

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1865.

GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

We have been officially requested to state that on and after Monday next, the 1st of May, the business of the Grand Secretary's Office, hitherto carried on at 63, Great Queen's-street, will be transferred to the new wing of Freemasons' Hall, and that on and after that day all lodge meetings will be held in the new buildings.

All persons coming on business to the office should enter by the temporary entrance in New Yard.

All brethren attending lodges should enter by the temporary entrance to the tavern, from the staircase of which access is provided to the various lodge rooms on the first and second corridor.

Brethren attending the various boards can enter by the tavern, if they desire to do so, and if so, they must, for the present, use the backstairs in the new wing.

MARK MASONRY.

[Communicated.]

A humble remonstrance addressed to the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Freemasons of Scotland on behalf of certain Mark Masters, holding under that august body in lodges in England.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Principals and the Excellent Companions members of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland.

Greatly rejoicing, as all lawful Mark Masters must do, at the recent decision of the Supreme Grand Chapter, and much pleased with the uncommonly able report on the position of the Mark degree, generally, issued in the Supreme Grand Chapter Reporter, of the 31st of March, there are contained in it some reflections which, it is most respectfully submitted, leave ground for a remonstrance by brethren who, in England, have remained loyal in their allegiance to the Supreme Grand Chapter.

Because, in comparison with the irregular Mark Masters and their, so-called, lodges in England, the brethren holding under the Supreme Grand Chapter are numerically the weaker body, both in lodges and membership, most persons would have imagined that the Supreme Grand Chapter must have been doubly anxious and careful to protect, and extend to them its utmost favour in making

some attempt to arrive at a knowledge of their wishes. The memorial which the Supreme Grand Chapter has rejected is, almost in the terms of the Supreme Grand Chapter's decision, liable to reconsideration if any governing body, here, can be found weak enough to acknowledge the pretensions of the memorialists, and the Supreme Grand Chapter seems somewhat inclined to cede the point, if such body comes forward, and grant all that is desired to those who have, hitherto, arrayed themselves against, or claimed to be co-equal with, the Supreme Grand Chapter, while the dutiful adherents to the latter are to be turned over, *volens volens*, like bales of merchandise, to the highest bidder. As, in political economy, it is admitted that property has its duties as well as its rights, so, in this case, it must be apparent that those who are voluntarily the bondsmen of the Supreme Grand Chapter ought to have a voice in their own disposal.

Were the memorialists even prodigal sons for whom the Supreme Grand Chapter felt bound to slay the fatted calf and celebrate the return to their home after a course of vagabondism, the case might be altered, but here they are no such thing, they never were sons of the parent stock, but wolves in sheep's clothing, ravening about seeking whom they might devour, and, at last, finding their position untenable, call upon the Supreme Grand Chapter to acknowledge their legality—by this very act showing how clearly they are themselves aware of their illegality and want of a *locus standi*—and whilst their modest request is debated and discussed the sheep of the true fold are totally unconsidered. It may certainly be that the Supreme Grand Chapter, acting on the Scriptural authority that there is more joy over one sinner that repenteth than ninety and nine just persons, argues that there would be an increase of joy at the accession of such a numerous body that it could chivalrously and magnanimously afford to despise the little remnant who glory in their unshaken fidelity.

In cases where two conflicting jurisdictions have both claimed the supervision of one or more lodges, such as was the matter in question between the Grand Lodges of England and Canada, the mother Grand Lodge has always warmly contested for a reservation of the rights and privileges of the daughter lodge and its members, using every effort that could be made to guarantee her a perfect independence; and this is more the

duty of the Supreme Grand Chapter towards the English Mark lodges holding of it, if it determines, eventually, to recognise its opponent. The Supreme Grand Chapter would then be morally bound to stipulate, in any concession it might make, that those English brethren who prefer to remain in allegiance to it should not be coerced to commit wilful and deliberate perjury, such as they must do, by taking a new oath, the Supreme Grand Chapter having no vestige of power, human or divine, to absolve them from the fealty they have already sworn.

Whilst the English Mark Masters doubt the policy of the Supreme Grand Chapter to hand them over, even to the Grand Lodge, or Grand Chapter, of England, they can entertain no doubt that it is out of the power of the Supreme Grand Chapter—under the clause inserted in its English Mark warrants—to transfer its English lodges to the self-styled “Grand Lodge of Mark Masters,” &c., because, before this is done, the usurping body must be recognised by the Supreme Grand Chapter as a “lawfully constituted body of the country,” which the former can never prove itself to be, as it was at first founded in wrong, still continues its wrong-doing, and nothing on earth can purge it of illegality and unlawful constitution, but dissolution and entire reconstruction, under a recognised lawful head, for which purpose it must absolutely cease to exist and be reconstituted *ab initio*.

All Masonic authorities appear to have very singular ideas respecting the recalling of warrants, and the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland is quite at one with the received doctrine. The Report says, “in any of these events your Committee would recommend the Supreme Chapter at once to recall the warrants already granted,” &c.; but it is most respectfully submitted that such a course—in any degree and under any jurisdiction—is a grievous wrong, and totally indefensible on any ground. It is one of the fundamental rights of a lodge to retain possession of its warrant. A warrant may be revoked, or declared null and void—as one portion of the clause, before alluded to, in the Report phrases it—but it cannot be recalled for having been entrusted to the Master and his successors. He is bound to hold it in trust for them, and no power can take the parchment back when it pleases the grantors to demand it, because it is a commodity bought and paid for—a property for which value has been

given; and when once so sold, the absolute and entire possession of the instrument is with the purchasers, and the vendors have no claim or lien upon it. To recall a warrant is a wrong, because it removes from the proper custodian all evidence that certain brethren were made in a lawful manner; and it would be quite correct if any set of persons took away such a warrant by force, to give them into custody for felony. In the charters granted to municipal or other corporations by the Crown—granted without payment or purchase—certain rights and privileges are insured to the subjects named therein upon their doing some acts of homage or fealty in return. There have been many cases in which the charters of cities and towns have been lost through the omission of performing the prescribed tenure under which they were held; but in such cases no one ever heard of the Crown demanding a surrender of the deed itself, it being quite enough that it be known the privileges are no longer enjoyable under it, and the charter is said to be “lost,” although, in reality, it remains in the hands of the body corporate to whom it was originally granted. That being the usual practice with regard to a gratuitous grant of rights and privileges, how, in the name of equity and common sense, can a vendor claim from a purchaser a redelivery of the article bought at any moment of time the former may choose to demand it? Granting that the Supreme Grand Chapter can declare—under the previously-mentioned clause—those warrants to be null and void, they cannot recall them or repossess themselves legally of the instrument they sold.

One more matter of very subordinate importance, yet much to be regretted, is to be found in the Report of the Supreme Grand Chapter. They have, perhaps unconsciously, permitted themselves to adopt the loose phraseology of their antagonists, and, on several occasions, to call the Mark, consisting of but one degree, an Order, which term implies the grouping of several degrees, as well as Masonic Knighthood, an honour totally unknown to the brethren who celebrate a strictly operative legend. It has, no doubt, been purposely adopted by the self-styled “Grand Lodge of Mark Masters,” &c., because, through certain influences, altogether unnecessary to specify more fully, they are located under the same roof with the real Order of Masonic Knights Templar, and may have been adroitly used to influence the waverers under the sanction of the old adage of “knowing a man by

the company he keeps," but the mere fact of renting a portion of the same premises cannot afford any ground to the surreptitious Mark's men to arrogate to themselves the potential charm of constituting a Masonic Order.

To the foregoing reasons some score of lawful Mark Masters holding under the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, thanking that body for rejecting the Memorial, and demonstrating to the world that the memorialists are no nearer to their goal, yet feel bound to remonstrate—humbly and respectfully—with the Supreme Grand Chapter, and entreat it not to be importuned into acknowledging a power commenced, and yet existing, in gross Masonic schism, but to defend and jealously maintain the status, rights, and privileges they have granted to those who will never seek to enter a lodge of irregular formation, but will abide by their fealty, and if annihilated, by the warrants under which they held being declared null and void, as members of a Mark Masters lodge, in England, will ever hold in high esteem the Supreme Grand Chapter from whose legitimate authority they are descended.

This humble and respectful remonstrance is thus publicly addressed to the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland in the name, and with the sanction of a score of Mark Master Masons, in England, who equally agree with one who is proud to subscribe himself as—ANTI-SPURIOUS MARK.

CHURCH BELLS: THEIR ANTIQUITIES AND CONNECTION WITH ARCHITECTURE.

Read at the Architectural Museum, by the Rev. JOHN H. SPERLING, M.A.

(Continued from Page 298.)

Bells in the Mediæval period, like most other productions of that age, are well deserving of study as works of art. A vast field of beautiful lettering and diapered ornamentation may be gleaned from the belfries of East Anglia. I have not made very extensive researches in the northern and western districts of England, but from what I have seen they must yield the palm to Norfolk, Suffolk, and Lincolnshire. The same must be said for the southern counties.

I think we may safely point to Lynn, in Norfolk, for the earliest specimens of these beautiful castings, many of which are, in their way, fully equal to what have come down to us in illuminated MSS. We find the names of Thomas and William de Lynn, of Johannes Godyng de Lynn, of the Wambis and Schep families connected with this

art during the fourteenth century, all more or less diffused over East Anglia, and using lettering and stamps and diaper nearly identical. One could heartily wish that more specimens of their work remained, but the custom of augmenting peals for ringing purposes during the eighteenth century in all the larger parishes has made terrible havoc amongst them; the chances of a successful find being now much greater in the inaccessible village bell-cot than in the stately well-newelled tower. The inscriptions on the bells of this period are invariably in single capitals, each capital highly adorned, the initial ones especially so, with diapered ornament. Often the human figure is combined in various attitudes to suit the shape of the letter, usually in ecclesiastical costume. Many of the initial capitals are besides beautifully crowned. The inscription always begins with a floriated cross, more or less elaborate; and between each word is a stop, usually a *fleur-de-llys*, or sprig of some pattern. The canons are often besides elaborately moulded.

Bells with ornamentation of this particular character are not found in the fifteenth century. Whether the Lynn foundry died out, or whether it was absorbed in, or removed to Norwich, I have not yet been able to discover. All we know is, that with the fifteenth century arose a very flourishing foundry in Norwich, conducted for some generations by the Brazier family. They seem to have founded largely, as their bells are still very numerous throughout Norfolk. With them came in a totally different kind of ornamentation. Black letter was now used exclusively, and of a very superior character. The capitals were still remarkably beautiful, and, as before, often crowned. A new class of initial cross and stops was also produced. The bells from the Norwich foundry may be readily recognised by the presence of a shield upon their crown. This shield is of three sizes, and somewhat different in detail: on each of them a ducal crown between three bells, arranged heraldically. The earliest shield had a simply diapered field. This was afterwards replaced by an ermine ground in two sizes. This foundry was carried on by various hands till nearly the middle of the last century. After the Reformation they made an attempt to return to the characters of the Lynn foundry; but whether they had preserved the original stamps, or had copies made from them, I cannot say; I am inclined, however, to the latter opinion.

Contemporaneously with the Norwich foundry was another at Bury, probably connected with the Abbey. They had a good business in Suffolk and Essex, and a little in Norfolk; their castings, however, are rough and inferior to those of the Norwich foundry. Their bells may be easily recognised by a shield, consisting of a bell pierced by two keys in saltier, a chief with a ducal crown between two pairs of arrows compounded from the arms of Bury St. Edmund's, together with a rude representation

of some of their tools. This foundry came into great note under Stephen Tonne, towards the end of the sixteenth century, many of the largest and best bells in Essex and Suffolk being of his manufacture. It was afterwards removed to Thetford, in Norfolk, and either died out in the middle of the last century, or was revived again at Downham under Thomas Osborn.

The above foundries were confined to East Anglia, as was also the Sudbury foundry, of some note in the last century. Much information concerning them, particularly during the early period of their existence, has been gathered by Mr. Lestrangle, of Norwich, which he hopes shortly to print. The book will be fully illustrated with specimens of the crosses, stamps, and letterings used in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Other ornaments were also common besides the stamps, crosses, and lettering. I have several times met with the Evangelistic symbols used as stops between the words of the inscription; also the various emblems of saints, sometimes figures of the saints themselves, sometimes a rood with attendant figures of SS. Mary and John. On the tenor at Minster, in Thanet, the inscription begins with a good demi-figure of a priest in eucharistic vestments. Flowers were also largely used as borders. I have met with a beautiful broder of daisies on a bell dedicated to St. Margaret.

Leaving East Anglia we find other foundries of early date in other parts of England; but having but scanty information concerning them, I will not detain you upon them. There are, however, certain founder's marks which were used pretty generally over England, for which a home has not yet been found—possibly they were itinerants. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries there was hardly a large town in England without its foundry. Many of them turned out beautiful bells so far as sound is concerned, but as works of art there is little to say concerning them. The most celebrated founder in the seventeenth century was Miles Gray. His head-quarters were at Colchester, but he itinerated considerably. The number of his bells yet remaining is marvellous, and not the less remarkable is the exceeding beauty of their tone. There are some twenty or thirty of his tenors yet in Suffolk, and that at Lavenham, though in no way better than several others, has been often moulded by bell-founders. So great was Gray's reputation that the great bell at St. Nicholas, Newcastle-on-Tyne, called the Mayor's Bell, weighing over two tons, was sent all the way to Colchester to be re-cast by him. Richard Oldfield cast some very fine bells about the same period, or a trifle earlier; his remaining works are but few—only, so far as I am aware of, to be found in Essex and Herts. A kind of lettering was adopted by him in very good imitation of fourteenth century work; his mark was an arrow on a shield between his initials, in chief and quatrefoil, and *fleur-de-lys*. The only other founder of this

age that I shall mention is Richard Chandler; of his whereabouts I am uncertain, and I have only seen some dozen of his bells, in Bucks, Herts, and Cambridgeshire, but his tenor bell at Melbourn, near Cambridge, is one of the finest bells in existence for its weight.

(To be continued.)

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

PYTHAGORAS.

From an article in *Putnam's Magazine* for December, 1856, entitled "The Apocalypse of Hasheesh," the following is taken. I found it amongst my Masonic scraps, and think it worthy of reproduction if you can find space for it.—EX. EX.

The writer describing an intoxicating vision induced by the extract of hemp, called *hasheesh*, says:

"Suddenly there came a sense as of some invisible presence walking the dread paths of the vision with me, yet at a distance as if separated from my side by a long flow of time. Taking courage, I cried, 'Who has ever been here before me, who in years past has shared with me this unutterable view?' In tones which linger in my soul to this day, a grand, audible voice responded, 'Pythagoras!' In an instant I was calm. I heard the footsteps of that sublime sage, echoing upward through the ages, and in celestial light I read my vision unterrified, since it had burst upon his sight before me. For years previous I had been perplexed with his mysterious philosophy. I saw in him an isolation from universal contemporary mind for which I could not account. When the Ionic school was at the height of its dominance, he stood forth alone, the originator of a system as distinct from it as the antipodes of mind. The doctrine of Thales was built up by the uncertain processes of an obscure logic, that of Pythagoras seemed informed by intuition. In his assertions there had always appeared to me a grave conviction of truth, a consciousness of sincerity, which gave them a great weight with me, though seeing them through the dim refracting medium of tradition and grasping their meaning imperfectly. I now saw the truths which he set forth, in their own light. I also saw, as to this day I firmly believe, the source from whence their revelation flowed. Tell me not that from Phœnicia he received the wand, at whose signal the cohorts of the spheres came trooping up before him in review, unveiling the eternal law and itineracy of their evolutions, and pouring on his spiritual ear that tremendous music to which they marched through space. No! During half a lifetime spent in Egypt and in India, both motherlands of this nepenthe, doubt not that he quaffed his apocalyptic draught, and awoke, through its terrific quickening, into the consciousness of that ever-present and all-pervading harmony which we hear not always, because the coarseness of the daily life hath dulled our ear.' The dim penetralia of the Theban Memnonium, or the silent spice groves of the upper Indus may have been the gymnasium of his wrestling with the mighty revealer; a priest or a gymnosophist may have been the first to anoint him with paleæstic oil, but he conquered alone. On the strange intuitive characteristics of his system, on the spherical music, on the govern-

ment of all created things and their development according to the laws of number, yes, on the very use of symbols which could alone have force to the esoteric disciple, (and a terrible significancy, indeed, has the simplest form, to a mind hasheesh-quickened to read its meaning)—on all these is the legible stamp of the hasheesh inspiration.

"It would be no hard task to prove, to a strong probability, at least, that the initiation into the Pythagorean mysteries and the progressive instruction that succeeded it, to a considerable extent, consisted in the employment, judiciously, if we may use the word, of hasheesh, as giving a critical and analytic power to the mind which enabled the neophyte to roll up the murk and mist from beclouded truths, till they stood distinctly seen in the splendour of their own harmonious beauty as an intuition.

"One thing related of Pythagoras and his friends has seemed very striking to me. There is a legend, that, as he was passing over a river, its waters called up to him, in the presence of his followers, 'Hail, Pythagoras!' Frequently, while in the power of the hasheesh delirium, have I heard inanimate things sonorous with such voices. On every side they have saluted me; from rocks, and trees, and waters, and sky; in my happiness, filling me with intense exultation, as I heard them welcoming their master; in my agony, heaping nameless curses on my head, as I went away into an eternal exile from all sympathy. Of this tradition of Iamblichus, I feel an appreciation which almost convinces me that the voice of the river was, indeed, heard, though only in the quickened mind of some hasheesh-glorified esoteric. Again, it may be that the doctrine of the Metempsychosis was first communicated to Pythagoras by Theban priests; but the astonishing illustration, which hasheesh would contribute to this tenet, should not be overlooked in our attempt to assign its first suggestion and succeeding spread to their proper causes.

"A modern critic, in defending the hypothesis, that Pythagoras was an impostor, has triumphantly asked, 'Why did he assume the character of Apollo at the Olympic games? why did he boast that his soul had lived in former bodies, and that he had been first Acthalides, the son of Mercury, the Euphorbus, then Pyrrhus of Delos, and at last Pathagoras, but that he might more easily impose upon the credulity of an ignorant and superstitious people?' To us these facts seem rather an evidence of his sincerity. Had he made these assertions without proof, it is difficult to see how they would not have had a precisely contrary effect from that of paving the way to a more complete imposition upon the credulity of the people. Upon our hypothesis, it may be easily shown, not only how he could fully have believed these assertions himself, but, also, have given them a deep significance to the minds of his disciples.

"Let us see. We will consider, for example, his assumption of the character of Phœbus at the Olympic games. Let us suppose that Pythagoras, animated with a desire of alluring to the study of his philosophy a choice and enthusiastic number out of that host who, along all the radii of the civilized world, had come up to the solemn festival at Elis, had, by the talisman of hasheesh, called to his aid the magic of a preternatural eloquence; that, while he addressed the throng whom he had charmed into

breathless attention by the weird brilliancy of his eye, the unearthly imagery of his style, and the oracular insight of his thought, the grand impression flashed upon him from the very honour he was receiving, that he was the incarnation of some sublime deity. What wonder that he burst into the acknowledgment of his godship as a secret too majestic to be hoarded up? What wonder that this sudden revelation of himself, darting forth in burning words and amid such colossal surroundings, went down with the accessories of time and place along the stream of perpetual tradition?"

THE CHEVALIER D'ÉON.

I have always heard there was but one lady Freemason. A brother told some of us, at lodge, recently that a Madame Deon was initiated. Is that a fact?—A P.M. of —SHIRE.—[The Chevalier D'Éon was one of the mysteries of the last century. It is a funny thing to write, but he was a man. For some youthful indiscretion, the King of France ordered him to assume female attire, and for many years he wore it both in France and England. He also at one time resumed male clothing, but was so used to a woman's dress that he speedily discarded it. There was much scandal afloat with respect to him, and many speculations as to which sex he belonged. When he was dead the mystery was solved, by the medical men declaring him to be a man. Although he went by the names of Chevalier and Madame D'Éon, adopting both as he chose—sometimes giving out that he was a man, at other times a woman—he was initiated into Freemasonry in London, as Dermott, in his *Aliman Rezon*, tells us:—"This is still the law of ancient Masons, though disregarded by our brethren (I mean our sisters) the modern Masons, who (some years ago) admitted Signor Singsong, the eunuch, T—nd—ci" [Tenducci, a great singer of his time, formerly one of the Sistine chapel choir, where all the males had female voices—were, in fact, eunuchs. For more on the point see Byron's *Don Juan*.] "at one of their lodges in the Strand, London. And upon a late trial at Westminster, it appeared that they admitted a woman called Madame D'É—." p. 29. This note of Dermott's refers to the Old Constitutions, in which it was declared that a candidate "must be without blemish, and have the full and proper use of his limbs," or as Anderson after said, in the second edition of his *Book of Constitutions*, "The men made Masons must be freeborn (or no bondmen), of mature age, and of good report, hale and sound, not deformed or dismembered at the time of their making. But no woman, no eunuch." p. 144. For a graphic account of the Chevalier D'Éon, and his vicissitudes, see Wraxall's *Memoirs of Remarkable Adventurers*.]

FREEMASONRY IN FRANCE.

What has become of the Rite Écossais lodges. Have they been amalgamated with those of the Grand Orient?—*.—[We hope not. Freemasonry in France is a most tangled skein, which few can unravel, and we are not of the number.]

THE MASONIC SUN AND MOON.

In almost every representation of the sun and moon, connected with Masonry, it will generally be observed that the sun is filled up with eyes, nose, and mouth, making a jolly round face of his own, while

the moon has a kind of sharp weasand profile assigned to her, and the back of the head almost invariably very black, as if moonlight was partial darkness. Is there any traditional, or other, reason that the sun and moon should be thus depicted? On the back of a lodge chair I once saw the most hatchet-faced moon ever carved by mortal man. Is such Masonic pre-Raphaelite art the correct thing, or are our upholsterers afraid to represent natural objects as they are?—**MAHL-STICK.**

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

"THE POLITE LETTER WRITER."

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—“A Lover of Plain English” publishes a letter in your issue of the 15th inst., complaining that he has received no less than fifty printed appeals to his benevolence on behalf of the Freemasons' Girls' School, and every one of the appeals is made in vain. The tone of his letter shows that they were addressed to the wrong person. No contribution towards an institution of which our Order is justly proud need have been expected from his purse. No effort on his part to obtain contributions from others need have been looked for. Derisive sneers are not the characteristics of benevolent intentions. The sounding brass and the tinkling cymbal become those who have not charity. Even were he indeed a steward for the next Girls' School Festival, it is highly probable that the interests of that “truly Masonic institution” might be found to suffer in his hands, and “its peculiar claims” to be disregarded.

In dealing with the weak satire and mild irony which he writes with such complacent self-satisfaction, it is almost cruel to say that his own letter is as much “sheer nonsense” as the circular he condemns. He himself also appears to have “just had a resuscitation,” for he must have been dead to Masonry not to know that the “formula,” as he inappropriately styles the circular in question, has been long in use by the stewards of the Girls' School Festival, year after year. I have received a copy of it from successive stewards of my lodge, and if it has not produced the intended effect on brethren generally, at all events the increasing list of annual subscriptions testifies that it has not diminished the sum total.

Reducing the reproaches of this latest and liveliest of “polite letter writers” to an intelligible shape, he blames some one—1st. For sending him fifty copies of a circular which are entirely useless to him—because he is not a steward on “the occasion” (on what occasion?)—because they arrived in a dog's-eared and creased condition. 2nd. For having no genius in “framing the form” of the circular—because the Girls' School is therein stated to be a truly Masonic institution—because it is therein asserted that the Girls' School Festival is the last of the three charitable festivals (of the year *subaudita*). 3rd. For issuing any circular to any one—because it presumes all the stewards to be uneducated—because it is framed so as not to be readable. There are, however, among the Craft some brethren who take great interest in promoting the prosperity of the School, and long experience in this and other benevolent charities, have convinced them that in the present “high charity

pressure” (meaning high pressure charity) an appeal of some sort is necessary to awaken others even to a sense of “peculiar claims.” If such an appeal contains an involved or an ambiguous sentence so much the worse; and a “Lover of Plain English” is but an unfaithful lover of the plain English he professes to admire, if, in pointing out a faulty construction, he employs phraseology yet more open to criticism. Let me remind him of the old law *maxim mala grammatica non vitiat chartam.* Yours fraternally,

P.M., No. 21.

[The above was received too late for insertion last week.]

MASONIC LAWS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Having lately been under the necessity of making myself thoroughly acquainted with the “Book of Constitutions” of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters, it has appeared to me that in some respects improvements have been made on those of the Craft Grand Lodge of England, which may be earnestly recommended to the careful consideration of that body, if those composing it are not too proud and too satisfied with their own arrangements to profit by what has been beneficially adopted by those to whom (with regret be it said) some degree of hostility is supposed to have been shown. I wish it distinctly to be understood that I am not urging the Mark degree on their attention, but merely such circumstances in the government of that branch of Masonry as seem more judicious than those to which we have been accustomed. It may be well from time to time to call attention to these points, in the hope that some of them may attract the notice of our Craft Masonic authorities, and be proposed for adoption. On the present occasion I desire to refer to the highest of our officers, namely, the Grand Master, and his representatives in the different districts, the Provincial Grand Masters.

In both—that is to say, the Grand Lodge of England and the Grand Mark Lodge—the Grand Master is elected annually; but in the latter it is very wisely provided that he shall not hold office for more than three years in succession. By general concurrence the Earl of Zetland does honour to his high position by his zeal, ability, experience and judgment, taking an active part in matters which, if he pleased, he might leave to his deputy. In this respect the Craft may not always be so fortunate; but since there are many of high social rank who are probably equally capable, but have no opportunity of being tested, it seems unwise to maintain a monopoly of this kind, and to exclude others for many years from the attainment of the honour. It is true that the Grand Lodge has the power, if it choose to exercise it, of making a change annually, but after so many years' good service, it would be a bad compliment to the Earl of Zetland to remove him, so long as it is his pleasure to accept the annual nomination; indeed, under present circumstances, such a proceeding would imply a want of confidence which no one would wish to convey. It is suggested therefore that during the period of retention of office by his Lordship, it is desirable to alter the law, to come into operation after his resignation, with a view to limit the term of his successors to three years, with eligibility for re-election after a

lapse of one or two years. The latter provision would afford an opportunity of paying especial honour in particular cases.

The case of a Provincial Grand Master is far worse than the preceding, and the existing law not only *may* operate prejudicially, but in my opinion has done so. The appointment to the headship of a province is, in the words of the "Book of Constitutions," "a prerogative of the Grand Master, by whom a patent may be granted during pleasure." Thus a province has no voice in the election of the brother who is to rule over them; and those who have ever assisted in an attempt to remove an existing Provincial Grand Master are aware how difficult, nay almost impossible, it is to effect a change, however urgent the need, owing to the forms which must be complied with, and the barriers in the way of preventing the reception of evidence of impropriety or incapacity. Again, a man may at one period of his life be very suitable, and at another, through change of circumstances, be quite the contrary; yet, though conscious of it himself, his pride will not allow him to offer his resignation, and the appointment being at the pleasure of the Grand Master, he is naturally unwilling to take a step so personally unpleasant as the withdrawal of a patent. Thus matters go on with great dissatisfaction in the particular locality. In fact the Grand Master has the power to act arbitrarily and against the wishes of the lodges, both in the first appointment to the office, and in continuing a Mason therein, and may exercise it almost unconsciously and without any intention to act counter to the general desire, which he has no opportunity of ascertaining. He may imagine himself correct in his estimate of the Masonic fitness of an individual for the situation, but I maintain that qualities are required of which he can form no opinion, and that want of local knowledge of the feeling towards him in the district must render it difficult to ascertain the success which is likely to attend his rule over the brethren. Under present circumstances a Prov. Grand Master may be upheld in his position at headquarters, notwithstanding any amount of unpopularity, misconduct, or incapacity. In the Mark degree such a state of things is impossible, or, if it exist, the fault lies in the brethren. The recommendation of an individual to the office of Prov. Grand Master proceeds from the province itself, the Grand Master having merely to decide on its propriety and to give his sanction. The tenure of office, as in the other case, is limited by law to three years, which gives a fair chance to other eminent brethren of, in turn, arriving at the distinction; and thus is prevented the danger of maintaining an obnoxious brother at the head of a province, contrary to the wish of those who compose it, and of whom scarcely any amount of impropriety on his part will enable them to get rid, as is the case under the Craft jurisdiction. Such an arrangement appears to be eminently worthy of the consideration of the Craft Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of England. It would give great satisfaction in certain districts, which it is not desirable to name; and no amount of self-satisfaction with their own doings should cause our authorities to refuse to profit by the example of a department towards which they may not entertain the most fraternal feeling, if a change would conduce to general benefit.

Yours fraternally,

April 17th, 1865.

P.M., P.Z., P.P.G.W.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEM.

It will be seen by an official notice in our first page that a portion of the new buildings in Great Queen-street is to be opened for Masonic purposes on the 1st of May.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The annual Grand Lodge and Festival took place on Wednesday last, and was most numerously attended. The time for opening the Grand Lodge was fixed for four o'clock, and at that hour there was a very full attendance of the brethren. Amongst those present were—Bros. the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M.; John Fawcett, Prov. G.M. Durham, as D.G.M.; Francis Alston, P.G.W. as S.G.W.; Frederick Pattison, P.G.W. as J.G.W.; Samuel Tomkins, G. Treas.; Aeneas J. McIntyre, G. Reg.; J. Ll. Evans, President of the Board of General Purposes; W. Gray Clarke, G. Sec.; J. R. Stebbing and G. Plucknett, G.D.'s; F. P. Cockerell, G. Supt. of Works; T. Fenn, Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.; W. Young, G.S.B.; W. Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec.; Jas. Stimpson, G. Org.; T. G. Dickie, G. Purst.; J. Emmens, Assist. G. Purst.; R. J. Bagshaw, Prov. G.M. Essex; Colonel Bowyer, Prov. G.M. Oxford; Lord De Tabley, Prov. G.M. Cheshire; Lord Sherborne, Prov. G.M. Gloucestershire; Geo. Cornwall Leigh, John Havers, R. W. Jennings, F. Dundas, and Algernon Perkins, P.G.W.'s; Revs. Sir J. Warren Hayes and John Huyshe, P.G. Chaps.; J. N. Tomkins, John Nelson, J. J. Blake, B. Head, J. Hervey, J. Savage, F. Slight, J. S. S. Hopwood, S. B. Wilson, and John Udall, P.G.D.'s; S. E. Nutt and N. Bradford, P. Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.; A. A. Le Veau, W. C. Walmisley, and R. J. Spiers, P.G.S.B.'s; and Jos. Smith, P.G. Purst.

Soon afterwards Bro. Havers, the Chairman of the Building Committee entered and said, that as Grand Lodge would not be opened for three quarters of an hour, that if the brethren chose they could inspect the whole of the new buildings which had been completed. The brethren gladly accepted the invitation, and, escorted by Bro. Havers, they visited the four principal lodge rooms, to which the names of "Zetland," "De Grey," "Dalhousie," and "Maira," have been applied. At the present time they are entirely destitute of ornament, but are very neatly furnished, and although they are not so large as many of the brethren were led to anticipate, yet they will no doubt be very commodious apartments for the purposes intended, and the entrance to each room has been so arranged as to be uniform, and leading to no difficulty whatever on entering the lodge room. Another large apartment to which the brethren were conducted was the Board Room, in which all future meetings of the Board of General Purposes and Board of Benevolence will be held. The light in this room is rather more subdued than is agreeable, but as the greater part of the meetings will take place in the evening, with an artificial light, that little drawback may not form any serious objection. There are rooms for the Grand Secretary, clerks, and waiting rooms for brethren having business at the office, and these will all be taken possession of on Monday next, as well as some of the lodge rooms. Bro. Havers attended the brethren, to explain the uses of the different rooms, and to answer any questions respecting them.

The brethren then returned to the Temple, and at ten minutes past five o'clock, the Right Hon. Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M., entered, attended by the Grand Officers, and took his seat on

the throne, supported by Bro. John Fawcett, Prov. G.M. for Durham, as D.G.M., and the other Grand Officers, as given above.

Grand Lodge having been opened in due form,

Bro. J. HUYSE, P.G. Chap. offered up the following prayer :—“ Vouchsafe Thy blessing, O Lord of Heaven and Earth, upon this Grand Lodge here assembled in Thy presence. May our labours this day be conducted in a spirit of unity and brotherly love, and grant that they may tend to promote the welfare of our fraternity, and above all, extend the honour and glory of Thy most holy name.”

Grand Lodge having declared open,

The G. SECRETARY read the minutes of the last Grand Lodge, referring to the election of the M.W.G. Master which were confirmed, and he was then proclaimed and saluted with the usual honours.

The G. MASTER said,—Brethren, I thank you most sincerely for again electing me to the honourable office of Grand Master. I can assure you that I value your confidence most sincerely, and my only wish was that I should have been enabled to perform my duties more regular than it was in my power to do in the last year, but the ill-health of Lady Zetland on two occasions prevented me from appearing before you. I have now had the honour of being elected as your Grand Master for 21 years, and during the whole of that time I have received the most cordial support from all the brethren, and I may say during the whole of that time I believe I have not made a single enemy. During the time also that I have had the honour of filling that office, our Charities have increased to a degree which was never expected 21 years ago; and as they are all in a most flourishing state, it is most gratifying to me, and reflects the highest credit upon the Craft. I feel that I am getting old in your service, but I am most anxious to do my duty, and I hope I shall continue to receive that support which has always been accorded to me. (Cheers.)

The G. MASTER said,—I reappoint as Deputy Grand Master the Earl de Grey and Ripon, and I may say that this morning I received a letter from him apologising for his absence, as this day there is an unusual amount of business at the War Office, no less than three foreign mails going out, and which engage his attention. I may say, however, that no Cabinet Minister ever devoted so much time to Masonry as Earl de Grey and Ripon. (Hear, hear, and cheers.)

The D. G. Master was then proclaimed, and saluted in the usual manner.

The G. MASTER then proceeded to appoint the Grand Officers for the year as follows :—

Bro. Earl de Grey and Ripon ...	Deputy Grand Master.
„ Sir Michael E. Hicks Beach	Senior Grand Warden.
„ Victor Williamson	Junior Grand Warden.
„ Rev. John Sedgwick, D.D. } „ Rev. Charles Raikes Davy... }	Grand Chaplains.
„ Samuel Tomkins.....	Grand Treas. (elected.)
„ Eneas J. McIntyre	Grand Registrar.
„ Wm. Gray Clarke.....	Grand Secretary.
„ Richard Brandt.....	G. Sec. for German Correspondence.
„ J. S. Pullen	Senior Grand Deacons.
„ George Cox	Junior Grand Deacons.
„ James Merryweather	
„ Charles Beaumont	
„ Fred. Pepys Cookerell	G. Supt. of Works.
„ Albert W. Woods	G. Dir. of Cers.
„ Thomas Fenn	Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.
„ Richard B. Cope	G. Sword Bearer.
„ William Farnfield	Assist. G. Secretary.
„ James Coward.....	Grand Organist.
„ John Emmens.....	G. Pursuivant.
„ Thomas Lewis.....	Assist. G. Pursuivant.
„ Charles B. Payne	Grand Tyler.

The G. MASTER then approved the following brethren as Grand Stewards for the year :—

Bro. Heather Bigg, 1	Introduced by	Bro. Francis W. Truscott.
„ John Sampson Pierce, 2	„	Charles Vennell.
„ Henry Lumley, 4	„	Francis T. Barry.
„ Alexr. Young Spearman, 5 ...	„	John F. Jackson.
„ Harry Hankey Dobree, 6.....	„	Colonel H. Daniell.
„ George P. Clark, 8	„	A. A. Richards.
„ Stanley Robinson, 14	„	Walter Richardson.
„ Richard Baker, 21	„	Stephen P. Norris.
„ James Thomas Hooper, 23 ...	„	William Kirby.
„ James Coxon Richardson, 26	„	William Smith.
„ Owen Bowen, 29	„	T. Y. C. Bambridge.
„ Conrad Clunie Dumas, 46 ...	„	Frederick Heritage.
„ Leonard Harris, 58	„	Edmond Frenniby.
„ Edward Henry Watts, 60 ...	„	George W. Rope.
„ Henry Norman, 91	„	David Shrewsbury.
„ Henry J. P. Dumas, 99	„	Frederick Wells.
„ S. Kemball Cooke, 197	„	Alexander G. Linn.
„ Robert Grey, 259.....	„	Edward Routh.

The G. MASTER said,—I give notice that I shall at the next Grand Lodge move that Bro. Dickie shall take the rank and wear the clothing of P.G. Purst.

There being no further business the Grand Lodge was closed in due form, and with solemn prayer.

THE BANQUET.

At half-past six o'clock the Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Officers proceeded in procession to the great hall where the brethren had already assembled, and having made one circuit of it, the noble Earl took the chair, supported by Bro. Fawcett, Bro. Lord Sherborne, Bro. Col. Bowyer, Provincial Grand Masters, and many Grand Officers, Past and Present, and the body of the hall was completely and almost inconveniently crowded. The banquet was served in a very satisfactory manner, and embraced everything of delicacy which the season could afford, and it is needless to say that full justice was done to them.

Grace was sung by the professional singers.

On the withdrawal of the cloth,

The G. MASTER said, you will all anticipate as loyal Masons and loyal subjects the toast I am now about to propose to you, which is the health of her Majesty the Queen; and it requires no effort on my part to persuade you to drink a toast which all Englishmen receive with the utmost enthusiasm, and no Englishman more so than a Free and Accepted Mason (hear, hear). Brethren, it has been lately mentioned, and in public speeches lamented, that her Majesty should not show herself more to her people. I am quite sure that however much we as Masons may lament her Majesty's absence from public life, yet as Masons we also sympathise with her Majesty's feelings, and I am sure there is no good Mason who would venture to blame her Majesty for indulging her feelings of affection for that bereavement which has so unfortunately come upon her. Although her Majesty may dislike to appear in public, yet no one can say that she neglects her duty as Sovereign of these realms, and I feel certain that the Craft in general sympathise most deeply with her Majesty; but though we might rejoice to see her more in public, yet we respect and venerate that conjugal grief which lies upon her up to this time (hear, hear). Brethren, I need not ask you to join with me in drinking with the greatest cordiality and sincerity “The Health of her Majesty the Queen.” (Loud cheers.)

“God save the Queen.”

The G. MASTER,—Brethren, the next toast I have to propose is one which must be exceedingly acceptable to this company; it is the health of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family. In giving the toast, brethren, I must say a few words as to the

first personage named in the toast, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. Although, as I have lately said, we must lament the absence of her Majesty from appearing among us, yet I am sure we must all rejoice and hail with satisfaction the advent of the Prince of Wales into public life. (Hear, hear.) We see him, no doubt, at the desire of his royal mother, coming forward, presiding at many charitable and scientific institutions, and all that is ennobling and useful to his country. We see him taking prominent part in everything that an Englishman likes and wishes success to, and making himself useful in every possible manner. (Hear, hear.) We had hoped that his Royal Highness might have become a Mason. (Hear, hear.) I wish he was one of us; but if he is not I will say this, that he performs all the functions and usefulness that the Craft prides itself upon performing. Under these circumstances I am sure you will be rejoiced that, though Her Majesty loves so much her retirement, we have a scion of that noble stock who is likely, and who gives promise to be a true Englishman, and to promote everything than can be useful and dignified in this country. Brethren, I will say no more than ask you to join with me in drinking most cordially "The Health of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." (Drunk with three times three.)

Bro. T. E. Walker then sang "God Bless the Prince of Wales."

Bro. FAWCETT, Prov. G.M. of Durham, said,—It most unexpectedly devolves upon me to propose "The Health of the M.W. the Grand Master." (Vociferous applause, which lasted for some minutes.) Brethren, I fully anticipated the enthusiastic reception that you have given to that toast. (Hear, hear.) I, and all of you, must regret the absence of the Deputy Grand Master, who in his usual forcible and felicitous style would have made acceptable to you that toast. But brethren, I am consoled by this reflection, that it requires no eloquence or oratory to make acceptable to you the toast of the health of him who, for the twenty-first time, you have elected as your Grand Master. Brethren, twenty years is a long period in one's life, and during that period and under the governance of our M.W. Grand Master, you have seen the progressive prosperity of the Craft. You have seen new lodges consecrated, you have seen numerous members initiated into the Craft; you have seen the unexampled prosperity of our Charities; and, above all, you have seen that truly Masonic feeling prevails among the members of the Order. All these results have been achieved under the guidance of him whom you now honour, and I call upon you to drink his health—to thank him for his past services, and to breathe hopes that strength and long life may be accorded to him—that the advantages of his beneficial sway over us may be long continued.

The toast was drunk with three times three.

The G. MASTER said,—Brethren I assure you it is most difficult for me to express my feelings on the manner in which you have been kind enough to receive the toast which has just been proposed. I have been long accustomed to receive great kindness from my brethren, and I have been well received at all times by the Craft in general, and by the Grand Lodge in particular; but, brethren, after so long a period of service, I assure you I cannot express to you the feelings which I entertain at the reception you have given to my health this evening. I have only to request that you will believe the gratitude which I express I feel for your kindness. Brother Fawcett, my excellent friend the Prov. G.M. for Durham, made one slight mistake. He said you had elected me now for the 21st time. I cannot allow one year to pass over, for it is my 22nd time. I have actually served 21 years, and I feel proud to have been elected now in my 22nd year. Brethren, I feel proud, because I think, with-

out boasting, that since I have had the honour of presiding over you, the Craft has flourished in every respect. (Hear, hear.) Our Charities have flourished, our lodges have increased immensely—our Charities, I should think, are more than doubled. We have built a Girls' School—we have built a Boys' School—the Asylum for Aged and Decayed Freemasons has been completed. In every way I think the Craft have reason to be proud of our whole performance; but, brethren, we are now about to complete a still greater work than any that has yet been done. We are building a new Temple for Masonry. (Hear, hear.) I have this day had the pleasure of going over that part of it which has been completed, or which is in course of completion, and must say that I have experienced not only the greatest pleasure, but I felt admiration for the work which has been done. (Hear, hear.) The Grand Superintendent of Works deserves the greatest credit for the taste, the solidity, the airiness, of that which is at present nearly completed. I think that this building will do more than anything that has yet been done to bring the Craft into credit and notice all over England. Brethren, there is one thing that I do feel anxious about, and which I trust you will bear in mind and carry out. I speak about this magnificent edifice, which I hope will soon be completed—that is in the course of little more than twelve weeks—since it is this day twelve months that I laid the foundation-stone. This magnificent Temple will be dedicated to the use of the Craft only, and that it will for ever be under the entire control of the Grand Lodge, and used for no other purposes than those which the Grand Lodge and the Craft may permit. (Hear, hear, and applause.) It does appear to me that when such a building, which will be an ornament to the metropolis, is completed, that the Craft should exercise its sole authority over it and that it should be used for the purposes of Freemasonry only. Brethren, I hope you will agree with me in the views I have expressed regarding this building which has cost a large amount of money, but I believe it will be remunerative to the Craft, and that although we may pay a little for our accommodation, yet it is so arranged that the interest of the money will, in the course of years, amply repay the expenditure upon it. I cannot sit down without again complimenting the architect and the Superintendent of Works, who has performed thus far so ably the duties we have entrusted to him; and I think, from what I have seen this day, we may rejoice in the progress which has been made, and that this building will prove a success. Brethren, I again thank you for the kindness you have shown to me, and assure you that although I am sorry to say I am getting very old I shall always as a Mason do my duty to you. (Loud cheers.)

The G. MASTER then gave "The Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland," and alluded to the kindly feeling which was always maintained between the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland and the Grand Lodge of England. At the last festival meeting, his Grace the Duke of Leinster, Grand Master of Ireland, was present at the laying of the first stone of the new building; but since then, Scotland has lost her Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge of England had lately agreed to an address of condolence upon that melancholy event. In giving the toast, he coupled with it the name of Bro. Hay, of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. (Drunk with great cordiality.)

Bro. HAY very briefly returned thanks.

The G. MASTER said the next toast he had to propose was "The Health of the Right Worshipful the Grand Wardens, and other Grand Officers of the Year;" and having very briefly referred to the selection he had made, coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Sir Michael Hicks Beech, *Bart., M.P., S.G.W.*

Bro. Sir M. H. BEECH, S.G.W., returned thanks.

The next toast was that of "The Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Masters," for which Bro. Fawcett, Provincial Grand Master for Durham, returned thanks.

The G. MASTER said the next toast he had to propose was one at all times acceptable to Mason—it was "Success to the Masonic Charities," and he felt delighted at the manner in which they were now supported by the Craft. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Patten, Secretary to the Girls School.

Bro. PATTEN, in returning thanks for the three Masonic Charities, said he hoped the brethren would not forget the Festival for the Girls' School, which would take place on the 10th of May. They had built a new wing to the Girls' School, and had taken in twenty additional children, but on lately comparing the receipts of 1863 with 1864, he found that he was in the latter year £600 deficient, and what with the extra expenditure it would make a total deficiency of £1,200. Therefore he earnestly hoped the brethren would support them well at the next festival.

The next toast was "The Grand Stewards for the Year," for which Bro. F. W. Truscott returned thanks.

The toast of "The Ladies who have honoured us with their presence" brought the proceedings to a close soon after ten o'clock.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. James Stimpson, P.M. 938, and the performers were—Madame Rudersdorff, Madlle. Florence Lancie, Miss Lizzie Such, Bros. F. E. Walker, Bradbury, T. Lawler, Mr. Baxter, Mr. R. J. Ward, and Master Willie Pope.

Bro. Harker was the toastmaster, and it is almost needless to say that he discharged the duties with his usual ability.

METROPOLITAN.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—The last regular meeting for the season of this flourishing lodge was held on Friday evening, April 21, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, it having since its removal to this place been attended with a success unprecedented in its history, no less than 29 new members having been admitted to it from December last, and every night there are numerous candidates unable to obtain admission. Bro. J. B. Osborne, W.M. presided; Bros. Simpson, S.W.; W. F. Smith, J.W.; Henry Thompson, Joseph Smith, T. A. Adams, James Brett, M. Haydon, T. Marshall, Henry Wilson, and Elmes, P.M.'s and the following visitors:—Bros. W. Watson, Globe; Sloman, Robert Burns; Hamilton, Whittington; Kirby, Confidence; Clayton, Lily; Gillen, Athol; Baker, St. David's-in-the-East, Calcutta (S.C.); and Newns, Canonbury, besides a full attendance of members. The lodge having been opened and the minutes read, the following gentlemen presented themselves as candidates for initiation into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry:—Messrs. Mealing, Thomas Bailey, D. Scott Bayfield, James William Manton, and Hadris. This important ceremony was ably performed by the W.M. The lodge was then advanced to the second degree, when Bros. Whitfield, Ferguson, Attwood, J. W. Smith, Check, Norman, Bennett, Fountain, Rice, Wood, and Matthews, were passed to the degree of F.C. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and Bros. Branford, Farron, and Wood were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The lodge having been resumed to the first degree, several new propositions were made, and the next business was to take into consideration at what place the summer festival should be held, and it was unanimously agreed that it should be celebrated at Bro. Basham's, the White Hart, at Chigwell, on the second Thursday in July, and a committee of stewards was appointed to carry out the arrangements for the same. There being no public business the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the large room for refreshment, to which 79 sat down. The banquet was furnished in Bro. Clemow's usual beautiful style, and it gave unanimous satisfaction. After the cloth was drawn, the W.M. gave the usual loyal

and Masonic toasts, which were all duly honoured. The health of their newly-initiated brethren was given by the W.M., for which Bro. Bayfield returned thanks. Bro. Henry Thompson, I.P.M., said the brethren could readily understand for what purpose the W.M. had delegated to him the power of addressing them, and he should use that power during the brief period it was entrusted to him to put in the best way he could, and that was by proposing the health of their W.M.; and he did it with greater pleasure than he had ever done on any former occasion, inasmuch as he had been for some days suffering from indisposition, but happily he was then restored to that state of health in which every member felt delighted to see him. Under his auspices and guidance, the lodge had obtained a degree of prosperity hitherto unknown in the history of the Domestic Lodge, and he thought the W.M. had really good reason to be proud of the magnificent assemblage he saw before him, not only for the numbers but for the high respectability of their members. At the same time while he presided over a lodge of such numbers and such respectability, which he believed to be second to none in the Craft, it brought with it a corresponding amount of responsibility to see the duties properly performed, and the interests, the comfort, and the happiness of its members fully maintained. He believed he had done that, and therefore, without further comment, he asked the brethren to drink health and long life to the W.M. The toast was very enthusiastically responded to. Bro. Osborne, W.M., in reply, said he felt deeply grateful to their I.P.M., Bro. Thompson, for the very flattering terms in which he had spoken of him, and to the brethren for having so cordially received the toast, and he must say that it was no small responsibility to preside over a lodge of upwards of 100 in number; but he could assure them that no effect should be wanting on his part to give them satisfaction, and in conclusion he thanked them sincerely for the honour he had conferred upon him. Bro. Sloman sang one of his characteristic songs, which included notices of many of those present, and was warmly applauded. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was always one very pleasing to the members of the Domestic Lodge, as it was the health of their visiting brethren, whom they were pleased to see amongst them, and they gave them a hearty welcome. Bro. Watson returned thanks, and alluded to his early acquaintance with the Domestic Lodge, he having installed as W.M. Bro. Smith, their oldest member, and he was rejoiced to see its present prosperity. Bro. Baker, from Calcutta, also acknowledged the compliment, and said it would be a great pleasure to him to communicate to his brethren in India the hospitality he had received. The health of the P.M.'s of the lodge was given, for which Bro. Carpenter returned thanks. The officers of the lodge was the next toast given, and the Tyler's toast brought a truly successful and harmonious meeting to a close. There will be an emergency meeting for the admission of members on the 5th of May.

NEW CONCORD LODGE (No. 813).—Friday, the 21st inst., witnessed the active commencement of his duties by the recently elected W.M. (Bro. Boyce) who was enabled to signalize the occasion by the initiation of no less than five candidates, the ceremonies being performed with care, and evidencing considerable training and preparation on the part of the W.M. At the banquet the W.M. was well supported by a numerous body of members and several visitors. After the usual Masonic toasts, the healths of Bro. Emmens, P.M., Grand Pursuivant, and of Bro. Hodges, P.M., P. Prov. G. Sec., were severally given and responded to. At the request of Bro. Emmens the health of the W.M. was proposed by Bro. Hodges who spoke highly of the excellent working of the W.M., and the efficient support of the officers, adding that any lodge might justly be proud of such working as had been witnessed that evening. Bro. Masterman of the Old Concord Lodge returned thanks on behalf of the visitors, and the immediate P.M. (now confined to his room by a serious illness) was feelingly proposed by Bro. Emmens and cordially drunk by the brethren. Bro. Ford (of the Wellington Club), one of the newly initiated, returned thanks in a neat speech, and the other four E.A. also expressed their acknowledgments.

ROYAL ALBERT LODGE (No. 907).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday, the 17th inst. The lodge was duly opened by the W.M. Bro. J. Downs, assisted by his Wardens, Bros. J. A. Farnfield and Peters, and the members of the previous meeting being read and confirmed, Bro. J. A. Farnfield, W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. Smith to receive the benefit of installa-

tion. After the usual preliminaries had been observed a board of Installed Masters was opened, and the outgoing Master then installed his successor into the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom. The board was then closed and the brethren readmitted. The new Master was saluted in the three degrees, and the several addresses to the officers and the lodge were beautifully rendered by Bros. Joseph Smith, T. Lewis, and Watson, P.M.'s. The following brethren are the officers for the ensuing year:—J. Downs, I.P.M., W.M.; T. Peters, S.W.; Farnfield, J.W.; J. Smith, Treas.; R. W. Little, Sec.; J. Abbott, S.D.; C. Chard, J.D.; H. J. Lewis, I.G.; C. P. Farnfield, Dir. of Cers. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. After the cloth was drawn the usual formal toasts were given and received with great cordiality, especially that of the D.G.M. Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the rest of the Grand Officers to which Bro. Farnfield, A.G., Sec., responded, expressing his thanks to the brethren for the kind manner in which they always acknowledged the able services of Lord de Grey, a nobleman who had won golden opinions from the Craft by his earnest and eloquent advocacy of the Masonic Charities, and he (Bro. Farnfield) was always proud to have his name associated with the Deputy Grand Masters. Bro. Farnfield further assured the brethren of the great gratification he had experienced that evening to see his second son, their W.M., installed in the chair, and he trusted when the W.M.'s year of office expired he would still retain the good opinion of every member of the Royal Albert Lodge. The visitors' toast was responded to by Bro. Dr. Goldsbro', W.M. 998, P.M. 201, also by the Rev. A. Couder, S72. Bro. Smith replied for the P.M.'s, and in doing so introduced the Master's health to the brethren, commenting upon the many high and estimable qualities possessed by Bro. J. A. Farnfield, and expressing his belief that the W.M. would even surpass the expectations of the lodge if the earnest of ability he had shown in presiding for the first time were to be taken as a type for the future. The toast having been enthusiastically received, the W.M. rose, and said he had great pleasure in finding that the brethren were pleased with the manner in which he had commenced his duties, which he must say for that evening were very light. He deprecated the high eulogium Bro. Smith had passed upon his abilities, but trusted with the assistance of Bro. Smith, himself, Bro. Lewis, and other esteemed P.M.'s, to acquit himself in a manner not unworthy of the name of Farnfield. (Hear, hear.) The W.M. concluded by again thanking the brethren for their confidence. The toasts of the officers were given *seriatim* and duly responded to. We must not omit to mention how admirably Bros. Lewis, H. J. Lewis, T. Peters, S.W., and C. P. Farnfield, contributed to the enjoyment of the evening by both sentimental and entertaining songs. Bro. J. Hervey, P.S.G.D. visited the lodge towards the close of the proceedings (having just arrived from the Continent) in order to see his old pupil, the W.M., filling the high position of Master of the Royal Albert Lodge.

ROSE OF DENMARK LODGE (No. 975).—The last meeting of this lodge for the season was held on Friday, the 21st inst., at the White Hart Tavern, Barnes. The lodge was duly opened by Bro. R. W. Little, W.M.; H. Potter, Treas., as S.W.; J. Cockburn, J.W.; assisted by Bros. Oliver, S.D.; Page, J.D.; Newens, I.G., and several other brethren. The business of the evening consisted of two initiations, one passing, and three raisings, all of which ceremonies were performed by the W.M. and his officers in a manner that called forth the warmest praise from the visiting brethren. Bro. Mansell, of No. 834, was unanimously elected a joining member, and several gentlemen were proposed for initiation. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, and a most pleasant evening was spent. Bro. Squire, as usual, regaled the brethren with a choice selection of songs, Bro. Buswell with a capital recitation, whilst Bros. Harrison and Haylett contributed to the amusement of the meeting by some really good comic songs. The W.M. gave the "Entered Apprentices song," and the brethren heartily joined in the chorus. Toast and song followed in rapid succession, the W.M. eulogising the services of his officers, especially those who had assisted him in the working that evening, particularising Bros. Oliver and Page as examples of what real earnestness in the cause could produce, as he (the W.M.) had never seen Deacons go through their work so thoroughly as they had done. Bros. Potter and Cockburn returned thanks for the P.M.'s, Oliver for the officers, and Bros. Hubbard, W.M. 173, and Haylett 780, for the visitors. The latter brother again expressed his admiration at the working of

the lodge, and wished it every prosperity. Visitors in addition to Bros. Hubbard and Haylett:—R. Hall 489, and Brown 22, Canada.

VICTORIA LODGE (No. 1056).—The consecration meeting of this lodge was held at the Sir John Cass Tavern, Victoria Park-road, South Hackney, on Saturday, the 22nd April, the M.W. Grand Master having been pleased to appoint Bro. Henry Muggeridge, P.M. 192, as consecrating and installing Master. At four o'clock precisely the brethren formed in procession under the direction of Bro. J. H. Cox, P.M. 49, and entered the lodge-room, when Bro. Muggeridge having assumed the chair, appointed as Wardens, *pro tem.*, Bros. Hodgson, P.M. 49, and White, 22; H. G. Buss, P.M. 27, to act as Secretary, and Morris (a petitioner) as I.G. The lodge was then opened in the three degrees, and Bro. Cox, as acting Chaplain, offered up prayer. Bro. Buss, as Secretary, then read the petition and warrant, and the brethren, in response to the presiding officer, duly signified their approval of the brethren named as Master and Wardens. The consecrating Master then rose and delivered an oration on the principles of Freemasonry, which elicited the applause of the assembled brethren, not only for the beauty and eloquence of its language, but for the truly impressive and masterly manner in which it was delivered by Bro. Muggeridge. An anthem, "Behold! how pleasant and how good," was then sung by all present, accompanied by Bro. Saqui on the harmonium. The new Master was then presented to the presiding officer, and the brethren of the new lodge arranged themselves on each side of the lodge-board. The first portion of the dedication prayer followed, after which a chant and the sanctus, "Glory be to Thee O Lord," succeeded. The usual ceremony with the corn, wine, and oil then ensued; then another anthem, and the Chaplain proceeded round the lodge with the censer three times. The second portion of the Dedication Prayer was then given, and the chant "So mote it be." The consecrating Master then solemnly dedicated and constituted the lodge, and an anthem by the musical brethren concluded the interesting ceremony. The W.M. designate, Bro. W. Wrenn, was then presented to be installed into the chair of K.S., and, after the usual formalities had been complied with, a board of installed Masters was duly formed, consisting of eighteen brethren, amongst whom we noticed Bros. Buss, P.M. 27; Latham, P.M. 190; Little, W.M. 975; Barlow, W.M. 174; Wright, W.M. 754; Payne, G. Tyler, and P.V. 27; Hodson, P.M. 49; Cox, P.M. 49; Terry, P.M. 228; Saqui, P.M. 205; Scurr, W.M. 933; &c. Bro. Wrenn was then duly installed as first Master of the lodge by Bro. Muggeridge. The brethren below the chair were then readmitted, and the new Master was duly saluted in the three degrees, after which Bro. Muggeridge, by desire of the W.M., invested Bros. A. A. Pendlebury, S.W.; W. Turner, J.W.; Robottom, Sec.; Snow, S.D.; Soilleux, J.D.; Morris, I.G.; and Couchman, Tyler; with appropriate addresses to each. The lodge was then closed down by the W.M., and five gentlemen were duly proposed and seconded for initiation, also several joining members. The lodge was then closed in due form and with solemn prayer, and the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet provided by the worthy host, who is about to be initiated into the Order. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and received with great enthusiasm after the cloth was cleared, and the W.M. then rose to propose the toast of the evening, "The Health of Bro. Muggeridge," who had so ably performed the ceremonies of consecrating the lodge and installing its first Master. He (the W.M.), on behalf of the lodge, was proud to think that Bro. Muggeridge had accepted the position of an honorary member (which had been conferred upon him in open lodge) and trusted he would often favour them with his presence.—Bro. Muggeridge, in reply, acknowledged the compliment paid him, and was very pleased to find that the brethren generally were gratified. He must, however, express his thanks to Bro. Cox, who had so efficiently assisted him as Director of the Ceremonies; and in conclusion he wished every prosperity to the Victoria Lodge. Bro. Muggeridge then rose and said, the W.M. having intrusted him with the gavel, he had great pleasure in proposing the next toast, which the brethren no doubt anticipated was the health of the W.M.; and he was satisfied that every brother present would drink it with all the honours due to Bro. Wrenn. The toast having been heartily responded to, the W.M. rose and said, that he was almost overwhelmed by the enthusiastic manner in which his health had been received, but trusted to deserve the kind support of the brethren during his year of office. He might assure those present that great diffi-

culties had to be overcome by the petitioners before the M.W. Grand Master granted the warrant; but thanks to the exertions and perseverance of some of his officers, especially Bro. Pendlebury, S.W., all obstacles had been removed, and he considered that the lodge was greatly indebted to those brethren. The W.M. then again thanked the brethren, and resumed his seat. The next toast given was that of "The Visitors," coupled with the name of Bro. Buss, P.M. 27 and Secretary *pro tem.*, during the ceremonies of the evening. This having been honoured, Bro. Buss rose to reply, and was greeted by the brethren with those manifestations of respect which the presence of our worthy brother seldom fails to evoke. Bro. Buss said,—W.M. and brethren, I feel highly flattered by the kind reception you have given my name in conjunction with those of the visitors, and I take it as a very high compliment on the part of your Worshipful Master to be selected to return thanks on the present occasion for so many distinguished visitors. I can assure the brethren all that I am greatly interested in the welfare of the Victoria Lodge, having the pleasure of the acquaintance of several of its members, and I feel certain from the manner in which the principal and other officers began their work in the lodge this evening, that a bright and happy future is in prospect for the Victoria Lodge. Bro. Buss concluded by wishing the members every success and prosperity. The toast of the officers followed, and Bro. Pendlebury, S.W., responded, assuring the W.M. that the exertions he had so flatteringly alluded to should still be given not only by himself as S.W., but by every subordinate officer of the lodge—nothing should be wanting on his (Bro. Pendlebury's) part to promote the welfare of the lodge, and he had every confidence that it would yet become, if not one of the very best, at least one of the happiest lodges in the Craft. Bro. Pendlebury resumed his seat amidst applause. Bro. Turner, J.W., responded very effectively for the other officers. The Tyler's toast then brought the proceedings to an end. We cannot refrain from recording the extreme decorum observed by the brethren both in lodge and at the banquet, and the greatest possible praise is due to Bro. Mugeridge, Bros. Cox and Buss, and also to Bro. Saqui, who superintended the musical arrangements, for the manner in which they carried out their respective duties—in fact, to sum up in one word, everything was "perfect." Several brethren sang very capitally during the banquet—the W.M. especially distinguishing himself in that respect. Besides those brethren already enumerated, there were present Bros. George Roberts, 554; D.M. Evans, 173; T. White, 22; H. B. Clarke, 933; R. J. Chillingworth, 174; Capt. T. Porter, 822; A. G. M. Wyatt, 87; T. Ennor, 55; K. Smyth, 55; T. J. Barnes, 933; J. G. Stevens, 554; J. L. Roberts, 174; A. Taylor, 22; T. J. Lawrence, 22; W. H. Thompson, 235; H. A. Solomons, 733; I. Barnett, 25; J. Robbins, 90; W. Steedman, 714; and H. Crasweller, 7.

PROVINCIAL.

DURHAM.

HARTLEPOOL.—*St. Helen's Lodge* (No. 531).—A meeting of this lodge for the purpose of instruction was held in the Masonic Hall on Thursday, April 20th, when there was a fair attendance of the brethren, including Bros. J. J. Armstrong, T. Forbes, H. Sale, A. Nathan, Stonier Leigh, J. Mowbray, J. Parker, &c. Visitors:—Bros. J. Cleet, Old Globe Lodge and Edmund Hartley, Prudence Lodge. The lodge was opened in form by Bro. Leigh. The brethren were then exercised in the first and second degrees, and in the opening and closing of the three degrees, Bro. Nathan presiding as W.M. When the lodge was closed down to the first, Bro. Leigh gave the lecture on the tracing board of that degree, to which the brethren present listened with great attention. The lodge was then closed and the brethren retired to spend a short time in the social and agreeable manner that invariably characterises those

"Whose mystic meetings ever prove
The feast of charity and love."

Several expressed their pleasure at being present at this the first lodge of instruction held in connection with the St. Helen's Lodge for some years, and trusted that so valuable a means of acquiring Masonic knowledge would not be allowed to fall again into disuse.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

WARRINGTON.—*Lodge of Lights* (No. 148).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge took place at the Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, on Monday evening last. The W.M., Bro. Gilbert Greenall, M.P., was supported by Bros. H. B. White, P.M., S.W.; W. Smith, J.W.; John Bowes, I.P.M., Hon. Sec.; R. G. Stringer, P.M.; James Houghton, P.M.; Rev. J. N. Porter, G. Blackhurst, W. Woods, Dr. Spinks, Dr. Pennington, R. Gibbon, James Hephherd, John Brown, John Pierpoint, W. Aheru, J. Robinson, &c. The lodge was opened in solemn form according to ancient custom, when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. William Richardson having been approved at the March meeting was now present for initiation. The chair was assumed by Bro. John Bowes, P.M., and the candidate introduced and initiated by him, Bro. H. B. White, P.M., acting as Deacon. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, when Bro. John Brown, being a candidate for promotion, gave proof of his proficiency, was entrusted, and retired. Bro. H. B. White, P.M., now assumed the chair, and the candidate having been admitted was by him raised to the sublime degree of a M.M., Bro. Bowes, P.M., acting as Deacon. The lodge was then closed in the second and third degrees. Mr. James Johnson was proposed as an additional serving brother. After some routine business had been transacted the lodge was closed in harmony at half-past nine.

SOUTH WALES.

ABERAVON.—*Assan Lodge* (No. 833).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 6th inst., when there was a good attendance of members. Three candidates were passed to the second degree by the W.M., Bro. H. L. Prichard, and two candidates afterwards raised to the sublime degree by Bro. E. J. Morris, P.M. The Rev. David Thomas, vicar of Margam, and Rev. E. Phillips, curate of Taibach, were proposed as candidates for Freemasonry. Bro. E. J. Morris announced that he had succeeded in collecting £200, as first Steward from the province to the Boys' School, and expressed his conviction that their candidate for election would be successful. The brethren adjourned, after closing of the lodge, to the Walnut Tree Hotel to supper, when a pleasant evening was spent. On Thursday, the 20th inst., a lodge of instruction was held at the lodge room. Bro. E. J. Morris presided, and worked the first lecture, assisted as follows:—1st section, by Bro. W. E. Chalinder, M.C.; 2nd section, by Bro. David Longdon, S.W.; 3rd section, by Bro. J. Jones, jun., Sec.; 4th section, by Bro. M. Tennant, S.D.; 5th section, by Bro. J. D. Daniel, J.D.; 6th section, by Bro. R. Phillips; 7th section, by the Secretary of No. 237.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

SCARBOROUGH.—*Old Globe Lodge* (No. 200).—This lodge was opened in due form on Wednesday evening, the 19th inst. Present:—Bros. W. B. Stewart, W.M.; William Bean, P.M.; James P. Spurr, P.M.; H. C. Martin (Hon. Sec.), P.M.; Henry A. Williamson, S.W.; J. Hargreaves, J.W.; H. Peacock, S.D.; R. H. Peacock, J.D.; D. Ash, I.G.; James Saunders, Tyler, and many others. The lodge-room and buildings were undergoing repairs, and the lodge was well tyled against cowans and eavesdroppers. The lodge having been duly opened in the three degrees, and the minutes of the previous meeting confirmed, Bro. Emanuel Varey was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The lodge was then reduced to the first degree, when Mr. J. Raper, having been balloted for, was duly initiated into the mysteries of the Order, after which Bro. Raper was right well charged of his duties as a Freemason by Bro. Williamson, S.W., who delivered his address in a very able and satisfactory manner, and every brother present seemed to listen to him patiently. One gentleman was proposed a candidate for admittance into the ancient and honourable Order. Some alterations in the by-laws of the lodge as recommended by a committee for that purpose were passed. Bro. Bean in an able address to the brethren alluded to the sudden death of Bro. Charles Robertson, M.D., a past officer of the lodge, which took place last Monday morning, and the brethren expressed their regret and sympathy towards his widow and family. The lodge was then closed at nine o'clock with solemn prayer.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Huddersfield on Wednesday, the 19th inst., under the presidency of Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, D.G.M. of England, and Prov. G.M. of this province. Amongst the brethren present were the following:—Bros. Bentley Shaw, D. Prov. G.M.; J. Peace, P. Prov. G.W.; W. Cockin, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Jno. Brook, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; D. Boscovitz, P. Prov. J.G.D.; W. G. Dyson, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Jos. Brook, P. Prov. G. Purst.; John Freeman, Prov. G. Sec., Huddersfield; Rev. J. Senior, *LL.D.*, Prov. G. Chap., and P. Prov. S.G.W.; W. Rothwell, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Lieut.-Col. Edwards, *M.P.*, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Jas. Franklin, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Thomas Perkinson, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Isaac Booth, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works, Halifax; Thomas Eagland, P. Prov. J.G.W.; John Lee, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Samuel Freeman, Prov. S.G.D., Leeds; William, Gath, P. Prov. J.G.W.; M. Rhodes, James Lumb, J. J. Schœppi, Wm. Bottomley, Henry Smith, P. Prov. S.G.D.; Thomas Hill, P. Prov. S.G.D.; John Ward, P. Prov. J.G.D., Bradford; Rev. James Fearon, *B.A.*, P. Prov. G. Chap.; J. M. Woodhead, P.G. Std. Bearer, Holmfirth; T. A. Haigh, P. Prov. G.D., Meltham; Wm. Longden, Prov. J.G.D.; Wm. White, jun., P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Major Webster, Prov. G. Reg., Sheffield; James Clay, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., Dewsbury; James Atkinson, P. Prov. G.S.B., Cleckheaton; John Wilson, Prov. G. Assist. S.B.; T. W. Tew, P. Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Jeremiah Rhodes, Prov. G. Org., Pontefract; M. Rhods, Prov. G. Steward; Isador Ahrens, Prov. G.S., Bradford; Wm. Patman, Prov. G.S., Hebden Bridge; H. Butterworth, Baildon; and about 200 W.M.'s, P.M.'s, Wardens, and brethren of the following lodges:—Huddersfield, 275, 290, and Truth, 521; Meltham, Peace, 140; Almondbury, Concord, 1052; Dewsbury, St. John's, 827; Three Grand Principles, 208; Batley, Trafalgar, 971; Nelson of the Nile; Cleckheaton, Zetland, 603; Heckmondwike, Amphibious, 258; Keighley, 265; Leeds, Fidelity, 289; Philanthropic, 304; De Grey and Ripon, 837; Alfred, 306; Wakefield, 495; Harmony, 275; Unanimity, 154; Sincerity, 1019; Halifax, Probity, 61; Union York, St. James' 448; Hebden Bridge, Prince Frederick, 307; Bradford, Hope, 302; Airedale, 387; Pentalpha, 974; Shakespeare, 1081; Harrogate, Harrogate and Claro, 1001; Pontefract, St. Oswald; Sheffield, Britannia, 139; Eccleshill; Holmfirth, Holm Valley 652; Saddleworth, Candour, 387; Todmorden, Prince George, 308; Rochdale, Prince Edward, 308; Blackgates, Integrity, 308.

After the Provincial Grand Lodge had been declared opened, the roll of lodges was called, and each W. Master present handed in the report of the state of his lodge up to the present time. The R.W. Provincial Grand Master ordered the brethren to form a procession to proceed to the site of the intended Mechanics' Hall at Lockwood (about a mile distant). The procession was formed in Masonic order, each lodge headed by its banner—junior lodges first—preceded by the band and a guard of honour of the Huddersfield Rifle Volunteers. The weather, which had been unpropitious during the early part of the day, turned out fine. The route of the procession was lined by thousands of eager spectators, who cheered it on its progress, and the Right Hon. Lord de Grey was everywhere received with shouts of welcome and marks of respect, and the warehouses, factories, and buildings were decorated with flags and banners. Lord de Grey has reason to feel assured that he has lost none of the popularity he has so long enjoyed in this neighbourhood.

On arriving at the entrance of the site, the procession opened out and allowed his lordship and the Provincial Grand Officers to pass through their ranks to the south-east corner of the intended building, when he proceeded to lay the stone—Bro. Bentley Shaw, D. Prov. G.M. and President of the Institution, presenting him with an elegant silver trowel suitably inscribed, and the Rev. J. Benstead, *M.A.*, also presented him with a mallet bearing a similar inscription.

Mr. BENTLEY SHAW, in offering the trowel, said that on be-

half of the Lockwood Mechanics' Institute, of which he had the honour of being president, it had been his duty to invite his lordship to lay the foundation stone of this new hall. In approaching his lordship, not only he himself, but that large assemblage were fully aware that they were approaching a nobleman distinguished no less by his public than by his private virtues—a nobleman who filled one of the highest positions in the state, and who discharged the duties connected with that office with zeal and devotion. (Cheers.) They also knew that they were approaching a nobleman who presided most worthily over the large and honourable fraternity known as the Ancient and Accepted Masons of West Yorkshire. As his lordship's humble deputy he (Mr. Shaw) would be pardoned if he ventured to say that it was with sincere and honest pride that he welcomed his lordship and his esteemed brethren of West Yorkshire to this, his native village. He would ask his lordship to combine the functions of an operative and a speculative Mason, and he would ask to be permitted, in the name of the members of the Lockwood Mechanics' Institute, to present his lordship with a trowel, a beautiful emblem of the art he was about to exercise. He trusted the Great Architect of the Universe would prosper the undertaking, and vouchsafe to his lordship, to his countess, and to his noble son His richest blessings.

The Rev. Mr. BENSTEAD, in offering the mallet, said they must heartily thank his lordship for coming amongst them on this occasion, and they accepted his having done so as a fresh proof of the kindly feeling he had for so many years manifested to Huddersfield and the neighbourhood. They not only felt that he was conferring an honour upon them, and doing a kind deed, but also that he was doing a good thing. They trusted that, by God's blessing, this building would tend very materially to the mental, moral, and religious improvement of the young operatives of the place, and in their name, as well as in the name of all connected with Lockwood, he begged to offer this small testimony of their regard.

Mr. J. H. ABBEY then presented the plans,

Earl DE GREY AND RIPON said that at this stage of the proceedings he would only occupy their time for one moment while he heartily expressed in his own name, and that of the Masonic body of the West Riding, over which he had the honour to preside, their readiness to accept the duty laid upon them on this occasion, and to lay the first stone of this Mechanics' Institution. He believed such institutions calculated to confer large benefits on the people of the district in which they were established; and if that were so, it was only consistent with the leading principles of Freemasonry that they should be ready to come forward and do their part in laying the foundation. (Cheers.)

The Prov. G. Secretary, Bro. R. R. NELSON, then read the inscription on the plate, and the Prov. G. Treasurer deposited in the cavity of the stone a bottle containing various coins of the present reign and some of the local newspapers. The stone was then properly proved and adjusted, and the Prov. G. Master laid it in due form. Corn, wine, and oil were presented to the P.G. Chaplain, who distributed them over the stone.

Earl DE GREY AND RIPON then addressed the assembly, as reported in our MAGAZINE of last week.

Mr. JOSEPH CROSLAND, in proposing a vote of thanks to Earl de Grey and Ripon, said he would assure his lordship that he had the united thanks not only of the friends of the Lockwood Mechanics' Institution, but of all who surrounded them. He was sure they had every encouragement, not only from his presence amongst them, but from the expressions of which he had made use in his address, to go on their way rejoicing.

Mr. NATHANIEL BERRY seconded the motion, which was carried with enthusiastic cheers.

His LORDSHIP, in reply, said they must permit him to detain them for one moment to thank them for the manner in which they had just received the proposed vote of thanks. He could assure them that it had been to him a great source of satisfaction and pleasure to have been able to be present, to meet so many of his old friends, to shake them again by the hand, and to have this opportunity of assuring them of the great pleasure he always felt when he came to the neighbourhood of Huddersfield.

The proceedings concluded with cheers for the Countess de Grey and Ripon, the Lockwood Mechanics' Institute, for its president, the ladies, &c. The procession then returned to the town, and the business of the Provincial Grand Lodge was resumed.

The minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge, held at Leeds, January 4th, were read and confirmed; the By-law Committee presented their report. Bro. John Freeman, P.M. 275, moved that by-law 60, relating to annual contributions in its amended form, be adopted, which was carried unanimously. Bro. Henry Smith's motion for altering the latest date at which the lodge returns may be sent in, from March 31st to March 1st, was also carried. The report of the Charity Committee was read and adopted.

Two petitions for relief were presented and read, but in neither case had the promoters complied with the by-law; and this being the first case of informality, it was deemed unwise to overlook it; a subscription was at once made, and the sum of £20 handed to the distressed instead.

It was then decided to accept the invitation of the brethren of Lodge 458 to meet at Goole in July, and the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed in due form with prayer at half-past three o'clock.

A splendid banquet was served at the George Hotel at four o'clock, Lord de Grey and Ripon in the chair. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Lieut.-Col. Edwards, M.P., replied for the Army and Yeomany, and Major Webster for the Rifle Volunteers; Rev. C. Camidge and the Rev. T. Smith for the Clergy. The toast of the Masonic Charities was received with its usual enthusiasm, and responded to by Capt. Nelson, who, in forcible language, pointed out the benefits of these noble institutions, expressing a hope that this province would be well represented at the forthcoming Festival of the Boys' School on July 8th, as it was most desirable this school, in its hour of need, should have every assistance we could give it. The healths of the noble Chairman, and his deputy, Bentley Shaw, were received in a most hearty manner, and duly responded to, and the proceedings were brought to a close at nine o'clock.

The following is a short history of the affairs of the Lockwood Mechanics' Hall, and the circumstances respecting its formation:—

The members and office-bearers of the Lockwood Mechanics' Institute have for some time had in contemplation the erection of a hall for the holding of meetings and for the transaction of the business of the Institution. The Institute itself has been in existence for a number of years, and has been found of great advantage to the village; but its success has been of a rather dubious and fluctuating character, chiefly because of the fact that its rooms were very unsuitable and the tenure of them insecure. It has had for that reason to make several removals, and its operations have in consequence been much interfered with. To meet and remove this obstacle to its usefulness subscriptions were obtained for the building of a new hall, and a meeting, presided over by Mr. Bentley Shaw, the president of the Institute, was, some months ago, held in Lockwood. It was then found that a considerable sum had been promised, but the members did not consider it sufficient to justify them in proceeding at once with the erection of such a building as they thought necessary to meet their wants. Several gentlemen, however, offered to double their subscriptions, others promised to give larger sums, and a vigorous canvass having been commenced, the committee found that such a sum had been obtained as warranted their receiving plans. These were prepared by Mr. J. H. Abbey, architect, Huddersfield. A further delay, however, in the commencement of the work, took place, for the estimated cost of the building, if erected after these plans, still exceeded the funds at the disposal of the institute. A sum of nearly £900 has at length been obtained, and though the hall will cost about £1,100, it was resolved at once to proceed with the work. The result was the ceremony of yesterday. The hall itself will be an unpretending but neat and tasteful building of two storeys high, and in the Italian style. The principal apartment will be a concert hall, 69ft. long by 42ft. wide, and 21ft. high. It will be lighted in front by three circular-headed windows, and by three windows of the same shape down each side of the building. It will be fitted up with galleries and an orchestra, below the latter of which will be ante-rooms. The ground-floor will be divided into committee-rooms, secretary's office, library, &c. The front entrance is a portico with four columns and a balustrade. The work, it is expected, will be completed in about five months. The builder is Mr. George Pollard, Huddersfield; and the joiner, Mr. Joseph Sunderland, Lockwood.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

MOUNT LEBANON CHAPTER (No. 73).

Several Past Masters and members of the Mount Lebanon Lodge (No. 73) feeling convinced, from its flourishing state, that if a Royal Arch Chapter were to be established in connection with the lodge it would doubtless prove equally as flourishing, petitioned accordingly for a new chapter, to be called after the lodge, and which was granted by the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter, in February last.

On Thursday, the 20th inst., the companions assembled at the Green Man Tavern, Tooley-street, Southwark, for the purpose of consecrating the chapter.

The chapter having been opened, the charter was read, and the companions present having signified their approval of the officers nominated, it was then regularly dedicated and consecrated by Comp. Henry Mugeridge, P.Z.

He then duly installed Comps. John Dixon, M.D., M.E.Z.; F. Walters, II.; E. N. Levy, J.; the ceremonies being most impressively rendered in Bro. Mugeridge's usual style. The following brethren having been previously balloted for were then exalted to the sublime degree of Royal Arch Masons, the newly-installed Principals performing their duties in a faultless manner, drawing forth the admiration of all the companions:—Bros. T. J. Sabine, S.D. 73; N. H. Goulty, 73; A. Avery, P.M. 619; M. A. Loewenstark, 73; A. P. Stedman, 73; A. P. Leonard, J.W. 619; R. Thomson, 706; C. A. Cathie, 73. The by-laws having been discussed and formed, the officers were then appointed as follows:—Comps. A. Avery, Scribe N.; A. D. Loewenstark, P. Soj.; A. P. Leonard, 1st Assist. Soj.; T. J. Sabine, 2nd Assist. Soj.; H. N. Goulty, Dir. of Cers.

The whole of the furniture, banners, and jewels were supplied by Bro. A. D. Loewenstark and Son, and the officers and companions expressed their satisfaction for the superior manner in which they had finished every article. The chapter having been closed, the companions adjourned to a most sumptuous banquet, provided by Bro. Cathie, when, the cloth having cleared, the usual loyal toasts were duly responded to. The M.E.Z. then proposed the health of the visitors, and coupled with it the name of Bro. H. Mugeridge, who had so ably performed the ceremony of consecration and that of installation. The toast having been warmly responded to, Bro. Mugeridge returned thanks in an able speech, and in so doing called upon the companions to drink the health of the three Principals, which was enthusiastically responded to by the companions.

Bro. Dixon, M.E.Z., returned thanks on behalf of the Principals, and proposed the health of the newly-exalted companions, which was suitably acknowledged by Comp. Goulty.

Among the visitors were Comps. Dr. Lilley, Z. 507; H. Mugeridge, P.Z. 2, 13, 145; C. A. Cottebrune, P.Z. 177; J. Hasley, 507; J. McLean, 812.

This chapter has been opened under most auspicious circumstances, a dozen more candidates having their names entered for next meeting, and we have no doubt it will prove one of the most flourishing chapters in the district, especially as the principal officers are all thoroughly conversant with their duties.

INDIA.

(From the Masonic Record of Western India.)

BOMBAY.

LODGE CONCORD (No. 757, E.C.)—A regular meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, near the Baboolo Tank, on Saturday, the 21st January. Present:—Bros. Dr. Diver, M.D., W.M.; G. Taylor, Prov. G.M.; Rev. J. J. Farnham, P.M.; H. Wickham, Hon. P.M.; J. Hodgart, P.M. 351; A. King, P.M. and Treas.; R. Donaldson, S.W.; H. Prescott, Sec.; H. Avron, S.D.; G. Judd, J.D.; J. Thomas, Org.; J. Lockley, I.G.; J. W. Seager, Tyler; and many other members and visitors. The lodge having been duly opened, the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. G. Taylor, Prov. G.M., then rose and said:—Brethren, it is not usual for the Provincial Grand Master to say much in a lodge; still, as I am present, I cannot help rising and saying a few words of approbation. I have heard the minutes of your last

lodge meeting read this evening—you have confirmed the same. Brethren, I congratulate you on the choice you have made; you have very wisely re-elected your Worshipful Master, and your desire now is that he may again rule over you. I admire Bro. T. Diver as a friend and a Mason; he has worked well and successfully, and has brought this lodge to a most flourishing condition; the outsiders know this fact, and the large gathering I see here convinces me that not only the brethren but the visitors esteem and honour the Worshipful Master of Lodge Concord; I hope he may long rule over you—may he be long spared, and may he prosper. I shall be absent for a short time at my native land, from which I have been absent for more than twenty years, and I have no doubt but if I am spared to see you again, I shall see a larger number mustering in this lodge. I have been an eye-witness of the progress of this lodge; once there were but few, now I can say, you in Concord are second to none. I am proud and glad to see you flourish; under such a head you cannot do otherwise. I wish you all every prosperity. Turning to the W.M. the Prov. G.M. said—I am pleased once more to see you in the Eastern Chair, and I rejoice to see that the brethren have re-elected you. The brethren then, at the desire of the Prov. G.M., saluted the W.M. in the three degrees. The W.M. then asked Bro. Donaldson to advance to the East and presented him with the insignia of office as the S.W.; Bro. G. Judd was next called, and received the insignia of J.W.; Bro. A. King was invested with the insignia of office as Treas.; Bros. Henry Prescott, Sec.; H. Avron, S.D.; J. Lockley, J.D.; W. Abraham, I.G.; J. W. Seager, as Tyler. The undermentioned gentlemen were then balloted for initiation, and the result was announced in each case clear; Messrs. James Fallas, Andrew Baillie, H. M. Cornick, E. Rainford, Carrimallee Cassumbhoy, Dhurrunsey. The above candidates being present, were introduced, properly prepared, and admitted to the mysteries and privileges of our Order. The Secretary read the dispensation granted to initiate the native gentlemen who were candidates for the Order. Bro. H. Wickham proposed, and Bro. Alfred King seconded—that Bro. G. Taylor, the Provincial Grand Master of the District Grand Lodge, and honorary member of this lodge, be requested to sit for his portrait, and that the cost of the same be paid out of the lodge funds. The proposition was carried unanimously. Bro. G. Taylor returned thanks for the honour done him. Bro. H. Prescott then rose and said that it was his duty, and a most pleasing one, to inform the brethren that the highly respected and esteemed Worshipful Master had given in the Secretary's hand that morning a cheque of 500rs. for the Charity Fund; this was in accordance with the Worshipful Master's promise, viz., that for every share presented he would give 50rs. to the Charity Fund. The Worshipful Master had by this handsome and generous gift placed the funds of this lodge in a flourishing condition. The Secretary would therefore propose that a vote of the hearty and sincere thanks of the lodge be given to the Worshipful Master. The proposition being seconded by Bro. A. King, it was carried with applause. The W.M. then declared his intention to hold an emergent meeting on Saturday the 4th February. There being no other business before the lodge it was closed in peace and harmony at 8.30 p.m. The brethren then adjourned to a sumptuous banquet. The cloth having been removed, the usual toasts were proposed by the W.M. and drunk with honours. "The two Provincial Grand Masters (England and Scotland), Bros. R. B. Barton and G. Taylor," with Masonic honours. Bro. Taylor rose and spoke as follows:—Brethren, I am really sorry that my able and worthy brother, the Provincial Grand Master for Scotland, is not here to address you, for after all I have stated upstairs, I am unable to say more. You have as often as I have come among you received me with joy and honoured me to a greater degree than I merit; still as feeble a speaker as I may be, it is my bounden duty to return you my hearty thanks for the manner my health was proposed and drunk; convinced I am that be it in the lodge or at the festive board, you are those who esteem and honour those who rule over you; this spirit I love and admire. Another feature I am happy to trace in you is, that you highly respect your head, Bro. Diver, therefore I shall ask you to drink to his health, wishing him and his lodge every prosperity. The toast was drunk in bumpers with true British cheers. The W. Master then rose and said:—Brethren, you are aware that I am but a poor speaker. I thank you, Right Worshipful Sir and brethren, for the honour you have done me this evening. Many have indeed been my shortcomings, and I am glad that the brethren have passed over them with a

forbearing eye. As I said before, I again repeat, that the happiest moments of my life are those which I spend among you. I hope brethren will work with me as they have ever done, and I must confess that the prosperity of this lodge is owing in a great measure to the help I have derived from every individual member of this lodge, but especially the officers. I would therefore propose "The Health of the Past Officers of Lodge Concord," which was drunk with honours. Bro. Prescott rose and said:—Worshipful Sir and Brethren, unaccustomed as I am to speaking, I could have wished that this pleasing task had devolved on a better person than myself. Sorry indeed I am that our worthy Bro. Leckey is absent from us, for then we would have had something humorous; however, as I rise bidden by others, Worshipful Sir and brethren, I thank you from my heart for myself and the other officers for having so highly honoured us in drinking to our good health. The Worshipful Master has been pleased to attribute the success of the lodge to our efforts—indeed they were poor efforts; however, we are glad they have met with your approbation. We owe in a great measure the success to the brethren who have worked with us in perfect harmony; but the greatest praise is due to the Worshipful Master, for we consider him as our head and we his members. We are all aware that unless the head be sound the members cannot work; he has proved to us that he is a sound and an efficient Master, and therefore I again say, our best thanks are due to him. Brethren, I again thank you. The health of the newly initiated was then proposed, to which Bros. Rainford and Baillie in short and clever speeches returned thanks. The health of the visiting brethren was then proposed and drunk with honours. Bro. G. Fowler of Lodge St. Paul's, Mhow, responded. The final toast was proposed, and the company parted at eleven o'clock all perfectly satisfied. Several brethren enlivened the company by singing several humorous songs.—An emergent meeting of this lodge was held on 4th February. Present:—Bros. Dr. Diver, M.D., W.M.; A. King, P.M. and Treas.; Rev. J. J. Farnham, P.M.; H. Wickham, Hon. P.M.; R. Donaldson, S.W.; G. Judd, J.W.; H. Prescott, Sec.; H. Avron, S.D.; J. Lockley, J.D.; C. Swaseger, Organist; W. Abraham, I.G.; W. Seager, Tyler; and many others. Bro. C. Clifton and James Gleave were severally balloted for as joining members and the result was announced in both cases clear. Messrs. A. J. Malcolm and W. Russell, candidates for initiation, were balloted for, and the result was announced in both cases clear. Messrs. J. Fallas, T. E. Rainford, Currimallee Cassumbhoy, and A. J. Malcolm, who had been previously balloted for, being present, were introduced, and admitted to the secrets and privileges of our Order. Bros. H. Winckler and H. B. Salisbury, candidates for the second degree were next put through the usual examination, and passed to the degree of F.C. Bros. John Poyntz, G. Tucker, W. Rogers, John Jones, Thomas Proud, A. S. Constantine, W. Whittaker, Thomas Mills, and J. Grant, were then called before the pedestal and examined as to their proficiency as Fellow Craftsmen, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons in ancient and solemn form. There being no other work before the lodge it was closed in peace at 8.45 p.m. The brethren then adjourned to a sumptuous banquet given by Bro. G. Taylor, Prov. G.M. — A regular meeting of this lodge was also held on the 18th February. There were present:—Bros. Dr. T. Diver, M.D., W.M.; G. Taylor, Prov. G.M.; A. King, P.M. and Treas.; Rev. J. J. Farnham, P.M.; R. Donaldson, S.W.; G. Judd, J.W.; H. Prescott, Sec.; H. Avron, S.D.; J. Lockley, J.D.; C. Swaseger, Org.; W. Abraham, I.G.; J. W. Seager, Tyler, and several other members and visitors. Bros. J. Scott, A. Baillie, and H. M. Cornick were then called before the pedestal and examined as to their proficiency in the E.A. degree, and having satisfactorily acquitted themselves were passed. Propositions were then recorded for five brethren as joining members, and twelve gentlemen for initiation. There being no other work before the lodge, it was closed in peace at 8 p.m. The brethren then adjourned to the banquet. After the cloth was removed several constitutional toasts were proposed and drunk; some fine speeches were also made, among the foremost being that of the Bro. G. Taylor and the W. Master. Several songs were sung, and after the enjoyment of a pleasant evening the brethren separated, convinced that in Lodge Concord brotherly love and concord do exist.

FRIENDSHIP is a dangerous word for young ladies; it is full fledged, and waiting for a fine day to fly.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

STRAND.

Certainly no better name to conjure with would be likely to suggest itself to any theatrical management wishing to invoke the attendance of a London audience than "One Tree Hill," for many years the central point of attraction with all metropolitan holiday makers. Under this same title a new and original drama has been produced illustrated by a view of the spot, which evidently revived in the minds of many present very agreeable recollections of the past. The author is Mr. H. T. Craven, whose more recent contributions to the stage have been distinguished by an originality of design, a vividness of colouring, and a force of execution, that excite pleasurable expectation of a dramatic treat whenever his name is linked with a theatrical novelty. "One Tree Hill" is in two acts; the first being associated with the locality from which the piece derives its name, and which has received some faithful scenic illustration from the hands of Mr. Charles Fenton.

The actors are all heartily applauded at the conclusion of each act, and Mr. Craven receives a double encore at the fall of the curtain, in acknowledgment of his additional merits as the author. The new drama is followed by a revival of Mr. Burnand's classical burlesque burletta of "Patient Penelope," originally brought out on these boards some eighteen months ago.

GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION.

Mr. and Mrs. German Reed and Mr. John Parry, repeat their lively new entertainment, called "The Peculiar Family," and considerably add to the general gratification of their audience by appending to it the supplementary enjoyment of "Mrs. Roseleaf at the Seaside." The clever combination of a variety of talents exhibited by Mr. John Parry in this diverting sketch, worthy to be the successor to the memorable "Mrs. Roseleaf's Evening Party," must be always recognised as affording a most enjoyable hour at all seasons, and at this time especially should be remembered as prominent among the amusements of the metropolis.

POLYTECHNIC.

This popular resort, where science is not thought any the worse of for being frequently found masquerading under the disguise of amusement, has no lack of patronage, and throughout the day and evening a variety of objects prove themselves, in strict accordance with Mr. Lindley Murray's well-remembered assertion, to be charming to the eye. The principal novelty is a new optical illusion, entitled somewhat paradoxically, "Proteus; or, We are here, and we are not here," of which Mr. J. H. Pepper and Mr. Thomas Tobin are recorded to be joint inventors. The illusion, which is a singular development of the principle applied in the famous "Ghost effect," is very complete. Mr. George Buckland supplies a new musical and panoramic entertainment illustrative of the ascent of Mount Blanc, and including a comic spectral scene, supposed to occur in the travellers' hut on "Les Grands Mulets," and feats of prestidigitation and ventriloquism, delight the juveniles, who leave the models and drawings "calculated to promote the saving of life in railway travelling" to the thoughtful consideration of their elders, and the lucid exposition of the lecturer.

Poetry.

MASONIC MUSINGS.

THE CRAFTSMEN-ARCHITECTS OF ROME.

"A Roman legion was always accompanied by builders, sculptors, painters, and other artists and workmen, and it has been observed the marks of their footsteps are visible wherever they trod, and that a map of the Roman roads in Britain alone is a magnificent monument of their greatness."

Traced on sculptured frieze and panel,
Testimonies still outstart
Of those minds who grooved a channel,
For the record of their art.
Enraptured skill in curve and conic,
In every maze it seemed at home,
With those grand and old Masonic
Craftsmen-Architects of Rome.

How they plann'd and how they ponder'd,
Are the themes we read to-day;
How they wrought, and where they wandered,
Which old legion led the way.
In the Doric and Ionic
Column, arch, or duct, or dome,
Live those grand and old Masonic
Craftsmen-Architects of Rome.

First to span with pier and centre,
Drop the keystone, dress the quoin,
Sound and sink, explore and enter,
Tunnel, pile, embank, and groin,
Human love of labour chronic,
Forming one great epic poem
Of those grand and great Masonic
Craftsmen-Architects of Rome.

In their contact with the Briton,
Whom they conquer'd, whom they taught,
Much of what is still unwritten,
In each wide domain they wrought;
Genius flowing, souls harmonic,
Exiled artists from their home,
Toil'd those roving old Masonic
Craftsmen-Architects of Rome.

Vandal might and despot malice,
Wreak'd their fury all in vain;
Brilliant wreck of shrine and palace
Deck the city still, and plain,
Homes and haunts, and halls baronic,
Archives filled with many a tome
Of those glorious old Masonic
Craftsmen-Architects of Rome.

Gone the sunshine, dried the river,
Genius gushes forth in pain;
Man ignores the primal Giver,
Dies atheist in soul and brain;
Gone, those brave and bright laconic
Workmen, to their kindred loam;
Gone, the great and grand Masonic
Craftsmen-Architects of Rome.

CLINTON HOEX.

MORE ROOM.

Think not that a restless spirit
Makes me thus for ever roam;
Think not that I scorn the beauty
Of a lasting, quiet home;
Ah, I know how sweet the angel
How beneficent, divine,
That is keeping starry vigil
On the household's holy shrine!

No! 'tis not a restless spirit
 Makes me roam from place to place ;
 'Tis a deep undying passion
 For the glory of my race.
 "Room ! more room !" are pleading nations,
 Mine to bid the forests fall !
 Mine to clear the space for temples !
 Mine to rear and leave the hall !

Done my labour, Shakespeares follow ;
 Newtons glorify the sod ;
 Milton stands with blank eyes chanting
 Opposite the throne of God.
 Let Napoleon's fire-heart thunder
 Only through a cloudy horde—
 Labour's Sun shall melt the cannon,
 And the plough outlive the sword !

R. W.

LITERARY EXTRACTS.

THE LETTER H.—The instance of bad pronunciation which is most common, and therefore requires particular notice, is the misapplication of the aspirate *h*. This defect sometimes occasions ludicrous and even serious mistakes. When omitted, it materially affects the energy of the speaker—the expression of emotions and passions often depending, in a great measure, upon the vehemence with which the aspirate is uttered. Some not only omit the aspirate where it should be sounded, but aspirate where there is no *h*, or where it should be silent, as *head* for *end*, &c. This is the grossest fault; but it is not confined to the vulgar, or to those who have acquired the bad habit by mixing much with ignorant people. Many clergymen, and others with rather weak or unpractised voices, have astonished their friends by unnecessarily aspirating words in church which they would not so mispronounce in private society. This arises from an instinctive effort to be better heard. Not having sufficient power of voice, or not knowing how to use the power they possess, these gentlemen mistake aspiration for loudness, as others mistake loudness for aspiration. The difference between the two will be readily understood if the reader will hold up the finger a few inches from his mouth, and pronounce any word containing the *h*. If he aspirates, he will feel the breath against his finger, but not if he merely speaks louder. Many omit the aspirate, not only at the beginning of words, but after the *w* as in *where*, &c.; and in the middle of words it is very difficult to give the aspirate correctly without becoming pedantic and constrained in the delivery. . . . In practising, the aspirate should be given strongly; but in ordinary and public speaking, all effort should be avoided. The man who labours at his *h*'s betrays a consciousness of his defect. In the great majority of words which contain the letter *h*, either at the beginning, middle, &c., the *h* should be aspirated. In the following words the *h* is silent:—*hair*, *heir*, *heirloom*; *herb*, *herbage*; *honest*, *honesty*, *honestly*; *honour*, *honourable*, *honourably*; *hospital*; *hostler*; *hour*, *hourly*; *humour*, *humorist*, *humourously*; and their other derivatives. The *h* in *humble* was formerly silent, but it is now aspirated. "Humble-pie" is an incorrect spelling of "umble-pie," a pie made of "umbles," a plural noun, meaning a deer's entrails. To "eat umble-pie" is to eat of the poorest dish. The *h* is a wrong spelling, and should be omitted. The *h* in the following words is silent, though not initial:—*asthma*, *dishabille*, *isthmus*, *rhapsody*, *rhetoric*, *rheumatism*, *Rhine*, *rhinoceros*, *rhom*, *rhubarb*, *rhyme*, *rhythm*, *Thames*, *Thomas*. Also in such words as *ah*, *catarrh*, *Micah*, *Sarah*, &c.—C. W. Smith's *Clerical Elocution*.

MODERN LOVE-LETTERS.—That chivalrous idolatry of woman—that delicate recognition of her claims as mother, wife, and sister—that idealization of her sweet qualities and attractive virtues which shine conspicuous on

every page of the elder poets, and infuse a certain grace and tenderness into the spirit of the age, has pitifully decayed, and men too often speak of womanhood with irreverent freedom, while womanhood neglects to assert her own pure dignity. And as there can be no love where there is no respect, the relations between the sexes are daily growing less frank and genial, and a language of slang and persiflage is usurping the place of the courteous and decorous speech in which our ancestors greeted the maiden's they wooed, or the wives they honoured. I do not think that this can be for the good of society. I think that manly virtues are nourished by womanly graces, and that the dignity of woman fosters the manliness and self-respect of man. Let not fashion, then, sweep the love-letters in which young and happy hearts express their happiness—in which fond and trusting spirits give utterance to their trust. Still continue, oh friend, to think thy Arabella a peerless lady, and thou, Arabella, to believe thy Frank to be a loyal and generous knight. Be not ashamed of thy love, but with the great singer of these later times exclaim,

"I hold it true, whate'er befall,
 I feel it when I sorrow most;
 'Tis better to have loved and lost
 Than never to have loved at all."

In this, your "golden prime," cultivate all noble and tender feelings, all generous sentiments, all high and holy thoughts, so that, in after-years, if haply the tokens of a vanished love should once more fall into your hands, you may look at them with honest pride, not with bitter regret; not with tears and blushes, as in reminding you of weakness, and folly, and human error, but with gaze unflinching if sorrowful, as recalling the bright love-dreams of your youth, when your hearts beat with the best impulses and purest affections, and Hope and Faith were the guardian angels of your souls.—*London Society*.

PARADISE LOST.—At Chalfont, Ellwood first saw the MS. of "Paradise Lost," which must have been completed in 1665. No doubt the mighty theme had dwelt on Milton's mind for years, but the wonderful work was only achieved after the ruin of all his worldly prospects, when he was surrounded by every privation incident to age, poverty, and blindness. "Choosing late and pondering long"—this was the noble "something" which "posterity should not willingly let die." It was in the Bunhill Row dwelling, the plague having subsided, that the poem was composed, his daughters or any friendly stranger writing to his dictation. The great epic licensed, though not without difficulty, the copyright was sold to Simmons for £5—other sums, making in the whole £20, being promised, should the demand justify two more editions.—*The Old City, its Highways and Byways*.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty and the junior members of the Royal Family are at Osborne. The Prince and Princess of Wales continue at Sandringham. The journey of the King of the Belgians from England to Belgium appears to have aggravated the illness from which his Majesty had been suffering during the last week of his visit to Windsor Castle, and soon after his arrival at Brussels he had a severe attack of bronchitis, accompanied with great prostration.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—The HOUSE OF COMMONS re-assembled on Monday after the Easter recess. Three new members took their seats—Colonel Percy Herbert, for South Salop; Mr. T. B. Potter, for Rochdale; and the Solicitor General for Scotland, for the Wigtonburghs. Mr. Adam, the new Lord of the Treasury, also took the oaths on his re-election for Clackmannan. In reply to a question from Mr. Warner, Mr. Layard said he had received a communication which stated that there

were good grounds to hope for the early release of the English captives in Abyssinia. In Committee on the Army Estimates, General Peel made an appeal on behalf of the clerks who are likely to be displaced through the proposed re-organisation of the War Office. The estimated saving, he said, was very trifling, and not worth the irritation which the Committee's report was creating. Sir Stafford Northcote spoke in a similar strain, while Lord Hartington defended the proposed changes, on the ground that they were necessary for the efficient working of the department. The subject then dropped; and several votes having been agreed to, and three or four Bills advanced a stage.—On Tuesday last Mr. Miller asked a question respecting the "Reformatory Exhibition," which his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has consented to open at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, on the 19th of May. It may be useful to explain that the exhibition will be an "international" one, and that it is proposed to lay before the public "a display of the industrial products" of the reformatories of this and other countries. The member for Colchester's question appears to have had reference to the statement in the official programme that "several hundred boys and girls will work at their respective trades and occupations throughout the Exhibition." Sir George Grey said he considered it most inexpedient to make a "public exhibition" of reformatory children, and we gather from his reply that none of the inmates of the certified Government institutions will be shown at Islington. Mr. Childers obtained leave to bring in a bill providing that for the future Greenwich Hospital shall be devoted exclusively to the use of infirm seamen, and the temporary relief of sailors requiring medical assistance. Mr. Bouverie obtained leave to bring in a bill for amending the Union of Benefices Act, so as to render it unnecessary to obtain the archdeacon's consent before, in any case, a church can be removed. The measure appears to have been suggested by the course taken by Archdeacon Hale, when it was proposed to remove one of the city churches,—a removal which had received the sanction of the Primate and the Bishop of London. Leave was also given to introduce a bill for assimilating the English to the Irish Salmon Fishery Act.—On Wednesday the second reading of the Inns of Court Bill was moved by Sir G. Bowyer, who explained its object to be to alter and regulate the powers of the benchers of the inns of court in reference to admitting or refusing to admit to the bar, to the government of that body, and their jurisdiction to disbar any one who in their judgment is disqualified to continue a member of the bar. The hon. baronet observed that the benchers were so numerous that the tribunal which they constituted was a shifting one, and ill calculated to exercise a proper judgment in the cases brought before them. Moreover, they had no power to administer oaths or compel the attendance of witnesses or the production of documents, and the Bill proposed to confer those powers upon them. It would be left optional to them to refer any case to a judicial committee selected from themselves, but they would be restrained from exercising the penal powers they now possessed except through the medium of such a committee. Mr. Roebuck seconded the motion. Mr. Locke opposed the Bill, which, he contended was altogether unnecessary, inasmuch as the existing system worked satisfactorily. The Attorney-General consented to the second reading, whilst not pledging himself to the details. For example, he was inclined to doubt the policy of dealing with a matter that ought to be included in the larger question of the constitution and arrangements of the inns of court; and he should have been glad had those bodies initiated legislation themselves upon the subject. The opposition having been withdrawn, the Bill was read a second time. The Metro-

politan Toll Bridges Bill was also read a second time, and ordered to be referred to a select committee, with instructions to inquire into the existing tolls on roads and bridges within the metropolis, and the best means of abolishing them. The object of the Bill is to give facilities for opening the bridges over the Thames free of toll to the public user. The remainder of the sitting was chiefly occupied with the discussion of the clauses of the Locomotives on Roads Bill, which was passed through committee.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The rate of mortality last week was the same as in the week previous—that is to say 27 in the thousand. Glasgow had the discredit of being the highest on the death-roll, being 31 in the thousand, or 7 above the average of its companion towns. Bristol was the lowest, and was exactly as many below the average as Glasgow was above. The total number of deaths was 2,872, and of births, 4,018, of both which London furnished one-half. The mortality in London was 16½ above its own ten years' average.—We appear to be approaching, and rather rapidly, that moderate ratio of pauperism which distinguishes the manufacturing unions of Lancashire in times of ordinary activity. During the three weeks of the present month upwards of 8,000 persons have ceased to be chargeable to the poor-rates in the cotton unions. Last week 2,210 went off the relief lists of the guardians. Only one union is returned as having more paupers; five experienced no change, and twenty-two counted fewer recipients. In the latter group we observe that the Ashton-under-Lyne union had 200 fewer paupers; Blackburn, 120; Bury, 190; Chorley, 110; Chorlton, 150; Manchester, 420; Preston, 290; and Rochdale, 100. At the same time the decrease in the number of adult able-bodied paupers was 870. The Guardians expended £217 less in out-door relief than in the second week of April; and £2,070 less than in the corresponding week of 1864. The pauperism is now 1 in 24 of the population of the unions originally affected by the cotton famine.—A deputation waited on the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Tuesday, to represent to him the hardship of the mileage duty imposed on stagecoaches and omnibuses, which was levied irrespective of the passengers carried or the profits made, and from which other competing systems of conveyance were exempted. The Chancellor of the Exchequer admitted the pressure of the tax upon the interests complaining, and promised that their case should be fairly and fully considered, but refused to commit himself to any pledge in their favour. He threw out some hints about a parliamentary control of omnibus fares; but the deputation were of opinion that competition had already lowered the fares as low as it was possible for omnibus proprietors to accept.—We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Theodosia Trollope, the wife of Mr. Thomas Adolphus Trollope. The deceased lady, who, like her husband, was an accomplished author, resided at Florence, and was tenderly attached to her adopted country. By her writings on Italy and her translation of Nicolini's "Arnold of Brescia," as well as by her letters to the *Athenaeum*, she helped to make the Italian character better known and appreciated in England. The Florentine press writes in language of deep sorrow of her untimely death.—The annual meeting of the London Art-Union took place on Tuesday in the Adelphi Theatre, Mr. Hill, in the absence of Lord Monteagle, in the chair. The report, which was of an encouraging nature, detailed the past doings of the Union and its plans for the future, and testimonials to the joint secretaries were presented and acknowledged by those gentlemen, after which the drawings for the prizes commenced.—General Kmety, one of the leaders of the Hungarian struggle for independence, died last Monday, aged 54. After fighting gal-

antly for his country, Kmety, like Bem, entered the Turkish service. Under the name of Ismail Pasha he obtained renown during the Crimean war by the share he took in the splendid defence of Kars. Kmety had for some time past resided in England. He has followed quickly to the grave his old brother-in-arms Dembinsky, who died in Paris not long since.—The stream of emigration from all parts of Ireland to the United States continues with unabated force. Every steamer leaving Queenstown takes out its quota, and we gather from a local paper that the demand for passages is largely in excess of the accommodation offered by the steamship companies. Oddly enough, while hundreds are thus seeking homes on the other side of the Atlantic, there is, as the *Cork Reporter* tells us, "a steady current homeward of emigrants disappointed with the state of affairs in America." One steamer last week brought home 127 of the disappointed class.—The *Gazette* contains the award of the Victoria Cross to Mr. Boyes, midshipman, Thomas Pride, captain of the after-guard, and William Seeley, ordinary seaman of her Majesty's ship *Euryalus*, for conspicuous bravery shown in the attack of the forts of Simonosaki on the 6th of last September.—There is a strong probability of the immediate termination of the dispute in the Scotch iron trade. At a conference of representatives of the masters and workmen, held at Glasgow on Monday, a compromise was agreed to—the reduction of wages being restricted to 6d. instead of 1s. per ton in the case of the puddlers, and to five instead of ten per cent. in the case of the millmen. The workmen of the Glasgow district have ratified this compromise, and no serious opposition is anticipated in the other districts.—At a public meeting held at Stockport it was decided to erect a statue of the late Mr. Cobden in that town.—The competition between the Whitworth and Armstrong guns, which has been going on for the last six months at Shoeburyness, was brought to a close on Wednesday. Two targets were set up, alike in every respect, one of which was fired at by the Armstrong, the other by the Whitworth gun. In two rounds the Whitworth gun penetrated the target to the depth only of three inches, bulging the plate a little on the inside; while the Armstrong shots went right through, and caused extensive injury in the interior. A third round was fired, changing the position of the guns, so that each fired at the other's target, but the result was equally in favour of the Armstrong gun.—A new railway between Chichester and Midhurst, to be eventually extended to Haslemere, and which promises to be of great local value, was begun to be constructed on Saturday on a spot about two miles from Midhurst, and Lord Henry Lennox, M.P. for Chichester, attended, and was assigned the honour of cutting the first sod, which he did in a thoroughly workmanlike manner, filling the barrow by hard honest digging, trundling it along the platform and tipping it over amid the cheers of a large assembled company. The chairman of the line addressed the meeting at some length on the advantages offered by this new line to the district. A dinner in the evening terminated the proceedings.—The Lord Chancellor gave judgment on Saturday last upon an important question of international law. The case arose out of a contract between two persons who had jointly entered into one of those blockade-running speculations which have been so common during the civil war in America. One of the Bankruptcy Commissioners decided that this contract, which had reference to munitions of war for the Confederate States, was an offence against international law, and, therefore, not valid. This was the point which the Lord Chancellor had to decide on Saturday. His Lordship ruled that the Commissioner was wrong in law.

Belligerents, he said, had no right to impose or require the neutral Government to impose restrictions on commerce. A belligerent had the power to seize a neutral ship carry contraband of war, but beyond this internal law did not go—the right to trade and the right to seize being co-existent. The Queen's proclamation had been appealed to, but that document merely declared that the provisions of the Foreign Enlistment Act would be enforced, and warned her Majesty's subjects against the consequences of seizure.—Lord Huntingtower's marriage has been under discussion in the Court of Exchequer. At the late Maidstone assizes an action was brought against Lord Huntingtower by a Miss Ackford for £15—one quarter's allowance under a deed by which the defendant had agreed to allow the defendant £60 a year on account of their previous cohabitation. This claim was met by his lordship by a plea that Miss Ackford was his wife, there having been a Scotch marriage. Miss Ackford was put into the box and swore that she believed she was Lord Huntingtower's wife. On this a verdict was entered for the defendant subject to the opinion of the court above on the question of marriage. The application has been made for a rule nisi calling on Lord Huntingtower to show cause why the verdict should not be entered for the plaintiff. Counsel who appeared for Huntingtower said he was satisfied there had been no Scotch marriage, and hence the rule might be made absolute. That was accordingly done.—A capture of blackguards has been made. The officers of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals came down upon a public-house in Great Windmill-street, Haymarket, where cock fighting was going on. There was a collection of brutal fellows—including, it is said, some county magistrates. When the alarm was given several got away, but no less than thirty-eight were taken into custody by the police, including Colonel Henry Armytage and Captain Augustus Berkeley, all of whom were fined £5 each at the Marlborough-street Police court. Another batch of cock fighters has been proceeded against and convicted. The offence was committed in Delamere Forest, near Cheshire, but it is said that some of the defendants were also before the magistrates in London. They all pleaded to one of the charges made against them, and were fined sums varying from £2 10s. to £5.—The Messrs. Barry, wharfingers, and their three servants, charged with defrauding insurance offices, by alleging falsely that certain goods in their possession had been destroyed by fire, have been again before Mr. Alderman Stone, at the Mansion House, and the case for the prosecution closed. Mr. Serjeant Ballantine, for the Messrs. Barry, reserved his observations till the case was brought up again for the formal signature of the depositions.—A Dutchman, named Fougiers, was brought before Mr. Tyrwhitt on Tuesday, on the charge of threatening violence in the presence of the Belgian Minister. He had applied to his excellency for relief, who told him he must apply to the embassy of his own nation, when he became excited, drew out a stiletto, and said it would be seen who was to be the victim. He was secured before harm was done to any one, and there seemed reason to believe that it was his own life he intended to take away. He was remanded for a week.—The case of Matthews, the cabman, was again before the Bankruptcy Court on Wednesday. He proposes to pay his creditors 5s. in the pound, which has been accepted, though some doubts were expressed as to the genuineness of his friendly creditors and the amount of their debts. Matthews was examined respecting them, and stated that he owed all the money they alleged was due to them.—At the Middlesex Sessions on Saturday an appeal was lodged by a farmer at Baling against a conviction by Mr. D'Eyncourt for cruelty to animals in bringing a cow to market

very soon after calving, which produced great pain. Several veterinary surgeons testified that it was improper and injurious to move a cow so soon after calving. On the other hand, several farmers and drovers bore witness to the prevalence of the practice, and that in their opinion the animals suffered no harm. The magistrates were unanimous in their condemnation of the practice, which they said must be put down, and they confirmed the decision of the magistrate.—A new and unexpected light has been thrown upon the long concealed mystery of the Road murder by the voluntary confession of Miss Kent, who was in the first instance charged with the crime, that she was actually the murderer. It appears that Miss Kent has for the last year and three quarters been an inmate of St. Mary's Home, Brighton, and that a short time ago she made confession to the Rev. Mr. Wagner, who has charge of the institution, and then, as the rev. gentleman states in his evidence, proposed to give herself up to a magistrate. The written confession is in the most general terms, and couched in singular language, fitted rather for an attorney's office than any other quarter. It sounds strange to find a sister, under any circumstances, write of her brother as "one Francis Saville Kent." The magistrate of Bow-street, Sir Thomas Henry, before whom she was taken on Tuesday, frequently and solemnly warned the girl of the importance of the step she was taking, but did not go into the matter further than to receive and verify her confession, and remitted her to the magistrates of the district where the crime was perpetrated. On Wednesday Miss Kent was taken before the magistrates assembled in petty sessions at Trowbridge. The evidence taken at Bow-street was read over to the prisoner, and she declined to put any questions to the witnesses. During the reading of her written confession of the murder the firm composure which she had previously sustained broke down, and sinking into the arms of Miss Green, the superior of the religious Home at Brighton, where Miss Kent has been located for some time past, she wept bitterly for a considerable period. The prisoner was remanded for eight days, and was afterwards taken to Devizes gaol, where she will remain until the next examination.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The Emperor Napoleon will leave Paris for Algiers on Monday next. He will proceed to Lyons, and there embark for Oran, from whence he will travel by land to Algiers.—A short time ago it was understood to be a settled affair that M. Baroche was to be appointed to the post of President of the Corps Legislatif. Now it appears, however, that the position is to be filled by Count Walewski, who will, consequently, require to secure a seat in the Chamber. M. de Remusat has taken up the cause of the press, which he advocates with much vigour in the columns of the *Courrier du Dimanche*. The notion that there would arise any danger to the Government from absolute liberty to the press, he treats as unworthy of being entertained. Neither does he believe that the Government has any fear of the press. The repressive measures adopted are considered by the writer to be merely designed as a protection against the annoyance and irritation which would be caused by free criticism and contradiction.

AMERICA.—The American news brought by the *Nova Scotian* is of the most horrifying and painful kind. President Lincoln has been assassinated. On the evening of Good Friday he was in a box at Ford's Theatre, at Washington, when a man named Wilkes Booth, the brother of Edwin Booth, the actor, obtained access to him on the pretence that he bore despatches from General Grant. No sooner was the assassin in the box than he put a pistol close to the back of Mr. Lincoln's head, and shot him. The President lingered until half-past seven o'clock the next morning, when he died. About the time that the atrocious

crime was perpetrated a man went to the house of Mr. Seward, who was ill in bed, and insisted on seeing him. Mr. Frederick Seward, who opposed the entrance of the man, was struck down with a bludgeon, and is since dead. Major Seward, who was in the sick room, was knocked down, and is not likely to live, and Mr. Seward was stabbed in several places, and left for dead. The assassin in this case got away, as Booth had done also. It is stated that proofs have been discovered of their acting in conjunction one with another, and in understanding with some one who is or was at Richmond. Papers found in the valise of Booth show, it is alleged, that the assassinations were to have been perpetrated on the 4th of March, but that the accomplice refused then to act without further instructions from Richmond. Booth himself is stated to have been a rabid Secessionist. When he had shot the President he exclaimed, "Sic semper tyrannis!" A heavy reward has been offered for the apprehension of him and his accomplice, and it was said Booth had been arrested. When the *Nova Scotian* sailed Mr. Seward was not dead. The terrible tragedy created a profound sensation, as well it might, in the North. New York was draped in black as mourning for the great and good President. In accordance with the requirements of the constitution, Mr. Andrew Johnston, the Vice-President, was on Saturday sworn in as President. He delivered a very short and simple address, declaring his intention to perform the duties of the office as best he could. The war news pales before the painful interest of the story of Mr. Lincoln's assassination. It is not without importance, however. General Lee had returned to Richmond, and we have no information whatever as to what he may have done at Weldon. The Northern newspapers assert that his troops had for the most part deserted him before his surrender. He will, it is said, do all in his power to promote peace. Mr. Jefferson Davis may perhaps be of the same mind now; but on the 6th of April he issued a proclamation from Danville declaring that the war would be continued. To all appearance he will have no support in such a course. The Federal armies are closing in on Johnstone's force, which is the only Confederate army east of the Mississippi. Johnstone had evacuated Raleigh, and gone, it was said, to Greensborough. It is not likely, however, that he would be able to hold out there or anywhere else. The report of Federal successes in Alabama is confirmed, and the siege of Mobile was rapidly progressing. Meantime it was said that the Governor of North Carolina would shortly convoke the State Legislature to revoke the ordinance of Secession. Owing to the assassination of the President, business at New York was almost entirely suspended. Later advices by the *Etna* say,—Mr. Stanton telegraphs as follows:—"Mr. William Hunter has been appointed acting Secretary of State during Mr. Seward's illness." President Johnston has announced that he will make no changes in the Cabinet. Mr. Seward's throat is not cut, but his face is gashed. He saved himself by throwing himself out of bed. The surgeons report his condition unchanged, and that he is doing well. Mr. Frederick Seward's condition is critical. The assassins have not yet been apprehended.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. S. J.—We will inquire.

S. S.—Certainly not.

A P.G. OFFICER shall have his complaints attended to.

MELTON.—Not in our MAGAZINE.

* * * Several communications are unavoidably left over till next week.