

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1863.

"MY STARS AND GARTERS." — PAST MASTERS AND THE PAST MASTERS DEGREE.

Under the somewhat ridiculous title which heads this article, a correspondence has been going on in our MAGAZINE, which we had hoped our comments of last week would finally have put and end to—but we were mistaken, and we have received a letter from "Bro. J. P. S. Carrington Nicholson, Prov. J.G.D. of Herts, First Grand Herald to the Grand Conclave of Masonic Knights Templar," to which we give a more prominent position than usual, as he informs us that we have made "very improper comments" upon the letters of his friends, and because we intend to show Bro. Nicholson that he is not what he professes to be a "legally installed Master of a Scotch Lodge," and that he is not entitled to "wear the levels of that degree"—whilst some of his other honours, of which he accuses us of being jealous, are of doubtful legality, if not altogether void.

The following is Bro. Nicholson's letter, which we shall take as our text for what follows:—

In your impression of the 4th inst., there appeared a letter with the above title, signed N.W., which I believe can only have reference to me. I did not intend to notice it at all, as the writer appeared to be ashamed of signing his name, and I considered the communication beneath my notice; but as some of my friends have taken up the matter, and you have thought fit to indulge in very improper comments upon their letters, I think, in justice to them, and to myself, that I ought to take some notice of the correspondence that has passed on the subject: and first I will reply to "N.W.'s" epistle.

Assuming that I am the individual alluded to, in no single statement, with the exception of the enumeration of the degrees I hold, has "N.W." confined himself to the truth. "N.W." did not see me initiated seven months ago; I did not mount twelve Masonic curiosities; and I did not return thanks for the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Officers, for, not being a Grand Officer, I had not the right. I wear the jewels of the various degrees I hold, in miniature, attached to one long bar, but I am always very particular on entering a Craft lodge, to appear with none but Craft jewels (although I have seen the Master and members of several lodges that I have visited wearing jewels not acknowledged by Grand Lodge,) and on the evening in question, two only of these were visible, viz: The Royal Arch, and the Jewel of Provincial Grand Deacon, the others, six in number, being concealed by a cloth covering, but, in the course of the evening, at banquet, some of the brethren, amongst whom, I suppose, was your anonymous correspondent, asked me to show them these jewels, and they took the trouble to examine them, but I cannot account for "N.W.'s" statement that there were twelve unless, indeed, being after dinner he saw double.

The toast I replied to, I understood to be, "The Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Officer, and Provincial Grand Officers," with which my name was coupled, and I was called upon by the Master of the Lodge to reply. The words I used having reference to Grand Officers were:—"As it appears that I am the only Provincial Grand Officer present, in their name, I thank you for the very kind manner in which you have received and responded to that part of the toast." My rank as a Past

Master of a Scotch lodge entitles me to wear the levels of that degree.

Respecting himself, "N. W." says, that for seven years he has been a hard-working Mason, and is a Past Master. "N. W." may have worked hard, but it is to be regretted that "N. W." has not yet understood the work at which he has been labouring; he does not even appear to remember that part of the charge given to him at his initiation, and which, doubtless, in his quality of Master, he has delivered to other initiates, wherein a Mason is told that he should do his duty to his neighbour "by acting with him on the square, and by doing unto him as in similar cases he could wish that he should do unto him." Neither does "N. W." appear to remember that part of the lectures, wherein we are told: "Happy is the man who has sown in his breast the seeds of benevolence, he envieth not his neighbour, he believeth not a tale when told by a slanderer, malice or revenge having no place in his breast. Again, we are taught "not to bend towards avarice, injustice, malice, or the envy, or contempt of our fellow-creatures, but to give up every selfish propensity which might tend to injure others." Had "N. W." thought of these points, and also called to mind the sacred obligation of a Master Mason, I cannot think that he would have composed the curious document which you have allowed to appear; but had his object really been to know who and what I was, he would have asked me the question to my face. Nor do I think that you, Sir, have acted as a Mason in permitting your journal, which should be the channel of peace and goodwill amongst Masons, to be the medium of so contemptible an attack; to say the least, you should have rejected the communication till the writer had appended his proper signature.

Before quitting this part of the subject, I beg to suggest as a heading to your "Correspondence," and as a hint to your correspondents and yourself, the following: "An anonymous letter is a species of moral murder, which, using the pen as a poignard, and the inkstand as a bowl, stabs character and poisons reputation, without fear of detection."

I am extremely sorry any of my friends should have taken the trouble to reply to this envious attack. I can assure you that I do not in the least understand the allusion of Bro. Jones, as to pulling noses, &c. I have never yet had occasion to pull that organ, and I trust I never shall, "for those who play with mud, often dirty their fingers." But I will not allow you Sir, or any one else, to give me a lesson in courtesy, nor do I consider you at all competent to be the judge of what should be the conduct of a gentleman, a knowledge of which, has not, I regret to say, been shown in more than one effusion which has lately appeared in your paper. As you head your Correspondence with a statement that you "are not responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents," I cannot see the necessity, or the good taste of your comments, you should at any rate wait till you have heard both sides of a question. As to your comment on Bro. Thearle's letter, I have been a legally installed Master of a Scotch Lodge, and am therefore entitled to wear the levels of a Past Master.

The letter of "R. E. X." is too absurd to need any comment, the mere perusal of such nonsense is sufficient. I am not surprised that "R. E. X." has not signed his name to his document, for I am sure, on reflection, any man would be ashamed to own himself the author of such nonsense. A gentleman would never have so far forgotten himself, therefore I will at once dismiss that part of the correspondence.

My ancestors, for more than two hundred years, have been Masons, and from that and other circumstances I had preconceived a good opinion of the institution: and as soon, therefore, as I had attained my majority, I entered the Order. The honours that I now hold, and of which "N. W." and others, including yourself, appear to be so jealous, neither directly nor indirectly did I seek.

The collar of Grand Conclave and the purple of Hertfordshire were given to me quite unexpectedly; to the kindness of my friends more than to my own merits I am indebted for the Masonic rank I hold. To say that the opprobrious attacks that have been made upon me are an insult to the Grand Master of the Templars and the Provincial Grand Master of Hertfordshire, through me, his officer, would not be true, for I am sure that such communications, proceeding from anonymous quarters, and appearing in *THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR*, are utterly beneath his notice; nor should I have condescended to reply but for the reasons I have stated above.

I must apologise for taking up so much of your valuable space, but you may rest assured, sir, that I shall not again trouble you with any further communication. If any of your correspondents want to know anything more of me, let them, if they have sufficient manliness, ask me themselves, and they shall receive such answers as the nature of their communications may deserve.

I have the honour to be, yours, very fraternally,

✠ W. S. CARRINGTON NICHOLSON,
Prov. J.G.D. of Herts, First Grand Herald to the Grand
Conclave of Masonic Knights Templar.

10, Gray's-inn-place, Gray's-inn, Oct. 14th, 1862.

We accept Bro. Nicholson's explanation, that he did not wear any but the recognised jewels in a Craft Lodge, though he did afterwards, at the request of the brethren, exhibit others—the number we regard as unimportant—a matter of which we have little to complain.

We pass over Bro. Nicholson's returning thanks for the Provincial Grand Officers to come to what we consider of far greater consequence, his assertion—"My rank as a Past Master of a Scotch Lodge entitles me to wear the levels of that degree." It is admitted that Bro. Nicholson was only initiated about nine months since, and as he is carrying on an arduous profession in London, it is hardly possible to be supposed that he can have been affiliated to a Scotch lodge, and have been regularly elected to the chair under the provisions of the Scottish Book of Constitutions, which we will recite, and a compliance with which the Grand Lodge of Scotland are very strict in enforcing.

At pp. 29-30, of the "*Laws and Constitutions of the Grand Lodge*" of Scotland, we find the following:—

"Upon the day preceding the general election, annually, the Master of each lodge shall cause a list to be made up of the names and designations of all the intrants in his lodge during the preceding year, which list shall likewise specify the respective dates of entering, passing, and raising, or affiliation, as the case may be, and shall be certified by the Master, Treasurer, and Secretary, to be correct.

"The Master of each lodge shall, within one month after the day of election, transmit this list, along with the Grand Lodge dues of enrolment, to the Grand Secretary, for registration by the Grand Clerk in the books of the Grand Lodge.

"Any lodge found guilty of making incomplete or fraudulent returns of intrants to the Grand Lodge, shall be liable to have its Charter recalled and cancelled—to suspension from Masonic privileges, or such other punishment as the Grand Lodge may be pleased to inflict.

"No Brother, whose name has not been enrolled in the books of the Grand Lodge, in terms of Sections II. and III. hereof, shall be eligible to be a member thereof, or to be an Office-Bearer in any Subordinate Lodge."

And to show how the admission of brethren, for the purpose of electing them Masters of lodges is guarded against, the following law has been enacted and appears at page 44:—

"No lodge shall, upon the day of electing their Office-Bearers, assume any brethren of other lodges as members, until after the election is over; under certification, that upon complaint being made to the Grand Lodge, the election shall be declared void."

The Grand Lodge of Scotland, unlike the Grand Lodge of England, does not acknowledge the Royal Arch, but "practises and recognises no degrees of Masonry but those of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, denominated St. John's Masonry," to which has recently been added, "together with the Mark degree, which shall constitute the fourth degree of Masonry," and it is declared at page 49 of the Scottish Constitutions:—

"No clothing, purporting to be Masonic, shall be worn in Grand Lodge, or any Subordinate Lodge, except that appertaining to St. John's Masonry, which alone is recognised and acknowledged."

After the words no clothing, the words "Jewels and other decorations" formerly stood, but they have been expunged, and as there is a distinctive jewel for a Past Master of a lodge, the wearing of that jewel, unless it has been regularly obtained, is not authorised, though perhaps winked at, and a brother does not legally take the levels until he becomes the actual Master of a lodge.

In Royal Arch Masonry, as practised in Scotland and other parts of the world, it is necessary that a brother should, prior to exaltation, be an installed Master; and he is, therefore, passed through a series of so-called "chair degrees," amongst which is that of an installed Master (which Bro. Nicholson has, no doubt, taken), and which is thus described in Mackey's *Book of the Chapter*:—

"It is evident, then, that this degree was originally simply a degree of office, and conferred only on the elected Master of a lodge. As these rulers of Masonry were supposed to be selected for their superior skill and intelligence, they alone were permitted to receive that consummation of Masonic light which is contained in the Royal Arch degree. Hence, therefore, the possession of the degree of Past Master became a necessary qualification for exaltation to Royal Arch; and as, at first, that degree was conferred in connection with and under the jurisdiction of symbolic lodges, none but those who had presided in the chair were permitted to receive it.

"So, in time, when the chapters were separated from the lodges and placed under a distinct jurisdiction, the usage still prevailed, and candidates for exaltation were invested, as a preparatory step, with the Past Master's degree, and for this purpose a lodge of Past Masters was opened, and a *fictitious installation* (for it was nothing else) was performed."

But this gives no rank in Craft Masonry in any part of the world.

Bro. Oliver, in his *Institutes of Masonic Jurisprudence*, distinctly lays it down:—

"It will not be unimportant to remark at the close of this chapter, that if an English Master Mason, not having actually passed the chair of his lodge, shall be exalted to the Royal Arch degree in any other country, it will confer no additional rank in an English Craft lodge; although he will have necessarily

passed the chair as a preliminary step to the degree; nor will he be entitled to wear the apron and jewel of a Past Master; for the law distinctly provides that no brother can possibly claim or enjoy the privileges of a Past Master until he has actually served the office of Worshipful Master for one complete year.

"It was customary before the Union to instal every candidate for exaltation, and many lodges were in the habit of passing certain brethren for the purpose of giving them nominal rank; nor was their presence at a lodge of installed Masters considered an intrusion. But no such claim would be recognised under our improved system of government, for the present laws are too stringent to admit of any such irregularities; and it is clear that a Royal Arch Mason, even though he be a Principal, not having served his year as the Worshipful Master of a Craft Lodge, cannot be entitled to any immunity which belongs to a Past Master, and to him alone; nor can he be allowed to witness the ceremony of installation, or to claim a right of *entrée* in Grand Lodge."

And if we turn to Bro. Mackey's *Text Book of Masonic Jurisprudence*, published at New York, we find—

"All that has been here said of the rights of Past Masters must be considered as strictly referring to *actual* Past Masters only; that is to say, to Past Masters who have been regularly installed to preside over a Lodge of Ancient Craft Masons, under the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge. *Virtual* Past Masters, or those who have received the degree in a Chapter, as preparatory to exaltation to the Royal Arch, possess none of these rights."

And Bro. Albert Pike, considered to be one of the most able of Masonic jurists, says, in a report to the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, he does not consider

"That the Past Master's degree, conferred in a Chapter, invests the recipient with any rank or authority, except within the Chapter itself; that it in no way qualifies or authorises him to preside in the chair of a lodge; that a lodge has no legal means of knowing that he has received the degree in a Chapter; for it is not to know anything that takes place there any more than it knows what takes place in a Lodge of Perfection, or a Chapter of Rose Croix, whence it follows, that if the actual Past Masters of a lodge have no legal means of recognition of the virtual Past Masters of a Chapter, the former cannot permit the latter to install or be present at an installation."

Bro. Gedge, of Louisiana, also says:—

"It is the bounden duty of all Grand Lodges to prevent the possessors of the Chapter degree from the exercise of any function appertaining to the office and attributes of an installed Master of a Lodge of symbolic Masonry, and refuse to recognise them as belonging to the Order of Past Masters."

We might go on multiplying authorities, *ad infinitum*, but shall content ourselves with one more, and that because it has something of a Scotch authority. In *Mackey's Lexicon of Freemasonry*, first English edition, revised by "Bro. Donald Campbell, S.R.P.S., 32nd degree, compiler of the *Scottish Masonic Calendar*," we find under the head of "Past Masters":—

"This degree has never been recognised by the Grand Lodge of Scotland; it is conferred under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter."

And that brethren should not be too hastily passed through the various degrees, is well summed up by Bro. Rob. Morris, P. Grand Master for Kentucky, in his code of Masonic Law rules:—

"While candidates are attempting, in one month, what the fathers allotted to seven years, it is too much that they should be expected, in addition to the severe tasks enjoined upon them,

to take an active part in the government of the lodge,—and *too much that, green and inexperienced as they are, they should be invested with the honours and privileges only merited by the experienced Masons.*"

Having, as we think, shown that Bro. Nicholson, has only taken the Past Masters' degree as a preliminary to the Royal Arch in Scotland, and has no claim to be considered a Past Master or to wear the clothing, we come to another part of his letter, again assuring him that we are not jealous of his preferences. He says:—

"The honours that I now hold, and of which "N. W." and others, including yourself, appear to be so jealous, neither directly nor indirectly did I seek. The collar of Grand Conclave and the purple of Hertfordshire were given to me quite unexpectedly. To the kindness of my friends more than to my own merits I am indebted for the Masonic rank I hold."

Many men suffer from the acts of injudicious friends, and we fear that Bro. Nicholson is no exception to the rule. At page 51, of the Book of Constitutions, "Of the other Provincial Grand Officers," it is enacted,—

"No brother can be appointed a Provincial Grand Warden unless he be the Master or Past Master of a lodge; nor a Provincial Grand Deacon, unless he be a Warden or Past Warden of a lodge."

And as regards this law, there can be no dispensation (for residing out of the province, Bro. Nicholson has personally informed us he paid the dispensation fee); and the Book of Constitutions declaring "a dispensation cannot be granted except in cases specially provided for." We cannot discover that Bro. Nicholson has ever been appointed the Warden of any lodge, it being very rare that such an honour is attained within nine months after initiation. We know Bro. Stuart, the Prov. G.M., to be too good a Mason and too conscientious in the discharge of his duties to wilfully violate the *Book of Constitutions*, and can therefore only conclude that he has been misled by some of Bro. Nicholson's injudicious friends, who have not, when recommending him to office, explained his real standing in the Craft.

Moreover, it is even denied that he is a subscribing member to any lodge in the province. We are informed that he claims to be a member of the Berkhamstead Lodge; but this is contested by many of the members, the following rule of the Book of Constitutions not having been complied with,

"No brother shall be admitted a member of a lodge without a regular proposition in open lodge, nor until his name, occupation, and place of abode, as well as the name and number of the lodge of which he is or was last a member, or in which he was initiated, shall have been sent to all the members in the summons for the next regular lodge meeting; at which meeting the brother's grand lodge certificate, and also the certificate of his former lodge, is to be produced, and the decision of the brethren ascertained by ballot."

A ballot, it is true, is stated to have taken place at a lodge when only three members were present, and the election entered on the minutes—the fact of the brother having been proposed, but, *not* "in

open lodge" being notified, at the back of the summons. For non-compliance with the laws we are informed by the brethren, who complained that an unfair advantage was taken of them, and at their last meeting, subsequent to the Provincial Grand Lodge, at which Bro. Nicholson was appointed to office, they refused to confirm the minutes, and as the lodge now stands adjourned to January next, a regular ballot cannot be proceeded with until that time.

We are open to any correction in our facts, but, we have stated them as we received them, leaving it to the proper authorities to determine the actual position in which Bro. Nicholson stands in the Craft.

We are sorry to have to make such statements at all, but after the letter we have received from Bro. Nicholson, we feel it a justice, both to him and the Craft, to place all we have heard before the brethren, feeling, as we do, that he has only been led away by an excess of zeal for the Order, and that he has been more sinned against than sinning by those who were bound by their standing in the Craft to have pointed out to him the false position in which he was being placed.

SCOTLAND.—THE ROYAL ARCH SCHISM.

We have been requested to insert the following letter:—

DEAR SIR AND COMPANION,—Be so kind as to insert the annexed in your valuable publication, as explanatory of the present position of the Companions of the West of Scotland. I think it gives the most correct view of the matter that has yet appeared, and speaks for itself.

I am, dear Sir and Companion,

ONE OF THE COMPANIONS
OF THE WEST OF SCOTLAND.

Report of Comp. Walker Arnott as to the Disjunction of Ayrshire as a Province. Glasgow, 12th May, 1862.

In the deliverance of the Supreme Chapter of 5th March, it is not stated in what capacity the remit was made to Comp. Walker Arnott, but as he is Grand Superintendent of the West of Scotland, he understands that it was partly in that capacity, and partly as a private companion to whom the Supreme Chapter has delegated its own powers, that he was requested to report. He accepted the remit most unwillingly, not only from having been most of the winter in bad health, but because in the spring and summer he ought to devote his whole time to professional and more remunerating duties, and also because as Ayrshire was at present under his jurisdiction, the Ayrshire Chapters might suppose that he would be swayed by interested motives, if he disapproved of the disjunction; besides he had already stated in a letter to the G.S.E., on the 1st March, his objections to the disjunction, so far as could be done, without examining the books of the Ayrshire Chapters; but notwithstanding which objections, the Supreme Committee reported unanimously on 3rd March, in favour of the disjunction, without, however, stating a single reason for it. Although

the remit was "to give a report as to the statements of the petition, and what he would recommend to be done in the circumstances," yet, as mere opinions from him can be of no more weight to the Supreme Chapter, than it had been to Supreme Committee, unless he made a careful investigation into various matters, besides the mere statements (in themselves of little or no importance), and whether the statements in the petition were those of the different Ayrshire Chapters in general, or only of a few individuals; as also, whether those who signed the petition had a right to do so by being full attending members of the chapters they claim to belong to. Whether from not yielding obedience the chap. xvi. of the laws, they wished to escape enquiry, he found it necessary to consult with and request the assistance of the Prov. Grand Chapter of the West of Scotland, being perfectly satisfied that if it was the desire of a great majority of the Ayrshire companions to separate themselves, and if it were shown to conduce to the prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry there, no opposition would be made by it,

A meeting of the Prov. Grand Chapter was therefore called on the 18th March, when the Prov. Grand S.E. was instructed to request the Grand S.E. to send a copy of the petition, and also to write (in addition to the usual circular), to the three First Principals of the three chapters of Ayrshire requesting them to attend at another meeting to be held on the 28th March, or, if not convenient, to transmit then their reasons for the proposed disjunction in a letter. G.S.E. stated that he had already sent a copy of the petition some time previously to the Grand Superintendent. This, no doubt, had been done on the 25th February, before it had been laid before the Supreme Committee; but the letter accompanying it was marked *private*, so that the Provincial Grand Superintendent did not feel at liberty to lay it at the time before the Provincial Grand Chapter: the letter of G.S.E. made this necessary. The reply from No. 80 referred the Provincial Grand Chapter to the petition itself. That from Gerran Chapter states that in their opinion no good could arise from the disjunction, and that they were about to resign their charter. That from Ayr, No. 18, was twofold—a letter and a minute; and expressed their previous ignorance of any petition for disjunction, their indignation at such, without consulting with them, and deprecating the proposed disjunction unless the Chapter No. 18 was allowed to remain as part of the present Provincial Grand Chapter. A petition from thirty-two members of No. 18 (including all the Office-bearers) against the disjunction has been since transmitted to the Grand Superintendent for presentation, and is presented herewith.

It thus appearing on the 28th March that almost the only parties desirous of the disjunction belonged to Chapter No. 80, it became necessary that their books should be examined in the hope that some light might be thrown on their anxiety for a separation. A small committee was appointed, consisting of the Provincial Grand Superintendent, Provincial Grand H.J., and Scribe E., to report on the books; and the Provincial Grand Superintendent, not only in virtue of cap. X., sec. 9, which gives the same powers to them within their province that the Supreme Chapter has over all Scotland, but also in consequence of the special remit to him by the Supreme Chapter, he gave written orders to Provincial Grand S.E. to go to Ayr next day (29th March) and bring the books to him. The Grand Superintendent himself examined the books on the 1st and 2nd April, and inserted on them the reports, of which a copy is herewith produced; he also drew up a second report, derived from the former—afterwards adopted by the committee at their report. This more immediately relates to the proposed disjunction, and renders it unnecessary to prepare a third report to the same effect for the Supreme Chapter: it is produced herewith.

It will be remembered that the Supreme Committee on 3rd March recommended to the Supreme Chapter to

disjoin Ayrshire; and as their recommendation had proceeded on the mere assertions of the petitioners without the courtesy of remitting the petitions to the Provincial Grand Chapter to make investigation into particulars, and without calling for the books, and making a careful investigation themselves, the Grand Superintendent was prepared for opposition from the G.S.E. (by whom, indeed, the separation was originally projected), and the rest of the Supreme Committee, who had thus become parties; but he was not prepared for a petition and complaint from two members of Chapter No. 80 against him, for presuming to send for their books, or for the obstruction since thrown in his way by the Supreme Committee from their sustaining portions of said petition and complaint, or their attempt to degrade him in his province, and in the eyes of the Masonic world, and the indignities and insults they have offered to him, by ordering him to give in replies, &c., while they knew he was acting under the direct orders of the Supreme Chapter; and that the petitioners could suffer no injury by referring the whole *simpliciter* to the Supreme Chapter.

With regard to the petition for disjunction itself, the Grand Superintendent's views have been long known to both the Supreme Committee and Grand Scribe E., that it is better not to have a Provincial Grand Chapter at all in Scotland, than to have one composed of fewer than than four or five chapters at least; each in a state of activity: where there are only one or two, or even three, not only does the expense fall heavy on each, but jealousy and quarrels take place, which are productive of much evil to Masonry. Now with regard to Ayrshire, the Gerran Chapter (No. 35), is about to return its charter from sheer starvation; the oldest, most wealthy, and most numerous chapter chapter in Ayr, No. 18, refuses to cooperate with No. 80, as a Prov. Grand Chapter, so that the only chapter which wishes a separation is No. 80, and that is no more than able to support itself. Whether that chapter enforces the laws in cap. xvi, so as to merit being itself being entrusted with the powers of a Provincial Grand Chapter, the Prov. Grand Superintendent leaves the Supreme Chapter to form its own opinion from reports already referred to.

From what has been said, the petition must be considered as exclusively that of Chapter No. 80, and gives two reasons for the disjunction; the one is the difficulty of going so far as Glasgow to attend meetings of the Prov. Grand Chapter, this assertion can apply only to the three Principals, none of the other twelve petitioners being members of Prov. Grand Chapter. The second relate to Royal Arch Masonry as practised by the early Grand Encampments. The Prov. Grand Chapter and the Supreme Chapter itself, have no power to put down any body which is not under its own control, except by enforcing the Act against secret societies, now almost obsolete. In Glasgow and the vicinity, there were formerly some chapters not acknowledging any supreme head, but when they saw that the regular chapters increased in number and flourished, and acted harmoniously together as a strong Prov. Grand Chapter ought to do, and stood higher in the estimation of the neutral world; they found they were becoming deserted, and some of them have now taken charters from the Supreme Chapter. A good example shown, affords the best method of getting rid of these. In Ayrshire there are several, owing to the Supreme Chapter enforcing higher fees than what many of the poorer brethren in rural districts can afford to pay; but, unless the Supreme Chapter is disposed to allow each chapter to regulate for itself, the whole dues of exaltation so as to compete with them, they will continue to annoy these chapters which recognise a superior power and are guided by a fixed code of laws.

For the general reason then, that no Provincial Grand Chapter ought to be formed unless four or five chapters, each in a state of activity, belong to it; and for the special reason that the two chapters in Ayr will not go hand in hand together; and also, because the Chapter No. 80,

desirous of being made into a Provincial Grand Chapter (or at least some of its Office-bearers who sign the petition), are not acting in conformity with the laws of Supreme Chapter; Comp. Walker Arnott has to express his decided conviction of the inexpediency of the disjunction, and the great injury that will accrue to Royal Arch Masonry, if Ayrshire be erected into a province by itself, until the regular chapters there become much more numerous than there is any prospect of at present.

(Signed) G. A. WALKER ARNOTT.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this flourishing society was held on the 2nd inst., at the Lecture-hall of the Religious and Useful Knowledge Society, Gold-street, Northampton. The meeting commenced at two o'clock, when the High Sheriff of the county (William Smyth, Esq.) took the chair.

The first business was to call upon the secretary to read the annual report. The Rev. Canon James, who, our readers will remember, read an admirable paper on "Labourers' Cottages, and their Bearing upon Architecture," last June, at the South Kensington Museum, then read an instructive paper, from which we give the following extracts:—

Works in the County.—Upon the designs submitted to the society for approval during the past year, the report stated, that those of Sutton Basset, by Mr. Goddard, had been efficiently completed, and a most interesting Norman chapel had been preserved, when on the very edge of destruction. The enlargement and re-arrangement of Kingsthorpe church is being judiciously carried out by Mr. Slater, and it is hoped that, through the representation made by our committee, some doomed windows of early date may be retained. By the same architect, plans for the restoration of the chancel of Bulwick church were approved—an earnest, we may trust, of yet further improvements in the rest of the church. Mr. Slater also submitted a design for a new roof to Ringstead church, and favoured our committee with a sight of his drawings for the proposed cathedral at Honolulu, admirably adapted for a hot climate; and also his plan for the careful preservation of the Saxon remains in the church of Deerhurst. Mr. Gillett, of Leicester, forwarded plans for the re-arrangement of the east end of Raunds church, and very complete designs for the restoration and enlargement of Pitsford and Scaldwell churches, and for the re-seating of Mowsley church. The committee had pleasure in approving several designs sent in by Mr. Law, among them one for the addition of a new aisle, and the re-building of the chancel of Horton church, and a plan for the re-seating of the curious old church of Wymington, for which, owing to some remarkable peculiarities in the original arrangement, a sub-committee has been appointed to meet the architect on the spot. Plans for St. James's schools, Northampton, for Billings' boys' schools, at Weedon, and for re-fronting Becket's and Sargeant's schools, in this town, were submitted by the same architect.

Mr. Scott is bringing to completion the very chaste design for the chapel of the lunatic asylum, which, when finished, will be one of the chief ornaments of the town. He has just completed new schools at Wappenham, and is re-seating the church of Long Buckby.

Mr. Bowring has exhibited plans for the alteration of Sibbertoft church, and has furnished several good designs for agricultural cottages. A sub-committee, at request of the incumbents, have visited the churches of Everdon and Pattishall, and other sub-committees have been appointed for those of Woodford, Middleton Cheney, and Polebrooke, with reference to their proposed improvements.

Uppingham church has been opened under most happy augury, as also the remarkable church of Ketton; and there is every hope that the fine church of Higham Ferrers, so long finished, though still unused, will be immediately prepared for the resumption of Divine service, though, in the first instance, with temporary fittings. The design for the new chapel of Uppingham school, by Mr. Street, is well worthy of the high name he has achieved for himself in mediæval architecture.

Mr. Scott's plans for the Training College, at Peterborough, have received the most laborious attention of the sub-committee and the repeated revision of the architect, and have been reduced to the most economical scale of which so large a building is capable, without any loss of architectural character. Indeed,

the severe simplicity of the elevation, which at once bespeaks the practical character of the institution, so commends itself that, even in an architectural point of view, it will be a great loss, should the district for whose use it is intended not come forward liberally to furnish the necessary funds for its erection.

The original design for the new church at Clapton, which was to replace one of the finest specimens of any Geometrical Gothic in the county, in its earliest form rejected altogether the re-use of the old decorative materials, but, through the representations of our society, a promise has been given that every available feature of the old church shall be worked up again in the new. Those who, like myself, saw the splendid windows and arches of the old church laid out on the greensward, in more than their pristine beauty, their outlines rounded, and their colour toned by the soft grey lichens of five centuries, can hardly reconcile themselves to the belief in the necessity of so thorough a demolition as has been accomplished. When we condemn the well-abused eighteenth century for the destruction and deportation of Ruston and Overstone, we hardly expected to see a similar story enacted in the proud light of the nineteenth century, under the sanction of official authority.

The re-building of Sywell church, unfortunately without the aid of an architect, has been carried out in a more conservative spirit, though, it may be feared, with the loss of some time-honoured features.

Committee for Local Antiquities.—The most important step taken this year for the advancement and extension of the interests and operations of the association has been the appointment of a local committee of gentlemen who, living chiefly in the town of Northampton, and holding evening meetings once a month, have taken under their special cognizance the description and preservation of antiquities of the immediate neighbourhood, and carried the work of the society into a field which we have always been most anxious to cultivate, but which, till the appointment of this committee, we have been unable to approach. This movement has resulted in the accession of many new members from the town itself, and has led to many most valuable memoirs and discussions. It only requires to be better known to gather to itself archaeologists and learners in every department, and to form the centre of an art union between town and country, which I hope may find a still further practical development in the museum, which, under the "Public Library and Museum Act," has been liberally adopted by the town, and for the location of which the new town hall, now in the course of building, has made provision.

After a few remarks upon the want of funds for the entire restoration of St. Sepulchre's church, the rev. gentleman entered into the following criticism of the

Architecture of the International Exhibition.—He said:—An architectural report for the year 1862, which professes to be discursive, can hardly omit some reference to the Great International Exhibition. The building itself has certainly not been a happy illustration of English architectural art; nor, even if iron and glass are to be henceforth the popular materials which the architect will be called upon to employ, can this be called a successful adaptation of them. It is a decided falling off from the constructive success of the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, and its main defect is in the feature to which it looked for its greatest triumph. It has proved the utter absurdity, both for effect and inconvenience of a dome of glass. Even had the domes been raised on the drum, or upright circular base, on which every dome should rest, yet the material of glass is as inefficient to give a pleasing external outline against the sky, as it is, domically used, ill-fated to give an agreeable light within. The fact of the necessity of suspending a veil in the western dome to make the glare and heat supportable, is sufficient proof of its inconvenience in this latter respect. The failure of a glass dome, years ago, in the stables of the Pavilion at Brighton, ought to have prevented this unfortunate experiment. We must only be thankful that we were spared the still larger central dome with which we were once threatened; and we shall be surprised if, after witnessing our mistake, the French persist in carrying out this feature in the Permanent Exhibition Building which is already rising at Paris. The eye raised up to the concave surface of a dome, seeks the repose which opacity and solidity alone can give; and to be met with a glaring stream of light in place of this repose is most repelling and painful. It is the only place and occasion, perhaps, in which we should not wish the sun to shine. It seems to me that there is needed a strong expression from all lovers of art in Great Britain against the perse-

verance in the perpetration of such architecture as South Kensington delights in. This indescribable composition, whose boast it is that it dispenses alike with architect and style, is gradually establishing itself over the whole area obtained by the Commissioners with the profits of the Exhibition of 1851. The Horticultural Gardens have, to my mind, been piteously sacrificed to it; and there is now growing up in the centre of the South Kensington Museum a permanent erection which, though certainly well adapted to set off the splendid treasures of the Art-upon-Loan Exhibition, yet holds them in no other fashion than the jewel is held in the toad's head. The old corrugated iron Brompton boilers all could put up with. They were so avowedly temporary that one rejoiced that their ugliness eventually enforced something better, and that their cheapness offered no bar to their speedy destruction; but when permanent buildings are being erected to hold the art treasures of the kingdom, we may well expect that some architect of note should be called in to save us from such fearful inflictions as are exhibited in the strange construction and anomalous ornamental details of the new buildings. Even humble provincial societies like our own may do some good by an expression of their opinion, because they are thoroughly free from that professional jealousy which is alleged by the advocates of this new style as the motive of the opposition which has been raised against it.

"Altogether, architecture has received poor recognition from the Exhibition Commissioners. It had some difficulty in gaining any position there; and as far as foreign architecture is concerned, it can hardly be said to be represented at all. But the English department shows unmistakably that whatever life and progress there is in British architecture, it is wholly in the line of Gothic development.

"I cannot but consider the Majolica fountain a great mistake; not but that there is much merit in its design and proportions, but it errs in the use of the material employed. It seems as great a deflexion of good taste in one extreme to apply pottery to such large and permanent structure, as to me it has always seemed in the other extreme to apply minute and exquisite miniature painting, as in Sèvres porcelain, to so brittle and insignificant a ware. China has been most felicitously ornamented and employed by that people who first manufactured it, and from whence it derived its name. The French bronze fountains in the Horticultural Gardens were much more fitted for their purpose, as well as more elegant in form, and are at least proof against the stone-pelting of mischievous boys."

Architectural Art Specimens.—Mr. Blaskfield's terra cotta productions are the most direct contributions to architectural art which this neighbourhood sends to the Exhibition. Our architect seems hardly aware of the excellence which he has achieved at his works at Stamford. I can conceive nothing better for the ornamentation of brick buildings than bands or cornices of terra cotta, such as he produces. He is ready to adopt any good pattern; and I think it may not be long before we see his manufacture employed at least in our school buildings and houses. The Rev. R. Baker, one of our members, exhibits in the Mediæval Court an admirable specimen of carving in an eagle lectern, which has attracted much attention, and which I hope he may some day bring to one of our public meetings. An excellent sample of wall decoration is shown in the same court by Mr. C. J. Lea, of Lutterworth, who has often furnished contributions of his handiwork to our local exhibitions in the form of stencilled diapers, wall decorations, &c. His production in the Mediæval Court is of a more ambitious character, being a figured subject, from the legend of St. Alban, for the decoration of the walls of a church in the north, dedicated under the name of this proto-martyr of Britain. The figures are enclosed in a compartment, and broad bands of diapered ornament run above and below.

The colouring is remarkably chaste and sober, and far more suited to the decoration of churches than the raw, coarse colouring which has been too commonly adopted in ecclesiastical buildings in deference to the supposed practice of the middle ages. It seems to me that the English eye has never appreciated colour in art, except as used in natural substances, as in the working-up varicoloured stones in buildings, in which the mediævalists of this country certainly excelled; but if their painted wood screens, and roofs, and tombs are to be considered as fairly representing their taste and colour, I know of little more barbarous or less worthy of our copying in modern works.

We are feeling our way to a better system of colouring, but the progress is likely to be slow. With much to admire in the Hereford screen in the crucifixion, I cannot think that its paint-

ing is unsuccessful. Probably our grey skies and the cold tints, as a rule, of our wild indigenous flowers, have unfitted us for the natural harmonious use of bright colours, and we may eventually gain ground in this respect by the presence and contemplation of the gay exotics which are now the staple of our pleasure-gardens. It is certain that it is by trial by experiment, and not by theory, that we shall make progress; and we can hardly expect in this generation to get beyond the stage of perceiving and acknowledging our failures.

Labourers' Cottages. There is one subject of our studies on the importance of which we all agree, and will agree also, I faintly would hope, on the practical results at which our committee has unanimously arrived. The subject is that of labourers' cottages, and the result is the plan which, after many long and repeated discussions, the committee have agreed to lay before you as the best model for a married labourer's dwelling for the midland counties. The matter is too large to enter fully into now, but the plans will speak for themselves to those who have bestowed any attention on the subject. They are drawn up for us by Mr. Pedley, of Southampton Buildings, and have obtained the approbation, not only of your committee, but of all the most practical cottage builders to whom they have been submitted. Indeed, the general ground plan is so complete, that I can hardly understand any advantageous departure from it. The plan is intended for a pair of agricultural labourers' cottages, and therefore, of course, not adapted to towns; nor do we wish to see the identical building repeated everywhere over the country; but it shall set before the landed proprietors of this archdeaconry a general model for their guidance, and shall have stimulated them to take a greater interest in this most essential element of the comfort, happiness, and morals of their dependents, your committee will not regret the labour they have bestowed in perfecting this design.

The Rev. Lord Alwyne Compton moved the adoption of the report in an excellent speech, in which he referred to Mr. James's criticism upon the International Exhibition. The noble lord said he would break a lance with him (Mr. James), and object to his remarks with reference to his use of china for internal decorations, and he did not think its brittleness should be any obstacle to its use for fountains in gardens. In private gardens gentlemen did not expect that fountains or ornaments would be broken, and the great advantage of its use for external decoration was the permanency of colour. Coloured stone turned black, but, if well arranged, china could be cleaned with a squib and water. With the use of that material, then, he did not see why in this country they could not have colours similar to those used by Italian artists. That which was put upon them, and lasted only for a time, might be accomplished permanently by the use of china. The brittleness of the material then was no obstacle in his opinion to painting on china, as some of the finest paintings were on a still more brittle material. His lordship then proposed the following resolution:—"That this meeting, understanding that the works at St. Sepulchre's Church are now at a stand-still for want of funds, notwithstanding the most liberal contribution of £600 from Madame Lind-Goldschmidt, and of £400 from an anonymous donor, strongly recommends the members of the society to use their utmost endeavours to assist in raising such a sum as shall allow the church to be opened without further delay for divine service." (Applause).

The motion was seconded, after which, Samuel Sharpe, Esq., of Darlington Hall, read an interesting paper on the "Roman Remains lately discovered at Dallington."

Mr. E. F. Law, architect, read an invaluable paper on "The Queen's Cross," for which we have no space this week.

Mr. James called the attention of the meeting to a number of wasses formerly in the possession of the late Mr. George Baker, and supposed to have been taken from some Northamptonshire churches. If they could be identified as belonging to any church, the society would be happy to give them up, as the churches to which they belonged were undoubtedly the most proper place for their conservation.

A vote of thanks to the High Sheriff concluded the afternoon meeting.

The Evening Meeting commenced at seven o'clock, when the Rev. Lord Alwyne Compton presided.

The Rev. H. L. Elliott read a paper of considerable local interest on the parish registers of the town and neighbourhood of Northampton.

The Rev. G. A. Poole was to have read a paper on "Painted

Glass," but that gentleman being unwell, the paper was put into the shape of a letter, and read by Mr. James.

A few remarks were made by the Rev. R. Burdetts and the chairman, upon the condition of churchyards, which both speakers complained of as being generally in an unsatisfactory state. The chairman said in foreign countries the churchyards formed a strong contrast to those in this country, especially in Germany, where they were beautifully kept.

A vote of thanks was given to the chairman, and the meeting dispersed.

NEW CONTRIVANCES ANCILLARY TO ENGINEERING.*

In the world's progress these exercise no small influence. The Greeks of old would have produced steam-engines easily enough, had only the metals and tools been forthcoming for handicraft, the predecessor of steam-working. Invention is of two kinds—that which is produced by abstract thought, converting the powers of nature to many uses; and that which is produced by obvious defects in existing practices. The former is forethought or invention: the latter is afterthought or contrivance. The former springs spontaneously from the inventor's mind: the latter is forced on the workman's attention. Invention is, in truth, the parent of contrivance, the idea giving birth to the practice; as we constantly see, after every new discovery made the subject of a patent, a host of new contrivances springing up in a circle of patents like the satellites round a planet. But though the contrivances may appear small as regards the mental effort involved, any perfect result produced by them may make all the difference between success and failure. Quarrying was an art anterior to gunpowder; but great was the labour-saving achieved by the man who first applied the powder; contrived the means of boring a deep hole in a hard rock; and brought the tamping process to perfection. And great must have been the exultation over the first production of that apparently simple tool the "lewis,"—a wedge split into three parts to fix a ring into a stone block in an undercut hole to lift the heavy weight, not otherwise to be moved without damage. Making steel, or finding it made by nature, and forming it into a chisel to cut hard materials, was also an achievement; and so throughout the whole of the engineering processes. What is engineering but the conversion of the materials of nature into new forms and shapes useful to man by the agency of mechanical and chemical art? The engineer proper is, or should be, the designer of the new and useful forms, the vice-creator, varying by art the direction of the laws of nature; yet how little would he really achieve without the aid of the numberless contrivances that make up the great whole of engineering progression, which is still only in its infancy!

There are two branches into which engineering divides itself; that which deals with stationary or fixed matter, and that which deals with moving matter. The former takes in the structure of roads, bridges, buildings, docks, harbours, the guidance of rivers, and the drainage of land—converting bogs and fens to healthy human uses. The latter takes in all that moves—engines, vehicles, machines, vessels on water, tools of peace and tools of war, mines, water supply, air supply, and heat supply, and also the processes, hitherto empirically applied, of diminishing heat for the purposes of health, in particular rooms and climates.

We are accustomed to regard architecture and engineering as being two separate things, and common practice has divided them. It has been said that an architect's engineering and an engineer's architecture are the two extremes of bad result; but there is a worse condition than this, when a man unites the professions of architect and engineer in his own person, without any natural qualification for either. At the base of all good architecture must lie good engineering: the structure must have proportion in strength upon which the proportion in form must be based: the architecture is the flesh upon the engineering skeleton; and when an empirical practice obtains in any class of structure, engineering and architecture cease, and the "builder" takes their place, commonly without any knowledge of principles of structure, his practice going chiefly into economy of cost.

When once a particular class of structure has become stereo-

* By Mr. Bridges Adams, C.E., in the "Practical Mechanics' Journal Record of the Great Exhibition."

typed, the contractor and builder take the places of the engineer and architect; but we can no more compare the former with the latter, than we can compare the modern teachers of alphabets with Cadmus, their inventor. The true engineers and architects are those who have the designing power in the new and useful, and the beautiful; and these men exist now, as ever, when the demand arises for their talents by new conditions of circumstances.

The materials of stationary structure are natural and artificial—timber and stone, bricks, cements, and metals. Neither timber nor stone is in all cases durable. To provide for the former we artificialize it by chemical injections, as creosote, lime, and other substances. The former renders it durable, but combustible; the latter renders it brittle; and therefore these contrivances are imperfect. Stone is not often chemically homogeneous, and it is liable to destruction by exposure to a vitiated atmosphere. For this reason it has from very early periods been waxed, painted, varnished, and injected; and, in these modern days, artificial stone has been produced by chemical contrivances, with the advantage of being moulded into shape without the labour of cutting. Brick or *terra cotta*—literally *cooked earth*—is a more durable material than many kinds of natural stone; and, as experiment goes on improving and cheapening the processes, it will probably be rendered indestructible by the atmosphere, whilst chemical cements, combining with mechanical form, will render it homogeneous. Many are the chemical and mechanical contrivances that have already given value to and cheapened bricks; but for all that, a brick building is still a very imperfect kind of structure. Chemical cements are in truth artificial stone of better or worse quality, used for joints and as a cover for other material. Cement, rightly made and cheap enough, is material to form buildings and bridges as one solid rock; and this is done by the French under the name of *béton*. If chemically impervious to the atmosphere, this would be the best class of structure for walls, buildings, and bridges, unless want of space should render it desirable to use the stronger and thinner material, metal.

For moving matter, engines, vessels, carriages, machines, and instruments of peace and war, metal is fast becoming the cheapest most available material. With a given weight in a large vessel, iron will carry a greater load than timber; yet it is little over thirty years since iron shipbuilding became a practice. What a host of brain-working contrivances have they been which have enabled us to cut masses of iron as we do cheese ere the original iron vessels, looking like pots to boil entire whales in, culminated in a *Warrior*; still only an approximation to what we must ultimately achieve ere the world will be satisfied that England is only the veritable policeman of the ocean, permitting no seawayman of violence to harbour thereon. We have yet to weld our sea *Warriors* into one homogeneous mass, dispensing with rivets and joints; we have yet to make the iron hull a surface to which neither corals nor lichens nor barnacles will adhere; we have yet to liken the speed to that of swift fishes or locomotives on land; and we have at the same time to make such craft wholesome, pleasant, and safe dwellings for our sea warriors against sea and rock and foeman. But space is denied us to say more now.

Iron Girders for Bridges.—Since the advent of railways, roads have become more level than of old, arched bridges of stone cease to meet the requirements of the time, and flat girders of wrought iron are rapidly taking their place. There are two principles employed in iron girders—compression and tensile strain, the tensile principle being unknown in stone bridges. In wrought iron the power of tension and compression may be assumed to be nearly equal, if they could be tried under the same conditions. The compressing action has a tendency to flatten the molecules transversely, the tensile action has a tendency to flatten them longitudinally; but in the two operations a new element comes in, that of "buckling." With the tensile strain the bar is drawn to a straight line; with the compressive strain the bar is constantly thrust into a curved line, unless it be of large dimensions. For this reason an iron wire, to which a heavy load may be safely suspended, will scarcely support a fractional part of that load under compression in the same length.

In constructing a straight girder, it is usual to make the total depth from top to bottom one-tenth or twelfth part of the total length. The upper line must have sufficient area to counteract buckling, as well as sufficient strength to resist crushing. The lower line is simply a chain or cord of links or plates. The ultimate resistance to breakage must depend on the links or

chain below. It is obvious, therefore, that the most favourable condition for the use of wrought iron is that of tensile strain.

In this Exhibition there are many drawings and models of iron suspension and other bridges. We have the design for the Charing Cross Suspension and the Clifton Suspension. We have the triangulated girder, exhibited by Col. Kennedy, the engineer of the Bombay and Baroda Railway, as a sample of the rigid girder. We have an enormous box lattice of the *Zollverein*, and also a similar kind in the Austrian department. In the French department we have a sample of a framework of wrought iron, a top and bottom frame held together by similar vertical framings, with millions of rivets; and we have also the peculiar suspension bridges of Mr. Brunel, in which chains are suspended from tall towers to carry a roadway; and, in order to dispense with anchoring chains, the towers are framed together with wrought iron tubes, in order to prevent them from pulling over with the weight.

In the Austrian department is exhibited a rigid suspension bridge, the best construction that has yet appeared for the disposition of the material, by Schnirch and Fillinger. A bridge of this class spanning the Danube at Vienna has now carried two lines of railway since September, 1860. The span is 274 feet, and the width 36 feet. The weight of material is 400 tons of wrought iron, and 41 tons of cast iron; total, 531 tons. On each side the chains are doubled, and formed of links 10 feet in length, in numbers eight and nine to each chain. One chain is 4 feet above the other in a parallel curve, the links breaking joint. Diagonal bars, serving both for thrust and tension, stretch from the lower bolts to the upper, in a triangulated form. Thus two diagonals and a chain link form a triangular truss, and the whole forms a rigid suspension beam, the ends rising at the towers to three times the central height, and the level roadway is suspended from the link bolts. It is stated that an ordinary lattice bridge for the same span would have required 802 tons of metal.

It appears, therefore, that while a straight triangulated girder requires a depth equal to a tenth or twelfth part of the length, to prevent buckling, one-seventieth of the length is sufficient for triangulated suspension chains, while the rise or gradient of the chains is only about one in seventy. Pressure on the model gives satisfactory proof of the stiffness and freedom from oscillation, both vertically and laterally, without the aid of stay chains or ties. The only disadvantage in the bridge, as compared with straight girders, is the necessity for towers and anchoring chains to balance the weight of the load, and prevent the towers from pulling over.

In juxtaposition with this model is exhibited another model the exact reverse in principle. It is a triangulated girder in an arch form, composed of similar links and triangles, but all in cast iron, acting wholly by compression. The links are practically shortened to one-half by stay bolts passing through their mid length, to prevent them from buckling. An enormous mass of stays and ties and diagonals pervade the structure, which is complicated in all parts. Massive stone abutments equal to half the length of the bridge, are required to sustain this thrust both ways. If cast iron bridges are required in an arch form, the best and simplest structure is that spanning the Thames at Southwark.

In materials for girder making, the Butterley Iron Company have been the most successful. They have produced a wrought iron beam, the vertical web of which is 3 feet in depth, and the top and bottom tables each 9 inches wide, the whole well proportioned; and it is stated that these beams can be produced 60 feet in length. The beam is rolled in three pieces, the two tables and a broad middle web, and welded up in two seams; but the producing it in one single piece is simply a question of larger rolling machinery. When these beams are produced homogeneously, bridge building will become a very simple process.

Chains.—Years back a Corsican captain of the sea, named Sisco, having experience of the breakage of chain cables made in the ordinary manner, set himself to devise a better plan. It is a known quality in iron and steel, that the smaller the size the more perfect may be the manufacture. Thus, if rolled iron of one inch in diameter will carry 28 tons, the same weight of metal in fine steel wire will carry 120 tons. Sisco was not successful in making and welding thin links with wire, and so he tried the same with iron hoop, the laminae of which he braced together, and was successful. His cables, with hoop iron links, sustained a far greater proportional strain than those of solid iron. The Corsican found a capitalist in Madame Sinibaldi to

enable him to take a patent in England. So far back as 1851, experiments were tried at Woolwich with 4 square inches of section, when they broke, the 2½ testing chain at 110 tons, and since then they have been tested up to 120 tons. From that time to this Madame Sinibaldi has toiled on, hoping against hope; and now she sits at her table in the Exhibition with her chains and links and samples before her, explaining them to all, like a brave woman as she is; and she insists on the applicability of the system, not merely to chains, but to armour plates. But she also, in the usual process of inventive improvement, has had to find a capitalist, and he has turned up in the person of the Duke of Buccleuch, who has become the proprietor of all the patents taken and to be taken for "cold rolled iron brassed." We trust he may succeed in getting a perfect manufacture set up at Woolwich. In involves little expense on the trial, and the samples shown are susceptible of great improvement.

The toughest iron known in former days to sustain a strain without breaking was called scrap iron. There was no brittleness in it, though it would stretch. Toughness is virtually, from experiment, the quality needed in armour plates; and military cuirasses of hammered iron were better and tougher than if made of steel. To make a hoop iron cable of cast-iron would be a simple matter: to make an iron plate, drawn together in thin sheets, would be a more difficult thing, but not necessarily would it be more costly than the present method of building together bricks of iron like a brick wall. It is one of the processes that is worth trying, and the Woolwich authorities could try it. Whether boiler plate brased together in thicknesses would answer, we do not yet know, and we ought to exhaust the subject lest some one else should do it for us.

In making a chain, it is evident that if a closed link be first made the next one should be an open link to enter it, and so on. With solid round iron the open link is closed by the welding process, and the efficacy of this must depend on the skill and honesty of the workman. If during the process of heating atmospheric air gets access to the surfaces intended to be united, they will scale; that is, a thin scale of oxide of iron will be interposed between the surfaces, and the result will be contact without incorporation.

On the Sisco plan a very ingenious link mould revolving by steam or other power is made to wind up the hoop into link within link; when completed the mould opens, is again applied, and so on in succession. There can be no error in this, no defects, for every portion of the iron is seen as it winds up, and the strain put on each layer may be regulated. The workman sits in an ordinary atmosphere, and his eyes are not strained or burned with heat. When a sufficient number of links are in position they are plunged in a bath of melted metal, and the whole of the laminae are bound together. The whole is galvanised, and the cable is free from rust; central studs, and end wearing pieces are then brased in so that each link assumes the same geometrical form as ordinary chain links, giving the strain in straight lines. There is no other mode of getting the strongest metal of iron and steel than that of making it in small sections, that we at present know of, and probably steel hooping would be better than iron.

Lifts.—Amongst the useful things that have been strangely neglected in general application, is that of self-acting lifts for ascent to buildings and descent, and especially of human beings, and this is more remarkable as the types of the principle are to be found in every window with a balance weight, and every spring blind. In cottage houses all ground floors, or in houses with a single story or two stories, the staircase may suffice, although it is a contrivance occupying great space; but with the tendency to economise space by the erection of lofty buildings with many floors now so prevalent, and of the great wants of the age age is a simple process for lifting persons and goods. When steam power exists there is no difficulty whatever, and a domestic power by steam or other process has yet to be brought to bear. Possibly heated air machinery without risk of explosion may eventually suffice, as small power only is needed. Whoever can accomplish the task of enabling the inmates of dwellings to lift themselves from one floor to another by simply pulling a cord as they would a bell-rope, and thus dispensing with the staircase and the expenditure of muscular labour, will be a very large benefactor to society. And it must be remembered that a very important condition of health is to live at a considerable elevation above the surface of the earth, so as to obtain a pure and dry air away from miasmatic exhalation. There is a record of the days of the London plagues, recounting how a citizen closed his doors and retired to the upper floors of his house with

his family, lifting all provisions by a rope, and, while his neighbours died around him in shoals, was saved from all harm.

Messrs. Lawrence exhibit a lift for London warehouses. A platform is made to move vertically between four guide posts. The weight of the platform is balanced by a counterweight. For the purpose of hoisting goods a rope is connected with a crab tackle below. This is a very useful approach to what will be wanted for future times.

Mallet's Buckled Plates.—Amongst the important contrivances exhibited are the buckled plates of Mr. Mallet. Everybody knows what corrugated iron is, that it gives greatly increased stiffness to any thin metal, but it gives this stiffness only lengthwise with the corrugations. The buckled plates give stiffness in all directions; they practically form flat domes of enormous strength with a very slight depth of buckle. The process of manufacture is to strike the flat plate between two iron dies, which, while leaving the edges in their normal flat form, raises the centre from a tenth to a twelfth of the breadth in height, in a curved elevation. The flat edge or base being screwed down to timber or iron joists, the elevation makes the plate enormously strong vertically, while the weight is comparatively trifling. This contrivance is the happy thoughts that embody great utility, as it were, in a flash, and remain complete from the outset. It is used for many purposes in floors and bridges, and there are many more uses to which it will yet be applied.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

AMERICAN EXTRACTS.

The following American extracts from my note book, may be interesting to some of the brethren here, showing how they manage things abroad.—Ex. Ex.

"POVERTY NO CRIME.—There is not only a distinction between exclusion for non-payment of dues and expulsion, but, as we think, there should be a distinction also between the brother that cannot and another that will not pay his dues. The lodge generally has the means of knowing the condition of its members. In almost every instance it can be known whether a brother is able to pay his dues or not, and we have always contended that if he is not able to pay he ought not to be excluded. There is an inconsistency here that our brethren ought to consider. It arises out of the administration of Masonic charity. Travelling brethren appear in our lodges, of whom we know nothing but their claims, which are admitted after trial, to Masonic consideration. They apply for aid in what they declare is their emergency, and in its benevolence the lodge votes the donation. This deed may be done in the evening, and the next morning it may be ascertained that the applicant, although a brother, was not entitled to any Masonic favour. The misapplication of Masonic charity has been made in this way in a thousand instances, when on the same occasion the name of a poor brother has been dropped from the list of membership in the lodge because he was not able to pay his dues. How much better would it have been for the lodge to have appropriated the money, that was rather worse than wasted in its application in an unknown and unworthy case, to the payment of the dues of the brother that was known and appreciated as a Master Mason in good standing, and perhaps a valuable member of the lodge. We have always esteemed it a violation of the Masonic compact, a wrong to a brother and a sin against humanity to exclude him from the privileges of Masonry merely because he was poor. We talk about the internal qualifications of the good Mason, and show how he is to be esteemed on account of them rather than for any external appearances that he may present, and frequently retain the unworthy in membership, or deplete the treasury of the lodge on his account, while we visit punishment upon the head and heart of an innocent, unoffending brother, who may be suffering in his poverty, and too modest to reveal his situation. To say the least of it, this is not Masonry. The act is utterly inadmissible in any Masonic body, and ought not to be considered a single moment. Poverty, when unconnected with improper character, is no crime, and it should not be dealt with such. A poor intelligent Mason is of more service to the Craft than a rich one that is ignorant of the character and usages of the institution. We hope for the sake of humanity and of Masonic charity, that our brethren of the lodges generally, and in every jurisdiction, will give due consideration to this subject, and refrain from the dis-

missal of a poor brother, or appropriate a portion of the money that may be squandered upon the travelling mendicant, to the payment of his dues.—Bro. the Rev. J. N. M'Jilton."

ELECTIONEERING A MASONIC MISDEMEANOR.—"In regard to the practice of canvassing for office previous to election, it may be said that such conduct was unknown among ancient Craftsmen, and is inconsistent with true Masonic character. If a brother desire a Masonic office, his first thoughts should be directed to the fearful responsibilities connected with any official Masonic station, and if he can face these responsibilities without emotion or concern, he is in no wise qualified for the position. And if he does feel as he ought, upon a survey of the duties that await him in the office, he will not persist in seeking it. These declarations are self-evident to the true Mason, and the principle they involve will never for a moment admit of the entertainment of the desire for office, much less the expression of it. "The impropriety of seeking Masonic office is not only apparent and reprehensible in the Mason that seeks office for himself: it is but little less so in the mistaken friend that would canvass for the election of another, further than to learn the will of the brethren in regard to his elevation. Electioneering is a Masonic misdemeanor. It is so, because in most cases it prevents the success of the will of the majority, and sometimes places an incompetent and objectionable brother in a position to which he has no claim whatever. Notwithstanding the reprehensible features which appear in the introduction of any system of electioneering in Masonic lodges, it does sometimes happen that a designing brother operates among the unsuspecting members of his lodge, and induces them without reflection, and in their personal desire to gratify him, to cast their ballots for parties that not only do not possess the requisite qualifications for the office, but are otherwise exceptionable. It is by such unworthy procedure that the unscrupulous succeed in multiplying votes for themselves when the brethren they have favoured are called upon to perform a like service in return. The damage done to Masonry by this insidious and deceitful process is more than can be repaired by all the services that can be rendered it by the parties that practice the deception. It is in this way that cliques and factions are formed, and when the lodge is under such control, the farewell must be exchanged between it and Masonic character and propriety. The busy schemer that proceeds from one to another of his brethren and secures their individual favours in the accomplishment of his purposes, is the evil spirit of the lodge, and if he is successful in his own lodge, he will be likely to proceed further, and extend his labours among his brethren of other lodges, and in this way he may render himself popular, and secure success to his efforts by producing a party or parties in his schemes. There is no honesty—of course there can be no Masonry—in such procedure, and it ought not to be countenanced in any way."—*Bro. the Rev. J. N. M'Jilton.*

THE BEST WAY OF GETTING UP THE CEREMONIES.

What is the best way of getting up the ceremonies? I am just appointed to office, but fear I shall never master them.—E.M.—[Go to a Lodge of Instruction and try. Dr. Oliver, in his *Book of the Lodge*, says:—"The great secret for improving the memory may be found in exercise, practice, and labour. Nothing is so much improved by care, or injured by neglect, as the memory."]

THE MARK DEGREE, ITS HISTORY AND OBJECT.

As an old Mark Master, the following remarks on that degree may be new to some of your readers.—S. C.

"Before the Union in 1813, this degree was practised by many lodges, in conjunction with others, which were unitedly denominated "Ark, Mark, Link, and Wrestle." The Mark was conferred without the authority of a separate warrant, being considered as an integral portion of the Fellow Craft's degree; the Ark, Link, and Wrestle are now, it is believed, practically obsolete. Under some systems, the Mark is divided into two degrees; while in others it is all composed in one degree as a necessary link to connect the second and third. A Lodge of Mark Masters was called a Congratulation; and a candidate, on his admission, was said to be congratulated. With this brief history of the degree, I shall pass on to its objects. In the first of the above named grades, the distinction was simple. The Mark men were historically in number two thousand, and were appointed for the purpose of placing a peculiar mark, and probably two, on every prepared stone and beam of timber, the one

denoting the lodge, the other the workmen, consisting of certain mathematical figures which constituted the designation of every lodge and every Mason; that when the stones and timber were collected at Jerusalem, every man's work might be clearly distinguishable, whether conveyed from the forest of Lebanon, the quarries of Tyre, or the clay ground between Succoth and Zaredetha. On the other hand, the Mark Masters are represented as consisting of a thousand chosen and trusty men, whose office it was to examine the materials after they were brought to Jerusalem, for the purpose of detecting any deficiencies which might exist either in stone or timber, casting aside the imperfect, to the openly expressed disgrace of the workmen, and placing a mark of approval and congratulation on those which were fitted for the building; that when put together, all confusion and disorder might be avoided, and nothing heard in Zion but harmony and peace. The Mark degree, besides its utility, affords a most intelligent and important link between operative and speculative Freemasonry, which is in strict accordance with the original customs of the operative fraternity. The marks entrusted to the skilful craftsmen, serve not only to distinguish their particular work, but in a superior degree, when more fully comprehended, were found to contain the principles of the design.

"Recent investigation have shown their great importance in an archæological point of view, and also in elucidating the continuous history of the Fraternity, inasmuch as the marks used by the ancient Craftsmen, all having some hidden symbolic reference, are found among the ruins of every important old building still existing on the face of the globe, and we are by these means enabled, from actual inspection, to trace the connecting links existing in structures erected by our ancient brethren, for a period looking backward more than forty centuries. We seem thus to uplift the veil which throws the pall of its dark shadows upon the past, and to admit a ray of light, which, though faintly visible, serves to illumine the gloom left by the lapse of ages, and enables us to discover those broken links and scattered fragments which, when re-united, will constitute the perfect chain of true Masonic history."

A CHINESE VISITOR.

Freemasonry is an expansive institution. At the meeting of the Grand Lodge in Trenton, a traveling card was handed in inscribed with the name of the visiting brother. The officers scanned it up and down, down and up, crosswise and obliquely, but no intelligible revelation would it make of the patronymic of its bearer. The surmise was that a chicken had stepped into an ink pot and tracked the paper. It happened that a brother who was learned in Oriental Calligraphy detected "celestial marks" upon it, and it turned out that a John Chinaman was at the door, desiring to work his way in. This he readily effected, and exemplified the comprehensiveness of the fraternal embrace of the Order, greatly to the satisfaction of the members.—*Jersey City Sentinel.*

NOT CLOSE TYLED.

A certain American lodge had been complained of to the Grand Master for working in an exposed and insecure place. Upon inquiry it was discovered that the charge was not without foundation, the lodge holding its meetings in a second story, without glass in the sashes, or curtains in the windows, the floor loose and open, and the room below occupied by a very popular and acceptable liquor dealer. The Grand Master reported the case to the Grand Lodge, who demanded of the delegate an explanation. The latter pleasantly responded that the room was slightly open, but not too much so for purposes of ventilation, and that the floor was left loose for convenience of spitting. As for any danger of exposing the secrets of Masonry, he laughed at the idea of that, for, said he, "I have been a member of that lodge for nearly four years, and I have never learned any of them yet!"

BISHOP HOADLEY.

Was Bishop Hoadley a brother? He was a remarkable man in his day, and I have seen it stated that in 1798 Bishop Hoadley defended the Masonic Institution in the House of Lords, and as a result it was exempted from the bill to suppress secret societies, then before Parliament.—P.P. ANGL.

MASONIC HALL AT RIO JANEIRO.

The Masonic Temple in Rio Janeiro was formerly a Theatre, and was begun during the visit of the Royal Family to the above city, but after their return to Portugal in 1821, the building association was dissolved and the structure left unfinished. In this condition it remained until 1840, when the Grand Lodge purchased it from the proprietor, by paying the accumulated ground rent; the cost, eleven thousand Mil Reis, was advanced by two wealthy members of the craft, while the superintendence of the undertaking was entrusted to Bro. John Clemento Pereira, who founded a society under the name of the "Glory of the Lavradio," and among which he distributed shares of 50 Mil Reis each. These shares could only be owned by members of the Grand Orient, or their inferior lodges, and in case of the death of a shareholder, the heirs or creditors received an equivalent for their portion. With this fund the debt was paid, the building finished and properly arranged.

The building contains four halls for the Scottish and two for the French Rite, also one for a Master's Lodge, a Banquet Hall, Audience, and Council Rooms, and a Gallery which runs the whole depth of the building, and contains the Archives of the Grand and her subordinate Lodges. Three Castellanes are constantly in attendance, as well as the Grand Secretary, with his clerks.

BRO. BISSETT.

Some time since an enquiry was made for particulars about Bro. Bisset. He was an inhabitant of Birmingham, well known for his Masonic and other poetical effusions. A portrait of him is preserved in the lithograph of a picture representing a party at the poet Freeth's. They were nearly all Masons, mostly belonging to the St. Albans' Lodge, of which Bro. Bisset was a member. He was a very active Mason and an eccentric character, well known in Birmingham. He kept a curiosity shop in New-street, Birmingham, near Peck-lane, called Bissett's Museum. He died at a very advanced age at Leamington, whither he had retired, and is buried in the churchyard, where there is a stone to his memory.—NOTES BY AN OLD P.M.

LODGE AGREEMENT WITH "MINE HOST" NINETY YEARS AGO.

"I, — agree to provide a dinner for the brethren of this lodge, upon St. John's Day, for two shillings sterling for each brother that sits at table. I furnishing them with dinner and ale and one bottle of good punch, and the musicians' dinner gratis; and shall furnish the lodge with what punch they may want, more than one bottle, at sixpence sterling per bottle. And I shall provide candles, tables and cloths, knives and forks, and plates and mugs. You furnishing glasses yourselves." This very liberal offer, it is needless to say, was accepted by 113 of the brethren sitting to dinner, but no record is kept of how many preferred glasses to mugs, from which they might quaff the "good punch" so liberally provided for them.—D. M. L.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

KNIGHT'S TEMPLAR.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Our Grand Vice-Chancellor, Sir Knt. Shuttleworth, is, by his letter in your last, an advocate for creating a new office amongst Knight Templars or, perhaps it would be better to say, abolishing the term equerry, and substituting for it farrier! This is put forward on the ground that the household brigade of cavalry throw out two non-commissioned officers, as pioneers, at the head of their regiment or troop, and clothe them with leather aprons. The suggestion is incongruous, because if he will consult R. Cannon's

Historical Records of the British Army, 70 volumes, 8vo., London, 1834-47, he will find that both the 1st and 2nd Life Guards, and the Oxford Blues, were originally incorporated, as Regiments, in the time of Charles I., 1625-49, and the Order of the Temple was suppressed in 1811, so that between the two there is no analogy. But if Sir Knt. Shuttleworth holds that the Order of Masonic Knights Templar was revived, by Freemasons, in the XVIII. century, then this idea will not be so *outré*, as, in that case, Knights Templar will only be following the example of the army clothiers and adopting a badge of the times represented.

If, as he wishes, the apron should be done away with by all but the equerry, would the horseshoes be the most proper emblem for the latter to bear in an encampment? Let us see what are the duties of an equerry. He corresponds with the Tyler of a Craft lodge, and his being a farrier would be of no use, as the Sir Knights do not often bring their horses up stairs to be shod! In some encampments he also awaits at table and, if he were really a farrier, he might smell so "horsey" that "Punch's" illustration of the lady, stable-boy and Eau-de-Cologne would have to be very frequently adopted.

Allowing, to its fullest extent, the originality of the idea, its adoption is another matter and I think it would be much better in this, as well as other proposed changes which only tend to unsettle what has now become usage, to "let well alone."

I am, Dear Sir and Brother, yours truly and fraternally,

✠ MATTHEW COOKE, 30.

Grand Organist to the Grand Conclave of Masonic Knights Templar.

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

DEAR SIR KNIGHT,—Though I cannot boast of the honour of a personal intimacy with Sir Knight Cooke, the Grand Organist to the Grand Conclave of Masonic Knights Templar, is far too great a person to pass unnoticed in the social circle which he occasionally dignifies with his presence, and I should have thought him the very embodiment of a jolly confessor of the olden time, and who, instead of lending his great weight to crush an unfortunate penitent, would rather have laid some light penance, even upon so great an offender as poor "Scrutator." In the early days of chivalry, the violation of the Oath of Fraternity was the highest reproach. What would the *preux* Chevalier Bayard, the Knight *sans peur* and *sans reproche*, have thought of such an attack upon an unoffending brother.

I did not ask exultingly if Grand Lodge repudiated us? I asserted it did, and assert so still, and that in so doing Grand Lodge violates the second article of union, which runs thus:—That pure and ancient Masonry consists of three degrees—E.A.P., F.C., and M.M., and no more, including the H.R.A.; it is obvious that this declaration was framed to prevent thenceforth private lodges under jurisdiction of Grand Lodge practising all other Masonic degrees; but the article goes on to say, that this article is not intended to prevent any lodge or chapter holding a meeting in any of the degrees of the Orders of Chivalry, according to the constitutions of the said Orders, the only chivalric Orders then or now existing being the Orders of the Holy Temple and of Saint John of Jerusalem; for the Rose Croix, Kadosh, and other degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite were then, as now, purely Masonic, and never laid claim to be anything else.

Now, though Grand Lodge is by its constitution only Masonic, and can therefore exercise no jurisdiction over any un-masonic degrees, by the said second article of union private lodges and chapters are authorised to practise the chivalric orders, notwithstanding which, Grand Lodge denies the use of the Temple to Grand Conclave; and the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, the authorised exponent of the Craft, declares Vol. 6. p. 281, that

the chivalric degrees cannot be allowed to be performed on Grand Lodge property, condescendingly telling us that we may be permitted to find a home in the tavern to be attached to the new Masonic Hall; and the same article ranks us with the Odd Fellows, &c., and yet Bro. Cooke coolly tells us we are a Masonic body.

I cannot reduce the Knight Templar at one swoop to be an armed secret society, for, however derogatory it may appear to Bro. Cooke, we cannot help ourselves, for we are so, but though we may be, strictly speaking, incompetent to claim exemption under the Act of 1789, there is very little chance of such an Act being put in force against us, though how our being an illegal society, if such is the fact, can make us Freemasons, I cannot pretend to understand.

So long as we admit Masons only to the honour of Knighthood, we must insist upon candidates being properly qualified, but there is no clause in our charter of constitution rendering it compulsory upon us to admit Freemasons only.

The Duke of Sussex was Grand Prior of England under the French constitution, but he was installed Grand Master of the Holy Temple and Sepulchre, and of Saint John of Jerusalem; August 6th, 1862, he never issued any warrant of confirmation, nor, if he did, was any such necessary.

Bro. Cooke was joking when he accused me of making Walter de Clifton Grand Master to Prince Charles Stuart, for he knows perfectly well, that inserting a comma after the words Grand Master, which the compositor omitted to do, though it was in my copy, would have rendered my meaning perfectly plain, viz.: that the Scotch Templars claim an uninterrupted descent from Walter de Clifton, Grand Preceptor of Scotland in 1309, and afterwards Grand Master, down to Prince Charles Edward Stuart, who was elected Grand Master in 1745; my printed copy of the Duke of Perth's letter is dated 1745—in page 256 of the MAGAZINE it is dated 1746, a difference of one year. Is such quibbling worthy of Bro. Cooke?

I never said that the conversion of Edwin by his wife confirmed the tradition that he was Grand Master, but that it was an historical fact that Edwin laid the foundation of the first stone cathedral in York; and in Masonic language, that would mean Edwin, by laying such foundation, would be said to have sat or acted as Grand Master Mason; and it would be well for Masonry if all her traditions could be so strongly supported.

But, leaving the sixth century, we will come to the reign of Henry 2nd, when the lodges were superintended by the Grand Master of Knights Templar, who employed them in building a Temple in Fleet-street in the year 1155. Masonry continued under the patronage of the Order till the year 1199, when John succeeded Richard 1st on the throne of England, and Peter de Colechurch was then appointed Grand Master (*Encyclopaedia Londiniensis*), and there exists not the slightest doubt that Freemasonry was established in York long prior to the eleventh century.

I must certainly plead guilty to the fact that I cannot prove that the Templars were joyfully received by the Masonic fraternity; but Bro. Cooke pays but a poor compliment to the brotherhood, when he admits any doubt that the Craft would have welcomed their brethren in adversity.

The Templars have always been known, since Pope Eugenius 2nd invested them with the title of Knights of the Temple, as Knight Templars or holy Knights, in Hebrew Kadosh (*La Maçonnerie*, Tome 1, p. 436,) but this appellation had no connection with the Masonic degree so called, which, indeed, was not then in existence, it is very likely encampments working the Rose Croix add the Kadosh to it, but Grand Conclave most properly refuses to recognise mere Masonic degrees as part of the Chivalric Order of the Temple.

Bro. Cooke does not require me to tell him why, as Anglicans, we could not use the Ancient Ritual for

enthroning the Grand Master, there is quite trifling enough already with sacred things in Freemasonry without the Order of the Temple profaning the services of the Roman Catholic Church.

There is no doubt that we have not adhered closely to our ancient statutes, but have our French brethren done better, do they keep the vows of poverty, obedience, and chastity, does their Grand Master reside in Palestine, do they don steel armour and tilt at each other in the Place de Caroussel? But does Bro. Cooke seriously argue that because we do not carry out these and many other parts of our duty we must necessarily be Freemasons. His brother knights ought to be deeply indebted to him for informing them that Equitissa is the feminine of Egnes a Knight, some time back he ridiculed the Scotch adoptive system, now he wants to introduce it into the Chivalric Orders.

But, after all, what is the main point at issue, what has put our usually good humoured brother into such a fit of ill temper? It is simply whether a body of English gentlemen, second to none in education, personal influence, or social position, should continue a connection with a society, which appears to me to take every opportunity in its power to shew how little it reciprocates their friendship.

I hope I shall never feel ashamed to be a Freemason, but, should I ever be so tempted, it would be to see a brother, eminently qualified by his learning to ornament the Craft, forget for even one moment that excellent gift of charity so dear to every Freemason's heart, the very bond of peace, and of all virtue.

I remain, Dear Sir Knight, yours very fraternally,
SCRUTATOR.

SCOTTISH KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND THE UNINITIATED.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The correspondence at present being carried on through the columns of THE MAGAZINE as to the connection subsisting between the Templars and Freemasonry is of a highly interesting character, and being so, it is of the utmost importance that erroneous statements therein emitted should meet with prompt correction. It is indeed pleasing to recognise in the arena of discussion Sir Knights of such acknowledged ability to grapple with the question as Matthew Cooke and M. H. Shuttleworth, and the further elucidation of the subject under discussion must be looked forward to with interest. "Scrutator" states that "the Scottish Priors have for many years admitted the uninitiated." Whatever, in this respect, may have been the practice obtaining in former years among the Scottish Priors or Encampments, I can assure "Scrutator" that the having taken the Royal Arch Degree is now a *sine quâ non* to admission into the Order of the Temple. The statutes of the Chapter-General, and the by-laws of subordinate Encampments are alike explicit on this head. The reformation in 1560 had the effect of disuniting the Knight Templars in this country, and causing the Protestant portion of them to fraternise with Freemasons, and to the Democratic branch of the Order it is pretty generally believed are we indebted for the impressive ceremonies employed by us in our receptions. The jealousies and heartburnings for many years existing between the Masonic and Chivalric branches tended to keep the Order in a very disorganised state; and it was from the conviction that a reunion of the branches would be the best security for its prosperity that the heads of both classes agreed to a conference, having for its object the remodelling of their Constitution, and adopting such other measures as would put an end to former jealousies, and at the same time purge the Masonic section of the Order of those impurities which the very loose and disorganised system of working the degree had introduced. It is quite true that at one period of the history of the Order in Scotland, and

that not a very remote one, gentlemen were admitted into the chivalric body who were not Freemasons, provided they paid a much higher fee than that exacted from those who were Masons; but this arrangement was, for cogent reasons, ultimately departed from. Since the reconstitution of the Order in this country, and the adoption, in 1856, of the statutes, by which the different Grand Priorities holding of the Chapter-General are now governed, the only distinction between the Masonic and Chivalric Knights is declared to consist in the recognition of the latter by a patent from the Grand Master or Sovereign of the cosmopolitan body, while a Masonic Knight can get a diploma from the Master of his *langue*, or a certificate from the Grand Secretary of that country. At the same time it was enacted that "everyone received into the Order must be PREVIOUSLY A REGULAR ROYAL ARCH MASON."

Then, again, as to the "unsightly apron," the Grand Priory of Scotland leaves it to the discrimination of the subordinate encampments to adopt the mantle and tunic, or to continue to wear the Masonic Templar apron. The statute on this point runs thus:—"If the by-laws of the encampment do not prohibit it, in place of the mantle and badge the Masonic Templar apron may be worn, viz., white, bordered or edged with black, the bib or fall to be triangular and black, edged (for the Knights only) with white or silver lace." The Knight (but not the Esquire) may also wear a black sash, and the Masonic star, being of silver, with nine points: the device (in gold), a serpent coiled round a cross, surmounted by the motto, "In hoc signo vinces," on a black enamelled scroll or belt. In the priory of which I have the honour to have the command, the Masonic apron continued to be worn till March of last year, when the Sir Knights agreed to adopt the mantle and tunic. At the same time due provision was made for the admission of visiting non-resident Sir Knights not having either mantle, or sword, or belt.

I am, yours fraternally,

D. MURRAY LYON,

Ayr, Oct. 17, 1862. Prior of Ayr Priory, No. 4.

"MY STARS AND GARTERS."

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—*Audi alteram partem.* At your hands I now claim that justice which I am sorry to say you did not award me last week. You accuse me of not having done my duty as W.M. of the Camden Lodge (No. 1006.) I consider it at least unadvisable to publish that assertion without having previously heard my statement.

Bro. Nicholson, a lately-appointed Prov. Grand Officer of Herts, is the brother to whom your correspondents refer. I seconded his nomination in the Camden Lodge, in January last, and was present when he resigned. I was informed two or three months ago, that he had visited Scotland, and there been exalted, and received several high degrees, the existence of which, I was, until then, in ignorance; among other distinctions I was informed, he was W.M. of a lodge in that country.

As I had been previously informed that Masonic distinctions are easily purchaseable in Scotland by those who are fortunately possessed of money, and as I am quite aware the certain lapse of time respecting the three established degrees of Craft Masonry, is not adhered to as in England, I thought it extremely probable that he was not required to have served the office of Warden for twelve months in that country.

Indeed, I do not conceive it imperative for the W.M. of an English Lodge to be conversant with the Scotch constitutions, and suggest that the *onus probandi*, the right to wear the Master's levels, should not rest upon the W.M. who admits, but on the visitor who enters, and believe I am actuated by a Masonic feeling in stating that I would object to deprive a brother of any distinctive clothing upon a mere shadow of doubt that perhaps it could not legally be worn in an English Lodge.

As to the various jewels and decorations, I can easily explain my apparent neglect of duty. The hotel in which the Camden Lodge is held is an extensive edifice, and I am happy to say we enjoy the advantages of a capacious lodge room. I did not observe any of those jewels (which I must inform you were perfect miniatures, and some of which were beneath the lappel of the coat) until after the closing of the lodge, neither did any brother direct my attention to them.

Lastly, Bro. Nicholson returned thanks because I had mentioned his name, and if error there be in what I have done, it was, perhaps, the pardonable offence of a Worshipful Master showing a little more courtesy to a visitor who had recently had provincial honours conferred upon him than Masonic etiquette strictly exacts.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

J. N. FROST,

P.M. 276, W.M. 1006, J.W. 1167.

October 15, 1862.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—You kindly inserted my letter, and very kindly appended your opinion thereto. You state at the head of the column for correspondence, that you are not answerable for the opinions contained therein; but I presume you are answerable for any addition you may make thereto. Upon this assumption I beg to make the following reply.

After the interview with Bros. Nicholson and Walker,* I regret time would not permit me waiting. I presume much of the feeling contained in your notes to my letter has by this time evaporated. Let me assure you that nothing you might say would, in the smallest possible degree, cause me any annoyance, as I believe, when you express yourself on a subject, you do so with the firm conviction you are right. I admire you for so doing, but but then that admiration ceases when feeling is brought to bear against opinions you are not answerable for.

Now, brother Editor, be once again yourself, and not allow your Masonic principles to give support to crafty measures by unprincipled brethren. A spade with me is not "an iron implement to remove dirt with," but a spade. I call things by their proper names. It is not pleasant, consequently I am "always wrong." This time, however, I honestly assure you I am right in the main, though a little wrong in the detail.

Once more I must recur to N.W.'s' letter. He writes, "Of which I am a member." The only P.M.s present were Bros. Tyrrel, Best, and Frost. There is another P.M. (Bro. J. Jones), but affliction has for some time prevented his attendance. "N.W." writes, "he electrified us," consequently "N.W." was of "us;" ergo "N.W." was one of the electrified. "N.W." was present. Besides "N.W." saw and examined the "curiosities." The only doubt is "N.W.'s" membership. I, as D.C., put down the names of all at the table; and I solemnly declare, on my word of honour as a man and a Mason, there was no other P.M. present, a member of the lodge, the only approach to that title being the brother whose initials I sent you. You have declared I am wrong. By this declaration the names are reduced to Bros. Tyrrel, Best, and Frost. Bro. Best declares he had nothing to do with it, and has expressed his disgust at the conduct of "N.W.:" *It now remains for Bros. Tyrrel and Frost to remove the inference,*

You write, you "were not aware of the lodge to which allusion was made." How comes it you insert a letter without the name, address, and number of the writer's lodge? Bro. Nicholson will himself answer your sneer upon his character as a gentleman.

There is no fable of the "two apples," but there is an anecdote, the origin of which you cannot be acquainted with, or you would not have alluded to it in *THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE*.

* The brethren named waited upon us on Wednesday.

As respects the number of members in London of the Royal Order, I have been wrongly informed, but not as to the brother holding Provincial Grand office in England.

In conclusion, let me repeat part of a conversation I was present and heard at a town in Leicestershire on Saturday last. A very honest-looking Leicester brother said it was a pity the Magazine allowed attacks to be made without the signature of an individual calling himself a brother. It was an encouragement to break the M.M. obligation, and a proof that the writer had sacrificed every particle of title to be denominated a man and Mason.

I am, dear Sir, yours fraternally,
WILLIAM T. JONES, 18°, R.A. AND M.M.

[Were five hundred brethren to disown the letter with the view of fixing the authorship upon one we would not publish the correspondence. The question has now become something more than a lodge squabble, as Bro. Jones will see by our first article. Principles are involved of moment to the Craft, and we have treated them as they deserve to be; whilst we have every respect for Bro. Nicholson, who, as a young Mason, ought to have been warned by his superiors of the precipice on which he was venturing.—Ed.]

RECENT CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—There is a time of year when the various species of the lower animals are reputed to be afflicted with mania or "as mad as March hares." Is the month of October specially devoted to such outbreaks amongst Masons? Looking over the last two or three years numbers of THE MAGAZINE there appears to be a kind of insane epidemic raging amongst your correspondents, at this season of the year, and your last number is no exception to this remarkable phenomena.

All the indignation, repudiation, and threatened "nose pulling" arises, as such squabbles always do, from the veriest trifle.

Bro. Nobody goes to a Lodge, sees Bro. Somebody, *en grand tenue* and enquires if it is legal? Upon this Bro. Walker calls the letter and "N.W." absurd, because he dislikes its sensation heading. Bro. Mott Thearle, the jeweller, sticks up for the right of Bro. Somebody to wear the questioned jewels. Bro. R.E.X. treats your readers to a short course of phrenology and you, brother, the Editor, throw up your cap, rush into the contest and lay about, with your editorial shillaleagh, in right good earnest.

Why all this sort of thing should regularly occur, about October, I cannot imagine. If the recent commencement of the game season has anything to do with it, pray tell me, and, until I can obtain some explanation of, or theory on, these periodical outbreaks, I shall believe in the old text that says,—"it is a mad world, my Masters!"

Your's fraternally,
A SANE BROTHER.

WHO HAVE THE RIGHT OF BALLOT?

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—J. H. will find in the Constitutions the following law:—"The Master in the chair shall be entitled to give a second or casting vote, excepting upon a ballot for a candidate for initiation, or a brother to join." This seems to imply that five have the right of ballot, as three black balls exclude. Bro. G. Oliver, in "Masonic Jurisprudence," page 198, says:—"on the authority of the late Grand Secretary." "And although it is true that five may legally hold a charter, and ballot for members, yet the candidate cannot be initiated unless seven are present."

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
A. CLUB.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

METROPOLITAN.

KENT LODGE (No. 15).—This lodge held its first meeting for the present session on Wednesday, the 18th of September, at Bro. Harris's, the Three Tuns Tavern, Southwark. Bro. J. C. Bates, W.M., in the chair, assisted by his Wardens, Bros. C. A. Sennett and Hayworth. The lodge being opened, the minutes of the meeting in May, as well as the subsequent Lodges of Emergency, were severally read and confirmed. The W.M. read a communication from Bro. Richard Barnes, P.M. and Treasurer, of which the following is a copy:—"To the W.M., Past Masters, Officers, and Brethren of the Kent Lodge, (No. 15.) The time has arrived when I feel it a duty incumbent on me, from age and infirmity, to tender my resignation as a member of the lodge; in so doing I cannot refrain from expressing my feelings of gratitude for the courtesy and truly fraternal kindness I have at all times received at the hands of my brethren. It is now 33 years since I was initiated in this lodge; within five years from that time I was appointed Treasurer, and ever since the lodge has been pleased annually to elect me to that office, it has been my earnest desire to discharge the duties thereof with zeal for the welfare of the lodge and a fervent wish to enhance its funds. In retiring from the lodge, permit me to add that your future meetings, a retrospect of the happy moments I have enjoyed in the society of my brethren, will recur to my mind, and I sincerely pray it may please the Great Architect of the Universe to prosper the lodge, and that brotherly love and unanimity of action may reign among you for the dissemination of the tenets and principles of our Order. With kind and fraternal regards to you, my brother, Past Masters, and brethren all, I beg to subscribe myself yours truly and fraternally, RICHARD BARNES, P.M." On a motion made by Bro. G. D. Cossins, P.M., seconded by Bro. C. C. Gibbs, P.M., "On the occasion of the retirement of Bro. Richard Barnes, sen., P.M., as Treasurer of the lodge, which office he had held for a period of 33 years," it was unanimously resolved,—"That the brethren, anxious to express their deep regret at losing so highly esteemed a brother, have determined to express in writing the affectionate regard and high estimation they shall ever hold his memory, on account of his zealous and faithful discharge of the duties of Treasurer for so long a period, his manifold kindness and general urbanity, his indefatigable and untiring exertions, on behalf of the Masonic Charities, the Craft in general, and this lodge in particular. The brethren further desire to assure their respected brother they will fervently pray that it may please the Great Architect of the Universe that the remainder of his days may be peaceful and happy, and that when this life shall be no more he may ascend to that bright sphere where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for ever." It was further resolved,—"That the signatures of the brethren be attached thereto, and forwarded to Bro. Richard Barnes forthwith. Signed this 8th day of October, 1862.

"Bro. J. C. BATES, W.M.
" G. D. COSSINS, P.M.
" M. MARINER, P.M.
" C. C. GIBBS, P.M.
" S. WHITEHOUSE, P.M.
" E. HAWKINS, P.M.
" H. SMITH, P.M.
" JOHN MANGER, P.M.
" E. D. ROGERS, P.M.
" C. A. SENNETT, S.W.
" S. HAYWORTH, J.W.
" R. SENNETT, S.D.
" J. WOODROW, J.D.
" J. P. MAY, J.G.
" JAMES SLEEMAN, D.C.
" A. WELLS, Steward.
" R. E. BARNES, P.M. and Hon. Sec."

All business being concluded, the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The usual loyal toasts being given and responded to, Bro. G. D. Cossins, P.M., proposed the health of the W.M., Bro. Bates. He observed that the lodge had occasion to be delighted with the selection they had made in the choice of a Master to preside

over them; his efficiency in the discharge of his duties were creditable in the highest degree; his punctuality of attendance and the zeal he at all times manifested for the welfare of the lodge and the comfort of the members was such as to merit their warmest approbation. Bro. Bates, in reply, assured them he felt highly honoured with the encomiums passed on him. As Master of the lodge, he had endeavoured to promote its welfare, and, during the remainder of his term of office, would use his utmost energies both in and out of lodge to merit the continuance of the esteem evinced towards him. The health of the Past Master was next given, which was responded to by Bro. Cossins. The officers of the lodge was the next toast, which was replied to by the respective officers, and the brethren parted early.

PROVINCIAL.

SUSSEX.

EASTBOURNE.

CONSECRATION OF THE HARTINGTON LODGE (No. 1218).

The first meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, October 10th, in the assembly rooms of Diplock's hotel, Eastbourne. The ceremony of consecration was fixed for one o'clock, and, a sufficient number of brethren being present, the V.W. Bro. Captain G. P. Dalbiac, D. Prov. G.M. of Sussex, assumed the chair, and directed Bro. J. H. Scott, P. Prov. J.W., to act as S.W., and Bro. E. P. Freeman, Prov. J.G.W., as J.W. The lodge was opened in the three degrees, and, after a brief address from the D.G.M.,

Bro. E. G. Pocock, Prov. G. Sec., having stated that a certain number of brethren then present had petitioned the G.M. for a warrant, and, having obtained it, desired to be formed into a lodge according to ancient form,

The D.G.M. directed the G. Sec. to read the petition and warrant, which, having been done, the petitioners named in the warrant, being Bros. Walter T. Fawcett, Charles H. Law, Thomas Compton, H. Haswell, Robert Blessley, and John S. Young, Bro. Fawcett being the W.M., Bro. Law the S.W., and Bro. Compton the J.W., the consecration ceremony was in due form then proceeded with, the consecrating vessels of the Grand Lodge having been lent for the occasion. The music was under the direction of Bro. E. Ransford, Prov. G. Org., and was assisted by Bro. Donald King, P.M. No. 12, and Bro. Thomas Young, No. 5, the pieces chosen being the 133rd Psalm, set by Whitfield, and Solomon's invocation, "I have surely built thee a house to dwell in," by Dr. Boyce.

The Rev. Bro. JOHN GRIFFITHS, Prov. G. Chap., then addressed the brethren assembled, but more especially directed his comments upon the institution and the members of the Hartington Lodge. After referring to the difficulty he felt, as a young Mason, in tendering advice to his elders, he touched on the great principles of Masonry—temperance, fortitude, providence, and justice—and showed how essential these virtues were for the good of society, and hence how those principles would be further advanced by the establishment of the lodge. He charged the members of the new lodge to study well the ritual, as a strict attention to its teachings was essential to the happiness and satisfaction of all. United by the great bond of charity, on which the Order was founded, by good conduct all were equal, and we feel as proud of the brother in the humblest sphere as the monarch or noble. It was this great principle that had given status to Masonry. He exhorted the brethren of the new lodge that they should carefully scan the character and conduct of every one who might be proposed as a member; that all the proceedings should be conducted with due order, and especially to preserve solemnity during the ceremonies. He referred to the dangers to which Masonry was exposed, particularly in the expensiveness of the entertainments, by which, sometimes, our charities suffer. The reverend brother's oration, of which we are able to afford but a slight sketch, was listened to with attention. The consecration was concluded with the Hallelujah chorus, the whole ceremony being efficiently gone through by the Provincial Grand Lodge, under the management of its excellent Secretary, Bro. E. G. Pocock.

The D. Prov. G. Master then resigned the chair to Bro. Pocock, Prov. G. Sec., and Bro. Walter F. Fawcett, P.M. No. 98, the W.M. designated for installation, was placed in the chair in due form. The W.M. appointed and invested as his officers

Bros. Charles H. Law, P.M. No. 109, P. Prov. G.S.W. Herts, S.W.; Thomas Compton, J.W.; C. H. Law, Sec.; Henry Haswell, S.D.; Thomas Blessley, J.D.; J. S. Young, I.G.; Dr. Haswell, was elected Treasurer, and Bro. Bradley, Tyler. Bro. J. H. Scott addressed the W.M., Bro. Freeman, the Wardens, and Bro. Pocock the members generally. There were nearly forty brethren present at the consecration, and besides those already named, among others, were Bros. W. Versall, Prov. G. Treas.; Wilkinson and Cunningham, P. Prov. G. Wardens; W. R. Wood, P. Prov. G.D.; Rev. J. Taylor, P. Prov. G. Chap.; W. Curtis, Prov. G.S.B.; J. How, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. Herts and Surrey; Charles Boyce, W.M. No. 1113; Alfred Kong, P.M. No. 196; J. Bannister, P.M. No. 47; R. Butcher and H. Flowers, P.M.'s No. 390; J. Howell, P.M. No. 47; W. Marchant, W.M. 394; Edward Martin, Prov. Asst. Dir. of Cirs.; Charles Payne, W.M. No. 29; Joseph Scobie, P.M. No. 234, and Charles Newnham, No. 260.

The following brethren, whose names had been proposed, were balloted for as joining members. The Marquis of Hartington, Prov. G.M. for Derbyshire, Joseph Perry, of No. 57, G. W. Thompson, No. 196, Thomas G. Watts, of No. 423, who were admitted. A ballot was also taken for the following gentlemen: George Augustus Jeffery, John Henry Campion Coles, and George Berndock Dempster, all of Eastbourne, who being present, were initiated into Masonry.

Business being ended soon after five o'clock, most of the brethren present, gathered round the W.M. at the banquet.

The cloth removed, the W.M., after disposing of the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, as the Queen, the Grand Master, and the Grand Officers, said the next toast required especial notice, it being that of the worthy brother who ruled the province of Sussex. Under him the high principles of Masonry were well carried out, and all must have seen how efficiently the imposing ceremony of that day had been gone through. The D. Prov. G.M. had devoted the entire day to their service, so anxious was he that everything should be in order. His merits as a Mason were great, his kind and courteous manner won the esteem of all, and they should most inefficiently discharge their duties that day if they did not acknowledge the great services rendered by the D. Prov. G.M. in solemnly inaugurating the lodge.

Capt. DALBIAC, D. Prov. G.M. in reply, said the W.M. in his address of eulogy, had not referred to one virtue of which he hoped he was not destitute—gratitude—he was grateful for their kind reception, he tendered his sincere thanks for the warmth with which his name had been greeted.

The W.M. next proposed the Grand Officers of the province, which was responded to by Bro. Scott, who in referring to the progress of Masonry generally, remarked that with a brief period four new lodges had been opened in Sussex.

The D. Prov. G.M. called on the brethren for a bumper toast to "The health of the W.M." He said it was most essential that the first Master should be efficient himself, as he had not the advantage of predecessors in the chair. The lodge was fortunate in selecting Bro. Fawcett a P.M. of the Lodge of Prudence, a lodge second to none in carrying out the leading principle of our institution; it had disbursed as much as £5000 in charity, and its benevolent fund was now, he understood, twice as much. He rejoiced to see the resident Masons had readily joined the lodge, and the position of the newly-admitted brethren augured well for the success of the lodge.

The W.M., in reply, corroborated the D.G.M.'s statement regarding the benevolent fund of the Lodge of Prudence, which really, at the present time, amounted to £10,000; and he instanced it to show how much a single lodge could do. He tendered his thanks to the brethren who had assisted in the business of the day, and he hoped they had securely laid the foundation of a structure, beautiful in its parts, and that would prove honourable to the builders.

"The health of the Initiates" was responded to by Bro. Jeffery.

The W.M., after remarking that Masons never lacked hospitality, and as a rule always welcomed visitors, there had been many present on this occasion, he hoped what they had seen would induce them again to visit the Hartington Lodge; and as one who had come a long distance, he united with the toast of the visitors, the name of Bro. How.

Bro. How, in reply, said he presumed his name was so honourably united with the toast, in the absence of the more distinguished brethren who had been compelled to leave. In offering the thanks of the visitors, he was sure he best represented their sentiments in saying how pleased they had been

with the proceedings of the day, which reflected much credit on all who took part in them.

The W.M. then proposed "Bro. Law and the rest of the Officers," to which

Bro. LAW, in reply, said it was a source of great satisfaction to find that on this their first meeting the W.M. was so well pleased with his officers. They had shown the D.G.M. that if they were not a numerous lodge they would prove a working one; and hence he hoped from what the members of other lodges in the province they would occasionally visit them. It was rather late ere the brethren separated, the evening's entertainment being enlivened by the talents of the musical brethren. Eastbourne, although formerly a market town of ancient date had fallen into decay, and was, as we remember, some 35 years back a small bathing village, has of late years been making rapid strides towards becoming a rival to Brighton. Bricks and mortar are now marching all around; the landowners, the Duke of Devonshire and the Hon. Mrs. Gilbert, obtaining London ground rent. The lodge is named after the heir apparent of the dukedom, who, it is seen, has consented to join the lodge, and thus give it his high sanction. As among the numerous residents in Eastbourne, there necessarily are many members of the Craft, we anticipate a flourishing lodge; on its opening day it numbered fifteen members, and under the management of Bros. Favcett and Law, it cannot fail to be successful. In justice we must award a meed of praise to Bro. Law, for the excellent taste displayed in the style of the furniture, which, we understand, is of provincial manufacture; it is of oak, with all necessary ornaments, but nothing out of place.

MARK MASONRY.

(New Constitutions.)

METROPOLITAN.

BON ACCORD LODGE.—The installation festival of this the premier lodge, under the English Constitution, was held at Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, the 8th inst. The V.W. Bro. Dr. Jones, P.M., G. Treas., presiding in the unavoidable absence of the W.M. Bro. George Lambert, P.S.D. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the chair was taken by V.W. Bro. Frederick Binckes, P.M., G. Sec., by whom Bro. George Haward, P.S.O., was installed in the chair of A. as W.M. for the ensuing year. Having been duly honoured, and having received the congratulations of his brethren, the W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows:—V.W. Bros. Alexander Ridgway, P.G.W., S.W.; W. Blenkin, P.G.D.C., S.W.; V.W. Rev. W. H. Davis, G.C., Chaplain; V.W. Dr. Jones, G. Treas., Treas.; V.W. J. Binckes, G. Sec., Sec.; J. Cole, M.O.; C. J. Picard, S.O.; Edward Baxter, J.O.; George Barlow, S.D.; E. R. Mitchell, J.D.; H. Empson, P.G.S.B., Reg. of Marks; R. Spencer, I.G.; J. Edney, P.G.O., Org.; J. Smith, S.T., Tyler. Amongst the P.M. of the lodge, present to do honour to the popular and respected W.M., in addition to those already named, were Bros. Dr. Nortou, P.G. Treas.; Edward Burrell, P.G. Reg.; Empson, P.G.S.B.; A. Ridgway, P.G.W., &c., with several other brethren; the visitors being the distinguished Bros. Rettie, of Aberdeen; Arnisen, Britannia Lodge, No. 53, Sheffield. The banquet was all that could be desired—the wines excellent—the toasts concisely given and warmly cheered—the speeches to the purpose—and all being bent on promoting the enjoyment of the evening, it is almost needless to say that the brethren parted as they had met entirely in *bon accord*.

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

NOTTINGHAM.—*Masonic Soiree.*—A very agreeable and entertaining conversazione of the Freemasons of Nottingham took place on Thursday evening, the 9th inst., at the George Hotel. The gathering of the Craft had been promoted by the Lodge of Instruction issuing invitations to the various lodges of the town to meet them after this manner, and also to contribute to the collection of works of art, which they were desirous of bringing together for inspection and instruction. Mrs. Brown had placed at the disposal of the brethren a suite of apartments, the large room of which was devoted to the exhibition. Only a very short time had elapsed between the

germination of the idea and the execution of the work which, in its completed state, told its own tale as to the taste and discrimination of the gentlemen having the management. On entering the room the visitor's eye rested upon Masonic emblems of gigantic size—the square and compass, formed of evergreens, from which sprang banners and emblems of the Order. The opposite end of the room displayed another device, in evergreens, of the triangles; and the sides of the room were covered with banners of the Order, among others the Provincial Grand Banners. Lower down the walls were other ornamentation—architectural drawings, etc., all more or less Masonic; and there were many other articles of curiosity to the uninitiated, about which the Craft keeps its own counsel. The display on all hands and in every respect, whether in the ornamentation of the room, the exhibition of works of art, the perfume of flowers in rich profusion, or the *recherché* tables which Mrs. Brown had furnished for the guests refreshment, was all that could be desired. The exhibition of works of art was by no means purely Masonic. We can do no more with these, however, than cursorily glance at a few, beginning with an extensive array of antique China, said to be very valuable and scarce, about which, however, the ladies would be the best judges. Moving round, we come upon a small case of coins, among the number being a specimen of a £5 piece of the reign of Victoria—rare and beautiful; "Newark siege money," of the time of Charles I.; sovereign of Oliver Cromwell's reign; and several monster pieces in silver, as well as some diminutives in the same metal, as small as silver pennies—dates not known to the reporter. Not far distant are several Papal coins, large in size and well preserved; a dress sword-belt (white leather) of George IV.; two copies of the Bible, 1639 (black letter); several specimens of carving in wood, among others a slab (we call it) "from the banquetting hall, Haddon Hall." The subject is Bacchanalian—a cask, from the mouth of which spring tendrils of the vine, with luxuriant bunches of grapes pendent; "a relic from the pulpit door of St. Mary's church before the alterations;" shield, "the Huntingdon Arms, alias Robin Hood's;" shield, "Admiral Byron, the great navigator's bust, from Newstead Abbey." Magnificent piece of carving (for sale) contributed by Mr. Sulley, "The creation of Eve in the Garden of Eden." This is perhaps as fine a specimen of carving in wood as was ever seen. Adam as not yet awoke from the "deep sleep," and his helpmate, emerging from the foliage, is taken by the hand by a figure clothed in drapery. The accessories—swans on the water, creeping things and beasts on the land, animals of the squirrel and monkey species occupying the trees, and birds the air. All is well conceived, except perhaps the drapery of the figure who is receiving Eve, and splendidly executed. Not far from this we saw an ancient looking book, entitled, "Constitutions of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons; printed in the year of the Masonic era, 5767." Then we come upon a case of bronze relics, which were found in Great Freeman-street, in October, 1860. These for the most part consist of rude spear heads and weapons of defence, along with which is the spur of, it may be, some once gallant cavalier, who fell in the civil broils of the Roses, or of the commonwealth; but there is no one to say of him, "Alas! Poor Yorick; I knew him, Horatio." In the same quarter is a cast of a plate, the original of which was found in excavating the foundations for the New House of Correction. Subject in fine relief, the Crucifixion. Part of an encaustic tile, which is supposed to have formed part of the pavement of St. Michael's Church, was found in excavating for the foundations of the Union Workhouse. There were several mementoes of the late Colonel Wildman, who was Provincial Grand Master for Nottingham. Among these are the epergne in silver which the Order presented to the late Colonel in December, 1854—a fine specimen of the modern school of art in works of silver. Three shields in the base of the epergne represents the honourable gentlemen in as many characters: the English gentlemen, the Grand Master, and the Colonel of Hussars. There is also his inkstand and his snuff-box, and a set of pipes which would delight any connoisseur of the present day who revels in that appendage of Bachelor's-hall. One is of delicate pattern, well ornamented with chains, and all the others have massive heads, capable of holding at once, perhaps, half an ounce of the celestial weed: one represents the death's head, grinning out in all the ghastliness of *post mortem* ugliness; another, in a good specimen of carving, representing a boar hunt: and all, we are told, were favourites of the late Duke of Sussex, who, in his visits to Newstead, drew whatever inspiration His Royal Highness might have

enjoyed from one or other of these pipes. In the neighbourhood of the last-mentioned are a Scotch sword and a Spanish gun; Masonic goblets, caps, and vases, in glass and terra cotta; specimens of Swiss modern architecture; the identical collar of Byron's favourite dog, Boatswain, who died of a bite received from a mad comrade of his species. There are marks on the collar which were made by a bear with which Boatswain had many a conflict at Newstead. On another table were several rare books, among these being "Humboldt et Bonpland's Voyage," published in 1810, and printed on royal-sized sheets, copy of Hogarth's original engravings, 1790; "Historical and Literary Curiosities," which contain the autographs and many letters of men of the last century—statesmen and warriors. Framed in glass is a copy of a warrant, under the seal, and bearing the autograph of Henry VIII., a condensed copy of the warrant running to this effect:—"Warrant of Henry VIII. with the King's autograph, addressed to Sir—Wyndsores, Knight, Keeper of the Great Wardrobe, for the delivery of 1000 ells of canvas for lining the tapestry at Nottingham Castle, also for the payment of the carriage and all expenses attending the same. Dated at our Castell of Notingham this 12th day of August, in the 3rd year of our reign" [1511]. Near to these are lying the original keys of Nottingham Castle, which may be a matter of curiosity to any of the Clubbs of our own neighbourhood. These are some of the chief articles exhibited. There are many others deserving of notice, but our space will not allow of it. The following brethren were present:—Bros. Percy, Dr. Robertson, Henry Taylor, Barnett, W.M. of Commercial Lodge, Baker, Carter, Senr., Dr. Marsh, J. Webster, J. Comyn, Rawson, Keys, Shilton, C. Pearce, W.M. of Newstead Lodge, Collinson, Robinson, Carter, Jun., T. Taylor, S. Parr, Hack, Wm. Lewis, W. B. Lewis, R. S. Parr, Attenborough, Sanderson, Oldknow, Wm. Clarke, Spiers, Jefferies, Sen., Jefferies, Jun., Danks, A. Butel (Derby), Dr. Taylor, and Wyley. In consequence of the success of the exhibition the president and committee decided to keep it open during Friday night, to allow the brethren to introduce their family and friends to view the same from seven to nine o'clock.—*Nottingham Express*.

NOTES ON MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

A new opera, entitled *Wanda*, by M. Doppler, has been represented at the Court Theatre of Vienna, with great success, the libretto is translated from the Hungarian, in which language it was originally written for the National Theatre of Pesth. Mdlle. Wildauer, as "Wanda," was called before the curtain after each act. The Emperor and Empress were present during the last two acts.

Mdlle. Alboni has not retired, according to the intention generally attributed to her a short time since. On the contrary, she has just accepted an engagement at the Italian Opera of Paris, and will appear there at the beginning of the season in the *Cenerentola*.

Mdlle. Patti has been engaged by Signor Merelli, director of the Karl Theatre, Vienna, for thirty performances between the 24th of February and the 24th of April. The principal tenor at Signor Merelli's theatre will be Signor Ginghini; the principal baritone M. Faure. It is said that for two months Mdlle. Patti is to receive £2000.

The Saint-Maria Circus at Rome has just been raised about seven feet, by the roof being pushed up in a single block, in order to enable performances to be given similar to those by which Leotard has gained such celebrity.

The theatrical arrangements for the season, says the *Illustrated Times*, are generally settled. The programme for 1862-3, so far as at present arranged, seems promising. All the theatres will be open. Drury Lane will be opened, under the management of Mr. Falconer, on Boxing Night; the company will be strong, including many members of the present Lyceum troupe; and the pantomime will be written by Mr. E. L.

Blanchard. Mr. Sothern will leave the Haymarket at Christmas, and enter upon a long-promised provincial tour, Mr. Buckstone producing a burlesque on the subject of *Rasselas*, written by William Brough, with a splendid panorama of Eastern subjects by Mr. Telbin, who is at the present time in the Holy Land making sketches. The Lyceum will be opened about Christmas, with M. Fechter for its lessee, and with a very powerful company. The Adelphi will remain pretty much *in statu quo*, and so will the Strand, at least until Easter, when Mr. James Rogers and Miss Marie Wilton go to found a new dynasty at the Royalty. What may be the future of the Olympic it is impossible to say, for Mr. Robson is by no means well, while his partner, Mr. Emden, is, we are sorry to learn, so ill as to necessitate his speedy retirement.

The calm which precedes the Christmas storm of theatrical management (says the *Sunday Times*) has already set in, and the production of minor pieces and of revivals is all that may be anticipated from the theatres now open till Christmas festivities shower down on us their affluence of good things.

A little comedy by Schiller, the very existence of which had been carefully concealed by its owner—hitherto unpublished—has come to light, and is in the hands of his surviving daughter, with a view to its being given to the public.

As for the probability of the production of Victor Hugo's *Miserables* in London (says the *Queen*), we can confidently announce that, although no definite agreement has yet been signed, it will, in all probability, be produced by the only actor on our stage who could adequately play the leading part in the piece, that of "Jean Valjean." Nothing, however, can be finally settled until the text of the piece arrives here, and that is undergoing certain amendments and *remaniements* at the hands of MM. Charles Hugo and Paul Meurice.

The Artistic Society of Bayonne having applied to the Orleans Railway Company requesting a reduction on the usual charges for the carriage of whatever objects of art they may have to send back to Paris, the company consented to reduce the charge to one-half, but with the condition that it would not be responsible for any loss or damage that might occur by the way. The company also stated that the same reduction, with the same condition, had been offered to the artistic societies of Toulouse, Bordeaux, and Limoges, but that they had all preferred to pay the full price rather than incur the risk imposed.

Poetry.

ONE AT A TIME.

LINES TO MY LIFE.

'This morn—the sea breeze seems to bring
Joy, health, and freshness on its wing;
Bright flowers to me all strange and new,
Are glittering in the early dew,
And perfumes rise from every grove,
As incense to the clouds that move
Like spirits o'er yon welkin clear;
But I am sad—thou art not here.

'Tis morn—a calm unbroken sleep
Is on the blue wave of the deep,
A soft haze like a fairy dream,
Is floating over wood and stream,
And many a broad mangolia flower,
Within its shadowy woodland bower,
Is gleaming like a lonely star,
But I am sad—thou art not here.

'Tis eve—on earth the sunset skies
Are printing their own Eden dyes ;
The stars come down and trembling glow,
Like blossoms on the wave below,
And like an unseen sprite the breeze,
Seems lingering 'mid the orange trees,
Breathing its music round the spot,
But I am sad—I see thee not.

'Tis midnight—with a soorling spell
The far-off tones of ocean's swell,
Soft as the mother's cadence mild—
Low bending o'er her sleeping child ;
And on each wandering breeze are heard,
The rich notes of the mocking bird,
In many a wild and wondrous lay—
But I am sad—thou art away.

I sink in dreams—low, sweet, and clear—
Thy own dear voice is in mine ear,
Around my cheeks thy tresses twine—
Thy own loved hand is clasped in mine,
Thy own soft lip to mine is pressed,
Thy head is pillowed on my breast ;
Oh I have all my heart holds dear,
And I am happy—thou art here.

GEORGE D. PRENTICE.

HONOUR MASONRY.

If Providence your lot hath blest,
In peace and affluence to rest,
Let not your mind contradicted be,
Nor scorn the abodes of poverty.

When you behold, in abject state,
A brother crush'd by fortune's fate,
Lend him your aid, his wants to free,
And you shall honour Masonry.

When o'er the list of human woes,
You find the tear of grief o'erflows,
The widow's moan, the orphan's sigh,
Your help shall honour Masonry.

Where discord reigns with direful sway,
The balm of reas'ning there display ;
Show to the world a conscience free,
And you shall honour Masonry.

Your time shall pass serenely on—
While conscience dictates, right is done :
Your hoary locks shall honoured be,
If you've regarded Masonry.

When life's tempestuous scenes are o'er,
And nature's calls require no more,
In Heaven you'll take your last degree,
If you have honour'd Masonry.

[Copied from *The Amaranth*, 1828.]

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty is immediately about to return to Osborne. Before his return to England, the Prince of Wales will, as we learn from an official report from Cobourg, accompany his sister, the Crown Princess of Prussia, and her husband, on a tour in Switzerland, and along the Mediterranean coasts. The Prince will distribute the medals and certificates of honourable mention awarded by the juries of the International Exhibition. This state ceremonial, which is to be of an imposing character, has been deferred until January next, when the full period for mourning for the late Prince Consort will have expired.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The weekly return of the Registrar-General exhibits a relatively satisfactory state of health in the

metropolis. The deaths during the week were 1121, the decennial average being 1156. The number of births was 1757, being an excess over deaths of 636. The mortality from scarlatina and diphtheria is on the increase.—It is reported that foremost among the subjects which Ministers will discuss at the Cabinet Council, which has been summoned for the 23rd, will be the American war, the Roman question, and the distress in Lancashire. Lord Lyons, who has been in England for some time past on "urgent private affairs," is expected to leave for Washington in the course of the present month. He will probably remain here until after the meeting of the Cabinet, as it is stated that, before his return to his post, he "will be placed in a position to define the course and views of her Majesty's Government without any uncertainties or doubts in view of the various phases which the contest in North America may assume." It is added, by the *Army and Navy Gazette*—which is our authority for the foregoing statement—that the views of Russia on this question "are assimilated" to those held by the governments of England and France.—On Monday Lord Palmerston visited Winchester on the occasion of the inauguration of the Diocesan Training School, and was most cordially received. At the opening ceremony the Bishop of Winchester made an impressive address in reference to the institution, after which the Bishop of Oxford preached a sermon in aid of the funds, in which he dwelt at considerable length on the general question of the education of the people through the means of properly-trained teachers. At the conclusion of the service the Mayor and corporation of the City, through the Recorder, presented an address to the noble lord, in which they expressed their admiration of his public character, and their grateful acknowledgment of his administrative abilities. Lord Palmerston, in reply, thanked them for this expression of their approval, and trusted that the present Ministry would continue to enjoy the confidence of the country. A grand banquet in the evening concluded the proceedings. On Wednesday his lordship formally opened the Hartley Institution at Southampton.—Mr. Gladstone visited York on Saturday, and was entertained at luncheon by the Lord Mayor of that city. In responding to the toast of his health, the right hon. gentleman again touched on the American question. Referring to the virtual despotism which has been established in the Northern States since the outbreak of the civil war, he expressed his belief "that the longer this terrific struggle continues, the more doubtful becomes the future of America, the more difficult will it be for her to establish that orderly and legal state of things which now, it is too plain, is for the moment [at least superseded]." He could not help seeing that "an influence unfavourable to freedom has been strengthened by the unhappy experience of what may be called American democracy," but he trusted that Englishmen would be on their guard against such an influence, and would bear in mind the share which slavery has had in rending the Union. He then turned to Italy, where events were occurring which should allay the doubts of those who might be apprehensive of the "efficacy of constitutional principles." His Lordship received an address from the Corporation of the town, and was subsequently entertained at a *déjeuner* by the Mayor. In the course of the day, he made three speeches, but he appears to have studiously avoided any allusion to the question of the American war. His colleague, Sir G. C. Lewis, however, who was present at the annual dinner of the Hertfordshire Agricultural Society on Tuesday evening, made some remarks on this all-absorbing topic. While admitting that the great body of the English people held that the war between the Northern and Southern States must issue in the independence of the latter, he guarded himself against a definite expression of opinion on the

point. He did full justice to the resolute spirit which the Confederates had displayed during the war; but contended that the time had not arrived for the recognition of their independence by her Majesty's government. This, of course, will dissipate the impression created by Mr. Gladstone's speech, at Newcastle, that such a step was imminent.—Another charge of daring highway robbery and violence was brought before the magistrate at Bow-street, on Wednesday. The act was committed in the conspicuous thoroughfare of Long-acre, along which a lady was passing in broad daylight (three in the afternoon), when a man named M'Grath rushed upon her, gave a tremendous blow in the side, and snatched her reticule from her hold. The fellow escaped, but was subsequently apprehended. He was committed for trial.—Earl Russell has received a flattering testimonial from Italy. A number of patriotic citizens of Milan have presented to His Lordship, in acknowledgement of his services to Italy, a Carrara marble statue, the work of Carlo Romano, "symbolically representing the unity of Italy by an elegant young female figure seated on a rock, wearing on her right arm a bracelet, on which is engraven the motto, 'Italia una,' and having her eyes fixed upon a diadem held fast in her two hands, on which is exhibited in relief several armorial ensigns appropriate to the different states of Italy." Earl Russell, in acknowledging this tribute of thanks for his staunch support of the cause of Italy, points out how much the Italians owe to the "powerful armies of the Emperor of the French," and remarks that he and his colleagues can only claim the merit of having expressed openly, constantly, and successfully, the opinion that Italy should not be interfered with in the great task which, to the immortal glory of her sons, she undertook.—Sir John Pakington asserted in a very emphatic manner, at an agricultural dinner in Worcestershire, that the time had arrived when Her Majesty's government, in conjunction with the governments of other countries, ought to offer to mediate between the Northern and Southern States of America, on the basis of a separation of the contending sections of the republic, and with a clear understanding that the non-success of such an effort to stay the horrors of the civil war, would be followed immediately by the recognition of the Southern Confederacy. Equally strong views, on the same subject, have been expressed by Mr. Looke King and Mr. Aleock, the Liberal members for East Surrey.—Sir E. B. Lytton, in the course of a speech at Hertford, said, in reference to the American war, that "no dispassionate bystander can believe that the Union will be restored and no far-sighted politician can suppose that the curse of slavery will long survive the separation of which it is the most ostensible, though it is neither the only, nor perhaps the most powerful, cause.—We are glad to find that the police authorities have at last become alive to their duty in the matter of the parks. Public notice has been given that no meetings will henceforth be allowed to take place in any of the parks for the purpose of delivering and hearing speeches and for the public discussion of popular and exciting topics; and warning all persons that the necessary measures will be taken to prevent any such meetings, and to preserve the public peace.—Stephen Joseph Meany, who was tried last week at the Middlesex sessions for obtaining goods under false pretences, and who was put back in order that the verdict in his case might be considered, was brought up again on Wednesday. The jury in the first instance, returned a verdict to the effect that the prisoner got the goods by false pretences, but intended to pay for them. This, it was contended, was a verdict of not guilty; but Mr. Payne refused to receive it, and the jury subsequently returned a verdict of guilty. A second discussion then arose on the subject, and Mr. Payne postponed judgment in order that he might consult with Mr. Bodkin. On Wednesday, Mr. Bodkin said he thought Mr. Payne had acted

properly in rejecting the first verdict, but as there had been a difference of opinion on the subject, a case would be stated for the Court of Criminal Appeal, and meantime the prisoner would be released on bail.—Charles Lorraine, who a few days since was charged at the Marlborough-street police-court, with obtaining guns by fraudulently using the names of the Duke of Sutherland, Lord Shelburne, and others, has been committed for trial.—A remarkable accident has occurred at the chain works of Messrs. Bayliss and Co., of Wolverhampton. A portion of the floor of a "shop," which was erected over the mouth of an old pit, fell in, and three boys were precipitated down the shaft. Their fall was broken by a scaffold some distance down the shaft, but one of the poor lads was killed, while the other two sustained very serious injuries.—Two serious railway accidents are recorded. On the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway a collision occurred last night between the Glasgow and Edinburgh trains, resulting in no less than 16 lives being lost, while about a hundred were injured. On the London, Chatham, and Dover line an accident occurred, resulting in the death of an engine driver, and injury to some few persons.—A serious charge of attempted fratricide was made before the magistrate, at Bow-street, on Wednesday. While Matthew Parker was engaged in collecting some rents, in St. Giles's, his brother Joseph followed him up and suddenly fired a pistol in his face. The wounded man fled, but his brother pursued him, another pistol in hand, and was only prevented from again firing by the timely assistance of some passers-by, who wrested the weapon from him. The plea made by the prisoner for his murderous attempt was that he was in distress, and that his brother had failed to assist him, though he had promised to do so. The magistrate committed him for trial on the charge of shooting with intent to murder. The wounded man was taken to the hospital, where several shots were extracted from his face; fortunately none of them had penetrated deeply, and no danger is likely to result.—The Lord Chancellor's Land Transfer Act came into practical operation on Wednesday. New offices were opened for the transaction of business under its provisions in Lincoln's-inn-fields, and a good deal of business is reported to have been done.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—A Ministerial crisis is going on in Paris. M. Fould, Persigny, Thouvenel, Rouher, and Baroche met on Wednesday at the Ministry of Finance, after M. Fould had waited on the Emperor at St. Cloud; and if their resignations are not accepted immediately, they do not expect to remain long in office. The friends of Italy cannot fail to receive this news as a severe blow to their hopes. The *Moniteur* has published an official report from M. Fould on the state of the French Finances. M. Fould says that the budget for 1863 will show a surplus of £334,000; and that, as the receipts during the first six months of the present year show an increase of £2,000,000 over the receipts in the corresponding period of last year, the surplus income yet to be received in 1862 will provide in 1863 for "any supplementary expenses caused by the Mexican expedition." The accumulated deficits on the 1st of January last amounted to £41,000,000, but they have been reduced to £34,680,000 by the successful conversion of the Four and a Half per Cents into Three per Cents; and no addition will be made to them for the financial year 1862. At the beginning of 1863 the Treasury will possess a reserve, estimated at £3,200,000, "which is destined to provide for unforeseen events;" and the budget for 1864 will—M. Fould confidently assures French taxpayers—contain no arrangements liable to cause increase in taxation. The Belgian papers assert that Lord Russell has instructed Lord Cowley to hand a note to M. Thouvenel, pointing out the desirability of the French garrison quitting Rome.—Prince

Napoleon and the Princess Clotilde have arrived in Lisbon, where they intend, it is stated, to remain for a fortnight.—A curious piece of news comes from Augsburg. It is that the ex-Queen of Naples has withdrawn from the world and entered the Ursuline Convent in that city. A quarrel with her husband, Francis II., is said to be the cause of Queen Marie taking this step, but it may be, as suggested by our Paris correspondent, that the ex-Queen has merely made a temporary devotional retreat into the convent.—Mazzini denies that he had in any way influenced Garibaldi in his recent movements, asserting that the latter is no man's instrument. Mazzini also denies that he has ever alluded or written a word tending to encourage attempts against any man's life.—The Italian Government has published its estimates of receipts and expenditure for the year 1863. The budget shows a deficit of about £12,800,000 for 1863.—The Upper House of the Prussian Legislature has set itself in direct opposition to the Chamber of Deputies. At its sitting on Saturday it rejected the Budget as amended by the latter body by a majority of 150 to 17, and followed up that step by adopting the second part of Herr Von Arnim-Boytzenburg's amendment for the adoption of the Budget of the Government by a majority of 114 to 44. The Ministers voted with the majority on the first, but were absent on the second division. The President opened the meeting of the Chamber of Deputies on Monday by communicating the vote of the Upper House, and then moved that the Chamber adjourn for an hour to enable the Committee on the Budget to report on the two resolutions which had been proposed declaring the vote to be unconstitutional. The motion was unanimously agreed to, and after the lapse of an hour the committee reported a resolution declaring the vote of the Upper House for the acceptance of the Budget brought forward by the Government to be opposed to the plain sense and words of the constitution, and upon that account null and void; and that the Government would therefore not be justified in basing any rights whatever on the vote. Without debate this resolution was unanimously adopted by the 237 members present—Herr Von Bonin-Stolp, with five members of his party, quitting the house and protesting against it. Thus driven to bay, the President of the Council read a royal message declaring his Majesty's intention to close the parliamentary session at three o'clock. Accordingly at that hour the Chambers were closed by Count Bismark-Schoenhausen reading the royal speech, in which the King intimated his intention of carrying out the Budget as it was originally laid before the Lower House.—The King of Italy has commuted the sentence of death passed upon the deserters from the Royal army into one of perpetual imprisonment. The health of Garibaldi is greatly improved.

AMERICA.—The military news from America is not of much importance. General McClellan has been employed in making an estimate of his late losses and in watching the enemy. McClellan had advanced three miles towards Harper's Ferry, cautiously feeling his way. Firing had been heard in the direction of Leesburg, and fighting was expected near Winchester. In an official despatch, General McClellan puts the total loss of the Federals in the two great battles in Maryland at 14,700 in killed, wounded, and missing. He thinks it may be fairly estimated that the Confederates lost 30,000 of their best troops. In Kentucky the Confederates had burned Augusta, General Buell had marched a large portion of his army towards the interior of the state, and the Federals had evacuated Cumberland Gap, first rendering it impassable, and marched in the direction of Ohio to join Buell. Rumours were current that commissioners from the Southern Confederacy to make proposals for peace were on their way to Washington. Though not confirmed, it seems very

probable that some proposition will be made, as it has been admitted in the Confederate Congress that the first proposals must come from the South. President Lincoln's emancipation proclamation is opposed by the Baltimore and Louisville press. The Federal states were engaged in the Fall elections, and the Republicans and Democrats were making great efforts to carry them. Many people had taken the oath of allegiance at New Orleans, in order to escape the penalties of the Confiscation Act, which General Butler intended to enforce with the utmost rigour. The Confederate Congress had passed an act subjecting to the conscription all men between 35 and 45 years of age. There was a Southern rumour that the Confederate steamer "230," which was built at Liverpool, had beaten off the Federal steamer *Santiago de Cuba*, after a sharp engagement. The Mayor of New York had vetoed resolutions by which the Board of Aldermen declared that emancipation would be injurious to the national welfare.

INDIA.—The news from Bombay is very satisfactory. Trade in general was flourishing, and the demand for cotton was opening a mine of wealth to the western provinces, and the shipments were daily increasing. The weather had been very propitious, and cholera and other diseases which had prevailed had greatly diminished. Lord Elgin returned to Calcutta on the 30th of August much improved in health. A telegram, it is said, had been received in India announcing an adjustment of the quarrel between Sir Charles Wood and Mr. Laing, and that the latter is to return to India in November. The notorious Rao Sahib paid the penalty of his crimes at Cawnpore, where he was executed on the 21st of August. The Ameer, Dost Mahomed, had suffered great losses at Bayonbang, but was advancing on Herat. The latter was well guarded, and it is again rumoured that the Shah of Persia had offered troops for its defence.—A public meeting had been held in Bombay for the purpose of raising money to aid the Lancashire Relief Fund, and a sum of £15,000 was subscribed on the spot. Rain had fallen plentifully in the Deccan, and the apprehensions of a famine had subsided.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A PAST MASTER.—1. A Master of a Scottish Lodge being appointed a Prov. Grand Master, should not have resigned his Mastership until the usual period for the appointment of his successor. Such resignation, and the consequent elections of Master and Wardens were all irregular. 2. A lodge in Scotland can initiate candidates at 18 without dispensation. It is a very recent law. 3. Should the Master of an English Lodge die, resign, or leave the country in which such lodge is held, the lodge cannot go to the election of a Master until the usual time. 4. We have no doubt that an English Past Master may instal the Master of a Scottish Lodge.

LEX.—We are not aware of any law which forbids a Prov. Grand Officer wearing his circular jewel suspended from the purple collar in a Royal Arch Chapter, together with his Royal Arch clothing, though we should think it very unusual.

R.E.X.—We should hold that the year of office of the first Master of a lodge appointed by the warrant expired from the date when the lodge was first constituted under dispensation after the granting of the warrant, and not from the date of the consecration four and five months later.

A STAFFORDSHIRE BROTHER will find all the accommodation he requires at Bro. Adams, Union Tavern, corner of Air-street, Regent-street, W. An excellent Lodge of Instruction, under the warrant of the Robert Burns, No. 25, meets on Friday evening; and a Chapter of Instruction, under the sanction of No. 19, on the Saturday, so that a brother may obtain all the comforts of a home and instruction under the same roof.

P. P. does not make himself sufficiently understood for us to reply to him.

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.—The report of the proceedings at the meeting of the members of this body on Wednesday last are necessarily postponed.