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THE

# FREEMASONS MAGAZINE

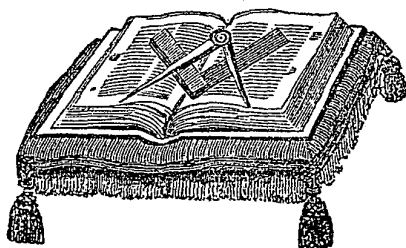
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# MASONIC MIRROR.

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THE  
F R E E M A S O N S M A G A Z I N E  
AND  
M A S O N I C M I R R O R.

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ADDRESS TO OUR READERS.

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The first half of 1863 has sped its course, and we have again to address our readers and thank them for the support we have hitherto received. The past half year, apart from Freemasonry, has been a busy one, especially amongst the "upper ten thousand." The Princess Alexandra of Denmark has made a public entry into London, and become wedded to the Prince of Wales, the future heir to the Throne, since which the young couple have been the lions of the season at drawing rooms, balls, the Opera, Oxford Commemoration, and all the various festivals in which the aristocracy, and other classes too, delight. Her Majesty has, in some measure, returned into public, visiting the late Exhibition building, the memorial to the Prince Consort just opened, and the South Kensington Museum, semi-privately, but with sufficient note of preparation to enable her subjects to assemble along the route to the places visited, and express the gratification they feel in seeing Her Majesty again amongst them, after her long and regretted seclusion.

The Craft continues to prosper: Almost every week announces the opening of one or more Lodges, sometimes in the metropolis, sometimes in the provinces, whilst the returns to Grand Lodge prove that the old lodges are, as a rule, strong and flourishing.

The Books of Constitutions, both Craft and Arch, are out of print, giving the committees a good opportunity of assimilating the rules and regulations of the two branches of the Order. We wish we could add that they were to be placed under one governing body.

The Committee appointed to make arrangements for altering the Grand Lodge property, improving the tavern, and giving proper accommodation to the brethren in a building devoted exclusively to Freemasonry, have made good progress, plans have been

obtained the prizes awarded, and the Committee authorised by Grand Lodge to take the necessary steps for proceeding with the required alterations with all convenient speed. That the design selected is perfect it would be impossible to assert, but with modifications, to be agreed to between the Architect and the Committee, we doubt not that in due time a building may be produced which shall be in every way commodious and comfortable for the brethren—useful and profitable to our tenants—and an ornament to the metropolis.

In the meantime another temple, devoted to the use of the Knights Templar, and the higher grades of Freemasonry, is rising in Bedford Row, owing to the obstacles (which we cannot look upon as otherwise than most ill-judged) which the Grand Secretary has placed in the way of their meeting, with comfort, in Great Queen Street. It is not the best method of serving the interests of our tenants to drive away any of their customers.

Our Charities have all held their annual festivals during the last six months, and all are prospering. The Benevolent Institution has increased the numbers of its annuitants, but not in proportion to the claims which come upon them—though we hope the liberality of the brethren will soon enable the Committee, by adding to the annuitants, to reduce the list of candidates.

The subscription to the Girls' School has been unusually large; the number of children educated have been gradually increased within the last seven years from 70 to 90, yet the candidates have increased in a greater ratio, there being now 27 applying for admission to the school, whilst only 10 can be elected.

The Boys' School has received an unprecedented amount of support, and a building worthy of the Order is now about to be erected, at Wood Green, capable of accommodating 100 boys, and tending to the comfort of the pupils; and thereby to the improvement of the school and the education which can be given in it.

Wishing that all our institutions may continue to prosper, and that Freemasonry may ever hold its proper place in the estimation of mankind, we have now only again to thank our friends for past favours, and prepare for future labours.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 1863

## CLASSICAL THEOLOGY.

X.—VESTA AND DECEMBER.

Natural philosophy, or the analysis of terrestrial things, which embraces cosmography, or the visible, and mineralogy, or the hidden construction of the world, now, as a science, better known under the name of geology, a word compounded of *ΓΕ*, *terra*, and *Λογος*, *logos*, has given rise to vast controversies and wide and wild speculations on the origin of the earth, and mankind.

We read in Job's reasonings on the might, majesty, and wisdom of the Almighty, as in the ninth chapter of his book, for example, that "He is wise in heart, and mighty in strength: who hath hardened himself against Him and hath prospered? Which removeth the mountains, and they know not: which overturneth them in His anger. Which shaketh the earth out of her place, and the pillars thereof tremble. Which commandeth the sun, and it resist not; and sealeth up the stars. Which alone spreadeth out the heavens, and treadeth upon the waves of the sea. Which maketh Arcturus, Orion, and Pleiades, and the chambers of the South. Which doeth great things past finding out: yea, and wonders without number. Lo, He goeth by me, and I see Him not; He passeth on also, but I perceive Him not. Behold, He taketh away, who can hinder Him? Who will say unto Him, what doeth thou? If God will not withdraw His anger, the proud helpers do stoop under Him. How much less shall I answer Him, and choose out my words to reason with Him?" And also, in God's demandment of Job, chap. xxxviii., it is written:—"Who is this that darkeneth council by words without knowledge? Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare, if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measure thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy? Or who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issues out of the womb? When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddling band for it, and brake up my decreed place, and set bars on doors, and said hither shalt thou come, but no farther: and there shalt thy proud waves be stayed? Hast thou commanded the morning since thy days, and caused the dayspring to know her place; that it might take hold of the ends of the earth, that we wicked might be shaken out of it? It is turned as day to the seal; and they stand as a garment. Hast thou entered into the springs of the sea? or hast thou walked in the search of the depth? Have the gates of death been opened unto thee? or hast thou seen the doors of the shadow of death? Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion? Canst thou bring forth Mazzaroth in his season, or canst thou guide Arcturus with his sons?"

Consequently, therefrom, we may conclude in fact, that if the Pleiades, an appellation derived from the Greek, were named as stars after the daughters of Atlas, by his wife Pleione, the name of those stars

signifying sailing, (for when they arise they are thought to portend good weather to sailors) or otherwise derived from their number, or from their mother's name, it is accounted the same. Job must have lived after the time of Cadmus and Perseus, the son of Jupiter, as, according to mythology and ancient history, was Atlas the King of Mauritania, in Africa. Also we learn in truth that God declared himself to be the creator, architect, and disposer of the heavens and the earth, from that time "the morning stars sang together, and the sons of God shouted for joy." For "He made the stars also. The lightnings he made, that they may go," and say unto Him "here we are." As He commands it "the waters are hid as with a stone, and the face of the deep is frozen." This divine cosmogony is now termed the Mosaic Geology in contradistinction to the mineral, Plutonian, and Neptunian geologies, which ascribe the rise of the world "to first formations," as out of a "globe of fire," or from a "spheroidal chaotic ocean." Doubtless, to some, these are very antiquated and classical notions; also, we admit, respecting some skilful astronomers that some of the stars may be igniferous and aquarious bodies, but, then, the ancients ascribed to the god of the sea and the god of the subterraneous regions, a parentage descended from the "father of the light," by name more ancient than Jupiter.

It also follows that, if Mercury was the son of Maia, the daughter of Atlas, Orion must have lived in the time of Hercules and Orpheus, who were companions in the Argonautic expedition, B.C. 1256. Yet still, before they acquired their astronomical names in any language, the stars were of the creation, howsoever relative they might have been, and were appertaining to the sons of God.

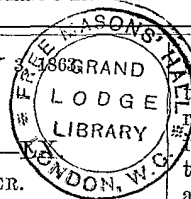
Mineralogy, now called geognosy, being, classically speaking, the procreator of geology, it concerns Vesta to inquire, what may be meant by "first formations," whether they be natural, cog-natural, non-natural, or whether they are creations, and if so why therefore contradictions? Vesta claiming to be, as the wife or Coelum, or the creation of God, and as the mother of Saturn, or the beginning of time, in fossil or bone, in earth or flesh the *Alma Mater*, (*ἡ Μητρὸς*) and *Altrix*, of all terrene bodies organised in her, as made, and as not made, begotten of her. Or otherwise, as shown by the words of Bacon and Newton, the existence, arrangement, size, figure, and properties of all mundane formations can only be attributed to the act of God himself. A plain question is demanded of Job.

"Hast the rain a father? or who hath begotten the drops of dew?" And another not less plain: "Canst thou lift up thy voice to the clouds, that abundance of waters may cover thee?" To these an absolute answer may be found in the words of Elijah:—

"As the Lord God of Israel liveth, before whom I stood, there shall not be dew nor rain these three years, but according to my word." That is, by prayer, as it came to pass:—

"Behold there ariseth a little cloud, out of the sea, like a man's hand, and he said . . . and there was a great rain."

Chronological computation has fixed the Mosaic date by the creation at about T. Ol. 3228, or B.C. 4004. But, with the exception of the records of





Moses, there is no proof, in fact, of a theocracy extending further back than to the Deluge, B. C. 2348, when the earth itself was broken up. Indeed, so new, complexed, and material grew theological theories, that in accordance with them, and the variations of languages in consequence of the confusion of tongues, B. C. 2247. Noah became, as it were, under different names, the representative of Adam, or was, more or less vaguely, received and adopted, as a god theologically into their systems, or in God's stead he stood as the renewer, the artificer, progenitor, and institutor of both the earth and mankind, in which respect we may conclude he was Brahma, as also Saturn, who, as the son of Chun and Vesta might be Adam, but, as asserted by many, including Plato, was considered to be of the parentage of Oceanus and Thetis, whereby it is signified, by the help of the ark, Noah was new born, as it were, out of the waters of the Deluge. At all events of these, out of the course of human nature, was begotten the God upon earth, or king according to history, Jupiter or Upatos, to whom they assigned the heirdom, literally meaning, with his other titles and names, the highest and paternal majesty of the world, or the sun. Be it so understood, there was hardly a nation that did not institute and offer a worship to some Jupiter of their own, and believe him to have been born amongst themselves.

The ante-diluvians considered them not the Adamite, but the Pre Adamite world, in which Adam was born or made.\* Of course we are here alluding to theological periods antecedent to the almighty epochs of the birth of Christ, and the spread of the Holy Scriptures, which ended before those times when heathen theologies began to be interpolated with the metaphysical Baalisms of the Cabala, and *vice versa*, which mainly added to transpose the one into a mere mythistoria; and Mageiai, or Sortitology, the other. Elsewhere we shall again refer to the notions on the origin of man. We have no geographical description of the earth's dimensions and consistencies at the time of its destruction recorded in Genesis, save what is therein related of them in synecdochical phraseology, that is to say, ante-deluvian names are post-diluvianized.

The equal distance of the extremities of the universe must first be discovered before we can find the centre of the world's empire, but we may reasonably conclude it is more in the sun than in the earth.

If the moon had not its motion from west to east which it has with us, the ebb and flow of the sea would happen diurnally at the same actual time the earth rises towards and falls off from the sun. It follows that when the earth has accomplished its revolution, it must advance twelve and a half degrees more before it can be on the same position again as it was under the moon, or in its range of the sun. On this account the rise of the sea occurs fifty minutes later each succeeding day; five-and-twenty minutes being the difference between the one and the other of its regular tides. It has been said, in refutation of the science of astrology, that it will require 7000 years to establish the same constitution of the stars that may be seen to-day, and that such a disposition of the heavens as will be to-morrow has never been produced since the world was created.

Consequently, it has been imagined and predicted that the renewal of that disposition will constitute the earth's climacteric, or rather, by a dialectical obscurity, its end; as, what begins a thing will end in its completion, on the revolment of its fulfilment. Observations of past ages, on scientific principles, confirmed by the experience of modern times, sufficiently elucidate at a glance that there is no part of the earth but has more or less undergone some alteration. We can comprehend its wasting away without diminution by means of its self-replenishment; but is its diminishment equal to its increase, or its irrigation commensurate with its desiccation? There is a never-ending departing and returning of life in all the terrestrial states of its government, by which daily it accumulates heaps in plenty, and vivifies a bulk additionally as large. Ashes return unto ashes, moisture unto moisture. Dissolve them in the waters, or evaporate them to the winds, yet by the laws of gravitation they will be re-collected and absorbed by the earth. For all this, as far as the earth was known, it does not now appear at all different to the descriptions we find given of it by the ancients, so far as they can be traced.

We cannot but admit that by natural agency the earth has been in some parts of the world augmented; but without an earthly creation there could be no earthly nature; and as for an aqueous or a Neptunian nature, even with the combined aids of sand and an igneous or a Plutonian nature, metallic substances could never naturally be produced; or the marine substances, of whose existence we have proof. Rocks have sprung from the depth of the sea, islands have been formed and attached to the mainland, indicative of the work of the cirriped, velella, and coral worm, and of the "first and second formations," but of no "spontaneous biped or quadruped," were once believed in among nations. On the other hand, almost within the twinkling of an eye or a flash of lightning, immense tracts of land have slipped away and disappeared, swallowed up by the ocean or the earth; plains have been lifted into mountains, and mountains have sunk into plains. The earthquake of Canada, in 1663, overwhelmed thirty miles of freestone mountains, and the whole of that wide range changed into an expansive plain.

Ebb and neap tides are well known, only we do not attribute them to atmospheric pressure; the spring tides we attribute to the monthly courses of the ocean in connection with the position of the earth at those times; still, of a certainty, in different places the tide varies. At the mouth of the Indus it rises to about 30 feet; in the Bay of Fundy to about 60 feet, and here so rapidly as to overtake persons and animals in their flight from it. But there is a gradual and important rise going on in some of the stratas of the ocean, which forces the sea itself higher and higher upon the low countries. Admitting that if the equatorial regions had or should have an elevation less than the polar regions, the waters of the latter would rush down, to the overflow of the former; or that the earth should again arrive at the same position with the dispositions of the heavenly bodies that it manifested at the time of the creation, or that it exhibited at the time of the deluge, there are no symptoms in the earth's figure and motion to evince, by such changes, any such diluvian results.

\* Vide Rich. Diss. p. 272, D. Herbelot, 230.

We think with Newton in saying, whilst there are universal records and traditions of an Omnipotent God and his supernatural creation of the world, it is unphilosophical, worse than useless, and labour in vain, to speculate on "natural laws appertaining in a chaos."

The perpetual fire of the lamps, or earthen vessels, held in suspension, amongst the Romans, was the symbol of holiness in the Temple of Vesta. The most purely lovely maidens, called in honour of the goddess—and as a reward of honour to themselves—vestal virgins, were selected for her priestesses, charged with the vigilant care of her sacred flame. If, by any chance, this vestal fire became extinguished, it was considered so portentous a calamity, that until, by excessive penalties and pains, it was thought to be expiated, all public and private business was prohibited. But did its extinction appear to have happened through any negligence of the virgins, they were severely punished, and beaten sometimes with rods. Yet, whether or not it was extinguished, they once a year, upon the Kalends of March, renewed the fire from its eternal source—that is, from the rays of the Sun. Hence we may conclude with the ancients, as we have already said, that, of the relative Vestas, the one represents Earth, as born and made of Heaven, and the other Fire, as an offspring or emanation of the Sun, in itself a purely vital, heavenly, and divine flame, so essential to life, that animal heat would perish without it, and the soul become of darkness nonproductive, miserable, and abortive; as, for exemplification, instead of being happy and blessed for everlasting in the virtues of Light, we are told that by our own faults we may be guilty of our own death, in which it will be extinguished,—a doom more terrible and to be dreaded than the punishment of the incontinent Vestal virgins, who were inhumed alive. But without heat there would be no air; without air, there would be no light; without light, there would be no sun. Consequently, we should say, by volcanic or subterranean fire, the earth would not be burnt to a cinder, but that it would be brought into one solid body of adamantine conglaciation. Then with heat there would be air, and with air there would be light, and so on? Nay; we would say, if there were no God there would be no heat; that is to say, there is a God, and therefore—"Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return to God who gave it. For God shall bring every work unto judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."

### FREEMASONRY.

#### ITS TEACHINGS, ITS DUTIES, AND ITS PRIVILEGES.

The following is an address delivered by Bro. Rondeaux, to four newly initiated brethren in Lodge La Césarée (No. 860), Jersey, on Thursday, December 11th, 1862.—Translated by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M., Prov. S.G.W., Warwickshire.

Brethren, in the course of the ceremonies connected with your reception among us, the Worshipful Master has in part explained to you the symbols and allegories of which we make use, for the instruction of such as, like yourselves, have had the wisdom to come

to knock at the door of our temple. Permit me to carry on this instruction to a further extent, and to make you more fully acquainted with the Order to which you henceforth belong.

Freemasonry is nothing more than morality brought into a condition of activity, that is to say, the art of governing men by honour and truth. Freemasonry interferes not with opinions based on conscience. Previous to admission into its bosom, it inquires not what is your creed? It demands simply to be assured that you are freemen, and that your conduct is regulated by good manners. It meddles not with religious controversies, nor with political strife. Wherever political or religious disputes commence, there Freemasonry ends.

By its nature, by the virtues which constitute its essence, our institution stands aloof from all sources of disturbance, from all the agitations which may surge in the profane world. Freemasonry is peculiar to no country, and recognises no limits of locality; it is neither English nor Scotch, neither American nor French; it is not more Swedish at Stockholm than Prussian at Berlin, than Turkish at Constantinople, than Russian at Moscow; it is one and universal. If it lost this character of universality, it would cease to be Freemasonry. The language which it speaks is understood and comprehended in every land. In the steppes of Russia, in the prairies of Mexico, on the borders of the Ganges, under the tent in the desert, you will hear the same words uttered, the same ideas expressed; you will recognise the same signs as those which we employ to make ourselves known to our brethren, and some of which have already been communicated to you.

Freemasonry is not a religion, in the sense in which the word is generally understood in our days. He who should attempt to convert it into a creed, in the common acceptation of the term, would falsify and pervert it. It opens wide the portals of its temple as well to the Christian as to the Jew; to the Mahometan as to the Brahmin, with these significant words, "You are all brethren, love each other, aid each other, enlighten and instruct each other." Love, Light, Charity, he who should succeed in his search for you will find true happiness.

After this brief and rapid sketch, you will, I think, agree with me, brethren, that our watchword, the combination and inculcation of all that is good in principle, good in sentiment, is fraternity, tolerance, union among men.

As to the origin of Freemasonry, it is so remote from our period, that it is lost in the night of time, in the obscurity which its lapse naturally causes, or rather it commences; with the very first existence of the human race for this reason it is that we now date our proceedings from the year of the world 5862. I will not this evening attempt to penetrate the veil in which our Order was enveloped at its birth, nor will I harass myself with the inquiry in what corner of the earth Freemasonry first took root. I will tell you simply that the Indians practised it under the guise of mysteries; that it is probable that thence it was transmitted to the Persians; then to the Egyptians; that they in turn communicated it to the Greeks, who gave it to the Jews, from which last it passed on to the Christians, who in more modern times instituted the Crusades. It is almost a certainty that it was

they who introduced it to the peoples of Europe under different forms.

If the antiquity of its origin be doubted, it is sufficient to compare what took place in the mysteries of Egypt with what has just passed before your view in the course of your initiation. Permit me, then, to point out to you some points indicating a similarity. (Here the orator compared the ancient and the modern rites of initiation, and explained the allegorical meaning of the proofs and trials to which the candidates are subjected.) He afterwards resumed thus:—

Lastly, the darkness in which you were enveloped has been removed, and light has been afforded to you. I hope that to you this will not prove to be merely a material light, which affects only the eyes of the body, but a light more pure, more holy, which gives vision to the mind, and life to the soul. Here I pause. I am not permitted to proceed farther. At a later period, when the Lodge shall deem you worthy to receive the other degrees of Freemasonry, you will receive still higher elucidation. You see that the symbols of which we make use are a means of rendering perceptible to your eyes the truths with which we wish to impress the understandings of our adepts. Be careful to bear this in mind when you shall be called on to expose yourselves to new probations.

It now only remains for me to inform you of the duties which Freemasonry imposes upon newly adopted initiates, and the advantages which it secures to them.

Our duties are pointed out in the morality which indicates them, for that it is which brings its rules into subjection to the will; or in other words, which traces out a course of duty to man, whether it be towards himself, towards his fellow men, or towards his God. These rules are based on the distinction between good and evil, between justice and injustice—a distinction which is found in all minds. It is a natural law which says to each, Do what is good, what is right; avoid what is evil, what is unjust. The law which thus addresses us imposes on us the obligation to obey it; that obligation is duty. The science of duty is in philosophy called universal morality. We give to it the title of Masonic morality: but man is a force, sensible, intelligent, and active or free; the exercise of this force brings him into intimate connection with his own person, composed of a body and a soul; with his fellow creatures, who have a personal identity similar to his own; lastly, with a Supreme Being, that is to say, with God. All these persons have rights which he is bound to respect; hence arise three kinds of duties,—those of man to himself, towards his fellow-men, towards God. The duties of man to himself have relation, some to his mind, others to his body. The duties relative to his mind have as their object the three faculties with which it is endowed—sensibility, intelligence, and activity, voluntary or free.

Man is expected to direct the exercise of these faculties towards the fulfilment of the moral law. Thus sensibility ought to be preserved pure, in order not to diminish the intelligence of the will; intelligence ought to be developed, in order to arrive at truth, to discover error, to acquire a knowledge of the Supreme Being, and to render oneself worthy of

Him; voluntary action, or the will, ought to be cultivated, with the view of doing good, of avoiding evil, to preserve its dominion over intelligence and sensibility,—in fact, to maintain man in his true dignity. Everything which weakens and degrades it is contrary to the law; everything which strengthens and elevates it is in conformity with it.

The duties relating to the body have as their objects the preservation of its organs. The body is the servant of the mind; in return for the services which it receives from it, its ought to watch over its preservation, to supply its necessities, nay, even to protect it. Thus to measure its labours by its strength, to supply food in proportion to its need, its term of rest to its amount of weariness,—such are the duties of man in respect of his body. Hence it is perceived that self-destruction is a crime.

The duties of man towards his fellowmen may be comprised in two words. The charity or love which includes the positive duties, and justice or equity which includes the negative duties.

The chief positive duty of man towards his fellowmen is charity or love, whence in their turn spring all the positive duties, that is to say, indulgence towards faults, assistance to those who are in trouble or want, toleration of the opinions of others, duties which are all comprehended in this precept, "Do to others as you would that they should do unto you."

The negative duties are contained in that other precept, "Do not unto others what you would not that they should do unto you."

God has created man, he preserves him, he makes himself known to him, he judges him. From these relations spring duties on the part of man, which may be reduced to four principal ones, to believe, to love, to obey, to worship.

God has an existence; all nature proves it; the reason, the moral sentiments, the order of the universe. Man is constrained, therefore, to believe in God. Man exists, and preserves his existence, only by the will of God; it is to God that he owes intelligence and liberty, which makes him the king of nature. Man then is constrained to love God. God, the creator of man displays himself to him, as a power not only beneficent but superior. Man, therefore, is constrained to obey God. Everything man possesses is the gift of God. On him he depends, to him he looks up; he owes him then the homage of his being; as a finite and frail being he is constrained to humble himself before the being who is infinite and perfect, he is thus constrained to worship God.

Such then, are the precepts which must be your guide in life as men, and above all as Masons; but I perceive that as yet I have spoken to you only of your duties; I have, however, also promised to make you acquainted with the privileges and advantages, which your participation in our mysteries secures to you. But what is the benefit of taking up your time with such a subject? To have told you what you ought to be, and what you ought to do, was moreover, an indication to you of what you ought to avoid. Was it not also affording you information as to what you have a right to expect from your brother Freemasons?

If I have enjoined you to be beneficent, have I not expressly made you understand, that in misfortune you had a claim upon our assistance; for it is not possible

to give, unless there be some one to receive. To tell you to be forbearing towards your brother Masons, to close your eyes to their faults, to seek to lead them to virtue if they depart from it, to instruct them, to do to them, in a word, every possible good, and studiously to avoid doing them any harm, is it not also telling you that in return for your affectionate care for them, for your wise counsel, you have also a claim to every kind act on their part. For it is thus, that the study of our duties necessarily lead us to an exact acquaintance with our privileges.

As an interpreter of the sentiments of the Lodge, permit me to express to you all the delight we experience at being able to count you in the number of members of the great family. Long have we known you as good and honourable men; by virtue of these two qualities we hold a deep conviction that you will become perfect Freemasons.

#### THE ROYAL ARCH SCHISM IN SCOTLAND.

The following is an official extract from the minutes of meeting of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, held in Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, on 17th December, 1862.

The Supreme Chapter resumed consideration of the report of the Supreme Committee relative to certain proceedings of members of the Order in Glasgow, with the resolutions adopted regarding the same by the Supreme Chapter, on the 20th October last; and also took into consideration the answers from the different chapters in the western districts referred to in the said resolution, and the following report thereon by the Supreme Committee, viz. :—

*Report by the Committee of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, with reference to the carrying out of the resolutions adopted by the Supreme Chapter on 20th October, 1862, in regard to certain proceedings of members of the Order in Glasgow.*

The resolutions unanimously adopted at the meeting of the Supreme Chapter on the 20th October, 1862, were the following :—

1. Moved by E. Comp. Lord Loughborough, Grand H., seconded by Comp. Belfrage, Z. No. 1, and unanimously agreed to—

That the resolutions adopted at a so-called General Meeting of the Royal Arch Masons of the Western Districts, in St. Mark's Hall, Glasgow, on 12th September, 1862, indicate on the part of the companions who attended that meeting (but whose names have not been communicated), a spirit of insubordination and disobedience to the Supreme Chapter, for which there is no justification in the proceedings of the Supreme Chapter in regard to the matter of which these companions complain; and that the demands made in these resolutions be rejected; and

2. Moved by E. Comp. Sir John Douglas, K.C.B., Depute Grand Principal, seconded by Comp. Mann, Grand Chancellor, and unanimously agreed to—

That a copy of the minute and resolutions of the meeting held in St. Mark's Hall, Glasgow, on 12th September, 1862, by parties styling themselves "The Royal Arch Masons in the Western Districts," and a copy of the resolution now adopted by this Supreme Chapter in regard to the same, be transmitted to the following chapters, viz.—Nos. 18, 22, 35, 50, 67, 69, 73, 76, 78, and 87; and as it does not

appear whether the resolutions adopted at the meeting held in St. Mark's Hall, Glasgow, have ever been seen by these chapters,—appoint these chapters respectively to intimate to the Grand Scribe E. in writing, before 1st December next, whether they concur in and adopt the said resolutions, of the said meeting, held in St. Mark's Hall, Glasgow, of date 12th September, 1862, or whether they now repudiate the same.

A copy of these resolutions was transmitted by the Grand Scribe E. on 21st October, 1862, to the Scribes of each of the chapters therein mentioned, viz.—Nos. 18, 22, 35, 50, 67, 69, 73, 76, 78, and 87, with a request that the same should be submitted to a meeting of their respective chapters, and the answer returned on or before 1st December, whether or not they concurred in and adopted the resolutions come to at the so-called general meeting of the Royal Arch Masons in the Western Districts, held in St. Mark's Hall, Glasgow, on 12th September last; or whether, now that they were in possession of the true facts (which were stated in the report of the committee, dated 20th September last), they repudiated the same. A copy of the resolutions adopted at said meeting, held in St. Mark's Hall, Glasgow, was transmitted at same time, and which resolutions were as follows :—

Convened, a General Meeting of the Royal Arch Masons of the Western Districts, in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan Street, Glasgow, on Friday, the twelfth day of September, eighteen hundred and sixty-two years.

Comp. E. W. Pritchard, M.D., in the chair.

The circular convening the meeting having been read, the Chairman called on Comp. Robert Wallace to read the decisions of the several chapters of this province having reference to the late interference of Supreme Committee and Supreme Chapter with Comp. Dr. Walker Arnott, Provincial Grand Superintendent, and the Provincial Grand Chapter of the Western Districts, in his and its deliverance respecting the disjunction of the Ayrshire chapters from the Provincial Grand Chapter of the Western Districts.

It was moved by Comp. James Bannatyne, seconded by Comp. David Sutherland, that having heard the decisions of the chapters who have sent in excerpts of their minutes, as they seem to be all of one opinion, we, the Royal Arch Masons of the West of Scotland, resolve—

1st.—To demand from Supreme Chapter and Committee a full retraction of their interference with the Provincial Grand Superintendent and the Provincial Chapter in the discharge of his and their duties; also that they apologise to Comp. Dr. Walker Arnott for said interference, and delete from the records of Supreme Chapter all minutes having reference thereto.

2nd.—That for the insulting and unbecoming language used towards Comp. Dr. Walker Arnott by Comps. David Murray Lyon and George Good, these companions be suspended for such period as may be deemed sufficient, such suspension to continue in force until a suitable apology has been tendered, and that the Supreme Chapter shall cause the Ayr Kilwinning Chapter (No. 80) to delete from their Minute-book the minute referring to Comp. Dr. Walker Arnott.

3rd.—That Supreme Chapter request Comp. Dr. Walker Arnott to resume all the offices formerly held by him.

4th.—That for the future better government of the body, the meetings of Supreme Chapter and Supreme Committee shall be held in Edinburgh and Glasgow alternately, and that the half of the office-bearers of Supreme Chapter and members of Supreme Committee be chosen from the West of Scotland.

5th.—That Supreme Chapter be requested to take action with regard to the foregoing resolutions within thirty days from the date of receiving, when the Royal

Arch Masons of the Western Districts will be prepared to receive a definite answer to their demands, either in writing or orally, by a committee sent here with full powers to settle the case.

6th.—That a copy of the decisions of the several chapters be sent with the foregoing resolutions to the Grand Scribe E. for presentation to Supreme Chapter.

(Extracted from Minutes of Meeting.)

ROB. WALLACE, Int. Secy.

Replies have been received from all these chapters more or less definite, and from some of these the committee would now lay excerpts before the Supreme Chapter.

1. From Glasgow Chapter (No. 50), and at a meeting presided over by Comps. Donald Campbell, Hutcheson, Campbell, and John Laurie.

"The members of No. 50, in place of repudiating the resolutions of their chapter, adopted at their meeting on the 20th August, most distinctly and confidently affirm these resolutions *in toto*, and to which they still adhere in their entirety.

"The resolutions adopted by the Grand Chapter on the motions of M. E. Loughborough, and Sir John Douglas, are also wholly uncalled for," &c.

2. From the Cathedral, Glasgow Chapter (No. 67).

"Regarding the resolutions come to by the Companions of Royal Arch Chapter (No. 67), on 19 August last, I am instructed to say that the companions unanimously homologate and confirm the same in their entirety.

"On the whole, the well-founded complaint of the Chapters in the West, having received such cavalier treatment as to be entirely rejected by Supreme Chapter (or a few of her officials), the companions of Cathedral Royal Arch Chapter (No. 67), who have ever endeavoured zealously to advance the Order, feel that unless Supreme Chapter take instant steps for initiating a conciliatory policy, and effecting such an arrangement as will conduce to the general well-being of the Order in Scotland, however much they may regret the necessity of such a course, have no alternative but demission from Supreme Chapter."

3. From St. Andrew's Glasgow Chapter (No. 69).

"I have to state that at a meeting of the St. Andrew's Royal Arch Chapter, held on 20th August last, the Report of the Committee of the Royal Arch Masons of the West of Scotland, was adopted by the unanimous voice of the Chapter, and at a Meeting on the 11th November, it was agreed by the Chapter that we abide by our resolutions passed on 20th August; also that we abide by the resolutions passed at the *General Meeting of Royal Arch Masons held in St. Mark's Hall*, on 12th September, and agree to act along with the other chapters in the West of Scotland. You will, therefore, observe that the St. Andrew's Royal Arch Chapter (No. 69) unanimously approves of the proceedings of the Royal Arch Masons of the West of Scotland."

4. From Airdrie Districts, Airdrie Chapter (No. 78).

"I am instructed to inform Supreme Chapter through you, that after a careful perusal of, and mature deliberation over, the contents of said Report, they (Chapter No. 78) still adhere to the tenor of their letter as printed in the Appendix, page 15, of said Report; and further, that they entirely concur in and adopt the resolutions come to at a 'so-called' General Meeting of parties 'styling' themselves 'The Royal Arch Masons in the Western Districts,' which was held in St. Mark's Hall, Glasgow, on 12th September last."

The committee unanimously recommend the Supreme Chapter to suspend these four chapters, viz. :—

The Glasgow Chapter (No. 50); Cathedral Glasgow Chapter (No. 67); St. Andrew's Glasgow Chapter (No. 69); and Airdrie Districts Airdrie Chapter (No. 78); until the next annual election in September, 1863.

Another so-called general meeting of the Royal Arch Masons of the Western Districts of Scotland, appears to have been held in St. Mark's Hall, Glasgow, on the 13th

November, 1862. The following is a copy of the minutes of this meeting, which was transmitted to Grand Scribe E by Comp. Robert Wallace, describing himself as Interim Secretary :—

"At Glasgow, and in St. Mark's Hall, on Thursday, 13th November, 1862, convened a general meeting of the Royal Arch Masons of the Western District of Scotland.

"The Interim Secretary having read the circular calling the meeting, Comp. James Cowan was unanimously elected Chairman.

"The Interim Secretary read letters to and from Grand Scribe E relative to the matter, also letters were read from Chapters Nos. 18, 22, 35, and statements made by members of Chapters Nos. 50, 67, 69, 73, and 76 as to the opinion of these Chapters regarding the dispute with Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, and the Royal Arch Masons of the West.

"The following resolutions were moved, seconded, and carried, Comp. George Johnstone, Chapter No. 67, alone dissenting :—

*Resolution 1st.*—"Moved by Comp. Donald Campbell, seconded by Comp. Henry Marshall, that the Royal Arch Masons of the Western District of Scotland are of opinion they have been unjustly treated by Supreme Grand Committee, and Supreme Grand Chapter, in so far as they have not received any answer to the resolutions passed by them at a meeting held on the 12th of September last, although an answer was promised by Grand Scribe E.

*Resolution 2nd.*—"Moved by Comp. James Muir, seconded by Comp. Charles Brown, that the Royal Arch Masons of the Western District of Scotland still adhere to the resolutions passed at said general meeting, and are of opinion, that the motions made by Comp. Lord Loughborough and Sir John Douglas, at the meeting of Supreme Grand Chapter on the 20th October ultimo, were made by them whilst in ignorance of the true merits of the case.

*Resolution 3rd.*—"Moved by Comp. H. Marshall, seconded by Comp. John Lawrie,—That Supreme Grand Committee and Supreme Grand Chapter have not met the Companions of the West in the true spirit of Royal Arch Masonry, but by styling them 'so-called Royal Arch Masons,' have acted contrary to its principles.

*Resolution 4th.*—"Moved by Comp. Robert Wallace, seconded by Comp. D. H. Miller,—That for the reasons given in foregoing resolutions, as well as those previously transmitted to Supreme Grand Committee and Supreme Grand Chapter—The Royal Arch Masons of the West of Scotland, whilst deeply regretting the necessity of the step, feel, that in justice to themselves, for the prosperity of the Order, and in support of the true principles of Royal Arch Masonry, compelled to separate from and renounce all allegiance to, the present Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, protesting and asserting their right to meet *in chapter*, and exercise all the privileges presently possessed by them as Royal Arch Masons, and appoint the following a Committee to draw up a formal deed of demission from Supreme Grand Chapter.

*Resolution 5th.*—"Moved by Comp. D. Campbell, seconded by Comp. Robert Clugston,—That, in order to afford Supreme Committee another opportunity to consider the demands of the companions of the West, and of appointing a committee to confer with the committee appointed by them, this meeting be adjourned till Thursday, 20th instant, and that the foregoing resolutions be not acted on till that time.

"Comp. Marshall moved that previous committee be appointed to draw up the deed of demission to be ready at next meeting, which was agreed to.

"Comp. R. Wallace, Interim Secretary, was instructed to transmit copy of 4 and 5 resolutions to Grand Scribe E, for the consideration of the Supreme Grand Committee.

"A cordial vote of thanks was moved to Comp. James

Cowan for his conduct in the chair, the meeting was then adjourned till Thursday, 20th instant, at 8 o'clock p.m.

“Extracted from minute of meeting by

(Signed) “ROBERT WALLACE, *Int. Secy.*”

The following members of the Order appear to have taken a leading part at the meetings held in St. Mark's Hall and the Crow Hotel, Glasgow, and in the subordinate Chapters at which resolutions expressive of disaffection and insubordination to the Supreme Chapter were adopted, and the committee recommend that they be suspended from Royal Arch Masonic privileges for the period of twelve months, viz.:—Edward Wm. Pritchard, M.D., Glasgow; Robert Wallace, 45, Renfield-street, Glasgow; Donald Campbell, druggist, 1, Buchanan-street, Glasgow; James Cowan, insurance surveyor, Glasgow; Charles Brown, 27, George-street, Glasgow; John Laurie, wine merchant, Glasgow; and Daniel Hamilton Miller, oil and colour merchant, Glasgow; all belonging to the Glasgow Chapter (No. 50).

David Sutherland, goldsmith, Glasgow; Robert Clugston, wine merchant, Glasgow; James Muir, upholsterer, Glasgow, and Henry Marshall, Argyle-street, Glasgow, all belonging to the Cathedral Glasgow Chapter (No. 67), and

James Bannatyne, merchant, Carrick-street, Glasgow; and Hutcheson Campbell, bookseller, Glasgow, belonging to the St. Andrew's Glasgow Chapter (No. 69).

The replies from the other chapters do not call for any censure on the part of the Supreme Chapter.

The Committee think it right to lay before the Supreme Court extract from the minutes of the Shamrock and Thistle Chapter, Glasgow (No. 87), and to express their approbation of the sentiments therein contained. The minute is in the following terms:—“That we, Comps. of Shamrock and Thistle Chapter (No. 87), having duly considered the matters in dispute affecting the Kilwinning Ayr Royal Arch Chapter (No. 80), Comp. Dr. Walker Arnott, and the Supreme Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland—declare that we see no reason why we should in any manner change our relationship to the Supreme Grand Chapter, and shall, as hitherto, abide by the obligations, constitution and charters. Yet, while we express our allegiance, we at the same time deeply deplore the causes which have led to the present opposition to the Supreme Grand Chapter, and sincerely sympathize with Comp. Dr. Walker Arnott, whose good services in the cause of Freemasonry are inestimable, therefore we earnestly hope that such mutual arrangements may speedily be come to as shall allow Comp. Dr. Walker Arnott to resume the offices he has resigned, with honour to himself, and dignity to the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland: Further, that a copy of the above be sent to the secretary of the committee of the Royal Arch Masons of the West of Scotland, and the Grand Scribe in England.”

With reference to the concluding paragraph in this minute, the committee would express their entire concurrence in the sentiments therein expressed, and although they may differ from Comp. Walker Arnott in their interpretation of a law of the Supreme Chapter, they trust that, upon reconsidering the matter, he will feel at liberty to resume his standing in the Order of which he has always been so great a supporter.

(Signed) WM. CAMPBELL, *Chairman.*  
L. MACKERSY, *G.S.E.*

The Supreme Chapter, after deliberation on said documents, upon the motion of Comp. Mann, seconded by Comp. Campbell, **SUSPENDED** the following Chapters, viz.:—

Glasgow Chapter (No. 50),  
Cathedral Glasgow Chapter (No. 67),  
St. Andrew's Glasgow Chapter (No. 69), and  
Airdrie Districts Chapter (No. 78).

until the day of the next annual election in September, 1863, and until that day **PROHIBITED** and **DISCHARGED** these

chapters from meeting in chapter. Further, on the motion of Comp. M'Cowan, seconded by Comp. Kay, the Supreme Chapter **SUSPENDED** from Royal Arch Masonic privileges, for the period of twelve months, the following members of the Order:—

Edward William Pritchard, M.D., Glasgow; Robert Wallace, 45, Renfield-street, Glasgow; Donald Campbell, Druggist, 1, Buchanan-street, Glasgow; James Cowan, Insurance Surveyor, Glasgow; Chas. Brown, 27, George-street, Glasgow; John Laurie, Wine Merchant, Glasgow; and Daniel Hamilton Miller, Oil and Colour Merchant, Glasgow; all belonging to the Glasgow Chapter (No. 50).

David Sutherland, Goldsmith, Glasgow; Robert Clugston, Wine Merchant, Glasgow; James Muir, Upholsterer, Glasgow, and Henry Marshall, Argyle-street, Glasgow; all belonging to the Cathedral Glasgow Chapter, (No 67); and

James Bannatyne, Merchant, Carrick-street, Glasgow; and Hutcheson Campbell, Bookseller, Glasgow, belonging to the St. Andrew's Glasgow Chapter (No. 69).

The Grand Scribes were farther directed to transmit an extract from the minutes of the Supreme Chapter, so far as relates to the said suspensions, to all Chapters and Mark Master Lodges holding of the Supreme Chapter, and also to the sister Grand Chapters.

Extracted from the Minutes of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland.

L. MACKERSY, G.S.E.

[In reference to the above document we have received the following letters.]

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—A printed document, of an extraordinary character, is at present being circulated among the Royal Arch Chapters and companions in Scotland. It purports to emanate from the Grand Chapter of Scotland, and contains an excerpt from their proceedings of the 17th December last. This excerpt has reference to the suspension of four chapters in the West of Scotland, with a number of companions belonging to these chapters; suspending the former until next annual election (23rd September, 1863), and the latter for twelve months.

Neither I nor the chapter to which I belong have, as yet, had any official intimation of the said suspension and I must assert that it is a piece of the most unwarrantable conduct on the part of its officers, to issue any such document, before the parties and bodies therein named, are made legally aware of the same. Up till the present time no charge has been made against me, I have never been summoned to appear for any dereliction of duty, and consequently have never been heard before this august body, who seem to ride on high and spirited horses. I protest against such conduct as being illegal, most unwarrantable, and unmasonic. No tribunal, sitting in judgment, in the country would dare to find any one guilty before he was charged with an offence, tried in his absence, and more especially sentenced before even being heard.

I assert, and the great majority of the companions in the West of Scotland assert, that the Grand Chapter was wrong in their conduct towards Dr. Walker Arnott, and because the companions dared to meet to express their open convictions, are to be singled out for suspension by an officious official and his pet clique, while those foremost in the van of declaring their sentiments are permitted to go free and scathless. The step taken

may gratify the vanity of those who have been so long jealous of the prosperity of the Order in Glasgow and the West of Scotland; in which province there were, last year, recorded more members than all the rest of Scotland (Edinburgh included), and the Colonies, but it cannot affect the conscience of those who have fearlessly and openly done their duty to the Order. The Grand Chapter has been, in this case, rather too precipitate, which they will yet find out. They have committed a most egregious blunder with regard to the "Glasgow" Chapter No. 50 in suspending it, for on the 29th November last, disgusted with the conduct of those at the helm of affairs in Edinburgh it ceased to work and disposed of its clothing and jewels.

I have written this letter to warn the companions who may not know the real state of matters to guard against forming false impressions which the document, above alluded to, might occasion, and I now clear myself of a body who could be guilty of such unmasonic conduct as stated above. Whatever statements may emanate hereafter from them, or their emissaries, I will treat with the silence and contempt which they merit, and will not permit myself to be embroiled in a paper war.

I am, yours fraternally,

DONALD CAMPBELL, Past G. Pr. J.,  
late Prov. G. H., and Past Z. of No. 50.

We entirely concur in the letter:—

E. W. Pritchard, No. 50, and P.Z., 611, England.

James Muir, P.Z. No. 67.

Robert Clayston, 67.

James Cowan, No. 50.

D. Sutherland, No. 67, Past Z. of 79.

John Laurie, 50, N.

James Horne, 50, Past H.

Irvine Ferguson, 50, J.

A. G. Simpson, 50.

Hutcheson Campbell, 50, H.

L. H. Miller.

Robert Wallace, Past Prov. G. E.

T. A. Thomson, 50.

J. Bannatyne, 69.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In consequence of a printed pamphlet of an unusual character, intimating the suspension of the Glasgow Chapter (No. 50) and three other chapters in the West of Scotland, along with several companions, a general meeting of the Glasgow Chapter (No. 50) was called on Tuesday evening, to consider said pamphlet. Bro. Horne was voted to the chair, when it was resolved, "The companions having heard the document read are of opinion that Grand Chapter has acted in an unconstitutional manner in suspending this chapter without any charge being made against her, or being heard in her defence. They hereby protest against such illegal proceeding, and the companions now present feel themselves bound to call upon all the members of this chapter to take the most energetic steps, in consequence of this imprudent, unjust, and false step of Grand Chapter."

December 21st, 1862.

JAMES HORNE, Chairman.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

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

### RIGHTS OF VISITORS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Hartlepool, Middlesboro', and Stockton-on-Tees, may be described as situated at about the three angles of a triangle.

I have the honour to be the W.M. of the St. Helen's Lodge (No. 774), Hartlepool, at which place I reside, but am staying for a few weeks at Middlesboro', going daily to Hartlepool for the transaction of business. I can get from Hartlepool to Middlesboro' without going *via* Stockton, but understanding the Tees Lodge (No. 749) would meet at Stockton to-night, I determined to go that way, and with the J.W. (Bro. David Cunningham) of my lodge, who resides at Stockton, visit the lodge there.

We accordingly went, and were admitted. When we entered, the Secretary was reading the by-laws. This done, the W.M., Bro. John Settle, announced that the brethren would now proceed to elect the W.M. for the ensuing year, and that the mode of election was to be by ballot. Immediately after this announcement, a P.M. of the lodge rose, and, to my unbounded surprise, *moved that as the business to be transacted was important, all strangers be requested to withdraw.* My J.W. and I (we being the only strangers present) of course at once retired, and I need scarcely add for good.

I may observe that there was a very full attendance of members, and that it is possible there was some division of opinion as to who should be elected; but I have very little acquaintance with any of the Stockton brethren, and the issue of the election was not in the least degree interesting to me.

I have been in the habit of visiting other lodges, when convenient to me, and my motive in doing so is to observe the working, and to cultivate fraternal relationships. This is the first time, however, that I have been treated so unceremoniously.

I think it right to put on record the above occurrence, because I believe it to be an act of discourtesy and totally at variance with the principles and practice of our order, but am open to conviction, and would be glad to have your opinion thereon.

If it is to be understood that a visiting brother is to be liable to be *turned* out of a lodge whenever "important business" has to be transacted, there is an end of visiting altogether, for no brother will run the risk of being subjected to such an indignity; for, mark! there is much of the business of a lodge that is important. If the election of W.M. is "important," much more so, in my opinion, is the balloting for a candidate for initiation. Hoping you will give this a place in your columns,

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

JAMES GROVES.

December 27th, 1862.

[We are of opinion that private matters may arise for discussion in a lodge, when visitors may be fairly invited and expected to retire; but it is certainly not usual during a ballot for Master, on which occasion no speeches would be permitted.]

## THE MASONIC MIRROR.

### MASONIC MEM.

At the meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence on the 24th, the W. Bro. John Udall, P.G.D., in the chair, twenty-seven petitioners were relieved with various sums amounting to £314; one recommended to Grand Lodge for £40, and a second for £30, making a total of £384.

A Grand Masonic Ball for the Western division of Lancashire is to take place in the Town Hall, Liverpool, on Tuesday next, the 16th inst., when the proceeds will be given in aid of the distressed operatives of the provinces. So noble an object ought to command a large attendance.

### METROPOLITAN.

**FITZROY LODGE, No. 830.**—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Friday evening, December 26, at the headquarters of the Hon. Artillery Company, Finsbury. Bro. J. W. Tugg, P.M., presided, in the absence of Bro. May, W.M., supported by Bros. Helsham, S.W.; Wilson, J.W.; Peter Matthew, P.M. and Treasurer; Eglese, P.M. and Treasurer; and several members and visitors. The lodge having been opened and the minutes received, Bros. Lieutenant Dawes and William Huggins were introduced and questioned, and afterwards passed to the second degree. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and Bros. Meggy and Hutchinson were severally raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The next business was to take a ballot for the election of W.M. for the year ensuing, which was unanimous in favour of Bro. Helsham, who returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him. Bro. Peter Matthews, P.M., was also unanimously re-elected as treasurer. Bro. Holt was re-elected as Tyler for the ensuing year. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. The cloth having been drawn, the W.M. gave the usual formal and masonic toasts, which were duly honoured. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was "The health of the visitors," and said they were that evening honoured by the presence of Bro. Binckes, P.M., No. 11, and secretary to the boys' school; Dr. Nolan, P.M., of the Lodge of Industry, No. 219; and several other brethren, and the Fitzroy Lodge had great pleasure in giving them a cordial and hearty welcome. The toast was duly honoured. Bro. Binckes at some length enforced the claims of the boys' school, and having alluded to the large sum of £3600 collected at the last festival, said he hoped that in the coming year it would be increased to £4000, as there were many sons of Freemasons anxious to obtain admission. He also expressed a hope that the Fitzroy Lodge would aid them as they had done before, by sending a steward on the next occasion. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Dr. Nolan, P.M., 219, on being called, said he felt not only thankful for the toast as a visitor always did in a Masonic lodge, but he felt gratified and honoured in receiving that token of respect from the Fitzroy Lodge. There was something peculiarly picturesque and agreeable in the appearance of a military lodge, and he must say he felt somewhat captivated by it. The union of the uniform and Masonic decoration afforded an aspect that was agreeable, and suggested considerations that were eminently instructive. There was great propriety in constituting a lodge in a military corps, whether regular or volunteer, but he thought that this was the case more especially in a volunteer corps such as that of the good old city of London. One of the great principles of Freemasonry was peace, for Freemasons were not only brothers, but were bound to promote the harmony of the Order and the peace of mankind. (Cheers.) Now, happily the day had arrived when England repudiated armaments for the purposes of aggression. (Cheers, and hear, hear.) England did not fight for an "idea," as was the phrase in a certain portion of continental Europe. They would not go to war either for an abstract idea, a mere sentiment, or a romantic profession, which was a pretence when the purpose existed of seizing other men's territories or suppressing their liberties. (Cheers.) Great Britain would refuse

to go to war to procure great commercial advantages, or isolated principles of neutrality, or international right. For what purpose, then, were they armed? for the security of British liberty, of national independence, and of the balance of power in Europe,—a phrase which, however unpopular and out of fashion, it might be in certain quarters, was still a great reality and a just object even of war. (Cheering.) It was obvious from the assent of those around him, that such were the views of the City Artillery Companies—a policy of peace and an attitude of war only when their shores were menaced, their power insulted, or their international rights infringed. (Cheers.) If such were the views of the grenadiers of the city of London, the introduction of a Masonic lodge was consistent and useful—consistent because their purpose in arming was such as Freemasonry did not condemn, but approved, and inaugurated those peaceable opinions and principles which their nation desired to cultivate and maintain. (Renewed cheering.) He was also finally reminded of the appropriateness of Masonry to military men, by the sympathy with order which Masonic and military organisation displayed. The language of Milton, "Order is Heaven's first law," expressed an essential element in Freemasonry. Like the constitution of nature, as the light revealed it in the Heaven's above, on the face of the earth, in the system of the universe, Masonry was efficient in the subordination of its members, the consonance of its principles, and the comprehensiveness of its scheme. (Hear, hear.) Well, the genius of the military system was order too. (Hear, hear.) Without subordination, harmony of instrumentality, and comprehensiveness of design, there could be no efficient military organisation. Thus Masonry consolidated the soldier's views of discipline and subordination by supplying a great principle especially applicable. Although not a military man, he had the pleasure of possessing the acquaintance of many of the officers and members of the corps. His respect for the profession of a soldier was formed by having known so many of the bravest and best who ever bore the name. His calling was to narrate what soldiers did, rather than to perform what they achieved; and he was quite sure that the existence of a lodge in the corps would justify him in saying that its members would be more than ever ready to draw their swords for their Queen and country, while more than ever they would be desirous in the sacred interests of peace that those swords should never be required. (Great cheering.)—Bro. EGLESE, P.M., proposed the health of Bro. Figg, the presiding W.M., who was always willing and happy to do anything he could to promote the welfare of the lodge. They had seen how he had gone through the duties that evening, in the absence of the W.M., without the slightest preparation; and he thought they were bound to render him a due meed of praise by drinking his health. (Cheers.)—The W.M. very briefly thanked the brethren for the honour conferred upon him. The W.M. then gave "The P.M.'s of the lodge, Bros. Matthews and Eglese," and enlisted the way in which they had respectively performed their duties as treasurer and secretary, and hoped they would continue in the same course. (Cheers.)—Bro. P. MATTHEWS, in acknowledging the toast, congratulated the brethren on the auspicious termination of the past twelve months, and sincerely wished them one and all a happy new year. He thanked them for having again unanimously elected him to the office of Treasurer; and he hoped to fulfil the duties so as to give satisfaction to the brethren, and with credit to himself. Having alluded to Bro. Binckes, he said he had been pleased to hear from him one of his intelligent speeches in reference to their Masonic charities, and especially as to the boys who were nobly educated in the school, in whose behalf he was the prime mover, and his services were high appreciated. For the respect the brethren had shown him (Bro. Matthews) he thanked them cordially, and he hoped in the new year that they might be in the possession of good health, and that every blessing of life would attend them. (Cheers.)—Bro. EGLESE, P.M. and Secretary, said he was obliged to the brethren for the manner in which they had responded to the toast, and he could assure them that as he was anxious for the welfare of the lodge, he would continue to discharge the duties of his post to the best of his ability, and endeavour to deserve their good opinion.—The W.M. said he knew all the brethren were most anxious to drink the health of the W.M. elect, and he trusted he would do his best to promote the prosperity of the lodge. He should not on the present occasion say all he was disposed to do, but should at once propose the health of Bro. Helsham, W.M. elect.—Bro. HELSHAM said he would do



everything that lay in his power to promote the prosperity of the lodge, so that under no circumstances should it suffer while in his hands without his making a gigantic effort to prevent it. He thanked them sincerely for the unanimity with which they had elected him to that office, and he hoped at the termination of it he should meet with the same cordiality as he did at that moment. (Cheers.)—The W.M. then gave "The officers of the lodge," for which they severally returned thanks, Bro. Wreford, the J.D., expressing a hope that the brethren of the Fitzroy Lodge would rally round him as steward at the festival for the Royal Benevolent Institution for Freemasons and their widows. The Tyler's toast was given, and the proceedings were brought to a close in the most harmonious manner.

## PROVINCIAL.

### CHANNEL ISLANDS.

#### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

At the close of the proceedings, on laying the foundation stone of the New Masonic Hall, Jersey, on Wednesday, December 17, as reported in the MAGAZINE last week, the brethren returned to the Hotel de Ville, and the large room having been close tyled, Provincial Grand Lodge was resumed. The R.W. the Prov. G.M. expressed his great satisfaction at the favourable issue of the proceedings, and stated that after many inquiries, he found that his sentiments were shared by all, not a single incident having occurred to interfere with the precision of the arrangements and exactitude in carrying them out. So much kind assistance having been afforded by others not connected with the Masonic body, by which the effectiveness, solemnity, dignity, and order of the ceremonial had been greatly enhanced, he felt that they could not separate without performing an imperative duty in reference to them. He therefore proposed *seriatim* the following resolutions, which, having been seconded by Bro. Robert Crosse, D. Prov. G.M., were carried unanimously with loud acclamations.

"That the thanks of the Grand Officers and members of Provincial Grand Lodges be tendered to his Excellency Brother Sir Robert Percy Douglas, Bart., Lieut. Governor, for his presence and assistance in Provincial Grand Lodge: also for his eloquent and truly Masonic and paternal address at the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the Masonic Temple.

"To the Bailiff, Lieut. Bailiff, and Magistrates of the Royal Court, to the Very Rev. the Dean of Jersey, Col. Chapman and officers of the 18th Regiment (Royal Irish), and other authorities for their assistance.

"To the choir of St. Simon's district and the ladies and gentlemen of other choirs in the island, who, in the most kind and courteous manner, tendered their services in the choral department, and added so much to the solemnity of the occasion.

"To Col. Hemmery, officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the rifle company and band of the 4th or Town Battalion of Royal Jersey Militia."

"To Herr Bergmann for the able and efficient manner in which he conducted the band kindly lent by Col. Chapman and officers of the 18th Regiment (Royal Irish)."

His Excellency, Bro. Sir R. P. DOUGLAS, briefly returned thanks for the compliment paid to him.

The R.W. the Prov. G.M., then introduced to the notice of brethren Luc Boué, Esq., who had kindly come over as a deputation from the lodge at St. Malo on the coast of France. He proposed a vote of thanks to that brother and his lodge, which, having been seconded, was carried, and the usual salute given as a mark of respect to him. The Prov. G.M. then addressed Bro. Boué, who had been placed in front of the pedestal, communicating the vote in terms expressive of a hope that he was pleased with the ceremonial, and if so, that on his return home he would convey not only kindly feelings from the Jersey brethren, but also his own impressions on what he had witnessed.

Bro. LUC BOUÉ offered his thanks for his truly fraternal reception, as well as for the cordial expressions of regard for his French brethren at St. Malo; he regretted that he had been alone in his mission, as when the letter of invitation arrived, the W.M. was at Lorient attending a Masonic celebration there, and consequently delayed in opening it; he professed his belief that Freemasonry is the grandest of all social institutions, and the most important and effective bond of union among its

members; he declared his satisfaction at the admirable address of the Lieut. Governor, and his conviction that the principles of the society, liberty, equality, fraternity, are those of all good men. He concluded with hearty thanks for the honour paid to him.

The PROV. G. MASTER remarked that there were other duties to those who were nearer home. Among those present was Bro. Gallienne, P. Prov. S.G.W., with other brethren from Guernsey, to whom he proposed a vote of thanks, for their interest in the Masonic affairs of this sister province. The motion having been duly seconded, was carried with acclamation, and the grand salute was given.

Bro. Gallienne, having been placed before the pedestal, received a congratulatory address from the R.W. Prov. G.M., who remarked that, holding the same exalted position in both islands, he had long been acquainted with his merits and sterling qualities as an old friend and a Mason; that by his presence on this occasion the bonds of union were drawn still closer. He assured him of reciprocation in this province of kind feelings towards the members of the Craft in Guernsey, and begged him to communicate it with an account of the opinion he had formed of the recent ceremony on his return home.

Bro. GALLIENNE briefly responded in acknowledgment of the compliment, expressed his regret that so few of the brethren had accompanied him to join in this important celebration, and said that the Guernsey Freemasons would unite with him in prayers for the prosperity of the undertaking so auspiciously commenced.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Prov. Dir. of Cers., for his unwearied exertions in preparing and superintending the arrangements; and also to Bro. Wats, the donor of the trowel.

On the proposition of the Prov. J. G.W., seconded by the Prov. S. G.W., a cordial vote of thanks was given to the R.W. the Prov. G.M. for the admirable manner in which he had conducted the ceremony. This having been put by the D. Prov. G.M., was carried by acclamation.

The R.W. the Prov. G.M. briefly expressed his gratitude and his delight that his services had met with the approval of the Craft. The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due form at about half-past three.

#### THE BANQUET.

After the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the Masonic Temple at St. Helier, Jersey, Dec. 17, 1862, the dinner to celebrate the event took place at the Pomme d'Or Hotel at half-past five. The R.W. Prov. G.M. presided, supported on his right at the cross table by his Excellency Bro. Sir R. P. Douglas, Lieut-Governor; Bro. Dupré, Attorney-General of Jersey; Bro. Dr. Le Crouier; Bros. Gabourel and Mallet De Carteret, Aides-de-Camp to the Governor; and on the left by Bros. Crosse, D. Prov. G.M.; Vickery, Advocate; Charles Johnson, Prov. S.G.W.; Dr. Hopkins, P. Prov. S.G.W. for Warwickshire, and J. Johnson, P. Prov. S.G.W. The Vice-Presidents' chairs occupied by Bros. Du Jardin, E. D. Le Couteur and Peagam. About 110 brethren sat down in the large room, and a party of upwards of 40 more in an adjoining one, under the presidency of Bro. Binet, P.M., the latter joining those in the principal room, after the loving cup had gone round at the close of the dinner. It was carried round, escorted by the Stewards, at a quarter past seven, after a toast had been given from the chair, "Prosperity, Concord, and Brotherly Love throughout the world."

With a few words of preface, expressive of love, respect, and veneration for the lady occupying the highest position in the land, sentiments entertained by none more than by Masons, the Rt. W.P.G.M. gave as a toast "The Queen and the Craft," which having been duly honoured,

His Excellency Sir R. P. DOUGLAS gave "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and the Royal Family." He remarked that he naturally, and by his high qualities, commands the warmest feelings of the heart; that in him are centered our highest hopes and expectations; that these afford the most exalted promise, from the greatness and virtues of his mother, no less than from the wisdom, the judgment, the enlightenment, the counsels of his father; whom the Queen still, with reason, recognises as one of the greatest of men, one of the best of husbands, as one of the purest illustrations of the illustrious position of princes, one of the brightest ornaments of society, however exalted. His Excellency stated his conviction that the

intense loyalty and personal feeling towards the Prince of Wales and the Royal Family was not one of mere sentiment, but of great principle; nothing that has occurred in our time has tended to weaken this, or our hopes of him for the future. He trusted that when we who now are performing our part in life shall have gone to the grave, those who follow us will still have the same cause for respect and for honour. As a servant of the Queen, as a public officer in this island, as a man, as a Christian, he called on the brethren to receive the toast in the most cordial manner possible. On sitting down loud acclamations were expressed, followed by a hearty salute.

[No Masonic salutes were given in the course of the evening, the room not being close tyled.]

The Prov. G.M. gave the third toast, "The Most Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of England," prefacing it with a few words on the love and respect due to him from Freemasons, and on his title to it, arising from the creditable manner in which he had ruled the Craft for so many years; he was good, kind, charitable, and Masonic.

The fourth toast was also given by the Prov. G.M., "The sister Grand Lodges of Ireland and Scotland, and their Grand Masters." He said that Masonry, being confined to no country, but being universal, it was a duty especially to pay honour to those branches which were closely allied to us. He saw present several brethren belonging to lodges in those countries, and would couple with the toast the names of Bro. Grimmond, for Ireland, and Bro. Captain Lamb, for Scotland.

Bro. GRIMMOND, in acknowledging the toast, said, though a member of an Irish lodge established in this island, he was not an Irishman, still he fully appreciated the character and Masonic bearing of his Grace the Duke of Leinster, whom he believed to be a great lover of Freemasonry, not merely ritually, but in its essence, in proof of which he would simply point to the admirable school for female children, which owes so much of its success to his assistance and counsel. For himself personally he expressed the warmest and most genuine feelings of kindness towards the Masons of Jersey.

Bro. Captain LAMB also briefly returned thanks for the Grand Master and Lodge of Scotland.

Bro. DU JARDIN, Vice-President, proposed the fifth toast, "The Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master of Jersey." He said that in the present company this required no comment, as the brethren knew well how to appreciate it. The toast having been properly honoured,

The R.W. Prov. G.M. rose to reply. He felt grateful for the kindness which dictated the proposition, and for the hearty response which the brethren gave to it. That Freemasonry had prospered in Jersey no one could deny, and it was his most ardent hope and belief after the proceedings of that day and the prospects arising from having a splendid local habitation as well as a name, that it had a still brighter career and more extensive sphere of usefulness before it.

The sixth toast was proposed by Bro. Peagam, Vice-President, "The Very Worshipful the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Jersey and the Provincial Grand Lodge." He remarked that he was well known as a warm admirer of Freemasonry. The brethren were pleased to see him among them on this eventful day, and hoped that his health would allow of his attendance at many meetings in the new building.

The V.W. Bro. CROSSÉ was grateful for this act of kindness, and was sure he had their sympathy in expressing gratification at the result of the ceremony. The laying of the foundation stone of the Temple had been an event dear to them all; he trusted the superstructure would be still more so, that it would be still more so, that it would be a standing proof of the zeal and energy of the Masonic body, and on its completion a source of satisfaction, not only to the local Freemasons for whom it was especially designed, but to those who might visit it from more distant localities. Further, he hoped that by affording a ground of union in would conduce to unanimity of feeling, that brotherly love, relief, and truth would be indelibly engraved on the minds and on the banners of all true Masons, and that they would thus obtain the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe.

The eighth toast was proposed by the R.W. the Prov. G.M. "His Excellency Bro. Sir R. P. Douglas, Lieut.-Governor." He introduced it by expressing his satisfaction at the presence of so distinguished a guest, one who was respected not only by the Craft, but by all members of the community, for since he had been among them he had been among them he had made it the

constant labour of his life to work good, socially, morally, and religiously.

Bro. Sir R. P. DOUGLAS said he should not be actuated by common warmth of feeling if he did not rise at once to reply to the toast. As Governor of Jersey, he was delighted to find that so far he had earned their good opinion. In candour, however, he felt that in his presence, and in the midst of his career, any judgment of the kind might be fallacious; the proper time to make a due estimate of any worth that might attach to him in this respect would be after his departure on some other mission; as gentlemen, they would not give a negative decision as to him, even if he had done nothing and had shown a deficiency in his efforts; such matters must, therefore, be deferred to a future period. As a member of the Society of Freemasons he was delighted to have his name recognised among them. He would be straightforward with the brethren, for he felt that at all times truth was the best policy. He had by accident been removed for twenty years from participation in the labours of the Craft, and not knowing the character of the society here, and having formed the opinion that there was a want of right feeling among them, he had intended not to proclaim himself as a brother; nevertheless, the obligations he had taken as a Mason were not deadened; they were merely kept in abeyance. When it was discovered that he was one of the fraternity, they must do him the justice to say that he had cordially responded, that he had not hesitated to act up to his obligations. In his heart he believed that Freemasonry contained within it all that was grand, elevating, and worthy of a Christian. He trusted to see its principles carried out in all their fulness, richness, and worth, in the contemplated building.

Bro. E. D. LE COUTEUR, Vice-President, proposed the ninth toast, "The Civil Authorities of Jersey." As Masons it was a duty to record their heartfelt thanks for the response given to the invitations to sanction the ceremonies of this day by their presence. Among them was one at the festive board, who by his hoary locks proclaimed that though not now equal to great exertions, he must in his early days have laboured hard in the craft as well as in his profession. He alluded to the venerable Bro. John Dupré, Her Majesty's Attorney-General for Jersey, whose talents at the bar as an advocate were second to none. As a member of Lodge La Césarée, on behalf of the W.M. and the other brethren, he offered him an invitation to attend its meetings, assuring him of a hearty reception. His name, then, he associated with the toast he had proposed.

In reply, Bro. DUPRÉ said, that in attending the banquet, having long discontinued Masonic efforts, he did not expect to be placed in this prominent position, by having to respond to a toast, though the manner in which it had been brought before the brethren was highly gratifying to himself. He (Bro Dupré) would say that the proceedings of the day had given unalloyed satisfaction to the authorities of the island, and especially the order and regularity with which the procession had been conducted. He was pleased to see so large a flock led by a good shepherd, and that that flock had been so obedient to all his behests. He felt that a few words of commendation were due to the population of St. Helier who were present at the ceremony. At every point near to which the procession passed, peace and order seemed to prevail; in fact, he was not aware of any one instance of conduct of an opposite tendency. It would seem as if the brotherly affection which reigned in the hearts of the Masons had extended its influence to all portions of the vast concourse of people who had assembled on the occasion. He was highly gratified at the prospect of such a building, not only in reference to the immediate object for which it was designed, but as an ornament to the town. He would be brief in his notice of the personal compliment to himself. He had lived long in Jersey; he was now approaching near to the end of his course; if he had gained the affections of most of his countrymen—which had been an object he hoped and indeed believed he had attained—such a conviction would be a consolation to him at the close of his life. He concluded by wishing prosperity to all the lodges, urging the brethren to maintain a spirit of kindly feeling towards each other, and to this end to hold an annual united meeting in the new building.

The ninth toast was proposed by the Provincial Grand Master. They were to-day honoured by the presence of several visitors from a distance, particularly by Bro. Luo Boué, as deputed by the Lodge at St. Malo, and by Bro. Gallienne, Advocate, from Guernsey. After a few complimentary remarks to these brethren and their respective lodges, he gave "The Visiting Brethren," with which toast he coupled their names.

Bro. LUC BOVE was deeply sensible of the mark of respect paid to him. On his return he would report it to his brethren, and would ask them to come over in a body to assist at the consecration of the Temple on its completion. Believing Freemasonry to be the grandest institution on the face of the earth, he desired to promote an extensiveness of its principles everywhere; to see liberty, fraternity, equality, universally disseminated, and Freemasonry proved to be not a mere empty name, but a living reality.

Brother GALLIENNE felt no common pride in attempting to fulfil a duty, not only because his name was introduced by the proposer of the toast, but as having assisted, not by active exertions, but by his presence, in the glorious work this day consummated. The brethren of Jersey had thus taken one step in the path of duty. To him it was a source of regret that buildings were not more generally set apart for the use of the Order, and the various provinces did not appear as yet to share this feeling with him. He apologized for the scanty attendance of Guernsey Masons; on informing them of the love and harmony which it was evident from the work of the day prevailed here, they would lament that they had not accompanied him to be eye-witnesses of it. Hitherto the brethren with whom he was more immediately associated had been in advance of those in Jersey, in having had a house, in which was the Lodge-room, occupied only by the Tyler and family, with the exception of some portion let off as chambers to advocates. (Oh, oh.) In response to that cry, he would say that this was no desecration for, as a member of the bar, he could testify that, as professional men as well as Masons, they had frequently to listen to the woes and to advocate the claims of the widow and the fatherless. He continued, "You have the outward sign and bear the mark of Freemasons. Your building is for the enunciation and to promote the carrying out of great principles. In connection with this you have a solemn duty, which is to beware how you choose candidates for admission to our mysteries. Don't admit everyone who offers himself. That is your first duty. Your second refers to your guidance of them when admitted. Point out to them our glorious emblems, make them fully comprehend the truths and principles of which they are emblematical. Explain them in such a manner that they are not to be forgotten. Tell them that they stand on holy ground. Impress on them the virtues of faith, hope, charity, and charity, resting as they do on the Sacred Volume; the three great principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth; the excellency of prudence, temperance, fortitude, justice. If we enter the Order intending to carry out these qualities, we must become good Masons; if, having entered, we not only profess them, but bring them into practice, we are good Masons. Let the outside world who look upon your proposed handsome building, be able at the same time to point to the acts of those who frequent it, the professors of Freemasonry, and say that the title is no empty one, but that it is worthy of the Temple; that their conduct is such as will bear the test of examination and will confer honour on their profession. I thank you sincerely for the honour you have done me."

Brother H. L. MANUEL, Prov. G.D.C., proposed the tenth toast, "The Army and Navy." It needed but little comment, as all acknowledged that to them and their predecessors we owe the present greatness of England as a nation. He could not but allude to the spirit which had induced the creation of a subsidiary body of volunteers, who had, as it were, sprung up in a day, whose motto was "Defence not defiance," so that if invasion of our land should be dreamt of by a great but ambitious brain, they were ready to repel it, and to render our shores for ever free. The flag of England would still as hitherto wave unsullied—the hope of the depressed, the pride of the free.

His Excellency Bro. Sir R. P. DOUGLAS rose to reply. The brethren must submit to the rules of society which again brought him before them as the only representative of the regular army. It was therefore Hobson's choice. They would believe that the wearers of red coats could enter into hearty good feeling with those not so clad. It was a lucky thing that we had an army and navy, for it was his doctrine, that those who would not combine to defend what they have, possess nothing worth defending. Although by the rules of the services strict discipline was essential, this did not eradicate other feelings, and those in the profession of arms held in an equal degree with civilians love of country, of justice, of order, and of peace. Let the brethren rejoice then that they possessed an efficient army and navy. Sir R. P. Douglas concluded by proposing the eleventh toast, "Success to the Temple and its

objects, one of which is the establishment of a fund for the relief of orphans and widows." It was not his seeking to come before the brethren again. He invited them for a time to rise above all form and ceremony, and typical matters to disregard the speaker, but from the bottom of their hearts in a Masonic sense fully to appreciate the toast. Freemasons recognise no distinction of nations, no separations on points of religious doctrine. Love and philanthropy are its distinguishing characteristics. "Do unto others as you would that they should do unto you," is its injunction; but in all, even the inevitable events of life, it must be done as from sincere loving hearts towards all, but especially towards those who will remain behind after we shall have left this scene on earth. The chief part of the toast referred to the fund for orphans and widows. The speaker continued. "In carrying out this great, this important object, go to a source purer than my words; dive into the recesses of your own hearts; look to your own individuality. Charity is the first obligation of our Order. It should pervade all your existence and rule all your actions. By honour, by virtue, by motives of principles, in short by all possible interests, it is your duty to provide, not only for your own families, but for those of others. Rise then from the fumes and the enjoyments of this table. Go home determined this night to do some special act in the fulfilment of this duty. Make this toast no mockery, no empty sentiment to be forgotten as soon as expressed, but a fixed reality. Be not, I pray you, regardless of the great obligations you have entered upon. Be actuated by the teachings of that Book which is present with us in all our Masonic proceedings, and make it the great chain which binds us all together. From your superfluities put by something this night in accomplishment of this purpose; if you are not willing to practice the virtue of self-denial, to you Freemasonry is worth nothing. Then give it vitality. Do something for the temporal, aye, for the eternal good of your fellow-creatures, for the widow and the fatherless."

Bro. MANUEL briefly replied, explaining the arrangements for the fund alluded to by his Excellency, which he said now amounted to £60, concluding with the remark that the seizure of such an opportunity for performing acts of charity would not only be a satisfaction to the Craft, but would win the respect, good opinion, and esteem of the external world.

The twelfth toast was proposed by Bro. Dr. H. HOPKINS, P.Prov. S.G.W. for Warwickshire, who expressed himself as follows:—"Without my knowledge or concurrence, a part has been assigned to me in the proceedings of this evening which might have been better discharged by some other brother, in regard to the manner of performing the duty; not so, however, as to a full appreciation of the merits of those whose names I have the honour to bring to your notice. Brethren, I am here in somewhat of an anomalous position. I am one among you, a member of a lodge in this province, yet taking no active part in it, a course very different from that pursued in the province of Warwickshire, with which my sympathies are chiefly identified. I seek no honours here, which are best bestowed upon natives of the island. Hence, while glad to be silently useful, I court no public notice. Though not a member of your Board of Management of the Temple, I took a lively interest in the proceedings, and in the early portion of the arrangements lent my feeble aid. This circumstance having brought me into immediate contact with its promoters, enabled me to witness the zeal, the self-sacrifice, the laying aside of petty feelings, which characterised all their actions, and this opportunity it is that peculiarly qualifies me to bring the matter before you. The shareholders have acted wisely in appointing on the board, for the most part, those brethren who took the initiative. I need not here pass in review the history of the Temple from the origin of the idea to the present moment. That has already been done in a local paper, and also in the FREEMASON'S MAGAZINE. It is therefore patent to all. I must say, however, that having seen several provincial Masonic halls in England, I know of none so complete, so good in its arrangements, as that you are about to erect, and whose commencement we this day celebrate. Brethren, there are two views in which we may regard the Board of Management—the one retrospective, the other prospective; the one has been short, the other we trust opens up a long path of usefulness. They have hitherto well fulfilled their duties, for which we owe them our thanks. It is a guarantee that they will continue to execute their trust faithfully and zealously. To that we look forward with hope. Allow me to mention that I have before been interested in the erection of a Masonic Hall, that some

time after its erection, a brother, who had shares of the value of £200, presented them to the lodge—an example followed by all the rest. Such a course here would be a noble one, thus rendering the Temple the property of the lodges, rather than of individuals, and limiting the interests in it in one sense, while in another sense the interest would be extended. I have in my hand a copy of an admirable essay on the "Mysteries and true objects of Freemasonry," published in French in 1771. It appeared so beautiful to an esteemed friend and brother, who accidentally met with it, that he has recently published an English translation of it. I had selected several short passages to read to you; but not to detain you too long, I will content myself with one:—"The aim of the Masonic mysteries is to refresh the mind, to preserve harmony, and to form the heart. The allegory of this society is ingenious and well sustained. It is proposed to build a Temple, and it is the Temple of Virtue that is to be erected." As of the moral, so of the visible building. It will be a bond of union among Masons. The possession of such a hall as that we contemplate will raise the social status of the fraternity; and while the outside world regards it as a model of beauty and stability, Masons will view it as the abode of virtue and of charity, as a centre of love and harmony, Wishing all success to the project, I propose as a toast "The Board of Management."

Bro. E. D. LE COUÏEUR returned thanks for the compliment paid to the Board, and trusted that the anticipation formed would be fully justified by the result. He commented on the suggestion of the previous speaker relative to the concentration of shares as the property of the lodges, entertaining the opinion that there might be some difficulty in the matter. He hoped that at the expiration of the term of office, they would receive as their reward, "Well done, good and faithful stewards."

The Prov. G.M., in a few words expressive of the great interest he felt in the prosperity of the lodges under his rule, proposed "The various Masonic Lodges and their respective Masters," which was briefly responded to by Bro. C. Johnson, W.M. of the Royal Sussex Lodge.

An extra toast was offered by Bro. Du Jardin, in honour of Bro. B. Watts, one of the oldest Masons in Jersey, the donor of the silver trowel, which the venerable brother acknowledged in suitable terms.

The proceedings of the evening terminated soon after nine o'clock, when the brethren separated, with a conviction that a good work had been begun under most favourable auspices, and hope that the complete exemption from all accident and confusion during the day, might be continued to the completion of the Temple.

An interesting fact, communicated to the to the writer by the Rev. Bro. Hanan, minister of the synagogue at St. Helier, may be mentioned, namely, that Wednesday, December 17th, on which the first stone of the Temple was laid, was the anniversary of the re-consecration of the Temple at Jerusalem, by Judas Maccabæus, after its pollution by the Gentiles, 2002 years ago.

#### CORNWALL.

TRURO.—*Phoenix Lodge* (No. 415).—On the 27th of December the Master and officers met at the Lodge Room, High Cross, for the very interesting purpose of presenting a Junior Warden's jewel to Bro. T. Hingston Harvey, a highly-esteemed brother, who will shortly leave his native country for an eastern clime. The W.M. suitably addressed the recipient, and invested him with the jewel, on which was engraved the following:—"Phoenix Lodge, No. 415, Truro. Presented to Bro. Hingston Harvey, J.W., by the officers and brethren of his lodge, with all fraternal regards. 'Audi, vide, tace.' December 27, 1862."

#### CHESHIRE.

IRKINGHAM.—*Mersey Lodge* (No. 701).—Wednesday, the 10th of December, is a day which will be long remembered by the members of this lodge. It was arranged that a special meeting should be held in the Masonic Chamber, for the purpose of raising a candidate to the degree of M.M., and Bro. Lambert, P.M. 845 and 889, and P. Prov. S.G.D. of East Lancashire, was invited to attend and deliver the Ancient York Lecture. To this he kindly acceded. Preparations were accordingly made, the room was repainted and decorated, and brethren from all the surrounding towns assembled to the

number of sixty. The lodge was formerly held at the Angel Hotel; but many of the brethren feeling that it was necessary to remove to private rooms, a committee was formed to arrange for removal. After many inquiries, it was determined to take a suite of rooms—No. 1, Hamilton square, immediately opposite the residence of J. Laird, Esq., M.P. for the borough of Birkenhead. Among those present were:—Bros. Lambert, P. Prov. G.D. East Lancashire; John Harrison, W.M. 1023; James Gerard, P.M. 1023; James Wansborough, 889; J. H. Gibson, 845; J. P. Platt, P.M. 782; J. B. Hignett, W.M. 782; William Bulley, P.M., 782; J. Baxendale, S.W. 845; E. Sise, 1125; Noah Beamish, U.S.; W. Strong, 810; W. Wilton, 259; J. Johnson, 294. The lodge having been opened in the first and second degrees, and the usual examination as to proficiency having been proved satisfactory, the lodge was opened in the third degree, and Bro. J. J. Foster duly raised by Bro. Meacock, W.M. Bro. Lambert then commenced his lecture, referring to the burial place of the C.A., ornaments, day of atonement, High Priest, Ark of the Covenant, Shekinah, and other interesting points which cannot well appear in print; concluding with an elaborate dissertation on Masonry as connected with the Promises. The lecture occupied about an hour and a half in delivery, and was received with wrapt attention by all the brethren present. At the close of the lodge tea and coffee were provided, and a few creature comforts to follow, and the brethren (many of whom had to proceed by railway) retired at an early hour.

#### DEVON.

PLYMOUTH.—*Lodge Charity* (No. 270).—At a recent meeting of this lodge, the Worshipful the Mayor of Plymouth, Bro. Derry, was duly installed as Master of the above lodge for the year ensuing. After appointing the officers, the brethren adjourned to the Globe Hotel, where a most sumptuous spread awaited them.

DEVONPORT.—*Lodge Fidelity* (No. 230).—The brethren of No. 230 assembled at their lodge room, Chapel-street, on the evening of the 18th of December for the purpose of electing a trusty brother to preside over them for twelve months. The choice was unanimously in favour of Bro. Johns, S.W., who was thereupon installed in the chair by the W. Bro. Class, P.M.\* On the conclusion of the ceremony, Bro. Johns, W.M., appointed Bro. Linde as S.W. and Bro. Mead J.W. The banquet will take place at an early date.

STONEHOUSE.—*Lodge Fortitude* (No. 122).—The meeting for the installation of the W.M. was held on the evening of the 23rd ultimo. The recipient of the honour of the master's collar for the year 1863 is Bro. Rodda, late J.W., a most "able and expert Mason," and one who has distinguished himself on very many occasions in a manner most generous. The officers chosen by him are all of a class likely to reflect credit on his choice—Bros. Thuell, S.W.; Ullman, J. W.; Stoneman, S.D.; Elliott, J.D.; Hazelwood, I.G.

#### MONMOUTHSHIRE.

We copy the following from the *Monmouthshire Merlin*, of December 26, 1862:—"The anticipations formed by the Freemasons as to the result of their "Christmas Tree," in aid of the Lancashire Relief Fund, have, we are much pleased to find, been abundantly realised. In all the rites and ceremonies of the fraternity, Charity holds a justly-prominent position, and that they are not insensible to her Divine teachings the brethren in this town have clearly demonstrated, by their noble response, to an appeal directed specially to them in behalf of the suffering and the distressed. Their generous offering in alleviation of the wants of the needy indicates a compassionate and benevolent feeling; and those who co-operated in the good work will, doubtless, have met with an ample recompense in the consciousness that while they themselves were permitted to participate in the social amenities, and be refreshed by the genial influences, of this festive season, they had not been unmindful of those who, from Providential dealings, were debarred the enjoyment of like privileges. The project was, indeed, in every way highly successful, as all witnessed its full development in the Town Hall, on Tuesday evening last, could have seen almost by a glance. On entering the room, the scene which greeted the

\* Election and installation on the same day is illegal.—Ed. F. M.

beholder's eye was of the most animated description. The company, including a large number of ladies—with what praiseworthy object do we not find the ladies associated?—seemed all intent upon business; to look and admire only—we say only, for perforce they must have admired—seemed never to enter their minds; and hence the competition for the various lots put up was unremittingly brisk, the salesmen were fully employed, and no sign of flagging was visible until the whole of the freely contributed stock was disposed of. There were three trees—one indeed a “monster”—adorned with small Masonic silk flags made expressly for the occasion, and loaded with various articles both useful and ornamental, such as wool and paper mats, dolls, hats, caps, gloves, boots, shoes, slippers, fancy baskets of flowers, engravings, penknives, pipes, books, and other fancy articles “too numerous to mention.” Amongst other things on the tables at the foot of the trees, we noticed hares, pheasants, partridges, wild ducks, rabbits, turkeys, geese, ducks, fowls, a splendid basket of vegetables, bread, cheese, a barrel of oysters, beef, a tongue, fruit, bags of flour, preserved meats and pickles. The room was tastefully dressed with flags, evergreens, holly and mistletoe, &c. The decorative committee are deserving of the highest praise for the very efficient manner in which they carried out the onerous duties which had fallen to their lot to perform. The number of persons present was upwards of 450. Shortly after six o'clock Dr. Morgan (the amateur auctioneer) commenced the proceedings by reading from the platform the conditions of sale. The worthy M.D., however, soon resigned his post to the practised hands of a professional, another auctioneer taking up his position at the other end of the room, and, as above intimated, a very brisk competition was kept up till half-past ten, when everything was cleared. Amongst the number of presents that arrived too late for the auction were a shirt and silk pocket handkerchief belonging to the wardrobe of his late Majesty George IV., and the same were disposed of by way of chance on the following evening. We are requested by the committee to return their sincere thanks to those parties who so very liberally contributed the various articles, and to the public generally for their kind support, and also to state that the amount realised, after paying all expenses, is £50 16s. 6d., which will be immediately forwarded to the Central Relief Committee. We may express a hope that the brethren in other towns will “go and do likewise.” [We believe we are correct in stating that the above idea originated with the worthy secretary of the Silurian Lodge. Bro. William Williams, who mentioned the plan to a few brethren, viz., Bros. Pickford, W. W. Morgan, Middleton, and Hancorn, who readily entered into the spirit of the affair, and the result is shown above. We understand Bro. Constantine William De Bernardy, P.M., of lodges 12, 14, and 169, and P.D. Prov. G.M. for Monmouth, has been unanimously elected W.M. of the Silurian Lodge, No. 693, for the ensuing year. The installation takes place at the Masonic Hall, Great Dock-street, Newport, on Friday, the 15th of January, at two p.m., when the present V.W. the D. Prov. G.M. for that province, Bro. Rolls; the Prov. G. chaplain, Bro. Roberts; and other distinguished Masons, will attend, and a brilliant meeting is expected. The banquet will, we hear, be held the same evening at five o'clock sharp, at the King's Head Hotel, and there will be

A chiel amang them taking notes,  
And faith we'll prent 'em.

Bro. John Laybourne, of the Isca Foundry, has also been elected W.M. of the Isca Lodge, No. 983, for the next year, and was to be installed yesterday, the 2nd of January.]

#### NORTHUMBERLAND.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—*Newcastle-on-Tyne Lodge* (No. 24).—Saturday, December 27th, being St. John's Day, the lodge was opened at the Freemasons' Hall, Blacket-street, for the purpose of installing the new W.M., by Bro. Loades, W.M., assisted by Bro. W. J. Harding, S.W.; Bro. Roberts, J.W.; Bro. Rev. S. Atkinson, Chaplain; and the rest of the officers of the lodge. The lodge was opened to the F.C. degree, and Bro. W. J. Harding, W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. Lambton, W.M. of 586, to Bro. A. Gillespie, Prov. J.G.W., for the benefit of installation, which was performed with great care, and in the presence of a board of installed Masters, he was placed into the chair of K.S., according to ancient custom. After being proclaimed and saluted in each degree, the following officers were appointed and

invested:—Bros. A. M. Loades, P.M.; Thomas Roberts, S.W.; R. Hopper, J.W.; Rev. S. Atkinson, Chaplain; A. Clapham, Treas.; Swithenbank, Sec.; John Brodie, S.D.; T. Harrison, J.D.; W. W. Blakey, I.G.; T. J. Strachan and W. T. McCree, Stewards; A. S. Trotter, Tyler; and C. J. Banister, Dir. of Cers. The lodge was then closed. The banquet was held on Monday, the 29th, jointly with Lodge 793, at the Turk's Head Hotel. The chair was taken by Bro. W. Harding, Lodge No. 24. On his right, Bro. Smailes, W.M. of Lodge 793; also, Bros. Winter, P.M.; Legg, P.M.; Lambton, W.M. 586; C. J. Banister, P.M.; H. G. Ludwig, P.M. 586; on the left of the chair, Bros. Loades, P.M. 24; Clapham, P.M.; Brodie, Ward; Hopper, J.W. 24; McCree, Stokoe; Smailes, P.J.W. Lodge 23, California; Roberts, S.W. 24; Baylis, S.W. 793; Blakey; Smith, 793; Thompson, W.M. 706; J. Symington, P.M.; E. D. Davies, P.M. &c. After the banquet, which was served up in Bro. Brodie's very best style, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and received. The health of the W.M. of Lodge 24 was proposed by Bro. Winter, P.M. of 793, and responded to in a very neat speech. Bro. Loades, P.M., proposed the health of the W.M. of Lodge 793. The W.M. of each lodge proposed the P.M.'s of their sister lodges. Bro. Lambton proposed the Officers of Lodge 24, and Bro. Smith the Officers of Lodge 793, which were all duly responded to. Bro. E. D. Davies returned thanks for the Prov. G. Officers of Durham. The W.M. proposed success to the Masonic Charities. Bro. C. J. Banister returned thanks, and impressed on the brethren the importance of supporting them, and also to support their steward for the Royal Benevolent Institution this year, and concluded with a most earnest address on behalf of all the Masonic Charities.

#### WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTER.—*Worcester Lodge* (No. 349).—On Tuesday, the 30th ult., Bro. Alfred Powell was installed Worshipful Master of this lodge. We learn that both the Worcester lodges will unite in paying a tribute of affectionate esteem to the memory of their late lamented brother, Joseph Pennett. It is intended to place a mural monument to the deceased in his parish church, the expense of which will be defrayed by a joint subscription of the two lodges.

#### SCOTLAND.

##### MOTHER KILWINNING AND THE FESTIVAL OF ST. THOMAS.

“Each time we meet we're brothers a',  
And every worthy guest—  
For here we to the level fa'—  
E'en kings are like the rest.

These may be great in church and state  
Or any other sphere—  
The poor, the rich, the worldly great  
Are on a level here.”

Twice, consecutively, have circumstances, under the immediate control of the G.A.O.T.U., conspired to render impossible the attendance of the Master at the meeting of the Mother Lodge for the celebration of the festival of their tutelary saint; and as often were the deep feelings of sympathy manifested by the Craftsmen of the province for their afflicted brother. This year, however, on the return of St. Thomas's-day, December 21, the sound of the Master's gavel rang joyously through the halls of the grand old centre of Scottish Masonry, as in person Bro. Six James Ferguson unveiled the P. of B., and at high twelve invested the H.A. of Mother Kilwinning with full power to call her sons from labour to refreshment. Around the emblem of light in the E. were grouped the following well-known brethren, viz., Hugh Conn, Rev. Dr. Campbell, James Hendrie, John Whinton, Robert Wylie, Rev. Robert Murray, D. Murray Lyon, Alexander Hepburn, James Dickie, Procurator-Fiscal Irvine; John Kerr, H.M.'s Inspector of Schools; J. F. Boyd, Irvine; R. Brown, sen., Busby; D. C. Love, of Ardrossan; J. Copland, &c.

Bro. Meikle held the W., and Bro. Carruthers ruled in the S, the northern parts of the lodge being appropriated to those visitors whose position on the roll of the Grand Lodge entitled them to that distinction. The deputations were these:—Kil-

marnock Kilwinning St. John, No. 22, led by Bros. Brown, P.M.; Irvine, St. Andrew, No. 149; Dick, D.M.; Beith, St. John, No. 157, R.W.M.; M. Cochrane; Stevenston, Thistle and Rose, No. 169; Lockhart, R.W.M.; Maybole Royal Arch, No. 198, West; Blair Dalry, No. 290, Stirrat, R.W.M.; Ardrossan St. John's Royal Arch, No. 320, M'Leod, R.W.M.

The presence of the Maybole Royal Arch recalled to our mind what we heard drop from the lips of the brother who represented the Mother Lodge, at the festival of the Maybole Lodge on Friday night, when acknowledging the courtesy with which he was welcomed by Bro. Muir, the R.W.M. of No. 11. We have, it is true, to thank the Masons of Carrick for having, in the person of Bro. Sir James Ferguson, given a Master to Mother Kilwinning, and a Grand Master to the province of Ayr; but, more than two centuries ago, a similar service was rendered by the men of Carrick to the venerable Mother when their "king," John Kennedie, Earl of Cassillis, the friend and contemporary of Bro. Gray Steele, of the Montgomeries, and the husband of the heroine of the popular old ballad entitled "Johnny Faa,"—ruled the courts of "ye Massounes of ye Lodge of Kilwinning." An adept at wielding the mallet, the then "Deaconne" of the mother lodge could also handle the sword, for nobly did our ancient brother fight on the side of Charles at the battle of Marston Moor when that unfortunate monarch was beaten by the Parliamentary forces. These were associations strong enough in themselves to knit the Fraternity in Carrick to Mother Kilwinning; but as if to strengthen the tie, the venerable Chaplain of the mother lodge in the course of some remarks evoked from him during the evening, supplied another link to the chain of rich associations connecting Maybole with Kilwinning, by recalling to remembrance the name of another Carrick Mason, James Ferguson, of the Kilkerran family, who held in the middle of the 17th century, the same office in the parish which he (Bro. Dr. Campbell) now filled, who was a prominent member and office bearer of the mother lodge, was esteemed by his contemporaries as a man of great piety and learning, whose works have in our day been reproduced for their intrinsic worth, and whose honoured name may yet be traced on the broken fragments of the stone marking his resting-place in the grave-yard of Kilwinning. With these associations crowding upon our memories, while pleased to recognise a Carrick Lodge, among those visiting the mother lodge on Monday, 23rd ult., we much regretted the absence of Bro. Main, and a deputation from the ancient Lodge of Maybole, St. John's (No. 11). We deem it needless to enumerate the various toasts which brought to perpendicular the several brethren more immediately interested in the observations by which they were prefaced; but one or two features may with propriety be traced. The chief design shown upon the Master's trestle-board was one worthy the study of every fellow-craft. Having exhibited the plan of the temple, in the rearing of which all speculative Masons are engaged, he urged upon the brethren the propriety for selecting sound and healthy blocks, free from seam or flaw, and warned them against the use of untempered mortar in the construction of the walls of that edifice. Instead of bringing a Masonic lodge down to the level of a pothouse club, as he regretted to say was too much the case with Freemasons in this country, all true craftsmen should endeavour to realise the true mission of our most excellent institution, and do all in their power to fulfil their duty as builders upon a work whose architect is the Deity himself—

"To know each office, each endering tie  
Of soft-eyed heaven, descended CHARITY."

The "Masonic Press" was proposed by Bro. CONN, D.G.M.; and the warmth and eloquence with which the R.W. Masters of Blair Dalry and Maybole Royal Arch indorsed the encomiums bestowed upon one of the Scottish correspondents of the London FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, who was then present, showed how groundless were the fears expressed by some that the arcana of the Order was in danger of being exposed through the press notices of Masonic meetings. The fraternity have nothing to fear from the press being employed as a vehicle for conveying Masonic instruction. The more light and knowledge we can throw over the Order, the more its principles are explained and its theories elucidated, the more will it recommend itself to the worth and intelligence of the uninitiated, from which class alone the ranks of the brotherhood should be recruited. Passing from the press to the pulpit, it was indeed refreshing to one's heart to hear the Rev. Chaplain of Mother Kilwinning, in his own earnest manner, designate Masonry as the handmaid of

religion, and hail Craftsmen as fellow-workers with the ministers of religion in teaching love to God and our neighbour, and the practice of every moral and social virtue. Our reverend brother's delineation of some of the more prominent symbols of Masonry, and his eloquent allusions to its virtues, could not fail favourably to impress his hearers.

The R.W. MASTER having, in name of the Mother Lodge, expressed the pleasure they felt in receiving a deputation from Maybole, made a feeling allusion to the peculiar circumstances in which the head of the deputation from the Lodge No. 198 had visited them; and spoke in the most kindly terms of that worthy brother in whom he had a personal interest, and who, he was sorry to hear, was about to emigrate from his native land to the shores of another hemisphere.

Bro. WEST made a very touching response. The visit he had that night paid to the venerable hall of Mother Kilwinning, as it was his first, was in every probability also the last he would ever be privileged to make. It was with no little perturbation he had crossed the tessellated border of the mosaic pavement at the fountain-head of Scottish Masonry; he had formed somewhat exalted conceptions of that venerable lodge, and from what he had heard and seen of her his expectations were fully realised. He had found her like a graceful cypress rearing her head among the willows, and dispensing light and joy to her numerous daughters; and he would carry with him to his home in New Zealand glowing recollections of Mother Kilwinning's greatness, and of the fraternal greetings he had been permitted within its venerable walls to exchange with so many of the worthy brethren of his native county.

The R.W.M. of the Mother Lodge having to leave for Eglington Castle before the termination of the proceedings, the Depute Master assumed the insignia of the Orient, and as mirth, with his sturdy brother, good fellow ship, are sure to be wherever Bro. Hugh Conn's always happy face presents itself, the hilarity of the meeting under the rule of the D.M. was not allowed to evaporate. Bro. Conn inaugurated his temporary reign in the E. by letting the brethren know that those of them who ignored the erection of the pillar that adorns the south, performed but half their duty—the social intercourse of the lodge at refreshment produced genial feeling and generous sentiment, and filled with happy memories the hearts of all who participated there. Overflowing himself with wit and humour, Bro. Conn's extemporaneous efforts at speech-making had an electric effect upon the meeting, and provoked such an ebullition of the spirit of brotherly love as did not cease for a couple of hours. Of the complimentary toasts we must not omit the mention of "The Secretary of Mother Kilwinning." Having pointed out the importance to Scottish Masons of having the records of the Mother Lodge properly prepared and preserved, Bro. West passed a well-merited eulogium upon the abilities for the discharge of the onerous duties of its Secretary, possessed by Bro. Wylie, thanked him for his courtesy to transient brethren visiting the birthplace of the Order, and assured him of the love and steadfast esteem of every true craftsman within the province of Ayr. What followed by way of speech-making was replete with masonic sentiment, and need not here be farther adverted to.

As is usually the case at all celebrations at Kilwinning of St. Thomas's Day, the songsters accompanying the various deputations were both numerous and worth listening to; but the Mother Lodge herself, through the kindness of a few of her own sons, was enabled to contribute a fair quota towards the vocalism of the evening. As a companion to Dibdin's beautiful song, "The Death of Nelson," most effectively and with great taste rendered by Bro. William Gemmill, of the band, Bro. Brie very spiritedly sang "The Marseillaise" in his native tongue, and was encored "till roof and rafters a' did dirl"—a reception which our respected French brother seemed to appreciate very highly. In the orchestra the brethren of the Kilwinning band officiated, much to the gratification of the guests. This fine old band has recently been much improved—it now numbers about sixteen performers, and bids fair, under the leadership of Bro. John Conn, to regain the high position it formerly held in the county. The thanks of the brethren are due to Mr. Sharpe, of Eglington Gardens, for his very tasteful decoration of the lodge-room. To conclude: the night was spent in a manner only to be experienced in a Mason's home.

"Where hearts are warm with kindred fire,  
And love beams free from answering eyes;"

and as the bell in St. Winning's tower chimed the hour which

arises the mystic memories of the Craft, the J.W. called the brethren to their feet, and with the ancient ceremonies the copestone to the night's enjoyment was brought forth.

At the business meeting of the lodge held previous to the festival, the following office-bearers were appointed:—

Sir James Fergusson, Bart., M.W.G.M., and as such  
Provincial Grand Master of Ayrshire.  
Hugh Conn, Deputy G.M.  
George Johnston, Redburn, Past Master.  
Lindsay Mackersy, W.S., Edinburgh, Proxy Master.  
James Hendrie, Substitute Master.  
John Meikle, Nethermaims, S.W.  
John Carruthers, J.W.  
Robert Wylie, Secretary.  
John Whintou, Treasurer.  
Rev. Dr. Campbell, Chaplain.  
Rev. D.V. Thompson, Rev. Geo. Corsan, Rev. Robt.  
Murray, Assistant Chaplains.  
David Gemmell and W. Kennedy, Stewards,  
James Salter and Thomas Donaldson, Deacons.  
John Robertson, I.G.  
Thomas Young, Tyler.

[The Proxy Master has since commissioned Bro. James Ballantine, Grand Bard, and Bro. D. Murray Lyon, to seats in the Grand Lodge as Proxy Wardens of Mother Kilwinning. The distinction of Honorary Membership; was at the same time conferred upon Bro. Robert Crichton Wylie, Minister of Foreign Affairs to Kamehameha, King of the Sandwich Islands. Among those ascending the ladder of masonic preferment, we are gratified to notice the name of Bro. Hendrie as being elevated to the Substitute Master's chair—an honour well earned by long and zealous services in the S. and W. of the Mother Lodge.]

MAYBOLE.—Bro. William West, late Secretary of the Lodge Royal Arch, Maybole, No. 198, and Sergeant and Secretary to the Maybole Rifle Volunteers, was on Thursday night presented by his brethren in arms with a very handsome and valuable gold watch on the occasion of his emigrating to New Zealand. The presentation was in an eloquent speech made by Bro. David Brown, the captain of the corps. We regret we have not room in these columns to give an extended report of Bro. West's reply. A sentence or two must suffice.—It were impossible for any man possessing the smallest atom of soul to listen to the remarks of our worthy chairman and not feel his heart overflow with gratitude. On such a night as this, when soul meets soul around the festive board, and feels bearing on himself the full rush of so many good wishes, concentrated and focussed by those mysterious agencies that operate in the world immediately beyond our ken, and still within the range of our actual experience; and when such soul unions take place, it becomes utterly impossible for one tongue to tell all, or a tithe of all, the heart feels. It grieves me to think that I must part with all my kind friends met here, but why should it be thus when we are met to rejoice. Since I came here, four years ago, I have passed through a good many changes." After alluding to his having been ushered into the halls where the brethren of the mystic tie rejoice in the regions of light, and the many happy hours he had spent in tracing the landmarks of their ancient institution, Bro. West referred to the volunteer movement, and the part he had been privileged to take in it, concluding in these words:—"It is with feelings of peculiar pride and gratitude that I look on the elegant and valuable gifts you have now presented to me. Pride that I have so far succeeded in doing my duty to the corps of Maybole Volunteers, and gratitude that the little I have done has been so highly appreciated. I shall ever proudly remember your uniform kindness to me,—and this last marked expression of it above all; and daily and hourly shall this faithful mentor remind me of the many kind friends I have left in Maybole. Verbal thanks cannot express the value I put upon your handsome gifts. I shall measure them carefully, and teach those to whom they descend to guard them tenderly, and respect them for the sake of the givers. I shall ever have the welfare of my old corps at heart, and shall be glad to hear of its success in after years. I have now cast my lot with those who go.

"O'er the glad waters of the dark blue sea,  
Our thoughts as boundless, and our souls as free;  
Far as the breeze can bear the billow's foam,  
Survey our empire, and behold our home—  
These are our realms, no limit to their sway,  
Our flag the sceptre, all who meet obey."

"And in going, what can I do better than take the advice of our Bro. Burns—

"To catch Dame Fortune's golden smile  
Assiduous wait upon her,  
And gather gear by every wile  
That's justified by honour;  
Not for to hide it in a hedge,  
Not for a train attendant,  
But for the glorious privy,  
Of being independent."

"Such is my wish, gentlemen, and I know it is yours, and from my heart I thank you all for this expression of your regard for me and mine." The watch bears the following inscription:—"Presented by the members of the Maybole Rifle Corps to Mr. William West, their late Secretary and Sergeant, in token of their esteem for him as a gentleman and a friend, and in recognition of his devoted and efficient services to the corps. Maybole, December, 1862." The chairman also, in the name of the subscribers, presented to B. West a beautiful ring for Mrs. West, as a small souvenir of the respect in which she is held. Bro. West has, we understand, taken passage for Auckland in the *War Spirit*, and sails from London in a few days.

## ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

### METROPOLITAN.

WOOLWICH.—*Invicta Chapter of Sovereign Princes Rose Croix*.—The usual regular meeting of the above chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, William-street, on Friday, the 19th instant. Present—Lieut.-Col. Clerk, S.G.I.G. 33°; Captain King, 31°; Captain Boyle, 31°; Dr. Hinxman, 31°; J. W. Figg, 30° M.W.S.; W. Smith, E.C. 30°; M. H. Shuttleworth, 30°; Matthew Cooke, 30°; H. Carter, 18°; Dr. Normandy, 18°; B. Bayly, 18°; J. Lyone, 18°; Dr. Hughes, 18°; P. Laird, 18°; J. Hewitt, 18°; W. Stewart, 18°; F. Dallin, 18°; F. Hodge, 18°; R. R. Martin, 18°. Visitors—F. Binckes, 18°; J. Fielding, 18°; and W. Gumbleton, 18°. The business of the chapter was the installation of the Bros. Dallin, Hodge, and Martin as S.P.R. after which the Ex-Brother W. Smith, C.E., was inducted into the chair of M.W.S. for the ensuing year, which ceremony was very ably performed by the Ill. Bro. J. W. Figg, the retiring M.W.S. The new M.W.S. then appointed the following brethren to office.—Rev. Dr. Richards, Prelate; Captain King, first Gen.; E. J. Cockcroft, second Gen.; Hewitt, Raphael; Captain Boyd, G. Marshal; Stewart, Herald; Figg, Registrar; P. Laird, Treas.; and Matthew Cooke, Organist to the Supreme Grand Council, Organist. After the routine business had been concluded, the chapter was closed, and the members adjourned to Brother De Grey's, the Freemasons' Tavern, to dinner. That having been concluded, the M.W.S. gave the toast of "The Queen," which was heartily responded to. This was followed by that of Dr. Leeson, the M.P. Sov. G. Com. of the order, and the Supreme Grand Council of the 33°, coupled with the name of the S.G.I.G., Colonel Clerk, 33°.—Col. Clerk, 33°, returned thanks on behalf of Dr. Leeson and the Supreme Council. He knew that it gave them great pleasure to find their endeavours meet with the approbation of the members of that, one of the most flourishing of chapters. He had been long connected with it, and was proud of the *Invicta Chapter*, in which he was always so kindly received, and for such reception was much delighted. Before he sat down he should propose the health of the new M.W.S., who was well known to all present, and possessed of great ability. He (Colonel Clerk) strongly urged him, and hoped he would exert those talents for the good of the chapter.—The M.W.S. Bro. W. Smith, C.E., begged to be allowed to thank them for the toast, and for their kindness in electing him to his present office. Having passed through the lower offices, it was a great gratification to find himself elected, and inducted as M.W.S. Colonel Clerk said he trusted that he (the M.W.S.) would perform his duties so as to be of service to the chapter, and when he remembered those who had gone before him he felt no doubt he should do them moderately well, but they must not, as a rule, take distinguished professional duties to be a

guarantee for fitness in office. He believed he was capable of attaining the high position that most men of intellect hoped for, and at the expiration of his year of office, he should be found to have done his duty as well as the last M.W.S. If such was the case, it would be a great honour to himself, and he should be there on all occasions to fill the chair in accordance with the regulations of the Supreme Grand Council. He should next propose a toast, which was success to a new Rose Croix chapter, unfortunately he did not know its name, opened that evening at Sheffield. They were that moment remembering them, as there was a chord of sympathy between the two, and as at that hour, the Sheffield Chapter was at banquet, so the Woolwich S.P.'s would wish them every success. The toast was drunk with all the honours.—The M.W.S. had to propose the health of those who had preceded him in that chair. They had four such—present, and that was all that the chapter had had to fill that office. To say anything of Colonel Clerk, 33°, whose liberality and attainments were equal, would be necessarily deemed by all, an impertinence. Dr. Hinman was one of the most zealous rulers of the chapter, and how well he had performed his duties it was unnecessary to tell them. A more universal officer could not be found, seeing that at one and the same time he performed many duties. Captain Carter, who aided in the volunteer movement had done all that was possible for the chapter, when sitting as its M. W. S. The Ill. Bro. Figg, every one knew for his excellence in each branch of Freemasonry. It was his great desire to perform every office he undertook perfectly, and they could all judge how admirably he had discharged that of M.W.S. of the Invicta Chapter. Following such an example he felt how difficult his own task was, but he had the consolation of knowing that if he followed in the Ill. Bro. Figg's wake he could not go wrong. He coupled the toast of health of the former M.W.S.'s of that chapter with the name of its last, Bro. Figg.—The Ill. Bro. Figg found the most difficult part of the duty to return thanks for others, but he did so cordially and with gratitude. When he was appointed, he felt it incumbent on him to endeavour to do his best, and if he had partially succeeded to their approbation he had his reward.—The M. W. S. then called upon them to drink to the health of the newly installed S. P.'s. The three they had that night perfected were good specimens of the order. One he had known some years previously, and the other two were intimate friends of his own personal friends. It was a great pleasure to receive that class of candidates, which, he might say, were peculiar to the Invicta Chapter. As sublimation was applied to minerals, so a similar process seemed to be used in Freemasonry with the most happy results. He then gave the health of the three newly perfected brethren and long life to them to enjoy the privileges and happiness to be found amongst those possessing the eighteenth degree.—The Ex. and Per. Bro. Dallin, on behalf of himself and brethren, had been admitted to what they considered one of the highest honours of Freemasonry. From all he had heard, he believed the Invicta chapter to be the best in England. He well remembered how pleased he was at his initiation; but that was but small in comparison to the great satisfaction he felt at his perfection. If he were to speak volumes, he should be unable to express his feelings of delight at the step he had taken; and as the other brethren acquiesced in his statement, he had much pleasure in returning thanks for their, and his own, reception.—The M.W.S. said there was another toast which was invariably received in that chapter with the greatest enthusiasm, that of "The Visitors." The degree was rapidly extending in this country, and their visitors frequently outnumbered the members of the chapter. On that night, however, they had but three, Bros. Binckes, Fielding, and Gumbleton. It would be an infliction to speak of their relative merits, and therefore he proposed the toast of "The Visitors," asking the Ex. and Perf. Bro. Binckes to say a few words in reply.—The Ex. and Perf. Bro. Binckes replied, and said that he spoke the sentiments of every visitor when he congratulated the chapter on its efficiency. No Freemason felt a warmer interest in the high grades than himself; and though he was but a young member, yet he hoped to prove, by his devotion, his attachment to them. He felt deeply the position they stood in; yet he knew they were unobtrusively winning their way, and the prejudice which had formerly been expressed against them was dying away. It was their interest to pursue their course, as they had begun, without antagonism, and in the Christian spirit they practised with that reverence for the Craft they had hitherto main-

tained, and he was sure that at last a reciprocity of feeling must be the result. He hoped soon to be a joining member of the Invicta Chapter, and promised them they would have no more staunch supporter than himself. He concluded by returning thanks for the visitors. The M.W.S., in approaching the end of his duties that evening, did so with great regret, which he must lay to the door of the late arrivals, himself among that number, therefore he should be brief in proposing the last toast, that of the newly-appointed officers. Two very important officers, Captains King and Boyle had been obliged to leave early, but several others were present. In their Treasurer, the Ex. and Perf. Bro. Laird, they had not only an amiable, but an able brother. In the Registrar, the Ill. Bro. Figg, they knew his value, as he had before discharged the duties of that office. The Ex. and Perf. Bro. Hewitt he was sure would be a zealous officer. The Ex. and Perf. Bro. Stewart had been a regular attendant hitherto, and he believed his appointment to office would not occasion any failure on that account. He then coupled the toast with the name of the Ill. Bro. Matthew Cooke, who returned thanks. The brethren shortly after separated, the pleasure of the evening having been considerably enhanced by the charming singing of the Ex. and Perf. Bro. Fielding.

#### YORKSHIRE (WEST).

SHEFFIELD.—Consecration of the Talbot Chapter Rose Croix.—On Friday, 19th instant, this new chapter, which has been established through the exertions of the Ill. Bros. Wm. White, 30°, Hy. Webster, 18°, and Joseph Rodgers, 18°, was formally opened at the Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, at one o'clock p.m. There were present the following Ill. Brethren, viz.:—Colonel Hy. Atkins Rowyer, S.G.I.G., Lieut. Gd. Commander, 33°; Hy. Chas. Vernon, S.G.I.G., Gd. Treasurer General, 33°; Hyde Pullen, S.P.R.S., Secretary Genl. S.G.C., 32°; C. J. Banister, Wm. White, and Stephen Smith, Gd. Electd. Knts. K.H., 30°; and Hy. Webster, Joseph Rodgers, Lawrence Newall, J. C. Thompson, S. P. Leather, and Wm. Dawson, S.P.R. 18°. The chapter was solemnly opened and consecrated by the Ill. Br. Col. Bowyer. Bros. Graham Stuart, John Knight, Wm. Roberts, John Thorley, Thomas Chester, John Thompson, Gilbert Wilkinson, and Wm. E. Parker having forwarded a petition for Perfection, which was favourably received by the chapter, were duly introduced and perfected in this the most beautiful of all the degrees. The ceremony was performed by the Ill. Bro. Hyde Pullen, 32°, in that impressive and dignified manner which is so highly appreciated by all who know him. Bro. Pullen, afterwards, in an equally faultless way, installed the Ill. Bro. Wm. White, 30°, as the first M.W.S. of the chapter, and the following officers were appointed, viz.:—Joseph Rodgers, Prelate; Hy. Webster, 1st General; G. Stuart, 2nd General; John Thompson, Grand Marshal; Wm. R. Parker, Raphael; Gilbert Wilkinson, Captain of the Guard; and Thos. Chester, Equerry Without. Votes of thanks were then passed by acclamation to the various Ill. Brethren, who had honoured the chapter by their presence; and after solemnly closing, the brethren adjourned to the Victoria Hotel, and partook of an elegant banquet, presided over by the M. W. Sov. After the removal of the cloth, the "Health of Her Majesty the Queen," was duly honoured; and the M.W.S., in eloquent terms, proposed the "Health of the M.P. Sov. Gd. Comr. Dr. Leeson, and the Members of the Supreme Gd. Council, 33°." The distinguished brother at the head of the order had laboured unceasingly in the promotion of the rite under which they were assembled, and to him, in a great measure, was due the present prosperity of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. In carrying out the principles of the order and spreading its influence he had been ably seconded by the other members of the Supreme Grand Council, and by none more so than by the two illustrious brethren who were present with them that day, Col. Bowyer and Brother Vernon.—In responding, Colonel Bowyer said that, although at great inconvenience to himself, he had felt it both a duty and a pleasure to be present at the consecration of the Talbot Chapter. He had been exceedingly gratified with the proceedings of the day, and the zeal and kindness which the brethren evinced, and was pleased to be able to say that he had never yet been at the consecration of a chapter whose arrangements were more perfect. He felt sure that in the worthy brother who had that-day been installed M.W.S. of the chapter, they would have an earnest and able officer, who would conduct the business and perform the ceremonies as they ought to be. He should himself ever have a lively recollection of the few days



he had spent so pleasantly at Sheffield, and he called upon the brethren to drink a bumper to their Most Wise Sovereign.—The M.W.S., in responding, expressed his determination to support the Talbot Chapter and spread the Rose Croix degree to the best of his ability, and said it was a peculiar gratification to him that the Ill. Bro. Hyde Pullen, 32°, who, more than four years ago, had conferred the Rose Croix degree upon him in the Royal Naval Chapter at Portsmouth, should that day have done him the additional honour of installing him the M.W.S. of the Talbot Chapter. He had the greatest esteem for Brother Pullen, both for his private worth and for his extensive masonic research. He therefore asked the brethren to show their appreciation of his visit by warmly drinking his health.—Brother Pullen, 32°, feelingly responded, and in the course of his remarks gave some very valuable information on the origin of the degree and the beauty of its symbolism, and concluded by proposing “Prosperity to the Talbot Chapter Rose Croix.”—The health of the visitors was replied to by the Ill. Bro. C. J. Banister, 30°, M.W.S. of the Royal Kent Chapter Rose Croix, Newcastle-on-Tyne, who said he had been much pleased with his visit that day, and looked forward to many subsequent visits which he hoped to pay to Sheffield. The “Officers of the Chapter,” the “Newly perfected Princes Rose Croix,” and other toasts were given, and a great deal of valuable and interesting information was derived on various masonic subjects from the illustrious brethren who were present, and all departed highly pleased with their day’s work.

### Obituary.

#### BROTHER WILLIAM ROSS.

On the 24th of November, died at Trinidad, aged 45, after only four days illness, Bro. William Ross, P.M. of Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1169, Trinidad, and had served as Secretary of Victoria Lodge, No. 755, St. Vincent. Bro. Ross had been for many years a resident of the island of St. Vincent, at which place he held the appointment of Member of Council. He established himself here in 1858; was an extensive merchant and proprietor of two sugar estates. As a man and a Mason, our brother was all that could be desired. He has left a widow and nine children, with a large circle of friends to deplore his loss.

#### NOTES ON MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

The Monday Popular Concerts will be resumed on the 13th inst.

The principal New York journals are talking enthusiastically about a child of eight years old who is surprising and delighting the public with her achievements as a pianist. This youthful prodigy is called Teresa Carrena, a native of Venezuela, in South America. If the glowing descriptions of the New York critics are not greatly exaggerated, she must be a creature of such genius as is rarely met with, in which case we shall, no doubt, have before long an opportunity of judging with our own ears of her qualities and attainments.

A courageous gentleman, one Herr Scholz, says the *Athenæum*, has been producing at Frankfort a new overture to *Iphigenia in Tauris*.

Gluck’s superb *Armida* has been revived carefully at Dresden with Madame Burde-Ney in the principal character.

Herr Wagner’s *Tristan und Isolde* is in rehearsal at Vienna.

There is mention of a new opera, *Joan of Arc* (a subject never happily treated in music), by Herr Langert at Leipsic.

Herr Kiel’s *Requiem* has been performed at Magdeburg.

The *Ents’ Acte*, the well-known theatrical journal, which has been published in Paris for so many years, was seized the other night by the authorities, for giving an imperfect programme of the performances at the theatres.

Mr. Fechter will open the Lyceum on the 10th inst., but will defer the production of his burlesque until Easter.

### THE WEEK.

**THE COURT.**—The Queen and the other members of the Royal Family are now in retirement at Osborne, for the holidays.

**GENERAL HOME NEWS.**—The state of the metropolitan health continues to improve. There was not only a decrease below the high rates of November, but a considerable diminution from the average mortality of the preceding ten years.—The number last week 1292. The corrected average is 1560. The deaths were therefore fewer by 268 than the average mortality would have led us to expect. In the same week the births exceeded the deaths by 318, the numbers being 1610 children, however, was below the average of the last ten years.—The revenue returns for 1862 were published on Wednesday night. They are of the most gratifying character. There has been a net increase on the year of £2,392,578. The only item upon which any decrease is shown is Excise, which has produced £627,000 less than last year. The total revenue from all sources is £70,996,429.—The medals awarded to the successful exhibitors at South Kensington are to be distributed without any ceremony whatever. They will be handed over to the medallists at the Exhibition building “any day before the 10th of January.” The certificates of honorable mention are not yet ready for delivery.—The Home Secretary has rejected the petition praying for a remission of the sentence passed upon Mr. M’Laughlan, the Roman Catholic priest, who was recently sentenced to a term of imprisonment, for refusing to give evidence before a Glasgow magistrate. An “action of suspension and liberation” has, however, been raised in the Court of Session, and an order has been obtained granting “interim liberation” to the rev. gentlemen.—At the meeting of the Central Relief Committee in Manchester on Tuesday, Mr. Farnall reported a further decrease of rather more than 5000 in the number of persons in receipt of parochial relief in the cotton manufacturing districts. The largest falling off has occurred at Ashton-under-Lyne, Stockport, and Oldham; but Mr. H. Mason, of Ashton, and Mr. R. M’Clure, of Stockport, informed the committee of local circumstances, which went to show that the increased employment of cotton operatives in their districts was likely to be only temporary. Mr. Hutchinson, of Blackburn, also observed that the apparent diminution of pauperism in that town arose chiefly from an arrangement, by which the Relief Committee take charge of a large number of cases which otherwise would appear on the books of the relieving officers. Among the contributions announced at the meeting were £100 from the Pope, and 250 boxes of bacon from the British residents of New York. The bacon was conveyed to Liverpool free of freight by the Cunard steamer *China*.—Mr. Horsman made an after-dinner speech at Stroud, on Saturday evening, in which he passed in review the leading topics of the day. With regard to the American war, he expressed his entire approval of the policy of strict non-intervention hitherto pursued by Her Majesty’s Government, and he added that he was not anxious to precipitate the recognition of the South, or European interference of any kind whatever in the unhappy struggle between the Federal and Confederate States.—Mr. Justice Crampton, who retired from a seat in the Court of Queen’s Bench about four years ago, died on Monday night at his residence, Enniskerry, in the 81st year of his age. Mr. Crampton was Solicitor-General under Earl Grey’s Government, and in 1836 was made a judge in the Queen’s Bench under the Government of Lord Melbourne. The learned gentleman began life as a Whig, and fought a severe but unsuccessful contest for Dublin University with the present Lord Chief Justice

Lefroy and Recorder Shaw. Soon after his elevation it was understood that, subject to the restraints imposed by his judicial position, he become a Conservative. His death was caused by bronchitis.—The Marquis of Aberdeen has proposed to pay £10,000 into the funds of the notorious Bank of Deposit, now being wound up, in order to put a stop to litigation so far as he is concerned. He has in this acted very properly, and the creditors' representatives, as well as the depositors, have consented to accept this settlement of his case. Proceedings will, however, still go on against Lord Keane and the other directors unless they are put a stop to in a similar manner.—At last there is a prospect of the Underground Railway being opened for the use of the public. Another official inspection of the line was made on Saturday, and the arrangements are now so nearly complete that it is expected the line will be open to the public on Monday next, the 5th of January.—The German street-band nuisance has been the subject of a charge at the Marlborough-street Police-court this week. It seems there was a band of eight or ten noise-makers—you do not hear music in the streets—who assembled and "played" to the annoyance of a lady who is ill. They would not move away when requested, and one of them had to answer the charge. His counsel, in arguing the case, called attention to a clause in the Act, to the effect that "the playing must be in presence of a police-constable" but Mr. Tyrwhitt, legally compelled to dismiss the charge, said that these roving bands might collect together and levy black mail. The law, in fact, is in an unsatisfactory state.—A few days ago a charge of disorderly conduct was preferred by a policeman, at the Westminster police-court, against a Mrs. Kendal and a Mrs. Morris. The evidence of the policeman was supported by a brother officer. For the defence it was alleged that the policeman's statements were wholly untrue, and that in fact they had insulted the defendants. Witnesses were called in support of this defence, and after a remand others were called who also made similar statements. The result was that the case was dismissed, the magistrate expressing his opinion that the policemen had committed perjury. On Wednesday an application was made by Superintendent Gibbs to the magistrate at Westminster Police-court, for a summons against one of the witnesses for the defence, on the ground that she had committed perjury. Mr. Gibbs stated that inquiries had been made, the result of which was that in the opinion of the police authorities the witnesses for the defence had stated what was not true. The magistrate declined to grant the summons. He said he had read the report of the inquiries, and it had not altered his opinion as to the evidence given by the police.—A curious case has been heard at the Birmingham Police-court. A game dealer was charged with having expased for sale five hares which were unfit for human food. Dr. Hill, the borough analyst, declared that they were unwholesome, and therefore not fit to be eaten. He was asked to taste some jugged hare which was brought into court, and pronounced it to be good, whereupon it came out that it was made with one of the hares which had been condemned as unfit for food. He then declared that it was unwholesome. For the defence, witnesses in abundance were called to prove that hares never were good until they stank, and that fire wholly destroyed the effects of decomposition. The magistrate, a Mr. Lloyd, could not resist the testimony. He had, however, ordered the hares to be destroyed, and in giving his decision said he should not stultify himself by dismissing the case, but he should not fine the defendant.—One of the most melancholy of the catastrophes caused by the late gale is the loss of the *Lifeguard*, passenger steam boat between London and Newcastle-upon-Tyne. She left the Tyne according to her

advertised hour of sailing on Saturday, and was due at Irongate Wharf, London, on Monday; but she has not made her appearance, nor has she been seen by any of the numerous craft by which that part of our coast is traversed. Some boxes which were known to have been on board of her have been picked up, and altogether there is no doubt of her sad fate. It is supposed she foundered at sea, and except the waifs already referred to there is no vestige of her left to tell the tale. She had thirty-two passengers on board and a crew of twenty-one.—Another most distressing calamity is the loss of a small "fleet" of fishing boats belonging to Ness, in the island of Lewis. Some forty men, or about one-third of the entire adult male population of the village, have been drowned, and it is feared that other remote fishing stations have, like Ness, suffered to a most serious extent.—A sad accident occurred at Golcar, near Huddersfield, on Christmas-day. The Rev. J. E. Downing, incumbent of Golcar, and his family, were driving in two carriages to the house of a friend. As the first carriage, which contained Mr. Downing and his servant, approached a part of the road which is carried along a steep precipice, the horse dashed forward, and the rev. gentleman and his servant were thrown out. The fall of the latter was broken by a projection, but Mr. Downing was less fortunate, and fell to the bottom of the precipice. The rev. gentleman, who was taken up in a state of insensibility, died the same evening.—A very remarkable robbery has been committed on the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway. On Wednesday week a large sum of money was despatched from Manchester for the payment of the wages of the company's servants in Yorkshire. The money intended for the various stations was placed in separate boxes, and it appears that the guard, on reaching North Dean, discovered that three of these boxes, containing together upwards of £1000, were missing. How or by whom this audacious robbery was committed remains for the present a mystery, but it is scarcely necessary to say that the affair is being strictly investigated by the police.—The inquest on the body of the ship's steward, who died in the Channel on board the *Martha Pope*, was resumed on Wednesday. One of the sailors, a man of colour, was examined, whose evidence was rather favourable to the captain; but while he stated that the deceased was a bad sailor and a bad cook, he admitted that the letters "V. G.," entered opposite the deceased's name, meant "very good." The surgical evidence was to the effect that the internal appearances of the body might consort with death from disease, but that the wounds must have been produced by violence, and would accelerate the death which they might not themselves have caused. The jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against the captain, the mate, and the boatswain of the ship, and the coroner committed them for trial.—The inquest on the bodies of six children who were burned to death by a fire in Soho has been opened. The bodies were identified by their uncle; and the coroner stated that as the inquiry was likely to be a long and important one he would not carry the case farther that day. It was stated in the court that four of the poor children were educated at the parochial school on Battersea-common, but had come home to spend the Christmas holidays with their parents.—There has been another fatal fire. A poor old lady living in Church-street, Greenwich, had her dress accidentally ignited, and the result was that she has been burnt to death.—The Town-hall of Chester was destroyed by a fire which broke out in the building on Tuesday night.—The Austrian seaman, Petrina, who was recently sentenced to death for murder on the high seas, was executed at Winchester on Tuesday.—Three arches of the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway, near to the Clapham station, fell on Wednesday morning. The traffic to the Elephant and Castle is temporarily

stopped.—A distressing accident resulting in the loss of twelve lives, occurred at a colliery at Prior's Lee, in Shropshire, on Monday.—A shocking accident occurred on Wednesday afternoon in the Chalk Farm tunnel of the London and North-Western Railway. Two labourers were engaged in the tunnel examining the metals and chairs of the line, when they saw a train approaching. They stepped on to the other line, and while still blinded and deafened with the smoke and reverberation of the first train, they were run into by one coming in an opposite direction, and hurled against the sides of the tunnel. They were picked up still breathing and conveyed to the hospital, in a hopeless condition.—An inquest has been held on the body of J. B. Smith, an old man, whose death it was alleged was partially owing to neglect on the part of Whitechapel Work- authorities. The evidence, however, exonerated them, and the verdict was "death from typhoid fever."

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—From France the principal news is the financial report of M. Fould. The unforeseen expenses of 1862 have amounted to 35 millions of francs, arising from the Mexican expedition and the advancement of premiums on exportation. M. Fould talks of supplementary grants to meet these claims. Alluding to 1863, M. Fould calculates on a surplus of 110,000,000F., which he estimates will meet the expenses for that year of the Mexican expedition, as well as any unforeseen expenses. The Budget of 1864 will be presented with a diminution of four millions, and M. Fould states that were it not for the extraordinary expenses which weigh upon 1862 and 1863 it would have been possible to re-enter on a normal situation at the beginning of 1864, but which desirable result was only adjourned.—The death of the Archbishop of Paris took place on Monday morning at six o'clock.—A report in Tuesday's *Moniteur*, followed by an Imperial decree, announces a step of some importance in French administration of local affairs. The councils of prefecture dispose every year of more than 200,000 disputed questions regarding public works, highways, local contributions, mines, watercourses, nuisances dangerous to health, &c. Up to the present these proceedings did not take place in the presence of the parties, and were not open to publicity. Now, Count Persigny proposes, and the Emperor decrees, that the sittings of the Councils of Prefecture, when engaged in disposing of contested questions of the nature indicated, shall be public, and that the parties concerned shall be allowed to sustain their claims in person or by representative. "This wise and useful reform," says Count Persigny, "will be received with satisfaction by the populations everywhere."

—Marshal O'Donnell declared, in the Spanish Senate, on Monday, that the Cabinet of Madrid had never intended to interfere in the internal affairs of Mexico, and that the withdrawal of the Spanish troops had been rendered necessary by the excessive pretensions of France. The rupture was not caused by General Prim, but by the support lent by the French to General Almonte, who had deceived the French cabinet. Marshal O'Donnell's speech is said to have "produced a great sensation," and the Senate immediately voted, by a great majority, the address in reply to the Queen's speech.—A telegram, of the 30th December, from Athens, announces that a great popular demonstration had just taken place in that city, the crowd shouting enthusiastically for Prince Alfred as King of the Greeks. The hon. Mr. Elliott, however, has again announced that Prince Alfred can positively not accept the throne; but our representative did his best to make the refusal seem less unwelcome, by assuring the Provisional Government and the nation generally of England's sympathy and good will.—It was believed that Mr. Elliott had officially communicated to the Provisional Government the British Cabinet's intention to cede the Ionian Islands to Greece.—A circular from Prince Gortchakoff, published in the official journal of St. Petersburg, declares that Russia never desired to put forward the Duke of Leuchtenberg as a candidate for the Greek crown. It adds that the British Government has been satisfied with the Russian Cabinet's declarations, and that, consequently, on the proposal of the Russian Envoy, "Earl Russell and Baron Brunnow signed, on the 4th December, notes recapitulating the existing agreement that no member of the reigning families of the protecting powers should be eligible for the throne of Greece, and stating that any eventual election of Prince Alfred or the Duke of Leuchtenberg should be considered as not having taken place. The notes further state that France shall be invited to join England and Russia in this new agreement."—The *France* asserts that two of the great powers—no doubt Austria and Russia—are indisposed to assert to a cession of the Ionian protectorate by England to Greece. The assertion derives some little corroboration from the language of the official journal of St. Petersburg, which declares that "if England is at liberty to renounce the protectorate of the Ionian Islands, it is for Europe alone to determine their subsequent destiny, and to do so with the same considerations for the common interest which, on a former occasion, confided the protectorate of those islands to England."—It is stated that rather curious instructions have been transmitted from Paris with regard to the candidature of the Duc D'Aumale—that the Government will neither support nor oppose his election to the throne of Greece.—The Prussian Parliament has been summoned to meet on the 14th of January; and no doubt its session will be a stormy one.

AMERICA.—The *China*, which arrived at Liverpool on Sunday, has brought us the intelligence that General Burnside's repulse at Fredericksburg on the 13th ult. was deemed by him too complete for him to venture on any fresh attack. He consequently, after the two following days had been spent in unimportant skirmishes, retreated across the Rappahannock during the night of the 15th instant. The operation of withdrawing the Federal army across the river was commenced at nightfall and was completed soon after daybreak. It was covered by a storm of wind and rain, and appears to have been undiscovered by the Confederates, who made no attempt to impede it or to press the Federal rear. All the Federal guns, wounded, and stores were safely brought across, and the pontoon bridges were then removed, while the river was rapidly rising. General Burnside did not encounter much censure for his disaster, which public opinion attributed to the orders of Secretary Stanton and General Halleck. General McClellan was summoned to Washington on the afternoon of the 16th inst., and there is a report that he would be solicited to resume the command of the army of the Potomac. President Jefferson Davis had arrived in Tennessee from Virginia, had reviewed portions of the Confederate army, and had declared that at any price Tennessee must be preserved to the Southern Confederacy. It was supposed that important operations would ensue, and that a battle would probably be fought between General Rosecrantz's army and the Confederate forces. According to accounts brought by the *North America* to the 20th of December, the result of the battle at Fredericksburg had created great excitement at New York, and meetings were to be held to let the President know what the people wished to have done. It was rumoured that Mr. Seward and General Burnside had resigned; but the rumour had not been confirmed. Congress had appointed a committee to inquire into the circumstances connected with the battle. The official account of the Federal losses on the 13th states that 1400 were killed and 8000 wounded. Confederate General Lee officially reports his loss at 1800 killed and wounded. He took 550 prisoners, and lost 800, who were captured by the Federals. Confederate Generals Thomas Cobb and M. Gregg were killed in the battle. In North Carolina there had been fighting, which ended in the defeat of the Confederates at Kingston by General Foster. He took that place on the 11th December with 900 prisoners and eleven pieces of artillery. The Federals immediately advanced in the direction of Goldsborough and Weldon. On the Yazoo River the Federal gunboat Cairo had been blown up by a torpedo. Fighting was said to be going on at Corinth, and at Harper's Ferry the Confederates had been driven back in an attack on the place. The reverse of the Federal army at Fredericksburg has already, it would seem, caused the "inspired" journals of Paris to publish paragraphs hinting at a possible mediation between the American belligerents. At all events the *France* states that, after General Burnside's defeat on the 13th inst., President Lincoln had a long conference with the French Envoy at Washington, and that the "peace party" drew favourable inferences from this interview.

INDIA AND CHINA.—There is not much important news by the India and China mail, the news from Calcutta coming down to no later a date than by a previous mail. The *China Mail* gives an account of a "bloodless revolution" in Japan, the chief object of which appears to be nothing less than the destruction of Yedo as the capital city of the empire. An attack on Hankow by the Taeping was expected, and a large fire which was reported at that port just as the mail was leaving, it was thought, might be the work of the Taeping incendiaries. Imperial troops are advancing for the protection of Hankow. We regret to find that the ravages of cholera at Shanghai are not abating. The news from Melbourne is indicative of pretty general prosperity.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

D.S.E.B.—A Mason who some years back obtained the Royal Arch degree, and who then (previous to the existing regulations) necessarily received the P. Master's degree, cannot be acknowledged as a Past Master in a Craft lodge, or allowed to be present in the Boards of Installed Masters during the ceremony of installation.

EXCELSIOR.—No. 1 shall be attended to at an early date.—2. The practice of making virtual P.M.'s, *i.e.*, giving the P.M.'s degree, was discontinued under the English Constitution on the arrangement of the degrees, acknowledged at the time of the union in 1813.—3. All the proceedings of the lodge since the time of the loss of the warrant are irregular. You should apply for a warrant of confirmation. It would be readily granted, the cost being £2 2s.—4. It was customary under the York Constitutions to elect all the officers half-yearly, and occasionally to give the second and third degree in the same night, though irregular. The officers are still elected half-yearly in Ireland.—5. We presume that at the time of the alteration of numbers of lodges there might have been several vacancies below yours, and none below that of the other lodge named. A lodge might have escaped alteration of its number at the time, owing to the want of intervening numbers or special indulgence.