D.Prov.G.M. for Cornwall, will consecrate the new lodge at Millbrook, on the 5th May. Circulars have been issued inviting the brethren of the neighbourhood to be present. Bro. Rodda is to be the W.M.

Devonport is setting an example which we hope ere many years to see general. The only two lodges in the town, Friendship (No. 238) and Industry (No. 280) have built or remodelled suitable premises, which they hold exclusively for the business of the Craft.

Thursday, the 24th instant, is appointed by the R.W. Prov. G.M. of the province of Gloucester to consecrate the St. George's Lodge, and instal the W.M. in ancient form, in the presence of the R.W.D. Prov. G.M. and other Prov. G. Officers. The day will be celebrated by a grand Masonic Ball in the Town Hall in the evening of the same day, and it is anticipated that at the consecration, and especially the ball, there will be a very large attendance.

The M.W.G.M. has been pleased to grant a centenary jewel to the Albion Lodge (No. 17), Quebec.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire is to be held at Huddersfield, on Wednesday next.

Bro. H. G. Warren has promised to visit Leeds on Saturday, the 26th inst., and deliver the Prestonian Lecture, on the invitation of brethren of the Philanthropic Lodge (No. 382).

THE ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED MASONS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

We again direct the attention of the brethren to the case of Mrs. ELIZABETH PIPER, who, in her 77th year, now appeals for the eighth time to be elected on the funds of this Institution, and now have the pleasure of acknowledging the receipt of the following votes:—

Votes already announced.....	84
Bro. Bridges, P.G.S.B.	40
„ Boyd	8
„ Ledger	8
„ P. (Bath) 5s.	4
„ Scott, P.G.D.	8
„ Smith, W., C.E.	8
Lodge No. 202	4
Lodge No. 752	4

168

We have also received the male proxies of No. 752 in addition to those announced last week.

It will be seen, by an advertisement which appears in another part of our paper, that Mrs. Mary Bethia Baker, No. 11 on the list, has ceased to exist. The votes of many of our Kentish brethren will consequently be set at liberty, and we confidently appeal to them under the circumstances to transfer them to Bro. Warren on behalf of Mrs. Piper, feeling assured that they will agree with us, that she has been too long on the list of candidates.

BRETHREN, remember the EIGHTH APPLICATION. LET IT BE THE LAST.

Proxies will be thankfully received by Bro. Henry G. Warren, at the Office of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, or at 6, Bed Lion-square, London, W.C.

Every 5s. subscribed will buy four votes.

METROPOLITAN.

GRAND STEWARDS' LODGE.—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday last, Bro. Hinxman presiding in the absence of Bro. Samuels, W.M., when Bros. King and Spencer were elected members of the lodge.

ENOCH LODGE (No. 11).—The last meeting this Season took place on Wednesday, at the Freemasons' Tavern, when the W.M. (Bro. W. J. Ruel) had sufficient business to try the capabilities of the most experienced Mason. He most ably initiated Mr. Edward Henry Percy Ferminger and Mr. James Hastings, passed Bro. Henry Denduyts; and raised Bros. F. Ferguson and Jules Jacobin. The W.M. was well supported by his officers, Bros. Moutrie, Heard, Swann, and Greaves, after which the brethren retired to refreshment, and unmistakably enjoyed themselves, especially in listening to the admirable vocal abilities of Bros. P. M. C. Watson, Moutrie, and Greaves. The initiates were more than usually happy in returning thanks for their health, and Captain Crow, P. Prov. G.S.B. of Essex, in very neat and appropriate language returned thanks for the visitors. For the toast of "The Officers," through some clever remarks of the S.W., he caused them singly to return thanks, when Bro. Frederic Ledger passed some happy and well-deserved remarks upon the very admirable "working" that evening of the W.M., his Wardens, and Deacons.—At the previous meeting the immediate P.M., Bro. Chas. Watson, performed his duties to perfection in a truly Masonic and gentlemanly manner, and a most sensible speech, Bro. P. M. Potter (the Father of the Lodge) presented him with a handsome Jewel, which bore the following inscription:—"March 12th, 1862. Presented to Bro. C. J. Watson, P.M., by the members of the of Enoch Lodge (No. 11), as a mark of esteem and regard for the ability and zeal displayed by him during the year he presided as Worshipful Master." Bro. Watson, in feeling and manly language, expressed his thanks for the honour conferred upon him.

EASTERN STAR LODGE (No. 112).—The last meeting of the season of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 9th inst., at the Rose and Crown, Bromley, Middlesex, attended by Bro. Horatio Grey, W.M.; Bros. E. W. Davis, Marriott, and Sharp, P.M.s, and several other brethren, when Bros. Collier and Watts were raised to the third degree. It was resolved that the usual summer festival should be held on Wednesday, the 9th July, the arrangements to be superintended by a committee of the W.M., P.M.s, and Secretary. After the disposal of sundry routine business the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the accustomed pleasant banquet. Bros. How and Clay were visitors, the latter being proposed as a joining member.

LODGE OF JORRA (No. 223).—This lodge met on Monday evening last, at the Albion Tavern; when a vote having been taken for the admission of Mr. Abraham Eskell, which was unanimously recorded, he was with Mr. W. F. Henson (previously admitted) initiated into the order, both of the candidates seeming to be deeply impressed with the solemnity of the ceremony. Bros. Adolph, Blumenthal, Laurie, and Levy having shewn their proficiency in the first degree, were then passed to the second degree in due form, when after some routine business the W.M., Bro. S. V. Abraham, said that previously to closing the lodge he had to call the notice of the brethren to the loss they had sustained since last meeting, then, in the apparent full vigour of health they had their lamented brother, J. Ely, amongst them but it had pleased the Almighty, in his wisdom, to remove him from their midst, and he, the W.M., was most anxious to take the first opportunity of expressing his mead of praise towards their late brother's charitable disposition, and attention to the lodge while with them. The lodge being then closed, the brethren adjourned to refreshment, and departed highly pleased with the evening they had passed.

POLISH NATIONAL LODGE (No. 778).—The Installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on the 10th instant, when Bro. Lemanski very efficiently installed the S.W., Bro. Lublinski, W.M., who thereupon was pleased to appoint and invest his officers as follows:—Bros. Nowakowski, S.W.; Mercik, J.W.; Lemanski, re-appointed Treas.; Paas, re-appointed Sec.; Simond, S.D.; Clendinning, J.D.; and Becket, re-appointed Tyler. The Lodge being closed and the banquet over, after the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, the W.M. gave "The Healths of the Visitors, Bros. Graygoose and Matthew Cooke." He said they were always glad to see visiting brethren, and never were without one or more. One of

those present he had personally known for some years, and they all felt as he did wishing their visiting brethren good health and happiness.—Bro. GRAYGOOSE returned grateful thanks for the toast. It was the first time he had visited their lodge, and so pleased was he with what he had seen that, if he knew a pleasure, he promised himself, it should not be the last.—Bro. BOYD, I.P.M., rose to propose "The Health of the W.M." He was very pleased to see a Pole once more in the chair of that lodge. The practice—he could not call it the rule—had been at one time for the chair to be occupied alternately by Poles and Englishmen; but of late years it had almost exclusively been filled by Englishmen. That, though an anomaly in a Polish National Lodge, carried with it no small significance, it proved how deeply some Englishmen felt themselves identified with the Poles; it proved the good fellowship that Masonry inculcated to the exclusion of questions of country, and as their W.M. had attained that proud position he (Bro. Boyd) hoped his official tenure of the chair would be marked with increased success, and may he have health and strength to do his duty and become another national ornament of that lodge which held to his nationality so firmly. He then proposed the toast of the W.M.—Bro. LUBLINSKI, W.M., said, Bro. Boyd's words went deep to his heart. Poles were pleased to be associated with Englishmen, and were grateful to them for their sympathy. In that lodge it had ever been so, and he hoped it would always remain. Should their country ever be free, their first wish would be to see Englishmen amongst them, and then they would experience how the Poles loved them. He was very new to the duties of the Chair, and although he could not say all he would, he asked their forgiveness, thanking them sincerely for the toast.—The W.M. then rose again and said that with the health of the I.P.M., Bro. Boyd, he had the pleasure to affix a jewel to his breast for the services he had rendered to the lodge, who had unanimously voted him that gift. He hoped Bro. Boyd would consider it an ornament fairly earned, and that he might wear it for many years to come. (Cheers).—Bro. BOYD, I.P.M., said there were times in a man's life when he could not find utterance for his feelings, and many—more talented than himself—had been, as he then was, without language that could convey one half what he felt. When he first joined the Polish lodge he never expected to hold office in it, but he had since then passed through every office, and during the time he had been doing so had received every kindness and assistance both from the Polish as well as the English brethren. He had aspired to that seat where many men of talent and high position in their own land had sat before him, and the compliment they had that night paid him, by conferring the jewel presented to him, was one which would be cherished by him until his last hour. He wished he could speak more effectively, but they must take what he said with the best construction they could put on it, and he hoped to live long as a member of the Order, and the Polish National Lodge in particular.—The W.M. then proposed "The P.M.'s of the Lodge," absent and present, they had all done their duty with ability and good feeling.—Bro. LEMANSKI said their W.M. was so bashful when he first got into the chair that he thought he would not get on very fast, but the words seemed to flow with such facility from him that he (Bro. Lemanski), who had prompted him so far, could then retire. He hoped on that, the 16th anniversary of the lodge, that they would all live to see the 116th, and if they did not, that their children might.—Bro. BOYD would not go quite as far, but wish them all to have the honour of wearing a centenary jewel.—Bro. ARNOLD was happy to be ranked amongst the P.M.'s, who were ever ready to do their utmost for the interests of the lodge.—Bro. JOHNSTONE had no desire to live so long as to wear a centenary jewel, for he was afraid they might some of them begin to play the fool long before that time. He had had the honour to be its second W.M., and though he was not a Pole yet it was satisfactory to see the members of that nationality not deserting their own especial lodge.—Bro. MICHALSKI begged to return his thanks for being included in the toast and Bro. W. Watson would only say ditto to Bro. Michalski. The W.M. proposed "The Health of the Treasurer, Bro. Lemanski, and Secretary, Bro. Paas." For his own part he could not say anything for their Secretary, as he only saw his accounts once a year. He was gratified to once more accept the office of Treasurer, but, although cash was said to be very plentiful he could not see it. Still he should be most happy to do his best in providing for their comfort as he had done, and they approved it by re-electing him, year after year.—Bro. PAAS, had hoped that the W.M. would have found some more able to fill his office (no,

no) but since he had been re-invested he would do his best to be as efficient as heretofore. The toasts of the Senior and Junior Wardens were given, and responded to by Bros. Nowakowski and Mercik. The Senior and Junior Deacons' healths were acknowledged by Bros. Simondes and Clendinning; and the "Masonic Charities," proposed with heartiness by Bro. Lemanski, was responded to by Bro. Binckes, in a very excellent speech, which required to have been heard to do full justice to it. The Tylers' toast brought a comfortable meeting to an early close.

CRYSTAL PALACE LODGE (No. 1044).—The first meeting of the season took place on Thursday, April 3rd, it being the appointed time for election of W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler, Bro. Palmer, W.M., in the chair. Bros. Carrington and Marshall having answered the usual questions, were raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons. Bros. B. Wood, J. A. Gordon, and C. W. Gorder were passed to the second degree in a very masterly manner. Bro. Thompson, S.W., was elected W.M. Bro. Hill, who has been its Treasurer from the opening of the lodge, having resigned, Bro. Handford, P.M., was elected. Five guineas were voted by the lodge for a Past Masters' Jewel to Bro. Palmer. The business of the evening being ended, the lodge was closed, and the brethren retired to banquet in the saloon. Among the visitors we noticed Bros. the Rev. — Shaboe, Bates, Macock, Harris, George, &c. In course of the evening it was announced that Bro. Strange, would act as Steward for the Girls' School, and no doubt he will be well supported on the occasion. Bro. T. J. Smith, of Bromley, in the absence of the Organist, officiated at the harmonium and pianoforte, and added greatly to the happiness of the evening.

RANELAGH LODGE (No. 1136).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place on Tuesday, the 8th inst., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, Hammersmith. The ballot was taken for Messrs. Cloud and Wilson, both of which were unanimous, and they were initiated. Bro. Smith was also passed to the second degree. The installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. J. J. Hurst, was then proceeded with, he having been presented by Bro. P.M. William Watson, Bro. Purbrook acting as Installing Master. The W.M. having been proclaimed, the officers were appointed as follows:—Bros. Rowley, S.W.; Lines, J.W.; Emanuel, S.D.; Hothers, J.D.; Allsop, I.G.; Fitzwater, M.C.; W. Watson, P.M., Steward; Grimes, Treas.; Brevier, Sec.; Daley, Tyler. The lodge was called off, and the brethren retired to banquet, which gave general satisfaction. The usual toasts were given. Bro. Wilson replied on the part of the Initiates expressing the high satisfaction he felt at being admitted into the Order. Bro. Palmer, 1044, replied for the visitors in a very nice manner. The W.M. presented the immediate P.M., Bro. Clark, with a P.M. Jewel, value five guineas.

ROYAL ALBERT LODGE (No. 1209) CONSECRATION.—The Royal Albert Lodge was solemnly consecrated and constituted, at the Westminster General Dispensary, Gerrard-street, Soho, on Wednesday the 9th of April. The consecration was performed by Bro. William Watson, P.G. Steward, the music by Bro. Matthew Cooke. The W.M., Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G. Purst, was installed by Bro. John Savage, P.G.S.D. The officers, as given below, were appointed and invested. Several joining members were admitted, and the Rev. P.M. Holden was initiated. Votes of thanks were unanimously awarded to the W.M. for his present to the lodge of a bible, and to the J.W., Bro. Downs, for the three pedestals. The following brethren were present:—Joseph Smith, P.G. Purst, W.M.; C. Jefferys, S.W.; J. Downs, J.W.; T. Peters, J.D.; Matthew Cooke, Sec.; E. J. Mulliner; W. Watson, and Charles Lee. Visitors:—W. Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec.; H. G. Buss, P.M. 29; John Savage, P.S.G.D.; D. R. Farmer, Assist. G.P.; W. Hale, J.W. 1082; J. Thompson, 715; H. Potter, P.M. 11; W. Rooft, 319; J. B. Newall, P.M. 536; G. D. Berri, J.D. 29; E. R. Cowdry, W.M. 276; R. Haylett, 1082; Jos. George, J.D., 1082; W. Rackstraw, P.M. 9; J. B. Osborne, P.M. 1082; M. S. C. Richards, 29; J. L. King, 955; A. Smith, D. Prov. G.M. Cornwall; Wm. Platt, P.M. 165; Rev. John Laughlin, P.M. 201; and W. Odell, 165. After the business the members and visitors adjourned to a very excellent banquet at the Freemasons' Tavern, where the evening was spent with the utmost harmony and good will. There appeared to be but one feeling, viz., that of good wishes towards the progress of the new lodge, which, under the careful management of the W.M., bids fair to partake of the usual success which attends Bro. Joseph Smith in all he undertakes.

PROVINCIAL.

CHESHIRE.

LAYING OF THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE NEW MARKET, CHESTER.

This event, which was looked forward to with considerable interest, took place on Tuesday, the 8th inst. For several days previous the weather had been most unpropitious, and on Monday many entertained grave doubts as to whether it would be fine or otherwise on the morrow, while everybody hoped for the best. The important day at length arrived, and Jupiter Pluvius, instead of exhibiting his soaking powers, allowed bright Sol to shed his warm and revivifying rays over the old city, which had the effect of causing the interesting proceedings to pass off with more than ordinary brilliancy. At half-past twelve o'clock the Mayor (J. Trevor, Esq.), wearing the massive gold chain and robes of office, met the magistrates, sheriff (Jos. Oakes, Esq.), the members of the Town Council, and a number of citizens, at the Town Hall, amongst whom we noticed—Thomas Dixon, Esq., P. S. Humberston, Esq., M.P., Charles Potts, Esq., Colonel Lloyd, Dr. Phillips Jones, Wm. Wardell, Esq., John Rogers, Esq., Arthur Potts, Esq., the Rev. J. H. Hewsan, Chaplain to the Corporation; the Town Clerk, (John Walker, Esq.); the City Treasurer (E. Stokes Roberts, Esq.) &c.

A procession was formed, and, preceded by the band of the Blue Coat School, proceeded to the Royal Hotel, where the Chester Artillery and Rifle Volunteers, headed by the excellent band of the Rifles, under the direction of Bugle-Major Davies, were already drawn up. The further arrangements having been completed, the procession of Freemasons issued from the Royal Hotel. Amongst the visiting brethren, including most of the members of the Lodge of Independence in this city, we noticed Bros. James Salmon, Henry Churton, John Pilling, W.M. Lodge of Light (No. 173), Warrington; Wm. Hardisty, H. Mawdsley, R.A., A. F. Bigg Wither, Thomas Burghall, F. Musgrave, Robert Jackson, Thos. Dean, Henry Thomas, John Davies, O. W. Gough, John Bowes, Robert Lansdale, E. Stanley Bent, Alexander W. Bainbridge, A. F. Watts, W. Ellis, J. Caldecott, John Harrison, Thomas Smith, W. H. Light, T. Gittins, E. Tasker, R. G. Parry, Thomas Evans, R. G. Stanyer, R. Chorley, H. B. White, S.W. 173, W. Bather, T. Parkes, T. Hollowell, John Worthington, W. Axon, G. J. Higginbottom, J. Taylor, G. Robinson, Samuel Smith, J. C. Ward, J. Pierpoint Stringer, P.M., and J. Walker. The Cestrian Lodge followed, preceded by their emblazoned banner. Among the members were Bros. Walter Butler, W.M.; E. G. Willoughby, Acting S.W.; H. Platt, J.W.; Captain Hitchen, S.D.; T. Wilcock, jun., J.D.; T. Minshall, Treas.; Hugh Roberts, I.G.; T. Truss, P.M., Prov. G. Supt. of Works; S. Brown, P.M. and Dir. of Cers.; R. M. Pigot, P.M.; J. D. Weaver, P.M.; W. Oakes, J. Goodier, and others.

The procession having formed in front of the Royal Hotel at 12.45, it marched to the site of the New Market.

On arriving at the ground at one o'clock, the Volunteers, under the command of Captain Blackburne, opened left and right, and the Mayor, Magistrates, Sheriff, Council, and Citizens took up their position on the north side of the stone, the Cestrian Lodge of Freemasons and visitors took up their position on the south side, and the Volunteers occupied the west. The east was filled up by the citizens. Every available spot was filled with spectators, and the windows of the Exchange were crowded with the wives and daughters of the Town Council. When the proper positions were taken up, the Mayor, the Sheriff, the Town Clerk, the City Treasurer, the Chaplain, and the presenter of the trowel advanced to the stone on the east side; the Masonic officers also advanced to the stone.

The Worshipful Master of the Cestrian Lodge deputed to the Mayor the authority of the R.W. Prov. G.M. Field-Marshal Viscount Combermere, G.C.B., to perform the ceremony with Masonic formalities, as follows:—"Men, women, and children, here assembled to-day to behold this ceremony, know all of you, that we be lawful Masons, true to the laws of our country, established of old, with peace and honour, in most countries, to do good to our brethren; to build great buildings; and to fear God, who is the Great Architect of all things. Unless our Craft had been good, and our calling honourable, we should not have lasted so many centuries, neither should we have had so many illustrious brothers in our Order, ready to promote our laws and further our interests. To-day we are assembled in presence of you all, to lay the foundation stone of the new markets for this

ancient and loyal city of Chester; and as we have the honour to number among the members of our Royal Craft its worthy and respected chief magistrate, I have much pleasure, on the part of the Craft, and by the authority of our Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master Field-Marshal the Viscount Combermere, in deputing Bro. John Trevor to perform that ceremony with the formalities peculiar to Free and Accepted Masons."

The trowel, which was the gift of the Magistrates and Corporation, was presented to the Mayor by Mr. Humberston, M.P. This beautiful work of art was designed by Mr. Butt, and bore engraved on the blade the sacred Masonic symbol, the city arms, and the elevation of the new markets, underneath which was the following inscription:—

"Presented to
JOHN TREVOR, ESQUIRE,
Mayor of Chester,
by the Magistrates and Members of the
Town Council of the City,
on the occasion of laying the
Foundation Stone
of the New Market.
April 8th, A.D. 1862."

Upon the handle, which was elaborately chased, was engraved the square and compasses and the Mayor's crest.

Mr. P. S. HUMBERSTON, M.P., then said it was with great pleasure he had met the Mayor on this occasion, together with his brother citizens, to assist in the celebration of laying the foundation stone of the new market in Chester. Within, he might say, the last forty years, the markets of Chester were held in the open air, and the meat market was held in open stalls at the north end of the Exchange, and he believed they were now standing on the site of the old fish market of Chester, and the streets were habitually filled with persons who attended to make their ordinary purchases. It was in the year 1827 or 1828, he believed during the mayoralty of Alderman Bowers, and principally through his exertions, that the present market was built; but Chester having advanced greatly in population and importance since that time, the market was found to be totally insufficient for the purpose for which it was erected; and it fell to his (the Mayor's) good fortune, and he might say it was also fortunate for the citizens of Chester, to have the opportunity of obtaining, without exception, the best site in the city for establishing a new market. Not only did that opportunity occur, but he (the Mayor) availed himself of it, and he thought he might say the citizens had much to be grateful for, for the manner in which he had conducted the matter. Immediately the question was brought before the Town Council, that body gladly entered into the spirit of the undertaking, and provided means not only for the purchase of the requisite property, but also for erecting a substantial, spacious, and noble market-place. The Mayor had received authority from the noble and gallant Field-Marshal Viscount Combermere, who was Provincial Grand Master of the County, to lay the foundation stone of the new building with Masonic formalities; and the citizens felt themselves honoured by the presence of so many of the Masonic brethren to assist in the ceremony; but he (Mr. Humberston) could assure them, that they met them there in the same spirit of fraternity in which they had come to assist the citizens of Chester. (Cheers). He hoped prosperity might attend the good work thus auspiciously commenced, and that during the present Mayoralty they might see a noble building, a suitable market both for buyers and sellers, in the city, and one which would last for many years to come. He was sure from what he knew and had seen of the plans, that the architect engaged in the work would give them not only a spacious, substantial, and elegant building, which would be an ornament to the city, but one which would be conducive to the convenience of succeeding generations. He trusted the architect would see his plans ably and well carried out, and he did not doubt but that the contractor who had undertaken the works would see them executed punctually and honestly. And he further hoped that when the present Mayor's year of office drew to a close, he would be able to hand over to his successor a valuable property to the citizens of Chester. (Cheers.) I now, sir (continued Mr. Humberston, addressing the Mayor), have the honour to present to you a trowel from the Magistrates and Town Council of this city, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone, and I trust it will be a family record of the proceedings of this day, and for the honour you have done us in laying this stone; and it will be long before we can forget the honour of which we are the recipients in your having so kindly attended here to-day to assist in this inauguration

The Chaplain (the Rev. J. F. Hewson) then offered up a prayer, the parties taking part in the ceremonial being uncovered. The plans were then handed by the Provincial Grand Superintendent (Bro. T. Truss) to the architect, who presented them to the Mayor, who, after inspection and approval, returned them to the architect. The inscription of the plate was then read, which was as follows:—"This stone was laid with Masonic ceremonies, by the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Chester, John Trevor, Esq., on Tuesday, the 8th day of April, A.D. 1862. Architects—Messrs. W. and J. Hay, Liverpool; Contractor—Mr. John Roberts, Chester."

The Treasurer of the corporation, Mr. E. S. Roberts, having by the Mayor's desire placed a bottle containing the current coins of the realm in the prepared cavity of the stone, the aperture was closed up with the brass plate, and the cement having been spread underneath by the Mayor, the stone was slowly lowered, the Volunteers presenting arms, and their band playing the National Anthem. Under the direction of the Superintendent of the Works, the Mayor then proved the stone to be properly levelled by the plumb rule, level, and square, which were successively presented to him by J.W., S.W., and W.M., of the Cestrian Lodge. The architect (Mr. W. Hay) delivered to the Mayor the mallet, with which he gave the stone three knocks, and pronounced duly laid.

The Mayor then said—"May the Grand Architect of the Universe grant a blessing on this foundation stone, which we have now laid, and by His providence enable us to finish this, and every good work which may be undertaken for the good and advantage of this ancient city."

The cornucopia was then presented to the Mayor by P.M. Bro. GERRARD, who said—"Brother Trevor, on laying the foundation stone, I present you with this vessel containing corn, which is emblematical of the bounteousness of the Lord in providing sustenance for the use of mankind. When God commanded man to replenish the earth and subdue it, He gave power to the seed of the earth to bring forth after his kind. So may we believe that God will sow the seed of His Word in our hearts, to bring forth good works, and a firm conviction that He will never let his children want the material blessings of this life, or faith in His promise of life everlasting."

Bro. BURGESS, P.M. presented a silver cup containing wine to the Mayor, and delivered the following address:—"Brother Trevor: I present you with this measure of wine, which is emblematical of the goodness of the Great Creator of all things, in providing not only the necessities but the luxuries of this life; and as in Holy Writ the fruit of the vine indicated a land of plenty, so let this wine be received by you as a token that God may bless the work now in hand by giving prosperity to this ancient city, and abundance to its inhabitants."

Bro. CHORLTON, P.M.—Lodge of Light (No. 172)—delivered a silver cup, containing oil, to the Mayor. He said—"Bro. Trevor, I present you with this measure of oil, being an illustration of the superabundance and profusion of the fruits of the earth provided for man, who, in earning his bread by the sweat of his brow, fulfils his destiny, and enjoys and partakes of the fatness of the earth. As this oil may be used for a light to shine in darkness, so may He who rules all things enlighten our ways during our abode here, and finally lead us by His divine radiance to the abodes of peace and immortality."

Bro. FIOR, P.M., also presented a silver measure filled with salt, and delivered an address as follows:—"Bro. Trevor, I present you with this measure of salt. As in this happy country we are blessed with so many of the products of nature, not even salt is withheld, where can the bounty of our Creator be more shown than in thus providing that which gives a zest to our daily bread, for without this great gift all food would be savourless. May this ceremony of pouring corn, wine, oil, and salt on this foundation-stone be not merely an empty form, but may it make a lasting impression on all present, by reminding us of the gratitude we owe to the Almighty for His merciful care of our welfare."

As the Mayor poured the contents of each cup on the stone he pronounced the following invocation:—"May the all-bounteous Author of Nature bless this city with abundance of corn, wine, oil, salt, and with all the necessities, conveniences, and comforts of life."

The Mayor, having been assisted on to the stone, proceeded to address the assembly. In the first place he begged to thank the magistrates and the members of the Town Council for their attendance, and for the very high honour they had paid him in

presenting him with the trowel with which he had done his part of the good work that day. In the next place, he begged to thank his fellow-citizens for the very kind and cordial manner in which they had assisted in the ceremony, and for their very large and influential attendance. In the next place, his thanks were due to the Masonic body, of which he was happy to say he was a member, for their participation in the ceremonial that day; and more particularly would he express his thanks to Field-Marshal Viscount Combermere, for the great honour he had conferred upon him in deputing him to perform this pleasing Masonic ceremonial. Further, he had to thank the Volunteers, that noble body of our city, who had assembled in such large numbers to form a guard of honour on the occasion, and giving an *eclat* and brilliancy to the proceedings which they would otherwise not have possessed. Also, although perhaps he ought to have mentioned it first, he begged to tender his thanks to the ladies of Chester for their attendance, for they shed a halo of beauty on the ceremony. (Cheers.) It was principally his concern for the ladies that he was induced to press forward the new market scheme, because they often had to make their purchases at much inconvenience in the present market, but when the new building was erected they would be able to transact their domestic affairs with comfort. (Cheers.) His warm and hearty thanks were due to Alderman Humberston, who had presented him with the trowel, for his kind expressions towards him in his excellent speech. He (the Mayor) cordially agreed in every sentiment Alderman Humberston had uttered respecting the welfare and prosperity of the city. Chester had no nobler son nor one who regarded her local interests more than Mr. Humberston, who was always first and foremost in every good work connected with the city. (Cheers.) He did not intend to detain them long, but he would just mention one or two facts to show that Chester was progressing as fast as any other place of the same population. In the year 1801 the population was 15,052; in 1811 it was 16,400; in 1821 19,949; in 1831 21,344; in 1841 23,866; in 1851 27,766; in 1861, 21,101; which proved that it had more than doubled itself in 60 years. It had increased 10,000 in 30 years, while within the last ten years it had gained 3,335, being the largest increase. Not only had the population progressed, but the rateable value of the property had also increased. In 1843 it was £53,000; in 1851 £62,664; in 1856 £66,259; in 1858 £73,100; in 1859 £73,781; in 1860 £74,941; in 1861 £75,120; being an increase in the last eighteen years of £17,120; and the last ten years of £13,456. These short statistics would prove that Chester was progressing in population and prosperity. He believed that there was not a more orderly people to be found anywhere than those of Chester; and since the Improvement Act of 1846 was obtained, they had "mended their ways" as all good citizens ought to do; the streets were better, drains had been carried underneath the place in every direction, and the town now stood higher than ever it did at any previous period in a sanitary point of view. (Cheers.) The citizens of Chester were noted as much as those of any other town for attending places of worship; no population had attended to their religious duties better, whether Church people, Nonconformists, or Roman Catholics. (Hear, hear.) There were numerous public schools in the city, and there was no population in the kingdom that gave their children a more sound religious and secular education. (Cheers.) He would now briefly allude to the local government of the town. Although there were parties of different political and religious views in the municipal body, and although they might occasionally disagree, as in Parliament, their measures had generally met with universal approval. (Hear, hear.) He thought he might say, that the Chester Town Council, of which he was at the head, had shown by their deliberations that they felt an earnest desire not only in the improvement of the town, but also in the increase of its trade; they were always ready to defend its rights and privileges, and advance the general prosperity of the people. (Loud cheers.) He would just mention that, as respected the new markets, the foundation stone of which he had just laid, the whole of the credit was not due to himself, for his friend Mr. Alderman Peacock initiated the purchase of the land, and afterwards threw the affair into his (the Mayor's) hands. Had it not been for the generous support he received from the Town Council and the citizens of Chester, his ability to do anything would have been slight indeed. He believed there was not a dissentient voice as to the utility of the market, and he had no doubt it would prove a boon to the city. Their object ought to be to offer as many inducements as possible to persons of substance at a distance to live amongst them, as it would be

the means of more money being spent in the place. In conclusion he again thanked the citizens for the confidence they had reposed in him during the last 25 years he had been amongst them; and after filling every municipal office it was possible for a citizen to hold, they had invested him with the civic dignity two years in succession, the highest honour they could confer on him. His right hand would forget its cunning if he ever forgot their kindness, which was a retaining fee for any future services they might require at his hands. He prayed God to bless them all, and prosper the city of Chester. (Loud cheers.)

The Chaplain then pronounced the usual blessing; and the procession returned to the Royal Hotel in the same order as it had arrived.

The interesting and formal proceedings then terminated.

In the course of the afternoon the workmen employed by Mr. Roberts, the contractor, to the number of nearly 100, were hospitably entertained on the ground by a donation from the Mayor, and also by a donation from the Committee of the Town Council.

At the conclusion of the ceremony a large party sat down to luncheon at the Royal Hotel, the Mayor in the chair, and Mr. Butler in the vice-chair. On the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given and duly honoured, Captain Hitchen responding to the Volunteers. The health of Viscount Combermere, the Provincial Grand Master of the Province of Cheshire, was proposed in eulogistic terms by the Mayor, and most heartily honoured. The Vice-Chairman then proposed the health of the Mayor, in an eloquent and appropriate speech, who responded in most felicitous terms. The health of the visitors, proposed by Mr. Ralph, was drunk with enthusiasm, and responded to by Mr. Bent. The Mayor then eloquently proposed the health of Bro. Butler, the Master of the Cestrian Lodge, who responded in an able address, which was received with the utmost enthusiasm. The toast of "Our next merry meeting" was then given from the chair, and the meeting broke up.

The brethren of the Lodge of Independence, to the number of thirty, with several visitors, sat down to a sumptuous banquet at their lodge rooms, the Pied Bull Inn, provided and served up in excellent style by the worthy host Bro. H. Thomas, which did him and all concerned very great credit. The respected W.M., Bro. Brown, occupied the chair; and Bro. Watts (the Senior Warden of the lodge) was an excellent Vice. On the removal of the cloth, the benediction was pronounced. The usual loyal, patriotic, and other toasts were given from the chair, amongst which were "Her most gracious Majesty the Queen," with a fervent prayer that she might be blessed with health and long life to reign over her devoted and loyal subjects; "Edward Albert, Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester, and the rest of the Royal Family;" "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," responded to by Private Bro. Burghall; "The B.W. the Mayor of Chester;" "Prosperity to the Old City, and success to the New Market Hall;" "F.M. the Viscount Combermere, R.W. Prov. G. Master of Cheshire;" "P. S. Humberston, Esq., M.P. for Chester," with thanks for his able speech during the ceremony; many other toasts were given, interspersed with some capital singing. The Chairman observed that everything had gone off without a single mistake; and although there had been so much rain up to Monday night, yet the weather that day had been everything that could be desired. Having made these observations, he trusted that they would devote the remainder of the day to good fellowship. The brethren took the hint, for a more social and pleasant day, we believe, they never enjoyed; and one of the acts of the afternoon's pleasure were heightened by making a contribution towards the Blue Coat Hospital of this city, which amounted to £2 2s., and it was handed over to that excellent institution the same evening, as a donation from the Lodge of Independence, with 10s. to treat the Blue Coat Band, who had that day so well performed their part in the procession. It was unanimously agreed that the lodge should become annual subscribers. The Masonic part of the procession was well arranged and marshalled, and the grand Masonic honours given at the close of the ceremonial by the W.M., Bro. Brown, as the director of the ceremonies of the day. The Cestrian Lodge subscribed £1 6s. 6d. towards the Blue Coat Hospital.

DEVONSHIRE.

DEVONPORT.—*Lodge Friendship* (No. 238).—We some time since stated that the above named lodge had taken suitable

premises and were fitting it up worthy of the craft whose warrant they possess. Indeed, having been favoured with a private view we confess that rarely have we stepped on such a little temple of Masonry. More particularly worthy of mention is the canopy over the chair of the W.M.; decidedly some artistic taste was displayed by the workman. Our space however will not admit of further critiques on the appearance of the lodge, we only trust that the brethren who have worthily established so noble an edifice will not lack that zeal which should ever stimulate every brother to maintain that good order and working which are such bright ornaments to the craft. At the first regular meeting on the new premises we observed more than the usual sprinkling of visiting brethren, foremost among them were Bro. Chappell, P.G.S., P.M. 185, and several brethren from Lodges Harmony, Fidelity, &c. After the usual formalities the W.M. proceeded to initiate a candidate into the ancient mysteries, which he did in his usual impressive style. There were also two candidates for the 2nd degree. After the ceremony was finished, the J.W., Bro. Minch, very ably gave the lecture on the tracing board. At the festive board, on the toast of "Our Visiting Brethren" being drunk, brethren from Malta and the several lodges above-mentioned, returned thanks.

PLYMOUTH.—*Lodge Brunswick* (No. 185).—By the notice issued to the brethren for the regular lodge of the 2nd inst., we observed there were no less than four brethren to be raised and two candidates for initiation; but perhaps happily for the strength of the W.M., the results of the evening proved that two only of the former and one of the latter were present. The ballot having proved clear, the W.M., Bro. Elliott, proceeded to initiate Mr. P. B. Clemens in a very effective style. After the ceremony the raisings were proceeded with and the lodge closed down. Matters of a purely local character were then introduced and after the proposition of a candidate, the lodge was closed with solemn prayer at eleven o'clock.

Lodge Fortitude (No. 122).—The usual monthly meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on the 9th ult. Had it not been for the unpropitious state of the weather very many more visiting brethren would have been present, for in addition to the usual business of the lodge, there was one of more than ordinary interest to which we shall refer hereafter. The first business on the circular was to raise a brother; this having been performed by Bro. Peters, P.M., the next was proceeded with, viz. to pass two brethren to the degree of F.C. On the conclusion of the ceremony Bro. Phillips, P.M., rose and said, W. Sir, I rise with very great pleasure to present to our worthy and respected P.M., Bro. Pomeroy, this P.M.'s jewel. He (Bro. Pomeroy) was one of the first to join the lodge at its resuscitation, and both in his private life and his masonic career, he is worthy of our highest esteem—in fact when I state that by the unanimous voice of the lodge this jewel was voted to him it will be all I need to say (applause). In conclusion, Bro. Pomeroy, I hope that you may long continue to wear the jewel, and that it will only add if possible some additional incentives to your already wellknown masonic zeal.—Bro. POMEROY in returning thanks said he hoped it would not be expected of him to make a long speech. The presentation came upon him very unexpectedly, and he very much feared he did not deserve half the encomiums lavished on him by Bro. Phillips. He however trusted that it would teach both his senior and junior brethren a lesson that they might envy the jewel on his breast, and look forward to the day when they too might have the same pleasing ordeal to go through (continued applause). Shortly after, the lodge was closed, when the brethren adjourned to the festive board: and we very much query if many lodges possess so many philanthropic members as *Lodge Fortitude*—to wit, in our last number we stated that a certain picture representing the masonic procession at Plymouth entering St. Andrew's Church, was won on the Art Union principle by Bro. Rodda for his friend Bro. Mills: we have now to inform the Craft that this work of art may be seen hung in *Lodge Fortitude*, whose property it is, having been presented by the W.M. Bro. Ridley and the J.W. Bro. Rodda. The evening which had been so pleasantly spent was soon after brought to a close, though not without hearing one of Bro. Rodda's famed "Cornish Stories."

DARTMOUTH.—*Hauley Lodge* (No. 1099).—The last regular lodge night took place on Monday, the 14th inst., at half-past one p.m., under the presidency of Bro. Henry Bridges, D. Prov. G.M. of Somersetshire, the W.M. On the ballot being taken for the W.M. for the year ensuing, the lot fell unanimously on Bro. Thomas Lidstone, P. Prov. Dir. of Works (Devon), the S.W. Bro. Captain Davy was re-elected Treas. Bro. Lidstone will be

installed on Monday, May 12, at six o'clock, p.m. Although this lodge numbers 1099, it is yet under dispensation, and there appears great uncertainty as to when it will be consecrated.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

TWEEKSBURY.—*St. George's Lodge* (No. 1202).—The last meeting of this new lodge was fully attended by the brethren belonging to it, it being the last previous to the summer vacation, when the W.M. initiated Mr. William Powell and Mr. John Price, both of Tewkesbury. Bros. W. Godsall, William Rice, H. L. Grove, and Robert J. Brooks, having satisfactorily passed their examinations, the W.M. conferred the degree of F.C. on them as a reward of merit. Bros. W. Trotman and Henry Browett, having given proof of their efficiency in the former degrees, the W.M. conferred on them the degree of M.M., the ceremonies being performed in the most ample manner. The W.M. made the following appointments:—Bros. Frederick Moore, to be S.D.; D. Baskerville, J.D.; H. Browett, I.G.; Wm. Godsall, Dir. of Cirs.; Wm. Rice, jun., Assist. D. of Cirs.; Edward Gillman, Secretary. The brethren were informed that everything had been arranged by the R.W. Prov. G.M. for the Province to consecrate the lodge and instal the R.W.M. on Thursday, the 24th instant. The ceremonies to commence at 2 p.m. punctually, and that in honour of the occasion a grand Masonic ball would be held at the Town Hall, in the evening of the same day commencing at 9 p.m., at which it was hoped that every brother of the lodge would attend and enjoy an evening in peace and harmony. The brethren having then refreshed retired.

HAMPSHIRE.

BASINGSTOKE.—*Oakley Lodge* (No. 995).—The usual quarterly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Basingstoke, on Monday, the 7th inst., and was ably presided over by its W.M., Bro. R. S. Hulbert. The business consisted of the usual work, and in passing Bro. C. W. Seymour, and balloting for Bro. the Rev. E. J. Hawkins, who was unanimously elected as a joining member. Part of the time was agreeably occupied in arranging to draw lots who should become a governor, for life, of the Royal Freemasons' School for Female Children. This being settled after much discussion, it was decided by Bro. Hulbert gaining the prize. This method of increasing the funds of a charity originated in a plan recommended to consideration, some few months ago, by our worthy and highly respected Bro. J. R. Stebbing of Southampton, so well and deservedly esteemed for the great interest he takes in Masonic affairs, especially those of charity. This plan was to raise the sum of 10 guineas in the lodge, which being subscribed to a charity would qualify a member to be a governor for life of a Masonic institution, either the Royal Freemasons School for Female Children, the Royal Masonic Institution for Sons of indigent and deceased Freemasons, or the Royal Benevolent Institution for aged Freemasons and their Widows, each of which establishments is effecting so much good, and would increase that good equally with its means. We would earnestly recommend other lodges and chapters to adopt the same plan, for enlarging the advantages of those most excellent and beneficent institutions, or say with Horace.

"Si quid novisti rectius istis,
Candidus imperti, si non, his utere mecum."

The lodge being closed several of the brethren partook of refreshment, and the evening was spent with that pleasure which is sure to attend those who labour to make others happy.

KENT.

SIDCUP.—*Sydney Lodge* (No. 1131).—A meeting of this flourishing lodge took place on Tuesday, 8th inst., at the Black Horse Inn, Bro. P.M. Henderson occupying the chair. After being opened in due form, Bro. Henderson raised Bro. Birt to the sublime degree of Master Mason. A very handsome P.M.'s Jewel was presented to Bro. Henderson for the able manner in which he had conducted the lodge during his year of office. Much regret was felt among the brethren at the absence of the present W.M., through a family affliction. The banquet was served up in Bro. Beacham's usual good taste. The musical arrangements, were under the direction of the Organist, Bro. T. J. Smith, whose harmony, combined with Bros. Allanson and Beacham, added greatly to the happiness of all present. Among the visitors were Bros. Davison, Weeks, and Lacey.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

ST. PETER'S LODGE (No. 607).—The monthly meeting for March was held on the 6th, the W.M., Bro. Cooper presiding, with the proper officers in their places. The lodge was opened in form with solemn prayer. The minutes of the last lodge were read and confirmed. The ceremony of passing Bro. Wild to the 2nd degree was (after the lodge was opened in that degree) efficiently performed by the W.M., and Bro. Hasler, I.P.M., at the W.M.'s request, delivered the charge and lecture in that degree. Several communications and invitations were read, and the lodge was duly closed in form and with solemn prayer.

YORKSHIRE (WEST.)

SHEFFIELD.—*Britannia Lodge* (No. 162).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge took place in the Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, on Thursday, 10th inst. Bro. Alex. Hay, W.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. Wm. Longden, P.M.; Wm. White, jun., P.M., and Prov. G.D.C.; Henry, Webster, W.M. 1206; S. Arden, S.W.; J. Rodgers, J.W.; W. Short, Sec.; H. J. Garnett, J.D.; F. W. Primrose, S.W. 373; R. Waterhouse, S.W. 1206; E. Drury, J.W. 373; J. Oxley, J.W. 1206; F. Walker, Sec. 1206, and a large number of others. Bro. John Brown, Mayor of Sheffield, was elected a joining member. Mr. Clement Nicholson, of Whaley Bridge, was ably initiated into the mysteries of the Craft. Bro. Vorley was duly passed to the second degree, and Bro. Spurr was impressively raised to the third degree by the W.M. Bro. White, P.M., raised Bro. Horncastle to the degree of M.M., and also explained the working tools in each degree, and Bro. Webster, W.M. 1206, gave the charge to the initiate. A long evening's work was closed in the usual agreeable way, by the brethren spending a social hour around the supper table, enlivened by the harmony of the musical members.

ROYAL ARCH.

MIDDLESEX.

UXBRIDGE.—*Royal Union Chapter* (No. 536).—A Convocation of this Chapter took place at Bro. Lines', the Chequers Hotel, Uxbridge, on Monday, the 14th instant. Comp. Watson officiated as M.E.Z., J. W. Adams as II., and Frederick Binckes as J., Matthew Cooke, E., and J. B. Newall, P. Soj., together with Comps. Codner, Platt, and others, Comp. Le-Gassick being a visitor. This being the Installation night, the following Comps. were all unanimously elected, and installed, as follows:—J. W. Adams, M.E.Z.; Frederick Binckes, H.; J. B. Newall, J.; Matthew Cooke, E.; W. Smith, C.E., N.; and Codner, P. Soj. After the Chapter was closed, the Comps. adjourned to a very excellent banquet, and although everything had to be done in the fastest style, yet there was no lack of mirth. The toasts were given briefly, time allowing of no preface, and the replies were equally short and in good taste. The work, the banquet, the merriment, and the train all seemed to be summed up in the words, which the chapter might adopt as a motto, "Fast and Furious." Nevertheless, there was a complete working, a most satisfactory refreshment, unbounded attempts at wit, real good fellowship, and a early return to town.

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

WOOLWICH.—*Invicta Chapter of S. P. R.*—The Excellent and Perfect Brethren of this Chapter met at the Masonic Hall, William Street, Woolwich, on Friday, the 11th instant, instead of the 18th, as usual, that being Good Friday. The S.P.s. present were the Ill. Bro. Figg, 30°, M.W.S.; Colonel Clerk, 33°; Capt. King and Dr. Hinxman, 31°; Capt. Boyle and Matthew Cooke, 30°; Lieut. Dadson, Lyons, Hughes, Thompson, Wilson, Hewitt, Stewart, and the indefatigable Registrar, Laird, 18°. There were four candidates admitted to this the most beautiful of all degrees, viz., Bro. Lieut. De Cetto, Dr. W. J. Jones, J. P. S. C. Nicholson, and J. B. Bayley, after which the Chapter was closed and the S.P.s. adjourned to Bro. De Grey's to dine. The evening was one of those pleasing and

attractive ones which appear to delight every new comer who visits the Invicta Chapter. In the place of set, formal, Masonic reiteration, kindly and encouraging talk on Masonic subjects is introduced, and much valuable information gleaned. The toasts comprised "The Queen," "The Supreme Grand Council," and "The Newly Advanced Brethren." Besides these, there was nothing but happiness, freedom of discussion, interesting information, and the charm of rational conversation spread over the proceedings. The brethren separated at their usual reasonable hour.

Obituary.

BRO. MATTHEW JOHN MCKITTRICK.

Bro. Matthew John McKittrick expired at Tien-tsin, North China, after a short illness, on the 22nd December, 1861. His remains were followed to the grave by nearly every officer of the garrison, including the Brigadier-General and Staff. The deceased was initiated in the Friendship Lodge (No. 345), Gibraltar, in 1857, and received the degrees of F.C. and M.M. from the same body. He afterwards served the office of Warden in the Inhabitants' Lodge (No. 178), at the same station, and was there exalted to the degree of Royal Arch. At the period of his decease he was a subscribing member to the Meridian Lodge (No. 1045), by which community his early and untimely death was much lamented. The deceased was only 25 years of age, and had recently taken over the charge of all military stores in the command. He entered the army in 1852, and for some years had enjoyed the rank of D.A.S.S. Dysentery was the cause of death, and he endured much suffering with christian resignation. By all his brother officers and by the members of the Craft with whom he was acquainted his loss was sincerely and deeply regretted.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The *Gazette* contains a notice intimating that it is the wish of Her Majesty that no celebration of her birthday should take place this year.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the HOUSE OF LORDS on Thursday, the 10th, the Marquis of Normanby complained of the scanty information given by Sir James Hudson in the Italian papers which have just been published, but Lord Russell very pertinently remarked that it was not the ambassador's business to report everything that occurred in a foreign country. There was likewise a brief discussion on the Education Code.—On Friday, Lord Granville explained the modifications which had been introduced into the "revised code," remarking that he deemed them neither economical nor (in a more important sense) an improvement upon the original scheme sketched out by the Government. It is proposed, among other alterations, to allow 4s. per head on the average attendance of children, and 8s. additional for each child, who, having attended more than 200 days in any year, passes an examination in reading, writing, and arithmetic. On the other hand, should a child, who has satisfied the condition of attendance, fail in any of these elementary branches, 1s. 3d. will be deducted from the allowance of 8s. The noble Earl added that if any further concessions were required, the scheme would be so deteriorated as to be not worth persisting in. A long and most interesting discussion followed on the question of the national defences. Lord De Grey contended that the recent experiments at Shoeburyness furnished a strong warning against proceeding too hastily in this matter, and he clung to the belief that forts would still be necessary for the defence of our coasts. The whole question had, however, been referred back to the Defences Commission—to which new members of scientific eminence would be added—and, meanwhile, the Government would take care that we were at least abreast of other nations in our defensive appliances. The Duke of Cambridge supported the views of the noble Earl, and stated that Sir William Armstrong was sanguine that he could construct a 600-pounder which would produce, at a much greater range, results quite as decisive as his 300-pounder produced at Shoeburyness, on Tuesday, at a range of 200 yards. Sir William had also informed His Royal Highness that, with the aid of

machinery, his 300-pounder could be worked by five men. Lord Ellenborough also expressed an opinion as to the necessity for forts; while the Duke of Somerset observed that, from the experiments which had been made for some time past, the Admiralty were now prepared to proceed at once to carry out Captain Coles's and other plans.—The House then adjourned until the 29th inst.—In the HOUSE OF COMMONS on Thursday, 10th inst., Lord Clarence Paget, in reply to Lord R. Montagu, gave the history of the Admiralty's connection with Captain Cowper Coles's shield. He said that they had lost no time in testing the value of the invention, and that the experiment made on board of the *Trusty* was extremely satisfactory. With regard to Mr. Samuelson's plan of a self-submerging gunboat, Lord C. Paget said that, in 1860, the Admiralty, after attentively considering the project, came to the conclusion that it could not be made available for her Majesty's service; and since that time they had received no fresh proposal from the inventor. Subsequently, the noble lord stated the results of the experiments which have recently been made with the Armstrong gun on the *Warrior* target, at Shoeburyness. He said that the balls penetrated the armour-plating, and would have committed great devastation if the target had been a ship.—On the order for going into Committee of Ways and Means, Mr. Bass complained of the proposal to establish brewers' licenses, arguing that this class of traders was already sufficiently taxed, and that exceptional legislation of this kind was an evil. Considerable discussion ensued, in the course of which the sentiments of the various interests concerned were made known. Mr. Buxton expressed his concurrence in the plan, and remarked that, to his knowledge, six of the leading brewers of London shared his views, but he suggested that some time should be allowed to elapse before the licenses were brought into operation. The Chancellor of the Exchequer defended his measure at some length, and stated his views on the subject of a drawback on hops.—The House then went into Committee of Ways and Means. Mr. Gladstone moved the resolutions relating to licences to brewers, all of which were agreed to. The House next proceeded to the consideration of the Courts of Justice (Money) Bill.—On Friday Sir George Bowyer opened a discussion on the state of Italy. The hon. Baronet raked up all the "atrocities" of which we have heard so much from himself, Lord Normanby, and other politicians, and condemned Her Majesty's Government for not having stepped in in the interest of "humanity," and endeavoured to check the brutality which, he alleged, had characterized the Piedmontese rule in Southern Italy. He contended that it was preposterous to suppose that the Neapolitans would forget their independence and submit to a régime which was the offspring of "treachery, corruption, and violation of all those laws by which civilised nations are governed in all their relations with each other." Mr. Layard made an elaborate reply, calling to his assistance facts which showed that Southern Italy, so far from being oppressed, had entered upon a new and most hopeful career of social and material progress. Mr. Hennessy echoed the speech of Sir George Bowyer, while Mr. Slaney confirmed, from recent observation, the statements of Mr. Layard. Mr. Gladstone followed, on the side of the new kingdom, in a speech of great eloquence and power. After some discussion the House adjourned for the Easter holidays.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The health of London during the last week was again favourable. There was a decrease upon the average of deaths of 54, the number who died during the week having been 1254, while the average of the preceding ten years would give 1306. The births are much in the same proportion below the average, the numbers being 1894 children born last week, as compared with an average of 1947. There is a decrease in the number of deaths from typhus fever.—A deputation from the parish of St. George's, Hanover-square, waited, on Saturday, on Mr. Villiers, the President of the Poor Law Board, to call his attention to the great increase of casual poor in the metropolis. They stated that formerly not above two or three tramps a night came to the workhouse, now the number was between 50 and 60, who begged through the streets all day, and came covered with filth and vermin to get a night's lodging and a breakfast in the casual ward. Mr. Villiers said there was no doubt the evil had increased of late, and he feared that both from the distress in the north of England and the prospects of the International Exhibition it would increase still more. He promised to take the matter into his consideration, and to see what steps could be taken to bring the relief of such persons in

the different workhouses under one uniform law.—Mr. Cobden has addressed an elaborate letter to Mr. Henry Ashworth, president of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, on the present state of international maritime law. The hon. gentleman insists upon three radical reforms:—The exemption of private property, not contraband of war, from capture at sea; the abolition of commercial blockades; and the inviolability from visitation on the high seas of neutral merchant vessels. "It is at the option of the English Government, at any time," he says, "to enter upon negotiations with the other Great Powers for the revision of the maritime code, and I speak advisedly in expressing my belief that it depends on us alone whether the above reforms are to be carried into effect."—The arrangements for the Brighton review on Easter Monday have been completed. It is expected that the force assembled will range between 15,000 and 20,000 men. We need not trouble our readers here with details: the important point to be known is that the whole manoeuvres of the day will be seen from any point of the horse-shoe which the Brighton race-course describes; and that upon the race-course there will be ample room for a much more numerous company than is at all likely to assemble.

—The Coventry Relief Committee, having fulfilled its mission, has been dissolved. The total sum collected on behalf of the unfortunate ribbon weavers was £41,800; and it appears that, during the period the fund was being distributed, the average number in receipt of relief was 14,000. It was stated at the final meeting of the Committee, that the destitution in the district is now, "to a considerable extent, at an end," and that there is every reason to hope that the people of Coventry "will be able hereafter to carry on their trade with prosperity." About 240 of the weavers sailed from Liverpool for Canada on Sunday.—An anomalous state of our law, as it respects shipwrecked seamen has been brought before the Lord Mayor by Mr. Lean, the indefatigable secretary of the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society. English sailors shipwrecked on our coast are chargeable to their parishes, and foreigners are looked after by the consuls of their respective nations. But for sailors, the natives of our colonies there is no provision made whatever. The anomaly was brought to light the other day in the case of a Bermuda vessel wrecked at the back of the Isle of Wight. The crew, all Bermudians, were saved; but neither Colonial Office nor any other authority have funds to send them back to the island. This is a state of things that we should think only requires to become known that it may be remedied.—The body of a man was found floating in the Regent's Canal at Stepney on the 11th. From the appearance of the corpse it seemed to have been in the water for about a week. There were marks of abrasion round the neck as if the person had been garrotted. This is the third body that has been found in the canal about the same spot and under the same suspicious circumstances.—Richard Thorley was executed at Derby on the 11th, in pursuance of his sentence, for the murder of Eliza Merrow.—The *Gazette* contains a proclamation issued by the Home Secretary setting forth the danger arising from the appearance of locomotive carriages in the streets of the metropolis, and prohibiting their use, except between the hours of ten o'clock at night and six in the morning.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The *Moniteur* announces that up to the present time, the Emperor of the French has not formed any plan for the rumoured visit to London.—The Italian government—basing its complaints especially on the assemblage of Bourbonists at Trieste, whence they embark for the Neapolitan coasts—is said to have remonstrated against the encouragement given by the Austrian Cabinet to the brigandage in Southern Italy. Probably the result of any remonstrance will be a denial that any encouragement is given, and a complaint that the Turin Cabinet habitually foments discontent and conspiracy among the subjects of Austria.—The Belgian Chamber of Deputies have adopted the Government proposition for the organization of a new daily postal service between Ostend and Dover.—The Ionian Parliament is as perverse and refractory as ever, and has adopted an address declaring that a union of the Ionian Islands with the Greek kingdom is indispensable for their welfare, and that it will "employ all legal means to give effect to this unchangeable desire of the people." In reply, the Lord High Commissioner informed the Ionian legislators that England will maintain the rights conferred upon her by the protectorate, and told them that they will do well to attend to the country's business instead of sterile agitation.—The Porte has informed the Great Powers that in consequence of the incessant hostilities carried on by the Montenegrins, it has sent orders to Omar Pacha

to address an ultimatum to the Prince of Montenegro, calling on him for the immediate release of prisoners and a formal engagement to prevent invasion of the Turkish territories. The report that the Turkish troops had entered Montenegro is denied; but a later telegram announces that all the Great Powers, except France, have consented to the invasion of Montenegro, and that Omar Pacha, has received orders to operate against it immediately from three points.

AMERICA.—Although the American intelligence is five days later in date than our previous advices, it possesses very little interest. No important operations had been undertaken by the Federal Army in Virginia, though there had been one or two trifling skirmishes. Reports brought by fugitive slaves from Norfolk asserted that the *Merrimac* had been repaired, and armed with heavier guns, and that she and the steamers *Jamestown* and *Yorktown* were ready to sally forth once more against the Federal vessels. The Federal forces had not made any progress towards the capture of "Island No. 10," in the Mississippi. The bombardment had not produced any great effect, and the Confederates, who were said to number 15,000 men, were engaged in repairing and strengthening their works. A strong Confederate army was reported to be assembling at Corinth, in Mississippi, and an engagement was declared to be "imminent" in that quarter. According to accounts from Ship Island and Key West, transmitted by way of Havana, the greater part of Commodore Porter's Federal squadron had crossed the bar of the South-west Pass of the Mississippi, and it was expected that operations against the defences of the approaches to New Orleans would be commenced immediately. No official account of the occupation of Beaufort by the Federals had been received. The Senate has passed the bill for the abolition of slavery in the district of Columbia by a majority of more than two to one. If the bill passes the House of Representatives, as will no doubt be the case, the city of Washington will, for the first time in its history, stand on free soil; and slavery must inevitably cease to exist in the State of Maryland. Compensation to the average amount of three hundred dollars a slave is to be paid to the slave-owners; and a sum of one hundred thousand dollars is appropriated to defray the expense of voluntary emigration on the part of the emancipated negroes. The Government of Hayti are especially anxious to encourage emigration to their beautiful island, and no doubt many of their kinsmen liberated by the Federal Government will avail themselves of the invitation which President Geffard has given to the coloured race throughout the world.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. G.—Use your own discretion we cannot advise you without a very much better acquaintance with the facts.

A PROV. G. SEC.—Send us the ruling you complain of. The G. Sec. is not infallible.

A BUILDER.—See section 19, under Board of General Purposes, page 107 of *Book of Constitutions*.

HENRY P.—You see it has been already done in the present number.

—X.—We shall be very happy to publish *Poetry*, but must decline Rhyme run mad.

F.—No. If you do you will render yourself liable to expulsion.

CHEAP JACK.—Pedestals may be of any wood you please.

DEVON.—Apply for a further dispensation to the M.W. Grand Master. Report states that you will have a Prov. Grand Master shortly in the person of Bro. the Rev. John Huyshe, who has long been your deputy.

BRO. BIGGS' letter arrived too late for this week, Good Friday necessitating our going to press earlier than usual.

The report of the proceedings at Leominster, on the occasion of the resuscitation of a lodge is necessarily postponed for the same evening.

The paper alluded to in Bro. Cossen's letter never came to hand.

M. M.—It is a very common custom to open up at once, and resume in the different degrees as required.

The son of the widow is assured that we had no intention of making an attack on the Mark Masters Grand Lodge, but must repeat it is not acknowledged by any Masonic body in the world—and does not come under the designation of Ancient and Accepted Freemasonry as recognised by the Grand Lodge of England, as the son of the widow may see by the first clause of the *Book of Constitutions*.