

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 2, 1863.

THE GRAND FESTIVAL.

The annual re-installation (without the ceremony by-the-bye), of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, took place on Wednesday, and never since he first ascended the Masonic Throne was he more enthusiastically received. It is well known that we do not approve of Grand Masters for life, but what the Craft wills, we—as we trust we are good Masons,—are compelled to bow to;—and certainly to no man would we do so more willingly than the estimable nobleman who now occupies the proud position of Grand Master. It has been our lot (as it must be the lot of all independent men), occasionally to differ in opinion with the Grand Master, and we have fearlessly, not only in the *MAGAZINE*, but in Grand Lodge, asserted our right to criticise his policy; but we should be wanting in justice were we not to admit that under all circumstances we have met with a kind and courteous reception from his Lordship. We have been beaten, and we have retired in good temper—we have won, and we trust we have worn our guerdon with all becoming modesty.

The appointments of the year must, we believe, on the whole, give general satisfaction—indeed, we cannot recollect any year in which they appeared to us so good.

It is true we fancy that had we the prerogative of Grand Master, we could have made some better selections, and yet there is not one amongst those which have been made to which we wish to take objection—excepting that we would have reserved a few more appointments for the London brethren, whose lodges number one-fourth of the whole in England, and used our privilege (that is as Grand Master), by the award of honorary rank which he is entitled to bestow.

By-the-bye, his Lordship made the first use of this patronage on Wednesday by creating Bro. Maharajah Dhuleep Singh, a P.G.W., a position which we are sure, the brethren will acknowledge, his services to Masonry fully entitle him, when we inform them that His Highness was, or was to be, raised to the degree of Master Mason, in the Prince of Wales Lodge, on Tuesday last.

Of the management of the festival we can speak in unqualified praise, and the Stewards may be congratulated upon the fact that a quieter and more gentlemanly meeting was never held within the hall; and if we are allowed to particularise we must be specially excused for alluding to the great exertions of Bro. Brackstone Baker, the Honorary Secretary of the Board, and which must have deprived him of

any of the pleasures of the evening, excepting that “the labour we delight in physics pain.”

And now we come to a painful part of our task—that of complaint. Last year we felt it our duty to protest against the appointment of Bro. Stimpson as Grand Organist, on the ground that he was only a three months Mason, whilst men of the standing of Bro. Vincent Wallace, Bro. Kingsbury, and others, were passed over unnoticed; and we have now to reiterate our protest and to declare that Bro. Stimpson has forfeited all claim to the respect of the brethren—it may be unwittingly but it has been done. It is well-known that we have ever maintained that the Craft possesses, within itself, sufficient musical talent, that we need not go out of our body to seek for more,—and we are proud to say that the majority of the brethren who provide our musical entertainments have adopted our view—and under our protest Mr. Lockey, now Bro. Lockey, refused to sit down in Masonic assemblies, and took his dinner in one of the ante-rooms, feeling the force, as a gentleman, of our objections. But what was the case on Wednesday night; a gentleman, not being a Mason, but whose acquaintance we are proud to acknowledge, was introduced to sing, and with the approval, we have a right to suppose, of the Grand Organist, who conducted the music, absolutely appeared wearing the badge of a Mason. We are taught, in all strange and mixed companies, to be careful in our behaviour and words not to let slip anything that may betray our secrets to the uninstructed world. But what is to be thought of Grand Officers introducing to our banquet tables a gentleman clothed in the garb of a Mason, and throwing us off our guard in any conversation that may be going on. The lady singers are in a different position; they are withdrawn from the lodge excepting when their services are required, and brethren are thereby put upon their guard, but not so with gentlemen who sit down amongst them and wear the distinguishing badge of the order.

As regards Mr. Cummings we have nothing to say. He is a talented singer; but we protest against any man, however great his talent, singing at our festivals if he is not a Mason; and, moreover, we strongly protest against his assuming the Masonic Apron, not having been initiated, even though it be as Mr. Cummings informs, he is proposed for initiation next week. We do not blame Mr. Cummings so much as we blame Bro. Stevenson, and we do not blame Bro. Stevenson so much as we blame the brother whoever he may have been, who recommended the Grand Master to appoint to grand office a brother only just raised, and who knew nothing, and is apparently unable to learn anything of his duties as a Mason.

CLUB LICENSES AND FREEMASONS' HALLS.

We have great pleasure in laying the following before our readers, showing that the fears which were entertained as regards the Club License extending to Masonic Lodges held in private rooms was to a great extent unfounded, the limitation as to rental, which was not fully explained in the first instance, exempting them:—

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—On the 27th inst. I addressed a letter to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Chancellor of the Exchequer, asking if he intended to include Freemasons' lodges, meeting in private rooms, in his resolution respecting club licences; and I have now pleasure in handing you copy of his reply, which I am sure will be satisfactory to every Freemason.

Yours fraternally,

WILLIAM RIGBY, W.M. 1060.

Runcorn, April 29th, 1863.

COPY.

11, Downing-street, Whitehall,
28th April, 1863.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 27th inst., I am desired by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to acquaint you that Freemasons' lodges will not be liable to the club licence, if held in private rooms. Nothing will be liable unless it occupy premises of £100 a year and upwards. Renting or meeting in a private room is not within these terms.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) CHARLES L. RYAN.

W. Rigby, Esq., Runcorn.

THE DOOR OF FREEMASONRY.

"Knock and it shall be open" are words familiar to all who are acquainted with the Holy Scriptures, and the candidate for Freemasonry must, of his own accord, knock at the door of the Craft before he can be received.

To entitle him to knock at that door for admission he must be a free-man, of mature age, sound judgment and strict morals. No doubt ninety-nine per cent. of those who knock are free-men and of mature age, but what per centage of the great bulk of candidates for initiation are either sound in judgment or strict in morals, it is impossible to ascertain.

Sound judgment pre-supposes some acquaintance with the power of weighing facts and drawing from them both logical and correct inferences; and it is a question if very many of our candidates have ever cultivated the inductive style of reasoning. To such we would advise an exercise of the faculty that has hitherto lain dormant within them, and feel assured that there are but comparatively few who, upon the

exercise of this function, would not be the better for the attempt, and find, in its exercise, an agreeable advance in self-knowledge and an enlarged sphere of usefulness to their brother men.

Strict morality can only be fully practised by a religious man; one who perfectly feels that he "has a reason to give for the hope that is in him," and takes delight in performing his duty towards God and his neighbour.

Morality may be looked at under two aspects, the one as being pure in all things, the other as doing to others as you would be done by. The former is the morality of the christian gentleman, the latter that of the very often quoted "man of the world."

The door of Freemasonry is open to the man of strict morals, and by the former word we see how stringent the framers of our ceremonies were in endeavouring to confine the mysteries of the institution to the higher class of moralists. They would receive no brethren who were not strict. Strict morality was one of the chief touchstones of a candidate's fitness for reception, and it would be well for the interests of Freemasonry if this qualification was more insisted upon at the present time for it cannot be denied that strict morality is not the inflexible rule upon which enquiry of a candidate's pretensions is, at present, based.

The door of Freemasonry is not an open portal, inviting every passer by to enter and remain, or lounge so long as it may please him, but it is the closed guardian of secrets and mysteries, which we hope to confine to worthy men, and to them alone.

It has often been urged by the erection of this door Freemasonry is converted into an exclusive institution, but this is unjust, for any man of strict morality has but to seek for himself, to knock at the door, and he will be gladly received. The door is the wicket which scares the idle, ignorant, indifferent, and those of loose morals.

Those who knock at the door of Freemasonry, in possession of previous requisites, will find easy entrance, if they come prepared, by no undue pressure from friends nor actuated by interested motives. Our candidates must be free to choose for themselves, banishing all idea of securing pecuniary advantage or enlarging his circle of friends.

The door of Freemasonry conceals the light from the profane. It guards the brethren when employed in the work of Freemasonry. It is closed and secured by two, one on either side, who are its jealous guardians, ever watching that no one, but those having the right, shall pass or repass it.

As the door of Freemasonry is the first obstacle that presents itself to the candidate's notice, so it is the last boundary out of which the secrets of the lodge should be allowed to travel. When the lodge

door is finally shut for that meeting, so should every brother shut the inmost door of his heart and preserve therein, secret and intact, all those lessons he has received as well as the faults and failings of all with whom he has come in contact.

By considering the door of Freemasonry in this light, we shall be doing our duty as good men and brethren—securing the admission of the truly worthy—sheltering the shortcomings of the frail or unfortunate; and by keeping a watch on the “door of our lips” so shall we be adding one more security to the door of Freemasonry.

GEOMETRICAL AND OTHER SYBOLS.

(From the Builder.)

The geometrical symbols to which the attention of archæologists and architects was for the first time called by Mr. Godwin, in the *Archæologia* of 1843, are so numerous and diversified; and they comprise so many of the strictly religious or magical and mystical symbols among them; including the hex-alpha itself, the pentacle, the tau, the V or Y, and the cross and symbolical N in all their various modifications; that we must look a little closely, if we can, into the true origin and nature of so rich a “find”; although the uses of these symbols as masons’ monographical marks, together with the rules of diversification which seem to have been practised by the working guilds of Freemasons in regard to these uses, have probably rendered such of the symbols as we cannot otherwise identify with those more strictly confined to mystical or magical ideas, of not very definite or unquestionable religious signification. There are quite enough of identifiable

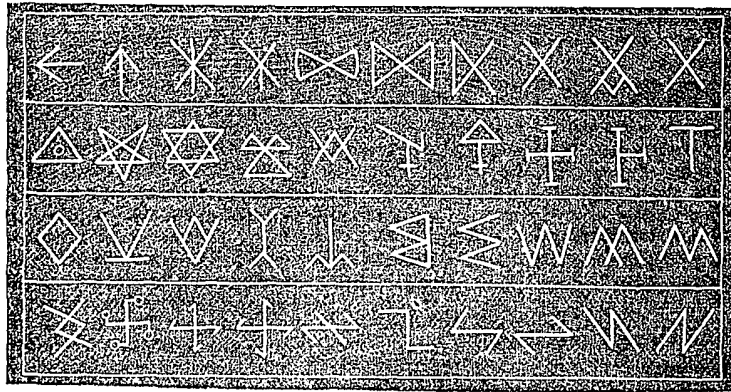
symbols and common principles of religious and magical symbolism in them, however, and more than enough, to justify a little close scrutiny as to the purposes and pretensions of that Freemasonry with which they are so intimately connected, and by means of a little knowledge of which pretensions and purposes we may be enabled to arrive at some definite idea of the original meaning of many of the symbols thus used as masons’ marks.

In the first of the two letters to Sir Henry Ellis in the *Archæologia* for 1843 (vol. xxx.), to which I alluded at the close of my last communication, Mr. Godwin says:—

“About three years ago my attention was first drawn to the fact, that the stones both inside and outside numerous ancient buildings in England, bore, in many cases, a peculiar mark or symbol, which was evidently the work of the original builders. It immediately occurred to me that these marks, if extensively examined and compared, might serve to aid in connecting, and perhaps discriminating, the various bands of operatives who, under the protection of the Church, mystically united, spread themselves over Europe during the Middle Ages, and are known as the Free-Masons.

“It, therefore, gave me some pleasure, during a recent visit to the interior of France, to observe, in several instances, at Poitiers, in the department of Vienne, similar marks, in great profusion: the more so, too, as, amongst them, were many exactly resembling some which I had previously found in England, although on buildings of a different date.”

Some of these marks, both from English and French buildings, are then given; and from these, together with those afterwards contributed along with the second letter, I have made the following small selection, placed in a kind of affinitive, though necessarily not very consecutive, order of succession, and to which selection I shall have occasion here after to refer.



“Whether these marks,” continues Mr. Godwin, “were made for the simple purpose of identifying the work done by particular individuals or sub-divisions of the band, or that they had a deeper signification and motive, I will not now inquire, nor even venture to remark on the origin of the signs themselves *per se*. My present purpose is simply to draw attention to these marks, in the hope that collections may be made in England, France, and Germany, so that they may be properly investigated and compared. No circumstance which promises to throw even the smallest light on the early history of those wonderful men to whom we are indebted for so many magnificent buildings can be deemed insignificant or unworthy of consideration.”

One chief object of the letters related to the more strictly professional question of periods of architecture, and the relationship of the mason-marks to these as well as to the original builders of the edifices so marked, or the schools or lodges of masons who used them; but into this more strictly professional question I need not presume to enter. Although my present communications, however, may not “aid in elucidating the history of the Freemasons,” as Mr. Godwin desired, they will, I hope, assist in giving us such a definite idea of their tenets and pretensions as shall contribute a little light of its own peculiar kind upon the original and general meaning of the

geometrical and other symbols of which it is my object to treat.

In his second letter to Sir H. Ellis, the author points attention to certain notable customs as to chrism and crosses which seemed to have a connexion with the subject of mason-marks: he then goes on to say, as to the general subject under notice,—

“The marks of which we are especially speaking, it can, perhaps, hardly be doubted, were made chiefly to distinguish the work of different individuals. At the present time, the man who works a stone, being different from the man who sets it, makes his mark on the bed or other internal face of it, so that it may be identified. The fact, however, that in the ancient buildings it is only a certain number of the stones which bear symbols—that the marks found in different countries, although the variety is great, are in many cases identical, and in all have a singular accordance in character—seems to show that the men who employed them did so by system; and that the system, if not the same in England, Germany, and France, was closely analogous in one country to that of the others.

“Moreover, many of the signs are evidently religious and symbolical, and agree fully with our notions of the body of men known as the Freemasons.”

With reference to “the religious character of associated masons in early times,” a curious circumstance is adduced in this letter from one of the Arundel MSS. in the British Museum, described as “*Sanctorum Vita, Miracula, et Martyria*.” At folio 218 is a narrative of four men wonderful in the art of Masonry, who always worked in the name of the Lord, after prayer and signing with the cross; and whose skill, when employed by the Emperor Diocletian to carve some columns with foliated capitals out of a porphyritic mountain, was so marvellous as to excite not only the envy but the astonishment of “the philosophers,” who attributed their skill to the “mysterious words” of “art-magical.”

In the conclusion of the second letter, allusion is made to marks—apparently analogous to those of the Freemasons—on the faces of a monument at Baalbec, referred to in Lord Lindsay’s work on Egypt.

These letters in the *Archæologia* contain other and cognate matter, especially with relation to the symbolical N, to which I must return, as well as to the other mason-marks; but in the meantime, I may note some further particulars, subsequently recorded, as to mason-marks, in the *Archæologia*.

Following up the interesting subject started by Mr. Godwin, there appeared in the *Archæologia* for 1852 a paper by Mr. Patrick Chalmers, F.S.A., with new examples of mason-marks: these were from Scotland, which has for centuries been a great stronghold and school of Freemasonry. In writing on the origin and use of mason-marks, this gentleman says:—

“These marks, in all probability, had their origin before the Christian era; and this would indeed be placed beyond all doubt if the marks observed by Colonel Howard Vyse and others, on stones in the pyramids of Egypt, were mason-marks, and not quarry-marks, as in some instances he has proved them to be; or if he could identify the secret societies of Egypt with those of Freemasonry as has been attempted. It is only reasonable to suppose that mason-marks have been modified by and added to symbols connected with, or illustrative of, facts and doctrines of the Christian faith. A quarter of a century has barely elapsed since the rule that each mason should have his distinctive mark, and should affix it to

every stone hewn by him, was strictly enforced in the district I have referred to (Scotland); and even now, when many men are collected together on a work, the rule is observed, though not with so much strictness. It was a law in St. Ninian’s Lodge, at Brechin, that every mason should register his mark in a book, and he could not change that mark at pleasure.”

In a paper on Mason-marks in Ireland, read before the Kilkenny Archæological Society, Mr. E. Fitzgerald, architect, who also follows up the subject started in the *Archæologia* (but, by the way, without acknowledgment except of Mr. Chalmers’s paper in the volume for 1852), remarks, on the quotation just given, that,—

“The rule given by the Craft for the formation of the mark is, that they shall have at least one angle; that the circle must be avoided, and cannot be a true mason’s mark unless in combination with some line that shall form an angle with it; that there is no distinction of ranks; that is, that there is no particular class of marks set apart for and assigned to master-masons as distinguished from their workmen: if it should happen that two masons, meeting at the same work from distant parts, should have the same mark, then one must, for a time, assume a different distinction; or, as heralds say, ‘a difference.’”

He thinks that probably Mr. Chalmers was not aware that the system of Mason-marks is still carried out in several parts of England among the operative stone-cutters, though not in connection with the “Free and Accepted Masons;” as he was shown, in 1857, at Lismore, several stones, imported from England into Ireland, for the “Carlisle Tower,” which were cut with Mason-marks; and Mr. Brown, the Duke of Devonshire’s architect, informed him that he had a book with hundreds of marks in it, and with the masons’ and stone-cutters’ names attached to them; and that, as a new hand or craftsman was put on a job, he added an additional nick, or score, to his master’s or foreman’s; so that, at once, every man’s work was known by his mark.

As already said, I have no intention to inquire into the origin or history of Freemasonry itself, although I cannot well avoid looking a little into the mystical and doctrinal principles involved in the Freemasonic symbols, phrases, and allegories; but I may quote a brief passage from an ancient MS., given in the *Encyclopædia Londinensis*, as, in this veracious document, our old heathen friend Nimrod, the “mighty hunter before the Lord” (or rather, perhaps, the mighty seeker after the Lord, the oracular Spirit, or “the oracles of God”), unexpectedly turns up in a highly-distinguished position, at the laying of the very foundation stones of Freemasonry itself:—

“The kinge of Babylon that height Nemrothe was a mason himselfe, and loved well the science, as it is said with [Freemasonic?] masters of histories. And when the city of Nyneve, and other citties of the East should be made, Nemrothe, the king of Babylon, sent thither threescore masons at the rogation of the king of Nyneve, his cozen . . . and this was the first tyme that ever mason had any charge of his science.”

Perhaps the historical tile-tablets of Babylon may yet corroborate this very explicit account of the origin of Freemasonry. Meantime, there is little difficulty in discovering the foundation for the story itself in the following Scriptural passage, Genesis, x. 8, “And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. He was a mighty hunter before the Lord:

wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the Lord [a very singular thing (for the heathen?) to say of a heathen; did we not recollect that Babylonia, or at least Chaldea, was the native country of Abram, the "father" of the Jews, as of all "the faithful;" and that the Chaldeans were magicians, as Nimrod himself was; and as, in after times, the Jewish prophet Daniel, the Grand Master of the Babylonian and Chaldean Magicians, also was; being full of "the Spirit of the holy gods," as Nebuchadnezzar the king himself admitted when he somewhat unreasonably commanded Daniel to tell him "the visions of the dream" he had himself forgotten]. And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. Out of that land went forth Asshur, and builded Nineveh, and the city Rehoboth, and Calah, and Resen, between Nineveh and Calah: the same is a great city."

Freemasons were of two distinct orders,—those of the leather aprons and those of the silk; or in other words, the working guilds and the mystical masons. So far as the brethren of the working guilds were more than mere craftsmen, they were of the mystical order, or associates of the nominal masons or "symbolical philosophers;" but it seems probable that, at one time, all Freemasons were craftsmen; and those who were not so may have been afterwards introduced as honorary members, just as we have even the Prince of Wales made an honorary Fishmonger or an honorary Tailor by the City guilds of London. If so, however, the honorary class amongst the Freemasons appear to have at last completely swamped and ousted the modest craftsmen. But however this may be, that the craft and mystery of Freemasonry was of old especially connected with church or temple building, there can be no doubt; and neither can there be any that they allegorised the temple-building process: hence the mystical use of Solomon's temple and its builder.

Now the true temple, or church, of God is the human body itself: "What, know you not that your body is the temple?"—the "temple of the Lord,"—of "the Lord for the body,"—the "temple of the Holy Ghost,"—the "temple of God." And a church or temple, built and completed, or perfected, is therefore the human body brought to perfection, physical as well as mental, and illuminated by "the Light" of the Holy Spirit, shining within and upon it, as "a crown of glory" on its head. We can see, therefore, how, as is alleged, Freemasonry, though at one time essentially a church-building community of working masons, they have, quite relevantly, had secret and allegorical reference to religious or mystical doctrines relating to human perfectibility and reparadisement.

Thus we find it maintained, in an *Essai sur les Mystères, et le véritable Objet, de la Confrérie des Francs-Maçons*, published at Amsterdam, as a second edition, 1774, that the end and purpose of Freemasonry is the

"Restoring to man his primitive goodness [in Paradise, where he was perfected by the 'creation' of the angelic 'woman' out of 'the man,' and so made 'very good'], and causing a revival in his heart of the laws of [his] nature in their greatest perfection: religion had the same end in view: . . . it is Freemasonry alone which has understood the best means of accomplishing it."

And, in the same Essay, it is declared that the "allegory of Freemasonry" is this:—they propose to

build a temple: the instruments of this building are symbols of the architecture of the heart,—the square, the triangle, the compass: the work is done "in the light;" and before being introduced or initiated into this glorious work, or made fit to work in and at this august temple, man is a wretch who wanders in darkness; and he must be cleansed and purified. "All Freemasons," we are also told, "are not capable of developing this allegory:" I should rather think so! "The well-informed Mason knows," however, "that the jewels, as they are emphatically called, of the lodge, are only ensigns of the inward man." The line, says "brother" Jeans, in an old "oration" at Southampton, "points out the direct but narrow path which leads to a glorious immortality" [a physical or natural immortality on the face of this earth, with the re-enjoyment of Paradise, or celestial glory, as could be easily shown]. The "rough ashlar" is "the brute stone, without shape or form, as taken from the quarry; and is emblematic of the mind of man in its pristine state, rude and unfashioned like that stone." The "smooth or perfect ashlar" is "a polished stone, of a true die square, which has undergone the skill of the experienced Mason [as a hierophant of the mysteries], and is emblematic of the mind of man in its improved state:" and so on. Again, "Freemasonry deals in hieroglyphics, symbols, allegories; and to be qualified to reveal their meaning a man must know more than a mere nominal mason. The full interpretation of them, like that of the mysteries of old, is in select hands,—has been committed only to those of tried fidelity, who conceal it with suitable care; and those—if not deficient in intellect yet—wanting in industry or inclination to explore the penetralia of the temple are not qualified, if willing, to betray it: hence the secrecy which has so long distinguished the fraternity."

Freemasonry, then, was probably meant, in its secret rites of initiation, mystically to show forth how the human frame may be built up, finished, and perfected, as the true temple of the actual Lord and Master of it, who is not the human soul or the man himself,—erroneously conceived to be its master; but the divine Spirit, who, in the perfected and finished state of his temple, as it was in its "primitive goodness, shall illuminate it from within,—as the penetralia of the temple shone solely by the inward "light" of the Divine glory.

Highly initiated Freemasons admit, and indeed they urge and insist, that Freemasonry is essentially identical with the ancient religious mysteries, and with the Rosicrucian philosophy. There is, doubtless, in all this, too, a good deal of the "divine dark," no less than in Freemasonry; but let us try if we cannot get at least a glimpse of what is known as to these ancient mysteries.

For brevity's sake, I must give as condensed an idea of the professed object of the mysteries as possible; and, in doing so, prefer quoting at second hand, as it were, from others who have already given condensed ideas of these mysteries; and from a point of view altogether different from my own preconceived ideas.

Thus, in a paper on "The Buddhist Emblem of Architecture," in vol. xiv., p. 633, of *The Asiatic Journal of Bengal*, Captain T. Latter says:—

"In all these mysteries, which were held in such high veneration by the ancients, and the types of which have

descended in a chain of unbroken succession even to our own days, the attainment of the crowning point of the craft was typical of Death. It was alone by passing through the vale of its shadow that perfect Light could be obtained.* Apuleius, in the 11th book of his *Metamorphosis*, or *Fable of the Golden Ass*, describes minutely this completion of initiation;—the night-like darkness; the approach to the confines of Death; and then, in the very midst of this darkness, the Light revealed to him [and in fact in him]. In some of the various versions of these mysteries it is said that the candidate was shrouded in the shudder-cloth of death; was placed in the narrow home to which we all must go; was raised again, and went forth the new born and perfect craftsman [the initiative of an immortal life, 'new every morning' after 'dying daily']. In others it was represented by the candidate passing through an oval, symbolising that, as he entered this scene of woe, so must he go forth again. Thus was it that we find Death styled, in ancient writ, the portal of life."

That the death here alluded to, or signified, was not the death of corruption, as this writer may perhaps have thought it was, there is abundant proof; as, for example, where Apuleius himself speaking of the Goddess Ceres or Isis, the great nurse-mother "of a thousand names," says—"The gates of the realms beneath, and the guardianship of life, are placed in the hands of the goddess; and the initiation into her mysteries is celebrated as bearing a close resemblance to a voluntary death, with a precocious chance of recovery . . . whom, through her providence, being after a manner born again, she restores to the career of a new existence."

"The sage Isocrates," says Warburton, while speaking of the mysteries and night vigils of Eleusis, "called the mysteries the thing human nature principally stands in need of . . . indeed the Greeks seem to have placed their chief happiness in them: so Euripides makes Hercules say, I was blest when I got a sight of the mysteries; and it was a proverbial speech, when any one thought himself in the highest degree happy [in an ecstasy of entrancement, in short], to say, I seem as if I had been initiated in the higher mysteries. The primitive Christians, in imitation perhaps of these pagan rites, or from the same kind of spirit, had a custom of celebrating vigils in the night."

The ideas of the *summum bonum* or "highest good" of man remind me of the less ancient doctrines ascribed to certain mystics whom a writer (believed to be Defoe), in a work on the history of magic, stigmatises as magicians. He is very virulent against the "effluvia of hell," as he calls them, but seems pretty fairly to describe the views he reprobrates.

"Now magic," he says, "puts an end to all difficulty. By consulting the dark oracle and entering a little into the secrets of the sacred science, as they wickedly tell you it is, they come out transformed into a new kind of species [a higher development of humanity, doubtless]: they tell you that they are arrived to a complete knowledge of the eternal mysteries;—that God is nothing but the sum of human desires; the ecstasy of an exalted Spirit carried up into the regions of eternal calm and quiet, where the soul is in raptures of joy and love. This they resolve, by the Light of the refined sublime judgment, to be the perfection of happiness, and that is God. *Amor Deus est; Jupiter quodcumque cupis.*"

Of the Rosicrucian Philosophy, perhaps all I need

* "In the shadow of death light will spring up." A dread reality, and his shadow are "Death and his brother sleep." The Lord "turneth the shadow of death into the morning."—Amos, v. 8.

here do is, for want of a better, to quote my own brief condensation, from the Paper on Symbols in the *Builder* of 15th of January, 1859.

"The Rosicrucians taught that there are two kinds of life, 'the compound life' and 'the elementary life.' The compound is the human or soul-life. The elementary is the sylphide or spirit-life. It was the duty of the sages, by fasting, watching, prayer, and contemplation, to bring about 'a Rosicrucian marriage' with the elementary or spirit-life. That life was the companion and bride of man (the compound life) in Paradise; and the desertion of this his Spirit bride constituted the very fall of man itself. The grand purpose of the brethren of 'the Rosy Cross' was, by help of the Spirit-life, to bring about the entire regeneration and the perfection and salvation or immortalisation of man, in body and soul and spirit. As in the Eleusinian initiation, 'science, genius, and immortality' were to be the fruits of the glorious alliance which the sages sought. By the help of their spiritual brides, they could penetrate into all the secrets of nature, and 'see into the life of things; and this accords with what the Taliesin says of the Druidical god-life."

We may now have some idea of what the Freemasons mean when they speak of the similarity of their initiations to those of the ancient mysteries, and shall now be better able to indicate what such symbols as the hexalpha, used as one of their most precious jewels, must have been originally meant by them, as well as by many others, to signify.

I fear, however, that I must postpone any further remarks on the Freemasonic and other geometrical symbols, if you will allow me, to another communication.

J. E. DOVE.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

EXTRACTS FROM OLD LODGE MINUTES.

Amongst my collection of Masonic Notes and Scraps, there is the following, cut out of an American paper, which may possibly show some of our enquiring brethren some customs now obsolete.—Ex. Ex.

Tradition informs us that the first Lodge held in Georgia was opened near what is now the corner of Bay and Drayton streets in the city of Savannah, in the month of July, 1733, under a large oak tree. The charter was brought from England by Gen. James Oglethorpe, the founder of the colony of Georgia. The Lodge was called King Solomon's Lodge, No. 123, of the Province of Georgia and continued to work under the original, charter till 1786, when it received a charter from the Grand Lodge of Georgia. This seems to me to conflict somewhat with the facts as set forth in the charter, a copy of which I send you, as it is there said that the "right and succession" was derived from the Grand Master of England in 1735, although this may, perhaps, refer to the Grand Lodge alone.

Some years since the lodge was unfortunate in having a Tyler whose inexcusable laziness, or culpable carelessness, led him to use the old minute books for lighting fires, and his vandalism was not discovered till irreparable damage had been done. After a thorough overhauling of the old minutes, I find nothing prior to Feb., 1785, when a new book was commenced, which has, fortunately, escaped the destructive hand of the Tyler. At this time, and for several years subsequently, the lodge met at the House of Mr. John Lowrey. The lodge now has in its possession a Bible "presented by Gen. James Oglethorpe to King Solomon's Lodge No. 510, Province of Georgia." The imprint reads,—"Oxford: Printed by John Baskett, printer to the University. MDCCXXXIII." There are also several ancient Jewels; one a Past Master's of Union Lodge No. 10, 1790; Secretary's of same lodge, and same date; and Past Master's of Hiram's lodge No. 2, no date. Both these lodges are long since dead. Also a Past Master's Jewel, without date, but with the following inscription: "J. Box Young, Esq., W.P.M. of King Solomon's Lodge No. 1. *Amor, Honor, and Justitia.*" Mr. Young was

W.M. from Dec. 1790, to Dec. 1792, and again from June, 1795 to March, 1796, about which time, it appears he died, and a new election was held.

The first item of interest I find is in reference to re-making Masons, and I copy entire those parts of the minutes referring thereto.

Oct. 5th, 1785.—“Bro. Jackson, after stating that the decline of Solomon's Lodge, the reasons for it, the derival of the charter from an ancient Grand Master, and the advantages which would accrue from its altering the mode of constituting and making, by the prevention of seduction, which appears at present to be the case of a lodge under a pretended ancient Constitution from Philadelphia, moved that the ancient brethren of the lodge do constitute themselves into an ancient lodge, under the reasons aforesaid, and the authority given by the Grand Lodge of the State. Argued and referred to by Bro. Jackson, and report their sentiments to the lodge with respect to the propriety of re-making and constituting Solomon's Lodge on an ancient establishment for the future. Bro. Beecroft seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to. Five ancient Masons being present, constituted themselves accordingly, and Bro. Beecroft, acting as Master, reported that they had a full right and power to re-make and constitute an ancient lodge for the reasons given in the motion, also as it appears the original Constitution was ancient, as well as on account of the authority of the Grand Lodge, and that Solomon's Lodge, be, and it is hereby constituted an ancient Lodge, by the name of Solomon's Lodge which redort was agreed to to by the lodge.

“Ordered by the ancient Masons, and agreed to by the whole that they met for the purpose of re-making Bro. R. W. Junior Grand Warden, and the old officers of Solomon's Lodge tomorrow, at 8 o'clock in the morning.

Dec. 1st, 1785.—“The W.M. informed the lodge that in consequence of the proceedings of the last general meeting he had waited on the Grand Master, who had called a Grand Lodge were laid before them in regard to making ancient Masons; and they had approved the same.”

Dec. 15th, 1785.—“Ordered that the lodge do meet on Monday night next, in order to raise the officers of the Grand Lodge, and to pass and raise Bro. Clark, and to raise Bro. Pierce to the third degree.”

In 1786 and 1787 I find that many “Modern Masons were Ancient” by petition.

In June, 1786 a brother illegally made a Mason in a spurious lodge made application to this Lodge, and took his degrees, paying half the regular fees therefor.

July, 2nd, 1789.—The W.M. read a letter from a Bro. saying he had had an account presented to him by the Treasurer, for arrears, amounting to £4, 11s, 9d. “Ordered that a committee be appointed to examine the several accounts against all the members of the lodge during the time the craft worked as modern Masons, and since the time of their becoming ancients.”

The books immediately subsequent to this being destroyed I cannot give the report of this committee, but at the next meeting, July 16th, 1789, I find that a petition was read from William Watt, “a member of this lodge during the time the lodge worked as modern Masons, praying to be initiated to the degrees he held therein.” It was ordered that Saturday night be set apart for that purpose, and that the D.G.M. be informed thereof by the W.M. Accordingly, on July 18th, “a particular meeting was held for the purpose of entering, passing, and raising Bro. Watt, who had received the same degrees in this lodge when modern.” All the degrees were conferred on the same night.

The fees and dues varied somewhat during the time of my examination of the records. In 1785 they were as follows: making, £2 3s 6d; passing, 15s; raising 15s; admission to membership, £1 1s 6d. These sums were respectively equal to \$9, 42½; \$3, 25, and \$4, 66. The annual dues were 2s, or \$5, 20. In 1793 the Entered Apprentice fees were “two guineas to the Treasurer, and \$1 to the Tyler.” In 1797 the fees for each initiation, passing, and raising, were \$9, 32½, \$4, 66½, and \$4, 66½. In 1778 the fees to the Grand Lodge were 10s 6d for initiation, and 2s 4d for quaterages. These were reduced in 1790 to 4s 8d, and 1s 2d. The only return of members I find was in 1792, when it is recorded that this lodge returned the dues of members to the Grand Lodge as follows: twenty-nine one year each, four three quarters each, two two quaters seven initiations.

Jan. 1st, 1795, it was

“Resolved, That any member of this lodge not attending at every regular meeting shall pay 2s 4d, without a legal and sufficient excuse.”

In 1797 the fines were changed to fifty cents for the first absence, one dollar each for the second and third, and from the fourth to be discontinued as a member. Such a law, if now in force, would tend very materially to increase the funds of our lodges, or decrease the membership. On one occasion the Tyler was fined eight dollars for neglect of duty on a night of meeting.

From 1797 onwards, for some years, the records show that a contribution was taken up every night which was expended in refreshments, an account of which is set forth with due particularity showing that the J.W. had actual instead of metaphysical duties to perform during the hours of refreshment. The usual supply was a gallon.

of brandy, a gallon of wine, a venison ham, bread, cheese, &c. Brand, was \$2,00, and wine \$1,75, to \$2,00, per gallon. Occasionally there are entires for segars after for tumblers and ates. From July 1st to Dec. 31st, 1797, I find entries amounting to \$4,50 for tumblers alone. In 1836 the renting committee were authorized to sell the dishes, knives, forks, &c., belonging to the lodge, so we may conclude the entertainment was thenceforth dispensed with.

In 1804 a special committee used to meet at the lodge room every Sunday. Their duties do not appear to be defined in the record book, but in a small book kept by them I find minutes of eight meetings, at which there were usually four members present, sometimes five. They kept an accurate account of the amount paid for refreshments at each meeting, which varies from fifty cents to \$4,94—the total for the eight meetings being \$29,00.

In 1810 a “lecturing society” used to meet on Sundays, usually in the morning, sometimes evenings, and occasionally both. The number in attendance varied from four to fourteen, generally about nine. They kept a cash book, in which all their receipts and expenses are set forth, collecting twelve and a half cents from each person present to defray the expenses of the meeting, which included a moderate supply of fluids. One entry is so quaint that I copy it entire:

“At a regular meeting of the lecturing society of Solomon's Lodge No. 1, June 9th, A. M., 5811; present, Bros. Griggs, Peck and Sisson. There not being a sufficient number of member present to do business, they turned to eating up the bread and cheese, and drinking the brandy. They then retired in good order and harmony.”

The last meeting recorded is April 6th, 1812, when there were eight persons present, who contributed twenty-five cents each and bought three bottles of wine to finish up with.

In 1817 it was

Resolved, That that portion of the By-laws which compels the lodge to be closed before refreshment be repealed.”

In 1821 all visiting brothers staying to refreshment were required to contribute twenty-five cents each, to go into the general fund. This rule was afterwards extended to include members of the Lodge.

These convivial scenes seem to have been conducted with decorum, as became Masons, and intemperance was discouraged. In 1794 there is a record of a charge perferred against a brother for coming into the lodge disguised in liquor. He was excluded till he complied with By-laws which he had transgressed. He afterwards came up and begged pardon, was admonished by the W.M., and restored to his seat.

All work was then done in the first degree, which causes some curious speculation in my mind as to certain matters. For instance, in June, 1788, a Bro. was elected S.D., and the same night petitioned for his third degree, and was raised July 21. The next year a Tyler was elected June 18th, petitioned for his third degree Sept. 3rd, and was raised Oct. 15th. At funerals the lodge was opened on the first step of Masonry, and proceeded to the Hall of the Grand Lodge, where they were joined by the Grand Officers and other lodges. E.A. Masons could become members by petition, which had to lie over one meeting. Brethren petitioned for each degree, which was referred to a committee of examination, who reported at the next meeting, when a ballot was had.

All these itens are prior to 1797.

FREEMASONS' ALMANACKS.

Wanted a list of the various *Freemasons' Almanacks* that have been printed at home and abroad.—EPHEMERIDES.

THE ORDER OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM.

In my two last communications I have sufficiently proved, 1st. that there has always existed, and actually does exist, a head and supreme authority of the Sovereign Order of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem; and that the Supreme Authority is now vested in the Lieutenant of the Magistery and S. Council; and 2ndly. That the Lieutenant of the Magistery and S. Council, and the Langues of Italy and Germany, the *only two existing Langues of the Order*, never approved nor sanctioned the alleged transactions of 1826-7-31, by which the "English Langue" claims to be re-established.

My attention has been drawn to a pamphlet entitled—

"Hospitallaria: or, a Synopsis of the Rise, Exploits, Privileges, Insignia of the Venerable and Sovereign Order of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, with a brief account of the Sixth or British Branch. London: Mortimer, Wigmore Street. 1837."

It contains sixty-eight pages of matter, and concludes—

"By order of the Right Rev. the Prior and Council of the British Order of Knights Hospitallers. R. B. London: Jan. 30, 1837."

At p. 49 we are informed ("by Order of the Rt. Rev. the Prior," &c.)

"On the resumption by Queen Elizabeth of the possessions of the Knights Hospitallers within her dominions, they gradually withdrew from England, but the act of Queen Mary, reincorporating the Sixth Language, never was repealed, and consequently is in full force at this day."

I have already shown that the Charter of Philip and Mary never incorporated the Language of England; and supposing even, that the Charter had not lapsed, as I proved it has done, it would have been repealed by "the resumption by Queen Elizabeth of the possessions of the Knights Hospitallers within her dominions;" and Blackstone says that a Corporation may be dissolved, 1, by Act of Parliament; 2, by the natural death of all its members, as in the case of an aggregate Corporation. (*Comm. B. i. c. 18, p. 484*.) Consequently, then, the Charter of Philip and Mary has *doubly lapsed*.

At p. 53 I read that:—

"In compliance with the decree of the Council of London, A.D. 1126, which provides that every Grand Prior must be in Priest's Orders, on February 24th, 1834, the present Grand Prior (the late Rev. Sir Robert Peat) qualified for his office under the Charter of Philip and Mary in the Court of King's Bench."

If it was in consequence of this decree that the Rev. Robert Peat was elected "Grand Prior," it follows as a matter of course that the present "Grand Prior" must also be in priest's orders, but I cannot find "his reverence's" name in the Clergy List!

At p. 56 I read:—

"By the Statutes of the Order, the British Language and the German Language are strictly Protestant."

Now I regret much for the sake of the "Prior (Sir R. Peat) and Council" by whose order this pamphlet was issued, to have to say, that, after carefully searching the Statutes, I cannot find a single statute, or even a part of one, which bears out the statement I have quoted!

So much for the "Hospitallaria."

My attention has also been drawn to another little pamphlet, entitled—

"Memoir in regard to the Venerable English Langue of the Sovereign and Illustrious Order of St. John of Jerusalem, &c., as ordered to be printed for the Langue by the Chapter General on the 24th June, 1861."

This production has, I find, been distributed amongst the societies and associations in London, doubtless in the hope of beating up recruits. I wish I had seen it earlier, as it is the most satisfactory document of the "English Langue" which, as yet, I have come across, for the

author has to use a current expression, "let the cat out of the bag," whether wittingly or not I cannot say; but this much I know, that my own doubts are now entirely cleared away; for, from this pamphlet I learn that the "*English Langue*" has made application to the Lieutenant of the Magistery and S. Council—the Supreme authority of the Order—to be recognised as the *English Langue*, and I infer that the application has been refused! Indeed, Major Porter distinctly says, that the authorities of the Order refuse to acknowledge the "English Langue" as a branch of the Order. Doubtless, the application for recognition made the most of the revival of the lapsed Charter of Philip and Mary! But now I learn from the "Memoir" ordered to be printed by the Chapter General of June 24, 1861,—that the "English Langue," whatever it may be, is not the *English Language*, nor a branch of the S. Order of St. John; neither are its members, therefore, Knights Hospitallers of St. John. I presume the "Grand Prior" and the members did not see matters exactly in this light, when they ordered the suicidal "Memoir" to be printed on June 24, 1861. Still, however, is a satisfaction to remember the old proverb, "*It is never too late to learn.*"

At p. 9 I read—

"It may also be proper to state that the utmost willingness has been manifested on the part of the Council at Rome to amalgamate with the English branch so soon as a fund can be established for the necessary support of a Grand Priory upon the ancient basis of such a foundation"—but the recent political events have interrupted all negotiations, and desirable as it would be to form a union, time and circumstances do not suit such a purpose."

Now here we are distinctly told that on certain conditions, i.e. "so soon as a fund can be established for the necessary support of a Grand Priory upon the ancient basis of such a foundation"—"the utmost willingness has been manifested on the part of the Council at Rome to amalgamate with the English branch."

But if the "English Langue" really is a branch, or the English Langue of the Order, no amalgamation would be necessary.

Then we are told that "recent political events have interrupted all negotiations." Here we learn that negotiations have been going on with a view to the amalgamation, and the fact of negotiations having been begun proves that the "English Langue" was fully aware of the importance of the amalgamation. This is evident: Why then are the results of the negotiations so carefully passed over, just as was the case with "the special communications" of 1843, "which were acknowledged by a letter from the Grand Bailli de Candida, Grand Master *ad interim*, dated Rome, August 17, of that year?" (See *Synoptical Sketch*, p. 26). If the negotiations had been successful, would that result have been concealed or passed over? But then the interruption of the negotiations is attempted to be explained away on the grounds that "recent political events have interrupted all negotiations." *Credat Judæus!* What in the world can politics have to do with the negotiations for the amalgamation of the "Langues of England" with the S. Order of St. John?

Then we are finally told that, "desirable as it would be to form such a union, time and circumstances do not suit for such a purpose."

So now, after all that has been said about the revival or re-organisation of the English Langue" of the Order of St. John in 1826-7-31, and the revived Corporation under the lapsed Charter of 1557, we actually learn from this "Memoir" ordered to be printed for the Langue by the Chapter General of June 24, 1861, that there is *no union whatever* between the "English Langue" and the Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem, and therefore that the "English Langue" is not the English Branch of the Order, and is in no way connected with it. And thus the Chapter General has given the death-blow to the institution which it has been trying to establish. As

for the allegation that "time and circumstances do not suit for such a purpose," that is mere subterfuge.

At p. 5 I read—

"The succession of the Grand Masters closed with Tomenasi, the immediate successor of Paul, since which period the Order has been governed by Lieutenants of the Mastership, but intervals of entire prostration have given birth to wide changes in its constitution, and at present it may be said to exist in a state of utter disunion and consequent feebleness and decay."

This is another proof—if further proof were necessary—that the "English Langue" cannot be a part or a branch of the S. Order of St John of Jerusalem, for what General Chapter composed of members professing to be gentlemen and "Knights of St. John," would deliberately sanction such a paragraph to be printed, so derogatory of an Order of which they claimed to be members?

At p. 10 I read that the Commander Taaffe had the permission of King William IV. to appear in the uniform of the Order at the British Court. Many years ago I met this venerable old Knight, and I heard the same account from his own lips; but the author of the *Memoir* has omitted to add one other important little fact—no doubt by an oversight—viz., that Mr. Taaffe was admitted into the Order by the Lieutenant of the Mastership and Council, and that the diploma which they issued was submitted to the King!

No one who has perused the evidence I have adduced can fail to come to the conclusion that the so-called "English Langue" cannot possibly be the English Langue, nor a branch of the S. Order of St. John of Jerusalem, and that the members thereof cannot be the Knights Hospitallers of St. John.

We have learned from the "English Langue," by their official "*Memoir*," as ordered to be printed for the Langue by the Chapter General of June 24, 1861," that there is no union between the English Langue and the Sovereign Order of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, although the union would be desirable. On the other hand, we have also learned from the official document of the Sovereign Order, which Sir George Bowyer has communicated to "N. and Q.," that the Order of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem is in no way connected with the English Langue. Having, therefore, the unanimous testimony on both sides, as to the fact that they have no connection with each other, it is quite evident that the aforesaid institution which calls itself the "Venerable English Langue of the Sovereign and Illustrious Order of St. John of Jerusalem" has not the slightest right, either legal or moral, to assume that title and designation, or to represent itself as being what, from its own official testimony and that of the Order of St. John, it is not.—*HISTORICUS in Notes and Queries.*

A PICKPOCKET AMONG THE BRETHREN OF THE SQUARE AND COMPASSES.

A singular scene occurred, not long since, in a lodge of Freemasons, at Odd Fellows' Hall, corner of Center and Grand-streets, New York. Detective Wilson, who is a member of the lodge in question, was in attendance at its meeting, and just as preparations were being made for the initiation of a new member, everything being conducted with all due solemnity, what was the officer's astonishment to find in the neophyte a notorious pick-pocket who goes by the name of "Fat Doctor." The fellow's design, evidently, was to impose upon a respectable body of men first, and pick their pockets afterwards. The ceremony was immediately stopped, and the disappointed apprentice taken to the police head-quarters.—*New York Paper.*

DOUBLE-HEADED EAGLE.

A few weeks ago there was some inquiry respecting the learning of the "Split Crow" of the York rite, and instancing Milton. What is the earliest known use of this emblem in connection with English Freemasonry? The Duke of Sussex had a very ancient ring, considered

to be Masonic, and bearing an eagle, but it was double-headed. The Rosicrucians also appear to have used a double-headed eagle. Dunckerley, in 1791, had the emblem placed upon his seal, and it occurs in the tracing board of a York encampment, executed in 1795. The favours rendered the York Templars (1811 to 1814) by the Archbishop are well known, and on turning to an excellent Dictionary of British Armorial, in course of publication by Mr. J. W. Papworth, I find the following:—"Ar. an eagle displ. double-headed gu. William de Grenefeld, Archbishop of York, 1306-1315."—△.

THE COOPER MANUSCRIPTS IN LINCOLN'S INN LIBRARY.

A Kentish brother inquires of what this collection consists: apparently he imagines it to be Masonic. The collection is historical, antiquarian, and juridical, and was presented to the society many years before Masonry formed a serious part of my pursuits. It was only on my leaving England, in the autumn of 1859 that I added to the collection some Masonic documents; for instance, the patents creating me Provincial Grand Master and Provincial Grand Superintendent for Kent; copies of most of the warrants in virtue of which the Kentish lodges are held; printed copies of the by-laws of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent, with manuscript additions; copies (some printed, some written) of the by-laws of the various lodges of Kent, &c. It is my wish that every thing relating to the Craft that remains in my possession should, at some period, be placed in the same depository. It may be mentioned that the parchment certificate, Latin and English, signed by the Grand Secretaries, Harper and White, of my being a Master Mason, which I used in a tour in Prussia, Bohemia, Saxony, and Bavaria, in 1822, has been discovered bound up in one of the volumes of the collection, containing, for the most part miscellaneous papers relating to the Record Commission of 1831.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

THREE.

Many young Masons wish to know why three is esteemed a mystic number. The following may interest them:—

In all ages the number *three* has had much mysterious signification, and it is said that the Arabic character 3 signifies, in that language, the Trinity in Unity.

However this may be, the character holds a high position in many of the secret Orders of the present day, and one of their penmen has given the following deductions, principally from the ancient Scriptures:

"When the world was created, we find land, water, and sky—sun, moon, and stars. Noah had but three sons. Jonah was three days in the whale's belly. Our Saviour passed three days in the tomb. Peter denied his Saviour thrice. There were three patriarchs—Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Abraham entertained three angels. Samuel was called three times. 'Simon, lovest thou me?' was repeated three times. Daniel was thrown into a den with three lions, for praying three times a day. Shadrach, Meshech, and Abednego were rescued from the flames of the oven. The Ten Commandments were delivered on the third day. Job had three friends. St. Paul speaks of faith, hope, and charity—these three. Those famous dreams of the baker and butler were to come to pass in three days, and Elijah prostrated himself three times on the body of the dead child. Samson deceived Delilah three times before she discovered the secret of his strength. The sacred letters on the Cross are I. H. S.; so also the Roman motto was composed of three words: *In hoc signo.* There are three conditions for man—the earth, heaven, and hell. There is also a Holy Trinity. In mythology three Graces; Ceberus with his three heads; Neptune holding his three-toothed staff; the Oracle of Delphi cherished with veneration the tripod; and the nine Muses sang from three. In nature we have morning, noon, and night. Trees group their leaves in three, There is three-leaved clover. Every ninth wave is a ground swell. We have fish, flesh, and fowl. The majority of mankind die at thirty. What could be done in mathematics without the aid of the triangle?" Perth.

MOORE'S MASONIC REVIEW.

Where, in England, can be seen a copy of Moore's *Masonic Review*, published at Cincinnati, Ohio, of which some twenty-five or twenty-six volumes have appeared?—G. M.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Berks and Bucks is to be held in the Town Hall, Newbury, on Friday, May 15th.

The Leigh Lodge (No. 1259), is to be consecrated at the Literary Institution, Winchester-street, Pimlico, on the 5th inst., Bro. Cottebrune, P.M., 1035, is to be the first Master. The musical arrangements are under the direction of Bro. Dyson.

GRAND LODGE AND FESTIVAL.

The annual meeting of Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday last, there being present the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M., supported by Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, *Bart.*, G.C.B., Prov. G.M. for Hauts, as D.G.M.; Bros. Lord de Tabley, P.S.G.W., as S.G.W.; John Havers, J.G.W.; McIntyre, G. Reg.; J. L. Evans, S.G.D. and President of the Board of General Purposes; J. J. Blake and Capt. Creton, J.G.D.'s; Rev. Ryland Bedford and J. Huyshe, G. Chaps.; S. Tomkins, G. Treas.; W. G. Clarke, G. Sec.; W. Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec.; A. W. Woods, G. Dir. of Cers.; N. Bradford, Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.; H. Empson, G.S.B.; Daukes, G. Supt. of Works; D. Farmer, G. Purst.; Thos. Dickie, Assist. G. Purst.; J. Stimpson, G. Org.; T. H. Hall, Prov. G.M. for Cambridge; Alex. Dobie, Prov. G.M. Surrey; R. J. Bagshaw, Prov. G.M. Essex; J. Fawcett, Prov. G.M. Durham; H. A. Bowyer, Prov. G.M. Oxfordshire; F. Dundas, M.P., P.G.W.; W. H. White, P.G. Sec.; Rev. Sir J. Warren Hayes and Ed. Cox, P.G. Chaps.; J. S. Hopwood, G. W. Potter, J. Savage, I. N. Tomkins, C. H. Gregory, P. J. Salomon, J. P. Scott, J. Nelson, and L. Crombie, P.G.D.'s; C. W. Elkington, A. A. Le Veau, H. Bridges, and E. H. Patten, P.G.S.B.'s; Bro. Dubois, Grand Master of Hayti, and about 150 other brethren.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last Quarterly Communication as regards the election of Grand Master and Grand Treasurer were read and confirmed.

The Grand Master having been proclaimed and saluted,

The M.W. GRAND MASTER rose, and expressed his appreciation of the honour conferred upon him in being re-elected Grand Master for the twentieth time. He had always endeavoured to perform the high and arduous duties of the office without party spirit, and flattered himself that he had succeeded in winning the good wishes and approval of the Craft. He regretted the unavoidable absence of the D.G.M., Lord de Grey and Ripon, who was detained by his official duties, but had expressed to him (the G.M.) his willingness to again accept the office of D.G.M.

The Earl de Grey and Ripon was then proclaimed.

The M.W.G.M. then appointed his officers as follows:—

Earl de Grey and Ripon.....	D.G.M.
Lord Skelmersdale.....	S.G.W.
G. Cornwall Legh, M.P.....	J.G.W.
Rev. John Huyshe }	G. Chaps.
Rev. A. F. A. Woodford }	
Samuel Tomkins.....	G. Treas.
Æneas J. McIntyre.....	G. Reg.
John Evans.....	Pres. of Bd. of G. Purposes.
William Gray Clarke.....	G. Sec.
Richard Brandt.....	G. Sec. German Corres.
George Fearnley }	S.G.D.'s
Benjamin Head }	

William Simpson }	J.G.D.'s
C. Locock Webb }	
*	G. Supt. of Works.
Albert W. Woods.....	G. Dir. of Cers.
Samuel Ebor Nutt.....	Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.
Charles J. Banister.....	G.S. Bearer.
William Farnfield.....	Assist. G. Sec.
Samuel Stimpson.....	G. Org.
David Ross Farmer.....	G. Purst.
Thomas G. Dickie.....	Assist. G. Purst.
Charles B. Payne.....	G. Tyler.

The GRAND MASTER stated that in pursuance of the powers with which he was invested as G.M., he had conferred the rank of Past Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of England on His Highness the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh.

The following Grand Stewards for the ensuing year were presented:—

Bro. F. Bennock.....	1
„ W. P. Hood.....	2
„ T. H. Devonshire.....	4
„ C. Magnay.....	5
„ J. Brand.....	6
„ Morris Evans.....	8
„ Samuel Field.....	14
„ H. J. Godden.....	21
„ G. S. States.....	23
„ E. J. Fraser.....	27
„ John S. Leigh.....	32
„ John Williams.....	54
„ Frederick Addis.....	66
„ T. K. Kent.....	72
„ C. H. Waters.....	108
„ Carl Hoffmann.....	116
„ Octavus Hansard.....	233
„ Thomas Feun.....	324

The lodge having been closed in due form, the brethren proceeded in procession to the Grand Hall, where a very elegant dinner was served under the immediate superintendence of Bros. Shrewsbury and Elkington, the lessees of the Tavern, and the Grand Stewards.

On the removal of the cloth,

The GRAND MASTER said he was sure that the loyalty and affection everybody displayed for Her Majesty throughout the country was shared by the Masonic brethren. They had sympathised with Her Majesty in her affliction, and they had rejoiced with her in the late happy events in her family, which, it was to be hoped, had proved to her a consolation and solace in her sorrows. He called upon them to drink with all loyalty and affection the health of the Queen. (Cheers.)

The GRAND MASTER was sure that the next toast would be equally welcome as the last. They must all recollect the joy and rejoicing which prevailed throughout the country on the occasion of the marriage of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. This was the first opportunity he had had of addressing a Masonic assembly since that happy event, and he had therefore great pleasure in proposing the health of the Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family. (Cheers.) He felt sure that it was the sincere wish of everyone that they might enjoy the most unalloyed happiness, and that they might long be spared to set a pattern and example to the country. (Cheers.)

Admiral Sir LUCIUS CURTIS, Prov. G. M. for Hampshire, had the satisfaction of proposing a toast which he was sure they would feel pleasure in drinking in a good old English bumper,

* The Grand Master stated that from peculiar circumstances, he should postpone appointing the G. Supt. of Works.

the health of the M.W. Grand Master the Earl of Zetland. (Cheers.) They had all known him long, and appreciated his good qualities. (Cheers.) Long might he live—long might he rule over the craft—and every happiness attend him. (Cheers.)

The GRAND MASTER thanked the brethren for the kind reception of the toast, so handsomely proposed by his right W. brother. He had so often had occasion to acknowledge their kindness that he did not know how to vary his words. They had done him the honour to elect him on nineteen occasions, and he had only been absent from these festivals once, viz., last year, and that owing to indisposition, though even then he presided at the meeting of Grand Lodge. He was proud of the position he held and hoped he had done his duty towards the Craft. (Cheers.) He had been ever anxious to serve the Craft to the best of his ability, and do the utmost good he could for its interests. (Cheers.) He was well aware that at his time of life he could not expect much longer to hold his distinguished office, but so long as he enjoyed the confidence of the brethren he would use his utmost exertions for the benefit of the Craft. (Cheers.) For their great kindness he once more most warmly thanked them. (Cheers.)

The GRAND MASTER proposed the next toast with peculiar satisfaction, in which he was sure they would all join. He was sorry that the D. Grand Master was unable to attend, in consequence of his official duties; but he was certain they would all acknowledge that attendance to the service of the State was of greater importance than coming to a festive meeting such as that in which they were then assembled. He had received an apology from the noble Earl which he was sure they would readily accept. (Cheers.) He would give them "The Health of the D. G. Master," coupled with the rest of the Grand Officers. (Cheers.) He was pleased at having found so devoted a Mason as Lord Skelmersdale to fill the place of Senior Grand Warden. (Cheers.) They were also equally fortunate in having a distinguished member of the House of Commons as Junior Grand Warden. The other officers were all distinguished in their respective positions as men and Masons. Though in lodge they were all on an equality, it could not be denied that they looked up with pleasure to men of ancestry and position to preside over them, more especially when that was united with the other qualities which should always distinguish the members of the Craft, and which were conspicuous in his noble brother, the Senior Grand Warden, whose name he should specially couple with the toast. (Cheers.)

Lord SKELMERSDALE, in thanking them for the manner in which they had drunk the health of the D. Grand Master, felt that he need not add one word to what had been said by the M.W. Grand Master. He thanked the Grand Master for appointing him Senior Grand Warden for the ensuing year, and he hoped that he might so perform his duties as to merit the good opinion of all. For the kind manner in which they had drunk the health of himself and brother officers he begged to thank them. (Cheers.)

The GRAND MASTER had great pleasure in proposing the health of the Prov. Grand Masters. He was always happy to have the opportunity of acknowledging the services of those brethren, to whose care and attention much of the prosperity of the Craft in the provinces was due. (Cheers.)

Bro. HALL, Prov. G.M. Cambridge, acknowledged the compliment. He had been twenty-five years in office, and though the Craft was, at the time of his entering it, in a state of great prosperity, that prosperity was far exceeded now. It was most pleasing to see how their Charities had prospered; and nothing could have been more gratifying than the large support which the Boys' School received at its festival a month

since. Freemasonry had during the last few years made great progress in the colonies, so that there were very few hours in the day in which the sun was not in its meridian with respect to Freemasonry in some part of the globe. He could assure them on the part of the Prov. G.M. that they all endeavoured to do their duty to the best of their ability, and he sincerely thanked them for the manner in which their health had been drunk (Cheers.)

There being loud cries for

Bro. DOBLE, Prov. G.M. for Surrey, he rose and said, after the excellent address of Bro. Hall, they could expect but little from him. He thanked them for the good feeling expressed towards himself, and could assure them that he most warmly reciprocated those feelings. (Cheers.)

The GRAND MASTER said they had present a most distinguished visitor, Bro. Dubois, the Minister from Hayti, and Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Hayti. Prior to Hayti becoming independent, there were lodges holding under the Grand Lodge of England, but on becoming an independent State in 1821, they also established an independent Grand Lodge. His Excellency the Minister for Hayti to this country was Grand Master of Hayti, and he was sure they would be all pleased to give him a hearty welcome in England. (Cheers.) He gave them "The Sister Grand Lodges, and the Health of the Grand Master for Hayti." (Cheers.)

Bro. DUBOIS expressed his regret that his imperfect acquaintance with the English language would not allow him to return thanks in the manner he could wish. He looked upon that day as one marking a bright spot in his life. He regretted that he could not command language to tell them all that he felt and could wish. He was most happy in coming to this country, and was proud of the welcome he had received from Grand Lodge. Freemasonry, in his country, owed something to the Grand Lodge of England, and he wished he could repay it. If his tongue could only express the feelings of his heart, he would endeavour to explain his pleasure at meeting with friends and brethren in a strange country. For the way in which the Grand Lodge of England assisted Masonry in Hayti fifty years ago they thanked their English brethren; and though they had now an independent Grand Lodge, they would always look up to the Grand Lodge of England with pride and reverence. (Cheers.)

The GRAND MASTER said that it was with peculiar feelings of gratification that he had to propose "Success to the Masonic Charities. Great as had been the support they had received, they still required further support, and he trusted that, whilst the brethren subscribed liberally to them, they would also look after the management. He was not going to find fault with the management of any of the Charities, but he would observe that, as they had recently very liberally supported the Boys' School, and he trusted their liberality would continue, there was something more to do than merely giving their money. The larger any establishment became, the more it required looking after; and as their Charities increased in importance, with the greater anxiety should they watch the management. Without the exertions and support of the Craft their Charities would be powerless, and those who subscribed liberally should see that they had the most perfect system of management possible. The Festivals of all the Charities being over excepting that for the Girls' School, he would couple with the toast the name of Bro. Patten. (Cheers.)

Bro. PATTEN, P.G.S.B., returned thanks. He was happy to say that they had liberally supported the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows at its last festival. So also had they liberally supported the Boys' School,

and he hoped Bro. Binckes was satisfied with the result in a return of £4700, which was mainly owing to his exertions, and he was sure that amount would continue to be kept up so long as Bro. Binckes was Secretary. He now asked them to do for the Girls' School, on the 13th of next month, what they had already done for the other charities. They had just added accommodation to the Girls' School for twenty additional children, and it was calculated if they put that number into the school it would cost them £600 a year beyond their present expenditure. They had in some measure anticipated the liberality of the brethren by increasing the number of children in the school from 81 to 86, and the Committee looked to the brethren to make good the sum required for their support. He thanked them for their liberality to the other charities, and hoped to see a large assembly of the brethren on the 13th of May. (Cheers.)

The GRAND MASTER then gave "The Grand Stewards." They were indebted to them for their attention that evening, and a more comfortable, more orderly, or better meeting he had never seen.

Bro. HENRY GRISSELL assured the Grand Master and the brethren that the Grand Stewards had enjoyed their labour, and they always felt happy in doing their best to promote the interests of Freemasonry. Though but humble members of the Craft, they felt great interest in prosperity, and hoped that brotherly love, relief, and truth might long continue to distinguish the Order. (Cheers.)

The GRAND MASTER then gave "The Ladies," and the proceedings in the banquet soon concluded.

The brethren then joined the ladies in that stupidest of nuisances, the Glee Room, the music in which we had hoped the good sense of the Grand Stewards would, ere this, have abolished, seeing the success which has attended its abolition at the Festivals of the Charities.

The music was conducted by Bro. Stimpson, G. Org., assisted by Mdle. Parepa, Miss Eyles, and Mrs. Charles Loekey; Bro. Donald King, Bro. Bradbury, Bro. Winn, Mr. Cummings, and Mr. Ward—the latter gentleman playing a solo on the cornet which could have been well dispensed with.

Bro. Thomas Spencer acted as toastmaster.

METROPOLITAN.

MOUNT LEBANON LODGE (No. 87).—This old-established lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 21st, at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. The lodge was opened by Bro. Frederick Walters, W.M., assisted by Bros. Levy, Moore, Davies, Harris, Dr. Dixon, and Goody. There was a heavy list of work—viz., four initiations, one passing, and one raising, all of which were most ably performed. The Senior Warden, Bro. Levy, urged the brethren to support him as their Steward for the Girls' School, and was liberally responded to. At the conclusion of business, the brethren separated, there being no banquet. Visitors: R. Welsford, P.M. 805, J. S. Blomeley, W.S. 1173, &c.

PYTHAGOREAN LODGE (No 93).—This celebrated lodge met for the last time this season, on Monday, April 27th, at Bro. Moore's, Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich. In the unavoidable absence of Bro. W. Orchard, W.M., Bro. W. C. Penny, P.M., Hon. Sec. *pro tem.* took the chair, and in his well-known able manner initiated one gentleman into the secret of ancient Freemasonry. The lodge was then closed. After which the brethren adjourned to a superior banquet prepared by Bro. Moore, in his usual style. Visitors: P. Walters, W.M. 87, Hogg, P.M. 164, Gibbons, W.M. 752, J. S. Blomeley, W.S. 1173.

FITZROY LODGE (No. 830).—The closing meeting of this military lodge took place on Friday evening, April 24, at the head-quarters of the Hon. Artillery Company, Finsbury, and

was very numerously attended. Bro. R. Helsing, W.M., presided. Present: Bros. Wilson, S.W.; Wreford (in the absence of Bro. Suanon), J.W.; and Bro. Watson, J.D., P.M.'s Peter Matthews, Treas.; Eglese, Sec.; and May, immediate; besides the following visitors:—Thomas, P.M. 365, and P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. for West Riding of Yorkshire; Hutchins, P.M. 365; Hunt, 1197; Williams, 72; Thompson, S.W. 1200; Moutrie, P.M. 11; Watkins, 329; Chipchase, 227; Harker, 1006; Ganz, P.M. 630; Jones, 205; Allen, 772. The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the preceding meeting read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the second and third degrees, and Bro. Captain Williams, 19th Middlesex Rifle Volunteers, and member of the Lodge of Peace and Harmony (No. 72), was raised to the sublime degree of M.M.—Bro. MEGGY then submitted the following motion, of which he had given notice:—

"That the W.M. be requested to allow the Fitzroy Lodge to issue a Friendly Rifle Challenge to the remainder of the Regiment of the H. A. C., on the following conditions:—

1. That not less than fifteen members compete on each side.
2. That the losers subscribe an amount of £5 5s., to be devoted to the funds of a charity, to be named by the winners.
3. That the match be shot for with long Enfield rifles and Government ammunition 1862.
4. That the distance be 200, 500, and 600 yards—5 shots each at each distance.
5. That Hythe position and Wimbledon marking and scoring be used.
6. That an equal number of marks be deemed a tie. The tie to be decided (by the Member on each side who has made the highest number of marks) by 3 shots at 600 yards.
7. That the time and place be mutually agreed upon by a Member to be chosen by each of the respective sides."

Bro. Capt. FIELD seconded the motion, upon which a discussion arose as to whether such a motion could be really entertained, and it was finally determined that the subject should be referred to the Grand Secretary for his opinion. After some minor matters had been disposed of, the brethren retired to a sumptuous banquet, prepared in the usual style of the Hon. Artillery Company. After the cloth had been drawn and the loyal toasts disposed of, Bro. MAX, P.M., said, when the brethren saw the gavel pass to the brother on the left of the W.M., they knew the toast that he was about to propose, but they were so well acquainted with the good qualities of their W.M., and they knew him so well, that it left him little to say. He was not only appreciated in the regiment, but was highly esteemed in the lodge. He, therefore, had great pleasure in proposing the health of the W.M.—Bro. HESLING, W.M., returned his cordial thanks for the manner in which the toast of his health had been received, and as that was their last night of meeting for the present season, he hardly knew how to part with them until next October. He hoped, however, then to meet them in good health, and with renewed zeal for Freemasonry. He hoped in the meantime that they would take exceeding great care of themselves, and by rallying round him, that the end of his reign should be as flourishing as its commencement, and that he should be able to retire with the good wishes of every member of the lodge. (Cheers.)—The W.M. said the next toast, which he had more pleasure than any other in proposing, except that of prosperity to the lodge itself, was that of "The Health of the Visitors." Without the presence of their visitors they should really be very melancholy and they might be induced to do something very rash indeed. (Laughter.) Therefore he said that what he desired on all occasions was to see a large number of visitors. The Fitzroy Lodge gave them a hearty welcome, and if there was anything that they had not done to make their visitors happy it was because their minds had not been educated to the proper mark. It was their wish to make them so, and he hoped they had been so that evening, and the best proof they could show that they had done so would be by repeating their visit on another day. He concluded by giving "The Health of their Visiting Brethren." The toast was very cordially received, for which Bro. Moutrie, P.M. No. 11, returned thanks.—The W.M. then in a few observations proposed "Long life and happiness to Bro. Peter Matthews, P.M., their Treasurer, and Bro. Eglese, P.M. and Secretary of the Lodge."—Bro. P. MATTHEWS, P.M. and Treas., in responding, said that they had arrived at the termination of another season, and it afforded the Past Masters of the Fitzroy Lodge a

great deal of pleasure to see its prosperity, and that they had added so many members to it during the present season. They had also been honoured with a goodly array of visitors during the same period from England, Ireland and across the Atlantic, which had been especially pleasing to the Past Masters. They trusted to see the W.M. still wield the sceptre of authority in the same happy manner, and at the termination of his year of office they would enjoy the same pleasure in his successor as the gratification they now experienced in seeing him in the chair. For himself he felt happy that during the year he had not been absent from the lodge one meeting, and he hoped to see its members largely extended amongst the Artillery Company. There would be a great deal of happiness in increasing their numbers, and he trusted that the small knot of the Hon. Artillery Company would widely spread the principles of Freemasonry, instead of occupying an isolated position; for the more they knew of each other the more harmonious would they become, increasing the happiness and respect for each other. The W.M. next gave "The Past Masters of the Lodge."—Bro. MAX, immediate P.M., returned thanks, and expressed his regret that during his year of office, he had not added more to their numbers. He hoped, however, that during the ensuing year they would add many members of the Hon. Artillery Company to the Fitzroy Lodge, so that on their next meeting they should not find a single chair vacant.—The W.M. said that next to the pleasure of being initiated, he trusted that Bro. Williams would ever remember the lodge in which he was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, and he hoped he would be a visitor to it on many future occasions. He proposed the "Health of Bro. Captain Williams." The toast was received with all due honours.—Bro. WILLIAMS said he felt obliged to the W.M. for the kind manner in which he had proposed his health, and sincerely did he thank the brethren for the way in which it had been received by them. He had known the Honourable Artillery Company for some time, but in his new character he hoped his acquaintance and friendship would last for ever. He had always found them to be very good shots, and men who would maintain the credit of the Artillery Company. He felt it to be a very great honour to be received into the first Volunteer lodge ever established, and should look upon that night as an event which he should mark with very white chalk as one of the greatest pleasures he ever enjoyed in visiting the Fitzroy Lodge. In conclusion, he thanked the brethren for the very kind manner in which the toast had been received. The proceedings of the evening were agreeably diversified by vocal and instrumental music, and the excellent regulation observed in this lodge being adhered to, the whole business was brought to a close before eleven o'clock.

ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 1173).—This select lodge had its regular monthly meeting at the Royal Oak Tavern, High-street, Deptford, on Wednesday, April 22nd. Bro. George Wilton, W.M., assisted by Bros. Staln, Collington, Walters, Stevens, Pembroke, Mills, Hodgson, and Blomeley, opened the lodge; and there being only one candidate present for initiation, the W.M., in an able, efficient, and impressive manner, initiated Mr. John Hammond into the secrets and mysteries of ancient Freemasonry. There not being any other candidates present, the lodge was duly closed. The brethren then sat down to an excellent banquet replete with every comfort, and after a few hours' enjoyment separated, well pleased with their evening's enjoyment. Visitors:—J. Donnithorne, 87, R. Welsford, P.M. 805, Shaw, 172.

ROYAL ALBERT LODGE (No. 1209).—The regular meeting of this young lodge took place on the 20th ult., at the Freemasons' Tavern. The lodge having been duly opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, Messrs. E. H. Pendencygrass, J. F. Hallet, C. Chard and H. J. Lewis were balloted for and initiated into the mysteries of the Order. Bro. C. Bennett, P.M., No. 25, was also elected a joining member. This being the night for installing the W.M. for the ensuing year; Bro. C. J. Jeffreys, S.W., was duly presented and inducted into the chair of K.S., after which he appointed and invested his officers as follows: J. Downs, S.W.; J. A. Farnfield, J.W.; Joseph Smith, Prov. G. Purst., I.P.M. Treasurer; T. Peters, S.D.; W.H. Farnfield, J.D. and R.W. Little, I.G. Bro. Little was also invested as Secretary *pro tem*. Bro. J. Abbott, of No. 201, was proposed and seconded as a joining member, and the lodge was closed according to ancient custom, after which the brethren spent a highly convivial evening, which was much enlivened by the talented vocal exertions of Bros. Peters, Morris, Lewis, &c. The visitors included Bros. W.

Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec.; Chas. Waghorn, P.M., 327, and P.Prov. G.D. Somerset, J.M. Andre, P.M. 593 and P.Prov.G.D. Surrey, J.G. Potter, P.M. 11, C.B. Payne, P.M. 29, F. R. Lariman, G.S. Morris, 63, C.D. Sewell 1082, and James Abbott, 201. We must not omit to mention that on this occasion a very handsome silver cruet-stand was given by the members to W. Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G. Purst., the first Master and Founder of the Lodge, as a slight acknowledgment of the unceasing exertions of Bro. Smith for the welfare of the craft.

INSTRUCTION.

CITY OF LONDON LODGE (No. 1203).—A meeting was held of this excellent Lodge of Instruction, on April 22nd, at eight o'clock, at its private lodge-rooms, 23, Bell-alley, Moorgate-street, to present to their much respected Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, a handsome testimonial, engrossed in gold on vellum. There was a numerous assemblage of the brethren of the parent lodge, as well as of the lodge of instruction. Bro. Osmond, J.W., of the parent lodge was voted to the chair and was faced by Bro. T. G. Collier, of the parent lodge. An excellent supper was provided by Bro. Salisbury, to which the brethren did ample justice. On the removal of the cloth, Bro. Osmond said the first toast he would ask them to do honour to, was the Queen, coupled with the Craft. It required no comment from him; all classes of society revered the name of the widowed Queen of this nation, but none more than the ancient Order of Freemasons. The toast was responded to with great applause. The next toast was the health of the M.W.G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland. After proposing the health of the D.G.M., the Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the rest of the Grand Officers, which was drunk with great enthusiasm, the chairman rose and said—Brethren, you all know for what purpose we meet here to night; it is to present our much respected Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, a small mark of our respect. You all know how long he has laboured and energetically, for the good of the Craft, and the Grand Lodge of England has acknowledged his services by conferring upon him several marks of favour and distinction. Then, brethren, let us evince to him how highly we appreciate him. I have much to thank him for. It was he who first took notice of me in Masonry. Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson accept very Worshipful Sir, on behalf of myself and brethren of the City of London Lodge and Lodge of Instruction, this testimonial—it is offered to you with sincerity and good will—it is offered to you as a token of our affection and esteem—it is offered to you in recognition of lengthened and victorious services, which the brethren feel it their pleasure to acknowledge, and their duty and desire to emulate, and as it is not valuable in proportion to their sense of your merits and their regard for you, it will, they trust, form to to your family and yourself, a lasting memento of their good will, their confidence, and their love. Accept it also with the expression of a fervent hope of every true-hearted Mason in England, that it may please the Most High Creator, to spare you to enjoy the blessings of this life, and to be among us long, and after a life of toil and labour and well-spent usefulness to your fellow creatures, may you inherit the abundant blessings of the G.A.O.T.U., and pass the entrance of the Grand Lodge above, and as true Masons all look for, but with humble confidence and fervent hope. I wish that a more competent brother than myself had been selected to do justice to your merits, but believe me Bro. S. B. Wilson, I present this from the bottom of my heart. The following is a copy of the testimonial. "This testimonial is presented to Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, P.M., P.G.D., &c., by the Officers and brethren of the City of London Lodge (No. 1203), as a small token of their high esteem and regard for him and in testimony of their appreciation of his invaluable assistance in connection with their lodge of instruction." The following is an extract from the minutes of the City of London Lodge, held on the 20th of October, 1862:—"Resolved, that the best thanks of the lodge be and are hereby tendered to Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson for the eminent services he has rendered to the lodge of instruction held under the warrant of this lodge, and that he be constituted an honorary member of the said lodge of instruction"—Bro. STEPHEN BARTON WILSON rose, amidst repeated plaudits. He said: I have to return my thanks to Bro. Osmond for the handsome address with which he has presented this gift to me. It is my earnest hope that Masonry may advance greatly in your lodge of instruction, and God grant you success. It will be to me a matter of joy, and I shall look upon you as faithful labourers in the same field in which I have toiled for upwards of thirty years. I can truly

say that, forgetting self, I have laboured solely for the good of the Craft. To it I have devoted my best energies—perhaps more than it was right for me to do, and, next to my love of my Maker, it has held the uppermost place in my heart, and I have been cheered in my journey by much sweet and pleasant companionship. Many a fast friend have I found with men of the very highest worth; but I fear that on this occasion I am trespassing too much on your time with my reminiscences of the past, and I will therefore conclude by again thanking you, one and all, for your handsome gift, which will be a welcome heirloom in my family, and for the kind manner in which you have offered it to me, I thank you, Bro. Osmond, and I thank you, brethren of the parent lodge, and I thank you, brethren of the lodge of Instruction, with whom I have ever maintained a cordial love and fellowship, God be with you all.—The **CHAIRMAN**, in giving the next toast, said it was one always drunk with special enthusiasm, the brother he was about to mention was Bro. Sisson, W.M. of the Mother Lodge, and he might also say the father of the same; the toast was heartily received and drunk with Masonic honours.—Bro. Sisson, W.M., said he most highly appreciated the honour conferred upon him by the J.W. in proposing his health.—The W.M. here referred in eloquent terms as to the great demands upon the brethren by their charities; he designated as one of the brightest ornaments of the Craft, contrived by its wisdom, supported by its strength, and beautified by its eminent goodness. He was glad to see so many of the brethren present who were connected with the much loved and esteemed Bro. Charles Southall, who died very suddenly, in June last, leaving a widow and nine children to bewail his sudden death, and the eldest of whom is only 15 years of age; he therefore called upon the brethren to assist him on behalf of Frank Allen Southall, the son of our much lamented brother, who is 8 years of age; “then, brethren, if you will be kind enough to give your proxies to the Boys’ School on condition that they promise you the same in return for the next October election, you will be doing one of the greatest acts of charity, and you will carry to your grave the love and gratitude of the widow and her orphans.” One or two toasts followed, including a special bumper to Bro. Salisbury and Mrs. Salisbury for the handsome manner they had provided for the brethren, which was briefly and appropriately responded to by Bro. Salisbury. The **CHAIRMAN** begged to propose the last toast (yet not the least), the health of one to whom the lodge was greatly indebted for the carrying out of the testimonial for Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, and on every occasion he had been most indefatigable, “The worthy Secretary, Bro. Gibson.” Bro. GIBSON returned thanks, he was as yet young in office, and he hoped they would take his services, such as they were, only as an earnest of what he intended in the future. The proceedings were brought to a close shortly after eleven in fellowship and perfect harmony.

PROVINCIAL.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.—In a recent article, a slight intimation was given of the probability of an extension of the benefits of Freemasonry by the formation of a new lodge in another district of the island. We are glad to be able to inform our readers that the project is now on the point of realisation under very favourable auspices, and that preparations are in an advanced state. The warrant has been obtained from the Earl of Zetland, Grand Master of England, for St. Aubin’s Lodge, No. 1260, at the old town of St. Aubin, where we believe the craft formerly flourished, but with the transfer of commerce to St. Helier it shared in the change then effected. Being in the centre of a large district, we have no doubt that the revival will prove beneficial to many who now belong to lodges at St. Helier, though residing so far from it, as well as to a large number of gentlemen who are prevented by distance from becoming members of the “Ancient and Honourable Fraternity.” We learn that Wednesday, May 6th, has been fixed for the inauguration of St. Aubin’s Lodge. The consecration will take place in the forenoon, to be followed by the installation of the Master and Officers, an address from the Master, Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M., 51, in commencing his labours, and the initiation of several gentlemen into the mysteries and privileges. A meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge will then be held, the members of which have been summoned for the transaction of the ordinary business,

as well as out of compliment to the new branch of the craft. From all these operations the public will of course be excluded, but will be able to witness the remainder of the proceedings in the afternoon, when it is proposed that a procession to St. Aubin’s Church shall be formed, and a choral service be held, the sermon to be preached by the Rev. the Prov. Grand Chaplain, and a collection made for the local charities. Of course, as on all such occasions, a banquet will take place in the evening.—*Jersey Morning News.*

CHESHIRE.

OPENING OF THE NEW MASONIC HALL, RUNCORN.

When the Ellesmere Lodge (No. 1060), was established in Runcorn, in the year 1858, it was distinctly understood that it would be removed to private rooms as soon as possible, and the brethren have been continually on the look out for suitable rooms. Early in 1862 arrangements were made with Mr. W. Howard, who engaged to erect the edifice now known as Freemasons’ Hall, and to grant a lease of the upper portion of the building to the trustees of the lodge. The building having been completed, it was determined to open the new hall with some little ceremony, and invitations were sent to the Right Hon. Lord de Tabley, Major G. C. Legh, M.P., and many other Prov. Grand Officers, which were immediately accepted. As soon as it became known that Lord de Tabley had promised to attend, the various lodges in Cheshire determined to be represented on the occasion, and they mustered well on Tuesday, the 21st April, the day appointed. The brethren began to arrive in Runcorn about twelve o’clock. Shortly after that hour, Bro. Cornwall Legh, M.P., accompanied by Bro. Captain Cope, Prov. G.J.W., Cheshire, proceeded to the hall, and immediately afterwards the Right Hon. Lord de Tabley, Prov. G.W. (escorted by Bro. Twiss, Prov. G. Org., and Bro. Rigby, W.M. 1060), entered the building. The lodge was then opened in due form by the W.M., and the following brethren were present:—The Right Hon. Lord de Tabley, Past Grand Warden of England; Major G. C. Legh, M.P., S.W. 403; Captain Cope, Prov. G.J.W. Cheshire; Rev. W. B. Garnett, Prov. G. Chap.; Rev. J. W. N. Tanner, P. Prov. G. Chap.; Rev. E. D. Garven, Chaplain 1060; H. Bulley, Prov. G.J.D.; W. Bulley, Prov. G.J.D.; H. Platt, Prov. G.S.D.; J. Twiss, Prov. G. Org., Cheshire; J. Siddall, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. Cheshire; Hamer, Prov. G.W. West Lancashire; Armstrong, Prov. G.S.B.; T. Platt, P.M. 782; H. B. White, W.M. 173; A. D. Graham, S.W. 263; J. Knight, S.W. 173; J. Maxfield, P.M. 173; Captain Hitchen, 615; W. A. Burrows, 77; C. Haswell, 263; F. Wignall, Sec. 1199; W. C. Seddon, T. M’Kenzie, A. Booth, and J. Morris, of 1199; T. Kenright, G. Beckett, P.M. 620; S. R. Biggs, 1025; W. K. Walmsley, 173; C. Pettitt, S.W. 151; J. Worthington, 173; Thomas Oats, W. Woods, Rigby, W.M.; R. Clark, S.W.; A. Buck, J.W.; J. G. Potter, S.D.; C. C. Imison, J.D.; J. Steen, I.G.; J. H. Beckett, Sec.; W. Southern, J. Mason, W. Cooper, E. Clark, S. W. Batterton, J. Williams, J. J. Vaughn, all of 1060.

The Dir. of Cers. having arranged the order of procession, the brethren, preceded by the National School band, proceeded to the parish church, where (by permission of the Rev. J. Barclay, M.A.), divine service was performed. The prayers were intoned by the Rev. W. F. Attenborough, who kindly volunteered his services. The first lesson was read by Bro. the Rev. M. D. Garven, and the second by Bro. the Rev. J. W. N. Tanner, P. Prov. G. Chap. Cheshire. A very excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. W. B. Garnett, Prov. G. Chap., after which a collection was made amounting to £14 5s. 3d. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Twiss, Prov. G. Org., Cheshire, and the singing of the choir was very good, and gave very great satisfaction.

The service of the church being over, the brethren proceeded to the Royal Hotel, where a magnificent banquet was prepared by Bro. and Mrs. Deacon. The chair was occupied by Bro. W. Right, W.M. 1060, who was supported on the right by the Right Hon. Lord de Tabley and Major G. C. Legh, and on the left by the Rev. W. B. Garnett, and other Provincial Grand Officers. About forty brethren sat down to dinner. Full justice having been done to the good things set before them, “Non Nobis Domine” was sung by the professional brethren, Bros. Armstrong, Graham, and Haswell, Bro. Twiss presiding at the pianoforte.

The W.M., in proposing the first toast, “The Health of Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen,” said we had the happiness of being the subjects of the most beloved and most constitutional sovereign ever known, that it was unnecessary for him to dilate on the good qualities of her Majesty, as they were so well known

and appreciated by every class of her Majesty's subjects and especially amongst Freemasons. The toast was received with rapturous applause.

The Right Hon. LORD DE TABLEY said he had very great pleasure in proposing the next toast, "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." He spoke very highly of the qualifications of His Royal Highness, and said that it was a consolation to know that when the time did come (and God grant it may be long before it did), we had a Prince in every way worthy to fill the throne of this country, and that if ever man was happy, the Prince ought to be, inasmuch as he had for his wife not only the most beautiful, but he believed, the most amiable Princess in the world, and in every way fitted to share the high position of the Prince of Wales and future King of this country. (Cheers.)

The W.M. then proposed "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," which was responded to by Bro. Major Legh. The W.M. next proposed "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese," and said he was glad to find, that now, as always had been the case, the Clergy and Freemasonry were so intimately connected, and hoped it would always continue to be the case. He took that opportunity of returning thanks, on behalf of himself and the brethren present, for the excellent sermon which had been preached for them that day by Bro. the Rev. W. B. Garnett. (Cheers.)

Bro. the Rev. W. B. GARNETT returned thanks for the manner in which the toast had been proposed and received by the brethren, and said his services were always at their disposal, and that he was highly gratified at the proceedings of the day.

The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the Vicountess Combermere and the Ladies." He remarked that her ladyship was a great lover of Masonry, and patronised and subscribed to all their charities. The W.M. next gave "The Health of the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M.;" "The Health of the Earl de Grey and Ripon, M.W.D.G.M.;" "The Health of Viscount Combermere, R.W. Prov. G.M., Cheshire, and the Hon. Colonel Cotton, R.W. D, Prov. G.M. Cheshire;" "The R.W. Prov. G.M.s of East and West Lancashire." Responded to by Bro. H. B. White, W.M. 173.

The W.M. said he had now arrived at what might be considered the toast of the evening, namely, "The Health of the Right Hon. and Right Worshipful Lord de Tabley, Past Grand Warden of England," who, at great inconvenience, had come down from London for the express purpose of honouring them with his company. (Cheers.) His lordship was a great lover of the Craft, and had held very high office in the Grand Lodge, and he now took particular interest in the Cheshire lodges, of two of which he was W.M. He hoped that his lordship would be gratified with the reception he had met with, and that he would be induced to visit them again. The toast was received by the brethren with loud and prolonged applause.

The Right Hon. and Right Worshipful Lord de TABLEY, in responding, said that although he had been put to some inconvenience in coming to Runcorn, it was completely overbalanced by the very gratifying reception he had met with that day. Everything he had seen and heard gave him the greatest satisfaction, and he should only be too glad to revisit the Ellesmere Lodge whenever an opportunity arose. (Cheers.) He considered it part of his duty to do all that he could to forward the interests of Masonry, and he should continue to do so as long as possible. Before sitting down, he wished to propose a toast, which was, "The Health and prosperity of the W.M., the Officers, and brethren of the Ellesmere Lodge, 1060." His lordship said the brethren should consider themselves fortunate in having such an able and energetic W.M. as Bro. Rigby, and he had to congratulate them upon their removal to the new hall. He had no doubt they would find it much to their benefit, and by this removal they had set a very good example to many lodges in Cheshire.

The W.M. in returning thanks to the Right Hon. Lord de Tabley for the very handsome manner in which he had proposed the toast, said the presence of such distinguished brethren that day would be a fresh incentive to himself, the Wardens, and brethren of the Ellesmere Lodge to forward the true interests of Freemasonry, which they would now be better able to do than when the lodge was held at an hotel.

The W.M. then proposed "The Prov. G. Wardens and other Prov. G. Officers of Cheshire," coupling therewith the health of Bro. Captain Cope, Prov. G.J.W. Cheshire, who responded in suitable terms.

The next toast proposed by the W.M. was, "The Visiting

Brethren, and Bro. G. Cornwall Legh, M.P." The W.M. in proposing this toast alluded to the long connection Bro. Legh had had with the town of Runcorn, and he hoped it would be a long time before the connection was severed. (Cheers.)

Bro. G. C. LEGH, in responding, said he was very much obliged to the W.M. and brethren of the Ellesmere Lodge for inviting him to be present on this occasion. He had many friends in Runcorn, and he believed that every time he visited the place he had increased the number, and he was not aware that he had made an enemy or lost a friend. (Cheers.) He should run over oftener now for the purpose of visiting the lodge.

The W.M. then proposed "The Health of Bro. Twiss, Prov. G. Org. for Cheshire, and thanks to him and the professional brethren for their entertainment."

Bro. TWISS acknowledged the compliment, and said he always had great pleasure in visiting Runcorn, and took that opportunity of saying he did not think there was a parish church in the county that could boast of having so good a choir as the one he had to direct that day.

The W.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M.s and Wardens of the Lodges in the Provinces," coupling therewith Bro. W. Bulley, Prov. G.J.D. and P.M. 782, who briefly responded, expressing his gratification at the manner in which the business of the day had been conducted.

This brought the business to a termination, and the lodge was closed, some excellent music having enlivened the proceedings.

DEVONSHIRE.

PLYMOUTH.—*Inaugural Meeting of Lodge St. Aubyn* (No. 1256).—The first regular meeting of the above lodge was held at the Brunswick Masonic Hall, Union Road, Plymouth, on the evening of Tuesday the 28th April. Present: The W. Bro. Chapple, W.M.; Kent, S.W.; Spry, J.W.; Elliott, Secretary; Bird, treasurer; Clemens, S.D.; Gudridge, J.D.; Cook, I.G.; Hanton and Sutton, Stewards; Bickford, Dir. of Cer., and Elliott and Rogers, Tylers. The lodge having been duly opened with solemn prayer, a ballot was taken for four candidates who were severally declared clear in the E., W., and S.; another ballot was then taken for seven joining members, which also proved unanimous. The candidates were then severally introduced and initiated in the first degree of Freemasonry. The charge was ably delivered by the S.W., and the working tools by the J.W. The newly-initiated brethren announced their intention of becoming subscribing members of the lodge. The business having terminated, the lodge closed with solemn prayer. The brethren then adjourned to the adjoining Great Western Hotel, where a collation was served by the host Bro. Thomas. Among the visitors present, we observed the W.Bro. Dr. Tripe, P.M., P.Prov.G.S.D., the Wardens of Lodge 185, a visitor from Guernsey, and many other brethren from the neighbouring lodges. On the withdrawal of the cloth, the toast-cards were handed round. The 1st "The Queen and Craft," was drunk in the usual loyal and masonic style. "The G.M., the Earl of Zetland," was then given by the W.M., who dilated on the well-known character of the nobleman who has for so many years been at the head of the fraternity. The next toast, one now very dear to the fraternity in Devon, "Bro. Huyshe, the D.Prov.G.M.," was then given. Bro. Chapple gave an outline of the many virtues of the Rev. Bro. who so well and wisely governs the craft in the province of Devon. It was responded to by Bro. Dr. Tripe, who alluded in feeling terms to the past, reviewing his connexion with the Prov. G. Lodge of Devon during a period of eighteen years, when Lord Fortescue was the Prov. G.M. That inestimable nobleman having been called by the G.A.O.T.U. to the Grand Lodge above, it was felt that it could scarcely be possible for any one to fill his place. And yet another does that duty, and does it well, in the person of our D. Prov. G.M., the Rev. J. Huyshe, M.A., G.C. The W. Bro. then alluded to the fact of the kindness of the D. Prov. G.M. in having aided and promoted the grant of the warrant for 1256, alluding to the responsibility thereby placed both on his shoulders and individually on the members of the new lodge. He trusted, in conclusion, that the whole of the brethren would exercise an amount of caution in introducing candidates, rather choosing the moral poor man than the rich fast one. In conclusion he, by permission, would propose "Success to Lodge St. Aubyn (No. 1256)," which was drunk amid the loudest applause. The remainder of the toasts were as follows—"Our Newly-Initiated Brethren," which was responded

to by Bro. Heath on behalf of the other three, Bros. Austin, Trounce, and Quance; "The W. Bro. Chapple, P.M., Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers., the W.M. of 1256," given by permission by the S.W., and happily responded to by the W.M.; "The Senior and Junior Wardens and other Officers," responded to by the S.W.; "Our Sister Lodges," given by the J.W., Bro. Spry, and responded to by Bro. Love, S.W. 185; "Our Visiting Brethren," responded to by several. Bro. Bird, having permission from the W.M., gave "To the Past Masters, Worshipful Masters, and Brothers who signed the Petition." The usual toast finished the proceedings, all of which was in every way satisfactory, the whole of the visitors highly complimenting the Master on the proved efficiency of his officers!

DEVONPORT.—*Lodge of Fidelity* (No. 288).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, 16th inst., the R.W. Dep. Prov. G.M. attended, and was present at the initiation of a gentleman into the Order. The Rev. and R.W. brother was accompanied by Bros. W. D. Moore, Prov. G.S.W. of Devon, and Capt. Davy. The W.M. was highly complimented both in the lodge and at the refreshment table by his Masonic superiors on the manner of working of the lodge, and Bro. Huyshe expressed his desire to contributing (both himself and Bro. D. Moore being honorary members of the lodge).

NORTHUMBERLAND.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—*Northern Counties Lodge* (No. 586).—Thursday, April 23rd, being the regular monthly meeting of the lodge, it was opened in Freemasons' Hall, Newgate-street, by the W.M., Bro. G. Lambton, assisted by his officers. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. This being the day of installation, the S.W., Bro. S. Donkin, W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. C. J. Banister, P. Prov. G.P. Northumberland, &c., to the W.M. for installation, and placed by him into the chair, proclaimed and saluted as W.M., and appointed and invested the following officers,—Bros. George Jansen, S.W.; T. Oliver, J.W.; W. Panchon, Prov. G.S.W. of Northumberland, Treas.; T. T. Strachan, Sec.; Ross, S.D.; Everett, J.D.; Quickfall and Worster, Stewards; Payne, I.G.; Trotter, Tyler. Visitors present—Bros. H. Hotham, P.M., P. Prov. G.J.W.; W. J. Harding, W.M. 24; Elliott and Sanctor, P.M.s 588; A. Legge, P. Prov. G. Purst, P.M. 24; Harrison, P.M.; C. J. Banister, who acted as Dir. of Cers. The report of the Treasurer was read, and showed that £100 or close upon it, was in the bank, and a good balance in his hands for current expenses. Business over, lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. The banquet was held at the Turk's Head Hotel, at four o'clock, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. S. Donkin. On his right were Bros. Panchon, Ludwig, Popplewell, W.M. 985; Haswell, Prov. G.B., Harrison, Lottinger, Hall, Banister, and Legge, and on the left, Bros. G. Lambton, P.M., W. Berkley, P. Prov. G.S.W., Hunter, Elliott, Brown, Reed, Thompson, Prov. G. Supt. of Works, Sanctor, &c., and about forty members of this lodge. Bro. J. Jensen, S.W. in the west, and Bro. Reed as J.W. in south. After the cloth was drawn the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly received in right good earnest.—Bro. W. Berkley, in excellent terms proposed the health of the W.M., which was well received and drank with full Masonic honours.—The W.M. in responding to the toast, hoped at the end of his year of office he would receive the same kind sentiments from his brethren, as was expressed now, and concluded by proposing the health of his predecessor, Bro. G. Lambton, P.M., which was duly honoured and responded to by him. Before the W. Bro. sat down, he proposed the health of the Prov. G. Officers, who had worked with him, and was pleased to see that most of them were also present officers under his successor.—Bro. C. J. Banister returned thanks for Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham, and in his remarks introduced Bro. Lottinger, of Lodge 614, Gateshead, who had kindly taken the office of Steward for the Girls' Festival, on the 13th of May, and entered into a full explanation of our Masonic Charities, inviting all who went to London not to return without going to see how well those Institutions were managed, and he was sure they would then, most of them, become Life Governors. He knew that it was thought by some brethren that more good could be done at home with the same amount of money, that they should look at home first. This was a right feeling, and he hoped that the brethren of Northumberland would emulate those of other Provinces, and establish a Masonic Educational Institution of their own, they would then see the great benefits, and not only give liberally to their own, but to those of the Craft, which every Province receives equal

benefits according to subscriptions, and trusted they would not forget the Girls, but help Bro. Lottinger in his labour of love.—Bro. J. Jensen returned thanks for the officers.—Bro. Lambton proposed the health of the Secretary, Bro. T. T. Strachan, who responded in a neat speech.—Bro. W. Berkley, P.M., in a very humorous speech, proposed the health of their Treasurer, Bro. W. Panchon, the father of Masonry in every degree in this district, and one who is a pattern to all junior members to follow. Received with acclamation and drank with full honours.—Bro. Legge, P.M. 24, responded to the Visitors' toast.—Bro. Haswell, Prov. G.D., proposed the health of Bro. W. Berkeley, P.M., which was received in true Masonic spirit, and responded to in like manner. A resolution was come to that in consequence of Bro. W. Panchon objecting to the funds of the lodge should be used for the purpose of anything but charity, that a subscription should be entered into "Bro. S. Donkin being Treasurer, and Bro. Lambton, Secretary," to pay for a portrait of their esteemed Bro. Panchon, who had been their Treasurer for nearly thirty years; this will be hung in the lodge beside others, which have been presented to this ancient lodge. The last toast brought a very delightful evening to a close at 10 o'clock.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

LIVERPOOL.—*Encampment of Jacques de Molay*.—This conclave was opened in the Temple on April 24th by the E.C., Sir Knt. Edward Pierpoint, assisted by Sir Knt. James Hayes, Prelate; Sir Knts. Ellis and Crankshaw, Captains; Sir Knt. H. S. Alpess, Reg.; Sir Knt. C. J. Banister, as Capt. of Lines, and the other members. This being the day to elect the E.C. for the ensuing year, Sir Knt. Crankshaw, 1st Capt., was elected E.C.; Sir Knt. H. S. Alpess, Treasurer. The ballot was taken for a candidate, which was unanimous; business of importance prevented him being present. Business over, the conclave was closed.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge took place on Wednesday, the 8th of April, in the Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield, under the presidency of the Prov. G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, D.G.M., supported by the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. George Fearnley, M.D., and Bros. Lieut. Col. Henry Edwards, M.P., Prov. S.G.W.; Thos. Robinson, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. J. Senior, LL.D., Prov. G. Chap. and P. Prov. S.G.W.; Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P. Prov. S.G.W.; John Lee, P. Prov. S.G.W.; James Peace, F. Lamb, Captain I. T. Armitage, Captain J. Franklin, W. W. Widdop, W. Gath, R. H. Goldthorpe, Joseph Batley, P. Prov. J.G.W.'s; Rev. W. Appleyard, Prov. G. Chap.; Rev. H. de L. Willis, D.D., P. Prov. G. Chap.; W. Dixon, Prov. G. Treas.; C. Oldroyd, Prov. G. Reg.; John Batley, P. Prov. G. Reg.; R. H. Nelson, Prov. G. Sec.; John Booth, T. S. Haigh, B. Taylor, D. Boscovitz, A. Engelman, P. Prov. G.D.'s; Thomas Perkinson, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; J. O. Gill and W. Cocking, P. Prov. G. Supts. of Works; W. White, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; W. G. Dyson, Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; J. Gill, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Capt. J. Pepper. Prov. G.S.B.; E. Fairbairn, Marfield, and W. Rothwell, P. Prov. G. St. Bearers; W. Spark, Prov. G. Org.; John Sliddall, P. Prov. G. Purst.; John Beckett, P. Prov. G. Purst.; James Clay, James Rigby, Thomas Allatt, Thomas Hill, and Rowland Child, Prov. G. Stewards; F. Binckes; P.M., Secretary of the Boys' School; Captain Robson, R.A.; T. H. Tew, W.M. 1212; T. Smith, W.M. 298; W. Stott, W.M. 73; Rev. J. Fearon, B.A., 937; Rev. H. Pearnside, B.A., S.W. 337; Capt. H. Webster, P.M. 1206; G. Fox, W.M. 251; S. Freeman, P.M. 384; J. Anderton, P.M. 1052; John Kirk, P.M. 763; J. Lacy, W.M. 386; W. Longden, P.M. 162, &c., and W.M.'s, P.M.'s, Wardens and brethren from lodges 73, 162, 174, 179, 251, 298, 322, 330, 332, 342, 365, 373, 379, 382, 384, 385, 386, 422, 529, 543, 656, 727, 874, 937, 1052, 1112, 1129, 1139, 1206, 1212.

The minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge, holden at Dewsbury, on Wednesday, the 7th January, having been read and confirmed, the Chairman of the Charity Committee of the province, Bro. Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, read the report of that committee showing the result of their labours for the past year. It said that for the past three months their attention had been more particularly called to the Boys' School, the result of which was that at the late Festival of that charity, when the Prov. Grand Master presided, this province had presented the sum of £1300 to its funds, and that forty brethren from the province had acted as Stewards on the occasion. Several recommendations

were made by the committee in reference to the other Masonic charities; after which it was unanimously resolved that the thanks of this Prov. Grand Lodge be given to the Charity Committee of the province for their labours during the past year.

The Committee appointed to revise the by-laws of the province, also brought up their report, which was read by the Chairman, Bro. Joseph Batley, P. Prov. J.G.W., when it was unanimously resolved that the report be received, the proposed by-laws printed and circulated in the various lodges of the province, and brought forward for consideration at the October meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

Bro. W. Dixon, P.M. 529, P. Prov. G. Reg., and P. Prov. G. Treas., was unanimously re-elected, and read the balance-sheet for the past year, when it appeared that notwithstanding the heavy calls made the funds were in a very satisfactory condition.

Two petitioners were relieved with £15.

The Provincial Grand Master then appointed and invested the following brethren as Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year:—

- *G. Fearnley, M.D., P.M. 251 ... D. Prov. G.M.
- W. Rothwell, P.M. 73, and P. Prov. G.S.B. Prov. S.G.W.
- Capt. John Pepper, P.M. 384, and P. Prov. G.S.B. Prov. J.G.W.
- Rev. J. Fearon, 937 } Prov. G. Chaps.
- Rev. W. Fearnside, S.W. 379 }
- *W. Dixon, P.M. 529 (elected) ... Prov. G. Treas.
- Thomas Senior, P.M. 727 Prov. G. Reg.
- *R. R. Nelson, P.M. 251 and 1129 Prov. G. Sec.
- Thomas Hill, P.M. 379 Prov. S.G.D.
- Thomas Allatt, P.M. 322 Prov. J.G.D.
- Rowland Child, P.M. 727 Prov. G. Supt. of Works.
- W. G. Dyson, P.M. 763 Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.
- James Clay, P.M. 251 Prov. G. Asst. Dir. of Cers.
- Edward Chadwick, P.M. 330 ... Prov. G.S.B.
- *W. Spark, Mus. Doc., 364 Prov. G. Org.
- Joss Brook, P.M. 365 Prov. G. Purst.
- John Kirk, P.M. 763 Prov. G. Asst. Purst.
- W. Longden, P.M. 162 } Prov. G. Stewards.
- S. Freeman, P.M. 384 }
- John Lacy, P.M. 386 }
- James Anderton, P.M. 1052... }
- Capt. H. Webster, P.M. 1206 }
- T. W. Tews, P.M. 1212 }
- *F. Aked, 251 Prov. G. Tyler.

The brethren with * are reappointments.

It was unanimously resolved that the Provincial Grand Master be requested to hold the Provincial Grand Lodge on the 1st of July, at Ripon.

The Prov. G.M. kindly acceded to the wishes of the brethren, and announced that he should have much pleasure in throwing open the grounds at Fountains Abbey for the brethren on that day.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in form and with solemn prayer until further summoned, and the brethren adjourned to the George Hotel to banquet, which was provided in Bro. Wigney's usual good style. The noble Lord, the Prov. G.M., presided, supported by the Prov. G. officers and nearly 100 brethren. After the cloth was drawn, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and the brethren separated about 8 p.m., after having spent one of the happiest days known for many years.

ROYAL ARCH.

DEVONSHIRE.

PROV. GRAND CHAPTER.

The Provincial Grand Chapter for Devonshire of Royal Arch Masons was held at the Globe Hotel, Exmouth, on Monday, the 13th day of April instant. There was a numerous gathering on the occasion, companions from every part of the province having come to meet their Grand Superintendent, the Rev. J. Huyshe, M.A., D. Prov. G.M. for Devon, and Grand Chaplain of England.

The chapter was opened by the Grand Superintendent at 2.30 p.m. The minutes of the last chapter having been read and confirmed, the Treasurer, Excellent Companion Isaac Watts, reported the condition of the finances of the chapter, which were found to be very satisfactory, and the sum of five guineas

was voted to that excellent institution, the Fortescue Memorial Annuity Fund, which so well deserves the support of every Freemason of Devon.

The GRAND SUPERINTENDENT intimated to the companions that it was usual to elect the Treasurer by the vote of the chapter, although he believed the prerogative was in himself. He should not depart from the usual method, but he had much pleasure in introducing the name of excellent companion Richard Rodda as one deserving the notice of the Grand Chapter—one who had been extremely zealous in promoting the best interests of Masonry, especially the various charities—her great and glorious bulwarks.

The suggestion was immediately acted upon, and Excellent Companion Rodda was unanimously elected.

The following officers were appointed for the year next ensuing:—

- Comp. Chanter Prov. G.H.
- ” Adams Prov. G.J.
- ” Moore Prov. G.S.E.
- ” Dick Prov. G.S.N.
- ” Rev. J. Bowden Prov. G.P.S.
- ” Rodd Prov. G. Treas.
- ” Heath Prov. G. Reg.
- ” Davy Prov. 1st A.S.
- ” Phillips Prov. 2nd A.S.
- ” Scott Prov. G.S.B.
- ” Stackpole Prov. 1st S.B.
- ” Rae Prov. 2nd S.B.
- ” Deacon Prov. G.D.C.
- ” Radford Prov. G.A.C.D.
- ” Murch Prov. G. Org.
- ” Gregory Janitor.

The labours of the chapter being ended, it was closed with the usual solemnities at four p.m.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

DEVONSHIRE.

PROV. GRAND CONCLAVE.

On Thursday, the 15th, the Prov. G. Conclave of Knights Templar was held in the Loyal Brunswick Encampment rooms, at St. George's Hall, Stonehouse. The minutes of the former Prov. Grand Encampment, of Devon in the year 1849 and 1850, were read and confirmed. A committee was appointed to prepare a code of by-laws; and a splendid donation of twenty guineas was voted from the funds to "The Fortescue Memorial." The following appointments were made.

- Erater W.D. Moore D. Prov. G.M.
- ” Captain Davey Prov. G. Prior.
- ” Lieut. Hole, 32nd L.I. Prov. G. S. Prior
- ” Rev. G. Shield Prov. G. Prelate
- ” Capt. Conynghame, 32nd L.I. Prov. G. 1st Capt.
- ” J. J. Chase Prov. G. 2nd Capt.
- ” Richard Rodda Prov. G. Chan.
- ” Thos. Mills Prov. G. V. Chan.
- ” R. R. Rodd Prov. G. Reg.
- ” Dicks Prov. G. Treas.
- ” E. T. Carlyon Prov. G. C.
- ” Chas. Scott (Lieut R.N.) Prov. G. H.
- ” F. F. Bewes Prov. G. Expert
- ” Bellerly Prov. G. 1st S.B.
- ” Channon Prov. G. 2nd S.B.
- ” Matthews Prov. G. Almoner
- ” John Dupre Prov. G.D.C.
- ” John Memfield Prov. G. A.D.C.
- ” Robt. Hooper Prov. 1st A.D.C.
- ” Bernard Stoneman Prov. G. 2nd A.D.C.
- ” Robinson Ridley Prov. G. 1st C. of L.
- ” Richard Rowe Prov. G. 2nd C. of L.
- ” Captain Edwards Prov. G.S.B.
- ” Wills Prov. G. 1st G.H.
- ” W. F. Daub Prov. G. 2nd G.H.
- ” William Hill Prov. G. Org.
- ” Capt. O'Hara Prov. G.B.B.
- ” James Gregory } Prov. G. Equerries
- ” John Rogers }

After which the Sir Knights dined together at Bro. Watts, Globe Hotel, where pleasure seemed to sit on every face and joy to be supreme.

MARK MASONRY.

DEVONSHIRE.
PROV. GRAND LODGE.

On Tuesday April 14, the Prov. Grand Master of Mark Masons of Devonshire, Bro. the Rev. J. Huyshe, held his annual Prov. Grand Lodge in the new and convenient room of the Lodge Friendship, St. Stephens-street, Devonport. A very large number of the brethren attended. The business was soon performed. The W.M.'s chair being filled by the R.R. Prov. G.M.; the S.W.'s chair was occupied by Bro. Capt. Turner Davy, and the J.W.'s by W. Rodda, Bro. Clase acting as Prov. G. Sec., in the unavoidable absence of the Prov. G. Sec., Bro. C. Laidman.

The following officers were then proclaimed and invested:—

Bro. Richard Dowse, M.D.....	D. Prov. G.M.
William Binford.....	Prov. S.G.W.
J. R. Chanter.....	Prov. J.G.W.
J. E. Risk.....	Prov. G. Chap.
Thomas Harfoot.....	Prov. 1st G.O.
Edwin James Worth.....	Prov. 2nd G.O.
T. D. Hogg.....	Prov. 3rd G.O.
— Rea.....	Prov. G. Treas.
C. J. Laidman.....	} Prov. G. Secs.
Richard Rodda.....	
Bernard Stonehouse.....	Prov. S.G.D.
John Gallford.....	Prov. J.G.D.
John Heath.....	Prov. G.D.C.
P. Webb.....	Prov. G.A.D.C.
Charles Scott, R.N.....	Prov. G.S.B.
John Cock.....	Prov. G.S.O.W.
Edward Murch.....	Prov. G. Org.
Edward Elphinstone.....	Prov. G. Purst.
Edward Gregory.....	Prov. G. Tyler.

Great applause was manifested at the very excellent selection of the worthy Dr. Douse as the Deputy Prov. Grand Master.

At 8-30 the banquet was held at Moorshead's Royal Hotel, where a most harmonious evening was spent.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

NORTHUMBERLAND AND BERWICK-ON-TWEED LODGE.—In the absence of the W.M. the lodge was opened, in Freemasons' Hall, Newgate-street, April 22nd, by Bro. H. Hotham, P.M., as W.M.; Bros. H. G. Ludwig, P.M.; C. J. Banister, S.W.; Saneter, J.W.; A. Loades, Sec.; J. Jamson, S.D.; Reed, J.D.; and J. Haywood, I.G. Three brethren were balloted for and duly elected, one proposed, and business over, the lodge was closed in solemn form at eight o'clock.

SCOTLAND.

ROYAL ARCH.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

In transmitting to subordinate chapters the annual circular of the Supreme Chapter for the year 1862-63, Grand Scribe E. remarks:—"It affords me pleasure in being able to congratulate the members of the Order on its increasing prosperity. During the past year six new charters for chapters have been applied for, five of which have been granted and one delayed; a new Mark Master's Lodge has been formed; a dormant chapter has been re-opened; and the Supreme Chapter has exchanged representations with the Grand Chapter of Ireland. You will observe, on contrasting the returns of chapters this year with the last, that there has been a considerable increase of intrants."

A reference to the three last published Supreme Grand Chapters' reports shows the total number of intrants for the years under-mentioned to have been:—

	1860-61.	1861-62.	1862-63.
Chapters.....	288	315	343
Of these the chapters in Glasgow contributed as follows:—			
	1860-61.	1861-62.	1862-63.
Glasgow (No. 50).....	9	26	9
Cathedral (No. 67).....	7	5	1
St. Andrew's (No. 69).....	0	21	14
Caledonian Unity (No. 73).....	8	8	9
Commercial (No. 79).....	0	1	0
Shamrock and Thistle (No. 87).....	0	53	3
	24	114	36

Of the 53 returned by the last-named chapter in 1861-62, 39 had been exalted under an independent charter, and were admitted on payment of half fees for recording. The three first-named chapters have been suspended.

A correspondent in last week's MAGAZINE takes objection to the expense incurred in managing the affairs of Supreme Chapter. We present an "abstract of accounts" for the year ending 11th March, 1863:—

CHARGE.	
Balance brought forward from last year.....	£374 8 4
Fees received during 1862-63, viz:—	
From R.A. Chapters.....	£169 2 0
" Mark Master's Lodge.....	20 18 6
" Prov. Grand Superintents.....	2 2 0
	191 12 6
Private sale of laws.....	1 13 0
Interest:—	
On bank account.....	1 15 5
On loans (less tax).....	4 17 11
	6 13 4
Postages, subscriptions, &c.....	8 0 3
Balance due to Grand Scribe E.	3 9 0
	£586 2 5
DISCHARGE.	
Charities—Pension to Comp. Boog.....	£5 0 0
Rent to Grand Lodge.....	4 4 0
Diplomas—	
Parchment, paper, printing &c... ..	£12 12 0
Filling-up ditto.....	13 15 0
Installation diplomas.....	3 1 0
	29 8 0
Laws, binding.....	3 6 0
Election expenses.....	36 15 4
Insurance.....	0 15 0
Mark warrants and returns.....	5 5 0
Stationery, books, circulars, &c.	4 18 5
Printing—annual reports, &c.	20 16 6
Postages and petty disbursements.....	15 4 10
(N.B. £8 0s. 3d. of this recovered per contra.)	
Travelling expenses of deputations.....	6 6 6
Salaries—Grand Scribes.....	£32 0 0
Grand Janitor.....	3 3 0
	35 3 0
Miscellaneous.....	1 4 1
Sum in bank.....	£115 5 5
Sum lent out.....	230 0 0
Claim against the estate of the late Grand Scribe E., Comp. Gayior... ..	72 10 4
	417 15 9
	£586 2 5

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Prince of Wales is gazetted to the colonelcy of the 10th Hussars, in the room of Lord Beauchamp, who is transferred to the 2nd Life Guards. His Royal Highness and the Princess of Wales went in State to the Italian Opera, Covent Garden. Their Royal Highnesses met with a most enthusiastic reception. A very large number of addresses of congratulation were presented to the Prince at Marlborough House on Wednesday. The Prince has appointed Wednesday, the 10th of June, for uncovering the Memorial to his father erected in the Royal Horticultural Gardens. It will be surmounted by a statue of the Prince Consort. The Princess of Wales and other members of the Royal Family will assist at the ceremony.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the HOUSE OF LORDS on the 23rd ult., the Marquis of Clanricarde started a discussion on the seizure of British vessels in the West Indies by Federal cruisers. Lord Russell, who objected to the strong language used by the noble Marquis, said the case of the *Dolphin* had been referred to the law officers of the Crown, and that it was his intention

to lay the matter before the United States Government, and if wrong had been done he had no doubt that reparation would be readily made. He also intended to call the attention of the American Government to the conduct of Mr. Adams in granting certificates to British ships—an assumption which he characterised as “most unwarrantable.” After some further discussion, in which Lords Derby and Grey insisted that it was the duty of the Government to afford protection to British vessels, the subject dropped.—On Friday another discussion was raised on the proceedings of the Federal cruisers in the West Indies. Special allusion was made to Mr. Seward’s instructions with reference to the disposal of letter bags found in captured British ships—Lord Redesdale, Lord Derby, Lord Clanricarde, and Lord Hardwicke censuring the acquiescence of Her Majesty’s Government in the directions issued by the Federal Secretary of State. Lord Russell replied to these remarks, and added that he would endeavour to lay the opinion of the law officers of the Crown before their Lordships on Monday.—Lord Wodehouse moved the second reading of the bill abolishing the declaration required of persons holding municipal and other civil offices; but the motion was met by an amendment, and the measure was lost by a majority of 69 to 52.—On Monday, Lord Russell made an important statement with reference to the course taken by the Federal authorities respecting the mail-bag carried by the *Peterhoff*, and hoped the House would not press for the opinion of the law officers of the Crown on the subject, as that opinion would have to be carefully weighed by the Government before any directions were sent out to Lord Lyons. An additional reason for asking the indulgence of their Lordships was that “the next mail might entirely alter the facts of the case.”—On Tuesday the business was void of interest.—In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, on Thursday, the 23rd ult., the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated, in reply to a question from Sir James Fergusson, that the Government had no intention of altering the machinery by which the assessment for the income-tax was at present made.—Mr. Roebuck then made his promised speech on the proceedings of Admiral Wilkes. After some time the subject dropped, and Lord Palmerston, in Committee of Supply, moved a vote of £50,000 towards the national memorial of the late Prince Consort.—On Friday, in reply to a question from Lord Alfred Churchill, the Solicitor General said a British merchant vessel, on a voyage between two neutral ports, would not be justified in resisting by force an attempted seizure by a Federal cruiser.—Mr. Gladstone announced that he had abandoned that part of his scheme of “ways and means” relating to the duties on stage coaches.—Mr. Horsfall called attention to the seizure of the *Alexandra* at Liverpool, and submitted that the declaration of the owners of that vessel that she was not intended for the Confederate service was at least as reliable as the statements of the secret informants of the Government. The hon. gentleman commented warmly on the spy system carried on in England by Federal agents, and reminded the Government that, while they were so active in pouncing upon the *Alexandra*, whole field batteries were openly conveyed to the Northern States, and Irish labourers were leaving this country on a mission which it was not difficult to divine.—On Monday, Mr. Cubitt stated that the Mansion House Committee, which had a balance in hand of about £90,000, had no intention of uniting with the Central Relief Committee for Lancashire distress.—In answer to a question from Mr. Hibbert Lord Palmerston said the Government did not propose to ask the House to sanction a grant to meet the cost of forming parks in the vicinity of large towns with a view of employing the distressed operatives of the cotton manufacturing districts.

Mr. Busfield Ferrand, in moving his resolution, declaring it to be the duty of the Government “to take into consideration, without delay, what measures may be necessary to relieve the distress which prevails in the cotton manufacturing districts, so that the people may no longer continue unemployed,” made a wild attack on the manufacturers, upon whose shoulders he threw the entire responsibility of the cotton famine. After some discussion, the motion was withdrawn, and the House proceeded with voting the budget.—On Tuesday, General Lindsay brought forward the case of the Crimean Colonels once more, and moved for a Royal Commission to inquire into the grievances of those officers. The Marquis of Hartington, on behalf of the Government, opposed the motion, but Sir John Pakington, Mr. Kinglake, and other members having strongly urged that an inquiry should be granted, Lord Palmerston promised an investigation of the case if the hon. and gallant member for Wigan would withdraw his motion. Mr. Disraeli expressed his satisfaction at the course taken by the noble Lord, to whose proposal General Lindsay finally gave his assent. Mr. Arthur Mills raised a discussion on the question of the defence of the colonies. The hon. gentleman urged that the colonies, enjoying free institutions, ought to provide for their own defence; and this view was supported by Mr. Adderley and other speakers. Mr. Chichester Fortescue said the Government had stated its views on this subject to the Canadian government in very plain terms, but at the same time he was bound to say that a good deal was now being done in the colony in the way of enrolling volunteers. With regard to New Zealand, a sufficient military force would be maintained during the progress of colonisation.—On Wednesday, the Church Rate Abolition Bill occupied the House from twenty minutes past twelve o’clock to ten minutes before five; and, at ten minutes past five, the result of the division was announced. The Bill was rejected by 285 votes to 275.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The mortality of London still continues very high, and small-pox figures prominently as a cause of death. The deaths last week were 1408, which was just about the number of the week before. The numbers were 122 above the average of the week for the preceding ten years. A new and ghastly feature appears in the report, from the record of seven murders in the course of the week, which is at the rate of one a day. The births were 1963, which is 30 above the corrected average.—The monthly report of the Hon. Secretary of the Central Relief Committee announces a considerable increase in the number of persons fully employed, while Mr. Farnall’s weekly return shows a further decrease of 4404 in the number of recipients of parochial relief in the cotton manufacturing districts. The Committee’s balance at the bank is about £400,000. Among the contributions announced at the last meeting, was one of £500 from Honolulu—the King of the Sandwich Islands appearing in the list of donors.—A party of 1000 emigrants left Manchester on Tuesday. Their destination is Canterbury, New Zealand.—An important movement was inaugurated on Wednesday, at the Bishop of London’s residence, St. James’s Square. A meeting of property owners and employers of labour in the metropolis, convened by his lordship, was held for the purpose of devising means to meet the spiritual wants of the poorer districts of London. Nearly 200 noblemen and gentlemen were present. The bishop delivered an interesting address, in which he expatiated on the great necessity which existed for larger spiritual provision to meet the enormous increase of population. The Earl of Shaftesbury, Lord Landon, and others having spoken, it was determined that £1,000,000 should be raised in the next ten years, for the purpose of building churches, providing missionary curates, &c.

—The renowned Bicknell collection of paintings and sculpture was dispersed under the auctioneer's hammer, on Saturday. The sum realised by the sale was £58,600—ten Turners fetching about one third the whole amount.—A great fire, resulting in the destruction of property to the extent of £25,000, occurred at York, on Saturday morning. The warehouse of Messrs. Clarke and Co., wholesale druggists, was entirely destroyed; and some adjoining premises, including a Wesleyan school, were very seriously damaged.—Another of the Peruvian soldiers concerned in the late fatal mutiny at Blackwall, has been committed to Newgate for trial on the charge of wilful murder.—Joseph Brooks, who was found guilty of the murder of a policeman at Acton, at a late session of the Central Criminal Court, suffered the last sentence of the law on Monday. The young woman Lake, to whom he was to have been married a day or two after the murder was committed, had a parting interview with him on Friday, at which both parties were painfully affected.—George Woods and Duncan McPhail were executed at Kirkdale, on Saturday, for the murder of Mrs. Walne, at Ribchester.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The French Corps Legislatif has passed the whole of the budget by a very large majority. The session has been prolonged to the 7th May. Official despatches received in Paris announce an engagement in Mexico in which the French obtained a very cheap victory.—The Russian troops are reported to have received a heavy defeat in an encounter with the Polish insurgents which took place last Saturday near Warka, in the south-east of the Warsaw division. The loss which the Russians sustained is described as very serious. The report, too, does not come from Cracow—the source most favourable to the Poles—but from Thorn, in Prussian territory. There is as yet nothing known regarding the reply which Russia will give to the Great Powers, but the Paris *Constitutional* states that moderation and courtesy are sure to characterise the Czar's answer. The *Nord* declares itself authorised to state that the relations between the courts of Russia and Sweden are perfectly untroubled and satisfactory. The Russian police prohibited a religious procession which has been customary at this season at Warsaw; but Archbishop Felinski and his clergy disregarded the prohibition, and the procession took place. The Archbishop, several canons and priests, and some other persons, were consequently arrested; but it appears that the Russian Cabinet, sensible of the implicity of such a measure at this time, immediately telegraphed orders for their liberation.—Langiewicz has been conducted Tischnowitz to the Bohemian fortress of Josephstadt. It is believed that he had attempted to escape, having previously announced that he withdrew his parole.—It is stated that the conditions on which Prince William of Denmark has accepted the Greek Crown provide that he shall not change his religion, relinquish his contingent right of succession to the Danish throne, or quit Denmark before he has attained his majority, and that the Great Powers shall "guarantee the existence and the frontier" of the kingdom of Greece with the Ionian Islands, shall likewise guarantee the King a civil list of £50,000 a year, and eventually a suitable appanage," and shall endeavour to induce King Otho and the Bavarian royal family to renounce all pretensions to the Greek throne.—Mexico advices, conveyed to us by way of New York, state that on the 24th February General Forey had established his head-quarters within a mile of Puebla, and that the French were expected to commence the bombardment of the city between the 10th and 15th March.

INDIA.—A despatch from Bombay announces that the bill for preventing the adulteration of cotton has been passed by the Legislative Council.

AMERICA.—The repulse of the Federals at Charleston was sufficient, as we learn from the advices brought by the *Canada*, to convince Admiral Dupont that a second attack would be at least as unsuccessful as the first had been. He therefore withdrew his iron-clad steamers to Port Royal, whence it was supposed they would proceed to the Mississippi; and General Hunter's troops likewise returned to Port Royal. The attempts to reduce Vicksburg had likewise been relinquished—General Grant having "moved away his forces," with which it was supposed that he would proceed to reinforce General Rosencranz in Tennessee, or would move into the interior of the State of Mississippi. Admiral Farragut was said to be "blockading" Red River, though one Southern rumour affirmed that he had been entrapped into such a position between two batteries that he could not pass either; and it was reported that seven Federal iron-clad steamers would endeavour to run past the Vicksburg batteries and proceed to his assistance. Official accounts showed that the engagement at Franklin, Tennessee, had resulted unfavourably to the Confederates—General Van Dorn having been repulsed, with a loss of 300 men, by the Federal General Granger. The Prize Court of New York was about to try the case of the *Peterhoff*, and had in vain requested the British Consul to attend when her mail bag was opened, or to open it himself. But the Federal Cabinet, more prudent than its officials, afterwards telegraphed orders that the mail bag should not be opened "until further instructions;" Lord Lyons having demanded that it should be returned unopened. There was, it is said, a strange report that Admiral Wilkes was "detained as a paroled prisoner," at Havana, "until he could explain why the *Vanderbilt* had fired a shot at a Spanish coasting steamer." The latest advices from New York to the 18th, state that Gen. Foster has been relieved at Washington, North Carolina. A steamer conveying a regiment and supplies had succeeded in reaching him. The Confederates appear to be generally on the aggressive. To the number of 30,000 strong, under Longstreet, they were investing Suffolk, intending to cut off communication with Norfolk. According to an account in one of the Richmond papers they had taken Williamsburg, the Federals retiring to Fort Magruder, from which place they bombarded the town. The Confederate General Wise was about to attack Fort Magruder. It is stated that an attempt has been made to flank the Confederates at Fredericksburg. General Stoneman had crossed the Rappahannock and pushed on to Culpepper and Gordonsville, which he occupied. This broke the line of the Virginia Central Railroad. On the Mississippi there had been little of importance. A fleet of Federal gunboats was said to have gone up the Coldwater River. A Federal iron-clad had been abandoned and destroyed at the mouth of the Amite River. The want of food is evidently pressing very severely upon the South. Jefferson Davis has found it necessary to issue an address to the people, praying them not to plant cotton or tobacco, but corn. He states that measures are being taken to obtain supplies of meat, only half rations of which, he says, have been supplied lately to some of the Southern armies. The Governor of New York has sent a message to the Legislature of that State, urging it to pass a measure for enabling soldiers to vote. Some of the New York papers have very bellicose articles in respect to England.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ERRATA.—In Bro. Perton Cooper's communication, "Monks Members of old French Lodges," at pages 268 and 269, for "visit of importance" read "visit of inspection," and for "rule of Pope Cleuent XII." read "bull of Pope Clement XII."

A P. M. and R. E. X. will see that the publication of their letters is rendered unnecessary by the explanation of the Chancellor of the Exchequer published in our second page.

SEABILITY LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—Our report of the proceedings at the Annual Festival of this lodge is unavoidably postponed.

MARCUS is thanked for his good opinion.

R. S. T. shall have immediate attention.

THE REPORT of the General Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for Scotland and the Colonies arrived too late for insertion this week.