

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1862.

THE LANCASHIRE DISTRESS.

At the Grand Lodge meeting on Wednesday last, £1000 was voted from the Fund of General Purposes, in aid of the funds now raising to relieve the distress which has overtaken so many thousand of the sons and daughters of toil in the manufacturing districts, owing to the fratricidal war raging amongst our cousins in America, and which has, by unduly enhancing the price of the raw material, put an end, as it were, to the great staple of industry in Lancashire and Cheshire—the cotton trade. How long the distress may continue it is impossible to say, and there can be no doubt of its being the bounden duty of every man who is more happily situated to do all in his power to alleviate it. The speech of the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, the Earl de Grey and Ripon, in proposing the vote, was marked by great discretion and good taste. He spoke with warm admiration, which must be shared by all, of the noble fortitude with which the operatives of Lancashire have submitted to the calamity which has overtaken them; of the generous efforts which are being made throughout the breadth and length of the land to assist them; and of the manner in which the men of property, in Lancashire, have come forward to aid their fellow men, adding, however, that even if they had not done so, it would be no argument because others had not done their duty why we should not do ours. The speech was listened to with marked attention, and met with the hearty approbation of the brethren. We wish we could have added that the resolution had passed unanimously, but we cannot, Bro. Gregory having raised a question as to the legality of using money raised by the Grand Lodge of Freemasons for other than Masonic purposes, and pointing out that the distress in Lancashire might at no distant day bring some heavy and pressing claims upon our funds, the legitimacy of which we could not, and, we are sure, should never wish to dispute. As to the legality of our using a General Purposes Fund as Grand Lodge sees best, we think there can be no doubt; but that, as a rule, it should be kept sacred for Masonic purposes, we perfectly agree with Bro. Gregory. But, if there be “no rule without an exception,” this surely is the exception. We will say nothing of other grants which have gone before it (believing that there are few acts, good or bad, for which precedents may not be found) when thousands of our fellow creatures are in dire want from no fault of their own, and the dread winter is at the door. Such was the view, we are happy to say, taken by Grand Lodge—the members remembering that “a Mason’s charity should know no bounds save those of prudence.”

The vote having passed, came a grave question—could the money be given at once, or must we wait three months, in order to obtain the confirmation of the resolution? Such is the law; but Bro. Tomkins, the Grand Treasurer, at once volunteered to advance the money, relying on Grand Lodge hereafter to confirm the vote; and the applause with which his proposition was received was such as is seldom heard in Grand Lodge, and which, we are sure, must have been as gratifying to our worthy brother as was the offer which called it forth to the brethren.

THE GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

The reign of the Board of General Purposes over the destinies of the Grand Lodge property has ceased, its management having been entrusted to a Committee, which, from being numerically small, is more likely to arrive at a decision upon the subjects submitted to it, and will be more amenable to the opinions of the brethren, should it not show a greater degree of activity than its predecessor. One advantage this Committee will have at starting. Several of its members are so fully acquainted with what has taken place, and the wishes of the brethren, as to enable them to avoid the rocks on which the Board foundered; whilst the new members possess that amount of practical knowledge which is likely to prove most valuable in conducting their colleagues to a safe decision. That the whole of the members of the Committee are the best that could be found we by no means wish to assert; but now that the differences of opinion have been heard, we trust that the brethren will be united in giving that moral support to the Committee without which their labours will be in vain.

What is wanted by the Craft is the most efficient accommodation that can be afforded to them in a house of their own, at a cost which shall not be so heavy as to burthen the future income beyond a fair and reasonable amount. How that may be best attained we have more than once expressed our opinion, and shall not, therefore, now reiterate it. In addition to a fitting temple for the brethren, it is agreed upon all hands that the Tavern must be enlarged and improved, so that, whilst it is subsidiary to the wants of the Craft, and supplies their house with all that may be required, at fair and equitable rates, it may attract so large a portion of the general business of the metropolis within its portals as to make it at once advantageous to the lessees and the lessors, whose interests must ever be identical.

The Committee being now fairly formed, we trust that no time will be lost in proceeding to business;

for, should it do so with a will and determination, there need be no reason why, immediately on the close of the Masonic season, such alterations as are required may not be commenced; and, within twelve months from that time we may be in possession of a temple alike worthy of the importance of the Craft and the metropolis.

FREEMASONRY AND THE PROFANE.

BY AN OLD P.M.

The Freemason in common with most men of the present age is brought into continual contact with others professing opinions differing from his own, and perhaps inconsistent with them, but unlike others, he professes a rule which prohibits him from bearing himself offensively towards them, or making their opinions a subject of contention.

Solomon was similarly placed; he a Jew had large dealings with the Gentiles—he made alliances and traded with them; he employed them also on his works. It may, however, be reasonably concluded, that his charity towards them became enlarged as his intercourse with them extended.

To something of this kind may be attributed the establishment of the Masonic system by Solomon, if, indeed, he was its founder, and to the same thing may be attributed his fall.

I am led then to ask how far may a man proceed safely in laying aside his religious peculiarities for the time of his intercourse with others, and for the sake of stopping the progress of disunion and dislike in the human family?

The case of Solomon shows that there is danger in making religious concessions, that of the Sepoys of this age, and the universal story of martyrdom and persecution, show that the disposition to stand apart from others is the prolific parent of cruelty and crime. Men who stand apart from others on account of opinions are led to oppress and persecute. Men who do not permit opinions to separate them from others, fall into indifference to truth. Is there no way of avoiding both these evils? It cannot be denied that the divine law is "Love all mankind," but as that law also enjoins the sternest bearing towards and the avoidance of all evil doers, it is evident that the former law must be read subject to the limitation of the latter; it can scarcely be intended that evil doers should be the subjects of our love, and as evil thinking must precede evil doing, does it not follow that ill opinions should exclude men from the circle of our affection as well as evil doers.

Doubtless extended intercourse of Christians whose

lives evince the working of their principles upon them is intended to be the great missionary agent in the conversion of the unbeliever. The spectacle of Christian consistency in olden time, converted numbers. They were seen to love, not hate each other like Pagans, and the Pagans felt that the principle of their faith was active and bearing fruit. To love always, that is, under all circumstances and changes, the proper subjects of our love, is the duty set before us. But who are the proper subjects of our love? "Love not the world." What says the Bible? The Israelite was bound to love the Israelite, and contemplating that mutual love, in their better day, the psalmist said, "Behold how good and how pleasant a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Was he bound also to love the Gentile? The Jewish sprang out of the patriarchal church, the difference between them being in the possession of a written, in addition to a traditional revelation. Did the Jew love the Gentile and the patriarchal faith, or was he bound to do so?

It is evident that in later days, when idolatry had obscured the patriarchals, and human opinion the Jewish faith, that the teaching of the age tended to exclude all from the Jews love who were not of the same nation and the same faith. This is shown by the question put to our Lord, "Who is my neighbour?" The Saviour did not answer as was evidently expected, "the Israelite," but told the story of the good Samaritan, who forgot all antipathies when he witnessed the poor Jew's distress. But does this parable do more than inculcate the duty of relieving the distress of all. Does it show that we should seek out and associate with men of wrong views?

The Christian church springs from the Jewish and patriarchal churches alike, but has again a larger revelation. Christian should love Christian, but should he extend more than a neutral courtesy to those beyond the pale of his church?

1. The will of God as displayed in the religion of the early patriarchs, united men in brotherly bonds and constrained them to love one another.

2. The reception by some of them of the Mosaic ruler in no way interfered with this prior obligation, nor does the acceptance of the Christian rule do so.

3. Were it otherwise, one duty to God would be opposed to another duty to God, that is, it would be man's duty to love, and not to love the same object. But God is the same yesterday, to day, and for ever. His obligations must consequently be considered with each other.

The Patrist, the Jew, and the Christian enjoy the same light, though in different degrees, and adore the Father of that light—the one true God. But how is it with the Hindoo, the Mahommedan, and the Mormonite, who have darkened that light?

Nature witnesses to Scripture that natural laws operate on all alike. "He sendeth his rain upon the just and upon the unjust." But, as universally as they operate for the good of those who obey them, so universally and inflexibly do they move to the destruction of those who are disobedient to them, just or unjust.

"Our charity," that is love, though I suspect no more than almsgiving was originally meant, "shall know no bounds (*i.e.*, of faith or politics), save those of prudence." We should extend kindness as widely as we are willing to receive it. There should be *mutual* concession, *reciprocal* friendship, *mutual* obligation.

Should we not rather abstain from praying altogether than pray wrongly? May meetings rightly commence without prayer? Masons *mutually* agree not to discuss faith or politics, nor interfere with practice; but they lay not aside nor weaken any opinion. Christianity, as a higher privilege and more complete revelation than any which preceded it, instead of destroying that love and goodwill which man had previously cherished, would, as displaying and manifesting the principles of a higher love, bring it into a more active and healthy existence.

"Do good unto all men," says the apostle. (Gal. chap. vi., ver. 10.) The *especially* connected with it does not neutralize the general proposition, but points out the more immediate object of the disposition to do good. He would be no Christian who restricted his kindness to his own party, and failed to do good to all mankind.

"Love not the world, neither the things of the world," seems an opposite maxim to that of "Love all men;" but it must mean love not the openly wicked, the men who live only for the present. The first blasphemy, the first impiety, should arouse us; but it does not follow that we should, when we fall into their society, shun those who have not the same high views of truth as ourselves, but who walk morally in the light they have. We may not stand at the same time in the spirit of Christ, and say of such, "Stand by, I am holier than they." In other company we may reap more edification, but "none of us liveth unto himself." We have not only to obtain, but to impart edification. The company we fall into should receive edification from us. We should not obtrude. We should argue more by conduct, by actions, rather than words. The enjoyment of higher privileges than others cancels no general obligations. No sanctity in other things can compensate for the want of love. "If any man say I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar." (St. John.)

Such are the difficulties of this twofold view. Scripture must be confronted with Scripture. Analogies must be sought. (Prov. chap. xvii., ver. 17.)

THE LODGE MILITANT.

(From our Scottish Correspondent.)

Some outsiders, from a consideration that man thousands of *brethren* swell the ranks of the volunteer force, now leagued together for the purpose of acquiring a knowledge of the art of war, have questioned whether, in so doing, Craftsmen are acting quite in unison with the spirit of Freemasonry, whose mission is prominently held forth to be one of UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD AND PEACE. While as *Masons*, we can have nothing to do with war, except it be to try to ameliorate its horrors, the Order has contained some of the most distinguished warriors of modern times. Washington and Wellington, Nelson and Napier, Moore and Moira, with other commanders of lesser note, were members of the Craft, and their brilliant achievements in the service of their country continue to be remembered with pride and gratitude by every patriotic Craftsman, both here and in America. As Masons we are ever ready to offer the olive branch for the acceptance of brethren of every clime; but when as citizens of our respective countries we unfurl the war banner in a righteous cause, we do not compromise any principle of Masonry. But it is far from our intention to enter upon a disquisition affecting the propriety or impropriety of members of the Order engaging in the profession of arms; rather it is our object to afford to brethren the opportunity of contrasting with that of the present day the enthusiasm in the Volunteer cause which animated the brethren of a former generation. There are many now living who remember how, when the First Napoleon threatened the invasion of this country, some 400,000 volunteers sprang up as one man for the defence of home and fatherland. That the Craft furnished their quota to that army of reserve is beyond a doubt, for occasionally, even yet we meet upon the chequered floor with old brethren who have served in it. But few, very few—none almost—now journey on the level of time, who can have any personal recollection of the spirit of devotion to their country which, long anterior to the advent of Napoleon, beat so high in the heart of the Craftsmen of Scotland as to call down upon them a public rebuke from their supreme head in Masonic matters, or even that such was the case is known to comparatively few of those now taking an active part in the business of the order.

History tells us that in 1777, with America in open rebellion against her Sovereignty, and menaced by more than one of the Continental Powers thirsting for her humiliation, Britain called for an extraordinary levy of men, wherewith, to meet the emergency. Carried away by the patriotism which filled their

bosom many lodges seem fairly to have lost sight of their principles as members of the fraternity. They, at the period we speak of, not only devoted their funds to the payment of large bounties to Volunteers, but offered the rite of initiation free to all who chose to join the regular army. Bro. Sir Wm. Forbes, Bart., was then Grand Master of Scotland, and in order to put a stop to, and mark their displeasure at, such unmasonic conduct, the Grand Lodge of Scotland addressed to all their subordinate lodges the following circular, copies of which may still be found engrossed in the minute books of some of our Scottish lodges:—

“Edinburgh, Feb. 12, 1778.

“R.W. Brother,—At a quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, held here the 2nd instant, I received a charge to acquaint all the lodges in Scotland, holding of the Grand Lodge, that the Grand Lodge has seen with concern advertisements in the public newspapers, from different lodges in Scotland, not only offering a bounty to recruits who may enlist in the new levies, but with the addition that all such recruits shall be admitted to the freedom of Masonry. The first of these they consider as an improper alienation of the funds of the lodge from the support of their poor and distressed brethren; and the second they regard as a prostitution of our Order, which demand the reprehension of the Grand Lodge. Whatever share the brethren may choose to take as individuals in aiding these levies, out of zeal to serve their private friends, or to promote the public service, the Grand Lodge consider it to be repugnant to the spirit of our Craft that any lodge should take a part in such a business, as a collective body. For Masonry is an Order of Peace, and it looks on all mankind to be brethren as Masons, whether they be at peace or war with each other as subjects of contending countries.

“The Grand Lodge therefore strictly enjoin that the practice may be forthwith discontinued.

“By order of the Grand Lodge of Scotland,

“WILL. MASON, G. Sec.”

The lodge, among whose minutes we found the above letter, unanimously agreed to Grand Lodge's request; and ordered an answer to be immediately returned, expressly mentioning that the brethren “had no intention by any means of interfering in the new levies,” and that they were “extremely happy to find that Grand Lodge's sentiments correspond with their own.”

NEW MASONIC HALL IN JERSEY.

From time to time, for several years, it has been reported from Jersey that the Freemasons of that island projected the erection of a temple suitable for the purposes of the Craft, and that attempts were being made to carry out the idea. It is now a matter of sincere congratulation that these are on the point of being crowned with success. Perhaps it may be well to relate the progress of the affair from the commencement, as the lesson may be useful to others, and give encouragement to those in other places who contemplate a similar course, teaching them not to be discouraged by temporary failures, but to keep the object steadily in view till circumstances allow of its attainment. About three years ago the first move was made by Lodge La Césarée (No. 860), when, not expecting to have much co-operation from the other lodges in the province, and believing themselves sufficiently strong to take independent action, its members endeavoured to raise among themselves funds to defray

the cost of a building which should be its own property, but available for the use of the other branches of the Order, whenever either of them might consider it desirable to take advantage of the accommodation. A considerable sum was raised, yet very inadequate to defray the cost. A plot of land was selected in an admirable situation, and an agreement was entered into with the proprietor for the purchase of it. Subsequently some difficulties arose which led to temporary abandonment, and such a damp was thus cast on the effort, that for a time no further steps were taken. The project was not relinquished, however, and only awaited a favourable opportunity, for within a few months the idea was revived, with a view to the purchase of a chapel in a central position, the congregation of which had removed to a larger edifice. Negotiations were accordingly commenced, and as the expense of purchase and of making the necessary alterations was thought to be quite within limits such as would not exceed the means of the lodge, plans were drawn up by an architect with a view to its adaptation to Masonic purposes, and everything seemed tending to a favourable conclusion, when some difficulty arose between one of the trustees and the minister of the congregation to which the chapel belonged, that rendered it impossible to effect a safe transfer of the property. Every effort made to come to an arrangement was fruitless, and again the hopes of Lodge La Césarée were doomed to be disappointed. Early in the present year, the “States” of Jersey passed an act allowing the formation of public companies with limited liability. This again led to a revival of the question of a Masonic temple. By this time the members of Lodge La Césarée became convinced that they could not, without extraneous assistance, still however restricted to the Craft, expect to raise funds for a building on a large scale, at once a credit to the Masonic body, an ornament to the town of St. Helier, and capable of affording accommodation sufficiently extensive for all purposes that might be required, including the private lodges, the Royal Arch Chapters, the Provincial Grand Lodge, with a banqueting room, kitchen, and a residence for the curator. Circulars were therefore issued, convening Masons from all the lodges in the province to a meeting, in order to consider the feasibility of forming a company under the new act. This was held, the project was favourably received, and several meetings were subsequently held, at each of which some progress was made. A committee was appointed to make farther arrangements and mature the plans. A large proportion of the shares were soon taken up, and several brethren who are professional architects drew up designs for the building, and ultimately those of Bro. Thomas Gallichan were selected, their adoption being confirmed by the general body convened for the purpose. Though till a few months ago comparatively few came forward from other lodges in the province, and the chief burthen of settling all preliminaries had rested on the Césarée Lodge, when last summer most of the difficulties appeared to have been surmounted, and the project was in a fair way for realisation, the excitement extended to many who had hitherto kept aloof, and at length all seemed to unite in the common cause.

The drawings were perfected, made ready for the builders, and received general approbation; advertisements were inserted in the local journals for tenders from contractors for the execution of the work; the company was legally formed and registered in the Royal Court on November 30th, and the estimates were sent in and examined, resulting in the erection being entrusted to Bros. Benest, De La Mare and Pirouet.

The Board of Management, appointed by the shareholders to supersede the previous temporary committee, have fixed December 17th, as the day of laying the first stone, preparations for which are now in progress on a grand scale. The brethren will attend in full Masonic costume, and it is understood that his Excellency Sir Percy Douglas, Lieut. Governor of Jersey, himself a Freemason,

the Dean and some of the Clergy, the Bailiff, John Hammond, Esq., with the Royal Court, and other local notabilities, will attend and take part in the proceedings.

No doubt many of the Guernsey brethren will join in the celebration, and it is hoped that some may even come over from England for the purpose. There will be a temporary erection on the spot, providing seats capable of accommodating six or eight hundred spectators. The programme for the procession and ceremony is arranged, and is such as is likely to prove a great attraction to the Jersey public. No doubt the general effect will be to enhance the estimation of the Craft in the island, which has otherwise been gradually and steadily rising during the last few years, notwithstanding several adverse circumstances. A full report of the ceremonial and of the addresses both on the occasion and at the subsequent banquet, will in due course appear in the pages of the MAGAZINE, and a brother is preparing a set of drawings, including elevations and plans of the three floors, to accompany it. The cost of the land is £300. That of the building will be about £1,500. A further outlay will be requisite for iron railing to enclose the ground, and also for the furniture of the rooms, for which proper provision will be made. It may be added that none but Masons are allowed to take shares in the company, and that in the laws for its regulation, means are adopted to prevent their transfer at a future time to persons not belonging to the Craft.—H. H.

ARCHITECTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE INTERNAL EVIDENCE.

During the Norman period Architecture assumed an expression of *strength* and security characteristic of the feudalism of the time. The crusades gave a vigour of faith, life, and religious impulse to Christian energies and art, which the chivalry of the age augmented.

From the Holy Land, through the wars of the Crusades, the pointed arch and other features were introduced and adopted; and that exuberance of fancy so prevalent in the East was also imported. Thus, Pointed Architecture, in England at least, began to take root, simultaneously with the rise of literature in the 12th century, and, towards the end of the Plantagenet period, attained its consummation.

During this period the national character had been growing up, nourished by a rich, dominant, universal, and united Church, possessing a ritual and symbolism of unsurpassed splendour. All this blended in common unity of aim, gave a corresponding expression to architecture. Aided by organized fraternities of artists, it was elaborated feature after feature, year after year (mark, not by sudden transitions); Christian truths were proclaimed,—the Atonement, by the cruciform plan: the Resurrection, by the height: the Holy Trinity by the triple division, the trefoiled window, and the triangular gable, of the Christian Church: besides many other doctrines of the Cross shadowed for thin the lesser details. As the various elements and nationalities approached maturity, so architecture developed itself, till the most elaborated phase it ever assumed was attained during the reign of Edward III. We must also notice that this maturity of growth in Ecclesiastical Architecture was arrived at just when the animosities of the Saxon, Norman, and Briton were dying away, and a common feeling animated them; when literature was brightened by Chaucer, and when our constitution had become developed.

The gradual decline apparent from this time, proceeded in the same ratio with the continuance of strife between the rival houses of Lancaster and York, by the ceaseless wars of the Roses, and the stagnation of social progress and virtues. The stiff perpendicular and flattened Tudor gave signs of the approaching return to classicism.

During the 15th century, the invention of printing augmenting the revival of ancient literature and art, began to spread that thirst for foreign and Italian innovations, and a *distaste* for past national or vernacular associations, which the civil wars had strengthened, and which the new Protestantism still more encouraged.

Thus fostered, the Italian revival of art of the 16th century in this country began, first amalgamating with the Tudor Gothic in the Elizabethan period, and afterwards throwing aside all attempts at combination which the spirit of the Puritanical age of the Commonwealth ignored. National *unity* was now *lost*, alike in religion as in architecture.

Such were the many conspiring elements which turned the attention of the nation from internal development, and which nipped in the blossom an art which has ever flourished only when individual faith and character has predominated. Speaking of the Renaissance, Jarves, in his "Art Hints," remarks:—"Classicism believed in its mythology, therefore its works were sincere. Mediævalism believed in its symbolical Christianity, therefore it wrought likewise in sincerity. The Renaissance believed in neither, therefore it had no religious character." The main impulse, which before energised and gave vitality to art, was gone, and the lifeless rules of Vitruvius and Palladio were substituted for that inner life which all along promoted architecture, and spoke through it. Such men as Ghiberti, Brunelleschi, Raphael, Titian, Rubens, Michael Angelo, Inigo Jones, Wren, Holbein, and others, in art; Bacon, Sir Isaac Newton, Shakspeare, Milton, Spenser, and Dryden, in philosophy and literature, certainly redeemed the Renaissance, and shed a lustre on the school which will never be tarnished.

Learning, indeed, says Hallam, was not effectual till after the expiration of the 15th century, when the morning of literature appeared.

In France, the introduction of the Italian taste, which took place in the latter part of the 15th century, was accompanied by the same combining spirit which was noticeable in this country. Amongst the earlier examples, the Château de Gaillon, built by Fra Giocondo for Cardinal d'Amboise, may be cited as an illustration of this combination of Gothic and classic elements, as well as the town-halls of Arras and St. Quentin, the Palace de Justice at Dijon, &c.

Unlike the latter phase of Italian in this country, that in France showed itself by a mannerism and meretriciousness of ornament characteristic of the age of Louis XIV., whose gross taste and extravagant vices have such an analogy to this debased art as to be sufficient alone to brand it as Louis Quatorze. Throughout we see that the foreign elements and principles each nation acquired or adopted required a certain time to become nationalized and matured, before either a national literature or architecture could possibly be developed. Each style, then, needs as much time for generalizing or maturing those elements of thought and character, which make up the inner life of a people, as it does for generalizing external features, or selecting and adapting the elements of preceding styles. This time is as much required as it is in individualizing or nationalizing various distinct races, habits, languages, and literatures. Thus, we see in the structure of our own language, various languages: the Celtic, Anglo-Saxon, Norman, or French, Latin, and Greek, these latter chiefly since the 16th century, gradually combining and mixing, till they become a naturalised language:—this distinctiveness not appearing till about a century ago when the writings of Addison, Johnson, Burke, Scott, and others, may be said to have fixed our language. But though now tolerably homogenous, these various elements and idiomatic differences readily betray their varied derivation, although we cannot assert from this, that our language is not indigenous or national. It would be absurd to say a national style is not indigenous because it be compounded of foreign features.

Another fact which the history of styles gives, is, that

no sooner than a civilised nation has generalised the peculiarities of previous styles, and adapted them as her own, the styled arrived at becomes fixed, rarely improving beyond a certain limit, necessitated by the mechanical and other conditions of the age. It is only the discovery of a new principle, or constructive system, or the change of national idiocracy, that can give birth to a new style.

National and mental tranquility is another essential to qualify a style, or one truly a reflex of an age, and has invariably accompanied the greatest epochs of architectural growth. As before observed, it is unity of purpose that is necessary in developing art. At the Reformation this was broken, and the habits and thoughts of the nation were forced into new and various channels which revolutionised existing nationalities, and with them, architectural principles. Theological, intellectual, and political unity, were all more or less sacrificed, and as certainly progressive indigenous art-development.

We have been considering chiefly the mental expression of architecture—the higher impression of nationality on it. But beside these influences, which are manifested by the æsthetic and phonetic utterances of art, there are others more direct and which properly precede these, namely, mechanical principles and constructive systems.

The beam system being the simplest, it naturally comes first, and necessarily becomes sooner perfected. Its very nature necessitated a purely conventional manner—intuitive ideas of proportion and mathematical repetition and exactness being its laws. Exactness, and symmetry of parts, seem early associated with our first impressions of beauty, no less than with the simplicity of the beam system of construction.

The arcuated system involved other principles which had to be considered and applied. Timidly used at first, it gradually became engrafted on the former system, till it was fully developed and perfected in the Romanesque and Gothic. Though the Oriental origin of the pointed arch has been refuted by many, it still claims precedence; the fact of the pointed form being almost simultaneously used by many European countries strengthening this view. Whatever may be the probability of the theory of intersection of circular arches, given as its origin, resting on the fact that most buildings in Germany, Italy, and elsewhere, concurrently used the round and pointed forms, before the former was entirely supplanted, certain it is that it was used in the East long before its adoption in Europe.

In Periclean Greece and Mediæval England, both systems of construction had their full utterance—one as essentially opposed to the other as the one was human, the other spiritual and aspiring. Though Grecian and Gothic architecture respectively possessed the two great opposite systems, yet the intermediate stages architecture took, as the Roman, Romanesque, Byzantine, &c., were not merely transitional, but distinctive developments, in which the two opposed principles of trabeation and arcuation were equally blended.

When a new system of construction or some new material is introduced, we may reasonably think of a 19th century style; we may hazard the opinion that metallic construction may yet be productive of results. In the meanwhile, as we before said, judicious combination, or even discriminate imitation, is justifiable.

As we noticed, the system of elaborating existing forms so prevalent in the pointed styles, was greatly conducive to their beautiful results. Thus the early pierced window became the rich flowing one, the simple groin was developed into the fan and pendant groining, and the simple tower covering became at last the tapering and elaborated spire.

It is the task of analysing and generalising existing forms of art, or those common to all, as Garbett says, but combining these with the spirit and peculiarities of the age, that we must impose upon ourselves. The wayward impulses of misdirected genius will never do this;

it must be to the storehouses of past results that we must look for instruction.

Thus, architecture may be said to embrace three great expressions—national, intellectual, and mechanical; to the first two being referred the inner and moral life of a nation, its religion and artistic appreciation, as well as its physical capabilities, which make up its peculiarities; to the latter, the system of construction and appliances which a nation imposes—the vehicle by which art expresses the higher qualities. Some of the legitimate processes by which these expressions are arrived at we have attempted to elucidate. It may be asked, why does not the 19th century, with its improved mechanical appliances and the results of past styles, produce a new style? The answer, as we have suggested, will be found to consist in the simple fact that we lack that spirit and study of the past—that free and generalised view of national wants and peculiarities which the breathings of our own Gothic style so pourtray.—*Building News*.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

THE PELICAN.

From whence is the phrase, "The Pelican in her piety," taken?—R. C.

KNIGHTS OF THE MOON.

[The querist will find this answered by Bro. Hyde Clarke in *THE MAGAZINE* of September 8, 1858.]

THOMAS SMITH WEBB.

What was the particular kind of working which is known in America as the Webb working?—A. R.—[A jumble of Preston's.]

UNION OF GERMAN MASONS.

The general meeting of the Union of German Masons, of which Bro. Woodford is a corresponding member, took place in August of this year, at Wiesbaden. The next annual meeting will take place at Glauchan, Saxony.—J. G. FINDEL.

FREDERICK THE GREAT AND THE SUPREME GRAND COUNCIL.

What was the date when Frederick the Great, of Prussia, ratified the Constitution of SS. G.G. II. G.G.—33° ultimique gradus?—ORDO AB CHAO.—[May 1st, 1786.]

RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE.

What is the degree called the Red Cross of Constantine, and how can I obtain it?—A. KNT. OF MALTA.—[It is the same known in America as Knights of the Red Cross. Not a regular degree, acknowledged all over the world, but one of that numerous body which are nobody's children. Several brethren in England say they can give it, but it is questionable. We English are in everything great lovers of regularly organised authority, and we know of no competent jurisdiction from whom you might receive it.]

MASONIC BOOK HAWKING.

A man called on me a few days since, and, as I was from home, left the following in an envelope, stating he "would come for orders" in the course of a week or two. By what authority are such things sold?—MASONICUS.—

THE MASONIC TEXT-BOOK, 32mo, cloth, plain.
" " " " cloth, full gilt.
" " " " Tucks, gilt edge.

The above is intended as a Pocket Manual, and embraces all the Degrees, from Entered Apprentice to Knights of Malta. Beautifully illustrated, with useful guides and instruction for the Craft.

[By none. There are several travelling peddlars, who are supplied from a London house with reprints of American books, and we have no doubt this is one of that series. The book, if it has any value in America, is worthless here.]

MASONIC TITLES.

A brother adds to his name the mysterious letters, H.P., C.G., S.G.M., and J.G.M. What do they represent?—LITTLE A.

MASTERS OF CEREMONIES.

In our lodge, which is an old one, the Masters of Ceremonies are distinguished by two cross swords, suspended from the legs of an extended compass. Is this uncommon, and when was it used?—R. D.—[It is old, and one of the jewels recognised by the Ancient York Rite.]

WASHINGTON'S LODGE.

The following particulars of General Washington's lodge may prove acceptable to your readers.—Ex. Ex.

"The apartments occupied by Fredericksburg Lodge (No. 4), which was organised under a dispensation from Massachusetts before receiving its charter from the G. L. of Scotland, contain many precious souvenirs, for it was within its mystic portals that George Washington first beheld

'That hieroglyphic bright
Which none but craftsmen ever saw.'

The young surveyor was first commissioned at Williamsburgh (then the capital), by Governor Dinwiddie, to go through the forest, and expostulate with the French Commander, who was taking possession of the Ohio river, and before leaving he knocked at the door of the Masonic Institution, that he might claim fraternity with, and obtain a kind reception from, savage and Christian foes. Although not one-and-twenty, the Fredericksburg Lodge wisely decided that he was of that 'mature and discreet age' which the 'ancient constitutions and landmarks' require a candidate to have attained, and he was initiated as an 'Entered apprentice' on the fourth day of November, 1752. On his return from his perilous mission (and nine days after he became of age) he passed the degree of Fellow Craft; and on the fourth day of August, 1753, he was raised to the degree of a Master Mason. It was my privilege to examine the original records of these ceremonials, with the Treasurer's entries of the fees paid. The officers of the lodge at that time were R.W. Daniel Campbell, Master; John Neilson, Senior Warden; and Dr. Robert Halkerson, Junior Warden. From that time until the members of Alexandria Lodge (No. 22) bore his lifeless remains to the tomb, Washington was a devoted member of the Masonic fraternity. On all proper occasions he was found with the Craft, clothed in the regalia of his Order; nor did any opportunity present itself, during all the varied and exciting scenes through which he passed, when he did not manifest by his words and his work, by his confidence and his respect, his brotherly regard for the fraternity.

"Among other curious matters at the Fredericksburg Lodge are a large number of funeral hatchments hanging on the walls, and bearing inscriptions in honour of deceased brethren. On one of these, surrounded by Masonic emblems, is inscribed:—

'In memory of
Brother George Washington,
Born in the county of Westmoreland,
State of Virginia, Feb. 11, O.S.
A.L. 5732, A.D. 1732. Died at Mount
Vernon, Dec. 14, N.S., A.L. 5799, A.D. 1799.

'A LIFE now Glorious to his COUNTRY Led!
Belov'd while Living as Rever'd now Dead.
May his EXAMPLE Virtuous deeds Inspire,
Let future Ages HEAR IT and admire!

"Fredericksburg Lodge owns a burial ground, where the acacia blooms over the graves of the deceased brethren and their families. Among these tombs I noticed that of the foster child of the Republic, Colonel Mercer, who was adopted and educated by Congress, after his father was butchered at Princeton fight. General Mercer was a physician and apothecary at Fredericksburg before he entered the continental service; and an estimate of his patriotism may be formed from the following remark, which he made before several comrades in the tent of General St. Clair, a few hours before he was slain. Some dissatisfaction having been expressed as to promotions, he said, 'they were not engaged in a war of ambition, or that he should not have been there; and that every man should be content to serve in that station in which he could be most useful; that for his part he had but one object in view, and that was the success of his

cause, and that God could witness how cheerfully he could lay down his life to secure it.' Little, adds General Wilkinson, in his record of the conversation—little did he or any of the company think that a few fleeting hours would seal the compact!

"Another monument in this Masonic cemetery is over the remains of Lewis Littlepage, who was born in Hanover county, and died in Fredericksburg in July, 1802, in the fortieth year of his age. He lost his father when young, and was adopted by Mr. Jay, who took him to Madrid. Volunteering while there in the expedition against Minorca, under the Duke de Crillon, he became acquainted with the Count of Nassau, with whom he served at the siege of Gibraltar, and afterwards went to Constantinople and Warsaw. He was subsequently, says his tombstone, 'honoured for many years with the esteem and confidence of the unfortunate Stanislaus Augustus, King of Poland; he held, under that monarch, until he lost his throne, the most distinguished offices, among which was that of Ambassador to Russia. He was by him created Knight of the Order of St. Stanislaus, Chamberlain and confidential secretary in his cabinet, and acted as his special envoy among the most important negotiations; of talents, military as well as civil, he served with credit as an officer of high rank in different armies. In private life he was charitable, generous, and just, and in various public offices which he filled, he acted with magnanimity, fidelity, and honour.'"

MASONIC RELIEF IN AUSTRALIA.

Some short time before I left, a young lady, the orphan daughter of a Mason, being in difficulties, sent to the lodge of which I was a member, a brooch which had belonged to her mother, with a request that measures might be taken to dispose of it to one of the brethren. The jewel was a very old fashioned one, about two inches long, and broad in proportion, with a glass face, under which were a number of the symbols of Masonry, in gold filagree work, &c. The Lodge put a value upon it (a pretty high one), and raffled for it in the usual way. The money was handed to the young lady, and the brooch was presented to her in the name of the lodge, as per previous agreement together, the brother who won it in the raffle having the honour of presenting it.—GOLD-DIGGER.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—The Secretary of Minerva Lodge (No. 311), is entitled to our best thanks.

There must be many similar documents in England, and their appearance would be a matter of great interest. More particularly any authentic documents shewing the relation held by the Ancient York Druidical Lodge, or C. of R.A.M., and Templar Encampment or College of Heredom Templars, to these Encampments of Hospitaller, St. John, and the Temple, as I presume the "Redemption" to have been.

Dermott states about 1778 that the York Masons "kept up their ancient formalities, customs, and usages, without alteration, adding, or diminishing, to this hour."

I remain, yours truly and fraternally,

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SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Allow me to direct your attention to the scientific discoveries of Mr. Melville, noticed in the accompanying paragraph, which, perhaps, you will have the goodness to insert in the ensuing number of your MAGAZINE.

In reference to Mr. Melville I may state that I have known him upwards of eight years, in Victoria, and so recently as last February, he kindly afforded me various facilities for examining his discoveries, and I, therefore, do not hesitate to say that they are of a very extraordinary character. I may further state that it is by means of certain *keys* and *laws*, applied to the correlative sciences, that Mr. Melville has succeeded in effecting those discoveries. The keys are the *triple-tau*, and the *double-triangle*, silent, yet mystic symbols of the Royal Arch. The laws are the *Median* and *Persian*, known for generations past only for their immutability.

As an instance, among many, of Mr. Melville's peculiar erudition, I may mention, that I am in possession of a paper of his on "Chronology," which he views through the medium of Astronomy and Freemasonry, and thence arrives at some curious and highly valuable data in respect to past, and future, time. I shall, if you desire it, with pleasure, hand you the paper for publication in your next issue.

I remain, Sir, yours fraternally,
M. M.

VICTORIAN DISCOVERIES.

(From the *Australian and New Zealand Gazette*, Nov. 29, 1862.)

In 1851 Mr. Hargreaves discovered the gold fields of Victoria, for which the Colonial Legislature rewarded him with £5000. Having previously resided in New South Wales, he found on visiting the California gold fields that the character of the country resembled that of New South Wales, and soon after his return thither proclaimed it, as well as Victoria, to be auriferous. In 1861 Burke and Wills, and in 1862 Landsborough, discovered, while traversing the Australian continent, that its interior was not, as had been supposed, an arid desert, but in all respects a good pasturing country. In 1862 also Henry Melville, of Victoria, perfected his discoveries in the theoretical sciences of Astronomy, Mythology, and Freemasonry, showing that those sciences are correlative, that thereby the *truths* of ancient history are evolved, mythological plates and sculpture of all nations translated, ancient dates of cities and events reduced to astronomical time, and ancient coins interpreted. Mr. Melville has, we understand, been engaged during some seven and twenty years in the study of those speculative sciences, but whether his discoveries therein will be hereafter corroborated we do not venture to predict; suffice it for the present that they furnish intellectual treats to, and matters for deep reflection on the part of, educated and enlightened men of all nations, who, it is believed, are too much imbued with the spirit of research and inquiry not to rejoice at an opportunity of testing the accuracy of Mr. Melville's remarkable scientific discoveries; and if our brief notice of them lead to such result, it will not have been written in vain.

[We shall be happy to receive the paper alluded to.—Ed. F. M. and M. M.]

THE ROSE CROIX DEGREE.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It is a great pity some personal friend cannot tell Bro. Findell the real force and meaning of the coarse English epithets he is so fond of applying to those Masons—blind wanderers, no doubt—who presume to differ from him. He has before called, by imputation, all high grade Masons impostors; and he now distinguishes them as bastards. No English gentleman can condescend to enter into an argument with a brother who so forgets himself, or I might ask him, since stonemasons, with the assistance of blacksmiths and carpenters, built houses and temples centuries before the principle of the arch was discovered, why he does not use the same elegant and brotherly expression to designate the Companions of the Royal Arch degree? Is all progress to be stopped to please our self-opinioned friend?

ROSÆ CRUCIS.

Dec. 1st, 1862.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEM.

FREEMASONRY AND LANCASHIRE DISTRESS.—Bro. Haig has addressed the following letter to Lord Zetland:—"Union Club, London, Nov. 27th, 1862.—To the Earl of Zetland, Right Worshipful Grand Master of Masons. Right Worshipful,—I beg to enclose, for the benefit of our Masonic brethren in Lancashire who are poor and distressed Masons, a cheque for £50; but I wish this to be applied merely to the relief of distressed Masons, not to the outer world who are not Masons. I think that if you were to appeal to the Masons of England, you would obtain many subscriptions to a Masonic Fund, to be distributed by the Masonic body in the distressed counties, from those who, like myself, would otherwise decline to give to an ordinary fund.—I am, Right Worshipful Grand Master, yours fraternally, J. R. HAIG, P.M. 23."

GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication was held in Freemason's Hall on Wednesday last, the R.W.D. Grand Master the Earl de Grey and Ripon presiding as G.M., supported by Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, Prov. G.M., as D.G.M.; Colonel Brownrigg, as S.G.W.; Bro. Havers, J.G.W.; Revs. W. K. R. Bedford and Jno. Huyshe, G. Chaps.; Bros. S. Tomkins, G. Treas.; McIntyre, G. Reg.; W. G. Clarke, G. Sec.; J. Ll. Evans, S.G.D., and President of the Board of General Purposes; Creaton and Blake, J.G.D.'s; Daukes, G. Supt. of Works; Woods, G.D.C.; Empson, G.S.B.; Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec.; Stimpson, G. Org.; Farmer, G. Purst.; Dickie, Assist. G. Purst. There were also present, Bros. Hall, Prov. G.M. Cambridge; Dobie, Prov. G.M. Surrey; Bagshaw, Prov. G.M. Essex; Bros. Perkins and Pattison, P.G.W.'s; Rev. E. Cox, P.G. Chap.; Bro. Roxburgh, P.G. Reg.; Bros. Udall, Gregory, Potter, Lloyd, Hopwood, Savage, Patten, Giraud, Nelson, Scott, J. R. White, I. N. Tomkins, S. B. Wilson, Wheeler, Phillips, P.G.D.'s; Bro. Jennings, P.G.D.C.; Bros. Gooch, Chas. Elkington, Hyde Pallen, Pocock, Le Veau, Bridges, and Spiers, P.G.S.B.'s; Bros. Adams and Smith, P.G. Pursts.; Bro. Huguenin, representative from Switzerland; Bro. Banister, Prov. G.D.C. West Lancashire; Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P. Prov. G.W. West Yorkshire; Greenwood, Prov. G. Sec. Surrey; Fabian, Prov. G.S.W. Sussex; Copenman, P. Prov. G.S.B. Sussex; Andrews, P. Prov. G.D. Surrey; Gibbs, D. Prov. G. Master Bombay, the Masters, &c., of the Grand Stewards' and other lodges, in all about three hundred, of whom upwards of sixty came from the provinces.

Grand Lodge having been opened in ample form and with solemn prayer,

The GRAND SEC. read the minutes of the quarterly communication, which were put by the D. Grand Master and confirmed.

THE COMMITTEE ON THE GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

The R.W.D. GRAND MASTER said before proceeding to the business which they had before them that evening, there was one subject which in accordance with the wish of the G.M. (who greatly regretted he was not able to be present on that occasion), which it became his duty to bring under the notice of Grand Lodge. By the confirmation of the minutes of the last quarterly communication, they had determined that a Committee should be appointed to consider and report on certain questions connected with the property of Grand Lodge, and he observed on the paper of business for that evening, that there was a notice of motion in reference to the appointment of that Committee, but he thought at that stage of their proceedings, that it would be better to draw their attention to the question of the appointment of that Committee and the order of their proceedings. It was of the greatest interest to the Craft, and therefore, most

important to them, that every brother should have the fullest and most ample means of voting for those who were to form the members of that Committee, and to express their opinion as to the way in which it should be composed. Their ordinary rule in the appointment of Committees was that they should be elected by ballot, and the great advantage to be derived from an election by ballot was, that it could be taken while the other business of Grand Lodge was being proceeded with, and enabled every member to give his vote as to how such Committees should be appointed. Their M.W. Grand Master held a strong opinion as to the propriety of that course of election, and in which he (the R.W.D.G.M.) most heartily concurred, and to give an opportunity to every brother of voting the M.W.G.M., had directed balloting papers to be prepared in order to conduct the election in that manner. The G.M., however, was not desirous that such a step should be taken unless in unison with Grand Lodge, and with that view had not given directions that the election should be taken in the manner, but had directed him (the D.G.M.) to bring the subject under the notice of Grand Lodge, and to take its opinion whether the election should be proceeded with in the manner he had suggested. As the Committee would be one of the greatest importance, he thought the subject should not be postponed until they could proceed upon it by notice of motion as it would then be much later in the evening, and many of the brethren who came from long distances would be prevented from voting for the sixteen names on the list already proposed. It would be also in the power of any brother to propose other names, which would require to be put separately, and they might have as many as sixteen divisions, and if that were to be the case the business would be prolonged to a late hour, and many brethren would be prevented from taking part or voting on this important question. Therefore he had the commands from the G.M. to submit the question to Grand Lodge, believing that it would be better to pursue the method ordinarily adopted in the appointment of standing committees which commended itself to their approval, and in this case they would have the additional advantage of the votes of their brethren from the country, who went away early; but if it were to come on late, they would have no opportunity of giving their votes and recording their opinions on this question. As to the notice of motion of their brother the Rev. A. Woodford, which stood on the paper, he could assure him that it would be out of no disrespect to him if they adopted the suggestion of the G.M. He would, therefore, now leave the question in the hands of Grand Lodge, but with the strong expression of his own opinion in favour of it.

The GRAND REGISTRAR said, he had no words to add to the very forcible observations of their R.W. Dep. G.M., in all of which he entirely concurred, and would at once move that Grand Lodge do proceed to the election of the Committee by way of ballot.

Bro. HERBERT LLOYD, P.S.G.D., seconded the motion.

Bro. the Rev. J. K. R. BEDFORD, G. Chap., said, he gave his concurrence in all that had been stated by the D.G.M., in reference to their provincial brethren, but he wished to go further. He was sorry to express his feelings, when he said he regretted that the provinces were not more adequately represented, in either of the lists which were then before them, and on the part of the five hundred lodges in the provinces he wished to ask the D.G.M. if there was any regulation in the *Book of Constitutions* to prevent the issuing of the balloting papers to them, as many of their members could not be present to vote on this question. No doubt there were many that evening who had come upwards of two-hundred miles to be present, but that could not be repeated without almost the possession of a large fortune and an unlimited amount of time at their command. Therefore he wished to ask the D.G.M. if voting papers could be issued to the provinces and that the time for the appointment of the Committee should be extended further than that evening.

The D. GRAND MASTER expressed the greatest desire that their provincial brethren should be represented, being himself a Provincial Grand Master, but such a course as that proposed by their respected brother would be unprecedented, and therefore, they could not do so consistently with their usual mode of procedure.

The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

The D.G. MASTER said he had then another proposition to make, which was that the names of the sixteen brethren which appeared on the notice paper, which was in the hands of every brother present, should be taken as proposed and seconded, and

then there would be no necessity whatever for proposing and seconding the names of those brethren that appeared on the paper, and thus save the time of Grand Lodge.

The names proposed were as follows:—Bros. John Havers, J.G.W., and P.M. No. 5; John Llewellyn Evans, S.G.D. and P.M. No. 54; John Hervey, P.S.G.D. and P.M. No. 7; John Savage, P.S.G.D. and P.M. No. 19; Joseph Rankin Stebbing, P.M. No. 152; George Plucknett (No. 324), P.M. No. 70; Henry Grissell, J.W. No. 2., Alexander Dobie, Prov. G.M. Surrey, and P.M. No. 1; Herbert Lloyd, P.S.G.D., and P.M. No. 14; Henry Wellington Vallance, P.M. No. 275; David Henry Stone, P.M. No. 1; Colonel Western, P.M. No. 2; Charles Tyler, P.M. No. 79; Joseph Taylor, P.M. No. 18; William Verrall, P.M. No. 338; Stephen Barton Wilson, P.J.G.D., and P.M. No. 125.

Bro. VERRALL, P.M. No. 338, said he felt his own incompetency to perform the duties, and as he saw many names of brethren on the list far better qualified, he begged to withdraw his name.

Bro. HERBERT LLOYD, P.S.G.D., said he also wished to withdraw his name. (Loud cries of no, no.)

Bro. BEDFORD said, after the opinion he had expressed, the D.G.M. would perhaps pardon him if he proposed an additional name, which was that of Bro. Colonel Bowyer, Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire.

Bro. MEYMOTT wished that the various names should be proposed, and then that they should speak and vote upon them.

The D. G. MASTER said he must uphold the unanimous decision which had been come to by Grand Lodge, and they could not proceed by any other way than by ballot, but it was competent for any brother to propose any one beyond those whose names appeared on the list.

Bro. MEYMOTT begged to propose that Bro. Blake be a member of the committee.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. WOODFORD rose to order and said, under the ruling of the D.G.M. no brother could say a word in proposing the names of candidates.

The D.G. MASTER said it was not competent for any brother to speak on the propositions which were on the paper.

Bro. MEYMOTT said he had risen to propose Bro. Blake, and for this reason, that he had a humble but earnest wish that the expression of their M.W.G.M. on the last occasion should be carried out, which was, that the brethren who were elected to form that committee should be those in whom the whole body of the craft would have confidence, and who would give the question a fair and impartial consideration, so that the result of their labours should be acceptable to the craft generally. He would take that opportunity of saying that a short time since he was requested to attend a meeting summoned by the Grand Reg., and which was attended by the J.G.W. and others, but he disapproved of that proceeding, as he thought an undue influence was brought to bear on this question.

Bro. GREGORY, P.G.D., rose to order. The subject of a private meeting was not before Grand Lodge.

The D.G. MASTER said he must hold that Bro. Meymott was out of order.

Bro. Blake, J.G.D., rose and declined to be placed on the list of candidates.

Bro. MEYMOTT then said that he would propose that Bro. Dobie, Prov. G.M. for Surrey, should be a member of the Committee (laughter).

The D. GRAND MASTER said that Bro. Meymott was again out of order, as the name was already on the list.

Bro. BEDFORD said when he proposed the name of Bro. Colonel Bowyer, he thought he had his consent to do so, but he now begged to withdraw the name.

A BROTHER proposed that Bro. Harcourt, D. Prov. G.M., of Surrey, should be a member of the Committee, and was proceeding to make a speech on his proposition, when

Bro. RANKIN STEBBING rose to order and said if every brother was to be at liberty to make a speech in proposing a name, he hoped the same privilege would be given to the other members in respect to every one of the sixteen names on the list.

The D. GRAND MASTER said he could not rule in the way suggested by Bro. Stebbing.

Bro. SARGOOD rose to order but upon another ground, and begged to ask whether it was right that any brother should be proposed as a member of the Committee, until that brother had obtained the consent of the person proposed, and that he had intimated his concurrence and consent to serve.

The D. GRAND MASTER said it would be most desirable before

My brother proposed a name as a member of the Committee, that he should have obtained the consent of the one he proposed and expressed a willingness to act upon it, but he would not exclude the proposition of any name on that account.

Bro. Dr. JONES proposed Bro. Harcourt, Prov. G.M. for Surrey.

Bro. WELLINGTON VALLANCE wished to withdraw his name from the second list, as there were many other brethren better qualified; and he hoped some other brother would be elected for that distinguished honour.

Bro. HERBERT LLOYD said it had been suggested to him that he had done wrong in withdrawing his name; and he had now to say that, if the brethren chose to elect him, he was willing to serve.

The D. GRAND MASTER said it was competent for the brethren to vote for any of the names from both lists, and also to add that of Dr. Harcourt, but not to exceed seven in number, or those papers in which that number was exceeded would be rejected.

The balloting papers were then distributed, and scrutineers appointed to collect them.

THE DISTRESS IN THE COTTON DISTRICTS.

The D. GRAND MASTER said they would then proceed to the other business; and the next notice on the paper stood in the name of the M.W. the Grand Master, which he had entrusted to him (the D.G.M.) to move on the occasion. He most gladly undertook that duty, but he would not detain Grand Lodge by entering into any detailed description of that great and unforeseen misfortune which at the present moment was bearing so heavily on a great portion of the population of this country. Their minds had for some time been harrowed with the details of the great distress in the cotton districts; and he thought the inhabitants of this country, were bound deeply to reflect upon, and afford relief to the suffering thousands in their individual capacity. It was one of the first principles of every good Freemason that it made them better men not only towards Masons, but towards mankind at large; and those who did not belong to their Craft, that it did not weaken, but strengthened their love for their fellow men, and, above all, for their fellow countrymen. He did not think it necessary to spend another moment in awakening their sympathies on behalf of a large portion of their population, who were now undergoing such an amount of suffering, from no fault of their own, but who had borne it with a patience and forbearance which did honour to the country to which they belonged. It might be made a question whether, as Freemasons, it would be right that they should make a grant from their funds to be distributed amongst those who did not belong to the Craft. There were no doubt in Lancashire and Cheshire many Masons who were affected by the present distress, but the proposition he had to make went further than that, for it would not apply solely to Masons. In two great national events which had occurred the Grand Lodge had come forward with its contributions. One of them was of a warlike description, when Grand Lodge came forward to help those who suffered by its contribution to the Patriotic Fund, and also to assist those who fell in the Indian mutiny. Those were events which had stirred the nation, and were regarded as great and national calamities that had fallen on the population. This famine in the cotton districts was also a national event, their sympathies had been awakened by the sufferings of the people and he held that it was their duty, as a nation, to come forward in their behalf. He held, therefore, that it was quite consistent with their duty as Freemasons to act as a part of a great people who were suffering; to say to them "if you suffer we suffer, if you are in misfortune we share it with you, and if you are in prosperity we rejoice with you." Therefore he should proceed to submit the resolution, but, before he did so, there was one circumstance to which he wished to allude and that was the remark which had been made, that the great millowners and the people of Lancashire had not themselves done their duty, but, for his part, he could not understand why it should be urged, as a reason, that because somebody else was not doing his duty that he should not do his own. But he was happy to say that there was no such objection in this case, for it was only that morning that he had read, in the public newspapers, and as most of the brethren were aware, that the millowners and the people of Lancashire had nobly done their duty. He would, therefore, now move "that the sum of £1000 be granted from the fund of General Purposes towards the relief of the distress in the cotton districts," and he would add to the motion "that the

money be handed over to the Central Committee under the presidency of the Lord Mayor," because he was a neighbour, and more than that because he was a good Mason. (Cheers.)

Bro. SIR LUCIUS CURTIS, Prov. G.M. for Hampshire, said, concurring as he did in every word which had fallen from the D.G.M., he would not take up their time, but would at once second the motion. The great object of Masonry was charity; that was the great object of their institution, and he hoped they would respond to it as they ought to do.

Bro. GREGORY, P.G.D., doubted whether the grant could be legally made from funds raised for Masonic purposes, and after some other observations suggested that a subscription should be raised amongst the lodges, which would render such a course as that now proposed unnecessary.

Bro. PERKINS strongly urged a contribution towards the relief of the cotton districts, and said that for Grand Lodge to refuse £1000 to them when they had got £30,000 in hand was ridiculous.

Bro. BEAUMONT wished to move as an amendment to the proposition of the D.G.M. that the sum to be granted be £2000.

Bro. ALFRED SMITH said he thought the provinces ought to be represented in this matter, and therefore he should submit as an amendment that the proposed sum of £1000 on being voted by Grand Lodge should be distributed among Masons only—(cries of no, no)—and that the M.W. G.M. be requested to form a Committee for the purpose of receiving the subscriptions of brethren towards the general relief, including those who are not Masons. Masons had done something, but not as much as they ought to do, and if a communication were to be made to the Masters of the different lodges, they would be able to get sufficient money in a month instead of waiting for it till March, when he hoped the distress might be at an end.

This amendment not being seconded fell to the ground.

Bro. BARNARD said, if the course suggested to be taken by the M.W.G.M. were followed, the money would not be taken from the benevolent fund, but from the funds of the Board of General Purposes. It was their duty as masons to carry out the great principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth, and he believed while it could be done without interfering with their benevolent fund it would induce some to assist in supporting their charities to a greater extent than was done at present.

Bro. Dr. JONES said, that charity began at home, and he contended the money derived from masons should be devoted to the relief of masons, and masons only (great disapprobation).

Bro. BANISTER, from Northumberland, expressed his great approbation of the proposition, and hoped to see them come to a unanimous vote upon it.

The D.G. MASTER then put the motion, which was carried with two or three dissentients.

Bro. STEBBING said, that as the motion had been carried with such unanimity, he would ask his lordship if he knew of any way by which the money could be paid to-morrow, and if, there were he wished, he would take steps for that purpose, as the quickness with which it was done would much add to the grace of the donation.

Bro. Tomkins, Grand Treas., said, M.W.D.G.M., if it meets with your approbation, I shall be most happy to pay the money to-morrow, and take the chance of the confirmation by Grand Lodge (loud and enthusiastic cheering which was continued for some time followed the announcement.)

The D. GRAND MASTER.—Nothing could be more truly Masonic than the proposal made by the Grand Treasurer, for there was no other way in which the suggestion of Bro. Stebbing could have been carried out; and he was sure every Mason would esteem Bro. Tomkins for his noble offer.

THE ST. LAWRENCE LODGER.

The D. GRAND MASTER said, in reference to the St. Lawrence Lodge, the Grand Lodge of Canada had accepted the views which had been advocated by the Grand Lodge of England; and he might also say that certain irregularities which had taken place in a particular province, which he need not name, had come to an end, and were now reduced to regularity and order.

Bro. LLEWELLYN EVANS said that, having had the honour to preside over the Colonial Board during the time the complaint of the St. Lawrence Lodge, No. 923, Montreal, relative to the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Canada, adverse to that lodge, was under consideration, he begged to be allowed to congratulate Grand Lodge on the happy termination of a difference which he had feared would have led to serious difficulties in our

relations with the Grand Lodge of Canada. He (Bro. Evans) had always been of opinion that the decision of the Grand Lodge of Canada, adverse to the St. Lawrence Lodge, had been based on an imperfect knowledge of the real facts of the case, and that, if the whole truth could be once brought under the consideration of the Masonic authorities in Canada, they must come to the same conclusion to which, after very careful consideration, the Colonial Board had come. He was happy to find that such had been the case, and that this much vexed question was now satisfactorily disposed of, and in a manner which evidenced the truly Masonic principles which actuated the M.W. the Grand Master of Canada.

NOMINATION OF GRAND MASTER.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. WOODFORD said he wished to address Grand Lodge, and to invite its attention for a few moments, and as he felt a diffidence in doing so, as a provincial brother, he entreated their kind consideration. He begged most respectfully to nominate as Grand Master for the ensuing year their distinguished brother the Earl of Zetland. (Cheers.) The mention of his name naturally recalled their thoughts to the twofold character in which he stood before them. As a landowner in the county in which he (Bro. Woodford) lived, he was looked up to for the truth and honour which had marked his long career, and as a landlord, he was actuated by the kindest feelings towards a numerous and contented tenantry. He now passed from those excellent qualities to his Masonic duties, and during the 18 years he had presided over them, every brother must have been deeply impressed with a sense of his kindness while under his firm but temperate rule, and no brother would contradict him when he alluded to the extent to which their Order had progressed while he had held that office. In private lodges they required in the person who was to preside over them, prudence, discretion, and consideration, to influence him in promoting and assisting the brethren over whom he presided, and he would ask them if the Earl of Zetland did not possess all these qualifications in a most eminent degree. While he had watched and maintained the landmarks of their Order, he had ever respected the feelings of Grand Lodge so far as could be done consistently with their regulations. Remembering gratefully the past, and anticipating a brighter future, in which Masonry should find a more suitable home in which their ceremonies could be better carried out, he begged to nominate the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland as Grand Master for the ensuing year.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The members of the Board of Benevolence for the ensuing year were then elected.

THE GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

The scrutineers appointed to examine the balloting papers for members for the Committee on the Grand Lodge Property, reported the votes to be as follows:—

Bro. John Hervey, P.S.G.D., and P.M. No. 7	244
„ John Savage, P.S.G.D., and P.M. No. 19 ..	244
„ Joseph Rankin Stebbing, P.M. No. 152	242
„ John Havers, J.G.W., and P.M. No. 5.....	240
„ George Plucknett, (No. 324) P.M. No. 70 ..	228
„ Henry Grissell, J.W. No. 2	190
„ John Llewellyn Evans, S.G.D. and P.M. No. 54	188
The other votes stood as follows:—	
„ Alexander Dobie, Prov. G.M. Surrey, and P.M. No. 1	151
„ Herbert Lloyd, P.S.G.D., and P.M. No. 14...	101
„ William Verrall, P.M. No. 338	88
„ Joseph Taylor, P.M. No. 58	58
„ Stephen Barton Wilson, P.J.G.D., and P.M. No. 125	49
„ Harcourt, Dr. George, D. Prov. G.M. Surrey, P.G.S.B.	41
„ Colonel Western, P.M. No. 2	31
„ Charles Tyler, P.M. No. 79	14
„ David Henry Stone, P.M. No. 1	12
„ Henry Wellington Vallance, P.M. No. 275...	7

The D.G. MASTER declared the first seven to be duly elected upon the Committee.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The report of the Board of Benevolence for the last quarter was presented, in which all recommendations for the following grants were agreed to, viz:—

The widow of Bro. T. J. S., of the Royal York Lodge of Perseverance (No. 7), London... £30 0 0	
Bro. P. B., of the Caledonian Lodge (No 156), London.....	50 0 0
Bro. T. R., of the Lodge of Fidelity (No. 813), Southwold.....	30 0 0
Bro. K. T. of the Lodge of Union (No. 45), Chichester.....	30 0 0
Bro. L. L. of the St. James's Union Lodge London.....	30 0 0

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

The PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD moved that the report be taken as read, which was agreed to. He then moved the adoption of the first recommendation, viz., that in consequence of Bro. Moss, the junior clerk in the Grand Secretary's office, having been for some time past under mental incapacity for the discharge of his duties, and such incapacity continuing, his situation has of necessity been declared vacant. The Board, under the circumstances, recommend that Grand Lodge do grant out of the Fund of General Purposes the sum of fifty-four pounds twelve shillings (being equivalent to half a year's salary) to Mrs. Eliza Moss, the wife of Bro. George Percy Moss, late a clerk in the Grand Secretary's office, towards the support of herself and family in the painful position in which she is placed, owing to the mental malady with which her husband has been and continues afflicted.

The G. REGISTRAR seconded the motion.

Bro. STEBBING considered the sum proposed to be quite inadequate; and although he did not intend to propose an amendment, he hoped that if the motion were agreed to, it would be with an understanding that the subject should be again brought before Grand Lodge, if the state of the family should render it necessary.

The motion was unanimously agreed to.

RENUMBERING OF LODGES.

The PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES said he had now to propose the second paragraph of the report, which was as follows:—

“The Board have had their attention directed to the question of renumbering the lodges, a period of thirty years having elapsed since the last renumbering took place, and in the meantime nearly three hundred lodges having become extinct, either by surrender of Warrants or by erasure in consequence of failing to make the returns required by the *Book of Constitutions*. The Board find that there are at present in the London district 148 lodges; in the Provinces at home 504 lodges; in the Channel Islands 11 lodges; in the Colonies and Foreign parts 271 lodges; and in regiments 6 lodges, making a total of 940 lodges, whereas by the numbers printed in the Freemason's Calendar there would appear to be 1235 lodges on the Registry of the Grand Lodge. Under these circumstances the Board suggest to Grand Lodge that it would be convenient to resolve—
“That the numbers of all lodges now on the Register of Grand Lodge be brought forward in regular succession where necessary by filling up the numbers which have become vacant either by reason of the voluntary surrender of Warrants, or of erasure of lodges from time to time.”

Bro. HORTON SMITH seconded the motion.

Bro. HYDE PULLEN said this was a matter of great importance to brethren in the provinces, as they loved the number of their mother lodge, and would do anything rather than it should be altered. He suggested that the brethren should have the option of progressing, or retaining their present number. Were such to be done, the number of lodges would be gradually filled up, and the object of the Board of General Purposes would be answered, but he would give to every lodge the opportunity of retaining its own particular number.

Bro. STEBBING said that Bro. Hyde Pullen was, on behalf of the provinces, against the motion, but he on behalf of the provinces was in favour of it. He was in favour of it in the interests of truth, for it was no use humbugging and making a parade that they had upwards of twelve hundred lodges, when their real number was below a thousand. He belonged to lodge No. 152 and if the alteration was made he expected it would be brought down thirty or forty, and, therefore, he cordially supported the motion.

Bro. the Rev. J. HYSIE concurred in the remarks of Bro. Stebbing, as he was desirous of moving downwards, and he hoped the motion would be carried.

Bro. SAVAGE said, they could not do better than close up the numbers according to the resolution.

Bro. EVANS replied, and said that as the register was a false one, the sooner they made the alteration the better.

The notice was then put and carried with but two dissentents.

TONTINE COMMITTEE.

A report from the Freemasons' Tontine Committee appointed under the provisions of the Deed of Trust of the 2nd August, 1776, notifying that all the nominees specified in the said Deed, and on whose lives the said Tontine was granted, are now extinct, the last survivor, Mrs. Ann Ellis, having died on the 26th August, 1862, was then presented.

This report was referred to the Committee on the Grand Lodge Property.

Grand lodge was then closed in ample form, and with solemn prayer, shortly before 11 o'clock.

METROPOLITAN.

JORDAN LODGE (No. 237).—The first meeting of this lodge, after the recess, took place on Friday evening, the 21st ult., at the Freemasons' Tavern. There was a full muster of the brethren of the lodge, as well as of visitors. Among the latter we noticed Bros. Paas, P.M. 663; Harris, P.M. 223; Stevens, J.D. 9; Redgrave, P.M. 110; Sinclair, 257, &c. The W.M., Bro. Charles Swan, assisted by his principal officers, Bros. B. J. Jeffery, S.W., and W. Hammond, J.W., and the assistant officers, all of whom were punctually at their posts, opened the lodge in due form. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and unanimously confirmed, Mr. James Reay, proposed by Bro. Cate, and seconded by Bro. Finglass, was balloted for as a candidate for initiation, which having been unanimously declared in his favour, he was admitted into the Order in the solemn and impressive manner in which the ceremony is uniformly given in this lodge. The lodge having then been opened in the Second Degree, Bro. C. F. Adams, having been found duly qualified, was passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft. The lodge having been closed in the Second Degree, and after some minor business had been transacted—Bro. Hart, of the Vitruvian, was proposed as a joining member, and a gentleman as a candidate for initiation. The most interesting proceeding of the evening took place. The W.M. said it now became his pleasing duty, in accordance with a resolution passed at the last meeting, the minutes of which had that evening been unanimously confirmed, to present to Bro. Edward Henry Patten, P.M., and father of the lodge, the testimonial in view before the members, and which, handsome as it was acknowledged to be, elegant in form, chaste in execution, and appropriate in sentiment, would but very imperfectly represent the worth of the brother for whom it was designed, and still less adequately convey the extent of esteem entertained for him by the members of the lodge. Bro. Patten had been nearly forty years a member of the Jordan Lodge, and, as an indication of the amount of energy and zeal which characterised all his undertakings, the fact must be mentioned that, for the first 30 years after his initiation, Bro. Patten was not once absent from the lodge, and that since that time he had not been absent more than three times; and further, that in the whole course of his Masonic career he had never once had to give the sign on entering the lodge. Very few Masons of far shorter standing could have so much said of them in point of punctual attendance to duties; but it was not simply this trait in his character which endeared Bro. Patten to the brethren not only of this (his own) lodge, but to the Craft generally. It was rather those qualities which the brethren had endeavoured to portray upon that parchment, and which had called forth the testimonial itself. It was unnecessary for him to reiterate those sentiments, patent as they were to every member present, but he must, for the want of appropriate terms to express his feelings, borrow from the concluding portion of the document, and thus hope, in the name of all the brethren, that Bro. Patten might long be spared to aid the deliberations of the lodge by his counsel and experience, and that they might thus long have the privilege of uniting in the expression of their sincere and affectionate regard for him. The W.M. then presented the testimonial, which consisted of the resolution of the brethren beautifully engraved and illuminated in an elegant gilt frame. The following is the inscription in full:—"Jordan Lodge (No. 237). Charles Swan,

W.M. At a meeting of the above lodge, held at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on Friday, the 16th May, 1862, the following resolutions were unanimously agreed to, and a copy thereof ordered to be inscribed on vellum, and presented to Bro. Patten:—Resolved, That the best thanks of this lodge are justly due, and are hereby given to Bro. Edward Henry Patten, P.G.S.B., Secretary to the Royal Freemasons' Girls' School, P.M., and father of the lodge, for his unremitting exertions in promoting its welfare during the thirty-eight years he has been a member thereof; having for twenty-eight years of that time held the office of Secretary. The brethren desire to offer their testimony to the uniform kindness and courtesy, as well as to the energy and ability, evinced by Bro. Patten in maintaining the true interests of the Craft, and more especially in his constant support of the Masonic charities, of which he has ever been a warm advocate, as well as a liberal contributor. With feelings of unfeigned respect and esteem, and in the earnest wish that Bro. Patten may be spared for many years to aid the deliberations of the lodge by his counsels and experience, the brethren unite in the expression of their sincere and affectionate regard. (Signed) EDWARD SPOONER, P.M., Secretary."—Bro. PATTEN, in acknowledging the honour paid him by the presentation of the testimonial, said that, all through the long course of his connection with the Jordan Lodge, he had a vivid appreciation of the kind sympathy and fraternal regard of the brethren; but this general manifestation of their esteem quite overcame him, and caused him to look within, that he might still know himself, and not be elated beyond such knowledge by this fresh expression of appreciation of not gratuitous services rendered, but only duties required from him to the members of this (his own) lodge in particular, and to the Craft in general. He would treasure this testimonial of the W.M. and brethren with no common feelings of grateful esteem. It would indicate to his family and friends, by whom it would be highly valued, how great an amount of satisfaction might be reaped even here by a strict endeavour to act in the line of Masonic duty. He hoped, too, that this example of fraternal regard would be an incentive for the younger brethren present to emulate what the W.M. had graciously designated virtues in him, but which were only the fruits of a strict adherence to Masonic rule, and a strenuous endeavour to act up to the spirit of the Masonic obligation. He had long been dignified and honoured with the title of "father of the lodge;" but even in this pleasing honour there was something of an admixture of sadness. He looked around at each successive meeting, and witnessed the absence of some familiar face, of some kind helping hand in the great work they had in view, till the reality now rushed upon his mind that not one of those who were initiated in the lodge during the first twenty-one years of his membership was any longer among them. The second oldest member was the brother (Bro. Spooner) who now holds the office which he (Bro. Patten) had the honour of filling for so many years. As the mutation of time progressed, he would doubtless fill the position carrying with it so much honour and privilege, of father of the lodge. Bro. Patten then thanked the brethren in terms of the most unfeigned regard and fraternal attachment, urging upon them, as much by his earnest emotion as by his natural eloquence, the great duty of Masonic charity as called forth by the four institutions of the Order, claiming an extra sympathy for that with which he is now especially identified.—Bro. SHEEN, P.M., gave notice of a motion which had for its object the alteration of certain of the Bye-Laws of the lodge, and the result of which would enable the brethren to hold a still more honourable position in the lists of donations to the charities. The principal alteration would be to expunge from the code of rules that which now made the third Friday in May one of the regular evenings of meeting. Other changes were merely the result of this, and of a verbal character rather than affecting the general principles laid down for the guidance of the lodge. As this was merely a notice of motion to be discussed at the next ordinary meeting, it was only necessary to advertise the brethren of the object of the alterations, in order that they might be prepared to decide the question when brought forward next month.—All Masonic work being ended, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The P.M.'s present were Bro. Patten, Spooner, Sheen, Arliss, Watts, Goldsboro', and Dyer. The cloth having been drawn, the accustomed loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk, the first of which, that became more than usually interesting, being that of "The Visitors." The formal response for himself and brother visitors was made by Bro. Sinclair (Lodge 257); one, however, who held position im-

mediately on the right of the W.M., and whose name we did not catch, said that he begged to be allowed to say a few words for himself especially, as he had entered the lodge under peculiar circumstances. He thought that these circumstances required that he should personally thank the brethren for the kind reception he had experienced. Until one of the brother visitors called upon him that evening, he had not the remotest idea of attending; but, being urged by him to do so, in order to see the working of another lodge than his own, No. 110, he consented, and, as all were aware, he had subsequently been pressed to stay to the banquet. He had been gratified with the excellent working; and, as he had never before been into any other lodge than his own, he need not say that he had learnt something by the visit. He could return to the old city of Norwich from what was a very sad mission, and bear testimony not only to the excellent working, but to the truly Masonic feeling exhibited by the brethren of the Jordan Lodge. He had seen with much pleasure the anxiety evinced in the lodge to make itself even more effective in the support of the charities. This was the more gratifying to him as he was so to speak an example of the benefits of Masonic charity. He had been one of the unfortunate of the thousands who range under the banners of Freemasonry. His visit to London was made for the purpose of placing a child in the excellent Schools of the fraternity. By the generous support given to those institutions by this and other lodges, his child had been taken for a time off his hands, and placed there to receive the education befitting her position, and which circumstances had rendered it impossible for him to impart otherwise. The brother was then much moved, and could only add sincere and grateful acknowledgments for his reception that evening, and for the blessings he had received at the hands of the fraternity generally. In responding to the toast of the Masonic charities, Bro. PATTEN, with whose name it had been connected, said that while all the brethren present in common with himself, felt the most lively interest in all four of the charities, and always supported them to the utmost extent of their resources, he should on this occasion plead more particularly in behalf of that with which he had become officially connected, and he was sure he would be pardoned taking this course, as there was a festival looming in the not very remote future, and he had not yet the name of a brother of the Jordan to represent his mother lodge this year. Bro. Patten then appealed in terms of earnest eloquence in aid of the funds of the Girl's School, assuring the brethren of the immense amount of gratification they would derive from a visit to the establishment, and witnessing its beautiful order, and the eminently educational spirit which pervaded the whole building, and above all, the number of inmates, who had been left friendless in the world, but fortunately rich in the fraternity, and whose happy faces beamed with grateful recognition of those whose bounty had rescued them from destitution. Bro. Patten reminded the lodge that by a similarly munificent donation this year, to that granted two years since by the lodge, the privilege of voting at the elections would hold good for fifteen years; but unless the occasion were now seized, the former donations would not be available for a further period than that of the next election.—Br. C. SPOONER, P.M. and Sec., offered to represent the Jordan at the next festival, and doubtless his popularity in the lodge will secure its utmost support, as well as the individual sympathy of the members. After the Tyler's toast the brethren separated till the third Friday in the present month.

ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 1173).—This select and prosperous lodge held its usual monthly meeting at Bro. Stevens', Royal Oak Tavern, High-street, Deptford, on Wednesday, the 26th of November. The W.M., Bro. Dr. Scott, assisted by his officers Bros. Wilton; Weir, P.M.; Collington, P.M.; Stahr, Stevens, Walters, Pembroke and Mills opened the lodge and performed the ceremonies of the evening. There was a heavy list of work to be done, viz., two raisings, three passings and five initiations. The two raisings were accomplished with a degree of solemnity, which gave not only the proper amount of respect due to them, but must also have conveyed the full force of the ceremony to the newly raised brothers, who were each introduced separately. The next ceremony was the initiations of Messrs. Blomely, A. S. Parkinson and Gjertsen, into the secrets and mysteries of ancient Freemasonry. The ceremony, like its predecessor, was most ably done. Bros. Hawker and Nottebohm, were then passed to the degree of Fellow Craft Freemasons. In all the degrees each candidate was introduced separately, and the entire ceremony gone through, so that every

candidate was enabled to give his undivided attention to the business, and perfect silence being maintained added an additional charm to the work. A very pleasing incident then occurred, this lodge giving its mite to departed merit, by paying the same amount of money as the other two lodges, towards defraying the funeral expenses of our late much respected Bro. Wm. Crouch, P.M. 172, and Tyler to the three lodges which hold their meetings in Deptford, viz., 172, 805, 1173. Although our esteemed brother had been a member of 805 and P.M. of 172, yet these two lodges in a thorough Masonic spirit allowed this young lodge the honour of sharing in this excellent Masonic work. It is a very pleasing fact that three lodges meeting in our town can thus interchange these Masonic courtesies. The business being finished the lodge was closed at nine o'clock, after being open for five hours. The brethren then sat down to an excellent banquet, replete with every comfort. The usual loyal toasts were given and received. Visitors: Bros. C. J. Badger, I.G. 164; Mackenzie, 164; G. Chapman, 172; D. F. Moller, 89; H. R. Poulson, 227 and P. A. Nielsen, 60, I.C.

INSTRUCTION.

EMULATION LODGE (No. 318).—ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL.

The anniversary of this lodge was celebrated on Friday evening, the 28th ult., at Freemasons' Hall. Lodge, which was very fully attended, was held in the Temple, when the following sections were admirably worked, the questions being put by Bro. S. B. Wilson, P.G.D.:—

2nd Lecture—2nd Section... By Bro. F. Mead, S.D. 275.
 " 4th ditto..... " C. A. Murton, P.M. 7.
 3rd Lecture—1st ditto..... " T. Fenn, W.M. 188.
 " 2nd ditto..... " W. Hollingworth, J.D. 76.
 " 3rd ditto..... " J. R. Thomson, W.M. 1003.

Votes of thanks having been recorded to the brethren who had worked the sections, the presiding officers and the visitors, and a large number of new members admitted, the brethren adjourned to

THE BANQUET.

which was admirably served in the Hall under the presidency of Bro. J. Rankin Stebbing, Prov. G. Sec. Hants, and Vice-President of the Board of General Purposes, supported by Bros. Havers, J.G.W.; McIntyre, G. Reg.; Evans, President of the Board of General Purposes; Hervey, P.G.D.; S. B. Wilson, P.G.D.; Potter, P.G.D.; Udall, P.G.D.; Hopwood, P.G.D.; Empson, G.S.B.; Daukes, G. S. Works; Farnfield, A.G. Sec., and about 150 other brethren.

The cloth having been drawn, the first toast drunk was, as usual on these occasions, the pious memory of Peter Gilkes, one of the founders of the lodge.

"The Queen and the Craft" having been duly honoured,

The W. MASTER said he had great pleasure in proposing the next toast, "The Health of the M.W. Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland." They were proud of the opportunity of expressing their devoted loyalty to the Earl of Zetland, as a most distinguished Mason and the head of their Craft. Whatever differences might exist amongst them, all must agree that the Earl of Zetland was a most accomplished nobleman, kind-hearted gentleman, and a honour to their Order. If he (Bro. Stebbing) had thought that a more frequent change in the office of Grand Master would be beneficial to Freemasonry, he had never felt that the office could be filled with greater discretion and good taste than by the Earl of Zetland. (Cheers.) He was sure they would all respond with every loyalty and respect in the toast of the health of the M.W. Grand Master the Earl of Zetland. (Cheers.)

The W. MASTER had great pleasure in giving the next toast, "The Health of the R.W. D.G. Master and the rest of the Grand Officers," many of whom had honoured them with their company that evening. They were bound to admit that those whom the Grand Master had honoured with his confidence had shown themselves worthy of their position by the noble support they had given to their charities, and the care they took to preserve the landmarks of the Order. Those who were below the dais rejoiced in seeing the honours won by their brethren, and he had great pleasure in proposing, as he was sure they would have in responding, to the toast. (Cheers.)

Bro. HAVERS, J.G.W., who was loudly applauded, rose with pleasure to acknowledge the compliment which had been paid the D. Grand Master and the rest of the Grand officers. Since he had been in the craft he had known five Deputy Grand Masters, the Earl of Zetland, the Marquis of Salisbury, the Earl of Yarborough, Earl Dalhousie, and the present holder of the office

the Earl de Grey and Ripon. He felt that the whole of these distinguished brethren had reflected honour on the craft, not so much by their high rank as by their talents and the attention which they had given to the business of Grand Lodge, and for which they were entitled to the gratitude of their brethren. On behalf of the other Grand Officers he could only say that they endeavoured to merit the confidence of the craft, and some of them had done it good service, especially his esteemed Bro. Wilson, whose devotion to the interests of their Lodge of Instruction they all highly appreciated. (Cheers.) He concluded by again thanking the brethren for the compliment paid to the Grand Officers.

The W. MASTER then proposed "Success to the Emulation Lodge of Instruction, coupled with the name of its excellent President Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson." (Cheers.) He knew no toast more interesting or more important than the one he was then proposing, for however happy they might be in acknowledging the services of the officers of Grand Lodge, they could not fail to see the great importance of having such excellent lodges of instruction as the Emulation, and wishing them the utmost prosperity. Freemasonry was now spread throughout the land, and it was most important that the means should be afforded the younger brethren of making themselves acquainted with their ceremonies in all their purity. They followed the system of the late Bro. Peter Gilkes, and he was sure they had found in their respected President Bro. Wilson, a most able and devoted exponent of that system. They were deeply indebted to him for his valuable services, and he trusted that he might long be spared to give the benefits of his talents to the lodge. (Cheers.)

Bro. WILSON P.G.D., had great pleasure in acknowledging the kind manner in which they had received the last toast. He had been for very many years a member of the lodge and he had always been happy to serve it to the best of his ability. Reference having been made to the working of the Emulation Lodge of Instruction, he might observe that it was that arranged by the late Bro. Williams under the direction of the then G.M., the Duke of Sussex. At the time of the union, in order to secure uniformity of working, the Grand Master appointed Bro. Hemming to prepare a system, but his mind giving way before he had completed his task, Bro. Williams, a distinguished mason, was directed to complete it. This he could not well do, but commenced *de novo*, and in order not to hurt the feelings of Bro. Hemming, both systems were allowed to be promulgated—the duke stating that that they would soon find their level—though Bro. Williams' was esteemed the best. That was the origin of the Broadfoot and the Gilkes working, and though a few lodges still adhered to the former, by far the greater majority of the London lodges, indeed he might say all those at the west end practised the latter as it was taught in the Lodge Emulation.

Bro. HAYERS, J.G.W., though he had very often had the pleasure of addressing the Craft, never did so with greater pleasure than on the present occasion, in having the privilege of proposing the health of the chairman of the evening. (Cheers.) He had many reasons for that pleasure. They were aware that in the conduct of public men there would be differences of opinion, and it now fell to his lot to have to propose the health of one of his principal opponents in Grand Lodge. He was glad to believe that they had always been able to respect each others motives. He knew that he had always felt Bro. Stebbing to be only actuated by a desire to serve the interests of the Craft, and he was sure that Bro. Stebbing felt the same with regard to himself (Bro. Hayers). He was only doing justice to his own feelings when he expressed his full conviction that the brother who then presided over them never advocated anything in the truth and advantage of which he did not believe, and that he gave his opponents credit for the same sincerity which he claimed for himself. As he had been before, so it might happen that he should again be occasionally in opposition to Bro. Stebbing in Grand Lodge; but he that as it might, it would never lower his appreciation of him as a most excellent Mason and honourable man. (Cheers.)

Bro. STEBBING said that it could never be otherwise than most gratifying to preside over so large and influential a meeting as he saw around him that evening. He assured them that it was most gratifying to his feelings when he was invited to preside over their festival, and it was with great pleasure that he accepted the invitation. He looked upon that invitation as a tribute to the independence he had shown in Grand Lodge, and he could assure them that in anything he had done or said

he had never been actuated by factious motives, and he trusted that he had never acted otherwise than as a gentleman. (Cheers.) Whenever he was in opposition it was upon principle that he was so placed, and he felt obliged to Bro. Hayers for the kind manner in which he had been pleased to speak of him. He had been many years in Masonry, and, should his head grow grey and his actions sometimes appear erratic, he could assure them that he should never be actuated by any other motive than that of promoting the best interests of the Craft. (Cheers.)

The W. MASTER next gave "Success to the Lodge of Unions," from which the Emulation Lodge of Instruction derives its authority to meet and carry on its career of usefulness, coupled with the name of the W.M., Bro. Whiteman.

Bro. WHITEMAN returned thanks, and assured the brethren that the parent lodge was proud of so vigorous and flourishing a child, which could indeed afford good instruction to its parent. (Laughter.)

The GRAND REGISTRAR proposed what he considered one of the most important toasts of the evening—"The Charities." There was much to admire in their Craft, but nothing more so than the manner in which the brethren supported their charities, which shed so great a lustre upon the Order. There were other and most important Charities in the metropolis, but none that exceeded those three connected with Freemasonry, or rather he might say four, institutions, the one having two branches—the Aged Masons and the Widows' Annuities. The whole of their institutions were well worthy of support, and with the toast he would couple the names of Bros. Farnfield and Binckes. (Cheers.)

Bro. FARNFIELD returned thanks for the compliment on behalf of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows. In June last they had 128 annuitants, and the money paid for annuities in the previous year was £2250. The Committee were desirous of still further extending the benefits of the institution, but could not do so without increased aid. They had £21,000 funded property, but there were now upwards of thirty applicants for the benefits of the institution. He reminded them that the annual festival would take place on the 28th of January, when the chair would be taken by their esteemed brother the J.G. Warden. He had up to the present time received the names of between 50 and 60 Stewards, and he should be glad to add to the number, hoping that they might have such a festival as would add to the usefulness of the Institution.

Bro. BINCKES also returned thanks, and after remarking on the usefulness of each of the Masonic institutions, stated that he was happy to bear testimony that wherever he had been throughout the country he found the brethren most anxious to aid the charities. In pleading for these charities he had always met with a hearty response, and if he pleaded most strongly for the boys' school, it was not only because he was the more immediately connected with that institution, but because he was convinced of the high importance of giving a good education to their boys in order to enable them to take their proper position in the world. Their boys' school required considerable assistance yet to enable it take that position which he desired to see it hold, and he had no fear that through the liberality of the brethren it would take a rank second to none amongst similar institutions. (Cheers.)

The health of the Treasurer and the officers of the evening was next drunk, and briefly responded to by Bro. Hervey, P.G.D., and Bro. Mead, S.W.

The health of the Stewards with thanks to them for their exertions brought the meeting to a happy termination.

PROVINCIAL.

BERKS AND BUCKS.

AYLESBURY.—*Buckingham Lodge* (No. 861.)—The usual monthly meeting was held at the White Hart Hotel, on Tuesday, the 18th ult., the chair being occupied by Bro. John Williams, W.M., supported by Bros. T. Horwood, P.M., Prov. G. Reg.; Rev. J. C. Wharton, P.M., Prov. G. Chap.; and other members of the lodge. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. Among other business, the W.M. proposed that the lodge should become an annual subscriber to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, which was seconded by Bro. Baker, and unanimously agreed to. The W.M. read a communication from Bro. W. Farnfield, requesting the nomination

of a steward for the forthcoming festival of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, when Bro. Rev. J. C. Wharton, P.M., Prov. G. Chap., kindly volunteered to represent the lodge on that occasion. The subject of the distress in Lancashire was then brought before the lodge, at the request of Bro. Rev. O. J. Grace, P.M., (who was unavoidably absent,) when the sum of £5 was unanimously voted towards the relief of the distressed operatives, to be paid to the local committee. The business of the evening being ended, the lodge was closed in ancient and solemn form, and the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment, and passed a pleasant and agreeable evening.

CHANNEL ISLES.

JERSEY.—*Lodge La Césarée* (No. 860).—The regular monthly meeting was held on Thursday, November 27th. The lodge was opened at a quarter-past six by Bro. John Durell, W.M. assisted by his Wardens Bros. Philip Le Sueur and Clement Le Sueur. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The reading of those of an emergency meeting was deferred till a later period of the evening. The lodge having been opened in the second degree, Bros. Giraudot and Manger gave proofs of proficiency in that degree, and were subsequently raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, by the W.M., assisted by Bro. Schmitt, P.M. Bros. Hanan and Muller having satisfactorily answered the usual questions were duly passed as Fellow Craft. At the termination of the ceremony, the lodge was resumed in the first degree. A considerable discussion ensued on the minutes of the emergency, which ended by their being read and approved. The lodge was then closed soon after ten o'clock, and some of the brethren adjourned for refreshment, but the business had been protracted to so late an hour, that many left at its close.

CHESHIRE.

CHESTER.—*Lodge of Independence* (No. 1023).—This lodge held its first meeting for the season on Tuesday, November 25, at its rooms, the Pied Bull Inn. The lodge was opened at 5 p.m., by the W.M., Bro. Brown, assisted by his officers, Bros. Watts and Burghall, P.M., as the senior and junior Wardens, Bros. Ellis and Bainbridge, the senior and junior Deacons, Bros. Street and Gerard, and the W.P.M. Bro. Gerrard. Two gentlemen were balloted for and unanimously accepted, and afterwards made Entered Apprentices by the acting Installing W.M., Bro. Lyon. During the Masonic business of the day, the W.M. informed the brethren that he had received the following communication, which he read:—"Masonic Chambers, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead, 23rd Sept., 1862.—Worshipful Master,—I am instructed to inform you that several brethren of this province having witnessed with interest the progress and great success of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, the object of which is to educate and forward in life the children of deceased or reduced brethren, think it desirable to form a similar institution in the province of Cheshire. The mode of procedure which it is thought desirable to adopt, is to obtain subscriptions from as many brethren as deem it worthy of support, funding the amount so received, the interest of which only will be applied to the object in view. Each subscriber of 5s. per annum will be entitled to one vote, and an additional vote for every 5s. further subscription. A donation of £5 5s. will constitute the donor a life governor, with the privilege of five votes. A deputation has waited upon the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Lord Viscount Combermere, who has promised his cordial support and patronage to the undertaking, and it will be formally submitted to the Provincial Grand Lodge at its next meeting, at Sandbach, on the 8th proximo. Your co-operation is most earnestly solicited, and the promoters confidently hope that you will lay it before the brethren of your lodge, and obtain as many promises of support as possible. It is proposed to vest these funds, when collected, in trustees, to be hereafter named. It is further proposed that the annual court of the governors of this institution should be held simultaneously with the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, in accordance with the custom of the West Lancashire Institution. Soliciting the favour of a reply, I remain, Worshipful Master, yours fraternally. J. P. PLATT, P.M., 782, and P. Procv. J.G.D. Cheshire."—Upon the motion of Bro. Watts, S.W., it was unanimously agreed that the Lodge of Independence should contribute £5 5s., which will

make the W.M. during his term of office a life governor. There was only one opinion amongst the brethren present of the desirability of such an institution in the province of Cheshire, and such was the feeling of those present that each brother put down his name as an annual subscriber of 5s., and no doubt all the lodges of the county will follow their example. The Masonic labours of the day being ended, the brethren were called from labour to partake of an excellent banquet, got up in Bro. Thomas's usual style, after which, the lodge being recalled to labour was finally closed in due form and adjourned.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

CARLISLE.—*Union Lodge* (No. 389).—This lodge was summoned to hold its usual monthly meeting at the Masonic Rooms, English-street, on Tuesday, Nov. 25, to initiate Messrs. Richard Saul, (Royal Irish Fusiliers); Silas G. Saul, George Saul, and George Dixon; and to elect the W.M. for the ensuing year. At the time stated for meeting there was an extraordinarily large gathering of the brethren; and the lodge being duly opened, the minutes read and confirmed, and all other preliminaries carefully dispatched, the initiations took place. Bro. T. W. Hayward, P.M., discharged that duty in his usual solemn and impressive manner, and also minutely explained the practical and moral application of the working tools in a style that could not fail to leave a lasting impression. Bro. Thomas Blacklock, S.W. of the lodge, and alderman of this city, was duly elected to the office of W.M., for the ensuing year. The business for which the lodge was summoned being finished, it was duly closed in solemn prayer. Owing to the anteroom being inadequate to accommodate the numerous gathering, the brethren adjourned to Bro. T. McGowan's, Crown and Mitre Hotel, to renovate and invigorate the physical and mental powers. Bro. C. J. Banister occupied the chair, and Bro. T. Blacklock the vice-chair. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given, and warmly and respectfully received, the chairman gave "The Prov. G.M., Bro. Dyke, and his Deputy, Bro. Greaves." He hoped they would, as early as convenient, pay a visit to each lodge in the united province, to see that the principles of the Craft were strictly and harmoniously attended to. The visiting brethren were next greeted with thanks for their presence; they were very numerous, and came from various parts of the United Kingdom. Amongst them were the worthy and much esteemed Prov. G. Chaplain and his brother, and a gentleman from New York.—The Rev. Brother, in his reply, begged to thank the lodge for the kind and congenial manner in which he and his brother had been received, and stated that he should be happy to be amongst them as frequently as circumstances would permit. Several of the other visitors made replies, both pleasing and appropriate.—The health of Bro. Wilson, the W.M. of the lodge, was cordially received, and replied to in a style that was truly gratifying.—Bro. HAYWARD P.M., proposed the health of Bros. Captain Robert S. Dixon and Captain Rowland Farrar, of the 21st Madras Regiment. It was pleasing to witness the progress and interest they both had taken in Masonry. This toast elicited a very earnest and hearty response from those brethren, Bro. Captain FARRAR, in his reply, stating that he had served many years in India, and during nearly the whole of that period had cherished the hope that the Divine Ruler of all things would so favour him as to permit him to return to his native country, that he might be made a Freemason in that city, the capital of the county. He said he felt truly thankful to the great and eternal Architect of the Universe for favouring him with health, and permitting him to have his fond hope thus realised. Language could not express the emotions of joy, pleasure, and gratitude which flowed through his bosom. He felt proud of being a link in the Masonic chain, and would give Masonry all the attention he possibly could. Bro. Captain Farrar concluded by returning thanks for the kind manner in which the toast had been received.—Bro. R. S. DIXON proposed the health of the worthy and energetic Bro. W. Hayward, P.M., and passed a high eulogium on him for his zeal and perseverance in bringing the lodge to its present prosperous state.—Bro. HAYWARD begged to thank Bro. Dixon for the very high compliment he had paid him, and then gave a short history of the state of the lodge when he became a member, and described its rise and progress up to the present time. He and several other brethren had worked very industriously, and it was a source of pleasure to him to see their efforts crowned with success.—The CHAIRMAN next gave the health of the W.M. Elect for the ensuing year,

and hoped that the lodge would prosper under his presidency.—Bro. BLACKLOCK thanked the Chairman for his kind wishes, and promised to discharge the duties of the office to which his brethren had promoted him to the utmost of his ability. He said it was very remarkable that, for the last two successive lodge meetings, they had initiated three brethren; on the previous one, Captain Rowland Farrar and his two brothers; and, that night, the Messrs. Saul. He thought there was not another lodge in the province that could say the same thing; and begged to thank the brethren most gratefully for the honour they had conferred upon him.—Bro. HATWARD proposed the health of the Chairman, and alluded to the very able manner in which he had presided over the proceedings. His worth as a man and his ability as a Mason, by which they hope hereafter to be benefitted.—Bro. BANNISTER thanked them for their kind manifestations, and as he was now a member of the lodge, he would endeavour to be with them as frequently as it was possible, and be happy to impart instruction as best he could. He also called their attention to some particular points in Masonry which ought to be strictly enforced, and carefully attended to. "The four old brethren who had preserved the lodge in its adversity" were next given, and were severally praised for their devotion in keeping the Union Lodge (No. 382) in a creditable manner with the Grand Lodge of England, and the subscriptions to all the Charities in good repute. This, and the other toasts met with earnest, hearty, and cheering response. The intervals were enlivened by the vocal powers of several of the brethren, and the members separated at a reasonable hour, after having spent an evening both instructive and entertaining.

DEVON.

DEVONPORT.—*Lodge Friendship* (No. 238).—The brethren of this lodge assembled on the evening of the 27th ult., for the all-important purpose of electing a W.M., Treas., and Tyler for the ensuing year. The choice of the members was unanimously in favour of Bro. Crocker, the present S.W. Another year of office was conferred on the one who has for so many years held the important post of Treasurer, Bro. Copplestone. It was decided to hold the lodge for installing the W.M. and officers on the 29th inst., and the banquet for the festival of St. John, on the last day of the present month, at the Royal Hotel. During the evening Bros. Bine and Price were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. Bro. Mark Banin passed to the second degree, and Messrs. Bickett and Andrew Banin, were duly received into the ancient and honourable fraternity. We are very pleased to find that in connection with No. 238, there has been recently established a Lodge of Instruction, which meets on the 2nd Wednesday in each month. We hope the brethren will not fail to appreciate this inestimable means of Masonic instruction.

HAMPSHIRE.

PORTSMOUTH.—*Portsmouth Lodge* (No. 717).—At a meeting of the lodges in this district convened by the W.M. of No. 717, it was agreed to present Bro. Bannister, P.M., P.Z., and Prov. G.S.B., Hants, with a testimonial, as a slight mark of their respect for his attention and zeal for Masonry for a series of years, and at the regular meeting of the Portsmouth, (No. 717) held at the Masonic Hall, Portsmouth, on the 9th October, 1862, there was a large gathering of brethren of the neighbourhood amounting to sixty. It was on this occasion that the testimonial was presented to Bro. Bannister, for his valuable Masonic services. It consisted of a silver purse containing 50 sovereigns, the purse bearing the following inscription: "This purse with 50 sovereigns was presented to Bro. Bannister, P.M., as an acknowledgment of his devotion to the interests of the Craft, for a period of more than 42 years, by the brethren of the Province of Hants, October, 9th 1862." Bro. E. Galt, W.M. and P.M., in presenting the same, spoke in flattering terms of the services rendered by Bro. Bannister, during his Masonic career, which the R.W. Prov. G.M. for Hants, Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, Bart. C.B., and Bro. Rankin Stebbing, P.M. and Vice President Board of General Purposes, corroborated. Bro. Bannister received the present in the same spirit that it was offered, not so much for its intrinsic value as testifying the respect in which he is held by the brethren of the province generally.—Bro. BANNISTER replied as follows:—W. Sir, present and past officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and W.M.'s, officers, and brethren of the respective lodges, who have this evening conferred the most distinguished mark that could possibly be shown to me, not only

by your kindness and esteem, but also for the truly gratifying manner you have carried out the same by your presence this evening, the most important period of my Masonic career, I do not think it would be prudent to occupy your time in speaking of the principles of our Order. I do, therefore, trust, and that most sincerely, if I can impress it on your minds, and instill it in your hearts, that I am duly sensible and deeply grateful for the great manifestation you have shown of my Masonic conduct, and the truly brotherly manner accompanied with such kind expressions towards me, which I am sure will cheer me in the decline of life, and continue as long as it shall please the Great Architect of the Universe to spare me. Such is the desire of my heart, to be very thankful to you, wishing you to receive as it were the overflowings of a truly grateful heart, as any words I can make use of would fall far short. I will, however, attempt to do so by thanking the W.M., officers, and brethren of the various lodges who have shown so much respect towards me, to the committee and Hon. Sec., who have displayed in such a particular manner their good feelings towards me, but there is another cause of thankfulness in having the great gratification of the presence of the R.W. Grand Master of the province, and also the officers and brethren of so many lodges in the province. My brethren, I may well say that, this is the proudest and happiest day of my life. I have one more duty to perform, and that is, to thank the W.M. for the warm feeling he has shown to me in the presentation, accompanied with such remarks on my Masonic career. In conclusion, may the Great Architect of the Universe bless and protect you all, and that you may all arrive at a greater age than the one now addressing you is my sincere wish. Again, God bless you all.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

GARSTON.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 267).—The lodge was opened at the Wellington Hotel, Garston, on December 1st, by P.M. Bro. Edward Pierpoint as W.M., assisted by the officers of the lodge. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Casson, W.M. of 846, raised three brethren to the M.M.'s degree, assisted by Bro. John Pepper, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., and Bro. C. J. Banister, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. The lodge being closed to the first degree, Bro. Banister brought forward his motion that the lodge subscribe £5 to the fund now being raised by this province for the relief of the distressed operatives, seconded by the S.W., and carried unanimously. Bro. C. J. Banister informed the brethren that as no brother of this province had come forward to act as a Steward for the Royal Benevolent Institution at the Festival in January next, which he much regretted, he had given his name in to the secretary of that laudable institution, and trusted that the brethren would not forget that this province had another candidate for the Annuity Fund, and assist him in obtaining subscriptions. Business over, the lodge was closed in solemn form. At refreshment the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. Bro. Pepper returned thanks for himself and visitors, viz., Bros. Hughes, 245; Gender, 310; Hampton, Hodgson, Talby, South, 864, &c.

SCOTLAND.

MAYBOLE ST. JOHN (No. 11).—At a meeting of this lodge held a few days ago, Bro. Lindsay Mackersy, Esq., W.S., Edinburgh, was appointed their Proxy Master. We congratulate the brethren of No. 11 upon the wisdom of their choice; for in Bro. Mackersy they will have an efficient representative in the Grand Lodge, and one whose high Masonic position will redound to the credit of his constituents. Bro. Mackersy has also, we understand, been recently appointed representative in the Grand Lodge of Scotland from the sister Grand Lodge of Canada.

ROYAL ARCH.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

CAPE TOWN.—*British Chapter* (No. 419).—A convocation of this chapter was held on Monday, October 6th, when Comps. M. T. King was installed a Principal Chief Z.; J. S. Rowe, H.; J. Calh, J.; Biden, as Scribe N.; Bushell, Scribe E.; and

Soloman as P.S.; after which, two brethren were exalted to the sublime degree. The proceedings in connection with the chapter being over, the companions adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, provided for the occasion, Comp. M. T. King presiding. Among the toasts drunk during the evening was the health of Sir C. J. Brand, D.G.M., H., the Chairman remarking that during the many years they had been deprived of the services of a P.G.M., Sir C. Brand had taken a lively interest in their proceedings, and has rendered them much valuable assistance. Comp. O. J. Kings, in returning thanks on behalf of Sir C. Brand, said it was very gratifying to him as the representative of the Lodge de Goede Hoop to hear their P.G.M. so highly spoken of, and assured the Comps. that he was held in high esteem among themselves. The usual Masonic toasts being disposed of, the companions retired, after spending a very pleasant evening.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

NORFOLK.

NORWICH.—*Cabbell Encampment.*—The regular quarterly convocation of this encampment was held at the Masonic Hall, St. Stephen's, on Thursday, November 27th. The Hon. F. Walpole, E.C., on the throne. Present, Sir Knights George E. Simpson, Prelate; David Penrice, First Captain; H. P. L'Estrange, Second Captain; A. F. Morgan, Expert; H. J. Mason, Captain of Lines; George W. Minns, First Herald; G. F. Deacon and T. Stanley, Standard Bearers; J. Darken, Organist; J. Barwell, T. Thompson, and other Sir Knights. The encampment was opened in due form at 8 o'clock, p.m. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Comp. Phillip Back, of Cabbell Chapter, as a candidate for installation. Sir Knight Barwell in a neat and appropriate speech stated the time was come to propose the E.C. for the ensuing year. He had great pleasure in proposing that E.C. should hold the throne for another year. The encampment was greatly indebted to the E.C., Sir Knight Walpole, for the great exertions he had made in founding the Cabbell Encampment, of which he was appointed the first E.C. There had not been an encampment held in Norwich for upwards of thirty years, under the legal Constitution. They (the Sir Knights) thanked the E.C. for the attention paid to them, and the proposition was seconded by Sir Knight Penrice and received with enthusiasm by the Sir Knights present. The E.C. having thanked the brethren for the high honour conferred on him, promised to use his best endeavours to conduct our ancient rites and ceremonies to the best of his ability. He then proceeded with a school of instruction as to the installation, and gave the lectures in full; after which the encampment was closed in due form and solemn prayer.

Obituary.

BROTHER JAMES SHERIDAN KNOWLES, THE DRAMATIST.

Another of that bright galaxy of literary men who have selected the stage for their arena has passed away from us in the person of our brother James Sheridan Knowles. Bro. James Sheridan Knowles was born May 12, 1784, and was the son of Mr. James Knowles, a teacher of elocution and grammar, in Cork, and author of *A Dictionary of the English Language*, by the widow of a Mr. Daunt. Young Knowles (his father having removed to London in 1792) was distinguished at 12 years of age as a youthful actor and author of a play; soon afterwards he composed the libretto of an opera founded on the history of the Chevalier de Grillon; and in 1798 wrote the ballad of the *Welsh Harper*. About this time he was recommended to Hazlitt and Lamb, and at the house of the former he was introduced to Coleridge. At 20 he wrote *The Spanish Story*, at 25, *Hersilia*. In 1808, Brother Knowles left London for Dublin, and gained some little reputation for his rendering of Irish melodies. Soon, in spite of the dissuasions of his kinsman, the Rev. P. Lefanu, he adopted the stage as a profession. He was not only, however, an actor himself, but he improved others (not professionals) in acting; notably, Richard Lalor Shiel, whose modelled speeches were, as is tolerably well understood,

submitted to the criticism of Bro. Knowles. In 1809 and 1810 he acted in tragedy, comedy, and opera, Waterford being the *locus in quo*. He was successful in *Leo the Gipsy*, in which Edmund Kean played the principal part. After having been about two years with Mr. Cherry's company at Waterford and Swansea, the inhabitants of the former place subscribed towards a volume of "fugitive pieces" which he published. Bro. Knowles now took up his abode in Belfast; and it may be interesting to know that the late distinguished Lord Chancellor of Ireland, Mr. Joseph Napier, was his pupil in elocution. "No man," once wrote Mr. Napier "ever gave so great an impulse to education in Ireland." But his innate love of the drama made him soon relinquish the functions of a teacher. He published now *Brian Boroiim* and *Caius Gracchus*, which was first performed Feb. 13, 1815, and in which the characters of Gracchus (Mr. Macready) and Cornelia (Mrs. Bunn) were drawn with a bold and masterly hand, and the language chaste, virtuous, and nervous. *Virginius* was written at Edmund Kean's request. It was brought out at Glasgow, and afterwards produced at Drury Lane during Mr. Macready's management. Then followed in succession *William Tell*, *The Beggar of Bethnal Green*, *Alfred the Great*, &c.

In 1832 Bro. Knowles composed the *Hunchback* on the seashore near Newhaven; it was played, as all the world knows, with success, at Covent-Garden, the author playing Master Walter, his one successful character—Miss F. Kemble being Julia and Mr. C. Kemble Sir T. Clifford. *The Wife* was produced about the same time at the Olympic. The author visited Cork in 1834, and played there. He was received by his warm-hearted countrymen with unbounded enthusiasm; and it is much to his credit that he sought out his old nurse and his old master on his arrival, and made the former live with him during his stay, placing her daily at the head of his dinner-table, while on the latter he conferred substantial marks of his favour. *The Love Chase* was performed first at the Haymarket, and had a run of 100 nights. Bro. Knowles himself played Wild Rake, with Mrs. Glover as the Widow Green, and Miss Vandenhoff as Lydia, while Mrs. Nisbet's performance of Constance, dressed in a red riding-habit, her description of a hunt, and her ringing natural laugh will long live in the memory of playgoers. The next plays Bro. Knowles produced were—*The Maid of Mariendorp* (1838), *Love* (not very successful, although very strongly cast—Miss Ellen Tree, Miss Helen Faucit, and Mr. Macready played in it), *The Rose of Aragon* (1840), *The Secretary*, which was a failure (1843). In *The Maid of Mariendorp*, produced at the Haymarket, Mr. Walter Lacy was Stickland, Bro. Webster as the Jew Joseph, Bro. Buckstone as Hans, and Bro. Knowles as Muhldedau. In *John of Proccida*, Bro. Knowles played Isoline, at Covent-Garden. Two other productions of Bro. Knowles' are *The Bridal*, from Beaumont and Fletcher's *Maid's Tragedy*, and a masque, in one act, on the death of Sir Walter Scott.

About this time his health was impaired, and, besides, he was not in prosperous circumstances. The Dramatic Authors' Society wrote to Sir R. Peel, and Jerrold, Searle, Planche, and Lover urged the claims of the veteran dramatist on the Minister. Sir R. Peel offered him £100 a year, which was declined; but the merchants of Glasgow made Sir R. Peel double that small sum. Knowles became now a lecturer on oratory, Shakspeare and the Greek drama, wrote a tale called *The Lovers*, and contributed to the *Sunday Times*. He was appointed curator of Shakspeare's house at Stratford.

Of late years Bro. Knowles has played a new and singular part—one not at all agreeable to his old theatrical friends. He became a Baptist, and went about the country denouncing the Church of Rome and stage, though he continued to draw his pension with exemplary regularity. He preached everywhere with scanty success; and so far was he from proselytising among his near friends, that his only son, Mr. R. B. Knowles, long connected with London journalism, went to the opposite poles of religious opinion, and became a Romanist. Of Bro. Knowles' works, *The Idol Demolished by its own Priest*, *The Dook of Rome*, &c., the less said the better.

Bro. Knowles was the most successful playwright of his day, and he had written three or times as many five act pieces as any other author. It was said of him that "he combined the greatest literary merit with the most unequivocal success on the stage;" that, "as Bro. Burns was the king of uneducated poets, so Bro. Knowles was the king of uneducated dramatists." In his dialogues only he is worthy to be compared with the Elizabethan dramatists. In "Virginius," "Gracchus," and

"Tell," he shows the playwright and the commonplace trick of the theatre. All we care about them is the domestic feeling; the lictors, decemviri, &c., are only a bore, but we like the father's affection for his daughter; and we wish to 'Tell personal success more than we care for his liberal and heroic feelings. In Julia ("Hunchback") we admire his knowledge of human nature. The plot seems absurd, the construction clumsy, and the language obsolete; but the part was successful because of the human emotion and the natural emotion and the natural feeling displayed in it. We may point to the noble speech in *Caius Gracchus*, act i., scene 2, beginning, "Romans, I hold a copy of the charge," &c., as a model of Shaksperian language.

In private life Bro. Knowles was genial and popular. His burly frame, his frank, smiling countenance, his large heart under a big chest, and his kindly disposition, are well known to Londoners theatrically inclined. This notice may fitly conclude with Charles Lamb's genial and kindly lines to Knowles—the Knowles of twenty years ago—before sectarianism had soured his temper and narrowed his mind:—

"Twelve years ago, I knew thee, Knowles, and then
Esteem'd you a perfect specimen
Of those fine spirits warm-souled Ireland sends
To teach us colder English how a friend's
Quick pulse should beat: I knew thee brave and plain,
Strong sens'd, rough-witted, above fear or gain;
But nothing further had the gift to espy.
Sudden you reappear—with wonder I
Hear my old friend, turned Shakspeare, read a scene
Only to his inferior in the clean
Passes of pathos with such fence-like art—
Ere we can see the steel, 'tis in our heart."

—*Laudatus a laudato viro.*

Bro. Sheridan Knowles died on Sunday last, the 30th of November, at Torquay. He was initiated into Freemasonry in St. Mark's Lodge, at Glasgow, which boasts of its having been the mother lodge of the late Bro. Edmund Kean; and Bro. Knowles joined the British Lodge (No. 8) on the 13th of April, 1833, but never appears to have held office.

Poetry.

A REQUIEM.

Who hath not lost a friend?

Aye, who's the lonely one
That hath not in a life's career,
With choking sob and gushing tear,
Stood trembling by the dismal bier,
Where lay a loved one—gone.

Who hath not watched and wept
Beside pale suffering's bed:
Until the pulse's ceasing quiver,
And closing of the eyes for ever,
Proclaimed the soul was with its Giver?
The fondly loved one—dead,

Who at the hopeless grave
Hath not breathed a silent prayer
That, while to the earth the dust was given,
The spirit to its God in heaven,
The grieving hearts in sorrow riven
God would in mercy spare?

And in the thoughtful night,
When the moonbeam's shadows blend,
Hath not recalled the dream of years,
The buried hopes, forgotten fears,
Deep sympathies, and grateful tears,
Of a tried and trusty friend?

And felt not a painful void
Within an aching breast,
When seeking, many a tedious day,
The tender bosom where to lay
The weary head, and hope and pray
All might prove for the best?

Have told how calm his life
Unto its tranquil end.
How through long years, with Christian zeal,
And strongest hope and courage real,
He tried to be—for other's weal—
A firm, true-hearted friend.

Not wasted hours were his,
In self-care wiled away,
Until the greedy race was run,
And left him where he had begun,
While the dull evening's setting sun
Banished the live-long day.

Not like the autumn leaves,
Whirling away on the wind—
Not like a mote on the stream
Ever bound to a changing gleam
Of new hopes and an every-day dream
That fortune might haply turn kind.

No friend to the empty tale
Of an idle, gossiping drone,
Or the slandered words that fly,
Poisoned by jealous spite, to belie
Their neighbour's name because they try
To live down the envious frown.

Then the living ones have hoped
For his unbroken rest.
The poor with grateful hearts have prayed,
And earth's proud offspring tribute paid,
For no man doth with taunts upbraid
The memory of the blessed.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty and family remain at Windsor. The Princess Alexandra of Denmark, whose visit to this country is said to have "given the Queen a new lease of existence," left Windsor Castle for the Continent with her father, Prince Christian, on the 27th ult. Her future husband, the Prince of Wales pushed on from Marseilles on the same day, and met Her Royal Highness at Lille, and they travelled together to Coogne.

They proceeded to Hanover on Saturday. The Prince there took his leave of her and departed for England, where he arrived on Wednesday last. The Princess proceeded to Copenhagen, where she arrived on Tuesday morning, and it being her birthday, the inhabitants gave her Royal Highness a most enthusiastic reception, the streets being decorated with flags and garlands, and in the evening all the houses in the street in which the young Princess resides were brilliantly illuminated.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The mortality of London still rises at a rapid rate. Last week it reached the amount of 1743, which is about the largest number of deaths that has occurred in the corresponding week for the last ten years. We need not say, therefore, that it is considerably above the average—it is, in fact, 300 more than the mean rate of deaths for the end of November. The births for the week were 1834; if the average number had been born the numbers would have been 1874.—In his visitation charge at St. Paul's, on Tuesday, the Bishop of London passed in review the various "difficulties" by which the Church is surrounded at the present moment. While doubting whether liturgical changes would not alienate more Churchmen than they would conciliate, he said he was disposed to relax rather than tighten the bonds imposed upon candidates for ordination by the declarations at present required. He had no confidence in legal prosecutions as a means of preserving orthodoxy among the clergy, and he thought "that a wise son of the

Church of England would be very jealous of every sort of persecution for opinion, unless demanded by some overwhelming and inevitable necessity." The right rev. prelate then referred to church rates and other questions affecting the well-being of the Establishment.—We have to announce the death of the greatest English dramatist of the present century, Mr. Sheridan Knowles. He died at Torquay on Saturday, after a long and painful illness.—Lord Derby made a most gratifying announcement at the meeting of the Central Committee for the Relief of the Lancashire distress. He said he had received a letter from Sir C. Phipps, intimating that the Prince of Wales had directed £1000 to be forwarded to Manchester "as His Royal Highness's first act on attaining his majority." The Central Committee has now a balance at the bank of about £130,000; but, on the other hand, Mr. Farnall reports a further increase of 10,721 in the number of persons receiving parochial relief in the districts affected by the cotton famine. On Tuesday an important county meeting was held in Manchester. The Lord-Lieutenant (Lord Sefton) presided; and among the speakers were Lord Derby, Lord Wilton, Lord Egerton of Tatton, and Stanley. The amount subscribed is estimated, from a hurried glance through the list, at about £70,000, Lord Derby contributing the handsome sum of £5000. Lord Stanley addressed a meeting held in St. James's, Westminster, on Saturday. The noble lord defended Lancashire against the charge of having failed to do its duty in the present crisis, and expressed his warm admiration of the patience and fortitude with which the people are enduring their hard fate. He suggested that if all persons with an income of £100 and upwards were to contribute £1 per cent. of their income, a sum of £220,000 might be thus raised for the relief of the distress. Cardinal Wiseman has issued a pastoral, in which he earnestly calls upon the Roman Catholics under his direct charge to give a helping hand to the suffering operatives of Lancashire. An equally urgent appeal has been made by the Bishop of Kerry for the same object.—The Duke of Cambridge, in the course of an after-dinner speech on Saturday evening, expressed his conviction—a conviction which was strengthened by the recent experiments—that in the contest between armour-plated ships and rifled guns, the latter would carry the day. It would seem that a similar conclusion has been arrived at by the French government. It is stated that our allies have decided not to proceed with any more iron frigates, as recent experiments, more especially with flat-headed shell—the missile Mr. Whitworth has employed with such startling effect against armour-plated targets—have, it is alleged, satisfied them that the artillerymen are more than a match for the shipbuilders.—The military inquiry into the recent "turf scandals" has terminated, and the report, it is said, virtually leaves "the whole decision of the fate of Colonel Burnaby in the hands of the Commander-in-Chief." It is further stated that "upon the charge of sharpening at Mamhead a kind of questionable verdict is pronounced, leaving matters in much the same state as the Stewards of the Jockey Club left the Tarragona affair."—In reply to the complaints sent to the Foreign Office from Liverpool, respecting the destruction of British property on board Federal vessels captured by the Confederate war steamer *Alabama*, Lord Russell states that the owners of such property—not contraband of war, of course—must seek compensation in a Southern Prize Court.—The cab-drivers of London held a meeting on Wednesday night at the Whitting-Club, with a view of taking steps to obtain redress of the grievances of which they complain. Lord Henry Cholmondeley presided. A temperate report, drawn up by delegates who had been appointed from the various districts of the metropolis, was read. It recommended that there should be no hiring for less than a shilling; that the metal badge should be abolished and a certificate substituted; and that there should be a cheap and easy appeal from the decisions of magistrates. The report was adopted, together with a petition to the House of Commons on the subject, and a committee was appointed to wait upon members of Parliament, with a view of interesting them in the discussion of the question.—An action brought by Mr. Digby Seymour, M.P., against the publisher of the *Law Magazine* for libel, terminated on Wednesday with a verdict of 40s. for the plaintiff. Mr. Seymour was subjected to a searching cross-examination by Mr. Serjeant Shee, with

a view of showing that he had used his parliamentary position to procure promotion in his profession.—Mr. Windham, of Felbrigg Hall, has just appeared as defendant in the Court of Exchequer, where a livery-stable keeper sued him for a carriage and horses supplied to his wife while the memorable inquiry into his sanity was pending. Mr. Windham met this action by the averment that he was not answerable for goods of any kind supplied to his wife while she was living in open adultery, which he called witnesses to prove she was at the time. It was true he had since condoned the offence, but the judge held that he did not affect the defence, and the jury found for the defendant.—At the Bankruptcy Court, Mr. G. Stiff, late of the *Morning Chronicle*, &c., obtained his order of discharge.—Ten of the Blackburn rioters were convicted at the Preston sessions, on Saturday. One of them was sentenced to three years' penal servitude; five to twelve months, and four to five months' hard labour.—Six men were apprehended at Blackburn, on Sunday, on the charge of having been concerned in the murder of Walne, of Ribchester; but, on the prisoners being brought before the local magistrates, one of them, a gamekeeper named Bowling, was discharged and put into the witness-box, to give evidence for the prosecution. Bowling stated that one of the prisoners—Duncan M'Phail, a returned convict—admitted to him in the course of conversation, a few days ago, that he and the four other men in the dock had committed the murder. M'Phail declared that he had never told the witness anything of the sort; but the police superintendent who has charge of the case stated that he should be able to produce corroborative evidence. The prisoners were remanded. Hartley, one of the men in custody, has since made a "full confession," which agrees in the main with the statement alleged to have been made to the man Bowling by M'Phail. There is, therefore, a fair prospect of the conviction of the perpetrators of this cowardly crime.—A scoundrel pointed a pistol at a woman at Lower Darwen lately, apparently because she did not at once comply with his demand for "bread." We are unwilling to believe that this ruffian belonged to the class who have not failed to appreciate the generosity with which their fellow-subjects in every corner of the globe are coming forward to mitigate, as far as possible, their sufferings.—It is stated that the Government intend next session to bring in a bill for the better prevention of those outrages which have rendered the streets of London unsafe. A fresh illustration of the almost incredible darings of the garroters is reported. At two o'clock on Thursday, the 27th, a young lady was seized round the throat in one of the streets of the fashionable quarter of Tyburnia, and dragged under an archway where she was robbed by a woman and two men, one of the men holding a pistol to her head. They attempted to take her rings and her ear-rings, and even proceeded to cut off her hair,—which, as one of them said, "would fetch something"—but luckily at this moment the sound of wheels was heard, and the robbers disappeared. Baron Bramwell finished the trial of the garroters yesterday week, and passed sentence on those that had been convicted. The public, we think, are not likely to exclaim against the over-severity of the sentences. Of 18 convicted prisoners brought up in succession for judgment, only two were sentenced to penal servitude for life; the others were awarded periods of service varying from twenty to four years. Mr. Justice Byles, at the Maidstone assizes, and Mr. Assistant Judge Bodkin, at the Middlesex sessions, referred, in their charges on Monday, to the question of the treatment of prisoners charged with grave offences—such, for example, as those with which Mr. Baron Bramwell had to deal with at the Central Criminal Court. Both were of opinion that the present system of penal servitude has failed, and that the interests of society demand a recurrence to transportation. A case connected with garrotting was brought before the magistrates at Highgate on Monday. About a week or ten days ago a man was rudely assaulted by an ill-looking man in the Hampstead lanes, and, fancying he was a garrotter, he knocked him. Some other men then came up, struck and otherwise ill-used the man, and finally gave him into the custody of the police. When the case was brought before the magistrates the tables were turned: the man was acquitted, and the prosecutor and his witnesses were put to the bar. There did not seem, however, to be any intention of robbery on either side. The first man knocked down was discharged as having received sufficient punishment from his antagonist's fists; the others were fined in small sums. On the same day a woman was brought up before the magistrates at Westminster, charged with abusing Mr. Murray, who was nearly murdered by some

garroters, with one of whom was connected, and who prosecuted them to conviction last week before Baron Bramwell. The magistrate locked up the women in default of her being able to find bail for her future good conduct. An alleged murder by ruffianism in the public streets—the violent death of a young man of the name of Hitch, who had been brutally treated by street roughs—has occupied the attention of a jury. The cause of death was not clearly ascertained, and indeed the coroner had to complain of the lax mode of granting certificates of death. An inquest has also been held relative to the death of Alexander Norden, a young man who died last Friday from injuries inflicted during some practical joking. A verdict of “Manslaughter” was returned, and a warrant for the apprehension of Cairns was issued. The conduct of the police in connection with the case called forth the deserved condemnation of the jury. A coroner’s inquest has been held on the body of the policeman who was found dead in some shallow water near Halesworth, in Suffolk. The witnesses examined proved pretty clearly that he had had a scuffle with a man of bad character in the neighbourhood, named Ducker, whose clothes were found to be stained with blood and with the weeds of the pond in which the body of the policeman was found. Both the prisoner and the deceased bore marks of violence on their persons as if the fight between them had been a severe one. The jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against Ducker.—A fire, attended with melancholy results, occurred early on last Saturday morning, on the premises occupied by Mr. George Pates, hosier, Stretford New-road, near Manchester. Mr. Pates and his family were in bed when the fire was discovered by the police, and on the alarm being raised, Mrs. Pates ran to a back room on the second storey. An attempt was made to rescue her by placing a plank within her reach, but the poor woman, in attempting to save herself by this improvised and precarious escape, fell a distance of twelve feet, and was very seriously injured. Her husband, meanwhile, made an effort to reach the room in which his little girl was asleep, but both he and the child were burned to death.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—Rumours respecting some plot against the Emperor Napoleon, in which Italians are alleged to be implicated, continue to be circulated in Paris and the French province; but, of course, no Parisian journal ventures to make the slightest allusion to them. Despatches from Athens state that “popular demonstrations” in Prince Alfred’s favour had been made in that city, and that the British Envoy had made another public speech, in which he repeated “that he could not express any opinion on the question, as it was in higher hands,” and recommended moderation and patient expectation of the National Assembly’s decision. At Lamia, on the Turkish frontier, the people, the army, and the public authorities have proclaimed him King of Greece, with a salute of 100 guns: an example since followed in other places. It is stated that an agreement has been arrived at between England, France, and Russia, that neither Prince Alfred nor the Duc de Leuchtenberg is to accept the throne. The Italian Ministry, foreseeing that the debate in the Chamber of Deputies would result in an adverse vote, and apprehending, as we are told by a Turin newspaper, that “a dissolution of the Chamber, following a vote of want of confidence, might produce a dangerous political crisis,” have tendered their resignation. Signor Cassinis has, it is stated, undertaken the task of forming a new administration, and there are various and inconsistent rumours respecting its probable composition. The Spanish Cortes were opened yesterday with a speech from the Queen, who alluded specially to the Papal and Mexican questions. The Chamber of Deputies have elected their President in the person of Senor Ballesseros, whose nomination was almost unanimously accepted, the members of the Opposition refraining from voting. There was a rumour in circulation that the Count de Reuss (General Prim) had given in his resignation; but the rumour now turns out to be unfounded. The *Dagbladet* states that a common Parliament for the kingdom of Denmark and Schleswig will be convoked soon after the assembling of the Estates of Holstein, which is to take place at the beginning of next year. The *National Zeitung* of Berlin says it has reliable information that Earl Russell has submitted fresh propositions to the Danish Government in reference to the affairs of Schleswig-Holstein, and that they, as well as the previous ones, have been rejected by the Danish Cabinet. Although it is officially affirmed in Paris that everything is going on well in Mexico, there are rumours, which find some credence, that General Forey has solicited considerable reinforcements,

as the French troops are suffering greatly from sickness, and as the advance of the French troops upon the city of Mexico is greatly impeded by the want of supplies and means of carriage, and by the necessity of protecting convoys.

AMERICA.—The *Scotia* has not brought any intelligence of much importance. General Burnside—who had divided his army into three grand divisions, under the respective commands of General Hooker, General Sumner, and General Franklin, with a reserve corps under the orders of General Sigel—had evacuated Warrenton, and had commenced his march for Fredericksburgh. From that place, where he would receive his supplies by way of Aquia Creek, he was, we are told to advance on Richmond; and some of the New York journals were already beginning to utter vaunts respecting the defeat which the Confederates are to sustain, and which is to result in the occupation of Richmond by the Federals before the end of the year. Nothing whatever was known respecting the movements of the Confederates. The Federal expedition from New Orleans into the delta of the Mississippi had had one or two successful skirmishes, at or near Labaudieville and Thibodeaux, and its commander, General Weitzel, reported that he was completely master of the neighbouring country, and that many of the planters had taken the oath of allegiance, and were anxious to secure their growing crops, but were alarmed by the behaviour of their slaves, who had flocked in numbers to the Federal camp. General Weitzel’s forces included a negro regiment raised by General Butler in New Orleans; and, although these negroes seem to have been employed as pioneers and not to have fired a shot, it is noteworthy that a negro regiment raised in Kansas is said to have behaved gallantly in a skirmish with guerrillas on the Missouri border, and that some negroes drilled at Port Royal, where five negro regiments are to be raised, are reported to have shown courage under fire during operations at the coast of Florida. The *City of Baltimore*, since arrived, brings intelligence that the advance of General Burnside’s army, under General Sumner, had reached the Rappahannock, opposite Fredericksburg, and had found the Confederates possessed of the town, and prepared to dispute the passage of the stream. General Sumner had summoned the municipality of Fredericksburg to surrender, adding a threat to bombard the place; but the Mayor had of course returned a refusal. The Confederates, under General Longstreet, were encamped in the neighbourhood of Fredericksburg, and had planted batteries along the southern bank of the Rappahannock. The Federals occupied the northern bank, General Sumner’s head-quarters being at Falmouth; and a battle was expected to be soon fought. The *Monitor* and several other iron-clad steamers had sailed from New York for the James river, for the purpose of co-operating with the Federal land forces. All that was known, or at least published, respecting General “Stonewall” Jackson’s movements was that they were “still mysterious” and that he was said to be moving towards Harper’s Ferry. Advice from New Orleans stated that the Federal squadron had arrived there from the Gulf, and that a military expedition was expected soon to leave. There had been a sharp encounter on the Bayou Teche, in the neighbourhood of Brashear city, between Federal gunboats and some Confederate gunboats supported by land batteries. Although “considerable damage was sustained on both sides,” we are not told the result of the engagement; but we may presume that the Federals were worsted, as it is added that a Federal land force was to be despatched to Brashear city from Thibodeaux, which was lately occupied by General Weitzel.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ERRATA.—In a portion of our impression last week the folios were not altered from the previous week. The dates, however, were correct; and brethren having such copies will please to add 20 to each page, to make it correct.

ATHOL.—You must consult a solicitor. We should think there could be no difficulty in placing a Masonic Hall in trust for the benefit of the lodge. We should say there is no necessity to register as a friendly society a Masonic lodge making its regular returns of its members to the Clerk of the Peace, being already acknowledged by law.

R. S. T.—We have not received the document to which you allude.