

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1864.

THE LATE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE.

Masonry has to deplore the loss by death of one of the bright ornaments of its profession in the death of the Duke of Newcastle, Provincial Grand Master for Nottinghamshire—his Grace having departed this world, on Tuesday evening, after a long and painful illness, in the, as a rule, prime of life, having only reached his fifty-third year.

We are not politicians, and therefore we are not going to pass a panegyric on the political life of our departed brother beyond this, that we believe all his actions were distinguished by a stern sense of duty, which sometimes placed him in opposition not only to his dearest friends, but the closest of relatives.

Born to a position in which anything like labour was unnecessary, the late Duke was fired by a noble ambition to take part in the Government of his country; and how well he did so in most trying circumstances—through good report and ill report—history will pronounce, and assuredly his will not be one of the least honoured names on the rolls of the statesmen of Great Britain.

Entering the world of politics so early in life as twenty-three, we can perhaps put forward but few claims on the part of the late Duke to the consideration of the brethren as a Mason, except that he never forgot that he was initiated in his youth, and was preparing to take his fair part in the advancement of the Order, when he was prostrated by disease—a disease, we regret to have to add, from which he never recovered. Initiated at Oxford in 1832, he was appointed as Provincial Grand Master of Notts—in succession to Bro. Col. Wildman, one of the best Provincial Grand Masters that ever existed,—in 1860, the Duke's installation being attended by the M.W.G.M., the Earl of Zetland, and a large body of the brethren. Moreover, it is honourable to the late Duke and creditable to the province, that he was elevated to office at the unanimous desire of the Nottinghamshire lodges. His Grace was urbane and popular with those who knew him; and had it pleased the Great Architect of the Universe to spare his life, we doubt not that he would have become a distinguished brother amongst the rulers

of the Craft. One of his last acts, showing his wish to promote the interests of the brotherhood, was to consent to preside at the last Anniversary Festival of the Boys' School; but before that event came off our noble brother was enfeebled by disease, and never sufficiently rallied to appear again in public. England has lost a faithful servant, and Freemasonry a respected and honoured brother.

IMPERIAL PARIS.

The following letter appeared in the *Morning Post*, and will be read with interest by all who know or did know Paris:—

"Two years ago, my dear friend, when I partook of your kind hospitality, I went with you and viewed the wondrous changes of the new city of Paris, for so I must call it. I bought a map, corrected, altered, posted up, made all complete to the very month for aught I know. On coming here again, in good sooth, if it be necessary to understand its progress, another more recent plan must be studied. Here is one before me, mounted on cloth and coloured, the works in progress traced out in red, and those determined on in blue. As every merchant or lawyer in large practice in London has a new directory every year, so the visitor to Paris must have a new map every time he wishes to make himself acquainted with the progress of the grand design, the old Lutetia to the new imperial city. Our chart is a tolerably large one, and shows every street clearly, whether new or old.

"Now, let us contemplate the mute evidence of this document. It shows streets improved and widened, or new streets constructed, or some magnificent boulevards, with double rows of trees and stately palatial houses, with frequent gardens open to all classes, where the well-dressed aristocracy, the portly citizen and his buxom wife, the workman in his blouse, the bonne in her snowy cap, the gamin in his casquette, the Zouave in his little turban, the priest in his long black coat and tri-cornered hat, all sit and enjoy the *fraicheur* of the air, the musical plashing of the fountains, and the aspect of the bright sky, which just now is almost Italian. Well, unless my map tells me most atrociously what the King of Brobdignag designated as 'the thing which is not,' or what ladies are wont euphuistically to call 'taradiddles,' the mute evidence before me is this, that nearly twenty miles of such new constructions and improvements are actually complete. The red lines show some four and a half miles now actually in progress, and in the blue something like same number about to be commenced.

"Hear this, beloved compatriots! Hear this, ye who have been about ten years completing New Cannon-street; by no means seek reputation in the canon's mouth, for yet the street has no mouth to Blackfriars, where it was intended to debouch! Hear this, ye Solons of the Board of Works, who as yet have not been able to complete a little cut from the Strand to New-street, Covent-garden.

"Years ago, when the North London Railway was commenced, it was fully determined that some system of encircling the metropolis by the iron road should be carried out. This is not done yet; but here, at Paris, they have literally put a complete girdle round the city, in the shape of the ceinture railway, some twenty miles in length, which is nearly complete. The stagnant waters of the old Canal de l'Oureq, and the clumsy barges which were scarcely tolerable in so large a city—how were these evils to be got rid of, and the useful canal spared? A bold and simple method was adopted, and the whole arched over like a tunnel; and the visitor who drives down the splendid new Boulevard Prince Eugène (Beauharnais, of course—not Marlborough's friend) little thinks that huge cargoes of stone and floats of timber are gliding under his feet, while trees are growing over the heads of the sturdy blue-clad bargemen.

"Now, it will be asked, how does the land let for building? You may provide a feast, and none may come to feast; you may make streets, and none come to build. Such is not the case in Paris. Houses are springing up in every direction, as if by enchantment. The majority of the dwellings are generally considered to be constructed on too expensive a scale; that is to say, there are many thousands of the modern houses for which an apartment on the first floor will cost the tenant from 3,000fr. to 10,000fr., or even 15,000fr., per annum, exclusive of taxes (from £120 to £600 a year), and these suites of apartments are not in the most fashionable localities of Paris. The general impression is that there are too many expensive large apartments, and too few to accommodate a class of tenants whose incomes may range from £300 to £800 a year.

"I observed on going down the Boulevard Malesherbes and other important streets of modern Paris, that many first and second floors are to let, and I hear from practical people that they are not likely to be occupied unless they are to be subdivided so as to meet the purses of the majority of tenants.

"In my last letter I described the general renaissance character of the white stone buildings of Paris. This does not appear to have been materially departed from during the last two years. Perhaps there may be a little more ornament, but this is not the wild, spasmodic sensational stuff we get in London, but, if possible, is more delicate and refined than before. The entrance-doors, in particular, are perfect models of design. From the architectural dressings down to the elegant handles by which they are closed, all is subject of thought and taste. As a proof that building in Paris, as regards apartments of moderate size, is not overdone, the rents of smaller suites of rooms have actually increased in value of late. Taxes, however, are nominally lighter, for the landowner generally pays the city lighting and paving dues; but a curious impost—a mixture of the real and personal—a sort of income-tax—is levied on the tenant, called the mobilier or furniture tax, which is a sort of per-centage on the rent. One tax, however, which would be most hateful to the Londoner, really falls heavily on the tenant—the octroi on all sorts of food. The Londoner grumbles at the City dues on coals;

what would he say to such a municipal duty on his butter, his bacon, his eggs, his everything he eats or drinks? However, so it is here.

"To return; the principal streets now in progress are the Avenue de Vincennes, leading from the Place de la Bastille; the Boulevard St. Germain, from that of Sebastopol to the Halles aux Vins; the Rue Feuilleantain, by the Panthéon; the Rue Turbige, from the Halles Centrale to the Faubourg du Temple; the new streets round the Grand Opéra; the continuation of the Boulevard Magenta; the Avenue de l'Alma, leading from the Champs-Élysées across the river to the Champ de Mars; and the new Avenue du Roi de Rome.

"The projected lines are a fine system between the Observatoire and the Salpêtrière, branching from a point near the Gobelins; the new Boulevards des Amandiers, leading from that of St. Martin to the cemetery of Père la Chaise; the continuation of the Rue La Fayette to the Grand Opera; a boulevard running northward from the Etoile des Champs Élysées to the Parc Monceaux; the continuation of the Avenue de l'Empereur to the Pont de l'Alma, and a fine street from the Rue de Rennes to the Quai Conti.

"These new streets are most judiciously planned. They are all intended to radiate from, and terminate in, great central points. The system is the very reverse of that of the Quaker cities in America, where one must go round two sides of a square (pardon the apparent blunder, but no other phrase can express it) to get to the opposite corner. This system of plan has here the additional merit of affording the opportunity of laying out the centres as grandes places, etoiles, sites for columns, statues, gardens, fountains, and for a better class of houses than the main streets themselves.

"No difficulties are allowed to stand in the way of this system of direct lines. The hills about Passy, and the Batignolles, where a short time ago the Parisian cockneys used to ramble and talk of pastoral life, are fairly levelled if they stand in the way. At present, on the line of the Avenue du Roi de Rome, the road is in a cutting where the bank stands up some twenty feet above the footpath. No matter, the earth will be wanted to fill up elsewhere, and will soon disappear as if by the wand of the magician.

"Years ago Lincoln's-inn and Leicester-square were in 'the fields.' Pancras was a country walk; Highgate and Hampstead almost a journey. At the time when its author wrote the 'Voyage de Paris à St. Cloud,' he made his hero burst into vivid apostrophes when 'setting sail' in 'the briny ocean'—that is, getting into the little steamer at the Pont de la Concorde, where the river is about half the width that ours is at Battersea. 'Beloved Passy,' says the still most loved Issy, 'adorable Vaugirard, in whose pastoral groves these feet have strayed in innocence—farewell! Should I escape the treacherous ocean, and the anger of the tempest, with what feelings shall I revisit thee!' The brick and mortar king, or rather stone or mortar, has run over all the neighbourhood, and there is no more pastorality there than there is in Belgrave-square or in Goodman's-fields.

"As to the national building, the Grand Opéra is gra-

dually rising, and a wonderful building it will be—a noble temple for the lyric muse. The Scala and the San Carlo must fall into subordinate positions—for not only will the scenery and auditory be the most splendid in Europe, but every other adjunct that wealth and taste can supply will be superadded.

"To choose a graver theme we will go to Nôtre Dame. This has been restored in the truest sense of the word, under the direction of the great mediæval architect—M. Viollet le Duc. Every detail has been respected and preserved. The whitewash has been carefully got rid of, and the old stone stands forth in its pristine aspect. A very little colour has been used most sparingly on the rib of the groining, where there was authority for it, and nowhere else. This restoration of the grand historical cathedral of Paris is a great lesson to those who thrust their own notions into our old buildings, and tell you, 'Oh, I can assure you it is much prettier than before,' or who daub gaudy colours about the interior of an ancient church till, as a celebrated writer has said of a restored chancel, 'it looks as if it had fallen into the hands of a mad haberdasher.' The improvement to the building is obvious at the first glance. The visitor formerly complained that the building appeared so small. The apparent size has been much increased by the judicious removal of incongruous modernisms, and the elegance of the proportion makes full amends for the want of the vastness we meet with at Antwerp. M. Viollet le Duc has utilised the triforium by placing seats there. Why this should not be done at Westminster Abbey we cannot conceive, as in the nunneries, as they are called, at Durham. The side aisles are vaulted, and over them is a large ambulatory. All that is wanted is a suitable pavement and proper seats, and a strong, safe, protecting iron rail, and a vast accommodation might be added to most of our cathedrals. Here is an excellent example, a case entirely in point, as the lawyers would say.

"In most of the other churches works are going on, characterised by the same spirit of conservation and the same good taste; would it extended to England! We dread there to hear the word restoration; it means innovation, destruction, jobbery—to get in the favourite manufacturer of tiles, stained glass, brass gaseliers, daubers in distemper; in short, the ecclesiastical milliners and tailors who are the curse and torture of the English architect.

"I propose sending you a few more notes ere long, further describing the vast changes in this superb city."

WILLING TO BE LITTLE.—A great man is always willing to be little. While he sits on the cushion of advantages, he goes to sleep. When he is pushed, tormented, defeated, he has a chance to learn something; he has been put on his wits, on his manhood; he has gained facts, learns his ignorance; is cured of the insanity of conceit; has got moderation and real skill. The wise man always throws himself on the side his assailants. It is more to his interest than it is theirs to find his weak point. The wound cicatrises and falls off from him like a dead skin, and when they would triumph, lo! he has passed on invulnerable. As long as all that is said is against me, I feel a certain assurance of success. But as soon as honeyed words of praise are spoken for me, I feel as one that lies unprotected before his enemies.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

MOTHER KILWINNING.

A reader of your excellent MAGAZINE is desirous of knowing who the venerable lady is who so often figures in your pages under the name of Mother Kilwinning. Where does she reside? and what has she to do with Freemasonry either in several or particularly?—ANXIOUS INQUIRER.

BRO. GODFREY HIGGINS'S DAUGHTER.

Wanted to know Miss Higgins's husband's name; if the lady is living, and where?—†††.

INIGO JONES AND BEN JONSON.

Ben Jonson wrote some severe lines on Bro. Inigo Jones. What was the cause of their estrangement?—G.

MASONIC DUTIES.

As a Mason you are to cultivate brotherly love, the foundation and cape-stone, the cement and glory of this ancient fraternity, avoiding all wrangling and quarrelling, all slander and backbiting, nor permitting others to slander any honest brother, but defending his character and doing him all good offices, as far as is consistent with your honour and safety, and no farther.—R.M.

MYSTERIES.

The usages and customs of the ancients in their secret societies are called mysteries. If by mysteries we merely understand a secret religion, then, in the civilised part of the globe, there can be no mysteries, for God may be openly worshipped everywhere; but if by mysteries we understand secret ceremonies and doctrines, then we may say that there are still mysteries among Freemasons. But we do not call our secrets mysteries, and we thereby prove that with us there can be no secret religion. No one among us is a mystagogue, and our outward appearance has nothing mysterious about it.—GADICKE.

BIBLE CHRONOLOGY FOR FREEMASONS.

The late Bro. Albert G. Mackey made some valuable extracts from the Holy Scriptures, which were especially intended to elucidate certain points in Freemasonry, and, as they do not appear to be known in England, a specimen may prove acceptable.—Ex. Ex.

B.C. 2348. A.L. 1656.—The subsistence of the waters. Noah emerges from the ark, and offers his sacrifice of thanksgiving. A Masonic tradition informs us that this sacrifice was made upon the Masonic stone of foundation, which had been carried by him into the ark, and there found his anchor of hope. The dove and the rainbow date their origin as Masonic symbols from this period.

Masons now take the distinctive appellation of *Noachidæ*, or the sons of Noah. "The Noachidæ," says Dr. Oliver, "met on the summit of high hills to practice their simple devotions, which were commemorative of their preservation amidst the destruction of mankind by the universal deluge, and the promise that the world should never again be subjected to a similar judgment; of which promise the rainbow was the type or symbol." This custom then gave origin to our landmark of the highest hills and the lowest vales.

B.C. 2247. A.L. 1757.—The construction of the tower of Babel, and the consequent confusion of languages, and dispersion of mankind. This gave rise to another historical landmark, when at "*the lofty tower of Babel language was confounded and Masonry lost.*" Masonry was lost, because, by this dispersion the ancient traditions of the Noachidae were corrupted, and their ancient symbols perverted. A new or spurious Freemasonry, as it is called, began to develop itself in the idolatrous worship as well as in the philosophical mysteries of the pagans. The initiations of India, Egypt, Greece, and other gentile nations, constituted the spurious Freemasonry of the ancients, which continued until the universal language of the Order was recovered, and the purity of its symbols and traditions re-established on Mount Moriah, by the intimate connection of the two Hiram from the city of Tyre (which was the seat of the spurious Freemasonry), with Solomon, the chief of the pure Freemasonry, and the descendant of the patriarchs. And here we got another historical landmark that at "*the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite, language was restored and Masonry found.*"

B.C. 2188. A.L. 1816.—Mizraim or Menes, the son of Ham, passes over into Egypt, and establishes in that country the rites of spurious Freemasonry. "Egypt," says Oliver, "was the cradle of the Order of the East; its chiefs being priests and legislators, and its occult rites being carefully withheld from the profane." To Egypt, Europe was indebted for the institution of the mysteries, those secret assemblages which bore so near a resemblance to the system of Freemasonry in their design and organisation.

Lawrie, in his *History of Freemasonry*, thus speaks of the origin of our institution among the Egyptians:—"In Egypt, and those countries of Asia, which lie contiguous to that favoured kingdom, the arts and sciences were cultivated with success, while other nations were involved in ignorance. It is, therefore, that Freemasonry would flourish, and here only can we discover marks of its existence in the remotest ages." He supposes that the society of Masons, originally instituted only for the mutual communication of knowledge connected with the profession of its members, became an object of interest to the Egyptian priests, when the latter were about to erect those large fabrics, many of which still remain, for the celebration of their religious worship, or for the perpetuation of the memory of their kings. Hence, the priests, desirous of participating in the scientific knowledge pursued by the architects whom they employed, caused themselves to be initiated into the mysteries, and instructed in the science of the Freemasons. "Subsequently," he continues, "when the Egyptian priests had in this manner procured admission into the Society of Freemasons, they connected the mythology of their country, and their metaphysical speculations concerning the nature of God and the condition of man, with an association formed for the exclusive purpose of scientific improvement, and produced that combination of science and theology, which, in after ages, formed such a conspicuous part of the principles of Freemasonry."

B.C. 1913. A. L. 2091.—The meeting of Abraham and Melchizedek in the valley of Shaveh. Melchizedek has been enumerated by Masonic writers among the worthies of Freemasonry. He is sup-

posed to have been Shem, the son of Noah, who settled in Salem, and became its monarch and high priest. He is said to have preserved the principles of Freemasonry among his descendants, and at length to have committed them unsullied into the custody of Abraham. At all events, the meeting of the patriarch and the "priest of the most High God" is entitled to a place in our annals, since the priesthood of Melchizedek has been adopted as a symbol of the High Priesthood of Royal Arch Masonry.

B.C. 1910. A.L. 2094.—The birth of Ishmael, and fourteen years afterwards, that of Isaac. The birth, under different conditions, of these sons of Abraham, gave rise to an important landmark of Masonry. Ishmael, who was the son of a bond-woman, was cast out; while Isaac, who was the son of a free woman, was made the inheritor of the covenant. And hence, both in the true and the spurious Freemasonry, the landmark has ever since been established, that none but the *free born* can be initiated into the Order.

B.C. 1872. A.L. 2132.—Abraham is directed to sacrifice his son Isaac, and the spot selected for this trial of his faith is Mount Moriah, which afterwards became the ground-floor of the lodge. He obeyed the divine command, and "this, his ready compliance with the will of the Almighty," says Archdeacon Mant, "was the *first grand offering*, which is, to this day, commemorated among Freemasons."

B.C. 1779.—A.L. 2225.—The vision of Jacob at Luz, when he saw a ladder ascending from earth to heaven. From this vision we derive another landmark of our Order, the clouded canopy of our lodge. A tradition says, that Jacob, on this occasion, used the Masonic *stone of foundation* for his pillow. As Jacob afterwards anointed the stone and called the place "Bethel," or the house of God, the dim remembrance of this circumstance subsequently gave birth, in the spurious Freemasonry, to the *bellythia*, or consecrated stones, which are supposed to have been the origin of the idolatry of stone worship.

B.C. 1491. A.L. 2513.—The appearance of God to Moses in the burning bush. The remembrance of this event is preserved in the lectures of the higher degrees. The circumstances connected with that miraculous apparition are of great importance in the ritual of the holy Royal Arch.

In a subsequent appearance, the Tetragrammaton or *Ineffable Name*, was for the first time communicated—an important revelation, which has constituted the very groundwork and foundation of all Masonic science. "It is," says Oliver, "with great propriety that a respect for this sacred name has been introduced into every degree of Freemasonry." It is, to the Mason, a symbol of that Eternal Truth which is to be the object of his constant search throughout the progress in the whole system of esoteric Freemasonry.

B.C. 1491. A.L. 2513.—The Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt commences, and Moses, after crossing the Red Sea, erects a tabernacle, which, as an exact pattern of King Solomon's temple, of which every lodge is a representation, furnished another great landmark of our Order. For it was here, at the foot of Mount Sinai, on ground consecrated by the presence of the Grand Architect of the Universe, that Moses, with the assistance of Aholiab and

Bezaleel, opened what has been called by Masonic historians, the Holy Lodge. This Holy Lodge, opened by Moses, Aholiab, and Bezaleel, in the tabernacle, was a type of the Sacred Lodge, opened afterwards in Jerusalem by Solomon and the two Hiram; was a type, too, of the Grand and Royal Lodge, opened amid the ruins of the Temple by Joshua, Zerubbabel, and Haggai; and, lastly, was a type of all the Worshipful Lodges that have since been opened where any three of the Craft have met in the spirit of brotherly love, relief, and truth.

"The tabernacle," says Oliver, "was a type of a Mason's lodge. It was an oblong square, and with its courts and appendages, it represented the whole habitual globe. Such is also the extent of our lodges. The former was supported by pillars, and the latter is also sustained by those of Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty. They were equally situated due east and west. The sacred roll of God's revealed will and law was deposited in the ark of the covenant; the same holy record is placed in a conspicuous part of our lodges. The altar of incense was a double cube; and so is our pedestal and stone of foundation. The covering of the tabernacle was composed of three colours, as a representation of the celestial hemisphere; such, also, is the covering of a Mason's lodge. The floor of the tabernacle was so holy that the priests were forbidden to tread upon it without taking off their shoes; the floor of the lodge is holy ground." The parallel might be still further continued, and is so extended by the learned author from whom we have quoted, but enough has been written to show that in the tabernacle a Masonic Lodge will find its holy archetype. In arriving, therefore, in the course of our annals, at the time of its erection, we reach, it is evident, one of the most important landmarks of our Order—the erection and consecration of our lodge, as holy ground, to the Grand Architect of the Universe. We are, hereafter, still farther to follow these landmarks, in their various developments, to the erection of the Temple, on the threshing-floor of Ornan, the Jebusite, which will include, among other important historical events, the second and third Grand Offerings, the sacrificial obedience of Abraham, constituting, as we have already seen, the first.

ORIGIN OF THE TERM FREE-MASON.

A writer in the "Gentleman's Magazine," for 1740, just one hundred and twenty-six years ago, gives the following account of the condition of Masonry in the reign of Edward III., of England, in the year 1327. He advances, it will be perceived, a singular theory, by ascribing the origin of Freemasonry to this period, and for this it is worth reading as a curiosity. The article, besides, though marked with an unkind and prejudiced feeling to the Order, contains some interesting facts, which give it a claim to a place in our consideration. This is what he says:—

"King Edward III. took so great an affection to Windsor, the place of his birth, that he instituted the Order of the Garter there, rebuilt and enlarged the castle with the church and chapel of St. George. This was a great work and required a great many hands; and, for carrying it on, writs were directed to the sheriffs of several counties to send thither, under the penalty of £100, such a number of Masons by a day appointed. London sent forty, so did Devon,

Somerset, and several other counties; but several dying of the plague, and others deserting the service, new writs were issued to send up supplies. Yorkshire sent sixty, and other counties proportionable, as may be seen in Ashmole's History of the Order of the Garter at large, and orders were given that no one should entertain or shelter any of these runaway Masons, under pain of forfeiture of all their goods. Hereupon, the Masons entered into a combination not to work unless at higher wages. They agreed upon tokens, &c., to know one another by, and to assist one another against being impressed, and not to work unless *free*, and on their own terms. Hence, they called themselves *Freemasons*, and this combination continued during the carrying on of these buildings for several years. The wars between the two houses coming on in the next reign, the discontented herded together in the same manner, and the gentry also underhand supporting the malecontents, occasioned several acts of Parliament against the combination of Masons, and other persons under that denomination, the titles of which acts are to be seen in the printed statutes of those reigns."

It must be, however, observed, that the writer of this article candidly acknowledges that the Masons themselves denied this history of the origin of their Order, and well indeed they might.

GREEN BOUND APRON AND TROWEL.

Who wears green bound, and lined, aprons and trowels?—E. C. L. B.—[Knts. of the Sword and East.]

LEGEND OF KING SOLOMON.

What is the source of the following legend? "When the Temple at Jerusalem was completed, King Solomon, being desirous to transmit the society under the ancient restrictions, as a blessing to future ages, decreed that whenever they should assemble in their lodges, to discourse upon, and improve themselves in, the arts and sciences, and whatever else should be deemed proper topics to increase their knowledge, they should likewise instruct each other in secrecy and prudence, morality and good fellowship; and for this purpose he established certain peculiar rules and customs to be invariably observed in their conversations, that their minds might be enriched by a perfect acquaintance with, and practice of, every moral, social, and religious duty, lest, while they were so highly honoured by being employed in raising a temple to the great Jehovah, they should neglect to secure themselves a happy admittance into the celestial lodge, of which the Temple was only to be a type."—QUES.

PRESTONIAN LECTURERS.

Wanted a list of the Prestonian Lecturers since the foundation. It would add to its value if the places, and lodges, under which it was delivered were appended.—Ex. Ex.

CONTROVERSY.

When Freemasonry has been attacked in my presence, I have generally silenced all detractors by saying, that individuals have passed various opinions respecting the purity and usefulness of Freemasonry. One says it is a modern institution, and therefore of little value; another terms it frivolous, and contemptible. A third calls it anti-Christian, and warns the public to avoid it as a snare. Others affirm that it is

behind the advancing spirit of the times, and therefore obsolete; but let anyone candidly judge it by its fruits, which is the great Christian criterion by which all things ought to be tried, according to the divine fiat of its founder. (Luke vi. 44.) We feed the hungry, clothe the naked, comfort the sick, relieve the distressed, and provide for the fatherless and the widow. Is anyone hungry—we give him meat. Is anyone thirsty—we give him drink; naked—we clothe him; sick—we visit him; in prison—we come unto him with the messenger of mercy. Whatever may be the opinions of our opponents of such deeds as these, we have the satisfaction of knowing that an approving sentence will be pronounced upon them at the last day. Thinking these few remarks may be useful to others similarly situated, I send them as a Note.—QUES.

LUX—LIGHT.

Freemasonry anciently received, among other names, that of "Lux," because it is to be regarded as the doctrine of Truth, and in this sense may be said to be coeval with creation, as an emanation from the Divine Intelligence. Among the Rosicrucians, light was the knowledge of the philosopher's stone, and Mosheim says that in chemical language the cross (+) was an emblem of light, because it contains within its figure the forms of the three letters, of which LVX, or light, is composed.—†††.

ACCEPTED.

A title which, as applied to Freemasons, is equivalent to the term "initiated." It alludes to the acceptance into their society, by operative Masons, of those who were not operatives. An accepted Mason is one who has been adopted into the Order, and received the freedom of the society, as in the case with other companies in Europe. This is evident from the regulations made on St. John's Day, 1663, under the Grand Mastership of the Earl of St. Albans, where the word is repeatedly used in this sense. Thus: "No person hereafter, who shall be accepted a Freemason, shall be admitted into any lodge or assembly until he has brought a certificate of the time and place of his acceptance, from the lodge that accepted him, unto the Master of that limit or division where such lodge is kept." And again: "No person shall be made or accepted a Freemason, unless," &c.—Ex. Ex.

GRAND EAST.

S. S. would be glad of a definition of the Masonic term "Grand East."—[See Dalcho's *Oration*s.]

WHAT FREEMASONRY IS.

Our venerable and reverend Brother Dr. Oliver has told us what Freemasonry really is, and I think it would be as well if his words were repeated over and over again as a means of assisting our younger brethren to answer objectors. With these views I send the extract:—

"Freemasonry is an institution *sui generis*. No other society can be compared with it. It exists solely of itself. It eclipses all the institutions and orders in the world, which ever have been, are, or shall be, Christianity alone excepted. The numerous attempts which have been made at different periods to expose it to public derision, and destroy its existence, have all signally failed. Every attack has produced an effect contrary to the

wishes and anticipations of its projectors. The most vindictive assault has tended to enlarge the place of its tent; to stretch forth the curtains of its habitation; to lengthen its cords, and strengthen its stakes (Isai. liv. 2). Like Gray's virtuous peasant—

'It keeps the noiseless tenor of its way;'

and rejoices in the unsullied happiness of doing good."—P. A. R.—[To oblige our brother we insert his extract, acknowledging its utility. Why "P. A. R." did not say from which of Dr. Oliver's works he took it is one of the difficulties we have often to contend with. Under so voluminous an author as the reverend brother it is impossible, at once, to hit upon, much less verify, a quotation, and we hope "P. A. R."—as well as every brother who sends us a Note or Query—will add the names of the works, page, and edition, from which he quotes. Many neglect this, and none more frequently than those who are the first to require it from others.]

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR TIPPERARY BOYS.

Why are Knights Templar termed "Tipperary boys" in Ireland?—A K. T.—[Because it is a tradition of the old *Akiman Rezon*'s that "Fethard, in the county of Tipperary, was the first town in Ireland where Knights Templar were made."]

GRAND PURSUIVANT'S FEES.

It was the custom, under the Grand Lodge of Ireland, to pay the Pursuivant eight pounds per annum, half-yearly, and the Tyler one British shilling for every attendance, whether at Grand Lodge or Committees. No doubt these constitutions were copied from ours, and it would be well to know if the English Grand Pursuivants were ever paid, and if so, when the practice was discontinued. It is evident that the Pursuivant was only a kind of upper menial.—†††.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

MASONIC CHARITIES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Permit me to thank "A W.M." for the kind expression contained in the first paragraph of his letter relative to my persistence in advocating the system embodied in my former letters, and for his opinion that it "*will inevitably lead to good results.*"

With regard to my proposition of levying a contribution from each member for the Masonic Charities, I was not aware that the plan had been previously propounded by a brother of "great influence," and shall be obliged if "A W.M." will furnish me with the date and particulars. At the same time I may state that this is not the first time the idea has suggested itself to my mind, for the readers of your MAGAZINE will remember that I advocated the same cause last year. It is gratifying, however, to observe that in criticising my style of writing, and applying a somewhat inelegant couplet, "A W.M." does me the honour to observe, "the examination of the gist of my communications is not exactly time wasted."

As to the statement of "A W.M." that "no one

ever pays a fraction more than he is rated at," surely our daily experience tends to prove that the truly benevolent regard not their *pro ratâ* as the maximum of their liberality, as evidenced in all the public and private charitable institutions of every description, and of which Englishmen are justly proud, as being the spontaneous efforts of collective bodies or private individuals—this is too apparent to require special examples.

"A W.M." asks, Whether I have considered the results which would follow on my plan coming into operation? If he will kindly favour me by referring to my last letter, he will find that I "express my strong conviction that the levying of this small amount would not interfere with the more extended voluntary contributions of those to whom Providence has been bountiful."

The proposition submitted by "A W.M."—as to whether Freemasons have a *right* to claim assistance from the Masonic Charities—is simply so *unconditional* that it requires no refutation whatever.

With respect to the details suggested by "A W.M.," as the result of my plan being carried out, it would be premature to anticipate the "radical changes" he predicts. At all events I have no wish to appropriate his ideas, but will gladly give him the full credit of any advantage that may accrue from his condensed system.

I would here again observe that the amount proposed to be raised by the levying of half-a-crown from each member for each of the Charities would be so independent of the efforts now made, as not to interfere at all with the voluntary contributions made by the brethren for the various Charities; and that the £12,500 would be an additional annual income over and above the £16,500 at present subscribed by the "warm-hearted and generous donors" to these valuable institutions, which I regard not merely as "adjuncts," but as fundamental and vital principles of our Order.

Again thanking "A W.M." for the expression of his opinion that the discussion of this subject "will inevitably lead to good results," although not, perhaps, in the direction I anticipate,

I am, truly and fraternally yours,
P.M.

October 12th, 1864.

ROYAL ARCH.

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

DEAR SIR AND E. COMP.—Your excellent MAGAZINE of the 15th inst. contained a letter signed by "A M.M." under the above heading, which illustrates the old proverb that

"One story is good until another is told."

I happen to possess a copy of the by-laws of the Oriental Chapter (No. 687) referred to (enclosed for your inspection), wherein it appears that Bro. "M.M.," I charitably suppose, has made a clerical error in his quotation. No. 9 by-law reads as follows:—

"No resident brother shall be proposed for exaltation unless he be at the time of his proposition a subscribing member of a lodge."

I am, dear Sir and E. Comp.,

Yours fraternally,

A MEMBER OF THE SUPREME G. CHAP.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

At the meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence, on Wednesday, the 19th inst., Bro. G. Plucknett, S.G.D., in the chair, twelve petitions were relieved with various sums, amounting in the aggregate to £135 10s.; and two petitions were recommended to Grand Lodge for £50 each.

The children of the Boys' and Girls' Schools will visit the entertainment of Bro. Anderson, the Wizard of the North, this afternoon, and we anticipate that there will be a goodly attendance of Masons. Bro. Nimmo is the obliging D.C. of the Wizard, and has long been well known for his courtesy to all visitors.

BOYS' SCHOOL.

The Quarterly Court of this Institution was held at the Freemasons' Tavern on Monday last, Bro John Symonds, V.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the various committees having been confirmed, and the ordinary business transacted, a notice of motion by Bro. Edward Cox, V.P., relative to the subscriptions to the Building Fund, was withdrawn.

A ballot was then proceeded with for nine pupils out of the thirty-one approved candidates, which resulted as follows:—

How, George Augustus Frank	920
Vink, Charles Edward	737
Harrison, Frederick Musgrave	622
Heal, Joseph	595
Rees, Rowland Frederick	549
Berkley, Alfred	543
Packer, William James	535
Longbotham, Alonzo	523
Wood, William Dunbar	508

Denton, Henry Joseph	452
West, Walter Bowditch	433
Hill, John Staniforth	417
Recknell, George Samuel	394
Tappolet, Fredrick	357
Floyd, Henry William	305
Dawson, William	299
Thompson, Benjamin Henry	155
Johnson, Henry	151
Crabtree, Benjamin Townshend	143
Pearson, Laumann Sate	142
Martin, John Ross	135
Jones, Edwin Henry	107
Hicknott, Henry	90
Dawson, John Cowan	86
Wilson, Robert Christopher	72
Ashton, Henry James	48
Collingwood, Samuel	32
Jackson, Herbert James	18
Owen, William Henry	10
Bentley, Edwin Thomas	3
Graham, Fredrick	2

The first nine were elected.

Votes of thanks to the President and Scrutineers closed the proceedings.

METROPOLITAN.

GRAND STEWARDS' LODGE.—This, the first and model lodge of the Craft, held its primary meeting for the season at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, the 19th inst. Present: Bros. S. E. Nutt, P.M., as W.M.; R. Spencer, S.W.; John Garton, J.W.; W. Watson, Sec.; G. S. States, S.D.; W. Kirby, I.G.; Samuels, P.M.; Matthew Cooke, visitor. The W.M., Bro. John Bennett, Bros. Binckes, and John Udall joined the brethren at a later period of the evening. The lodge was regularly opened, and the general business transacted, due notice being

given of the next public night for Wednesday, the 30th of November. After the lodge was closed the brethren dined together, and spent one of those agreeable evenings which characterise the meetings of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, and have become proverbial. Bro. Nutt, W.M. *pro tem.*, exerting all his usual pains to set every one at their ease, and being eminently successful in his good offices. With such a Secretary and Steward as Bro. William Watson, it would be superfluous to say the banquet was elegant, choice, and as plentiful as the Freemasons' Tavern could produce. The toasts were those stereotyped as forming part of Masonic entertainments, but proposed with good feeling, and replied to in good humour.

MOUNT LEBANON LODGE (No. 73).—This flourishing and prosperous lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 17th, at the Green Man Tavern, Tooley-street, Southwark (Bro. C. A. Cathie's). Bro. E. N. Levy, W.M., assisted by Bros. H. Moore, S.W.; J. C. Gooddy, J.W.; E. Harris, P.M., Sec.; R. Hurrell, J.D.; F. Walters, I.P.M.; J. Donkin, Dr. Dixon, T. Walter, E. Smith, P.M.'s; M. A. Loewenstark, F. Ebsworth, R. Fenn, C. A. Cathie, R. G. Chipperfield, Marshall, J. Delany, G. F. Davenport, H. T. Turney, T. Sabine, Brookhouse, and many others. Amongst a large number of visitors we noticed Bros. Harris, 188; H. Bagshaw, W.M. 548; C. H. Mourn, W.M.; G. Holman, 871; &c. Bro. Brookhouse was raised to the third degree. Three brethren were passed to the second degree. Four gentlemen, viz.—Messrs. Maidwell, Drapper, Jacobs, and Hunter were initiated into Freemasonry. The W.M. performed the ceremonies in his usual superior, painstaking manner, which reflected the highest credit on him. After the lodge was closed the brethren separated.

EASTERN STAR LODGE (No. 95).—The first meeting of the season of this long-established lodge was held on Tuesday, Oct. 18, at the Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street. Bro. Frank L. Goode presided; Bro. J. How, P.M., as S.W.; Bro. Wilkinson, J.W. There were also a goodly array of P.M.'s present—E. W. Davis, Marriott, Grey, Allison, W. W. Davis, and Sharpe, and about twenty-five other members and visitors. Bro. Hessing was passed to the second degree, and Bros. Ayres and Verney were raised to the third degree. Three pounds from the Charity Fund were voted in aid of a distressed brother who had petitioned the Board of Benevolence. Proposals for the admission of two new members were submitted, and after the disposal of other business the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. Among the visitors were Bros. T. E. Davis, P.M. No. 569; J. H. Freeman, P.M. No. 205; Manning, P.M. No. 9; and W. G. Drew, No. 8.

LODGE OF JUSTICE (No. 147).—This lodge held its first regular meeting since the recess, on Wednesday, October 11th, at Bro. J. Porter's, White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford. In consequence of the lamented death of Bro. John Hollins, W.M., the lodge was placed into deep mourning. Bro. G. Bolton, P.M. and Treasurer, opened the lodge, assisted by Bros. J. Bavin, S.W.; J. Lightfoot, J.W.; C. H. Davis, P.M. and Sec.; G. Chapman, S.D.; J. Patte, J.D.; J. Cavell, P.M.; F. Walters, P.M.; H. Moore, Wingfield, J. Porter, Pitt, and many others too numerous to enumerate. Amongst a large number of visitors we noticed, Bros. J. Brinn, 75; G. Brown, W.M. 169; J. Liddiard, 548, &c. The only ceremony done was raising three brothers to the sublime degree of Master Masons, and as they were each introduced separately, the W.M. was able to render this ceremony with impressive solemnity, which must have made a lasting impression on the minds of the candidates, likewise on those brethren who had the advantage of both hearing and seeing this important ceremony well and correctly done. It was pleasing to see such an old P.M. as Bro. G. Bolton so thoroughly well able to undertake the duties of the chair in such an efficient manner, especially when called upon on an emergency and without any previous notice. A letter of condolence was unanimously agreed to be sent on behalf of the lodge to the widow of the late esteemed Bro. J. Hollins, W.M. One gentleman was proposed for initiation, and one brother as a joining member for the next meeting. Business being ended, the lodge was closed. There was not any banquet, and the brethren separated soon after the business was finished.

ROYAL ALBERT LODGE (No. 907). The regular meeting of this lodge took place at the Freemasons' Tavern on the 17th inst. The lodge was opened by Bro. Downs, W.M., assisted by Bros. J. A. Farnfield, S.W.; T. Peters, J.W.; and amongst the brethren present were Bros. J. Smith, P.G. Purst, P.M. and Treas.; R. W. Little, Sec.; W. H. Farnfield, S.D.; J. Abbott,

J.D.; C. Chard, I.G.; H. J. Lewis, Dir. of Cers.; T. Lewis and W. Watson, P.M.'s; Nugent, C. P. Farnfield, Ranaison, Standfast, Pendygrass, C. T. Chard, Walker, &c. Visitors: Bros. P. Richard, P. Prov. G.S.B. Jersey; Dr. T. W. J. Goldsborough, W.M. 998, and P.M. 201; and J. Terry, P.M. 228. The business of the evening being to pass Bro. Langford Webb, the ceremony was ably rendered by Bro. Downs, W.M. The Secretary then read a communication from Bro. W. Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec., Secretary to the Royal Benevolent Institution, requesting a Steward to represent the lodge at the festival to be held on the 25th of January, 1865, on behalf of that deserving Charity. This elicited a double response, Bro. Jeffreys, the I.P.M., undertaking the office at the ensuing festival, and the W.M. promising to follow in Bro. Jeffreys' footsteps the succeeding year. The lodge was then duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet under the presidency of Bro. Smith (the W.M.'s health not permitting him to remain), when one of those pleasant evenings was enjoyed for which the Royal Albert Lodge is becoming famed amongst the Craft. Nor are the merits of this young lodge confined to the genial and brotherly feeling which animates all who meet at its social board, as it has not forgotten to support the claims of our Charities, a Steward having been regularly furnished by the lodge since its consecration, and more than one-fourth of its members having constituted themselves Life Governors of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows.

STRAWBERRY-HILL LODGE (No. 946).—The first meeting for the season of the brethren of the Strawberry-Hill Lodge took place at Bro. Bendy's, the Grotto Tavern, Twickenham, on Wednesday, the 12th inst. There were present Bros. John Stedwell, W.M.; Collard, S.W.; John Archer, J.W.; John Gurton, 1st W.M. and Founder, Treas.; W. Platt, sen., Sec.; Faithful, S.D.; W. Platt, jun., J.D.; Paxon, I.G.; and W. Watson, P.M., with some twenty-two other brethren. The visitors were Bros. Haskins, W.M. St. Luke's; J. Sedgwick, W.M., and T. Simpson, P.M. St. James's Union; Matthew Cooke, W.M. De Grey and Ripon; E. Garden, A. White, W. Harnett, J. Lonsdale, and J. Dixon. The business of the day was one raising, two passings, and five initiations, all of which ceremonies were excellently performed by the W.M. and his officers. After the business was concluded, and the lodge had been closed, the brethren sat down to one of the most sumptuous and elegant dinners ever set before the brethren of any lodge. The W.M. in terse words proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which he followed up with that of the newly-initiated brethren, and for which Bro. Newham returned thanks in a few sensible words. The remaining toasts were those common to Masonic meetings, pleasingly given, neatly replied to, and an evening was spent which was one of unmixed happiness and good cheer.

PROVINCIAL.

CHESHIRE.

CHESTER.—Cestrian Lodge (No. 425).—On the 13th inst., a ceremony most interesting to the Craft took place at Chester, in connection with the initiation at the Cestrian Lodge of Mr. Robert Stapleton Cotton, son of the D. Prov. G.M. the Hon. Col. Cotton, and grandson of the R.W. Prov. G.M. of Cheshire, Field Marshal the Viscount Combermere. The lodge was opened by dispensation, at three p.m., at the Corn Exchange, by Bros. Mawdsley, W.M., Wilcock, S.W., and Butt, J.W., Bros. John Trevor, acting as S.D., W. C. Hunt as J.D., and C. Dutton as I.G. Bro. Field Marshal Viscount Combermere presided, and there was a full attendance of Prov. G. Officers of this and the neighbouring provinces, including Bros. Lord de Tabley, P.S.G.W. of England, and Prov. S.G.W. of Cheshire; Hon. Wellington Cotton, D. Prov. G.M. of Cheshire; Rev. E. Dymock, D. Prov. G.M. of North Wales and Salop; Lord Arthur Edwin Hill Trevor, Capt. Bush, Z.N., the Mayor of Chester, Bros. Robert Frost, E. G. Willoughby, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Moss, P. Prov. J.G.W.; E. H. Griffiths, Prov. G. Sec.; J. Twiss, Prov. G. Org.; Rev. H. G. Vernon, Prov. G. Chap.; Rev. J. W. Newell Tauner, P. Prov. G. Chap.; Rev. Frederick Ford, Chaplain of the Cestrian Lodge; W. Bulley, J. P. Platt, W. Butler, Prov. G.S.B.; Thos. Truss, P. Prov. S.G.W.; J. D. Weaver, Thomas Platt, Wm. Southam, Thomas Wylie, J. H. Younghusband, E. Minshall, E. Cuzner, Donald McGregor, A. Dickson, J. W. McEwen, J. Ralph, Henry

Churton, J. Dunstan, A. Tait, W. Jones, H. Ford, J. Huxley, jun. H. Platt, T. Johnson, J. R. Boardman, W. J. Bullock, A. C. Mott, J. C. Chetham, William Gosling, R. G. Parry, J. W. Bainbridge, John Sykes, William Ellis, A. P. Watts, Jos. New, Thomas Lewin, R. Parry Jones, and several brethren from the various edges in the province. The candidate having been balloted, was duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry, the ceremony being performed in a manner that for solemnity and a due appreciation of the importance of the occasion could not have been excelled. At the conclusion of the initiation, the brethren sat down to the banquet, which was provided in excellent style Bro. Banks, of the Green Dragon. The Hon. Col. Cotton presided, supported by Lord de Tabley, the Mayor of Chester, Mr. Stapleton Cotton, and about seventy-five of the brethren.—The cloth having been drawn, The CHAIRMAN gave "The Queen and the Craft," "The Prince and Princess of Wales, Earl and Countess of Chester, and the rest of the Royal Family," "The Army and Navy, Yeomanry and Volunteers," (responded to by Capt. BUSH, R.N.)—The CHAIRMAN, in proposing "The Most Worshipful the Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland, the Deputy Grand Master, and the Officers of the Grand Lodge of England," acknowledged the high honour conferred on his father by the Grand Master, also the proud position in which the Craft had just placed his son, by initiating him into the privileges of the fraternity, and likewise the distinguished honour conferred upon himself by having been elected as Deputy Provincial Grand Master. With this toast was associated the name of Lord de Tabley.—His LORDSHIP, in reply, expressed the pleasure he felt at being present on so interesting an occasion, adding that all the honour and respect they could show was due to the venerable and gallant veteran who had honoured them with his presence that day. With regard to the Earl of Zetland, his devotion to the Craft, and the services he had rendered to Freemasonry during a long period of years, would never be forgotten. If rumour be true that the Prince of Wales was about to unite himself to the Craft, the noble earl would be only too proud to resign the chair to his Royal Highness, yet they should, whilst welcoming with Masonic loyalty the initiation of our future King, ever remember the dignity and influence which the Most Worshipful Grand Master had brought to bear on his long connection with the fraternity. Lord de Tabley, in conclusion, in the most eloquent terms proposed "The Health of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Field Marshal Lord Combermere, G.C.B.," and said he hoped the noble lord might continue in health and strength to enjoy the office for many years.—Colonel COTTON returned thanks, and expressed the great pleasure the day's proceedings had afforded to his father, and his regret at not being able to stay for the banquet.—Lord DE TABLEY next proposed "The Health of the Chairman," which was most enthusiastically received, and most eloquently responded to.—Bro. MAWDSLEY proposed "The Health of Bro. Robert Stapleton Cotton," which was equally enthusiastically received.—Bro. TREVOY proposed "Lady Combermere," which was rapturously received, and handsomely responded to by Col. COTTON.—The remaining toasts were: "The Past and Present Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge," responded to by Bro. Butler; "The Worshipful Master and Officers of the Cestrian Lodge," acknowledged by the W.M.; "Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., R.W. Prov. G.M. of Salop and North Wales," responded to by Bro. Dymock; "The Visiting Members," responded to by Bro. Bainbridge; "Bro. Arthur Dickson, and thanks for the tasteful decoration of the rooms," which was duly acknowledged; "The Mayor and Magistrates of the City of Chester," which was replied to in suitable terms by the Mayor; and finally, "To all Poor and Distressed Masons throughout the World."—The brethren were then called from refreshment to labour, and, after disposing of the remaining business of the day, the proceedings terminated.

LANCASHIRE (WEST). PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire was held at the Masonic Temple, 22, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Tuesday, the 4th inst., at twelve o'clock noon, under the presidency of Sir Thomas George Hesketh, Bart., M.P., R.W. D. Prov. G.M. and P.G.W.

The Craft lodge having been opened in the three degrees by the W.M.'s of Lodges Nos. 220, 314, 703, 786, 995, and 1,021, the following Prov. G. Officers then entered the lodge-room in procession, to appropriate music (Bro. Sanders, Prov. G. Org.,

presiding), viz.:—Bro. Sir Thomas George Hesketh, Bart., M.P., R.W. D. Prov. G.M., as Prov. G.M.; Bro. R. Townley Parker, Prov. J.G.D., as R.W. D. Prov. G.M.; Bros. G. N. Starkie, jun., Prov. S.G.W.; J. T. Bourne, Prov. J.G.W.; Billinge, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Gambell, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Wylie, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. J. Dunkley, Prov. G. Chap.; Rev. A. A. O'Neill, Assist. Prov. G. Chap.; Hamer, Prov. G. Treas.; J. L. Hine, Prov. G. Treas. East Lancashire; Banister, P.G.S.B.; Mawdesley, Prov. G. Sec.; Bushier, Prov. G. Sec. Cumberland and Westmoreland; H. Armstrong, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Maddox, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Haddock, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Allender, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Eastham, Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Pepper, P. Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Molineux, P. Prov. G. Org.; T. Armstrong, Prov. G. Purst. Cheshire; May, Hughes, Beazley, Mott, and Younghusband, Prov. G. Stewards; twenty-nine out of the thirty-six lodges in province being represented. The R.W. D. Prov. G.M. having taken the chair, the Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in form and with solemn prayer.

The minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge meeting, together with those of the Provincial Grand Lodges of Emergency and of the committees of the Fund of Benevolence having been read and confirmed, a letter was read from Bro. Le Gendre N. Starkie, R.W. Prov. G.M., regretting that through indisposition he was unable to attend the meeting and enclosing a donation of £5 in aid of the Educational Institution of the province.

Bro. Hamer, the Prov. G. Treas., having presented his accounts for the past year, the W.M.'s of Lodges 148, 203, and 220 were appointed auditors, and retired for the purpose of examining the same; after which they re-entered the lodge-room, and declared the accounts correct, there appearing the sum of £81 6s. to the credit of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and of £464 1s. 9d. to the credit of the Fund of Benevolence.

A petition for relief was presented from the W.M. and brethren of Lodge No. 673 on behalf of the widow of Bro. Cockson, late of that lodge, and the sum of £5 was granted. A sum of £15 was also voted to Bro. Evans, the Prov. G. Tyler, who has been suffering a considerable time from ophthalmia.

Bro. Hamer having been re-elected to the office of Prov. G. Treas., and a vote of thanks unanimously passed for his services during the preceding year. The Prov. G. Sec. then read the following report:—

"In making the customary annual report of the province it affords me much pleasure to state that Masonry continues to make very satisfactory progress, both as regards the number of lodges and subscribing members.

"Since our last annual meeting, warrants of constitution have been granted for five new lodges, viz., the Hesketh Lodge (No. 986), Croston; Lodge of Furness (No. 995), Ulverstone; Royal Victoria Lodge (No. 1,013), Liverpool; Hartington Lodge (No. 1,021), Barrow-in-Furness; and the Townley Parker Lodge (No. 1,032), Whittle-le-Woods. A petition for another lodge, to be called the Prince of Wales, and held at Kirkdale, has recently been forwarded to Grand Lodge; and should the prayer of the petition be granted, there will then be thirty-seven lodges under the control of the Prov. G.M., being an increase of six lodges within the year.

"It is gratifying to report that the lodges generally are in good working order, and, with two exceptions, brotherly love and harmony prevail amongst them. In one of the exceptions referred to no official complaint has yet been received, and it is to be hoped the members will see the desirability of settling their differences amicably. In the other case, however, more serious difficulties have presented themselves, into which a searching investigation will have to be made. It would appear that, because a majority of the members thought fit to elect a P.M. to the chair in June last in preference to the S.W., several friends of the latter took offence, and expressed their determination to blackball every candidate submitted for initiation, which threat they repeatedly carried into effect, thereby not only damaging the prosperity of the lodge, and casting discredit on the Order, but offering an unwarranted insult to upright and unoffending individuals. The lodge at its last regular meeting excluded two of the offenders, who have since sent in petitions to be re-instated, and it will be for the Provincial Grand Lodge to determine what ulterior steps shall be taken in the matter. The two lodges referred to hold their meetings at taverns, and the charges to be submitted will add additional evidence to the arguments already adduced, against holding Masonic lodges at such houses in large towns.

"It is my pleasing duty to state that the Masonic Charities

continue to be well supported, the Educational Institution being now thoroughly established and fully appreciated, whilst the Masonic Relief Committee entirely answers the objects for which it was founded.

"During the year eighteen dispensations have been granted, viz., eight for holding banquets at places distant from the lodge rooms, four for initiating more than the regulated number of candidates on the same evening, one for initiating a candidate a few months under the age of twenty-one years, he being the son of a deceased Mason, and about at once to proceed on foreign service, and desirous of taking an English certificate with him, three for holding Masonic balls, &c., in aid of the Charities, and two for making serving brothers.

"In conclusion, I would most earnestly direct the attention of those brethren who may hereafter be installed into the chair, to the extreme care which ought necessarily to be exercised in the selection of their officers, as on that depends in a great measure the prosperity of a lodge, and would impress upon the brethren generally that the welfare and harmony of the Order depend much more upon the respectability than the number of candidates initiated, and the cheerful compliance of the minority with the resolutions passed by the majority of the members."

After the conclusion of the reading of the preceding report, the R.W.D. Prov. G.M. announced the following appointments, and having requested the brethren to be conducted to the dais, invested them with the collars and jewels of their respective offices, &c.:-

Bro. R. Townley Parker.....	Prov. S.G.W.
" Birchall	" J.G.W.
" Younghusband	" G.S.B.
" T. M. Shuttleworth.....	" Steward.

The R.W. D. Prov. G.M. then directed Bro. Wylie, P. Prov. G. Sec. to be conducted in front of the chair, and, addressing him, paid him a high compliment for the admirable manner in which he had discharged the duties of his office for a period of ten years, and the satisfaction which his efforts had invariably elicited, and proceeded to say that, although he had for a long period steadfastly refused to receive any testimonial, yet the Provincial Grand Lodge felt it absolutely necessary to mark their appreciation of his services by some substantial acknowledgment, and had consequently determined to present him with a service of plate, which pleasing duty now devolved upon him; and he accompanied the presentation with a hope that Bro. Wylie might long live to enjoy the gratifying reflection that in resigning his office he carried with him the good wishes of his colleagues and the brethren generally. The plate consisted of an elegantly chased silver tea and coffee service, each piece bearing the following inscription:—"Presented by the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire to Brother Thomas Wylie as an acknowledgment of his valuable services Provincial Grand Secretary for a period of ten years. Liverpool, 4th October, 1864."

Bro. Wylie, in accepting the gift, felt that the approbation of his colleagues was a sufficient reward for the services he had performed, but he thanked the R.W. D. Provincial Grand Master and the other officers of Grand Lodge for such a very handsome testimonial of their esteem, and said it had ever been, and ever would be, his desire to promote the success of that ancient order with which he was proud to be associated. He then spoke of the advantages of Freemasonry when strictly carried out, and of the concord and harmony produced thereby. He felt assured his family would appreciate the gift, and would with pride point out to their descendants the acknowledgment of their ancestor's services.

The R.W. D. Prov. G.M. then announced that the next annual meeting of Grand Lodge would be held at Preston, and as the centenary of the Lodge of Lights (No. 148), Warrington, would occur next year he should hold a special Provincial Grand Lodge there in honour of the event. The voting papers of the Prov. G.M. for the Boys' and Girls' Schools, London, having been entrusted to Bro. Banister, P.G.S.B., the R.W. D. Prov. G.M. then resolved the meeting into a court of Governors of the West Lancashire Educational Institution.

Bro. Younghusband read the minutes of the proceedings of the past year, from which it appeared that thirty children of deceased and distressed brethren were receiving the benefits of a liberal education under the foundation.

The sums necessary for the cost of education for the ensuing year having been voted, and the officers of the institution re-elected, viz., Bro. Mawdesley, Treasurer; Younghusband, Secretary; Brabner, Solicitor; Fenton, Medical Adviser; and

the usual committees appointed, the Provincial Grand Lodge was then resumed, and after the transaction of some routine business was closed in form and with solemn prayer by the R.W. D. Prov. G. Master. The Provincial Grand Officers then retired in processional order to appropriate music on the organ, the brethren paying the accustomed honours.

The Craft Lodge having been closed down, the brethren adjourned to a banquet provided for them at the Adelphi Hotel, the chair being occupied by Sir Thomas Hesketh, R.W. D. Prov. G.M., Bro. R. Townley, Parker, V.W. Prov. S.G.W. presiding in the west. After the cloth was drawn, the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were given and ably responded to, and the brethren separated at an early hour.

SUFFOLK.

IPSWICH.—*Lodge St. Luke* (No. 225).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Coach and Horses Hotel, Ipswich, on Wednesday evening, the 12th instant. The W.M., Bro. Richmond, presided, supported by Bros. Turner, I.P.M.; Davy, S.W.; Westgate, J.W.; Brinkly, Barber, Snell, Whitehead, Clarke, and R. Cade, P.M.'s; Taylor, Godball, Peck, Robertson, Eltroop, P.M. 185, and Bradden, No. 292. The lodge having been opened in ancient form, Mr. Phillip Whitehead, a Lewis, the son of Bro. Whitehead, P.M. 225, and Mr. John Talbot, jun., were initiated into the mysteries of the Order. Bro. S. B. King, P.M. 376, was unanimously elected a member of this lodge. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment.

WESTMORELAND.

KENDAL.—*Union Lodge* (No. 129).—This lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Johnson, assisted by his Wardens and a full attendance of members, at the Town Hall, at 4.30, on Friday, the 14th inst. The lodge was opened to the third degree, and Bros. Whitwell (Mayor of Kendal), Medcalf, Gawith, and Redhead, were examined as to their proficiency, which was most satisfactory to all present, received a test of merit, and retired, and were each severally presented, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons—Bro. Whitwell by the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Dr. Greaves, of Penrith, Bros. Medcalf and Gawith by Bro. Horne, P.M., Prov. J.G.W., and Bro. Redhead by the W.M.; Bro. C. J. Banister, P.M., P.G. Sword Bearer of England, delivered the lecture on the tracing board. The lodge being lowered to the first degree, Messrs. Rev. Henry Lamb, Thomas Lamb, J. Wilson, together with Capt. C. W. Braithwaite, of Haversham, "who had been prevented from coming up for several months," were initiated by the D. Prov. G.M. of the province, Bro. C. J. Banister acting as Deacon. Several gentlemen were proposed for initiation. This lodge is progressing most favourably, indeed likely to be one of the best in the province. The brethren were called from labour to refreshment for half an hour, and on returning to the lodge, the W.M., in suitable terms, presented a P.M.'s jewel to Bro. Horne, which had been unanimously voted to him by the lodge, as a sincere mark of affection and esteem which the brethren entertain towards him for his untiring zeal and attention to the interest of the lodge, and instruction of its officers. Bro. Horne, in most feeling terms, expressed his thanks to all, stating that to other kind brethren they were equally indebted. He gave the brethren some excellent advice, which was listened to with great attention, and will be acted upon. The W.M. proposed and Bro. Busher, J.W., seconded a vote of thanks to be recorded on the minutes to the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Greaves, and Bro. C. J. Banister, P.G.S.B., for their kind and valuable assistance, which, in spite of remonstrance from both, was carried by acclamation, and the lodge was closed in solemn form at ten o'clock.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The autumn meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held in the Music Hall, Leeds, on Wednesday, the 5th October, under the presidency of the R.W. Prov. G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, D.G.M., supported by the R.W. D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Bentley Shaw, and a large number of Provincial and Past Provincial Grand Officers, W. Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, and brethren from the various lodges in the province, amongst whom we noticed Bro. W. Rothwell Prov.,

and Capt. J. Franklin, P. Prov. G.W.'s; T. Perkinson, P. Prov. S.G.W. Halifax; James Peace, Prov., Capt. Joseph Batley, Prov., and Thomas Robinson, P. Prov. G.W.'s; John Kirk, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; W. Cocking, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works; W. Smith, P. Prov. G.D.; W. G. Dyson, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Joss Brook, P. Prov. G. Purst.; John Wilson, Prov. G. Assist. Purst.; John Freeman, W.M. 275, Prov. G. Steward, Huddersfield; Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, G. Chap., P. Prov. G.W.; Capt. R. R. Nelson, P.D. Prov. G.M., Prov. G. Sec.; John Lee and L. Hicks, P. Prov. G.W.'s; W. Perkin and John Batley, P. Prov. G. Reg.'s; J. Buckton, Capt. R. Addyman, and S. Clark, P. Prov. G.D.'s; S. Freeman, Prov. S.G.D.; W. Spark, *Mus. Doc.*, P. Prov. G. Org., Leeds; Rev. H. de L. Willis, *D.D.*, and Rev. W. Bearnsides, *B.A.*, P. Prov. G. Chaps.; W. Gath, P. Prov. G.W.; C. H. Taylor, Thomas Hill, and John Ward, P. Prov. G.D.'s; Manoah Rhodes, Prov. G. Steward, Bradford; W. Dixon, Prov. S.G.W.; John Wordsworth, Prov. G. Steward, Morley; Rev. T. Kelley, *M.A.*, Prov. G. Chap. Baildon; Rev. J. Fearon, *B.A.*, P. Prov. G. Chap.; J. M. Woodhead, Prov. G.S.B., Holmfirth; Rev. W. Appleyard, P. Prov. G. Chap.; Councillor A. Wilson, Prov. G. Purst., Batley Carr; Charles Patterson, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; James Clay, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; J. O. Gill, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works, Dewsbury; Rev. J. Senior, *LL.D.*, P.G. Chap., P. Prov. G.W.; J. O. Gill, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., Wakefield; Major H. Webster, Prov. G. Reg.; W. White, jun., P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; W. Longden, Prov. J.G.D., Sheffield; T. A. Haigh, P. Prov. G.D. Meltham; T. Allatt, P. Prov. G.D.; J. Booth, P. Prov. G.D. Heckmondwike; J. Siddall, P. Prov. G. Purst., Cleckheaton; J. Rhodes, Prov. G. Org., Pontefract; W. Patman, Prov. G. Steward, Hebden Bridge, &c.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been duly opened, the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge holden at Pontefract on Wednesday, the 6th July, were read and confirmed.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, chairman of the Charity Committee of the province, read the report of that committee, which, after briefly alluding to the forthcoming elections of the Masonic Charities, drew the particular attention of the brethren to a resolution of the Charity Committee passed at its last meeting, "That an appeal be addressed forthwith to the province in support of the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows on the 25th January, 1865, when the R.W. Prov. G.M. the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, D.G.M., will preside, and that subscriptions to that Institution, particularly on behalf of the Widow's Fund, be earnestly solicited." Nineteen brethren from this province have already intimated their intention to act as stewards at the Festival to support the Provincial Grand Master, and the Provincial Grand Secretary will be glad to receive the names at once of additional stewards; and it is hoped that the contributions of lodges and brethren in aid of this Fund may be such as to reflect honour upon the Provincial Grand Master and credit to the province at large.

The petition of Mrs. J. H., widow of Bro. J. H., was read and £5 voted for her relief.

The proposed new by-laws for the government of the province were read seriatim, and passed with some trifling alterations, and it was unanimously resolved that after their confirmation at the next meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, they be printed.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due form until further summoned, and adjourned to banquet.

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

MEETING OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL OF THE XXXIII°.

The distinguished brethren, Dr. Leeson, M.P. Sov. G. Com.; Lieut.-Col. H. A. Bowyer, Lieut. G. Cem.; Henry Chas. Vernon, G. Treas. General; Lieut.-Col. H. Clerk, G. Sec. General; Dr. B. A. Kent, H.E.; Lieut.-Col. Dering, H.E.; Capt. N. G. Philips, H.E.; C. J. Vigne, retired 33°; and Bro. W. Hyde Pullen, 32°, Assist. Sec. General to the Supreme Grand Council, held meetings at the London Coffee House, Ludgate-hill, on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 11th and 12th of October, when most important matters, bearing upon the welfare of the Order, were discussed, and action decreed to be taken upon several points, of which due notice will be given.

GRAND ELECTED KNIGHTS K—H. 30°.

After the above meeting on Tuesday, the 11th, the whole of the members of the Supreme Grand Council of the 33° present, as above, adjourned to the Hall of the Masonic Union Company, Bedford-row, and a meeting of the members of the 32° was held, at which the following brethren assisted:—C. Goolden and Capt. Boyle, 32°; W. Blenkin, 31°; W. Smith, *C.E.*; J. W. Figg, M. H. Shuttleworth, T. Vesper, L. Lemanski, C. Hewitt, Capt. Dadson, C. J. Bannister, Rev. C. R. Davy, Col. Meehan, George Lambert, J. How, Rev. Joseph Hill Grice, S. R. Shilton, J. Newton, Matthew Cooke, Org. and Master of the Ceremonies to the Supreme Grand Council, all of the foregoing of the 30°. Eight S.P.'s Rose Croix were installed Knts. K—h., viz., E. Turner, H. S. le Strange, Dr. O'Donnovan, F. Binckes, T. J. Andrew, F. Walker, Stephen Blair, and Viscount Kilworth. The ceremony was performed by Col. Clerk, with all that minute and careful study for which he is noted. Capt. Boyle was the Grand Marshal, and Bro. Hyde Pullen, Grand Captain. The M.P. Sov. G. Com. Dr. Leeson, was unable to remain to dinner, in consequence of a recent family bereavement, and Col. Clerk supplied his place. The meeting was a very pleasant one, devoid of all formality, and calculated to lead to a better knowledge of each other by those present. The toasts were few, tersely given, and briefly responded to.

INDIA.

(From the Masonic Record of Western India.)

BOMBAY.

CONCORD LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 757, E.C.)—The fourth meeting of this lodge was held on the evening of the 6th August, when Bro. G. L. F. Connell took the chair. Bro. Lockley volunteered as the candidate for the evening. After the formal work, Bro. J. J. Farnham examined the members in the second section of the first or E.A. lecture of the degree. A due meed of praise, accompanied by a vote of thanks, was passed to Bro. Farnham and Connell for their respective occupation of the chair, and the lodge closed with prayer a little after seven o'clock.

LODGE CONCORD (No. 757, E.C.)—The regular meeting of this lodge took place on the evening of the 20th August. Present—Bros. T. Diver, *M.D.*, W.M.; G. S. Judge, D. Prov. G.M.; J. J. Farnham, P.M.; A. King, P.M.; E. Leckey, S.W.; R. Donaldson, J.W.; H. Prescott, Sec. and Dir. of Cers.; H. Ayron, S.D.; G. Judd, J.D.; J. Lockley, I.G.; H. Seager, Tyler. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was proceeded with for Messrs. H. G. A. Claudius, M. Wilkins, J. Dwyer, B. R. Howell, and found clear. The first-named candidate and Mr. Devlin (who had been balloted for at the previous meeting) being present were regularly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. The lodge then opened in the third degree, and Bro. Kneen duly raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. The lodge then lowered, and was closed with peace and harmony.

LODGE PERSEVERANCE (No. 351, S.C.)—The regular meeting of the above lodge was holden on the evening of the 15th August. Present—Bros. J. Jamieson, W.M.; J. Mackinlay, P.M.; J. C. Gumpert, Depute Master; E. Freeborn, S.W.; T. Wood, J.W.; G. Brookes, Sec.; C. Jones, Treas.; J. B. Haines, S.D.; E. Bailey, J.D.; J. Gillon, I.G.; J. Houghland, Tyler. Bros. Irvine, Bonnor, Connell, Donaldson, Shimmings, Patterson, Gliddon, Showell, Lockley, Bidwell, Farrar, Mathews, Sims, Vian, Charman, Field, Davis, Doughty, Hodgart, Browne, Gleave, Schmuck, O'Brian, Kennedy, Hannaford, Anderson, Mitchell, Fletcher, Masson, Calloway, Maggs, Shand, Goslin, Moylan, Forbes, Scott, Angus, Glover, Norris, Starstedt, and a great many other members and visitors. The lodge having been opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, the ballot was proceeded with for Bros. R. L. King, C. Calloway, and R. W. Mathews for affiliation, and Messrs. R. Talant, Abbott, A. Mackenzie, and E. W. Hart for initiation, and found quite clear. The two latter candidates being present were admitted and regularly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. No further business being before the lodge, it was closed in peace and harmony a half-past eight.

ROYAL ARCH.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER (Scotch Banner).—According to previous notice the meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter took place on the 11th August. Present—M.E. Comps. G. S. Judge, G. Superintendent, as Principal Z.; J. H. Irvine, Principal J.; T. Carpenter, Principal H.; Comps. C. Jones, Scribe E.; R. Farrow, Scribe N.; W. Farrow, Principal Soj.; T. Wood, 1st Assist. Soj.; H. Bowman, 2nd Assist. Soj.; J. C. Houghland, Janitor. Comps. Brookes, Connell, White, O'Brian, Field, and Freeborn, as visiting companions.

The business before the Grand Chapter was the appointment of office-bearers for the ensuing year, when the following companions were appointed:—

Comp. J. H. Irvine.....	D. Prov. G. Supt.
" J. J. Martin, of Kurrachee.....	Prov. G. J.
" J. Macdonald, of Kurrachee.....	Prov. G. H.
" C. White.....	Prov. G. Treasurer.
" C. Jones.....	Prov. G. Scribe E.
" W. A. Brunton, of Kurrachee.....	Prov. G. Scribe N.
" R. Farrow.....	Prov. G. Sojs.
" W. Farrow.....	} Prov. G. Assist. Sojs.
" T. Wood.....	
" J. C. Houghland.....	Prov. G. Janitor.

The Grand Superintendent announced to the companions that, since their last meeting, extra powers had been conferred upon him, by which he was now able to grant dispensations to companions to open new chapters, and that if any of the companions present knew of any of their friends up-country who wished to open a chapter, they were at liberty to inform them, and on receiving their application he would grant the dispensation, and, as before, obtain the charter from Scotland. Nothing further being before the chapter, it was closed.

CHAPTER KEYSTONE (No. 757, E.C.).—The quarterly meeting of the above chapter took place on the 8th August, M.E. J. Anderson, P.Z.; V.E. A. King, P.H.; V.E. J. J. Farnham, P.J.; E. Comp. A. Cumming, Scribe E.; Comps. T. Binks, Scribe N.; J. W. Walker, Principal Soj.; J. W. Seager, 1st Assist. Soj.; C. E. Burden, 2nd Assist. Soj.; J. C. Houghland, Janitor. Visitors—Comps. G. Bease, T. Wood, and G. L. F. Connell. The Principals having duly opened the chapter, the companions were admitted in regular form. The minutes of the last emergent meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was respectively taken for Bros. H. H. Avron, R. Newton, R. Donaldson, and found quite clear, after which they were formally admitted and duly exalted to the Holy Royal Arch Degree, and the chapter regularly closed with solemn prayer at about half-past eight o'clock. The admirable working of the three Principals, and the sublimity of the ceremony, was the apparent inducement which led the visiting brethren to seek admission into Keystone Chapter, for which purpose they were properly proposed and seconded. All companions who wish so see a chapter correctly worked need only attend Keystone, when they will be able to judge for themselves, and be there impressed with the blessed truths propounded in the sublime Royal Arch degree, which, we are assured, will make an indelible and lasting impression on their minds. It is remarkable, said the Principal Z. with great satisfaction, that ever since the establishment of the chapter he had not known one black ball to have appeared against any candidate, which speaks well for this chapter; and we hope it will continue to be so.

CHAPTER PERSEVERANCE (No. 71, Scotch Banner).—An emergent meeting of this well-established and most flourishing chapter assembled on the evening of the 25th under M.E. Comps. T. Carpenter as Principal Z.; J. H. Irvine, Principal H.; E. Freeborn, Principal J.; E. Comps. C. Jones, Scribe E.; R. Farrow, Scribe N.; W. Farrow, 1st Soj.; G. L. F. Connell, 2nd Soj.; H. Bowman, 3rd Soj.; J. Houghland, Janitor. Members, Comps. O'Brian, White, Haines. Visitors, Comps. Seager, Avron, Burden, and Donaldson, all of Chapter Keystone. The chapter being regularly opened, Comp. J. Gillon was admitted and affiliated a member by show of hands, after which the ballot was taken for five other brethren and found clear, and the chapter adjourned, to confer the preliminary degree to the Holy Royal Arch; which done, the chapter reopened, and Bros. Framjee Cowasjee Metha, Merwanjee Manockjee Setna, Sorabjee Jejeebhoy Moogana, and J. Reid, were introduced and solemnly and regularly exalted to the sublime Royal Arch degree, and the chapter was formally closed at nine o'clock. As a proof of the good reputation of this old chapter, we have only to adduce the desire exhibited by our Parsee brethren to be admitted into

this one above all others, as the three that have been admitted are the first of their class that have done so in Bombay; and we believe, now that the ice is broken, many others are anxious to join and partake of that supreme degree, and in our next proceedings we hope to be able to record the names of at least six more members from that lodge seeking admittance.

MARK MASONRY, ETC.

ZEREDATHA LODGE.—An emergent meeting of the above lodge was held on the evening of the 11th August, for the purpose of conferring the degree of Mark Master on a number of our Parsee brethren previous to exaltation into the Holy Royal Arch degree. There were present—Bros. E. Freeborn, W.M.; J. H. Irvine, S.W.; T. Carpenter, J.W.; C. Jones, Sec.; G. L. F. Connell, S.D.; W. Farrow, J.D.; H. Bowman, I.G.; J. C. Houghland, Tyler; and Bros. Brookes, White, O'Brian, Wood, Field, and R. Farrow. The lodge having been opened, some discussion ensued, after which, the ballot being proceeded with, and found to be quite clear, Bros. Framjee Cowasjee Metha, Merwanjee Manockjee Setna, and Sorabjee Jejeebhoy Moogana, were admitted and regularly initiated into the degree of Mark Masters. There being no further business, the lodge was closed.

ADONIAM LODGE OF PAST MASTERS.—An emergent meeting of the above lodge was held on the evening of the 11th August for the above-named purpose. Present—Bros. J. H. Irvine, W.M.; E. Freeborn, S.W.; T. Carpenter, J.W.; C. Jones, Sec.; G. L. F. Connell, S.D.; W. Farrow, J.D.; H. Bowman, I.G.; J. C. Houghland, Tyler. Bros. Brookes, White, O'Brian, Wood, Field, R. Farrow, Framjee Cowasjee Metha, Merwanjee Manockjee Setna, and Sorabjee Jejeebhoy Moogana. The lodge being duly opened, the three Parsee brethren were requested to retire, then re-admitted, regularly initiated, and duly installed as Past Masters with the well-known formal ceremonies, and the lodge closed in harmony.

SERAIAN LODGE OF EXCELLENT MASTERS.—The above lodge assembled on the evening of the 25th August. Bros. T. Carpenter, W.M.; J. H. Irvine, S.W.; E. Freeborn, J.W.; C. Jones, Sec.; J. Gillon, I.G.; Bros. Connell, O'Brian, White, Bowman, Gillon, Haines, and the two Farrowes, members. The lodge being duly opened, the following candidates were admitted, and the degree of Excellent Master conferred upon them:—Bros. Framjee Cowasjee Metha, Merwanjee Manockjee Setna, Sorabjee Jejeebhoy Moogana, and J. Reid. There being no further business, the lodge was closed in harmony.

BENGAL.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

A quarterly communication of the District Grand Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Calcutta, on Monday, the 24th June, 1861. Bro. Hugh Sandeman, Prov. G.M., presided, and was supported by Bro. John W. Brown, D. Prov. G.M., and a number of other brethren.

The minutes of the quarterly communication of 21st March, 1861, were read and confirmed.

The Provincial Grand Master addressed the brethren as follows:—

"The only business for us this evening is the consideration of the Report of the Finance Committee, which met on the 4th inst. The meeting was fully attended, one brother only being absent, and he unavoidably so, being away from the Presidency on leave. Of the proposals made in the Report, I have myself dealt with the first, and have issued instructions accordingly to Masters of Lodges to make their remittances to the Provincial Grand Treasurer in his official capacity. The second proposal of the Committee, upon which your votes are solicited, is to the effect that our account should be transferred from the Bank of Bengal to the Agra and U. S. Bank; and the fourth, that an appeal made to the various bodies of English Freemasons in Calcutta for contributions towards the general expenses of gas fittings and repairs lately incurred in this Hall. This is, perhaps, a point that had better be left to the lodges themselves. In the meanwhile, I have the satisfaction of announcing the receipt of 400 rupees from the funds of the Provincial Grand Chapter, and of 200 rupees from those of the Provincial Grand Conclave as contributions, in addition to 100 rupees from the editor of the *Freemasons' Magazine*, to whom I would suggest that a vote of thanks be accorded for his liberality.

"Since our last meeting I have taken upon myself to restore to his Masonic privileges our Brother O'Mealy, Past Master of the Lodge Harmony (No. 438), at Cawnpore. I have been led to do this by the receipt of a communication from the Grand Secretary in England, giving it as the opinion of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, that the legality of our 55th by-law is open to question, and intimating his lordship's intention to take an early opportunity of examining carefully the whole of the rules by which the District Grand Lodge of Bengal and its subordinate lodges are governed. Pending the receipt of his lordship's further instructions, it would be unadvisable to take any action in District Grand Lodge upon the general question, but as the legality of the 55th by-law is questioned, I am willing to suppose that Bro. O'Mealy acted conscientiously in advising Mr. Jordan as he did, and I have consequently removed his suspension under the powers given me by the Constitution in such cases. I would have been glad to have taken the opportunity of suggesting to the District Grand Lodge some similar act of grace in the case of Mr. Jordan, but I am unable conscientiously to do this from the circumstance that he still retains the warrant and books of the Cawnpore Lodge in opposition to the orders of the District Grand Lodge, although expelled from the Craft, and I cannot but say that the offer of unconditional pardon in such a case would afford a premium to any Mason that might fancy himself aggrieved by a law affecting his interests or his wishes, at once to dare the authority of the District Grand Lodge, instead of adopting the constitutional course which is so clearly laid down by regular Masonic law for the removal of what any brother may consider to be opposed to the principles of our Order. If, however, any brother is of a different opinion, and thinks that Mr. Jordan is worthy of consideration, and will move a reversal or a modification of the sentence which has been recorded against him, I shall be happy to put his motion before the District Grand Lodge for discussion. I need scarcely say that I have no personal feelings in the matter, and that I am ready, as in duty bound, to acquiesce cordially in the votes of the majority of the brethren.

"I have to report the formation of a new lodge at Delhi, named the Phoenix Lodge, under the auspices of Bro. Fenwick and other Masons, recommended by the officers of Lodge Hope at Meerut. It will be in your recollection that in March, 1863, I reported to you that the Lodge Star of Delhi (No. 1,180), at Delhi, had fallen hopelessly into abeyance, and this was followed up by the announcement at our quarterly communication in September, that the warrant having become extinct, had been returned to England. Lodge Phoenix is not, I believe, as its name would imply, a resuscitation of Lodge Star of Delhi, but is quite unconnected with it, and from all that I have been able to learn regarding its prospects, there appears to be every reasonable hope that it will prosper well, and form a valuable addition to the Craft in Bengal."

The Finance Committee's report was read and considered. The Grand Treasurer's account showed a balance in the District Grand Lodge Fund of 178 rupees, and in the Fund of Benevolence 5,234 rupees.

Proposed by Bro. Wyman that the accounts, as audited, be received. The motion was seconded by Bro. Clarke and carried.

Bro. Roberts moved, and Bro. Parlby seconded, that with reference to the proposition of the Finance Committee to open an account with the Agra Bank, the available surplus of the Funds of Grand Lodge be invested in Government securities as offering a higher rate of interest with the best security.

Bro. J. B. Knight proposed as an amendment, that the original proposition of the Finance Committee be carried out, and that it be left to the discretion of the Provincial Grand Treasurer as to what amount should be held as fixed, and what as a floating deposit.

The amendment was put to the vote and carried.

The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master proposed that a vote of thanks be tendered to Bro. Hoff for his donation of 100 rupees towards the Gas Fund. The proposition was seconded by Bro. Roberts and unanimously carried.

With reference to the fifth proposition contained in the Finance Report, it was moved by Bro. Dove, seconded by Bro. Wyman, and carried, that the scale of wages of the servants at Freemasons' Hall be as follows:—sirdar, 8 rupees; 1st mate, 7 rupees; 2nd mate, 6 rupees; durwan, 6 rupees; mehter, 5 rupees; abdar, 8 rupees.

Bro. Roberts expressed his opinion that it would not be just

to dismiss the sircar who had served Grand Lodge faithfully for twenty-five years, and who, he submitted, was of great use to the Grand Lodge. Bro. Roberts further testified to the excellent character of the sircar, which was fully endorsed by Bro. Parlby, and it was resolved, after some discussion, that the proposition of the Finance Committee on this point be negatived, and the sircar retained.

All business being concluded, the District Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

Obituary.

BRO. THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE, K.G., PROV. G.M. FOR NOTTS.

We regret to announce that the protracted and severe illness under which His Grace the Duke of Newcastle has been labouring has at last had a sudden a fatal termination. The noble duke expired on Tuesday evening in a fit, at a quarter to seven o'clock, at Clumber Park, Notts.

Henry Pelham Fiennes-Pelham-Clinton, K.G., fifth Duke of Newcastle-under-Lyne, in the county of Stafford, and twelfth Earl of Lincoln, keeper of St. Briavel's Castle, and head of the ancient and knightly family of Clinton, was the eldest of the six sons of Henry, fourth duke, by his wife Georgiana Elizabeth, daughter of the late Edward Miller Mundy, Esq., M.P., of Shipley Hall, Derbyshire. He was born in Charles-street, Berkeley-square, on the 22nd of May, 1811, and was educated at Eton, and Christ Church, Oxford, where he took the usual B.A. degree in 1832. Whilst an undergraduate he was a contemporary and friend of the late lamented Sidney Herbert, and of Mr. W. E. Gladstone, together with whom he was a constant speaker at the "Union" Debating Society, and in company with whom he first entered into public life, being returned to Parliament at the general election of December, 1832, as one of the members of the Southern Division of Nottinghamshire, in which the great ducal estates of Clumber give to his family an extensive and all but predominating influence—entering Parliament as a Conservative, but soon showed a decided leaning towards Liberal opinions, which gradually ripened as he advanced in years.

In January, 1835, in July, 1837, in July and September, 1841, he was returned unopposed again, his colleague being, from 1837, Colonel Rolleston, a Conservative like himself. By 1846, Lord Lincoln had changed his views on the subject of the corn laws, and had decided to follow Sir Robert Peel in promoting their repeal. In the February of that year Lord Lincoln stood again for the division when appointed Secretary for Ireland. Mr. Hildyard opposed him with the ducal interest, and the poll showed for Mr. Hildyard 1,736, for Lord Lincoln 1,049. In the following month the earl stood for North Notts, but here again the paternal opposition pursued him, and the votes were, for Lord Henry Bentinck, 1,742; for Lord Lincoln, 217. In May a seat was provided for the hapless Secretary for the Falkirk burghs, though here a close opposition came from the Liberal quarter, the earl only polling 506, to 495 polled by Mr. Wilson of Dundee; and similarly in 1847, Mr. William Sprott Boyd (Liberal) being within 31 of his lordship (522 to 491).

Lord Lincoln was not a brilliant speaker, or an orator in any sense of the word. Like his great master, Peel, cold, reserved, and methodical; not impulsive, or impetuous, or fervid, like his distinguished fellow-student, Mr. Gladstone, he never much pleased the House of Commons, and on one memorable occasion was even counted out. His maiden speech was delivered July 29, 1835, against the Polls at Elections Bill. We next find him (June 28, 1836) speaking against the Dissenters' Marriages Bill. He proposed the postponement of the bill to that day six months, as by it the Church would be

placed in the position of an inferior. On the Ecclesiastical Bill for abolishing the collegiate character of Southwell Church (1840)—which is precisely what Mr. Beresford-Hope and his friends want to re-establish, not only in Southwell but in all larger towns—Lord Lincoln and Mr. Gladstone were tellers for an alternative proposal to create four canonries of £16 a year for parochial purposes. They received 14 votes, and their opponents 54.

On the 7th of February, 1842, it was Lord Lincoln, then Chief Commissioner of Woods and Forests, who was deputed by the House of Commons to congratulate Prince Albert on the occasion of the birth of the Prince of Wales. The same nobleman who heralded the heir's birth, officially, to the Commons, became one of his royal highness's highest officials in his Duchy, acted as his guardian on his foreign tour, and was visited on his death-bed by the prince in person.

As Chief Commissioner of Woods and Forests, he signalled himself by providing out of the Crown Lands for the neglected clergy of the Forest of Dean, and for the spiritual interests of 11,000 souls dependent on their daily labour on Crown property. Dr. Bowring, Mr. Joseph Hume, and Mr. Thomas Duncombe opposed this "fresh encroachment of the Church;" but even Mr. Henry Berkeley supported it, and it was carried. With various services of practical utility, the improvement of drainage, the widening of the streets, the establishment of Victoria-park, the proposal of an embankment between Westminster and Blackfriars, the Earl of Lincoln's domestic career closed in 1846. As Chief Secretary for Ireland he left no mark; and indeed, his temperament was hardly suited to Irish latitudes.

The duke had been a Lord of the Treasury in 1834-5, Chief Commissioner of Woods and Forests from 1841 to January 1846, and Chief Secretary for Ireland from January to July of that year. In December, 1852, he accepted the post of Colonial and War Secretary (for both then were combined) in Lord Aberdeen's Cabinet.

When the Colonial was separated from the War Department, the duke, in choosing the latter, had shown patriotism and ambition; but he could not make or remodel a whole vast disorganised system in the face of the demands of the war. Gradually tidings came home which wrung all hearts. The troops had no great coats, no medicines; but there was a vast quantity of biscuit and coffee, only the biscuit was mouldy and the coffee green. The opening of the session of 1855 witnessed the beginning of the end. Mr. Roebuck gave notice in the House of Commons of a committee of inquiry into the whole administration of the war. On the day when he was to bring it on Lord John Russell resigned office. The motion came on. Lord Palmerston and all his colleagues manfully stood by the duke. "The Duke of Newcastle," said Mr. Henley, always candid and generous, "is the most ill-used man in England; his colleagues got him into a fix, and then left him." The motion was carried to the astonishment of the House, by 305 to 148. Next day Lord Aberdeen resigned, and in a manly way eulogised the duke, whose explanation and vindication can hardly yet have been forgotten. What stung him into a noble and touching eloquence was the charge of "indifference and indolence." "My lords," he exclaimed, "as regards the charge of indolence, I can only say that the public have had, at all events, every hour and every minute of my time. Not one hour of recreation or amusement have I presumed to think that I was entitled to take. My lords, the other charge, that of indifference, is still more painful to me. Indifference, my lords, to what? Indifference to the honour of the country, indifference to the success and the safety of our army! My lords, I have myself, like many who listen to me, too dear hostages for my interest in the welfare of the military and naval services of the country to allow of such a sentiment. I have two sons engaged in those two services, and that, alone, I think, would be sufficient to

prevent me from being indifferent; but, my lords, as a Minister—as a man—I should be unworthy to stand in any assembly if the charge of indifference under such circumstances could be truly made against me. Many a sleepless night I have passed, my lords, thinking over the evils which the public think, and say, I could have cured, and which, God knows! I would have cured if it had been within my power. Indolence and indifference are not charges that can truly be brought against me. I deny the charges; and I trust that my countrymen will before long be satisfied, whatever they may think of my capacity, that there is no ground for fixing this unjust stigma upon me." No fair man could deny the justice as well as the indignant emotion manifest in this vindication, which has long since been justified.

The Duke was out of office from 1855 to 1859, when the present government was formed, and he was appointed Secretary of State for the Colonies, which he held till April last. This time his grace was appointed to the office for which his talents and acquirements admirably fitted him. The present condition of our colonial possessions—regulating their own affairs, exercising all the privileges of self-government—renders the office of Colonial Secretary an easy one as it respects the parliament of this country, whatever may be the nature or amount of his correspondence with the colonies themselves. During the five years of his grace's holding the seals the only prominent incident was his excursion to Canada and the United States in company with the Prince of Wales. There his travels through the two countries was an almost continual ovation, and would have been so altogether but for the religious dissensions between Roman Catholics and Orangemen. The Orangemen showed no lack of loyalty, but they insisted on showing it in their own way; and the duke, with a becoming sense of what was due to the dignity of the Crown, would not suffer the Heir Apparent to be mixed up in party and polemical demonstrations. With this one exception, neither the Prince nor the Secretary had any cause to regret their visit to this magnificent possession of the British Crown. He continued at his post afterwards, working quietly, unostentatiously, but with rare diligence and conscientious industry, till, towards the close of last year, symptoms of failing health appeared, which obstinately refused to yield to medical treatment. He would have resigned, it is said, sooner than he did, but remained at his post at the personal request of the Premier, who highly appreciated his services.

The ducal house of Clinton has had an uninterrupted male descent, concurrently with the tenure of landed estates, from a date prior to the dissolution of the monasteries. But the Clintons date to an age long prior to that event; by some they are said to have been of Anglo-Saxon extraction. They held lands near Woodstock, Oxfordshire, as early as the middle of the 13th century; and we find John de Clinton, of Amington, county Warwick, summoned to Parliament in 1299 (27th Edward I.) as Baron Clinton of Maxstock. His son, Sir William, successively became Chief Justice of Chester, Constable of Dover Castle, and Warden of the Cinque Ports; and, having been one of those who surprised Mortimer at Nottingham Castle, was created Earl of Huntingdon, a title which became extinct at his death without male issue. His nephew, the fourth Lord Clinton, was a sharer in the military glories of Edward III. and the Black Prince; and his descendant, Edward, ninth lord, who attained the highest rank as a naval commander during the reigns of Henry VIII. and his three immediate successors, was raised in 1572 to the Earldom of Lincoln, which is still extant in the family as the second title. The ancient Barony of Clinton, being a barony in fee and descendible to female heirs, passed away into another line in 1692. Henry, the seventh Earl, was one of the officers of the Court to Prince George of Denmark, and filled the posts of Paymaster-General and Constable

of the Tower. He married Lucy, daughter of Thomas, Lord Pelham, and sister and heir of the then Duke of Newcastle. He left a son, who eventually inherited the earldom, and who was fortunate enough to obtain for his relative, the duke, a fresh patent of his dukedom with remainder to himself. It is in consequence of this alliance that the Newcastle family, to the present day, bear the double name of Pelham-Clinton. The nobleman who thus first combined in his person the names, moneys, and estates of the Pelhams and the Clintons, was the great grandfather of the nobleman whose life closed last Tuesday.

The late duke married in November, 1832, the Lady Susan Harriet Catherine Hamilton-Douglas, only daughter of the late Duke of Hamilton and Brandon, but the marriage was not a happy one, and it ended in a separation, and eventually a divorce. His Grace had five children by this union—a daughter, Lady Susan Charlotte, now the widow of Lord Adolphus Vane Tempest, and four sons, of whom the eldest, Henry Pelham Alexander, Earl of Lincoln, succeeds to the title as sixth duke. The new duke was born in 1834, and married in 1861 Henrietta Adela, daughter and heir of the late Henry Thomas Hope, Esq., of Deepdene, Surrey. There is issue one son, now Earl of Lincoln, who was born on the 28th ult. His grace, who is an officer in the Royal Sherwood Rangers and a deputy lieutenant for Notts, sat as M.P. for the borough of Newark from 1857 to 1859. He contested Nottingham unsuccessfully in December, 1861.

The late duke was a privy councillor in England and also in Ireland, one of the Council of the Duchy of Lancaster, Lord Warden of the Stannaries, and Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of Nottinghamshire, which offices fell by his decease to the disposal of Lord Palmerston.

His grace was initiated in the Apollo University Lodge, Oxford (No. 357, late 460), on the 12th March, 1832, and on the 14th of May, 1860, was, by the desire of the Masons of Notts, amongst whom he was very popular, appointed Prov. G. Master of Nottinghamshire, and had only just begun to take an active part in the business of the Order when he was attacked by that illness which has unhappily proved fatal.

The present duke was also initiated in the Apollo University Lodge.

BRO. JOHN HOLLINS, P.M. AND TREAS. 169, W.M. 147.

This esteemed brother was initiated about seven years ago in the Temperance Lodge, and in 1860, he served the office of Master of that lodge, and was elected Treasurer twice in succession. He afterwards joined the Crystal Palace Lodge, and remained a member of it for two or three years. He joined the Lodge of Justice four years ago, and was installed as W.M. last January. He was exalted into Royal Arch Masonry in the Domestic Chapter, and when the Temperance Chapter was founded was the first J, and was exalted H, but was too ill to occupy his position in the chapter. He was a builder by profession. He was cut off in the prime of life—his age being only forty-two. He has left a widow and family to deplore their irreparable loss. He was greatly esteemed and respected by all who knew him, and his loss will be greatly felt by all the members of the Craft who knew him.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

DRURY LANE THEATRE.

The revived play of "Cymbeline," and the return to the stage of Miss Helen Faucit, brought together on Monday evening a very numerous and fashionable assemblage. The audience was not only a notable one on

numerical grounds, but as comprising a large proportion of playgoers who evidently came with cherished remembrances of a pleasant theatrical past, the occasion was invested with all the interest that belongs to a re-awakening of agreeable associations. An actress who revisits in maturity the stage from which she retired in her youth, requires to be attended by a train of her former admirers, in order to give a proper assurance of the position that she previously held on the boards, and rarely has the re-entry of a popular favourite been more fitly accompanied or more heartily welcomed. Miss Helen Faucit could have chosen no character more likely to recal a train of pleasant reminiscences than *Imogen*. It was in the embodiment of this type of feminine excellence that her abilities were first fully displayed, and among all Shakespeare's heroines it would be difficult to mention one that subjects the power of the performer to a severer test. It was as *Imogen* that the young actress, who has so rapidly gained the favour of the town, gave the earliest proof of being freed from mannerisms which had clearly indicated the conventional school in which she had been trained. It was then, trusting more to the impulses of nature than the misguiding suggestions of tutors in stage-craft, that her emotions found a new channel for their expression, and the result was a performance replete with true feeling, and characterised by a poetic grace and charming simplicity which left no attribute of the character unrepresented. It was not, of course, to be expected, even by those who, in the permanence of the first impression, had forgotten the lapse of time giving the best proof of its durability, that in resuming the part after so long an interval the actress could revive the freshness of the fascinations which had belonged to it in the days of the memorable Macready management. Experience has proverbially to be dearly purchased, and on the stage especially it is frequently only attained after the sacrifice in exchange of many valuable physical advantages. In the earlier scenes of the play a spectator might have recognised the difficulty of recovering the control of an art which has been for some time interrupted in its habitual exercise; but as the action advanced the actress regained much of her wonted sway over the hearts of the audience, and with the boy's dress was again assumed that gracefulness of aspect and earnestness of expression which in other days had enlisted so thoroughly the sympathies of the public. The play, so peculiarly adopted to exhibit in full employment the talents of an efficient company, was in all its prominent parts well represented, and Mr. Phelps again gives the strongest interpretation of the trusting love and the torturing belief in its betrayal, which the relying, the revenging, and the ultimately repentant *Leonatus Posthumus* is called upon to depict. Mr. Creswick, as the crafty *Iachimo*, does not attempt to convey the idea of the subtle Italian who is spurred to his fiendish enterprise by malice alone, and which, as once illustrated, converted the character into another *Iago*, but he wisely adopts the style of later representatives, and exhibits the bold-faced libertine more as the voluptuary than the villain. Laughingly incredulous of that female virtue existing under northern skies which, in his own sunnier clime, he has failed to discover, *Iachimo* may be supposed to entertain the project as a mere trial of skill to solve an existing doubt, and from this point of view Mr. Creswick rendered the part with excellent effect. To the judicious delivery of Mr. Henry Marston the fine speeches that are allotted to the banished lord, *Belarius*, were appropriately assigned, and these were given with a declamatory dignity that commanded the reverential attention of the auditory. The supposed sons of the disguised nobleman, *Guiderius* and *Arviragus*, were endowed with the requisite youthful and chivalric spirit by Mr. G. F. Neville and Mr. Warde; and their real father, *Cymbeline*, found a sonorous and characteristically rugged representative of the British King in Mr. A. Rayner. The faithful servitor,

Pisanio, was sensibly acted by Mr. Edmund Phelps; and Mr. Walter Lacy as *Cloten* freed the personation most commendably from those gross extravagances which have been sometimes so liberally indulged in when the part has been recklessly handed over to the recognised low comedian of the theatre. The cunning and ambitious step-mother received from Miss Atkinson a very conscientious expression of the sinister motives of the *Queen*; and the entire play, thus represented in a highly creditable manner, gave the utmost satisfaction to an evidently thoroughly entertained audience. The last distinction it is more necessary to observe, as, notwithstanding the wealth of poetry scattered prodigally through every scene, the impression that "*Cymbeline*" is a heavy-acting play is sustained in the popular mind by the infrequency of its representation. The accessories were complete, and, though no pretension was made to an elaborate revival, both scenery and costumes indicated the care bestowed in securing a general completeness of effect. The text of the library edition of the play has been followed, with certain modifications made for obvious reasons; and, to avert any accusation of managerial sins of omission, it may be sufficient to mention that the mythological scene, introducing Jupiter and the aged brothers and parents of the dreaming *Posthumus*, had not been presented to an audience in modern times, and that the most rigid sticklers for textual integrity have not been heard to grumble at its absence. The serenade, "Hark, the lark at heaven's gate sings," which *Cloten* causes to be sung under *Imogen's* window, and which he so aptly describes as a "very excellent, good-conceited thing, after a wonderful sweet air, with admirable rich words to it," was well rendered in the familiar form of a glee, and the dirge was impressively given afterwards, with the "soft, plaintive music" that forms its fitting accompaniment. At the end of the second act Mr. Phelps and Mr. Creswick were successively recalled; and when the curtain finally fell the audience summoned Miss Helen Faucit in addition to receive the now customary compliment.

VICTORIA THEATRE.

At this theatre, under the management of Bros. Frampton and Fenton, a new piece, entitled "*Life in Lambeth*," was produced on Saturday last in the most praiseworthy manner, the scenery, by Bro. Fenton, being excellently painted. The scene of the "*Elephant and Castle on a Winter's Night*," and the well-managed house on fire, brought down thunders of applause. We cannot speak too highly of the acting of Mr. F. Villiers as the clerk *Chizzler*, and of Mr. Basil Potter as the *Banker*. Mr. Yarnold has a comic character allotted to him—that of *Hal Puffybun*; and his song to the popular tune of the "*Organ Grinder*" was loudly encored. The ladies fulfilled their respective characters with commendable spirit and ability, the rendering of that of the Banker's daughter by Miss Julia Seaman, and the pathos put into the part of *Lucy Weathergale*, the poor sempstress, leaving nothing to be desired.

CITY OF LONDON THEATRE.

Mr. Nelson Lee resumed his managerial duties, and commenced his winter season on Monday, the 10th. An extraordinary drama of real life, called "*The Slaves of London*," introduced several old favourites and some new candidates for popularity in Norton Folgate. The drama is well put upon the stage, under the direction of Mr. Frederick Marchant. Mr. Nelson Lee has effected certain alterations conducive to the comfort of his patrons, and has tastefully redecorated his theatre. A good view of the stage is now secured from any part of the house, and the respected lessee's care for the convenience of his supporters will no doubt be properly appreciated. Imported novelties are announced as in course of preparation.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.

This justly-popular resort, which has so long and so successfully catered for the instruction and amusement of its many visitors, under the able direction of Professor Pepper, seems prepared during the present season to provide a series of attractions, which, for variety and interest, are likely to surpass the entertainment of former years. In addition to the well-known "Ghost" exhibition, the amusing burlesque of Mr. Coote, entitled "*Sinbad the Sailor*," and the extraordinary performances of "*Paganini's Ghost*," which all elicit nightly the applause of crowded audiences, the public is indebted to the talent of Professor Pepper for a very able lecture on optics and acoustics, illustrated by numerous ingenious experiments, which are evidently highly appreciated by the throngs who witness them.

STRAND MUSIC HALL.

This new hall (pedantically called Musick Hall) or such portion of it as is completed, after various delays, was opened on Saturday; and having witnessed the performance, we cannot promise the managers a success until the whole of their arrangements are re-modelled.

An official programme states—"The main building as it at present exists, which constitutes what may be called the Hall proper, covers what was the site of old Exeter-change, and adjacent buildings running E. and W. from opposite the Lyceum Theatre, in Wellington-street, Strand, to Catherine-street, where it has a present frontage of seventy feet, from which to Wellington-street the depth is over a hundred and ten feet.

"The company have acquired the land upon which will ultimately extend the main building to Exeter-street on the N., where it will possess a frontage of about sixty feet.

"The Hall is approached from the Strand by a building ninety-six feet long, with a frontage of thirty-six feet to the Strand, which contains besides the spacious corridors and grand staircase saloon (forming communications from the Strand with all parts of the building), commodious and elegant dining and smoking rooms, with waiters' serving rooms, and lavatory and dressing rooms for visitors to each; and immediately communicating with the Hall proper on the ground, balcony, and box floors, refreshment bars or buffets, which will be used as luncheon bars and for the service of the dining rooms during the day, and as buffets for the use of the Hall in the evening.

"The artificial lighting of the Hall is effected through the ceiling, on a system designed by Mr. Keeling. With the exception of the reveals to the ribs, the ceiling is composed of coloured glass in the panels, pure glass prisms in soffits of ribs, and baskets or lanterns, composed of prisms, at the intersections. The cast-iron panels in cornice over clerestory brackets are also backed up with sheets of opal glass. There is a total absence in the Hall of gas-fittings, with the exception only of the foot-lights. The space between ceiling and roof forms a lighting chamber, in which all the gas arrangements are contained, which, together with those of every portion of the building, are controlled and regulated in the valve room, and from this a view of the Hall is obtained through the bay of clerestory windows in the extreme left of the south side of the Hall.

"The roof of the building is entirely wrought iron and zinc, constructed with lattice principals transversely from east to west, and from the plates forming the tie beams the ribs of the ceiling are suspended. These ribs are fitted with moulded zinc sash frames to receive the sheets of coloured glass laid loose on broad rebates, and bedded on india rubber, thus facilitating the removal of the glass for cleaning, overcoming the difficulty of expansion and contraction, and obviating by the india-rubber beds the liability to breakage or vibration to which this arrangement would otherwise subject it. The

ribs dividing the ceiling are hollow, and fitted with notched plates to receive prisms, fifteen inches in length, and about three inches in width. Alternately with these prisms, of which there will be over a thousand, occur strips of plate glass, ground on one side, and having stars cut upon them. The lantern pendants at the intersections are also formed of prisms of various forms of pure crystal, the light in small jets of gas being brought down into them below the level of the line of the prisms, which are lighted by floats of gas in small jets close together along the upper edge of the hollow ribs, and on a level with the coloured glass panels; these are lighted by starlights, over each of which is a flat cone reflector communicating with ventilating shafts of galvanised iron."

We are further informed that "Vocal and Instrumental Operatic Selections will fill a prominent place in the nightly programmes, and will be arranged upon a novel plan, calculated to afford full scope at once for the talent of the singers and for the skill of the orchestral performers. The symphonies of the great masters will occasionally be rendered, but at the same time the light and effervescent works of the composers of the hour will fully receive their full share of attention. The aim of the directors of the Strand Musick Hall will be to please all tastes, save only those which are depraved. They purpose to enable the classical amateur to revel in the emanations of the loftiest genius—the lover of sparkling dance music to drink in the capering melodies to his heart's content—the worshipper of grand lyric inspiration to depart well satisfied with his treat—the adorer of the simple ballad to feel that he has had his full share of enjoyment—and the patron of comic singing to recognise that his special predilections have not been uncared for. In the last-named department it may be almost needless to say that every feature introduced will be jealously and rigorously scrutinised, and carefully kept free from anything that could shock the most refined taste or grate upon the most delicate susceptibilities."

With such pretensions we expected a much better entertainment than that produced—a promenade concert at the same prices as Mellon's or Jullien's, with a very inadequate band, which is not yet well under the *baton* of the conductor, Mr. Kingsbury. Three ladies made their *début* in classical music, but they are none of them better than those of other Music Halls—though Mdle. Mayer, the contralto, will no doubt become a favourite. The band having played the *finale* to the first part, the Persian Story-teller Kisseh Kon appeared in full costume to introduce one of his wonderful relations—a doggrel version of "Romeo and Juliet;" and this we must protest against as altogether a mistake—Whitechapel Persian without a scintilla of wit is not suited for a Music Hall which pretends to eclipse all others in the nature of its performances; and the wonderful relation was certainly not equal to the stump orations of other establishments. He was both vulgar and impertinent, and being duly appreciated by the audience, first told them if they did not like him they "had better go and liquor," and then bade them good night in a huff. In the second part, Mons. Duhem (formerly of Jullien's, at the Surrey Gardens) gave a cornet solo with variations on Rode's Air, which proved him a perfect master of his art, and was the real gem of the evening. The other solo performers, Signor Tito Mattei, a pianist, and Signor Giovanni Adelmann, a violinist, were also well received. The leader, Mr. F. Kingsbury, was loudly applauded, whilst Mr. Lea, the manager, and Mr. Keeling, the architect, were called for by their friends.

The general appearance of the Hall is good, but the pillars and fronts of the balconies and boxes are too sombre, being coloured a deep brown. The roof, which is most beautiful by day, does not show to advantage in the evening, and owing to the peculiar arrangement of the lights much of the excellent decorations, especially

of the ceilings of the balconies, is altogether lost. The light itself requires some modification, and we would suggest the taking away of all that portion of the glass roof painted yellow, and substituting plain ground glass, with, perhaps, the introduction of an occasionally polished star.

The prospectus of the undertaking contains the following grandiloquent declaration, which, if rigidly adhered to, will, no matter what the entertainment, ensure the failure of the undertaking. If smoking could be excluded it would be as well, but other refreshments will be required, and if not allowed, the public will go where they can be obtained, especially when the entertainment is not worth the money charged:—

"Smoking and drinking have, in the establishments heretofore called Music Halls, sat elbow to elbow with harmony. The Directors of the Strand Musick Hall have thought it fitting to bestow this designation upon their building, inasmuch as it is a hall devoted to the performance of music; but as the music given will be of a superior class, they expect from their visitors an equally exalted etiquette. Creature comforts—both nicotian and alcoholic—will be found at the spacious buffets, and in the corridors and saloons which surround the Hall. Visitors will have all the facilities they could desire for their puffings and their potations, but not within the Hall, which is consecrated to music."

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen and junior members of the Royal Family continue at Balmoral, from whence they are to return on the 26th. The young Prince Albert Victor arrived in the *Humber* on Sunday afternoon, on board her Majesty's ship *Salamis*, in charge of the Countess De Grey and Ripon. The weather was rather rough, and the baby had suffered somewhat from sea-sickness, but recovered as the vessel came up the *Humber*. The landing did not take place till Monday morning, when the Countess De Grey and the nurse with the Royal infant embarked on the town pier, amid the cheers of the thousands there assembled, and proceeded to the railway station, where a train was in waiting to convey the party to Scotland. The Prince and Princess of Wales continue in Denmark.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The returns of the Registrar General show a considerable increase in the mortality of the metropolis during the past week. For the four previous weeks the deaths were under 1,300; last week they amounted to 1,355. This is 172 above the estimated number, according to the ten years' average. Among the causes of mortality bronchitis begins to assume a prominent place. The births, however, more than keep pace with the deaths—2,072 children were born in the course of the week, which is 221 above the average number. —Parliament has been formally prorogued until the 11th of November; but unless something of importance should render an earlier meeting than usual necessary, it is not likely that it will assemble for the despatch of business until February. —The pauperism of the twenty-eight distressed unions continues to increase. The return just issued shows that an accession of 6,580 paupers took place in the second week of the month, and that nearly half (3,100) were able-bodied adults; the total number of this class alone being, at the latest date, upwards of 24,600. The largest increase has taken place in the following unions—viz., Ashton-under-Lyne, 1,390; Blackburn, 750; Bury, 880; Preston, 670; Saddleworth, 670; and Skipton (which, though assisted through its industrial collapse by grants from the Central Relief Committee, has never been reported upon by Mr. Farnall), 370. The out-relief expenditure was

increased by £310 during the week; the total is now £5,813.—The Exhibition of Works of Skill and Industry by the Working Men of North London, for which preparations have been made for some time past, was opened in the Agricultural Hall, Islington. Earl Russell was invited to preside at the opening, and there was a large attendance of eminent persons accompanying his lordship, besides several thousands of the general public. After a religious service, and the singing of an ode written for the occasion, Lord Russell, who had made a careful examination of the works in the Exhibition, congratulated the London mechanics on the skill, industry, and ingenuity they had displayed, and said he was proud to be the countryman of such men. His lordship asked the people to continue to show confidence in the laws of the country. "You may depend upon it," he said, "that this is a country in which, by means of discussion, by means of the press, by means of Parliament, and by the operation of public opinion, all that is good in government and legislation will ultimately prevail, and in which, under God, every man shall be blessed."—On Saturday afternoon last the new German Hospital was opened by his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge. There has been an hospital established principally, but by no means exclusively, for German patients, in that neighbourhood for nearly twenty years, and the need for it having greatly outgrown its capacity, a new and more commodious structure has been erected in the grounds immediately adjoining. The benefits the hospital has conferred both on German and English patients were strikingly set forth by the treasurer, and from the list of contributions that gentleman read, it was plain that the wealthy Germans in London are by no means unmindful of the needs of their poorer brethren.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer received the various addresses which had been voted to him at Liverpool on the 13th inst. In consequence of the great number of persons who desired to be present, the meeting was held in St. George's Hall, which was crowded on the occasion. Mr. Gladstone addressed his audience for nearly an hour, in the course of which he adverted to his early connection with Liverpool, to the rapid growth of the town, to the advantages of direct over indirect taxation, and to the benefits, present and to come, that would flow from free trade. The right hon. gentleman was warmly cheered in the course of his speech. Mr. Gladstone visited Manchester and received an address from the Corporation. In acknowledging this mark of confidence, the right hon. gentleman touched upon several subjects of great interest, which he seems to have specially reserved for this, the closing day of a somewhat arduous week of extra-parliamentary labour. Speaking of the American war, he justified the policy of absolute neutrality, which the Government had adopted; but he repeated, though in rather less definite form than on previous occasions, his opinion that the subjugation of the Confederate States is one of those tasks which it is easier to undertake than to perform. The Franco-Italian treaty he was disposed to regard with the "eye of hope and satisfaction;" and if it did not promise an immediate solution of the very serious difficulties with which the destinies of Italy are still beset, he knew "that the best and wisest men of Italy believe that by that treaty a great step has been gained towards the consolidation of freedom in that country." The right hon. gentleman also referred to the cession of the Ionian Islands, the Dano-German question, the effect of the repeal of the paper duty on the press of the country, and the moral heroism and philanthropy which had been displayed during the cotton famine in the manufacturing districts. Later in the day Mr. Gladstone distributed the prizes awarded to the successful candidates for Oxford Middle-class honours in this district.—At

the last meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works, several matters of interest to their constituents came under review. A report on the removal of Middle-row, Holborn, was received, but referred back to the committee for further examination. A communication from Mr. Cowper, recommending the board to buy up and exercise the Crown rights in Epping Forest, was agreed to be answered in effect that, so far as the recreation of the London population was concerned, those rights were not worth the purchase, and recommending that Government should bring in a bill to preserve Epping Forest and other open places. There was also a discussion on the question of the quality of granite used for the Thames embankment, but it led to no result.—At a City Court of Sewers, a report was read from the committee who had been employed to report on the desirableness of constructing a circus at the junction of Ludgate-hill and Fleet-street. The committee strongly approved of the project, and recommends its immediate adoption. After some discussion this report was adopted by the Court.—The first stone of Contract No. 2 of the Thames Embankment has been laid by Mr. Bazalgette. The portion of the work of which this forms the foundation stone is at the west end of the Temple Pier, and is in length 126ft. by 41ft. in breadth.—The launch of another iron-clad vessel, the *Royal Alfred*, took place at Portsmouth on Saturday. She was laid down in 1859, but was afterwards lengthened and converted into an iron-clad ram, and it is intended to plate her with 4½-inch iron plates down to her water-lines. The launch, which was a most successful one, was witnessed by about 10,000 persons, whose cheers as the good ship glided into the water were absolutely deafening. An iron-clad frigate, built for the Spanish Government by the Messrs. Green, of Poplar has also been launched during the past week. The frigate, which is named the *Arapiles* (after that range of hills where the Duke of Wellington gained the glorious victory known in our histories as the battle of Salamanca—the French call it the battle of the Arapiles), was originally designed for a wood vessel; but she was afterwards altered and converted into an iron-clad. We believe this is the first effort those well-known shipbuilders, the Messrs. Green, have made in the construction of iron ships.—At a meeting of the Middlesex magistrates the question of admitting Roman Catholic chaplains to gaols was under discussion. It appeared from the report of the visiting justices that the chaplain was admitted to those prisoners only who desired his services, and no money had been spent in the purchase of chalices, crucifixes, &c. A motion made by Mr. Serjeant Payne, to the effect that the interviews between the chaplain and the prisoner should not be carried on without witnesses, was agreed to.—Another of those great frauds which from time to time startle the City was on Saturday charged against a man named De Witt, who had obtained wine from a foreign firm through its agency in the City to the extent of nearly £5,000. The charge against the prisoner is that he represented himself to be the London agent of Messrs. John Stuart and Co., who are bankers in New York and merchants in Manchester. In payment for the wine he gave bills drawn for the most part by that firm and accepted by some of the first mercantile firms in the North of England. The purchase of the wine was made in two separate transactions. The first only of these was gone into on Saturday, and it was hinted that there were circumstances of some mystery and delicacy attending the second.—On Saturday, Thomas Burrowes, a stock-jobber, was brought before Mr. Alderman Challis at the Guildhall on the charge of having obtained 2,000 bonds of the Confederate Cotton Loan on false pretences. The prisoner had obtained the bonds on the understanding that they were to be settled for on

Friday, and he gave a cheque for them on the Alliance Bank, which, on being presented, was returned with "no effects." The defence was that the prisoner had got into a little difficulty, which would be adjusted in a day or two. The magistrate however, in remanding the case, required substantial bail, which not being forthcoming he was locked up.—Mr. Wilson, the agent of the Earl of Leitrim, in Donegal, was shot at and severely wounded a few days ago. The utmost exertions have been made by the police to detect the assassins; but though they were seen to walk quietly away from the place the peasantry will give no information. Several persons have been arrested on suspicion; but the evidence, so far as it has yet appeared, is not sufficient to detain them. The peasantry either sympathise with the committal of the crime or the criminals have inspired them with too much terror to allow them to come forward.—An old woman, named Butler, who lived in a lonely cottage on the borders of Windsor Great Park, was murdered on Saturday last, but by whom there is at present no evidence to show.—A collier, named Atkinson, cut his wife's throat at a place near Wakefield, on Thursday night; and in Herefordshire, on the following day, a ruffian, named Morris, shot his wife in the head. Mrs. Atkinson is likely to recover, but Mrs. Morris's wound it is feared will prove fatal.—M. Du Chaillu has been heard from. On the 20th of August he was preparing for a long journey into the interior, and meanwhile he had shipped a live gorilla for England.—An inquest has been held on the body of a girl named Jennings, who was drowned in the River Lea while out walking with her sweetheart. It appeared that there were two young men who paid their addresses to the girl, and the witnesses detailed some gossiping statements to the effect that the young man with whom she was walking at the time of her death was jealous of her, and had threatened to do her an injury. On the other hand, the young man's statement was that the girl accidentally slipped in, and it appeared that the place was quite unprotected, and that his voice was heard calling for help. The jury returned an open verdict, but intimated it was their opinion that the young man was quite innocent of her death.—The deputy coroner for Westminster has been engaged in an inquiry respecting the death of a working man under mysterious circumstances. He was found lying in the Green Park a few days ago, having parted with a comrade not long before, and was carried to St. George's Hospital. There he was supposed to be drunk, and was handed over to the police cells. Bailed out thence he was taken home, but soon afterwards was removed to the Westminster Hospital, where he was found to be covered with blows and bruises, of which he soon afterwards died. But none of these were observed on him when in St. George's Hospital, and the question was when and where he received them. The inquiry was adjourned to give time for further evidence.—At the adjourned inquest on the persons killed by the Erith explosion, the several witnesses were examined, but no information could be got as to the date when the letter was written in which Raynor complained of the leaky state of the powder barrels. Some men accustomed to navigate powder barges were examined, and they stated that they were in the habit of having fires on board when they were on the voyage and the powder was battened down, but not when landing. They were also obliged to show lights on board to prevent being run down by steamers, which one of the witnesses said was a more imminent danger than being blown up. The inquiry was again adjourned to the 1st of November.—The Colliers' Committee at Bilston, have virtually retired from the contest between the pitmen and their masters, and the

men, thus left to themselves, are gradually returning to their work. A powerful organisation, however, still faces the coal-owners of South Staffordshire, and acts of intimidation continue to be reported. The colliers of the Wigan district have taken the first step towards an "agitation" for an increase of wages but we trust that in this case a strike will be avoided.—On Sunday morning, about four o'clock a fire occurred on the premises of Messrs. Smith, known as the Patent Wheel Works in Pimlico, which was not extinguished until the large buildings of the firm, filled with valuable machinery and manufactured stock, were destroyed. Every effort was made by the firemen to subdue the flames, but this could not be effected until past six o'clock in the evening. The loss of property will be very great, and it was not ascertained whether the firm were insured or not. Several surrounding properties were exposed to great danger, but fortunately they suffered little injury. We are happy to say that no lives were lost.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—A part of the mission on which our Foreign Secretary has despatched Lord Clarendon to Vienna is, according to the *Pays*, to endeavour to persuade that country to reduce her armaments. Earl Russell, it seems, pledges himself to prevail upon Italy to follow a like course should Austria have the magnanimity to take the lead in disarming. A French provincial journal, *L'Echo Arlesien*, has been sentenced to cease its publication, the printer is fined 500 francs, and the manager condemned to one month's imprisonment. The article which has brought about this sweeping penalty is described as an "outrage on religion." The writer himself receives a fortnight's imprisonment, and pays a fine of 500 francs. The *Moniteur* publishes the official report of General Jolivet on the severe engagements between his column and the Arabs, in which the French arms proved victorious. The loss of the natives was about 400, while the French had only 82 killed. According to the report the native horsemen acting as auxiliaries to the French deserted their allies and went over to the Arabs. Some surprise is expressed in Paris at the report that the Government intends to raise the army of Algeria to a fighting complement of 100,000 men. As such a force appears to be far larger than is required to put down the rebellion of the revolted tribes in the Tell, surmises are entertained that the force may be intended for other purposes, and that, as on a former occasion, it may be poured into Italy. It appears from the *Pays* that the French Government are now very desirous to get out of the treaty with Cochin China. Although denied in official circles, it is still generally believed that some Ministerial changes are impending, and the probable resignation of M. Drouyn de Lhuys is spoken of. It is asserted in Paris that the Emperor has addressed a letter to M. Rouher, which, like many other epistolary communications, is designed for the edification of Europe at large. The Imperial mind displays in this document a strong bias towards a pacific solution of the various questions that harass the Governments of the Continent at the present moment. The Papal Nuncio in Paris is understood to have communicated a note to the French Government from Cardinal Antonelli. The note in question is merely an acknowledgment of the receipt of the convention, and abstaining from any sort of reply. The Italian convention is to be supported in the French Senate by the Archbishop of Paris, who is to make his maiden speech on the occasion.—Disquieting rumours are current in Paris respecting the probable effects of the new convention on the Italian Government. Serious disturbances are apprehended, and even revolution is hinted at when the time arrives for the transference of the capital. It is hoped, however, that by a judicious liberty of free discussion the popular feeling may find vent in that more

rational channel, and thus avert the calamity of resorting to a display of physical force. One reassuring circumstance is the decided *fiasco* which attended the attempt of the party of action to get up a popular demonstration at Milan on the subject. A protest has been entered against the appropriation of Florence as a capital for Italy by its former Sovereign, the ex-Grand Duke of Tuscany. We learn from Turin that a decree of amnesty in behalf of the prisoners taken at Aspromonte will soon be issued, having been signed by the King. The city of Turin is quiet, and there is no truth in the report that a loan was about to be raised.—A gentleman who has just returned from Caprera gives a curious summary of conversation he seems to have had with Garibaldi. In the first place, the General intends to re-visit this country next year, "if events in Italy permit," and he is now quite convinced that "it was owing to no pressure from foreign powers, but entirely out of consideration for his health," that Mr. Gladstone and his other friends recommended in April last to leave England without completing what may be called his provincial engagements. With reference to the struggle in America, he holds that on the part of the North it is a war "for power and to satisfy wounded pride," while it "has become a war of self-defence on the part of the South, which has shown the truest patriotic feeling, the greatest bravery, and the finest generalship." He denies "most emphatically" that he ever offered his services to the Federals. He is "very much annoyed" about the Franco-Italian Treaty, and declares that it is altogether owing to the course taken by the Emperor of the French that Venice and Rome are still separated from the rest of Italy.—The definitive treaty of peace between Denmark and the German Powers appears to be on the point of completion; for we are told by a Vienna telegram that at the next meeting of the Conference the "general wording of the treaty will be discussed."—The next session of the Austrian Reichsrath will be opened on the 16th November.—We have very serious news from Brazil. The great banking firm of Souto at Rio has failed for a large amount, leading to the failure of several other firms, and the commercial crisis was so severe that the Government had decreed the suspension of cash payments by the banks. War had been declared between Brazil and Uruguay.—It is announced that a steamer, supposed to be a Spanish vessel bound from Antwerp to Matamoras, was seized on Monday last by the Federal cruisers *Niagara* and *Sacramento*, while some nine miles from the southern coast of England. It is added, however, that on Wednesday she was set at liberty by her captors, who must have discovered that her cargo, or her destination, was such that she could not be made a lawful prize.

AMERICA.—The *Persia*, from New York, has brought us some details of General Grant's recent operations in the neighbourhood of Richmond, but no accounts of any further fighting. From these details it appears that on the 29th ult. two Federal corps, under Generals Ord and Birney, which had suddenly crossed from the south to the north bank of the James River, advanced towards Richmond, and carried the works at Chapin's Bluff and Newmarket Heights, but subsequently failed to take a position held by the Confederates at Laurel Hill, and withdrew to the junction of the Varina and Newmarket roads. On the 30th ult. the Confederates unsuccessfully attempted to retake the positions captured by the Federals on the previous day; and on the 1st instant there was no fighting, though a Federal reconnaissance was pushed on towards Richmond. In these engagements the Federal correspondents appear to admit that their losses amounted to at least 2,000 men; and their black regiments, which are said to have behaved very

gallantly, suffered especially great losses. Active operations on the south of the James River did not commence before the 30th ult. on which day two Federal corps advanced, on the extreme left of the Federal lines, and carried some Confederate positions, but were ultimately stopped by a strong line of defences. On the 1st inst. the Federals advanced a little further, but then halted as they found the Confederates behind earthworks, which it was not prudent to assault. The Confederates still held positions covering the Southside Railway and the road by which they communicate with the Weldon Railway, and their defences were too formidable to be easily stormed. In these actions on the south of the James River the Federal correspondents admit losses amounting to more than 2,000 men, of whom more than half were made prisoners. Rumours of fighting, and of the death of General Butler, had been current in Washington, but were declared to be devoid of foundation. The latest accounts from General Sheridan's head-quarters were from Harrisonburg, and asserted that he was preparing to attack the Confederate position at Brown's Gap, but the Southern journals affirmed that he was retreating. There was no news from Atlanta; but there were many and conflicting accounts of the operations undertaken by bodies of Confederates, under General Forrest and other commanders, for the purpose of impeding or destroying General Sherman's railway communications. The Confederate invasion of Missouri caused the greatest alarm in St. Louis, and nothing was certainly known of the fate of the Federal General Ewing's brigade, which had been compelled to evacuate Pilot Knob, and endeavour to join the Federal forces elsewhere. Secretary Fessenden had issued proposals for a new loan of 40,000,000 dollars, to bear 6 per cent interest, payable in gold.

INDIA, CHINA, &c.—The Calcutta and China mail has arrived, but brings little or no intelligence which has not been substantially anticipated by previous telegrams. It was expected by the Europeans in Japan that hostilities would soon be begun by the English squadron against the Prince of Nagato. The advices from New Zealand show good reason for hoping that the surrender of the Tauranga tribes will soon be followed by the submission of all the revolted Maories.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- J. V. M. (Holloway).—We cannot insert advertisements from unknown correspondents unless previously paid for.
- THE BARON DE CAMIN.—Will M.M. and the P.Prov.S.G.W. Cork and Munster favour the Editor with their addresses when they shall hear from him by letter.
- J. W. (West Lancashire).—As a rule Thursday morning is in time for reports intended for the coming number; but last week proved an exception. We regret that you should have been annoyed by the terms of the notice to correspondents.
- B. D.—Yes, in 1856.
- S. S.—We cannot put impertinent questions to brethren with whom we are unacquainted. You can do so yourself if you think it safe.
- RUSTICUS has only to set himself closely to the work with the assistance of a friend, and he will find that they run so smoothly that there is no difficulty in becoming Master of the Ceremonies. Faint heart never succeeds.
- G. M.—We have received your communication, and will give it our earliest consideration.
- A. F.—Certainly not.