

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1865.

### FREEMASONRY IN CHINA.

The subject of British Freemasonry in China, and the proper legislation to meet the exigencies which have arisen in that country, from the rapid growth of the settlements at the Southern Treaty Ports, is one well worthy the serious contemplation of the brethren at large, and we, therefore, plead no excuse for bringing it under notice. It appears that the Prov. Grand Lodge (with the Grand Master) is at present located at Hong Kong, where it was placed in 1846; but the field over which its jurisdiction extends, reaching now to ports situated in the extreme north of the Chinese coast, would seem to call for some change which may equally distribute over the country the benefits of active Provincial Grand Government. There are in Hong Kong at the present time two lodges, one of which has been established for some time (since 1846), and the other newly established (1863). In Shanghai there are at present three lodges under the British Constitution, one established in 1850 (the Northern Lodge of China), one established at Hong Kong in 1844, and transferred here in the early part of 1863 (the Royal Sussex Lodge), and one started in 1863. Already there is in Shanghai one more English lodge than there is at Hong Kong, and around the place are many ports where lodges would be at once started, and zealously carried on, if they could be placed under a central authority, to give them information and protection.

A reference to the geography of China will show that Hong Kong, the present seat of the Provincial Grand Government of China, is the most southern of the ports now open to the trade with foreigners. Commencing with Hong Kong, we touch the mainland of China at Canton, and, proceeding northward, pass successively the ports of Swatow, Foochow, Amoy, Ningpo, Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin, and Newchwang, covering an extent of country requiring, for the exercise of an able and live Provincial Grand Government, a position in the empire which, at once central and of constant ready access, shall be enabled to afford those advantages which must be called for by an extended sphere of subordinate lodges. The system as at present worked is one which must soon lead to great and serious evils. The want of a Provincial head at a place like Shanghai, where, it being a centre of trade and population, it may

be enabled to work effectively for the interests of different lodges, has already begun to be felt. We are informed that a memorial has been addressed to the M.W. Grand Master by the Masonic bodies of Shanghai, praying that a "Provincial Grand Lodge of Northern China and Japan" may be established, and the empire of China thus divided into two provinces—the former jurisdiction of the Provincial Grand Master at Hong Kong being restricted, say, to the country as far north as Foochow, and the new Provincial Grand Lodge having its headquarters at Shanghai, to exercise jurisdiction from Foochow to the northern boundary of China, and to include the ports in Japan; but what has been the result of that memorial we have not yet heard. Shanghai has, during the past few years, made remarkable strides in commerce and population. The opening of the ports in the north of China and on the Yangtze River, coupled with the trade which passes through Shanghai from Japan, has placed this settlement at the head of the commercial emporiums of China. In almost daily communication with the several ports on the Yangtze, with a regular mail communication with the North, South, and Japan, the position of Shanghai is one in the highest degree calculated to afford the means of an active and useful operation for a Provincial Grand Lodge. The large increase of population caused by the great traffic thrown into the place from the different outlying parts will necessarily call for the establishment of new lodges; and one effect of the want of a powerful Provincial Government has been already shown by the establishment of one lodge working under the American Constitution, and also one established, or about to be established, under the Scotch jurisdiction.

The weakness of the rule of a Provincial Grand Lodge for China, working, as it does at present, from the most extreme southerly point, has not been apparent in past years; but its effects must be necessarily detrimental should there be any great extension of authority. A Provincial Grand Lodge at Hong Kong could with efficiency exercise authority over a district extending as far north as Foochow, for instance, and perhaps embracing within its jurisdiction the Philippine Islands, where there are as yet no lodges established; but a Provincial Grand Lodge placed at Shanghai, with a jurisdiction embracing China north of Foochow, and including

Japan (until, perhaps, in coming years, that country may so far progress as to call for a Provincial Grand Lodge for its exclusive government) would possess an opportunity of throwing open to an immense field the uses and advantages of a participation in Freemasonry, which must be denied so long as the provincial head is placed in its present remote position. Extending from Shanghai to the north to the ports of Chefoo, Tientsin, and Newchwang; to the east embracing Japan, with the ports of Yokohama and Nagasaki; to the west, covering the ports now open on the Yangtze River of Hankow, Kewkiang, and Chinkiang; and, to the south, that of Ningpo,—a vast field is opened of which Shanghai has become, and must always necessarily be, the centre of commerce, navigation, disposition of production, and population. This, therefore, is the point whence could be exercised with most influence and benefit the prerogative and authority of a Provincial Grand Lodge.

We hear that a petition is shortly to be forwarded to the Grand Master for the establishment of a lodge in Japan; and we are further informed that the many desires expressed for warrants at the Yangtze ports and the north would lead to a rapid increase of the number in China should a centralising influence be established, such as can only be exerted from a place like Shanghai, whence, easy of access, an effectual régime could be instituted.

The brethren who advocate the establishment of the new Provincial Grand Lodge mainly rest their case on the following grounds:—

1. The great distance of Hong Kong from Shanghai effectually precludes brethren at the latter port participating in the advantages of Provincial government.
2. There are in Hong Kong two, and in Shanghai three English lodges.
3. There is but one solitary instance on record of a Shanghai Mason being appointed a Provincial Grand Lodge Officer.
4. Shanghai is, therefore, wholly unrepresented, and Provincial Grand Lodge is too far off to be of use in granting dispensations.
5. That a second Provincial Grand Lodge would result in a general diffusion of Masonry throughout the various parts of the Chinese Empire where foreigners are located.

We have been favoured with the name of a brother who has been suggested for the office of

Provincial Grand Master; but, though we know how efficient and enthusiastic a Mason he is, we refrain from publishing it, the appointment being one of those prerogatives of the Grand Master with the exercise of which we feel it would be highly improper for us to interfere.

We trust, however, the peculiar position in which the brethren in Shanghai and its neighbourhood are placed, will have its due weight with the Most Worshipful Grand Master in determining the question whether it is desirable, as we believe it to be, to establish a second Provincial Grand Lodge in China.

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#### ALGERNON, DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND, K.G., IN CONNECTION WITH ART.

In the early dawn, on Sunday morning, the 12th inst., as the snow was falling falteringly on Alnwick Castle, and strowing deep silence in its courts and in the streets of the town without, Algernon Percy, fourth Duke of Northumberland, departed this life. One of England's mightiest nobles,—with a lineage authenticated through dim centuries, till it is found springing from Charlemagne, and through him from Caroloman, major domus to Clotharius, King of France,—various duties devolved upon him; but it is not our province to describe the several phases of his life: our limits confine us to an indication of his influence upon architecture and the arts generally. Born in 1792, the late Duke lived through grand eras in our history, serving his country as a midshipman whilst *la grande armée* was parading Europe, and as an admiral in the years that the third Napoleon has ruled France, while he has seen evolutions as startling in the world of art and letters.

Early in the present century the subject of our notice, then Lord Prudhoe, devoted himself to the study of Egyptian antiquities on the banks of the Nile; and, as the readers of Sir Gardner Wilkinson's works on Ancient Egypt may remember, made several interesting discoveries. So popular did this branch of archaeology become under his auspices and those of his *collaborateurs*, that a museum of antiquities that was without a mummy or sarcophagus was considered as devoid of interest as a garden without peas or cereals raised from seed found on Egyptian tombs. One of the towers on the line of circumvallation of Alnwick Castle contains the valuable collection of ancient Egyptian relics amassed by him at this time, and these it was ever his pleasure to show to guests. Subsequently the traces left by the ancient Romans of their occupation of this country had an especial interest for him. In 1852, the Archæological Institute held their annual meeting at Newcastle-

upon-Tyne, when his Grace received a large number of the members at Alnwick Castle. For this occasion he ordered a complete investigation to be made of the station of Bremenium, which was accordingly excavated and surveyed, and made the subject of a communication to the society by Dr. Bruce. The Duke also assisted with his open purse the publication of the work on the Roman Wall, by the same hand, copiously illustrated by Mr. Mossman; and a further work on Roman Remains is approaching completion, by his liberal aid and staunch encouragement. He caused, too, a survey of the Roman wall and roads in Northumberland to be made by Mr. H. Mac-lauchlan, whom he afterwards deputed to make a chart of the county, showing the numerous British camps, and consequent points of occupation by our pre-historic predecessors—a task not yet completed. The late Mr. Archer, as we recently mentioned, enjoyed a permanent commission to draw other antiquities in the county. The Duke had a few Mediaeval predilections. As in an antique *torso* restored by modern skill, there is a great gap in the periods of art with which his memory will be associated. Familiar with the household gods of the Egyptians, when Joseph presided over Pharaoh's house, and with the evidences the Roman emperors left of their dominion in our isle, his mind spanned the long interval to delight in modern knowledge and progress. This break is apparent in his disregard of the Mediaeval associations of Alnwick Castle, and in his wide patronage of classic art generally. But the authorisation of the handsome quarto, printed for private distribution, illustrating the architecture of Alnwick, Prudhoe, and Warkworth Castles, by Jewett, Le Keux, and Delamotte, is a departure from these preferences; and the elaboration of the slight papers read by the Rev. C. H. Hartshorne at the meeting of the Archæological Institute referred to above, into a portly volume, "On the Military and Feudal Architecture of Northumberland," full of illustrations, showing the peculiarities of Northumbrian castles and peles, all at the cost of his Grace, is another exception. These two volumes, aiming at fulness of detail in a few edifices rather than at generalities concerning many, stand apart as the most ample authority upon castellated architecture yet issued. As an instance of his perception of the obligations of his station as Border chief, and of his acquiescence in their necessities, rather than as a specimen of his literary sympathies, we may add that the duke incurred a large outlay, about six years ago, on the publication of a gorgeous edition of the poems of Robert Story, a Northumbrian peasant.

Soon after his accession to the dukedom, the Duke proposed to put one of his principal seats into the sumptuous and artistic condition befitting the residence of a noble of his rank. To this end he commissioned three architects to prepare him three designs, showing the extent of the capa-

bilities of the seats assigned to each to reach the elegance and fitness required. He apportioned Sion House to Mr. Decimus Burton, Northumberland House to Sir Charles Barry, and Alnwick Castle to Mr. Salvin. He ultimately selected Alnwick Castle, the seat which is most completely identified with the Percy race, as the scene of his proposed building operations. His grandfather, about a century before, had made the same selection when he was created first Duke of Northumberland. The letters of Horace Walpole make frequent allusion to the progress of the works at Alnwick, which fulfilled many of the conditions observed by his own taste at Strawberry Hill. When the work then executed was pulled down in 1854, with all its intricate plaster mouldings, fan-traceries, and lace-like vagaries, from among the *débris* there spoke two voices of this Walpolean era: first, a piece of parchment was found, corked up in a bottle, on which the master-masons had written the exaggerated statement that they had "built this castle;" and, by-and-by, when the restorers moved a marble sarcophagus placed in the chapel to the memory of the wife of the first Duke, there lay mouldering there a bundle of old love letters written by the duchess to her husband; her diary too, some silver coins, silver medals struck in commemoration of the restoration of the castle, with views of it upon them, and some intaglio portraits of the Duke and Duchess. It was considered a difficult question how these decorations should be replaced. Professor Donaldson related in a paper read to the Institute of Architect the various considerations that arose, and how the Duke's long stay in Rome made him at last decide in favour of Italian embellishments, for which the Commendatore Canina furnished him with designs moulded upon existing works of the Cinque-cento period. As the works proceeded, the advice of the late Professor Cockerell and of Professor Donaldson was obtained. How the Commendatore despatched a small staff of efficient artists, Montiroli, architect, Mantovani, painter, and Bulletti, sculptor in wood, to Alnwick; how he ultimately journeyed to look upon this work of transplantation himself, and died on his road home, we have already told. But we may add, as an instance of the duke's kindly interest in those of his fellow men associated with him in any undertaking, that he arranged that the Italian architect, Montiroli, should see our national sights in the provinces as well as in the metropolis, such as the manufactories and architectural lions of Edinburgh, Newcastle, Birmingham, Manchester, and Liverpool; and, in reverse, sent the resident architect, Mr. F. R. Wilson, to Rome, that he might have the advantage of seeing, *in situ*, the art reproduced under his care. The workmen, numbering some hundreds, were the frequent objects of his thought. On each anniversary of the day on which the Duchess laid the foundation-stone of the Prudhoe keep tower they were all invited,

with the other workers employed on the estate, to a banquet. When the number of men upon the works was at the highest point nearly eight hundred mustered on these occasions.

The Duke also introduced Italian art at Sion House, and at his seat of Stanwick, in Yorkshire. Where practicable, as in the carving at Alnwick Castle, he employed native workmen to work out the Italian designs; but such work as mosaics, statuary, and friezes, was executed in Rome, and conveyed to its destination ready for fixing. He further evinced his Italian art sympathies by the purchase of the Camucini gallery. For the pictures of Northumbrian incidents depicted upon the coved ceiling of the ante-chamber leading to the new state apartments, at Alnwick Castle, he employed a German artist, Herr Gotzenberg.

Besides the architects mentioned as consulted by the Duke when contemplating the enrichment of one of his seats, he employed Mr. Deason and Mr. Green to a large extent in the numerous works constantly progressing at his cost, as well as maintained, among the officers of his estate, a resident clerk of works, whose business was to keep all farm-buildings in repair. It will be fresh in the remembrance of our readers that the Duke laid the foundations of five new churches, and was subsequently present at the consecration of them, only a short time ago, all of which, with their parsonages, were indebted to his means; and the parish church of Alnwick has just been restored also at his cost. He has improved the cottages on his Northumbrian estates to an extent that may be estimated at the expenditure incurred, which is said to have been £100,000. Many and many a village may be seen with a crescent painted on every door, indicating that it is ducal property. When the late Duke came into possession most of these consisted of picturesque but ruinous cottages such as that in which Burns was born, composed of four low walls, a door, and a thatched roof spanning all. It is now difficult to point to one of these: they have been superseded by new, substantial buildings, with as large an amount of the picturesque element in them as those displaced, mostly built from designs by Mr. Deason; the only drawback being that they occupy the precise sites of the former cots with the same rears of soaked soil from piggeries.

The partial restoration of Warkworth Castle is another architectural work carried out by the late Duke. This, with the restoration of Warkworth Church, to the accomplishment of which he was a liberal subscriber, has been described in these pages.

In sanitary matters the late Duke lent his aid to ascertain whether it was possible to utilise the liquid sewage of Alnwick upon the grass lands around. The works constructed for this purpose were made at his cost and on his land; but owing to some mismanagement the experiment has not proved so successful as it should have done. His

Grace placed Alnwick Castle in the hands of Mr. R. Rawlinson for sanitary revision, thus adding his testimony to the importance of such precaution. The subdivision of sanitary science in which the ills of overcrowding are combated had not, however, been brought under his notice.

There are two indications of the large number of people living upon the Duke's Northumbrian estate that may be quoted. On the day of the great annual fair in July, on the eve of which watch and ward are still kept against incursions of the Scots, it is the custom of all the tenants able and willing to do so to ride into one of the courtyards of the castle and there be regaled, and thence to proceed to the market-cross in procession, headed by the Duke's piper, also on horseback, wrapped in a Northumbrian plaid, with the Percy badge (a silver crescent) on his arm and in his cap, playing "Chevy chase" on his pipes as he rides, and there proclaim the fair. This cavalcade of hearty, broad-shouldered Northumbrian farmers rarely consists of less than seventy or eighty mounts. The other test is that of the Percy Volunteer Artillery Corps, which musters more than 500 athletes.

Large hearted and liberal handed, the late Duke, while managing his vast income with discretion, loved to do things handsomely. He liked every kind of work executed in the best possible manner; not stinting the cost of such excellence, but always requiring an estimate, and was displeased if it was exceeded. When his brother, the third Duke, died, about £600 were raised in subscriptions to erect a public monument to his memory. At this stage the proposal was placed in his hands to carry into effect. He commissioned Mr. Dyce to make a design for a stained glass window, to be placed in the east end of the church which it was one of the last acts of his brother to build. He then sent the cartoon to Munich, where it was executed for a sum far exceeding the subscriptions, not tolerating the restrictions which penury enforces on art. Mr. Dyce received £500 for the design; and the glass, with its guards and carriage, cost £1,139 5s. From his earliest days, when as a midshipman he handed his superior officer a cheque upon his father for £1,000 for a charitable purpose, to his latter days, when he founded a Sailors' Home at Shields, and sent the sick sailors in the *Dreadnought* some thousands of bottles of choice wines, he exhibited the same seafaring generosity, the same quiescent grandeur of temperament. He was deeply interested in every contrivance for the saving of human life; and, whether it was a request to assist an inventor to bring out a plan by which sash-windows could be easily turned upon a pivot, so that there was no danger incurred by standing on sills to clean them; or to promote life-saving operations upon a larger scale by presiding over and helping the Lifeboat Institution, he ever lent his willing aid to every scheme.

A full-length portrait of the Duke, in his robes, has been painted by Grant. A choice medallion was executed of his Grace, as well as one of the Duchess, during his stay in Rome. And Northumberland House possesses a portrait of him when in the hey-day of youth.

The burial-place of the Percy family is in the Chapel of St. Nicholas, Westminster Abbey. Thither will be conveyed the remains of the late representative of the most noble race of Percy, Earls and Dukes of Northumberland, whose shield displays the quarterings of eight hundred and ninety-two alliances.—*The Builder*.

#### A FIRST REHEARSAL.

The Criterion was the dimmest and gloomiest among the dim and gloomy playhouses of the metropolis, and when Horace found himself all alone on the big dark stage, he almost imagined himself a solitary pantomime demon in the dismal opening scene of the Cells of Remorse. Nobody had arrived. Horace was not aware that there is ten minutes' grace at rehearsal, and he had been punctual; indeed, it wanted five minutes to twelve even now. There is something rather awful in finding oneself quite alone in a theatre in the morning. The great circular front, with the private boxes in shrouds, and the big chandelier making a vain struggle at being brilliant, but succumbing miserably to the prevailing gloom. All the scenery pushed away off the stage, which reaches up to bare walls at the back, the bricks and mortar of the work-a-day world seeming dreadfully out of place in the region of romance and unreality around. Horace walked up and down the stage nervously, and hailed the appearance of a grimy female with a broom and dust-pan at the back of the pit with real pleasure. The first arrival, the prompter, Mr. Minns, who, beyond taking more snuff than was good for him and continually losing the place, possessed no special qualification for his post. He was, however, a fixture; and though the Manager made a point of giving him notice on the first night of every new piece, Minns never went away, for, as Slagg, the stage-manager, represented to Girdlestone, Minns was the only man who understood his (Slagg's) way, by which that despot meant that poor Minns was the only prompter in London who would stand being abused like a pick-pocket without knocking the aforesaid despot down. Minns, when muddled, would certainly make more mistakes, and do more dreadful things with gongs and "crashes" at the wrong time than any of his brother prompters. There was no knowing what he might have done had Slagg left him to himself, but Slagg knew his man, and stuck to Minns, and swore at Minns, and pushed Minns about in such a way that the prompter would retire to his family after the first night of a piece in a tearful and tremulous condition; but being revived with gin and water would ease his mind by copious denunciations on the degraded state of the drama when such trash as the production of that evening went down, and such barn-storming as Mr. Browzer's was considered acting.

Poor old Minns was an honest, steady, worthy man, with all his incapacity, and Girdlestone's knowledge

of the many mouths the prompter's weekly pittance went to fill had as much to do with Minns's retention at the Criterion as the arguments of the potent Slagg. Mr. Minns entered into conversation with Horace in a meek and deferential manner, and made so bold as to beg the author to say a word for little Lizzie Minns, who might stand a chance of being cast for the girl who brought on the umbrella and goloshes for Giggley, and who would speak the two or three lines of the part very nicely if Mr. Bentley would only ask Mr. Slagg to give it her. Horace said he would do what he could, and the old gentleman took three enormous pinches of snuff on the strength of it. Gradually the remainder of the "cast" arrived, Miss Pimlico, having a carriage with a fast horse in it, being last, as a matter of course. Miss Millington looked lovely. As Horace heard her ringing laugh and bright cheery voice, he felt his heart beat quickly, and the pressure of her prettily-gloved hand sent a thrill through him. She wore the wickedest little bonnet, trimmed with the most charming taste, and her dress was neatness itself. She carried a tiny umbrella, which she whirled about in a saucy way as she spoke, and with which she playfully poked Giggley in the ribs the instant that popular comedian made his appearance. Giggley was not in a good humour; he seldom was. It was generally believed that he had made a vow in early life never to be agreeable at a rehearsal. Having missed his omnibus, and been forced to take a cab, the parsimonious comedian was in a worse temper than usual, and saluted those present with a general scowl. Montrose, very radiant in a pink tie and a white hat, was making himself most agreeable to Miss Pimlico, who was laughing tremendously at his imitation of his landlady. Montrose was the funniest fellow in the world in private; in his professional capacity he was not so entertaining. A rickety table and two or three chairs having been placed at one side of the stage, Slagg gave the word and the rehearsal commenced. It was a curious fact that with the very first word of the piece there commenced a tremendous hammering from a carpenter who had hitherto been perfectly quiet. It appeared to the sensitive Horace as if the hammer had only waited for the first word to begin. Slagg, however, after a short and fierce verbal contest with the carpenter, succeed in stopping the noise and Giggley was permitted to go on. Giggley was rather short sighted, and his part was not copied as clearly as it might have been, there being a profusion of erasures, a recklessness as regarded blots, and an eccentricity of punctuation, which, together with Giggley's natural or assumed obtuseness, considerably marred the effect of Horace's opening speech. The young author sat uneasily upon his chair, nervously biting at his finger nails, and wondered if Giggley gave every other dramatic writer as much annoyance. If Giggley possessed the power, as he undoubtedly did, of investing pointless lines with fun which their author had not found for him, he could certainly rob a droll speech of its humour at rehearsal in the most remarkable manner. He even seemed, as Horace thought, to take a delight in doing it. The brilliant Montrose had left his part at home, which did not add to the general clearness, and Miss Pimlico giggled so much over her few speeches that Slagg was insolent to her, and Miss Pimlico burst into tears; and Horace wished in his heart that the stage-manager would be rude to Miss

Mellington, for he felt convinced that the popular *soubrette* would give Slagg a setting down that would serve him for some time. The wished-for storm burst very shortly. Miss Mellington had not yet commenced her part. She did not appear at the beginning of the piece, but at length the cue for her entrance was given, and she came smiling on to the stage, neat gloves, distracting bonnet, and coquettish little para-pluie, and all.

"Halloo, halloo!" exclaimed Slagg, who had snatched the manuscript indignantly from the feeble hands of Mr. Minns, "what's that you're saying, Miss Mellington?"

"I beg your pardon," observed Miss Julia with a sweet smile.

"Why don't you commence with the dialogue with Miss Pimlico?"

"Oh, I've cut that out."

"Cut it out, madam!"

"Yes; it seemed to drag a little there, and so—"

"Seemed to drag! I think I'm the best judge of that."

"I beg to differ with you there."

"I'm the stage-manager, and I won't allow it!"

"I have to play the part, and I mean to do it as I'm doing it this morning, or not at all!" and Miss Mellington, without appearing in the least angry or excited, looked as if she meant what she said, and puckered up her pretty little mouth in a comically determined manner.

"You will do it as it is written, of course, madam," spluttered Slagg, who was very red and furious. "Don't dictate to me, Miss Mellington."

"I didn't dictate to you; it was the other way."

"Well, what do you say, Mr. Bentham?" asked the stage-manager, turning to Horace abruptly. Slagg knew the author's name well enough, but he considered it imposing to call him by a wrong one. Slagg always did this with fresh hands, as he imagined it put them in their place, and let them see they were nobodies. The fair Julia, seeing Horace was rather at a loss how to reply, relieved him of the responsibility, and answered Slagg herself.

"Oh, Mr. Slagg, Mr. Bentley, the author, and I have settled it, so there needn't be any more squabbling."

"Oh, if you and the author have settled it, that's a very different matter."

The stage-manager shrugged his shoulders as he said this, pulling down his mouth and elevating his eyebrows in the most significant manner. Giggley forgot his surliness for a moment, and winked knowingly at Miss Pimlico, who laughed immoderately, whilst Horace felt himself scarlet to the small of the back. There was no more fighting after this, the opposing parties imagining each had come off victorious, Miss Mellington having carried her point, and Slagg having, as he fancied, said something very clever and cutting. The rehearsal "dragged its slow length along," and at length the "tag" arrived. Here Giggley, who had boggled and stammered through his part, gave it as his opinion that the finish must be altered. Miss Mellington, being a vocalist, suggested a little musical *finale*. Miss Pimlico thought that if she could go off just before, and something could be done whilst she was putting on a riding-habit (which as she played the wife of a milkman, was of course a most natural thing to do), the piece would receive a

"fillip," whilst Montrose declared that unless there was some rhyme all round in which he could take part, his character might as well be played by a "super." But Giggley wouldn't listen to any of these propositions. "What's the use of singing anything when the people are all going out? and as for rhyme, I can't study any rhyme by Monday, even if it had a chance of being heard. No, look here; when I discover it's my wife, I give a shriek and a jump; you cry out, 'What, Timotheus Tootsicum, don't you know me?' We rush past each other, missing the embrace; you fly into Captain Fitzwhiskers' arms; I am about to salute Mrs. Fitzwhiskers, when she pushes me into the pan of buttermilk; general scream, and 'ring down' on the roar."—Byron's "Paid in Full."

### MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

#### KNIGHTS OF CONSTANTINOPLE.

Is the new—they call it "ancient and illustrious"—degree of Knights of Constantinople another version of the Knights of Constantine, or is it tomfoolery?—TRIPLE TRIANGLE.

#### MASONIC DEGREE MANUFACTORY.

Where is the Masonic degree manufactory which has lately turned out a new "ancient" and, of course, "illustrious" batch of Knights of Constantinople?—ORDERICUS VITALIS.

#### COWPER, GRAND SECRETARY.

Was the Brother Cowper who officiated as Grand Secretary, soon after the revival of Grand Lodge, any relative of Cowper the poet? If not, to what family did he belong?—M. A.

#### THE TOAST OF FREDERICK THE GREAT.

Is the toast of Frederick the Great ever drunk in solemn silence at Masonic meetings in England. It is so honoured here occasionally.—A READER, Boston, U.S.—[At the institution of the Supreme Grand Council of London it was, on one or two occasions, so observed, but it has long since been discontinued.]

#### DECEASED MASONIC CELEBRITIES.

I shall be obliged to any brethren who will kindly furnish me with the names and particulars, briefly or in extenso, of deceased brethren celebrated in the annals of Freemasonry, or distinguished in the various professions of the outer world.—MATTHEW COOKE.

#### MASONIC POCKET-HANDKERCHIEFS.

I had read of Masonic bed-quilts, Masonic dinner-sauces, Masonic walking-sticks, Masonic clocks, &c., but I think the *ne plus ultra* of Masonic articles has just been shown me. It is a Masonic pocket-handkerchief. The very idea of such a thing is as uncomplimentary to Freemasonry as anything can well be.—A PROVINCIAL BROTHER.

#### DR. ARNE.

Was Dr. Arne, the composer of "Rule Britannia," the opera of *Artaxerxes*, and many other well-known pieces of music, a brother Mason? I am led to ask this because a Masonic hymn, "Almighty Sire," is set to music by Dr. Arne.—M. C.

## ORIGIN OF FREEMASONRY.

The origin of the modern form of Masonry cannot be attributed to Sir Christopher Wren, because the evidence of the present century shows that it had already taken the organisation of a Craft of Masons, and that the assemblies were held at Masons' Hall, in the City of London.

The Masons Company of London has its Master and Wardens, and is one of the prototypes of the modern organisation, though not, perhaps, the only one. This is a subject which has not been sufficiently studied, and well deserves inquiry. I have had an idea that at York there was very probably a Masons' Company, which exercised a direct influence; and so did very probably the Masons' Companies or guilds of other places.

It is very desirable to have a list and particulars of these companies, and there we shall find evidences, I doubt not, connecting the present system with the medieval form published by Bro. Matthew Cooke, and which would show us our Masters, Senior and Junior Wardens, Deacons, Fellow Crafts, Apprentices, Tylers, Craft, and much of our constitutions and traditions.

There, too, we might find illustrations as to the constitutional practice of a Warden ruling the lodge, which is certainly in conformity with Craft practice of companies, some of which have no Master, only a Senior Warden.

We have taken more than the armorial bearings from the Masons Company, whose records are yet to be searched.

There are, to my mind, two Masonic sites of antiquity to be restored to the practice of the Craft—Warrington and Masons' Hall; and had I remained in London I had proposed to petition for a lodge in the latter locality.—HYDE CLARKE, Smyrna, Feb. 8, 1865.

## THE HONOURABLE MISS ST. LEGER.

Where can I find any account of the lady Mason—the Honourable Miss St. Leger?—P. Q.—[In our number for October the 22nd, 1859, page 305.]

## TRIANGULAR OR CUBIC PEDESTAL.

Should the pedestals in use in lodges be of triangular or cubic form, and why?—RIGHT ANGLE.

## THE PRESTONIAN LECTURE.

Will there ever be another Prestonian lecture, or will the funds, appropriated for the same, quietly evaporate?—STUDENS.

## THE HOLY EMPIRE.

Where can I obtain some knowledge of the Holy Empire?—S. P. R. S.—[The Arnold Prize Essay for 1863, by JAMES BRYCE, B.A., is on the subject, and entitled *The Holy Roman Empire*. It is published by Shrimpton, of Oxford.]

## EARLY MASONIC POETRY.

What is the earliest collection of Masonic poetry extant?—W. F.—[Sir Thomas Phillips, of Middlehill, has a very old MS. of Masonic poetry, but, at present, it is not available to general students.]

## THE CHEVALIER RAMSAY.

Who are the lineal or collateral descendants of the Chevalier Ramsay?—C. OF EDINBURGH.

## DEFORMED BRETHEREN.

I pen this in no spirit of detraction. A deformed man may have, and often has, a larger mind than one more correctly made. Still, I always was given to understand no deformed person could be admitted a Mason. Am I right or wrong?—[It was one of the old regulations that no one born halt or blind should be made a Freemason. Now the case seems to be different. Who altered it, nobody knows and nobody cares. The old landmarks—nobody knows what they comprise or omit—are of no earthly authority, because everything is a landmark when an opponent desires to silence you, but nothing is a landmark that stands in his way. We quite agree with you that deformed bodies are often the receptacles of the most pure and elevated minds, and we go even further, and think it is true Freemasonry to take to our bosoms, and fondly cherish, those in whom it has pleased the Almighty to allow His image to be imperfectly developed, and against whom the world often points the finger of scorn because they are not as other men are.]

## MASONIC TIME.

Has any one compiled a list of the various Masonic times which govern the different degrees?—EX. EX.

## THE ARK.

Past Masters and brethren having the privilege of attending Grand Lodge have said that it contains a something which they call the ark. Now, if it is not inconsistent with the duties of our rulers in the Craft, would some one be obliging enough to describe the same to one—NOT A MEMBER OF GRAND LODGE.

## MUD HUTS.

What were the mud huts like that we recently hear of in the lectures?—AN ABORIGINE.—[See any table of synonymes. You may call them wigwams if you please. They are not quite as ancient as you may suppose, for the York lectures and those promulgated by the Lodge of Reconciliation, never mention them at all. It is only as we depart, daily, more and more from true Freemasonry that we find such interpolations countenanced. The mud hut order of architecture is entirely unknown amongst classical, gothic, Elizabethan, composite, debased, or any other school of architects, past or present. Those who advocate that new style should apply Martial's epigram (Lib. v., Ep. 56)—

“Artes discere vult pecuniosas?  
Fac, discat, citharædus, aut choraules;  
Si duri puer ingeni videtur,  
Præconem facias, vel architectum.”]

## THE TAU AND CRUX AUSATA.

What is the specific point of resemblance between the tau and crux ausata? Do they indicate one and the same theories of faith, or are they merely modifications, the one of the other?—STUDENS.—[We must decline to answer the above. If we were to admit replies to such a boundless field of investigation, fact, surmise, and theological heart-burning, we should be opening our columns to an endless controversy, displeasing to all and satisfactory to none. Of course we have our opinion on the question, and will be happy to mention our sources of information to “Students” if he will again send us his address; his former card we have mislaid.]

## CORRESPONDENCE.

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

## FREEMASONRY IN THE LEVANT.

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

SIR,—In your issue of the 31st December there appeared an article under the head of "Freemasonry in the Levant," which appears to have been conceived in anything but a friendly spirit for the lodges holding under the United Grand Lodge of England, and which it is easy to understand arises from erroneous information. As no brother has as yet replied to the statement set forth by you, permit me, in common fairness, to mention a few facts which will serve to dispel the impression that the English lodges in the Levant have in anywise been wanting in their duty.

The W.M. (Bro. George Treu) of the Germania Lodge, holding under the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, wishes, in his friend's letter to the *Freimauer Zeitung*, to put himself forward as the exponent of some very strange, if not very un-Masonic, views connected with the spread of the Craft in the East. I am not going to enter into any discussion as to the soundness or appropriateness of the propositions of Bro. Treu, although I am firmly convinced that they are neither sound or feasible in any degree. The worshipful brother writes to a German paper in a style that he wishes to make his readers believe suitable to a person occupying a high standing in Freemasonry in the Levant. He complains of the non-coöperation of the brethren of the English lodges, and boasts of proposing the formation of a series of Greek lodges. Unfortunately for Bro. Treu—perhaps he may assign it to the cause that a prophet has no honour in his own country—his own lodge furnishes ample proof of the distaste with which his visionary theories are regarded by the brethren over whom he presides. The Germania Lodge has dwindled down—it never was very numerous—to a mere handful, and these brethren nearly all complain in the strongest manner against their mischief-making W.M., whose extraordinary avidity for writing on every possible occasion involves him in the greatest disfavour, not merely amongst his own brethren, but those of the other lodges he continuously assails with the most unwarrantable charges. As to Bro. Treu's influence with the Greeks, they are so thoroughly aware of the dangerous tendencies of his hobbies, that the two Greek lodges already formed, and those now in course of formation, have unanimously determined to work under the United Grand Lodge of England. Can there be a stronger proof of the favourable position the latter holds? As to the English lodges not co-operating with him in what he so unfoundedly calls his work of progress, it is enough to state that on every occasion when the lodges of this city made the slightest friendly advance to Bro. Treu, or invited the co-operation of his small lodge, they have been met either with the greatest discourtesy, misrepresentation, and, too generally, abuse. I may adduce another signal proof of Bro. Treu's utter want of influence, in the fact that, with the exception of the

few brethren constituting his semi-political lodge, the Germans have joined the English lodges. In what I have already said, I feel that enough has been put forward to refute Bro. Treu; but there remains the important question to solve—What actually are the English lodges doing in the Levant?

In the year 1858 there was not a single English Masonic, or indeed any other, lodge in the Ottoman Empire. In the year 1865 there are no less than twelve, all of which are in a flourishing state. In addition to this there is a District Grand Lodge, holding under the Grand Lodge of England, having for Prov. G.M. the Right Honourable Sir H. L. Bulwer, G.C.B., her Majesty's Ambassador to the Porte; and for D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Hyde Clarke, the most able, indefatigable, and useful Mason to be found anywhere, to whom the progress of Masonry in the East is under the very greatest obligations. His name will be handed down in the history of the Craft as one of those lights whose influence cannot be measured by time, and whose services will be best appreciated by those who will succeed us. Under his admirable administration of the district, not merely have we formed so many lodges already, but their number will, we have every reason to believe, rapidly increased; and, with the co-operation of our Greek brethren, the day is not far distant when every part of the Levant will have lodges holding under the Grand Lodge of England. It is to be expected that in time, when the Greeks have sufficiently multiplied their lodges, that they will look to forming a Grand Lodge of their own; but it never will be forgotten that to the Grand Lodge of England the initiative of reviving the Craft in the East is due; and the name of the Oriental Lodge (No. 687), of Constantinople, the pioneer and most flourishing of all the Levant lodges, will rank highest amongst the numbers which have, and will, spring from her. From what has been already stated, it will be easy to understand whether Bro. Treu's mischievous insinuations against the English lodges have a shadow of foundation.

Not only under the English, but other jurisdictions—French and Italian—Masonry is advancing in the Levant. The French have, in addition to two lodges in this city, one at Smyrna, one at Bucharest, and another at Alexandria. The Italians have a very flourishing lodge here, and four others in different parts of the empire. The Germans have one lodge here and another at Smyrna, the two not numbering fifty members together.

I trust that you will do the brethren of the English lodges in the Levant the justice of repelling the attack made so unfairly upon them by Bro. Treu. There are many zealous, active, and hard working brethren who labour indefatigably for the advancement of the Craft in the East; and it will be some satisfaction for them to find that what they are doing is appreciated by the brethren at home, and that they do not labour under the stigma Bro. Treu so unscrupulously attempts to place upon them.

I am, Sir, yours fraternally,

C.

Constantinople, Feb. 4, 1865.

["C." will find, by reference to our number of Feb. 4th, we have already answered the allegations of Bro. Treu.—Ed.];



## THE MASONIC MIRROR.

### MASONIC MEMS.

We are requested by the Chairman of the Building Committee to state that, in order to give the brethren the earliest opportunity of seeing the progress of at least some part of the works, the Vestibule, first-floor Corridor, and the Lodge-rooms opening out of it in the new buildings will be temporarily lighted up, and thrown open for inspection, from six to eight o'clock, previous to the assembling of Grand Lodge, on Wednesday evening next. We are also desired to state that it would be impossible with safety to throw open the whole of the buildings at present, and the Committee therefore request that brethren will be so kind as not to endeavour to pass beyond the first-floor Corridor.

The Vestibule may be reached from the Great Hall, the Temple, or the Sussex.

We remind the brethren that the Festival of the Boys' School takes place on the 8th of March, under the presidency of the R.W. Bro. the Duke of Manchester, Prov. G. Master of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire. A very full attendance is anticipated.

### GRAND LODGE.

The following is the official agenda of the business to be transacted in Grand Lodge on Wednesday, March 1st:—

1. The regulations for the government of Grand Lodge during the time of public business will be read.
2. The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 7th of December, 1864, will be read and put for confirmation.
3. The election of a M.W. Grand Master.
4. The election of a Grand Treasurer.
5. The report of the Board of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which is a recommendation for a grant to Bro. R. B., of the Kent Lodge, No. 15, London, for the sum of £100.
6. The report of the Annual Audit Committee of the Grand Lodge accounts for the year 1864.

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

*To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.*

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

1. Grand Lodge having by resolution, duly confirmed at the Quarterly Communication of the 1st day of June, 1864, requested this Board to take into consideration the powers of a Warden in the event of the absence of the Master and Past Masters of the lodge, and to recommend to Grand Lodge such alterations, if any, in the Book of Constitutions in respect thereto as this Board shall deem necessary or advantageous to the welfare and good government of the Craft: and the Board having taken the whole question into their most careful consideration, after mature deliberation beg to report that they are of opinion that, the Book of Constitutions being silent upon the subject of all traditionary laws relating to the administration of the rites and ceremonies of the Order, it is unadvisable to introduce into that Book matters which, up to this time, appear to be studiously excluded from it. The Board are further of opinion that it is advisable that no degree in Freemasonry should be conferred upon any candidate unless a brother who has been duly installed as Master of a lodge do occupy the chair during the performance of the ceremony.

2. The Board beg further to report that a complaint has been preferred by the Lodge of Benevolence against the Union

Waterloo Lodge (No. 13), Woolwich, for having failed on two successive occasions to attend to speak in reference to a petition for relief, after having in due course certified the truth of the petition. The Master and Wardens having been summoned to answer the complaint, attended with the immediate Past Master and another Past Master of the lodge. It appeared that the immediate Past Master was Master of the lodge at the time the recommendation was signed. His explanation was that on the first occasion he was prevented attending by sudden illness, and that subsequently having gone out of office, he had, through forgetfulness, failed to remind the incoming Master that the case was still undisposed of, and he expressed his regrets for his negligence. The Board being of opinion that the fault was not wilful, but that nevertheless it was the duty of the incoming Master and of the members of the lodge to have inquired as to what had been done upon the case, which duly appeared upon the minutes of the lodge, reprimanded the Master and the lodge, and warned them to be more careful for the future.

(Signed) J. LLEWELLYN EVANS,

Freemasons' Hall, President.  
February 14th, 1865.

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on the 10th February inst., showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £6,952 4s. 2d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash, £50. Of these sums there belongs to the Fund of Benevolence £733 13s. 4d., to the Fund of General Purposes £5,829 11s. 3d., and there is the Unappropriated Account, £438 19s. 7d.

#### S. THE REPORT OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE.

*To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of England.*

The Committee beg to report that the progress of the buildings has been somewhat more satisfactory of late, and that the first section is now rapidly approaching completion.

The Committee also report that, according to the terms of the agreement, they have inquired into the position and responsibility of the new Company, and, being satisfied thereon, they have sanctioned the granting of a lease to Mr. Shrewsbury, with power to transfer it to the new Company; and they further report that the agreement for lease has been duly executed, and that the premium of £5,000 has been received, and paid to the bankers of the Grand Treasurer.

The Committee have very carefully considered the subject of the further progress of the works, and they are of opinion that it will be much to the convenience of the tenants, as well as to the advantage of the Craft, that the second and third sections should be proceeded with at the same time. The Committee are happy to report that all difficulties in the way of carrying out this object are now at an end; and they, therefore, propose to let the contract for the third section, and to commence the works necessary for the completion of the whole of the buildings so soon as they have received the authority of Grand Lodge to obtain the money necessary for that purpose.

The Committee find that, in addition to the surplus funds which may arise from the Fund of General Purposes, it will be necessary to borrow the sum of £19,000, in order to complete the buildings, and to provide the necessary furniture for the Masonic parts. The Committee have no doubt they will be able to repay this amount within ten years, with interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum.

As pointed out in their report of May, 1863, the Committee desire to observe that there are several modes by which this money

may be raised:—1st, by borrowing from public offices; 2nd, by debentures; and 3rd, by borrowing from the Fund of Benevolence. The Committee are unanimously of opinion that the latter is the most desirable course: the security is ample, the amount borrowed can be repaid by instalments, the society will not be obliged to seek extraneous aid, and the Fund of Benevolence will be benefited. The Committee therefore recommend that the practice which has been adopted on similar occasions shall be followed in this instance, and respectfully submit the following resolutions to Grand Lodge, viz.:—

1. That, for the purpose of completing the new buildings, a sum not exceeding £19,000 be raised by borrowing the same from the Fund of Benevolence, on mortgage of the freehold property belonging to the society; and that interest be paid thereon, at the rate of four per cent. per annum.

2. That the necessary mortgage deeds be prepared; and that the trustees of the funded and freehold property be, and they are hereby, instructed to execute the same, and see that the provisions therein are duly carried out; and that the full amount of Stock, which may be sold out from the Fund of Benevolence, for the purpose of this loan, shall be reinstated to that Fund.

3. That the Building Committee be, and they are hereby, authorised to use such surplus money as may arise from the Fund of General Purposes; and to draw for a further sum, not exceeding £19,000, now to be borrowed from the Fund of Benevolence, at such times and in such amounts as may be required in the progress of the works; and, in like manner, to repay to the Fund of Benevolence the amount borrowed, by such yearly or half-yearly instalments as shall hereafter be found convenient.

(Signed) JOHN HAYERS, Chairman.

London, 15th February, 1865.

9. The report of Brother R. P. Harding (Auditor of the Grand Lodge Accounts), of the receipts and disbursements during the year 1864.

### METROPOLITAN.

ALBION LODGE (No. 9).—The brethren of this ancient lodge assembled on the 7th inst. at the Freemasons' Tavern, for the purpose of fulfilling the mystic duties it behoved them to dedicate to the Craft in general and their lodge in particular. Bro. Poulkyn, the W.M., was warmly congratulated for the manner in which he had performed the duties of his office, and especially for the correct and eloquent way in which he went through the ceremony of initiation in the induction of Mr. Harvey into the arcana of the preliminary degree of E.A. He also, in the same excellent style, passed Bros. Farrer and Levy through the necessary steps entitling them to become the depositaries of the secrets connected with the degree of F.C. In addition to those arduous tasks he raised Bro. Frederick Mitchell to the sublime and final degree of M.M. The whole of the three ceremonies were carried out in the most solemn form. Bro. Stevens, S.W., and Bro. Willy, J.W., merit every praise for the great efficiency they displayed in their onerous offices, as also did all the other officers, who in their various departments rendered efficient aid to the W.M. The P.M.'s were Bros. Peryman, Abbott, Valentine, Friend, Warr, Moreing, and Palmer. Among the visitors were Bros. O'Connor, Fisher, Farquharson, and Charles Sloman. The banquet was served in Messrs. Elkington and Company's usual style.

ROBERT BURNS LODGE (No. 25).—This old-established lodge met at the Freemasons' Tavern on the evening of the 6th inst., when Bro. Nicholls was installed in the chair of K.S. by Bro. Watson. The brethren raised to the sublime degree were Bros. C. Long, C. A. Long, and E. W. Long, being father and two sons; also Bro. Selwöber. The brother passed to the degree of F.C. was Bro. Corker, who came all the way from Neath, in South Wales, for the purpose of receiving his second step.

The initiations were performed by Bro. Nicholls, after his installation, in a manner that would have done honour to the oldest P.M. in the Craft. The recipients of the secrets were Mr. Ford, and Mr. Payne, of the Goat House Hotel, Norwood. The newly-installed W.M. was most ably supported by his officers, and also by the P.M.'s, who were Bros. Matthews, Watson, Clements, Bennett, Gladwin, Caulcher, and Farmer. Among the visitors present were Bros. McIntyre, G. Reg.; Evans, President of the Board of General Purposes; Savage and Farmer, P.M.'s. Bro. Charles Sloman enlivened the evening with an impromptu *resumé* of all that had transpired, and many other brethren materially contributed to the harmony of the occasion.

LODGE OF JUSTICE (No. 147).—A meeting of this old and successful lodge was held at Bro. Porter's, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, on the 8th inst. Bro. J. Bavin, W.M., opened the lodge. Bros. J. Lightfoot, S.W.; G. Chapman, J.W.; G. Bolton, P.M. Treas.; C. H. Davis, P.M., Sec.; J. Patte, S.D.; W. Andrews, J.D.; Batt, I.G.; S. Garrett, P.M. T., were in their places as officers; and there was a large attendance of the Craft, members of the lodge, and visitors. Among the members of the lodge were Bros. F. Walters, H. Moore, Wingfield, H. Ellis, Taylor, J. Porter, Smith, Ward, Roberts, Chappell, Shaw, Higgs, and Ponder; and amongst the visitors, Bros. H. Bagshaw, 548, and Wakefield, 548. Candidates were not present at the meeting of the lodge, and the first and second sections of the first degree were worked, the questions being put by the W.M. and S.D. Messrs. G. Moles and H. M. Goodman were afterwards initiated, and Bro. Smith raised. The alterations in the by-laws were deferred to the next lodge meeting. A notice of motion was given that five guineas be subscribed from the lodge fund to the Girls' School, and the lodge was then duly closed. Upwards of thirty brethren sat down to the banquet.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 10th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., in the early part of the evening Bro. Henry Thompson, P.M., took the chair, supported by Bros. Simpson, S.W.; F. W. Smith, J.W.; Joseph Smith, P.M. and Treas.; Carpenter, P.M.; Brett, P.M.; Haydon, P.M.; Wilson, P.M.; Elmes, P.M. and Secretary; a large number of members, and the following visitors:—Bros. Edgee, Enoch; Harrison, Strong Man; Kirby, Confidence; Huggett, Hornsey; Sloman, Robert Burns; and Ash. The lodge having been opened, a ballot was taken for several new candidates, which in each case was unanimous. The W.M. *pro tem.* then opened the lodge in the second degree, when Bros. Chaplin and Knott were questioned; and their answers being considered satisfactory, the lodge was opened in the third degree, and those brethren were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The lodge then resumed to the second degree, when Bros. Hickman, Edwards, Biers, Rutherford, Malcolm, Allen, and George were passed to the second degree. The lodge was then resumed to the first degree, when Messrs. John Farrow, Robert Branford, and Alie Wood, being the only candidates in attendance, although there were nine on the list, were initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. The lodge, having recommended the petition of a brother to the Board of Benevolence, was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, to which 62 sat down. On the removal of the cloth, the usual formal toasts were given, Bro. Joseph Smith, P.M., P.G. Purst., returning thanks for the toast of "The Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the rest of the Grand Officers." The W.M., in proposing the next toast, the health of their newly initiated brethren, congratulated them on being enrolled amongst Freemasons; and he believed they would do honour to the Craft. The newly initiated brethren severally returned thanks for being received into the Order, and trusted they should prove good members of it. Bro. Henry Thompson, I.P.M., said the W.M. had for a very brief period delegated to him his power, and he would endeavour to make the best use of it by proposing "The Health of Bro. Osborne, W.M.," under whose auspices the lodge was likely to enjoy a degree of prosperity that was almost unparalleled in its history. The kindness and generous feelings of their W.M. was known to them all, and he need not say that he was sure the toast would be received with all the honours it deserved. The toast was very cordially received. The W.M., in acknowledging the compliment, expressed his thanks for the very cordial way in which the toast had been received, and it should be his constant study to promote the honour and the best interests of the lodge. Bro. Chas. Sloman,

on being called upon, sung one of his well arranged impromptu songs, which was received with great applause. The W.M. next gave, "The Visitors to the Domestic Lodge," expressing the gratification he felt at seeing them present, and hoped they would soon visit them again. He gave them all a cordial and hearty welcome. The toast was drunk with all the Masonic honours. Several of the visiting brethren returned thanks for the pleasure they had derived from the truly Masonic welcome they had received, and said it would be to them a source of great gratification to again have the opportunity of mixing with the brethren of the Domestic Lodge. The W.M. said the next toast was a most important one, as it was the health of the Past Masters of the lodge; and he knew their worth, for they were at all times ready to perform any duty that might be required of them, or to give the junior brethren that information which should fit them for offices they might hereafter be called upon to fill. He gave "The Health of the P.M.'s of the Lodge, Bros. Thompson, Smith, Carpenter, Elmes, Brett, Marshall, Haydon, and Wilson." Bro. Carpenter, in a style of pleasantry which excited roars of laughter, returned thanks on behalf of the Past Masters, holding out to all strong inducements for them to arrive at that honourable position. "The Officers of the Lodge" was the next toast, given in a few appropriate remarks by the W.M., for which Bro. Simpson, S.W., returned thanks, expressing a determination on his own part and that of his brother officers to do their duty to the best of their ability, and to support the W.M. in carrying on the business of the lodge. "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary" was also given and responded to, and the Tyler's toast brought this harmonious meeting to a close at an early hour.

**LODGE OF CONFIDENCE (No. 193).**—The brethren of this admirable lodge assembled for the fulfilment of their Masonic duties on Monday, the 15th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, when the under-mentioned ceremonials were gone through in a manner reflecting the highest credit upon the W.M., Bro. Robbins, viz.:—Messrs. George Brett, John William Oliver, and John Rees George were introduced by him within the precincts of the Ancient Institution as E.A.'s; Bros. Ramsay, Bateman, and Short were the recipients of the trutlis connected with the gradation to the F.C.; and Bros. Batchelor, Brigden, and King were raised to the sublime degree of M.M.

**FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE LODGE (No. 706).**—This lodge held its regular meeting at Freemasons' Hall, Woolwich, on Friday, the 3rd inst. Bro. Colonel Field, W.M., opened the lodge, and in a most able and efficient manner raised one brother to the sublime degree of a M.M. An urgent appeal was made by Bro. Walters, of 73, for co-operation and support in forming a strong list of subscriptions which he was getting up, as Steward of the Aged Freemasons and Widows of Deceased Members for 1866. Before the Festival he hoped to call again. The excellent W.M. was pleased to order a minute to be made of this application. Thereupon the lodge was closed, and an admirable dinner being provided at the Freemasons' Tavern, the brethren partook of it, and spent a very pleasant evening.

**LODGE OF ST. JAMES (No. 765).**—At the regular meeting of this lodge, held on the 7th inst., at the Leather Market Tavern, Bermondsey, Bro. William Oaff, W.M., presided, and was supported by his officers and a large gathering of the brethren. One brother was passed, and four gentlemen were initiated. Bro. F. Walters, P.M. 73, informed the lodge that he intended to represent the Mount Lebanon Lodge as Steward for the Royal Benevolent Institution at its Festival in 1866, when he hoped to receive the support of this lodge, because it was intimately associated with the Mount Lebanon, the founder and first W.M. of St. James's being a P.M. of Mount Lebanon; moreover, when it was first opened it was well supported by the P.M.'s of 73. The lodge was then closed. The visitors were Bros. F. Walters, T. N. Moore, and J. L. Vallentin.

**ROYAL ALBERT LODGE (No. 907).**—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern on Monday, the 20th inst. The lodge was opened by Bro. J. Downs, W.M., assisted by Bros. J. A. Farnfield, S.W.; T. Peters, J.W.; J. Smith, P.M. and Treas.; R. W. Little, Sec.; W. H. Farnfield, S.D.; J. Abbott, J.D.; C. Chard, I.G.; C. P. Farnfield, Nugent, Terry, Pandygrass, Walker, together with Watson, Lewis, and Bennett, P.M.'s. The minutes having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for the Rev. J. M. Vaughan, which proved in his favour, and that gentleman being in attendance was regularly

introduced and initiated into the Order. Bro. J. C. Cheetham was afterwards raised to the degree of a M.M. This being the regular night of election, Bro. J. A. Farnfield, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year; Bro. Smith, P.M., re-elected Treas.; and Daly, Tyler. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet under the presidency of Bro. Smith, the W.M. being too unwell to remain. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given and received with enthusiasm, the W.M., Bro. Smith, in his usual felicitous style proposed the health of the initiate, and expressed the great pleasure it gave him to welcome another reverend brother as a member of the lodge. Bro. Vaughan thanked the W.M. and the brethren for the cordial reception given to the toast, and assured them that he only regretted not having sooner become a member of the Order. The Visitors' toast then followed, and was responded to by Bros. C. Vennell, Sec. Board of Grand Stewards, and S.W. Lodge of Antiquity; W. H. Hubbard, W.M. 173, and other distinguished brethren. Then W.M. then gave "The W.M. elect," stating that the lodge looked forward to a very prosperous year of office with Bro. J. A. Farnfield as Master, as he was not only an able and zealous Mason, but one thoroughly respected and admired by every member of the lodge. The W.M. elect, in returning thanks, said that when he took a retrospective view of the position of the lodge when he first joined it—at which time it numbered but eight or ten members—and compared it with the prosperous state to which it had now attained, he felt not only pleased, but proud of the progress made by the Royal Albert, and doubly so, as the brethren had honoured him by electing him to the chair of such a lodge. He could assure them that his best endeavours should be devoted to maintaining its prestige and advancing its interests at all times, and if he failed in doing so he trusted it would not be found attributable to want of will to do so. Bro. Farnfield resumed his seat amidst the applause of the brethren. Bro. Bennett then proposed the W.M., lamenting his absence, but expatiating on the merits of the excellent brother who occupied his place that evening. Bro. Smith, he said, was always ready (and so were he and his brother P.M. Lewis), not only ready, but gratified to forward the cause of Freemasonry, whenever an opportunity offered to be of any assistance. Bro. Smith, in his reply, thanked Bros. Lewis and Bennett for the fraternal feeling they had always shown, not only towards himself, but to the lodge generally, and ended by proposing their healths as P.M.'s. The toast of the officers was appropriately responded to by Bro. Peters, J.W., to whom, as well as to Bros. Lewis, Abbott, C. P. Farnfield, and other brethren, the lodge was much indebted for several capital songs. The visitors were Bros. C. Vennell, G. Steward; W. H. Hubbard, W.M. 173; Rev. R. N. Russell, W.M. 810; P. Bichard, Prov. G.S.B., Jersey; and H. Moseley, J.W. 554.

## PROVINCIAL.

### DERBYSHIRE.

**DERBY.**—*Arboretum Lodge* (No. 731).—At a meeting of the members of this lodge, held at Bro. Williamson's, Arboretum Hotel, Derby, on the 8th inst., Bro. H. Carson, P.M. of the Royal Sussex Lodge, Repton, was elected W.M. for the ensuing year. There was a very numerous attendance of the Craft. The installation of the W.M. elect and the annual banquet will take place on Wednesday, March 8, on which occasion a splendid silver cup will be presented by the brethren of the lodge to Bro. W. Gadsby, jun., who has for several years past ably officiated in the honorary capacity of Secretary to the lodge.

### DEVONSHIRE.

**MORICE TOWN, DEVONPORT.**—*Lodge St. Aubyn* (No. 954).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the evening of Tuesday, the 14th inst., at six o'clock precisely, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Horace Byron Kent. The duties, after the usual confirmation of the minutes of the last regular and the two emergency meetings, were to ballot for three candidates, to pass two brethren of the E.A. degree, and to raise a brother to the sublime degree of M.M. The ballot having been taken and proving satisfactory, the gentlemen named in the summons were declared to be duly elected. The lodge having been raised to the third degree, a brother was raised to the third degree in Masonry. The duties of the two candidates for

the F.C. degree having called them away from England, the lodge was closed to the first degree, and two of the three candidates being present, were introduced into ancient Freemasonry, the duties of W.M. being most ably performed by Bro. Chapple, P.M., P. Prov. Assist. G. Dir. of Cers. The lodge, with the assistance of the donations of several brethren, voted £5 5s. to the Boys' School, expressing therewith a hope that the amount be used to forward the election of John R. Martin, son of the late Bro. Martin, P.M. 159. The lodge was closed in peace and harmony, after propositions had been received of four candidates for initiation, and two as joining members. At the festive board the toast of "The Visitors" was ably responded to by Bro. Yowles, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. Bristol, and F. G. Irwin, P. Prov. J.G.W. of Andalusia, who expressed a hope that the result of the ballot at the next regular lodge would effectually prevent his responding to that toast within the walls of No. 954. The W.M., in returning thanks for the honour of his health having been so cordially drunk, took occasion to pass an encomium on his Wardens for the assiduity with which they discharged the duties pertaining to their office. The brethren then separated, after having spent a very happy evening.

#### DORSETSHIRE.

POOLE.—*Lodge of Amity* (No. 137).—At the regular meeting of this ancient lodge, held on Wednesday, the 15th inst., Mr. Josiah Penney, having been approved, was initiated into the first degree. The ceremony was performed by the W.M., Bro. Richard Sydenham, the charge delivered by Bro. G. Hancock Gutch, P.M., and tracing board by Bro. J. Graves, P.M. There was a numerous attendance of members and visiting brethren.

#### WALES SOUTH (EASTERN DIVISION).

BRECON.—*Brecknock Lodge* (No. 651).—On Tuesday, the 7th inst., the brethren of this lodge met, being the first meeting of the new officers. The W.M. opened the lodge at 7 p.m., when the following brethren were present:—Bros. J. D. Perrott, W.M.; R. Hall, S.W.; R. Webb, J.W.; Dr. Davies, P.M.; Revs. H. B. Hosken and W. P. Jones, Chaps.; Jas. Williams, Treas.; E. Jones, Sec.; J. R. Frater, S.D.; R. W. Price, J.D.; W. Farr, I.G.; H. C. Rich, Dir. of Cers.; J. Evans and J. Morgan, Stewards; Adam Scott, Tyler; G. Cansick (Mayor), C. Boniface, J. E. Nott, J. Prothero, J. Benjamin, F. Watkins, H. Davies, and D. Pugh. The minutes of the last lodge were read and confirmed. Bro. Scott not being able to attend on the installation day, the W.M. invested him as Tyler, and afterwards presented him with a handsome P.M.'s jewel, awarded by the lodge in acknowledgment of the very punctual and efficient manner he discharged his duties. Bro. J. D. Perrott, W.M., said he was very sorry that their worthy P.M., Bro. Colonel Lloyd V. Watkins, M.P., was not present to perform the ceremony, as was first intended. He, therefore, begged briefly to present the jewel so justly merited to Bro. Adam Scott, on behalf of the brethren, wishing that he might live long to render his valuable services to the Brecknock Lodge. Mr. J. A. F. Snead having been proposed as a candidate at the last meeting, was balloted for, unanimously accepted, and initiated by the W.M. There being no other business of importance, the lodge was closed in the usual way, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

#### ROYAL ARCH.

##### DORSETSHIRE.

POOLE.—*Chapter Amity* (No. 137).—A convocation was held on Friday, the 17th inst. The minutes having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Bro. Richard Sydenham, W.M. of Lodge of Amity (No. 137), who being unanimously elected, was exalted to the supreme degree. The lectures were, as usual, delivered from the three chairs.

##### DURHAM.

SUNDERLAND.—*Chapter of Strict Benevolence* (No. 97).—A regular convocation was held in the Palatine Lodge-room, at Comp. Donkin's, Bridge Hotel, on Thursday, the 16th inst. Present—E. Comps. Evans, Z.; Hanson, H.; Hamilton, J. Comps. Lindsay, Treas.; J. Graham, P.G.R., acting E.; Hearon,

acting N.; Doxford, P.S.; Wiseman and Stainsby, A.S.; Laws, Janitor. E. Comps. Levy, P.P.G.S.D., P.G.D.C., P.Z.; Crossby, P.G.S.W., P.Z.; Rahn, P.H. Comp. Brewis, Skilling, Cook, Hudson, Scott, Halfknight, P.G.P., Weeghill, Younger, P.G.D.W., Lord, Chatt, and Liddell. Bros. Meier and Richardson, of the Palatine Lodge (No. 97); Tillman, of the Williamson Lodge (No. 940); and Emra Holmes, of the St. Helens' Lodge (No. 531), P.G.S., were exalted by Bro. Comp. Levy, acting Z. The names of four brethren were proposed for exaltation at the next convocation. The officers for the ensuing year were duly installed as follows:—E. Comps. Hanson, Z.; Hamilton, H.; Rahn, J.; Comps. Lindsay, Treas.; J. Graham, E.; Halfknight, N.; Stainsby, P.S.; Brewis and Richardson, A.S.; Laws, Janitor. The ceremony of installation was performed by E. Comp. Levy, P.Z. The brethren afterwards retired to refreshment, and the evening was spent in that harmony and good fellowship which ever distinguishes Masonry.

#### WALES SOUTH (EASTERN DIVISION).

SWANSEA.—*Chapter of Virtue and Hope* (No. 237).—The usual monthly meeting of this chapter was held on Monday, the 20th inst., when the attendance was unusually scanty, owing to the inclemency of the weather. Comp. Edward J. Morris, P.Z., presided as M.E.Z.; F. D. Michael, P.Z., as H.; and William Cox as J. After confirmation of the minutes, and transaction of some important financial business, Comp. Edward J. Morris, P.Z., made an earnest appeal to the companions on behalf of the Boys' School, for which Institution he had accepted the office of Steward at the approaching Festival, with the especial object of endeavouring to increase the votes of the province by inducing increased and additional subscriptions. He reminded the companions that the son of one of the former members of the chapter was a candidate for election at the April meeting, and urged forcibly the necessity of liberal support. Comp. Wm. Cox, in an eloquent and feeling speech, proposed a vote of five guineas to attach a life subscribership to the First Chair, with a view of contributing to Comp. Morris's list, he being the first Steward who had represented the province at the Charities. The proposition was seconded by Comp. F. D. Michael, P.Z., and supported by Comp. J. G. Hall, P.Z., and unanimously carried. Several companions present also subscribed liberally to Comp. Morris's list, which bids fair to be a heavy one. The chapter was afterwards closed in perfect harmony and peace. At the next meeting of the companions the election of Principals and officers for the ensuing year will take place.

#### JERSEY.

ROYAL SUSSEX CHAPTER.—A regular meeting was held on Thursday, Feb. 9th, at the new Masonic Temple, which is well worthy of notice, as being the first held in the room set apart for the purpose. Although no attempt has yet been made in the large lodge-room and in other parts to decorate by means of painting, the case is far different here; and certainly great credit is due to the designer and to the board of management, for the chasteness of the adornments. Colour has been sparingly used, and is confined to the ceiling and arches, the walls and lower portions being panelled in white and gold. A handsome crimson canopy surmounts the dais on which are placed the chairs of the Principals. Unfortunately, in planning the building, it was not originally contemplated to devote this room to the chapter, and hence it is sadly deficient in length—a defect which, however troublesome, it will probably be found necessary at some future time to remedy. With this exception, the effect on entering the chapter room is very striking and agreeable to the eye. Several visitors were present; among them, Comp. Le Roy, P.Z., whose name appeared on the warrant of the chapter granted in 1848, though his admission as a companion of the Order goes back as far as 1811; this indicates his advanced age, which prevents his frequent attendance at Masonic meetings, and therefore his presence on this occasion afforded great pleasure to all. There were also present as visitors Comp. Dr. Smith, P.Z., and Comp. Dr. Hopkins, P.Z. 587. The chapter was opened soon after seven by Comp. Ph. Binet, M.E.Z., assisted by Comp. J. Durell, H., and Comp. Adams, P.Z., J. After the confirmation of the minutes, Comp. Schmitt, P.Z., presented before the dais Comp. E. D. Le Couteur, I.P.Z. The First Principal offered an appropriate address, congratulating him on his retirement from the active labours of the chair, and on the success which had attended the chapter during his

tenure of it, by the exaltation of an unusually large number into the Order. He concluded by presenting to him a handsome Past First Principal's jewel, as a token of acknowledgment of his services by the members of the chapter. Comp. Le Couteur briefly replied, lamenting that unavoidable circumstances had prevented him from accomplishing all that he had desired, and pledging himself still to exert himself to promote the interests of the chapter, and to be ready at all times to answer any call which may be made upon him for its advantage. Although the names of two candidates for exaltation appeared on the circular of convocation, only one presented himself, namely Bro. T. W. Durell, P.M. 245, who, after the usual ballot, having been introduced properly prepared was duly admitted to a participation in the mysteries of Royal Arch Masoury. The early part of the proceedings was conducted by Comp. Binet, M.E.Z., another by Comp. J. Durell, H., and the remainder was divided between Comps. Adams, P.Z., J., and Schmitt, P.Z. On the proposition of the Third Principal, it was resolved to place the whole of the property of the chapter at the disposal of the board of management of the Temple. Bro. Scott, W.M. of No. 491, having been proposed for exaltation, and Bro. Toms as a serving companion, to assist the present Janitor, whose great age prevents effective performance of his duties, the labours of the evening were concluded about nine o'clock, and the companions retired to the banquetting room for refreshment.

### MARK MASONRY.

#### METROPOLITAN.

**SOUTHWARK LODGE (No. 11 S.C.)**—On the 6th inst. the regular meeting of this lodge was held at Bro. Cathie's, Green Man, Tooley-street. The W.M., Bro. C. H. Murr, was unavoidably absent, and by the unanimous wish of the lodge, Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.M. Thistle (No. 8) presided, supported during the evening by Bros. Dr. Dixon, J. Thomas, and H. A. Collington, P.M.'s; A. P. Leonard, A. D. Lowenstark, P.M. and Treas.; J. Hawker, S.W. (*pro tem.*); A. Avery, J.W.; F. Walters, Sec.; J. C. Gooddy, R. of M.; E. Harris, M.O.; M. A. Lowenstark, S.O.; G. Morris, J.O.; A. P. Stedman; J. Brookhouse, S.D.; C. A. Cathie, J.D.; J. Rosenstock, T.K.; W. Aldhouse, T.; and G. C. Frazer. A ballot was taken for Bro. C. T. Bass, and was in favour of admission. The minutes of the last lodge were read and confirmed. Bros. Worthington, Thomson, and Beckett were introduced, and having proved themselves qualified for advancement, withdrew. On their re-admission, they were regularly advanced to the ancient degree of Mark Master Masons. The W.M. gave the legend of the degree. The ceremony was, as usual, admirably worked. Bro. H. A. Collington, P.M., then took the chair, and a vote of thanks to Bro. C. A. Cottebrune was carried *nem. con.*, and ordered to be entered on the lodge minutes, for the able and efficient manner in which he had performed the ceremony of advancement, and also for his kindness and courtesy in presiding when the lodge was without the assistance of any P.M. Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, in a neat and appropriate speech, returned thanks for the high compliment which they had once more paid him. The labour of the lodge being concluded, the brethren adjourned to refreshment and spent a very pleasant evening.

#### JERSEY.

On Wednesday evening, 15th inst., a preliminary meeting was held at the Masonic Temple, on the requisition of about thirty Mark Masters, for the purpose of arranging for the establishment of a lodge, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England and Wales, and the British Colonies. Hitherto, the only lodge in Jersey practising this branch of the Order has been one in connection with a Craft lodge working under Irish warrant, in which a large number of English Masons have been initiated into the Mark degree, and these form an admirable nucleus for the proposed new Mark Lodge. Bro. Adams having been called to the chair, the petition for a warrant was agreed upon. Bro. Dr. Hopkins was appointed the first Master, Bro. Dr. Small, the first S.W., and Bro. Benham, the first J.W. The other appointments to office were all filled up, and the requisite arrangements made for carrying out the plan, with every prospect of great success.

### IRELAND.

#### DUNGANNON.

A meeting of Lodge No. 9 was held on February 16th, according to previous notice, to consider the propriety of forming Tyrone into a Masonic province, and recommending Bro. Sir John Marcus Stewart, *Barb.*, as Provincial Grand Master. Deputations from each of the lodges in the county assembled at the Masonic Hall. The lodge was opened at half-past one p.m., and a memorial quickly agreed upon and signed by the representatives on behalf of the respective lodges, for the above purpose, Bro. Sir John M. Stewart being very deservedly popular in the county. It was also agreed that if the memorial should be compiled with, the Provincial Grand Lodge should be held for the installation of officers in Omagh and Dungannon alternately. The lodge then proceeded to initiate, pass, and raise the following brethren (the Secretary of No. 9 having produced a dispensation from the Grand Lodge to enable Mr. G. B. Brooke, being under the age of twenty-one years, to receive the three degrees, being about to leave for Australia). Mr. B. G. Brooke and Dr. Gay were initiated. The lodge was passed to the second degree, when Bros. Brooke and Deane were made F.C.'s. The lodge was then raised to the third degree, when Bro. Brooke received the sublime degree of W.M. The ceremony was most impressively performed throughout by the W.M., Bro. Courtenny Newton, assisted by his officers. Bros. C. Stanley and A. C. Buchanan, P.M.'s, delivered the lectures, and explained the symbolical meaning of the working tools in a masterly manner, which elicited the hearty approval of the brethren. The lodge was closed at half-past five, p.m., in peace, love, and harmony, and with solemn prayer. The numerous brethren proceeded to the Ranfurley Arms Hotel, where they were most hospitably entertained at dinner by the brethren of Lodge No. 9. Amongst the many good dishes was a splendid Lough Neagh trout, sixteen pounds weight; the wines were excellent. After dinner the usual loyal and Masonic toast were given—that of "Bro. John M. Stewart, and Prosperity to the Provincial Grand Lodge," was received with rounds of applause. Bro. Sir John, in reply, having courteously thanked the brethren, said he would endeavour to preside to the best of his ability in a strictly conscientious and Masonic manner, and hoped he would continue to merit their favour, if appointed Provincial Grand Master. The newly advanced brethren's healths were drunk and responded to in a feeling and able manner, also the visitors from the different Tyrone lodges, who expressed their thanks for the kindness and hospitality of Lodge No. 9. Several songs and glees were sung between the toasts, amongst them Burns' "Adieu." The brethren having wished Bro. Brooke *bon voyage* and God speed, separated, hoping soon to meet again in the Provincial Grand Lodge.

### INDIA.

(From the Masonic Record of Western India.)

#### BOMBAY.

**LODGE CONCORD (No. 757, E.C.)**—The regular meeting of this prosperous and flourishing lodge (a lodge which always endeavours to live in a true spirit of brotherly love) was held in the Masonic Hall on Saturday, the 19th November. There were some distinguished guests present. The lodge was opened precisely at six, p.m. Bro. Dr. T. Diver, the W.M., was in the chair, and was supported on his right by Bros. George Taylor, Prov. G.M. of the District Grand Lodge of England, and R. B. Barton, Prov. G.M. of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Western India; E. C. Mitchell, P.G. Sec. On his left he had Bros. the Rev. J. J. Farnham, P.S.G.W. and P.M.; H. Wickham, P. Prov. J.G.W. and P.M.; J. Macinlay, P.M. 351; Nowrojee Nanabhoj Framjee, W.M. Lodge Rising Star; J. Jamieson, W.M. Lodge Perseverance; G. Leckey, S.W. and Treas.; R. Donaldson, J.W.; H. Prescott, Sec. and Dir. of Cers.; C. Swanseger, Org.; H. Avron, as S.D.; G. Judd, J.D.; H. Lockley as I.G.; J. W. Seager, Tyler; and about one hundred brethren, members and visitors. There were members and officers of Lodges St. George, Perseverance, Rising Star, St. Andrew's in the East, St. Paul's, Felix, Industry, &c. The lodge was duly tyled and opened in the first degree. Mr. Thomas Mills was then balloted for, and the result being clear, he was initiated into the mysteries of the Order. The lodge was then passed to the second degree, when Bros. Dwyer, Johnson, Harris,

Devlin, Lamb, and Pearse were examined as to their proficiency, which proving creditable, they were passed out for preparation. The lodge was then raised to the third degree, when the above-named brethren were readmitted, and raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The lodge was then lowered to the first degree, when we believe four brethren presented to the lodge each a share of the lodge of the value of 50 rupees, the W.M. being pleased to intimate that he would place 200 rupees to the Charity Fund of the lodge as a gift from himself, and would give 50 rupees for every share of the lodge presented. The brethren of Lodge Concord having sent in a requisition to Bro. Diver, soliciting him to allow them the honour of re-electing him as their W.M. for 1865, the W. Master, in an appropriate speech, thanked the brethren, and consented to allow his name to go to the ballot for election. All the P.M.'s of the lodge declared that they would each respectively forego their claims to the chair, and the brother who is the S.W. of the lodge being about to proceed to Europe, he too relinquished his claim. A Treasurer's jewel was voted to Bro. Lecky for his services to the lodge. Five gentlemen were next proposed as candidates for initiation, and one brother as a joining member. There being no other work before the lodge, it was closed in perfect peace and concord at nine, p.m. The brethren now adjourned to a most sumptuous banquet. The best thanks of the brethren are due to the W.M. of this lodge for the alterations in the banquet hall, owing to which every brother was comfortable, notwithstanding the very large gathering. The cloth having been removed, the W. Master proposed the following toasts of obligation:—"The Queen and the Craft," "The Grand Masters of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the lodges working under them," to all which the brethren responded with hearty enthusiasm.—The W. Master then said it was his happy lot to see both the Provincial Grand Masters of Bombay present at the banquet table; he was thankful to them for having honoured the lodge by their presence. He hoped they would come frequently, and he would with the brethren endeavour to do his best. He would propose "The Healths of Bros. Taylor and Barton." The toast was drunk with a bumper and a Masonic cheer.—Bro. Taylor then rose and responded to the toast in an able and masterly speech. He said, Worshipful Sir and brethren, you have drunk to my health as the Provincial Grand Master under England; you have also included my noble brother on my right, Bro. Barton, the Prov. G. Master under Scotland, in the same toast. To him, as he is an able speaker, I shall leave the task of replying for himself. I rise, although it is a thing unusual for the Provincial Grand Master to return thanks to a toast of obligation; nevertheless, as the toast was drunk with such enthusiasm, I am in duty bound to say a few words. I am glad that I have come among you this evening in my official capacity, glad of the opportunity of seeing the work of the lodge, glad to meet so many brethren from various lodges. So many coming together must do so for some reason. I say there is a reason, and that reason can only be that Lodge Concord stands second to none with regard to its work and hospitality to all brethren, be they members or visitors. For the Worshipful Master of this lodge I have the highest esteem and respect, and the crowded meeting I now see before me enables me to say that Bro. Diver has secured the esteem of every member of the Craft. I should have been oftener among you, but I knew well that the lodge was in able hands. Bro. Barton then rose and responded to the toast in an eloquent speech of at least fifteen minutes' duration. He thanked the W.M. and brethren of Lodge Concord on behalf of himself and officers; he thanked the W.M. for inviting him to a lodge where he said he saw a spirit of brotherly love pervading in its truest sense. He had often been in lodges, but the meeting of the 19th November would never be effaced from his memory, for he sat for the first time in lodge side by side with the Provincial Grand Master of the English lodges. Such being the case, he was fully convinced that all past differences were now put away into oblivion, and that concord was reigning in the hearts of the Masons of Bombay. Such an occurrence as the meeting of the two Provincial Grand Masters in one lodge was a thing that had not occurred in Bombay. He fully agreed with that which fell from the lips of Bro. Taylor, that Bro. Diver was universally esteemed as a man and a Mason. He would add but one fact, that he was happy and proud to see such a gentleman and brother as Bro. Taylor at the head of the English lodges in this presidency, and he wished him, the Worshipful Master of Lodge Concord, and its officers every prosperity.—"The Health of the Visitors" was then proposed by the W. Master, who said

he took this opportunity to thank the Worshipful Masters of Lodges Rising Star and Perseverance, and the brethren from lodges working under them, as well as from Lodges Truth, St. George, St. Paul's, &c., for their kind visit; he hoped they would often come to Lodge Concord, as he and the members would always be glad to see them.—Bro. Nowrojee Nanabhoj Framjee, W.M. of Lodge Rising Star, rose and said, as the Worshipful Master was pleased to include his name in the toast for the visiting brethren, he tendered his best thanks for himself and the members of his lodge for the kind manner in which they were received by the Worshipful Master and brethren of Lodge Concord, and hoped they would often come to Lodge Rising Star.—Bro. Jamieson, the W.M. of Lodge Perseverance, then rose and said,—Worshipful Sir and Brethren, you were pleased to include my name in the toast for the visitors. I have attended your meeting with my officers, and we return you our sincere thanks for the true spirit of brotherly love and cordiality you are pleased to show us. We hope you will often come to the Lodge Perseverance, which takes place on the 15th of each month. The health of the newly-initiated was then proposed and drunk. Bro. Mills responded.—The Rev. Bro. Farham then proposed the health of Bro. Diver, which was drunk with a grand chorus.—Bro. Diver, in his usual happy style, returned thanks. He said he was completely overpowered by the kindness he had received that night and at all times from brethren. So long as he was the Worshipful Master he would endeavour to do his duty; his best thanks were due to the officers of the lodge, and to each individual member for having perfect harmony in and out of lodge. After several other toasts and songs, the happy band broke up with a "Fappy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again."

#### LITERARY EXTRACTS.

A VISIT TO PRESIDENT LINCOLN.—You pass into the President's room of business through an ante-room, which has, no doubt, been paced by many an applicant for office and many an intriguer. There is no formality—nothing nothing in the shape of a guard; and, if this man is really "a tyrant worse than Robespierre," he must have great confidence in the long-sufferance of his kind. The room is a common office-room—the only ornament that struck the writer's eye being a large photograph of John Bright. The President's face and figure are well known by likenesses and caricatures. The large-boned and sinewy frame, 6 feet 4 inches in height, is probably that of the yeoman of the north of England—the district from which Lincoln's name suggests that his forefathers came—made spare and gaunt by the climate of America. The face, in like manner, denotes an English yeoman's solidity of character and good sense, with something sundered from the enterprising life and sharp habits of the Western Yankee. The brutal fidelity of the photograph, as usual, has given the features of the original, but left out the expression. It is one of kindness, and, except when specially moved to mirth, of seriousness and care. The manner and address are perfectly simple, modest, and unaffected, and therefore free from vulgarity in the eyes of all who are not vulgar themselves. There was nothing in the conversation particularly worth repeating. It turned partly on the incidents of the recent election. The President was trying to make out from the polls, which had then not perfectly come in, whether the number of electors had diminished since the beginning of the war; and he flattered himself that it had not. His mind seemed to have been dwelling on this point. He remarked that, in reckoning the number of those who had perished in the war, a fair per-centage must be deducted for ordinary mortality, which would have carried off under any circumstances a certain proportion of the men, all of whom were generally set down as victims of the sword. He also remarked that very exaggerated accounts of the carnage had been produced by including among the killed large numbers of men whose term of enlistment had expired, and who had been on that account replaced by others, or had re-enlisted themselves; and he

told in illustration of this remark one of his characteristic stories:—"A negro had been learning arithmetic. Another negro asked him, if he shot at three pigeons sitting on a fence and killed one, how many would remain. 'One,' replied the arithmetician. 'No,' said the other negro, 'the other two would fly away.'" In the course of the conversation he told two or three more of these stories—if stories they could be called—always by way of illustrating some remark he had made, rather than for the sake of the anecdote itself. The writer recognised in this propensity, as he thought, not a particularly jocular temperament, much less an addiction to brutal levity, such as would call for a comic song among soldiers' graves, but the humour of the West, and especially of a Western man accustomed to address popular audiences, and to enforce his ideas by vivid and homely illustrations. You must have studied the American character—and indeed the English character of which it is the offspring—very superficially if you do not know that certain levity of expression, in speaking even of important subjects, is perfectly compatible with great earnestness and seriousness beneath. The language of the President, like his demeanour, was perfectly simple; he did not let fall a single coarse or vulgar phrase, and all his words had a meaning.—Professor Goldwin Smith, in *Macmillan's Magazine* for February.

UNWELCOME VISITORS.—The Sioux are off again, but this time they have taken away with them whatever they could lay their hands upon, whether begged or stolen. Horses, oxen, cows, calves, pigs, and other live stock were taken from farmyards or the plains during the night when they commenced their departure, and either killed or driven out of the settlement by the last frequented tracks. At one house a pane of glass was broken in each window, and every article within arm's length abstracted; and several houses were broken open and plundered. They stole potatoes out of the fields, and coolly walked into the nearest house and asked to be allowed to cook them. The red rascals visited every house where they had sold children during their visit last winter, and took the children away, even against their wishes in many cases. In one instance the master of the house coming up seized by the arm the boy they were dragging away, and several of the Sioux held on to the other arm, both sides pulling away, while the child was screaming with fright; at length the Sioux moved off discomfited. They stole the communion-cloth from the church at High Bluff, and some of the ornaments from the altar of the French chapel near Sturgeon-creek. In short, we have had such a warning on this visit that we must take steps to be prepared to make a stand against these invaders when next they come. They may profess that their object is to endeavour to open up a trade with a settlement, but we must make such a display of force as will cause them to fear and respect us, or else we must place ourselves at their mercy, and the result will probably be the re-enactment in our midst of the Minnesota massacres.—*Not Western.*

A BOHEMIAN.—While talking at the door of the Portree Inn with the landlord, who had known my old friend, I saw approach a broken, bloated figure in a pilot coat—a strange wreck of an English gentleman to have washed up on that stormy coast. "Who is that?" I asked, as he moved away. "That, sir," the landlord said, smacking his lips over the name, "that is the Honourable Alfred Monthermer, third son of the Earl of Daneville—a commander in the navy!" The curious interest and wonder I had felt about the figure were explained, and my thoughts flew back just twenty-one years. "What, the little pale youngster with an eye-glass, of the *Boanerges*, that lay near us in Plymouth Sound!" Pic-nics to the breakwater; evening parties, where we judiciously danced with the captain's daughters; cigars on the sly, when out of the reach of oldsters indifferent to the vice, but liking to lick you for committing it—all floated through the mind as I gazed after the

figure of a man, broken, beaten, bedevilled, and forsaken at the age of thirty-five! Then I formed a little theory of the history. The accident of a fast messmate or two to develop the latent tendency to "go a-mucker;" the fatal tick at Malta, and the presents of filigree and other work to a young Sicilian there; brandy and water to relieve the languor of the *sirocco*, claret and soda to temper the rays of the Dogstar; allowance outrun and money borrowed from the landlord of the Jervis' Head, at Portsmouth—a spell in the West Indies inflaming the growing thirst—and then "Monthermer drinks." He forgets to report Galita Light to one skipper, and another comes up at two bells in the middle watch, and finds him asleep in the hammock netting. He goes from ship to ship—with no open scandal, but pursued by a mysterious blight. There is a snug court of inquiry, and he is "invalided" soon after. High-born aunts of an evangelical turn get wind of the state of things, and die, leaving him nothing. The elder brother is glad of an excuse for buttoning up his pockets; but at last there is no ship to be got for Alfred, and he is packed off to the Highlands, to be cured of drunkenness in the land of whisky. There are establishments dotted over the western counties where they profess to do that kind of thing; but, bless you! the patients get mysteriously drunk for all that; the whisky seems to be in the air. And after a few hours of deepening degradation, young Hopeful now becomes young Hopeless—dies. The family solicitor sees a good opportunity of giving a holiday to one of the senior clerks, who runs down and buries our friend, and is very glad of the trip. There my brisk young gentleman of the "Rag," making the hay of pleasure, in the Haymarket, while the sun shines—how do you like the programme? The grave is open before us, and the polite moralist bows, and says, "After you."—*Cornhill Magazine.*

"EXAMINATION" AT THE UNIVERSITIES.—The great bugbear and terror of undergraduate existence lies in that awful word "examination." There are, it is true, little interludes of delight, consisting of the remainder of the term in which a triumph has been gained; but yet, for an honours man, there really seems no rest. The ordeals are undergone in rooms situated in a splendid quadrangle called "the schools;" the written work is done at small deal tables, each man having a separate table, and examiners are posted all about to prevent "cribbing" of any kind, which nevertheless does, we suspect, go on to a considerable extent in the "pass" schools. It is an awful affair for a culprit to be discovered. We well remember being startled by hearing the head examiner on a certain afternoon announce, in a loud, clear tone, "Sir—, you will have the goodness to leave the schools." Happily, in this case, the suspicion eventually proved to have been unfounded. When the *viva voce* comes on, each victim goes up to a table covered with green baize, where sit the two inquisitors; the trembling wretch is requested in bland tones to sit down, which he does, looking furtively round at his friends, who, with a mistaken kindness, if he is a nervous man, are assembled to see how he gets on. If a man is popular, or if he is in for honours, and great things are expected of him, large numbers are often present to hear him. This was the case when the present Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland and Lord Carnarvon were candidates for the class list. Numerous stories are always afloat of wonderful blunders in divinity; some, of course, are inventions, and others facts, or founded on facts. Here are a couple of amusing specimens, which we credit with some foundation:—Examiner—"What can you tell me about St. Paul?" Undergraduate—"He was also called Saul, and was brought up at the foot of Gamaliel." Examiner—"Yes, quite right. What do you know about Gamaliel?" Undergraduate—"It is a mountain in Galilee." The next, we believe, may be credited to Cambridge. Examiner—"Why did Moses leave Egypt?"

Undergraduate (with hesitation)—“Why, sir—hem—hem—” Examiner—“Come, come, answer if you know.” Undergraduate—“Well, sir, I suppose that little affair with Poliphar’s wife!” For the following we do not attempt in any way to vouch, although we have heard its authenticity strenuously asserted:—Examiner—“Why was John the Baptist beheaded?”—Undergraduate (falteringly)—“Because he would dance with Herodias’s daughter.”—*Cornhill Magazine.*

LITTLE MISS PEECHER AND HER LOVE AFFAIR.—Little Miss Peecher, from her little official dwelling-house, with its little windows like the eyes in needles, and its little doors like the covers of school-books, was very observant indeed of the object of her quiet affections. Love, though said to be afflicted with blindness, is a vigilant watchman, and Miss Peecher kept him on double duty over Mr. Bradley Headstone. It was not that she was naturally given to playing the spy—it was not that she was at all secret plotting, or mean—it was simply that she loved the irresponsible Bradley with all the primitive and homely stock of love that had never been examined or certificated out of her. If her faithful slate had had the latent qualities of sympathetic paper, and its pencil those of invisible ink, many a little treatise calculated to astonish the pupils would have come bursting through the dry sums in school-time under the warming influence of Miss Peecher’s bosom. For, ostentatiously when school was not, and her calm leisure and calm little house were her own, Miss Peecher would commit to the confidential slate an imaginary description of how, upon a balmy evening at dusk, two figures might have been observed in the market-garden ground round the corner, of whom one, being a manly form, bent over a womanly form of short stature and some compactness, and breathed in a low voice the words, “Emma Peecher, wilt thou be my own?” after which the womanly form’s head reposed upon the manly form’s shoulder, and the nightingales tuned up. Though all unseen, and unsuspected by the pupils, Bradley Headstone even pervaded the school exercises. Was geography in question? He would come triumphantly flying out of Vesuvius and *Ætna* ahead of the lava, and would boil unharmed in the hot springs of Iceland, and would float majestically down the Ganges and the Nile. Did history chronicle a king of men? Behold him in pepper-and-salt pantaloons, with his watch-guard round his neck. Were copies to be written? In capital B’s and H’s most of the girls under Miss Peecher’s tuition were half a year ahead of every other letter in the alphabet. And mental arithmetic, administered by Miss Peecher, often devoted itself to providing Bradley Headstone with a wardrobe of fabulous extent: *fourscore and four neckties at two and ninepence-halfpenny, two gross of silver watches at four pounds fifteen and sixpence, seventy-four black hats at eighteen shillings; and many similar superfutilities.*—“*Our Mutual Friend,*” by Charles Dickens.

WHEN we hear a man dwelling particularly upon a certain good deed of his own, and repeatedly boasting of the same, if his words are true, if he has actually performed the good deed, we naturally conjecture that he seldom does the like; because, if the performance of such a praiseworthy action were not a wonderfully new thing to him he would not so often speak about it. When circumstance has so far thrown itself in our way, that we cannot turn either to the right or left without entailing degradation and ruin upon ourselves and others, it is often better to let this circumstance mould our actions, and to keep going on in the path we think is right, than to turn back; for, as we press on, the power of circumstance will grow weaker and weaker, will lose its hold, and die by the way; then shall we stand alone in triumphant consciousness of right, with no weight of wrong clinging to us. Honour is a signal virtue, containing within itself a complement of the other virtues, easily lost if not carefully watched—once lost, difficult to recover.—J. B. S.

## Poetry.

### THE CAPTAIN: A LEGEND OF THE NAVY.

He that only rules by terror  
Does grievous wrong,  
Deep as Hell I count his error.  
Let him hear my song.  
Brave the captain was: the seamen  
Made a gallant crew,  
Gallant sons of English freemen,  
Sailors bold and true.  
But they hated his oppression,  
Stern he was and rash;  
So for every light transgression  
Doom’d them to the lash.  
Day by day more harsh and cruel  
Seem’d the captain’s mood.  
Secret wrath, like smother’d fuel,  
Burnt in each man’s blood.  
Yet he hoped to purchase glory,  
Hoped to make the name  
Of his vessel great in story,  
Wheresoe’er he came.  
So they past by capes and islands,  
Many a harbour-mouth,  
Sailing under palmy islands  
Far within the South.  
On a day when they were going  
O’er the lone expanse,  
In the North, her canvas flowing,  
Rose a ship of France.  
Then the captain’s colour heighten’d,  
Joyful came his speech:  
But a cloudy gladness lighten’d  
In the eyes of each.  
“Chase,” he said: the ship flew forward,  
And the wind did blow;  
Stately, lightly went she Norward,  
Till she near’d the foe.  
Then they look’d at him they hated,  
Had what they desired:  
Mute with folded arms they waited—  
Not a gun was fired.  
But they heard the foeman’s thunder  
Roaring out their doom;  
All the air was torn in sunder,  
Crashing went the boom.  
Spars were splinter’d, decks were shatter’d,  
Bullets fell like rain;  
Over masts and decks were scattered  
Blood and brains of men.  
Spars were splintered, decks were broken:  
Every mother’s son—  
Down they dropt—no word was spoken—  
Each beside his gun.  
On the decks as they were lying,  
Were their faces grim.  
In their blood, as they were dying,  
Did they smile on him.  
Those in whom he had reliance  
For his noble name,  
With one smile of still defiance  
Sold him unto shame.  
Shame and wrath his heart confounded,  
Pale he turn’d and red,  
Till himself was deadly wounded  
Falling on the dead.  
Dismal error! fearful slaughter!  
Years have wander’d by.  
Side by side beneath the water  
Crew and captain lie;  
There the sunlit ocean tosses  
O’er them mouldering,  
And the lonely sea-bird crosses  
With one waft of wing.

—TENNYSON.



## THE WEEK.

**THE COURT.**—Her Majesty and Family have returned to Windsor. It is stated that Her Majesty will shortly hold a Court, at which she will receive the whole of the *Corps diplomatique*. The Prince and Princess of Wales are at Marlborough House, where they on Tuesday evening gave a dinner party to a large circle of the nobility. On Wednesday, Her Royal Highness presided at a meeting of the Council of the Wellington College.

**IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.**—The HOUSE OF LORDS met on Thursday, 16th inst., but the business transacted was unimportant.—On Friday, Lord Granville laid on the table two minutes of the Committee of Council on Education,—the first apparently sanctioning Miss Burdett Coutts's plan for uniting small schools, with the view of securing the advantage of Government inspection, and the second providing for the more efficient examination of evening schools.—Lord Lyveden raised a discussion on the subject of the defences of Canada. He thought we ought not to rely upon the conciliatory temper of the American people, for it is well understood when, a few weeks ago, there was a prospect of peace between the Northern and Southern States, that reunion meant war with England. He urged that we ought either to withdraw our troops, and leave the colonists to defend themselves, or take immediate measures for placing the territory in an adequate state of defence. Lord de Grey said the army estimates would this year include a vote of £50,000 for improving the fortifications of Quebec, and it was proposed that the fortification of Montreal and the important western territory should be undertaken by the Canadian Government. In addition to this, 88,000 militiamen were to be balloted for, and the Home Government would offer every facility for the establishment of schools for the training of officers. Lord Derby strongly censured the Government for having so long neglected the defences of Canada, and both he and Lord Malmesbury ridiculed the smallness of the sum proposed to be voted for strengthening the fortifications of Quebec. Lord Ellenborough also urged that we were bound in honour to do all we could to defend Canada, but at the same time he would impress upon the colonists that the assistance of the mother country would be comparatively useless unless they themselves displayed that spirit of vigour by which the brief history of the Confederate States had been marked. Lord Granville, Lord Russell, Lord de Grey, and the Duke of Somerset replied to the various points which had been raised by the Opposition speakers. It was pointed out that it was impossible for the Home Government to have acted earlier in this matter, as it was but recently that the colony showed a disposition to take any steps for its own defence; that the vote of £50,000 was about as much as could be got through in the working season at Quebec, and that, as the United States had only given notice in November of their intention to terminate the Lakes Convention, there had not been sufficient time for deciding upon the proper measures to be adopted in view of the appearance of a Federal flotilla in those waters.—On Tuesday, the Lord Chancellor introduced a Bill conferring on County Courts a limited jurisdiction in equity,—enabling them, for instance, to deal with cases of intestacy where the property was of small amount. He also intimated his intention of bringing in a Bill for shortening the period during which debts could be recovered, and prohibiting the recovery of any "score" for intoxicating liquors drunk on the premises.—In the HOUSE OF COMMONS on Thursday, the 16th inst., the motion for the second reading of the Central Wales and Staffordshire Junction Railway Bill led to a division, which resulted in

the second reading been carried by a majority of 29.—On the bringing up of a report relating to private bills, Lord Palmerston took the opportunity of paying a warm tribute to the services of the late Mr. Gregson, who was several years chairman of the Public Petitions Committee.—Colonel Clifford gave notice of his intention to introduce a Bill to abolish fines for non-attendance at places of worship on Sundays.—In reply to a question from Mr. Arthur Mills, Mr. Cardwell stated that he had received despatches from New Zealand which led him to hope that the imperial troops might soon be withdrawn from the colony.—After some discussion, the Courts of Justice Building Bill was read a second time.—Mr. Whitehouse obtained leave to bring in a Bill for the reform of the Irish Court of Chancery, and Mr. Cardwell to bring in a Bill for the annexation of British Kaffraria to the Cape Colony.—On Friday, Mr. Layard, in answer to a question from Mr. Watkin, spoke in the warmest terms of the ability with which Lord Lyons had performed the duties of his office at Washington, and said the noble lord had broken down under the weight of the work which had devolved upon him. The Government, however, did not wish to press him to decide whether he would return to Washington or not, and in the meantime the business of the Embassy was being satisfactorily performed by Mr. Hume Burnley.—In answer to a question, Mr. Milner Gibson said the Government intended to bring in a Bill for the protection of the inventions displayed at Industrial Exhibitions.—Mr. Cardwell, in reply to Sir John Hay, said the governor of the Gold Coast had not been instructed to take the field against the Ashantees.—Sir Hugh Cairns condemned at great length the manner in which the Party Emblems Act was carried out in Ireland, contending that if the Government took no notice of the procession on the occasion of the laying of the first stone of the O'Connell monument in Dublin, it would be impossible to resist the conclusion that the law was directed against one community only. He also strongly censured the manner in which the inquiry into the Belfast riots had been conducted. Sir Robert Peel defended the Government against the attack of Sir H. Cairns; and the debate was continued by Mr. Whiteside and other members, leading, however, to no result.—On Monday Sir George Grey, in answer to a question, said it was proposed to appoint a commission to inquire into the marriage laws of the United Kingdom.—Mr. Hibbert obtained leave to bring in a Bill to permit executions to be carried out within the prison walls; Sir George Grey, however, remarking that, as the subject would be considered by the Commission on Capital Punishment, it would be desirable to defer the second reading until the Commissioners had presented their report.—A resolution, moved by Mr. Augustus Smith, declaring that the office of Parliamentary Secretary to the Poor-law Board ought to be abolished, was negatived by 193 to 107.—Mr. Villiers obtained leave to bring in a Bill substituting the union for the parish in the maintenance of the poor.—On Tuesday, the second reading of the Cheltenham and Gloucestershire Water Company's Bill—a Bill which proposed to enable the Company to pump the water from the Cerney Springs which now supply the Thames—was opposed by Lord Robert Montagu and other members, who apparently dreaded the drying up of our great river; and on a division the Bill was thrown out, by a majority of 30.—Mr. O'Reilly moved an address for the appointment of a Commission to inquire into the present system of recruiting, which he held to be most unsatisfactory. He suggested that the period of service should be twelve instead of ten years, that local enlistments arising from local associations should be encouraged, and that old soldiers of good character should receive higher pay. After

some discussion, in the course of which Colonel North stated that recruiting had come to a dead lock, Lord Hartington opposed the motion, reminding Mr. O'Reilly that the subject had only very recently been reported upon. He denied the statement of Colonel North, and said that recruiting had been going on with great regularity. The Government did not intend this year to propose an increase of pay or an alteration in the mode of recruiting, but both subjects were under consideration. Mr. Vincent Scully advised Irishmen to abstain from enlisting, as there was no chance of their getting fair play; while Mr. Whalley declared that Roman Catholic troops could not be relied upon in a case of emergency, as they gave their allegiance to the Pope instead of to the Queen. The motion was ultimately withdrawn.—Mr. Adderley moved for a Select Committee on the British establishments on the West Coast of Africa. He submitted that our four settlements were mere hotbeds of disease, and instead of proving of any advantage to our commerce, they only led us into petty wars with the natives. Mr. Cave seconded the motion, which was supported by Lord A. Churchill. Lord Stanley suggested that the inquiry should embrace the question as to whether the African squadron should be maintained. He considered that we had met any claims that the African race might have had upon us, and that we had sufficient scope at home for our philanthropic exertions. Mr. Cardwell assented to the motion, which was agreed to.—Mr. Baines obtained leave to bring in his Borough Franchise Bill, which was read a first time.—On Wednesday, Mr. Scourfield moved the second reading of the Private Bills Costs Bill. The object of this measure was to provide that where the proceedings of parties in reference to a railway bill appeared to have been vexatious, costs should be awarded against them. Mr. Denham thought the terms of the Bill were a little too large, but he should support it. Mr. Roebuck said in committee he should move that the provisions of the Bill be extended to all private Bills. Mr. M. Gibson thought the principle of the Bill was very doubtful, but after the expression of opinion by the House he should not oppose it. He would, however, suggest that it should be referred to a select committee. The Bill was read a second time, and was ordered to be referred to a select committee.—Mr. Denham moved the second reading of the Felony and Misdemeanour Evidence and Practice Bill, the object of which was to assimilate the practice in civil and criminal cases. Sir G. Grey, on the part of the Government gave his assent to the Bill. The Bill was read a second time.

**GENERAL HOME NEWS.**—The is a general decrease in the rate of mortality of the kingdom, though it is still above the average of the last ten years. At least that is so within the bills of mortality of the metropolis, where those averages have been most carefully preserved. There the deaths for the week were 1,567, which is a considerable diminution since January, though it is 112 above the ten years' average. In the ten principal towns of the kingdom the deaths were 3,340, or at the rate of 32 in the thousand. The births over the same area were 3,803, to which London contributed 2,034.—The return of pauperism in the cotton districts exhibits another increase this week. Eighteen unions in the aggregate relieved 2,000 more persons than last week, and seven unions fewer by 740; this leaves a net increase of 1,260. Three unions experienced no change in their relief lists. The following unions increased by the numbers respectively stated, viz.:—Ashton-under-Lyne, 300; Blackburn, 290; Bolton, 100; Chorlton, 130; Glossop, 240; Saddleworth, 200; and Todmorden, 210. Manchester decreased 480, which, within 10, is the amount of last week's increase. The number of able-bodied increased 510. The

guardians distributed £2,937 in out-door relief, or £102 more than in the first week in February; at the same time it is to be observed that this item is now nearly £3,000 less than in the corresponding week of 1864.—The army estimates for the year show a total diminution of charge for 1865-6, as compared with 1864-5, of £873,639. The reduction in the strength of the service is very small.—The navy estimates, as compared with those for the year about to expire, show a net decrease of £254,000.—The controversy respecting the endowment of the Greek chair at Oxford has been settled by a resolution of the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, to raise the stipend from £40 to £500.—The Syndicate appointed at Cambridge to consider the proposal to extend the local examinations to girls, have reported in favour of giving the scheme a three years' trial. They recommend that no "attempt be made to examine in such subjects as are peculiar to female education."—In the Upper House of Convocation on Friday, the Bishop of Oxford stated his views on the subject of admitting clergymen to the bar. He said he considered the decision arrived at by the Inns of Court "rather a good thing;" but, to meet any possible evils that might arise from it, he suggested that when a clergyman was admitted to practise at the Bar, it should be in the power of the Bishop to enter in his register an affidavit to that effect, and that it should amount to a sentence of suspension from all spiritual offices until that suspension was removed. He moved that the subject should be referred to the joint committee of the two provinces—a proposition which was unanimously adopted.—The annual meeting of delegates from various chambers of commerce was held on Tuesday, at the Westminster Palace Hotel, Mr. Sampson Lloyd presiding. The principal business of the day was a discussion on the state of the Bankruptcy Law, for which no one appeared to have a good word; and a motion recommending the adoption of the Scotch system was unanimously agreed to.—The members met again on Wednesday, and discussed several important questions. With reference to a commercial treaty with Austria, a letter from the Foreign Office was read. It stated that the Austrian Government had suggested the appointment of a commission, consisting of Austrians and Englishmen, to agree upon the bases for a commercial treaty. Her Majesty's Government has agreed to the proposition.—An Art Workmen's Industrial Exhibition was opened at the Royal Institution, Manchester, on Tuesday. Addresses were delivered on the occasion by Sir James Kay-Shuttleworth, who presided, the Dean of Manchester, and other gentlemen.—At the commencement of the present month there was a deficiency of about 180 officers in the various volunteer brigades and regiments of Lancashire. This is a serious fact, and deserves the attention it received at a meeting held at the Town Hall, Manchester, under the presidency of the Mayor. This falling off in the number of officers, while the rank and file is steadily gaining strength, was attributed to various causes, and notably to the expenses to which the officers are now subjected. In order, to some extent, to remove this source of complaint, the meeting decided to recommend "the formation of a council of honorary members in connection with each corps, to undertake the enrolment of new honorary members, and the collection of subscriptions." A committee was also appointed to bring the question of the military and legal rank and status of volunteer officers under the attention of the Government.—Experiments were made on Wednesday on the South-Western Railway with an invention for permitting communication between passengers and guard and driver in any train. Electricity is the chief agent. The result appears to have been most satisfactory.—Lord Harris laid the foundation stone of a new bridge across the Thames on

Wednesday at Battersea. The bridge is intended to be used by the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Company, the present bridge being found insufficient for their traffic.—The Davenport brothers presented themselves before a Huddersfield audience on Tuesday night, but it so happened that the two gentlemen appointed to act as a "committee" had been initiated into the mysteries of the "tom-fool" knot which stopped the performances at Liverpool; and the brothers objecting to be tied up in such a manner, the *séance* was abruptly closed.—According to the *Observer*, a meeting is about to be held in London with the view of ascertaining whether something cannot be done to render trades unions and other "working-class organisations," available for raising a popular feeling in favour of a Reform Bill. Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, Mr. W. F. Forster, Mr. Stansfeld, and other members of Parliament and other gentlemen of influence are said to support this movement, and it is added that they are prepared, if they see the working classes themselves moving earnestly in the matter, to put down the sum of £5,000 to carry on the agitation.—The hardship upon special jurymen of having to hang about courts of law, sometimes for several days together, has often formed the topic of complaint. Chief Justice Erie adverted to the subject in his own court on Tuesday, and recommended that the system prevailing in the country should be adopted in London—that is to say, instead of summoning 24 jurymen in each particular case, it would be better to summon 36 jurymen, who would try all cases that came before them for a period—say five or six days. The proposal appeared to commend itself to those jurymen to whom it was addressed.—A case, which has been before the Lord Chief Justice of England and a jury for five or six days, was determined on Saturday. The Rev. Mr. Moore, a clergyman in Leicestershire, sued certain gentlemen, the directors of a company established to work some mines in Servia, which in the end turned out to be a failure. The ground of the action was, that the defendants had deceived the plaintiff by putting forth a prospectus containing a statement which they knew to be not true, or at least, which they did not know to be true. A great deal of evidence on both sides was taken, and the Lord Chief Justice, in summing up, laid down the principle that it was not necessary for the directors of a company to know of their own personal knowledge every statement that might be put forth in their prospectus; it was enough that they honestly believed, and had fair grounds for their belief, that the statements were true. The jury found a verdict for the defendants.—Another insight into the manner in which some joint-stock companies have been got up has been afforded by a case tried in the Court of Queen's Bench. Captain Antrobus and a Mr. Hughson sued a solicitor named Wickens and a gentleman named Folch for £10,000. It seems that the defendants and some other persons had made an agreement to purchase Mr. Crawshaw Bailey's ironworks for £253,000, and they were seeking to get up a company to be called the Aberaman Iron Works Company, which was to pay them £350,000 for the works, thus leaving them a clear profit of nearly £100,000. They had difficulty, however, in getting together the deposit money for the purchase, and in getting a sufficient number of shares taken to give the company a good appearance before the public. The plaintiffs say that they agreed to get both for a commission of £10,000—namely, £5,000 for the advance of £10,000, and £5,000 for the placing of 8,000 shares. They induced the London Bank of Scotland to advance the money and take the shares on a heavy premium, and thus claimed the commission. The Lord Chief Justice, who tried the case, repeatedly interrupted the evidence with exclamation

tions of astonishment at the revelations made. Evidence was called for the defence to prove that the deposit of £10,000 was obtained without the interference of the plaintiffs. The jury returned a verdict for the defendants.—A most scandalous action was tried in the Court of Exchequer on Tuesday. A woman named Spicer brought an action against a Mr. Moss for breach of promise of marriage and refusing to pay £200 which he had agreed to pay her. According to her own case she had cohabited with the defendant, who when he got married, promised to pay her £300, of which he had only paid £100. The defence was that the action was an attempt at extortion; that Moss had known the plaintiff as a prostitute, and that she had taken advantage of their acquaintance to get money from him under threats of exposing him to his wife. The counsel for the plaintiff retired from the case, and she was nonsuited.—Two men, named Munday and Dunks, who were charged with receiving a portion of the morocco skins recently stolen from the premises of Mr. Epstein, the leather merchant, have been re-examined at the Guildhall. Both of the accused were anxious to be liberated on bail, that they might, as they said, afford what information they could to the police, but Sir James Duke, in committing them for trial, declined their request.—The brothers Barry and their workmen, who are charged with attempting to defraud the fire insurance offices, have been again before Mr. Alderman Stone at the Mansion House. From the evidence given it appeared that the list of goods saved from the fire which the prisoners handed to the insurance offices did not represent the whole amount which has since been discovered; but the point in dispute is whether this under-estimation was deliberate and wilful, or whether it was the unavoidable consequence of the confusion that prevailed at the time or the urgency of the insurance companies to know at once the full extent of their losses. The prisoners were remanded, and bail refused.—The prisoners Meyer, Noble, Gray, and Shore, who are in custody on the charge of conspiring to burn down the house of a man named Picon, in Soho, over whose furniture Meyer held a bill of sale, and which was besides insured, were all examined before Mr. Knox at the Marlborough Police-court, on Saturday. The prisoner Gray made a statement to the effect that Picon had asked him to join in accusing Meyer of an intention to burn down the house, and threatening him with violence when he refused. The magistrate expressed his opinion that Picon was as guilty as those he now accused; but still there was so much evidence as to prevent him from dismissing the prisoners, and therefore he sent them for trial, but offered to accept bail.—Six of the persons in custody on the charge of having been concerned in the robbery of Mr. Howard's shop, in Market-street, were brought up at the Manchester Police-court, on Monday, but on the application of the solicitor for the prosecution, two of them—John Moores and Lucy Moores, husband and wife—were discharged, and put in the witness box. The two Moores gave very important evidence against the other prisoners and a man named Barker, who is still at large. The case was again adjourned.—A Russian sailor was murdered at Swansea on Thursday week by some foreign sailors. It appears that some foreigners had been drinking together in a public-house, and on coming out into the streets a quarrel took place, provoked in a great measure, it must be said, by the deceased himself, when he was stabbed with a stiletto, and died shortly afterwards. Two Italians are in custody on the charge of having committed the crime, and the case is under investigation.—The man Murphy, charged with the murder of his two sisters at Balbriggan, has been acquitted by the jury. The evidence was wholly circumstantial. The trial lasted eight days.—

The inquest on the body of the convict Townley, who destroyed himself in Pentonville Prison, on Sunday week, resulted in a verdict of "temporary insanity."—An inquest was held on Monday evening at Tottenham, on the body of a woman named Elizabeth Purnell. The deceased had been domestic servant in the house of Mr. John Costell Thompson, a clerk in the Bank of England. The medical evidence showed that death had been accelerated by want. The other evidence gave a strange and by no means pleasant picture of the mode in which Mr. Thompson and his family lived. He complained that his wife was such a drunkard that he was obliged to lock up everything to prevent her selling them. He declared that the deceased had always had enough to eat. This latter statement, however, was contradicted, and the jury in their verdict found that deceased's death was accelerated by starvation, and that Mr. and Mrs. Thompson were censurable for their neglect.—A fire, which caused the destruction of a large amount of property, took place on Tuesday morning, at Rotherhithe, near the Surrey entrance to the Thames Tunnel. It began on the premises of a boat builder, and speedily extended to an adjoining granary, where about 2,000 quarters of wheat were stored. Other buildings in that densely covered area were also attacked and more or less injured by the flames; and the destruction is estimated, taken altogether, at upwards of £20,000, of which a portion only was insured.—On Tuesday morning, at an early hour, a fire was discovered in the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, which was fortunately extinguished before it had extended beyond the room where it originated, although a number of public documents have been destroyed. It is alleged that the fire was the work of an incendiary, the miscreant having thrown some combustible matter into the room. Considering the number of helpless patients that occupy the wards of the hospital, the consequences of the spread of the fire must have been awful.—A serious fire is reported from Newton-in-the-Willows, between Liverpool and Manchester, where Mr. McCorquodale carries on an extensive printing establishment in connection, we believe, with the London and North-Western system of railways. The fire was very disastrous, and a large portion of the premises and of the plant was consumed.—An explosion, attended with fatal results, appears to have taken place on board the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer the *Rangoon*, while on her voyage from Bombay to Suez. A quantity of gunpowder, amounting to about 7lb., exploded in the after saloon, and did much damage to the fittings of the cabin, besides setting fire to a portion of the cargo, which was, however, soon extinguished. But the most lamentable result was the death of a lady passenger and her child, who were near the spot when the explosion took place.—A case of some social interest was decided on Wednesday by the Master of the Rolls. A widow lady was left with three daughters, who were entitled under their father's will to certain property as they came of age. She married a second time, and when her eldest daughter came of age, and accepted an eligible proposal of marriage, the mother persuaded her to assign her share of the property to her (the mother), and, as it was alleged—though this was disputed—to conceal the assignment from her accepted husband. The marriage took place soon after this arrangement, and when the daughter's husband did come to know of the deed, he sought to have it cancelled on the ground that it defrauded him of his marital rights. The Master of the Rolls said the equity of the case was clear, and ordered the deed to be cancelled.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The French Government have issued decrees appointing the commissioners for the Universal

Exhibition of 1867, and for the Universal Exhibition of Fine Arts, to take place in Paris at the same time. Among those appointed members of the commission are Earl Granville, Earl Cowley, and Mr. Cobden. The French Corps Législatif has appointed its committee to draw up the Address in reply to the Speech from the throne. MM. Schneider, Granier de Cassagnac, and Alfred Leroux are among the best known of the deputies entrusted with this task. The *Patrie* states that Cardinal Antonelli's despatch on behalf of the Papal Government, in reply to the complaint about the letters of Monsignor Chigi, has arrived in Paris, and that its contents are entirely satisfactory to France. It is also announced by the Paris evening papers that the French Government has intimated to the Italian Cabinet that the interval of two years to precede the evacuation of Rome by the French troops will be calculated from the 6th of February, that being the day on which the King of Italy left Turin for Florence. King Victor Emmanuel left Florence on Wednesday, for Bologna, and was to return to Turin on Thursday. The Turin papers deny that the two years preceding the evacuation of Rome by the French troops are to be calculated from the day of the King's departure for Florence. The *Opinione* refers to the agreement dated 3rd October last, according to which the period is to be reckoned from the date of the decree for the transfer of the capital. That decree was sanctioned by the King on the 11th day of December.—The budget for 1866 was presented on Saturday to the Austrian Reichsrath, and "shows an important deficit;" but the Finance Minister assures the people of the empire that in 1867 "every deficit will disappear." The Austrian Government has at last conceded the extradition of General Langiewicz to Switzerland. From an early period of the late Polish insurrection General Langiewicz has been kept in captivity by Austria. Repeated requests for his extradition on the part of Switzerland, and resolutions on the part of the Austrian Representative Chamber proved powerless until now to effect his release. From Lisbon we learn that the Portuguese Ministers have brought in bills to abolish the restrictive system at present in force at the mouth of the Douro, and to permit the permanent import of foreign cereals into Portugal in consideration of a duty which is to be gradually diminished.—The new Spanish Minister of Finance, Senor Castro, has announced to the Congress the withdrawal of the bill for the anticipation of the taxes, and declared that the Government relies upon the co-operation of the Chamber for a new bill to improve the financial position of the country. Queen Isabella has consented to permit the Crown lands to be sold for the benefit of the nation, and they are expected to produce about £6,000,000.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

DEVON AND CORNWALL.—Bro. Spry, of Devonport, has just published the Masonic Calendar, for these provinces. It is admirably got up, and must be useful not only to every brother resident in the province, but to all likely to visit it. The work is dedicated to Bro. the Rev. John Huyshe, P.G. Chap. and D. Prov. G.M. for Devon, and an excellent portrait of the worthy brother serves as a frontispiece.

JERSEY.—We have also received the Freemasons' Calendar for Jersey and Guernsey (including Alderney), edited by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P. Prov. S.G.W. Warwickshire, and we can earnestly commend it to attention.

G. W.—Three Installed Masters are required to form a legal board.

R. K.—Apply to Bro. F. Binckes, 16A, Great Queen-street, W.C.