

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1863.

### THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND THE CRAFT.

We have to call the attention of the Craft to a prospectus, which appears in another page, of a projected Company (under the provisions of the Joint Stock Companies Act of 1862) with limited liability, for continuing the publication of THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR, which is now generally acknowledged to be a necessity of the Craft, so that the brethren may become fully acquainted with everything that is passing in connection with Freemasonry, as the best preservative of their privileges and corrective of abuses, when any exist.

It is now nine years since the present Editor first became connected with a Masonic Magazine, and for nearly seven years of that period the present publication has been under his entire control, during five of which it has been published as a weekly serial.

The MAGAZINE has met with considerable success, but from the want of adequate capital properly to make it known in the various lodges throughout the Craft, or secure sufficient literary assistance, it has not yet taken the position which, we believe, it is destined to occupy.

It has long been felt that that capital, which it could scarcely be expected one brother should risk to provide an organ for the Craft, might be obtained by an appeal to the brethren at large, the difficulty being how properly to limit the liability of each subscriber. This has now been overcome under the provisions of the Joint Stock Companies Limited Act; and as the amount required from each lodge to place the publication on a sure and firm foundation is not more than, on an average, five shares of £1 each, it is confidently anticipated that the brethren will determine to make THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR their own property, and thus ensure its future prosperity.

Should the necessary capital be provided, it is proposed, as early as possible after the Copyright of THE MAGAZINE has been transferred to the Directors on behalf of the Company' to reduce the price to THREEPENCE—an amount which it is hoped will bring it within the reach of all, and be consistent with the general price of the literary organs of the day.

A reference to the prospectus will show that, in addition to an influential Board of Directors, we have already received the patronage of several of the leading Grand Officers and D. Prov. Grand Masters—who recommend THE MAGAZINE to the support of the Craft; and it being impossible personally to apply

to every brother who may feel disposed to help us' we shall be obliged by brethren of position throughout the Craft allowing us to add their names to the following memorandum:—

"We, the undersigned, believing that it is indispensable that the Craft should possess an independent, truthful, and temperately conducted journal, with the view of securing the continuance of THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, and under the conviction that that journal will continue to be conducted in a fair and impartial manner, do agree to the publication of our names as *Patrons* of THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE COMPANY (Limited), and do recommend the same to the support of the Craft."

### GRAND LODGE.

The scene on the dais of Grand Lodge on Wednesday evening was one of the most brilliant we have witnessed for a long time, from the number of distinguished brethren by whom the Grand Master was surrounded, including the Earl de Grey and Ripon, D.G.M.; Earl Dalhousie, P.D.G.M.; Lord de Tabley, P.G.W.; Lord R. Grosvenor, P.G.W.; and several Provincial Grand Masters and other brethren; whilst below the dais, Grand Lodge was somewhat thinly attended.

The first business was the re-election of the Grand Master, which was proposed by the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P. Prov. G.W. for West Yorkshire. The noble Earl was re-elected, and proclaimed amidst loud cheers. His Lordship briefly and appropriately acknowledged the compliment, and assured the brethren that it would ever be, as it had ever been, his endeavour to promote the interests of the Order to the best of his ability.

On a motion for making a grant of £50 to a distressed brother, a somewhat lively discussion took place, it being generally felt that the grant recommended by the Board of Benevolence was inadequate to the case—a feeling in which we fully participate, having heard the particulars in the private lodge of which our unfortunate brother was at one time a member. It appears that, some twenty years since, a young man of good fortune was initiated in the Lodge of Antiquity, and subsequently joined the George and Corner Stone Lodge (No. 5). For four years he was evidently a most enthusiastic Mason, having become a Vice President of the Girls' School, three times a Life Governor of the Boys' School, and a Life Governor of the Old Man's Annuity Fund (the Widows' Fund was not then in existence), besides serving the office of Grand Steward. During this time he gave about £100 to the Charities, besides spending fully half that amount in serving the various stewardships—then much more expensive than they are in the present day.

Shortly after this period, from some change in fortune, our brother had to seek a profession,

and turning his thoughts towards the church, entered Lampeter College, and after hard study, which, we fear, had its effect on his future health, was ordained and duly inducted into a living, where he was remarkable for the assiduity with which he discharged his duties. But his career of usefulness was soon cut short, and for the last few years he has been a hopeless lunatic, mainly supported by his wife, whose troubles are much increased by being compelled constantly to have one or two attendants with her unfortunate husband, to prevent his doing injury to himself. Through these expenses the poor lady's means have been found inadequate, and, as a last resource, an appeal has been made for aid to the Board of Benevolence—the two lodges to which the brother belonged having already done their duty. And for such a case as this the Board of Benevolence has thought £50 a sufficient grant! whilst, through a defect in the law relative to the giving of notices of motion, Grand Lodge had no power to increase the amount, excepting by rejecting the proposed grant entirely—referring it back to the Board of Benevolence, and causing a delay of six months before relief could reach the unfortunate brother and his devoted wife; and, under the circumstances, it was thought better to accept the £50.

According to the laws, a second appeal cannot be made to the Lodge of Benevolence for twelve months, but, upon notice of motion, a further grant may be obtained from Grand Lodge at the next Quarterly Communication; and we are sure if the motion is made it will be received and carried by acclamation.

In the course of his observations Bro. Havers expressed a strong opinion that the constitution of the Board of Benevolence required amendment, an opinion which we urged three or four years since, laying down, at the time, a plan whereby we believed more ample justice would be done to the varied applicants than under present arrangements, whilst greater secrecy would be obtained and the funds economised. We shall not, however, pursue this part of the subject further at present, intending to return to it at no distant date. In the mean time we would guard the brethren against an opinion which we are sure was expressed rather unguardedly, that a brother who had been thirty years a provincial Mason, and whose name did not appear in the list of subscribers to our Masonic Charitable institutions, had never given anything away in charity. It is but of late years, through improvements in the mode of travelling, that the provincial brethren have been brought into immediate connexion with their London brethren, or the objects and usefulness of the Charities become fully known, through the exertions of the respective committees, and the publicity given to their proceedings by THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.

There have been, however, frequent appeals to the Charity of the Provincial brethren, and in Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, and other places regular relief committees have been established, which do a large amount of good in the most unostentatious manner, and at the same time preserve our Fund of Benevolence from undue encroachments on its resources—evidencing the truth that a little timely assistance is often far more valuable than the deferred aid of the general Board of Benevolence.

The last business brought before Grand Lodge was the report of the Building Committee, which was ordered to be entered upon the minutes, and the only recommendation the report contained adopted.

## SCOTLAND.

### SECESSION FROM SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The following is a copy of the "Deed of Demission of the Royal Arch Masons in the West of Scotland from the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland."

We, the subscribers, Royal Arch Masons of Scotland, and members of Royal Arch Chapters, holding of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Scotland, considering that in the working of Royal Arch Masonry in Scotland, it is a duty equally incumbent on the Supreme Grand Chapter and the daughter Chapters to act up to the principles on which the Order is founded, and to observe the laws enacted from time to time for the government of the whole body; and further, considering that in the administration of these laws it is necessary to exercise with care and fidelity the prerogative of the Supreme Grand Chapter, particularly in regard to matters involving the efficiency and continuance of all existing subordinate bodies, taking special care that their rights and privileges be zealously preserved, and the honour and dignity of the office bearers and members carefully maintained; that it is only so long as the Supreme Grand Chapter observes these duties that she is entitled to the allegiance of the daughter Chapters and members—right government being the counterpart of due obedience. And now, seeing that in the opinion of the undersigned, the Supreme Chapter has failed to observe these duties for the reasons hereafter stated: therefore, we hereby renounce for ever all allegiance to the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Scotland, as at present constituted and governed; hereby declaring that we shall no longer be bound by her laws or amenable to her jurisdiction, reserving to ourselves and the respective Chapters with which we are connected to form ourselves and said Chapters into an independent body, and constitute a General Grand Chapter for Scotland and the Colonies, and appointing office-bearers to govern the same, reserving to ourselves also all the rights and privileges of the Royal Arch Masons, and power to practice, work, and exercise the secrets and prerogatives of the Order.

Statement of reasons above referred to:—

I. Because of the irregular and unconstitutional proceedings of Supreme Grand Committee and Chap-

ter in their conduct towards Companion Dr. G. A. Walker Arnott, Past Grand H. of Scotland, Provincial Grand Superintendent, and the Provincial Grand Chapter of the Western District of Scotland, as shown by the following statement:

1st. In the beginning of the current year, and while the Chapters of Ayrshire were subject to the jurisdiction of the Provincial Grand Superintendent and the Provincial Grand Chapter of the West of Scotland, a petition from certain Royal Arch Companions in Ayrshire was presented for the disjunction of the Province of Ayr from the Western District of Scotland, and the erection of Ayrshire into a Provincial Grand Chapter, the Supreme Committee on the third March last, without informing the Provincial Grand Chapter of the West of the presentation of said petition recommended to the Supreme Chapter that the prayer of the petition should be granted. Said petition ought at least to have been intimated to the Provincial Grand Chapter of the West and that Provincial Chapter heard in the question of disjunction. Farther, this recommendation was given without any proper inquiry whether the Chapters in Ayrshire wished such disjunction or not.

2nd. On learning what had taken place in Supreme Chapter, a special meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter of the West was convened, (Comp. Dr. W. Arnott being absent from indisposition), at which meeting it was agreed:—First, to obtain from Grand Scribe, E. a copy of the petition for disjunction, and, second, to ascertain the opinions of the Principals of the Ayrshire Chapters regarding the disjunction. In compliance with the above resolution, the Provincial Grand Scribe E. wrote to Comp. Mackersey, Grand Scribe E., who declined giving a copy of the petition without the permission of Grand Committee; he also communicated with the first principals of the Chapters in Ayrshire. From the replies, it appeared that two out of three Ayrshire Chapters were decidedly averse to disjunction, and that certain members only of Chapter No. 80 were in its favour, the Third Principal of that Chapter giving, however, no reason, but referring to the petition itself, which petition the Provincial Grand Chapter had not yet seen.

3rd. Ultimately, the Supreme Chapter at their meeting on the fifth of March last, remitted to Comp. Dr. Walker Arnott, to report on said petition, as also what he would recommend to be done in the circumstances. Comp. Dr. Walker Arnott consulted with Provincial Grand Chapter, and from the opinions which had been obtained from the several Chapters in the West, the Provincial Grand Chapter resolved to oppose the prayer of the petition.

4th. Comp. Dr. Walker Arnott, as the Companion to whom the petition had been remitted to report on, and also as Provincial Grand Superintendent, resolved to examine the books of Chapter No. 80, in order to obtain such information as would enable him to return to Supreme Chapter a faithful and correct report. Not having spare time to go to Ayr personally he gave authority to the Provincial Grand Scribe E. to proceed there, obtain the books of Chapter No. 80, and bring them to Glasgow, which was done without objection at the time.

5th. Immediately after the books of Chapter No.

80 were delivered up, a petition and complaint was presented by the Second and Third Principals in name of that chapter against the Provincial Grand Chapter and Dr. Walker Arnott, in which petition, amongst much intemperate language, and charges which are untrue, it is stated *inter alia*, "That the petitioners have been subjected to insult, inconvenience, and injury, by the arbitrary way in which, on the evening of Saturday last, in absence of their First Principal, and without a moment's notice, their minute and cash books were pounced upon and removed from the custody of their Second Principal by the Provincial Grand Scribe E., ostensibly acting under orders of the Provincial Grand Superintendent." That the petitioners have yet to learn that the Supreme Chapter laws sanction or authorise the "seizure of the books of any subordinate chapter in the manner here complained of." The portions of the petition were found relevant by the Supreme Grand Chapter. In that petition, and in a subsequent minute for the petitioners, the following expressions occur:—"That the petitioners believe that their presuming to petition the Supreme Grand Chapter anent the disjunction of Ayrshire from the Western district has something to do with the strange conduct of the Provincial Grand Chapter towards them. If such arbitrary powers as those claimed by Dr. Arnott be conceded, there is no security that the concession of these exorbitant claims to Glasgow, and which, if not checked in the bud, may lead to the endeavour, however wild and unconstitutional, to place the supreme power itself into the hands of Dr. Arnott and other ambitious companions, now ruling in the Western metropolis." "In regard to the extraordinary paragraph of Dr. Arnott's letter, the petitioners cannot do otherwise than designate it as a base and ingenuous attempt to still further injure their reputation as a Royal Arch Chapter." "Dr. Arnott asserts that the other chapters are averse to the disjunction. There may be forcible reasons for Chapter No. 18 desiring to remain under the shelter of Dr. Arnott's wing. Further, your petitioners beg to say, that from the illegal and unconstitutional way in which Dr. Arnott has conducted himself towards Chapter No. 80, and towards the petitioners individually, and also in putting forth claims to supreme and absolute power over subordinate chapters, quite inconsistent with the position as the proxy or representative of the Grand Principal, they cannot come to any other conclusion than that Dr. Arnott has disqualified himself from holding the post of Provincial Grand Superintendent, and is likewise utterly incompetent of framing an impartial report upon the petition for the disjunction of Ayrshire from Glasgow. Finally, the petitioners are sure that if it be Dr. Arnott's intention, by brow-beating them, or branding them as defrauders and unprincipled persons, to disgust or persecute them into secession from the Supreme Grand Chapter, he could not have taken a more effective mode to further that purpose than the course he appears to have sketched for himself. Secession, even were that the only way of getting rid of Dr. Arnott's tyranny, would be an act deeply to be deplored. But such an event is not likely to occur."

6th. The language used in these passages concerning the Provincial Grand Chapter and Comp. Dr. Walker Arnott were such as ought to have been made the subject of severe censure, seeing that they

were used in reference to the actings of one who was not only entitled to be respected in virtue of his position in the province, but as being the representative of the Supreme Grand Chapter itself. Not only, however, were these passages allowed to pass without censure, but the parties making use of them were apparently encouraged by the Supreme Grand Chapter. In this respect the Supreme Chapter was unquestionably guilty of failing to support the dignity of those whom she employed to execute her commands. If anything could add to the utter failure in duty on the part of the Supreme Chapter, which these statements imply, it would certainly be found in this—that the vulgar and improper language above quoted was addressed chiefly to a companion, than whom there is none more honourable in the Order, and no one who has done more for Royal Arch Masonry in Scotland.

7th. When the Supreme Grand Chapter ultimately made a remit to Comp. Dr. Walker Arnott, he naturally inferred that the granting of that remit carried with it the powers requisite to carry it out with effect, and accordingly that he was *quo ad hoc* invested with the powers of the Supreme Chapter itself. There can be no doubt that this is the proper interpretation of the remit, because, on a former occasion, the Supreme Chapter recognised that right, and even, on this occasion, the Supreme Chapter, decided that any companion to whom a remit was made by Supreme Chapter had, by virtue of said remit for inquiry, the same powers, so far as said inquiry was concerned, as the Supreme Chapter itself possessed. In virtue of the powers conferred on him by the remit, before mentioned, Comp. Arnott, in the exercise of a sound discretion, sent his Scribe E. to Ayr with a request for the books of the petitioner's chapter, which were given up to him at once. These books were examined and returned within four days. In the meantime, however, a petition and complaint had been forwarded to the Supreme Chapter, and the Supreme Chapter ultimately pronounced a deliverance, in which they characterised the proceedings of Comp. Dr. Walker Arnott, referred to as uncalled for in the circumstances, and unauthorised by the laws of the Supreme Chapter. This, in effect, amounted to a vote of censure on Comp. Dr. Walker Arnott for doing that which was not only proper and requisite, but quite within the sphere of his authority. In this respect the Supreme Chapter were guilty again of failing to support the dignity and honour of the companion who, holding office under her, was entitled to her protection and support. The result of all these proceedings was that Dr. Walker Arnott felt himself so much aggrieved that he has resigned all connection with Royal Arch Masonry in Scotland, and his exertions have accordingly been lost to Royal Arch Masonry.

II. Because of the failure, on the part of the Supreme Chapter, to afford any redress to a remonstrance by a large and influential portion of the companions of the West, and the disrespect shown to those companions in reference thereto, as shown by the following statements.

1st. In consequence of the manner in which Comp. Dr. Walker Arnott had been treated, and of the dissatisfaction felt by the Companions of the West, at the conduct of the Supreme Chapter; an open meeting was called of the Companions of the

Western Province to consider whether any, and if so, what steps should be taken in the matter. This meeting was attended by upwards of sixty Companions. At that meeting a committee was appointed to frame a report upon the whole matter. A report was accordingly drawn up and submitted to the several chapters in the West. Said report was approved of, and adopted by the following Chapters, viz., Nos. 18, 22, 35, 50, 67, 73, 76, 78, and 87. A copy of said report was also transmitted to the Scribe E. of the Supreme Chapter. Thereafter the Supreme Chapter demanded to know if these chapters continued to adhere to the report, when it was found that they did.

2nd. As the Supreme Chapter failed to afford redress, another open meeting was held, attended by upwards of eighty Companions. At this meeting resolutions were adopted expressing the views of the Companions in the West, as to the matter which had given rise to the dispute, and as to making provision for the future government of the Supreme Chapter. The resolutions were forwarded to the Supreme Chapter, but that body have neither signified their intention of carrying out the terms of these resolutions, nor have they taken the slightest notice of their having been received, thereby treating the Companions of the West with marked disrespect.

3rd. Because of the illegal acts of the Supreme Chapter in suspending certain Chapters and Companions, these circumstances, in the face of the proceedings before narrated, and in consequence of them, the Supreme Grand Chapter did, at their last meeting, without notice to the parties, and without trial, most illegally and unconstitutionally suspend four Chapters of the Western district, and thirteen Companions, the Chapters and Companions suspended being those who took the leading part in the proceedings before mentioned. The Chapters suspended were all at the time of suspension in a highly prosperous state, and the Companions suspended are amongst the most respected and zealous Royal Arch Masons in the Western Province.

4th. Because the history of all these proceedings, proves that a desire exists in the Supreme Grand Chapter to cripple the efforts and destroy the usefulness of the Provincial Grand Chapter, and its office-bearers and members—a state of matters opposed to the principles, and inimical to the true interests of Royal Arch Masons.

Signed at Glasgow, the twenty-sixth day of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and following days:—

Donald Campbell, P.Z. No. 50,	D. H. Miller, 50, P.G. Steward.
late P.G.H., P.G.J. for Scot-	D. Liddle, late P.G. Steward.
land.	J. Pollock, 50, P.G. Tyler.
D. Sutherland, 67, P.Z. 279,	E. W. Pritchard, M.D., 50
P. Prov. G.J.	James Cowan, 50
R. Wallace, 50, late P.G. Sc. E.	Robert Clugston, J. 67
H. Campbell, 69, H. 50, P.G.N.	H. Marshall, P.H., Scribe E. 67
J. Muir, P.Z. 67, late P.G.T.	James Horn, P.H. 50
N. B. Dalveene, P.Z. 67, late	James Campbell, P.Z. 69
P.G. 1st Soj.	J. Davidson, 50, P.P.Z. 79
J. Laurie, N. 50, late P.G.	Andrew Bell, 67
2nd Soj.	Thos. Mc. K. Campbell, Z. 69
J. Bannatyne, 69, late P.G.	Andrew Dougall, Z. 67
3rd Soj.	Donald Ross, 69
A. McDonald, late P.G. Jeweller.	Thomas D. Fairley, J. 76
A. Purdie, late P.G. Chan.	James Wallace, 79
A. Ritchie, 69, P.G. St. Bearer.	David Haire, 50
R. McKendrick, 69, P.G. St. B.	Andrew Logan, 50

Robert Walker, 69  
 James Bryden, 50  
 John Ball, Treas. 78  
 John McLean, 67  
 Robert Morton, Jun., 79  
 Daniel McKay, 50  
 Thomas Paton, 69  
 James Aitkin, 67  
 Irving Ferguson, J. 50  
 William Hill, 50  
 Charles Brown, Scribe E. 50  
 George Cranston, 67  
 Peter Agnew, 50  
 David Jack, 79  
 Thomas Coward, Scribe E. 69  
 William David Henderson, 50  
 William Richmond, 67  
 James D. Porteous, 50  
 L. Leffman, 50  
 G. A. Stevenonson, 73  
 W. H. Dingley, 50  
 Robert Fleming, 69  
 J. F. Harkness, 50  
 David Ramsay, 69  
 R. W. Morrison, 69  
 J. L. Duncan, 69  
 Gordon Smith, 50  
 Peter McKinnon, H. 78  
 William G. Hickson, 69  
 Robert McCallum, 69  
 Thomas Camerond, Past H. 69  
 Mitchell Allen, P.P.Z. 67  
 James Thomson, 69  
 John Craig, 50  
 William Bremner, 73  
 James McGilvray, 73  
 James Campbell, P.Z. 67  
 James Leith, 67  
 H. D. Willock, 67  
 James Scott, 73  
 Peter Fulton, 50  
 John Buchanan, 69  
 James Lindsay, 69  
 Wm. Pollock, P.Z. 18  
 James Telfer, P.H. 18  
 Andrew Hunter, P.Z. 18  
 James Wallace, Scribe E. 18  
 David Bigham, Scribe N. 18  
 R. B. Hill, Treas. 18

Alexander Watson, 1st Soj. 18  
 William Turner, 2nd Soj. 18  
 Arch. Rae, 18  
 David Dunlop, 18  
 James Mann, 18  
 J. S. McMurtrie, 18  
 John H., 18  
 John Kelly, 18  
 Quin H. Pollock, 18  
 John Watson, 18  
 John Inglis, 3rd Soj. 18  
 Archibald Guthrie, 80  
 Neil Pollock, jun. 18  
 William Alexander, 18  
 David J. McHutcheson, M.D. 18  
 Jos. Erskine, 18  
 Hugh Henry, 18  
 Dougall McNeil, 69  
 James O. Park, 17  
 Alexander J. Walker, 69  
 William Foulds, 69  
 J. B. Wightman, 69  
 Thomas Gordon, 69  
 Allan Paterson, 67  
 James Turnbull, 76  
 Robert Lecker, 76  
 J. W. Foubister, 50  
 Daniel Keith, 50  
 Charles Ross, 50  
 Nicholas Black, 50  
 Thomas Torrance, Z. 78  
 Alexander Bizzett, P.Z. 78  
 Thomas Clark, 78  
 Robert Davidson, 78  
 John Cross, 2nd Soj. 78  
 John Spence, 78  
 James Duff, 78  
 Charles Burns, P.H. 78  
 James Taylor, 1st Soj.  
 James Forbes, S.B.  
 Alexander W. Baxter 67  
 John Cumming, 79  
 John Cairns, 69  
 William Crawford, 67  
 Walker M'Leod, 69  
 F. M' Rae 50  
 E. Claasen, 50  
 Hugh Muir, 69  
 J. H. Hewitt, 50

In order to place themselves in what they consider a legal position under the Secret Societies Act, the above-signed companions deputed some of their number to appear before a Justice of the Peace, and they have since issued the following certificate.

We, the undersigned, the First and Third Grand Principals, the Grand Scribe N, and the Treasurer (Provisional) of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for Scotland and the Colonies, compared this day, before me, David Yuile, Esquire, one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Lanark, and did certify on oath that the said General Grand Chapter for Scotland and the Colonies, with her subordinate or daughter Chapters, are held solely for the purposes of Freemasonry, in conformity with the exemptions to the Acts 27 George III., c. 123 and 39 George III., c. 79.

This we do upon the thirty-first day of December, Eighteen Hundred and Sixty-two years.

(Signed) Donald Campbell, 1st G. Principal Z.  
 Neil B. Dalveen, 3rd G. Principal J.  
 James Muir, G. Scribe N.  
 Hutcheson Campbell, G. Treasurer.

Compared before me, one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace, Donald Campbell, Neil B. Dalveen, James Muir, and Hutcheson Campbell, who being solemnly sworn, declare the above to be true.

(Signed) DAVID YUILE, J.P. for Lanarkshire.

ON THE ARCH AND ARCADES.

A LECTURE DELIVERED BY PROFESSOR SMIRKE AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

I think it may fairly be said that most of man's greatest discoveries have been the result, humanly speaking, of accident. The manufacture of glass, and gunpowder, the discovery of the magnetic needle, and of the steam engine, are striking, although perhaps somewhat trite, illustrations of this truth. Indeed, the history of science is full of examples of what may be, in some sense, regarded as the *fortuitous* origin, not only of the great inventions of human ingenuity, but of many of the subordinate improvements and accessories in art and science. It is not my purpose, however, on the present occasion, to expatiate on this wide field of inquiry, or to consider with what propriety the process of the human mind by which it observes, and applies, and appropriates the suggestions offered by external objects, can be termed accidental.

My only reason for adverting to it, is, to introduce to your notice a very early and important discovery in the art of construction; a discovery, indeed, which led the way to some of the most important revolutions which have ever influenced the practice of architectural art. I refer to the discovery of the arch. I believe that this discovery may really, with great probability, be attributed to accident. This idea forcibly struck me when examining the remains of Pelasgic art in Etruria. We see no traces of the use of the arch, it is true, but we see in the peculiar masonry of that early period, what I cannot but believe to have been the germ of the arch, namely, that fortuitous fitting together of several stones which would admit of the removal of some of them without causing the disturbance of the rest. The pains-taking masons of that period could not have been long without perceiving the convenience resulting from this peculiar collocation to which I refer, and which is the special characteristic of the masonry of the Pelasgi, who are assumed to be the earliest civilized inhabitants of Italy.

I may add in corroboration of this conjecture, that in one of the early vestiges of ancient Rome, namely, the Emmissario at the Lago d'Albano, is a flat arch, such as is technically called a skeme arch, which is just the kind of arch that would naturally suggest itself as one of the first applications of the principle. I must not, however, detain you many minutes on this subject; it is too archaeological to be suitable for our consideration here. In thus suggesting the possibility that the arch may have its origin among the Etruscan masons, on observing the facilities occasionally offered by the collocation of stones in their *opus incertum*, I fear that I cannot claim for them the exclusive merit of the discovery, for there is no fact more certain than that arches were used by builders so widely separated from them and from each other, both by time and space, that we cannot reasonably suppose that one borrowed from the other, or that there was any interchange of knowledge.

Sir Gardner Wilkinson tells us of arches in Egyptian masonry, to which he considers himself justified in attributing the early date of 1200 B.C. We have, too, brought under our own eyes, in the British Museum, bas-reliefs carved with beautiful precision, and in perfect preservation, the representations of walled cities, in which arch-headed doorways repeatedly occur. The date attributable to these examples, is, according to our best authorities, the seventh or eighth century B.C. I am informed that quite recently certain excavations made by one of the religious societies, in a vineyard on the Aventine hill, in Rome, have brought to light well-preserved portions of the ramparts attributed to the regal

period of Roman history, composed of excellent masonry, and a perfectly well-constructed semicircular arch has been exposed to view. The antiquaries of Rome regard with confidence this arch as the work of S. Tullius, 578 B.C. The Cloaca Maxima, whose arched entrance into the Tiber is familiar to most who have visited Rome, is by common consent pointed to as the work of Ancus Martius, 640 B.C.; and this is a semicircular arch turned with excellently cut stone voussoirs. It is, therefore, impossible to deny the extreme antiquity of the arch, but what we may feel justified in saying, is, that it is an invention of slow growth; *i. e.* one of which the advantages and wide application were not at once and generally appreciated, nor were the æsthetic and constructive merits of the form marked by any very early recognition. That the Greeks did not use the arch is a pretty generally admitted fact; the absence of any indication of it in any remains of pure Greek work, is sufficiently strong negative evidence; and the stratagems that we find the builders of that period resorting to in order to overcome difficulties which the arch at once effectually overcomes afford strong collateral proof. I would call attention, for instance, to the construction of masonry over an opening at one end of the Temple of Concord at Agrigentum, in Sicily. The courses sail over on either side of the opening, with a view to diminish the bearing of its straight, flat lintel, whilst the ordinary relieving-arch would have answered the purpose so much more effectually.

However, it is certain that, whatever may have been the cause, whether ignorance or the force of habit, for a very long time indeed the value of the arch was not duly appreciated. Nor, perhaps, have we any right to taunt the builders of antiquity with the slowness of their apprehension. Even in our own age of science and civilization, and with all our modern means of interchange of knowledge, a hundred years or more passed between the first discovery of the mechanical power of steam and the full recognition of its utility.

We may regard it, I think, as pretty well agreed, that architecture had not appropriated the arch as one of her important features until two or three hundred years before the Christian era. We find it in familiar use during the existence of the Roman republic; and, when once generally adopted, one of the most complete revolutions in the whole history of our art was effected. The whole character of Roman architecture under the Emperors seems influenced by the arch. The great works of the Pantheon, the Colosseum, and indeed nearly all the great monuments of that age owe much of their character to this system of construction. It is probable that not æsthetic considerations alone, but motives of a practical nature, may have had much influence in favouring the use of the arch. The transport of large, heavy blocks must have at all times taxed the mechanical ingenuity as well as the pecuniary resources of builders. Even at the present day the cost of a stone increases with its size in a compound ratio; how much more so must this have been the case in the early times of which we are treating, when roads and canals scarcely existed? We may then well understand that a system of construction which not only admitted of, but which almost demanded, the use of stones of moderate size, was peculiarly welcome to the builder, and invited his adoption. How rejoiced, too, must have been the architect, to resort to a mode of construction by which not only cost, but time, was saved, and his boldest designs, his grandest ideas, might be realised in the least possible time. He had no longer to drag, perhaps from a remote distance, his cumbrous blocks of many tons weight, over a trackless country, and then to rear them, tediously and expensively, by the agency of a multitude of labourers. The nearest quarry would now probably be such as to furnish him with stones quite large enough wherewith to turn his arches, however gigantic their span.

Nor was he any longer compelled to select exclusively

the hardest and strongest stones for his building: the pressure of weight upon the wedge-shaped voussoirs of an arch is to be measured by the crushing power of that weight, whereas the effect of the same weight bearing perpendicularly on a horizontal beam of stone would be much more effectual in fracturing and destroying it.

We see, too, how speedily the Roman builders found that an arch specially favoured the use of bricks. The more ancient types of temple architecture seem almost necessarily to exclude, in great measure, the use of bricks: whereas an arcuated construction was carried out in every way more advantageously with bricks than with stones.

We may consider, therefore, that it is to the ready applicability of bricks to arch building, that we owe the existence of the stupendous Colosseum, the Temple of Peace, and others of Rome's proudest monuments.

I may here remark the fact that all the great distinctions of style in our art are traceable, not so much to the genius of the designers as to the circumstances of the time and the place.

How differently would the Egyptians have built had they not had granite and stone quarries available! How different an expression would have distinguished Greek art had Greece been an alluvial country affording bricks only instead of stone and marble! How differently would the Romans have built had they been acquainted with the economic uses of wrought and cast iron!

Were I disposed to encourage the search after a new style (a search which I am very far indeed from encouraging you to prosecute), I would say to you, seek it in the application of some material, or in the invention of some new system of construction; for truly it is in our own art as it is in the fabric of the human body; the general aspect of every animal depends for its varieties of form far more on the structure of the skeleton than on the superficial integuments with which its exterior is clothed.

I revert now to the state of our art, when the arch had acquired that influence which it never afterwards ceased to exercise.

I suppose that we may regard the Tabularium, on the Capitoline Hill, as the earliest, well authenticated, example of a regular arcade. An inscription exists to this day which tells us that it was built by Q. Luctatius Catulus, who was consul, A.U.C. 676, a hundred years therefore before our era.

After this date examples become much more frequent. I believe I am justified in saying that the earliest surviving example of the superposition of one arcade upon another is the Theatre of Marcellus, built by Augustus. There was but a step between this system of construction and that which was perfected in that stupendous pile, the Colosseum.

I have, in a lecture which I had the honour to deliver last year, pointed out the deep and durable effect on architectural design that must have been produced on all subsequent time by that marvel of art. When we remember that this building was the great centre of attraction in the pleasure-loving capital of the world; the eager resort of a countless population, whose cry was ever "*Panem et circenses!*" such a building would almost necessarily be the object, first, of admiration, and then of imitation. Hence we find the arcaded corridors of the Colosseum repeated in various parts of the wide spread Roman empire, thus exercising a powerful influence on the architecture of the whole civilised world. The accomplished artists of Rome were not slow to perceive that, besides the opportunities for rich ornamentation which this union of the arched and columnar principle afforded, and the pleasing variety of effect obtained by this combination of straight and curved forms, there were practical benefits resulting from it; the far wider span that could be given to the arches than it would be possible to give to an intercolumniation, was an important advantage in a great public building resorted to by the teeming

opulation of Rome; whilst the three-quarter columns, bonded in as they were, so as to form an integral part of the piers of the arcade, became a source of great additional stability to the structure, acting in truth, exactly as the buttresses in mediæval work.

It would be out of place here to dwell upon the magnificent masonry of this wonderful building; but I would remark that the Roman builders, however deficient they may have been in the higher efforts of genius, were certainly most remarkable for uniting a strong artistic feeling with a knowledge of construction that might well put to shame the puny efforts of modern masons, whose ingenuity generally exhausts itself on ignoble endeavours to pare down their work to the minimum of substance, and to ascertain what is the greatest tenuity that may be given to their walls so that they may just stand, and no more. Certainly had such penurious calculations influenced the great masters of Roman art, we should not now, at the end of eighteen centuries, be contemplating the gigantic remains that still survive to surprise and instruct us.

It was said by one of the most eminent engineers of the last century, Mr. Mylne, that he derived more practical benefit from the careful study of the masonry of ancient Rome than from any other professional object of his attention on the Continent. With reference, however, to the combination of arches and columns, I am not prepared altogether to defend the union of these two modes of support, on the ground of any great propriety there may be in that union. The arches or the columns ought, perhaps, each to suffice for the purpose of carrying the superincumbent weight, without the aid of the other. In the case, for example, of the triumphal arch of Severus, at Rome, and the numerous similar structures to which the patriotism of the Romans and their love of military glory gave birth, the coupled pillars on either side of the arch seem superadded for no purpose whatever beyond mere embellishment. Critics may differ as to whether that is a sufficient justification. It is a wide question how far an architect is to be permitted to avail himself of forms of no real utility for the sake of their aesthetic merits. I have already, on a former occasion, sufficiently discussed that question; and the result which I—perhaps I may say we—came to was, that pure and excellent as is the principle that utility should be at the foundation of all architectural design, a too literal acceptance of that principle would lead to the abandonment of much of that pleasure which we derive from the contemplation of abstract beauty; it would deprive the pinnacle of its crockets and the frieze of its foliage. Such considerations incline me to justify the ancient artists in that pleasing combination of arches and columns, which became afterwards so rich a source of beauty, when the cinque-centists came to found, on the antique type, their own essentially new style.

The arch having now become the form most favoured by Roman architects, we find it entering into the construction of all their most important works, both public and private. An arcaded cloister forms the most marked feature in the beautiful building at Tivoli, known as Mæcena's villa, but attributed by some antiquaries to a date somewhat later than the lifetime of that patron of art. Arches also form the essential feature of the Temple of Peace, the magnitude of which arches may be understood by considering that the span of each arch or vault is about the width of Regent-street, and is in height up to the crown of the vault something more than the height of the York column.

We have not time, were it expedient, to follow the history of this form through the period of the decadence; the palaces of Caracalla and Diocletian present many magnificent examples of it, and a peculiar character is given to the early Christian basilicas by its almost constant use. An arcade completely surrounded the multi-angular tomb of Theodoric. The architecture, indeed, of the Bassi Tempi is especially characterised by these

arcades, though reduced, it is true, to very insignificant dimensions. The façades of perhaps all the churches of that period were usually covered with them; and it is curious to observe how direct the descent is from these arcaded Romanesque façades down to the west fronts of our Chichester and Litchfield cathedrals. All art is generative. We begin by simply repeating what we have seen and learnt to admire and revere; but the active mind of man is not content to stop there—it goes on to vary, and modify, and amplify. New ideas will supervene, new resources of art arise; thus great changes are made and wide departures suggest themselves, till the original type remains uneffaced, and the parent idea—the arcade, the dome, the spire—is handed down in a numerous and diversified progeny.

Hastening now on to the early renaissance, I do not call to mind any surviving building of that date wherein columns, if introduced at all, do not play a very subordinate part as compared with arches. It is true that Alberti, writing about the middle of the fifteenth century, does lay down some not very definite rules for the Orders, such as he found taught by Vitruvius, whose treatise, although then but little studied, was beginning to receive that attention which was afterwards even too lavishly bestowed upon it. Nevertheless, it is very certain that the early masters of the revival sought for architectural effect, not from stately colonnades, but from variety of outline in their masses produced by the infinite diversity of graceful forms afforded by the arch.

If you examine the pictures and frescoes of that early period to which I advert, you will find the painters perpetually revelling in the graces of the arch. Arcades of infinite variety and originality occur in the works of P. Perugino, Alberti, Albert Durer, and others.

But the architecture of painters is a subject too pregnant and important to be treated on incidentally or slightly; and I shall, therefore, reserve that subject for a future occasion.

I have now detained you at perhaps more than sufficient length on the historical view of my subject; but all history, remember, is a treasury of useful lessons. The politician is ill prepared for his task of advising how a country is to be ruled if he be not thoroughly well informed how, under various circumstances and at former periods, other countries have been ruled, and with what results; and so the young architect will find himself unequal to cope with the difficulties, or to win in the contests which await him in his future professional career, unless he shall have learnt how his predecessors have contended with and overcome like difficulties. Reynolds goes so far as to predict that, "when the great masters of past times shall cease to be studied, the arts will no longer flourish, and we shall again relapse into barbarism."

It is an undoubted truth that the artist, whatever may be the branch of art he would cultivate, must take these retrospective, general views, if he desires to be well informed in his art. A man who is in search of the right path must needs scan well the country around him, far and wide, in order to find it.

My special purpose on this occasion is, as I have told you, to confine your attention to the subject of the arcade. I trust I may say, honestly and without risking the charge of conceit, that I feel somewhat of kin to enthusiasm on this subject. In the earlier days of my studies, when I first viewed the noble works which time has spared us on the Continent, nothing attracted a more eager attention, nothing impressed me more deeply, than the beauty of those arcades which, in endless variety, offer themselves to our admiration in that land of art, Italy. It is far from my purpose, or wish, to depreciate the beauty of columnar architecture: the cortile of St. Peter's and the façade of the Louvre are evidence of the noble effects attainable by a simple colonnade: yet it cannot, I think, be denied that the arcade has in many respect an advantage over the colonnade: there is more

variety of outline in the former; a broader chiar'scuro; perhaps a greater scope for ornamentation; for whilst both alike may present cornices, friezes, and shafts, upon which ornament may be lavished to any extent, the arcade alone affords a peculiarly favourable field for the ornamentist in its springing stones, keystones, archivolts, and spandrels. But besides these purely æsthetic considerations, there is another point of view in which the arcade may be looked upon with favour. It is obvious that the arcade, and the vault, offer a system of construction which leaves the space they occupy freer, and more unencumbered than any other, not only because the use of the arch permits the points of support to be wider apart, but also because, as I think may be easily shown, the points of support themselves may, *cæteris paribus*, be made, in respect to their area, or horizontal section, smaller in the case of an arcade than in that of a colonnade. The reason is this: when the whole height of the aperture, or series of apertures, in a wall is given, the length of the shafts which support an arcade will necessarily be less than their length when they are charged with a horizontal entablature, by the radius of the arches supported.

The stability of a pillar or shaft, or of any upright support, is, in the language of mathematics, directly as their diameter, or horizontal section, and inversely as their height or length. Therefore, in order to support any given pressure, whether it be that of an arch or of a horizontal entablature, the less the height, the less may be the area of the section of the pillars.

This is no scientific delusion, but an exact, certain, mathematical truth, a truth which may be recognised in the general adoption of the arch, whenever circumstances render it expedient to occupy as little space as possible by the supports. Thus it led to the substitution of arches instead of columns in the Christian Basilicas, for the internal supports of their roofs; and the recognition of this truth no doubt led to the ultimately universal adoption of arches instead of columns for the interior supports of mediæval churches. It is true that the wider the arch, the larger must be the section of the piers which carry it; but then the diminished length (or height) of the piers compensate for this, and the result is that an equal burthen is borne by less bulky supports when arches are used instead of columns. I fear that in this disquisition about the size of piers I may have been led away into details somewhat too technical; forgetful that within these walls we are limited to the consideration of architecture as a fine art; but unfortunately, in architecture, science and art are so intimately blended, or rather so indissolubly connected, that it is sometimes apparently impossible to skim over the surface of one without dipping our wings slightly into the other.

One of the most beautiful applications of the arcade is in cloisters of the middle ages; originating, I presume, in the impluvium, or perhaps, in the crypto-porticus of the Roman villa. The cloistered court became, in very early Christian times, appropriated as the atrium or fore-court of the Basilica, an interesting example of which survives at the Basilica of S. Ambrogio, in Milan. This cloistered court, so well adapted to the solitary and contemplative habits of monastic life, soon became an essential feature in every monastery, and we find even that two such secluded courts were not unusual. At first, probably, mere sheds of wooden construction, they ultimately became objects on which the builders of old loved to display all their power. Even as early as the tenth century, a portion of a cloister which exists at Puy de Nélay, in France shows much elaborate masonry. The Campo Santo of Pisa is a highly interesting and very well preserved example of an arcuated cloister of the thirteenth century, which, although now open, appears formerly to have been glazed, no doubt with a view to protect the frescoes and monuments with which the interior was so richly decorated.

This glazing was a luxury unknown in earlier cloisters,

and seems to have been a natural consequence of the growth of tracery.

I must not, however, dwell on this subject of cloisters; the examples are too numerous to render it expedient for me to present them to your notice here. Yet they well deserve your careful study, as being one among the most beautiful of the applications of this principle of construction.

In civil architecture, the builders of the Middle Ages were not slow to avail themselves of the arcade. The front of the doge's palace towards the piazzetta, Venice, presents an example of singular beauty; and suggested, probably, those smaller glazed arcades which became one of the favourite modes of enriching the façades of the palazzi in that city during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. To the former century is due, also, the noble arcade so well known as the Loggia dei Lanzi, in the principal piazza in Florence. This most original work marks an epoch in the history of our art; for we recognise in it the commencement of the change which took place so early in Italy, and which heralded the return to the ancient types. Michelangelo is reported by Vasari to have so enthusiastically admired this work by Andrea Orgagna that, when a general improvement of the piazza in which it stands was contemplated, he declared that the most perfect mode of ornamenting it that he could devise would be to continue this noble arcade around all the four sides of the square; and I think there can be no doubt that, had Michelangelo's conception been realised, one of the most magnificent architectural scenes in the world would have been the result. Some idea of the grandeur of this arcade may be formed by picturing to the mind an arcade considerably higher than Somerset House, consisting of a single range of arches, forty-five feet high, from the pavement to the crown of the arch.

The Campo Santos at Ferrara, Bologna, and Milan, are examples of arcades very remarkable for their extent; and, in the case of the latter example, especially worthy of study as an evidence of the applicability of terra-cotta to the purposes of architectural ornamentation. It is in the style of the earliest Renaissance, and overladen with a superabundance of the most intricate decoration, executed wholly in brickwork, and designed in a quaint and original, but very effective manner.

Those only who have endeavoured to execute buildings with bricks of moulded terra-cotta can fully appreciate the masterly dexterity with which this most elaborate piece of work is carried out; a dexterity which is immeasurably beyond even the remotest conception of a London bricklayer.

When the practical difficulty of moulding and casting in mere brick earth minute enrichments with the sharpness and force we here see,—the difficulty, too, of building up and bonding together this multitude of details so closely and solidly that at the end of four hundred years the work should still stand in excellent preservation—with these facts before us, we are constrained to admit that our artisans have a very great deal to learn before they can come up to the level of their ancestors.

The other two cemeteries I have named are also noble arcaded areas, offering valuable suggestions for similar structures in this country; inasmuch as these covered avenues, while they afford a well-protected walk, offer most favourable positions for sculpture and for inscribed memorials.

A uniform, symmetrical arrangement of this nature would surely be better than the chaotic confusion of heterogeneous monuments which our open cemeteries usually present.

(To be continued.)

GLASGOW.—Some brethren being dissatisfied with the appointment have got up an agitation, and meantime Sir A. Alison has suspended Bro. Houston's commission. Any one reading our notice of last week, will understand the nature and cause of the to the opposition Bro. Houston.



## MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

## ILLUSTRIOUS BROTHERS.

An old non-Masonic print says,—“Wellington and Nelson were of our fraternity, and so were Sir John Moore and the first Napoleon.” Where was Sir John Moore made?—V. M.

## REASONS FOR BEING A MASON.

I have often been asked why I am a Mason? No doubt the same question is addressed to many brethren, but it may be of use to the younger ones if I tell them how I answer it. I find in all the authors of Masonic writings that they agree that our institution is a good one. It prepares the mind, by a course of strict discipline, and by storing it with the most useful science, to vigorously prosecute those schemes which have for their object the promotion of its best interests and the increase of the general stock of social enjoyment. By an intercourse with society the faculties of the mind become expanded, the understanding improved, and the taste and judgment refined.

## THE ALLEGORY OF THE CUBE.

Will you give me some insight into the Masonic allegory of the cube?—JUSTICE.—[Take the following from an old charge. It does appertain to all degrees, but does not go so far as some do in its esoteric sense.

“The square and cube are both important and significant symbols. As an emblem of rectitude of conduct in all the duties and requirements of life, as typical of moral worth, stands the square; while, in combination with solidity or the cube, it is further typical of that firmness of purpose and immovable [determination in well doing which belongs to the upright, perfect man. Nor was this symbolic interpretation confined to the Masonic Order alone. The poetic and imaginative Greeks equally adopted it. With them, as with us, religion was truth. The cube was its perfect emblem; and hence Hermes or Mercury, their divine embodiment of this profound principle, was always represented as a cube. Indeed, in their more primitive days, all their gods were represented thus, and Aristotle has said that “he who valiantly sustains the shocks of adverse fortune, demeaning himself uprightly, is truly good and of a square posture, without reproach; and he who would assume a square posture should often subject himself to the perfectly square tests of justice and integrity.” But, as I have already said, there is equally a symbolism in the placing of this ‘corner-stone’ in the north-east angle of the building. As the sun, which, rising from the East, sheds its golden rays over the darksome earth, thus awakening to material life and light the night clad nature of this nether world—ever onward, Westward—so, in the rich imagery of Orientalism, typical of intellectual advancement, is that point of the compass justly looked upon as the cradle whence sprung religion, art, science, and civilisation. And thus, mindful of the world debt which we owe, one of the perfect faces of this ‘square’ looks to the source of all those rich inheritances through which man’s nature has been taught to know and bless the gifts of God. But the other of these outward faces looks to the North—the region least touched by the meridian ray—and thus typically considered the place of intellectual and moral darkness, fit juxtaposition; for, as light, with her truth-revealing beams, dispels the huge phantasma of uncertain night, so is it ever the work of religion, wisdom, and civilisation to shed their mild yet strong and vivifying rays over the blighting influences of ignorance and superstition. And so, beyond the general aptness of this allegorical instruction, the neophyte of our Order may justly find in this stone, and in its position, a lesson of wisdom and of worth. Placed within the bright circle of these intellectual influences, yet in close contact with the outer world, he may not hold himself aloof from those less fortunate than himself; but, on the contrary, should find a wide field upon which to exercise the virtues of temperance, fortitude, prudence, and justice. The sublime truths which have dispelled the boreal darkness of his own soul, tell him as well that upon that heart-stone within him, squared to justice, fair dealing and honourable purposes, cubed to the beauty of that solid worth which wisdom gives him in her lessons of self-discipline and charitable forbearance, plumed to the upright action, and polished to all

the amenities of life, he is to build that self-temple wherein shall be enshrined, as in the temple of old, the *shekinah* of ineffable effulgence.”]

## BRO. DR. ANDERSON’S DEFENCE OF MASONRY.

In Bro. Dr. Oliver’s *Revelations of a Square*, is the annexed sentence:—

“Dr Anderson wrote his celebrated Defence of Masonry, in which he treated the work of Pritchard with great consideration. He took his stand on high ground—gave his adversary every fair and reasonable advantage, by assuming that if all he had advanced were correct, still Masonry would be an admirable institution, and answered his book *seriatim* like a gentleman and a scholar. When the *Defence* came out, and the subject was canvassed in the lodge, some thought he had conducted the dispute with greater mildness than the fellow deserved; but Bro. Anderson contended—and truly, as I thought at the time—that ‘it would be giving our opponents too serious an advantage to treat their productions, how absurd soever they might be, either with flippancy or severity.’”

Where can the defence be obtained?—BOOKWORM.

## FREEMASONS’ HALL.

Will there be any objection to my proposing to clear the entire property in Great Queen Street, in a plan I intend sending in for the new buildings?—AN ARCHITECT. [None in the least, but take our advice, don’t do any such thing. Freemasons’ Hall is looked upon with great pride by a very large portion of the Craft, and woe be to the unlucky wight who would presume to make a clean sweep of it.]

## THE PRINCE OF WALES GRAND MASTER.

If the Prince of Wales is initiated, will he not be made Grand Master?—FOX. [We can’t tell. Remember the saying of that sly old fox, Louis Philippe, “the pear’s not ripe.”]

## ORIGIN OF THE STRONG-MAN LODGE.

In the work before alluded to, Bro. Dr. Oliver’s *Revelations of a Square*, is an anecdote, not very well known, declaring how the Strong-man Lodge came by its name. Writing of Dr. Desaguliers, he tells us:—

“The career of this worthy brother was marked by many essential benefits to Masonry. He established several new lodges, and based them on such sound principles that one of them at least is in existence at this very day. The Strong-man Lodge was numbered 68 in the lists of 1738, 1764, and 1767, and was established according to the former authorities, 2nd of February, 1733, and by the latter, February 17th, 1734. Its origin is somewhat extraordinary, and worth hearing. About the year 1730, or it might be a year or two later, the attention of Bro. Desaguliers was attracted by reports of the great strength and muscular power of a man named Thomas Topham, who kept the Red Lion public-house, nearly opposite the old hospital of St. Luke, and was called, by way of eminence, the Strong-man. It appears that he settled down in this locality, from its vicinity to the famous ring in Moorfields, where athletic exercises were performed,—such as boxing, wrestling, sword-play; and cudgelling, under the superintendence of Old Vinegar, whom I remember well. As was his name so was his nature. A most truculent-looking fellow, with a flat nose, swelled cheeks, low forehead, broad across the back, shoulder-of-mutton fists, and the strength of a giant; and yet Topham found no difficulty in lowering his pride; and he overthrew him in the ring as if he had been made of cork, amidst the shouts and hallos of the fancy, and to the supreme delight of those whom the potency of Old Vinegar had hitherto forced to succumb. The first public feat which Bro. Desaguliers saw Topham perform for the purpose of actually testing his strength was this. A powerful cart-horse was harnessed and placed on one side of the low wall which then divided the upper from the lower Moorfields, and Topham on the other. Taking hold of the end of the traces, the fellow planted his feet firmly against the wall, and told the spectators to flog the horse, which they did, without producing any effect; for the biped proved to be the most powerful animal of the two. He afterwards pulled against a pair of horses; and Dr. Desaguliers was firmly persuaded that ‘if placed in a proper position, he would have sustained the efforts of four horses, without the least inconvenience.’ ‘I have witnessed several

other instances of his personal strength,' continued the Square, 'but the repetition of them will not be interesting to you.' Poor Topham! With all his strength he was as meek as a lamb, and a perfect slave at home, for his termagant helpmate led him a very unquiet life; and, in the end, ruined him, and forced him from his dwelling. It was at this point of time that Dr. Desaguliers became his friend and patron; for, as a professor of experimental philosophy, he took great interest in his performances. He placed him in another public-house at the Hermitage, with the sign of the Ship; and, after making him a Mason, established a lodge at his house, as a means of increasing his business by the introduction of his friends. And, I must say, the lodge was well conducted, with Bro. Desaguliers at its head as the Master; and increased rapidly in numbers and respectability. Its cognizance was the redoubtable Thomas Topham matching his strength against that of a horse, with his feet propped by the fragment of a wall; and its name, the Strong-man Lodge. Topham, however, unfortunately took to drinking, and the business fell into other hands; but the lodge prospered, and was considered a crack establishment when the poor fellow and his patron were no more.—BOOKWORM.

#### MONSTER MASONIC MEETING.

The centenary of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was celebrated on the 24th June, 1862. A procession was formed of 54 Masonic bodies, composed of 2500 brethren, with 8 bands of music; it was upwards of a mile in length. In the banquetting pavilion, 3000 plates were laid. One thousand pounds of boned turkeys was an insignificant item in the bill of fare.

#### TEMPLAR OPERATIVE CONSTITUTIONS

Are there any known Templar documents, or rules, for the governance of the Operative Masons. The existing Constitutions are those of the Gothic builders, which style is supposed to have been introduced by the Crusaders.—A.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

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

#### THE ANTIQUITY OF MASONIC DEGREES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I should not have ventured again to trespass on your limited space, had it not been for "Delta's" letter in the MAGAZINE of to-day.

My answer to it is partly anticipated by your "Notice to Correspondents," where, as "Delta" will see, you kindly correct the errata in last number, by substituting "sever" for "sneer," which was a misprint.

I hope that long before even "Delta" reads these words of mine, he will have dismissed from his mind any idea of personality.

I can, I think, safely say that my motto has been defence, not defiance, in everything that I have ventured to advance; and I may fairly claim for these, my lucubrations, whether sound or unsound, the unchanging interest and painstaking study of over 20 years as a Mason.

Feeling that some of "Delta's" remarks and allusions concerning myself may be the result of a misconception, caused by an accidental misprint in my last, I pass them by to-day, though I might justly take serious exception to them, especially to one most unmasonic expression—*gulled*. I am, however, most anxious that our so far friendly controversy should remain clear of anything like personal rejoinder, and therefore think it better to leave the matter where it stands. "Delta" asks, however, one question which requires a reply.

"What then becomes," he enquires, "of Ebor's boasted agreement between operative and accepted Masonry?" This query is based on a statement of Preston's, that Sir Christopher Wren was elected Grand Master in 1684 of the Operative Grand Assembly on the death of the Earl of Arlington.

"Now, we all know," adds "Delta," "that Sir Christopher Wren was not made an Accepted Mason till 1691."

As "Delta" would seemingly put it, Sir Christopher Wren, according to Preston, was elected Grand Master of the Operative Grand Assembly in 1684; but we have an account of his admission at St. Paul's, in 1691, into the fraternity of adopted Masons, *ergo* operative and speculative Masonry are not the same, but distinct and separate altogether.

Now, to say nothing of the *non sequitur* of such an argument, can the facts "Delta" adduces be relied on to prove this supposed decision and contradiction?

The author of *Mulla Paucès* states that Lord Arlington was Grand Master in 1684, and that Sir Christopher Wren was elected Grand Master in 1685, so that great authorities differ even as to this fact. No doubt the author of *Mulla Paucès* mentions Wren before 1691—indeed, so far back as 1661.

I agree with "Delta" that we have from Aubrey, as quoted by Bro. Halliwell, the real account of Sir Christopher Wren's admission into the accepted brotherhood in 1691. But what I contend for is, that this accepted brotherhood in 1691 was but the same with the operative brotherhood in 1684.

The very words which Aubrey uses—the terms he employs, the place of admission, the names of the co-initiates—all combine to show that we have here the only account on which we can safely rely.

However it may interfere with other statements, however antagonise received dates, I feel convinced myself that Aubrey gives us the true chronology of Sir Christopher Wren's admission to the secrets and mysteries of Freemasonry.

The history of those times is still so confused, our own Masonic annals are so scanty, and, I must add, so unsatisfactory, that little reliance can be placed on the conflicting tradition of our own historians. Aubrey's statement ignores, I quite admit, any previous connection of Sir Christopher Wren with the Craft—ignores, too, the claim of his assumed Grand Mastership, whether in 1684 or 1655, unless one is prepared to adopt "Delta's" hypothesis of the distinct existence then of operative and speculative Masonry.

But yet Aubrey's account seems so straightforward and matter of fact, that unless we could suppose him to be altogether incorrect in his dates, we cannot remove the force of his contemporary witness.

But, in saying this, I by no means acquiesce in "Delta's" favourite assertion, that operative and speculative Masonry was, even in 1691, altogether distinct. I may observe that neither Preston nor the author of *Mulla Paucès*, whether their chronology be correct or not, have the slightest doubt that the Grand Lodge of 1717 was the legitimate successor of the Operative Assembly in 1684. All that "Delta" does establish is what I have also sought to establish, that our historical dates and chronology require a careful revision—but revision is not disavowal—amendment is not destruction. "Delta," on the contrary, would ruthlessly sweep away all our Craft traditions previous to 1717, and make Masonry then the revival of an adult Order preserved mysteriously in the bosom of a Templar or Rose Croix Chapter. Here we end, as we began, as far as the poles asunder.

There is no historical difficulty in supposing that Sir Christopher Wren was not admitted to our Order till 1691,—as he did not die till 1723—and St. Paul's was not completed till 1710, though "nearly completed" in 1691.

If the speculative and operative lodges were so distinct in 1691, as "Delta" will have it, why should Sir Christopher Wren go to St. Paul's—the great gathering place of Operative Masons—to be made a Speculative Mason?

Yours fraternally,

February 28th, 1863.

EBOR.

## THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In looking over the last edition of the list of governors and subscribers to the Boys' School, and reading the list of the Stewards for the festival on the 11th March, I have been struck by one or two singular and, as I think, injudicious departures from the usual practice.

1. I observe the name of a lady inserted at the end of the list of Vice-Presidents. I venture to ask you, Sir, by whose authority this is done? Who is the lady who figures between the Vice-Presidents and the Stewards, and who is the parenthetical Captain Lamb accompanying her?

If he is a Mason and a Steward there can be no necessity for the appearance of the lady's name, if he is not a Mason and a Steward his name has no right to be in the list.

2. The mode of dividing the Stewards into counties is not only objectionable, but unjust, especially in the list of governors and subscribers. I can point out (within my own knowledge) the names of several life governors, &c., who are members of London lodges only, who served their Stewardships, gave their money, and are still giving it as members of such London lodges, and yet who are placed in the list as provincial brethren, though they have never been members of any lodge in the province and have no connexion with it further than their temporary residence there: the credit of subscribers is thus unjustly taken from London and given to the provinces.

I think that the division I refer to is further objectionable because it cannot be expected that the same province can always send a large number of Stewards—West Yorkshire has the pull now, and I congratulate them on the noble exhibition they make, but I cannot forget the brethren of Warwickshire, and of other counties; and I do not think that because their services are past, as those of West Yorkshire will be before long, that either should be put in the background.

3. Usually sir the Secretary's name comes last, in the present list I observe that he takes precedence of the Board of Stewards. There is a good old practice of keeping to Masonic precedence according to the rank of individuals and the numbers of their lodges, and I have a strong feeling that it is desirable to adhere to it.

We have had enough of "doing too little" pray warn our worthy, but somewhat over zealous officials, that there is another extreme.

Yours fraternally,

A LIFE GOVERNOR OF BOTH CHARITIES.

London, March 20th, 1863.

[The fact of subscribers from London lodges being classified under the various provincial heads has not escaped our notice.]

## THE BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASON'S MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Will you, by publishing this letter, give me the opportunity of thanking most sincerely those members of Grand Lodge who last night not only proffered me their assistance, but even thrust their money upon me, in aid of the poor lady whose case I brought under the notice of Grand Lodge.

Upon reflection, I feel that it would be unjust to those who give so liberally to tax the charity of individual brethren, and make up from their own pockets a relief which the merits of the petition are entitled to demand almost as a right from the public body.

I will return all amounts received to their respective donors in the course of to-day. The poor afflicted brother and his high-minded wife shall not suffer; with the grant of £25 from my own lodge (already paid), added to the grant of £50 made last night, she will be able

(although her expenses are very heavy, owing to the extra attendance required by her husband) to ride over her difficulties for some months.

Although I am debarred from making a fresh application to the Lodge of Benevolence for twelve months, there yet remains, if it appears advisable, a direct appeal to Grand Lodge—an appeal which I am certain would be cordially responded to; but even should it fail, I shall not hesitate again to bring the subject under the notice of those brethren who have so kindly and so nobly volunteered their assistance now, and to whom I most sincerely and respectfully repeat my thanks.

— I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,

March 5, 1863.

JOHN HAVERS, J.G.W.

## NEW MASONIC HALL FOR MANCHESTER.

It has long been a subject of remark that the city of Manchester, which forms so important a portion of the Masonic province of East Lancashire, and includes among its inhabitants so many members of the craft, has not a central place where the numerous lodges, chapters, and encampments can assemble, a privilege which is enjoyed by many towns of smaller size and less considerable importance. To supply this want it has been determined to erect a Masonic Hall, which shall be of sufficient dimensions to answer all the requirements of the Craft, and at the same time take a creditable position among the public buildings of the City. A central and commodious site has been secured for the purpose in Cooper-street. The shops for 59 feet from the corner of Bond-street, excepting that of Messrs. Palmer and Howe, are to be pulled down, and the ground cleared to Back Mosley-street. From designs furnished by four architects, all brethren of the Order, those of Bro. William Mangnall Lodge Integrity 189 has been selected. According to these plans the principal elevation to Cooper-street will be 59 feet in length and 5 storeys in height, including the basement. The main entrance will be deeply recessed and flanked by a pair of Doric columns: the first floor will have columns of the Ionic order and the upper portion, which is more especially to be consecrated to Masonic purposes, will be ornamented with handsome columns of the Corinthian order. There will be an attic surmounted by a pediment, in the tympanum of which will be placed the arms of the Grand Lodge of England, with their supports. Four niches in the principal front will be occupied by appropriate emblems of the four cardinal virtues—Justice, Fortitude, Temperance, and Prudence. Over the main entrance will be the motto—*Sit lux et lux fuit*. The cornices above each storey are to be of different designs, projected boldly and decidedly, the most ornate being on the second floor. The front is to be faced with Bath stone. There are to be three entrances, the centre and principal one being for the exclusive use of the Masonic body. It will lead into the handsome vestibule and hall, from which a staircase will conduct to the banqueting-room and offices, and by a further ascent to the spacious lodge-room. The banqueting-room will measure 56ft. by 29ft., and the lodge-room will be the same size. The latter will be 26ft. in height, with a semi-circular ceiling appropriately decorated. The entrance on the right of the centre will lead to a *restaurant* 52ft. by 58ft., with coffee-rooms attached. These rooms will be appropriated to the use of the public generally. The entrance on the left will give access to a part of the building which will be let off as a warehouse, and in two suites of offices. It is intended to proceed with the erection of the Hall as soon as the requisite notices to the tenants of the property expire. The undertaking is in the hands of a company, consisting of the prominent members of the Order in the East Lancashire district.—*Manchester uardian*. [We must add, that if the internal arrangements of the original plans are adhered to, it will be impossible properly to conduct that most beautiful of all ceremonies, the Rose Croix, and therefore call attention, that the defect may be rectified.]

## THE MASONIC MIRROR.

### MASONIC MEMS.

The brethren of the towns of Plymouth, Stonehouse, and Devonport, have obtained a dispensation to patronise the theatre at Plymouth in Masonic clothing, to benefit Bro. Newcombe, the lessee, who some four months since had the misfortune to have a large portion of his theatrical property burnt at the fire, which so nearly destroyed both theatre and the adjoining Royal Hotel. The benefit, we believe, is fixed for the 18th inst.

A Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire will take place at Huddersfield on the 8th of April, under the presidency of the R.W. Earl de Grey and Ripon, Prov. G.M.

Bro. Jabez Hogg, M.D., W.M. of No. 201, having kindly volunteered his services to the Boys' and Girls' Schools, has been appointed by the committee as Honorary Surgeon Oculist to the respective Institutions. We are sure that the brethren will duly estimate the kindness of Bro. Hogg in taking upon himself so important an appointment.

The brethren of Manchester are to celebrate the wedding of the Prince of Wales by a grand ball, on Wednesday next, the 11th inst., at which no gentlemen will be admitted excepting members of the Order.

We remind the brethren that the Boys' School Festival takes place on Wednesday next, when a bumper attendance is anticipated. Every lady and brother attending is invited to wear a wedding favour in compliment to the Prince of Wales and his bride.

### GRAND LODGE.

#### QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge was held in Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday last, the M.W.G.M. the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland presiding, supported by the Earl de Grey and Ripon, D.G.M.; Earl Dalhousie, P.D.G.M.; Bros. F. Dundas, M.P. as S.G.W.; J. Havers, J.G.W.; Rev. W. K. R. Bedford and Rev. John Huyshe, Grand Chaps.; S. Tomkins, G. Treas.; Aeneas J. McIntyre, G. Reg.; J. Ll. Evans, President of the Board of General Purposes; W. G. Clarke, G. Sec.; Capt. Creton and J. J. Blake, J.G.D.s; S. W. Dankes, G. Supt. of Works; A. W. Woods, G. Dir. of Cers.; N. S. Bradford, Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.; H. Empson, G.S.B.; W. Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec.; J. Stimson, G. Org.; D. R. Farmer, G. Purst.; T. G. Dickie, Assist. G. Purst.; G. Hugeman, representative of Grand Lodge of Switzerland; T. H. Hall, Prov. G.M. Cambridgeshire; A. Dobie, Prov. G.M. Surrey. There were also present the following P.G. Officers:—Bros. the Right Hon. Lord de Tabley, Lord Richard Grosvenor, and A. Perkins, P.G.W.s; Bros. Udall, Potter, Hopwood, Crombie, Hervey, Savage, Scott, Wilson, Lloyd, J. N. Tomkins, and Nelson, P.G.D.s; Bros. Le Veau, Hyde Pullen, Spiers, Bridges, P.G.S.B.s; Bros. Symonds, P. Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.; Smith and Adams, P.G. Pursts.; a large number of Grand Stewards, the W.M., P.M.s, and Wardens of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, and various other lodges.

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

The GRAND SECRETARY read the regulations for the government of Grand Lodge during the time of public business.

#### THE QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

The GRAND SECRETARY read the minutes of the quarterly communication of the 3rd of December, 1862. These minutes,

amongst other matters, referred to the grant of Grand Lodge of £1000 towards the relief of the suffering operatives in the North of England, upon which occasion Bro. Tomkins, the Grand Treasurer, most kindly undertook to pay the money at once, without waiting for the confirmation of the minutes three months' hence.

The GRAND MASTER put the question that the minutes of last Grand Lodge be confirmed, which was unanimously agreed to.

#### ELECTION OF GRAND MASTER.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. WOODFORD said, at the last Grand Lodge he had the privilege of nominating the Grand Master, and it was with great pleasure that he then rose to propose the re-election of the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland as Grand Master for the year ensuing. With regard to the past services of their Grand Master he would not dilate upon them, as he believed that from the principles he had enunciated every brother of the Craft was actuated by a feeling of respect towards him, for his wise, temperate, and judicious administration; and he need only refer to the fact that within the last few years their Order had so greatly progressed. He would not add a word in regard to his lordship to that which he had expressed on a former occasion, as he believed that it would now find an echo in the heart of every brother. (Cheers.) He felt sure that every brother present would share with him in the hope that the Great Architect of the Universe would continue to preserve the Order by cementing and adorning it with every moral and social virtue, and that with health and strength they might long hail his lordship as Grand Master of English Freemasons. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. BARNARD said it was with much pleasure he rose to second the proposition made by their Rev. Bro. Woodford. He well knew that at the nomination of the Earl of Zetland that every brother echoed the sentiments of Bro. Woodford, and all there desired to join in the sentiments he had just expressed. He felt pleasure in seconding the motion, believing that the election of their G.M. would be more for the advantage of the Craft, than the honour it would confer upon his lordship.

The M.W.D.G.M. then put the motion, which was carried unanimously, with great cheering.

The M.W.G.M. said: "Brethren, I assure you I feel that it is quite out of my power to express to you my feelings upon this occasion. Having been so often elected by you to the proud position of G.M., I can assure you that it is my constant desire to be of service to the Craft. I have now grown old in your service, but my zeal is increased by the years I have served you. (Cheers.) I have always had the fear that I have retained the office too long, so as to incapacitate me for the duties which it is my anxious desire to perform to your satisfaction; but I am encouraged by the kindly feeling shown towards me in every part of England, that I really entertain an idea that I am acceptable to the Craft, and that I perform my duties to your satisfaction. In growing old, I trust I shall have sense enough when I am unable to go through them, to lead me to relinquish into your hands those duties which it is now my greatest pleasure to perform." (Cheers.)

His Lordship was then proclaimed as G.M., and saluted in the usual manner.

#### ELECTION OF GRAND TREASURER.

Bro. HORTON SMITH rose to propose the re-election of Bro. Tomkins as G. Treas. for the year ensuing. He said the brethren knew how he had discharged his duties, and they had seen at the last Grand Lodge how he had come forward on the grant being made for the relief of the cotton districts, and consented at once to pay the grant, without waiting for the confirmation of the minutes.

Bro. RAYMOND STUART seconded the resolution.

The GRAND MASTER then put the motion that Bro. Samuel Tomkins be elected G. Treas. for the year, which was carried unanimously.

#### AUDITOR OF GRAND LODGE ACCOUNTS.

The GRAND MASTER said as Bro. Harding had so satisfactorily performed his duties, he should re-appoint him as Auditor of the Grand Lodge accounts for the ensuing year.

#### THE BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The report of the Board of Benevolence was presented, which stated what had been done during the last quarter, with recommendations for the following grants by Grand Lodge:

Bro. R. C. of the Lodge of Loyalty (No. 402), Mottram, Cheshire .....	£40
The widow of the late Bro. S. C. H., of the Royal Union Lodge (No. 307), Cheltenham .....	£30
Bro. W. L. of the Lodge of Light (No. 689), Bir- mingham .....	£105
Bro. the Rev. C. A. of the St. George and Corner Stone Lodge (No. 5), London .....	£50

The first three recommendations were agreed to without observation.

On the fourth recommendation being proposed for confirmation.

Bro. R. STUART wished to know upon what principle it was that the Board of Benevolence had made in this case, a recommendation for so small a sum.

Bro. BLAKE, J.G.D., rose to order. It was not competent for any brother to inquire the reason which induced the Board of Benevolence to make any particular recommendation.

Bro. STUART said—looking at this case he should move that the grant be doubled. Their unfortunate brother was now a maniac, but he was a Life Governor to all the Masonic Charities, Vice-President of the Boys' School, and a past Grand Steward. Such services he thought would be a sufficient recommendation that the proposed grant should be doubled, for during the short time he was a Mason, he had carried out the true principles of Masonry. He moved that the grant be £100.

The GRAND MASTER said he regretted that, as the question at present stood, it was not competent for their worthy brother to move a larger amount. He regretted that his proposition could not be entertained by Grand Lodge, as notice of the amendment ought to have been previously given to the Board of Masters.

Bro. UDALL wished to ask the Grand Master if it was competent for him to move that this subject be referred back to the Board of Benevolence to reconsider the question.

The GRAND MASTER replied that, of course, there could be no objection to that, but it would be for their brother to consider the time that must elapse, and that the £50 should be paid at once. If the matter was referred back to the Board of Benevolence, the grant of £50 must be postponed for three months.

Bro. STUART said, as this matter came on after the Board of Masters, it was impossible for any brother to give notice of an amendment.

Bro. J. SMITH, P.G.P., advised that the £50 should be taken on account, and then another application could be made.

Bro. HAVERS, J.G.W., said he knew more of this case than perhaps any brother then in the Hall, and he might say that Bro. A. was a member of his own lodge, No. 5, who had never recommended any brother to the Board of Benevolence for nearly half a century, but relieved them from their own benevolent fund. This case, however, being of so peculiar a nature, they felt that it was their duty to make an appeal to the general benevolence of the Craft. He knew Bro. A. when he came to London, then in the possession of an ample fortune. He was a man of learning, and subsequently entered the Church, all his life having borne a good character; but now he had, unfortunately, become a maniac. Bro. Havers then, at some length, described the facts he had detailed to the Board of Benevolence, in reference to the claims of their poor brother, adding that, although he had subscribed but for three years and three quarters, during that short time he had done more for the true principles of Freemasonry than many others had in a lifetime, and yet the result was the recommendation of a grant half the sum to that awarded to a brother who had, during the twenty-five years he was a member, never given a penny to their Charities in his life. He mentioned that not in disparagement to Bro. L., but to show the wrong done to their afflicted Bro. A. It was clear that the time was come when there must be a great change in the constitution of the Board of Benevolence, for, by the way in which four-fifths of the money was voted, it might as well be thrown into the gutter. The lodges to which Bro. A. had belonged had voted him £25, and £20 respectively, and it was now proposed to give him £50, which was hardly the interest of his own money.

Bro. BEDFORD, G. Chap., begged cordially to echo the sentiments of Bro. Havers, but bore testimony to the great value of the services of and in the province of which he was a member.

After some further discussion, the recommendation was agreed to, with an understanding that further steps would be taken in reference to the subject.

#### AUDIT COMMITTEE.

The report of the annual Audit Committee on the Grand Lodge accounts for the year 1862 was read by the Grand Secretary and received.

#### BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

The report of the Board of General Purposes was presented, and, on the motion of Bro. Llewellyn Evans, the President, it was taken as received.

The PRESIDENT of the BOARD of GENERAL PURPOSES said as the report contained no special matter for consideration, he should move that the report be received and entered on the minutes.

The GRAND MASTER put the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

To the Report was subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on the 13th February instant, showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £1567 16s. 3d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash £50. Of these sums there belongs to the Fund of Benevolence £343 7s. 5d.; to the Fund of General Purposes £708 0s. 8d.; and there is in the unappropriated account, £566 8s. 8d., a portion of which belongs to the Grand Chapter.

#### THE GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

The report of the Special Committee on the Grand Lodge property was presented.

Bro. HAVERS, J.G.W., said, as the report was in the hands of every member he should move that it be taken as read.

The motion was seconded by Bro. the Rev. J. Huyshe, and agreed to.

Bro. HAVERS said it then became his duty to move that the report be entered on the minutes; and in doing so, he would remind the brethren, that by receiving the report, and allowing it to be entered on the minutes, it bound them to nothing; and the only thing in it which could bind them was contained in the last paragraph which would be made the subject of a separate resolution. On the part of the committee he was ready to answer any question, but he trusted that no questions would be put which might prove prejudicial to the interests of the Institution.

Bro. MASON said the unanimity and wise decision of the committee, and the industry they had displayed in dealing with all matters committed to their charge, must give the Craft great satisfaction; and he had no doubt that the work would be carried out with success. He had great pleasure in seconding the resolution.

Some questions were put by Bro. Herbert Lloyd, in reference to various matters contained in the report, which were answered by Bro. Havers and the Grand Superintendent of Works; but the G.M. having suggested that the discussion should not be published as likely to prove detrimental, we of course abstain from publication.

The motion was then put and agreed to.

A resolution was then proposed by Bro. HAVERS, as suggested in the report.

The PRESIDENT of the BOARD of GENERAL PURPOSES seconded the motion.

The GRAND MASTER put the question, and it was carried unanimously.

There being no further business, Grand Lodge was closed in ample form and with solemn prayer, and adjourned at an early hour.

#### METROPOLITAN.

ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 1173).—This lodge held its installation meeting on Wednesday, February 25th, at the Royal Oak Tavern, High-street, Deptford (Bro. J. Steven's). The W.M., Bro. Dr. Scott, assisted by his officers, Wilton, Stahr, Weir, Stevens, Walters, and Mills, opened the lodge at three o'clock p.m. He then ably raised Bro. H. Finnin, to the sublime degree of a M.M.; Bro. F. Walters, Sec., W.M. 87, by request of the W.M., then took the chair, and in an efficient style passed Bros. C. A. Beesley and W. Jeffery, to the degree of F.C. Bro. Dr. Scott resumed the chair, and ascertaining the candidates for initiation were not present, he at once proceeded to the installation of Bro. G. Wilton, S.W. and W.M. elect, who was presented to him for that ceremony by Bro. F. Walters. Bro. Dr. Scott went through the ceremony of installation in such a superior manner, as to call forth the unanimous approbation of

every member of the Craft present, and to reflect the greatest credit on his teachers, Bros. S. B. Wilson and H. A. Collington. He was assisted by a large board of installed Masters, there being at least twelve P.M.s present. Bro. G. Wilton on being installed, in a suitable address, invested Bro. Dr. Scott as P.M. of the lodge. Of the many interesting and impressive ceremonies connected with our ancient mysteries and privileges, there is none more so than the installation of a W.M. In the first place the office of W.M. is the highest that a brother can aim at in his lodge, and it is also the greatest mark of approbation that a lodge can bestow upon any of its members, more especially when it is done by the unanimous vote of the lodge, as it was on this occasion. It is a post that implies a thorough knowledge of Masonry in all its details, for a brother rarely reaches the chair without passing through all the subordinate offices, so that he may well experience a feeling of exultation when he reaches the highest point, for which he has toiled for years, and every successive advance towards which has been marked by the increased approbation of the brethren. There is something singularly impressive in the installation address, in which the Master elect, while being duly informed of the powers intrusted to him for the ensuing twelve months, delegated to him by the lodge collectively for their good, is also informed of the vast responsibilities attached to the office that the correct and effective working of the lodge, its honour, credit, and general usefulness for the ensuing year, depend in a very large degree upon his energy and zeal. All this and more was most ably expatiated upon by Bro. Dr. Scott, who, after performing his duties, vacated the chair. Bro. G. Wilton on taking his chair thanked the brethren cordially for the honour conferred on him, and commenced his new duties by installing his various officers, appointing Bros. C. Stahr, S.W.; H. A. Collington, P.M., J.W.; J. Stevens, sen., re-invested Treas.; F. Walters, re-invested Sec.; J. H. Pembroke, S.D.; R. Mills, J.D.; G. S. Hodgson, I.G.; J. S. Blomeley, W.S.; and S. Garrett, P.M., Tyler. The next business was the unanimous vote of thanks of the lodge to Bro. Dr. Scott, P.M., and ordered to be entered on the minutes of the lodge books, testifying the great esteem and high estimation he is held in by the members of this lodge, likewise for his prudent care in husbanding the funds of the lodge by which means he was enabled to leave the lodge free from debt, although it has only been in existence eighteen months, and moreover, not forgetting a contribution to each of the Masonic charities, and a good donation to defray the funeral expenses of the late lamented Tyler, Bro. Crouch, P.M. This was the only means left to the lodge of testifying their respect for Bro. Dr. Scott, P.M., in consequence of his signifying his unwillingness to accept a P.M.'s jewel, which was intended to be presented to him by the voluntary subscription of the members of the lodge. The lodge may be congratulated on its present flourishing condition, and likewise the good fortune it has had in possessing two such worthy Masons as Dr. Dixon and Dr. Scott to fill the chair, and by their united efforts they have been able to achieve so much success. Bro. Andrew, Lodge of Justice (No. 173), was proposed as a joining member, subject to the ballot at the next lodge meeting. Amongst the visitors was Bro. E. Harris, P.M. and Hon. Sec. 87, and collector for the Boys' School, and on this being made known to the lodge, it was proposed and carried unanimously that one guinea be given to that most noble institution. Bro. Harris immediately returned thanks in a suitable address and explained the worth of the institution, and dwelt on the many advantages it possessed, at the same time he brought all of the other charitable institutions under the notice of the brethren. Being anxious to attend another lodge that evening, and time pressing, he was compelled to make a shorter address than he would like to have done. From the manner in which the proceedings of the evening were conducted, the known energy, zeal, and skill of all the officers and the considerable accession of strength to the lodge recently received by the candidates initiated there is no doubt that the prospective year of the Royal Oak Lodge will be a very prosperous one. The business of the evening being over, the company, which was much more numerous than usual adjourned to refreshment. The proceedings concluded with the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, interspersed by some excellent singing from the brethren. Amongst a large body of visitors were present—Bros. H. R. Palmer, 57; C. Harris, Sec., P.M. 87; J. C. Peckham, P.M. 93; J. W. Halsey, P.M. 156; T. J. Ryder, P.M. 164; E. S. Hogg, P.M. 164; J. T. Booth, P.M. 164; W. J. Mackenzie, W.S. 164; C. J. Badger, J.D. 164; E. W. Pook, 64; G. Bolton, P.M. and Treas. 172, P.M. 198, 1044; J. Bavin,

J.W. 172; J. Patte, 172; W. Andrews, 172; J. T. Tibbals Sec., P.M. 191; L. Schuller, 3 (F.C.); T. H. Weidmann, 8 (G.C.); and others.

## PROVINCIAL.

### CHANNEL ISLES.

**JERSEY.**—*Lodge La Césarée*. (No 860).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge, held on Thursday, February, 26th, was attended by about sixty of the brethren, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. John Durell, assisted by his Wardens. The lodge was opened at half-past six. The minutes of the last regular and two emergency meetings were read and confirmed. The names of the following five gentlemen were announced as candidates for initiation, after due proposition and notice:—Messrs. H. De Gruchy, Ph. De La Haye, Ch. Le Gros, J. N. Valpy, and Ph. Le Sueur. Evidence having been given as to the character of all of them, and their fitness for admission into the Order, the ballot was taken for each, which in every case was unanimous in their favour. Bro. the Rev. A. Key, of the Royal Alfred Lodge, was also admitted as a joining member. Three nominations were presented of candidates for initiation a month hence. The first four of those who had been balloted for, were initiated, after which they received from the W.M. the charge on the first degree. Bro. Dr. Hopkins informed the brethren that he had had some correspondence, the nature of which he described, with the Editor of "*Die Bauhütte*," a Masonic periodical published at Leipzig, arising from his articles and reports in *THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE*; thus was shown the advantage of such communications, inasmuch as they not only extend a knowledge of Masonic proceedings, but open an intercourse between Masons in different parts of the world; having subsequently forwarded to the Editor a copy of his own lectures on Freemasonry, he had received in return several publications, which he felt pleasure in presenting to the lodge, as several of the brethren understand German, the language in which they are written. Bro. Hopkins further stated that, by the kindness of the Editor of *THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE*, he had been supplied with some impressions of the engravings of the temple at St. Helier, separate from the publication, one of which he had framed, and now offered to the acceptance of the lodge. Bro. Schmitt, P.M. concluded some complimentary remarks by proposing a vote of thanks, which was seconded by Bro. Baudains, P.M., and carried with acclamation and a Masonic salute to the donor. Bro. Hopkins briefly acknowledged the honour paid to him. The W.M. mentioned that an aged brother in Jersey was, last year, a candidate for the annual allowance from the annuity fund; having failed of success, the application would be renewed this year, and he therefore hoped that the brethren would obtain as many votes as possible on his behalf. The W.M. of the Mechanics' Lodge, to which the brother belongs, stated the case, and urged his claim for assistance. On the proposition of Bro. Le Cras, P.M., it was determined, in order to forward the object, to double the lodge subscription to the annuity fund. After a discussion on the management of the Masonic Library, the lodge was closed at 9 o'clock, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. In the course of the evening, two photographic likenesses of Bro. Schmitt were exhibited, and most of those present evinced their appreciation of this excellent brother, and their desire to possess a memento of him, by putting down their names for the purchase of copies.

### CUMBERLAND.

**CARLISLE.**—*Lodge of Union* (No. 389).—This lodge was opened on the 24th ult., at Freemasons' rooms, by the W.M., Bro. Blacklock, assisted by the officers of the lodge and a good attendance of brethren. The minutes of last lodge and lodges of emergency were read and confirmed. Bro. Dr. Wheatley was passed to the second degree and Dr. Reeves, who was unanimously elected, was initiated into the mysteries of the Order by Bro. F. W. Hayward, P.M., also explaining the working tools and delivering the charge in each degree to the brethren, Bro. C. J. Banister, P. Prov. G.S.D., Durham, acting as Deacon and delivering the lecture on the tracing boards. Bro. J. Thompson, Prov. G. Treas., visited the lodge. Several candidates were proposed for initiation. The business of the lodge over it was closed in solemn form. At refreshment the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to. Bro. Dr. Thompson returned thanks for the Provincial Grand

Lodge and himself, in an excellent speech, proposing "The Health of the W.M. and perpetuity to the Union Lodge." The newly initiated, Bro. Dr. Reeves, returned thanks for his health being so favourably received in a truly fraternal spirit, and proved to the brethren that he had thoroughly understood the ceremony he had gone through. Bro. Banister's health was handsomely proposed by Bro. Hayward, P.M., and responded to by all present in such a hearty manner that proved to him that his services and little attentions were appreciated. He replied in suitable terms hoping by his new connexion with the lodge 389 that he should be often with them, and proposed "The Officers of the Lodge." Other toasts followed, and the harmony of a happy and truly Masonic evening was brought to a close by the Tyler's toast.

## DEVONSHIRE.

DEVONPORT.—*Lodge of Friendship* (No. 238).—At a regular lodge held on Thursday, the 26th of February, for the purpose of raising Bro. M. Barron and passing Bro. Andrew Barron to the second degree the lodge was, as usual, well attended and every officer in his place. The newly installed W.M. occupied the chair and opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees with great credit, being well supported by his officers, who are equally proficient in their work. During the evening Bro. Harfoot, of lodge No. 80, very zealously and ably advocated the cause of the Boys' Schools. Bro. Binckes may well congratulate himself on having so able, efficient, and sincere a brother for a Steward; the exertions of Bro. Harfoot in this province to raise a fund for the enlargement of the school as well as to secure the election of the son of the late Bro. Martin P.M. (of this province) is beyond all praise. Several communications were read, among the many was one for the relief of the distress in Lancashire by the purchase of a piece of music (*O Memory*), published at five shillings and left to the discretion of the lodge as to what amount they choose to pay for it. It was unanimously agreed to pay £1, the whole of which would be appropriated to the relief of the distress, the music being given gratuitously by the publisher. At the closing down there were three candidates proposed for initiation and five joining members, one of whom would take the third degree. The lodge was closed at nine and retired to refreshment, and, as is usual in this very ancient lodge, several Masonic songs were sang and a very appropriate recitation by Bro. Fox, P.M. Bro. Harfoot, as a visitor, expressed himself very warmly on the usual kindness he received from Lodge Friendship and passed very high compliment on the officers generally.

STONEHOUSE.—*Lodge Fortitude* (No. 122).—A lodge of emergency was held on Monday evening, the 2nd inst., to initiate Isaac Latimer, proprietor of the *Western Daily Mercury* (previously balloted for); also to ballot for Mr. Vaughan, which proved unanimous in his favour. The gentlemen were then introduced, and initiated into the first degree of ancient Freemasonry, by Bro. Rodda, W.M., assisted by Bros. Tripe and Thuell, S.W. On the termination of the ceremony Bro. Harfoot gave the lecture on the tracing board in a very able manner, and to the evident satisfaction of the brethren assembled. The lodge was closed at nine o'clock, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

PLYMOUTH.—*St. John the Baptist Lodge* (No. 83).—The brethren met for the discharge of the duties of their lodge on Tuesday evening, the 3rd inst, under the Mastership (*pro tem.*) of Bro. Harfoot, P.M. The minutes of the last regular lodge, and two lodges of emergency, were confirmed; one candidate balloted for and accepted, and two brethren were, after due examination, raised to the third degree. The lodge voted one guinea to the Boys' and Girls' School, and Bro. Harfoot, Steward to the Boys' School, advocated the claims of that institution, and received the names of several donors during the evening. Several visitors were present. The lodge adjourned from labour to refreshment at 9.45

## LANCASHIRE (WEST).

LIVERPOOL.—*Lodge of Instruction* (294).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Temple, Hope-street, on the 24th February. Bros. Preceptor Younghusband, W.M.; Mott, S.W.; McGeorge, J.W. The lodge was opened in the first degree, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the second and third degrees. The W.M. gave a preface to the lecture in the third degree, and illustrations of the five points of fellowship. The lodge was then closed down to the first degree. On the motion of the W.M., it was resolved that Bro. Glynn, W.M. Lodge 35,

be appointed W.M. for the 3rd of March. The lodge was then closed with solemn prayer by the W.M. This being the 4th anniversary, the brethren afterwards assembled for refreshment, Bro. Preceptor Younghusband being unanimously voted to the chair, and Bro. Mott the vice-chair. After refreshment, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and cordially responded to, and a vote of thanks was recorded to the committee appointed to provide the refreshments for the evening. Bro. Younghusband responded to the important toast of the evening, viz., "Prosperity to the Lodge of Instruction (No. 294)," and adverted to the benefits derived from a due attendance at the regular meetings of the lodge, and exhorted those brethren who held Freemasonry at heart to assist by precept and example in furthering the objects of the Lodge of Instruction. The Treasurer, Bro. Mott, also made an appropriate speech upon the benefits of the Lodge of Instruction, and directed attention to the marked success which had attended its course during its short career, having within the last two years subscribed twenty guineas to the West Lancashire Masonic Institution, thereby constituting the worthy Preceptor a Vice-President; and also five guineas to the Lancashire Relief Fund, and this from a subscription of only 6s. per annum. Several songs followed, and the brethren separated with regret, and with the avowal that they had rarely, if ever, passed a pleasanter evening.

## MONMOUTHSHIRE.

NEWPORT.—*Silurian Lodge* (No. 693).—The V.W. the D. Prov. G.M. for Monmouthshire, Bro. John Etherington Welsh Rolls, has kindly granted a dispensation to the brethren to join the public procession on the occasion, of the marriage of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and a special lodge, will be held at the Masonic Hall, Great Dock-street, on Tuesday, the 19th of March at half-past 9 a.m., when the lodge will be opened in due form, and the brethren will at 10 a.m. proceed to the Cardiff-road, and join the general procession, pass through Tredegar-street, Commercial-road, Dolphin-street, Dock-street, Llanarth-street, Commercial-street, High-street, Stow-hill, Victoria-place, Victoria-road, Palmyra-place, Commercial-street, High-street, Thomas-street, Mill-street, and Marshes-road, to the Marshes, and as soon as the evolutions there are finished, they will return in procession to the lodge room and close the lodge. Dress—Black, white gloves, and a white rosette on the left breast, made of Coventry ribbon.—We shall give particulars in our next.

## NORFOLK.

NORWICH.—*Consecration of the Lodge of Sincerity* (No. 1245).—Wednesday, the 25th of February, having been appointed by the R. W. Prov. G.M., for the constituting and consecration of Lodge Sincerity (No. 1245), on the register of the Grand Lodge of England, the interesting ceremony was conducted in ancient form by the V.W. Bro. George Harcourt, M.D., P.G. Assist. Dir. of Cers. and D. Prov. G.M. of Surrey, in the presence of upwards of sixty members of the Craft. The brethren assembled at four o'clock, at the Freemasons' Hall, St. Stephens. The members of the new lodge also mustered in good force, and Bro. Bignold, 60, and Bro. Ballard, 1109, officiated as S.W. and J.W., Bro. H. J. Mason was appointed Dir. of Cers. for the day. The brethren being properly clothed, entered the large and beautiful lodge room in proper order. Bro. Harcourt, the acting W.M. opened the lodge in the three degrees in due form, after which the sanction of the R.W. Prov. G.M. was read by Bro. A. R. Miller, Sec., *pro tem.*, for the V.W. D. Prov. G.M. of Surrey, to act; also the warrant of constitution granted by the Grand Master of England. The lodge was then consecrated and constituted in due form, in accordance with ancient usage, in the most perfect manner. Bros. Morgan, Minns, and Bignold, P.M.'s sprinkling the elements of consecration, and the Rev. J. P. Deacon discharging his duty as Chaplain in the most solemn and impressive manner. During the ceremony a selection of suitable choral music was performed, Bro. James Darken, Organist. The consecration over, Bro. G. E. Simpson, Prov. G.J.W., was installed as the first W.M., and invested his officers as follows:—Bro. the Rev. Francis Stone Hodgeson, S.W.; Donald Delrymple, M.D., J.W.; Donald Steward, S.D.; Alfred Master, J.D.; Rev. J. P. Deacon, Chap.; G. F. Deacon, I.G.; A. R. Miller, Sec. The lodge was then closed in due form by the newly installed Master, after which the brethren adjourned to the large room, where a sumptuous banquet was provided. The chair was taken by Bra. G. E. Simpson, and a joyous evening spent by upwards of forty brethren; thus closed one of the most pleasing ceremonies witnessed by the Craft of the province for many years.

## SUSSEX.

BRIGHTON.—*Royal York Lodge* (No. 394).—The installation of Bro. William Challen as W.M. of this flourishing lodge took place at the Old Ship Hotel, on Tuesday, the 3rd inst. The lodge was opened by the W.M. Bro. Marchant; after which, a short but beautiful anthem was sung by Bros. Marriott, Dyson (Chapel Royal, Windsor), and Whitehouse (Chapel Royal, London). The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bro. Challen was presented by Bro. Freeman, P.M., and Prov. G.W. for Sussex. Bro. Curtis, P.M., Prov. G.S.B. Sussex, was the installing Master, who, in a most effective manner, performed the duties of his office. A novel but very effective chant was sung by the professional brethren during the progress of the salutations of the brethren, which was greatly admired. At the close of the lodge, which ceremony was done in first-rate style, a beautiful parting hymn, "Brothers ere to night we part," was well given, forming a climax to a most pleasant meeting, rendered more so by the introduction of appropriate vocal music, accompanied on the harmonium by Bro. Tolley, to which the Brighton brethren are very partial, this being the third time they have had the ceremonies worked with the aid of music by the Windsor professional brethren. We must not omit to mention a most agreeable part of the proceedings, viz., the presentation of a P.M.'s jewel to Bro. Curtis, P.M., Prov. G.S.B. for his able and zealous performance of the duties of P.M. to the lodge, &c. Bro. Curtis was addressed in a most feeling manner by the W.M., thanking him (Bro. Curtis), in the name of himself and the brethren of the lodge, for his kindness in having performed the duties of the lodge during the absence (through illness), of the W.M.—Bro. Curtis replied in appropriate terms. A jewel was also presented to the Treasurer from the lodge by the W.M., which was most graciously received by the Treasurer. The brethren partook of a most sumptuous banquet provided by the worthy host. Thus ended one of the most pleasant evenings in the memory of this, one of the most ancient lodges of our Order. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Dyson.

## CHINA.

## SHANGHAI.

NORTHERN LODGE.—On Saturday, December 27th, the annual festival of St. John was held by the Freemasons in Shanghai, who have established the above-mentioned lodge. Not being a brother of the Mystic Craft, we have not the privilege of describing the ceremony which attended the installation of the officers for the ensuing year. At the same time we record with the greatest satisfaction, the hospitality of the lodge, and their reunion with the outer world on the occasion. Shanghai, at the best of times, is a dull place to celebrate festivities, unless they be of a domestic character, so the announcement of a public ball by the Freemasons was looked upon by the beauty and fashion of the settlement as an occasion of importance. This took place at the Yew-lee-hong, on Monday night, the 29th, and was the most successful affair of the kind that we have witnessed in China. The rooms were decorated in the most appropriate manner—the ball-room by our military friends, and the supper-room by our naval visitors; while the supper was of the choicest description. It would not be proper to specify the names of the worthy brother Masons who gave their time and means to make their visitors welcome on the occasion; but we cannot omit alluding to the host of the hong, and the newly elected W.M., who spread the "Feast of reason and the flow of soul," to make their guests welcome. The small hours on Tuesday morning not only witnessed the fact of the general happiness which prevailed, but a late breakfast on the same day, attended by select friends, showed that the hospitality and good fellowship of the Northern Lodge of China, (No. 832), was appreciated. The following is the list of officers for 1863:—Bros. Underwood, W.M.; Jackson, S.W.; Nutt, J.W.; Parker, S.D.; Hardy, J.D.; Markham, I.G.; Birdseye, Treas.; Gordon, Sec.; Loler, Tyler.—*Shanghai Daily News*.

## ROYAL ARCH.

AYR.—The companions of the Ayr Royal Arch Chapter, No. 18, met in the Tam o'Shanter Hall, on the 19th instant, according to instructions of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, and proceeded to the election of office-bearers in room

of those of the chapter who have withdrawn their allegiance from Supreme Chapter, and joined an irregular and unrecognised body recently formed in Glasgow for the avowed purpose of practising Royal Arch Masonry. Comp. D. Murray Lyon, of the Ayr Kilwinning Chapter, No. 80, presided, and, in the terms of the dispensation granted to him by Comp. Sir John Douglas, K.C.B., Depute Grand Principal for Scotland, installed the newly elected Principals into their respective chairs—in which duty he was kindly assisted by Comp. George Good, H. of Chapter No. 80. The following is the result of the election:—Andrew Glass, Z.; James Jones, H.; David Brown, J.; Donald McDonald, Scribe E.; Andrew Tait, N.; John Boyd, Treas.; William Livingston, 1st Soj.; Thomas Jones, 2nd Soj.; William Dick, 3rd Soj. Comp. Patrick Cowan, Edinburgh, was reappointed Proxy First Principal.

## ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

## NORTHUMBERLAND.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—*Royal Kent Chapter of Rose Croix*.—Friday, February 27th, being the regular meeting, the chapter was opened, at Freemasons' Hall, by the M.W. Sov., C. J. Banister, 30°, assisted by A. Gillespie, 1st General; H. G. Ludwig, 2nd General; H. Hotham, P.M. W. Sov., as Prelate, and the rest of the Sovereign Princes. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Gillespie, 1st General, and M.W.S. elect, was then presented by the Grand Marshal to the M.W.S., Bro. C. J. Banister, 30°, who installed him into the office of M.W.S. of this ancient chapter in his usual earnest and impressive manner. The M.W.S. then appointed the following as his officers:—Bros. Punchon, Prelate; H. G. Ludwig, 1st General; J. Shotten, 2nd General; J. Hoyle, Raphael; H. A. Hammerbom, G. Marshal; Rodenburgh, Reg.; Hotham, Capt. of Guard; Trotton, Guard without. The chapter was closed in solemn form. The banquet was served up in the hall, and was all that could be wished, the M.W.S., Bro. C. Gillespie, presiding, H. Hotham, P.M.W.S., on his right, and C. J. Banister, 30°, P.M.W.S., on his left. After grace the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, also the healths of the M.W.S. the P.M.W. Sov's, the present and past officers of the chapter; and after spending a happy evening the princes retired. Notes of apology were received from several princes who were unable to be present.

## HAMPSHIRE.

PORTSMOUTH.—*Royal Naval Chapter*.—The annual meeting for the election of officers, was held on Monday, February 18th. The M.W.S. Ill. Bro. Rankin Stebbing in the chair, which he has filled during the last two years. Three candidates were admitted to the illustrious degree, and the M.W.S. proposed, and P.M.W. Bradley seconded Ill. Bro. Alfred Heather, as his, Bro. Stebbing's, successor, and Bro. Bradley was proposed for re-election as Treasurer. The ceremonies were performed with great accuracy by the Ill. Bros. Stebbing, Bradley, P., and Hollingsworth, R. Ill. Bro. Bell presided with great ability over the musical services.

RENOVATING FLOWER-BEDS.—If the exhausted beds have a good bottom, we advise removing the top spit, and replacing it with a mixture of virgin earth from and upland mixture, well chopped up with chippy cow-dung, and a good proportion of leaf-mould; say, if you can obtain the quantities, equal parts of each of the three ingredients. If you can get the beds empty this winter, the best way will be to take off the top spit, and fork over the subsoil, so as to let the frost and snow penetrate it; then get a good supply of burnt clay, and hotbed dung, and chop them down together in a ridge and let them be well frozen, and fill up the beds with the mixture early in March, and they will be in admirable condition for planting as soon as they have settled. Chippings of hedges, refuse wood, straw, &c., built up over a hole, and packed round with cakes of old turf, and then burnt, make a capital dressing to dig into the old soil if you cannot well get new material to replace the worn-out stuff. If used chiefly for bedding plants, a compost of leaf-mould, and sandy soil from a common, equal parts, and one-fifth of the whole very old dung, would prove a good mixture. Bedding plants do not require a rich soil so much as a new soil.—*Gardener's Weekly Magazine, and Floricultural Cabinet*.



## Poetry.

## NUPTIAL ODE.

Messrs. Blackwood and Sons, have just published a "Nuptial Ode on the marriage of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales" from the pen of Bro. Professor Aytoun, of Edinburgh,—from which we give a passage in which the Princess and the Prince are in turn addressed.—

Fair as a poet's dream, serenely bright,  
Veiled in the charm of maiden modesty,  
The Rose of Denmark comes, the Royal Bride!  
O loveliest Rose! our paragon and pride,  
Choice of the Prince whom England holds so dear—  
What homage shall we pay  
To one who has no peer?  
What can the bard or wilder'd minstrel say  
More than the peasant, who on bended knee,  
Breathes from his heart an earnest prayer for thee?  
Words are not fair, if what they would express  
Is fairer still; so lovers in dismay  
Stand all abash'd before that loveliness  
They worship most, but find no words to pray.  
Too sweet for incense! Take our loves instead,  
Most freely, truly, and devoutly given;  
Our prayers for blessings on that gentle head,  
For earthly happiness and rest in heaven!  
May never sorrow dim those dovelike eyes;  
But peace as pure as reigned in paradise,  
Calm and untainted on creation's eve,  
Attend thee still! May holy angels keep  
Watch o'er thy path, and guard thee in thy sleep!  
Long years of joy and mutual love be thine,  
And all that mortals ask or can receive  
Of benediction from the hand Divine!

Most happy Prince! who such a priceless gem  
Hast set within thy royal diadem;  
Heir of illustrious kings, what words can tell  
The joy that fills the nation's heart this day!  
If the fond wish of those who love thee well  
Could call down blessings; as the bounteous May  
Showers blossom on the turf—as ocean spray  
Flies glittering o'er the rocks—as summer rain  
Falls sweetly soft on some sequestered dell,  
Bidding the languid hero revive again—  
Then never surely Prince were like thee!  
For in thy gentle nature well we see  
The manhood, worth, and valour of thy sires,  
Temper'd with a winsome nobleness  
(The glow without the rage of bickering fires),  
That shame it were and sin to love thee less.  
And though no human hand can lift the veil  
Of the dark future, or unfold the page  
Of that most awful book, wherein the tale,  
To be accomplish'd of the coming age  
Stands in eternal characters of doom—  
Through no prophetic voices from the tomb,  
Or mystic oracles of dim presage,  
Can tell us what shall be—our trust is high,  
Yea, in the highest! He will be thy shield,  
Thy strength, thy stay, though all the world combine.  
Believing that, we fear no enemy;  
Nor foreign war, nor treason unreveal'd,  
Can shake thy house, or mar thy royal line:  
Dread none, great Prince; our hearts and loves are thine.

## A SCOTCH INCIDENT

At the Pope's Head Inn; or the article in general request. A companion to the tooth-brush and hair-brush provided in American cabins for the use of passengers.

Tom Campbell, the poet and great bard of Hope,  
Who wrote as we seldom shall witness again,  
While travelling in Scotland put up by at Pope,  
Whereto he'd been driven by wind and rain;  
He dined—for poets, like others, must dine  
If on Haggis or Haddies deponent saith not.  
The whisky was good, and did duty for wine,  
And he rang for the waiter, called Maggie I wot;  
Pray, lassie, a toothpick bring hither, says he,  
To wile away dullness this wet afternoon.  
So he pickt and reflected in deep reverie,  
Like a poet all struck by the light of the moon;  
Shortly rush'd in the waiter and, curtsying low,  
Said, "pray sir have you w' the toothpick aye dune?"  
I only ask whether yere dune with it or no,  
For I ken 'twill be wautet maybe verra sune."  
"Oh, Mag," said the poet, "why such question ask me?  
I suppose I may keep it and pick away yet."  
"No, no, sir, it 'longs to the club, do ye see;  
And they in the club-room an hour have met."

## NOT LOST.

It is not lost,—the beautiful!  
That lights our changeful skies,  
Although to dim its glory here  
Dark earth-born mists arise:  
The summer heaven's celestial blue,  
The sunset's parting ray,  
The gorgeous clouds with purple hue,  
These have not passed away.

It is not lost,—the beautiful!  
Sweet sounds we loved of yore  
Shall greet our ears in brighter worlds,  
"Not lost, but gone before!"  
Soft plaintive notes that seem'd to raise  
Dead feelings by their strain;  
The music of our bygone days  
Shall all come back again.

It is not lost,—the beautiful!  
The little star-eyed flowers  
That bloomed so brief a time on earth,  
We scarce could call them ours:  
Another clime shall give to them  
The life that here they lack,  
And we shall see each floral gem  
We treasured once—come back.

It is not lost,—the beautiful!  
The long-remembered look,  
Where myriad rays of feeling play'd  
Like sunbeams on a brook:  
It will return—that transient gleam,  
And we shall see once more  
The light that only lit our dream,  
Far brighter than before.

It is not lost,—the beautiful!  
These little sunbeams flown,  
Are garnered with the things that hide  
In regions yet unknown:  
The time will come—and then his hand  
(Whose pow'r was ne'er in vain)  
Shall loose the captive spirit's band,  
And call them back again.

## THE WEEK.

The Drawing-room on Saturday was a very brilliant affair. The Princess Royal proceeded from Buckingham Palace to St. James's in the same state, though with a rather less numerous retinue, than that which accompanies the Sovereign. She was accompanied by her sister, the Princess Helena, and met in the Throne-room by the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge. The number of ladies specially presented amounted to about 250. In spite of the repeated notice that gentlemen who did not accompany ladies were not required to attend the Drawing-room at all, several gentlemen, who came by themselves, did manage to find their way into the Throne-room. On the whole, however, the crowd was much less, and in consequence there was none of that crowding and inconvenience which was loudly complained of at the *levée* on the previous Wednesday, when the attendances amounted to upwards of 2000. The Crown Prince of Prussia arrived at Windsor Castle from the Continent. His Royal Highness had travelled all night, and consequently outstripped the preparations that were about to be made to receive him. He was accompanied by Lord Alfred Paget, who met his Royal Highness at Dover. The Princess Alexandra, accompanied by her parents and her eldest brother, left Copenhagen on the 26th ult., on her way to England. The city was splendidly decorated, and the population made the most cordial demonstrations of respect and affection towards the Royal lady who is so soon to become Princess of Wales. The journey has been made by slow stages; she has visited Cologne, Hamburg, Hanover, Brussels, &c. In the latter place she was received with great ceremony by the Duchess of Brabant and Count of Flanders, and the Royal party immediately proceeded to the palace, where a state entertainment was given in the evening. Her Royal Highness was to leave Antwerp on Thursday evening. A telegram from Malta, dated Thursday morning, states that Prince Alfred, though still "weak," continues to improve. It is understood that the illness of his Royal Highness has been much more severe than the reports which have been published would seem to indicate.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the HOUSE OF LORDS on Thursday, the 26th ult., a short conversation took place with respect to Mr. Odo Russell's relations with Cardinal Antonelli. Lord Russell said he was not aware whether the Pope's Secretary of State had declined to receive Mr. Russell in an official capacity, but if Mr. Russell had spoken to the Cardinal at all on state affairs, it had been in consequence of friendly communications from his Eminence himself. He further stated that he had not written to the British agent at Rome expressing regret that his Holiness had not quitted the Vatican.—On Friday, Lord Russell, in reply to a question from Lord Ellenborough relative to M. Bismarck's statement in the Prussian Chambers, said he certainly had been informed by the Prussian and Russian Ambassadors that the Governments of Berlin and St. Petersburg, had formed a convention in consequence of the insurrection in Poland. The noble Earl remarked that he was unable to understand the telegraphic report of M. Bismarck's observations, for recent events had shown that the agreement between the two Governments went further than he had stated. The Prince and Princess of Wales Annuities Bill was read a second time, and, after conversations on the sweeping changes made in the constitution of Durham University, and on the question of criminal punishments, their lordships adjourned.—On Monday, the House was occupied an hour, and during about half that time the Prince of Wales watched the proceedings from the cross benches. The bills granting annuities to his Royal High-

ness and his future Consort passed through committee; and, after a short discussion, in the course of which the Duke of Somerset stated that we had now a constantly increasing coast-guard and volunteer naval reserve of about 28,000 men, the Naval Coast Volunteers Act Amendment Bill was read a second time.—On Tuesday, the Prince and Princess of Wales Annuities Bill was read a third time, and passed.—In the HOUSE OF COMMONS on Thursday, the 26th ult., the Prince and Princess of Wales Annuities Bill was read a third time and passed.—In reply to a question from Mr. Lawson, Sir George Grey said he could not positively state whether a general measure would be introduced this session by the Government for amending the licensing laws.—Sir F. Smith brought a "question of privilege" before the House. In the course of a speech, the other night, the hon. and gallant gentleman made some strictures on the appointment of Mr. Reed to the office of Chief Constructor of the Navy, and it seems that Mr. Reed was foolish enough to send him a somewhat strongly-worded letter on the subject. Lord Clarence Paget hoped that Sir Frederick would be content with an apology, which Mr. Reed was prepared to offer; but the feeling of the House appeared to be opposed to such a course, and the delinquent was ordered to make his appearance at the bar on the following day, when Mr. Reed made his appearance, and did due penance for the letter he had written to Sir Frederick Smith.—Mr. Pope Hennessy moved an address to the Crown on the subject of Poland—a motion which gave rise to a long and important debate, in which both sides of the House warmly expressed their sympathy with Poland, and strongly denounced the want of good faith of Russia and Prussia. The motion was ultimately withdrawn.—On Monday, Mr. Cobden gave notice of his intention to call attention to the administration of the Board of Admiralty.—In reply to a question from Mr. Caird, Mr. Layard said the Government had had their attention directed to more than one vessel alleged to be in course of preparation in English shipbuilding yards for the service of the Confederate States, but up to the present time no evidence had been furnished which could justify the authorities in proceeding to extreme measures. The hon. gentleman added, however, that strict orders had been given to watch very closely any vessels supposed to be fitting out for the Southern navy.—In committee on the bill for continuing the Union Relief Aid Act of last session, Mr. Hibbert moved the insertion of a clause empowering the Loan Commissioners to advance money to overburdened unions at 3½ per cent.—such advances to be repaid within fourteen years.—The Chairman (Mr. Massey) pointed out that the initiative in any measure dealing with the State funds properly belonged to the Ministers of the Crown; whereupon Lord Edward Howard appealed to Mr. Gladstone to give effect to the member for Oldham's proposition. The noble lord moved that the Chairman report progress, in order to afford the Government an opportunity of considering the question; but, after some conversation, the motion was withdrawn, and the bill passed through committee.—After a long discussion, the Tobacco Duties Bill was read a second time, on the understanding that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will, in Committee, propose several alterations in its provisions.—The House then went into Committee on the Corrupt Practices at Elections Bill, the second clause of which—providing for the disfranchisement of attorneys and others acting for candidates—was struck out by a majority of 110 to 103.—On Tuesday a curious scene occurred. Mr. Justice Williams and Mr. Justice Blackburn made their appearance in their state robes, for the purpose of announcing the passage of the Prince and Princess of Wales Annuities Bill by the Upper House; but it would seem that what was intended to be a grave proceeding was converted into a screaming farce. The learned judges were

not very adroit in going through the stiff and formal ceremony imposed upon them, and their pardonable awkwardness was probably by no means lessened by the peals of laughter which reminded them at every step that they lacked the courtly grace of a Gold Stick in Waiting. "It was some time," we are told, "before the equanimity of the House was restored and the ordinary business was proceeded with."—Mr. Bramley-Moore postponed his motion on the subject of the Brazilian dispute, and the bill authorising the use of the ballot at municipal elections was thrown out by a considerable majority, on the second reading.—On Wednesday there was a brisk fight on the third reading of Mr. Hadfield's Qualification for Offices Bill. The bill was opposed by Mr. Newdegate with all the old arguments. The discussion, however, brought the Chancellor of the Exchequer to his feet, and in a brief speech he warmly defended the measure. On a division the third reading was carried by a majority of 3, the numbers being—for the third reading, 175; against it, 172.—Mr. Locke King's bill for providing an alphabetical index to the register of voters, passed through committee after two divisions.—On the motion that the House should go into committee on Mr. McMahon's Irish Salmon Fisheries Bill, Lord Fermoy moved that it be referred to a select committee. The debate upon the bill lasted until a quarter to six, when it was brought to a close by the standing orders. It will, however, be resumed on Wednesday, the 25th March.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—In the week that ended on Saturday, March 2nd, the number of deaths registered in London was 1440. The average number in the corresponding weeks of ten years (1853-62) is, with a correction for increase of population, 1418. The actual number is more than the estimated number by 22. Eight nonagenarians died in the week, the eldest of whom was a widow, aged 98 years.—With the exception of the Bishops of Peterborough, St. David's, Limerick, and Killaloe, and the Bishop elect (if we remember rightly Dr. Ellicott has not yet been consecrated) of Gloucester and Bristol, the English and Irish Episcopate have, with several colonial prelates, signed an address to the Bishop of Natal, asking him "to consider once more, with the most serious attention, whether he can, without harm to his own conscience, retain his position when he can no longer discharge its duties or use the formularies to which he has subscribed." Added to this very broad hint that he should lay aside his crozier, is a devout expression of hope that the heterodox prelate may "be restored to a state of belief in which he may be able with a clear conscience again to discharge the duties of our sacred office; a result which, from regard to his highest interests, they should welcome with the most unfeigned satisfaction."—It appears from statements made at the meeting of the Central Relief Committee that in some parts of the cotton districts numbers of the unemployed operatives are being absorbed in other occupations; that "there has been an obvious tendency to migration to neighbouring counties in search of labour;" and that projects of emigration have become general. Mr. Farnall's weekly report shows a further decrease of close upon 2000 in the number of persons in receipt of parochial relief in the suffering unions. A meeting of Lancashire operatives was held on Saturday night at Ashton. They agreed to memorialise the Government for aid to enable them to emigrate to the colonies. A formal request has been made to the Mansion House Committee to render assistance to families in the cotton districts who desire to emigrate to Queensland. The subject was brought before the committee on Friday, but there appeared to be a general opinion against making grants for such an object at the present moment. It was, however, arranged that the matter should be further discussed at the next meeting of the committee.—Mr. Tremenhoe, who was some time ago appointed a commissioner to inquire into the condition of what we may call the operative bakers of the United Kingdom, has presented a report to Sir George Grey, in which he recommends that no youth under 18 years of age shall be employed in any bakehouse later than nine in the evening or earlier than five in the morning. He further suggests the adoption of measures for the inspection and sanitary regulation of bakehouses.—The estimates for the revenue departments for 1863-64 show a decrease upon the amount voted last year of £32,154. The army and navy estimates are £2,058,586 below those of 1862-63; so that we have already a promised reduction of £2,200,540 in the public expenditure.—The City Reception Committee were occupied, on Wednesday, for some time in making the necessary arrangements for Saturday. One part of their business was to make choice of

the diamond necklace and ear-rings which are to be presented by the City to the Princess Alexandra. Several jewellers were in attendance, but eventually a necklace and ear-rings shown by Messrs. Garrard and Sons, of the Haymarket, were chosen. With respect to the falling back of the civic procession at Temple Bar, Sir Richard Mayne insists that it shall take place within the City, and suggests that the carriages shall turn up Chancery-lane. The committee, however, determined that on reaching Temple Bar the carriages shall turn back, so that the Royal carriages will pass them, and for the time there will be a double line of vehicles in the street.—The Volunteer arrangements for Saturday (this day), have been issued from the War Office. In Hyde Park all those who have obtained permission to be present are to be in their places by two o'clock. The volunteer display will be none of the least attractive of the day's spectacles. Whether in the closer regions of the City, or the open space of Hyde Park, they will, no doubt, present a very imposing appearance.—A curious libel case came before Mr. Alderman Phillips, at the Guildhall, on Wednesday. Mr. Job Pickles Whitley, proprietor of the *Weekly Review*, and Mr. Peter Bayne, the editor and part proprietor of that newspaper, were charged with having grossly libelled Dr. Keneally, the author of a new pantomime. The libel was contained in a review of that work, which was very strongly condemned, and severe strictures passed upon its author. It was these personal strictures which formed the weight of the charge. For the defence it was contended that nothing was said of the book or its author more than they deserved. The magistrate, however, committed the defendants for trial, taken their own recognisances to appear.—The Vice Chancellor of Oxford, acting under the advice of his assessor, has giving his judgment that his Court has no jurisdiction in cases of heresy, and he therefore refuses to entertain the charges brought by Dr. Pusey and others against Professor Jewett. On the part of the promoters of the suit notice was given of appeal.—Dr. Campbell's action for libel against the *Saturday Review* has resulted in a verdict against our contemporary—damages £50. In summing up, the Lord Chief Justice asked the jury to say whether, in their opinion, the defendant believed what he wrote, and whether what he did was done honestly and in good faith; for, if the case for the defence rested on that, he would from its importance leave the point for the consideration of the Court above. The Jury were of opinion that the writer of the article did believe that the imputations contained in it were well founded, and it remains to be seen whether the case will be carried further.—Mr. Sergeant Glover applied to Mr. Justice Wightman, at Chambers, on Thursday, to have his action against M. de Persigny and others proceeded with at once in this country. It will be remembered that the learned gentlemen some time ago came into court with a claim for a large amount for writing articles in the interest of the French government. He alleged that M. de Persigny, M. Billault, and other official personages in France had engaged him to do this work, but that they subsequently repudiated all liability in connection with the matter. A commission was appointed to take evidence in Paris, and the learned Serjeant states in an affidavit that he went to the French capital on this business, but soon found that the commission had not arrived, and that there was no prospect of any progress being made with the suit. He further asserts that he was arrested at his hotel on "a flimsy pretext," and subjected to great violence. The solicitor for the defendants applied for time to prepare a reply to this affidavit, and the case was adjourned until Monday, when, after some discussion, the application was dismissed.—In the Central Criminal Court, the trial of the brothers Brook for the murder of a policeman at Acton has been deferred until the next sessions.—Caroline Burn, a child of fifteen years of age, was tried for the murder of her illegitimate infant. The case was of the most painful character. The jury, however, acquitted her of the capital charge, and found her guilty of concealment of birth, at the same time recommending her to mercy. Sentence was deferred.—In the New Court, James Hagan, who was charged with the manslaughter of his wife by strangling her, was found guilty. In his case, too, sentence was deferred.—David Johnson was found guilty of setting fire to a stack of hay at Hampstead. He was sentenced to eighteen months imprisonment.—A few days ago the suspicious death of a woman named Day, at Brighton, who was about to be married to a painter named Sturt, and who died on the night of Sunday week, after having walked out with him, and eaten a mince pie which

he gave her, was reported. The death was so sudden, and the symptoms so full of suspicion, that the aid of Dr. Taylor, the analytical chemist, was called in, and he stated positively, before the magistrates, that he had found arsenic enough in the system to kill two persons. The magistrates decided on committing the prisoner for trial.—On Wednesday, a young lady named Crutch was most severely injured through her crinoline-distended dress catching fire. But small hopes are entertained of her recovery. A young man named Searle, who heard her screams, and gallantly went to her assistance, is also most severely burnt.—The Dublin Corporation met on Monday, when a motion for the suspension of the standing orders for the purpose of receiving a report with reference to the local celebration of the royal wedding day was agreed to without a dissentient voice. It was then decided, *inter alia*, to present a congratulatory address to the Prince of Wales, whose approaching marriage—judging from the accounts published in the Irish papers—will be the occasion of general rejoicings throughout the sister kingdom.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The apprehensions entertained by Parisian politicians and speculators respecting the consequences of the Polish insurrection seem to have diminished considerably.—According to the *Indépendance*, the Russian Government having learnt the ill-feeling produced at the Courts of London and Paris by the terms of the convention with Prussia in reference to the Polish insurrection, has not only renounced that document, but has manifested an intention to anticipate the desires of the Western Powers in making concessions to Poland, and that an amnesty will be granted without delay, and be followed by a proclamation, granting reforms to that country.—The committee of the French Legislative Body appointed to report on the bill for supplementary grants have sent in their report. The amount asked for is upwards of 38,000,000 of francs. The committee complain of the supplementary vote for the Mexican war, the navy, &c. The Spanish Ambassador, Senor Isturitz, has had a favourable and cordial reception by the Emperor of the French.—The prolonged debate in the Italian Chamber of Deputies on the loan proposed by the Government was brought to a close on Saturday by the bill being carried by 204 votes against 32.—Queen Isabella seems to have experienced almost insuperable difficulties in replacing Marshal O'Donnell and his colleagues. General Concha relinquished his attempts to form a new Ministry, and Marshal Narvaez has resumed the task which he had previously failed to accomplish, with no better result. A Madrid telegram of Wednesday states that the new Ministry would be completed on Thursday, under the presidency of the Marquis de Moraflores, that the Cortes will be immediately reopened and permission to collect the taxes demanded, and that no dissolution will take place.—The unexpected announcement has been made that Cardinal Antonelli has tendered his resignation, with the addition that the Pope has not yet made up his mind whether he shall accept or decline it. It appears that Signor Fausti, the Cardinal's man of business and friend, was apprehended by an officer of gendarmes, at the order of the President of the Consulta, but at the instigation, as it is suspected, of the Minister of War, Monsignor de Merode, who has long been at variance with Cardinal Antonelli and his partisans. The Cardinal, naturally irritated by the affront put upon him by Signor Fausti's arrest—which was made with the most ostentatious publicity, and which was based on allegations of complicity with the Secret Committee of Liberals—offered to resign his office. So Pius IX. has apparently to decide whether he will dismiss his Secretary of State or his Minister for War; for it would be impossible that, after this rupture, Cardinal Antonelli and Monsignor de Merode can continue to take counsel together respecting the business of the Papal Government.—The Prussian House of Deputies, by the overwhelming majority of 246 to 57 votes, has passed a resolution recommending that Prussia shall observe a strict neutrality respecting the Polish insurrection, and that both Russian soldiers and Polish insurgents shall be disarmed if they seek refuge on Prussian territory. There is no confirmation of the report that Count Bismarck has tendered his resignation, but the *Frankfort Journal* asserts that the Cabinet of Berlin deems the convention framed at St. Petersburg "to be of too general a character," and has "requested that its bearing should be more distinctly defined,"—the consequence being that "further negotiations" have been entered upon.—The Emperor of Russia is becoming impatient, and even furious at the delay of his troops in suppressing the insurrection, and has issued an order commanding

the suppression of the revolt at any price. There is a fearful import in the latter words. According to accounts the organisation of the insurgents continues to improve, and their numbers daily augment. General Mieroslowski has issued an order, in which he informs his countrymen that the Provisional National Government had appointed him commander-in-chief of the insurrectionary forces.—Impenetrable obscurity yet covers the result of the engagement between Langiewicz's band of Polish insurgents and the Russian troops. We were first assured by a journal devoted to Polish interests, that Langiewicz had defeated the Russians after a five hours' engagement; we were then told by the Russian official accounts, that Langiewicz's followers had been put to flight, and that he had been wounded; and telegrams now affirm that Langiewicz obtained a complete victory over his Muscovite assailants. The spread of the revolt, and the audacity of the insurgents, are, however, sufficiently testified by the singular announcement, conveyed from Warsaw, that some 70 men assembled in one of the principal streets of the Polish capital, for the purpose of setting out to join their insurgent countrymen, and that they exchanged shots with the police who assailed them.—Amongst the latest accounts of the movements, there is published a proclamation of the Governor of Wilna, addressed principally to the peasantry. The proclamation calls upon the peasants to render powerless the "criminal endeavours of the agitators," by arresting the insurgents who come within their reach, and delivering them up to the Russian authorities. The Governor announces that he will hold the communes responsible for the maintenance of the public roads, and for the safety of the military and civil functionaries. The issue of this proclamation confirms the accounts of the spread of the insurrection in directions where it did not at first seem likely to make any appearance. The Government of Wilna does not form part of the kingdom of Poland.—Serfdom has been finally extinguished throughout the Russian empire—the period of transition having expired on Tuesday. "Te Deum" was sung yesterday in all the churches of St. Petersburg, in commemoration of the day; and we are assured by official telegrams that perfect tranquility prevails, though it is admitted that alarming rumours are current.—According to Mexican advices, brought from New York by the *Europa*, General Forey has found it necessary to postpone once more his intended attack on Puebla, and to await the arrival of supplies and reinforcements. Some confirmation is afforded to these accounts, by the reports current in Paris, where it is rumoured that General Forey has urgently demanded reinforcements.

AMERICA.—The news brought by the *Europa* from New York to the 19th ult., contains nothing of any military importance. General Hunter had assumed the command of the forces which had arrived at Hilton Head from Beaufort, and General Foster had returned to North Carolina. The Federal garrison, on Roanoke Island were expecting an attack from the Confederates. No fresh movement is reported from Charleston, Tennessee, or Vicksburg. The success of the canal at the latter place is said to be doubtful. The political news is again important. The Federal Senate had passed a bill authorising the President in all domestic and foreign wars to issue letters of marque; and also a Conscription Bill, which renders all citizens between the ages of 20 and 45 years liable to perform military duty when called out by the President. It is supposed that both these strong measures will also pass the House of Representatives and become law. The Democratic members of the next Congress have been invited to meet in New York on the 8th inst. The resolution calling a convention at Louisville has been defeated in the Senate of the Illinois Legislature. Gold was much excited on account of the fear of French intervention, and the last price was 63½ prem.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

P. M.—We regret we cannot publish your letter, especially as we know you to be a good and zealous Mason. An alteration may be required in the *Book of Constitutions* as regards the power of Masters in the appointment of their officers, but interperate letters will do no good. To speak of a brother as "a low cunning creature," is scarcely Masonic.

ANOTHER P.M.—If the senior P.M. of a lodge retires and afterwards rejoins (he never having lost his P.M.'s. privileges), we cannot see how it is possible for him to be anything else but the senior P.M.