

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1863.

THE BUDGET.

CLUB LICENCES AND FREEMASONS' HALLS.

That we should pen an article on the Budget of the Chancellor of the Exchequer may appear somewhat strange to the brethren, looking at the neutral position we, as Freemasons, are bound to hold in all matters of politics; but on the present occasion it will be seen that we have good reason, in the interests of the Craft, to depart from our usual custom, and call attention to the new Budget, which is calculated to have a very serious effect on those lodges which are held apart from hotels.

It has been long the urgent desire of the majority of Freemasons to have the various lodges held in halls or apartments exclusively devoted to the purposes of the Order, and in very many parts of the country buildings have been erected, or rooms rented for the purpose, where refreshments have been served on the club principle, without having recourse to taverns. Under the new Budget, as is pointed out in two letters from correspondents, which appear in another column, these halls will have to take out the victualler's licence, as clubs, at a cost of £17 1s. per annum, and 5 per cent. additional. How injuriously this is likely to act may be shown by one example. In a town in Dorsetshire there is a lodge held in private rooms, the number of members of which does not exceed twenty, the whole expenses of the year probably never amounting to £30, and yet upon this expenditure the members will be called upon to pay a duty of £18; and there can, therefore, be but one of two results—either the members must abstain from refreshment entirely, or remove to a public-house. Nor is this the case in one town only, but in scores, if not hundreds of places, throughout the United Kingdom; and certainly it could never have been the intention of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to so heavily tax small bodies of men meeting together for the carrying out the principles of an association, one of whose great objects is the practice of Charity; and how nobly it is carried out in the small country lodges few know, excepting those who have witnessed it.

Grand Lodge does not meet until June (excepting for the annual festival on Wednesday next), or it should take the initiative in making a representation to the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the subject—but there is no time to be lost, and those brethren who take an interest in the matter—and what brother will not—should at once bestir themselves to form a deputation, to represent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer the utter ruin which his measure, if persevered in to

its full extent, will bring upon Freemasons' Lodges not held in taverns, and sure we are that the deputation need not long look for a proper introduction to the right honourable gentleman, when we remember the number of distinguished Masons, including the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, who occupy prominent positions in the Government.

FREEMASONRY AS A TEACHER.

Craft Masonry teaches us a very large range of subjects, but there are only a few Masons who look upon it as a part of their duty to make themselves acquainted with its teachings. This, we believe, arises less from a desire to carry out the principles of the Order than from an idea that special subjects are, Masonically, represented by the presence, in lodges, of individual brethren who have made particular branches their specialities, either as a profession or as amateurs.

The teachings or the objects recommended for constant study to all Freemasons embrace a very extended range, and it is our purpose to call attention to them in the course of this article.

In the ceremonies and lectures we are continually reminded that our principal duty is to honour and obey the will of the Great Architect of the Universe in all stations of life. This we are constantly reminded of by the unfolded volume of the sacred law, which sanctifies and rules all our Masonic rites. Prayer is the first duty in which an initiate joins before he is made a Freemason, and it is the last in which every brother participates before a lodge is closed; therefore it is evident that prayer should be the chief duty of every well-regulated Freemason. But do we habitually pray? Let us hope that the answer may be in the affirmative; for, without asking how a man prays, or what form of faith he considers the most acceptable to his conscience, we should all remember that prayer and praise are due from every creature to an allwise and gracious Creator.

Loyalty is another duty. Freemasons are expected to be good citizens and loyal subjects; and in Great Britain and her colonies there can be no doubt but at the present day there is more true loyalty to the Sovereign than ever was the case before, even in the boasted days of chivalry. Loyalty, then, may be dismissed in one sentence, often reiterated but no less true, that Freemasons are amongst the foremost and most loyal subjects of the Crown.

Brotherly love is a duty which we are proud to think is really carried to an extent amongst us unequalled by any other tie. If we search the whole of the wide world through we shall find that where two Freemasons meet together there is brotherly love.

This duty must not be supposed to linger or grow cold when differences of opinion arise between two brethren, because no one would be so foolish as to imagine that every brother is to see the same circumstances in the same light—and if such an event were possible, useful and healthy discussion could not follow, and truth be elicited. Brotherly love is in no way diminished by an argument in which brethren take opposite sides, and no one can for a moment expect that arguments are to be sustained without one or the other being in the wrong; still less should it be imagined that in such cases brethren will fail to lay hold of the weak point advanced by an adversary, and turn it to their own advantage, nor should we wish to see an Englishman repudiate his right of free discussion from the idea that such a course would be distasteful to a brother. Brotherly love will be a safeguard that the amenities of fair argument will be seldom overstepped.

Relief is that duty which Freemasons do not require teaching. Their noble charities, their private aids to each other, are patent, not only to the Craft, but to the world at large. Relief is so nobly administered by the Craft, that even the opponents of Freemasonry pay a ready and willing tribute of admiration to the generous way in which Freemasons exercise themselves in that duty.

Truth is not only a Masonic but a moral virtue, highly prized by every man. To be known as being actuated by truth is to be ranked amongst the highest distinctions man can bestow on his fellow. Freemasons generally are good examples of truth. The word of a brother Mason is not frequently violated. He believes he is bound by his obligation to be "true to his master and fellow," and in that belief he goes forth to do his duty in that station of life into which it has pleased God to call him.

Let us, then, each examine ourselves as to how far the teachings of Freemasonry actuate us, and in those duties in which "the still small voice" of conscience shall tell us we are lacking, let us endeavour to amend them, thus showing, by our example and our good endeavours, that Freemasonry has its duties as well as its pleasures and experience in our own breasts—that happy state which converts our pleasures into duties, and our duties, energetically practised, may redound to our pleasure.

From the above remarks it will be gathered that the teachings of Freemasonry inculcate, more particularly, as duties, those of religion under every phase or creed; loyalty to the Sovereign or ruler of the land in which we reside; brotherly love to each other, without servility; relief, such as none know better how to administer than Freemasons; and truth, which should guide every one, high and low, rich or poor.

FREEMASONRY IN FRANCE.

(From *Galignani's Messenger*.)

A Paris letter in the *Independence* of Brussels, in speaking of the proposed plan of making Freemasonry an institution of public utility, says:—

"Prince Murat, who fell into disrepute with Freemasons principally on account of his attitude on the Roman question, is a creditor to the Order for a sum of 300,000fr., for which he has a mortgage on the property in the Rue Cadet. He has demanded the repayment of that sum, and other necessary expenses require a loan of from 200,000fr. to 300,000fr. The Legislative body last year approved of a report which established in principle the doctrine that it was necessary to relieve Masonry from its precarious position, and that it was necessary to take proper measures, but which the Legislative body left to the judgment of the Council of the Order. The council had several times deliberated on the subject without, however, coming to any determination, when in November last, Marshal Magnan, being at Compiègne with M. Frémy, of the Credit Foncier, said to the latter, 'You might as well lend us a few hundred thousand francs on our property in the Rue Cadet.' 'Willingly,' replied M. Frémy, 'I will examine the affair.' He did so, and then told the Marshal:—'Having considered the matter, I cannot lend to you as a civil society, for your statutes have clauses which are scarcely legal, but I will lend to Freemasonry, if it can be recognised as a society of public utility, and ratified governmentally. The affair was pressing, as Prince Murat became more and more urgent for repayment. The council decided on an application for the recognition in question, which would enable it to purchase property, receive donations, legacies, &c. The council acted wrong in deciding so hastily at an ordinary meeting without convoking the members of the departments. The affair came before the Council of State, and the reporter being, as it would appear, hostile to Freemasonry, drew up his document in a negative sense. The section of the interior of the Council of State, however, voted for the recognition, and all that now remains is to bring the matter before the united sections."

BRITISH SCULPTORS.

THE FAMILY OF "THE MARSHALLS."

I am pleasantly reminded by more than one "constant reader," of the *Builder*, that in my last communication to your columns ("The Family of the Cures"), I omitted "accidentally," in my catalogue of hereditary sculptors,— "The family of the Marshalls." That the omission was "accidental," my present communication, full of new and unknown materials for "The Family of the Marshalls," which I have had by me for many years, will, I trust, be at once apparent.

There were three Marshalls eminently distinguished in clay, in plaster, and in marble, living and "flourishing" in London between the accession of Charles I. in 1625, and the death of Charles II. (1684-5). Their Christian names were (I give them alphabetically), Edward, Joshua, and William.

I. Edward was Master Mason to the Crown in 1662, and was succeeded in his office by his brother

Joshua.* Edward lived in Fetter-lane, Fleet-street. This Aubrey assures us, and his information is confirmed by those curious MS. papers called "The Fire of London Papers," now happily preserved in the British Museum. There I read as follows:—

"Edward Marshall, Mason, a parcel of ground with several tenements and yards thereunto belonging, lying on the east to Fetter-lane, on the north to the passage called Bond Stables, on the south adjoining to the buildings of one John Dawling, gent., and on the west butting on the garden of the Master of the Rolls."—*Addit. MS. Brit. Mus.* 5068, fol. 182.

This Edward Marshall made the bust in Westminster Abbey of Michael Drayton the poet,† erected at the expense of the famous Anne Clifford, daughter of an Earl of Cumberland, and wife first of Sackville Earl of Dorset, and secondly of Philip Herbert Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery, and who consequently, throughout a long final widowhood, was obliged by the rules of the Heralds' College to divide her titles as she had done her heart, between two dear defunct husbands, by signing herself "Anne Pembroke, Dorset and Montgomery," according to the peerage creations of her two lords; a case without parallel, I believe, in the history or romance of the English peerage.

Edward had, it would seem, a taste for poetry. He "wrought curiously in plaster" the bust of his "great friend," Francis Quarles, and "valued it for Quarles's sake." "'Tis pity it should be lost," Aubrey writes to old Antony Wood. Is its whereabouts at all known?

By Edward Marshall there are two white marble and well-executed monumental busts in Tottenham Church, Middlesex, representing Sir Robert and Lady Barkham, of Wainfleet, in the county of Lincoln. Sir Robert died in 1644. Their eight children kneel near to the busts. This monument should be seen by all who are curious in identifying the works of our early sculptors.

The editors of Walpole's "Anecdotes," Mr. Dalway in 1826, and Mr. Wornum in 1849, have wholly overlooked a printed notice of Edward Marshall. I shall, therefore, transcribe it entire for insertion by all who are curious in perfecting and illustrating that delightful work:—

"Barn-elms House in Surrey, with orchards, gardens, coach-houses, stable, grazing for a couple of geldings or cows, spring-water brought to the house in leaden pipes, pleasant walks by the Thames side, and other accommodations, is to be let, or otherwise may be divided into two convenient dwellings, with garden, orchard, and water to each of them. Inquire farther of Mr. Edward Marshall, a stone-cutter, living in Fetter-lane."—*Mercurius Politicus*, 5th May, 1659.

Among Edward Marshall's other works—"Marshall of Fetter-lane,"—Walpole's editors should include the monument to Sir Richard Verney at Compton, and of the Earl of Totness at Stratford-upon-Avon. Sir William Dugdale, in his Pocket-book for 1653, records that they came from the chisel of "Marshall of Fetter-lane."

II. Joshua (whose best works are to be seen at

Campden, in Gloucestershire, and Swansea, in Cambridgeshire) was employed on a well-known work in Westminster Abbey, as the following fragment (now first published) will convince my readers:—

"To the executors of Joshua Marshall, deceased, for making a monument at Westminster, for the bones of a prince found in the Tower of London."—*Works Accounts of the Crown for 1678-9.*

The monument to the princes, King Edward V. and his brother, is a sarcophagus, neatly wrought in white marble. Sir Christopher Wren gave the design. And here I may ask, would my friend, the distinguished sculptor, Mr. William Calder Marshall, R.A., make a like sarcophagus for a like amount? I wish Mr. Marshall would look at his namesake's work, and let the readers of the *Builder* know what a like work would cost at the present time. A practical opinion of what a duplicate would cost would give us a further clue to the value of marble and labour in the years 1678 and 1863.

III. Of William Marshall I can give no further account than that he was born on the 7th of October, 1606, and that the star—the figure of his nativity ascendant in the skies that day—is preserved among Ashmole's MSS. at Oxford. This I have never seen. A sculptor's nativity cast by Ashmole might fitly find a place in a column of the *Builder*.

My last new material relating to the Marshalls is from the MS. vestry minutes of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields:—

"1658, September 24.—Ordered that Mr. Marshall, stone-cutter, do pay twenty shillings per annum for the privilege he hath in laying stones in Hedge-lane: to which Mr. Marshall being present consented; the twenty shillings per annum to be paid from Michaelmas now next ensuing."

Hedge-lane is a narrow but much frequented thoroughfare leading from Pall-mall East to Coventry-street. Let us contrast it in 1658, when Mr. Marshall was suffered to make a marble-yard of it, with the crowded and equally narrow Hedge-lane of 1863.

PETER CUNNINGHAM, in the *Builder*.

KNIGHTHOOD.

The celebration of the marriage of the heir to the throne with all the heraldic magnificence—with *faugfave* of silver clarions, with processions of yeomen of the guard in their scarlet doublets barred with gold, gentlemen-at-arms with their white plumes, state drummers and trumpeters in coats of cloth of gold, heralds in their tabards, and pursuivants, kings-at-arms, and garter king-at-arms with collar, badge, tabard, and scarlet satin mantle—has awakened a national interest in all the insignia of chivalry which has long reposed in the minds of a few antiquaries. All England has just seized heraldry as a voice with which to speak welcome to the beautiful daughter of sea-kings whom the Prince of Wales has chosen for his bride. Seldom have quarterings been so assiduously studied, never have the heraldic emblems of a foreign nation been so multitudinously displayed in our streets, as in the decorations of our houses, bridges, and public buildings, not only along the line of route through which the procession was expected to pass, but in every town in the United Kingdom—north, south, east, and west. Heraldic Latin and heraldic colouring have been diligently searched to find full and faultless expression of the public gratification. England has been one broad-spanned rainbow—one vast pageant.

* Audit Office Enrolments (MS.), vol. vi. p. 427.

† Aubrey's "Lives," art. "Drayton."

of the different orders of knighthood, both in the civic decorations on the route of the entry of the Princess into London and in the ceremony of the marriage in St. George's Chapel, Windsor. We may follow up the interest thus awakened by an enumeration of the different orders of knighthood of European fame.

The word knight is derived from the Saxon *enight*. It originally signified a soldier or horseman of war; but, in the Middle Ages, referred to a vassal that held his lands by serving his lord on horseback. In modern times it has become a title of distinction conferred upon persons whom the sovereign deems it fit to honour. There have been upwards of fifty orders of knighthood established in Europe. Of these the oldest in the world is that of the Round Table,—the almost mythical companions of which are best known as King Arthur's Knights.

It is scarcely needful to say that the order most in esteem is that of the Garter. The knights of this order, in their robes, collars, and stars, and blue garters decked with gold, pearls, and precious stones, formed the brilliant background of the marriage ceremonial in the Chapel at Windsor. They are personages of great rank, having for a sovereign guardian her Majesty the Queen. The Prince of Wales is a knight of this order. It will be remembered that over a general's uniform he wore the gorgeous robes of a knight of the garter at the celebration of his marriage. The husband of the Princess Royal and the brother of the late Prince Consort are both knights of this order. It is said to have been founded by Edward III., as every one has heard, after picking up the garter of the beautiful Countess of Salisbury, with whom he had been dancing; in confirmation of a remark he made to the smiling lords present, that he would make that garter of world-wide reputation. This most chivalrous society is a college or corporation, having a common seal belonging to it, and consisting of twenty-five companions, who are noblemen of the realm or princes of foreign countries, besides the Sovereign. There are also attached to the order twenty-six poor knights, who are supposed to have no other means than an allowance given them. They are called the Poor Knights of Windsor, because the seat of this order is Windsor Castle, and the consistory of the order is St. George's Chapel. The officers belonging to the order are the prelate of the garter, the chancellor of the garter, the register (who is always Dean of Windsor), the principal king at arms, and the usher of the garter.

The order of the Knights of the Temple, though now extinct, was once too powerful to be placed lower in the list. It is uncertain whether this order was founded by Pope Gelatius or by Baldwin II., King of Jerusalem, circa A.D. 1117. These monkish knights at first dwelt in part of the building that belonged to the Temple of Jerusalem, not far from our Saviour's sepulchre, where they charitably entertained Christian strangers and pilgrims, and clad in armour, led them through the Holy Land, to view the different points of interest connected with the mission of the Messiah. Growing too rich, too powerful, and less religious in their lives, their order was abolished by Pope Clement V. in 1309; and their possessions divided among the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem and other religious orders.

The order of St. John of Jerusalem had its first foundation and abode in the Holy City. Thence the knights removed their residence to the Isle of Rhodes; but being dispossessed of this by the Turks in 1523, the Emperor Charles V. allowed them to make Malta their chief seat, on condition that they would send him a falcon every year as an acknowledgment. The property of this order was also very large; but it was not forfeited till the reign of Henry VIII. Up to this period the prior of the knights of this order in England and Scotland had a right to a seat in the House of Lords.

The Knights of the Holy Sepulchre were a very ancient body, instituted by Helena, the mother of Constantine. Much of the magnificence attained was due to the insignia

of the Great, who, at the age of eighty, journeyed to Palestine, and assisted in the finding of the holy cross.

Knights of the Bath were formerly a religious order. They were obliged to bathe themselves on the eve preceding their creation, and observe several other religious rites.

The order of the Rue, or of St. Andrew, is of well-known Scottish origin.

James I. instituted the order of Nova Scotia in the West Indies, the knights of which were to wear a ribbon of an orange-tawny colour. And the same monarch divided the hitherto combination of title, knight-baronet. A "plantation" was in formation at Ulster, and the persons making disbursements in furtherance of this object were advanced to the distinct dignity of baronet,—a rank that was henceforward to take precedence in all writings, sessions, and salutations of ordinary knights, knights-bannerets, and knights bachelors.

A knight-banneret (from the Dutch *bannether*) is a knight made on the battle-field, under the standard. In several centuries successive sovereigns marked their approbation of individual valour on the field of battle by the ceremony of cutting off the point of the standard of the person they wished to honour, thus making it a banner, and the person so distinguished a knight-banneret.

Knights bachelors are of the lowest order of knighthood, yet of very ancient origin. The foundation of the order is traced back to a custom of the Germans, who, as soon as the State considered a young man fit to manage arms, furnished him with a shield and a javelin before a large assembly or full council. In less remote ages part of the ceremony of investing a young man with the girdle of knighthood consisted in his solemnly entering a church, and placing the sword, which had been presented to him with the girdle, on the altar, and vowing his services to the glory of God. Eventually it became customary to receive the honour of knighthood, not in public assembly, but at the hands of a prince; kings sending their sons to neighbouring princes to be thus distinguished. To the sword and girdle of this period the development of chivalry added gilt spurs. Henry III. made an order called the Knights of Christian Charity, for the benefit of poor captains and maimed soldiers.

The terms carpet-knight, and knight of the chamber, used sometimes in a depreciatory sense, signify a knight created in times of peace by the sovereign in a carpeted palace, in distinction from a knight who has won his spurs upon the blood-stained battle-field.

Of foreign orders we must make first mention of the Danish knights of the Elephant, reminding our readers that the Danish castellated elephants and ravens, surmounting the Venetian masts on London Bridge, formed an especial decoration of significance on the route of the Royal procession.

The French have numerous orders of knighthood:—

The knights of Saint-Esprit, or Holy Ghost, created by the French king Henry III., at his return from Poland, who was born and crowned king on Whit Sunday.

The knights of the order of the Virgin Mary in Mount Carmel were appointed by Henry IV., in 1607, consisting of 100 French gentlemen.

The knights of St. Michael the Archangel, whose order was established by Louis XI., in 1469, to consist of thirty-six knights, of whom the sovereign was to be chief.

The Knights of St. Magdalen appointed by St. Louis to prevent duels.

The Order of the Thistle, a Bourbon order of knighthood. Motto: *Memo ne impune lacescit*, i.e., None that provokes me goes away unpunished.

The Order of the Porcupine, whose motto was *Cominus and Eminus*, till Louis XII. crowned the Porcupine with another, *Ultas avos Troje*.

The Order of the Lily in Navarre.

The Order of the Crescent, created by René, Duke of Anjou, A.D. 1462, when he conquered Sicily. Motto: *Ios.*

The Order of the Jar, made by Don Garcia, king of Navarre, in remembrance of a vision he saw in a cave, when out hunting, of a pitcher of lillies on an altar before an image of the Virgin.

The Order of the Golden Shield, founded by Louis II. Motto: *Allons.*

The most ancient Order of the Genette, or Horse-bit, founded by Charles Martel after the defeat of the Saracens in the great battle of Tours, A.D. 783.

The Knights de l'Epi, or ear of corn, or of the Ermine, established by Francis I.

The Knights de l'Etoile, or of the Star. Motto: *Monstrant Regibus astra viam*, the stars show a way to kings. Spain has instituted several orders of knighthood:—

The sovereign of Spain is chief of the Order of the Golden Fleece appointed by Philip, Duke of Burgundy, upon his marriage with Isabel of Portugal. Motto: *Ante ferit quam flammis micet.*

Alonso VIII., A.D. 1118, founded the Order of San Salvador in Arragon.

The Knights of St. Maria de Mercede are a Spanish order, as are those of Montesia.

The Knights of the Pear-tree, created A.D. 1172, were subsequently known as Knights of the Alcantra in Leon.

The Portuguese own the startling Order of the Knights of Jesus Christ.

Poland can boast two orders,—that of the White Eagle, founded by Ladislaus V., A.D. 1325; and that of the Militia Christians.

Venice owns two orders,—that of St. Mark and that of La Calza, or the Stocking.

Sweden possesses an order entitled the Knights of the Sword and Baudrick.

The Duke of Savoy was confirmed Grand Master of the Order of St. Maurice and Lazaro by the Pope, A.D. 1119.

Cosmo, Duke of Florence, instituted the Order of St. Stephen, A.D. 1591.

It is an instance of the mediæval alliance between priesthood and knighthood to find Pope Alexander III., instituting an order of knighthood in which the rule of St. Augustine was to be observed. It was called the Order of St. Jago or St. James.

As an instance of the services rendered by knights, we would point to the Teutonic Knights, upon whom the Emperor, Ferdinand II., bestowed Prussia, A.D. 1226, on condition that they would subdue the infidels, which they succeeded in doing; and although this bravery may seem a species of knight-errantry when associated with times so remote, we have an order instituted in our own day, by our most Gracious Queen, as a recognition of scarcely less chivalrous service—the Order of the Star of India. This is a curious chapter in the history of this age of commerce, iron, and steam power, akin to the largesse so bountifully bestowed upon Lancashire at need. St. George may be proud of England still.—*Builder.*

THE CORONATION CHAIR, WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

Allusion was recently made to the coronation stone set within the ancient chair which is now preserved near Edward the Confessor's shrine in Westminster Abbey. The traditionary history of this stone is remarkable, but it is only traditionary. It has been known as the "prophetic" or "fatal" stone, which tradition asserts is the same whereon Jacob rested his head when he saw the vision of the ladder reaching to Heaven, with the angels of God ascending and descending the plain of Luz. From various sources we have evidence of the great antiquity of the practice of crowning kings on an elevated stone or

by a pillar, and the custom may still be said to form part of the coronation ceremonies of our own country. Besides the stone in Westminster Abbey, there still remains the stone at Kingston-upon-Thames, on which several of the ancient kings of England were crowned.

The Scriptures show that the Jewish patriarchs erected stone pillars on different occasions, but chiefly from religious motives; and that these monuments were, at subsequent periods, dedicated to the most important national purposes, particularly to the creation of kings. The stone which Jacob had made his pillow he afterwards set up as a pillar, and poured oil upon the top of it, saying, "And this stone, which I have set up as a pillar, shall be God's house." He also changed the name of the name of the place from Luz to that of Beth-el.

He likewise set up a stone for a pillar at Galeed Mizpah, on the spot where he entered into a lasting covenant with Laban, and at that spot Jephtha was solemnly vested with the government of Gilead. At the stone which Joshua had set up, Abimelech was made king. Adonijah usurped his brother's crown, and held a feast at the stone of Zoheleth, and Jehoash was crowned and anointed king, standing by a pillar, as the manner was. Josiah also stood by a pillar, with all his people, in the Temple at Jerusalem, when he made a solemn covenant to keep the ordinances of the Lord.*

It is probable that the custom of inaugurating kings by placing them either upon or near an elevated stone spread extensively through the East, as it certainly did from thence to the Celtic and Scandinavian nations. The Persians had their "artioze" or fatal stone, the use of which with them was to point out the most deserving candidate for the throne. Amongst the Norwegians, Swedes, and Danes, the practice was to form a circle of stones, commonly about twelve in number, in the middle of which was set up one larger than the others. This was the royal seat, the nobles occupying those surrounding it, the people standing without. Here the leading men of the kingdom gave their suffrages, and placed the elected king on his throne. Monuments of this kind remain in Denmark, and traces of them may be found in Shetland, the Hebrides, Isle of Man, and elsewhere.

A rude enthronement, somewhat similar to that of the Northmen, is to be found among the Celtic tribes; and the kings of both Scotland and Ireland were placed upon a stone at the time of their election. The consecration of peculiar stones and rocks formed a branch of Druidical superstition, and the votaries of Druidism were taught to believe that there was great virtue in stones thus hallowed. "The stone of power" was a flat stone, usually black, which the Druidical priests were said to "consult;" probably they slept upon it, like Jacob, and had what they regarded as celestial and oracular visions for their guidance. The Arch-Druids, too, sat in a stone chair, to which they attributed wonderful virtues, and which appears to have partaken of the nature of a bishop's throne. They spoke mystically of "awakening" the chair of the Taliesin at Caer Sidi, and declared that he who sat in it would suffer neither disease nor decay, but become one of the "twice-born" and "deathless brotherhood." It is conjectured that the stone below the coronation chair may have been Druidical. There were formerly some rhymes current in Ireland which imply that the Scotch, although of legitimate descent, would fail to preserve regal power unless in possession of the Fatal Stone.

From Fordun's account of the Coronation Stone we gather some particulars respecting its legendary history. There was a certain King of Spain, of the Scottish race, called Milo, who had many sons: one, however, named Brek, he loved beyond all the others, although he was neither the eldest nor the heir. He therefore sent him to Ireland with an army, and gave him a marble chair,

* The etymology of the word "Column" is an interesting and curious subject, with reference to the ancient "Columns," or oracles.

carved with very ancient art by a skilful workman, in which the Kings of Spain of the Scottish nation were wont to sit when inaugurated. This Simon Brek having reached the above island with a great army, reduced it under his dominion, and reigned in it many years. He placed the stone or chair at Themor, the royal residence, a noted place at which his successors were accustomed to reside. Gathelus, as some say, brought this chair, with other regal matters, with him from Egypt into Spain; others relate that Brek, having anchored on the Irish coast, was forced by contrary winds to withdraw his anchor from the surge; and whilst labouring to that end, a stone in the form of a chair of marble was hauled up by the anchors of the ship. Receiving this as a presage of future success and dominion, he was exceedingly joyful, and it was then prophesied that he and his posterity should reign wherever this stone was found.

In Hollinshed's Chronicle there is a long account of this Gathelus, who is there said to have been a Greek, the son of Cecrops, who built the city of Athens. After leaving Greece, Gathelus resided some time in Egypt, when he married Scota, the daughter of King Pharaoh; but being alarmed by the judgments denounced by Moses, who was then in Egypt, he quitted that country, and landed in Spain, where he built a city, which he called Brigantia. When he sat upon his marble stone, he gave laws and administered justice to his people. This stone was in fashion like a seat or chair, having such a fatal destiny, as the Scotch say, following it, that, wherever it should be placed, there should the Scottish men reign and have supreme governance. "Hereof it came to pass, that first in Spain, after in Ireland, the kings which ruled over the Scottish men received the crown upon that chair until the reign of Robert the First, king of Scotland."

There are several ancient rhymes connected with this; among them the following:—

"King Edward with the lang shankes from Scotland he fette:
Besyde the shryne of Seynt Edward at Westminster he hitte sette."

The Irish name for this stone was generally the "Fatal Stone;" sometimes, however, it was called the "Stone of Fortune." Its place, when in Ireland, was the Hill of Tarah; and for some ages the kings of that country were crowned upon it there. Sir J. Ware, in his account of the relic, states that the Irish historians say it was brought by the colony of the *Triath de Danans* into their country, where it was regarded as an enchanted stone, and reputed to have a peculiar quality: namely, that when any of the Royal Scythian race placed themselves on it to be crowned, it made a terrible noise resembling thunder; but if the king elect were a pretender, the stone was silent; and tradition reports that in the times of heathenism, before the birth of Christ, he only was crowned monarch of Ireland under whom, when placed upon it, the stone "groaned or spoke." In the reign of Morietach Mac Ere, it was sent to his brother Fergus, first king of Scotland, who was descended from the blood-royal of Ireland; and he had it placed in Argyle, where it continued until the reign of King Kenneth II., who A.D. 840 having vanquished the Picts, near Scone, enclosed the stone in a wooden chair, and deposited it in the monastery then, to serve for the inauguration of the kings of Scotland. According to Penant, its station, when in Argyleshire, was the castle of Dunstaffnage, and in his "Tour in Scotland" he has given an engraving of an ivory image, found in the ruins of that castle, which represents a king sitting, as he supposes, in the ancient chair, in whose bottom was the fatal stone. The shape of this chair is very different from that in Westminster Abbey; and if we may judge rightly from this carving, it was of great antiquity.

Bishop Leslie, who wrote his account of Scottish events early in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, states that Kenneth removed the marble chair from Argyle to Scone, and

willed that the future kings should be inaugurated sitting on that chair. Hollinshed narrates the facts of this removal more particularly. "King Kenneth," he says, "having destroyed the Pictish kingdom, caused the marble stone (which Simon Brek sometime brought out of Spaine into Ireland), and the first Fergus out of Ireland into Albion, to be brought now forth of Argyle, where, till that time, it had been diligentlie kept, into Gowrie; which region before appertained to the Picts; there to remaine from thenceforth as a sacred token for the establishment of the Scottish kingdome in that countrie. He placed it at Scone upon a raised seat, on a plot of ground there, because that the last battell which he had with the Picts was fought neare vnto the same place." Buchanan, in his History of Scotland, gives an account of the coronation stones which is very similar to the above; but says, in addition, that the kings of Scotland were wont to receive both the regal title and the insignia sitting on that chair, till the days of Edward I. king of England; and Chalmers asserts that the last of the Scottish kings who was crowned on that seat was Alexander III. Hardyng, however, whose chronicle was partly composed in Henry VI.'s reign (and with whom on this point several ancient historians agree), speaking of John Baliol, affirms that he was crowned—

"In the minster of Scone, within Scotlad ground,
Sytting upon the regal stone full sound,
As all the Kynges then used had afore
On Sainct Andrewes day, with al joye therfore."

In April, 1296, Edward I., having formed a league with Bruce, defeated John Baliol in a great battle near Dunbar. Afterwards Edward, wishing to deprive the Scottish nation of every vestige of its independence, caused the crown, sceptre, and inauguration stone, with all the public jewels, archives, charters, &c., to be conveyed to London, as memorials of his conquest and the subjugation of the Scots.

In the wardrobe account of Edward I., under the heading "Jewels remaining at the End of the Twenty-seventh Year, of those which were sometime the King of Scotland's, found in the Castle of Edinburgh," mention is made of a large enamelled silver cup, and a great stone on which the Kings of Scotland were wont to be crowned. It would seem by this that the coronation-stone was at any rate for a time deposited in Edinburgh. Most historians, however, agree that Edward carried the stone from Scone to London. Respecting this, Hemingford says:—"In the church at the monastery of Scone, near the high altar, there was a very ancient stone, made indeed concave like a rude chair, wherein the future kings were seated as customary in the place of coronation. This stone Edward I., in returning through Scone, commanded to be taken away and carried to London." Knighton gives similar testimony; and Walsingham says that Edward, in returning by the Abbey at Scone, took from thence the stone which the Kings of Scotland were wont to use for a throne at the coronation, and brought it to Westminster, and ordered it thenceforth to be made the chair of the officiating priest. Another authority, who has evidently gathered his information from the last named writer, says:—

"And as he came homeward by Skone away,
The regal stone of Scotland then he brought
And sent it forth to Westminster for ay
To be there in a cheire cleanly wrought,
Which then was standyng beside the shryne
In the cheire of olde tyme made full fyne."

Matthew of Westminster informs us (date 1297), that the king coming to Westminster, on the morning of St. Botolph, offered to the blessed King Edward the regalia of the Scottish kingdom, viz., the throne, the golden sceptre, and the crown.

Rapin, the historian, after alluding to the intention of King Edward to unite the two kingdoms, and the removal into England of the Scottish regalia and famous inaugu-

ration stone, says, "The people of Scotland have along placed in that stone a kind of fatality; they fancied that while it remained in their country the state would remain unshaken; but the moment it should be elsewhere removed, great revolutions would ensue, and for this reason Edward carried it away—to create in the Scots a belief that the dissolution of their monarchy had come, and to lessen their hopes of obtaining their liberty."

Of such import was this stone, that it was not only made a separate article in a treaty of peace, but also of political conference between Edward III. and David II., King of Scotland. A writ of Privy Council, of July 1st, 1328, is in existence, signed by the king and directed to the Abbot and Convent of Westminster, wherein Edward III., after reciting that the stone whereon the kings of Scotland used to sit, at the time of their coronation, and which was then in the keeping of that abbot, &c., should be sent to Scotland; and that he had ordered the Sheriffs of London to receive the same from them by indenture, and cause it to be delivered to the queen mother, notwithstanding this command, it is clear that the coronation-stone was never given up, although many ancient records, jewels, and monuments, were actually delivered to the Scotch.

The ancient prophetic distich relating to this stone is said to have been cut in or engraven on it by command of King Kenneth; but this is in all probability erroneous, for so far as we are able to discover, there are no traces of any inscription, and, with the exception of a small cross, there is no mark upon this stone; there is, however, a rectangular groove or indent, in which an inscription might at one time have been fixed.

The coronation stone is placed within the framework of the chair, which is now in the Confessor's Chapel; at each end is a circular iron handle, affixed to a staple within the stone itself, so that it might be lifted up.

On referring to the notes above given, it will be seen that in some respects the ancient accounts of the stone do not agree with its present appearance. We have it described as a "white marble stone," and in some instances as being richly carved by a cunning artist; notwithstanding, it is in reality a dun-coloured, common-looking stone, like some of those which are brought for various purposes from Dundee, in Scotland. It is a sandy granular stone, chiefly quartz, with light and reddish-coloured felspar, and also light and dark mica, with some other matters intermixed; and on the upper side there is a dark, brownish-coloured flint pebble, which, from its hardness, has not been cut through, though immediately crossed by the indent above mentioned. The stone is of oblong but irregular form, measuring 26 inches in length, 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in breadth, and 10 inches in thickness.

In the wardrobe accounts of Edward I.'s time there is a charge by Master Walter, the painter, for the costs and expenses incurred by him for making one step at the foot of the *new chair* (in which is the stone from Scotland), set up near the altar in St. Edward's shrine in the Abbatial Church at Westminster, in pursuance with the order of the king, and for the wages of the carpenter and painter for painting the said, together with making a case for covering the chair. The cost of this was £1 19s. 7d.—*Builder.*

PROPOSED MEMORIAL OF THE LATE PRINCE CONSORT.

In order that the views with which Mr. Scott prepared his design for the Memorial proper may be fairly set forth, we print the statement with which he accompanied the drawings:—

"I would take the liberty of remarking at the outset that I have felt a great perplexity as to the scale of outlay to which I should proportion my conceptions. From the time of the very first proposal of the Memorial, my thoughts were almost constantly directed to the subject. The claims of that great and

good Prince who was to be commemorated—the magnificence of the scale on which the public had from the first, and most justly, framed their ideas as to what the memorial to such a personage should be—and her Majesty's choice, in the first instance, of a monolith, greater than any that the world had seen, surrounded by magnificent groups of sculpture, in due proportion to its colossal magnitude,—all these rendered it impossible for me deliberately to strike out a thought on an unworthy scale, while the converse seemed equally impossible. It might, indeed, be almost said of an artist, who is strongly impressed with the worthiness of a subject such as this, that

"Such is the impulse and the spur he feels
To give it praise proportioned to its worth,
That not to attempt it, arduous as he deems
The labour, were a task more arduous still."

"With such feelings I could not bring myself to treat the subject on the principle of 'nicely calculated less or more.' I had, indeed, already struck out my design before I was honoured with your invitation to do so; and having worked it out, so far as thoughts and sketches went, under a strong impulse to do what I could to render it in some degree worthy of its object, I could not bring myself coldly to sit down and deprive it of any decoration I had already designed for it, but have gone on upon the principle that the second idea of erecting a Hall of Science in proximity to the Memorial would not be allowed to rob the Memorial itself of its honours or its beauties; but that the funds which have been, and may yet be, subscribed for it will be devoted to the Memorial itself, and the Hall be erected from other sources; I have, in fact, made each as good as I was able, so that either would, if need be, singly form a fitting Memorial, though I have supposed that if one of a monumental form be erected, it will not be stinted of the fair proportions which the public have, beyond a doubt, ideally prescribed for it, with a view to saving a fund to go towards the second object.

There can, indeed, be no doubt that the public expect a monument of great and conspicuous magnificence—not a mere group of sculpture which, however fine as a work of art, produces little effect excepting from a near point of view, but an object which will strike boldly and forcibly upon the eye, and attract attention even from a distance. The monument of Frederick the Great, for instance, has been mentioned, and justly, as a noble work of art, but its beauty arises from the high quality of the art bestowed upon it, not from any inherent magnificence in its design or form. In scale it is considerably less than the statue (with its pedestal) of King George IV. in Trafalgar-square, and no one would, I fancy, deem that even any approach to a worthy scale for the memorial to the Prince Consort.

I will now take the liberty of offering a few remarks on the subject of the style I have adopted for the architectural portions of the monument. I have heard it asserted that the tastes of the Prince Consort were wholly for Classic Art, and that it would, therefore, be inconsistent to erect a memorial to him in another style. It would be presumptuous in me to discuss such a question as what were his Royal Highness's preferences in matters of art; I trust, however, that I may venture to record what has come, in three different instances, under my own observation.

I. When I had, in the spring of 1858, the honour of laying before his Royal Highness my first designs for the new Government offices, he distinctly told me that he did not sympathise with the objections which had been made against them on the ground of their style being mediæval, not even in those points where they came in the closest proximity with a classic building, but that, on the contrary, he preferred variety of style, and thought the constant adoption of a single style fatiguing, from its monotony.

II. In the case of the Wellington College, I was called in, with the approval of His Royal Highness, to erect a Gothic chapel to a College which is in another style.

III. When I made, some few years back, a Gothic design for the Guards' Crimean Memorial, I am informed on the best authority, that my design was honoured by the approval of the Prince Consort to such an extent, that, though he had previously objected to the Memorial being erected in Hyde Park, on seeing this design he at once withdrew the objection, and offered every facility for its erection in the park—facilities which were withdrawn when another design was adopted. I would lay the more stress upon this circumstance, as being an emphatic approval by the Prince Consort himself of the erection of a Memorial in the

Gothic style in Hyde Park, and that a design, which though of course infinitely inferior to that which I have now the honour of submitting, agreed with it sufficiently in general idea to show that the approval of the one would involve a still stronger approval of the other.

Fortified, then, by my experience in these three instances, I have not hesitated to adopt in my design the style at once most congenial with my own feelings, and that of the most touching monuments ever erected in this country to a Royal Consort—the exquisite “Eleanor Crosses” of which King Edward I. erected no less than fourteen to commemorate his beloved Queen. I would further suggest, that this style has a peculiar appropriateness in the present instance, from the circumstance that its perfect revival has been, up to the present time, the one great characteristic of the history of architecture during the reign of Queen Victoria.

Though adopting, however, the style of a Gothic cross, I have not followed any existing type, but have struck out one suited, to the best of my judgment, especially to this individual object.

The great purpose of an architectural structure, as a part of the Memorial, is to protect and overshadow the statue of the Prince. This idea is the key-note of my design; and my next leading idea has been to give to this overshadowing structure the character of a vast *shrine*, enriching it with all the arts by which the character of *preciousness* can be imparted to an architectural design, and by which it can be made to express the value attached to the object which it protects. The idea, then, which I have worked out may be described as a colossal statue of the Prince placed beneath a vast and magnificent shrine or tabernacle, and surrounded by works of sculpture illustrating those arts and sciences which he fostered, and the great undertakings which he originated.

To go more into particulars: I have, in the first place, elevated the monument upon a lofty and wide-spreading pyramid of steps. From the upper platform rises a podium, or continuous pedestal, surrounded by sculpture in alto-relievo, representing historical groups or series of the most eminent artists of all ages of the world, the four sides being devoted severally to painting, sculpture, architecture, and music. The figures are about 7 feet high, and would be treated something after the manner of Delaroché's “Hemicycle des Beaux Arts.” This forms, as it were, the *foundation of the monument*, and upon it is placed the shrine or tabernacle already mentioned. This is supported at each of its angles by groups of four pillars of polished granite, bearing the four main arches of the shrine. Each side is terminated by a gable, the tympanum of which will contain a large picture in mosaic, and its mouldings will be decorated with burning, or inlaid with mosaic work, enamel, and polished gem-like stones, thus carrying out the characteristics of a *shrine*.

The intersecting roofs would be covered with scales of metal richly enamelled and gilded, and their crests would be of gilt beaten metal in rich leaf-work.

The whole is crowned by a lofty spire of rich tabernacle-work in partially gilt and enamelled metal, terminating in a cross, which would reach a height of 150 feet above the surrounding ground.

Beneath this vast canopy, and raised upon a lofty pedestal, would be the statue of the Prince. I have chosen the sitting posture as best conveying the idea of dignity befitting a Royal personage. Besides the sculpture already described as surrounding the podium, there would be, on pedestals projecting from each of its angles, groups illustrating the industrial arts, &c., as engineering, manufactures, agriculture, and commerce. Above these, against the pillars, and beneath the feet of the gables, would be statues which might represent the greater sciences, and in the tabernacle-work of the spire figures of angels and of the Christian virtues.

The mosaic pictures in the tympana of the gables may either represent, in an ideal manner, the patronage of art and science by royalty, or might illustrate important incidents from the life of the Prince Consort.

Finally, at the angles of the pyramid of steps from which the monument rises, are four large pedestals, bearing groups allegorically relating to the four quarters of the globe and their productions, referring indirectly to the indirectly to the International Exhibition.

The general material for the monument must depend, in some degree, upon financial considerations. It ought, no doubt, to be of marble; but, if this should be impracticable, one of the

finest descriptions of stone must be made use of. If marble be used, the most durable variety is that known as the Sicilian. The material for the sculpture involves a question of still greater difficulty. I am myself inclined to the same which I have just named—the Sicilian marble. It is the only white marble which stands externally in our climate. That it does so is proved by the Marble Arch in Hyde Park. Its colour is not pure white, but quite sufficiently so for external works. The only alternatives are bronze and an electro-plate of copper. In every other respect than mere durability, bronze is as ill suited as possible to the atmosphere of London, for it becomes absolutely black, and the art expressed in it almost invisible. If, might, it is true, be partially gilt, but even then its effect would be questionable. Many ancient works in bronze were wholly gilt, which would possibly, however, be hardly suited to the taste of this country, though certainly very magnificent.

Electro-plate copper is much less costly than bronze, and is nearly equally good. It was much used, I believe, by the Prince Consort. Whether it becomes so black in the London atmosphere I am not aware.*

It will be seen from the foregoing remarks, that it is my object to unite in the memorial all, or as many as possible, of those decorative arts which the Prince Consort so anxiously fostered. Thus, besides sculpture, which is the primary form in which monumental art must express itself, and in addition to actual architecture and architectural carving, which must ver be its closest ally, I have largely availed myself of *repoussé* work in metal; of enamel; of inlaying in rich polished stones, such as crystals, cornelians, granite, porphyry, &c.; of pictures and other decorations in mosaic-work, &c., so as to render the memorial rich with all the arts which can be united with architecture.

The vaulted roof of the interior would be decorated with the enamel mosaic-work introduced from Venice by Dr. Salviati.

By thus introducing all the arts subsidiary to architecture, we should not only be rendering the memorial replete with beauty, and giving it that air of preciousness so essential to its object, but should be at once displaying and calling into exercise arts which the Prince Consort so earnestly desired to encourage, and should be rendering his memorial not only an illustration of, but a means of practically realising, many of the objects to which he devoted his energies.”

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

FREE-BORN.

What is the meaning of Free-born in our declaration, does it allude to slavery?—H. M.—[It does. The old system was so worked because, then, slaves were ineligible, but since the emancipation of the negroes it has been practically held, in the West Indies more particularly, that coloured men, though originally slaves, who have by their industry, or the laws of the empire, gained their freedom, are eligible for Freemasonry. With this interpretation of the practice we have nothing to do. We only state the usage as at present existing.]

REVISION OF THE LECTURES.

Much has been said of the different systems of working and frequent desires expressed that an authorised revision should take place. Is such a thing ever done abroad?—H. M.—[The Americans advocate it in these words. “A revision of the lodge lectures periodically, to meet the advance of civilization and science, ought to take place under the sanction of the Grand Lodge. Every institution, to be perfect, should be consistent with itself. And hence be insufficiency of the present lectures may reasonably be questioned. It is therefore desirable that the attention of the fraternity should be fairly awakened to the subject, that they may take the premises into their most serious consideration, and endeavour to place Free-

* I have learned, since writing the above, that the electro-deposit of copper acquires a by no means unpleasant tone of colour. I am also informed, on good authority, that there are several alloys of copper besides the ordinary bronze which retain their colour well, and by which several varieties of tint may be obtained; which, with the aid of partial gilding, would produce an excellent effect.

masonry on so substantial a basis, as to constitute the unmixed pride of its friends and defenders, and defy the malice of its traducers and foes, if any such are still to be found amongst those who are indifferent to its progress.”]

WHAT IS THE PROPER AGE TO BE INITIATED.

An old friend asks what is the proper age at which you make Freemasons? To which I replied twenty-one. Was I right?—A. J. W.—[Strictly so, but we suppose your querist asked it in allusion to himself, and should recommend all brethren to bear in mind the “three regrets” of an old gentleman at his initiation. I. That he was old when he became a Freemason and has spent the vigour of his youth in darkness. II. That his habits were formed, that he had not his early facility of intellect in acquiring and retaining knowledge, so as to be as serviceable to the Order as he wished to be. III. That he was not so good a man as a Freemason ought to be, and that his years were but few for improvement.]

AUTHOR OF A MASONIC PRAYER WANTED.

Who was the author of the following prayer, used at initiation and printed in *The Mason's Companion*, published at Ayr, in 1792?

“O most gracious and eternal God, who art the Chief Architect of the created Universe! grant unto us, thy servants, who have already entered ourselves into this most noble, ancient, and honourable fraternity, that we may be sober and thoughtful, and always have a remembrance of those sacred and holy things we have taken on us, and endeavour to instruct and inform each other in secrecy, that nothing may be unlawfully or illegally obtained, and that those persons who are now to be made Masons, may be worthy members; and may they, and all of us, live as men; considering the great end for which thy goodness has created us, do thou, O God, give us wisdom to contrive, in all our doings, strength to support in all difficulty, and beauty to adorn those heavenly mansions where thy honour dwells; and grant, O Lord, that we may agree together in brotherly love and charity one towards another; and in all our dealings in the world, do justice to all men, love mercy, and walk humbly with Thee, our God; and, at last, may an abundant entrance be administered unto us, into thy kingdom, O Great Jehovah.

“Now unto the King Eternal, Immortal, Invisible, the only wise God, be the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.”

Is it still used across the Tweed?—A. K. C.

LODGE NOMENCLATURE.

Turning over an old foreign list of lodges I met with the names of the following, amongst others: “The Three Golden Trowels; The Holy Emulation; The Three United Waters; The Three Pomegranates; The Three Flames; The Black Bear; The Three Elms; The Good Hope and the Green Oak.” Perhaps these may be suggestive to brethren in want of a title for a lodge.—NOMEN.

THE THRONE OF SOLOMON.

What was the throne of Solomon like?—F. M.—[In the first volume of a series entitled *Oriental Collections* there is a translation from a Persian M.S. on the history of Jerusalem, in which the throne in question is fully described. Whether it has any bearing upon Freemasonry we offer no opinion, but append the extract.

“The sides of it were pure gold, the feet of emerald and rubies, intermixed with pearls, each of which was as large as an ostrich's egg. The throne had seven steps; on each side were delineated orchards full of trees, the branches of which were of precious stones, representing fruit, ripe and unripe; on the tops of the trees were to be seen figures of plumage birds, particularly the peacock, the etaub, and kurges. All these birds were hollowed within artificially, so as to occasionally utter a thousand melodious sounds, such as the ear of mortals never before heard. On the first step were delineated vine branches, having bunches of grapes, composed of various colours of purple, violet, green, and red, so as to render the appearance of real fruit. On the second step, on each side of the throne, were two lions of terrible aspect, large as life, and formed of cast gold.

“The nature of this remarkable throne was such, that when Solomon placed his foot on the first step, the birds spread forth their wings, and made a fluttering noise in the air. On his touching the second step, the lions expanded their claws. On his reaching the third step, the whole assemblage of demons, and fairies, and men, repeated the praise of the Deity. When he arrived at the fourth step, voices were heard addressing him in the following manner: ‘Son of David, be thankful for the blessings which the Almighty has bestowed upon you.’ The same was repeated on his reaching the fifth step. On his touching the sixth, all the children of Israel joined them; and on his arrival at the seventh, and the throne, the birds and animals became in motion, and ceased not until he had placed himself on the royal seat, when the birds, lions, and other animals, by secret springs, discharged a shower of most precious perfumes on Solomon; after which two of the kurges descended and placed the golden crown upon his head.

“Before the throne was a column of burnished gold, on the top of which was a golden dove, which held in its beak a volume bound in silver. In this book was written the Psalms of David, and the dove having presented the book to the King, he read aloud a portion of it to the children of Israel. It is further related that on the approach of wicked persons to the throne, the lions were wont to set up a terrible roaring, and to lash their tails with violence; the birds also began to bristle up their feathers, and the assembly of demons and genii to utter horrid cries; so, for fear of them, no one dared to be guilty of falsehood, but all confessed their crimes. Such was the throne of Solomon, the Son of David.”]

TEMPLARY IN ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

What are the essential differences between English and American Knights Templar?—H. B.—[Sir Knight McLeod Moore thus states them in a letter to a defunct American Masonic periodical. Of course we are not answerable for the correctness of the descriptions.]

“You are of course aware that the English Craft and Royal Arch ritual is in conformity to the system of work revised and settled after the union of the Grand Lodge of England in 1813. The Royal Arch was revised, as now adopted, by the Chaplain to his late Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, who was Grand Master for so many years afterwards. All the lodges in Canada however, do not strictly adhere to the ritual of the United Grand Lodge of 1813, but mix it up with yours (in the United States), or, as we call it, the Athol System. In Toronto there is an excellent lodge and chapter, the St. Andrew's, working well according to the English United system.

“I am glad to find the Grand Encampment of the United States entering into Templar matters as regards costumes, etc. I cannot at all agree with your system. The degree of Red Cross, or properly, ‘Knight of the Sword,’ which you give as antecedent to the Knight Templar, has not the slightest connection with it. Your Ritual of Knight Templar is too much overloaded with ceremonial, number of signs, and sword work; whereas, we know the reception of a novice in the olden times, was a simple ceremony.

“I have seen a French work lately on the Order of the Temple, published in 1817, which claims for France the honour of being the only legitimate remaining branch of the Templars, stating that De Molai left the Grand Mastership of the Temple to Johannes Monius Larminices. But this cannot be correct, as no Grand Master ever did or could name his successor. The grounds brought forward by them are slight, and they can show no documentary evidence.

“The present Chivalric Order in Scotland, which does not require candidates to be Freemasons, claims to be the only body of legitimate Templars, and say that the French Order was first established in 1705, and that not one true Templar belonged to it.

“I am quite aware that in the ceremonial the most absurd innovations have crept in from what was anciently observed. But this can readily be accounted for, as no doubt some few of the ‘Knights, Esquires, and Serving Brethren,’ in their days of persecution, sought protection from the Freemasons; and it is well authenticated that, after the Reformation in Scotland, a number of genuine ‘Knights Templar, Knights of St. John, and Esquires’ of the Order, who had embraced the Protestant faith, laid aside their arms and joined a Masonic Lodge at Stirling, and, as Freemasons, elected Grand Masters of their own, and preserved the parts of their ceremonies under the veil

of Masonic secrecy, and then spread throughout England and Ireland calling themselves Masonic Templars. By this means I have no doubt that the customs, ceremonials, and costume became much changed, and a sad jumble of Chivalric and Masonic rites ensued, more particularly in the last century when the rage for mysterious and secret societies was at its highest.

"The jewels worn by the officers of English encampments, and many of the titles, there does not appear any history to sanction, nor can our Grand Conclave produce any authority for their adoption, though the jewels now adopted by us were taken in a great measure from the Scotch Order. The titles '1st and 2nd Captain, Senior and Junior Wardens, Prelate, Expert, Captain of Lines,' etc., are all modern innovations, as is also that of calling an assembly of Templars an encampment. This word may have arisen after the dispersion of the Order, from small detached bodies being found dispersed in different countries. *Commandery, Priory or Preceptory of the Order* being the correct term.

"I am not satisfied at the United States Templars refusing to admit English Templars without their taking intermediate degrees that we do not recognise. A great many of us object to the O.B. of the 'Knight of the East or Sword,' and I can see no use in the Order as connected with the Temple. There should certainly be some law passed to admit Templars of the English jurisdiction as *Templars*, without reference to other degrees.

"As a Masonic body, the Grand Lodge of England recognises no other degrees than those of which it takes charge, viz., the E.A., F.C., and M.M.; this is the first subdivision into which the degrees of Masonry are divided. There are, in the United States, France, Ireland, and some other places where higher degrees are conferred, other divisions into which the degree of Masonry are subdivided, each of which subdivisions is under the charge of some Grand Lodge or of some superior degree. The Grand Encampment of the United States requires that a candidate shall have taken the Mark and Most Excellent Masters' Degrees, but they also require him to be a Royal Arch Mason, which is higher than the two former. Now these two (Mark M. and M.E.M.), are not recognised in England at all, and I understand that if an English Royal Arch Mason visits your chapters, he will not be admitted unless healed. But many, I know, refuse to take more O.B.'s. So, in the same way, I could not visit your encampments, because I do not choose to take the O.B. of the Knight of Red Cross. Surely this cannot be right, or if so, Masonry is not universal. I maintain that the simpler and fewer the degrees, the better, as more in accordance with ancient usage.

"The Royal Arch is only the perfection of the Master Mason, and the word was formerly given when taking the chair as installed Master. The degree of Royal Arch, as a separate ceremony, arose from the disputes between the so-called 'ancient' and 'modern' Masons, and the ceremonial of the Royal Arch was never heard of until 1750. There is no connection with our Templar Order and the rites of Masonry, but none but *Christian Royal Arch Masons* will be admitted as candidates, simply that as being vouched for in that degree of Freemasonry, we presume we are admitting into our Order none but *good men and true*. The test of old was 'noble birth,' this, with many points of the vow, has very properly been abolished, to conform to a more enlightened and liberal age.

"All United States Templars are received and welcomed into an English encampment, but we are debarred from yours unless we take O.B.'s we are taught not to recognise, and do not consider necessary. I very much fear that this is a stumbling block to many who would otherwise visit the encampments in the United States."

OPERATIVE FREEMASONRY.

I am obliged to "Ebor" for his kind offer; anything relating to the history of the Operative fraternity cannot fail to interest us all. First, as to the Sloane MS., already quoted from, is it the 1646 or the 1659 document? 2. Are the 30, or 40, regulations there given attached to the usual operative constitutions? 3. Can "Ebor" vouch that the words "society, company and fraternity," are contained in the original document? 4. Is not that document, itself, destructive of "Ebor's" theory, as I understand it, and in conformity with the teaching of the Grand Lodge of 1717? Since it shows that no one could

be made an apprentice until he was twenty-one years of age, that being beyond the time of life of a working apprentice. There can be little doubt that present Freemasonry is from three sources, viz., the Rosicrucians, Chivalric Order of the Temple, and speculative Masonry of the operative builders, the question being what share has each had in forming the present system? York Masonry was affected by the Templars, London by the Rosicrucians, Templary and Speculative Masonry probably being branches of the elder brother of the mysteries, latterly termed Rosicrucianism.—△.

THE ORDER OF CININNATUS.

With reference to this order, concerning which information was solicited by "Ordo ab Chao" (November 15th, 1862), in the essay on *American Statesmen*, contributed by Lord Brougham to the *Edinburgh Review*, October, 1837, there appears the following passage, "But, at the first, no reasonable doubt can be entertained of the fondness for monarchical institutions which prevailed among the Federalists. The difficulty with which the scheme of the *Cincinnati*, an order of merit and of military merit, was first modified and then abandoned, is well known."—III.

BRO. RICHARD LINNECAR.

I have in my possession an engraved portrait of Richard Linnekar, R.W.M. of the Lodge of Unanimity (No. 202), Wakefield, and a coroner for the county of York. The portrait was published in the year 1800. It is from a painting by H. Singleton, and engraved by T. Barrow; and represents the "worthy Mason" as seated in the chair of K.S., with the jewel of office suspended from his neck. On the pedestal before him is the Bible, opened at the Gospel of St. John. The figure is surrounded by Masonic emblems, &c. Can you, or any, of your readers give some information as to Bro. Linnekar, who seems to have been a person of note in his day and generation?—TRIANGLE.

SENSATION.

An incident of a peculiar kind occurred to a willing assistant in collecting marks on mediæval buildings as made by operative Masons, at Worcester Cathedral, which might have had a very serious effect on the searching brother. After passing over the walls of the interior of the nave, chancel, side chapels, and the curious retiring places for the vergers, subsacristans and others, the brother descended into the crypt from the outside of the building, which was in utter darkness, save a small stream of light through a wooden partition due north and south—the brother hoping to find means of admitting light into the dismal abode of the dead to assist his labours. Proceeding on his course by aid of his umbrella, probing his way, his foot struck something which yielded to the blow. A momentary shudder, and doubtless cold perspiration might have been traced on the forehead of our searching brother. After trying the effect of the end of his umbrella, only one consideration presented itself to our brother's mind—that it was a corpse wrapped around with a blanket or other covering, and placed there for the purpose of removal. He placed his foot upon it when the substance yielded to the pressure, and to some minds it would have been evidence strong as proof in holy writ, that the first impression was correct. Confidence being restored and the service overhead having commenced, our brother found one of the workmen, who produced a candle for the purpose of closer inspection, and descended the steps of the gloomy apartment, and with much difficulty succeeded in lighting it, but only for a brief period, the draughts of wind being excessive, as if to prevent examination of this peculiar substance; the brother, however, succeeded in ascertaining that there were no marks visible for him to store, and that the substance which had yielded to the pressure of his foot was only an old worn out hassock.—R. E. X.—Worcester April 22nd, 1863.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

CLUB LICENCES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Allow me, through your columns, to call the attention of the brethren to the budget of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Article 8, "Club Licences," as seriously affecting all lodges held in private rooms; and to urge that immediate steps be taken to exempt associations formed for charitable or benevolent purposes, especially the society of Freemasons. There has, for some time, been a laudible effort made in the provinces to obtain private rooms for the purposes of lodge meetings, some of which have been accomplished at great cost, but a tax of £17 ls., with 5 per cent. added annually, would divert this course, and act very prejudicially on those already established, in fact must in many cases either break them up, or cripple all their charitable exertions. I cannot but feel assured that the influence the Craft could bring to bear would induce an exemption in our case, if at once well directed; and I trust no exertion will be spared to cause the matter to be fully and properly represented. The present is no time for words or arguments; the matter is of such vital importance that its immediate action is required; let the same be by deputation, or petition, no time should be lost. Should lodges of emergency be necessary, whether Grand, Provincial, or private, by all means let them be called, so that our whole strength may be used to keep us without the pale of parliamentary interference, and leave our funds free for charitable purposes.

I am dear Sir and Brother, yours truly and fraternally,
Bradford, April 18th, 1863. P.M. 379.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Permit me through your columns to call the attention of the Craft, to the serious effect upon all lodges which are held in private rooms, of the proposed "Club and Association Licenses," in the budget of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

By this arrangement—if carried in the House of Commons—all private lodges retailing wines, beer, and spirits, to their own members, will have to pay an annual license of £17 ls., and 5 per cent. thereon. This will in many cases, either compel the lodge to put an end to refreshment altogether, or to return to the hotel system, from which so many of us have at last happily emerged, and which has done so much injury to the Craft.

I cannot but believe that a fair and frank statement of the facts of the case, will lead to a modification by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, of his plan as regards lodges, and I shall be glad to co-operate with any brethren who think with me, in obtaining an interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
A. F. A. WOODFORD.

Swillington, Leeds, April 21st, 1863.

THE ROYAL ARCH DISPUTE IN SCOTLAND

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

SIR AND COMPANION,—The article which appeared in last week's MAGAZINE, having reference to the so-called expulsion of several Royal Arch Masons from Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, I beg to inform you, is a most unfair representation of the facts which led so many (about 200) Companions to renounce all connection with that body. This they well know; yet they proceeded to expulsion without having any right to sit in judgment

over those on whom they have passed their dire sentence, and this without even making a charge against any one of them, simply because they acted from conscientious motives, and would not submit to those decisions which were contrary to the laws, and subversive to the best interests of the Order.

I am, yours fraternally,

P.Z.

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

DEAR SIR,—In your impression of the 18th inst. you inserted a document purporting to emanate from the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, and dated from Grand Scribe E.'s chambers,—O that you had a birdseye view of the same!—and by the said document, it, the Supreme Grand Chapter, in its supreme wisdom and grand ire, expels fourteen Royal Arch Masons, all of whom had already withdrawn themselves, voluntarily, from its arched roof, seeking shelter and protection under a more general, if not so supremely grand a one; and this voluntary act they accompanied with and justified by several reasons, amongst which is one of something to the following effect, viz., that, contrary to the laws of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, and also a recent interpretation of the same by the said Chapter itself, by which it is declared no companion can be suspended from Royal Arch privileges, without a formal libel or complaint being preferred against and served upon him,—yet Supreme Grand Chapter, in December, 1862, did, in its supreme wisdom, suspend four chapters from working till September, 1863, and thirteen companions from Royal Arch privileges for twelve months, and this without either libel or complaint being served on any of these chapters, or either of these companions. Nor in this all: the supreme wrath is not yet expended. On the 6th of April, inst., not only on those who, from having borne the lighter infliction of suspension, were in some measure prepared for the fell swoop of its concentrated wrath on their expulsion or excommunication, but also on others, to whom neither time for preparation nor warning had been given, "down comes the blow," and they are cut off and without remorse thrown over the sacred hedge of Supreme Grand Chapter enclosure. Nay, further, other Grand Chapters, &c., are seriously warned not to touch anything so defiled as that which said Supreme Grand Chapter has pronounced spurious and unclean. These proceedings, as well in their wisdom (?), as their regularity, can by anyone at all conversant with Scotch Royal Arch matters, easily be traced to the proper source, and notwithstanding the boast in Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapters report for the year ending 31st March, 1863, of "increased prosperity," it needs no oracle to foretell that under its present director or directorship, it will soon be numbered amongst those things *effete*, that like Giant Pagan, retain the disposition, having lost the power of making themselves hurtful.

The truth is, Mr. Editor, that if ever the history of the secession from Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland be written truthfully, it will be a record of one official blunder, endeavouring to hide itself behind a bigger one till *consummatum est*. I am sure you are not aware how we manage matters in Scotland; for illustration, what expense per annum do you think an income of £208 5s. 1d., should cost for management? Say for example that of the Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland: to be sure election expenses are rather a serious item, but you will scarcely believe me when I tell you that North the Tweed it only takes £168 6s. 8d. for that purpose, I beg your pardon, from that remains to be deducted the magnificent sum of £5 expended in charity.

Such facts carry with them their own commentary, they require none from

Yours fraternally,
EZRA.

April 22nd, 1863.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

We are pleased to observe that a new lodge is to be opened at Abingdon on Thursday, the 30th inst.; and also that our Right Worshipful Bro. McIntyre, G.R., the Acting G.M. for Berks and Bucks, will perform the consecration ceremony. The musical arrangements are in the hands of Bro. Dyson, of the Chapel Royal, Windsor, who has given much time and attention to the subject of music in connection with Masonry.

A warrant has been granted for a new lodge, to be named "St. Aubin," 1256, at Prince Town, a suburb of the borough of Devonport.

At the meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence on Wednesday last, Bro. Hopwood, P.G.D., in the chair, sixteen petitioners were relieved with £155, and two recommended to Grand Lodge for grants, one of £50, and the other of £30—making a total of £235.

The *Deccan Herald* says:—"We are pleased to learn that Mr. R. B. Barton, Barrister-at-Law, has been unanimously elected Provincial Grand Master of Western India. The Grand Lodge of Scotland will, of course, confirm the proceedings of the premier Masonic lodge in British India. Mr. Barton is an old and estimable Mason, and under his fostering care Masonry is sure to flourish all over Western India."

THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

A Quarterly Court of the governors and subscribers of this School was held at the Freemasons' Tavern on Monday last, Bro. John Symonds, V.P., in the chair.

After the reading of the minutes and the other formal business had been transacted, Bro. JOHN UDALL, V.P., moved—

"1. That Bro. Charles W. Elkington, P.G.S.B., and D. Prov. G.M. of Warwickshire, 'for special services rendered to this Institution' in connection with the anniversary festival in 1862, be elected a Vice-President of the Institution, with ten votes at all elections of children."

This was seconded and carried, as was also the next resolution—

"That Bro. R. E. Nelson, Prov. G. Sec. of West Yorkshire, 'for special services rendered to this Institution' in connection with the anniversary festival in March, 1863, be elected a Vice-President of the Institution, with ten votes at all elections of children."

Bro. UDALL then moved—"That Mrs. Alfred Lamb, 'for special services rendered to this Institution' at the anniversary festival in March, 1863, be elected a Vice-President of the Institution, with ten votes at all elections of children." He urged that the services of Mrs. Lamb in acting as one of the Stewards at the late festival had been of essential service to the Institution, her list of subscriptions having amounted to upwards of £200.

The motion having been seconded, Bro. COX opposed it on the ground that, whilst the rules of the Institution allowed a brother to be made a Vice-President for services performed to the Institution, they gave no such powers as regarded any other person, valuable as, no doubt, were the services of ladies to any charity.

A long discussion ensued, in the course of which Bro. GIRAUD suggested that the rule should be made more definite as to the amount of collection required to entitle a brother or

any other person to the distinction of a Vice-President. Ultimately it was resolved on the motion of Bro. Stebbing to remit the question to the General Committee for consideration.

Bro. BENJAMIN HEAD, V.P., moved—"That in acknowledgment of the generous gifts of stock to the School at various times by Bro. W. Freeman, he be elected a Life Governor of the Institution."

Bro. COX having also objected to this vote, on the ground that the services rendered were not such as were contemplated by the rules of the Institution, the motion was withdrawn.

On the motion of Bro. UDALL, seconded by Bro. CREATON, it was resolved—

"That in Rule 9, after the words 'Additional Vote,' the following words be added, 'And to a second additional vote for every subsequent Stewardship with a similar donation; and that the rule so amended shall have a retrospective effect.'"

This resolution only extends the rule by which a brother obtains an additional vote when he serves the office of Steward to the festival, and becomes a Life Governor by giving a similar privilege every time he may serve the office.

Bro. HENRY EMPSON moved—"That the House Committee be instructed to forthwith issue Advertisements for Plans and Estimates for the erection of a New School House at Wood Green and to take such steps in reference thereto as to them may seem most expedient."

The motion was carried, subject to a limitation that the amount to be expended for such purpose should not exceed £200.

Bro. Captain J. CREATON, V.P., moved—"That in consideration of the energy displayed by the Secretary in connection with the late Festival, the amount derived being £4678, which result is mainly due to the exertions of Bro. Binckes, he do receive on the present and on all future similar occasions, as a gratuity, the sum of five per cent. on any amount exceeding £2000, accruing from the Anniversary Festival."

Bro. HEAD seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Bro. WARREN moved—"That should Frank Herbert Read not be elected on the ballot, the House Committee be authorised to admit him into the School on the earliest opportunity, without proceeding to another election, in consideration of his having been by error declared elected at the last meeting."

Bro. STEBBING seconded the motion, which, on the suggestion of Bro. Savage, was postponed until after the ballot, lest a decision in favour of the resolution might have the effect, by setting a number of votes free, of interfering with the chance of success of other candidates.

The ballot for three boys to enter the school, from a list of twenty-three candidates, was then proceeded with. The scrutineers did not make their return until nearly 6 o'clock, when they declared the election to have fallen on—

	VOTES.
Thomas Noel	2852
Richard T. Richards	2276
Walter F. Weeks	2226

On the various other numbers being read, Bro. Sheen, who had been acting on behalf of the candidate No. 21, Percy Banks, said that his candidate had been returned with 500 votes less than he himself polled.

Bro. DAY said, though he was satisfied with the result, still he believed his candidate ought to have 100 more votes.

Bro. STEBBING and others made a similar protest on behalf of Read, and it was resolved that a fresh scrutiny should take place, a Committee of four brethren being added to the previous six scrutineers.

Bro. WARREN renewed his motion with regard to Read, which was rejected.

The meeting then adjourned till ten o'clock, when, on the second return being made, it was found that Read was returned and not Weeks.

We give the two returns; the candidates marked by a * having had their numbers altered by the second scrutiny.

ELECTED.			
	FIRST SCRUTINY.	SECOND SCRUTINY.	
*Noel	2852	2699	
*Read	2182	2389	
Richards	2276	2276	
NOT ELECTED.			
Weeks	2226	2226	
*Banks	1627	2154	
Hanham	1924	1924	
*Wildman	1702	1717	
*Bird	1311	1225	
*Woodcock	1165	1171	
*Parkinson	1030	1021	
Mosse	634	634	
Lewis	526	526	
Shaddock	355	355	
*Dawson	269	284	
Rees	282	282	
Wilson	240	240	
Birch	233	233	
Crabtree	134	134	
Rice	125	125	
Denton	123	123	
*Floyd	633	106	
Jackson	16	16	
Martin	6	6	

Bro. DAY again protested against the return, his candidate, Weeks, being thrown out; but Bro. BALLANTYNE, who had acted on the second scrutiny on behalf of Weeks, declared himself perfectly satisfied with the accuracy of the second return.

Votes of thanks to the scrutineers and Chairman closed the proceedings.

[The mistake with regard to Banks is easily explained, a number of votes being placed to the credit of No. 20 on the list (Floyd) instead of 21 (Banks); but how the other errors occurred it is impossible to understand, seeing that there are no less than seven, and that 207 of Read's votes got spread about in a most extraordinary matter. The truth is, we believe the scrutiny to be hurried in order to meet the desires of the brethren for an early return; and steps must be taken to put a stop to these continued mistakes.]

METROPOLITAN.

ST. GEORGE'S LODGE (No. 164).—This flourishing lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 15th, at the Lecture Hall, Greenwich. The business consisted of three initiations, one raising, and one passing. Dr. Wm. Scott, W.M., occupied the chair, and rendered each ceremony in his well-known style. After business the brethren adjourned to Bro. Moore's, Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich. There were several visitors.

LODGE OF JUSTICE (No. 172).—This old-established lodge held a regular meeting at the White Swan Inn, High-street, Deptford, (Bro. J. Porter's), on Wednesday, April 8th. There was rather a numerous meeting, and the business consisted of one raising, two passings, and one initiation. Visitors—Bros. Wingfield, J.D. 198, and J. S. Blomeley, W.S. 1173.

WELLINGTON LODGE (No. 805).—This lodge assembled on Tuesday, April 14th, at the Clarendon Arms Tavern, Upper Lewisham-road, Deptford, Bro. John Stevens, jun., W.M., in the chair. The only ceremony was raising one brother to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, which the W.M. went through in an able and impressive manner. There was a petition brought before the lodge to be signed by the officers, to support the opening of a new lodge near the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum. After some discussion, the signatures were refused. After the business was ended the brethren sat down to a cold collation. Visitors, S. Robinson, P.M. and Sec. 164, and J. S. Blomeley, W.S. 1173.

NEW CONCORD LODGE (No. 1115).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Friday evening, April 17th, at the Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton, and was, as usual, very numerously attended by both members and visitors. Bro. Arthur Osmond, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. Emmens and Swinnoek, P.M.'s; Estwick, S.W.; Baker, J.W.; and the rest of his officers. Although an emergency meeting had been held only a few days before, when three gentlemen were admitted into the mysteries of Freemasonry, there were on this evening ten candidates for initiation. The minutes of the former lodge and lodge of emergency having been read, Bros. Bartlett, Bailey, and Vernon were passed to the degree of F.C. Messrs. Revill, Wilson, Hodgson, James Merrett, and Morris Moss were admitted into the ancient Order of Freemasonry, the ceremonies being most ably performed by the W.M. Some routine business having been disposed of, the lodge was closed, and the brethren, numbering about forty-five, sat down to a well-furnished banquet. After the cloth had been drawn, the W.M. gave the formal Masonic toasts, which, it is almost needless to say, were received with all the honours to which they were entitled. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was one that was most peculiarly gratifying to him, as he had had the pleasure of initiating that evening five gentlemen into the Craft, and he felt sure that they were deeply sensible of the honour of being admitted as members of their ancient and noble institution. He trusted that they would prove to be an ornament to Freemasonry, and that the great principles of it, which were brotherly love, relief, and truth, would be indelibly impressed upon their minds, and that they would ever feel pleasure in having joined so noble an Order. Most cordially did he wish them success, and he felt sure that every brother would give them a hearty welcome. He gave them "The Health of their newly-initiated brethren. The toast was very cordially received. The newly-admitted brethren severally returned thanks for the honour conferred upon them, and expressed their determination as far as they then knew them, to carry out the precepts inculcated at their initiation.—Bro. BALLENS, P.M., said he had been at that early period entrusted by the W.M. with the use of his gavel, and he wished to inform their newly-initiated brethren that one of the brightest ornaments of Freemasonry was their charities, and having alluded to an election for the Girls' School which had recently taken place, and that he had been successful in obtaining the admission of a candidate, in whom he felt personally interested, he said, in addition to those charities, they had a benevolent fund of their own, like that which was attached to what he might call the parent of the New Concord Lodge. That was his mother lodge and also that in which the W.M. in the chair was initiated, and in that lodge was established a benevolent fund, and although it began in a very humble way it now possessed many hundreds of pounds. They were all well that night and in prosperity, but they could not tell what might happen tomorrow, and, therefore, they subscribed to this fund, so that if any brother of the lodge should fall into distressed circumstances, it was most honourable to the New Concord Lodge to be able, at once, to vote him £20, £30, or even £50 from its fund. In connection with this subject he wished to allude to the very able services of Bro. Estwick, treasurer of this fund, and he could assure them that he really had its interest at heart, and did everything in his power to promote its welfare. Next year, and when he would have to take the place of their W.M., he would be obliged to resign the office of Treasurer, but he did not doubt that some brother would be found to take his place during that period, and he hoped the following year to see him resume the office of Treasurer of the lodge, for they hailed him as one of the best supporters of their Masonic charities. He concluded by giving the "Masonic Charities and the Benevolent Fund of the Lodge," coupling with the toast the name of Bro.

Estwick, S.W. and Treasurer.—Bro. Estwick, in returning thanks said while he desired to see the prosperity of all their Masonic Charities, yet the flattering terms in which Bro. Emmens had spoken of him was really more than he deserved. He would do all he could for the benevolent fund, he had been the Treasurer of the lodge from the commencement and he deemed it to be a very high honour to be entrusted with the care of their money. With respect to his present position he was indebted to Bro. Emmens for it, and nothing would give him greater pleasure than to continue as their Treasurer, but if it should be their will that he should be placed in a higher position, he would do all in his power to promote the welfare of the lodge.—The W.M. said the next toast he had the honour to propose was "The Health of their brother Visitors." They were at all times pleased to see them, and they gave them a hearty welcome, and hoped they would frequently come amongst them.—Bro. R. M. Smith, W.M. of the Globe Lodge; Bro. Nicholson, P.M. 101; Bro. Mansfield, 201; and Bro. Thompson, 206, severally returned thanks.—Bro. EMMENS, P.M., in proposing the health of the W.M., said, as their lodge was an offshoot of the Old Concord Lodge, he hoped their brother visitors from that lodge would go back to it with the impression that it had endeavoured to imitate it in its working, and that its officers performed their duty in a satisfactory manner. The working of their W.M. had been most satisfactory, and the lodge could not fail to prosper under his Mastership. In the Old Concord Lodge the Master never quitted the chair without rising and proposing "Success to the New Concord Lodge," and, as they never forgot them, they ought never to forget the Old Concord Lodge. He asked them to drink "Success, long life, and prosperity to the W.M., and that he might go out of office with the same success as his duties had commenced."—The W.M. said he was deeply sensible of the kind eulogiums that their P.M., Bro. Emmens, had been pleased to pass upon him for the performance of his duties, and he had in a great measure to thank him for it, for no one could be more indefatigable in his teaching than Bro. Emmens. He had already initiated eight gentlemen, and he had many more in perspective, and he hoped to be able to do more to gain their approbation; and when he should retire from the chair he should always feel the deepest sentiments of gratitude and pleasure for the kindness he had received during his year of office. The W.M., in very appropriate terms, gave "Prosperity to the Old Concord Lodge," for which Bro. Nicholson returned thanks. The W.M. then gave "The Past Masters of the Lodge."—Bro. SWINNOCK, in returning thanks for himself and Bro. Emmens, said it was most gratifying to see the members rally round the W.M. during his year of office, as he felt assured he would do his best to promote the interests of the lodge; and, for himself, he only regretted he had not done more, but he had done to the best of his ability. On behalf of the P.M.'s of the lodge, he thanked the brethren for the manner in which they had responded to the toast, and wished them long life and prosperity.—Some other toasts were given, and several songs having been sung, the business of the evening was brought to a close.

INSTRUCTION.

ST. GEORGE'S LODGE (No. 164).—The fourth anniversary meeting of this lodge will take place on Thursday, May 7th, at six o'clock, at the Lecture Hall, Greenwich. Bro. H. A. Collington, Preceptor, P.M., will be in the chair. The lodge will be opened and closed in the three degrees, and all the working tools given—the first section by Bro. W. Orchard, W.M. 93; the second section by Bro. G. S. Hodgson, I.G. 1173; the third section by Bro. J. Stevens, jun., W.M. 805. A lecture on the first tracing board will be given by Bro. Dr. Wm. Scott, P.M. 1173, and W.M. 164.

PROVINCIAL.

DEVONSHIRE.

LODGE ST. AUBIN (No. 1256).—The first lodge, under the warrant recently granted, was held at the Brunswick Masonic Hall, Plymouth (kindly lent by a unanimous vote for that purpose), on the evening of Friday, the 17th instant, when Bro. Samuel Chapple, P.M., Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers., after reading the warrant, invested his officers as follows:—Bros.

Kent, S.W.; Spry, J.W.; Bro. Bird, Treas.; G. Elliott, Sec. Clemens, S.D.; Gudridge, J.D.; Cock, I.G.; Hansen and Sinton, Stewards; Beckford, Dir. of Cers.; and J. Elliott, Tyler. The distribution was made amid the most enthusiastic applause, and seemed in every way satisfactory. A meeting was ordered to be summoned on the evening of Tuesday, the 28th inst., to ballot for five candidates and seven joining members, after which a banquet will be held. Suitable premises are being erected at Prince Town, and will be ready for occupation in June or July next, and will (D.V.) be consecrated in the autumn.

HAMPSHIRE.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Lodge of Peace and Harmony (No. 462).—This flourishing lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 18th inst., when three initiations took place, and Bros. Webb, P.M., and A. H. Weston, Sec., became Life Governors of the Boys' School in addition to Bros. Payne, P.M., and Stebbing, P.M. The lodge was honoured with a visit from Bro. Alfred Smith, W.M., and several members of the Lodge of Economy, Winchester. In the absence of the W.M., Alderman Weston, engaged in reference to some local Bills in Parliament, Bro. T. P. Payne, P.M., ably presided. Nearly fifty brethren sat down to the banquet, and after the usual toast, "The Prosperity of the Lodge of Economy" was given and enthusiastically received. It was eloquently acknowledged by its distinguished Master, Bro. Alfred Smith. "The Masonic Charities" were specially given by Bro. Stebbing, P.M., coupling therewith the name of Bro. Sherry, P.M., who, on rising to respond, was received with the strongest marks of respect, his exertions in Hampshire having raised many hundred pounds, and a strong and abiding union in favour of the Charities. Bro. Sherry replied in a sound practical speech, which was, as usual, well and warmly received. Bro. Naish, P.M. No. 90, and other visitors addressed the meeting, which carried on a most interesting and enlivening Masonic reunion till nearly midnight.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

LIVERPOOL.—Ancient Union Lodge (No. 245).—Thursday, April 16th, being the regular night, the lodge was opened in the Masonic Temple by Bro. C. Rawson, W.M., assisted by his Officers. The minutes of last lodge were read and confirmed. Mr. W. McDonald, Mr. John Alderdice, and Mr. John Clarke were initiated into the mysteries of the Order, Bro. Crawford, P.M., explaining the working tools, and Bro. Freish, S.W., delivering the charge. The lodge was called from labour to refreshment, when the half-yearly banquet, served up in the hall by Bro. Bacon, was all that could be desired. The chair was taken by the W.M. at seven o'clock; on his right were Bros. Crawford, P.M.; Ellis, Bromley, Young, Colborne, Banister, &c.; and on the left Bros. Carrick, Fryer, W.M. 368; Crane, S.W. 310; Liddell, W.M. 1026; Campbell, Campion, &c.; Bro. Freish, S.W., in the west, and Bro. J. White, J.W., in the south, and nearly forty members of the lodge. After the cloth was drawn, the W.M. gave in rotation "The Queen," "Albert Edward Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the Royal Family," "The M.W. Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland," "The Earl de Grey and Ripon, D.G.M.," also "Scotland and Ireland," prefacing each in appropriate terms. The National Anthem and other songs were given in good style between the toasts by Bros. James, Hall, Crompton, Godfrey, Liddell, &c. The next toast was "The R.W. Prov. Grand Master, L. J. N. Starkie; his deputy, Sir Thos. G. Hesketh, Bart., and the Prov. Grand Officers," coupling the name of Bro. C. J. Banister, Prov. G.D.C. of this Province, and office-bearer in the Province of Durham and Northumberland. The toast was drunk with full Masonic honours, and replied to by Bro. Banister in a truly fraternal speech, advocating the cause of the charitable institutions of the Order. Bro. Crawford, P.M., having possession of the Master's gavel, called on the brethren to fill bumpers for the next toast; and in a neat speech proposed the health of the W.M., enlarging on the manner in which he had filled all the offices, and performed the duties of each to the satisfaction of the lodge; drunk with enthusiasm, and full Masonic honours. The W.M. after returning thanks in appropriate terms for himself, and thanking the brethren for their repeated kindnesses to him, said he had now a very pleasing duty to perform, dilated upon the great ability, talent, and gentlemanly bearing with which the lodge had been presided over for the past year, and proceeded in the name of the

brethren of the Ancient Union Lodge (No. 245) to present to Bro. M. Crawford, P.M., a very handsome P.M.'s jewel, as a slight token of the very high estimation in which he is held by the brethren of the lodge, for the very able and efficient manner in which he presided over them. The W.M. then invested him by placing the jewel on his left breast, where he hoped Bro. Crawford would ever wear it, and remember the good feeling and unanimity with which it was presented, and at the same time, when that jewel was being looked upon by the junior brethren of the lodge, it would stimulate them to qualify themselves for the high and important office he had so recently relinquished. He concluded by proposing health and every happiness this world could bestow upon their immediate P.M., Bro. Mathew Crawford, which was drunk with all the honours. Bro. M. Crawford, in a modest and becoming speech, returned his sincere and unqualified thanks for the very handsome and substantial token of their esteem and respect, and trusted that he might never be found unworthy to wear the very handsome jewel they had that day caused to be placed on his breast; and when he looked upon that jewel it would remind him of his duty as a man and a Freemason, and stimulate him to prepare for his admission into that Grand Lodge above where the world's great Architect lives and reigns for ever. P.M.'s Bros. Ellis, Bromley, Young, and Colborne returned thanks for the P.M.'s and Officers of the Lodge. Bros. Fryer (No. 368), Liddell (No. 1026), and Crane (No. 310) returned thanks for the visitors. The newly initiated brethren, Bros. Clarke, McDonald, and Alderdice, severally returned thanks for their healths being proposed and favourably received, which brought one of the happiest evenings to a close. The lodge was then called to labour, communications read, propositions received, and closed in due form.

WARRINGTON.—Lodge of Lights (No. 173).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, on Monday evening last; present, Bros. H. B. White, W.M.; Capt. John Knight, S.W.; John Bowes, J.W. and Sec.; Charles Pettitt, S.D. (S.W. 151); Joseph Maxfield, P.M. as J.D.; W. Woods, I.G.; George Huddock, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works, and other brethren. The lodge was opened in solemn form in the first degree, and the minutes of the last meeting having been read, they were declared to be correctly recorded. Bro. Blackhurst having given satisfactory evidence of his proficiency in the Craft degree, was entrusted with a test of merit, and raised as a Master Mason in a most solemn and impressive manner by the W.M., the working tools being explained and the charge delivered by Bro. Bowes. The W.M. proposed, and Bro. Maxfield seconded, a gentleman as a fit and proper person to be made a Mason. Other items of business having been transacted, the lodge was finally closed, and the brethren separated at 9 o'clock.

ROYAL ARCH.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The following is the Report of the Committee of General Purposes, to be presented to Grand Chapter on the 8th of May:—

"To the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England.

"The Committee of General Purposes beg to report that they have examined the accounts from the 21st January to the 15th April, 1863, which they find to be as follows:—

" Balance, 21st January, 1863	£216	17	4
Subsequent receipts.....	204	19	6
	£421	16	10
Disbursements	124	10	4

Leaving a balance of ... £297 6 6

whi balance is in the hands of Messrs. Willis, Percival, and Co., bankers of the Grand Treasurer.

"The Committee have also to report that, since the last meeting of Grand Chapter—when the consideration of a petition for a chapter to be attached to the Oriental Lodge at Constantinople was deferred—they have received further communications having reference to this subject, which they beg to submit to the consideration of Grand Chapter.

"The Committee have received a petition from Comps. Raphael Joshua Joseph as Z., Charles, Aikin Fairbridge as H.,

Henry A. Ebden as J., and eleven others, for a chapter to be attached to the Joppa Lodge, No. 1166, Cape Town, Cape of Good Hope, South Africa, to be called the Joppa Chapter, to meet at Cape Town, Cape of Good Hope, on the first Monday in the months of February, May, August, and November in each year.

"This petition is regular in form and signed by four registered Royal Arch Masons, but it is not accompanied with the formal sanction of the lodge, which has been written for; the Committee, therefore, recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted, subject to the formal sanction of the lodge being received.

"The Committee have also received a petition from Comps. Thomas Martin Wilkin as Z., John Hart, jun., as H., Henry John Mason as J., and ten others, for a chapter to be attached to the Philanthropic Lodge (No. 124), King's Lynn, in the county of Norfolk, to be called the Philanthropic Chapter, to meet at the Duke's Head Hotel, King's Lynn, on the second Thursday in the months of January, April, July, and October in each year.

"This petition is in all respects regular, and the Committee therefore recommend that the prayer thereof be granted.

"The Committee have further to report that a return, accompanied with the fees due to Grand Chapter thereon, has been received from the Chapter of the Rock, No. 325, Trichinopoly, which chapter was erased by order of the Grand Chapter, in August, 1861, for having neglected to make any return for several years, or to take any notice of the summonses and peremptory summonses issued calling for returns; the last exaltation reported having taken place in March, 1853. No information is given in the return to show by whose authority the chapter was reopened, and amongst the names now returned there is only one of a previously registered member.

"The Committee have to report that a letter has been received from the Grand Scribe E., of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, notifying that certain companions who had been suspended by the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, and formed themselves into what they termed 'A General Grand Royal Arch Chapter, for Scotland and the Colonies,' and had commenced issuing charters and working the Royal Arch degrees, and further notifying the expulsion of such companions from the Order of Royal Arch Freemasons, and requesting that publicity may be given to such act of expulsion, in order that other chapters may not through ignorance admit into their meetings any of the expelled companions or others exalted in the chapters organised under their auspices; and the Committee have finally to report that a letter has been received purporting to be signed by the thirteen companions named in the said letter of the Grand Scribe, announcing that they have created themselves into a General Grand Royal Arch Chapter for Scotland and the Colonies.

"(Signed) "R. W. JENNINGS, President.
"Freemasons' Hall, London, April 16, 1863."

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

LANCASHIRE.

MANCHESTER.—Jerusalem or Early Grand Encampment of Lancashire.—A meeting of this encampment was held on the 15th inst., at the Masonic rooms. Present:—Sir Knts. John Yarker, Jun., P. G.V.C.C., E.C.; Benjamin St. John B. Joule, 90°, P.G.O.L., Prelate; Capt. Henry Anthony Bennet, 30°, P.E.C., P. 1st G.S.B. and P. P.G.H.L., as 1st C.; Capt. Charles Ellis, P.E.C., P.G.H.C., as Reg.; J. L. Hine, P.E.C., P.H.L., Treas.; J. B. Hide, P.E.C. and P. Prov. G. 1st Capt., Bengal, as C. of L. Visiting Sir Knts., Rev. S. N. Porter, J. L. Bold, P.E.C., J. Roby. Letters were read from Sir Knts. Leather, J. Smith, and Bolderson, who being in London at the meeting of the Supreme Council were unable to attend. The deputy appointed by the Lodge of Lights (No. 173), Warrington, having delivered the old 1786 York warrant of this encampment, it was proposed and unanimously resolved, that a vote of thanks to W. Bro. H. B. White and the Lodge of Lights be entered on the minutes, and that as a mark of respect to that lodge, their deputy, Bro. S. N. Norton, be made an honorary member. The history of this document, as ascertained by Bro. White from the old papers of his lodge, is shortly as follows:—This encampment and the Lodge of St. John (Nos. 322 and 1786), met

together for many years at the Grapes' Inn, Manchester, the latter about 1820 removed to Warrington, and in 1830 united with the Lodge of Lights, and thence the possession of the document. The manner in which it has been recovered is another instance of the value of the MAGAZINE as a means of communication. The E.C. requested that all Sir Knights on the roll would give in to the Registrar an heraldic description, or a sketch, of their banners, so that when a new muster roll was prepared the same might be inserted. The encampment was then duly closed and the Sir Knights adjourned to refreshment. As usual much conversation of interest prevailed, and a remarkable fact was mentioned by a Sir Knight of his experience in India, by that during the mutiny, the continental sign of distress had saved many lives, and the Brahmins wondered how we got hold of it. The next meeting of the encampment is on the 3rd Wednesday in October, for election of officers.

SCOTLAND.

A meeting of the resident Office-bearers of Glasgow Priory of the Religions and Military Order of the Temple was held in the Priory, 213, Buchanan-street, on Friday, the 18th inst., at half-past six o'clock, to consider several communications from the Grand Registrar, which were ordered to be laid on the table till next meeting of the Priory, for its consideration and decision. The brethren then adjourned to the refectory, and after having partaken of the excellent refreshment, served under the able superintendence of Frater John Lawrie, to which they did ample justice. The chairman, Past Prior Frater Donald Campbell, having given the usual loyal toast, Frater Alexander McDonald, in a brief but pithy speech, presented Frater Irvine Fergusson with a magnificent Templar's collar and jewel, alluding to the high estimation in which Frater Ferguson was held, not only by his brother Templars, but in that of other Orders of Masonry, and also in the neutral world, which, in his opinion, spoke volumes in his favour. Frater Ferguson acknowledged the toast in feeling terms, thanking them for the magnificent present, which he would prize, not because he thought himself worthy of such an expression of their regard, but as a memento of their kindness and indulgence. "The Health and continued Prosperity of the Glasgow Priory" was next given, of "The Prior, Frater W. E. Gumbleton," in his unavoidable absence, of "Frater Horne," Sub-Prior. "The Chairman," Frater Donald Campbell, was next given, and duly acknowledged, others followed of a similar description, and the brethren separated, after having spent a harmonious and pleasant evening.

MARK MASONRY.

SOUTHWARK LODGE (No. 11).—This flourishing lodge of Mark Masters met at Bro. Stevens's, Royal Oak Tavern, High-street, Deptford, Kent, on Monday, April 13th. In the unavoidable absence of Bro. John Thomas, R.W.M., Bro. E. N. Levy took the chair. There were several brethren balloted for, and unanimously admitted members of the lodge, and candidates for advancement. Not any of the candidates being present, the business of electing a R.W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler was then proceeded with. The ballot was declared to be unanimously in favour of Bro. Henry Alfred Collington, M.O. and P.M. 164, St. George's Lodge, to be the R.W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. W. Y. Laing was, by ballot, unanimously re-elected Treasurer; and, on a show of hands being taken for Tyler, Bro. Wm. Aldhouse was unanimously re-elected Tyler for the ensuing year. The R.W.M., Bro. E. N. Levy, in the chair, congratulated Bro. H. A. Collington on his election as a good omen for the future correctness of working, and the prosperity of the lodge. In reply, Bro. H. A. Collington expressed his intention to use his best endeavours to carry out the work of the degree in a creditable manner, and to promote the interest of the lodge to the best of his ability. A letter was read from Bro. P. Walters, S.W. and Sec., excusing his non-attendance, in consequence of the bad state of his health, and also declining on this occasion to allow himself to be put in nomination for the Master's chair. The sum of one guinea from the charity fund was voted to the Girls' School. The business being finished, the lodge was adjourned until Monday, October 5th. There were no visitors.

Poetry.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

We have received a copy of a spirited ode which the Post Laureate and Secretary of the Lodge of Maybole (No. 11), published in honour of the marriage of the Prince of Wales. The Author, Bro. Porteous, has long been a faithful and successful worshipper of the Muses. We made a few extracts to shew his quality.

Auld Carrick, cock your nose wi' pride!
Your youthful' Earl has ta'en
A bonnie Princess for his bride,—
Sweet daughter o' the Dane.
Sae Minnibole is fu' o' glee,
She's at the news sae crouse;
For she counts kin wi' Royalty
Though her ain sturdy Bruce.

While Kyle brags o' her Wallace wicht—
That patriot true an' strong—
Wha battled weel for Scotland's richt,
An' suffered deadly wrong,—
Ye can look bouky, straught your back,
Gar Bruce's glory ring,
The Prince that Edward's bondage brak,
And ruled her lawfu' King.

But sin' thae fechtin' times are gane,
When rife were dool an' gloom,
We'll leave their ghaists to grim an' grane
In dark oblivion's tomb,—
For Scotland's bearded thistle's joined
To England's jaggy rose:
Lang hae their thorns thegither twined,
An' they'd their statest foes.

On their united throne is seen
A Lady, all confess,
Who proves a greater, better Queen
Than was auld burley Bess.
O'er her wide realm bright Phœbus shines
With never-setting ray:
At once, within its vast confines,
'Tis ever night and day.

An' Carrick's Royal Heir bings
His heart-selected bride,
To share that throne of many Kings,
If so it may betide.
O God! make that day slow to come,
Thou who art virtue's frien';
Although the heaven's a glorious home,
Long spare us our good Queen!

E'en till four-score o' years shall pass
An' she, their granny, croon
To bairns o' hers, baith lad an' lass,
That's come to fill her shoon:
An' see them grow up gude an' fair
A credit to their line,
An' better far, ayont compare,
Than some o' them langsyne.

Nae wonder Minnibole is skeigh,
An' sets her bells to jow;
An, gars, to warm her toddy skreigh,
A nuckle bonfire low.
Her vera Kirks hae baith gane daft!
Their Clinkums pu' the string,
An' strive wha will, wi' nicest craft,
The loudest welcome ring.

* * * * *

I hope, at life's far close, young Wales,
As ye have yet dune weel,
When Justice tries you in her scales,
Ye'll prove a wechty chiel.
Sae aye keep mind that virtue's sum
Counts mair than titles gran'
An' the motto o' your Earldom
Is "Carrick for a man."

Then ye'll grow up the worthy son
 O' your lamented sire,
 Whase race was far owre early run
 For Britain's heart-desire.
 What might hae graced life's farther page
 To read nae power is given,—
 Suffice it, he adorned the age,
 And passed away to heaven.

'Though his example's lost to you,
 You've yet a pattern rare,—
 Your widowed mother, leal an' true,
 In virtue past compare:
 For Britain's tale fails to reveal
 That ever there was seen
 Ane wha adorned the throne sae weel
 As our ain darlin' Queen.

An' now my dainty Danish lass,
 It's mair than ten tae ane
 That I'll ne'er see your bonnie face,
 My time's sae far overgane,—
 But be assured I'm ane amang
 The millions o' your friens
 Wha hope you'll live—but after lang!—
 To be the best o' Queens.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

The Directors of the Crystal Palace have issued the Programme of arrangements for the Tenth Season, commencing on the 1st of May. The matured attractions of this popular and delightful place are now in their fullest perfection, and will amply maintain its prestige as the most favoured resort of all lovers of natural and artistic beauty and refined creation. Hitherto the price of season tickets has been either One Guinea or Two Guineas; the holders of the former class being required on days of special *fêtes* to pay half-a-crown extra for admission. For the present season it has been determined to issue only one uniform class of ticket, at One Guinea, and this is to admit the holder to the Palace and Park, without any further payment, on all ordinary and extraordinary occasions. The Directors have merely reserved to themselves the right of excepting three days during the year, should they hereafter think fit to give some special *fête* or *fêtes* which may render a separate charge for admission on those days justifiable. Considering the numerous and varied attractions which the Crystal Palace affords, it may be reasonably be supposed that this liberal arrangement on the part of the Company will lead to an unusually large demand for season tickets among the residents in the vicinity of the Palace (where a large number of villas are in progress of erection), and on the different lines of railway converging to it, a Crystal Palace Season Ticket at this low rate becomes almost a necessity.

It is intended to inaugurate the new season, on the 1st of May, by a great Musical Festival, which shall revive the memory of the grand choral effects produced at the Handel Festivals. It would obviously indeed be unwise not to render available for musical purposes so magnificent hall as the centre transept, with its gigantic orchestra and powerful organ, now forms. On this occasion Racine's dramatic poem, "Athalie," as set to music by Mendelssohn, will be performed on the most magnificent scale. The orchestra will comprise 196 violins and violas, 90 violoncellos and double basses, 20 harps, and an adequate number of wind instruments, and the entire band and chorus will consist of about 2500 performers. Mr. Costa will conduct, and Mr. Phelps will recite Mr. Bartholomew's illustrative verses. The great success which attended the recent performance of "Athalie," by the Sacred Harmonic Society at Exeter Hall, has led to a confident belief that its effect, when given as now announced, will be exceedingly fine. Besides "Athalie," the Overtures composed by M. Auber and M. Meyerbeer for the opening of International Exhibition, will be performed on the 1st of May, and as the Orchestra will be on the same scale of magnitude as at the opening of the Exhibition, it cannot be doubted that the effect of these great works in the properly constructed orchestra at the Crystal Palace will be surpassingly fine. Arrangements are being carried out for first-

class excursion trains from many country districts, on the opening day.

Among the other arrangements for the forthcoming season are the Great Flower Show on Saturday the 23rd of May, and the Rose Show on Saturday the 27th of June. These shows, as conducted at the Crystal Palace, always constitute leading features of the London season, and have the important advantage, as the Crystal Palace has at all times, of being thoroughly enjoyable in any kind of weather.

On eight of the Saturdays in May, June, and July, there will be a series of Grand Concerts, of a peculiarly attractive nature, and the daily performances of the Company's admirable band, under the skilful conductorship of Mr. Manns, will be continued as heretofore.

Archery *fêtes* will be held on Thursday and Friday, the 11th and 12th of June, and the Royal Dramatic College will again hold its popular *fête* and fancy fair in the course of the summer.

The Exhibitors' Department of the Crystal Palace will in the ensuing season be more than usually attractive and interesting, reinforced as it is by a selection of some of the best productions displayed last year at the International Exhibition. The Picture Gallery and Photographic Exhibition will be maintained, with the addition of many new works, and the general Fine Art Collections, the Machinery Department, with the Park, the Great Fountains, Cricket Ground, and other outdoor amusements will, as usual afford every inducement for large gatherings of the working classes.

Not the least point in favour of the Crystal Palace is the readiness of access to it, not only from the London Bridge and Victoria Stations, but also by means of the newly opened lines at Clapham and Kensington from all the northern and north-western suburbs of the metropolis.

Last year, notwithstanding the attraction of the International Exhibition, 2,020,219 persons visited the Crystal Palace, and, with its varied features and the increased facilities above referred to, an equally large attendance may be fully expected in the ensuing year.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty and family remain at Windsor. It is stated that her Majesty will visit Balmoral early in May, and Saxe Coburg in the course of the summer. Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, returned from Sandringham to Windsor on Saturday. On Wednesday, the Prince and Princess of Wales received addresses from the Corporations of London, Edinburgh, and Dublin, and from the University of Cambridge, at Marlborough House. An address to the Prince alone was presented from the University of Oxford. A deputation from the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and another from the Presbyterian ministers in and near London, were also presented, and handed in addresses. The ceremony of unveiling the memorial of the Exhibition of 1851, which has been erected in the Royal Horticultural Society's garden at South Kensington, will be performed by the Prince of Wales, on the 5th of June. The Princess of Wales, and the members of the Royal Family will be present on the occasion.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the HOUSE OF LORDS on Thursday, 16th inst., a conversation took place on the election of the Prince William of Denmark to the Greek throne, and the procession of the Ionian Islands to Greece. Lords Malmesbury, Russell, Derby, and Granville took part in the conversation; but the telegraphic abstract of the proceedings enables us only to infer that Lord Malmesbury has something to say against the manner in which the Danish Prince has been put forward as a candidate for the vacant throne, and that he cannot regard with unqualified approval the proposal to relinquish the protectorate of the Seven Islands.—On Friday, a discussion was raised on the recent dismissal of two of the Ionian Judges. Lords Chelmsford and Derby censured the conduct of the Lord High Commissioner in taking this step, but the Duke of Newcastle

vindicated the act as wise and salutary.—On Monday, the Duke of Somerset, in reply to a question from Lord Ellenborough made the startling statement that he had been informed by one of the surviving officers of the *Orpheus*, that at the time Commodore Burnett was taking the Manukau bar, he held in his hand the official notice pointing out that the bar had shifted, and that the old channel marked down in the charts, was therefore unsafe. A long discussion followed, nominally on the secret character of naval Courts of Inquiry, but really, as it would seem, on the fairness of a decision of one of these tribunals. Some time ago, her Majesty's ship *Vigilant*, ran in broad daylight on the Gunfleet Sands, and a Court of Inquiry passed a censure on Lord Elphinstone, her commander. A copy of the evidence upon which this censure was based was forwarded to Lord Elphinstone, with the remark that he might, if he thought proper, demand a court martial. Upon this suggestion he did not act, but his friends in the Upper House—Lords Derby, Hardwicke, Colchester, and Chehnsford, all members of the Opposition—urged that he had been harshly and unjustly treated. The conduct of the Admiralty was, on the other hand, defended by the First Lord, Lord Russell, and Lord Granville.—On Tuesday the Local Government Act Amendment Bill was read a second time.—On Thursday, the 16th inst., the HOUSE OF COMMONS presented an animated appearance; and among those attracted to the Peers' Gallery by the prospect of a great speech from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, were Prince Alfred and Prince Louis of Hesse. Mr. Gladstone, taking the sources of revenue as they now stand, estimates that he has a surplus of about £3,700,000 to dispose of. He proposes various changes—including a reduction of 2d. in the income tax, and of 5d. in the tea duty, and the extending of public-house licences to clubs—and he calculates that at the close of the current financial year he will still have a surplus of upwards of half a million.—On Friday Mr. Cobden gave notice of his intention to invite the attention of the House to "the motives of national self-interest and to the obligations of implied international engagements by which the British Government is called upon for a vigilant and rigid enforcement of those provisions of the Foreign Enlistment Act which forbids the furnishing ships of war to a belligerent Power, to be employed against another Power with which this country is at peace." Sir F. Smith moved a resolution to the effect that harbours of refuge should, in compliance with the recommendations of a Royal Commission, be constructed at Waterford, Wick, and Padstow. Sir John Hay and Sir James Elphinstone urged the claims of the Filey, but Mr. Milner Gibson, on behalf of the Government, argued that such works should be left to be carried out by the localities interested. The motion was negatived without a division.—On Monday Mr. Layard stated, in reply to a question from Mr. Peacocke, that the Government had under their consideration the "ticket of leave" given by Mr. Adams, the American minister, to a ship bound for Matamoras, and reported to be laden with munitions of war for the Mexicans.—Sir George Grey having moved the second reading of the Prison Ministers Bill—a measure mainly intended to give additional facilities for the religious instruction of Roman Catholic prisoners—Mr. Gore Langton moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day six months. A long and animated debate followed, in the course of which Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Henley spoke warmly in favour of the bill; while other members of the opposition as warmly denounced it. After a vigorous but unsuccessful effort on the part of Mr. Whalley to obtain a hearing—the House divided, when the second reading was carried by a majority of thirty.—On Tuesday Mr. Whalley named the day for his annual attack on the grant to Maynooth College, and

Mr. Roebuck intimated his intention—when the Chancellor of the Exchequer asked the House to sanction his income tax scheme—of moving a resolution to the effect that precarious incomes should be taxed at a lower rate than permanent incomes. Sir Charles Wood, in answer to a question, stated that the expenses of Sir James Outram's funeral would be defrayed by the Indian government. In reply to a question from Mr. Denman, Lord Palmerston said Her Majesty's Government had received no correct information as to the exact scope of the Emperor of Russia's amnesty to the Poles. Different interpretations were put upon that document, but he trusted that after the "ferocious violence" which the Russian troops had recently exhibited in Poland, the Czar's government would set themselves right with the public opinion of Europe by a policy of indulgence and mercy. Mr. Roebuck gave notice of a question with reference to the course to be pursued by the Government in consequence of the reckless proceedings of Admiral Wilkes in the West Indies. Sir George Grey obtained leave to bring in a bill for the amalgamation of the metropolitan and city police; but the right hon. Baronet was warned that the measure would be opposed by the champions of local self-government.—On Wednesday Lord A. Churchill gave notice of his intention to ask whether merchant ships in the prosecution of a voyage between neutral ports would be justified in defending themselves by arms against capture by Federal cruisers. The Innkeepers Liability Bill was, after some discussion, read a second time, as were also the Elections during the Recess Bill and the Borough Residence Uniform Measurement Bill. With regard to the latter measure a division took place, the second reading being carried by 171 votes to 137. The Marriages, &c., Ireland Bill passed through committee.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—A dinner was given on Saturday by the members of the United Service Institution to the Hon. General Lindsay, M.P., president of that institution, on the occasion of his departure to take command of the Guards in Canada. Sir John Pakington occupied the chair, and the dinner was attended by Colonel North, M.P., Colonel Dunne, M.P., and other gentlemen, who were colleagues of the gallant officer in Parliament, as well as members with him of the institution. The services of the gallant General were amply and gracefully set forth by the right hon. chairman, and the General, in returning thanks, said his great object had been to render the institution practically useful to the officers of the army and navy.—Lord de Grey has been appointed Secretary of State for War. The noble lord, it is understood, has had the heavy work of the department to do during the period he has acted as Under Secretary. Lord Hartington, who was recently appointed a Lord of the Admiralty, will succeed Lord de Grey as Under Secretary; but this change in the official position of the noble marquis will not necessitate another appeal to his constituents. It is reported that Mr. Stansfield will be the new Lord of the Admiralty, and, in that case, the hon. gentleman would, of course, be obliged to seek re-election.—Mr. Gladstone, in the course of his financial statement, said he intended to submit a resolution for paying off £1,000,000 of Exchequer Bonds falling due in May. He added, however:—"It is also my intention, in view of the state of things in Lancashire and the country, to ask for power to re-borrow that money in case of need during the year, but I hope there will be no occasion for the exercise of such power.—The Mansion-house Committee for the Relief of Distress in Lancashire have at last resolved to apply a portion of the funds entrusted to them in assisting emigration. A meeting of the committee was held at the Mansion-house, when a deputation from a society of gentlemen newly formed for that purpose, headed by Mr. Childers, M.P., waited on the committee

laid their plans before them, and solicited assistance. The committee, after some deliberation, resolved to set apart £5000 of their funds to assist the unemployed to emigrate, and placed £1000 of this sum at the disposal of the society represented by Mr. Childers.—A curious disclosure was made at an interview which took place between Lord Russell and a deputation of merchants and shippers interested in the Mexican trade. The object of the deputation was to urge upon the noble earl the propriety of taking some step to protect British shipping from the high-handed interference of the commanders of Federal cruisers, who have not hesitated to seize English vessels bound to the Mexican—and, of course, neutral—port of Matamoras. The plea urged by the Neutral Government is, that these ships, although professedly bound for Matamoras, are really carrying supplies to the Confederates; but a document was placed in the hands of Lord Russell which showed that Mr. Adams, the American Minister in London, had given a special pass, which would enable a certain vessel to make the voyage to Matamoras without fear of being interrupted by Federal men-of-war. In this document Mr. Adams says he has had ample evidence to show that the cargo “is intended for the Mexicans,” and it is alleged that the protected ship is freighted with munitions of war, to be employed against the French expeditionary force. It seems that a vessel, the *May Queen*, was lying at Falmouth, afraid to proceed to Matamoras in the present state of things. Her Majesty’s mails are on board, and it was suggested to the Foreign Secretary that the Government might send a mail agent in the ship, who would represent an official guarantee that she was bound to the port for which she was cleared. The noble earl promised to give the whole subject careful consideration, but subsequently declined to interfere, when the mails were landed, and will be forwarded by some other vessel.—The alleged Confederate gunboat *Alexander* has been exchequered at Liverpool, and it is stated that the Government contemplate legal proceedings against the builders. It is affirmed, on the hand, that the authorities are conscious of a serious flaw in the case.—A discovery of great scientific interest is said to have been made. It is alleged in a letter published in a Birmingham contemporary that “distinct evidence has been got to show that James Watt was engaged in photographic experiments, and that he took portraits.”—The coroner’s inquest on the young woman murdered in St. Giles’s has been concluded. No trace has been found of the murderer. It was stated at the first sitting that when the man and woman were admitted into the room the servant fastened the door by inserting a hasp in a staple on the outside. It has since been sworn that when the other servant went up to the room in the afternoon she found the hasp still fastening the door, so that the man could not have got out that way, unless some one had let him out and replaced the hasp. The window of the room was open, but the policeman stated that the dust on the window sill had not been disturbed, so that the man could not have gone that way. The only other mode of exit was by a pair of folding doors into the front room where two girls were sleeping—their bed jammed up against the doors, and they swore, and the state of the folding doors confirmed their statement, that nobody opened those folding doors or came over their bed that morning. How, then, had the murderer made his escape? All the inmates of the house profess their ignorance—an ignorance extending to every detail. They heard no scuffle; they did not know the man; and what is more extraordinary none of them appeared to know the woman, though she appeared to have frequented the house. The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against some persons unknown. A carpenter named Richards gave himself up to the police on

Tuesday night as the murderer of the woman. He was, however, drunk when he made the charge against himself, and when he became sober he soon altered his story. He was brought up at Bow-street police-court, and proved that he was at work on the day of the murder. The foolish fellow was discharged.—The inquest on the body of Samuel Rivett, who was killed in a prize-fight some days ago at Hackney Marshes, has been brought to a close. The jury found a verdict of manslaughter against Samuel Howlett, with whom the deceased fought, another man named Lewis, and the seconds in the fight.—A coroner’s inquest was also held at a public-house in St. Giles’s on the body of an infant which was found in a cistern filled with water, put there by its mother, a servant in the house. The girl admitted that she was the mother of the child, and did not deny the act, as there was no doubt the poor victim had been born alive. The jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against the mother.—Captain Cochrane, who appears to have been unwillingly drawn into the matter, has through his counsel, announced that he will no longer intervene in the case now before the House of Lords as to the succession to the earldom of Dundonald. The question as to whether the present bearer of the title was born in wedlock will, therefore, be settled by the House of Lords, without any intervention on the part of the gallant Captain, who, it has been alleged, is the eldest of the lawful male issue of the late Earl and his Countess.—The Bishop of Exeter has applied to the Court of Chancery, for an injunction to restrain the Rev. Reginald Shutte from publishing many letters which his lordship has written. Mr. Shutte, contrary to the Bishop’s wishes, is intent on publishing a work called “The Life, Times, and Writings of the Bishop of Exeter,” and he has got possession of a number of his lordship’s letters.—Several appeals from recent trials have been heard since the beginning of term. Among others, the proprietors of the *Saturday Review* applied for a new trial in the action where a jury found that they had libelled Dr. Campbell, of the *British Ensign*. The Court, however, after hearing Mr. Bovill’s application, decided that the verdict of the jury was one that ought not to be disturbed, and accordingly refused the rule. Mr. Berkeley, M.P., was more fortunate in his appeal from the verdict of the jury, which found that he was a director in the British Columbia Overland Transit Company, and saddled him with the expenses of those who trusted themselves to its guidance through the American wilds. Mr. Berkeley pleaded that he only consented to become a director on certain conditions, which were never fulfilled, and the Court granted his application for a new trial on that point.—The notorious Colonel Waugh was brought up on Saturday before the Bankruptcy Registrar. He had not surrendered to his bankruptcy, but venturing over to this country, he was arrested by a creditor for debt, and lodged in Whitecross-street Prison. As he had not surrendered to his bankruptcy, the Registrar declined to interfere, and the colonel remains in prison.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—Two Paris journals, more or less “inspired,” concur in affirming that the Swedish government is making considerable armaments. Iron-clad ships have been ordered, and engineers are actively engaged in fortifying the port of Carlscrona, the chief dockyard of the Swedish navy, which is to be rendered capable of refitting, not only the Swedish men of war, but also “the squadron of those powers whose interest it might be to station a naval force in those waters.”—It is asserted that the Emperor Napoleon has addressed to the Queen of Spain an autograph letter, interceding on behalf of the Protestants sentenced to imprisonment.—The Warsaw Revolutionary Committee have, we are told,

divided Poland into 23 districts, each of which is to be ruled by branch Committees, who are to "administer the penal law," to collect imposts, and to raise recruits, of whom each district is immediately to furnish 400 to the insurgent bands. We still have tidings of conflicts between the Polish insurgents and the Russian troops. Some of the recent encounters are of peculiar interest, inasmuch as they took place at a point nearer to Warsaw than the insurrection had previously approached. A collision has occurred between a body of Prussian soldiers and a band of Polish insurgents. It appears that a detachment of troops was sent to seize some waggons laden with arms and ammunition intended for the use of the insurgents in Russian Poland. An engagement ensued between this detachment and a band of insurgents who had entered Prussian territory for the purpose of receiving these supplies; and some 30 Poles were captured, though it seems uncertain whether any lives were lost. It is affirmed that the Emperor Alexander's amnesty, as published at Warsaw, is less comprehensive than it had been represented, and that the leaders of the insurrection are excluded from its benefits. Its terms are, however, of little importance; for it has not induced a single insurgent to lay down his arms. The notes of England, France, and Austria in favour of Poland have been laid before the Emperor, and are said to have produced some effect.—The Prussian Premier, in reply to a question put to him in the House of Deputies, declared that the Prussian Government deemed the King of Denmark's proclamation regarding Holstein an infringement of the assurance given by Denmark in 1851. He added that Prussia would concert with her allies the steps to be taken in consequence of this proclamation, and that the Prussian Government was mindful of the national honour, but would not embark in a war without the House's consent. During the debate in the Chamber of Deputies upon the bill respecting Ministerial responsibility, Herr von Bismarck declared that the present time was unsuitable for the adoption of such a measure, and that the Government, therefore, must refuse to sanction it. Despite this declaration on the part of the Premier, it is believed certain that the Chamber will pass the bill.—The ever restless Mazzinists are endangering the peace of the Swiss Republic by the plots they are forming against Austria in the Federal territory. They are, however, closely watched by the Austrian Government, who have officially acquainted the Federal Council that the agents of Mazzini are planning an attack upon the southern portion of the Tyrol.—We have an announcement from Copenhagen upon official authority that the only obstacles to the acceptance of the Crown of Greece by Prince William—regarding the abdication of King Otho and the state of the Greek finances—having been entirely removed, Prince Christian has accepted the throne for his son.—The Legislative Assembly of Denmark and Schleswig has been opened by the President of the Council, who read the Speech from the Throne. The Speech alluded to the marriage of the Princess Alexandra, to whom it invited the Chambers to vote a dowry. It also adverted to the opposition offered by the great German Powers to the recent proclamation severing Holstein legislatively from Denmark, but declared that that opposition should not affect the course of the decree.—The Grand Duchy of Baden has recognised the kingdom of Italy.

INDIA.—The Bombay mail brings intelligence to the 25th of March. In continuation of his progress Lord Elgin reached Meerat on the 7th ult., and from thence to Roorkee on the 16th. At the former city he was joined by the commander in chief, Sir Hugh Rose. It was supposed they would reach Umballa about the 27th ult. It is reported that rebellion still lurks in several districts of Oudh, and several persons have been arrested

for circulating letters inciting the Mahomedans to rise against the British Government. The war in the Jynteah Hills was nearly, if not quite, at an end, after a good deal of hard fighting. Several emissaries of the notorious Nana had been apprehended. The rebel leader, Feroze Shah, is said to have been seen at Herat.

AMERICA.—The *Asia* has arrived with intelligence to the Sth. The Federal operations against Vicksburg were turning out unsuccessful. All the expeditions intended to reach the rear of the city by way of Sunflower River and the Yazoo Pass had been abandoned; and the battery that General Grant is said to have placed in a position to reach Vicksburg in front, according to the latest intelligence, had done nothing. Some skirmishing is reported from Tennessee, but there was no change in the position of the main forces. A large Democratic meeting has been held at New York, at which resolutions were passed denouncing the Administration, declaring the war a failure, and demanding peace: the idea of conquering the South was denounced as insane. In Connecticut the Republicans had carried the state elections, having elected a Republican governor and Republican state officers. The reported evacuation of Richmond is denied; a serious bread riot in that city is related by a Federal officer, which was only allayed by the personal persuasion of President Davis. The news of the commencement of the bombardment of Charleston has arrived by the *Washington*, though at present we have little more than the mere fact. It was expected that the Federal land forces would not venture within range until the effect of long bowls from the gunboats had been ascertained. The Confederates appear to have been well prepared, and to have disposed their iron-clads in support of their forts. The engagement between the Federal and Confederate iron-clads was very severe. The Federals were on the whole unsuccessful, one of their iron vessels being sunk, and they manifested no desire to renew the conflict. In North Carolina the Federal General Foster seems to have got into a critical position at Washington, and at the last advices the Federals had failed in succouring him. The Confederates have captured another Northern gun boat upon one of the tributary streams of the Mississippi, a portion of which, between Port Hudson and Vicksburg, Admiral Farragut is reported to "hold" though it is apparent that he is on all sides, by land as well as by water, surrounded, and that his sources of supplies are cut off. At Vicksburg the Federals have commenced cutting another canal, but, as the two former ones failed, and as the water of the Mississippi will now daily be getting lower, it is difficult to imagine it can succeed. The attack on Vicksburg was still only expected to take place. The minor details are of some interest, especially those stating that General Cameron, late Minister of War, has been found guilty of corruption by a committee of the Pennsylvania Senate; that the relations of the English and Federal Governments continue to cause anxiety in Washington; and that gold is a trifle lower, probably on account of the hopes excited by the actual commencement of the attack on Charleston.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

AN ASPIRANT TO THE CHAIR.—According to the *Book of Constitutions*, the level on the Master's or Past Master's Apron should be of blue ribbon; custom, however, seems to sanction silver, they being almost universally worn in Grand Lodge without objection.

JUSTICE.—The receipt of relief from the Board of Benevolence, or other source, would not disqualify a brother from holding office in his mother or other lodge. Good taste would dictate that he should not do so until he had overcome his difficulties.

B.—We hold that your bye-laws, requiring a two days' notice of a lodge, excepting when a candidate is to be balloted for, when you require seven days' to be given, to be inconsistent with the spirit though not the letter of the law, and that seven days' notice ought always to be given, though it is true for distant members a two days' notice is fully equal to seven thirty years ago. Have your rules been certified by the Grand Secretary and Prov. Grand Master—Custom warrants the resuming from one degree to another, though the practice is always better avoided, where possible.

T. H. S.—The Tyler could have no right to return the note, though not of the Bank of England. It would be impossible to say that a man with a £5 note of the Hallamshire, or any other solvent Bank, was in a state of poverty—and the tendering it to the Deacon for charity is a proof that the brother thought it of value. It is however unnecessary and unusual to prepare candidates in lodges of instruction.