

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1862.

RIGHTS OF THE WARDENS OF PRIVATE LODGES.

Much misunderstanding has arisen in the Craft as to the powers with which the Wardens of private lodges are invested, and it has been contended that those officers cannot, legally of themselves, perform the ceremony of initiating a candidate into Freemasonry. This view is an erroneous one, and a few authorities on the point may be cited to show that it is so.

Earliest amongst masonic records, is the poem known as Halliwell's *History of Freemasonry in England*, and in that the "Octavus punctus" reads thus:—

"The eghte poynt, he may be sure,
 Let thou hast y-taken any cure,
 Under thy mayster thou be true,
 For that poynt thou schal never erre;
 A true medyater thou most need be
 To thy mayster and thy felows fre;
 Do truly al that thou myzth,
 To both partyes, and that ys good ryzth."

In the above extract, although Wardens are not specially mentioned, yet the office is recognised by the word "cure," which, in old English, signified a deputy; and, in this instance, was equivalent to a Warden, as will be evident, if we quote the same "point" from Bro. Matthew Cooke's *History and Articles of Freemasonry*, where it is given in prose, and a Warden is specially mentioned. At pages 126-7 of that work, it reads thus:—

"The viij poynt yf hit befalle hym ffor to be wardeyne vndyr his maister that he be trewe mene bitwene his maister & his felaws and that he be busy in the absence of his maister to the honor of his maister and profit to the lorde that he seructh."

Taken in conjunction with the former, these two extracts evidently point to the duty of the Warden. The latter expressly ordains that he is to be busy in the absence of his master to the honour of the latter; which means, if words mean anything, that he is to do all that his master would do if he were present, and so maintain the honour of his superior in his absence.

The next authority, in point of date, which we shall quote, is Bro. Anderson's *Book of Constitutions*, edition of 1746, which states, at page 153, under the "Old Regulations," "The Master of a particular lodge has the right and authority of congregating the members of his lodge into a chapter upon any emergency or occurrence; as well as to appoint the time and place of their usual forming. And in case of death or sickness, or necessary absence of the Master, the Senior Warden shall act as Master *pro tempore*, if no brother is present who has been Master of that lodge before: for the absent Master's authority reverts to the last Master present, though he cannot act till the Senior Warden has congregated the lodge." The New Regulations, made Nov. 25th, 1723, are set forth in the opposite column in the following words:—"It was agreed, but was neglected to be recorded, that if a Master of a particular lodge is deposed or demits, the Senior Warden shall forthwith fill the Master's chair till the next time of choosing; and ever since, in the Master's absence, he fills the chair, even though a former Master be present."

This last regulation is repeated at page 345 of Bro. Entick's edition of Anderson's *Book of Constitutions*, dated 1767.

The above extracts, from Anderson, lay it down as a positive rule that in the Senior Warden is vested the power of acting as W.M. *pro tempore*, and if he be so empowered he is, to our thinking, eligible to make, pass, and raise, but not being a P.M., as we suppose for the sake of argument, he cannot install, not being himself an installed Master, but so strong are the words—"shall act as Master *pro tempore*"—that, if such an anomaly could exist, of one not an installed Master being permitted to perform the ceremony of Installation, we hold the Senior Warden would be able to come in under the sentence quoted.

The last of these extracts, repeated by Entick, is still more to the purpose, because the Senior Warden is, under the circumstances of a Worshipful Master resigning during his official year, or being expelled, *de facto* and *de jure* Worshipful Master in preference to, and in the presence of, a Past Master of that lodge.

In the last edition of Preston's *Illustrations* (Dr. Oliver's), page 71, we find the Worshipful Master, in addressing his Senior Warden, says, after investing him, "Your regular attendance on

our stated meetings is essentially necessary; as, in my absence, you are to rule the lodge."

So also, in the usual Installation ceremony, the Installing Master, delivering his address to the Wardens, charges them to assiduously assist the Worshipful Master in the discharge of his duties, and carefully to instruct those he may place under their care, for, he tells them, "in his absence you will succeed to higher duties."

Thus far it is evident all these before-mentioned authorities unequivocally maintain the right of the Wardens in some cases, but that of the Senior Warden in all, to do the duty of the Master, when he is absent, and part of those duties are to make, pass, and raise Masons.

In our present *Book of Constitutions*, p. 71, it is declared, Section I., "and no Master elect shall assume the Master's chair until he shall have been regularly installed, though he may in the interim rule the lodge."

At page 72, section 6, it states:—

"6. If the Master shall die, be removed, or be incapable of discharging the duties of his office, the Senior Warden, and in the absence of the Senior Warden, the Junior Warden, and in the absence of both Wardens, then the immediate Past Master, or in his absence the Senior Past Master, shall act as Master in summoning the lodge, until the next election of officers. In the Master's absence, the immediate Past Master; or, if he be absent, the Senior Past Master of the lodge present shall take the chair. And if no Past Master of the lodge be present, then the Senior Warden, or in his absence the Junior Warden, shall rule the lodge."

Now in these two extracts lie the whole gist of the matter. From the XVth. Century to A.D. 1813, the Wardens were, *ceteris paribus*, in possession of the Master's authority, not as his deputies, but in their own unalienable right.

The ambiguity of the expression "rules the lodge" is the cause of all the mischief, and if we look at the expression in a fair spirit, it appears that the Master always rules his lodge so long as it is open. During the time he performs any ceremony of the three degrees he is still ruling, and the ruler of his lodge, and if the Wardens are to rule the lodge in the absence of the Worshipful Master, it surely must be conceded that they have the same prerogatives as the W.M. to rule the lodge and transact its necessary business. Against the narrow view taken by our *Book of Constitutions*, is the practice of the whole

civilised world, and some few citations will show that ruling and performing all the functions of the W.M. are synonymous.

In Mackey's *Lexicon*, *sub voce*, "Wardens," we are told,—

"In case of the death, removal from the State, or expulsion of the Master, the Senior Warden presides over the lodge for the remainder of his term of office. During the temporary absence of the Master, the Senior Warden will sometimes, through courtesy, resign the chair to a former Past Master; yet, in this case, the latter officer derives his authority from the Warden, and cannot act until this officer has congregated the lodge. The same thing is applicable to the Junior Warden, in case of the absence both of the Master and the Senior Warden. This rule arises from the fact that the warrant of constitution is granted to the Master, Wardens, and their successors in office, and not to the members of the lodge The Junior Warden presides over the Craft during refreshment, and in the absence of the Worshipful Master and Senior Warden he performs the duties of presiding officer But no election can be had to supply the place *ad interim*, of either the Master or Wardens, while one of the three remains. If two of them, as, for example, the Master and Senior Warden, have died or been deposed, the Junior Warden must occupy the chair during the remainder of the term, and appoint his Wardens *pro tempore* at each communication, until the regular constitutional night of election."

In the above it is strongly set forth, that, even the Junior Warden, in the absence of his two superior officers, "performs the duties of presiding officer," and the duties of the presiding officer of a lodge must be to act, in all things, as the W.M. Therefore, the Junior Warden, when placed in this position, must be held to be able to make, pass, and raise Freemasons.

In the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of California for 1856, its Committee report and say:—

"There can be no Worshipful Master *pro tem.*; no one can open the lodge but the Master, or, in his absence, the Wardens, or a Past Master, if he been trusted with the Charter; but they do so in their official capacity, and not as *pro tem.* of the Worshipful Master. The Senior Warden is not a *pro tem.* Master when he governs the lodge, but is Senior Warden acting as Master. The brother whom he seats in the west, to fill his own place for the time, is Senior Warden *pro tem.*, and so are the other officers he may appoint; but he sits in the Orient in his own right, and governs the Craft as Senior Warden, and not as Worshipful Master *pro tem.*"

Here the dictum is clearly laid down that the Senior Warden is, by his own right, *ex officio* Worshipful Master, and is "acting as Master," which includes, to our mind, the right, or power,

of doing all that a Worshipful Master may, or is entitled to do.

The Grand Lodge of Florida, in 1858, lays down, as its 4th rule, that, "in the absence of the Master, the duties of his office devolve upon the Senior Warden; and, in his absence, upon the Junior Warden."

There is certainly no difficulty about the matter in the last quotation, for there it expressly states the duties of the W.M., in his absence, devolve upon the Senior, first, and then the Junior Warden.

The reports of the Grand Lodges of the various States of America are full of such decisions. It is a recognised rule in various countries, and the Grand Lodge of England is the only body of the kind that never takes the trouble to define its laws, but issues a *Book of Constitutions*, which, in numerous instances, is at total variance with all the rules and regulations of the Craft from the earliest times, tacitly ignoring one of its ancient charges, which, inconsistently enough, is bound up with it, and ordered to be read at every installation; viz., "that it is not in the power of any body of men to make innovations in the body of Masonry;" and yet, year after year, century after century, the Grand Lodge of England has been the greatest innovator in the body of Masonry, rejecting the old laws, and substituting for them vague and imperfect definitions, such as that on this very question, showing that it is an absurdity to leave to one officer the declaration of what is the law of the Craft, when it should be the duty of a permanent Committee, with the Grand Registrar for Chairman, to meet regularly and decide, from the old Constitutions, all points of Masonic law submitted to them. They should also be required to take notice of all amendments proposed, and see if they are in accordance with the laws of the Craft; and, if not strictly so, to have power to prevent "any man from making innovation in the body of Masonry," such as has been done at some previous time, when, to tickle the vanity of the Past Masters, the just rights, powers, and privileges of Lodge Wardens have been abrogated, and the unalterable constitutions of the Craft infringed.

We are aware, however, that there is one Grand Masonic body which does not take this view of the question, as in Ireland the Wardens of a private lodge have no rights in the absence of the Master

or a Past Master of that or some other lodge, as, without the presence of such an officer, the lodge cannot be opened. This is at least consistent; which it is not to give an officer the power of opening a lodge, and then to lay it down as a law that he can do nothing but close it.

THE THREATENED SECESSION FROM THE SUPREME GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF SCOTLAND.—No. II.

(From our own Correspondent.)

We last week broke silence upon a subject which continues to be a source of anxiety to all who feel an interest in the prosperity of Capitular Masonry under the Scottish Constitution. According to promise, we now present, *in extenso*, the much-maligned "Decisions," the pronouncing of which has been employed as a peg upon which to hang an accumulation of wrongs supposed to have been perpetrated by Grand Chapter upon certain magnates of the western metropolis, who, like the Ephesian silversmiths of old, finding their "Craft in danger to be set at nought," have endeavoured to excite a tumult among those engaged in "aiding in the Lord's work" throughout the western districts, and with what success remains to be seen.

The Grand Committee having given a decision adverse to the claim preferred by the Prov. Grand Superintendent, of unlimited power in Royal Arch matters within the provinces forming the Western District, Dr. Arnott dissented, and appealed to Supreme Grand Chapter, which appeal would, in the ordinary course of procedure, have come on for consideration at the Grand Quarterly Communication on the third Wednesday of June last; but for reasons best known to the Doctor and his advisers, it was resolved by the Prov. Grand Chapter party, to take advantage of the Prov. Grand Superintendent's position as Past First Grand Principal, and have a special meeting of Grand Chapter, before which the arguments in support of their appeal should be heard. Accordingly, Dr. Arnott addressed the following letter to Comp. Mackersy, Grand Scribe E, who summoned Grand Chapter to meet at Edinburgh on the 23rd of May last:—

"Glasgow, 17th May, 1862.
SIR,—By virtue of the power conferred upon the First Grand Past Principal by Cap. viii., sec. 2, of the Laws, I hereby request you to call a meeting of the Supreme Chapter in terms of that same law.

"1. To consider whether, when a romit is made by the Supreme Chapter to a Companion to report on any subject, he is prevented from taking such steps as ought to be taken by the Supreme Chapter itself, to procure the information he may deem necessary.

"2. To consider the petition for disjunction of Ayrshire from the province of the West of Scotland, and

the report thereon by Comp. Walker Arnott; a petition from Chapter No. 18, of Ayr, against such disjunction; reports by the Grand Superintendent of the West of Scotland on the books of Chapter No. 80, of Ayr, bearing upon the petition for the disjunction; a petition and complaint by certain members of Chapter No. 80, against the Provincial Grand Chapter of the West of Scotland, and all proceedings connected therewith, adopted by the Supreme Committee.

"3. To determine what are the powers of a Provincial Grand Superintendent and Provincial Grand Chapter, as to calling for and examining the minute and cash-books of any chapter in their district, and suspending for refusal to give them up; whether the books may be sent for at any time, and examined at the usual place of meeting by the Provincial Grand Chapter, in virtue of cap. X., sec. 9; or whether sec. 4 prohibits the said examination, unless while visiting the Chapter, and how the expense of such prolonged visitation shall be defrayed.

"4. To determine if a petition and complaint can be presented or sustained against an inferior judge or judicator, so long as there be no infringement of an express law, or undue partiality exhibited—both offences involving suspension.

"5. To consider a "minute" of date 21st of April, 1862, signed by Comps. David Murray Lyon and George Good, of Chapter No. 80, and whether these Companions ought not to be deprived of Royal Arch privileges.

"I am, Sir, yours fraternally,

"G. A. WALKER ARNOTT,

"Grand Scribe E., Edinburgh."

The Supreme Chapter having met and been constituted, proceeded to take up the articles of the order, calling the meeting seriatim, and,—

1. Upon considering the first of these it was unanimously resolved that when a remit is made by the Supreme Chapter to a companion to report on any subject, he may take any steps consistent with the laws of the Supreme Chapter to procure the information he may deem necessary, in the same way that the Supreme Chapter itself could do.

2. "On considering the second article of the order, it was resolved to separate it into two parts and to consider, 1st, The question as to the disjunction of Ayrshire, embracing the following points therein raised, viz.: Petition for the disjunction of Ayrshire from the Province of the West of Scotland; and the report thereon by Comp. Arnott; a petition from Chapter No. 80 against such disjunction, and reports by the Grand Superintendent of the West of Scotland on the books of the Chapter No. 80, Ayr, bearing upon the petition for disjunction. And, 2nd, petition and complaint by certain members of Chapter No. 80 against the Provincial Grand Chapter of the West of Scotland, and all proceedings connected therewith adopted by the Supreme Committee. The Grand Scribe E. having read the petition for disjunction and minutes of Supreme Chapter and Committee thereon, after some discussion Grand Chapter agreed that, in respect the report of the Prov. Grand Superintendent and other documents therein referred to, along with the petition from Chapter No. 18, were only now lodged in the hands of the Grand Scribe E., and that the Supreme Committee had not

had an opportunity of considering them, the whole matter be delayed till the ordinary Quarterly Communication of the Supreme Chapter on the 18th of June next. The Supreme Chapter then took up petition and complaint of Chapter No. 80 against the Provincial Grand Chapter of the West of Scotland, with answers for Dr. Arnott and whole productions, and the Grand Scribe E. having read to the meeting the whole papers, a long discussion ensued. It was ultimately unanimously agreed that the Supreme Chapter approve of the proceedings of the Supreme Committee and of the decision come to by them, and dismiss the appeal of Dr. Arnott against said decision, and the said appeal stands dismissed accordingly.

"3. The Supreme Chapter declined to give any deliverance upon the third article of Dr. Arnott's order, as this involved an interpretation of a law which was perfectly intelligible without such interpretation.

"4. On taking into consideration the fourth article, it was unanimously agreed that this being an abstract proposition, it is unnecessary for the Supreme Chapter to give any deliverance on the matter.

5. On considering the fifth article of the Order, and hearing Companions Dr. Walker Arnott and D. Murray Lyon thereon, Grand Chapter unanimously agreed that it is incompetent to suspend any companion, without a formal petition and complaint, and in the manner proposed."

These, then, are the "decisions" about which the threatened secessionists have made so much fuss, and upon which they rest their grounds for the erection of a rival Grand Chapter. So far from being severe, unjust, or partial, these decisions are characterised by moderation, equity, and impartiality. Had Supreme Chapter entertained feelings impregnated with a vindictiveness similar to those actuating the late Prov. Grand Superintendent, when insisting on the suspension from Royal Arch privileges of Companions D. Murray Lyon and George Good, the Doctor himself would have met with less courteous treatment at the hands of his Masonic superiors than the obnoxious decisions show to have been bestowed upon him, and for this he should be grateful. The ostensible offence for which Dr. Arnott proposed such a grave sentence to be passed upon Companions Lyon and Good, was that of having signed a "minute," which Chapter No. 80 had drawn up, and adopted in defence of themselves from certain unmasonic and ungenerous insinuations, given utterance to in one of the communications addressed by the Prov. Grand Superintendent to Grand Scribe E. But as we believe Companion Arnott to be a kind hearted old gentleman, and incapable when left to the unfettered exercise of his own judgment, of injuring any one, perhaps we ought to trace to another source the real motive dictating the suspension of the two companions already mentioned. That Com-

panion Lyon had become a too prominent and influential member of the Craft, and stood in the way of Ayrshire being treated as a mere apanage of Glasgow, accounts for the existence of a strong desire on the part of the late Prov. Grand Chapter that he should be removed out of the way or rendered harmless by being masonically degraded; local jealousy on the part of some upon whose *corns* he had, in the discharge of his duties as an important official in lodge and chapter, unceremoniously trod, had also something to do with the proposal to suspend Bro. Lyon; whilst the blunt but effective style in which Comp. Good was accustomed to expose to ridicule the Masonic quackery which, in too many instances, have been attempted to be palmed upon the Craft by itinerant brethren, coupled with the energy which he has ever displayed in the conduct of Masonic matters in the town of Ayr, have combined to render Bro. Good's presence disagreeable to those keeping their own aggrandisement in view, rather than the harmony and well-being of the order; hence the desire for his degradation. With regard to the threatened secession, we have little to report. Thanks to the publication in the *MAGAZINE* of the real facts last week, the difficulties which beset the path of the seceders in their attempted organisation of a new Grand Chapter appear more apparent, and the contemplation of which seems to have had an evident tendency to cool the ardour of the misguided Companions, who have suffered themselves, thus far, to be nose-led by the few interested parties at the head of the secession movement; and we hope to be able, in our next *MAGAZINE*, to state that they have returned to their allegiance to the Supreme Grand Chapter. It is right that we should mention that Dr. Arnott was not present at the meeting which took place in the Crow Hotel, Glasgow, on the 8th inst., and consequently cannot be held to be a leader in the insane Masonic movement of which Glasgow is at present the scene.

THE SUPREME GRAND COUNCIL OF FRANCE AND MARSHAL MAGNAN.

(Continued from page 22.)

Resuming our narrative, we proceed to show what effect the manifesto of Marshal Magnan has had upon the Supreme Grand Council.

The central Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Accepted Rite Ecossais, held a meeting under the presidency of Bro. Guiffrey, its Master, *ad vitam*, for the purpose of guarding the rights and privileges of the brethren and lodges, holding under the Supreme Grand Council. This meeting was numerously attended; the various lodges of the rite having made it their duty to attend the call of their Masonic superiors, and, to evince their sympathy, certain brethren holding under the Grand Orient were in attendance. After the lodge had been opened, Bro. Genevay, orator of the Grand Lodge Ecossais, was requested by the

Worshipful Master, to read Bro. Viennet's reply to Marshal Magnan's circular, which answer of Bro. Viennet, thirty-third degree, acquired more than ordinary force and significance, from the fact of its being endorsed by the whole of the lodges ranging under the authority of the Supreme Grand Council.

There were some two hundred members present, who, when the Grand Orator, Bro. Genevay, rose to obey the commands of the Worshipful Master, were hushed into profound silence. We shall not present our readers with the *ipsissima verba* of the document in question, but offer such remarks on it as appear to be in accordance with its spirit, and afford them a right understanding of the case in all its bearings.

The Most Puisant Sovereign Grand Commander commenced by deploring the necessity of defending the Rite Ecossais against the encroachments of a powerful man, who relying on an Imperial decree, badly construed, wished to establish his authority of Grand Master, over the rite of the Supreme Grand Council, no mention or allusion to that rite having appeared in the edict in question. It was his duty to protect the interests and safety of the rite, as well as to enlighten the Emperor, the Minister of the Interior, and public opinion on the nature of the unjust persecution of which they were the object. He drew a comparison between the supposed acts of an Archbishop, who, the day after his enthronisation, should compel all the ministers of the various religious sects to conform and assist him, at mass, in his cathedral. Such was the parallel case to theirs, and Marshal Magnan had played a similar part.

After a rapid analysis of the principal facts relative to the history of the Masonic Order in France, and of the differences which existed since 1772, between the central Grand Lodge Ecossais, and the Grand Orient, as well as between the Supreme Grand Council and Grand Orient, Bro. Viennet traced the same to the conference of 1841, which latter took place at the proposal of the Grand Orient, when the Duc de Choiseul, M.P. Sov. G. Com., accepted the negotiation, and named as his representatives the Duke Decazes, General de Fernig, Messrs. Guiffrey, Phillippe, Dupin, and Viennet. After various negotiations, Bro. Viennet, in concert with Bro. Bouilly, representative of the Grand Master of the Grand Orient, were authorised to draw up articles for a treaty of union. The personal friendship of the negotiators rendered their task easy, and they naturally made the agreement of 1804 the basis of their scheme, which comprised the independence of both rites—the administration of the inferior grades by the Grand Orient—and authority over the high grades by the Supreme Grand Council. The exchequer of both rites was merged in a common fund, but the accounts and orders were signed and controlled by their respective authorities, each one within its proper limits. On the part of the Grand Orient it was not desired to render this union one of absorption, but they offered to admit those holding under the Supreme Grand Council, *en masse*, amongst the Grand Officers, and to take the Duke Decazes as Grand Master. But there were certain points which, as sole heirs and representatives of ancient Masonry, could not be surrendered by the Supreme Grand Council, for the latter felt that if they had not been recognised as the depository of such, the

Grand Orient would not have taken the trouble to open negotiations with them.

These attempts at union came to nothing but were fruitful in cementing the good feeling of both parties; and, in consequence, on the 6th of November, 1841, the Grand Orient, although regretting that the plan of union had not been carried out between the two rites, yet declared "that the Masons who owed their allegiance to it remained free to visit the lodges of the Supreme Grand Council, and to receive Ecossais Masons into their own lodges."

This fraternal interchange continued to animate both rites, and though Masonic unity was no nearer, yet its principles were, in effect, being daily carried out.

Prince Murat solicited the Duke Decazes to appoint an interview between them, and owing to the serious illness of the latter, Bro. Viennet was appointed his Lieutenant-General and successor, and was also requested to meet the Prince, which he did, and was sensibly affected by the affability and good wishes of his Royal Highness, but gave the latter to understand that all attempts at union only tended towards the destruction of the Supreme Grand Council, to which Prince Murat agreed, but good naturedly lamented that the negotiation was broken off.

Thus, after ninety years' living in the fraternal interchange of good wishes, the crisis arrived, owing to the differences between the Royal Princes at the late election for Grand Master, which troubles alarmed the authorities of the state, and Masonry was included in the measures which resulted in the suppression of the Société de St. Vincent-de-Paul, and other charitable Institutions. The Supreme Grand Council had nothing to do with the discord in the Grand Orient, but followed their own course in peace "and in a shade so thick that their existence was not even suspected," but they could not refrain from showing their surprise and alarm, although well convinced that the rite Ecossais was not mixed up with the unfortunate affair, but at the same time it was difficult to except them from being placed in the number of those who were included in the general measure.

The lodges under the Supreme Grand Council eagerly sought permission, from the prefects, to assemble as usual, and Bro. Viennet addressed himself to the Minister of the Interior, in order to conform to his circular of the 16th of October. On the arrival of St. John's Day, in December, the lodges under the Supreme Grand Council prepared to celebrate the same, and, as he had done the year before, Bro. Viennet apprised the prefect of Police of the meeting. In reply, he was informed that "The Government had decided to let the Rite Ecossais go on as long as he was of this world, but after his decease the state would consider the matter, and the prefect authorised them to proceed with their festivities, laying no further condition on them than that of not receiving any members of the Grand Orient."

This condition was easy to Bro. Viennet, as it was the invariable custom of the Supreme Grand Council, not, on that occasion, to admit the brethren of the Grand Orient. But he argued if he was deceased, "which he promised should be as remote as possible," the sixty lodges under the Supreme Grand Council would suffer, and that the prefects might imagine they ought only to tolerate those under the Grand Orient.

To this remark the Prefect of Police characteristically replied "that was his business;" upon which Bro. Viennet retired.

The orator then proceeded to speak of the celebration of St. John's day in December, and gave some extracts from Bro. Viennet's address on the prospects of the Order, delivered on that occasion, which we do not quote here.

On the 11th of January in the present year, the Emperor issued a decree in which he appointed Marshal Magnan Grand Master of the Grand Orient of France. The Supreme Grand Council were not mentioned, nevertheless the Rite Ecossais being called into notice by Bro. Viennet's proceedings and the fête of St. John, the silence of the decree, as far as it regarded them, increased their confidence, but on the 15th Bro. Viennet, who shall now speak for himself, tells us, "I met Marshal Magnan at the house of a mutual friend. We were on the best of terms. Our relations were most friendly. He reminded me that we had served together in the Corps Royal d'Etat-Major, and said, smiling, that he did not know as much as the word of the first degree, and that, for more than a month, he had resisted the wishes of the Emperor, but that, on the same morning, he had received the entire series of the thirty-three degrees, and the same evening he was to be installed Grand Master." I answered him, laughing "that he resembled Cardinal Dubois, who had received, on the same day, all the honours of the hierarchy." He took the joke very well, and was then retiring, but stopped suddenly at the door of the room and said to me, "Are you prepared to recognise me in your turn? I am the Grand Master of all Masonry, and I shall not suffer a *petite eglise*." I answered, "we shall see; this is not done yet, read the Emperor's decree again."

On the following day Bro. Viennet learned from reports, on good authority, that the menace was more serious than he had supposed, and on the 1st of February a summons was addressed to the Supreme Grand Council in the following terms:—

"My very dear and very Illustrious Brother.—The Emperor, by the decree of the 11th of January last, has made me Grand Master of *all the Masons in France*. By this direct nomination the Emperor recognises the society of Freemasons which, until this day, has only been tolerated. Besides His Majesty has declared himself the protector of the Order as his uncle, the Emperor Napoleon I., of glorious memory was. My nomination, without in any way changing the laws, the independence and the liberty of the Masonic Order, or of each individual Mason, has imposed on me duties which I am compelled to fulfil.

"The first, and the most important of these duties, is to unite in one all the Masonic elements and to arrive at unity in the Masonic order in France. It is this unity which will be our strength and which is subjoined for the consideration of the order. Too many intestine dissensions have had place in our body, especially in these later times. My duty is to collect and bring together, into one bond, the various spirits and to give fraternal direction to all the lodges. It is with this object that I have the honour to invite you to ask the lodges, obedient to you, to unite themselves with the lodges of the Grand Orient in order to work in the lodges of the Rue Cadet, and to dissolve

you into one great family which will receive you with open arms, which will be honoured to see—thanks to your influence—the schism cease.

“I have no need to tell you that all ranks of the Supreme Grand Council will be recognised by me with great satisfaction.

“I have the honour to request you to accept the assurance, very dear and very illustrious brother and very good and old military comrade, of my high esteem and fraternal attachment.

“(Signed)

“THE GRAND MASTER, MARSHAL MAGNAN.”

(To be continued.)

KABBALISM, SECRET SOCIETIES, AND MASONRY.

(Continued from page 47.)

We must now turn our attention to another phase of Kabbalism, which was apparently developed out of the former, or purely Jewish. We mean the Gnostic. Into the origin and history of this remarkable sect we do not mean to enter, excepting as showing its connexion with the former. Of its extensive existence in the apostolical times we have the universal testimony of the early Fathers, as well as for the frequent allusions, condemnatory of the doctrines, in the New Testament.*

Simon Magus is the reputed founder of Gnosticism, About this many erroneous opinions have been held; and many erroneous statements made, most, if not all, arising from writers who, unacquainted with Kabbalism, and not seeing that Gnosticism was only a different phase of an existing system, imagined that it was a new heresy, whose founder was Simon Magus. That Gnosticism borrowed much from the teachings of the Apostles there can be no doubt, but it is equally clear that these were only importations, supplementing a previously organized system. We shall give a conjectural account of the conversion of Simon Magus, which, if true, will fully account for the Christian element in Gnosticism.

Simon was, we are told in the Acts of the Apostles, a “magician” (μαγέων), calling himself “some great one” (τινὰ ἑαυτὸν μέγαν); and that the people esteemed him as “the (or a) great Power of God;” for “of a long time he had bewitched (astonished, ἐξεστασέναι) them with his sorceries (μαγείαις).” This man, witnessing the miracles done by Philip, especially that of exercising a power of controlling demons, believed, and desired and received baptism. Afterwards, when SS. Peter and John came down from Jerusalem, and displayed further acts of power, viz. giving the Holy Spirit by laying on of hands, which was followed by visible proofs that this supernatural influence was actually imparted, Simon offered money that this power might be bestowed on him. From this narrative we learn that Simon was a magician, i.e., that he actually did, or pretended to, control demons. What these demons were we have stated above. The power of controlling these demons was the art of magic, and magic is a branch of the Kabbala. Simon Magus, then, was a Kabbalist. As such he had been

initiated into the “mystery,” of Kabbalism; as such he gave himself out to be “some great one,” and was acknowledged by the Samaritans to be “a great Power of God,” or as it is in some MSS. and in the Vulgate, “a Power of God, which is called Great” (δύναμις Θεοῦ ἢ καλουμένη μεγάλη, Virtus Dei quæ vocatur Magna).* This “Power” answers exactly to the Sephiroth, since the Kabbalists held that God created all things by them. The first of these, as we have mentioned above, is “the Spirit of the living God, . . . the Spirit, the Voice, the Word—this is the Holy “Spirit.” The second is, “the Breath which comes from the Spirit.” Another Sephirah is power, δύναμις, the very word used by S. Luke.† S. Jerome tells us (in Matt. xxiv.) that Simon thus describes himself, ‘Ego sum Sermo dei, ego speciosus, ego Paracletus.’ He thus seems to have set himself up as a visible manifestation of one of the Sephiroth, perhaps as a sort of incarnation of it; and that the sorceries he worked were done by the energising power of those creative attributes of God.‡ Seeing the miracles of S. Philip,

* We do not intend to enter into the question here whether his magic, or magic at all, is a real power, or only jugglery: we simply follow the Scripture narrative, and use Scripture terms. We need not remind our readers that the attempt to resolve the exercise of supernatural *evil* powers, like those of Jannes and Jambres, into mere sleight-of-hand, is cotemporaneous with that of resolving the exercise of supernatural good powers, like the miracles of our Lord and His Apostles, into natural causes and effects, and proceeds from the rationalistic spirit of the day. The Fathers, and the great divines of our Church in the seventeenth century, generally upheld the reality of both. (See especially *Hammond's Notes on Acts*, xix. 13–19, besides other places both in his Commentary and Sermons.) It is true that later writers in the English Church have taken a different view of magic, and have generally denied it to be a real power; but they have done so under the mistaken impression that they thereby secured a stronger belief in Christian miracles, when defending them against infidel writers; i.e., they yielded one point, hoping to secure the other and more important one. We cannot see how it can derogate from the greatness or reality of Christian miracles to deny Satanic ones; we should say exactly the contrary. Nor can we see that, if we admit demoniacal possession, and especially such a possession as that of the πνεῦμα πύθωνος (Acts xvi.), we can deny magic. It is surely better to take Scripture words in their literal sense, and certainly Scripture does speak of witchcraft as a real power, otherwise witches could not have been ordered to be put to death as they are in the Mosaic law. Mere jugglers would not thus have thus been dealt with.

† ‘Thus was Simon of Samaria, a native of a village called Gitto, who, in the time of Claudius Cesar, through the craft of the devils [demons, δαιμόνων], working by his names, performed acts of magic, and was held in your royal city of Rome to be a god, and was honoured by you with a statue like a god, which was raised on the River Tiber, between the two bridges, bearing this inscription, in the Roman language: “To Simon the holy god,” whom almost all the natives of Samaria, with a few of other nations, confess to be the first god, and worship; and a certain Helena, who travelled about with him at that time, and had formerly exposed herself in the stews, they term the first idea generated from him.’—*S. Justin Martyr, Apol. i. § 26.*

The statement that this Helena was an idea emanating from Simon is worthy of notice, for the doctrine of one Sephirah producing another was common among the Kabbalists; perhaps she was ‘Wisdom,’ σοφία. For the statement that Simon was worshipped as a god, see Burton’s ‘Bampton Lectures,’ note 24.

‡ It may seem difficult to reconcile the practice of magic with the positive prohibitions of witchcraft, and the having a familiar spirit, so frequent in the law of Moses. The difficulty may perhaps be explained by supposing that the ancient magic was connected with heathen rites and invocations of heathen deities; while Kabbalism professed to be a deeper knowledge of the Scripture; and its magic was carried on in the name of

* Considerable light has been lately thrown on the Gnostic system by the discovery of the “Codex Nasaræus,” that “Bible of pure Oriental Gnosticism,” as it has been called.—*Gelinck's Franck*, p. 255.

he at once acknowledged a power superior to his own. This he would probably ascribe to a higher kind of Kabbalistic science. He saw in the use of the "name of Jesus" an efficacy far above any charm, that he possessed. He at once, and sincerely, expressed his faith in the new manifestation, and desired to be admitted into this new society, to learn the mystery connected with the 'name of the Lord Jesus,' for he saw its tremendous power. Christianity was to him a higher development of Kabbalism, and baptism was the rite of initiation into the mystery. The further manifestation of supernatural power displayed by SS. Peter and John, only made him more eager to enter more deeply into this mystery. Ignorant of the true nature of Christianity, its true purpose and end, and looking only on its manifestations, he offered money to be allowed admittance into the deeper mysteries, such as were displayed by the Apostles, in comparison with those of the deacon Philip.

We need not follow the narrative further: it explains, however, pretty clearly, how it happened that some Kabbalists so readily adopted a certain amount of Christian doctrine into their system; and how this combination produced the new phase of Kabbalism called Gnosticism; eventually completed under Valentinus and Basilides. The identity of the æons of the latter with the Sephiroth of the former is too plain to require lengthened proof: we need only compare the two together to perceive at a glance the fact. The great and distinguishing difference between the two systems is the introduction into the latter of a scheme of redemption of mankind; the former placing the whole of its mystery, and directing all its investigation, into the doctrine of creation. To effect a harmony between the old and the new system, new names, and a seemingly new position was given to the Sephiroth; but still they went in pairs, and a sort of marriage was supposed to exist between them: the two first were depth and silence (*βυθός* and *στυγή*); then breadth and truth; then the word and life; then man and the church. Sometimes we have eighteen æons, sometimes thirty; these latter are made up with attributes of God and of man. We next come to the generations of æons, "endless genealogies" as S. Paul calls them; thus, God dwelling in light unapproachable, conceived a plan for creating the universe: this existed first in idea; it is expressed by the æons breadth and truth: from these two came the word and life; these two inferior to the others, inasmuch as the portrait cannot equal the original: from these came the other two, man and the church. All this is only another way of expressing what the Kabbalists had expressed by the long and the short face. We have next the origin of matter: the æon Wisdom desiring to see her father, was punished for her temerity by becoming *enceinte*; from her was born Achamoth, matter unformed and full of ignorance; from her fear and her tears came water; the æon Christ was sent to console her, and then came forth the soul of the world; from her smiles came light, and from light came three sorts of substances—the

first spiritual, which are good; animals, which are susceptible of good and evil; and finally, matter, which is wholly evil. However, lest the other æons should fall in the like manner as Wisdom had done, God sent Christ to warn them not to attempt to penetrate too deeply the mystery of the nature of God.

We need not go into this further: we see here a mystical and allegorical way of describing the creation and redemption of the world. The two first æons, depth and silence, only express the immensity and incomprehensibility of God; breadth and truth are His ideal creation; the word and life are the spiritual parts, and man and the church the visible parts, of the real creation. The fable of the birth of Achamoth is a sort of history of the fall—man aspiring to know "good and evil;" the æon Christ, sent to comfort Wisdom, and warn others against a similar fate, represents redemption.

We do not for a moment believe that the learned Gnostics ever conceived these æons to be anything more than ideal existences, or that these generations were any more than such an ideal generation as St. James describes, when he says, "When lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin; and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." That the more ignorant of the Gnostics really believed in the actual existence of these æons is probable enough; for Gnosticism is essentially a "mystery," into which only the advanced or initiated were fully instructed; but it certainly strikes us as very singular that some of the Fathers should be so deceived as to imagine that this allegorical way of teaching was intended to be a reality, as, for example, Tertullian, who says that the Gnostics acknowledged many gods.

Basilides and Valentinus were both of Egyptian origin; the latter studied at Alexandria, at that time famous for Jewish learning, the home of Philo and the Therapeutics; here he became acquainted with both Kabbalism and Christianity, for he boasted of having for his teacher a learned Jew, who had been a friend of St. Paul. From Egypt came the name æon, together with their charms and talismans, their Abraxas and Abracadabra.*

The Gnostics denied the doctrine of the resurrection of the body, and consistently, the death and

* The use of talismans was seemingly very common among the Gnostics. Fabretti describes a seal on which is engraved a man with six arms, two of which hold torches, two swords, two whips, with the inscription, "*Saba Abraxas, the God of Armies*" M. Germond has another, with the words, "*Abraxas, Adonai, Jao Sabaoth*." The poet Sireus tells us that the word Abracadabra was a charm against fever:

"Inscribes chartæ quod dicitur Abracadabra;
Sæpius et subter repetes; sed detrahe summa,
Ut magis atque magis desint elementa figuris
Singula, quæ semper rapies, et cætera figes;
Donec in angustum redigatur litera conum;
His lino nexis collum redimira memento."

Another talisman of unknown meaning and use, is singular for its completeness; it consists of the words, *Sator Arepo tenet opera rotas*; which, if disposed in the manner following, will give the same words whether read from left to right, or from right to left, from top to bottom, or from bottom to top:—

S A T O R
A R E P O
T E N E T
O P E R A
R O T A S

Jehovah, and was only a lawful way of controlling the powers of evil for good purposes. Let it be remembered that Solomon, the pattern of the perfect development of humanity in the eyes of a Jew, of all wisdom and righteousness and favour with God, was also supposed to be the greatest magician, for all demons were made subject to him.

resurrection of Christ. S. Irenæus tells us that they held that, unknowingly to the Jews, Simon of Cyrene was crucified instead of Christ, who then went to heaven. Believing, as they did, that matter was evil, they looked only for the redemption of the soul; accordingly they held that Christ did not take flesh, but only assumed an apparent body. Two opposite schools arose from this denial of the resurrection, one which mortified the body as something hopelessly corrupt; the other, which allowed every carnal excess, on the plea that when the body died, it perished, and set the soul free, being only a temporary prison-house, with which all connection ceased at death,

(To be continued.)

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

CLOSING UP OF THE LIST OF LODGES IN THE YEARS 1740 AND 1756.

The Warrant of the Royal Kent Lodge of Antiquity (No. 20) having, "by some accident, been lost or destroyed," a Warrant of Confirmation was granted by the M.W.G.M., the Duke of Sussex, in 1820, from a copy of which, forming part of a collection, that I have been permitted to present to Lincoln's-inn Library, the ensuing recital is taken. It is the only account of the closing up of the list of lodges that I remember to have met with, in the course of my, not inconsiderable, Masonic lucubrations, mostly at Denton Court, and in the years that I was Prov. G.M. Kent, 1853-1860:—

"Whereas, it appears by the records of the Grand Lodge, that a Warrant, bearing date 28th March, 1723, was issued under the seal of Masonry, enabling certain brethren, therein named, to open and hold a lodge of Freemasons, at the Crown, Cripplegate, London, to be called or known by the No. 13; and, whereas, by the general closing up of the list of lodges in the year 1740, the said lodge became No. 12; and in the year 1748 the said lodge was removed to Chatham, in the County of Kent, and, by the closing up of the list of lodges, in the year 1756, it became No. 10; and which lodge, in consequence of the union of the two fraternities of Freemasons, on the 27th day of December, 1813, became, and is now registered in the books of the United Grand Lodge, No. 20, &c."

—CHARLES PURTON COOPER, *Chateau Frampas*.

BRO. E. MORIN'S PATENT FOR AMERICA.

At this time, when the proceedings of the Supreme Council of France are in danger of being suspended by the State, it may be desirable to show by what powers the Ancient and Accepted Rite was established in America. Bro. Morin's patent is as follows:—

TO THE GLORY OF THE GRAND ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE.
At the Grand East of France, and under the good will of his Serene Highness and Most Illustrious Brother Louis de Bourbon, Count of Clermont, Prince of the Blood, Grand Master and Protector of all Regular Lodges: at the East of an Enlightened Place where reigns Peace, Silence, and Concord; A. L. 5765.

LUX EX TENEBRIS.

Unitas, Concordia, Fratrum.

We, the undersigned, Substitutes General of the Royal Art, Grand Wardens, and officers of the Grand and Sovereign Lodge of St. John of Jerusalem, established at the east of Paris; and we, Puissant Grand Master of the Grand Councils of the regular lodges under the protection of the Grand and Sovereign Lodge, by the sacred and mysterious Numbers—

Declare, certify, and order, to all the brethren, Knights, and Princes, over the surface of the two hemispheres, that having assembled by order of the Substitute General, President of the Grand Council, a request was communicated to us by the respectable brother *La Corne*, substitute of our Illustrious Grand Master, Knight, and Prince Mason, was read at the sitting—That the Mason Knight Bro. *Etienne Morin*, Grand and Perfect Sublime Master, Prince Mason, Knight and Sublime Prince of

all the Orders of Perfect Masonry, Member of the Royal Lodge *La Trinité*, &c., being on his departure for America, and wishing to be able to work regularly for the advantage and increase of the Royal Art, in all its perfection, that it may please the Sovereign Grand Council, and Grand Lodge, to grant him *Letters Patent for Constitutions*. On the report being made to us, and knowing the eminent qualities of the Bro. Knight, *Etienne Morin*, we have, without hesitation, granted him that satisfaction for services, which he has rendered to the order, and of which his zeal warrants the continuation.

To that end, and for other good reasons, in approving and satisfying our dear Brother *Etienne Morin* in his views, and willing to give testimonials of our gratitude, we have constituted him, by unanimous consent, and by these presents constitute, institute, and give full and entire power to the said Bro. *Etienne Morin*, whose signature is in the margin of these presents, to form and establish a lodge, to receive and multiply the Royal Order of Freemasons, in all the perfect and sublime degrees, to take care that the statutes and regulations, general and particular, of the Sovereign Grand Lodge be kept and observed, and never to admit in it but true and legitimate brethren of sublime Masonry. To regulate and govern all the members which shall compose the said lodge, which he may establish in any of the four quarters of the world at which he shall arrive or reside, under the title of the Sovereign Lodge, of Perfect Harmony; and to choose such officers to govern the said lodge as he may think proper, to which officers we order and enjoin to obey and respect him. We order and command, to all Masters of regular lodges, of whatever dignities they may be, diffused over the surface of the two hemispheres, and of the seas—we pray and enjoin them, in the name of the Royal Order, and in the presence of our Most Illustrious Grand Master, to acknowledge him as such, and as we acknowledge our Illustrious Bro. *Etienne Morin*, as the respectable Master of the Lodge of Perfect Harmony; and we depute him, in quality of our Grand Inspector in all parts of the new world, to reinforce the observance of our laws in general, &c.; and by these presents constitute our dear Bro. *Etienne Morin*, our Grand Master Inspector, authorise and give him power to establish, in every part of the world, the perfect and sublime Masonry, &c. We pray, therefore, the brethren in general to give the said Bro. *Etienne Morin* all the assistance and succour that may be in their power, promising to do as much towards all the brethren who shall be members of the lodge, and those whom he may or shall have admitted and constituted hereafter to the sublime degrees of high perfection. That we give him full and entire power to multiply and to create Inspectors in every place where those sublime degrees are not established, knowing perfectly his great knowledge.

In testimony whereof, we have delivered to him these presents, signed by the Substitute General of the Order, Grand Commander of the White and Black Eagle, Sovereign Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, and Chief of the Eminent Degree of the Royal Art; and by us, Grand Inspectors, Sublime Officers of the Grand Council, and of the Grand Lodge, established in this capital; and have sealed them with the Grand Seal of our Illustrious Grand Master his serene Highness, and with that of our Grand Lodge and Sovereign Grand Council, at the Grand East of Paris. The year of light 5765—or of the vulgar era, the 27th of August, 1765.

Chalon de Jonville, Substitute General of the Order, Venerable Master of the First Lodge in France, called *St. Anthony's*, Chief of the Grand and Eminent Commanders, and Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, &c.

Sovereign Prince de Rohan, Master of the Grand Intelligence Lodge, Sovereign Prince of Masonry, &c.

La Corne, Substitute of the Grand Master, Right Worshipful Master of Trinity Lodge, Grand Elect, Perfect, Knight and Prince of Masons, &c.

Maximillian de St. Simon, Senior Warden, Grand Elect Perfect, Knight and Prince of Masons, &c.

Savalette de Buchelay, Grand Keeper of the Seals, Grand Elect Perfect Knight and Prince of Masons, &c.

Topin, Grand Ambassador from his Serene Highness, Grand Elect Perfect Master, Knight and Prince of Masons, &c.

Count de Choiseuil, Right Worshipful Master of the Lodge, The Children of Glory, Grand Elect Perfect Master, Knight and Prince of Masons, &c.

Boucher de Lenoncour, Right Worshipful Master of the Lodge of Virtue, Grand Elect Perfect Master, Knight and Prince of Masons, &c.

Brest de La Chaussée, Right Worshipful Master of Exactitude Lodge, Grand Elect Perfect Master, Knight and Prince of Masons, &c.

The Seals of the Order were affixed and the Patent counter-signed by Daubertain, Grand Elect Perfect Master, Knight and Prince of Masons, Right Worshipful Master of the Lodge of St. Alphonso, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, and Sublime Council of Princes of Masons, &c.—EX. EX.]

CONSTRUCTION OF A MASONIC HALL.

On what principle should a Masonic Hall be constructed.—A MASTER BUILDER.—[It should be isolated, and, if possible, surrounded by lofty walls, so as to be included in a court, and apart from any other buildings, to preclude the possibility of being overlooked by cowans or eavesdroppers; for Freemasonry being a secret society, the curiosity of mankind is ever on the alert to pry into its mysteries, and to obtain by illicit means, that knowledge which is freely communicated to all worthy applicants. As, however such a situation in large towns, where Masonry is practised, can seldom be obtained, with convenience to the brethren, the lodge should be formed in an upper storey; and if there be any contiguous buildings, the windows should be either in the roof, or very high from the floor.]

THE MOST EXCELLENT MASTER'S JEWEL.

Will some one describe the jewel worn by a most excellent Master? and oblige.—J. R.

THE FRENCH BANQUETTING TERMS.

W.M., who enquired about the battery and red oil will, perhaps, find the following French banquetting terms of service to him. The table is called—*plateau*; table-cloth, *voile*; napkin, *drapeau*; a dish, *plateau*; a spoon, *truelli*; a fork, *pioche*; a knife, *glaive*; a decanter, *barrique*; a glass, *canon*; the candles, *étouilles*; snuffers, *pincés*; chairs, *stalles*; meats in general, *materiaux*; bread, *piere brute*; wine, *poudre forte*, *rouge ou blanche*; water, *poudre foible*; cyder, or beer, *poudre jaune*; spirits, *poudre fulminante*; salt, *sable*; pepper, *ciment on sable jaune*; to eat, *mastiquer*; to drink, *tirer une canonnie*; to carve, *degrossir*.—DECOMBRES.

MASONIC CYPHERS.

Are there more than one, or two, Masonic cyphers and what are they like?—O. A.—[Every degree, abroad, has its own peculiar cypher and when it is considered there are extant nine hundred degrees, the description of the various cyphers will include any, and every, form you may please to imagine to yourself.]

SONS OF LIGHT.

From whence is the derivation of "Sons of Light," as applied to Masons?—S. M.

BRO. BISSET.

Brother Bisset is said to be the author of "Let there be light." Who was he, when did he live and die, and of what lodge was he a member?—M. S.

NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

Mr. Shirley Brooks' new novel, which was expected to appear last month, has been deferred until the end of the present dull season.

A report that the *Gentleman's Magazine* was about to come to an end is contradicted by Sylvanus Urban in the last number. The *Gentleman's Magazine* is now in its 131st year, and seems as remote from death as ever.

The third volume of Mr. Smiles's *Lives of the Engineers* will consist of the lives of George and Robert Stephenson, including a narrative by the latter of his father's inventions and improve-

ments in connection with the locomotive engine and railways. The life of George Stephenson will be a thoroughly revised edition of Mr. Smiles's former biography.

Mr. William Jaffray, a gentleman for many years connected with the journalism and periodical literature of the metropolis, has departed for the "golden colony" of Australia, to join one of the leading journals of Melbourne, and probably take a political position in that busy community.

Mr. H. A. Bruce, M.P. is writing the "Life and Letters of the late Lieutenant General Sir William Napier," the historian of the Peninsular war.

Sir Rutherford Alcock, British minister in Japan, has in preparation, a narrative of his three years' residence among the Japanese. It will appear in two volumes, curiously illustrated with maps and pictures.

The Duc de Pasquier is said to have left memoirs which are continued to the last events of the day, and will embrace forty volumes. This stupendous work is to be published at the expense of the author, who, it is said, has taken care that several copies of the memoirs are abroad and in security.

The Bodleian Library possesses a collection of drawings of French monuments for the most part now destroyed, which formerly belonged to the *Bibliothèque du Roi*. These have lately engaged the attention of French antiquarians, and inquiries have been made how these valuable drawings escaped from their original place of deposit. M. Boutaric has discovered a series of documents which throw light on the affair. It appears the drawings were abstracted from the *Bibliothèque du Roi* between the years 1781 and 1784 by one of the curators. The abstraction was detected in 1784, and the party suspected was examined, and subsequently removed from his post. The drawings found their way to England into a private collection, and passed through different hands. They were acquired by the Oxford Library about 1826.

The sale of M. Huber's collection of coins, chiefly formed while he was Austrian Consul General in Egypt, is worthy of record as the dispersion of the cabinet of a true numismatist. The rarest or most beautiful coins were a tetradrachm of Syracuse, with the head and name of the nymph Arethusa, which ultimately became the property of Mr. E. Wigan, a gold stater of Cius, in Bithynia, believed to be unique, and a tetradrachm of Alexander, the son of Roxana, with the posthumous portrait of his father Alexander the Great, both of which were acquired by the British Museum.

Visitors to Mr. J. Leech's exhibition of paintings will learn with satisfaction that Messrs. Agnew, having purchased the whole of the collection that remained unsold, are about to publish some twenty of them in colour-printing. These comprise especially the hunting scenes, and are to be entitled "Fair England."—*Athenæum*.

Sir Charles Eastlake has just bought Gainsborough's portrait of Mrs. Siddons for the National Gallery, from Major Mair, the husband of Mrs. Siddons's granddaughter, for 1000 guineas.

A meeting has been held at the rooms of the Architectural Society to inaugurate a new society, to be called the Society of Sculptors of England.

The Imperial Academy of the Fine Arts at St. Petersburg has issued a notice that the annual exhibition of pictures, sculptures, drawings, engravings, &c., by living artists, will open on the 19th September next, and invites foreigners to send their works to it.

THE MAGAZINE IN A NEW CHARACTER.

That mob excitement discards reason, and that lynch-law is far from pleasant to contemplate, one of our "your own," correspondents, who was trying to enjoy a stroll in the fields on Sabbath last found to his consternation. He went to get the dust and smoke blown off him at a farm-house on the banks of the Ayr on Saturday; and on Sunday, when the guidman of the house showed him the proper example of going to church, he preferred to luxuriate in the fragrance of a hay field, his only companion the FREEMASONS MAGAZINE. Tired of reading, and rambling over the mead, he slipped aside to explore the ruins of an old coal-pit, trailing the MAGAZINE in his hand. The pit was left partly uncovered, and having taken a look down he pocketed his companion and retraced his steps to the hay-rick, on the shady side of which, under the balmy influence of the perfumes of the grove, a bright sky, and the melody of birds, our *quid nunc* kept dozing away deliciously. When he opened his eyes, he was as much astonished as ever Rip Van Winkle could have been. He knew that there was a perfect colony of miners in the neighbourhood, but he could not conceive why, half naked and savage looking, every man, woman, and child in the place should have taken the field against him, with menacing gestures, distributing their detachments with more than military precision, so as to cut off his retreat in every direction. Nor were his nerves much soothed by the advance of about a dozen, the leader with a head like a bearskin, holding a savage cur by the neck, and threatening to let the brute off if the murderer did not give himself up quietly, and tell how he had disposed of the "wean" he was seen by a crowd of watchers to have had in his hand. A few words unravelled the mystery. One of the superabundant children in the black diamond colony had gone amissing. A woman who had passed the hay-field said she saw a "black man" lead a child (the MAGAZINE) to the old coal pit and come away without it. The report that a deliberate murder had just been committed spread like wild fire through the village, a crowd of people soon collected at a spot commanding a view of, but a considerable distance from, the scene of the supposed murder, and the conclusion jumped at was, that the party reposing near the pit could be none other than the child-stealer himself. In vain the Sunday recreationist pleaded his innocence; every word he spoke confirmed his guilt to a hundred mothers, and although the suspected one's colour did not, on a nearer approach of the excited mob, tally with the woman's description of the kidnapper, the interesting ceremony of "laying on of hands," accompanied by a formula of words not quite in accordance with the decalogue was about commencing, when one of the farm servant-men came to the rescue by certifying that the stranger was his master's guest. Still it was doubtful, and although the bands of volunteer detectives retired from the field, the commotion continued. At last the only woman apparently who had been left in charge of the colony came running to proclaim that the child had merely stepped into a neighbour's cottage and was found. Thus ended the hubbub, so illustrative of the danger of acting on hasty suspicion. Returning to the farm-house, a dram from the guidwife's bottle and the reading of a passage of Scripture had the effect of restoring to his usual equanimity the luckless wight whose appearance in the hay-field, MAGAZINE in hand, had led to so flagrant a breach of the third and fourth commandments. So great was the excitement at one time, that a clergyman who had appointed to preach to the colliers and their families could only get his precursor for his audience.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

WEST LANCASHIRE MASONIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—Be good enough to correct an error which appears in the report of the meeting of the Lodge of Harmony (No. 267), respecting the funds of the above Institution. It is now nearly £4000, not £1000, as stated in last week's publication.

Faithfully yours,

C. J. BANISTER,

Sec. of Lodge 267.

SUDDEN DEATH.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—I regret to have to call your attention to the following melancholy and distressing circumstance. On Thursday, the 11th inst., a respectably attired and gentlemanlike person, took up his abode at the Wellington Inn, a very respectable house. On Tuesday, the 15th, I was sent for between 11 and 12 A.M., to see the gentleman above alluded to; being close to the inn I soon saw him, but he was too insensible to answer any questions. Seeing the case was hopeless, I enquired who he was, but none in the house knew. I then searched his pockets, and in the left hand pocket of his trowsers I found a florin, and a half sheet of blue note paper, on one side of which was written as follows:—

"Paris, June 15, 1862.

"MR. GEORGE THOMSON,

"DEAR SIR.—I herewith forward you a Bank of England (*sic*) for £10, which I beg you will acknowledge the receipt of, and on the 13th July, I will forward you a similar sum. When are you coming over to see me? I am living at the same address.

"I remain, yours truly and fraternally,

"W. ROBINSON."

(A pen and ink imitation of the square and compasses was placed under the name of the writer.)

In the waistcoat pocket I found two shillings, a pen knife, and two short pieces of black lead pencil. In the breast pocket of his frock coat there was a meerscham pipe, with one of Horsey's india-rubber tobacco pouches, also a white pocket handkerchief, but no mark upon it. In the hind pocket I found a Master Mason's apron, made by Webber, Silver-street, Lincoln, and two pairs of well worn white kid gloves. His suit was black and of the first quality. He had only a hat-case in the shape of luggage; a high-crowned hat and a wide-awake. There were also some shirts, collars, and socks, but no marks on any of them. In size he was very stout and tall, bald, dark hair, and dark bushy whiskers, fair complexion, and delicate hands; but nothing peculiar in his general conformation. As I anticipated, he very soon died, and I placed the affair in the hands of the police, and soon received an order from the Coroner to make a post-mortem examination of the body, and the result was, that the cause of death was found to be "fatty degeneration of the heart."

I need scarcely say that the brethren of Adams Lodge provided a suitable coffin and funeral for our deceased brother, and I ask you to insert this letter, in order that we may find out who the deceased was, as well as to impart the distressing news to his relatives.

Should any brother on reading the above, recognize in the description who the deceased was, I hope he will inform me thereof, at his earliest convenience.

I remain, dear Sir and brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

J. S. KEDDELL,

Sheerness, July 20th, 1862.

P.M. and P.Z. 184.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

A DISTRESSING CASE.

(From the "Freemasons Magazine," August 10th, 1862.)

We have been requested to call attention to the case of the widow of the late Bro. J. K. Defeher, a Hungarian by birth, but a naturalised British subject, who was initiated, passed, and raised, in the Thistle and Rose Lodge (No. 73), Glasgow, on the 2nd of May, 1856. Bro. Defeher was a twine and linen merchant of Vienna, and also resided at Devonshire-terrace, Hyde Park, but, through unforeseen circumstances, was suddenly reduced to great distress, and at the same time stricken down by illness. Being clever at his pencil, Bro. Defeher produced the curious drawing called "Blossom and Decay," printed by Day and Son, in chromo-lithograph, and published by Bro. Defeher to help to eke out an existence for his family. This picture, when closely-viewed, represents two blooming children looking out of a window, whilst, at a distance, it shows only a death's head, and has been favourably spoken of by the Earl de Grey and Ripon, the Duke of Newcastle, and the Duke of Cambridge, in acknowledging the receipt of the copies sent them.

Bro. Defeher was suddenly taken much worse, and some three weeks back he entered the German Hospital at Dalston, and died the following day of disease of the heart, leaving a widow and four young children totally unprovided for, and whose existence has only been maintained, both before and after Bro. Defeher's death, through the kindness of Masons and other neighbours, who knew the circumstances of the case.

A great injustice has been done to the widow and family, by a tradesman in the City, who, without any permission or authority, has published a photograph from the chromo, and which is, of course, sold at a reduced price.

Brethren disposed to assist the widow and fatherless can do so by donations, or purchasing copies of the chromo lithograph, price 3s. 6d., and which may be obtained from Bro. James Stevenson, at the office of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE. The residence of Mrs. Defeher is 4, Singer Terrace, Sydenham; and references may be made to Mr. Kemp, the Two Ashes, Sydenham; Dr. Wilkinson, Sydenham; or Dr. Sutro, 37A, Finsbury Square, E.C.

MASONIC MEMS.

The Prov. Grand Lodge of Devonshire, will be holden at Dartmouth an ancient seaport on the South coast of that province, on Tuesday, the 12th day of August, when there will be a procession to the town church, and a sermon on the behalf of the Fortescue Annuitant Fund (a charitable memorial offering to the memory of the late G.M. of the province) by the Rev. James Powning, Prov. G. Chap., and the new lodge Hauley (No. 1099), will be consecrated according to ancient form. Hauley Hall, the new lodge premises, are the most unique in the province—the production of Bro. Lidstone, architect and P. Prov. G. Dir. of Works, Devon. The day's programme includes a trip down the picturesque Dart, the queen of English rivers. An unusually large gathering is anticipated.

The Prov. Grand Lodge for Warwickshire is to be held at Kenilworth, on Tuesday, the 12th of August. The brethren will, after transacting the business, attend divine service at the parish church; the sermon will be preached by the W. Bro. the Rev. Edward H. Kittoe, W.M. 1096, Provincial Grand Chaplain of Warwickshire, and a collection made in aid of the Benevolent Fund. A banquet will be provided by the Stewards of the Stoneleigh Lodge (No. 1027), in the Assembly Room, King's Arms Hotel, at four o'clock.

At the meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence on Wednesday nine petitioners were relieved with £107.

METROPOLITAN.

COSMOPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1219).—Success having attended the application of several earnest and zealous brethren, possessed also of influence and position, a warrant of constitution under the above title has been granted by the M.W. Grand Master for a lodge to be held at the Great Western Hotel, Paddington, in which locality there appears to be every probability that it will achieve a reputation such as is enjoyed by but few of the younger, or recently constituted lodges. Accommodation, unfortunately, could not be provided at the Hotel on Thursday, 17th, the day fixed for the opening ceremony, and therefore the brethren met, by dispensation, at the Bayswater Athenaeum, Westbourne Grove, where Bro. Jno. Savage, P.G.D., the officer nominated to consecrate the lodge, was in attendance punctually at the hour appointed, supported by a good array of brethren, the number of whom, however, was sadly curtailed in consequence of the paramount attractions of that "Marplot" of all festive gatherings just now, the International Exhibition. The ceremony of consecration was performed by Bro. Savage in his usual able and efficient manner, Bro. Capt. Creation, G.S.D., acting as S.W.; Bro. Fredk. Binckes, as J.W.; Bro. Rev. D. Shaboe, M.A., as Chaplain. There were also present, in addition to the members of the new lodge, Bro. R. G. Ledger, P.M., 109; Ware, No. 12; G. Tedder, 11; Borani, 33. The music was under the direction of Bro. Tedder, who had secured the services of Bros. Borani and Edney, while the duties of Dir. of Cers. was most admirably discharged by Bro. H. J. Thompson, W.M., No. 227. On the completion of the ceremony Bro. Savage expressed the pleasure he felt at having been nominated to fulfil the important post assigned to him that day by the G.M., and the regret he experienced at being compelled so soon to bid them adieu. The exigencies of private friendship, however, left him no alternative; and all that he could hope was that he might soon have the pleasure of seeing the brethren of 1219 again.—Bro. Savage took his departure, having previously requested Bro. Binckes to discharge the remaining portion of the duty which would have devolved upon him. Bro. Hutton, the W.M. designate, was installed as W.M. by Bro. Binckes; the Wardens nominated being Bro. G. Dromtia, Sen., and E. S. Stillwell, Jun. The other officers invested were Bro. J. D. Porta, Treas.; L. Stean Sec.; Spack, S.D.; Frederick Haas, J.D.; H. J. Thompson, Dir. of Cers.; Albisper, I.G.; and Hoare, Tyler. The furniture, jewels, and regalia generally are neat, substantial, and in good taste. The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to refreshment, an elegant cold collation taking the place of the customary banquet, which the change of *venue* would not admit of. Viands, wines, and dessert were abundant in quantity, and most excellent in quality, leaving nothing to be desired. The loyal and other toasts were given in concise terms, some of the brethren waxing really eloquent in response, and Bro. Binckes forcibly appealing to the newly-constituted lodge to aid him with a brick for a new school-house for the boys of the institution with which he was connected, on the erection of which to accommodate 100 children he had set his heart, and to the task of obtaining the necessary funds for which he had devoted himself. To justify the observation in the commencement of this brief report, be it recorded for the honour of the lodge, that the alms-box produced £2 14s., which was supplemented to £3 3s., one guinea being voted to each of the Masonic charities; and half the materials for the "brick" for the new boys' school were furnished in the subscription of twenty-five guineas, which will speedily be made up to fifty guineas, the lodge thereby becoming a vice-president of the institution. The kindness and courtesy of the Worshipful Master, and his officers generally, will long dwell in the memory of those present on so delightful and auspicious an occasion, and with the remembrance of the "good deeds" done, so fresh and vivid, we would say to each "Cosmopolite," *esto perpetua!* which being interpreted, shall mean "May thy shadow never be less."

PROVINCIAL.

CUMBERLAND.

CARLISLE.—Lodge of Instruction (No. 389).—This lodge held a meeting on Tuesday evening, 15th inst., when there was a respectable assemblage of the brethren, the officers appointed being P.M. F. W. Hayward, Lecture Master; Bros. Fisher, W.M.; Ritson, S.W.; Pratchett, J.W.; Murray, S.D.; Gregory, J.D.;

Harris, I.G.; Storey, Tyler; G. Howard, Sec. The lodge was duly opened in the first degree, and everything that could be done at this stage was despatched with great care and attention. It was then opened in the second degree, and all being well satisfied with their researches and reward (the whole of the brethren present being M.Ms.) the lodge was opened in the third degree, when everyone freely fraternised. The lodge had the pleasure of having two very intelligent and spirited Masons as visiting brethren—Bro. Gregory, from Lodge 302, New York, who, during the different stages of the proceedings, very ably explained the American style of executing work, and Bro. Davidson, of Lodge 360, Glasgow, who imparted to us some very important and very necessary information, the purport of which was to be very particular in allowing any one to enter the order who was not entirely free and unfettered; he entered into the merits of the question with great ability and spirit, which could not fail to leave a lasting impression. The W.M. rose and proposed "The Health of Bro. Davidson." He felt extremely obliged to Bro. D. for the competent manner in which he had impressed so strongly on their minds such an important matter, and promised that it should be strictly attended to. Bro. Davidson rose to thank the W.M. for the honour he had conferred upon him in proposing his health, and stated that he had only done what it was the duty of every good Mason to do, if in his journey through life, he saw or witnessed anything that had the least tendency to deteriorate Masonry; it was his bounden duty to expose it freely and at length, so as to put every one on their guard, and *vice versa*. Bro. Gregory spontaneously rose and said:—W.M. and brethren: I cannot refrain from again expressing the extreme comfort I have enjoyed by being amongst you, and the very cordial way you have received me. I may again state to you that I am now quite at home, and being a Freemason, as often enlivened my heart when it would otherwise have been very dull. The proceedings, which consisted of everything that was conducive to improve the moral and intellectual faculties of man, being enlivened by the vocal powers of Bros. Gregory and Davidson, the Tyler's toast brought the meeting to a close, and the brethren parted in harmony, highly gratified.

HAMPSHIRE.

PORTSMOUTH.—*Orthes Lodge* (No. 445).—A meeting of this military lodge, in the Sixth Royal First Warwickshire Regiment of Foot was held in the Phoenix Lodge rooms, on the 5th inst., for the installation of Bro. Saunders, W.M. elect, and the initiation of Lieut. D. Evans, 6th Royals, when there were present Bros. J. E. Robertson, E. J. Blanckley, A. Saunders, J. G. Cockburn, P. B. Simpson, W. Maloney, A. Austin, R. Bolton, and R. B. Claus, members. Bros. Hockings, W.M. 319; Bradley, P.M. 319; Jackson, P.M. 319; Wood, P.M. 319; Hollingsworth, P.M. 717; Stenning, P.M. 319; Pined, S.W. 319; Key, S.D. 319; Piddell, Sec. 319; Bell, Org. 319; Bannister, P.M. 717, visiting brethren. The lodge was opened in the first degree by Bro. Hockings, W.M. 319, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Bradley, P.M., then introduced to the brethren the Master elect, when, a board of Installed Masters having been formed, Bro. Saunders was inducted into the chair of K.S. in due and ancient form by Bro. Dr. Jackson, P.M. 319. The W.M. having been proclaimed and saluted in the three degrees, proceeded to appoint and invest the undermentioned brethren as officers of the lodge for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. G. Cockburn, S.W.; P. B. Simpson, J.W.; W. Maloney, Secretary; B. Bennett, Treasurer; A. Austin, S.D.; E. J. Blanckley, J.D.; J. B. Claus, I.G. The W.M. having thanked the brethren for the high honour they had conferred upon him, in entrusting him with the government of the lodge, moved a vote of thanks, which was seconded by Bro. Cockburn, S.W., and carried by acclamation, to the W.M. and members of the Phoenix Lodge (No. 319), for the use of their lodge-rooms on this and a late occasion; also to those brethren who had honoured them with their presence that evening, for their fraternal kindness in assisting in the resuscitation of the *Orthes' Lodge*. Lieut. Evans was then initiated in ancient form into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry, by the W.M. when, there being no further business before the lodge, it was closed in peace and harmony, at 9 o'clock, p.m. The brethren then retired to supper, when after the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, in very good speeches, which, aided by the dulcet tones of Bros. Bolton and Piddell, enabled the brethren to enjoy a very pleasant evening, and look forward to their next meeting with heartfelt pleasure.

KENT.

PROV. GRAND LODGE.

We last week gave the proceedings in Prov. Grand Lodge, and we now proceed to record those at

THE BANQUET.

The brethren shortly afterwards re-assembled at the Sun Hotel, when 150 sat down to an excellent dinner. Amongst the company present were the R.W. Prov. G.M., Viscount Holmesdale, M.P.; the D. Prov. G.M. Bro. Dobson; P. Prov. D.G.M.'s, Bros. Ashley and Hallows; Prov. G.W., present and past, Bros. Nettleingham, Jones, Keddell, Southgate, Cooke, Eastes, Gardner, S. Isaacs, Cooley; the Assist. Prov. G. Chap., Bro. the Rev. A. Roxburgh; the Prov. G. Sec., Bro. C. Isaacs; the Assist. Prov. G. Sec., Bro. Wates; the Prov. G. Treas., Bro. Saunders; Prov. G. Regs., present and past, Bros. B. K. Thorpe, jun., B. Thorpe, sen., Winderley, Cruttenden, sen., Bathurst; Prov. G.D., present and past, Bros. Page, Hodge, C. Philpot, Jessé Thomas, Hills, Da Cuadra, R. Day, Green, Munn, Hayward, Townsend, Moore; Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., present and past, Bros. Tomalin, Finch, W. H. Everist, J. G. Everist, Adamson; Prov. G. Sup. of Works, Bros. Astin, Stock, C. B. Shrubsole; Prov. G. Sword Bearers, present and past, Bros. N. Martin, Brasier, Vanderlyn; P. Prov. G. Org., Bro. Reynolds; Prov. G. Pursts., present and past, Bros. Coram, F. W. Day, Quait, G. A. Everist, Hartnup, Philpot, and various other brethren.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER having proposed, in appropriate terms, the usual loyal toasts, next gave "The Earl of Zetland, Grand Master of England," whose tact and courtesy in discharging the onerous duties of his office he highly eulogised, followed by "The Deputy Grand Master and the other Grand Officers of England," all the toasts being most cordially drunk.

The D. PROV. G.M. (Bro. Dobson) next rose and said—It is a very pleasing duty for me to propose the toast which has been placed in my hands, though I wish it had been entrusted to some one else, because, when the subject is so unaltering and unaltered, very little new can be said in reference to our Prov. G.M. (Cheers.) In proposing the health of the Queen he told you that she was an example to every lady and a pattern to all monarchs. In like manner we may say that his Lordship is a perfect pattern to all Prov. G. Masters. In giving the health of Lord Zetland, he also told you that the choice of the Grand Lodge could not have been more felicitous in the selection of a Grand Master. If that be so, then I may likewise say that Lord Zetland could not have made a better choice than in the selection of Lord Holmesdale to rule over the Province of Kent. (Loud cheers.) In many capacities we have had opportunities of witnessing his Lordship's career. We have heard of his military, his political, and his civil career, and in all probability, before our next annual festival, he will have taken upon himself a new character, that of a Benedict. (Great cheering and laughter.) With the success which has attended him in various other capacities, he has wooed and won the belle of the county of Kent. (Cheers.) That he will be happy there cannot be a doubt. The amiable qualities of the lady to whom he is about to be allied are well known; and he himself, possessed as he is of all that courtesy and kindness which distinguish an English gentleman, a good son, a good Mason, and a good member of society generally, cannot fail to prove a good husband. (Loud cheers.) Without further preface I call upon you to drink his Lordship's health, wishing him every happiness that this world can afford, and hoping that he may long continue to be an ornament of society and the crowning point of Masonry in Kent. (Loud cheers.)

The toast was most enthusiastically drunk.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER, in responding, said—I am really at a loss to express my thanks for the very flattering manner in which my health has been proposed and received on this occasion. It has been my good fortune to rule over the province of Kent during the past three years, and I trust my efforts on behalf of Freemasonry have not been altogether misdirected. I feel that I have made many omissions, but I trust you will attribute those shortcomings to that inexperience in a Masonic career which attaches to my age. With regard to the very flattering prognostications which Bro. Dobson has drawn of my future career, I beg to thank both him and you most heartily for your good wishes; but I must say that I fall very short of the fancy portrait he has sketched of me in the capacity of Prov. G.M. (No, no.) Brethren say "No," but a pattern Grand Master would not have been late for the train this morning. (Laughter.) In that instance I cannot but feel that I was a striking pattern of

unpunctuality—a pattern which certainly ought to be avoided. (A laugh.) At the same time I must take this opportunity of assuring the brethren generally, and the members of Lodge No. 20 in particular, that my want of punctuality meant no disrespect towards them. (Hear, hear.) I beg you to believe that during the time it has been my good fortune to hold the office of Prov. Grand Master for Kent it has been my anxious desire to promote the well-being of Freemasonry; and I trust I may accept the large gathering of this day as an omen that Masonry has not declined in the province. (Hear, hear.) I have not yet received the actual statistics, but I believe that the Order has received an accession of no fewer than fifty members since our last annual festival. (Cheers.) I sincerely hope that Masonry will continue to increase as it has hitherto done, and to ensure that result it only needs that every brother should act as a shining light of Masonry, developing the principles and showing the advantages which it offers. (Cheers.) Having thanked you for the flattering manner in which you have received my health—a kindness which in future years I trust to merit—it is now my privilege to submit a toast to your notice. In proposing the health of the Grand Master, I told you that he could not work without lieutenants. I am in the same position, and it is my good fortune to possess a lieutenant who is really that pattern of excellence which he wrongly described me to be. (Cheers.) Various other engagements frequently prevent me from discharging in person the duties of my office, but Bro. Dobson, as Deputy Provincial Grand Master, is always ready to stand in my place and perform those duties infinitely better than I could myself. Bro. Dobson is no stranger to you, and whether it be to assist a Masonic charity, or to promote any object of public utility, he is sure to be found foremost amongst those leading the way. (Cheers.) Those who have the good fortune to know him in private life require not me to tell them how well he fulfils the duties of his position; and as for his public career, I have but to appeal to the brethren from Gravesend for them to rise as one man to proclaim his merits. (Cheers.) Without further preface I beg leave to give you “The D. Prov. Grand Master for Kent, Bro. Dobson.” (Cheers.)

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER returned thanks as follows:—It is a very pleasing duty to me to return thanks for the kindness you have shown me this evening, as well as upon the occasions of my visits to the various lodges of the province. I have felt it my duty, and as part of the obligations of my office, to make myself personally acquainted with the position of Freemasonry in Kent, and with the exception of the new lodge at Tunbridge Wells, I believe I have visited every lodge in the province. (Hear, hear.) There cannot be a doubt that Masonry is advancing in the estimation of the outer world: the increase from 720 to 770 brethren this year in our province is sufficient proof of that fact. (Hear, hear.) And not only so here, but throughout the kingdom generally there has been a large increase. The cause, I believe, is simply owing to one reason—that now Masons generally act up to their professions. In olden times I remember not half the lodges were working lodges. It was so in my own lodge. There was plenty of eating and drinking and good fellowship, but there was little demonstration to show the outer world what Masonry really was. Of late years a great change in this respect has been brought about. The masters of lodges, generally speaking, perform their duties with proficiency. We do not find that the work is done by one or two brethren, and that all the rest are “dummies,” but it is generally considered a matter of duty that the lodge should be worked well. (Hear, hear.) Beyond this, the principles of Freemasonry, in their external bearing, are more fully developed. If one thing be an emblem of our order more than another, it is “Charity,” and see how nobly the three great Masonic charities are now supported. (Hear, hear.) I was exceedingly glad to act as Steward for Kent at the last festival of the Boys’ School, and I take this opportunity of thanking the lodges generally, and many Masons individually, for the handsome sum which, through me, they contributed towards the support of that charity. In doing this, you are only acting up to the principles you profess, and showing to the outer world there is something good in Freemasonry, that something being the exercise of true benevolence towards those who cannot help themselves. (Cheers.) Depend upon it that is the one cause why Freemasonry is advancing—that is the reason why people of the middle and better classes are coming amongst you. They know that fortune is slippery, and that, however much they may at present be blessed with this world’s goods, yet circumstances may happen in which

the hand of benevolence may be necessary to assist those now dependent upon them. (Hear, hear.) Seeing your Boys’ School, your Girls’ School, your Old Men and Womens’ Asylums—finding that you carry out the principles you profess—the outer world says to itself, “There must something good in Freemasonry;” and so it is that our Order, year by year, increases in strength. (Hear, hear.) I have said it over and over again, and it cannot be too often repeated, that there is no society of men, whether combined for political, social, religious, or moral purposes, who do so much practical good as the Freemasons. (Hear, hear.) No less than £10,000 a year is presented at the annual festivals in donations to the three institutions I have already referred to, irrespective of the annual subscriptions to numerous local charities and of those various acts of benevolence which Freemasons, as members of general society, are continually called upon to perform. (Hear, hear.) It is a fact which no one can gainsay, that those three charities are entirely supported by Masons and by Masons alone, for I do not believe that £100 a-year is received by them from persons outside the order. While we thus act up to our professions, people may laugh and scoff at us as they please, and say that our proceedings of to-day are all nonsense. We began by seeking the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe, without which we can do nothing, and the better thinking part of the community will respect our motives when they see our professions followed up by actions. (Cheers.) As far as I am individually concerned, I have made a great number of friends amongst the brethren of the province, and my visits to the lodges are always matters of pleasure. I never object personally to setting my feet under the mahogany in good company, and therefore, generally speaking, it becomes a matter of pleasure rather than a matter of duty to obey the summons of the Master of any lodge. (Hear, hear.) The various avocations of the Prov. G.M., as his lordship has already told you, prevent him from making himself personally acquainted with the various lodges, and as I told you last year, the selection of grand officers is made by him acting principally upon my recommendation. If there is any blame, it attaches to me; and for credit I do not seek, because I invariably select those persons whom I consider most fit for the office to which they are appointed. (Hear, hear.) So long as I am satisfied that I have done my duty uprightly and conscientiously, I can bear censure as well as anybody—I have borne it in various capacities, and I have not grown very thin upon it. (Laughter.) Of one thing I am quite certain, which is, that Freemasons will not pass an unjust censure, and that they will put the best construction upon my actions, for in this, as in all other matters, I try to do unto others as I would wish to be done unto myself. (Loud cheers.)

The PROV. G.M. next gave “The Past Grand Officers of Kent.” Among the Past Grand Officers was to be found a galaxy of Masonic worth and talent, of which the province might well be proud; and he would take that opportunity of thanking the Prov. Grand Wardens and the other officers who had just retired, for the very efficient manner in which they had performed the duties of their respective offices. (Hear, hear.) Amongst the Past Grand Officers present few were held in higher estimation than, or surpassed in worth of character, by their much-respected brother, Bro. Ashley, who, he believed, he should not be far wrong in calling the oldest Mason in the province. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Ashley had passed through the various Masonic offices until he had arrived at the highest grade but one; and while his services had proved advantageous to Masonry and given satisfaction to the members of the Order, it was to be hoped that their venerable brother had likewise found the occupation not injurious to his health. (Cheers.) As regarded the exertions Bro. Ashley had made in connection with his own lodge, he could not speak too highly. Many were those whom he had brought within the pale of Freemasonry, and he (the Grand Master) was perfectly certain that whoever might have been their Masonic godfathers none had had a worthier than those who were initiated into the secrets of the Order by Bro. Ashley. (Cheers.) Just now he thought he overheard Bro. Ashley say that he should probably never live to see the Grand Lodge again entertained by Lodge No. 20, but though thirteen years was a long interval, still they might hope yet again to see Bro. Ashley amongst them at that board undiminished in health and strength, as he would certainly not be diminished in the love and respect of all Freemasons. (Loud cheers.) The toast was most cordially drunk.

Bro. ASHLEY, P. PROV. D.G.M., returned his most sincere

thanks for the handsome compliment which had been paid to himself and to the Past Grand Officers. It was a pleasure to them to promote the interests of the Craft as well in the province generally as in their respective localities, and they were abundantly rewarded by the approbation of the brethren expressed at these annual meetings. (Cheers.) With regard to himself, he knew not how adequately to express his thanks for the very flattering manner in which his name had been mentioned. He hoped they would not suppose him ungrateful if his response appeared cold, but he begged them to believe that he fully appreciated the kindness, which his feelings prevented him from properly acknowledging. (Cheers.) He had now been a Mason between fifty-six and fifty-seven years, and there was scarcely a provincial festival during that period which he had not had the pleasure of attending. (Hear, hear.) For some years he acted as D. Prov. Grand Master under Lord Saye and Sele, and now as Past Dep. G.M. Whatever the position he occupied, Freemasonry had always had his warmest wishes and best exertions for its advancement, and so long as the Almighty blessed him with health and strength, his services might always be commanded in its behalf. (Loud cheers.)

The Prov. GRAND MASTER, in proposing the next toast, said—The brethren of No. 20 have done me the honour to select me as their spokesman on this occasion, though I feel that greater justice might have been done to the subject by one more conversant with it than I am. All of us, however, know enough of Bro. Isaacs, as Prov. G. Sec., to admire his Masonic virtues and to respect his character; and it is now my pleasing duty to present to him, on behalf of the brethren of Lodge 20, the handsome testimonial now standing on the table before me. (Loud cheers.) I am sorry to hear that failing health obliges Bro. Isaacs to seek repose in Germany. I am sorry for many reasons—because he is an able and excellent Mason, because he is an active and zealous Secretary, and because I like not to miss the face of an old friend at our annual gatherings. (Cheers.) I hope and trust it will not be long before Bro. Isaacs comes back again to live amongst us, and that we shall not long miss him from his old seat as Grand Secretary for Kent. (Cheers.) None, I am sure, better deserves that respect which this testimonial implies. Twenty years have elapsed since he first took the vows of Freemasonry, and since that period he has initiated more than 200 into the secrets of our Order. (Cheers.) During the seventeen years that Bro. Isaacs has held the responsible office of Prov. G. Sec. he has deservedly won the esteem of all the brethren in the province, and whenever I have had occasion to seek his assistance I have always found him most ready to render it, while he has never spared time or trouble to ensure the success of the Prov. Grand Lodge meeting. (Cheers.) I am sure every one present will unite with me in cordially drinking his good health, and in hoping that he may soon return from Germany with renewed strength and vigour. (Cheers.)

[This splendid testimonial consisted of a beautiful silver epergne, representing the trunk of a tree, with three branches, surmounted by richly-cut glass bowls. The base of the tree rests on a triangular stand, on one side of which is engraved the following inscription:—"Presented by the Worshipful Master and brethren of Lodge No. 20, to Bro. Charles Isaacs, Past Master, for the valuable services rendered to the lodge for a period of nearly twenty years, as a mark of esteem on his departure for Germany, Chatham, July 9th 1862." On another side was engraved the crest of the recipient, and on the third side Masonic emblems.]

Bro. ISSACS, Prov. G. Sec., assured the brethren that if ever he had felt a proud moment during his Masonic career it was the present. As the Prov. G.M. had stated, it was now twenty years since he first received the light of Freemasonry in that room, at which time there were only eight or nine lodges in the province which were what was called working lodges. The lodge of which he became a member scarcely mustered a dozen members, and could hardly be said to exist. A few young Masons, however, amongst whom was Bro. Saunders, formed a lodge of instruction, and in the course of a few years the number of members had largely increased. So far as himself was concerned, it had been his constant study to promote the interests of Freemasonry in the province generally, and his own lodge in particular, the brethren of which had conferred upon him the highest honour they could bestow, and he hoped that his efforts had met with their approbation. (Cheers.) For seventeen years he had held the office of Prov. G. Sec., and he trusted that in the discharge of its duties he had given satisfaction. (Hear, hear.) The greatest kindness had ever

been shown towards him, the number of his friends had greatly increased, and wherever he might be, his connection with Freemasonry in Kent would always bring agreeable associations to mind. (Cheers.) With regard to the number of Masons whom it had fallen to his lot to initiate, his connection with the army and navy had perhaps given him greater opportunities for procuring accessions to its ranks than any other brother possessed; and it was a pleasing reflection that, go to whatever part of the world they might, there was a member of Lodge 20 to be found. (Hear, hear.) Acting upon the rule laid down by the Deputy Grand Master, he had endeavoured to carry out that which was the chief characteristic of Freemasonry, by rendering all the support in his power to its Charities, and it had been a pleasure no less than a duty to aid those noble institutions which were ornaments to the Order. (Hear, hear.) Trusting that at no distant period he might return to the province of Kent, he begged to offer the brethren of the province generally his most cordial thanks for the kindness with which they had received his name, and to the brethren of Lodge No. 20 in particular for the very handsome testimonial they had been kind enough to present to him. (Cheers.)

The Prov. G.M. proposed "The P.M. and Brethren of Lodge No. 20." (Cheers.) Lodge No. 20 was the oldest in Kent, and by the hearty welcome it had given to the Grand Lodge that day, had well maintained its reputation for that hospitality which was not the least amongst Masonic virtues. (Cheers.)

Bro. ASHLEY, P. Prov. D.G.M., returned thanks on behalf of lodge No. 20, having been deputed by the W.M. (Bro. G. Everist) to represent the lodge upon that occasion. On the part of the members of Lodge 20, he would assure the brethren that they felt great pleasure in entertaining the Provincial Grand Lodge, which it had been their anxious wish to do for some years past. It was an honour which the brethren highly appreciated, and the large attendance of Masons that day had increased the obligation.

The S.G. WARDEN (Bro. Nettleingham) had a toast to propose which he was sure would be received with the greatest satisfaction, it being none other than "The Masonic Charities." Charity, as Bro. Dobson had observed, was the peculiar characteristic of Masonry, and the brethren of the province had nobly carried out their professions by the liberal support which they had rendered to the Boys' School during the past year. (Hear, hear.) He complied with the toast the name of Bro. Binckes, the indefatigable Secretary of the Boys' School. (Cheers.)

Bro. BINCKES, in responding, said that that portion of the speech of the D.G.M. which had reference to the Masonic charities was so eloquent and so much to the point that he could wish some other brother than himself were Secretary to the Boys' School—namely, Bro. Dobson—for he felt sure that his hundreds would by Bro. Dobson's advocacy have been increased to thousands. (Cheers.) The primary object of his presence there that evening was to thank the brethren of the province for the liberal aid which they had, through Bro. Dobson, given to the Boys' School at the late festival, and he was also not without something of anticipation for the future. (A laugh.) He did not wish unduly to press upon their notice the claims of the institution which he represented, but he had always found that those who had already done much in the past were ready to do more in the future. (Hear, hear.) Of course, he neither asked nor expected that the province of Kent would in 1863 afford such support as it had done in 1862; but as he was anxious that the link should not be broken, he hoped that some brother would volunteer to represent the province at the next festival of the Boys' School. With the Prov. Grand Master and the rest of the brethren, he sincerely hoped that the time would not be far distant when recruited health would enable Bro. Isaacs to return to Kent, for he had then promised to equal on behalf of the Boys' School that magnificent effort which he made some years since in aid of the Aged Females' Asylum, when he was the bearer of £340 to its annual festival. (Hear, hear.) During the past year an amount of success had been achieved such as had never been attained before. A change in the official department took place in June, and in the educational department in January. A short time since the school was examined by one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools, and the progress made by the boys in every branch of learning was as gratifying as it was surprising. (Hear, hear.) For his own part he should not be satisfied till he saw the boys from this school taking not only a place, but a place of pride, in the Oxford and Cambridge Middle Class

Examinations. (Hear, hear.) It was far from his wish to disparage the claims of the other Masonic Charities, but it should never be forgotten that it would require some years of continued and active exertion to place the Boys' School in the same position as that occupied by the other charities. It was quite clear they must have a new school. There were twenty-three candidates offering themselves for election in November, and there were only three vacancies. The demand on the resources of the institution was increasing day by day, and while the Girls' School could accommodate 100 children, the Boys' School could only take 70. They already possessed twelve acres of land on a delightful site, and they proposed to build a school which would accommodate 100 boys. Would the Province of Kent give one brick, or would it lay the foundation-stone of the structure? Brimful of gratitude as he was for what they had done in the past, he still hoped that the Freemasons of Kent would not forget the claims of the Boys' School in the future. (Cheers.)

[Bro. John Isaac Solomon, S.W. 20, accepted the office of Steward for the ensuing year.]

The PROV. GRAND MASTER said that while they had been comfortably enjoying their dinner one individual might have been seen here, there, and everywhere, and contributing in no small degree to the success which had attended the festival. Such services ought not to be allowed to pass unnoticed, and he therefore begged to propose the health of Bro. Cooley. (Cheers.)

Bro. COOLEY, Prov. G. Dir. Cers., begged to return his most heartfelt thanks for the compliment which had been paid him. As far as he was personally concerned, he would rather that it had not been offered, but he hoped that he might accept it as a proof that the arrangements of the day had been satisfactory to the brethren generally. (Cheers.) It was the desire of every member of Lodge 20, in honour of their venerated and esteemed friend, Bro. Ashley, that the proceedings of that day should be carried out in the most efficient manner, and if he had contributed in any degree, however humbly, to that result, he should be quite satisfied. (Cheers.)

The PROV. GRAND MASTER having given "To all poor and distressed Masons throughout the World, and a speedy relief to them," the proceedings terminated.

LANCASHIRE (WEST.)

LIVERPOOL.—*Ancient Union Lodge* (No. 245).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Temple, July 17th, 1862. Present: Bro. Crawford, W.M., and the officers of the lodge, a good attendance of the members and visitors, among whom were P.M. Bro. James Hamer, Prov. G. Treas.; P.M. Bro. John Pepper, Prov. G.A.D.C., &c. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. A candidate was initiated into the mysteries of the Order by the W.M. Five candidates were raised to the sublime degree of M.M., after giving sufficient proof of their proficiency in the former degrees, by P.M. Bro. Cobborne, assisted by the W.M., and three other P.M.'s, P.M. Bro. C. J. Banister, acting as S.D. The organ was presided over by Bro. Robinson. The remaining business of the lodge over, it was closed in ancient and solemn form. The brethren partook of refreshment and retired, after spending a pleasant half-hours' conversation.

LIVERPOOL.—*Lodge of Sincerity* (No. 368).—This lodge was opened in due form at the Masonic Temple, Hope-street, on the 14th July, 1862, by the W.M., Bro. John Fryer, assisted by the officers of the lodge, and a full attendance of brethren, and visitors; Bro. James Hamer, Prov. G. Treas.; Bro. C. J. Banister, Prov. G. D.C. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Gilbert Walmsley being anxious to take the second degree was examined, and being satisfactory to the lodge, he was properly presented, and passed to the degree of F.C. in due form. A candidate was proposed for initiation, and business of the lodge over, it was closed in due form, and with solemn prayer.

SURREY.

REIGATE.—*Surrey Lodge* (No. 603).—The last meeting for the season of this lodge was held in their beautiful lodge-room, situated in the new public rooms, on Saturday last, the appointments being as complete as could be desired. The W.M., Bro. Morrison, most ably raised two brothers as M.M.'s. A board of installed Masters was afterwards formed, when Bro. Evans, President of the Board of General Purposes, most ably installed Bro. James Lees as W.M.; the addresses to the Master, Wardens, and brethren, being impressively delivered by Bro.

S. B. Wilson, P.G.D. The new Worshipful Master appointed Bro. Carruthers, S.W.; H. Smith, J.W.; Hart, P.M., Sec.; Lane (absent from indisposition), S.D.; Harris, J.D.; Sargeant, I.G.; Evans, P.M., D.C.; Bro. Martin was also upon re-election invested as Treas., and Crawley, Tyler. Special votes of thanks were given to Bro. S. B. Wilson for the delivery of the addresses, and to Bro. Morrison for the admirable manner in which he had gone through the duties as Master of the lodge. A very elegant banquet afterwards followed; and Bro. S. B. Wilson having appropriately addressed the brethren in reply to the toast of the Grand Officers returned thanks not only for them, but for the visitors. Many brethren from London were constrained to leave just as the harmony of the evening was commencing.

YORKSHIRE (WEST.)

BRADFORD.—*Lodge of Hope* (No. 379).—This lodge met on July 13th, Bro. P.M. Joseph Lumb, in the absence of the W.M., taking the chair, and was ably assisted by the following P.M.s., officers, and brethren, P. Prov. J.G.W., W. Gash, as P.M.; M. Rhodes, S.D.; A. M. Matthews, J.W.; H. Butterworth, Sec.; Geo. Beanland, Treas.; A. Briggs, S.D.; J. J. Schaeppi, J.D.; C. Pratt, I.G.; Holmes, Tyler; J. J. Buckley, Curator. P.M.s., Bros. M. Rogerson, P. Prov. S.G.D.; J. Robinson, P.M.; Dr. Taylor, P.M. Brothers Ibbettson, Bollans, Popplewell, Burlon, C. Woodhead, Greaves, L. Borrison, Leeson, Pearson, H. Wilson, E. Goldschmidt. Visitors: J. Robson, 387, Malta; J. Woodhead, 874, Bradford. The minutes of the preceding lodge and lodge of emergency having been read, the W.M. directed his Deacon to take the ballot box round for Mr. Ramsbottom, who was unanimously voted, elected, and then duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of the Craft, by the W.M. pro. tem., assisted by Bro. Rogerson, P. Prov. S.G.D.; who gave the N.E. corner Bro. Popplewell having passed the test of an E.A., was declared worthy to be passed into the second degree, which was accordingly done by the W.M., pro. tem., Bro. W. Gash, P. Prov. J.G.W., explaining the working tools. The business of the evening now being over, after the proposition of a new candidate for Masonic liberties, the lodge was closed in solemn form, and the brethren retired to the refreshment room, where under the presidency of Bro. Lumb, P.M., an extremely pleasant and satisfactory evening was spent, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts and speeches being interspersed with music and song by several of the brethren.

BRADFORD.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 874).—The regular monthly meeting of the members of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, on the 17th inst., at seven p.m. There were present—Bros. J. Dodd, the new W.M.; J. Burnley, S.W.; J. Dewhurst, J.W.; J. Ward, Treas.; H. Ward, Sec.; T. Peel, S.D.; J. B. Laurence, J.D., and the other officers of the lodge. Most of the P.M.s. were also present, together with a goodly number of the other members. The lodge was opened in the first degree in the usual manner, and the minutes of the last regular lodge were read and confirmed. Mr. George Belreasson was unanimously elected, and duly initiated into Masonry. The working tools were explained by Bro. Ahrens, P.M., and the charge delivered by Bro. Bailey, P.M., in his usual impressive manner. The balance sheet for the past year, and the present financial condition of the lodge, were read and explained by the Treasurer, from which it appeared that the four following funds,—viz., the Fund for Indigent and Decayed Freemasons, for widows of ditto, for boys' education, for girls' education, amounted each to the sum of £49 10s. 6d., and the charitable contingent fund to £16 18s., making a total of £215 devoted to the above-mentioned charitable institutions of the lodge. It was then resolved that the lodge continue its annual subscriptions to the following local charitable institutions,—viz., the Bradford Eye and Ear Infirmary, the Ilkley Bath Charity, the Harrogate Bath Hospital, the Bradford Ragged School, and the Bradford Tradesmen's Benevolent Institution. The following propositions were then submitted to the brethren of the lodge and carried unanimously, viz.:—That the lodge subscribe the sum of £1 1s. annually to the Bradford Female Refuge; proposed by Bro. J. A. Unna, P.M., seconded by Bro. J. Burnley, S.W. That the lodge subscribe the sum of £1 1s. annually to the Bradford Blind Institution; proposed by Bro. S. O. Bailey, P.M., seconded by Bro. J. Ahrens, P.M. That the lodge subscribe the sum of £1 1s. annually to the Yorkshire Institution for Deaf and Dumb Children, proposed by Bro. T. Johnson, P.M., seconded by Bro. J. B. Lawrence, J.D. That the lodge subscribe the sum of £1 1s. annually to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, proposed by Bro. J. Barsdorf,

P.M., seconded by Bro. L. Goldstein, P.M. That the lodge subscribe the sum of £1 ls. annually to the Bradford Homoeopathic Dispensary, proposed by Bro. A. Engelmann, P.M., seconded by Bro. J. Dewhurst, J.W. That the lodge subscribe the sum of £1 ls. annually to the Bradford School of Industry, proposed by Bro. J. Ward, P.M., seconded by Bro. T. Peel, S.D. The lodge was then closed with solemn prayer, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, and separated at their usual hour of eleven, after spending the evening in the most agreeable manner.

ROYAL ARCH.

LANCASHIRE (WEST.)

LIVERPOOL.—*Mariners' Chapter* (No. 310).—This chapter was opened in due form on the 11th of July, by P.M.E.Z. James Hamer as Z.; P.M.E.Z. Peter Maddox as H.; and Comp. John Pepper, T.; assisted by P.M.E.Z. Thomas Wylie, P.M.E.Z. C. I. Banister, P.M.E.H. William Laidlow; Comps. W. Woods, T. Marsh, S.E.; H. Williams, S.N.; R. Langley, P.S.; D. W. Winstanley, H. Gopel, &c. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Bro. J. Whitehead, of Lodge 1125, and found unanimous. All Comps. retired below the rank of 1st Principal, and Comp. James Hamer was installed into the chair of Z. by P.M.E.Z. T. Wylie. The M.E.Z. then installed Comp. P. Maddox into the chair of H., and Comp. J. Pepper to that of J., each being presented by Comp. C. J. Banister. The Companions were then admitted, and also the candidate properly presented and exalted by the M.E.Z. in his usual excellent manner, Comp. R. Langley being a very effective P.S.; Comp. John Pepper delivered the first lecture, Comp. Hamer the second and fourth, Comp. Thomas Wylie the third; in fact, the whole ceremony was beautifully and impressively delivered. This Chapter, which has laid dormant for so many years, is now in first-rate working order. Another candidate was proposed for next meeting; business of the Chapter over, it was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. At refreshment the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded, and the Companions separated at an early hour.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

STUART ENCAMPMENT.—The annual meeting for installation of the E.C. elect, and appointment of officers, was held on Monday, July 14th, in Freemasons Hall, Watford. There were present the M.E. and Supreme Grand Master, Sir Knt. William Stuart; the V.E. Sir Knt. George Francis, Prov. G. Com. of Herts; E. Sir Knt. Burchell Herne, Prov. G. Capt.; and Sir Knts. J. A. Ward, Thos. Rogers, Rev. J. Branson, George Lambert, James Burton, H. C. Finch, John Goodyear, J. How and others. Sir Knt. Capt. C. M. Layton, was inducted into the chair, and appointed the following Sir Knts. his officers:—George Lambert, 1st Capt.; H. C. Finch, 2nd Capt.; Edward Burrell, Expert; H. Birchill, Capt. of Lines; Thos. Thomas, Equerry; Sir Knt. Thomas Rogers was re-elected Treasurer. At the conclusion of the business the Prov. G. Com. referred to an irregularity in the summons of the G. Conclave in May, in which appeared certain degrees that had been formally abandoned by Grand Conclave some years ago. Sir Knight Francis said that when the Duke of Sussex assumed authority over the Templars as Grand Master, the only action he took in the order was to issue warrants. All control and interest was vested in the Grand Prior, and the degrees of St. John of Jerusalem, Knight of Malta, the Mediterranean Pass, Rose Croix, etc., were given as steps to the degree of Templar, but on the death of His Royal Highness, before the election of his successor, a committee, of which he, Sir Knt. Francis, was one, was appointed to investigate all matters and prepare statutes for the future government of the Order. In accordance with the recommendations of that committee, the Grand Conclave solemnly resolved to confine itself to the degree of Masonic Knights Templar, and promulgated the code of laws that now governed the Order. At the same time a body of Masons took up the other Christian degrees,—viz. Rose Croix, K. H. etc. He therefore considered it ex-

ceedingly indiscreet of the Grand Vice Chancellor to place the degrees in question on the summons, and in calling attention of their venerated chief and the other members to the circumstance, he trusted this irregularity would not be repeated. Observations were offered by other brethren present, every one concurring in desiring that the present order of affairs should not be disturbed. The brethren banquetted together in their noble hall, the M.E. Grand Master presiding.

NOTES ON MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Tourists who care for the scenery and the clear hill air of Baden-Baden, or for its gaieties (as distinct from the so-called delights of its terrible gambling tables), may like to know that the new theatre just built there is to be opened on the 6th of August, with an opera commissioned from M. Reyer, of Paris. The admirers of M. Berlioz will be glad to read that his new opera, founded on Shakespeare's *Alls Well that Ends Well*, is to follow next in order, later in the month. Mdlle Orvil, pupil to Madame Viardot, has been singing at Baden with success. There will be more good music, unless a rainy summer (and rain makes the banks of the Oos uncomfortably resemble a reeking sponge) shall flood all the company out of the town to drier and more sunny quarters.

Mr. Laurie, late M.P. for Barnstaple, and one of the directors of the Royal Academy of Music, intends to offer annually two silver prize medals to the two most proficient students in vocal music—the examination to be taken and the prizes awarded by the body of Professors—to be called "The Laurie Medals."

Lord Dundreary continues to attract crowds to the Haymarket. We read in the *Liverpool Albion* that Mr. Sothorn is a native of that town; that he was originally intended for the ministry, but, acquiring a taste for the drama, he formed a theatrical company, called the Liverpool Sheridan Society, wherein he achieved a success as an amateur, which induced him, after his father's death, to try his fortune as an actor in America. There he acquired a high reputation during engagements at various theatres, including Wallack's and Laura Keane's in New York, at the latter of which houses he made his great hit in Lord Dundreary.

The misunderstanding between Mr. Boucicault and Mr. Webster, we regret to find still continues. The former supplied the Adelphi with the manuscript and music of "The Colleen Bawn," when Mr. Webster had announced it for performance at the Adelphi on the same evening with its representation at Drury Lane; but the latter refuses admission, either to Mr. or Mrs. Boucicault, to the Adelphi Theatre, notwithstanding the continuance of the partnership. The Vice-Chancellor, it is stated, will be again appealed to; Mr. Boucicault having amended his bill, which is now in Court.

It is said that Mr. Telbin, the eminent scene painter, is about to proceed to Egypt, to paint a panorama of the late route of the Prince of Wales, for the enterprising manager of the Haymarket Theatre.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

A very interesting *soirée* was given last week, when there were some most beautiful illustrations of the powers and properties of electricity, by Mr. Pepper and Mr. King, with a very powerful battery, said to have been made for the 1st Napoleon. Mr. Buckland gave his laughable entertainment of Blue Beard, and a very excellent concert contributed to the enjoyment of a very fashionable audience. In the course of the evening, telegraphic messages were sent to Paris, Vienna, St. Petersburg, Stockholm, and other places, and answers received. The large hall was for a considerable period illuminated with the electric light.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Our gracious Queen left Windsor on Tuesday for Balmoral. That her Majesty will, amid the wild but peaceful beauties of her Highland home, find a balm and solace to her grief, and return invigorated in mind and body, is, we are assured, the fervent wish of all her loving subjects.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—Though the sitting of the HOUSE OF LORDS on Thursday the 17th was an unusually protracted one, no business of special interest was transacted.—On Friday Lord Carnarvon called attention to the subject of our colonial expenditure, contending that while it was but right that we should fortify and garrison such purely military posts as Gibraltar and Malta, the colonies, properly so called, should provide for their own local defence. The noble Earl further condemned the amount of the civil expenditure on colonial account, and moved for papers bearing upon the question. The Duke of Newcastle replied that the civil expenditure was being diminished every year, and with regard to the defence of the colonies, he stated that the subject had been considered carefully by the Horse Guards and the War and Colonial Offices, whose joint report would be ready in a few days. He expressed his regret that the Canadian Legislature had decided upon so small a militia force—a feeling which appears to have been shared by several Peers who followed the noble Duke. Several bills were then advanced a stage.—The proceedings of Monday were unimportant.—On Tuesday Lord Carnarvon confessed having made a rather serious mistake in his recent speech on the colonial expenditure. The noble Earl strongly condemned, on Friday night, what he called the excessive outlay on colonial account, and astonished the Duke of Newcastle by the enormous total he represented to be yearly swallowed up in this way. He has since, however, discovered—and he admitted the fact last night—that he had, by mistake, included in his calculations the charges for the diplomatic and consular services. The Thames Embankment Bill was read a second time, without any opposition on the part of the Duke of Buccleugh, who stated that, as the House of Commons had decided that public convenience required that the embankment should run in front of his residence, he bowed to their verdict. Several other bills were advanced a stage, and their Lordships adjourned.—The HOUSE OF COMMONS held a morning sitting, on Thursday, the 17th, but the business transacted was unimportant. At the evening sitting, the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated, in reply to a question, that he did not propose, during the present session, to ask for a vote of credit on account of China. Sir C. Wood, in reply to Mr. A. Mills, said no official information had been received respecting the rumoured disaffection in the north-west provinces of India. The right hon. Baronet then proceeded to make his annual statement relative to the finances of India. Having congratulated the House upon the fact that it would be unnecessary for him to seek powers to raise a loan, he replied at some length to Mr. Laing's minute, contending that he was perfectly justified by the facts of the case in censuring the mode in which that gentleman had made his calculations. He then laid before the House a statement of the revenue and expenditure for several years past, and submitted that the military expenditure had been reduced to the lowest possible point. He gave a favourable report of the progress made in the construction of railways, especially in the cotton-growing districts. The cultivation of cotton, he stated, was greatly extending; and all that was now required was that private enterprise should step in and establish agencies for the collection of the harvests of the numerous and widely-scattered native growers. This was a work which the Government could not undertake.—On Friday, Mr. Lindsay, brought forward his motion:—"That, in the opinion of this House, the states which have seceded from the Union of the republic of the United States have so long maintained themselves under a separate and established government, and have given such proof of their determination and ability to support their independence, that the propriety of offering mediation, with the view of terminating hostilities between the contending parties, is worthy of the serious and immediate attention of Her Majesty's Government. The hon. gentleman entered into an elaborate statement of the causes and course of the rebellion, and contended that it was hopeless to expect that the Union could ever be restored. Mr. Taylor strongly opposed the resolution, which was warmly supported by Lord A. Vane Tempest. Mr. W. E. Forster had intended to move an amendment to Mr. Lindsay's resolution, but the member for Sunderland had so altered his proposition

since it was first put upon the notice paper that it was difficult to see his precise object. Mr. Forster was of opinion that any foreign interference would be resented by the American people, and urged that they should be left alone. If this course were followed, he believed that the North would in time find that it had undertaken a task which it could not carry out. The discussion was continued by Mr. Whiteside and other members; and Lord Palmerston having again declared that the time had not yet arrived for intervention, the motion was withdrawn.—On Monday, Mr. Seymour Fitzgerald complained that, while France, Spain, and every other maritime power were represented at New Orleans by ships of war, no similar protection had been afforded to British subjects in that city. The subject was one of grave interest, and the proceedings of General Butler, as well as the possibility of differences between England and America, rendered it important that her Majesty's Government should give their serious attention to the matter. Sir James Ferguson having expressed his concurrence in the remarks of the member for Horsham, Mr. Layard insisted that the Government had not neglected British interests at New Orleans. A ship of war had been ordered to that city, but the order was subsequently countermanded, as it was felt to be desirable to avoid any manifestation of power. He added that our Vice-Consul had been recognised by the Federal Government. Sir C. Wood stated, in reply to a question, that he had received no official information of the repulse of the allies by the Chinese rebels, and that he was not aware that any other department of the Government had.—On Tuesday the report on Supply was brought up and agreed to, and the Fortifications Bill was read a third time, and passed.—General Lindsay moved a resolution in favour of some public recognition of the services of Captain Grant, the inventor of the well-known military cooking apparatus. The motion was opposed by Sir G. C. Lewis, and, on a division, was rejected by a majority of one. Mr. Cobbett brought before the House the case of the railway engine-drivers and firemen, who complain of the excessive hours they are obliged to work. The hon. gentleman said it was too late in the session to ask for legislation upon the subject, but he pledged himself to bring the matter before Parliament in a more tangible state next year. Mr. Milner Gibson said it would become the duty of the legislature to interfere, if it could be proved that the safety of railway passengers was endangered by the amount of daily labour these men were compelled to undergo, but in the absence of any such proof it would be better to leave the engine-drivers and their employers to settle the question among themselves. The President of the Poor-law Board obtained leave to bring in a bill to enable Boards of Guardians in the cotton manufacturing districts to have recourse to rates in aid in the event of the continued increase of the distress. A short discussion took place on the subject, in the course of which Lord Palmerston stated that the Government were not wedded to any one particular form of meeting the exigency, but would be glad to listen to any suggestions which members from the distressed districts might have to offer.—On Wednesday the Night-Poaching Prevention Bill was under discussion, and on the motion for going into committee an amendment, moved by Sir Joseph Paxton, to shelve the measure, was defeated by 139 votes to 49. Lord Stanley appealed to the House not to allow it to be said that when frightful distress prevailed in the country its last act of session was to pass a bill for the protection of game. The first clause was not agreed to when progress was ordered to be reported. That harbinger of the end of the session, the Appropriation Bill, was subsequently brought in and read a first time.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—A low temperature in the summer months, though unfavourable to the growth of crops, is generally conducive to the public health, especially in large and dense communities. A proof of this is afforded by the Registrar General's return of the births and deaths in London during last week. The average number of deaths for corresponding weeks is 1201, and the deaths last week being only 1111, it results that the deaths were less by 90 than the average number. The deaths from diarrhoea, a disease generally so prevalent at this season, were only 39. There were 1812 children born during the week, viz., 921 boys and 891 girls.—The select committee of the House of Lords, to which was entrusted the examination of the Thames Embankment Bill, met on Wednesday, and passed the preamble. They struck out clauses 9, 33, and 36. Clause 9 ordered that the Metropolitan Board of Works should not construct the road between the east side of Hungerford-bridge and Wellington-street until the other works were com-

pleted. Clause 33 gave to the First Commissioner of Works the power of vetoing buildings proposed to be erected on the lands fronting the river, and clause 36 gave power to the Board of Works to sell surplus land.—An influentially attended meeting of noblemen and gentlemen connected with Lancashire and Cheshire was held at Willis's Rooms, on Saturday, for the purpose of adopting measures for the relief of the distress in the cotton manufacturing districts. Lord Derby, who presided made an earnest appeal on behalf of our suffering operatives, and stated that the object of the meeting was not to provide for the relief of paupers, but to relieve by private charity those who were struggling to maintain their independence, and to prevent themselves from being thrown upon the parish. A resolution was passed, declaring it to be incumbent upon those connected by property with the districts affected to lend their assistance to this movement, and a committee was appointed to receive subscriptions. In the course of a conversation which followed, the Mayor of Manchester expressed his belief that private benevolence would fail to meet the exigency, and he suggested that an effort should be made to obtain a grant of rates in aid. Lord Derby deprecated for the present any appeal to the public purse, submitting that they ought to think of such a step only after they had done their very utmost to grapple with the distress. Subscriptions to the amount of £10,000 were announced at the close of the meeting. Lord Derby, the Marquis of Westminster, Lord Ellesmere, and Lord Egerton, of Tatton, subscribing £1000 each.—The Lord Primate of Ireland, Lord John Beresford, died very suddenly, but in the most tranquil manner, on Saturday, at Donaghadee. The venerable Primate was in his 89th year.—The Lord Mayor, Alderman, and Common Council of the City, invited the foreigners now in London visiting the Exhibition, to a concert and ball last week in Guildhall. The old hall was resplendent with decorations, profusely lavished in all directions, and executed with so much taste that a complete transformation appeared to have taken place, and even those best acquainted with its capabilities could hardly have imagined it was capable of producing an effect so brilliant. The whole musical talent now in London, was engaged for the occasion; and many foreigners had an opportunity of hearing our great English tenor, Mr. Sims Reeves, in all his glory. A ball followed the concert, and the animated scene was kept up till a late hour.—The ceremonial of laying the foundation-stone of the Roman Catholic University at Drumcondra, near Dublin, took place on Sunday. A procession composed of the trade societies, commercial bodies and Roman Catholic fraternities, walked to the site. Upwards of thirty Roman Catholic bishops in their robes, were present at the ceremony. The coporations of Cork, Clonmel, Kilkenny, Limerick, Drogheda, and Waterford, were represented. The coporation of Dublin had refused to attend, but some of the members were present in their individual capacity. In point of numbers the demonstration was one of the largest seen in Dublin, since the days of repeal. Much enthusiasm was displayed, but the whole passed off quietly.—A conference of members of Parliament, mayors, &c., who have joined in the national demand for a charter Catholic University, was held at Dublin, on Monday. Two members of Parliament—Mr. Brady and the O'Donoghue—attended, but neither appears to have addressed the meeting. The chair was occupied by Alderman Ryan, of Limerick. Resolutions were passed declaring Lord Palmerston's refusal to grant a charter as "an act of great injustice, and a deliberate insult to the feelings of the vast majority of the Irish people," and as part of a policy which "maintains unjust and oppressive distinctions between Irishmen of different religious denominations." It was further determined to establish an Association whose efforts shall be directed towards the removal of the many grievances, civil and religious, which now oppress Ireland.—It will be remembered that the Meteorological Committee of the British Association determined to make experiments on the temperature of the air at certain altitudes by means of a balloon. The scene of action was laid near Wolverhampton for the convenience of Lord Wrottesley, who, it is well known, takes great interest in these experiments. The committee were rather unfortunate. On two different occasions the experiments were rendered abortive in consequence of the bursting of the balloons. On Tuesday a third attempt was made, and this time with success. The balloon ascended a considerable height, and the instruments were all in excellent working order. Mr. Glaisher, the gentleman who ascended and conducted the experiments, reported that at the greatest altitude he attained he found the temperature only 160, the air very dry, and the

electricity positive.—A meeting of the Middlesex magistrates was held on Tuesday, when the chairman, Mr. Pownall, was re-elected to his post for another year. The salaries of the newly-elected coroners—for which such a stout fight has just been made—were fixed, the central coroner at £1220, and the western at £580, making between them the £1800 which was the salary of the late Mr. Wakeley. From the prison reports it appeared that there were 150 Middlesex prisoners confined in other county gaols, as there is not room for them in the gaols, of the county. The crime of garrotting is becoming frequent and alarming, and calls for all the efforts of the police to suppress it. A Mr. Murray, a solicitor, was attacked on Sunday night in the Westminster-road by three men, one of whom seized him from behind by the throat, while his two companions, with brutal force, while his two companions robbed him of his watch and a considerable sum of money. Two of the fellows were apprehended, and have been remanded for further evidence.—The previous week Mr. Pilkington, the member for Blackburn, while passing the Guard's monument in Waterloo Place, on his way home from the House of Commons, was attacked by two men, one of whom struck him a severe blow on the head, which rendered him for some time insensible. The honourable gentleman, who is still suffering from the effects of the outrage was robbed of his watch.—A singular blunder was committed by a couple of police officers in the neighbourhood of Aldershot, the other morning. Colonel Clifford, assistant quartermaster general at Aldershot, it appears, had "gone into training" for some athletic sports which were about to take place at the camp. On Friday morning, about four o'clock, he was out taking exercise, when he came upon two constables who had secured a couple of suspicious persons. One of the prisoners, on seeing the colonel, exclaimed, "There goes a chum," and the gallant gentleman was at once taken into custody. He stated who he was, but the constables would hear none of his explanation, and marched him off to the superintendent, who ordered him to be taken before the military provosts. Of course the colonel was at once recognised, and left at liberty to resume his "training."—Another charge of poisoning has been preferred against the woman Wilson, at the Lambeth Police Court. The alleged victim in this case was a Mrs. Soames, with whom the prisoner had lodged, and who died under circumstances of so suspicious a character that an inquest was held immediately after her death. The inquest resulted in an open verdict, but it was stated in court, that the *post mortem* examination was conducted on that occasion in a most careless manner, and that the friends of the deceased were induced to do what they could to hush up the inquiry—Wilson representing that Mrs. Soames had poisoned herself, in consequence of having been deceived by a man who had promised her marriage. A more complete examination of the body will now be made, and meanwhile the prisoner stands remanded on the two charges of poisoning Mrs. Atkinson, of Kirby Lonsdale, and Mrs. Soames.—The woman M'Lachlan, who was taken into custody on suspicion of having murdered Jessie M'Pherson, at Glasgow, has been committed for trial. It has been shown that M'Lachlan pledged the plate stolen from the house in which M'Pherson was murdered, and that she was in possession of a quantity of wearing apparel which belonged to the deceased. The old man Fleming, who was apprehended on suspicion of having been concerned in this extraordinary crime, has been set at liberty.—George Lawrence, the man accused of the murder of Miss Hall, the farmer's daughter, at Fordingbridge, was tried at the Winchester assizes. The evidence against him was circumstantial, and the jury, with little hesitation, found him guilty, and Mr. Justice Keating sentenced him to death.—The six men in custody on the charge of having been concerned in the murder of police constable Jump, at Ashton-under-Lyne, have been examined before the magistrates along with the man Johnson, who is accused of having harboured Burke and Ward, after the tragic occurrence. Three of the prisoners had made statements or "confessions," and these having been put in, and some additional evidence adduced, the examination was again adjourned.—The Rev. H. S. Fletcher, the defaulting trustee and treasurer of the Bilston Savings Bank, has been sentenced by Mr. Justice Blackburn, at Stafford, to two years imprisonment.—All doubt with reference to the fate of Mr. Winstanley, the high sheriff of Leicestershire, who disappeared so mysteriously some time ago, has been set at rest by the discovery of the unfortunate gentleman's body in the Moselle, near Coblenz. He is believed to have committed suicide.—A melancholy occurrence took place at Wednesbury, on Satur-

day. Two men who were cleaning out a deep well, cut into an old coal working, from which a strong volume of "choke damp" issued with deadly effect. The two poor fellows were at once overpowered, and a workman who observed from the mouth of the well what had taken place, perished in a vain attempt to rescue them.—A boiler exploded on Wednesday in the lucifer-match manufactory of Messrs. Letchford & Co., of Three Colts Lane, Bethnal Green. Very considerable damage was done. Several persons were bruised by the falling of the roof, and two were so severely hurt that they had to be removed to the London Hospital.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The secret society trial at Paris has been brought to a conclusion. Of the fifty-four persons who were arraigned sixteen were acquitted. On Saturday sentence was passed on the remainder; Vassel, Miet, and three others were condemned to three years' confinement, three more to two years' imprisonment, and the rest to imprisonment for shorter periods.—Rumours of an intended mediation between the American belligerents are again rife in Paris. It is now asserted, according to the *Indépendance Belge*, that the Emperor of Russia, in an autograph letter to President Lincoln, will strenuously advise the conclusion of a peace; and it is affirmed that, in the event of a rejection of the Emperor's counsels by the Federal Cabinet, a joint mediation will be undertaken by France and England. One thing is clear, the *Indépendance Belge* does not and cannot know anything of the intentions entertained by the British Cabinet.—We learn from Vienna that the Austrian Finance Minister has laid the Budget before the Chamber of Deputies. The total expenditure for the year 1863 is estimated at 362,000,000 florins, and the income at 304,000,000. It is proposed to cover the deficit of 58,000,000 florins by the receipts from the lottery of 1860, and an increase in the taxes.—The official announcement that an ambassador of "the King of Italy" has been received at Berlin, shows that a formal and official recognition of the kingdom of Italy has at length been made by the Prussian Cabinet.—It is reported by the St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Indépendance* that the Emperor of Russia, besides recognising the King of Italy, has further consented to give the young Princess Maria Maximiljenowa, daughter of the Grand Duchess Marie and of the late Duke of Leuchtenberg, in marriage to Prince Humbert, the heir of Victor Emmanuel.—Spain, it is reported, is about to follow in the wake of other and larger powers, and recognise Italy.—The prospects of Poland are brightening. According to a telegram from Cracow the administrative separation of the kingdom from the Russian empire is decided on. The determination is attributed to the Emperor, and the Grand Duke Constantine has been appointed to carry out the plan. A general amnesty is also shortly expected at Warsaw.—A despatch from Berlin announces that Prussia has, upon the part of the Zollverein, rejected the proposal of Austria to become a member of that body, under the conditions for which the Cabinet of Vienna had stipulated. The reason for the ejection is assumed to be, mainly, because Prussia is determined to carry through her commercial engagements with France, against which Austria—in her proposal—had set her face.—The Danes have given a most enthusiastic welcome to the King of Sweden, to whose visit to their Sovereign they seem to attach great importance. They have seized every occasion to testify their sense of the honour he has paid their Sovereign and country, and on Saturday the many rejoicings were brought to a conclusion by a grand banquet given by the corporation in the Exchange at Copenhagen. The two Kings repaired on foot to the banquet, accompanied by the Princes. In the evening there was a public demonstration before the Castle, and their Majesties appeared hand-in-hand on the balcony, and testified their acknowledgments. The King of Sweden was to leave Elsinour for his own dominions on Monday.

INDIA AND CHINA.—The Bombay mail brings intelligence of average importance. Among the items of news we learn that in Afghanistan a battle was imminent between the Ameer's forces and those of Ahmed Jan; that the good ship *Pilkington*, 1350 tons, from Liverpool, was totally wrecked on the 17th of June, near Bombay; that in the north-west provinces security has succeeded to forebodings of evil; that the general health of the country is good; that the man who was arrested as the Nana turns out to be a professional beggar; that the Rao Sabib is to be tried at Delhi on charges of treason and murder; and that the Government of Bombay has received a telegram of a battle between Dost Mahomed and the Heratees, the Ameer, it is believed, having lost several chiefs of note.—The *Bombay Times*

says that an urgent demand has been made upon the Indian Government for troops to be sent to China. About £5000, of which nearly £2000 has been contributed by native merchants, had been collected in Bombay for the relief of the distressed operatives in Lancashire.—The *Gazette* publishes certain dispatches from Brigadier Stanely and Vice Admiral Sir James Hope giving the official accounts of the capture of the fortresses from which the Taepings were driven out in accordance with the resolution come to by the allies, that the insurgents should not come within 30 miles of Shanghai. At each place great gallantry was shown; for though the Taepings are "braves" only in the Chinese sense, yet their stockades were strong and the attacking force was small. The only melancholy incident in the affair, was the death of the French Admiral Protet, who was shot through the heart as he was leading on his men to the attack of the last captured fort. There have been reports in town of reverses to the English and French forces at Shanghai, but they want confirmation.

AMERICA.—The latest news from America is to the 11th. There did not appear to have been any fighting on the James river after the 4th. General McClellan's position was well entrenched; and the latest despatch affirms that he had advanced seven miles up James river, and that a reconnoitring party found the Confederate pickets one mile from the Federal pickets. It was supposed, we are told, that another battle was close at hand; but nothing is said of any indications of a fresh Confederate attack on the position now occupied by the Northern army, and General McClellan and his troops were not likely to be disposed to undertake offensive operations. The losses sustained by the Federal army during the various battles and the retreat were estimated at 25,000 men in killed, wounded, and prisoners.—The Federal General Curtis had been compelled to retire from Arkansas into Missouri. The bombardment of Vicksburg was still continued, and the Federals were, it is said, still actively employed in cutting the canal intended to divert the course of the Mississippi near that town. Recruiting for the Federal army was apparently slack, in spite of the efforts of the state and municipal authorities; and it was supposed, we are told by the latest despatches, that, in order to raise the 300,000 men required by President Lincoln, "recourse will be had to drafting," or, in other words, to compulsory levies of men. In Tennessee a large body of Confederates had entered Murfreesboro, a place some thirty miles from Nashville, and had captured a Federal regiment; and it was supposed that Nashville itself would be attacked. The Confederates were likewise reported to be "in force" near Frankfort, in Kentucky, and "considerable excitement" was said to prevail in Louisville. According to Southern reports, the Confederate General Van Dorn had captured Baton Rouge, in Louisiana, and had taken 1500 Federal prisoners—though it may be presumed that, if the reports be true, the Federal gunboats will speedily drive him out again. The *New York Evening Post* says that the Republican members of Congress were about to issue a manifesto urging "a most energetic action in prosecution of the war, and using all means against the rebellion, and foreign intervention especially." The same journal declares that President Lincoln's scheme of gradual emancipation and expulsion of the slaves would be opposed by a majority of the members of Congress from the Border States. President Lincoln, during a visit to General McClellan's camp, had declared his confidence in the army and its Commander, adding that "he knew the men around him would prove equal to the task before them, and would never give up without going into Richmond."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ARTS.—We are not in a position to do as you desire.

S. (Wolverhampton.)—Write again after you have been to your next meeting.

CABLE-TOW.—Refer to the *MAGAZINE* for the 25th of January, of the present year.

A.—The Deputy Grand Secretary of Ireland is Bro. Charles T. Walmisley. Address a letter to him at Freemasons' Hall, Dame-street, Dublin, and you will receive an early and courteous reply. No. We never interfere.

BRITISH O.A.K.—You may wear all your jewels, but it is questionable taste.

A. P. PROV. G.D.—See your Prov. G. Sec. on the subject. you are too far distant for us to visit you.