

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1865.

### GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.

The new building, devoted to the purposes of the Craft, is progressing, and Grand Lodge is absolutely in possession of a large portion of it—the usual business having been transferred into the new offices on Monday last, and the first lodge, the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, opened within its walls on the previous Friday, most appropriately, by Bro. John Havers, who, as Chairman of the Building Committee, has been the presiding genius in bringing about the really wonderful alterations which have taken place in our property. Of course, we were not present. It would have cost the lodge, or somebody, a penny to have informed us what was about to take place. We have, however, examined the lodge rooms, and can bear testimony not only to the convenient arrangement, but to the neat and appropriate furniture which has been placed in them, and if we give a preference for one suite of rooms over another we vote for the Moira.

The Grand Secretary's room we have not seen since it has been furnished, and perhaps never shall; but the offices for the clerks are lofty, spacious, and convenient, and far in advance of those we formerly possessed, though it has been suggested to us that the use of so much "officing," in front of the "counter" over which a brother has now to ask a question, gives the offices very much the appearance of those attached to a police court. Personally, we see no great objection to the arrangement, but that is all a matter of fancy.

The old offices were only closed on Saturday, and yet at ten o'clock on Monday morning the clerks were comfortably housed in their new quarters, thanks to the indefatigable exertions of the Chairman of the Committee, and the ready assistance afforded by the clerks themselves, after business hours on the Saturday, in order to prevent confusion on the Monday.

A second step was taken on Monday by the commencement of the *façade* which the contractors are under heavy penalties to complete by the 1st of March next. During the carrying out of a portion of this work, the usual entrance to the Tavern is necessarily closed; but a temporary entrance has been provided through No. 63, the house formerly devoted to the Grand Secretary's offices.

Subjoined we publish a copy of a notice placed in every lodge-room, and cannot too strongly direct attention to the following paragraph:—

"It is arranged that any refreshments which may be required before lodge meetings shall be served in the dining-rooms or ante-rooms of the Tavern, so that the lodge-rooms and ante-rooms of the Hall shall be preserved sacredly to Masonic work alone."

What refreshments are required before the lodge meetings we do not well understand; but we trust the rulers of the various lodges will be careful to exclude alike from their lodge and ante-rooms, or, as our Scotch friends would say, "the adjacent," anything in the shape of refreshment, excepting it be in the words of the song, "Water, pure." The very last time we attended a meeting of a lodge which shall be nameless, we were disgusted to see the title of "the adjacent" covered with bottles which *had* contained sherry—and we cannot imagine that such a sight added to the feelings of solemnity with which the initiates entered on the ceremony of being introduced into the Order, or gave them a very exalted idea of the manner in which we practise the virtue of temperance of which we talk so much. *N'importe*. When we again see such scenes we shall *name* the lodge.

One word more and we have done. Secretaries and Masters of their lodges should take care that in all future summonses they call their lodges to meet at Freemasons' Hall, not Freemasons' Tavern.

The following is the notice to which we allude above:—

#### NOTICE TO THE BRETHREN.

The new buildings of Freemasons' Hall are now in possession of the Craft, and are devoted solely to the use of the executive officers and of the various private lodges.

For the present, and until the whole of the new Freemasons' Hall is completed, there must be some degree of inconvenience to the brethren attending. This will be found chiefly in the temporary means of access. It is hoped that the permanent entrance from Great Queen-street will be fit for use in three months from this date—until that time it will be convenient that all brethren having business at the Offices should enter at the temporary entrance in New Yard—and that brethren attending lodges should enter by the Tavern, from the staircase of which there is access on each floor to the Grand and Upper Corridors respectively.

On the Grand Corridor are the "Zetland" and the "Dalhousie" Lodge and ante rooms. On the Upper Corridor are the "De Grey" and the "Moira" Lodge rooms with their respective ante-rooms. Access to the Lower Corridor, in which the board-room and offices are situated, can also, if required, be had from the Tavern; but in such case the back-stairs leading from the Grand

to the Lower Corridor must, for the present, be used. It is hoped, however, that this will only be necessary in the case of W.M.'s and others when leaving the Lodge of Benevolence late in the evening.

For the present, and during the time that the front of the old Tavern is being pulled down and the facade of Freemasons' Hall is being built, all lodges hitherto meeting in the Tavern will be provided with lodge and ante-rooms, in the same manner as the tenants have hitherto provided them—that is to say, without any additional charge being made for them by the Society.

So soon as Freemasons' Hall is completed, and the tenants of the Tavern are put into possession of rooms equal in amount to the extent of their former accommodation, such a rent as may be determined on will be required to be paid by all lodges who may continue to use the new rooms. It will be evident, as these rooms are built with the moneys of the Craft generally, that such lodges as derive especial advantages from the use of them should, in the form of rent, pay interest upon the outlay for construction, furniture, &c. This ought not, however, to involve lodges in much (if any) extra expense, inasmuch as hitherto the charge made by the Tavern for banquets has been considered to cover the charge for dining-room, lodge-room, and ante-room, their furniture, fire, and light. In future, a dining-room only will be provided by the Tavern, and a consequent reduction will, it is understood, be made in the charge for banquets.

Besides those already referred to, there are other minor inconveniences to which the brethren attending lodges will for a very short time be put to—viz., the want of appropriate shelves for hats and coats in three of the ante-rooms, the delay in the fixing of the chandeliers and bracket-lights, the permanent lodge furniture, &c.; these are all very forward in progress, and will shortly be in their respective places.

In the meantime as regards lodge furniture, the Royal Somerset House and other lodges have most kindly permitted the use of theirs, and the committee trust that every care will be used to preserve them from damage.

The Building Committee will spare no pains to promote the comfort and convenience of the Craft in every way possible, and will readily consider any suggestions which may be made to them. They earnestly appeal to the brethren to assist them in protecting from damage the furniture and property of the Society, and above all to use their influence in strictly confining the use of Freemasons' Hall to Masonic purposes only.

It is arranged that any refreshments which may be required before lodge meetings shall be served in the dining-rooms or ante-rooms of the Tavern, so that the lodge-rooms and ante-rooms of the Hall shall be preserved sacredly to Masonic work alone.

Various regulations will require to be made from time to time, of which due notice will be given; for the present it is to be understood that the rooms will be opened at whatever hour the lodges propose to meet, and will be closed punctually at 11 o'clock, p.m.

The W.M.'s of all lodges now meeting at the Tavern are requested, at their earliest convenience, to send notice to the Building Committee of the months, days, and usual hours of meeting of their respective lodges, and to give at least three days' notice of their requiring accommodation for lodges of emergency. No emergency or other meeting can be held in Freemasons' Hall without such previous notice has been given.

Any complaints or communications which it may be desired to make should be addressed to the Building Committee, Freemasons' Hall, W.C., or may be left at their temporary office, No. 6, in the Lower Corridor, where the chairman will attend, for the present, once at least in each day.

Freemasons' Hall, April 27th, 1865.

## CHURCH BELLS: THEIR ANTIQUITIES AND CONNECTION WITH ARCHITECTURE.

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

(Continued from Page 316.)

The last century saw the extinction of most of the smaller foundries, or rather their absorption into the two great establishments at Gloucester and Whitechapel. The Gloucester foundry had existed for many centuries. John of Gloucester was a bell-founder there in the thirteenth century; but under the Rudhall family it chiefly came into note during the last century, upon the decline of the Salisbury trade. Its turn came at last for amalgamation with Whitechapel, which foundry, at the beginning of the present century, may have been said to have been the foundry for England; Market Downham, in Norfolk, the last of the East Anglian foundries, being also sucked into it. There was again a considerable establishment in Reading during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries: this was removed by the Knights to Southwark, in 1750, or thereabouts; and that again flowed into Whitechapel. At the present we have three foundries in England: the old-established house of Mears; the Messrs. Warner, of Cripplegate, who are now getting into a large business in this department, and the Taylors, of Loughton, of whose bells I can also speak very highly, having had several orders executed by them.

So much in a very cursory way for the history of bells and bell-founding in England. I will now push on to the practical part of the subject, with which we are more particularly concerned. With all thanks to our three worthy founders of the present day for what they have done and are doing for us, I will still say, and I know that if any of them read this they will feel that I am only speaking the truth when I say, that the art of bell-founding in the the present day is not what it ought to be, or what it might be. I lay very little blame, however, on their shoulders, for I am sorry to say that no art has met with so little encouragement as the art of bell-founding, or has been more crippled by the fatal mistake of expecting great results from very little money. And, believe me, nothing is more easily starved than a church bell. People now expect to get a peal of six for no more than the cost of a proper tenor. Everything in a bell is the quality of the tone; the note is a mere result of certain dimensions, and may, I believe, be reached by metal little thicker than paper. Tone depends on the material, the shape, and the thickness of the metal. Consequently, bell-founders are sorely tempted to do the best they can for very inadequate sums of money, and with a result that pleases no one. And so many a tower is furnished with odious ting-tang

that might have had a peal had there been reasonable hope of securing the grand and mellow tones of former days.

Again, as to the lettering, stopping, and ornamentation of bells,—Why are these now altogether abandoned? It is true our founders have a black lettering, which can be used if asked for; but something better than any of them have yet is easily attainable; and, when once the moulds are made, a good design costs no more than a bad one. It may be said bells are out of sight, and so what is put on them does not very much matter. I think it does. A bell is a sacred instrument dedicated to the service of God, and religious art may be brought to bear upon it just as rightly as upon other sacred vessels. The fact of its being seen but by few does not appear to me to affect the question; for we have got beyond the notion prevalent some fifty years since, that *that* only need be decent which meet the eye of man. The same rule applies to the careful selection of dedicatory inscriptions. Now in the nature of the case it cannot be expected that each architect should provide the bell-founder with designs for the bells of any given church; but I think it should be the care of this Institute to provide each founder with legitimate forms of lettering and stops.

The next suggestion I would offer is this. We either find nothing but our little enemy the ting-tang, or an ambitious scheme for a peal of six or eight, too often realized in the skeleton by the tenor, its third and fifth forming what may be called a hop, skip, and jump style of music, the constant repetition of which is far from pleasing to the ear; and but too often the further development of the peal is unrealized. The Marylebone churches, early in the present century, were furnished with these skeletons of peals of six, and they have hopped, skipped, and jumped for the last forty years without the least sign of filling up their gaps. I am sorry to find they have even had the contrary effect of inducing other steeples to follow in their frolics, for St. Paul's, Knightsbridge; All Saints', Margaret-street; and some others have begun a similar skirmish. Now instead of this unsatisfactory music, why not be content with a really good tenor and one bell next above it? Nothing can be grander than two good bells chiming thus together. Such music is far preferable to three or four light bells at odd intervals. I am, of course, only alluding to those churches where peal-ringing is not contemplated. You are all of you probably familiar with the grand and pleasing effect of the two heaviest of the Abbey bells at Westminster chiming thus together for daily prayer. It is a return to ancient usage, besides being most dignified in itself, and satisfactory to the ear. Then, by degrees, perhaps, a third bell, also in succession, may be obtained. Three such bells would leave nothing to be desired.

The third suggestion I have to make refers

to peals of five bells and upwards. It is that there is no necessity whatever for the universal adoption of the modern major scale, which, for the last half-century or more, has been the undeviating practice. By so doing, the harmonic combinations are very much limited, and many very pleasing scales in the minor mode altogether ignored. Now, minor intervals were great favourites in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, from their peculiar plaintiveness and expression. This fact was forced upon my notice some few years since, when in charge of a Suffolk parish. The church tower nearly adjoined the rectory; and the peal of five was a very light one, the tenor was only 8 cwt. I was for some weeks puzzled to account for its pleasing effect. Suddenly the fact dawned upon me that it was in the key of A minor. I at once took the hint, and tested the keys of all the peals in the neighbourhood: the result was the discovery of several other examples. I have tried a great many peals of the present century, but I have not yet discovered one in the minor mode. I speak under correction when I say that I do not believe there is one in all England. Now, accepting the major and minor modes as equally legitimate, see what an increase of harmonies we have. Taking D natural as the correct tenor note, and A natural as the highest for any peal, we get eight different keys for our peals; and by flattening the third, to bring them into the minor mode, the number is doubled.

After all, however, we must remember that, so far as bells are concerned, an exact scale, in present received musical expression, is of no moment whatever. So long as a peal of bells is in harmony with itself, and satisfies the ear, it matters not in what key it is, or whether in no describable key whatever. It is a great mistake to tie a founder down to any exact key or scale: it is sure to involve that evil instrument, the tuning-lathe, to reduce them to the appointed standard of pitch; when most probably they were much better when first broken out of the moulds, and even more pleasing to the ear. No bell is ever cast thicker in the sound-bow than it ought to be. The thickness of the sound-bow should be one-thirteenth of diameter; that of the waist, one-thirty-sixth of the diameter of the mouth. Many are cast far below this standard, for economy's sake. When, therefore, the tuning-lathe is brought to bear upon a bell, we may be certain that the tone is being sacrificed to the note; and, if this is bad in modern bells, what shall we say to paring down fine old bells, as I have seen done, to fit them to the shallow tones of modern additions to the peal; It is, I fully believe, to facilitate this tuning process that the proportion of copper to tin in present use is so much greater than it ought to be. The modern practice is to make the proportions three parts copper to one of tin. Now, as tin wastes considerably in the fusing, this is far too small. The proportions ought to be in thirds,—two or

copper to one of tin. Bell-founders say that such a proportion is liable to render the metal somewhat brittle; and this, coupled with the thinness of the bells in the present generation, greatly increases the risk of a fracture. There is a remedy for this, however: there is no reason why the metal should not be allowed to run into the mould. Then, again, in the present day, the melting process is a rapid one in a roaring furnace. In former times it was slower, mostly with timber fires, and dross had opportunity of escape, which now is all fused into the bell.

I need hardly tell you that the prevalent idea of silver entering largely into the composition of ancient bells is a pure myth. So far as sound goes, silver is little better than lead, and would spoil any bell where largely used. Mr. Lukis relates in his little work on Wiltshire bells, that when the peal of Great Bedwyn Church was taken down to be re-stocked, the canons were found to become white in places where there had been friction, and nothing would persuade the work-people that it was tin, not silver, that they saw. The old bell of St. Laurence Chapel, Warminster, in which tin had been largely used, was also traditionally said to be rich in silver. When it was re-cast in a field adjoining the chapel in 1657, a good of additional silver was thrown in by the inhabitants, as they thought to improve its tone still further. An old foreign bell at St. John's College, Cambridge, from its sweet tone is popularly called the silver bell; this, of course, being a similar delusion. The same may be said of another very pretty bell at Acton, Middlesex, called the Acton Nightingale.

(To be continued.)

#### MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

##### "PILGRIM'S PROGRESS," A MASONIC ALLEGORY.

Many brethren see Masonic allegories in some of our most popular books. To such the following article, cut from "The American Freemason," may be interesting.—Ex. Ex.—[The enlightened Mason, thirsting for increased knowledge, seeking on every hand to enlarge his Masonic acquisitions, will find in Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* a fountain of thought as novel as it will prove acceptable. That Bunyan was a Mason abundantly appears from the character of his symbolism; that he was a religionist of the largest measure of grace, and a Christian of uncommon experiences, is evident, as well from his history as from every page of his writings. We propose to point out to our readers a few specimens of his Masonic method of dealing with his subjects. From boyhood we have been charmed with his figurative style, his never-ceasing variety, his quaint but speaking language; and the book which we so dearly loved at early youth is quite as fascinating at mature manhood. Our visitors will find that the *Pilgrim's Progress* forms a volume in our private Masonic library.

The idea of the book is that of a man journeying from the City of Destruction to the Heaven of Eternal

Rest. A person styled *Christian* is described as leaving friends and fortune, and pilgriaging amidst ten thousand trials, snares, and dangers, through the most discouraging scenes, through perils "in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings," to a scene as glorious as its preparation was severe. In all this, the Masonic theory of *Initiation* is closely followed and imitated. Every phrase of Masonry, such as the preparation and reception of the first degree up to the completion of the third, has its corresponding figure, and the whole completes the system of Symbolic Masonry.

It is true that every reader of Bunyan does not see this; and some who read our article, and then peruse the *Pilgrim's Progress* to identify our quotations, may fail to trace the analogy to which we refer. That will not be strange to us. Unless a man knows what Masonry is *out of Bunyan*, he will fail to catch it *in Bunyan*. Just as we say of the modern imitative societies, in which some Masons enter and publish abroad their declarations that *they find no imitations there*—it is because they have never learned what Masonry is outside of those societies? How, then, could they recognise it?

Our quotations are taken somewhat at random. We do not desire to exhaust the subject, nor are we attempting a thorough review of the *Pilgrim's Progress*; but rather propose to allure our readers to its perusal, and to furnish a suggestive key to the work. In explanation of the *Lamb Skin or White Leather Apron*, that glorious emblem of Masonic innocence, read the following:—

"Then they lead them to another place called Mount Innocence. And there they saw a man clothed all in *white*; and two men, Prejudice and Ill-will, continually casting dirt upon him. Now, behold the dirt whatsoever they cast at him would in a little time fall off again, and his garments would look as clear as if no dirt had been cast thereat. Then said the Pilgrims, what means this? The Shepherds answered: This man is named Godly-man, and *this garment is to show the innocence of his life*. Now, those that throw dirt at him are such as hate his well doing; but, as you see, *the dirt will not stick upon his clothes*—so it shall be with him that liveth innocently in the world."

We appeal to every brother who reads this passage, if he ever saw anything better expressed, or more consolatory under slander than this. Our author gloriously adds:—

"Whoever they be that would make such men dirty, they labour all in vain; for God, by that a little time is spent, will cause that their innocence shall break forth as the light, and their righteousness as the noon-day,"—to which let us all add, *so mote it be!*

A most impressive scene in the Masonic drama has an illustration in the following passage:—

"They went to a door . . . it was on the side of a hill; and they opened it and hearkened awhile; and heard one saying, Oh that I had been torn in pieces before I had to save my life, lost my soul! Another said, If I were to live again, how would I deny myself rather than to come to this place. A third declared, Cursed be my father for

holding of my feet back from the way of peace and life."

The experience of the brave Mr. *Valiant-for-truth* bears in the same direction:—

"I am a Pilgrim, and am going to the Celestial City. Now, as I was in my way, there were three men did beset me and propounded unto me these three things: 1. Whether I would become one of them; 2. Or go back from whence I came; 3. Or die upon the place. To the first I answered, I had been a true man for a long season, and therefore it could not be expected that I should now cast in my lot with thieves. Then they demanded what I should say to the second. So I told them the place from whence I come; had I not found incommmodity there, I had not forsaken it at all; but, finding it altogether unsuitable to me, and very unprofitable to me, I forsook it for this way. Then they asked me what I said to the third. And I told them my life cost far more dear than that I should lightly give it away. Besides, you have nothing to do thus to put things to my choice; wherefore, at your peril be it if you meddle."

Bunyan's lines "The Pilgrim," are full of pith and marrow as the reader will see:—

"Who would true valour see,  
Let him come hither,  
One here will constant be,  
Come wind, come weather;  
There's no discouragement,  
Shall make him once relent,  
His first avowed intent,  
To be a Pilgrim.

"Whoso beset him round  
With dismal stories,  
Do but themselves confound,  
His strength the more is;  
No lion can him fright,  
He'll with a giant fight,  
But he will have a right  
To be a Pilgrim.

"Hobgoblin nor foul fiend,  
Can daunt his spirit;  
He knows he at the end,  
Shall life inherit.  
Then fancies fly away,  
He'll not fear what men say,  
He'll labour night and day  
To be a Pilgrim."

The description of an Atheist, that detestable character in the Masonic estimation, is graphic:—

"At last he came up to them. His name was Atheist, and he asked them whither they were going.

"*Chris.*—We are going to Mount Zion.

"Then Atheist fell into a very great laughter.

"*Chris.*—What is the meaning of your laughter?"

"*Atheist.*—I laugh to see what ignorant persons you are to take upon you so tedious a journey, and yet are like to have nothing but your travel for your pains.

"*Chris.*—Why, man, do you think we shall not be received?"

"*Atheist.*—Received? there is not such a place as you dream of in all this world.

"*Chris.*—But there is in the world to come.

"*Atheist.*—When I was at home in mine own country I heard as you now affirm, and from that hearing went out to see, and have been seeking this city these twenty years, but find no more of it than I did the first day I set out.

"*Chris.*—We have both heard and believe that there is such a place to be found.

"*Atheist.*—Had I not, when at home, believed, I had not come thus far to seek; but finding none—and yet I should had there been such a place to be found, for I have gone to seek it further than you—I am going back again, and will seek to refresh myself with the things that I then cast away for hopes of that which I now see is not.

"A conference in a low tone occurs between Christian and Hopeful, whereupon the latter says:

"Now do I rejoice in hope of the glory of God. So they turned away from the man, and he, laughing at them, went his way."

The description of the Bible, as the Word of God, in which every man may read his character and compare it with the perfect character to which its precepts will enable us to attain, is inimitable. It conveys the entire progress of a Masonic workman from the *Rough* to the *Perfect Ashlar*:—

"The glass was one of a thousand. It would present a man one way with his own features exactly; and turn it but another way and it would show one the very face and similitude of the Prince of Pilgrims himself. Yes, I have talked with them that can tell, and they have said they have seen the very crown of thorns upon his head by looking in that glass; they have therein also seen the holes in his hands, his feet, and his side. Yea, such an excellency is there in this glass, that it will show him to one where they have a mind to see him—whether living or dead; whether in earth or in heaven; whether in a state of humiliation or exaltation; whether coming to suffer or coming to reign."

We conclude our extracts by his description of the Pilgrim's entrance, after passing the River of Death, into Heaven. We justify the length of this passage by reminding our readers that the Masonic lodge is a type of the Celestial City, and that all its furniture and adornments adumbrate the glories of that sinless place. This passage, according to our judgment, is the finest in the English language, and should be read under the reflection, When shall I wake and find me there!

"Now, while they were thus drawing toward the gate, behold a company of the heavenly host came out to meet them; to whom it was said by the other two Shining Ones, These are the men that have loved our Lord when they were in the world, and that have left all for his holy name; and he hath sent us to fetch them, and we have brought them thus far on their desired journey that they may go in and look their Redeemer in the face with joy. Then the heavenly host gave a great shout, saying, Blessed are they that are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb. There came out also at this time to meet them several of the King's Trumpeters, clothed in white and shining raiment, who, with melodious voices and loud, made even the heavens to echo with their sound. These trumpeters saluted Christian and his fellow with ten thousand welcomes from the world; and this they did with shouting and sound of trumpet.

"This done, they compassed them round on every side; some went before, some behind, and some on the right hand and some on the left—as it were to guard them through the upper regions—continually sounding as they went with melodious noise in notes

on high; so that the very sight was to them that could behold it as if heaven itself was come down to meet them. Thus, therefore, they walked on together; and as they walked, ever and anon those trumpeters, even with joyful sound, would, by mixing their music with looks and gestures, still signify to Christian and his brother how welcome they were into their company, and with what gladness they came to meet them. And now were these two men, as it were, *in heaven before they came at it*, being swallowed up with the sight of angels, and with hearing of their melodious notes. Here also they had the City itself in view, and thought they heard all the bells therein to ring to welcome them thereto. But, above all, the warm and joyful thoughts that they had about their own dwelling there with such company, and that for ever and ever; oh, by what tongue or pen can their glorious joy be expressed! Thus they came up to the gate.

"Now when they were come up to the gate, there was written over it in letters of gold, 'Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have a right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gate into the city.'

"Then the shining men bid them call at the gate; the which when they did, some from above looked over the gate, to-wit: Enoch, Moses, and Elijah, &c., to whom it was said—These Pilgrims are come from the City of Destruction for the love that they bear to the King of this place; and then the Pilgrims gave unto them each man his certificate, which they had received in the beginning; those, therefore, were carried in to the King, who, when he had read them, said, Where are the men? To whom it was answered, They are standing without the gate. The King then commanded to open the gate, That the righteous nation, saith he, that keepeth the truth may enter in.

"Now I saw in my dream that these two men went in at the gate, and lo! as they entered they were transfigured; and they had raiment put on them that shone like gold. There were also that met them with harps and crowns, and gave them to them; the harps to praise withal, and the crowns in token of honour. Then I heard in my dream that all the bells of the City rang again for joy, and that it was said unto them, Enter ye into the joy of our Lord. I also heard the men themselves that they rang with a loud voice, saying—Blessing and honour, and glory, and power be unto him that sitteth upon the Throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.

"Now, just as the gates were opened to let in the men, I looked in after them, and behold the City shone like the sun; the streets also were paved with gold; and in them walked many men with crowns on their heads, palms in their hands, and golden harps to sing praises withal.

"They were also of them that had wings, and they answered one another without intermission, saying Holy, holy, holy is the Lord. And after that, they shut up the gates: which, when I had seen, *I wished myself among them.*"

#### RITE OF ZINNENDORF.

Masonic historians tell us that Bro. Zinnendorf died about 1800, before which he tried, but unsuccessfully, to introduce his system, or rite, into England. How did he try this, and through what channel was the attempt made?—STUDENS.

#### BACON AND GREENS.

Wanted, a good version of the Masonic story in which some one is reported to have communicated the secrets of Masonry as consisting of bacon and greens.—P.M.

#### A DEPUTY WARRANT.

A brother assured the writer that during the Mastership of the former the warrant of the lodge was mislaid, reported lost, for some months. He was not a man to stick at trifles, so he sought a parchment dealer, purchased a brown old lease, about the size of the missing document, and placed it in the case. When he made candidates, and he made several during the time, he flourished the old lease close to their faces, and hastily consigned it to its receptacle, which he carried away every night with great care and much state. In the course of time the warrant was found, and the old lease was then discarded from its quarters, but has been papered up and carefully preserved in case of another casualty of the same kind. The brother who did this is one who it is impossible to doubt, and is as good a man as most people; but I think it is worthy of being recorded, for the novelty of the resource, and to caution strange brethren to see a warrant before they submit themselves for examination.—A COUNTRY BROTHER.

#### A MASONIC SIGN OPPORTUNELY MADE.

See my communication to the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, vol. VII., page 366, containing a notice of my "Defoe's Tour through Great Britain." It is there said that in this copy there is no memorandum "that a Masonic sign opportunely made saved the writer from an untimely end in the Medway, to which some drunken sailors, part of a man-of-war's crew, were pursuing him." This denial was founded upon a search, which proves to have been very insufficient. The memorandum in question was discovered a few days ago. A transcript is unnecessary. The memorandum varies from the foregoing statement of it in three slight particulars only. First, there is a date prefixed, "A.D. 1759;" next, there are asterisks in the place of the word "writer;" lastly, the words "fate" and "harrying" are used instead of "end" and "pursuing."—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

#### HONORARY MEMBERS.

There has been recently some attempt at controlling the honorary membership of brethren in lodges. Without entering into the law on the subject, please give us some idea of the class of brethren to whom such honorary membership applies?—A SUBSCRIBING BROTHER.—[We take honorary membership to be a state not originally contemplated by the Grand Lodge of 1717, but a more modern development. An honorary membership is now conferred as a mark of distinction, or personal esteem, on brethren who are reputed to have done the Craft, or a particular lodge, good suit and service by their labours, purse, or talents, and is a testimony of the respect entertained for the brother so honoured by those having the means of judging for themselves. Dr. Johnson defines honorary as "conferring honour without gain," and cites the following example of the word from Addison: "The Romans abounded with little honorary rewards that, without conferring wealth and

riches, gave only place and distinction to the person who received them." Webster also says that the word honorary signifies "possessing a title or place without performing services or receiving a reward, as an honorary member of a society." In these views honorary membership is a pleasing token of the estimation in which a distinguished brother is held, and is conferred *honoris causa*, or for the sake of the honour which it conveys, without bringing with it the acquisition of any rights or prerogatives. All societies, literary and professional, have adopted this system of rewarding those who have laboured in their respective vineyards; and there are no valid objections against, but many good reasons why, Freemasons should adopt the same course.]

#### AN "IRRELIGIOUS LIBERTINE."

What is the meaning of the term "irreligious libertine" as used in the old Constitutions? Are not all libertines irreligious?—STUDENS.—[They are. The word libertine, used in the Old Charges, bore a somewhat different signification, in 1722, to that which we now attach to it. Bailey, in his *Universal Etymological Dictionary*, 1737, defines libertinism to be "a false liberty of belief and manners, which will have no other dependence but on particular fancy and passion; a living at large, or according to a person's inclination, without regard to the Divine laws." An "irreligious libertine" may, therefore, be taken to be a rejector of all moral responsibility to a Supreme power, and may be readily supposed to deny the existence of a Supreme Being and a future life. Such an one is, therefore, unfit for initiation into Freemasonry.]

#### MASONIC FUNERALS.

In can't find any brother who has seen a Masonic funeral, and I want to know if the Masonic burial service, when used, supersedes the beautiful liturgy of the Prayer-book, or is supplementary to it, and in addition thereto? I hope some brother, who has assisted at such a service, will reply and also inform me, if the clergyman's consent to use the Masonic ritual was obtained or not? The query is one of great importance, as on the question itself a host of ecclesiastical legal decisions depend, and a case might be drawn if the exact usage in such matters can be ascertained.—Z. A. Z.

#### PRESTON'S LEGACY.

What becomes of Bro. Preston's legacy when no lecture is given for the year? Does it accumulate for the next lecturer, or lapse, or is it added to the principal stock?—STUDENS.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

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

#### "THE POLITE LETTER WRITER" FOR MASONIC STEWARDS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The P.M. of No. 21, has an emulation to be known as the father of the literary bantling I held up to Masonic criticism. No one who was not the actual progenitor would have written such a letter in defence of the offspring

of another's brain. The original Polite letter is in evidence showing how a classical scholar may offend against his mother tongue in knocking off a batch of paragraphs without due reflection.

I previously gave my reason for questioning the good taste of introducing the word "truly" as applicable to one Institution in particular. If there is one which is more "truly" a Masonic Institution than another it must be that for Aged Masons and their Widows.

If I adopt the P.M.'s law maxim I hope I shall not offend him by understanding that "bad grammar" is "the unvitiating charter" of the Stewards for the Girls' School and, deeply sorry as I am, for both the chartered and the charterer, I have great pleasure in affording him a slightly modernised reading in support of his theory;—

"Tis a glorious charter! deny it who can?"  
Bad grammar that's writ by a classical man.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,  
Yours truly and fraternally,  
A LOVER OF PLAIN ENGLISH.

#### WILFUL DAMAGE TO THE CRAFT.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The following correspondence appeared in the *Standard* of Monday, the 1st inst. :—

#### THE AMERICAN ASSASSIN.

*To the Editor.*

SIR,—Your "leading contemporary" has established a reputation for a most complete and convenient oblivion of its own opinions and assertions. It is almost equally distinguished by a less convenient ignorance of more important matters. A letter from "Freemason," printed in its largest type, sneers at Mr. Mason for "appearing to suppose" that the name of Caesar's murderer was Junius Brutus.

Some few of your readers, who do not affect to be acquainted with Latin, may be as ignorant as your pretentious contemporary and his impertinent correspondent. For their benefit please observe that Junius was the name of the clan of which the Bruti were the principal branch. The expeller of the Tarquins and the destroyer of Caesar were both named Junius Brutus, though better known by their respective personal (or, as we should say, Christian) names. In choosing their Gentile name for his son, the father of Junius Brutus Booth probably intended to testify his equal admiration of the revolutionist and the tyrannicide—of Lucius Junius Brutus and Marcus Junius Brutus, as well as of the modern hero, who proved that the pen can be made to serve the purposes of the assassin almost as effectually as the dagger.

I need waste no more of your space in proving that Mr. Mason is not quite such an ignoramus as your contemporary and his correspondent. Your obedient servant,

AN EXTRA.

Here is the letter I allude to :—

*"To the Editor of the 'Times.'*

"Sir,—The article in the *Times* of to-day upon the subject of the assassination of President Lincoln worthily and nobly expresses the feelings of Englishmen; or, to quote the words of Lord Derby, 'the feelings of every man, woman, and child in her Majesty's dominions.

"I write, however, not for the purpose of offering

a needless acknowledgment, but in order to meet some observations in Mr. Mason's curious letter.

"Mr. Mason says, in English of his own, that Wilkes Booth, the assassin, 'pursued his profession principally in the Northern States, and was generally understood as inheriting those traits significant of his father's name—Junius Brutus Booth.'

"Wilkes Booth, at the time when the slave states were so direfully alarmed by John Brown, the Abolitionist, volunteered into the army which captured Brown, and Booth was, I believe, one of those who surrounded the gallows on which Brown was executed, on the 2nd December, 1859. He was a thorough partisan of the slave interest.

"As for the 'traits significant of his father's name,' I scarcely presume to translate the phrase; but I imagine that Mr. Mason supposes Junius Brutus to have been the person to whom the words '*Et tu, Brute!*' were addressed by the prototype of Napoleon I. But, as one is often informed by English writers that Quintus Curtius jumped into the gulf in the Forum, *non offendar maculis.*

"It is to be hoped that many Southern gentlemen will attend the American meeting, and anticipate the course which the *Times* so wisely recommends to the Confederates in general.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,  
"FREEMASON.

"April 28th."

With the dastardly idea that private assassination, for public wrongs, is a remedy few, if any, will be found to agree, therefore both the political and personal aspect of the above may be dismissed at once.

What I desire to protest against is the ignorance and wilful damage to the Craft some blockhead has perpetrated by adopting the signature "Freemason," thereby leading many to infer that we are, in some way or other, cognisant of the motives on one side or the other. It is quite possible, as well as probable, many of our brethren may have their private sympathies enlisted on behalf of one of the contending nationalities, but why mix up, with an atrocious crime, the name of Freemason? If an enemy to the Craft has done this great evil, he could not have selected a more public way to make our Order hateful than by importing it into a cause, which all must repudiate and condemn. If the writer be a Freemason surely he ought to be compelled to recant, as publicly as he has offended, and apologise for introducing such a signature to so silly a letter. When a person writes under a *nom de plume* it is generally understood his signature bears some affinity to the subject of his communication and in this view, that of a very large body of newspaper readers, Freemasons will be mixed up with assassination, and all because some idiot—for I can term him nothing else—has chosen to style himself one of us.

Yours truly and faithfully,  
A PAST MASTER.

P.S.—It may be just possible that the writer intended to distinguish himself as opposed to Mr. Mason, to whom he replies, by considering himself as free, and Mr. Mason an advocate of slavery. If this is tenable, still the signature should not, by any play upon words, be wrested from its well understood and popular meaning, to the damage of a society who take no part in politics, and certainly none in political crime.

## THE MASONIC MIRROR.

### METROPOLITAN.

MOUNT LEBANON LODGE (No. 73).—This prosperous old lodge held its usual monthly meeting on the 18th of April, at the Green Man, Tooley-street. Bro. H. Moore, W.M., presided, assisted by Bros. J. C. Goody, S.W.; G. Morris, J.W.; E. Harris, P.M., Treas.; J. Donkin, P.M., Sec.; F. H. Ebsworth, J.D.; J. T. C. Powell, I.G.; M. A. Loewenstark, W.S.; F. Walters, P.M., Dir. of Cers.; E. N. Levy, I.P.M.; G. Free, and others. The only work done was the raising Bros. Ord, Neale, and Grace to the M.M. degree. There were several visitors present.

PYTHAGOREAN LODGE (No. 79).—This old flourishing lodge held its last meeting of the season on Monday, April 4th, at the Lecture Hall, Greenwich. Bro. J. Haslar, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. Ward, S.W.; Vinten, J.W.; Peckham, P.M., Sec.; Traill, S.D.; Doughney, J.D.; Boucey, I.G.; Orchard, P.M.; Collington, P.M.; and many others. The business was two raisings and three initiations. After lodge was closed the brethren adjourned to a first-rate banquet at Bro. Moore's, Globe Tavern, Royal Hill. Amongst a large number of visitors were Bros. Tattershall, S.D. 13; F. Walters, P.M. 73; Badger, S.W. 140; and Gale, J.W. 548.

### INSTRUCTION.

#### LODGE OF STABILITY (No. 217).

The forty-eighth anniversary festival of the Stability Lodge of Instruction was celebrated on Friday evening, the 28th of April, at Radley's Hotel, New Bridge-street, which was preceded by the making of five sections in the first degree. Bro. H. Mugeridge, P.M. 192, and Preceptor of the Lodge, presided as W.M., Bros. David Law, W.M. 58, as S.W.; Allingham, W.M. 22, as J.W.; Norman, J.G. 22, as J.D.; White 22, J.D.; and Farran, 22, Sec. The lodge was most numerous attended and amongst those present were Bros. John Havers, P.S.G.W.; R. W. Jennings, P.G., Dir. of Cers.; A. J. McIntyre, G. Reg.; J. Llewellyn, President of the Board of General Purposes; George Cox, G.D.; Stephen Barton Wilson, P.G.D., President of the Colonial Board; John Symonds, P.G., Dir. of Cers.; S. E. Nutt, P.G., Dir. of Cers.; E. H. Patten, P.G.S.B., and Secretary of the Girls' School; John Emmens, G. Purst.; W. Young, P.G.S.B.; J. F. Jackson, W.M. 5; Henry Grissell, P.M. 2; Frederick Binkes, Secretary to the Boys' School; A. N. Thiselton, Dr. Goldsborough, Massey, 619; H. Thompson, P.M. 177; and numerous other brethren. The sections were worked by the following brethren:—

1st section.	Bro. Alfred Bryant, S.D.	.....	192
2nd "	" Thos. White	.....	22
3rd "	" T. M. Norman, I.G.	.....	22
4th "	" David Law, P.G.S., W.M.	... ..	58
7th "	" J. H. Allingham, W.M.	.....	22

Afterwards Bro. Mugeridge delivered a lecture on the tracing-board in the third degree, which was listened to with the deepest attention, and at the close the talented lecturer was greeted with loud cheering.

Bro. HAVERS, P.G.W., then took the chair, and said the first proposition he had to make was that the sum of 20 guineas be voted from the funds of the lodge to the Girls' School, which was unanimously agreed to.

It was then proposed by Bro. McIntyre, and seconded by Bro. Llewellyn Evans, that the best thanks of the lodge be given to Bro. Mugeridge, the able preceptor of the lodge, for the manner in which he had conducted the business of the evening, which was unanimously agreed to.

Several new members were admitted and the lodge was closed in due form.

The brethren then adjourned for refreshment, Bro. Havers presiding.

After the cloth was drawn,

The CHAIRMAN, gave "the Queen and the Craft."

National Anthem—by Bros. Vernon, George Tedder, Wall-worth and Woollams.

The CHAIRMAN said, the next toast commends itself to the minds and hearts of all Englishmen, as well as of all Masons. I only wish that I could propose the toast to you as I did the last as a Masonic toast. May the day not be far distant when



we may so propose it. I give you "the health of the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family."

Song—"God Bless the Prince of Wales."

The CHAIRMAN said,—We now come to a toast which commends itself to the heart of every Mason. No one who saw our good and kind Grand Master presiding for the 22nd time at the Grand Festival could fail to see the expression which age and work perhaps has made upon him. I believe, however, his heart is as firm and his sympathies fully as generous towards us as they ever were. I believe I speak only the plain truth when I say that every Mason looks upon him (Lord Zetland) as the father of Masonry, for his father, his grandfather, and his great grandfather have all been zealous servants of the Craft, and I believe there is not a single brother among us who has our interest more at heart than our Grand Master the Earl of Zetland. I beg to propose to you "the Health of the Earl of Zetland, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons."

Song—Bro. T. A. Wallworth, "The stirrup cup."

The CHAIRMAN said,—Brethren, I have now the honour to propose to you the health of the Deputy Grand Master, the Rt. Hon. Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the rest of the Grand Officers. I have told you before, and I need hardly tell you again, that it is a very great advantage to Freemasonry when noblemen of high rank and great fortune consent to put themselves in the humble position of office-bearers of our society. Our society has the good fortune to boast of having possessed among its members some of the highest and noblest in the land; but there never was a time when we had a better or a nobler set of officers than we have had of late years. It is true that we have suffered a great loss in the death of the Duke of Newcastle, the Provincial Grand Master for Nottinghamshire, but we have one of her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, the Earl de Grey and Ripon, as our Deputy Grand Master. We are honoured this day with the presence of a great many Grand Officers, and others have sent us their excuses for not attending. I think we should thank those distinguished brethren who have honoured us with their presence this evening, because I think there is nothing which shows the good-will of Masons more than the presence, upon these occasions, of the leaders and rulers of the Craft. I have often said, and I say again, that I look upon the Grand Officers and the Past Masters of lodges, as they appear here in their decorations, with their purple aprons and collars, as men who have not only received the reward of past services, but as men and brethren who continue to advise, lead, instruct, and guide their brethren. If they fail to do that they fail to do an act which every man and every Mason has a right to expect at the hand of his fellow-men. I am sure that those who have done their work so well are an honour to the Grand Lodge and to the Craft. I will not make invidious distinctions—I will not name a single Mason; but I point to the men on my right hand as an example and specimen of them. Men like them are the stew and the sinew of Masonry; and out of respect to all such brethren, let us drink "The Health of the Deputy Grand Master, the Right Hon. Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the Grand Officers," and I couple with that toast the name of Bro. Jennings, who is among us.

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, and a glee, "Spring's delight," was given by the musical brethren.

Bro. JENNINGS,—Brethren, the kind manner in which you received the toast which our excellent W.M. so feelingly submitted to you was an evidence to us that he had, with that usual skill which he possesses, by some means or another, happened to strike the precisely correct chord. We happen to know, sitting so near to him as we do on this occasion, that unfortunately his presence with us to-night is the result of a great effort on his part, and his detention I know is a matter of serious consequence to him in his domestic position (hear); and under these circumstances I am quite sure you will excuse me if I do not dilate to any extent on the toast which has lately been submitted to you. The assurance that the most anxious feelings of all those whom the rulers of the Craft have honoured with distinction—that their greatest anxiety on all occasions is to render the best services to the brethren and Craft, I need not proclaim; and I do not know that any better evidence can be given of the affectionate anxiety of those who have laboured for years for the welfare of the Craft than their presence on an occasion of this kind. For it is here that there exists among us valuable preceptors, those invaluable recipients, and those kindly promulgators of all our mysteries and all our arts, that enable us old men to learn a great deal, and to benefit by the information

we derive from them in the present and in our younger days. I can only say that the Grand Officers present feel deeply indebted to you for the kind manner in which you have received the toast, and I assure you that nothing affords them more perfect satisfaction than having the honour of joining in assemblages like that of this evening. We beg to thank you most sincerely. It remains only for me to thank you on the part of the Earl de Grey and Ripon. To say anything about him would be an act of presumption on my part. Everything about him is well known to you; his worth is too great, too well known, to justify me in making any remarks about him. I beg leave again to thank you for the honour you have done us.

The CHAIRMAN,—Brethren, I rise to propose to you the toast of the evening. (Hear, hear.) For sixteen long years you have been good enough to receive me into the chair which I now occupy. I am sure you will pardon me if, to-night, I ask you to let me, instead of making a speech, do that which we have occasionally done—talk to you in a kind of colloquial spirit, and forget that I am making a speech. (Hear, hear.) I have to propose to you, "Success to the Stability Lodge of Instruction, and Long Life, Health, and Prosperity to our worthy Preceptor, Bro. Muggerridge." (Applause.) There was no need of that kindly cheer to tell me that the toast which I am now proposing to you would be received by all of you with a cordial and sincere welcome. The worth of the good man who sits on my left is known to us all. (Hear, hear.) The intelligent, the accurate, and the modest manner in which he does his work, is a matter of admiration to us all. If I dare venture to say anything, I would say that, if it were possible, our good Preceptor has improved even upon himself; for I think you will all agree with me that the mode and manner in which he delivered the great lecture this evening was worthy of your greatest admiration. (Hear, hear.) I am sure that every individual who now hears me will agree with me in saying that he never heard that lecture delivered with more feeling, with more heart, more accuracy, more thought, more eloquence than he heard it to-night. I regret exceedingly that I was not present to hear the working of the other brethren. I have heard it before; and I feel from what I know of them that they worked it admirably. My knowledge is derived from a period of service to which I look back with great satisfaction—the days in which I worked in this lodge; and I hope I shall never forget the days when I began as a Junior Deacon, as the lowest on the steps of the ladder, when I worked under our good and lamented friend, Bro. Thomson. I would have been present, but there were many reasons for my absence. I will not refer to others than the one I am going to give you; and I think that is one which you will all say is sufficient, and which will be marked as the most interesting event which can occur in Masonry. You all know that we have been building the first wing of a great hall, in which are to be solemnised our ancient Masonic rites. You all know the principle upon which we have laboured; you all know that we have endeavoured to separate our lodges from the influence of tavern associations; you all know the great desirability of making Freemasons now take that great and dignified position which it ought to assume; you all know that the Grand Lodge of England is the most wealthy, the most influential, the most numerous lodge in the universe; you know that the Grand Lodge of England numbers among its members the greatest in the land, and the greatest in Europe, besides which, we give the example of Masonry to all Europe; they take their work from us, and surely the time had long since arrived when we should have separated ourselves and the head quarters of Masonry from tavern influence. Assisted by the brethren, I have been labouring for years to build for ourselves out of our superfluity—for it will be nothing more than our superfluity—a temple worthy of the art you have practised. You have done it and you are about to enjoy its fruits. The Freemasons' Tavern will be begun to be pulled down on Monday morning next. The first step will be then taken, and your tenants are under the penalty of a forfeiture of their lease if they are not in, and the Freemasons' Tavern pulled down; so that it will then be gone for ever, and you will cease for ever to be named in connection with your tavern. Your place will be known as Freemasons' Hall; it will be the home of Freemasons from all parts of England. You will find there accommodation for every individual Mason. Our lodge rooms will be elaborated and all conveniences will be elaborated; and more than that I venture to predict you will never miss the cost of it. I need hardly tell you that in carrying out an arrangement so great, so noble, so gigantic as this

has been for you, there have been great difficulties surrounding it; inasmuch as there has been no large space of ground to spare, though there has been a large amount of ground to cover, in the centre of which is your present great Hall, in which is your present Tavern, in which is your office. You have told us "Build us a great house, but do not for a moment interfere with the carrying on of the business of this building." We have succeeded. The lodge rooms, the offices, everything is ready and will be occupied by the lodges on Monday next. Then it occurred to us that it ought to have some solemn inauguration on that occasion. I think you will agree with me that your Committee in judging differently have judged rightly. We have thought it unwise to come asking the Craft to dedicate a part only of the building, and that it would be desirable to recommend that the inauguration should be deferred until the time when it is completed and the Craft can be admitted to the whole of their new building. That will take place in ten months. But at the same time we thought we might open a portion of it; and therefore we shall throw open the portion of the new building which is completed to the Craft in general on Monday next, and I confess to you that I had a strong, almost overweening desire that I should in some way participate in the working of the first lodge that should ever be held in it. Turning it over in my mind to see how it could be done, it suddenly struck me that the Emulation Lodge of Improvement would meet on this night. It also struck me that no more suitable opening of the building could be desired than the holding of a Lodge of Instruction there; and no first lodge could be more appropriately held there than the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, and above all that no Freemason could be more popular among the rank of Masonry than Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson. (Great cheering.) Therefore, I took upon myself, in the name of the Committee, to write to Bro. Wilson yesterday, to say that I found that arrangements could be made by which the Lodge of Instruction could be opened there to-night. I have the pleasure to tell you that I was present there before I came here. I have the honour also to tell you that Bro. S. B. Wilson proposed, and it was unanimously decided that I should occupy their chair, and open their lodge for the first time. (Hear, hear.) I could not refuse to accept the honour thus pressed upon me; and I have the pleasure to tell you that the first lodge ever held in the new Freemasons' Hall was held to-night, that it was a lodge of instruction that was opened there, and that I had the honour to preside over that lodge. (Hear, hear.) Now, you will say how can I tell you all this about the new Hall in proposing the health of Bro. Muggeridge? I will tell you. We have here Bro. Wilson, whom I have mentioned, and Bro. Muggeridge, the two men engaged on the same work, who take an equal interest in it, so that mentioning one naturally leads me to mention the other. Mentioning Bro. Wilson, in connection with the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, leads me to mention Bro. Muggeridge. I know that no one will rejoice more than Bro. Muggeridge to hear that a Lodge of Instruction was the first lodge held in Freemasons' Hall. I need hardly tell you that we are indebted to Lodges of Instruction more deeply than to anything else for success in the good work of Masonry. I have pointed that out to you before, but at the risk of being tedious, I will point out again that though a great many men feel it a great bore to attend these lodges, the lessons learnt here sink deeply into their hearts, and they practice afterwards the principles taught within these walls, and they are then disseminated throughout the length and breadth of the land. Bro. Muggeridge, our Preceptor, to you we are indebted for your accurate work, your patient sobriety, your constant exertions on behalf of this lodge, to you our thanks are justly due. I am sure I do no more than express the feelings of this meeting when I say we should thank him for his constant, zealous, and steadfast assistance to this lodge. I give you then, brethren, with all the best wishes of my heart, which I am sure will all join in, "Success to the Stability Lodge of Instruction, and the Health of Bro. Muggeridge." (Cheers.)

The toast was drunk with great warmth, after which Bro. R. Vernon sang "Tom Bowling."

Bro. MUGGERIDGE,—Worshipful President and brethren, in rising to acknowledge the very kind things that our worshipful Chairman has said about me, and the very warm manner in which you have responded to what he said, I assure you I feel highly gratified. Some brethren have made remarks about the very dirty apron that I wear on this occasion—(laughter)—but let me tell you I wear this apron, this badge, with a great

deal of pleasure, because it is the apron that was worn by my instructor in Masonry, Bro. Peter Thomson—(hear, hear)—and I always make a practice of wearing it. It is rather shatterd, it is rather battered, but it is like "the flag that has braved a thousand years." You know the rest. That is the apron that my kind instructor, and the brother that introduced me into Masonry, wore at this Lodge of Instruction. And I can tell you a little more about it—that this particular apron was presented to Bro. Peter Thomson by our worshipful President, Bro. Havers. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN,—Yes; but not in the state in which it is now.

Bro. MUGGERIDGE,—True. Brethren, our worshipful President requests me to say that he did not present it to Bro. Peter Thomson in this state. I remember the particular occasion, for Bro. Peter Thomson said, "Bro. Havers has requested me to lend him my apron, and I did so, and he sent me back this." He also made a point of wearing this at the Lodge of Instruction, and I have done the same since he departed this life, and I feel great pleasure and happiness in doing so. I might tell you something about the size of Bro. Peter Thompson, but I will not do that. (Laughter.) But, brethren, I feel very much gratified at the many kind things our worshipful President has said of me, and also at the very kind manner in which you have responded to his toast. I assure you that I have very little to say on the present occasion, but I cannot help stating to you that I have been connected with this Lodge of Instruction for nearly twenty-six years. (Hear, hear.) Indeed, I joined it the day after I was initiated into Masonry. (Hear, hear.) I need not tell many of the brethren present the great feeling of attachment that I have to this Lodge of Instruction, the great desire I have to see it prosper. As I said just now, I have been a constant attendant at it for nearly twenty-six years, and I hope and trust that I shall live many years—(hear, hear)—to continue to do so. (Cheers.) But I am happy to say that, should any circumstances occur to prevent the accomplishment of this wish, there are many young Masons, and many members not only younger in the Craft than I, but much younger men, who, I have the great satisfaction of stating, are quite qualified to take the position I occupy, to a very considerable extent. I can assure the brethren that the feeling of satisfaction that I express now is not at all lessened by knowing that I have done all that has lain in my power to make the meeting of this evening a success. (Hear, hear.) I have a great many brethren who have assisted me in carrying on the work of this Lodge of Instruction, and I am sure they will continue to do so. (Hear, hear.) Now, brethren, I have one thing to call to your attention. Since we last met we have had a most successful session of Stability Lodge of Instruction. We have had excellent meetings, as far as numbers are concerned, and also as far as good brethren have met there; and during that time we have not only had excellent meetings, but we have also increased our numbers very considerably. One other thing I must not forget; you know our subscriptions are of a very small amount each; but since we last assembled in this room we have had the pleasure of contributing to Masonic Charities—twenty guineas to the Freemasons' Girls' School, and we have also given £5 to the Annuity Fund; making together £26, which I think you will agree with me, considering the small amounts that are paid as subscriptions into this Lodge of Instruction, is accomplishing an object that we may be proud of. (Cheers.) Now, brethren, I have no doubt we shall go on prospering and to prosper. I am very much obliged to you all for the kindness you have manifested to me in acknowledging the last toast, and I can confidently say that if any circumstances should interfere with my attendance on instruction nights, there are so many members of this lodge fit and ready to take my place that it will be very well filled—that is, if I should be prevented from attending; but I trust that may not be the case. (Hear, hear.) I trust I may have the opportunity, should God spare my life, of attending this Lodge of Instruction for many years to come; and I promise you I will do in the future what I have done in the past. I need not tell you that I take a very great interest in it. I have done so, and I shall continue to do so. Worshipful President, I again repeat that I feel gratified by the kind manner in which my health has been proposed and drunk, and that feeling of gratitude is not lessened by the knowledge that I have done all I could do to promote the prosperity of this lodge. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman then vacated the chair, which was occupied during the remainder of the evening by Bro. Jennings.

Bro. JENNINGS said,—Our Bro. Havers, unfortunately, at this moment has a member of his family in such a precarious state of health, that only his affection for this lodge could allow him to spare half an hour to preside here. He was most desirous to pay that compliment to our Preceptor, but he has now been obliged to leave, and I would ask you to bear with me while I inefficiently fill his place. Our Bro. Havers, who has so kindly presided over us for a number of years past, and who has so considerably been with us to-day, has told you somewhat shortly of the great efforts he has made for the benefit of Freemasonry, and for our personal comfort henceforward. (Bro. Jennings here mentioned a portion of the Masonic lessons, and continued.) I think a more able support for Freemasonry than himself has never existed. The work he has done, the efforts he has made, the ingenuity he has displayed, and the talents which he has brought to bear in the interest of the Craft are such as must have endeared him to all brethren who have the happiness to come in contact with him. I might say a great deal in his praise, for my personal acquaintance with him has been of long standing, and we have intimately been connected together. But I look upon myself with reference to that work which he has done, and which is so materially to mark the era of Freemasonry, as a very humble participator in it. It is he who has planned the work—it is he who has gauged it—it is he who has so admirably piled its parts upon each other, and I hope the work will tend to the benefit of the society. It would be unbecoming in me to detain you longer, but I cannot refrain from saying that I think an address which was made recently in the House of Commons is in all its parts very applicable to our esteemed friend. Though I have some indistinct recollection of the words Mr. Disraeli used in speaking of the lamented Mr. Cobden, I can only give you their effect. I think he declared him to be one of the most perfect debaters who had ever sat in the House. That term is certainly applicable to our friend Bro. Havers. He then spoke of him as a logician—being close, perfect, acute, and almost subtle; and he then went on to state that he was fortunate enough to possess that freedom from imagination which guided him always, and prevented him losing sight of the sympathies of those whom he addressed, and by avoiding to force his arguments too strongly, he enabled himself to attain that position, that the addresses which he made were in all instances persuasive and effective. I think I may say the same with respect to Bro. Havers. In quoting the language of so distinguished a statesman as Mr. Disraeli, I think I have spoken more strongly of our Worshipful President than I could possibly have done if I had spoken of him in words of my own.

Bro. Geo. Tedder sang, "the Soldier's Gratitude."

Bro. JENNINGS,—I know it is a matter of serious regret to our excellent President that he was unable to remain for the purpose of proposing what I now submit to you. I recollect that in my scholastic days one of the greatest features in places of education that we sought for, was that of having tutors capable of instructing us. I can also recollect a school I was at where some of the ushers were very foolish fellows and quite incapable of making any impression on the minds of their pupils. As regards the Lodges of Instruction that remark does not apply. It must have been a matter of great gratification to every brother this evening to have the opportunity of witnessing the exertions and the skill evinced by the working brethren. I am quite ready to admit that when I entered into Freemasonry I was most desperately puzzled to know what it could all mean. I know that when I was initiated there was a very good dinner (laughter), and I had a strong impression that that was the heart and soul of Freemasonry. I went on to my passing and raising, and I went on a little way further, and I found myself more mystified than I had been at starting. I even went so far as to ask his late Royal Highness to explain it to me. He told me that I had better go to a Lodge of Instruction if I wanted to find out; and I went and I can assure you I am a very clever fellow now (cheers). I tried to learn, I attended, I studied, and I know all about Freemasonry now; at least, everything that is good, and there is no bad about it. But those who were present must have been very much struck with the talent displayed by those brethren who undertook to be the operatives on this occasion, and I could not help feeling that the doctrine that we are not all operative but speculative Masons has been to-night pitched over-board. It would be difficult to find in any part of the world better working, and we are deeply indebted to those brethren who took part in it and for the information that they

have afforded us. I only trust that the reward of their labours may await them throughout their course in life; and if the kind and affectionate feelings of the brethren can offer any recompense to them for their exertions I believe I can say they have their considerate affection and their grateful thanks. (Cheers.) I beg leave to propose "the Working Brethren, Bros. A. Bryant, T. White, T. M. Norman, D. Law, J. H. Allingham;" and I can only hope and trust that every channel of instruction which may exist from this time to the very extremity of time may be as fortunate and as successful in getting such good and willing tutors as we have had the opportunity of seeing instruct us to-night.

Drank with three times three.

Bro. LAW,—On behalf of the other working brethren and myself permit me to thank you most sincerely for the high honour you have done us in so cordially proposing and responding to the toast of the Working Brethren. I assure you we feel highly honoured by the compliment you have paid to our working brethren, and nothing could be more gratifying to our feelings than to have elicited the approbation of so many distinguished Grand Officers and brethren as have honoured us this evening by their presence. But, Worshipful Master, the influence of your kind approbation will not be confined to the present; and I trust it will be the means of inducing many of our younger brethren to join our different Lodges of Instruction. It is the best, indeed, I would say the only way, by which a Mason can truly qualify himself for the discharge of the important duties he may be called upon to perform in his lodge. Those who avail themselves of the advantages offered by the different Lodges of Instruction will not only reap a rich reward for the study of the science itself, but it will enable them to discharge the duties they may be called for in any lodge over which they may be called to preside. W.M. and brethren, again allow me to return you our own united and sincere thanks. (Cheers.)

Bro. JENNINGS,—Brethren, we talked, a short time ago, about instruction. Part of the instruction I had was about a young woman or a young man looking into a pond and falling in love with his or her own reflection. Now, I can only imagine something of the kind in the toast I am about to give you. Looking at Bro. S. Barton Wilson I see my own reflection, and am very much in love with him; and very good taste, too, you will say. But I recollect, when I first came to study in my future business in life, I was told that "the King's name was a tower of strength," and if anybody attempted to depreciate anything that belonged to Majesty he would be guilty of some species of treason. I do not know what; I do not like to use hard words. I think if it were our Bro. Havers here he might venture to dilate upon the qualities of Stephen Barton Wilson. (Hear, hear.) But I think for one so utterly wanting in the powers of language or in the application of terms as I am, the best mode in which I can propose this toast is to say, "The Stephen Barton Wilson, God bless him!" I now call upon you to drink his health. (Cheers.)

This was done enthusiastically, and a glee, "Merrily goes the bark," was sung.

Bro. WILSON,—Brethren, I do not know whether, in rising to respond to this toast, I ought to accept it individually, or whether I ought to accept it in connection with the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. Our Worshipful Master has not thought proper in his speech to state, or rather to mention, the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, and, therefore, it becomes my difficult duty—

Bro. JENNINGS,—It all arose out of my stupidity. I thought nothing could emulate our Bro. Wilson.

Bro. WILSON,—I think, brethren, I rightly understand. He did intend, as he just now explained to you, to mention the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, and to couple my name in connection with that toast. I feel certainly some diffidence in responding to the toast of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, because I believe there are some brethren in our lodge almost equal to our Bro. Mugeridge. As true and good Masons in the Craft, they have endeavoured to set forth their principles to the best of their abilities; and I think that, in saying that, I am saying our Bro. Mugeridge has exceeded the powers with which he is gifted; but our Emulation brethren are almost equal to himself. With respect to myself, I think in the former part of the evening, in the lodge, you will remember I seconded the proposition which our Chairman thought proper to make, of a vote of thanks for the working of our Bro. Mugeridge. I was sorry that circumstances pre-

vented my attending in the early part of the evening. I do not know whether the word was exactly the one which I ought to have used. Our Bro. Havers, who has been obliged to leave you on the present occasion, has stated to you the reason that made him so late. That also was the reason that prevented my attending sooner, for I was in attendance on Bro. Havers at the inauguration of the new building, otherwise I should certainly have been present at the commencement of the proceedings of this lodge. I feel extremely happy whenever I attend lodges, and Lodges of Instruction, and I am never more happy than when I attend the anniversary of this Lodge of Instruction. I do so, because I know the feelings of Bro. Muggeridge. He sees I do attend here, and I am always received with that kindness which every Mason ought to feel himself proud of. I have for many years been the President of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. They have thought proper to place me in that responsible situation, and from, perhaps, some little degree of zeal which I have exhibited for the interests of the Craft, they have thought proper to continue their approbation of my conduct, and what they have done seems to have been responded to by every Mason that I am in the habit of meeting, and by none more strongly than the brethren of this particular lodge. I, therefore, with great pleasure rise to respond to the toast of "The Emulation Lodge of Improvement, and as long, brethren, as health and strength are continued, I will continue to make the exertions I have made for the benefit of the Craft in general. (Cheers.)

Bro. JENNINGS.—The next toast is the very consolidation of all the virtues of Masonry, and it is a happy feature in connection with this Lodge of Instruction that, although their means were small, they should take care every year to contribute so largely and so liberally as they do to the Masonic Charities. I admit that, so far as I am concerned with the state of the Masonic Charities, I find it to be a problem that I find great difficulty in solving, how is it that the Masonic Charities have progressed in the most enormous degree that they have done within the last few years. We used to think it a very great thing if we could calculate on £500 or £600 as the result of a meeting. If a single brother gives £500 now it is all very well, it is moderate enough; but it is nothing unless you can find your £500 multiplied by six or eight. The Charities are inordinate in their demands, and they are most sensible fellows in getting what they do. One feeling pervades every brother, and that feeling is that our Masonic Charities should flourish. We have the representatives of one of our Charities here to-night, and I am happy to see him here, Bro. Patten. Without making any species of distinction among them by selecting one as the object of my toast, I name them all. I have only named the "Masonic Charities" to ensure the co-operation of everybody present in wishing success to them, and every one will confess it is his bounden duty to make his acknowledgment of the way in which they are supported.

The toast was drunk, and Bro. F. Wallworth sang "Poor Jack."

Bro. PATTEN.—I beg to return the brethren my thanks for the very kind manner in which they have drunk my health in connection with the toast of "the Charities." I will not, in reply, address you brethren, at any length. I may remind you that the Girls' Festival will take place on Wednesday, the 10th May, and our Chairman of this evening, who, since the commencement of our proceedings, has kindly consented to preside on this occasion. In Masonry and out of Masonry I am quite sure that I need not say anything on his behalf to induce you to support him on that occasion. With respect to our noble charities one fact is perfectly certain, they are never satisfied; for I sincerely believe that were the amount subscribed to them double what it is they would all want a little more. If you will come round me and support my charity, however, I promise you I will be satisfied. I earnestly ask you to come and to do for mine what you have so generously done for the other charities. I believe Bro. Binckes is here, and I shall leave it to him to thank you for what you have just done, and what you do once a year for his charity. (Applause.)

Bro. BINCKES.—Brethren I am excessively pleased and very much delighted at finding that at a gathering such as this the Masonic Charities have not been forgotten. When I say this, I do not mean to imply that they ever are forgotten where Masons are assembled; and in the presence of Bro. Jennings there need have been no fear that the claims of those excellent institutions would be forgotten. Under ordinary circumstances I should not have ventured or dared to intrude any

remark of mine after those which have fallen from our excellent Secretary when thanking you on the part of the Girls' School, if that charity only had been alluded to; but I feel that both his and mine are embraced in the toast. It does so happen, from circumstances over which I neither have any control nor wish to have any control, that I stand here to-night most peculiarly and particularly situated. We have this year a second Festival to take place, and that too under circumstances of exigency that I believe no one has any conception of, except those connected with our Institution. So, Bro. Patten will not be angry with me if I am guilty of saying a few words, because I now represent a section of the Charities embraced by the toast, the Boys' School. I stand in the same position now as his predecessor did twelve years ago, when the Girls' School was placed in the same circumstances as the Boys' School is in this year of grace 1865. You will remember that the Girls' School, situated in St. George's-road, at that time inaugurated their new building—in 1852—under the presidency of our esteemed Grand Master. It was a splendidly grand affair, and there was a great gathering of the brethren there; it was a most successful meeting, and the first Masonic Festival in which I had taken part. In this year, 1865, the Boys' School is exactly in that same position. We having struggled through a series of difficulties, have at last achieved, I believe, a proud position; and on the 8th of July, the day fixed by our Grand Master, we shall inaugurate our splendid new building, fitted to accommodate from 150 to 200 boys, by a second, and I hope more successful festival than ever has been held yet in connection with any of our charitable institutions. But for this year I should be thoroughly content if I had said a word merely to express my gratitude, and a word to express my hope for future years that what was done in the last month, when the amount of £4,600 was subscribed by the munificent contributions of the brethren in different part of the country, might be done again. But we are in this crisis that though we have received these magnificent contributions we have spent all our funds in providing for our new building, and are now from £10,000 to £12,000 in debt, that sum being required to defray the cost of the completion of the erection. It is for you to judge whether we have done right, but I ask you to suspend your judgment until you have seen what we have done, and what we have provided for the sons of those brethren in distress; and, mind, what we have done, not only for those brethren who are in distress now but for those who may require your aid in future years—and I submit that there is not one among you who will be surprised by the mention of the amount required to complete that building, if he will only go down and view for himself, who will not say that that building is a credit to the Craft. (Hear, hear.) The Grand Master says (I had his instructions yesterday) that, in answer to our request, he will convene a Special Grand Lodge, to be held on the 8th of July, for the inauguration of that building at Wood Green; and I hope to see him on that occasion surrounded by a large number of brethren. I hope to see gathered round us a board of Stewards not less than five hundred in number, whose contribution of one guinea each will provide the incidental expenses for defraying the cost of that opening. Every steward so giving his name will receive a vote—that is to say, two votes—at the election in October next, and will save the Charity being called upon for the expenses of this opening. The committee and the officers of that Institution confidently rely upon you, brethren—do not let me stagger you or appeal you by what I am going to say—that by the united efforts and exertions that shall be used by our zealous and earnest friends in the metropolis and provinces, something like £10,000 may be realised on that occasion, at once to defray the debt remaining to complete that building, and so free the Institution from the pressure that is now weighing upon it. I know I may be met by you saying, "It may be all very well to mention such a sum as this, £10,000; but who is to contribute to such an expenditure as this?" Let me only ask you to bear with me while I state to you that there are at present less than 3,000 subscribing members on the register of Grand Lodge who have subscribed to the Boys' School something less than £5,000; and I think it is no more than reasonable to expect that out of the other 22,000 who have never given one single sixpence, the sum of £10,000 may be raised. We are either about to achieve a great work deserving of your support, or we are doing something that does not deserve support; you shall be the judges yourselves. We have anticipated the demands of future ages.

(Hear, hear.) We have not built or provided for present requirements only; and I think you will say that in doing what we have done, we have done wisely and done well. We do ask you, then, to help us in this our hour of need, and to come to our support in this our great crisis. I have not, up to this moment, issued more than 25,000 circulars. We have met during the week, of which this is almost the end, and I have received 128 names as Stewards on that occasion; and I am perfectly sanguine, from such a result, that I shall receive very shortly the complement of 500 names of Stewards. What do I do by that? I insure 500 earnest, zealous workers who recognise our need, and who will be bound to do all they can to relieve the Institution of the responsibility; they live in the full faith and sure hope that the Craft at large would endorse what they have done, and relieve them from the responsibility. Not for themselves, not for us; we seek no aggrandisement, no glory for ourselves; we are providing for our sons and your sons; and I say advisedly, without wishing to draw invidious distinctions, or make invidious comparisons,—for I hope success, and the greatest success, may at all times attend all our Masonic Institutions—that if there be one Charity more deserving of your support as Masons than others, it is that one which takes your own lewises, your own sons, and educates them. It is for you to say whether by your means either they shall be qualified to maintain any position that may devolve upon them in after life, or by your neglect be driven into the cold shade of ——— I will not now say what. I ask you now to come forward, because I do not often have, nor shall I have any other occasion, until that Festival occurs of asking you. I wish that this effort shall be so successful that it may relieve me personally, and every member of the Committee under whom, and with whom, it is my pleasure to act, from making any similar appeal for the future. I have laboured hard for the last four or five years to elevate the Boys' School to a position equal to that possessed by our two other great Charities. I have no wish to see it flourish at the expense of our other Charities; but I never will remain satisfied until I have achieved it, the great object of my heart, and placed the Boys' School on an equality with the other Institutions. I do hope that the result of the appeals that have been made for the last three or four years, and will now be made during the next two months, will result in such an accomplishment of my object, that I may be spared the necessity of pressing the claims of the Institution upon you in future years, as I have done since I have been in the position I now so unworthily occupy. What I have done, as I said just now, has been not to elevate myself, but to provide means for the due education and maintenance of those in whom of necessity we must take interest. The Grand Master has most kindly intimated to the Committee his intention to hold on that occasion a special Grand Lodge, of which there will be a programme, and I do hope on the 8th of July to see ourselves surrounded by the brethren, so that we may take our place among Charities free and unencumbered. I want to see the Committee well supported who have the kindness to take the office on themselves; I want to see one united effort made to relieve the Charity of its responsibilities, and I hope to succeed. Without receiving a large accession to that number of Stewards I have already announced, it will be impossible, and I shall, therefore, be deeply grateful to any one who will give me his name. In a meeting like this there is no necessity for urging the claims of a charitable institution, and what I have said has been drawn from me in replying to the toast. I am deeply grateful to the Chairman for proposing, and to you for the kind manner in which you have responded to the toast; and in conclusion let me ask those who have not before been attracted to us to help us on. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. McINTYRE.—I will not detain the brethren long. I am quite sure that you must feel indebted to our Bro. Jennings, for his very great kindness in occupying the chair, that had been occupied by our Bro. Havers, who he so well knew was accustomed to preside over the meetings here, and whom it was so difficult for any man to follow; but I must say that my Bro. Jennings, in taking Bro. Havers' place has left us nothing to desire, nothing to wish for, because we have had one true in heart, good in spirit, an old and true Mason, known and beloved by us all, and who has done his work here this evening in a manner that calls for the highest praise. I promised you I would not detain you long. I feel that no words that I could say would add to your feelings of admiration for the manner in which Bro. Jennings has discharged his

duties. Long life to him, and may we often see him presiding over these assemblies. (Cheers.)

Bro. JENNINGS.—Brethren, a little man, with little powers to speak, and very little means to tell you all he feels, now rises. I beg to thank you most sincerely for the compliment you have paid me, and to assure you that it was only under the earnest solicitation of our excellent and esteemed Bro. Havers that I ventured to hold this position and I thought it was my duty when his domestic affliction was such that he could not remain any longer to comply with his request. Any short coming on my part I apologise for. Every satisfaction I have given I am much obliged to you for receiving; and if any one has received pleasure from my presence I am exceedingly glad of it. We all, I know, have as Masons, hearty and sincere feelings, and without such feelings no society can exist. I beg leave to thank you sincerely.

The proceedings were then brought to a close by Br. Muggerridge insisting on Bro. Woolhams singing "The Arch-Thusa."

## PROVINCIAL.

### DURHAM.

HARTLEPOOL.—*St. Helen's Lodge* (No. 531).—A lodge of instruction, the first in connection with this lodge that has been held for some years, was holden in the Masonic Hall on Thursday, the 20th April. Among those present were Bros. Jas. Greaves, P.M., Prov. G.S.B., and Mayor A. Nathan, S.W.; W. J. Siveright, J.W.; Stonier Leigh, Sec.; H. Sale, J. J. Armstrong, Thos. Forbes, J. Mowbray, &c., and several visitors. The lodge was opened 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. Leigh then delivered the lecture on the first tracing board, and the lodge was finally closed. At refreshment several brethren expressed their pleasure at having been present, and their sense of the great advantages to be derived from attending lodges of instruction, the only regret being that so few see fit to avail themselves of this means of acquiring Masonic knowledge.

### ESSEX.

#### ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE UNITED LODGE (No. 697), COLCHESTER.

The annual festival of this, the Military Lodge of Colchester, was held on Friday, April 21, at the Lodge Room, George Hotel, when Bro. Captain Woodroffe Boyce, 34th Regiment, was installed Worshipful Master, the ceremony being most ably performed by Bro. Peter Matthews, P.M., P. Prov. J.G.W., and Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. for Essex; and the following officers were invested with their respective badges:—Bros. Lieut. Trefrey, S.W.; W. Rule, J.W.; Chas. Carnegie, P.M. Treas.; P. Criche, Sec.; Conyards, S.D.; Kilmurry, J.D.; Jenkinson, I.G.; Witten, Tyler.

At six o'clock the brethren sat down to an elegant banquet served by host Guiver; the newly-installed Worshipful Master presiding, supported by Bros. R. J. Bagshaw, Prov. G.M. for Essex; John Mann, Prov. G. Sec.; Peter Matthews, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Col. Freeling, P.M.; Hall, P.M., &c. There were also present all the officers of the lodge, with Bros. Anderson, H. Joslin, Alexander, Wolverson, Cohen, Pell, and Smith; Cappin P.M.; Darkin, Ralling, Evans, S. Chaplin, Holland, and A. Coppin, representing the Angel Lodge (No. 51); G. Turner, W.M., and J. Franks, Perfect Friendship Lodge, Ipswich; and Bishop, P.M.; Amas, P.M.; Welham, Wymark, and York. Lodge of Hope, Brightlingsea.

The health of the Queen having been drunk with loyal enthusiasm, the leading Masonic toasts were given on the chair, viz., "The Grand Master of England (Earl Zeland);" "The Deputy Grand Master (Earl de Grey and Ripon) and other Grand Officers;" and "The Provincial Grand Master for Essex (Bro. Robt. Bagshaw);" all drunk with Masonic honours.

The Prov. G. MASTER, in acknowledging the compliment, said that one of the most gratifying events of his Mastership had been the formation of this lodge, which he believed had been the means of spreading Masonry in many lands, and especially in India, with which this lodge, and the garrison by which it was chiefly supported, were very intimately connected. They often heard Masonry spoken of as an institution scarcely worthy of consideration; but any one who, like himself, had

resided in India or some other foreign station, could fully testify to the blessed effects of Freemasonry and what a bond of union a Masonic Lodge was to all classes of men. (Hear, hear.) It was the means there of bringing about a most delightful feeling of fraternity; and he was glad to see to-day an illustration of the same spirit—men of different grades in the military service meeting together on the common ground of their Masonic relationship. (Hear, hear.) He assured the W.M. he was most delighted to see him occupying the first position in this lodge, and from what he knew of his (Capt. Boyce's) antecedents he was quite sure he would do ample justice to the duties of that position. (Applause.)

Bro. Colonel FREELING said he had obtained the temporary use of the Master's gavel for a purpose they would all readily anticipate, and in connection with which he called upon them to fill their glasses—bumpers. Among the duties of the Master of a lodge some were pleasant and some, perhaps, the reverse; but to his (Colonel Freeling's) mind, one of the most pleasant of those duties was that which fell to his lot just after his own term of office had expired. Having served his year as Master, according to the English constitution, he (Colonel Freeling) opened his mouth, probably for the last time in this lodge, to propose "The Health of the new Master, Bro. Captain Boyce." (Applause.) There could be but one opinion as to the propriety of the choice the brethren had made upon this occasion; the way in which he had concluded the ceremony of that day showed him to be perfectly competent to undertake the duties he had so solemnly promised to perform, and they had therefore the prospect during the ensuing year of having a perfectly efficient and good Master. (Applause.) He (Col. Freeling) had had the happiness of knowing Capt. Boyce for some time past, and he was sure they could not find anywhere a finer officer, a truer gentleman, or a better man. (Applause.) Might he for one moment advert to what the Worshipful Master had already done for this lodge? One of the first acts on joining it was to propose that the entrance fee to non-commissioned officers should be reduced to the lowest limit consistent with the laws of the constitution. (Hear, hear.) He had evidently studied the matter, and was satisfied that it was not the absence of the wish, but the heaviness of the fees, which prevented non-commissioned officers from becoming Freemasons. (Hear, hear.) He (Colonel Freeling) as Worshipful Master, seconded Captain Boyce's proposition, and no sooner was the alteration known than those who were the objects of it flocked to the lodge to be made Freemasons; and he had had the pleasure, in the course of his year of office of introducing into Masonry some dozen or more of new members, chiefly non-commissioned officers; and he was happy to see in the Junior Warden's chair to-day one of the most respectable of that highly-respectable body. (Applause.) Equality was inculcated on their first entrance into Freemasonry, and they saw to-day that principle in operation—non-commissioned officers filling posts of honour by the side of commissioned officers. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Long might that happy state of things continue; long might this lodge prosper and increase in prosperity from year to year; and might their present Worshipful Master's year of office be even more prosperous than his own had been. (Much applause and Masonic honours.)

The W. MASTER said if Bro. Freeling found the concluding duty of his office the most pleasant, he certainly must confess that he began to experience the difficulties of his position. He felt quite unable to acknowledge as he ought to do the extremely kind manner in which his health had been proposed and drunk, and he must fall back upon his privilege as a soldier of returning thanks in the fewest possible words, and trusting in the future to show his gratitude by deeds. He assured them (as he did not know where to find a better model) he should endeavour during the forthcoming year to conduct the business of the lodge as nearly as possible as his predecessor had done; and in seeking in that way to win their approbation, he was sure he might confidently look for the support of the brethren generally, and particularly of those who had kindly accepted office under him. (Applause.)

The W. MASTER said the subject of the next toast was a brother already well known in this lodge for the valuable services he had from time to time rendered to it, and not the least so on that day. He was sure he need employ no eulogy in proposing "The Health of Bro. Peter Matthews." (Applause and honours.)

Bro. MATTHEWS said from its first consecration he had felt much impressed with the peculiar usefulness of this lodge, be-

cause he had seen it extending the principles of Freemasonry among the ranks of the army both at home and abroad, and he had seen the chair occupied in succession by brave and good men, of whose gallantry their country ought to be proud, and who were endeared to their Masonic brethren by the care, and zeal, and judgment with which they had ruled over their lodge. (Applause.) He need not say that he alluded to Colonel Madywell, Major Burney, Captain Pender, Colonel Freeling, and though last not least, the worthy military brother now in office. (Applause.) Nothing warmed his (Bro. Matthews's) heart so much as to have his name associated with Freemasonry, and to be of any assistance in carrying out a system founded upon the truly Christian principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth. He was proud to be able to bear testimony to the way in which those principles had been carried out in this lodge, where he had seen non-commissioned officers mingling with their superior officers; and he must add that he had been delighted to listen to the truly Masonic speech which they had just heard from Colonel Freeling, and which he was sure would be deeply engraven upon the tablets of their memories. (Applause.) He trusted that this lodge would continue to flourish; would continue to disseminate the principles of Freemasonry from pole to pole; and that they might meet again, when many of them, perhaps, would have travelled the world over, in the same bond of friendship and brotherhood which they were enjoying now. (Applause.)

The PROV. G. MASTER proposed "The Health of Bro. Freeling, the Immediate Past Master," and highly complimented him upon the efficient execution of the duties of the office from which he had just retired. (Applause.)

Colonel FREELING said he had certainly hoped that he had discharged all the duties appertaining to his Mastership, more particularly as the deep sense he entertained of their kindness prevented him from saying what one would wish, and how deeply one felt such an expression of regard from persons with whom he had been associated in the brotherly relationship of a Masonic lodge. (Hear, hear.) It had been his endeavour throughout his period of office to make himself acceptable to the lodge; and he was happy to say that on no occasion on which he had filled the chair did he ever remember a single word of discord or disagreement to have taken place. He did not claim the credit of this himself; he rather attributed it to the good feeling of the members of the lodge, because, of course, though a Master had great powers, he could only work his Lodge with real success when seconded and supported by those who had chosen him to rule over them. (Hear, hear.) The Provincial Grand Master in proposing his health had been good enough to allude to his official connection with this station, now drawing to its close. (Hear, hear.) All he could say was that during the time he had been connected with the Colchester garrison he had always endeavoured to associate himself with those out-door sports and amusements which helped to make up the character of a true Englishman—the sports of the field, the cricket ground, and the racket court. (Applause.) Such sports, he believed, by bringing together men of all classes in friendly intercourse and generous rivalry, helped to promote the stability and the best interests of society generally. (Applause.)

The W. MASTER next proposed "The Health of the Visitors," coupling with it the name of Bro. Franks, P.M., who returned thanks.

The other toasts were "The Healths of the Senior and Junior Wardens;" "The Secretary (Bro. Critcher);" "The Treasurer (Bro. Carnegie, P.M.);" "The Past Masters and Bro. Hall;" "The Press and Bro. Ralling," &c.; and during the evening some excellent songs were sung by Bros. Matthews, Turner, Coppin, Wolverson, Bishop, &c.

#### MONMOUTHSHIRE.

INSTALLATION OF THE W.M. OF THE SILURIAN LODGE (No. 471), NEWPORT.

On Friday, the 21st of April, the members of this lodge and a number of visiting brethren from Cardiff and the Isea Lodge dined at the King's Head Hotel, Newport. The object of the dinner was twofold; 1st, to celebrate the installation of the W.M., Bro. J. Griffiths, and, 2ndly, to afford the opportunity of presenting a testimonial to the Secretary, Bro. Wm. Williams, who has for many years been a most efficient officer of the Silurian, and also fills the office of Prov. G. Sec. It should be stated that the installation dinner merged last

year in the Provincial Grand Lodge banquet, but the arrangement was, it seems, not generally approved of, the members of the Silurian, although they attended the Provincial Grand banquet in large numbers, not being content to forego their own annual lodge dinner. The testimonial, too, afforded an additional reason why the dinner should be held as usual. At four p.m. there was a Lodge of Emergency in the Masonic Hall, where the W.M. officiated. The ceremonies having been duly gone through, and the lodge closed according to the usage of the Craft, the brethren adjourned to the King's Head Hotel, where upwards of fifty sat down to an excellent repast, provided in Bro. Lloyd's best style. Amongst those present were Bros. John Griffiths, W.M. 471, in the chair; Lyne, D. Prov. G.M. for Monmouthshire, and P.M. 471; John Middleton, W.M. 683, and P. Prov. G. Sec. for Lincolnshire; R. B. Evans, P.M. 471, and Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Samuel Coombs, P.M. 471, and P. Prov. S.G.W.; Samuel Hancock, P.M. 471, and Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Wm. Williams, Sec. 471, and Prov. G. Sec.; William Pickford, P.M. and Treas. 471, and Prov. G. Treas.; Rev. Samuel Fox, Chap. 471; Thomas Beayon, P.M. 471, and Prov. G. Purst.; G. W. Jones, B. Thomas, S.W. 471; Wyndham Jones, Prov. G. Steward; William West, P.M. 471, P. Prov. S.G.W.; John Hyndham, P.M. 471; Thomas Allen, P.M. 15, London; H. J. Groves, P.M. 683, and Prov. G. Org.; David Roberts, W.M. Glamorgan Lodge; Thomas G. South, P.M. Glamorgan Lodge, and Prov. J.G.W. for Eastern Division of South Wales; William Gaskell, P.M. Glamorgan Lodge, and Prov. S.G.W. for Eastern Division of South Wales; A. Calder, Thomas Hodge, P. Prov. S.G.W. for Eastern Division of South Wales; William H. Martin, W.M. Bute Lodge; J. Fisher, Sec. Glamorgan Lodge; J. Baker, J. Davies, A. Glass, R. Stephens, Thomas Williams, Sec. 683; J. Maddocks, J.W. 683; J. Villiers, 683; H. J. Parnell, S.D. 471; J. S. Stone, J.D. 471; S. Goss, W. J. Lloyd, L. B. Moore, J. L. Lloyd, G. J. Hands, J. Gobbett, I.G.; T. Wilkes, W. G. Edwards, J. Terry, J. Watkins, E. Whitehall, William Watkins, William Roberts, William Randall, Steward; Thomas Thomas, A. McDonald, J. Sanders, Henry Helyer, William How, and Henry Collier, all of 471; &c.

After the cloth had been removed, the CHAIRMAN proposed in succession, "The Queen and Craft," "The Prince and Princess of Wales and Royal Family," "The M.W. the Grand Master of England, and the R.W. the Deputy Grand Master, and Members of Grand Lodge," all of which toasts were received with due honours.

"The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," coupled with the name of Bros. Lyne and Wyndham Jones, both of whom returned thanks, the former on behalf of the Navy, and the latter for the Volunteers.

"The Bishop and Clergy and the Ministers of all Denominations, coupled with the health of the Rev. Bro. Samuel Fox, Chaplain of the Silurian Lodge."

Bro. the Rev. S. FOX, in responding, referred to Masonry in those prominent features of the institution which lead to morality and religion, and made some happy allusions to the implements and emblems of the Craft. His address was received with loud cheers.

Song by Mr. Groves—"My ancestors were Englishmen."

Bro. LYNE gave "The Visitors, coupled with the name of Bro. Roberts, W.M. of the Glamorgan Lodge, and Bro. Martin, W.M. of the Bute Lodge." In the course of his remarks Bro. Lyne said that Cardiff had its infirmary, whilst Newport had only such an institution in view. He also referred to the Fancy Fair and Ball got up at Newport to obtain the requisite funds for supplying so great a desideratum. He mentioned these things in the hope that their friends from Cardiff, who were always ready to aid in a good work, would assist them on the occasion referred to. (Cheers.)

Bro. ROBERTS, in responding to the toast, acknowledged the hospitality of their Newport brethren.

Bro. MARTIN also returned thanks. The Bute Lodge always regarded the Silurian with feelings of gratitude, inasmuch as they had come to the Silurian for assistance at the commencement, and had been most fraternally treated. The Silurian had been kind enough to attend the opening of the lodge some years ago, and they trusted in another month or so, with the assistance of Bro. Hancock, to have the honour of seeing them at the laying the foundation-stone of their new Masonic Hall. (Cheers.)

Bro. GASKELL being loudly called for, said that there were other brethren connected with the Glamorgan Lodge older than

himself, who could do more justice to the toast. In fact, so long had he heard his own voice in connection with Masonic festivities, that he began to fancy, as he wore into the sere and yellow leaf (a laugh), it was almost time he should sit down quietly and hold his tongue. But nevertheless there was something in Freemasonry which raised one even in old age. (Cheers.) Old as he was in Masonry, he felt constrained to rise to his legs when he heard his name mentioned in connection with their great and glorious cause. He felt it was no common cause—not that which merely brought them together as ordinary men of business, but one which induced men to assemble as brethren (hear, hear) pledged to each other, pledged to support, to befriend, and to assist each other. (Cheers.) He was proud to be a Mason; he had been a Mason for many years. He had advanced in it almost as far as he could go, and this he could say, that the more he knew of it the more he appreciated it. He was satisfied of this each day of his life, and it was a feeling which grew upon him, viz., that if he or any other man became a good Mason he could not fail to become a good man. And if he knew anything of the great design of life, it was to become a good man, a useful member of society—one whose honour, probity, uprightness, and general good conduct would be a bright example to his fellow men. (Applause.) Bro. Lyne had said a great deal about Cardiff—almost more than Cardiff deserved. He (Bro. Gaskell) was conversing with a friend on his way from the lodge to the hotel as to how well they had done in Newport. He could not help commending them for their zeal on behalf of Masonry—that noble lodge they had built—it was a credit to the land, a credit to Freemasonry. Looking at their own lodge at Cardiff, he really felt himself rather a small body. (Laughter.) They at Cardiff, however, were delighted to see their Newport friends, who, whether from the Silurian or Isea, had always met them with true feelings of cordiality, which was a *sine qua non* in Freemasonry. (Cheers.) Now that the interchange of festivities had begun it became incumbent to keep those festivities up, and the same remark applied to the companions of the chapter. They would find that the true Masonic feeling, so ably and well represented by every member of the Newport lodges, was thoroughly reciprocated by the lodges at Cardiff. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. SOUTH also acknowledged the compliment.

The CHAIRMAN gave severally, "The Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master," and "The Very Worshipful the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the Members of the Provincial Grand Lodge."

The former toast was acknowledged by Bro. LYNE, and the latter by Bro. COOMBS.

The CHAIRMAN said the time had arrived when, as members of the Silurian Lodge, they should consider themselves very much wanting in the proper discharge of their duty were they not to recognise the services of Bro. W. Williams, the respected Secretary, in a manner more tangible and substantial than by mere words. That brother had faithfully discharged his duties for seventeen years with the utmost credit to himself, and with unmixed satisfaction to the lodge. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Williams (continued the chairman) in addition to the degree of satisfaction which the consciousness of having done your duty will afford, you will be able to point to this testimonial which I am about to present to you, as a recognition of your Masonic worth by your Masonic brethren. I think, Bro. Williams, that you have well earned this token of respect. I trust you may long live to be a comfort to your family, and to continue to render those valuable services to the Silurian Lodge, which you have rendered for so many years—(cheers)—and when you are summoned from this sublunary sphere, may you be admitted into the Grand Lodge above, where the Great Architect alone rules and abides for evermore. On behalf of the officers and brethren of the Silurian Lodge, and a few of the brethren of the Isea Lodge, who have subscribed, I have very great pleasure in presenting you with this service of plate. (Great applause.)

The testimonial consisted of elegant and valuable tea and coffee services, which were supplied by Hunt and Roskell, of 156, New Bond-street, through Bro. Whitehall, silversmith, of Commercial-street, Newport. The coffee-pot bears the following inscription:—"This service was presented to Brother William Williams, as an acknowledgment of his services during 17 years as Secretary of the Silurian Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.—Newport, April, 1865."

Bro. WILLIAMS, who was received with a round of applause, spoke as follows:—Worshipful Master and Brethren,—Permit

me to return to you my most sincere and heartfelt thanks for the very handsome present you have been pleased to make me. I assure you, my thoughts want words, my words their free and honest utterance. By this present I see I have given you satisfaction, and I shall hand down the tea and coffee services with proud satisfaction to my family as a memento of the kindness of my Newport Masonic brethren. I was initiated into Masonry in the Silurian Lodge in December, 1812, and from that hour to this I have held some office or other. Seventeen years I have been your Secretary, and on the first return made after my initiation to the Grand Lodge, I stood as No. 30; now I find on the last return I stand as No. 3, and am now the oldest member of that lodge in this room. During the time I have been your Secretary I find I have been present at 232 initiations. We have held on an average twelve lodges a year, and during the whole of the above period I have been only absent five times. I mention this, that some of my younger brethren may make a point of attending more punctually than hitherto. I know there are honourable exceptions, and that many brothers have come many miles to attend lodge; and for myself I can say, next to attending a place of worship, there is no place on earth I would prefer attending to a Masonic lodge. There you will be taught the duty you owe to the Great Architect of the Universe and to yourself; to your Maker, by never mentioning His name without that awe and reverence which is due from a creature to his Creator; and to yourself, by learning to rule and subdue your passions, to act on the square, and to part on the level with all mankind, but more especially with Masons. There are few matters connected with Masonry in Newport, during the last twenty years, in which I have not taken a part. First and foremost stands our noble hall. Many good Masons, including our highly-respected Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Lyne, Bro. W. W. Morgan, Bro. Floyd Lewis, Bro. Edward Wells, Bro. Pickford, Bro. Collier, Bro. West, Bro. Middleton, Bro. G. W. Jones, and Bro. Hyndman, put their shoulders to the wheel. They elected me their Secretary in August, 1855. I did my best, and the result is, we have a hall second to none out of London. The committee and trustees have managed the affair so admirably, that we are now rapidly paying off the encumbrance thereon, and in a few years, if all is well, we shall ballot for and pay off the shareholders, and then the hall will be ours, free from all debt, except the ground rent, insurance, and repairs. I well recollect the laying the foundation stone of that noble building. It was, indeed, a day of great anxiety to me, but it proved a perfect success, and such a Masonic gathering has never before, or since, been seen in Newport. The consecration of the hall was another important event. The parties then in office thought that, as no Masonic hall had been consecrated in Newport for nearly half-a-century, many might never have the opportunity of seeing the ceremony performed again, and therefore I was instructed to use my best exertions to obtain a large party. Numbers flocked to Newport from east, west, north, and south, and this again was a complete success. The chapter attached to the Silurian Lodge has been revived twice or thrice, and I have always taken my position as one of the Scribes. This office I now hold, I trust, with the approval of the M.E.Z. and the other Principals and companions. Two or three lodges of instruction have been formed from time to time, and I have always lent a helping hand to carry them on. Another is now in progress, and you, Worshipful Master, may book me for any berth from L.G. to the working Secretary. My kind friend, the Very Worshipful the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, very kindly recommended my name to our worthy Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master as a fit and proper person to be appointed Provincial Grand Secretary. I have had the honour of holding that office for twelve months, and last December I was reappointed for another year. It appears to me it is not at all improbable I shall die in harness. I trust the day may be far distant; but as you approve of my services, I shall continue to place them as long as I am able at your disposal. I will not give you the particulars of the trouble I have had with Masonry on the above and various other occasions, but some months I have sent out nearly 500 circulars. This may appear nothing to some brethren, but it really is a matter requiring time and attention, and the reason why I get over so much work is, the members of my family are all Masons at heart, and when I tell them I want such and such things done, they set about helping me right merrily, and everything is completed as soon as possible. And now, Worshipful Master, allow me to congratulate

the brethren on the cordial unanimity existing between the Silurian and Isea Lodges. May it be cemented more and more closely and firmly, and may every spark of ill-feeling, if any ever existed, be extinguished for ever; and brethren I must also congratulate you on having such a good working Mason as our Worshipful Master in the chair. You have also a worthy Immediate Past Master, Bro. R. B. Evans, you have several excellent Past Masters, you have a Treasurer not to be excelled, you admit you have a good Secretary, you have a good Chaplain, good officers, and many good working brothers, and everything to ensure success. I wish you all God speed. Go on and prosper, and if I can aid you in any manner pray command me.

Bro. McDONALD gave "The Health of Brother Coombs," and adverted to the early days of Masonry in Newport. He had known Bro. Coombs working in connection with the Craft in this town for twenty-five years. (Applause.)

Bro. COOMBS having acknowledged, other toasts followed, amongst which were the following:—"The Committee of Management;" "The Chairman;" "The Worshipful Master, Officers, and Brethren of the Silurian Lodge;" "The Worshipful Master, Officers, and Brethren of the Isea Lodge;" "The Ladies;" "The Press;" "To all Poor and Distressed Brethren," &c.

A portrait of Bro. W. Pickford, by Bro. Villiers, artist, of Commercial-street, Newport, was exhibited in the room. The likeness is most striking, and the painting reflects much credit on the artist. The brother is represented in full Masonic costume, as Prov. G. Treasurer. The portrait, which is life size, is from an enlarged photograph, obtained by means of the solar camera.

#### YORKSHIRE (WEST).

##### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

We omitted in our report of the annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge, held April 19th, to give the list of the officers for the ensuing year. They are as follows:—

Bro. Bentley Shaw .....	D. Prov. G.M.
" T. W. Tew .....	Prov. S.G.W.
" Thomas Perkinton .....	" J.G.W.
" Rev. C. E. Camidge .....	" G. Chaplains.
" Rev. A. Smith .....	
" J. G. Berry .....	" G. Treasurer.
" John Freeman .....	" G. Registrar.
" R. R. Nelson .....	" G. Secretary.
" G. H. Westerman .....	" S.G.D.
" Isidor Ahrens .....	" J.G.D.
" John Wordsworth .....	" G. Supt. of Works.
" John Wilson .....	" G. Dir. of Cers.
" Manoah Rhodes .....	" G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.
" William Foster .....	" G. Sword Bearer.
" Jeremiah Rhodes .....	" G. Organist.
" William Patman .....	" G. Purst.
" T. A. Bottomley .....	" G. Assist. Purst.
" J. M. Woodhead .....	" G. Standard Bearer.
" G. Matley Waud .....	" G. Stewards.
" J. D. Oates .....	
" W. Cass .....	
" John Harpin .....	
" J. E. Smith .....	" G. Tyler.
" John Denton .....	
" Frank Aked .....	
" Joshua Lee .....	

SHEFFIELD.—*Centenary of the Britannia Lodge (No. 139).*—On Thursday, the 27th ult., the members of the mystic fraternity assembled at the Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, to commemorate the centenary of the oldest lodge in Sheffield. This auspicious event would have been celebrated on the 19th inst., but was deferred to enable the brethren to assist their Prov. G.M., Earl de Grey and Ripon, to lay the foundation stone of a new Mechanics' Institution at Huddersfield on that day. The lodge was opened at four o'clock, and addresses were delivered by Bros. Bentley Shaw, of Huddersfield, D. Prov. G.M. of West Yorkshire; Wm. Short, W.M.; Major Webster, P. Prov. G. Reg.; William Longden, P. Prov. J.G.D.; and others. Bro. Wm. White, Jun., P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., also read an interesting paper, in which he traced the history of the lodge from its foundation, April 19th, 1765, to the present time, giving copious extracts from the minute books, which have all been carefully preserved, and pointing out the



great value of a connected series of records of this description, for not only do these minutes give a vast amount of information relative to the progress of Masonry in Sheffield, Rotherham, Worksop, Barnsley, York, and other places, but they shed much light upon the history of the town itself, and illustrate the lives of some of those men who have in former times played a conspicuous part in local affairs. After the closing of the lodge a large number of the members of the Craft assembled at the Black Swan Hotel, under the presidency of Bro. Wm. Short, W.M., who was supported by all the brethren named above, and by Bros. G. Stewart, P. Prov. G. Org.; T. Shipton, W.M. Scarsdale Lodge, Chesterfield; E. Farrar, W.M. Phoenix Lodge, Rotherham; the Rev. P. Browne, M.A.; Arnison, W.M. Royal Brunswick Lodge, Sheffield; Hay, P.M.; Drury, P.M.; Garnet, S.W.; and many visiting brethren. A tempting repast was placed on the table by Bro. Morris, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to with great enthusiasm, and agreeably interspersed with appropriate music. The M.W. Grand Master has granted a warrant to the members of the Britannia Lodge, authorising them to wear a centenary jewel of very beautiful design, commemorative of this event.

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

METROPOLITAN.

MEETING OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL OF THE XXXIII<sup>o</sup>.

The Supreme Grand Council of the 33<sup>o</sup> held a meeting at the London Coffee-house, Ludgate-hill, on Thursday, the 27th of April, when the Reverend William Henry Wentworth Atkins Bowyer, Rector of Clapham, and Thomas Willis Fleming, Provincial Grand Master of the Isle of Wight, were installed SS. GG. II. GG. On the same day the Ill. Bros. W. Smith, C.E., and C. J. Banister, were advanced to the 31<sup>o</sup>. On Friday, the 28th, the Supreme Council held a meeting of brethren of the 30<sup>o</sup>. There were present Dr. H. B. Leeson, M. P. Sov. G. Com.; Lieut.-Col. H. A. Bowyer, Lieut. G. Com.; H. G. Vernon, G. Treas. Gen.; Capt. N. G. Philips, H.E.; Rev. W. H. A. W. Bowyer, H.E.; and C. J. Yigne, retired 33<sup>o</sup>. Dr. Winslow Lewis, 33rd Sec. Gen. Northern division of the United States; Dr. R. H. Goolden, C. Goolden, W. Masefield, R. Costa, and Hyde Pullen, all of the 32<sup>o</sup>; Colonel Goddard, Captain A. H. King, W. Smith, C.E., and W. Bollaert, of the 31<sup>o</sup>; Charles Beaumont, Richard Spencer, Lieut.-Col. Meehan, J. W. Figg, M. H. Shuttleworth, Rev. J. Hill Grice, C. H. Cox, Matthew Cooke, Org. to Sup. G. Council, and several others of the 30<sup>o</sup>. There were eleven Rose Croix candidates present, amongst them the Ex. and Perf. Bros. Salting and Guibelei. Although summoned for four o'clock, it was a quarter past five before the business commenced, and several brethren left, owing to the unwarrantable delay. Dr. Leeson, the M.P. Sov. G. Com., assisted by Bros. Hyde Pullen, and R. Costa, performed the ceremony, after which the usual banquet took place.

ROYAL ARCH.

GRAND CHAPTER.

A quarterly convocation of Grand Chapter was held in the "Zetland," one of the new lodge rooms, on Wednesday last, there being present, Comps. P. H. Hall, acting as Z.; the Rev. J. Huyshe, as H.; F. Pattison, J.; Clarke, E.; Scott, N.; Potter, P. Soj; J. Smith and N. Bradford, Assist. Sojs; Maudslay, Le Veau, Gole, McIntyre, J. Havers, Slight, Savage, Spiers, Young, &c.

The Chapter having been duly opened and the laws of the Grand Chapter read, the minutes of last lodge were read and confirmed.

The appointment of the Grand Officers was next proceeded with and stands as follows:—Earl of Zetland, Z.; the Earl de Grey and Ripon, H.; Comps. J. Havers, J.; Clarke, E.; Roxburgh, N.; Sir M. Hicks Beach, P. Soj; Victor Williamson and A. W. Woods, Assist. Sojs.; S. Tomkins, Treas.; McIntyre,

Reg.; G. Cox, Sword Bearer; J. Merryweather, Standard Bearer; C. Beaumont, Dir. of Cir.; and C. Payne, Janitor.

Comp. Havers being present was installed as third principal.

The Report of the Committee of General Purposes was taken as read and adopted.

The Committee of General Purposes beg to report that they have examined the accounts from the 17th January to the 18th April, 1865, both inclusive, which they find to be as follows:—

Balance 17th January .....	£318	5	2
Subsequent Receipts.....	343	18	6
	£662	3	8
Purchase of £200, Three per Cent. Consols.....	£179	15	0
Disbursements during the Quarter.....	124	9	6
Balance .....	357	19	2
	£662	3	8

which balance is in the hands of Messrs. Willis, Percival, & Co., bankers of the Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Chapter having, at the convocation holden in May last, resolved that Comp. R. W. Little be employed for one year to assist in those duties of the office appertaining to the business of Grand Chapter, the committee recommend that the appointment be made a permanent one, and that Comp. Little be allowed a salary of £25 per annum.

The committee beg also to report that they have received an application from the Chapter of Temperance (No. 169), Rotherhithe, praying for permission to remove to Deptford. The application is in order, and the lodge having given its consent to such proposed removal, the committee recommend that the prayer of the applicants be granted.

The committee beg also to report that they have received the following petitions for new chapters, namely:—

1st. From Companions Albert Schmitt as Z, John Durell as H, Clement Le Sueur as J, and sixteen others, for a chapter to be attached to the Lodge La Cesarée (No. 590), Jersey, to be called the "Cesarée Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Temple, Stopford-road, St. Helier's, Jersey, on the 2nd Thursday in March, June, September, and December.

2nd. From Companions William Henry Smith as Z, William Joseph Whalley as H, Jesse F. Waite as J, and seven others for a chapter to be attached to the Pelham Pillar Lodge (No. 792), Great Grimsby, to be called the "Oliver Chapter," and to meet in Bull Ring-lane, Great Grimsby, on the 3rd Thursday in February, April June, August, October, and December.

3rd. From Companions John Read as Z, James Stevens as H, Joseph Nunn as J, and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Pannure Lodge (No. 720), Brixton, to be called the Pannure Chapter, to meet at the Loughborough Hotel, Loughborough-road, Brixton, on the 2nd Monday in every third month.

4th. From Comps. W. T. Greaves as Z, E. Busher as H, J. Bowes as J, and six others, for a chapter to be attached to the Union Lodge (No. 129), Kendal, to be called the Kendal Castle Chapter, to meet at the Masonic Rooms, Kendal, on the last Friday in the months of March, June, September, and December.

5th.—From Comps. J. G. Richards as Z, S. Chapple as H, R. Loase as J, and eight others, for a chapter to be attached to the Brunswick Lodge (No. 159), Plymouth, to be called the Brunswick Chapter, to meet at the Masonic Hall, Union-road, Plymouth, on the last Wednesday in the months of January, April, July, and October.

The foregoing petitions being in all respects regular, the committee recommend that the prayers thereof be respectively granted.

The committee have also received a petition from Companions Samuel Darley Forbes as Z, George Alexander Gale as H, Joseph Thomas Kirkman as J, and seven others for a chapter to be attached to the Carnarvon Lodge (No. 804), Havant, to be called the Carnarvon Chapter, to meet at the Black Dog Inn, Havant, on the 3rd Tuesday in the months of February, May, August, and November.

This petition is regular in form, and is recommended by the Grand Superintendent of the province, but the sanction of the Carnarvon Lodge does not accompany it. This has been written for, and subject to its being sent in, in sufficient time, the committee recommend that the prayer of the petition be granted.

The committee have likewise received a petition from Comp. Philip Benham as Z, William Adams as H, Cornelius Donaldson as J, and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Prince of Wales' Lodge (No. 1003), Jersey, to be called, the Prince of Wales' Chapter, to meet at the Masonic Temple, Stopford-road, St. Helier's Jersey, on the 2nd Wednesday in the months of February, May, August, and November.

This petition is recommended by the Grand Superintendent of the province, but the name of one of the petitioners has not yet been returned for registration by the chapter in which he was exalted. Subject to the registration of such name before the meeting of the Grand Chapter, the committee recommend that the prayer of the petition be granted.

(Signed) WM. PULTENEY SCOTT, President.

*Freemasons' Hall, London, April 19th, 1895.*

The regular business having been concluded, it was unanimously resolved—That the thanks of this committee are due and are hereby tendered to the Excellent Companion W. Pulteney Scott, the President, for the unremitting attention he has given to all matters of business that have been brought forward during his year of office, as well as for his kind and courteous bearing to all the members.

(Signed) BENJAMIN HEAD,  
Past Grand Sword Bearer.

*Freemasons' Hall, London, April 19th, 1895.*

The various chapters prayed for were granted.

The Committee of General Purposes for the ensuing year was then formed, and consists of the three Grand Principals *ex officio*; Comps. Scott, Head, and Levean, appointed by the G.Z.; and Comps. Savage, Gole, Adlard, Young, Merryweather, and J. Smith elected.

Grand Chapter was then closed in due form.

## MARK MASONRY.

### DEVONSHIRE.

MORICE TOWN, DEVONPORT.—*Lodge St. Aubyn* (No. 61).—A regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 21st ult., at seven o'clock p.m. After the confirmation of the minutes, a ballot was taken for three candidates for advancement. The same being satisfactory, and the candidates in attendance, they were introduced, and advanced to the degree of Mark Master. The ceremony was most effectively worked by the V.W. H. B. Kent, ably assisted by the V.W. Bros. Chapple, P.G. Dir. of Cers.; P. Prov. G. Reg.; and P.M. of 48 and 64; the Senior Warden, who delivered the charge; and the Junior Warden, who explained the symbolism of the working tools. The business of the evening having been brought to a conclusion, the brethren retired to refreshment. Several appropriate toasts were given, and heartily received; that of the Provincial Grand Lodge was responded to by the V.W.

Bros. Chapple, P. Prov. G. Reg., and Heath, Assist. G. Sec. of the province. The S.W. took occasion, in proposing the health of the W.M., to congratulate him on his newly-acquired rank of P.G. Officer, saying he felt assured that the assembled brethren, as well as himself, most sincerely wished him continued health and happiness with his recently-acquired honours.

## IRELAND.

### MONAGHAN.

NEWBLISS LODGE (No. 794).—The members of this very popular lodge held a special meeting in the Town Hall, Newbliss, on Thursday, April 13th, for the purpose of initiating into the mysteries of the Craft a number of persons from the neighbourhood of Eniskerry, County Wicklow, who purpose forming a lodge in that locality. At the hour of three o'clock the lodge was opened in due form, Bro. Andrew K. Robinson, W.M., presiding, the following brethren taking their respective posts on the occasion:—Bros. John Patterson, S.W.; Richard Ker, J.W.; Robert Ker, S.D.; Joseph Crawford, J.D. The ceremony of initiation was ably performed by Bro. Patterson, S.S.I. Clones, and embellished with such an amount of Masonic reading and study as gave the entire proceedings a beauty and sublimity never before known in country lodges. Bros. Quigley, Walker, Buckley, and Richards, were raised to the degree of Master Masons. The ceremony occupied the brethren a considerable time. Labour having concluded, and the time of refreshment having arrived, at the hour of eight o'clock the brethren sat down to dinner, which was served up by Bro. Gillespie in his usual style. Covers were laid for twenty-five, but owing to the invitation of some special guests that number was exceeded. After ample justice being done to the good things so liberally provided, and the cloth being removed, the social part of the evening commenced. The chair was filled by the W.M., Bro. Robinson; the vice-chair by Bro. Richard Crawford, P.M. The following toasts were given:—"The Queen and the Craft," "The Prince and Princess of Wales," "The Duke of Leinster," with full Masonic honours, "Our County Wicklow Brethren who have favoured us with their company," given with honours. Bros. Walker and Buckley returned thanks in very suitable terms. They said they had often heard about the North, but now they could speak of it from experience, as from the kind reception they had received that evening, and the pains taken to make them "all right" both in a Masonic and social point of view, they had nearly made up their minds not to return to the South. Bro. Walker, in conclusion, proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master," to which Bro. Robinson responded in eloquent terms. "The Vice-Chair" was then given and responded to by Bro. Crawford in his usual happy manner. "The Press" came next, which called forth from Bro. Robert Ker a very forcible and eloquent speech bearing on the subject, the delivery of which was very warmly applauded by the brethren. Many other minor toasts having been given and responded to, which called forth some excellent addresses, interspersed with appropriate songs, the evening passed over in a very harmonious and brotherly manner, and at an early hour the concluding toast, "Our next Merry Meeting," was given, when the brethren separated in "love and unity."

## THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen and Royal family remain at Osborne. The Prince and Princess of Wales have returned to Buckingham Palace. On Tuesday their Royal Highnesses visited the Strand Theatre. It has been officially announced that the Duke of Cambridge will accompany the Prince of Wales to Dublin on the occasion of the opening of the International Exhibition in that city. Their Royal Highnesses will arrive in Dublin on Monday next.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the HOUSE OF LORDS on Thursday, the 27th, Lord Russell gave notice of his intention to move an address to the Crown, on Monday, expressing "sorrow and indignation" at the assassination of Mr. Lincoln, and praying her Majesty to convey that expression of feeling to the Govern-

ment of the United States. Lord Derby said every man, woman, and child in the Queen's dominions must reprobate the atrocious murder of Mr. Lincoln, but he hoped that "her Majesty's Government had taken pains to ascertain that there was nothing unusual in the motion that would render it in the slightest degree doubtful whether the unanimous assent of the House could be given to it in point of form." Lord Russell replied that there would be nothing in the form of the motion that would make it in the slightest degree objectionable. In reply to a question from Lord Chelmsford, Lord Russell said the Government continued their exertions on behalf of the English captives in Abyssinia, whose treatment, he added, was not so harsh as it had been represented.—On Friday the Courts of Justice Bills were read a second time, after a good deal of discussion.—On Monday Earl Russell in moving an address to the Crown, praying the Queen to convey to the Government of the United States the sentiments of their lordships upon this dreadful event, said her Majesty had already sent a message of sympathy to the American people, and had moreover despatched an autograph letter to Mrs. Lincoln condoling with that lady upon her husband's lamentable death. His lordship paid a warm tribute to the integrity and the humane and conciliatory disposition of the late President, and expressed a hope that the Administration of his successor would be guided by the same spirit of mercy and forbearance. Lord Derby would have preferred a resolution to a motion for an address, but he entirely concurred in the expression of horror and indignation at the murder of Mr. Lincoln. This feeling was universal in the country, and he trusted that the unanimity of British opinion on this deplorable event would tend to convince the American people of the groundlessness of the idea that England is unfriendly to the United States. It was impossible, he said, to believe that the Confederate authorities approved this great crime, and he looked with confidence to their expressing their detestation and abhorrence of it. After a few remarks from Lord Stratford De Redcliffe, the motion was agreed to. Mr. Hadfield's Abolition of Qualification for Offices Bill was thrown out on the second reading by a majority of 71 to 49.—On Tuesday, Lord Clarendon intimated that the Public Schools Bill would be referred to a Select Committee. The proposal to go into committee on the Courts of Justice Bill was resisted by Lord Redesdale, but on a division the Government obtained a majority, and the various clauses of the measure were agreed to. Several other Bills advanced a stage.—In the HOUSE OF COMMONS on Thursday, Sir G. Grey, on behalf of Lord Palmerston, gave notice of a motion with reference to the Washington tragedy. Mr. Gladstone then rose amidst the loud cheers of a crowded House to make his financial statement. He said the Appropriation Bill passed last year provided for an expenditure of £67,773,000, whereas the actual outlay, omitting that involved in the fortification scheme, which was provided for by terminable annuities, amounted to £66,462,000. The revenue for the year just closed was estimated at £67,128,000, but the actual income had been £70,313,000. There had thus been an excess of revenue over expenditure of close upon four millions. Without following the right honourable gentleman through the elaborate sketch which he gave of the financial history of the country during the past few years, we come to what our readers will regard as, on the whole, the most important part of his statement. With the taxation of the country as it stands at present, he estimates that there would be a surplus, in round numbers, of four millions at the close of the financial year upon which we are now entering. He, therefore, proposes to take 2d. off the income tax, to reduce the tea 6d. per pound, to reduce the fire insurance duty to 1s. 6d. per

cent., and to give malsters the option of paying the malt tax by weight or by measure. Several minor changes are proposed, the effect of the whole being to leave him with a margin of about a quarter of a million for the coming year. Mr. Gladstone's speech was followed by a discussion, in which Mr. Whiteside, Lord John Manners, Sr F. Crossley, and other members took part, the Budget being generally well received.—On Friday, Mr. Dillwyn announced the postponement of the adjourned debate on the Irish Church. A motion for a committee to inquire into the grievances of the outdoor officers of Customs was rejected by a majority of 11; and the House was counted out at twenty-five minutes past seven o'clock.—On Monday, Mr. Gladstone, in reply to a question with reference to the reduction of the sea duty, said it would be impossible to allow a drawback on the stocks of tea in the hands of the retail dealers. Sir George Grey then moved an address on the assassination of Mr. Lincoln precisely similar to that moved in the Upper House by Lord Russell. Mr. Disraeli seconded the motion, and, in the course of a brief speech, sought to "reassure the Americans against any unreasonable panic,"—reminding them that "assassination has never changed the history of the world." The motion was agreed to unanimously.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved the recommittal of the Bank Notes Issue Bill. The Bill did not ask the adoption of any new principle beyond the Act of 1844. It was desirable, however, that the absorption of private issues should go on more rapidly than it did under that Act. It was therefore proposed that the issues should continue for a fixed term of years on certain payments being made, after which Parliament would be free to deal with the subject. Nothing in the Act would, however, affect those banks which did not choose to avail themselves of its provisions. After some discussion the House went into committee, and was occupied for some time with the various clauses and amendments which were proposed.—Mr. Milner Gibson moved the second reading of the Partnership Law Amendment Bill. He said it had been introduced in fulfilment of a pledge given to Mr. Scholefield. It would relax the law of partnership so as to allow a person who lent money to a firm on condition of receiving a portion of the profits to rank as a creditor instead of a partner. Servants might be rewarded by a portion of the profits instead of a fixed salary, and the widow and children of a deceased partner might receive a share of profits without being partners. All of these would, however, be in the position of postponed creditors not to be repaid till all other creditors had been repaid. Mr. J. Peel moved that the Bill be read a second time that day six months. The Bill, he contended, would open the door to fraud. A lengthy debate ensued, and the second reading of the Bill was carried by 126 votes to 39.—The Chelsea Bridge Tolls Abolition Bill was read a second time after a debate by 27 votes to 14.—On Tuesday, Sir George Grey stated, in reply to a question from Mr. Adderley, that the Government was considering the propriety of issuing a new minute to remove the distinction drawn between rural and other schools in the Education Office minute of March, 1861. Captain Jervis moved an address to the Crown, praying for the redress of "the grievances admitted by the commission on the memorials of Indian officers to have arisen by the departure from the assurances given by Parliament by 21st and 22nd of Victoria, cap. 106, and 23rd and 24th of Victoria, cap. 100." Lord Elcho seconded the motion, which was opposed by Sir Charles Wood. The right hon. Baronet contended that the position of the Indian officers whose cause Captain Jervis had espoused was now better than it was be-

fore, and he thought that, on the whole, there was no foundation for the complaints made. After some remarks from Colonel Sykes and Mr. Smollett, the House divided, and the Government was defeated by a majority of 13.—On Wednesday, Mr. Baines moved the second reading of the Borough Franchise Bill. At great length he pointed out the necessity for the measure. The Government had set aside the question of Reform, and it remained for independent members to take it up. He combated the objection that this was not the time to take up such a question when the Parliament was expiring, and showed that a precisely similar course was taken in 1832. Indeed, any Reform Bill must be passed in the last session of Parliament. The Government came into office pledged to a measure of Reform. He alluded to the Willis's Rooms compact, and said that though the urgency of foreign affairs and other matters might form some excuse for the Government not fulfilling their pledges, he could not but think that had the same resolution been manifested in reference to this question which had been shown in respect to the French Treaty, the Budgets, and the repeal of the paper duty, it would have been carried. There had been, however, a want of support in the House on the question, and much apathy out of doors, but he was confident the demand for an extension of the franchise would again be made. He advised the House not to wait for this call but to take advantage of the present period of calm and quiet to pass a measure of Reform. He contended that the £6 franchise would introduce a body of men who were fully to be trusted. He quoted speeches of Mr. Disraeli and Earl Russell, in which they had stated that the working classes were increasing in knowledge, and in support of this he adduced several statistics to show how much more general education was now than formerly.—Mr. Bazley seconded the motion for the second reading.—Lord Elcho moved the previous question. He enlarged upon the apathy out of doors in respect to the measure. It would only admit 240,000 new voters, whereas Lord Derby's Bill would have admitted 500,000. He did not believe that latter measure was required, but as the question was put he had voted for it. On the broad principle he believed it would be unwise to depart from the £10 line laid down by the Reform Bill.—Mr. Black seconded the previous question on the ground that the Bill would encourage improvidence in the working classes.—Mr. Leatham criticised the speech of Lord Elcho, and denied that because Government had not kept its pledges independent members should remain quiet. After some further discussion the debate was adjourned.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The health of the country considerably improved last week. The rate of mortality in the thousand declined in the ten principal towns from 27, which it was in the previous week, to 24. Of these ten towns Bristol is the most healthy, having only 21 deaths in the thousand, and Glasgow is the worst, showing the high rate of 31. London is two below the average. The aggregate mortality in all the ten towns was 2,687 deaths, to which London contributed 1,344, being very little above its ten years' average. The births were 4,162, of which 2,205 were born in the metropolis. The *Gazette* contains a long list of the noblemen and gentlemen appointed by her Majesty to act as commissioners for the Paris Universal Exhibition of 1865. The Prince of Wales is at the head of the body, and among other names are those of the Earl Granville and the Duke of Sutherland.—The weekly return of the Poor-law Board shows a further, though slight, improvement in the cotton manufacturing districts. Comparing the fourth with the third week of the present month, we find that 240 paupers have disappeared

from the union rolls. Eleven unions—namely, Manchester, Ashton, Blackburn, Chorlton, The Fylde, Haslingden, Preston, Salford, Stockport, Warrington, and Wigan—have, together, 890 fewer paupers; six unions show an aggregate increase of 650; while in the remaining eleven unions no change has been experienced. The total number of persons on the poor rates is 86,970, or less than one-third the amount of pauperism in the first week of December, 1862.—We deeply regret to state that Admiral Fitzroy, the well-known meteorologist, committed suicide on Sunday morning. In his post of hydrographer to the Admiralty he has studied, and carried to a considerable degree of accuracy, those prognostications of the weather forty-eight hours in advance, which, transmitted by telegraph along our coasts, has prevented many a shipwreck, and rendered his name a household word throughout the country. It was in the absorbing study of those calculations on which his predictions were founded that, it is feared, he met his death. The over-taxed brain appears to have given way, and, after some days of mental prostration, reason reeled from her throne, and the unfortunate gentleman died by his own hand on Sunday morning last.

AMERICA.—The *China* brought New York advices to the 19th ult. Public attention was absorbed by President Lincoln's assassination, and the measures taken for the apprehension of the murderers; and no disturbances had occurred anywhere throughout the North. John Wilkes Booth had not been apprehended; but a man, supposed to have been the assassin who attempted the lives of Secretary Seward and his sons, had been taken in Washington. Many persons, suspected to be accomplices in the assassination plot, had been arrested in Washington and elsewhere; but most of them had been apparently set at liberty. President Johnson had made a speech, in which he declined to enter into any details of the policy which he would pursue, but declared that traitors ought to be punished. General Sherman's army had occupied Raleigh without opposition. The *Edinburgh* has brought intelligence from New York to the 22nd of April. The late President's funeral had been solemnised in Washington with every imposing circumstance. The remains have been conveyed to Springfield by way of the principal cities, in each of which public honours were paid. Both Mr. Seward and his son are improving. Booth, the assassin, was still at large. A telegram was received in Liverpool on Wednesday stating that Wilkes Booth, the assassin of President Lincoln, had been arrested at Queenstown, where he had landed from the *Edinburgh*. It turns out that a man was arrested who bore a strong resemblance to Booth, but whose name is O'Neill. As soon as the mistake was discovered he was set at liberty.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. P.—We do not agree with you.

W. M. may fight his own quarrels. We will have nothing to do with them.

A REGULAR SUBSCRIBER cannot have read our heading, or he would know that the party alluded to is not the manager of the Magazine. We cannot be held responsible for the braggart boasting of every fool.

SENTORIOUS is altogether wrong, and evidently does not understand what he writes about.

T. P.—Yes; Inigo Jones constituted several lodges in 1607.

O. M. Y.—Certainly not.

NEW WANDSWORTH LODGE.—Report of its consecration in our next.

\*.\* Several communications are unavoidably postponed till next week.