

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 30, 1863.

#### GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

We may congratulate the Craft that at last there is a prospect of a fitting home being provided, not only for their lodge and other assemblies, but for meeting in properly appointed rooms with the Provincial and other brethren at all convenient hours; and that in a period of not exceeding two years from the date when Grand Lodge decides upon the plan to be adopted.

The Committee on the Grand Lodge Property has made its report, and the plans of the various architects who have sent in designs have been throughout the week before the brethren, the number who have already inspected these designs showing the interest that is taken in the question. The Committee, in their report, state that they "have gone carefully into all the designs, and have spared no pains in examining into their practicability, and into their compliance with the requirements laid down. They have formed their own judgment upon the designs, but, acting under the power granted to them by Grand Lodge, they have called to their assistance two well-known professional architects, Bro. J. T. Knowles, and Mr. P. C. Hardwick," whose opinion is to be placed before Grand Lodge. We are not, as yet, in possession of that opinion, and, therefore, can say nothing relative to it, though whatever may be our own opinion, we should be disposed to defer to the two gentlemen named, providing, as we have no doubt they have, all the plans have been placed fairly before them.

The Committee further proceed to say that they "desire to keep the strictest faith with competing architects, and they feel that the Grand Lodge will go with them in the endeavour to ensure as far as possible that the designs to be selected and premiated, and that which is to be ultimately adopted by Grand Lodge, shall be selected upon their merits alone, and with no reference to the name or influence of their authors. In order to carry out this object the Committee at their meeting on the 2nd of May (the plans having been received up to 12 o'clock of the preceding night) caused all the letters which contained in sealed envelopes the names of the authors, to be placed in one packet, to be sealed up in their presence, and committed to the charge of the Grand Secretary, and not to be opened until the seals are broken in the presence of Grand Lodge, after the mottoes or symbols of the successful competitors shall have been publicly declared."

Nothing could be more fair than such a course, if the names of the authors of the various plans could be kept secret, as they should be; but, from whatever source the information may have been obtained, we have reason to believe that the names of the archi-

itects who have entered into the competition are almost as well known, at least to a section of the Committee and of the Craft, as if they had appended their names, instead of mottoes, to their works.

The Committee next say they "are well aware of the responsibility which they incur in proposing to ask Grand Lodge at its meeting in June to decide upon a design which has not been previously particularly specified. They feel this responsibility in its fullest force, but they have, after the most deliberate and anxious consideration, come to the conclusion that the course they suggest is the only proper and right one, and that if they were now to declare the mottoes or symbols of the premiated designs, the very object they have in view, viz., that of having the designs judged upon their merits only, would in all probability be defeated."

We should be glad if the designs could be decided upon their merits only, being perfectly of opinion that a popular body, such as that of Grand Lodge, meeting so seldom and constantly fluctuating, is not the best calculated to decide the merits of architectural designs without assistance, and the Committee say they "would not for themselves have desired to take a further opinion on the merits of the respective plans, but taking that course which they believe Grand Lodge would itself adopt, and for the purpose of preventing any future question arising, they have, as already stated, submitted all the plans, together with their judgment upon them, to the architects named, and they will place the opinion of those gentlemen before Grand Lodge. Conscientious in offering their own opinion, and submitted as that opinion will be to the approbation of the advising architects, and having thus taken every means in their power to ensure a correct judgment being arrived at, the Committee have no hesitation in believing that they will follow a right course in asking Grand Lodge to accept and adopt the design to which they have felt it their duty to award the first prize. For the purpose of avoiding anything which may savour of partiality, the Committee beg respectfully to suggest that the discussion upon the plans and the motion for the adoption of any particular design shall take precedence of declaration of the names of the authors. The Committee are themselves in ignorance of the names of the authors of the various designs, and they desire to remain so; they have made their selection on merit only, and they respectfully invite the Grand Lodge to take the same course, because they believe it will be the most honourable and the most conducive to a correct result."

We repeat, we wish that such a decision could be come to on the merits of the designs only, but we are fearful, from what we hear, that it will not, without endeavours on the part of some of the brethren

to favour the selection of a particular design, more from a regard for its author than any other cause. We look upon it that the question must narrow itself to this—has Grand Lodge confidence in the Committee it has appointed, and the architects that the Committee has consulted? If not, there is but one course open; Grand Lodge must appoint other architects to examine the plans, and ask the Grand Master to call a special meeting of Grand Lodge to consider their report.

We have examined the plans with some little attention, and though there is much in the competition to admire, it is clear that some of the architects have altogether lost sight of the object in view, one having designed a market-house, and another an hotel, not a tavern. We are constrained, however, from giving precedence to one plan over another, from the fact that a correspondent who signs himself "An Architect" (but whose letter we are compelled to exclude because he has not furnished us with his name), has given us the mottoes of the three designs which he says are reported to have won the premiums, as awarded by the Committee, whilst another correspondent goes somewhat further, and has forwarded us the names of the architects who have adopted those mottoes, with the names also of some of the competitors whose plans have not met with the approval of the Committee. Were we, under the circumstances, to offer any opinion on the matter, we should evidently be acting unfairly alike to the Committee, the competitors, and the Craft; and we are, therefore, convinced that the proper time for us to examine the plans in detail will be when Grand Lodge has determined on the course they will pursue with regard to them.

We have also received another letter on the subject of the competition from a correspondent signing himself "Scrutator," and who objects to the offices being placed on the ground floor on hygienic principles, and which we should be happy to publish, excepting for the reason which excludes that of "An Architect"—we have not received the writer's name.

We perfectly agree with the Committee in one thing, the desirability of not interfering with the business of the tavern during the proposed alterations; and we would not, for the sake of a slight gain in time in the completion of the buildings, take any course by which the business of the tavern would be interrupted.

We are glad to see that the total expenditure—including the furnishing of the Masonic portion of the building—is estimated not to exceed £40,000 to 45,000; and as to the mode of providing the funds we can offer no objection, as it is one which we have more than once advocated in these columns—viz., that of becoming borrowers from ourselves:—

"As regards the mode of providing funds, the Committee beg to observe that there is now standing to the credit of the Fund of General Purposes the sum of £21,000, which is amply sufficient to defray the expenses of building for the next twelve months if the work is done in sections. There will remain a sum of £20,000 to 25,000 to be borrowed. There are three modes of raising this money; first, by mortgage; second, by debenture; third, by borrowing of the Fund of Benevolence at 4 per cent.: the Committee have no hesitation in recommending the latter course, because the security is ample, the repayment certain and regular, the interest payable will be less than if borrowed elsewhere, and in addition the Fund of Benevolence will be benefited to the extent of £500 or £600, or the difference between 4 per cent. and 3½ per cent., which it now receives."

There can be no doubt that even at present the security is ample, and, with increased accommodation for the brethren, that security will also increase.

#### SELF DENIAL.

(From a Correspondent.)

Amongst the most elevating virtues which men can practice is self-denial. Instances too numerous to recapitulate are to be found recorded in the Holy Scriptures, the writings of the philosophers and poets of antiquity, the fathers of the church, and wherever good men have sought to inculcate love, aid, and precept to better the condition of their fellow-men.

It has been said *exemplo plus quam ratione vivimus*, and there is much truth in the assertion, for the exertions of the generous Freemasons, who have so warmly aided our excellent charities, by their princely donations, are not only due to their own innate goodness of heart, but to the stimulus of example set by those who have proceeded and still labour in the cause around them.

But it may be asked, do we all endeavour to aid in this duty as we should? The reply unfortunately will tell us that the majority do not. In the eloquent and remarkable speech of our R.W. Bro. John Havers, the Chairman at the Festival for the Aged Masons and their Widows, in January last, he pointedly alluded to the large amount of Masonic beneficence that came out of the pockets of a portion of the Craft only, who, with never-failing regularity, were the main stays of our institutions. This well-known fact should be borne in mind by every Freemason, that if Freemasonry is a progressive science, its duties are progressive also, and it is unfair to leave to a few that which should be done by the many.

The question will naturally arise, how is this to be done? And the answer as readily suggests itself—by self-denial. Take for instance the self-denial a lodge could practice were its members once, in three years even, to forego one banquet, and divide the sum

thus unemployed amongst the Masonic Charities. What would such self-denial realise per annum? There are above six hundred lodges in the Craft in full work. The banquets on an average are about twelve pounds per meeting.\* Once in three years a banquet foregone by each, would produce the noble sum of £2400, or £600 to each of the four charities, and all the exertion needed to carry out such a beneficial result, is but one evening's self-denial in three years.

Or, in the case of individual Freemasons, how many of us, even with the most limited incomes, are there who could not practice some few acts of self-denial and thus become subscribers to these charities, more especially that of the old and infirm, as they accept shillings where the others require pounds. Not that these acts should be made subservient to the purchase of votes, which are trafficked in and huckstered about by some brethren for the mere pleasure of being charity-mongers, but that the little savings practised by a brother should be given spontaneously and without taking a vote for them.

It is an easy task to say I will not ride to-day—the weather is fair, I have time on hand, to walk will be good for my health, and the shilling I thus save is one for my little stock of a quarterly gift towards my favourite Masonic charity. How many, or rather how few, Freemasons would in the course of a year save but one pound by such self-denial? Then, if we think for one moment of the good we are doing—how thousands more can be doing the same with us—how we are gaining in health and strength, and whilst the glow of exercise sends the flush of the rose to our cheeks, how doubly will the little act of self-denial, known only to our heavenly Father and ourselves, send the warm blood tingling back to our hearts whilst our conscience will approve the deed and make us seek out other ways and means of practising a self-denial, whose purity of object none can assail, because it is unknown.

To lay before our brethren all those occasions when self-denial can be practised would be to suppose them insensible of the many occurrences of daily life which present themselves to everyone for regulating his expenditure and holding himself aloof from either avarice on the one hand, or profusion on the other. But there are countless occasions when a man may save a shilling which he would expend needlessly, and it is these shillings handed over to our charities by the thoughtless, giddy, yet kind hearted men, who although they do not subscribe, would do so if asked, and who frequently give away pounds annually where it is not required by purchasing articles neither of use nor ornament, gratifying a whim, going to places of amusement because it is the thing, making little bets on races they know nothing of, taking tickets for theatres, raffles, &c., &c., which they never attend, and the nine hundred and ninety-nine of letting shillings, half-crowns, and even half-sovereigns, slip through their fingers without system, without thought, and producing little or no good, whereas by a few acts of self-denial they would be subjecting themselves to a commencement of a wholesome discipline—really

\* Our correspondent has evidently drawn his experience from London lodges. There are plenty of country lodges the brethren of which only dine once a year, and where the subscription, including Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge fees, does not exceed £1 per annum.—ED. F. M. & M. M.

benefitting their brethren—holding out a bright example which, though not visible in the man, yet would tell wonderfully in our charity lists by such entries as “saved—£1 5s.—no votes. A. B. £3 10s. 6d., no votes. Self-denial, 7s. 6d., no votes. One folly less, £5, no votes.” And when such became more numerous, as they would in time, how gratified every contributor would feel that he had helped to swell the tide of charity and to induce the practice of such a virtue as self-denial.

## THE SPRIG OF ACACIA.

BY BRO. CHARLES JOHNSTONE.

It is usual with the ignorant to asperse and deny pretensions in which they cannot share, and, accordingly, the claims of Masonry to very high antiquity are not allowed by the outside world, and are even made the subject of constant ridicule and unworthy comment. But, as the Sun, to a cosmopolitan and enlightened mind is always in meridian splendour, spreading the brightness of a continual noon upon those who, fortunately, can perceive and understand the universal love and beneficence of nature's God, so the true Mason feels equally well assured that the principle upon which his Craft and mystery are based must also have been coeval with nature's birth, when everything that was made was pronounced to be good. “Let there be light, and there was light,” is of the very essence of Masonry, and though ignorance perceiveth it not, that can be no argument against the great truth, the initiated clearly perceive, that the first man, Adam, raised from the dust by the hand of the Great Architect of the Universe, was not only emphatically the son of God, but a Master Mason, presiding in a lodge, which Solomon's Temple, with all its glory, could not surpass; and the first interpreter of nature's-speaking symbols for the information of his children, and to the praise and glory of his great father and creator.

But, without taking our stand upon what will assuredly be termed transcendental Masonry, simply because it passeth ordinary understanding, there is abundant internal evidence in the ceremonial rites and symbols of the Craft to prove its intimate connection with the remotest period of man's recorded history, a fact which, if established, will also supply a cogent argument in favour of its having taken its rise as a system of philosophy, long before the comparatively modern invention of letters. Other evidence, equally convincing, may be derived from the special character of the institution and the humanizing doctrine it inculcates, to show that “this system of morality, veiled in allegory,” is the representative of to-day of that unsophisticated school of social science which, first collected together rude and naked savages, and formed them into communities for mutual assistance and protection. We may also safely conclude that this was done in a situation and under circumstances of the greatest danger and difficulty, and where it was necessary to proceed not only with the greatest sagacity and wisdom, but with the most consummate prudence and self control.

A little Sprig of Acacia we become acquainted with in the progress of illumination, may be usefully made the

means of illustrating the nature of the claims and of the evidence that may be adduced in favour of an exceedingly high antiquity being conceded to the institution of Masonry. The occasion referred to is not the first on record of the value of such a leafy communication of intelligence required. The arkite dove will, of course, recur to every Oriental or Christian mind, for "Lo! in her mouth was an olive leaf plucked off, so Noah knew that the waters were abated from the earth." Again, it requires no very learned or laboured argument to prove the universal significance of a bush, as a very intelligible signal, serving the purpose of an advertisement. A broom hoisted upon the masthead of a ship, the whisp of straw suspended at a temporarily stopped-up thoroughfare, a bush of any kind suspended at the door of a wine store, the unlettered hind of most countries have learned well to comprehend the purpose of the display. The tree of knowledge is only an expansion of the same idea, and perhaps the remote original or authority for the use of the symbol in its variety of forms. Pliny was told by the Egyptians, with whom he conversed, that the first writings were upon leaves of the palm, as is still the case in many countries of Asia, and the association may have suggested a representation of the instrument to express in an hieroglyphic the act done. In profane history may also be found many distortions of such a volume speaking picture of which an apt instance is that of the servant of Midas, who, having discovered the ears of an ass under his master's Phrygian bonnet, unable to keep the secret, whispered it into a hole which he carefully filled up again, but a reed springing up, it is said, communicated the curious fact to the world. The answer to the question "how so;" can only be resolved satisfactorily by supposing the legend to have arisen from imperfect knowledge, translating an hieroglyphical record into a written language, and a literal signification of the symbols being rigidly adhered to. Or, what is perhaps more likely, a designedly corrupt account of some historical or moral story, was invented by dishonest priests to satisfy an exoteric curiosity, whilst, as was notoriously the practice, the true meaning was reserved for the special enlightenment of the exoteric few. At all events a reed used to express knowledge, communicated could only be in virtue of its symbolic character, and which was suggested no doubt by the extensive use of the Papyrus in the manufacture of Egyptian paper.

In the Koran is a curious legend illustrative of this subject, as it introduces us to Moses contemplating a fossil shell, which no doubt would be described at the present day, as part of a matter-of-fact geological record. Following the divine command, Moses we are told, went to the Red Sea, and lifted his rod over the waters, when instantly they were divided, and in the midst thereof he beheld a huge black rock. When he came near it, Allah cried to him, "Smite it with thy staff." Moses accordingly did so, and the rock was cleft in twain, and he saw beneath it, in a sort of cave, a worm with a green leaf in its mouth, which cried three times, "Praised be Allah, who does not forget me in my solitude. Praised be Allah, who has nourished and raised me up." The green leaf placed in the mouth of the worm hieroglyphically signified, in the original record, a moral precept, suggested by the curious circumstance of a presumed existence in such a situation, and demonstrating the

power of God in so forcible and striking a manner. Mahomet's amplification considerably weakens the effect of the lesson, and at the same time invests the allegory with unneeded absurdity.

To return to the Sprig of Acacia—

"Not loved the less,

For flowering in a wilderness."

Like the olive leaf of Noachean history, which spoke somewhat of the productions and geographical situation of Armenia, where the ark rested, so the Masonic emblem affords some clue to the local circumstances existing when it was selected for the purpose to which it was put. The acacia tree particularly alluded to, my readers are doubtless aware, is the *mimosa nilotica*, the characteristic vegetation of the desert countries through which the Nile has its course. Here, in all ages down to the present day, individuals or secluded families of man have always found refuge and a secure retreat, when flying for crimes committed, or from the persecution of tyrants, or from what may be described as worse still, religious tyranny. In fact, whilst, on the one hand, Asiatic and African kingdoms have always, when possible, their borders described by deserts, which form around them a kind of fence from hostile invasion; on the other, these otherwise uninhabited wastes become the resort of all whom misfortune has driven from their settled homes and friends, exactly as in David's case, when he fled into the wilderness from before Saul, "Every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented," sought an asylum in such desolate border countries. And it is a singular piece of circumstantial evidence, corroborative of the original seat of Freemasonry, that our own term "lodge," to describe our appointed places of meeting, is, in England, the most general popular name given to sites of ancient camps, when found situated within the confines of the old border marshes, or forests, that formerly separated the tubal divisions of the island before the arrival of the Romans. The same may be inferred of its German synonyme, "hutten," a persistence of custom to be attributed properly to the fact that residences of a temporary character only were allowed to be erected on the forest land, anything more substantial being strictly prohibited by the jealous policy of the protected state. To this day the Jews, in their feast of tabernacles, properly "booths," perpetuate the remembrance of a similar condition of life when, escaping from bondage, and borrowing their neighbours' goods, they sought and found a secure retreat in the Arabian desert to the east of Egypt.

Here, accordingly, as in all other corresponding situations, the mind readily comprehends the necessity which existed for some controlling influence to maintain, among a community of outcasts and outlaws, a system of customary laws, and administer justice, however rudely, between contending parties. As political refugees, honest in their convictions, would probably constitute the greatest number, and another respectable class of conscientious men, victims to religious strife, would be also very considerable, a nucleus would soon form, growing out of a common regard for right, around which to gather a sufficiently strong public opinion, to restrain their criminal and reckless associates, and to defend the peaceably-disposed from insult or personal injury. Assistance and advice from friends and relations left behind would naturally also

be often desired, and would lead, no doubt, to secret communications being established, altogether constituting the circumstances best calculated to foster and encourage social organisation, the leading features of which would be mutual assistance among the members, and the most careful precautions taken to avoid a treacherous disclosure of the agents employed in the very delicate business with which they would generally be entrusted. The original forest laws of England originated in some such need, and in some such manner; and it is a significant fact that the Court of Exchequer, upon which their administration at one time exclusively devolved, was provided with a chequer covered table, in allusion to the equity, rather than to written law, which should determine decisions, as also to the uncertain character of man's estate in this, so very properly designated, "the debateable borderland."

The historical reflections which throng around the Sprig of Acacia, considered from a Masonic standpoint, are too numerous and interesting for full justice to be done to its importance as a symbol in a short paper like this. In the ancient mysteries, it played even a more conspicuous part than in our own sublimer ceremonial, as may be deduced from the prominent notice given to the golden bough, which was presented to Orpheus by the priestess, before his descent into hell in search of his wife Eurydice. This evidently alludes to the charges and instructions given him at his initiation, to prepare him for his visit to the burning wastes of Africa, to seek, perhaps in solitude, some relief for his grief, and, at the same time, would secure him the assistance of the corresponding and affiliated stations of the Grecian temple, located in the oases of the desert. Herodotus's account of the two oracles of Jupiter, one in Greece, at Dodona, and the other in Lybia, to Jupiter Ammon, illustrates this point; and he tells us, "The priests of the Theban Jupiter say 'that two women, employed in the temple, were carried away from Thebes by certain Phœnicians, and that one of them was discovered to have been sold into Lybia, the other to the Greeks; and that these two women were the first who established oracles in the nations above named;'" and he also adds, "the manner in which oracles are delivered at Thebes, in Egypt, and at Dodona, is very similar;" as no doubt it also was at the shrine of Jupiter Ammon, in the Lybian district—and that friendly correspondence and mutual support was long maintained between them by casual pilgrims or regular missionaries. There is no question that Africa was the hell of classic poetry, as it was sufficiently well described by the three-headed ocean dog Cerberus, that guarded the several sides of that triangular continent, even were it not to this day the traditional *limbo* of the Titans, destroyed by Jupiter, and that in mythology it is that division of the earth allotted to Pluto, after the dethronement of his father Saturn. The Latin copyist of the Greek poet, it is also worthy of notice here, has taken care to supply his hero, Enæus, with a similar symbolic bough, when about to engage in a like adventure to that attributed to Orpheus. The beautiful golden bloom of the *Acacia Nilotica*, not to speak of its delightful odour, would fully warrant the poetical license which has described it as literally golden, without any reference to its true mystic signification as indicating enlivened or illumined knowledge. And in conclu-

sion, after all that has been stated, it is curious, in the travels of a recent visitor to the desert "Wilds of Southern Africa (Thompson, 1823)," to meet with the following observation:—"Among the Barolongs and allied tribes, a Sprig of the camel thorn tree (a species of *Acacia*), delivered to the chiefs, is the invitation of a private council, to discuss topics not fit to be made public in the presence of women, children, and the lower class."

#### MOTHER KILWINNING, SCOTLAND.

By D. MURRAY LYON, P.J.W. OF MO. KIL., and P.J.G.W. OF AYRSHIRE.

The history of the Ancient or Mother Lodge of Scotland may naturally be considered under three periods of its existence, namely:—1. That previous to the formation of the Grand Lodge of Scotland in 1736, and its short-lived union with that body; 2. The period during which it maintained its independence and continued to grant charters of erection to daughter lodges; 3. From its return to the bosom of the Grand Lodge till the present time. We shall meantime treat of the first epoch, reserving the other points till future numbers; and in the elucidation of the subject which is one in which every Freemason must feel a lively interest, we hope to be guided by the desire to make ourself useful in collating material bearing upon the history of the mother lodge, rather than dogmatically to attempt to ignore the claims to greater antiquity urged on behalf of the Lodge of Edinburgh, Glasgow, St. John, and the Independent Lodge of Melrose, over those which we believe to be possessed by her who now stands at the head of the roll of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

Much obscurity hangs over the early history of Mother Kilwinning. Our knowledge of its formation, and of the position it held among the institutions of the country during the first four centuries of its existence, coming as it does through the traditionary lore of the Craft rather than from information derived from reliable documentary evidence, must of necessity be somewhat circumscribed and imperfect. The almost universal belief in regard to the introduction of Freemasonry into this country is that the monks who built the Abbey of Kelso brought the science to Ayrshire, and formally set up and established their first lodge at Kilwinning during the building of the abbey, founded in 1140 and dedicated to the patron saint of that parish,—that all other mason lodges in Scotland emanated from and were under the jurisdiction of that of Kilwinning, whose head regulated the affairs of the Craft generally throughout Scotland—that the Scottish monarchs were the Grand Masters of the Mother Lodge, whose courts were usually held at Kilwinning, although as the Grand Master's convenience or the nature of the business to be disposed of might suggest, grand convocations of craftsmen were occasionally held at Edinburgh and other places. Laurie, who is commendably cautious in his belief of traditionary statements unsupported by authentic historical proof, thus expresses his conviction in favour of Kilwinning being the cradle of Scottish Masonry:—"That Freemasonry was introduced into Scotland by those architects who built the Abbey of Kilwinning is evident, not only from those authentic documents by which the existence of the Kilwinning Lodge has been traced back as far as the end of the fifteenth century, but by other collateral arguments which amount almost to a demonstration." Then there is the evidence furnished through the following sentences occurring in the ancient charter of the Lodge Perth and Scone, as to the great antiquity assigned to Mother Kilwinning by the craftsmen living in the middle of the seventeenth century:—"In the name of God. Amen. To all and sundrie persons whome these presents

doe belong. Witt ye us, the persons under-scribers, masters, freemen, and fellow-craft masones, residents within the Brugh of Perth. That wheir for sameikle as we and our predecessors have and hold from the Temple of Temples build on this earth, ane uniforme communitie and union throughout the whole world, from Temple proceeded one in Kilwinning in this our Nation of Scotland. And from that of Kilwinning many more within this kingdom, of which these proceeded the Abbacie and Lodge of Seone, built by men of airt and archiectry, wheir they placed that lodge as the second lodge within this nation, which is now past memorie of many generations, and was upheld be the Kings of Scotland for the tyme, both at Seone and the decayed cite of Berth, when it stood, and now at Perth head brugh of the sheriffdom thereof to this verie day, which is now four hundredth three score and fyve yeirs since thereby. . . ." This deed, which contains a number of other causes, bears date, Perth, December 24, 1658, and is signed by forty brethren.

Another quotation, taken from the notes to "Maconnerie," a poem published in Paris in 1820, carries Mother Kilwinning back to the days of Wallace and Bruce: "James Lord Stewart received in his lodge at Kilwinning, in Scotland, in 1826, the Earls of Gloucester and of Ulster." In Tytler's History of Scotland, under the corresponding date, we find that the Earls of Gloucester and Ulster, both of whom had espoused the cause of Robert Bruce, were sojourning in Ayrshire about that period, and were present at a meeting of Bruce's adherents held in Turnberry Castle (about thirty miles west of Kilwinning Abbey), to concert plans for the successful vindication of the patriot's claim to the Scottish throne. In another way is Mother Kilwinning associated with these troublous times in the history of Scotland; for it is confidently asserted that the Royal Order having originally its chief seat in Kilwinning, was along with the ancient Grand Lodge of Kilwinning, governed by the same Grand Master, Robert Bruce, who is said to have added the second degree to the Royal Order, as a reward for the valour displayed by those Templars who fought on the Scottish side at Bannockburn.

We know not upon what authority the identification of Knight Templary with the mother lodge is sought to be established; but being curious to know whether the Masonic records at Kilwinning could shed any light upon that subject, in the autumn of last year we devoted some time to a minute examination of these interesting documents, and, as we fully expected, failed in obtaining the slightest trace of Knight Templary or any of the other so-called *haut grades*. In regard to the Templars' connection with Ayrshire, there are only two places in that county at all associated with their name—Darvel, and another place in Cunningham, where stand the ruins of a castle said to have belonged to the "soldiers of the Cross."

It is certain they never possessed property in Kilwinning, neither have local traditions preserved anything whatever regarding their alliance with the Mason Craft of Kilwinning. Indeed, so far from that being the case, our belief is that "ye Ludge of Kilwyning" was never more nor less than a society of architects and artisans incorporated for the regulation of the business of the building trade, and the relief of indigent brethren, until the development, early in the eighteenth century, of Speculative Masonry—an element which has completely changed the original complexion of the more ancient of the craft lodges of this country, and that instead of the ceremonial at initiation now obtaining having been bequeathed to us by the Crusaders, as is held by some, the ritual of Freemasonry, with the exception of the "Ancient Charges," is the creation of comparatively modern times. And so imperceptibly has the purely operative character merged into the condition of a purely speculative one, that the precise date of such change cannot with any certainty be condescended upon.

It is also worthy of notice that when in the end of the last century the Royal Arch and K.T. degrees were practised to such an extent among the Craft lodges of the country as to call forth the censure of Grand Lodge, they were never introduced into nor countenanced by Mother Kilwinning. Of course so long as she continued to preserve anything of an operative character, the fellow-craft mark was conferred by the Mother Lodge upon those qualified to receive the same; but at the present day the Mark Degree is unknown to her as a lodge, although her roll bears the names of many brethren who have taken other than the Craft degrees.

The appointment of James II. of the Baron of Roslin to the Grand Mastership, and the rendering of that dignity hereditary in his illustrious family, whose possessions lay at a considerable distance from Ayrshire, the adoption of Holyrood as the permanent residence of Royalty, the concentration in Edinburgh of the legislative, law, and church courts, all these circumstances must have contributed to bring about the removal from Kilwinning of the Masonic head-quarters, and to advance to the highest Masonic importance the Lodge of Edinburgh, whose meetings would in all probability very often be graced by the presence of the Grand Master, and thus come to be identified as the principal lodge of the country.

It is somewhat remarkable that in the re-installation by charter of St. Clair of Roslin into the Grand Mastership of Scottish Craft, the Kilwinning Lodge is never once mentioned, nor does it appear to have taken any part in these important proceedings. The silence of the Kilwinning brethren may be accounted for as the result of their being called upon to occupy a position secondary to that which tradition pointed to as by right belonging to them; and that the question of precedence may have been at that period under discussion can reasonably be inferred from the information to be gathered from an authentic document of the time (1598) which has but recently become patent to the Craft, but which appeared in the MAGAZINE of 18th April last. The "Ordinance" sets forth certain arrangements made by his Majesty, James VI.'s Maister of Work of the period alluded to for the future guidance of Mother Kilwinning, and assigns to her the Masonic supervision of the West of Scotland. The presence of a commissioner from the Lodge of Kilwinning before the Warden General, at "Halyrud Hous," and his "honest and carefull" behaviour, would seem to imply the consent of his constituents to the arrangement by which for the future Mother Kilwinning should rank "as heid and secund lodge of Scotland," with certain powers and privileges defined in the Ordinance of the Maister of Wark; but whether or not the instrument was ever completed by the issuing of His Majesty's warrant, we fear there is no Masonic record to prove. This matters little, for the Ordinance in question does not to our mind militate against the claim set up in favour of Mother Kilwinning's being the first established Scottish lodge; it only shows the system of centralisation to have in previous years been powerful enough to cause the removal of the supreme court of the building fraternity, from an obscure village in Ayrshire to the acknowledged metropolis of the country, where interests of the Craft could be directed under the personal supervision of the Sovereign himself, or of his Masonic proxy, who usually resided at Edinburgh, and who enjoyed the title of Warden General; and that the regulations ordained by authority of "my lord warden generall" were but confirmatory of the arrangements consequent upon the permanent establishment at Edinburgh of the principal Masonic court, and Mother Kilwinning's acquiescence therein.

How long the Kilwinning Lodge continued in the subordinate position in which the ordinances of 1598 placed her, we possess no means of knowing; but scarcely half a century after that date we find her designating herself "The Antient Ludge of Scotland," and

passing an enactment for the putting "furthe of their antient companie of all disobedient persones." We have already shewn how a volume of the Mother Lodge's minutes were lent to a party who never returned them (vide *MAGAZINE* of August 2, 1862); but the more ancient records of its transactions are supposed either to have been destroyed in the fire, which is said to have laid waste the hereditary Grand Master's castle at Roslin, or to have been, by the monks attached to Kilwinning Abbey, about the period of the Reformation, carried to the continent, along with the chartulary and other official manuscripts, now to all appearance irrevocably lost.

We shall in our next communication open and look into vol. i. of our venerable Mother's minute-book.

### MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

#### KNIGHTS HOSPITALLERS, ETC.

[In the last number of *Notes and Queries* there is another article on the above subject, which we transfer to these columns.]

In a series of numbers of "N. and Q.," commencing from the 14th March, 1863, there have appeared under the signature of "Historicus," a succession of articles on the English Langue of the Knights Hospitaller of St. John of Jerusalem, in which the writer impugns the validity of that lately revived branch of the time-honoured fraternity.

As in one of these articles the writer has quoted a passage from my History of the Order, in corroboration of his statements, I deem it right to enter my most emphatic protest against the assumption that my views on the question are in any degree similar to those of "Historicus."

At the time I wrote the work in question, I was residing in the island of Malta; where, although I possessed every facility for obtaining access to the past records of the fraternity, I had no means of accurately testing the facts with respect to the recent revival of the English Langue. It was whilst in this position, that my attention was drawn to the protest of the authorities at Rome against the English branch, lately inserted in "N. and Q." by Sir George Bowyer. Misled by the peremptory language of this protest, I was induced at the close of my observations on the revival of the English Langue to insert a paragraph, to the effect that grave doubts existed as to its legitimacy. Had I been convinced of the falsity of its pretensions, I should have suppressed all mention of the Langue; but feeling that in my position I was unable to form any very conclusive opinion on the subject, I thought it wiser to retain what I had already written concerning the Langue, and to close my observation with a paragraph alluding to the objections taken to its legitimacy. Since that time, I have returned to England; and having at an early date been put into communication with the leading members of the Langue, I have been enabled more fully and accurately to investigate the matter; the result of which was that my doubts were so completely set at rest on the matter, that I not only enrolled myself as a member of the Langue, but caused a cancel to be made of the injurious paragraph: so that, in all the later issues of my work, the reader will seek in vain for the remark quoted by "Historicus."

Having said thus much by way of preface, I will now endeavour to show the grounds upon which my views concerning the validity of the English Langue have been founded.

"Historicus" asserts that the English Langue was annihilated by the action of the Reformation in England, when its property was confiscated, and the institution crushed once and for ever in this country. Alas, that a

similar fate befel the three French Languages during the revolution in that country at the close of the last century; and further, that the Spanish and Portuguese Languages, by separating themselves from the authorities at Rome, and placing themselves under the protection of their respective monarchs, ceased to exist as an integral portion of the Order. Under these circumstances, "Historicus" considers (and his statements may be taken as the exponents of the pretensions of the Roman branch of the Order) that a revival of the defunct English Langue, under the authority of a chapter convened by the equally defunct French Langues, held in Paris in 1826 and 1827, with the consent of those of Spain and Portugal—also in his opinion virtually extinct—is illegal; especially as that revival has never received the sanction of the Lieut.-Grand Master and Council at Rome, whom he calls the undoubted head of the Order, and who had moreover expressly decreed the suppression of the French Chapter prior to the commencement of their efforts to revive the English Langue.

Certainly, these statements appear at first blush to make out a strong case; and it is only when they are sifted by those who have made the history of the fraternity their study, that their falsity becomes manifest.

In the first place the English Langue was never, strictly speaking, annihilated. Such a fate could only have been inflicted by a decree of the Sovereign Order itself, by whose authority it was originally called into existence. The King of England could, by destroying its status and confiscating its property, cause its virtual suspension, and make it practically dormant—a result much facilitated by the change of religion in England at the time; but that it was never considered by the Order itself as permanently lost is proved by the fact that all the ancient privileges enjoyed by the Langue were most religiously preserved intact, for the purpose (as often recorded) of facilitating a revival of the Langue under more favourable circumstances. At those Councils of the Order, where representatives from the several Languages were entitled to seats, substitutes were invariably nominated (usually the two senior Knights present of those not otherwise entitled to seats at the board), to act as the delegates of the absent Langue of England. The title of Turcopolier—the peculiar dignity of the English conventual bailiff—was also reserved from appropriation by any other Langue, by being temporarily attached to the Grand Mastership; so that it might be ready for resumption by the Langue, should it ever again become restored to its original status. In fact, any student of the history of the Order will see at a glance that the revival of the English Langue was constantly contemplated and hoped for, until the dispersion of the fraternity from the island of Malta.

All the other objections of "Historicus" turn upon the one vital point, whether the Roman branch of the Order can be considered in any way superior to, or entitled to, exercise authority over the other dispersed fragments of the Order. Against any such pretensions I most decidedly protest.

The loss of Malta in 1798 utterly annihilated the unity of the Order, and the federation of the Eight Languages, which until that time had paid their allegiance to one common head, and from that moment all hope of restoration of its original federal form of government ceased.

The French Languages, numbering three out of the eight original divisions of the Order, after having been suppressed during the continuance of the Republic and Empire, were once more called into existence under the favouring auspices of the Bourbon dynasty. The Spanish and Portuguese Languages, realising the impracticability of any further union of the Order under a single head, had most wisely placed themselves under the sovereignty of their own respective monarchs, as the Brandenburg branch had already done at a former epoch, without in any degree vitiating its title to be considered an offshoot

of the Order. Meanwhile, the small residue, consisting of the Italian, and portions of the German and Bavarian Languages, accepted the supremacy of a succession of chiefs nominated by the Pope, under the title of Lieutenants of the Grand Master.

No one of these branches could in any way claim supremacy over the other. The position they relatively occupied was one of perfect equality. It was the result of a dissolution of the original federation of a number of distinct nationalities, each deriving its legitimacy from a common source; and in that dissolution each branch carried the legitimacy of its title with it. It is impossible, therefore, to assume that the small fraction which holds its rule at Rome has more claim to the supremacy of the Order than the Spanish or Portuguese Languages, or the union of the three French Languages so long as they continued to exist. The chapter of the French Languages felt the force of this position so strongly that they declined to obey the decrees of suppression fulminated by the Romish branch, and continued their session until the close of the Bourbon dynasty once more crushed the institution in France.

In the absence, therefore, of any possible union of the whole Order under one government, the acts of a clear majority of the dissevered portions of the Order carry with them a legitimacy and a validity which could not be claimed for those of a single isolated fragment, such as that under the so-called Lieutenant Grand Master at Rome.

It was under the authority, and with the sanction, of five out of the eight languages of the Order, that the revival of the English branch was established, and that decrees—the act of a decided majority of the then existing Order—gave a perfectly legitimate title to the revived Langue, and one in as near an accordance with the principles of the ancient Statutes as the altered circumstances of the times would permit; far more so indeed than the papal nomination of a Lieutenant Grand Master to the Italian branch, for which "Historicus" would claim so undoubted a supremacy.

And now, in my turn, let me ask, why, since the English Langue has been revived for a period of upwards of thirty years, have we heard nothing of any protest against its validity prior to that quoted by Sir George Bowyer, and which is dated in 1859? I may, perhaps, be enabled to let in a little light on this matter for the information of such of our readers of "N. and Q." as take an interest in the question.

When the Langue was first revived in England, the Roman authorities, though prudently forbearing from an open recognition of it, were disposed to look upon it with a favourable eye. Several English Roman Catholics—one of whom at least had been originally received into the Roman branch of the Order, joined the Langue, and hopes were entertained that the revived English branch might be easily converted into an engine of papal propagandism in England. Latterly, however, as the Langue became more fully developed, and when the accession of a large number of influential members, whose attachment to their national church could not be questioned, had rescued it from any possibility of becoming a Roman Catholic fraternity, the enmity of that party has been most virulent and venomously directed against it. Several of the Romanists in its ranks have resigned their posts, and the word has evidently gone forth from headquarters to endeavour to stifle the revived, but heretical Langue, by impeaching its validity. The authorities at Rome are by no means prepared tamely to witness the establishment of a second Protestant branch similar to that of Brandenburg, which they strove so long, to resist. *Hinc illæ lachrymæ.*

"Historicus" would wish to bring forward as a proof that the English Langue considers the Roman branch the head of the Order the fact that it has been in treaty with them for recognition. The English Langue has

never denied the claim of the Roman branch to be considered an integral portion of the Order; and as it was the only section that had not assented formally to the establishment of the new Langue, it was natural that an alliance (though unaccompanied by any acknowledgement of supremacy) should be sought with it. That the Roman authorities did not at that time consider the English Langue an imposture, and that they did hope to make it a papist fraternity, is clear from the fact that they annexed as the only condition to their recognition the establishment by the Langue of a Roman Catholic priory. I need hardly add that this condition was at once and peremptorily rejected, and so the negotiations ceased.

In spite, however, of Romish opposition and attacks, the English Langue will flourish and increase long after the King of Italy has placed his heel upon the last relics of the few fragments which still cling together at Rome; and the Order of St. John will most probably eventually owe its rescue from utter annihilation and oblivion to that Protestant English Langue, upon which such a bitter attack is now being made.

In conclusion I will only add, that in the absence of any duly authorized Federal head (to which, if its restoration were possible, the English Langue would yield a cheerful obedience) that branch assumes sovereign authority in all matters affecting its own internal policy by means of a Chapter-General, assembling annually on the 24th June (St. John's Day). This Chapter-General delegates its authority during the remainder of the year to a Capitular Commission, composed of some of its most influential members, and presided over by the Grand Prior of England, the Duke of Manchester at present holding that dignity. This commission is responsible to the Chapter-General for the ratification of its acts. The admission of members into the Langue is decreed by it, and the fees payable on the occasion, as also the annual obligations payable by all members, on a scale rising according to their rank in the Order, from a fund which is exclusively devoted to charitable purposes; thus fulfilling the original objects of an institution founded for the furtherance of charitable objects, and which during a period of upwards of seven centuries and a half, has never failed in the performance of those duties.—WHITWORTH PORTER.

#### KNIGHTS OF MALTA.

The proper designation of the Masonic degree of which "F.C.H." inquires is, "Knights of Malta." If "F.C.H." will become a Mason, and rise to that degree, he will then learn that it has nothing whatever to do with the Knights-Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, and at the same time be enlightened as to the reason of their assuming, like that famous chivalric and religious Order, the title of "Knights of Malta." For very obvious reasons, there is no other mode by which "F.C.H." can gain the knowledge he seeks.—AUDI, VIDE, TACE.

#### THE MYSTERIES OF ELEUSIS.

Where can some account of the mysteries of Eleusis be found?—E. D.—[Read Virgil's *Ænid.* Bishop Warburton interprets the descent of Æneas into Tartarus and Elysium as an allegorical description of the sacred mysteries of Eleusis.]

#### POPE CLEMENT XIII. A FREEMASON.

Pope Clement XIII. who, in 1739 issued the first bull that was launched against the Freemasons, says, "In order to shut the door against their evil doings, and prevent them from sinning with impunity; and for other just and reasonable motives known to ourselves—after the most certain conviction and mature deliberation, we condemn and prohibit their meetings and councils." From these words italicised, and popular report, we are led to believe that the first Pope who condemned our society was himself a Freemason.—GABRIELLE.



POPE PIUS IX. A MASON.

7 We had expected that the evidences which were made public during the difficulties between the Bishop of Buenos Ayres and the Masonic fraternity in that country a few years since—clearly proving that the present head of the Church of Rome, Pius IX., was a Freemason, having been initiated at Monte Video in 1816—would have made the clergy subordinate to him more chary of their anathemas against the Craft.—*New York Courier*.—Ex, Ex.

STRASOOURG CATHEDRAL AND THE FREEMASONS.

Apropos to certain documents which have lately appeared in the *MAGAZINE*, the following is taken from Clavel, who writes thus:—

“The Abbé Grandidier says—This edifice, one of the masterpieces of Gothic architecture, was commenced in 1277, under the direction of Hervein of Steinbach, and was not completed till 1439. The Masons who took part in the erection of this building consisted of Masters, Fellow Crafts, and Apprentices. The place where they assembled was called *Hütte* (Lodge), which has the same meaning as the Latin word *Maceria*. They made an emblematic use of the utensils of their profession, and carried them on their standards. The principal of these were the square, the compasses, and the level. They recognised each other by private signs, and they called the sign by which they knew each other, by word, *das wortzeichen*, and the salute *der gruss*. The Apprentices, the Craftsmen, and Masons, were received with ceremonies which were kept secret. They admitted as affiliated brethren persons who did not belong to the trade of Masons, and they used the famous Masonic symbol, the square and compasses, with the letter G inscribed in the centre.—Ex. Ex.

MOUNT SINAI.

The name *Sinai* is referred by a late distinguished traveller to the word *Sench*, which is the *Acacia* of the Holy Land, the plant so famous in the legends of the Royal Craft. The mountain is known formerly to have abounded with acacia. It is the tree of the Burning Bush of the Royal Arch, the Shittimwood of the Tabernacle. Its botanical name is *Mimosa Nilotica*; its trivial name *Sont* and *Sagal*. Though the chief growth of the desert it is rare in Palestine. Abel-Shittim, “the meadows of Acacias,” was about six miles from the Jordan. The acacia is never found on the mountains.—*Sinai and Palestine*.—Ex. Ex.

A MASON AT DETTINGEN.

At the battle of Dettingen, in 1743, one of the French Guards, having had his horse killed under him, became so entangled by the limbs of the animal and his own accoutrements, as to be utterly unable to extricate himself. While he was in this helpless condition, an English dragoon galloped, and with uplifted sabre was about to slay him. The French soldier, not without extreme difficulty, made the Masonic appeal, which was at once recognized by his assailant, who not only spared his life, but released him from his dangerous position. He took him prisoner, however, as was his duty; for Freemasonry, while inculcating brotherly love, forbids its being exercised at the expense of patriotism, or any other higher duties.—*Boston Freemason's Magazine*.—Ex. Ex.

TEMPLAR PRECEPTORIES.

“Yorkshire, Wetherby.—This manor was anciently a possession of the Knight Templars, but on the abolition of their Order in the reign of Edward II., it was given by the Pope to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John, and the grant was confirmed by Parliament, in 1324.

“Temple Newsam.—In the doomsday survey this place is called Newhusum, and a settlement of Knights Templars here, as early as 1131, gave it the additional name of Temple. Temple Newsam is connected with several important historical events:—The Order of Knights Templar was established in the early part of the 12th century, by Baldwin II., King of Jerusalem, for the defence of the Holy Sepulchre, and the protection of Christian pilgrims. Their

name was derived from the vicinity of their house to the Temple, and for some time they were strict in their religious observances, and exemplary in their moral conduct. After the ruin of Jerusalem, they spread themselves over Europe, and acquired by their valour and their fame immense riches. Among other benefactions conferred upon them, William de Villers presented to the English Knights Templar, the Manor of Newhusum, where they soon after formed a Preceptory. Riches begat luxury—luxury vice—and vice infamy. They sunk in public estimation; their privileges, which were numerous, were withdrawn from them; and the members of their Order were subjected to the most terrible circumstances of infamy and severity. In 1311 the Order was suppressed by the Council of Vienne, and their dispersion followed soon after. Their revenues were in general bestowed upon other orders, and the rival fraternity, the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, became in general the inheritors of their revenues, as well as of their former fame. Temple Newsham, however, never fell into the hands of the Hospitallers, but was granted by Edward III., to Sir John Darcy. In this line it descended to Thomas Lord Darcy, who in the reign of Henry VIII., was beheaded, and his estates forfeited to the crown for joining the northern insurgents, denominated the Pilgrims of Grace, in their unsuccessful attempt to compel Henry to restore the dissolved monasteries. A most striking proof of the degradation into which these defenders of the Holy Sepulchre had sunk, cannot well be found than in a species of defence offered for them by Dr. Whittaker. About a century ago, an ancient cup, belonging to the Templars, was found at Temple Newsam bearing a licentious inscription, which the Doctor very justly observes, ‘serves to vindicate the Knights of this house from the most odious part of the charge preferred against them.’

“Ferriby North.—Here was a priory of the Knights Templars, of the foundation of Lord Eustace Vercy, which survived that Order, and was occupied by the Canons of St. Augustine, till the suppression, when the site was granted to Thomas Culpepper.

“Welton.—The church contains an effigy of a Knight Templar, which carries its antiquity beyond 1327, when that Order was dissolved.

“Pontefract.—The chief religious house was the Priory of St. John, of which nothing now remains to convey an idea of the extent or magnificence of the structure.

“Westmoreland.—Temple Sowerby till lately was the seat and property of the Dalston family, who obtained a grant of it from Henry VIII., in 1545, previous to which it had been possessed by the Knights Templar, who came into England in 1135, and were dissolved in 1312, and their numerous estates, &c., were given to the Knights Hospitallers, who in their turn were dissolved in 1545. The lord and tenants of this manor still claim and exercise several privileges granted to the Knights Templar, the most important of which is the exemption from toll throughout England.

“Cumberland—Skirroth Abbey.—This is a modern built mansion, near the site of a small religious house, which it is supposed was founded by the Knight Templar.—*Edward Baines*.—△

JOPPA.

This place, which plays an important part in Mosaic traditions, is now styled *Jaffa*. The word (Joppa) signifies *beautiful*. Joppa is traditionally the most ancient seaport in the world. It was to the tribe of Dan to which, in the allotment of Canaan, Joppa fell. Joppa, like the other ancient Philistine cities, is remarkable for the extreme beauty, and profusion of the gardens which surround it, the scarlet blossoms of the pomegranates, and the enormous oranges which gild the green foliage of its famous groves. Well might Joppa, *the beautiful*, be so called. Joppa received the rafts which floated down the coasts from Tyre.—Ex. Ex.

## FREEMASONRY AND BUDDHISM.

A brother asks what is the resemblance between Freemasonry and Buddhism? The answer is "the spirit of universal charity which Buddhism, in its commencement, breathed." In the words of Professor MacMuller, there was in Buddhism, as first preached, "a sense of duty extending from the narrow limits of the house, the village, and the country, to the wildest circle of mankind—a feeling of sympathy and brotherhood towards all men."—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

## FREEBORN.

In Laurie's *History of Freemasonry* we find the following:—"The Lodge Caledonia, Grenada, having inquired whether emancipated slaves could be admitted to the privileges of Freemasonry, the Grand Lodge of Scotland, after due consideration of the question, decreed, at the Quarterly Communication on the 13th November, 1837, 'That by the term *Freeborn* is meant a person free at the time of his application for admission into a lodge, being then his own master, and capable of governing his own time and actions.'"—D.M.L.

## NOTES ON MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

A *soirée musicale* is announced to take place at the Hanover-square Rooms on June 2nd, the object of which is to raise a fund to be presented to the National Hospital for paralysis and epilepsy. Miss Berrington, a lady well known in amateur musical circles, will be worthily assisted by about fifty other ladies and gentlemen, all of whom will take part in the performance. The concert has obtained the especial patronage of the Duchess of Cambridge, the Princess Mary, the Duchess of Sutherland, and many of the highest members of the aristocracy.

The Royal Colosseum, Regent's Park, having changed hands, has been re-decorated, restored, and opened under an entirely new management on Monday. Several novelties are promised, among the most desirable being a full orchestra. But there is no rose without a thorn. This is to be the last season of the celebrated pictures of "London by Day" and "Paris by Night," and the ingenious moving picture of "The Earthquake of Lisbon."

Everybody (says the *Queen*) will regret to learn that the gifted conductor of the Vocal Association, M. Jules Benedict, has been labouring under severe illness, from which he is slowly recovering. A thoroughly good and kind-hearted man, as well as a first-rate professor, put thus *hors de combat* in the thick of the season, is a matter of deep regret in the musical circles.

One of the Paris theatres, the Châtelet, announced a new piece, founded on the novel of *Lady Audley's Secret*, and entitled *Le Secret de Miss Aurore*. The veteran actor Frederick Lemaitre is to sustain one of the characters.

Mdlle. Livry, the eminent *danseuse*, is fast recovering from the injuries she sustained by her dress catching fire. The Emperor had placed at her disposal an apartment in the Palace at Compiègne, that she may hasten her recovery by inhaling fresh country air.

The arrangements for the "meeting of the three choirs,"—in other words, the Worcester Musical Festival of this year—are nearly completed. The principal singers engaged are Mdlle. Titiens, Mdmes. Lemmens-Sherrington and Sainton-Dolby, Miss Banks, Miss Palmer, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Wilby Cooper, Mr. Weiss, and Mr. Sautley—a great array of vocal talent. The festival will be held during the second week of September.

A French paper notices, with some surprise, that Mdlle. Carlotta Patti never sings at concerts for less than a hundred guineas. This appears to be the fact (says the *Reader*); but is it true that her voice reaches the *la suraigu*? In the three songs which she has repeated so often, the F has, we believe, been the highest note; but, from the facility with which she holds this, she might possibly go a third higher.

The "ottavisono" is the name of a new instrument of the viol family, said by Rossini, in a complimentary letter to the inventor, M. Padovani, to "unite the vigour of the tenor to the brilliancy of the violin." It is described by M. de Beriot as having "six strings coupled two and two, and tuned in octaves, and revealing its particular character *dans les chants larges et mélancoliques*."

## WITH ALL THE HEART'S HIGH MASONRY.

*A Royal Epithalamium: commemorative of the Marriage of their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and the Princess of Denmark, March 10, 1863.*

All joy to the heir of the Realm,  
Now may England rejoice;  
And all joy to the Royal Princess,  
The happy bride of his choice.  
Lo! in greatness there is goodness,  
To be a nation's pride,  
And Heaven's ruling Majesty  
Crowns the bridegroom and the bride.  
God save our noble Prince;  
God save his lovely bride;  
And in wisdom and grace,  
And in glory and peace,  
May he live to reign over us.  
Ever great and victorious,  
God save the Prince.

With all the heart's high Masonry.  
Of love, devotion, praise,  
A palace wrought in loyalty,  
To royalty we raise.

So may the future be when God  
Has blessed the throne with one,  
Whence the glory of a mighty reign,  
Is the glory of a son.

God save our noble Prince;  
God save his lovely bride;  
And in wisdom and grace,  
And in glory and peace,  
May he live to reign over us,  
Ever great and victorious,  
God save the Prince.

## HOPE.

BY SCHILLER.

We speak with the lip, and we dream in the soul,  
Of some better and fairer day;  
And our days the meanwhile, to that golden goal  
Are gilding and sliding away.  
Now the world became old, now again it is young,  
But "the better" 's for ever the word on the tongue.

At the threshold of life, Hope leads us in—  
Hope plays round the mirthful boy,  
Tho' the best of its charms with youth begin,  
Yet for age it reserves its toy.  
When we sink at the grave, why the grave has scope,  
And over the coffin man planteth—HOPE.

And is it not a dream of a fancy proud,  
With a fool for its dull begetter;  
There's a voice at the heart that proclaims aloud—  
"We are born for something better!"  
And that voice of the heart, oh! ye may believe,  
Will never the hope of the soul deceive.

## THE INTERNATIONAL DOG SHOW.

This week has been a carnival at the Agricultural Hall, Islington. On Monday, the Prince and Princess of Wales visited the show, and expressed themselves highly gratified by the sight. They also took great interest in the fish-hatching process, exhibited by the proprietors of *The Field*, and explained by F. Buckland, Esq.

It would be absurd to try to make any remarks upon the merits of the animals exhibited by one who is not a competent judge, but the large number of dogs brought together, their superior condition, and the very excellent arrangements which have been made by the Company for their cleanliness and comfort during their temporary captivity, elicited the warmest encomiums. The animals comprised sporting, fancy, and useful dogs, and the lovers of the canine "friends of man" must have had no small amount of gratification in overlooking such an assemblage, where every taste or fancy has been so well represented.

Of the urbanity and kindness of the officials, we cannot speak in terms too warmly. The show has been a great success, and will, no doubt, increase in popularity year by year.

# THE MASONIC MIRROR.

## MASONIC MEMS.

We understand that designs are preparing for a Gothic Masonic Hall, Leeds.

The next Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, is to be appointed to be held at Ripon, on the 1st of July next, when by permission of the R.W. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, D.G.M. and Prov. G.M., the grounds of Studley, and the ruins of Fountain Abbey, are to be thrown open to the brethren and lady friends.

The new Masonic Hall at York is to be opened on Tuesday next, the ceremony being performed by the R.W. Bro. George Marwood, D. Prov. G.M.

## GRAND LODGE.

1. Election of members for the Board of General Purposes.
2. Election of members for the Colonial Board.
3. Election of members for the Committee of Management of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their widows.
4. The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 4th March, for confirmation.
5. The minutes of the Grand Festival of the 29th April for confirmation.
6. The report of the Board of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz. :—

Bro. T. L., of the St. John's Lodge (No. 407) Pendleton .....	£30
„ S. L., of the Joppa Lodge (No. 223), London	£50
„ J. S., of the Lodge of Relief (No. 59), Bury, Lancashire .....	£30
„ S. L., of the Lodge of Industry (No. 219), London .....	£50
The widow of Bro. W. C., of the Lodge of Free- dom, (No. 91), Gravesend .....	£50
Bro. H. C., of the Portsmouth Lodge (No. 717), Portsmouth .....	£30

### 7. THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

The Board of General Purposes beg to report as follows:—

1. A complaint has been preferred by the Board of Benevolence against the Lodge of True Friendship (No. 186), Rochford, for certifying that a brother had been a regular contributing member for upwards of twelve years, whilst the Grand Lodge dues had been paid for eight years only. The W.M., in explanation, having admitted the default, and having expressed his regret that the lodge should have been guilty of this act of omission, but stating that it had occurred before any of the present members belonged to the lodge, the board ordered the arrears at once to be paid up, and resolved, that the explanation tendered be accepted; cautioning the lodge, however, to be more careful for the future.

2. A complaint has been preferred by a member of a lodge, alleging that certain of the lodge minutes did not give a correct account of the state of the lodge funds, inasmuch as in a report of auditors comprised therein, and confirmed thereby, the Grand Lodge dues payable by the lodge had not been included and deducted before striking a balance, and praying the Board to order such portion of the minutes to be annulled; and also

praying that the lodge be ordered forthwith to pay up what was due for the last year according to the strict letter of the bye-laws, which provided for their being paid on or before the 24th December in each year. The brother also complained that whereas it had been agreed that certain moneys should be paid by each member of the lodge to its private relief fund, such moneys had not been so paid, and he, therefore, prayed the Board to interfere. On consideration of the case, and examination of the bye-laws, and it appearing that for several years past the Grand Lodge dues had been regularly paid, though not at the time prescribed by the bye laws, the Board resolved that with regard to that part of the complaint which referred to private Fund of Benevolence stated to belong to the lodge, the Board could not interfere; and with regard to that part or the complaint which referred to the non-payment of Grand Lodge dues according to the bye-laws, and to such dues not having been included in the general lodge accounts stated in the report confirmed in the minutes complained of, both the Book of Constitutions and the bye-laws of the lodge provide against their being so included, and as there appeared, under the circumstances, no sufficient reason at present to require payment thereof, the Board dismissed the complaint.

3. The Board have received an application on the part of the Sussex Lodge (No. 705), Dorchester, New Brunswick, which was erased for not making returns by order of Grand Lodge, confirmed at the quarterly communication of 3rd September, 1862, praying to be restored to their former position. It was stated on the part of the lodge that they had regularly made their returns from year to year to their Prov. Grand Lodge, had annually elected their Master, and had always endeavoured to work their lodge in a constitutional manner. The Board finding on inquiry that the return called for by the Grand Lodge had actually been made within the time prescribed, but that such return had been accidentally overlooked in the Grand Secretary's office, resolved to recommend Grand Lodge—"That the Sussex Lodge, Dorchester, New Brunswick, having been erased in error, be reinstated and restored to its former position, and to all its Masonic privileges."

4. The Board further report that the last edition of the *Book of Constitutions*, both of the 8vo. and 32mo. size is wholly exhausted, they therefore beg to recommend to Grand Lodge to resolve—"That the Board of General Purposes be authorised to prepare and publish a fresh edition of the *Book of Constitutions*, both in 8vo. and 32mo., embodying therein such alterations and new laws as have been made and passed subsequent to the issue of the last edition, the price to remain the same as at present, and the copyright to be vested in the Grand Secretary."

(Signed) J. LLEWELLYN EVANS,

President.

The Board have further to report, that at the meeting held on Tuesday, the 19th inst., it was unanimously resolved:—

"That the most cordial thanks of this Board be given to the V.W. Bro. J. Llewellyn Evans, President, for the attention he has devoted to the business of the Board, and for his uniform courtesies to all the members during his year of office."

Freemasons' Hall, (Signed) J. RANKIN STEBBING,

20th May, 1863. Vice-President.

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee held on the 15th inst., showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £2131 19s. 8d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash £50. Of these sums there belongs to the Fund of Benevolence £853 19s. 3d., to the Fund of General Purposes £891 7s. 1d., and in the unappropriated account £436 13s. 4d.

## 8. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

The Committee beg to report that they have continued their labours with unremitting attention. They have the pleasure to inform the Grand Lodge that in reply to their advertisements offering premiums for designs, forty applications for plans have been made and twenty distinct designs illustrated by nearly 200 drawings have been sent in.

The Committee desire to express their admiration of the skill and ability which is exhibited in many of these drawing. The nature of the site, the position and level of the present great Hall, the means of lighting, and the peculiar requirements for the Masonic body and for carrying on a large tavern business ministering to, but totally separate and distinct from the Masonic portion of the buildings, offer difficulties of no ordinary magnitude, and the Committee believe that Grand Lodge will unite with them in the expression of their feelings that the manner in which those difficulties have been surmounted merits their warmest commendation.

The Committee have gone carefully into all the designs, and have spared no pains in examining into their practicability, and into their compliance with the requirements laid down. They have formed their own judgment upon the designs, but, acting under the power granted to them by Grand Lodge, they have called to their assistance to well-known professional architects, Bro. J. T. Knowles, and Mr. P. C. Hardwick.

The Committee desire to keep the strictest faith with competing architects, and they feel that the Grand Lodge will go with them in the endeavour to ensure as far as possible that the designs to be selected and premiated, and that which is to be ultimately adopted by Grand Lodge, shall be selected upon their merits alone, and with no reference to the name or influence of their authors. In order to carry out this object the Committee at their meeting on the 2nd of May (the plans having been received up to 12 o'clock of the preceding night) caused all the letters which contained in sealed envelopes the names of the authors, to be placed in one packet, to be sealed up in their presence, and committed to the charge of the Grand Secretary, and not to be opened until the seals are broken in the presence of Grand Lodge, after the mottoes or symbols of the successful competitors shall have been publicly declared.

The Committee are most desirous to give the brethren the fullest opportunity possible of seeing and examining the designs. They regret to find that it will be impossible to exhibit them in the Freemasons' Hall, or in any part of our own buildings. The great hall can only be obtained after the 22nd instant on four consecutive days previous to the meeting of Grand Lodge, which would be a manifestly insufficient time, whilst the lighting of the Temple is so bad that it would be unjust alike to the brethren and to the merits of the designs to exhibit them there. The Committee have therefore made arrangements to exhibit them in St. Martin's Hall, which they have been able to obtain on moderate terms. The designs were required by the Committee for their own examination until the 19th instant on which day they were placed at the disposal of the advising architects, and the Committee fully trust that they will be returned in sufficient time to enable them to be open to the Craft on and after Monday the 25th instant. Of this an early intimation will be given in the *Times*, the *FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE*, and in the *Builder* and *Building News*. The Committee have given directions that there shall be provided at the place of exhibition a sufficient number of copies of the "Instructions to Architects" to enable those who desire carefully to examine the designs to ascertain how far the requirements have been fulfilled. Architects, members of the Craft, and their friends will have free

admission upon entering their names and number of their lodges, or address, in the book provided at St. Martin's Hall for that purpose.

The committee are well aware of the responsibility which they incur in proposing to ask Grand Lodge at its meeting in June to decide upon a design which has not been previously particularly specified. They feel this responsibility in its fullest force, but they have, after the most deliberate and anxious consideration, come to the conclusion that the course they suggest is the only proper and right one, and that if they were now to declare the mottoes or symbols of the premiated designs, the very object they have in view, viz., that of having the designs judged upon their merits only would in all probability be defeated.

The Committee are perfectly ready to acquiesce in the wishes of Grand Lodge, and will submit with due reference to its decision whatever it may be, but they at the same time respectfully submit that a popular body composed as the Grand Lodge is, cannot be expected of itself to be able to decide upon the merits of the designs, that all the plans being exhibited for a sufficient time before the meeting of Grand Lodge, every brother will have the opportunity of forming his opinion upon their respective merits, and the Committee further entertain a strong impression that those brethren who are accustomed to study plans, and are capable of forming a just opinion as to how a design upon paper will work in reality, will in all probability come to the same conclusion as themselves.

The Committee would not for themselves have desired to take a further opinion on the merits of the respective plans, but taking that course which they believe the Grand Lodge would itself adopt, and for the purpose of preventing any future question arising, they have, as already stated, submitted all the plans together with their judgment upon them to the architects named, and they will place the opinion of those gentlemen before Grand Lodge. Conscientious in offering their own opinion, and submitted, as that opinion will be, to the approbation of the advising architects, and having thus taking every means in their power to ensure a correct judgment being arrived at, the Committee have no hesitation in believing that they will follow a right course in asking Grand Lodge to accept and adopt the design to which they have felt it their duty to award the first prize.

For the purpose of avoiding anything which may savour of partiality, the Committee beg respectfully to suggest that the discussion upon the plans and the motion for the adoption of any particular design shall take precedence of the declaration of the names of the authors. The Committee are themselves in ignorance of the names of the authors of the various designs, and they desire to remain so; they have made their selection on merit only, and they respectfully invite the Grand Lodge to take the same course, because they believe it will be the most honourable and the most conducive to a correct result.

The Committee beg also to report that they have obtained the sanction of the Board of Works, and the order of the magistrates for closing Queen's Place, and for building over a part of Middle Yard.

The Committee now have to direct the attention of Grand Lodge to an equally important part of their work, viz., the cost of the proposed works, and the means of providing for it. Having by careful examination satisfied themselves as to the approximate cost of covering the ground with buildings requisite to provide the necessary accommodation, they did not think it desirable to state to competing architects what sum they would be prepared to recommend, and in this they are satisfied that they exercised a wise discretion, as, although the estimates

ent in vary as might have been expected, in a very marked degree, those of the most practicable designs approach each other so closely as to confirm the Committee in the opinion they had previously formed.

The Committee had much desired to have kept the cost below the sum of £30,000, but they have long since perceived that, in order to construct such a building as will be sufficient in all respects for the wants of the Craft, and for the purposes of a tavern, and which shall at the same time be creditable to the Order, an outlay of from £35,000 to £40,000 will be required; and desiring to withhold nothing, they think it right to state that, to meet the expenses of furnishing and incidental charges, a further sum of from £3000 to £5000 may possibly be required. Upon the most careful consideration of all the circumstances, they are of opinion that such an outlay is not excessive, that the building cannot be well done for less, and that it is a great economy to have the work well done; and they are prepared to show that the funds will afford the outlay without inconvenience. In order to avoid injury to the business of the Tavern, and the loss of revenue consequent upon interference with such business, the Committee have made it a condition that the work shall be so designed as to be capable of being carried out in sections; they are happy to report that this has been done, and they are satisfied that the building of the first section may be completed in one year, the second section in one year also, and the whole may be complete and fit for occupation at the end of two years. If it should hereafter be found that it will be a truer economy to proceed with the whole of the work at once, the buildings may be completed and fit for occupation in eighteen months from the commencement.

As regards the mode of providing funds, the Committee beg to observe that there is now standing to the credit of the Fund of General Purposes the sum of £21,000, which is amply sufficient to defray the expenses of building for the next twelve months if the work is done in sections. There will remain a sum of £20,000 to £25,000 to be borrowed. There are three modes of raising this money: first, by mortgage; second, by debenture; third, by borrowing of the Fund of Benevolence at four per cent. The Committee have no hesitation in recommending the latter course, because the security is ample, the repayment certain and regular, the interest payable will be less than if borrowed elsewhere, and, in addition, the Fund of Benevolence will be benefited to the extent of £500 or £600, or the difference between 4 per cent. and 3½ per cent., which it now receives.

Taking into account on the one hand the loss of interest on the present funded property, and the extra expenses of servants' wages, rates, taxes, lighting, &c., which will be incurred on taking the Masonic portion of the new buildings into our own hands, and on the other the increased rents to be received, and the amounts which will be received from lodges, chapters, and individual brethren, the Committee, who have entered at very considerable length into this part of the question, have good reason to believe that, in the event of Grand Lodge borrowing from £20,000 to £25,000 of the Fund of Benevolence, they would be able to pay off the whole amount, with interest at 4 per cent., within ten years.

The Committee have purposely taken a low estimate of the rents and returns to be expected from lodges, and they believe, when the really magnificent accommodation which will be afforded becomes generally known—when it is known that lodges and chapters will find in every respect suitable and dignified accommodation, and when it is generally understood that not only our London brethren, but those from every part of the world, will find a Masonic home, of which they may be fairly

proud, and which is provided with every requisite comfort, and is open to them at all hours, that the returns will probably far exceed the amount which they have at present ventured to calculate on.

Arising out of the foregoing Report, the committee beg to give notice of the following resolutions:—

*1st Resolution.*—That the Grand Lodge do proceed to consider and decide upon the adoption or otherwise of a design distinguished by its motto or symbol only, and before the name of its author is declared.

*2nd.*—The Committee will announce the mottoes or symbols which distinguish the three best designs, naming them according to their order of merit, and propose the adoption of that design to which they have awarded the first prize.

The foregoing resolutions being disposed of according to the will of Grand Lodge, the Committee will request the M.W. Grand Master to order the seals of the respective letters to be broken, and the names of the successful competitors to be publicly declared. If it be the pleasure of Grand Lodge to decide upon the adoption of a design, the following resolutions will be submitted:—

*3rd.*—That the Committee be authorised to enter into arrangements with the architects and builders, and to take all other steps necessary to proceed with the work with as much diligence as possible; to have full power to make such alterations as may seem to them requisite in the details of the accepted design, and to make such arrangements as regards employment and remuneration of architects as they may deem to be proper and just.

*4th.*—That the Trustees be and are hereby instructed to make such arrangements when and so often as may be required for the selling out of stock now standing to the credit of the Fund for General Purposes as may be necessary to meet the requirements of the Committee in the progress of the work.

(Signed) JOHN HAVERES, Chairman.

9. The annual report of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, dated 15th May, 1863, will be laid before the Grand Lodge.

10. An appeal of Bro. James Dunbar, of St. John's Lodge (No. 214), Quebec, against a decision of the Provincial Grand Master of Quebec and the Three Rivers.

11. An appeal of Bro. the Rev. A. Wallace, of Newport, Isle of Wight, against the decision of the Prov. G.M. of the Isle of Wight, in the matter of a complaint laid before him on the 19th February, 1863.

12. A letter from the D.G. Sec. of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, with extracts from letters written by the Prov. G. Sec. of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Victoria, under the Irish Constitution, and a resolution passed by the Grand Lodge of Ireland thereon.

#### NOTICES OF MOTIONS.

By Bro. J. Rankin Stebbing, P.M. No. 152:—

“That a committee of thirteen members of Grand Lodge be appointed to consider the constitution, duties, and powers of the Committee or Lodge of Benevolence, and to report if any and what improvement can be made therein, with power to call for all books, papers, and documents connected with the said Committee or Lodge and its duties.”

By Bro. John Udall, P.G.D.:—

“That the sum of fifty pounds be given from the Fund of General Purposes to supply the inmates of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows with coals, and that the same be placed in the hands of the Secretary.”

By Bro. J. Rankin Stebbing, P.M. 152:—

"That Bro. George Percy Moss' illness continuing, and having assumed a permanent character, a further and final sum of fifty guineas be paid over to Mrs. Moss, his wife, to enable her to complete her arrangements for supporting herself and family."

By Bro. Henry Bradley, W.M. 1235:—

"That an Address of Congratulation be presented to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, on the auspicious occasion of the marriage of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales."

### METROPOLITAN.

PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM LODGE (No. 1055).—A meeting of the above lodge took place at Bro. Stiles's, the Knights of St. John, St. John's Wood, on Wednesday last. The business consisted of certain passings, raisings, and the initiation of three gentlemen into the Order by Bro. Stapylton, W.M., who did his duty admirably. Amongst the P.M.'s present were Bros. Caulcher, Hardy, Frazer, Robinson, T. A. Adams, W. Watson, and Stacey, Secretary. The election for W.M. resulted in the unanimous choice of Bro. Sims, the S.W. After the lodge had been closed, the brethren partook of a banquet both elegant and profuse, such as Bro. Stiles is known to provide. The Visitors were—Bros. George States, W.M. No. 202; Le Gassick, P.M. 25; M. Cooke, Sec. 25; H. Marshall, 211; and Mynn, P.M. of a colonial lodge. Bros. G. States and T. A. Adams returned thanks for the P.M.'s; the health of the W.M. was neatly proposed by Bro. Robinson, the immediate P.M.; the Initiates were duly remembered. The Past Masters, the Officers, and one or two other toasts were heartily given and as heartily responded to. The meeting—one of good temper, good cheer, and good company—separated at a reasonable hour.

### PROVINCIAL.

#### BERKS AND BUCKS.

AYLESBURY.—*Buckingham Lodge*, (No 861).—The anniversary meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 19th inst., at the White Hart Hotel, Aylesbury, when there were present, Bros. John Williams, W.M., Prov. G. Dir., Cers.; Thomas Horwood, P.M., Prov. G. Reg.; Willoughby J. Beauchamp, S.W.; Rev. G. J. Grace, P.M., J.W.; George States, P.M., S.D.; Dr. Lovell, J.D.; Rev. J. Crane Wharton, P.M., Prov. G. Chap.; Charles Hooper, Sec., and others. Among the visitors were Bros. Rev. Robert J. Simpson, P.M., (1073); P. Prov. G.S.W. Durham; Captain Farrar, S.W. 1073, P.G.S.D.; J. M. Shugar, P.M., 712, and W.M. 1250, P. Prov. G.S.W., Herts; Rev. J. Cooper Farmborough, P.M., 861, and P. Prov. G. Chap. The lodge was opened in ancient and solemn form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, when, there being no other business before the lodge, Bro. George States, Prov. G. St. B., took the chair and proceeded to install Bro. Willoughby Beauchamp into the chair of K.S., a ceremony which he performed in a very able manner. The brethren below the chair were then admitted and saluted the W.M. according to ancient custom, after which the W.M. proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bro. T. Williams, P.M., and Sec.; H. A. P. Cooper, S.W.; Dr. Lovell, J.W.; Rev. O. J. Grace, Chap.; George States, S.D.; Charles Beauchamp, J.D.; G. Cartwright, I.G.; J. Wall, Tyler. The lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned to a most elegant banquet, prepared in Bro. Fowler's best style. The usual loyal and masonic toasts were given, and from the tenor of the speeches there seemed a general desire that as masonry was on the increase in this county, and there appeared every probability of a new lodge being established at Wycombe, that a movement should be made in favour of severing the two counties and making Bucks an independent province. The Tylers' toast brought this very happy evening to a close, and the brethren separated, hoping that the Buckingham Lodge would have to record many such agreeable meetings.

#### CHANNEL ISLES.

JERSEY.—*Lodge Césarée* (No. 860).—An emergency meeting was held on Thursday, May 14th. The lodge was opened in the first degree at 7 p.m., by Bro. John Darrell, W.M., assisted by his Wardens, Bros. Philip and Clement Le Sueur. Bros. Philip Le Sueur, jun., and Tour De La Ware, were passed to the second degree by the W.M., the explanation of the tracing-

board being given by Bro. Schmitt, P.M. It was determined to change the evening previously fixed for the installation and annual banquet to Thursday May 28th, to prevent the interference with the arrangements of another lodge, that being the usual day for La Césarée to hold its ordinary monthly meeting. The lodge was closed at half-past eight, and nearly forty brethren remained to partake of refreshment.

#### CUMBERLAND.

WORKINGTON.—*Resuscitation of the "Sun and Sector Lodge."*—Wednesday, the 20th May, will henceforth be a red-letter day in local Masonic annals as the date of the resuscitation, under a new warrant, No. 1264, of the old lodge of free and accepted Masons known as the "Sun and Sector." The history of this body is somewhat singular. Half a century ago it flourished with great vigour. The old books go as far back as A.D. 1771; and from that time until about 1820, we find in them the names of nearly all the old families in Workington, amongst them being the Curwens, the Graysons, the Thompsons, the Peats, the Woods, the Browns, the Russells, the Johnstons, the Bones, and about 120 more, who composed the brotherhood, and once a year used to meet to arrange matters connected with the lodge. It is now 41 years since the lodge ceased to exist. We believe two of the original members are still alive, and they never, during all that time, expected to see the lodge re-established. Since it last closed, the box has been kept at the Green Dragon Hotel, and was opened a few weeks ago, when the very beautiful regalia of plated silver, &c., was found in perfect preservation. The ceremony of re-opening the lodge took place at four o'clock, p.m., by the D. Prov. G.M., Dr. Greaves, of Penrith, assisted by Bros. Teather of Keswick, and Fletcher and Spencer of Whitehaven. The new officers were then duly appointed and installed, viz., Bro. W. Gibson, of Whitehaven, W.M., Bro. Martin, of Workington, S.W., and Bro. Fleming, of Workington, J.W. It is to the untiring efforts of the two latter gentlemen, Bros. Martin and Fleming, that the lodge has been so fortunately restored, and the brethren owe them a deep debt of gratitude for the great exertions they made in bringing this object to a climax. Nineteen gentlemen were proposed and seconded for admission as members next month. The business of the lodge having been transacted, the brethren retired to dinner, which was provided by Mr. Bowman, and was of that epicurean quality for which the "Green Dragon" is, and long has been, famous. About forty sat down to the sumptuous repast. The W.M., Bro. Gibson, occupied the chair, and discharged its duties with great ability; and the S.W., Bro. Martin, the vice-chair. Among the toasts proposed during the evening were the following:—The health of Bro. Dykes, Prov. G.M., who was, to the regret of all present, absent from illness; the health of Bro. Greaves, D. Prov. G.M.; and of the three P. Prov. G.S.W.'s, Bros. Teather, Spencer, and Fletcher. To Bros. Cook, Cooper, Nicholson, Thompson, M.D., Lindsay, and Tallentire, the brethren were indebted for very materially contributing to the pleasure of the evening, by the beautiful Masonic selections, in the way of song, they introduced between the toasts. At a quarter to 10 o'clock the meeting broke up, after heartily toasting success to the "Sun and Sector Lodge." Among those present were—Bros. W. T. Greaves, D. Prov. G.M.; W. B. Gibson, P.M.; Capt. Jos. Fletcher, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W., &c.; P. Quin, P.M.; J. Davis, P.M.; J. Teather, P.M., K.T.E.; Capt. H. Spencer, W.M., P. Prov. J.W., &c.; Wm. Pearson, P.M.; Joseph Nicholson, P.M., P. Prov. J.G.W., &c.; W. W. Wood, P. Prov. G.D.P.M.; Dr. J. Thompson, Prov. G.T.; W. Cowie, P.M.; John Ritson, S.W.; C. Hodgkin, S.W.; James Cowper, Prov. G.O.; H. Fisher, S.W.; H. Lindsay, S.W.; T. Tallentire, S.D.; J. W. Kenworth, S.W.; C. Morton, J.W.; J. Shade, J.W.; J. Anderson, J.W.; H. Cook, I.G.; John Wilson, William Shilton, Lieut. Hodgetts, John Collins, H. Fleming, J.W.; G. Rule, J. Faulder, E. Thwaites, J. Martin, S.W.; Foster Penrice, H. Bragg, T. Cullum, T. Nicholson, W. Banks, H. Braithwaite, and A. N. Blakey.

#### LANCASHIRE (WEST).

WARRINGTON.—*Lodge of Lights* (No. 178).—The regular monthly meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Monday last, at the Masonic Rooms, Lankey-street. The W.M. Bro. H. B. White presided, and was ably assisted by Bros. Captain Knight, S.W.; John Bowes, J.W.; Dr. Spinks, S.D.; Charles Pettitt, J.D., and other brethren. The lodge having been opened in solemn form, according to ancient custom, and the minutes confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. Robert Stevenson, a candidate for the mysteries and privileges of Masonry.

which proved to be unanimously in his favour. Mr. Stevenson was then duly and in a most impressive manner initiated by the W.M., the charge being delivered by the J.W., Bro. John Bowes. A Grand Lodge Certificate was delivered to Bro. Blackburn. The W.M. announced the receipt of a Grand Lodge summons. Nothing further being proposed for the good of Masonry in general, or the Lodge of Lights in particular, the lodge was duly closed at 8-30, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment.

## SURREY.

**CROYDON.**—*Concord Lodge of Instruction (No. 680).*—The success which has attended this lodge has been so great that since the 13th March, the meetings have taken place weekly instead of fortnightly, as heretofore—and will continue to meet every Friday evening, at 7-30 p.m., at Bro. Clemishaw's Railway Hotel, Addiscombe-road, Croydon, and is deserving of the support of the neighbouring brethren. We have much pleasure in making this announcement, as the exertions of the Hon. Sec., and one or two of the brethren connected with it have been indefatigable to bring about this happy result.

**REIGATE.**—*Surrey Lodge (603).*—The members of this lodge held their quarterly meeting on Saturday, the 16th inst., at the new public hall, under the presidency of Bro. Lees, W.M., who was assisted by his officers, Bro. Carruthers, S.W.; C. J. Smith, J.W.; Lanson, S.D.; Harris, J.D.; Sargent, I.G.; I. Llewellyn Evans, President of the Board of General Purposes, P.M.; and others. The Visitors were Bro. Furley, 1011, and R. A. W. Ker. The lodge having been opened in due form, Bro. Horne, of Horsham, Sussex, was elected a joining member. A ballot having been taken for Mr. Edward Thurnam, of Reigate, he was duly initiated into Freemasonry. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Goldsmith was passed to the degree of a F.C., and Bro. Lintott raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The lodge was then resumed in the first degree, and the W.M. delivered to the initiate, Bro. Thurnam, in an impressive manner, the charge to an Entered Apprentice, and in reporting these proceedings we must notice the excellent working of the W.M. in the ceremonies of the three degrees, for, although but a young Mason, he went through the different degrees with a correctness and precision, at the same time in a forcible manner, also bring out in their fullest character the several beauties of the system which inform the understanding and improve the heart. A ballot was also taken for Treasurer, when Bro. Peter Martin, who for many seasons had so ably filled that office, requested to retire, and Bro. Morrison was elected in his place. Some routine business was then gone through, and the lodge was closed until the banquet, when the usual Masonic toasts were given, that of the W.M. being received with much enthusiasm, and the health of the newly initiated brother was given in the usual Masonic manner, being a pleasant and profitable evening spent.

## WARWICKSHIRE.

## CONSECRATION OF THE BEDFORD LODGE (NO. 1227) OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

On Wednesday, May 20th, this lodge, consisting of about forty members, was consecrated at the Masonic Rooms, New Hall-street, Birmingham, in the presence of the R.W. Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M.; W. Bro. Chas. W. Elkington, Prov. G.S.B., D. Prov. G.M.; and the following amongst nearly one hundred brethren:—Bros. Revs. W. K. B. Bedford, Prov. G. Chap.; H. Falkner and Jos. Ray, G. Chaps.; Rev. E. H. Kittoe, Rev. W. H. Bramwell Smith, Captain Clark, Prov. G.M. Victoria; Jas. Stimpson, G.O.; Rev. J. H. Layton, Dr. Burton, D. Prov. G.M. Staffordshire; Colonel Mason, Captain Briggs, Captain Hebbert, Sir John Ratcliff, *Knight*; J. C. Cohen, Lewis Cohen, Machin, E. A. Lingard, J. H. Bedford, Hudson, Empson, G. Wyman, Purral, C. Read, Astley, Weiss, G. Jones, Thos. Jainer, John Beresford, W.M. (Bedford, 1227); F. D. Durham, S.W.; E. Davies, J.W.; Ed. Worrall, Sec.; and Petty, Wright, Hine, and Marsh, from Lancashire, &c.

The brethren having assembled in an adjoining room, a procession was formed, and moved into the hall, the organ pealing forth its solemn music. The W. Bro. Chas. W. Elkington, P.G.S.B., D. Prov. G.M., presided, and performed the consecration service, assisted by the Rev. Jos. Ray and H. Falkner, Prov. G. Chaps.; Bro. Captain Briggs acting as D.C. The W. Bro. W. K. B. Bedford delivered the oration, Bros. Stockley and Baker presided at the organ, and conducted the excellent Masonic choir. A more beautiful ceremony it would be impossible to witness, and the order and admirable arrangement

of the proceedings were the theme of universal praise. Upon the conclusion of the service, Bro. Beresford, W.M., initiated a candidate into the Order, the work being excellently done.

## THE BANQUET.

At its conclusion the brethren, to the number of 100, adjourned to the Royal Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet had been prepared by command of the brethren of the Bedford Lodge. The W.M., Bro. Lord Beresford, presided, supported on his right by the Rt. Hon. Bro. Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M., W. Bros. Chas. W. Elkington, Rev. Faulkner H. Kittoe, &c. Upon the *entree of dessert the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk with Masonic honours, after which the "Health of Lord Leigh" was proposed from the chair, and enthusiastically responded to.*

Lord LEIGH, in reply, rose and said,—Brethren, it has given me sincere pleasure to have been present this day at the Consecration of the Bedford Lodge, and to have watched the highly satisfactory manner in which the Masonic duties therewith connected have been performed (cheers). I attribute that in no small measure to the voluntary principle upon which all the institutions of our brotherhood are founded. Distinguished as we are from the outer world by mysteries and signs, it is pleasing to know that these are never communicated, excepting to those who earnestly seek them of their own free will and accord (cheers). Thereby I believe a zeal and devotedness to Masonry has been created and fostered among the fraternity which has borne its legitimate fruit in the perfection of our discipline, the enlargement of our borders, and the exercising ourselves in works of charity which have gained for our Order, a distinctive renown in this country of charitable institutions. Even in your own town of Birmingham I should not wish to select a better proof of the voluntary principle than the singular success which has attended its working in connection with that freest of all institutions, Freemasonry. Without adverting to the large sums of money which you have annually assisted me in transferring to Grand Lodge for the benefit of the aged and infirm, and the orphans of deceased Masons, I may instance the singular readiness with which the great proportion of you voluntarily undertake and efficiently discharge the most arduous duties of the Craft, duties in which the will constitutes the only true and effective weapon of success. When I consider that the numerous lodges over which I have the honour to preside are composed for the chief part of brethren deeply immersed in professional and commercial pursuits, to whom time is of the highest value, I have cause to wonder at their regularity and efficiency in lodge, and have reason to congratulate myself upon the existence of that voluntary principle which gives play to the better feelings of human nature, and encourages a generous spirit of emulation among the several lodges and their individual members. Its fruits are conspicuous even to the uninitiated. Many of the most influential and respected of your fellow-citizens have sought admission to the privileges and responsibilities of our brotherhood, and the number of these is continually increasing. In witness of this I have only to remind you of the large number of lodges I have already consecrated in Birmingham during the short period that I have presided over you, and the very considerable number of brethren which these and the more ancient lodges enroll. But it is to the voluntary principle, as a weapon of defence as well as an instrument for fostering the moral and social virtues, that I would also allude; and I am induced the more directly to refer to it upon this occasion, because my attention has so lately been fixed upon scenes in which its direct antagonistic, the principle of force, is sedulously cultivated. Pleased, indeed, I am to know that no man in England depends for the security of his hearth and the independence of his home upon the forced services of an unwilling defender, but that whoever handles the sword in our native land, does so of his own free will and accord. (Cheers) In this the military power of England contrasts favourably with that of other nations. If there is one feeling more than another which is calculated to weld the armies of England into one, and animate them with a common *esprit de corps*, it is the consciousness which every enrolled soldier possesses, whether in the regular army, the militia, or the Volunteers, that his services have been freely and voluntarily offered. No conscription has been used, no intimidation attempted. It is not so in other countries. During my recent sojourn in France it was my melancholy lot to witness a most distressing instance of the manner in which the conscription works in that country. A poor widow, having an only son, upon whose exertions she was dependent for her livelihood, beheld him suddenly snatched from her by the merciless arm of the law, and ordered to Algeria. In the agony of her mind she

sought counsel from a stranger and a foreigner. I interested myself in her case, made representations to those in authority, but I regret to say that those representations elicited the fact that a substitute could not probably be obtained for less than one hundred pounds—so unpopular has a service become whose ranks are filled by means of a forced conscription. I say, then, that we may congratulate ourselves that ours is a voluntary service, and I believe it is to this we may, in some measure, ascribe the bravery of our troops, their admirable strength and solidity in action, their patience and endurance in the camp and field. (Cheers.) Traces of its advantages I discover also in those auxiliary troops, by many of the officers of a battalion of which I am now surrounded. I do not say it in flattery, but in corroboration of that voluntary principle which I have been advocating—that the field evolutions of the Rifle battalion of this town have been pronounced by competent judges equal to those of many a line regiment. Nor has this satisfactory opinion been expressed of the rank and file alone. I have frequently been asked by those well acquainted with the duties of a commanding officer, whether the gallant officer who commands has not seen service in the regular army? but it is my pride to reply—a pride founded upon my consciousness of the success of the voluntary principle—that his service has been confined to the Yeomanry and Volunteers. There is, after all, this advantage in voluntary over forced services. In the former, the will is active and enterprising; in the latter, it is at least passive, if not altogether inert; and when the disposition to exertion is forced by a principle acting from without, the results must always be inferior to those obtained by a principle acting from within. Men raised by conscription may be drilled into mere machines of war, and fitted to execute important movements in compact masses; but that sterling quality of a soldier—a love of arms—which prompts him to strive for excellency in every department of his profession, can only be expected from him who voluntarily devotes himself to the service. I have great pleasure in proposing as a toast, “Success to the Voluntary Armies of England.” (Cheers and applause.)

Captain CLARK said: Worshipful Master, my lord, and brethren, I deem it an especial cause for satisfaction that you have thought fit to unite the armies of England in one upon this occasion; the more so because, springing from the same stock and animated by the same sentiment, it must ever be a happiness to the people of England to know that the profession of arms does not separate the soldier from the citizen, but that the soldier carries into the camp and battle-field a heart which continues to beat in unison with those of his native village or town, and with those of his own kindred and his earliest and best friends—(cheers)—and it is doubtless this spirit of patriotism which leads the regular army of England to welcome as brothers in arms those auxiliary troops which, under the name of the Rifle Volunteers, are submitting themselves to military discipline, and acquiring the skill and efficiency of professional soldiers. I cannot sufficiently express the deep interest which my comrades take in the strength and efficiency of their military supports, and especially of those to whom in time of war they must look to assist and supplement them in the field. Knit together by the common feelings of loyalty and patriotism, and united by the bonds of the warmest private friendship and public esteem, the regular army and the Volunteers will, I trust, ever preserve towards each other that cordiality and warmth of good feeling which has from the first so pleasantly cemented them together. (Cheers.)

Colonel MASON, on behalf of the Volunteers, said: It is highly gratifying to me, and I am sure it is also to those gallant comrades by whom I am surrounded, to be assured from the lips of the Lord-Lieutenant that he appreciates our services. (Hear, hear.) I hope, however, that his lordship will permit me to express how deeply sensible I am that the compliments which he has thought fit to pass in such flattering terms upon myself should be justly shared by every soldier who belongs to the battalion. (Cheers.) It is by division of labour that important results are now generally obtained; and however diligent and painstaking a commanding officer may be, his exertions will never produce satisfactory results unless warmly seconded by the men under his command. (Cheers.) It is my happiness to know that those with whom I am associated heartily share with me in my anxieties for the welfare and military efficiency of the Birmingham battalion, and to the officers, commissioned and non-commissioned, I feel bound to express my grateful thanks for the steady and effective aid which they have always given me in the discipline and management of the corps. I

believe that the one great feeling which urges us forward in the path of voluntary duty which we have marked out for ourselves, and which often sustains us under difficulties and labours of which the public can only form but a very imperfect estimate, is the persuasion that we are adding to the strength and security of the nation, and contributing in a degree to that calm and unruffled aspect of freedom and independence with which Great Britain can afford to look upon the strife and commotion which desolate other countries. (Cheers.) I believe that the great body of our fellow-citizens appreciate the national work which we are thus with warm heart and ready hand accomplishing, and nothing is dearer to us—whether, when slowly mastering the duties of the profession, the labours of which we have voluntarily undertaken, or submitting the progress we have made to the keen eye of military criticism—than to know that the great body of our fellow-countrymen are looking on and applauding our efforts. (Cheers.) I thank you most heartily in the name of the Volunteers of England. (Cheers and applause.)

The toast of “The W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Elkington, Prov. G.S.B.,” was then proposed from the chair.

Bro. ELKINGTON, in a genial vein of humour, proceeded in reply to say—Much has been said this night, both from my Lord Leigh and others, respecting the Volunteers, and the value of the voluntary principle. Sir, I do not deny its efficacy, but I can scarcely allow in this, a Masonic assembly, the Volunteers to carry off the palm, for I hold that every Mason is distinguished by that honourable sentiment which has been so much and worthily lauded on the present occasion. (Cheers.) Volunteers we are in the best and highest sense of the word; for are not the principles of our Order, and the very pith of our constitution, the maintenance of rectitude and the encouragement of acts of love and charity between man and man, between brother and brother? Brethren, amid the incoherent masses of mankind, we, the Masons not of England merely, but of the world come forward as Volunteers acting with a width, a minuteness an intricate completeness of organisation not inferior to that of the Rifle Volunteers, and with a like honourable object. For is not the great object and end of Masonry to sow peace in this world, to establish bonds of indissoluble friendship between its various members wherever dispersed over land and wates, and thus avert the desolating ravages of war, and the necessity of those voluntary associations for defence to which at present we owe the quiet and security of our own homes? Is not this the great mission of our Order—to form the world into a lodge, into a voluntary association for the promotion of peace and goodwill, and the strengthening and cementing each other with every moral and social virtue? (Cheers.) My lord, I am happy to congratulate you, as the Grand Master of this province, upon the abundant fruits which our mission has already matured and ripened. Selecting that fruit which, because the most public is also the most open to the observation of the world, I am happy to congratulate you that at the three Masonic festivals held within the last few weeks, eleven thousand pounds were cheerfully dedicated and laid upon the altar of charity. (Cheers.) It is here, my lord, that the achievements of our voluntary confederation become patent to the great body of the uninitiated, and cast a halo around the mysteries of our Order which commands for us the friendship and support of the purest minded and most noble and exalted of mortals. My lord, I congratulate you on the serried phalanx of Volunteers by whom you are surrounded, and never will you appear to greater dignity and advantage to the common weal; never will your services be more highly esteemed and rewarded with the inward consciousness of a noble, self-denying rectitude, than when returning from the field where, in right of your exalted rank, you have headed the Volunteer forces of Warwickshire, you deign to appear as a brother in their great army of peace, and preside at a meeting for brotherly relief and charity as the Grand Master of the Freemasons of Warwickshire. (Cheers and applause.)

Lord LEIGH then proposed “The Health of the Worshipful Master of the Bedford Lodge,” and paid a high compliment to the manner in which the lodge was administered. The W.M. replied, and, after a number of other toasts, the company separated.

During the course of the evening a number of excellent glees and madrigals were sung by Bros. Baker, Glydon, Beresford, Beaumont, Stockley, and Bickley.

The dinner, which was worthy the occasion, was served by Bro. Nock.



## ROYAL ARCH.

## METROPOLITAN.

ST. JAMES'S UNION CHAPTER (No. 211).—A convocation of this chapter took place at the Freemason's Tavern on Tuesday, the 26th inst. The companions present were—Woodstock, M.E.Z.; John Gurton, H.; Jackson, J.; Matthew Cooke, E.; J. R. Newall, N.; T. W. Sedgwick, P. Soj.; Beaty, 1st. Asst.; Frances, 2nd Asst.; Simpson, Treas.; W. Watson, P.Z.; and H. Sharman. The visitors were Comps. Garner, P.Z., Mount Sinai, 19; Cockburn, Lily Chapter, 1122; and Joseph Taylor, J., Mount Sinai, 19. Bro. Sharman was exalted to the sublime degree of a Royal Arch Mason. Companion John Gurton was installed 1st Principal, Jackson 2nd, and Newall 3rd; Comp. Simpson was re-invested E.; Sedgwick, N.; Beaty, P. Soj.; Frances, 1st Asst.; Robinson, 2nd Asst.; and Crawley, Janitor. The report of the audit committee was received and adopted, and after some propositions by the M.E.Z. the chapter was closed, and the companions proceeded to the banquet. The usual toasts were given and responded to. A Past Principal's jewel was presented to Companion Woodstock, and the chapter, for the second time, being presided over by Comp. John Gurton, is likely to flourish more than ever, he having its welfare strongly at heart, and being so universally esteemed, that it is believed there will be a great accession of numerical strength during his second tenure of office.

## KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

## NORFOLK.

NORWICH.—*Cabbell Encampment* (No. 1109).—A convocation of this encampment was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday, May 21st, the Hon. Major Walpole, E.C., on the throne, Sir Knights George E. Simpson, Prelate; H. P. L'Estrange, 1st Capt.; A. F. Morgan, 2nd Capt.; J. Marshall, Almoner; D. Penrice, Expert; Henry Underwood, Standard Bearer; G. W. Minns, Herald; H. J. Mason, Capt. of Lines, and other Sir Knights being present. The encampment was opened at six o'clock p.m., in ancient form. The minutes of the previous encampment being read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for companions J. H. Warnes, Rev. F. S. Hodgson, P.G.C., and G. L. Coleman, all of Cabbell Chapter (No. 1109.) The ballot proving unanimous they were introduced in due form, and duly installed Sir Knights of the exalted order of Masonic Knights Templar. The ceremony was performed by the eminent Commander; at the conclusion the Sir Knights expressed the pleasure it gave them at witnessing the masterly manner in which the ceremony was performed; their being no other business the encampment was closed in solemn prayer. At 8 o'clock the Sir Knights of this encampment, Principals and companions of the Cabbell Royal Arch chapter, Masters and brethren of the various lodges, upwards of seventy in number, met in the spacious and handsome ball room of the hall to supper, to which the Hon. Major Walpole had especially been invited; the room was decorated with the standards and banners of the different degrees of the Order. Sir Knight George E. Simpson, Prelate and W.M. of Lodge of Sincerity (No. 1245), took the chair. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, the chairman called on the brethren to charge their glasses as he was now about to propose "The Health of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master of Norfolk, B. B. Cabbell," which was drunk with great enthusiasm. The chairman in proposing the next toast said the Sir Knights and brethren were honoured this evening, at the festive board, with the presence of their Eminent Commander and W.M. of Union Lodge (No. 60), he, with great pleasure, proposed "The Health of the Hon. Major Walpole," and many thanks to him for the great exertions he had made in assisting to establish, in Norwich, what had been lost to it for upwards of thirty years, a Knights Templar Encampment. He was also the present W.M. of Union Lodge (No. 60); to him they were much indebted, not only for the excellent manner in which he discharged his duties as Eminent Commander and W.M., but for his cheerfulness and kindly greeting to all. The toast was received with immense applause, and after a song by Bro. Baldry the chairman and brethren rose and gave the Masonic honours in hearty style. The Hon. Major Walpole, in reply, made an eloquent speech, which was listened to with the greatest pleasure and attention. After the health of the W.M. and brethren of the various lodges had been given, the brethren retired highly gratified, having spent a social evening in the true spirit of Masonry.

## MARK MASONRY.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

## TEWKESBURY—CONSECRATION OF THE ABBEY LODGE (No. 59.) AND INSTALLATION OF W.M.

It has long been contemplated by Bro. E. S. Cossens, Past G. Steward, Prov. G. Reg. of Berks and Bucks, P.M. 27, &c., to erect another Masonic Pillar in the ancient borough of Tewkesbury, in the province of Gloucester, encouraged by the success which attended his efforts as the founder of St. George's Lodge (No. 1202). After due consideration, Friday, the 22nd inst., was fixed for the auspicious event, to take place at the Swan Hotel.

The W. Bro. Frederick Binckes, Grand Secretary, who had been specially appointed, attended to perform the several ceremonies, supported by Bros. the Rev. George Roberts, Prov. G.C. Monmouth; W. S. Wallace, J.G.D., W.M. 10, &c.; Alexander Shirer, P.M. 10; T. W. Swinburne, 10; Edward Hale, 10; W. Platt, J.W. 8; J. Martin, 10; A. Jack, 10; and Bro. R. Wiggins, 10, as Janitor, with several other visitors. The name of the lodge has been aptly selected and fitly chosen from the associations of the Abbey of Tewkesbury in the locality. The proceedings commenced, as advertised, at 2 o'clock, Bro. Binckes kindly presiding in all the ceremonies of the day, during which, with the assistance of Bros. T. W. Swinburne, as S.W.; Alex. Shirer, as J.W.; Jack, M.O.; Wallace, S.O.; Platt, J.O.; Cossens, S.D., Reg. and I.G., he advanced to this honourable and time honoured degree the following brethren, Bros. C. C. Whitney Griffiths, P.M. 349, K.T. 18<sup>o</sup>; Alfred Powell, P.M. 349, K.T. 18<sup>o</sup>; Jabez Jones, P.M. 772; John Smith, 349; Rev. Charles Allen, 1202; Rev. J. C. Hereford; E. G. Stone, P. Prov. G.S.W. Hereford, 1202; R. J. Brookes, 1202; H. L. Grove, 1202; S. H. Hayward, 1202, P.S.W. 742; W. Godsall, D.C. 1202, 1104; W. Trotman, S. 1202, and John Livesey, 1202, leaving ten other candidates for the next meeting of the lodge. The duties of the several officers were amply performed, the ceremony of the degree creating intense delight in the willing candidates.

The arrangements for the consecration were upon an extensive scale. The lodge room prepared in the most approved manner, the furniture being chiefly made by Bro. Platt, of London, who has been appointed as the costumier of the lodge.

The consecration plate was lent by a V.W. and much respected brother of the adjoining province, the wine and oil having been procured from Italy, and the incense, used from His Holiness's Chapel at Rome.

Bro. the Rev. George Roberts, perfumed the lodge in the accustomed manner. The musical arrangements were conducted by Bro. Jabez Jones. The emblems of consecration were borne, and the lodge sprinkled by Bros. W. S. Wallace, Alexander Shirer and E. S. Cossens; the chanting service was general and full. The new tracing board, presented by Bro. the Rev. Charles Allen, Prov. G.C. Hereford, R.A. 141, K.T. &c., was exhibited, the lodge room presenting a scene of unanticipated lustre.

The crowning scene was the installation of Bro. E. S. Cossens as the W. Master, which ceremony was most efficiently performed by the W. Bro. F. Binckes, assisted by Bros. W. S. Wallace, and Alexander Shirer. The charges were delightfully rendered by the Installing Master, the salutations and greetings were given and received in the accustomed manner and the W. Master was prepared to make the following appointments: Bro. T. W. Swinburne, S.W.; Alexander Shirer, J.W.; Bro. Rev. Charles Allen, Chaplain; Bro. C. C. W. Griffiths, M.O.; A. Powell, S.W.; Bro. J. D. Pegg, J.O.; Bros. Jabez Jones and S. H. Hayward, Organists; Bro. Godsall, D.C.; Bro. J. Smith, Janitor; leaving other offices for future appointments. The brethren retired at the appointed time to a very excellent banquet, prepared by Bro. Trotman, the time being so arranged that the brethren from Cheltenham, Gloucester, and Worcester could return home that evening. Loyalty, affection, and grateful recollections of those under whom Mark Masters serve were fully observed and responded to. The addresses, particularly those of the W. Bro. Binckes, the Rev. J. W. Roberts, and the W.M. were very gratifying to the brethren that crowded the festive board, until the time for departure brought the ceremonies to a consummation.

Bro. F. Binckes is so highly esteemed in this, the province of his birth, that the W.M. No. 10, invited him to a dinner, given in his honour, on the following evening, in the banquetting-room of the Masonic Hall at Cheltenham.

### Obituary.

Died, at his residence at Finchley, on the 16th inst., Bro. J. C. C. Millward, Past Master of the Mauritius Lodge of Harmony (No. 1143), &c.,—a brother highly respected and esteemed.

### THE WEEK.

**THE COURT.**—Her Majesty, Prince Alfred, and the younger members of the Royal Family continue at Balmoral. The Prince and Princess of Hesse left London for Brussels and Darmstadt on Saturday. The Prince and Princess of Wales remain in London. They were present at a private view of the Dog Show on at Islington on Monday, and visited the Haymarket Theatre on Tuesday, and the Horticultural Show on Wednesday.

**IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.**—In the House of Lords on Thursday, 23rd inst., Earl Granville stated, in reply to a question of the Duke of Rutland, that the subject of the purchase of the Great Exhibition building of 1862 was under the consideration of the Government, and in so far as a state that it would be brought before Parliament. After two or three bills had been forwarded a stage, their lordships adjourned until Monday, the 1st of June.

**GENERAL HOME NEWS.**—The health of the metropolis has now sensibly improved. The number of deaths amounted to 1259, which is the lowest they have been in any week since the month of October last year. Indeed this is the first week of the present year that the mortality has fallen below 1300. Still the deaths are above the average, which during the corresponding week for the last ten years is 1219. It appears that the mortality from small-pox has not abated. The births during the week amount to 1888, the ten years give an average of 1902.—It is semi-officially announced that Lord Grey is to have the vacant Garter.—We are glad to learn that there is no ground whatever for anxiety as to the condition of Lord Clyde, whose illness is represented to have been greatly exaggerated.—A decrease of 5287 in the number of persons receiving parochial relief in the cotton districts is reported by Mr. Farnall.—It is stated that the negotiations for a commercial treaty between England and Italy are progressing most favourably, and that ere long the preliminaries may be announced as settled.—A curious case has just been decided by the House of Lords. The great Lord Clive established a charitable fund which has since borne his revered name; but the deed by which he made a large grant for this purpose provided that, in the event of the East India Company ceasing to employ ships for their commerce, and a military force in the East Indies, the money should revert to his estate, subject only to existing pensions. The Company has now neither ships nor soldiers, and Sir J. B. Walsh, as the representative of Lord Clive, claimed the fund, which represents a large sum. The Secretary of State for India opposed this claim, and the Master of the Rolls disallowed it. But the decision of the court below has been reversed by the House of Lords, and Sir J. Walsh inherits the fund, subject, of course, to the pensions granted before the passing of the act of 1858.—The House of Lords has granted Major Yelverton one month's further time for the preparation of his case. It is thought probable that the appeal against the decision of the Court of Session in favour of Mrs. Yelverton will be heard in July.—An important and highly-satisfactory combined naval and volunteer review took place on Monday at Southend; 350 marines landing under cover of the fire of five gun boats and carrying the cliffs. The Armstrong battery from Shoeburyness held the right of the volunteer position, and Captain Edenborough's

battery from Waltham Abbey the centre and the left. Vice Admiral Sir Hope Johnstone, Colonel M'Murdo, and several Russian officers of distinction were on the ground; and Colonel M'Murdo addressed the volunteers at the close.—The 29th Middlesex Rifles had a field day on Monday at Camden Park, Chisellhurst, where it will be recollected Lord Ranelagh three years ago set the fashion of trying the metal of our Volunteers. Although the 29th were not joined, as was expected, by other London corps, nevertheless the field was such a decided success as would justify its repetition at frequent opportunities.—Mr. Roebuck addressed a large open air meeting of his constituents at Sheffield on Monday, on the subject of the American war. The hon. gentleman urged that the attempt of the North to subjugate the South was perfectly hopeless; and he submitted that it was a duty which England owed to herself and to the world to recognise the independence of the Southern Confederacy. At the close of Mr. Roebuck's speech, the Rev. Mr. Hopps moved a resolution urging that the English Government should enter into communications with the other European powers with the view of securing a general recognition of the South. This proposition was met by an amendment in favour of a continuance of the present policy of non-intervention; but on a show of hands being taken, the views of Mr. Roebuck and Mr. Hopps were endorsed by "an overwhelming majority."—The Royal Agricultural Society have had a meeting in the Hanover-square Rooms, Lord Eversley, the president, in the chair. Among other matters, a favourable report was given of the progress of the preparations making for the Society's show at Worcester, which is to be held there in July, from the 21st to the 24th. The trial of implements is fixed to take place in the previous week, from the 15th to the 18th of July.—The magistrates of the county of Middlesex have held a meeting, at which, among other matters, reports were received on the state of the county prisons, which were deemed to be on the whole satisfactory. Mr. Baker moved a series of resolutions, lowering the dietary of the prisons, because, he said, the present scale was higher than was usually enjoyed by working men, and instances had been known of persons committing offences in order to be transferred from the workhouse to the prison. After some conversation this motion was agreed to. The report of a committee on the subject of granting licences to music and dancing-halls was received. The committee had delayed their report for some time, hearing a report that Government was about to take up the subject, but finding that to be a mistake, they recommended certain alterations in the mode of applying for such licences, which are to be taken into consideration on a future day.—The election of a Commissioner of Police for the City, in the room of the late Mr. Daniel Whittle Harvey, has taken place. The electors were the members of the Court of Common Council. There were twelve candidates, all of them military men. Colonel Fraser was declared to be duly elected.—A painful inquiry has been necessitated by the death of a lady of 57, who has committed suicide at Clapham, driven to distraction by poverty, made doubly distressing from having been preceded by easy circumstances. There is reason, however, to believe that intemperance partially led to the suicide.—Several persons have narrowly escaped a terrible death at Bradford. A druggist in that town appears to have purchased, in the usual way of business, a quantity of "cream of tartar," which, as events have proved, was largely impregnated with arsenic. This poisoned medicine he unwittingly retailed to his customers, and the result has been very serious in many instances. No deaths, however, have occurred, nor does it appear that a fatal issue is apprehended in the case of any of the persons who are now suffer

from the effects of the poison. This is not the first time Bradford has suffered in this way. Most of our readers will remember the "poisoned lozenge" tragedy, of which that borough was the scene a few years ago.—The floor of a corn warehouse at the Coburg Dock, Liverpool, gave way a few days ago, and fell into a beershop beneath, killing one man and seriously injuring a second.—A dreadful affair has occurred in Southwark. On Monday morning a cabinet-maker, named Ledbetter, murdered his wife and his son, a cripple of 17. He seems to have cut the throats of both while they were asleep in their rooms. It is stated that Ledbetter did not retire to rest at his usual hour on Sunday night, and it is supposed that he sat up until he thought his wife and son were sound asleep. Ledbetter has been committed for trial. He made no attempt to escape, but made a free confession of the terrible work he had done.—The body of a woman has been found at Millwall, under circumstances which lead to the suspicion that she has been murdered. Her throat was cut, and by her side a rope was found, with which it is supposed strangulation had been attempted. She was the wife of a shipwright named Brown, upon whom suspicion at first fell; but at the inquest he accounted for how he had spent his time, and the jury returned an open verdict.—An inquest has been held relative to the death of James Sully, porter at St. Luke's Workhouse, and the jury have returned a verdict of manslaughter against Henry Short.—Most Londoners must have witnessed the reckless rush of our metropolitan fire-engines towards the scene of a fire, and every time we should suppose they are filled with surprise that they reach their destination without knocking down man or horse on their route. Such an accident occurred late on Monday night. A young man was attempting to cross Fleet-street near Farringdon-street behind an omnibus, and on coming out from behind it he was knocked down by an engine which, as usual, was madly galloping to a fire. He was so severely injured that he died in the hospital.—A man named Thomas Cox has been committed for trial at Saffron Walden on a charge of assault. The offence was committed eleven years ago on one of Lord Braybrook's gamekeepers. A warrant was issued for the apprehension of the prisoner at the time, but he got out of the way, and has not been captured until now.—A painful case of accidental poisoning has taken place at Rusthall, near Tunbridge Wells. Mrs. Wood, the wife of Captain Wood, of the 29th Regiment, was staying there, and on Saturday morning asked her maid for some of Dinneford's fluid magnesia. The girl, by mistake, took the wrong bottle, and administered Burnett's disinfecting fluid. The unfortunate lady died next day. A coroner's inquest has been held on the body, and a verdict of accidental poisoning returned.

**FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.**—In Paris the leading topics of political discussion are the rumoured dissolution of the Prussian Chambers and the attitude of France and Russia with regard to the Polish question. Extensive military preparations are taking place in Paris, but it is said they are merely for the prosecution of the war in Mexico; but rumours of war with Russia are nevertheless afloat. The interest in the French elections is flagging.—The official journal of St. Petersburg has just published the notes respecting the Polish insurrection which have been addressed to the Russian cabinet by the Dutch, Danish, and Portuguese governments, together with Prince Gortchakoff's replies to them. The Russian answers are characterised by at least as much courtesy as could be expected by little Kings who undertake to lecture a great Emperor on his duties; and, indeed, it is said that even the reply to the Turkish note, notwithstanding the unspeakable mortification which such a remonstrance from the Sublime Porte must have caused to Russian

statesmen, is couched in the most polite terms.—Reports of more or less important engagements, some favourable and others disastrous to the Poles, continue to be transmitted to us from Cracow, Lemberg, and Thorn; and it is again positively affirmed that considerable bodies of insurgents have established themselves in Podolia and Volhynia. It is said, too, that the National Committee has issued a decree ordaining that on the 1st of June, there shall be a "general rising," and that "levies should be made in Poland, Lithuania, and Russia." It is said that the Polish National Committee, assigning as the reason unwillingness to give umbrage to the Austrian Cabinet, which observes a "neutral and humane attitude" towards Poland, has formally declined to accept Garibaldi's proffered services.—The session of the Italian Parliament was opened on Tuesday by a speech delivered by King Victor Emmanuel himself. In this speech he said that most of the European Powers had recognised the new kingdom of Italy, which would raise its voice among theirs in defence of the principles of liberty and nationality. He congratulated the deputies on the organisation and discipline of the Italian army, and expressed his earnest desire "that the nation may reckon with security upon the force of its own arms, and that Europe may recognise this fact." All needful measures will be taken for the maintenance of order in certain provinces; and the French Government is ready to concert military arrangements for that purpose "whenever it perceives the opportunity." The deputies are specially exhorted to attend to the national finances, as good faith requires that the Italians should impose on themselves pecuniary sacrifices. Finally, the King is confident that no one can undo the work which the Italians have done, and "it is with entire security and faith that he anticipates the hour of the accomplishment of the destinies of Italy."—The Turin journals state that the recent search made in the house of the Austrian consul at Vallona, in Albania, led to the seizure of a quantity of powder, 455 muskets, 300 pistols, and 780 poniards, all destined for an expedition of brigands into the southern provinces of Italy. The *Opinione* states positively that this expedition was concocted at Rome between General Bosco and two Albanians, one of whom has been arrested at Messina. The latter had engaged to arm 500 men and to conduct them to the Neapolitan territory. It is also stated in some of the Italian papers that Menotti Garibaldi has positively left for the purpose of lending his aid to the Polish insurgents.—The Paris journals publish a report, which men are perhaps more likely to hope than they are to believe to be true, that the King of Prussia intends to abdicate "on account of the state of his health." The Prussian Chambers are closed. On Wednesday, the King's reply to the address was despatched to the Lower Chamber, and consisted merely of a reiteration of the Ministerial claims, and a sharp lecture to the deputies for their general conduct. At a later hour of the day the deputies were summoned to the white saloon of the palace, and there Herr von Bismarck read a speech from the King, which accused the Chamber of having by its debates upon foreign politics, endeavoured to paralyse the action of the Government, and endangered the safety of the State; of having in its recent address refused all co-operation with the Government, and committed sundry other crimes and misdemeanours which rendered the close of its deliberations absolutely necessary. The Chamber was therefore informed that its session has come to an end. The King announced that his Government reserves to itself the power of determining the manner in which the unsettled financial measures are to be arranged.—The sentence on the Spanish Protestants who were lately condemned to imprisonment and hard labour has been commuted for one of

banishment.—The oldest sovereign in Europe, the King of Wurttemberg, who is in the eighty-second year of his age, and the forty-seventh of his reign, is seriously ill, and not expected to live.

AMERICA.—The *Europa*, from Boston and Halifax, brings us the announcement, made officially at Richmond, that General "Stonewall" Jackson has died from the effects of the wounds he received at Chancellorsville. General Hooker had issued an order congratulating his troops on their achievements, and declaring that they had added new laurels to their former renown. "We have," says General Hooker, "made long marches, crossed rivers, surprised the enemy in his intrenchments, and whenever we have fought we have inflicted heavier blows than those we have received. We have taken from the enemy 5000 prisoners and 15 colours, captured seven pieces of artillery, and placed *hors de combat* 18,000 of our foe's chosen troops. We have destroyed his depots filled with vast amounts of stores, damaged his communications, captured prisoners within the fortifications of his capital, and filled his country with fear and consternation. We have no other regret than that caused by the loss of our brave companions." On the other hand, the Richmond journals state that the Confederates captured 30 guns at Chancellorsville, which they consider the severest battle of the war. They estimate the loss of the Confederates at 8000 to 10,000 men, and that of the Federals at 25,000 to 30,000 men, including 8000 prisoners. It had been asserted in New York that General Hooker was about to make another advance across the Rappahannock, but he had not done so; and the latest telegrams assert that there were indications of a design of General Lee to pass the river, and attack the Federal army. The Federal Generals Keyes and Peck, with a corps of 12,000 men, had occupied West Point, on the York river; but rumours were current in New York that they had been attacked and defeated by General Longstreet. General Grant's operations in the neighbourhood of Vicksburg had been attended with more or less success. On the 1st instant, as he reports, he routed a body of 11,000 Confederates at a place four miles south of Port Gibson, and captured several guns and 500 prisoners, while the Federal loss amounted to 600 killed and wounded. According to the latest New York telegrams, he had subsequently advanced to within ten miles of Jackson, and had there defeated the Confederates once more; but strong bodies of Confederate troops having been brought from Charleston and Mobile by railway to Jackson, he afterwards fell back to wait reinforcements. On the other hand, the Southern journals asserted that "the Federals were repulsed on the 4th instant, upon Big Black river, after four hours hard fighting." A body of 1600 Federal horse, which had made an irruption into Georgia and Alabama, had been captured by the Confederate General Forrest. General Gragg's army "still confronted" General Rosencranz's troops at Mufreesbourg, and General Rosencranz had issued an order declaring that "the season for active operations has arrived." The Confederate General Van Dorn had been shot in some affray arising out of a personal quarrel. Mr. Vallandigham, a well known citizen, had been tried by a military commission at Cincinnati, and it was said that he had been sentenced to two years' imprisonment at the Tortugas for denouncing the conduct of the Government and the war, but that President Lincoln had "commuted the sentence to his being sent beyond the Federal lines." Troops had been sent to Cincinnati, as an outbreak of Mr. Vallandigham's partisans was apprehended; and the New York were denouncing his arrest, and the military tyranny in the West. General McClellan had tendered his resignation of his commission, but it had been declined by President Lincoln, who declared that the General would soon be actively employed.

By the arrival of the *Norwegian* we have news from New York to the 16th of May. It was believed that Lee, who had been, it was said, reinforced by Beauregard, intended to assume offensive operations. It turns out General Stoneman's cavalry did not in their raid destroy the railway bridges over the North Anna and South Anna rivers. The railway communication with Richmond is therefore still complete. The Federals were entrenching themselves at West Point. All was quiet there. Mosby's Confederate cavalry was engaged in a foraging expedition up the Shenandoah Valley. All the reports which have come to hand of General Grant having fought battles are stated to be untrue. He was endeavouring to cut the railroad from Jackson to Vicksburg. A rumour had reached Mufreesboro of a battle at Vicksburg, but the result was not known. Southern papers state that General Banks had been defeated and driven back at Washington, by General Smith. The report was considered to be doubtful. Gen. Meagher has resigned the command of the Irish brigade, on the ground that, as a brigade, it no longer exists. In the various fights which have taken place its numbers have, he says, been reduced below those of a regiment of infantry, and therefore to continue calling it a brigade would be a deception, and tend to bring discredit on a brave race. Ten negro regiments have been raised by the Federals at Memphis, and ten more were to be organised. The funeral of General Jackson took place at Richmond on the 12th with great demonstrations of sorrow and respect. General Lee has issued a general order on the occasion of the death of General Jackson, in which he speaks in terms of the highest admiration of the dead soldier. The Federal Government had cashiered the captain of a New York regiment for having crossed into Canada to arrest a deserter. The deserter himself was dismissed the service. Movements on the one hand in favour of peace, and on the other in favour of a more vigorous prosecution of the war are being made in New York. Mr. Vallandigham's case was attracting considerable attention, and by many of the papers the conduct of General Burnside in the matter was severely censured. It would seem that two, if not three, of the vessels recently destroyed by the Confederate cruiser *Alabama* carried cargoes which were shipped by, and belonged to, British subjects. The ships were undoubtedly owned by Americans; but, in a letter to the *Times*, Messrs. Croshaw and Co., of Fenchurch-street, ask "Does not his (Captain Semmes) unjustifiable interference with the trade of this country and her possessions demand the immediate attention of our Government?" A complaint of this kind was brought before the Foreign Office authorities some time ago, and, if we remember rightly, Lord Russell's reply was that the persons aggrieved must seek redress in the Confederate Prize Courts. With regard to one of the vessels referred to by the Messrs. Croshaw, we are informed that her cargo was "fully insured against war risk." A private letter from Pernambuco states that the *Alabama* and the *Florida*, which have been committing such havoc of late, have armed two of their prizes, which will serve as tenders.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MASONIC RITUALS.—We have received a letter from Bro. Trew W.M., of a new German lodge, established under authority of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, at Constantinople, which we regret we cannot publish, owing to allusions to certain publications of which we wish to know nothing; but we agree with him that it would be most desirable if some arrangement could be arrived at between the Grand Lodges of the world to make the mode of recognition of a brother common to all, so that a foreign brother might easily work his way into a lodge irrespective of language, which is not the case at present. We also agree with him in regretting that all the Grand Lodges of the world do not acknowledge the universality of Freemasonry, irrespective of religion.