

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1865.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF MASONIC EVENTS DURING 1864.

Bro. Wilhelm Keller, of Giessen, has lately delivered a lecture on the events that took place in the Masonic world during the year 1864, which has been published in the last issues of the *Dreimaurer Zeitung*. This paper gives such a clear and comprehensive outline of the subject, that we feel justified in reproducing it *in toto*. It is, of course, well understood that we give Bro. Keller's opinions for what they are worth, and that we are far from endorsing all his views, which, however *moderate* he may consider them, are utterly at variance with those generally adhered to, at least by all Masonic corporations of this country.

GERMANY.—If anything tends to prove the utter failure of every kind of censure in Masonic matters, it is the supervision that is exercised over Masonic periodical literature, especially in Germany. Being left to itself and looked upon with a suspicious eye, rather than supported by the Grand Lodges, it needed, at the most, but friendly hints to keep it in those strict boundaries conducive to the interests of the Craft. For this very reason, every brother duly qualified ought to be left at liberty to publish his views and opinions, in so far as the engagements he has assumed permit; whereas our literature must always labour under a kind of one-sidedness if nothing but official speeches and salutations issue from the various Grand Lodge offices.

Unfortunately, the suppression of the censure on the part of many Grand Lodges will be altogether out of the question for a long time to come; it is only a few months since the Hanoverian Grand Lodge drew the attention of its members to clause 134 of the statute by which no brother has a right to publish in print anything relating to Masonry, without a written permission from the W.M., and the transgressors were threatened with the application of clause 122, by which the maintenance of the above prescription devolves upon all members jointly; and the Royal York Grand Lodge of Berlin exhorted the lodges of its province to a stricter observance of the statute, the mode of distribution of certain relief funds having been published without previous authority.

These rescripts denote an unmistakeable contempt for all intelligent members of the Craft

Obsolete restrictions, invented in times of darkness, are held over them, as though they wanted a taskmaster to urge them to the observance of their duties. The heads of all Masonic bodies may rest assured that the respectable editors of Masonic periodical publications will never throw their columns open to the unripe productions of incompetent persons.

It is much to be regretted, too, that many Grand Lodges entertain an utterly erroneous view of their position and their rights with reference to the brotherhood, and try to impose upon the latter their own private opinions as a standard for the members' line of conduct, contrary to all laws and traditions. This relates more particularly to the letters-patent of the three Prussian Grand Lodges of the 14th of June, 1864. In this document the Masters and officials of the lodges are requested, in language which does not admit of any misinterpretation, to seriously impress upon all brethren that, in compliance with the engagements they have assumed, they are bound to side with the Government in the existing constitutional conflict, and to abstain from all indiscreet opinions on arrangements made, and decrees issued, by the powers that be. They are thus required to become political partisans conformably to the "very highest" intentions, thus setting aside the most important and irrevocable duties that devolve upon them in their capacity of members of the Craft.

This circular was issued upon a broad hint given by an illustrious brother at Prenzlau, a fact which does not exculpate in the least the time-serving behaviour of these Grand Lodges.

In fact, some of our princely brethren seem to entertain the most peculiar notions on Freemasonry. Instead of looking upon it as a confederation of members enjoying equal rights, and subject to equal duties, they consider it as nothing but a comfortable footstool upon which to rest their fragile limbs. We are alluding to a recent occurrence that took place in a German State capital, when a highly respectable brother, and member of the State legislature, was treated in a most improper manner, and not allowed to retort, he being outside the lodge.

Moreover, to leave nobody in a doubt as to the treatment that those brethren may expect whose endeavours tend towards a confederation of lodges of all rites, the Grand Lodge "Zu den drei Weltkugeln" has issued a notice to its adherents,

that the working out of the new platform is drawing to a close; and at the same time it reprehends the "injudicious zeal" of certain lodges which, it is stated, are so utterly ignorant of the real bases of Freemasonry as to propose to admit to the Craft every honest and upright man, irrespective of religious persuasion. It seems most desirable that the framers of this ukase should at least be made acquainted with the *real foundation* of all Masonry, *i.e.*, the historical obligations, that they may no longer try to impose their individual opinions upon the brotherhood as principles not to be deviated from.

In face of these much to be regretted occurrences it gives us great satisfaction to notice that the Hamburg Grand Lodge has drawn the attention of the Prussian Grand Lodges to the serious objections and the blame they lay themselves open to by their rescripts. Some Prussian lodges have protested against the latter, while others have merely laid them *ad acta*.

Of other Grand Lodges we notice that the Eclectic Grand Lodge has requested its daughters to send in proposals for reform, and has appointed a committee to examine such proposals, and report thereupon. We perceive, also, that the Baireuth Grand Lodge, "Zur Sonne," has taken in hand the revision of its statute, and the Darmstadt Grand Lodge, "Zur Eintracht," has taken steps to do away with the existing inequality of rights amongst the lodges of its province. An incident most remarkable in the German Masonic world is the declaration issued by the Bishop of Munster to the Roman Catholic members of the Cleve and other lodges in this diocese, by which they are refused the administration of the sacraments, unless they break off their connection with the Craft. We notice, furthermore, a circular addressed by the somewhat eccentric Bro. Leutbrecher, of Erlangen, to the uninitiated, requesting them to join him in the formation of a new lodge. This circular elicited a protest from the Libanon Lodge, of the same town. Bro. Leutbrecher's endeavours not having proved altogether unsuccessful, a very peculiar entanglement may arise from this conflict.

The Weissenfels Lodge has developed a very commendable activity throughout the past year; but we are sorry that the same cannot be said of many other lodges. On the other hand, some of those Masonic unions (*Maurerkränzchen*) that have become rather numerous of late, have worked

very successfully. In the Alzei Lodge it is usual for the W.M. to lay on the table a list of Masonic subjects, from which each brother is allowed to select one for a dissertation, without, however, being confined to that list. The W.M. decides as to the admissibility and expediency of the dissertation, with the concurrence of the other officials.

(To be continued.)

CHURCH BELLS: THEIR ANTIQUITIES AND CONNECTION WITH ARCHITECTURE.

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

(Concluded from Page 336.)

Another great difference between bells, ancient and modern, is in their shape. The most ancient bells were very long in the waist, and high in the shoulder, many of them to an exaggerated degree; we now run into the opposite extreme of short waists and flat shoulders. The reason of this change is obviously connected with the art of ringing, short bells being much easier to raise, and taking up less room than bells of the old proportions. The modern founders are all in favour of this change, asserting that the note is identical in both cases, and that metal lying in the waist is useless. If they would be content with saying that it is a more convenient form, both for the pockets of the customers, the ringers, and their own moulds, I should agree with them; but there is no denying that though the note may be identical, the quality of tone is very different, and this is evident on acoustic principles. The waist of a bell is, so to speak, its sound-board. The scientific view of a bell is that of an elastic instrument composed of an infinite number of rings or circles, varying in tone according to their several dimensions, the sound arising from the vibratory motion of all of them when set in motion by the clapper. A bell properly and truly cast, will give the notes of a common chord more or less blended into one, and major or minor according to its height. This fact is easily ascertainable by striking the bell with the hand, or with a stick, in three different places; the note of the bell will form the base where the clapper strikes, and its third and fifth will be given at certain distances above. This flat bell-founding is, I fear, on the increase, and the lips are now so extended that a section of the bell would almost describe an ogee arch; hence we get the same notes at about half the weight of metal employed by our ancestors. I believe this system was first brought out at Downham, late in the last century. It was certainly adopted with Dobson into the White-chapel foundry, for their earlier bells were of a more pleasing shape. Where money, however, is not a

very pressing consideration, we still see the use of earlier and more graceful forms.

As regards weights of tenors, I think some fixed rule should be adopted; for instance, a tenor for a peal, say of ten or twelve in D, should range from 40 cwt. to 50 cwt.; and for a peal of eight, not less than 35 cwt. A tenor in E ought not to carry a peal of more than eight, and should range from 20 cwt. to 35 cwt.; but no one should attempt in E under 20 cwt.; now we sometimes see one as low as 15 cwt. F is the usual tenor for peals of six, and should range from 16 cwt. to 25 cwt.; and G, also available for six, but better for five, should never be under 13 cwt. No higher note should be allowed for the tenor of any peal; nor should any treble be of a higher note than F natural, all the higher ones being harsh and unpleasing. And as we must not go higher than F, neither need we go lower than D. The tone of very heavy bells in the notes of A, B, and C, may be very grand as a sort of bourdon, but they are destitute of a musical effect, besides being impossible to raise for the purpose of ringing. No note is so pleasing to the ear, or so desirable for a tenor as E; even D is inferior to it, though the cost is greatly augmented.

With all care, however, and attention to these suggestions, and others also known only to the bell-founder, another great agency is necessary to perfect one bell. It is a fact, of which there is no gainsaying, that no bell, be it made ever so carefully and skilfully, sounds so well at first as it does after it has been hung some years. There is an atmospheric effect, a process of oxidization, very gradual, which goes on improving and mellowing the quality of tone as years advance. I have noticed this in several instances, and believe it to be an unvarying process. The colour of a bell changes in a few months: a greenish tint and crust come upon it; and after a long course of years the surface becomes slightly uneven, just as we are accustomed to note the process of de-vitrification in ancient painted glass. I believe it is to this process the peculiarly quaint tone of the most ancient bells may be attributed.

Having thus pointed out the limits of a peal, I must add a word or two on the origin of change-ringing. As before stated, it was introduced early in the seventeenth century, and led to a complete revolution in the art of the bell-founder as well as of the hanger. From that time all the heavy chimes of three and four and five were reduced in weight, and multiplied in number, forming peals of six, eight, ten, and twelve. Whole wheels were necessitated in place of the old three-quarter arrangements, and often the still simpler, one of leverage only. King's College, Cambridge, has the honour of having possessed the first ringing peal of five in the kingdom. According to one tradition they were a present from Pope Calixtus III. to the college; according to another, they were taken by Henry V. from some church

in France after the battle of Agincourt, and by him presented to the college: possible the archives of the college may be able to clear up the matter; at any rate, they were the first peal on which the art of change-ringing was tried. They were heavy bells, the tenor being as much as 57 cwt.; whereas the tenor of the present famous peal of the University Church in that town is only 30 cwt., or half the weight. These bells were hung in a wooden tower westward of the present chapel, and are alluded to by Mr. Major, the historian, who, writing about 1518, states that whilst he was of Christ's College, he frequently lay in bed to hear the melody of these bells, which were rung early in the morning on festivals; and, being near the river, was heightened by the reverberation of the water. On taking down of the bell-tower the bells were suffered for many years to remain unused in the ante-chapel, but were sold about the year 1750 to Phelps, the bell-founder of Whitechapel, who melted them down. I suspect their sale had something to do with the erection or of some new college buildings.

Peals of eight were hung in a few churches early in the seventeenth century. In 1677 came out the first book on ringing; and soon after the number of peals was increased to ten, and then to twelve. The first peal of twelve was hung in York Minster in 1681, tenor 53 cwt.; Cirencester, in Gloucestershire, followed next; then St. Bride's, London, in 1718; St. Martin-in-the-Fields, 1726; St. Michael's Cornhill, 1728; St. Saviour's, Southwark, 1735.

The honour of the invention of change-ringing is said to belong to a Mr. Benjamin Anable, who died at an advanced age in 1755. His methods were much improved and enlarged by Mr. Holt. These, together with a Mr. Patrick, have produced some of the most celebrated peals.

In conclusion, this lecture has been for the most part but in outline; time has not allowed me to fill in many a detail which I could have wished. My object, however, has been rather to suggest than to satisfy,—to give you the starting-points from which to prosecute your own researches, as opportunity or inclination may offer; I trust, therefore, it may not fail of some practical effect. Taken as works of art, our bells need a re-infusion of ancient taste; there is no reason why they should not be made as comely in shape and ornamentation as they were in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. There is no want of appreciation amongst our bell-founders of the beautiful lettering, stops, and crosses on many a bell which comes to them, alas! only to be melted down. I have been favoured with the loan of a very beautiful volume, belonging to the Messrs. Mears, containing *fac-similes* of many of the best ancient bells that have been sent to them for recasting, and with only some encouragement from the patrons of art, we should see our bells once again such as we might be proud to own; and not only in the

matter of decoration, but still more in shape, in composition, and consequently in quality of tone, should we push on for improvement. With the scientific knowledge and applications of the present century we ought even to surpass the bell-founding of previous centuries, though we may learn of them to advantage in many things. We have seen great progress in the minor details of art, both sacred and secular, within the last few years; it has arisen in great measure from carefully tracing its sources and investigating first principles. There is much yet to be learned on the subject of bells, much to be done before we can hope to arrive at the perfection which was attained even three centuries ago, when the following inscription could be honestly written:—

“Me melior vere
Non est campana sub ere.”

PERU.

The following is an official circular from the Grand Lodge of Peru:—

East of Lima, 28th March, 1865.

To the M.W. Grand Masters of Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons in the *United States of America* and on the *Continent of Europe*.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIRS AND BRETHREN,—Some time ago we had the honour to inform you that in 1858 and 1860 Peruvian Masonry suffered from a rebellion of the members who composed it, of whom some acknowledging their error, submitted anew to the Grand Orient, and returned to the path of order. Other deluded brethren, giving way to the influence of passion, refused to return to the path of truth, persisting in their irregularity, they sought proselytes, and held in this manner meetings which they designated with the same names as those borne by our own Masonic lodges, so that by these means they might be confused with regular Masons, and escape the inevitable consequences of their temerity, and the marked reprobation with which the Grand Masonic powers, which are in our correspondence, have regarded their rebellion.

These misled brethren can no longer progress without submitting to order; and to give a further proof of the morality of our Masonic principles, they endeavour to find the most appropriate mode to avoid being repulsed by those who know them; and before submitting, as they ought, to the Regular Grand Orient, the mother of Peruvian Masonry—they separate themselves even more, and in distant parts attempt to abuse the good faith of our brethren, in order that, although irregular, they may become recognised, and to scandalise, if it were possible, with their audacity, the origin of their Masonic exclusion.

It having come to my knowledge that some of the said brethren may endeavour to surprise your vigilance with petitions *anti-Masonic* and *irregular*, it is my duty to make you acquainted with such proceedings, in order that following the right and usual course, of which your Grand Lodges have given so many proofs, you may reject any application of a Masonic character that they may address to you from any of the Orients of Peru, which has not the constitutional

recommendation and certificate of regularity, which can *only* be given by the *Regular Craft Lodges* in this city and confirmed by the GRAND ORIENT, over which I have the honour to preside.

Accept, Most Worshipful Brethren, the fervent wishes of this Orient for the prosperity of those Grand Lodges over which you so worthily preside, and the fraternal regards with which I subscribe myself,

Your humble brother,

The Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Peru,
(Signed) F. J. MARIATEGUI (rubrica).

Sealed and certified
(Signed) R. ROSAS MORALES (rubrica),
Grand Secretary.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

COUNT ZINZENDORF.

Nicolas Louis, Count Zinzendorf, founder of the Religious Community, called in Germany “Herrnhuters,” was born in 1700, and died in 1760. The ensuing extract is sent to the FREEMASONS’ MAGAZINE, in compliance with the request of a brother whom I know to be what he professes, since his initiation, one of its constant readers: “En 1741, Zinzendorf se rendit en Angleterre, où il fit beaucoup de Prosélytes. Il aurait bien voulu que Wesley, l’un des fondateurs du Méthodisme, se réunit aux Herrnhuters, mais ses tentatives furent infructueuses. Aucun des deux ne pouvait se résigner à renoncer au doux plaisir de commander à un nombreux parti, et de lui imposer son nom.”—*Biog. Univ.*, Tome 52, page 367. Davernoy’s “Life of Zinzendorf,” published in 1793, speaks, as I have been told, of his connection with Freemasonry. I do not remember ever to have seen the work.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

MASONIC FUNERALS.

In reply to “Z. A. Z.,” who inquires respecting the usages at Masonic funerals, I beg to refer him to accounts of such ceremonies conducted under different circumstances, drawn up by myself, and which he will find in the following numbers of the FREEMASONS’ MAGAZINE. From these “Z. A. Z.” will probably obtain all the information he requires:—March 30, 1859, page 622; March 3, 1860, page 178; February 4, 1865, page 87. One sent herewith for publication will be found in another column.—H. H.—Jersey, May 6, 1865.

THE BRETHREN IN TIME OF WAR.

In a letter from my son Francis (who had been made a M.M. in England), now in the service of the Federal Government, on board the U.S. steamer *Parke*, under the orders of General Butler, dated April 10th, he says:—“While laying in the Appomatox River, a number of Masons applied to General Butler for permission to form a Lodge of Instruction, which he granted, and also to build a lodge, for which he sent us timber from the saw mills; so you see we have not been idle, although in front of the enemy. We meet every Thursday evening. It has been of great benefit to us, as we are all likely to get a little instruction.”—J. How.

FANCY PORTRAIT OF A FREEMASON.

I observed in "Notes and Queries," a week or two since, "S. H." inquiring who was the writer of a "fancy portrait of a Freemason," as he called it. I was not aware the lines quoted had anything to do with Masonry. They certainly form part of Butler's description of Hudibras, and commence:—

"In mathematics he was greater
Than Tycho Brahe, or Erra Pater,
For he by Geom wanted weight;
And wisely tell what hour o' the day
The clock does strike by Algebra."

It was written, I believe, before the year 1660. Though I know many Masons claim as brothers in the mystic art any one who has made a stir in the world, I did not know Sir Hudibras was enrolled in the number.—SPONIER LEIGH.

BARON BIELFIELD.

What was the Baron Biefield who Mr. Carlyle ridicules for his Masonry in his Frederick the Great?—STUDENS.—[He was Secretary of Legation to the King of Prussia, Preceptor to Prince Ferdinand of Prussia, and Chancellor of the Universities of Prussia. He published a series of *Letters* which, in his day, were thought very highly of. Among them was one, addressed to a lady, giving his "Reasons for having become a Freemason."]

"FATHER OF ALL."

Where do the lines "Father of All," used in the Royal Arch ceremony, come from?—ASST. SOJ.—[They are from Pope's "Universal Prayer," the whole stanza reading thus:—

"Father of all! in every age,
In every clime ador'd;
By saint, by savage, and by sage,
Jehovah, Jove, or Lord!
To Thee, whose temple is all space,
Whose altar, earth, sea, skies,
One chorus let all being raise,
All nature's incense rise!"]

APPENDIX TO THE BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS.

In 1776 there was an *Appendix to the Book of Constitutions* printed. What did it contain?—ANCIENT LANDMARK.

MASONIC ESSAYS.

Feeling desirous to write a Masonic essay or two for my lodge, I should be glad to know some of the least discussed subjects on which I could treat. Please oblige by naming some and assist—AN EMBRYO ESSAYIST.—[There are so many that the difficulty is not to find subjects, but to know to what class our correspondent can best turn his attention. The history of Freemasonry has been treated of so repeatedly that—with one exception, a full and complete work based on documentary evidence—it would be a superfluous task to attempt it, and yet, contradictory as it may appear to say so, there is so much historical matter, connected with the Order, which will serve for careful examination and discussion that the mere history itself is an inexhaustible mine only requiring ardent and competent workers to bring its wonders to light. Historical essays may be written on the origin of Freemasonry. In such books as we possess this is treated pretty much after the fashion

of every author's fancy and various ideal conjectures are put forward as so many facts. Take, for instance, the building of King Solomon's Temple. Is it possible to show that the Craft really originated there? Turn to the Egyptian dynasties and find what the Ptolomys knew of it. Come down to the middle ages and see its various forms in them. Show how it was the precursor of the Reformation. Seek out its connection with the actors and events of the French Revolution. Enquire the connection the mystics and alchemists had with it. Trace its Eastern origin and its advent to Europe by the Crusades. Examine its bearing upon mesmerism and Illuminati. Trace its development by the works of the philosophers and poets of Europe from the year 1100. Compare the Vedas, Zend-Avesta, and Druidical monuments with the theory of the worship of the sun and show its affinity with these. Take the subject as a real cosmopolitanism—not in the sectarian spirit of English Freemasons—and evolve from it its bearings on the greatest historical events of the world. These, and hundreds of other, inquiries naturally suggest themselves to every thinking brother. If you choose the ethical portion there is no better subject than the utter departure of the spirit of the Order from 1721 to 1813. The religious aspect of Freemasonry, too, is particularly interesting, but the universality advocates would be deeply offended if you told them a thousandth part of the truth, therefore—as Freemasons don't care for such inquiries, but approve, only, whatever or whoever tells them they are the most ancient and the very best of all societies—we trust, for your own sake, you will not attempt that. The knowledge we ought to cultivate would be equally good as a theme but quite as discouraging for any one to attempt. In a word, if you can put together any string of platitudes which will tickle the ear—never mind their logical accuracy—and assert that Freemasonry is the most charitable, *i.e.*, money giving, institution on earth and that English Freemasons are at the head of poll, in this respect, you may be listened to by self-applauding minds, but to teach, enlighten, or provoke inquiry on religious, moral, or instructive grounds we can only say our experience counsels you, in the advice of Punch to those about to marry—"don't."]

LODGES OF PROMULGATION AND RECONCILIATION.

Is there any difference between the lodges of Promulgation and Reconciliation, or are they one and the same?—D.—[The lodge of Promulgation was constituted in 1809 for the purpose of giving effect to an injunction of the Grand (Modern) Lodge, which had enjoined a strict adherence to the Ancient Landmarks of the Order. The lodge of Reconciliation was held in 1813 to examine the differences of Ritual between the Ancient and Modern Freemasons which resulted in the union of both sections under the title of the United Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of England.]

FREEMASON.

In *Notes and Queries* for April 22nd, the word Freemason is thus noticed. "The passage I quoted from Cavdray's *Similies* ('As the free-mason heweth the hard stones,' &c.), I find is taken from a work of Werdmuller's, translated by Bishop Coverdale, and published in 1550, under the title of *A Spiritual and*

most Precious Perle, &c. It occurs at the close of chapter vi. It is a pity that Cawdray does not give any references. He borrows largely from Werdmuller, whose writings abound in similies.—*EIRIONNACH.*"

LODGE TRIAL.

When, and where, was the last Masonic trial, of a brother by his lodge, held in England?—*LEX MASONICA.*

BRO. MARTIN CLARE.

What is known of the family of Bro. Martin Clare who was once a Deputy Grand Master of the Craft?—*C. A.*

LORD BYRON.

Was the poet Lord Byron ever made a Mason? There was one of his predecessors who was Grand Master and his wife's father, Sir Ralph Millbanke, Bart., was Prov. G. Master for Durham.—*P. Z.*

THE BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS.

Wanted, a list of the various editions of the *Book of Constitutions*, specifying the dates and sizes of the different issues, by—*W. S.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

MASONIC LAWS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In your number of April 29th, you kindly inserted some remarks on the present mode of appointment of the Grand Master of England and of Provincial Grand Masters. The more this matter is considered in its influence on the Craft, the more apparent does the desirability of a change in the arrangements become, especially as to the latter office, where the objections are far greater than in the other case. Allow me to renew the subject, with a view to bring it more prominently before the notice of members of Grand Lodge. The appointment of Deputy Grand Master rests with the Grand Master, who, being by custom re-elected annually, may continue the same brother as his Deputy during his whole term, thus depriving many deserving brethren of the honour, since in his appointment the Craft generally have no voice. A limitation in the tenure of office is desirable here also. Certainly the Institution has not suffered in this respect, because frequent changes of the Deputy have been made, and the Grand Lodge has the remedy in its own hands, having the power to change the Grand Master annually. Such, however, is not the case in the provinces, where, as before stated, the members have no voice in the election of their head, who may continue in office many years in succession, notwithstanding incapacity, impropriety, or unpopularity, which, though deeply felt in the district, are with the greatest difficulty, if they can be at all, made apparent to the Grand Master, with whom the appointment rests, owing to his want of local knowledge, distance, and the obstructions in the way of transmitting evidence perhaps several hundred miles. Besides, remonstrances of this kind are always objectionable and painful, the necessity for which would be obviated

by setting a limit to a Prov. Grand Master's tenure of office.

Farther, however, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master is chosen by the Provincial Grand Master, and power conferred upon him too by patent, to be held during pleasure. In this case an obnoxious person may be forced upon the Craft, and maintained there against their will. It must be admitted that it is in human nature, for any one, however well disposed, who rules long over others with almost practical irresponsibility, gradually to assume powers for which he has no authority, nor would it be difficult to prove that this tendency has been manifested, thus rendering those who were free before initiation far otherwise after it; for though there is an appeal to Grand Lodge against sentences of punishment, the fear of it is remote in parts distant from London, and arbitrary power may be exercised in many ways without resorting to such a step. It is urged, therefore, that if he be desirable to change the Provincial Grand Master periodically, say triennially, as before suggested, the same holds good with regard to his Deputy. Permit me to mention two instances where a change would have been desirable, premising that the object of the appointment of a Deputy is, it is conceived, to relieve the Provincial Grand Master from the more active portions of his duties, frequently to visit the lodges, personally to ascertain their condition, and to report thereon to the Provincial Grand Master. In the first case, the Deputy was a most energetic, intelligent brother in high social position, who fully acted up to the requirements, but his visits to private lodges were dreaded, inasmuch as the brethren never knew when they would be released from his long addresses of an hour's duration or more, very good, but tiresome from the repetition, and personal respect hardly restrained want of courtesy. Here was an excess of zeal, but finding it not palatable, he had the good taste to resign, to the satisfaction of the brethren. The other case to which allusion has been made is one of opposite character, in which an elderly brother is maintained in his place as Deputy Provincial Grand Master, who never does anything whatever, except take the right of the chair at the annual meetings of Provincial Grand Lodge. He evinces no lively interest in the province, never visits any lodge except that of which he is a member, and that but rarely. He is in fact a mere nonentity, physically incapable of much effort, and if his place were vacant the loss would not be felt; yet he retains the honour, and will not resign. It is true that the Provincial Grand Master requires no services from him, doing all himself, and well would it be if it were otherwise, and if he interfered less. In fact, in the one case there is an inferior officer who does nothing, and a superior one who does too much. Yet there is no power to remove either—want of respect for both is the result, the province suffers, and the Craft is in discredit with those who do not belong to it, many of whom are prevented from joining by what they witness. It is indeed, high time for these things to be seriously considered, and for the laws to be so amended as to allow of periodical changes which would conduce to the maintenance of kindly feeling, and to the preferment in turn to posts of honour of those who have merited it.

Yours fraternally,

May 3rd, 1865.

P.M.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

ROYAL FREEMASONS' SCHOOL FOR FEMALE CHILDREN.

The seventy-seventh anniversary festival of this Institution was celebrated on Wednesday evening, May 10th, at the Freemasons' Hall. Lord De Tabley, P.G.W., and Prov. G.M. for Cheshire (recently appointed in the room of Viscount Combermere, *G.C.B.*, deceased) took the chair in the absence of Bro. John Havers, P.G.W., who was prevented from attending in consequence of a severe domestic affliction, supported by Bros. Colonel Bowyer, Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire; Spiers, D. Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire; Llewellyn Evans, President of the Board of General Purposes; Gray Clarke, G. Sec.; John Emmaus, G. Purst.; Hopwood, President of the Colonial Board; Lewis Crombie, Cox, Symonds, Udall, Bradford, and Parkins, P.G.D.'s; Binckes, Secretary of the Boys' School; Patten, Secretary of the Girls' School; the Rev. Joseph Huyshe, P.G. Chap., and D. Prov. G.M. for Devonshire; Dr. Hogg, P.M. 171; Thos. Wilson, W.M. 569; Peter Matthews, P.M., and Sec. 569; Watson, P.M. 23; Farnfield, Assist. G. Sec.; Brydges, D. Prov. G.M. Somersetshire; Hyde Pullen, P.G.D.; Muggeridge, P.M. 217; J. R. Sheen, P.M. 186; and about thirty brethren of the Fitzroy Lodge, headed by Bros. Thos. Wilson, W.M.; Watson, S.W.; and Maddick, J.W., who all appeared in the scarlet or blue uniform of the Hon. Artillery Company; and their appearance in such numbers formed a marked feature amongst those assembled. They received the first honour from the noble Chairman at the banquet table, but had to acknowledge many similar compliments in the course of the evening. There were, besides, Masters and Wardens of other lodges, amounting altogether to about 300 in number.

The banquet was of the usual style proverbial with Bros. Elkington and Shrewsbury, and although the catering has descended to the new company, it has in no way suffered by the alteration, for as far as we heard it gave very general satisfaction.

The cloth having been drawn, grace was sung by the professional singers.

The CHAIRMAN soon afterwards rose and alluded, in very feeling terms, to the absence of the talented brother who was to have presided over them upon that occasion, who had been struck down by a severe domestic affliction in the loss of his son, whom in a letter which he (the noble chairman) received yesterday he described as "the light and life of his home;" and in his great affliction he had written to him asking him to take the place which that brother would so worthily have filled that evening. Now, he (the noble chairman) considered that as a Mason his first duty was to render assistance to a brother Mason in distress, he readily complied with his request, as he knew he could confidently rely upon the support of the brethren he saw around him. Having said thus much he begged to propose the toast which was foremost in the heart of every Englishman, as it was the health of the gracious and illustrious lady who occupied the throne of this country, whose example was as powerful as her dominions, and she possessed the esteem of her grateful and loyal subjects. He proposed "The Health of her most Gracious Majesty the Queen." (Loud cheers.)

This was followed by the National Anthem, the solo parts by Bro. George Perren, Miss Palmer, and Madame Parepa.

The CHAIRMAN said he rose to propose "the Health of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family," and in doing so he could but advert to the right worthy way in which his Royal Highness the

Prince of Wales, ever since he came to manhood had been discharging the duties of his exalted position. Whenever duties were to be discharged his Royal Highness was foremost amongst men, whether it was to discharge a public duty or to benefit the sacred cause of charity; and at the present moment he was discharging a public duty in the sister kingdom. He (the chairman) was glad that he had gone to Ireland, as it must prove a great gratification to the loyalty of the country, and would spread abroad a just estimate of his high qualities. He trusted that the day was not far distant when they might hail him as a brother Mason; but whether a Mason or not, as Lord Zetland truly said at the Grand Festival, he was ready to perform or discharge those duties which they as Masons felt themselves proud in performing. He therefore called upon them to drink with enthusiasm the toast which he had proposed.

The toast was very cordially responded to, followed by the quartet "Dormi pur," from "Martha," by Madame Parepa, Miss Palmer, and Bros. George Perren and Allan Young.

The CHAIRMAN said he had again to appeal to the brethren, and he felt assured, from the enthusiastic manner in which the two last toasts he had the honour to propose had been responded to, the one he had then to give would be received with no less cordiality. The toast he had then the honour to propose was "The Health of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, the Right Honourable the Earl of Zetland, Patron and President of the Institution." (Applause.) No words of his were required to recommend that toast, and the enthusiastic way in which it was received spoke volumes, for every one applauded the name of the Earl of Zetland, who for twenty-two years had been their Grand Master. They all united in one sentiment of devotion towards him, and appreciated the ability and kindness with which he had discharged his duties. Without further preface, he would call upon them, by no lip service, but from the bottom of their hearts, to drink the health of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland.

Drunk with immense cheering.

The CHAIRMAN then said that the efficiency of any command depended greatly on the way in which that command was supported by the deputy officers; and he considered that the Craft was very lucky in having in their service as Deputy Grand Master so distinguished a Mason as the Earl de Grey and Ripon. (Cheers.) It was not often that the Craft was honoured by the services of a Cabinet Minister, and it was not often that a Cabinet Minister could devote so much time to the interests of the Craft as the Earl de Grey and Ripon. He asked them to drink "The Health of the Right Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master, the Right Honourable the Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Colonel Bowyer, Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. Colonel BOWYER said,—It was only at that moment that he knew he should have the honour of returning thanks for the toast which their noble brother who presided over them had then proposed. He felt most deeply grateful to the Deputy Grand Master for all the services rendered to the state and still more so for the time he was able to devote to the interests of Freemasonry, as to the Grand Officers who were, in the judgment of the Grand Master, worthy of that honour. They were brethren who were accomplished in the proficiency of the art, and were not only anxious but successful in carrying forward the great principles of Freemasonry and the interests of the Craft. He would not mention all their names, but there was one name he would mention, and that was Bro. Clarke, the Grand Secretary, who rendered important services. As to the

Provincial Grand Masters, modesty prevented him from saying all he would otherwise have said in their favour, but from the condition of the provinces and the prosperity of the Great Charities, and the liberal way in which their country brethren came forward, they would agree with him that although the Provincial Grand Masters did not assemble there in large numbers, that they had done their duty. He thanked the brethren cordially for the toast which he had had the honour of responding to.

When this toast had been disposed of, there followed the most interesting part of the proceedings of the evening. The whole of the children belonging to the School were introduced, and their neat attire and healthy and cheerful appearance bore testimony to the care bestowed upon them, and was one of the happy and practical proofs of the value and excellence of Freemasonry. It was, indeed, a sight which could not be witnessed without strong emotions, when it is known that out of these hundred children many of them are orphans, who are clothed, maintained, and educated, and, as the printed address states, "This institution has preserved numbers of children from the dangers and misfortunes to which females are peculiarly exposed, trained them up in the knowledge and love of virtue and habits of industry, and cultivated the practice of such social, moral, and religious duties, as might best conduce to their temporal welfare and eternal happiness." The address went on to say, "The establishment consists of a matron, a governess, and three assistants; a gardener, whose wife assists in the household duties, and two female servants. An enlarged system of education has for some time past been in operation, and by a recent enactment, children remain in the establishment till sixteen years of age. The number in the School has hitherto been limited to eighty, but accommodation for increasing that number to one hundred has been provided, by building an extra wing, at a cost of upwards of £1,500. This, together with an additional annual outlay of £600 for the maintenance of the twenty additional children, all of whom have been admitted, render it necessary that a special and earnest appeal be made to the Craft for funds to carry out so desirable an object.

"The children, in addition to the customary education which such establishments afford, are employed by turns in all the domestic duties of the house, and great care is taken to make them expert in needlework, so that they may be useful members of society when they leave the School."

The Treasurer, Mr. Benjamin Bond Cabbell, led the procession of the children round the hall with the two smallest children, who, on reaching the part of the dais immediately opposite to the noble Chairman, saluted him in the most graceful manner, the remaining children, two and two, following and saluting in a similar way, the tallest coming last, the stewards, matron, schoolmistresses, and members of the House Committee closing the procession. While the children were marching round the hall they were accompanied by two of their schoolfellows, Campbell and Kate Amelie Abbott Emily Mary, on the pianoforte. Having made a circuit of the hall, the children assembled on the dais, the shortest in front, the stewards ranging themselves behind the Chairman's table, when the children sang with great taste the "Festival hymn."

Bro. SPENCER, the toast-master, then called upon the brethren to fill bumpers for the next toast.

The CHAIRMAN said,—You have rightly, as I think, been called upon to fill a bumper toast, for if ever the assembly I have now the honour to address was willing to drain that bumper to its last drop I am sure it will do so in honour of that Institution, whose seventy-seventh anniversary we are here assembled to celebrate to-day. If anything could inspire

you, brethren, with a desire to promote to the utmost of your power the well being of that Institution, it would be the interesting sight you have just seen within these walls. It is not the first time I have had the honour, on such an occasion as this. I do not forget five years ago, I occupied the proud position of president at the anniversary of the Freemasons' School for Female Children. I now appear, as I have explained to you, the feeble substitute of another. On the last occasion, I remember that I visited the school before the anniversary festival took place. I visited it yesterday also. I will not repeat to you what I said on the former occasion; I will only say I found the same order, the same regularity, the same attention to discipline and to the comfort of the children, and the same cheerfulness and healthiness of the children under the most excellent superintendence of Miss Jarwood as I found before. I am happy to say I found much more—I found that the house since the last occasion on which I was there had been considerably enlarged—a new wing had been built, affording accommodation for more than twenty additional children. When I went there in 1860 the building would only contain 76 children. There are now 102. This has not been done for nothing, for you may be sure the extra accommodation has cost an extra £1,500, which has been paid without encroaching on your trust fund. The extra expense of these twenty children has been £600 a year; and now comes the only painful point in the whole thing. I am told that the subscriptions during the past year have fallen off just £600. I hope that the statement I now make to you, that increased accommodation has been afforded for twenty additional children, will incite the provincial brethren to support the Committee in keeping the School in a state of efficiency, and that we shall be able to meet the expense without encroaching on our funded property. That is what we have to do, and I am convinced that it will be done. The energies of the brethren in the country will not allow this excellent Institution to be otherwise than in a most flourishing state. When last I presided, the lists were larger than ever they were before. The success that may attend us this time I hope will always attend our efforts, and I hope that the tree will bud and blossom, and will produce fruits which shall ripen for you hereafter; and I trust that you will support this valuable Institution. Do not let the sacred cause of charity fail for the want of the advice of that able man whose place I now fill. Let those faces which you have seen plead their cause more eloquently than I can do; and let me express the hope and earnest prayer in which I am sure I am joined by everybody present, that this excellent Institution may flourish and continue in prosperity, and be a credit to the Craft for ever and for ever. Brethren, I now give you "Success to the Royal Freemasons' School for Female Children, and the President and Vice-Presidents of that Institution." (Cheers).

The toast having been most enthusiastically responded to,

Bro. UDALL, P.G.D., and one of the Vice-Presidents of the School, returned thanks on behalf of the President and Vice-Presidents for the manner in which their healths had been drunk, and he said he had no doubt they would have greatly increased subscriptions, for by the brilliant and happy faces of those he saw before him, he was sure the brethren had come to support the charity. He trusted that they would never require their children to be placed in the institution, but if they should they knew they would be attended to as if they had their father, and in conclusion he wished them long life and happiness. (Cheers.)

Bro. PATTEN, Sec., then presented to the Chairman Arabella Bullen Commins to receive from his hands the medal awarded

to her for proficiency in her studies, and a purse containing five guineas given by the Maybury Lodge to be presented to the girl who obtains the highest number of votes as standing highest in the estimation of her schoolfellows.

The CHAIRMAN having placed the ribbon of the medal round her neck and handed to her the purse containing the five guineas, said he had great pleasure in handing them to her and hoped she would ever remember, with feelings of gratitude, her connection with the school. As regarded the purse Arabella Commins had been elected to receive it by her schoolfellows, and with the full approbation of those to whom her education had been entrusted. He trusted that they would all be good girls and then they would be sure to have purses hereafter. (Cheers).

Bro. PATTEN said he begged to introduce to his lordship one of the pupils of the Institution, Emily Blanche Henty, who would tell them a little tale about a spider and a fly.

The little girl was then mounted on a chair, and, with great care and proper emphasis, in a most artless and pleasing manner, recited the well-known little poetic tale of "The Spider and the Fly," and, at the conclusion, there was the most rapturous applause.

The children then sang the evening hymn, "Good night, loved friends and patrons dear," which again elicited great cheering, and they retired.

Bro. PATTEN then read the list of subscriptions, and amongst them were the following:—Phoenix Lodge, £134; St. Alban's, £60 19s.; Industry, £49 17s.; Abbey Lodge, 945, £36 15s.; Panmure, 715, £64 8s. 6d.; Victoria Rifles, £64; Albion, 9, £56 12s.; Neptune, 22, £68 5s.; Percy, 198, £43; Burlington, 96, £164 17s.; Regularity, 91, £52; Bro. Devereux's list £50; Bro. Havers's list, £119 14s.; Colonel Bowyer's list, £56 13s.; Royal Naval, 59, £51 5s.; London, 108, £53 11s.; Cadogan, 162, £100; Fitzroy, 569, £100; the whole subscriptions amounting to £3,459 5s. 9d., with eleven lists to come in.

The CHAIRMAN, in announcing the amount, said he was unable to tell them how heartily he was gratified in finding they had that night the largest subscription the Institution had ever yet received. (Renewed cheering.)

Bro. Colonel BOWYER said it too often fell to him most inadequately to propose the health of the working brother who presided over them at meetings such as they were assembled at on the present occasion. On that occasion it required no eulogium on his part to drink the health of the noble lord in the chair cordially and fraternally. He hoped they would drink the health of the noble lord, and thank him for presiding over them on that occasion. (Cheers.)

The toast was drunk with great cheering.

The CHAIRMAN thanked the brethren for the very kind and fraternal way in which they had drunk his health, and as he had already stated, he would not shrink from his Masonic duty by refusing to aid a brother in distress by taking the place of Bro. Havers on that occasion. At the same time, he was not insensible to the honour of being called upon to preside at such a meeting when they found so many brethren ready to assist in so good a cause. He need not say that his hopes had been fully realised. He thanked them from the bottom of his heart, and he trusted that they would not estimate his thanks by the paucity of his words, but from the depth of feeling that they had inspired. He hoped that they would allow him at the same time to express a confident feeling that it was their wish and prayer that the worthy brother who ought to have stood there that evening might, through the Grand Architect of the Universe, have strength under his present affliction, for he felt assured that his heart was with them although his head was

bowed down with domestic grief. Let them remember what he had done for the Craft. He was proud that he stood in the position of one so high in the Craft, and he thanked them most sincerely for the honour they had done him in drinking his health.

The CHAIRMAN being then compelled to leave, in very suitable terms proposed "The Ladies in the Gallery," with thanks to them for their attendance.

The noble lord then retired, and the chair was taken by Bro. Colonel BOWYER.

Bro. the Rev. J. HUGHES, D.D., said, at the request of the chairman he rose to propose a toast, which was "The other Masonic Charities, and success to them—viz., the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys and the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution." Their excellent charities were the great characteristics of Freemasons. He was well aware at that time of the evening he could not expect to be listened to as he would have been in an earlier part of it, in proposing the charities which had progressed so gloriously every year they lived. He need not tell them that charity was the distinguishing characteristic of Freemasonry, and the mention of it touched a chord of the heart. They might clothe themselves in their habiliments and wear their jewels on their breasts, but if they had not charity, they lost the very jewel of their souls. He asked the brethren to join with him in drinking success to the Masonic Charities, coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Farnfield and Bro. Binckes.

The toast was well received.

Bro. FARNFIELD, Secretary to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, in returning thanks, congratulated the brethren that the three Masonic festivals this year had produced a sum of £12,000.

Bro. BINCKES also returned thanks, and hoped the Craft would support the exceptionable appeal which would be made to them in regard to the Boys' School, which would be opened by the Earl of Zetland on the 8th of July, and trusted that the subscriptions then would free the new institution from any debt upon it.

"The Stewards of the day, with thanks to them for their services," was the next toast given, for which Bro. R. W. Algernon Perkins, P.G.W., returned thanks in an able manner, and the proceedings were brought to a close.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Wilhelm Ganz, P.M. 435, assisted by Madame Parepa, Miss Palmer, Miss Eliza Key (the latter a pupil of the Institution, and who made her *debut* in public on this occasion), and Bros. George Perren and Allan Irving.

Bro. Spencer discharged the duties of toastmaster in his usual able manner, and the whole proceedings gave great satisfaction.

METROPOLITAN.

ROBERT BURNS' LODGE (No. 25).—The brethren of this much-esteemed, well-worked, and excellently regulated lodge aggregated, accorded to convention, on Monday, May 1st, in one of the newly-erected Masonic halls of the Freemasons' Tavern. Four initiations having taken place on the 28th of April, the business of the evening was confined to one passing and four raisings, which ceremonies were performed by the W.M. with a clearness, a decision, a precision, and dignity well worthy of emulation. The brother who took the second step, namely, the degree of F.C., was Bro. Brown, and Bros. Corker, Luring, Jeans, Barnett, and Wyatt were instructed in the sublimities of the W.M. gradation of Masonic arcana. The P.M.'s present were Bros. W. Watson, Caulcher, Matthews, Gladwin, Farmer, Treas.; and Lyon, Sec. The visitors were Bros. Young, Bradley, Abell, and Bacon. The banquet was praiseworthy, and the evening was enlivened by some admirable singing from Bros. Myers, Charles Sloman, &c.

CONSECRATION OF THE NEW WANDSWORTH LODGE (No. 1044).

On Wednesday, the 3rd inst., the New Wandsworth Lodge (No. 1044) was solemnly consecrated at the Freemasons' Hotel, New Wandsworth, by Bro. William Watson, Past Grand Steward.

The following brethren were present:—H. Wilson, W.M. designate; R. Collard, E. Spooner, H. Hawkins, C. Wall, W. F. Smith, R. Ord, J. F. Brown, H. Dowell, J. Ralph. Visitors:—W. Watson, P.G. Steward; Jas. Brett, P.M. 177 and 864; Matthew Cooke, P.M. 905 and Sec. 23; G. H. Oliver, 925; S. Hardcastle, 374; C. F. Hill, 1160; J. Nickisson, Dobie Lodge; and T. Buckton.

At seven o'clock punctually Bro. W. Watson assumed the chair of W.M., Bro. Brett acting as S.W., and Bro. Collard as J.W., and the ceremony of consecration was performed by Bro. W. Watson with more than his usual care, rendering it a most impressive and much admired performance.

Bro. Matthew Cooke took his place at the harmonium, and sang the appropriate music for the occasion.

The consecration ceremony concluded, a board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. H. Wilson, W.M. designate, a P.M. of No. 176, was then inducted into the chair of the new lodge by Bro. Watson, who performed the duties of Installing Master.

The officers were then appointed and invested as follows:—Bros. Collard, S.W.; E. Spooner, J.W.; Treasurer, left open; E. Spooner, Sec.; H. Hawkins, S.D.; the J.D.'s collar being reserved for Bro. Newins, who was absent on account of a family bereavement the previous day; and C. Wall, I.G.

There would have been several initiations, as a number of gentlemen are anxious to be made in the lodge; but, for the first time, it has been decided that every brother for joining, and all for initiation, must be proposed at a regular lodge meeting, and that it is illegal to make any one who could have been, according to the custom of the Craft for more than three-quarters of a century, nominated in the summons by fiat of the W.M.; and, although this stretch of the letter of the law and contraction of its spirit were first brought into operation on this occasion—whether with a desire of counteracting the success of the lodge, or not, is immaterial—the Secretary gave notice that no less than six brethren were proposed, and duly seconded, as joining members, and thirteen gentlemen were duly proposed and seconded for initiation in the lodge.

By unanimous resolution a committee was formed to frame a code of by-laws, consisting of the W.M., his two Wardens, and four other brethren, who cheerfully undertook the task.

A vote of the lodge was unanimously ordered to be entered on the minutes, thanking Bros. W. Watson and M. Cooke for so promptly coming forward, at a short notice, to consecrate the lodge on the day fixed and give it a legal existence, without delay and inconvenience to the brethren. Under the new ruling no other business could be done, and the lodge was closed, the brethren adjourning to a very neat and pleasant cold collation, where good things, good wine, and good harmony prevailed.

After the cloth had been removed,

The W. MASTER gave, tersely, but effectively, the customary loyal and Masonic toasts, and with that of the Deputy Grand Master and Past and Present Grand Officers he coupled the name of Bro. Watson, P.G. Steward.

Bro. WATSON was sure that had the Deputy Grand Master been present he would have been much pleased by the complimentary terms in which the Worshipful Master had proposed the toast. It was almost needless to observe that the Deputy Grand Master, from his courteous demeanour and his skill and judgment, was universally regarded as the right man in the right place. (Hear, hear.) For himself, he (Bro. Watson) congratulated them on adding another branch to the great tree, and long

might it flourish with the vigour of the parent stem. Seven years since he had consecrated another lodge, which was then numbered 1044, and that day he had done what he believed no one else ever had done before, consecrated a second 1044. They were not likely to go wrong in their career, for they had the experience of three old P.M.'s as their principal officers to fall back upon, and with such experience at hand the younger members had no uncertain guide, and the new 1044 was, he felt sure, destined to be as prosperous as the old lodge of the same number had proved. (Hear, hear.) With thanks for the toast he resumed his seat.

Bro. W. WATSON again rose to propose the health of the W.M. He was pleased to be able to say that he thought it did great credit to the petitioners to ask for such an experienced brother to be appointed their first W.M. Bro. Wilson was esteemed for his good feeling, his pleasant and agreeable manners, and could not fail to make the lodge a success and its members happy. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Watson had seen him in that office before, and then the W.M. brought so much earnestness, was so well versed in all he did, that it was a guarantee for his conduct in the chair of their lodge. He was one who, from his position, would grace the chair, bring honour to the lodge, and be to it a most valuable and indefatigable first W.M. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Watson hoped to be present at its first anniversary, and bear witness to the prosperity of the lodge under the rule of its first W.M., whose health he proposed with great certainty of his being all they could desire. (Cheers.)

Bro. WILSON, W.M., was very much obliged to Bro. Watson and all present for the manner in which his health had been proposed and responded to. He was sure that was one of the proudest moments in his life, and if he had not paid attention to his duties in a large lodge, he should never have been in the proud position of first W.M. of theirs. There had been two warrants granted for lodges in that neighbourhood, but, from certain circumstances, those who had obtained the first never opened a lodge, but they had succeeded where others failed, and he was sure they could not fail, or, if they did, they would only have themselves to blame. When he looked round on those who were joined with him he was proud and confident of success (hear, hear), and he could assure them it was his intention to do his utmost for the prosperity of the New Wandsworth Lodge.

The W. MASTER proposed the healths of the visitors, paying some some neat compliments to each in turn.

Bro. MATTHEW COOKE replied.

The W. MASTER called for a bumper in honour of the officers of the lodge. Everyone for years knew the value of their S.W., Bro. Collard, who was active as ever, but not in such good health as they wished to see him. Bro. Spooner, J.W., was a hard worker in lodges of instruction, and a brother who, once known, was sure to be liked. In Bro. Hawkins they had one of the right stuff, whose sterling qualities would be sure to tell in their favour. Bro. Newins, who was absent, from the loss of a deeply cherished sister the previous evening, they could all sympathise with, and Bro. Wall, the right man in the right place, would always be the same wherever he was.

Bro. COLLARD, S.W., said they were all exceedingly obliged by the Master's proposal of their names, and the cordial response the toast had elicited. He was happy to say that they all intended to use their best endeavours to secure the prosperity of the New Wandsworth Lodge, and nothing should be wanting in their zeal and their best ability to do honour and credit to it. (Hear, hear.) From their position and quarters he augured well, and knew they had all determined the lodge should be such that no one could disdain to be a member of it. As long as life and health lasted, they would take a pleasure in doing their best for 1044, and pledged themselves to a faithful performance of their duties.

Bro. SPOONER, J.W., had been requested by the junior officers to say on their and his own behalf how gratified they would all be to do their best. He was sorry to see Bro. Collard suffering, but, as he progressed towards improved health, it was to be hoped he would afford them the benefit of his long experience. They, the junior officers, would always look to the W.M. and S.W., and unite in one cause to do their utmost for the lodge.

Bro. BUCKTON, in a very excellent speech, proposed "Success to the New Wandsworth Lodge," which the W.M. gratefully acknowledged.

Shortly after the brethren dispersed, many expressing their gratification at the favourable circumstances under which the lodge had been opened, and looking forward to a large sphere of utility and prosperity in the future.

PROVINCIAL.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

LINSLADE.—*St. Barnabas Lodge* (No. 918).—The annual banquet and installation of this lodge took place on Tuesday, May 2, at the Elephant and Castle hotel, Linslade, when Bro. Shrimpton was installed as W.M., the ceremony of installation being performed by Bro. Gotto. We understand that a very handsome Past Master's Jewel was presented to Bro. Gotto by the brethren, as a token of their esteem, bearing an inscription to that effect. At the banquet were the following brethren:—Bro. Geo. Shrimpton in the chair; Bros. J. M. Shugar, H. Lovell, F. Gotto, E. Lawford, T. Horwood, J. Pettit, Henry Pettit, Ritchie, Edward Terry, B. T. Fountaine, T. Windsor, A. Whyley, S. H. Whiehelo, jun., J. White, A. T. Parkes, Geo. Whitman, J. Hadley, W. King, Leighton, Webster, Wheatly, Bacon, Lewis, Street, Cubbin, &c.

DEVONSHIRE.

TAVISTOCK.—*Bedford Lodge* (No. 282).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 1st inst., for the purpose of raising three brethren to the third degree. This ceremonial was most ably performed by Bro. Merrifield, P.M., assisted by Bros. Thynne, P.M., P. Prov. G. Org., who presided at the organ, and Chapman, P.M., who acted as M.C. On the conclusion of the business of the lodge, the brethren adjourned to the Bedford Hotel, accompanied by the W.M., Wardens, and visiting brethren of the St. Aubyn Lodge (No. 954), Devonport, who had, by invitation, visited Tavistock to be present at the meeting of the Bedford Lodge. Bro. Matthews occupied the chair at the festive board, and took occasion to express for himself and the brethren of the lodge his sincere gratification at the honour of the visit of Lodge 954. He hoped to repay the compliment in person, and offered a seat in his carriage to as many as it would carry. In conclusion, he begged to drink the toast of "The Visitors." Bro. Kent, W.M. 954, returned thanks in appropriate terms, thanking the brethren for their fraternal, hearty, and hospitable reception, and hoped to have the pleasure of seeing a large number of the members of the Bedford at his lodge on the 9th inst. After some fraternal speeches from Bro. Snell (a P.M. of forty years), the brethren parted, having fourteen miles to travel.

SOUTH WALES (EASTERN DIVISION).

CARDIFF.—*Glamorgan Lodge* (No. 36).—The usual lodge was held on Monday, the 8th inst. Present—Bros. D. Roberts, W.M.; T. H. Stephens, S.W.; R. P. Hunt, J.W.; E. J. Thomas, P.M., Treas.; R. J. Fisher, Sec.; F. W. Joy, S.D.; J. Robertson, J.D.; J. Dawson, I.G.; W. J. Gaskell, P.M., Prov. J.G.W.; T. G. Glass, M. Davies, F. Ware, and a large number of the lodge; Bros. W. H. Martin, W.M., 960; J. Willans, S.W., 960; and other visiting brethren. Lodge was opened at half-past seven, and the minutes of the preceding lodge read and confirmed. The W.M. made an earnest appeal to the brethren on behalf of the Boys' School, especially with reference to the forthcoming ceremony, and read a long extract from THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, as well as the circular of the committee in support of the application. A strenuous exertion has very lately been made in this province on behalf of the same object; and a Steward was sent up to the late Festival, with a very handsome list. But as the design of that effort was a peculiar, and (not to use the term disparagingly) somewhat selfish one, the special object of which was accomplished by the election, in a proud position, of the candidate on whose behalf the movement was originated, it is earnestly hoped something further will be done towards meeting the pressing emergencies of the present occasion; and the W.M. liberally offered to contribute his quota towards the Special Fund, in one form suggested by the Committee's Circular. This being the night appointed by the by-laws for the election of W.M., papers containing the names of duly qualified brethren were distributed, and a ballot taken. Bros. Gaskell and Thomas, appointed for that purpose, scrutinized the voting papers, and declared the W.M. re-elected by a small majority over the S.W. The W.M. was warmly congratulated upon the result, both by the brethren who had supported his re-election and by those who had given adverse votes, the division being one purely of principle, and of a most truly Masonic character. The year just concluded has been the most prosperous and satisfactory in the annals of the lodge, and the perfect harmony

and good feeling which have prevailed have been felt to be due to the judicious and thoroughly impartial conduct of the W.M. Want of unanimity in the matter of re-election was, therefore, in no way attributable to diversity of opinion as to the unquestionable merit and ability of the W.M., but owing to a feeling on the part of older Masons that the principle of re-election, excepting in very rare instances, is altogether erroneous, and does great injustice to other aspiring, energetic, and meritorious officers who, from the qualification to the chair given them, are naturally led to expect that honour in due and regular course, a departure from such order, without sufficient cause, in most cases leading to unpleasant results. This sober view of the matter having been overruled by the votes of the newly initiated, not the slightest spark of ill-feeling was created by the result, least of all on the part of the worthy S.W., who will heartily join with every other member of the lodge in an endeavour to mark the succeeding year of the W.M.'s office as pleasing to himself and as profitable to the lodge as the past has been. The W.M., in returning thanks for the renewed expression of confidence, stated that although he could not but be sensible of the honour conferred upon him, and highly flattered by the result of the ballot, he at the same time regretted that the choice of the brethren had again fallen upon him. He considered that one year in the chair was quite sufficient for any man, and objected to the principle of re-election. He would, however, bow to the decision of the lodge, and trust to the brethren for that display of kindly feeling, as well as for that support in the various offices which had rendered his duties so light and his year of office so pleasant. A committee to audit the Treasurer's accounts having been appointed, and some other routine business transacted, three brethren were passed to the second degree, and the lodge was finally closed shortly after nine o'clock.

SUFFOLK.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE NEW MASONIC HALL AT IPSWICH.

The members of the Lodge Prince of Wales (No. 959) assembled on Monday afternoon, the 1st inst., for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the Masonic Hall about to be erected upon their recently-purchased property in Brook-street. As we have in a previous number of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE given a description of the buildings which the brethren of this lodge intend to place upon the property, it is only necessary to describe the interesting ceremony which took place on the 1st inst.

The following members of the lodge were present, and took part in the proceedings:—Bros. Colonel A. S. Adair, Prov. G.M. for Suffolk; C. T. Townsend, Prov. S.G.W.; John Head, W.M. Prince of Wales Lodge; Edward Dorling, Prov. G. Sec.; W. T. Westgate, S.W.; F. B. Jennings, J.W.; Hy. Thomas, W.M. British Union Lodge; J. Alloway, Treas. Prince of Wales Lodge; Rev. R. N. Sanderson, Prov. G. Chap.; S. H. Wright, W.M. Phoenix Lodge; John Helms, S.D.; E. C. Tidd, J.D.; F. Read, J. Parker, W. Wilmshurst, John Townsend, J. C. Lucas, Geo. Green, H. T. Bacon, J. H. Staddon, J. H. Bridges, J. M. Poilard, W. Cobb, J. A. Pettitt, J. Chinnoek, W. Winter, J. B. Parker, Geo. T. Wallis, Neptune Lodge (No. 22); &c.

Prayer having been offered, by the Prov. G. Chap. invoking the blessing of the Almighty Architect upon the work,

Bro. EDWARD DORLING, Chairman of the Building Committee, said he thought it would be a matter of great gratification to their Provincial Grand Master, who had honoured them with his presence, in witnessing the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of a new Masonic Hall by the members of almost the youngest lodge in the province. It must also, he felt assured, be a matter of great congratulation to the W.M. of the Prince of Wales Lodge to take part in the erection of that temple, the foundation stone of which was about to be laid. He had now a very pleasing duty to perform, and that was to hand to the W.M. a silver trowel, which had been presented to the lodge by Bro. Emmanuel Rauds, who he regretted was unable to be present amongst them.

Bro. Dorling then handed to the W.M. a very handsomely chased silver trowel, with ivory handle, supplied by Bro. Fred. Read, of Tavern-street. It bore the following inscription:— "This trowel was used for laying the foundation stone of the Freemasons' Hall, Ipswich, May 1st, 1865. John Head, W.M. Prince of Wales Lodge; Edward Dorling, Chairman of Committee.

The W. MASTER said he felt assured the brethren of the Prince of Wales Lodge would highly esteem the present so handsomely made by Bro. Rauds. He need not tell them how great his gratification was in having the honour of laying this, the first stone of their Masonic Hall, the want of which had long been felt by the brethren. His was indeed a proud position, and he doubted much if any W.M. had, under similar circumstances, the pleasure of laying the first stone of a new Masonic Hall in connection with one of the youngest lodges in the province.

The trowel was then handed by the W.M. to the Prov. G. MASTER, who expressed the pleasure it afforded him to be present on such an occasion, and said he need not say he congratulated the brethren of the Prince of Wales Lodge, one of the youngest in the province, upon their perseverance and manifest desire to work out the proceedings of their lodge as they ought to be. He trusted the work now begun would be carried to a successful termination.

The Prov. G. MASTER then returned the trowel to the W.M., Bro. J. Head, with the remark that he knew his duty too well to supplant in work one so well fitted to carry it out.

Bro. ALLOWAY, Treas., after a few appropriate remarks, placed in a cavity in the lower stone a glass vase, containing various coins of the present reign, the copies of the by-laws of the lodge, a copy of a local journal—*The Ipswich and Colchester Times*, of April 28th, 1865, containing some of the most important intelligence recorded for many years, especially that of the assassination of the American President—and a parchment scroll, containing the following inscription, written by the lodge Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. R. N. Sanderson:—"Quod faustum atque utile sit Fratibus, ni honorem Dei Optimi Maximi. Hunc lapidem posuit, dicavit Joannes Head, Kalendis Maii, 1865." The bottle having been deposited, Bro. Alloway said,—May the Great Architect of the Universe prosper the undertaking to His glory and the benefit of Freemasonry.

The E.A., Bro. Lucas, having supplied the cement, the W.M. proceeded skilfully to spread it upon the lower stone. This having been accomplished, the foundation stone was lowered into its place. The stone, which was a fine block of Portland, was generously presented by Bro. Chinnoek, and weighs upwards of a ton. It bore the simple inscription, "Laid May 1st, 1865."

The W. MASTER having called upon his Wardens to apply the plumb, rule, and level, proved the stone with the square, then struck it three times with the gavel, and declared it to be well and truly laid. He said he hoped that that which had been begun in order would be carried on in peace, and concluded in harmony.

The following most appropriate oration was then delivered by the Prov. G. Chaplain:—

"The Great Architect of the Universe is the Original from whom, as Masons, we are bound to copy; and every work which Masons undertake will approach to or fall short of perfection, in proportion as we observe or neglect the plan laid down for the guidance of the workmen by the Divine Grand Master. Our only hope of raising a structure perfect in its parts, and in every degree honourable to the builders, is in the knowledge that that structure is founded in His name, to be completed by His help, and to be dedicated to His glory.

"When our G.M. King Solomon was approaching the close of his earthly life, we find recorded in the Sacred Volume a sort of review of the many things which had occupied him during his long and glorious reign. We read much of his achievement in Masonry, both speculative and operative—how nature yielded up her secrets to the royal student—how "he spake of trees, from the cedar tree that is in Lebanon, even unto the hyssop that springeth out of the wall. He spake also of beasts and of fowl and, of creeping things, and of fishes." How he spake three thousand proverbs, and his songs were a thousand and five. How he built himself houses, planned gardens and orchards and fish pools, and "was great, and increased more than all that were before him in Jerusalem; and yet when his dust was about to return to the earth as it was, and the spirit to return to the God who gave it, there was only one thing which, when he recounted, he did not pronounce to be vanity of vanities. And what was that? It was the house which he had built and dedicated to the Lord his God. Here he failed not to enjoy the fruits of his wisdom and skill, his riches and his power. In all his other labours there was vanity and vexation of spirit; but in this, in the building of the house of God, there was no remorse, no bitter reflection.

"If, then, we expect His blessing upon our work thus begun,

by whose help alone we can prosper, we must labour in the same spirit in which Solomon founded, completed, and dedicated his temple. We must not be content that our building should, like the temple, stand due east and west, but the end and aim of that sacred building should be strictly imitated. A Mason's lodge should see the rising and setting of the sun with devotion and piety. It should not only be a station of order and science, but of faith, hope, and love. There should the ignorant have an opportunity of hearing that wisdom which cometh from above; there should the frivolous and wanton be taught that sobriety which becometh godliness; there shall the unruly be influenced to bend their necks to the yoke of religious obedience. As the sun rises in the east to open and enlighten the day, so should the Master strive to enlighten his companions with true wisdom, and encourage his craftsmen to labour as those who know that the night cometh in which no man can work. As the sun sets in the west when the day is done, so the officers who close the labours of the lodge should do their best, that none should go away, I do not say dissatisfied, but unimpressed in moral and social virtue.

"Our purpose, too, should be the same as that for which the Temple was built, viz., the glory of God, in the first place, and, in the next, the welfare of our fellow men. The fame of human wisdom, and all that it can bring about, apart from the glory of God, is even as a wind that goeth away and cometh not again. The labour of men's industry may fix one stone upon another, but apart from the glory of God, the bright Shedim of His presence, the stateliest structures shall fall and leave not a wreck behind. Without a constant eye to the glory of God and the Three Great Lights, we shall find three thousand human lights all too few.

"And as to the good of mankind, Solomon prayed that in all his people's distresses and calamities, when they turned and looked upon God's Temple, His goodness might support, relieve, and deliver them; that He would be to them from His holy dwelling-place a God of mercy to pardon their sins, and an inexhaustible fountain of blessings to relieve all their wants, both in time and for eternity.

"Now, such should in its degree be the distinguishing characteristics of every Mason's lodge. If a brother should go astray here, on his repentance let him find brethren ready to restore him in the spirit of weakness; if he be in distress here, let him find a sympathising heart and an open hand; nay,

more, seek out those abodes of suffering, where the heart knoweth its own bitterness, though the tongue be too modest to utter its complaint. If our lodge be thus piously founded, thus wisely governed, thus safely tiled, thus lovingly worked, we may hope that, with God's blessing, it will be in its degree a temple of Masonry indeed.

"May we proceed without interruption in the praiseworthy labour thus begun. May help be given us from above to fix and carry into effect all our good purposes; and may we, as wise Master Builders, lay our foundation upon the Rock of Ages, and lay the copestone in joy, with praise to God, and edification to all the brotherhood."

The oration was listened to with much attention by all present. At its conclusion, the following prayer was offered by the reverend brother:—

"O Lord, our God, First and Almighty Architect, Who didst in the beginning bring light out of darkness, and order out of chaos, we, Thy humble servants, beseech Thy blessing upon the work which we have this day begun in Thy name.

"Let its foundations, its pillars, and its chief corner-stone be Thy glory and the welfare of mankind. Enlighten the Masters to teach, and the brethren to learn, those things which are good and salutary to their souls; and as the volume of Thy Sacred Law is open in our assemblies, so let it never be closed in the hearts of those who shall here come together in Thy name.

"Let truth and justice, brotherly kindness and charity, devotion and piety, concord and unity, with all other virtues, so flourish among us, that they may be the stability of our time, and make our Order a praise upon earth.

"Prosper the work of our hands upon us; and when our work here is done, exalt us, to Thy Grand Lodge above, where Thou, Almighty Grand Master, liveth and reigneth for ever.

"All this, and whatever else we know not how to ask, we pray for through the worthiness of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom with Thee and Thy holy spirit we ascribe all honour and glory, now and for evermore. So mote it be."

The architect, Bro. Bacon, of the firm of Bacon and Bell, Arthur-street, West, London Bridge, then handed the plans of the buildings to the W.M. for his approval, who, having examined them and received the explanation of the architect, handed them to Bro. Pettitt, P. Supt. of Works Suffolk, and the master builder.

This concluded the interesting ceremony, and soon we hope to see this work, so successfully and so hopefully begun, be brought, ere this year closes upon us, to a happy termination.

Before leaving the ground, each of the members of the Prince of Wales Lodge present laid a brick near the foundation stone, the Prov. G.M. setting the example by laying the first.

The brethren then adjourned from labour to refreshment.

At eight o'clock the usual monthly meeting of the lodge was held, at the Golden Lion Hotel, when Bros. Salum and Lyer were raised to the degree of M.M.

The banquet afterwards was numerously attended, and a most harmonious and pleasant evening was spent by the brethren. In the list of toasts by the W.M., that of "Success to our New Masonic Hall" was most enthusiastically received.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

CONSECRATION OF THE ECCLESHELL LODGE (No. 1034) AT ECCLESHELL, NEAR BRADFORD.

With pleasure we record another extension of the Institution of Freemasonry, another instance of the dissemination of that truth which, we are told, will eventually "Fill the earth as the waters cover the sea;" another record of devotion to the cause of truth, is the erection of a special building for the purpose of Freemasonry, contrasting with the custom of the last century of holding the lodge in the room of a tavern. It is pleasant to see these buildings rising in various parts of our land, handing out as evidences of moral, intellectual, and religious progress; and we feel with the poet,—

"A spring of love gushed from my heart,
And I blessed them unaware."

The above lodge was consecrated on the 10th of March last, at Eccleshill, a place about two miles east of Bradford, a district which, half a century ago, was wild moor land, but now cultivated and studded with villas, and promises to be an important suburb of the extending town of Bradford.

The energetic and zealous brethren founding this new lodge are thirteen in number; and to see them leaving their old lodge in the smoky valley of Bradford, and marching up the hill to their new station, reminds one strongly of the heads of the twelve tribes of Israel, with Moses, their leader, leaving the land of Egypt for the better land of Canaan.

Bro. Bentley Shaw, D. Prov. G.M., took the chair at three o'clock in the afternoon, and appointed his officers for the consecration as follows:—

Bro. R. R. Nelson.....	P.G. Dir. of Cers.
" Pease	S.W.
" Wm. Gath.....	J.W.
" H. Smith	S.D.
" C. H. Taylor	J.D.
" M. Rhodes	I.G.
" W. Fearnshides	Chaplain.
" J. Rhodes	Organist.
" Thos. Hill	} Consecrating Officers.
" J. T. Robinson	
" H. O. Mawson	

Amongst the brethren present were—Bros. J. J. Schaeppi, W.M. 302; James Dewhirst, W.M. 600; Arthur Briggs, W.M. 974; H. Butterworth, W.M. 387, and about thirty other highly influential members of the Craft.

After the consecration of the lodge had been solemnized in a most impressive manner by the D. Prov. G.M., ably assisted by the Chaplain, Bro. W. Fearnshides, and the rest of the officers before named, Bro. Pease was appointed to initiate the first W.M. of the lodge, in the person of Bro. Christopher Pratt, G.P.J.W., of the Hope Lodge (No. 302).

Bro. Pratt was unanimously selected by the brethren to fill this most responsible position, and is universally respected by those who know him to be deeply and sincerely indued with the requisite knowledge and skill in the Craft to discharge the duties of his office with efficiency and success, both to his lodge and to the Order.

After Bro. Pratt had been duly and properly installed, he proceeded to invest and appoint his officers for the forthcoming year as follows:—Bros. Thos. Hill, P.M.; J. Armitage, S.W.;

E. Hale, J.W.; S. Rhodes, Treas.; R. Holt, Sec.; W. Beanland, S.D.; W. H. France, J.D.; G. C. Hick, I.G.; J. D. Sugden, Steward.

It is a noticeable feature in the establishment of this lodge that the founders are entirely P.M.'s or officers, and all emanate from, and continue members of, the Lodge of Hope (No. 302), of Bradford, a lodge which, we trust, they will be careful to emulate in the correctness of their working, and in the munificence of their relations to the noble Charities which adorn and bless our Order.

After the duties of the lodge had been efficiently and pleasantly got through, the brethren present adjourned to the refreshment room, and further celebrated the happy occasion by dining together. The usual Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to, and the proceedings were continued and concluded in perfect harmony, as we trust they will until the end of the world.

The plan of the building comprises on the ground floor a banquetting room with dwelling rooms for a serving brother. The second floor is occupied by the lodge room, robing room, lavatory, &c. The building itself is detached, which is a recommendation where practicable. As further progress is made we hope to see such buildings taking the form of the temple rather than following the domestic style of architecture; for temples they are in reality, dedicated to all that is noble and holy; yea, to the Great God himself. Yet our brethren in this case have acted wisely with the funds at their command; they have concentrated their efforts on the principal point—the lodge room itself. This is decorated in the Egyptian style, consistently carried out in all the details of furniture, &c., whilst the Masonic number 7 has been adopted in working out the various proportions of all the parts.

Perhaps to some the choice of Egyptian ornament for a modern lodge room may appear a whim; but the designer of these decorations gives 7 very plausible reasons why this style should be adopted in preference to any other. To convey anything like an adequate idea of the quantity of symbols and allusions (invisible to the uninitiated) would occupy too much space. All we can do is to take a glance at the principal objects. The room is 24 by 18 feet, or a square and one third, by 18 feet high. The height is exclusive of a dome whose diameter is one-seventh the hypotenuse of the ceiling. The dome is blue, studded with stars; from the centre is suspended a seven-rayed sun-light; on the circumference on the dome; and on the flat ceiling is portrayed a serpent, outside of which is the circle of the zodiacal signs, the remainder of the flat ceiling represents the broad blue expanse of the firmament-interspread clouds. The cornice round the room is a large, bold hollow, one-seventh the height of the wall, in which is intended to be portrayed land-marks of Freemasonry.

The east wall is occupied, its whole breadth and two-thirds of its height, with a representation of the vail of the temple in the three Masonic colours, supported on each side of the W.M.'s chair by the Egyptian columns, Iachin and Boaz, standing about twelve feet high, gilt and decorated with Masonic emblems, in accordance with an old tradition to that effect. The caps are ornamented with chequer work and pomegranates, which are encompassed with 7 rows of chain work, terminated by the two globes, the whole surmounted by the rising sun, with an inscription, stars, &c., give to this end of the room a pre-eminence, and make it the focus of attraction.

The lower portion of three remaining sides of the room are covered with ten maroon coloured curtains (only interrupted by the two doors and the fire-place, for there are no windows visible) representing the curtains of the Tabernacle; above these runs a band of sacred inscriptions in the three Masonic colours; between this band and the cornice the wall is of a plain primrose hue. The two door casings and the mantle-piece are of one design, from bold Egyptian models, painted in imitation of granite and covered with Scriptural illustrations in Egyptian characters. A black marble slab in the upper part of the mantelpiece and the centre of the north wall shows the names of the thirteen founders. The grate, with its Egyptian fire dogs, has its symbolic meaning. The three chairs are from antique models in brown and gold, ornamented by Egyptian characters, with a meaning to each. The lectern, in the form of an eagle, with its wings spread as if poised to carry its blessed brethren onward from the east, where life and light originated. The ark of the covenant is of shittim wood, with gilt emblems of the sacred name, it stands on a crimson cushion supported by a black stand. The three pure white

Grecian columns 6ft. high, each carrying a moon light, stand out significantly amidst the surrounding colours, and the whole forms one harmonious and complete *ensemble*, each article being specially designed for the purpose appears to fit its place and add to the general tone and completeness of the whole, emblematic of the principals of Masonry, whose harmonious parts blend together with that beauty which alone is the property of truth, and whose principals being eternal will endure when time shall be no more, for its foundations are in the hills and its help in the Most High.

ROYAL ARCH.

BERKS AND BUCKS.

WINDSOR.—*Castle Chapter* (No. 771).—The consecration of this chapter took place on Wednesday, the 3rd inst., at Windsor, in the beautiful hall lately erected by the lodge to which it is attached. This chapter was first opened by Comps. Joseph Cotterell, P.Z. Lily Chapter; Dr. Harcourt, D. Prov. G.M. for Surrey; Joshua Nunn, Z. Lily Chapter; and Platt, Z. Mount Sinai Chapter, in due form. Comp. Joshua Nunn then installed Comps. Joseph Cotterell as First Principal; Joseph Devereux, P.G.S. Berks and Bucks, and Comp. Wiggington, as Third Principals; Comp. Devereux being afterwards installed as Second Principal, by Comp. Cotterell, Z., their names having been returned on the warrant. And in the unavoidable absence of the Acting Grand Superintendent, and with his sanction, the chapter was consecrated by Comps. Cotterell, Devereux, and Nunn, assisted in the musical arrangements by Comps. Folley, Prov. G. Org. Berks and Bucks, Whitehouse, and Marriott. The ceremony having been composed and arranged by Comp. Devereux, was certainly one of the most perfect and impressive ceremonies ever introduced into Masonry; the Scriptural passages and the choral accompaniments being both appropriate and effective. (We hope to have the opportunity of publishing it at some future day.) The beautiful consecration vessels belonging to the Grand Lodge of England were kindly lent to assist in the imposing ceremony. After the consecration and proclamation were completed, the ballot was taken for the following brethren, and being found unanimous in their favour, they were introduced and exalted:—Bros. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Prov. G. Chap. Berks and Bucks; Capt. Hartopp, Royal Horse Guards; C. Palmer; C. Holden, Prov. G. Treas. Berks and Bucks; R. B. Body, C. P. Barrett, W. Croydon, J. Alston, R. Martin, H. Demster, E. A. Layton, P. Watson, and J. Whitehouse. This beautiful ceremony was rendered in the most perfect manner by the Principals, assisted by Comp. Goring, as P.Z. and the choir, and left nothing to be desired. We can only hope that other chapters of far older date will copy from this, the youngest of their number. The ballot was also taken for Bros. Vansittart, M.P., Col Lloyd Lindsay, C. S. Voules, R. Little, W. Goddard, Dr. Byrne, G. H. Boorn, and A. W. Cooper, nearly all members of the Castle Lodge (No. 771) Windsor. The convocation being closed in due form, the companions adjourned to the White Hart Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet had been prepared, and to which ample justice was paid. The cloth being removed, Comp. Cotterell, Z., gave the accustomed toasts in his usual happy manner. To the toast of the visitors, Bro. Col. Lloyd Lindsey responded, and gave an anecdote of the advantages of Masonry that had occurred to his father when in the Peninsular war, whereby his life had been spared by a brother of the Jewish persuasion, thus adding another illustration to the many advantages of our ancient and honourable institution. Comp. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Prov. G. Chap. Berks and Bucks, in responding to the toast of the Scribes, in very earnest and touching language, briefly described the beauties of the several parts of the ceremony that he had that day been introduced to, and expressed a hope that it would reach the hearts of all that participated in its excellencies, not only as an inspiration for the present, but as a guide to their future actions and course of life, as he was sure if they would but adhere to its principles, it must. "The Masonic Charities" and other toasts having been duly acknowledged, and the evening pleasantly enlightened by the charming assortment of music rendered by Comps. Tolley, Whitehouse, Marriott, and John Lane, the companions separated, well pleased with the inauguration of the Castle Chapter.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

LIVERPOOL.—*Sacred Delta Chapter* (No. 216).—This chapter was opened in due form on Thursday, April 27th, by M.E.P.Z. Laidlaw, and other chiefs. The ballot was taken for Bros. Ferry and Brooks, of Lodge 216, and duly elected, and being in attendance, were duly exalted to the degree of H.R.A. Freemasons. Comp. M.E.P.Z. Laidlaw duly installed Comps. Moore as H., and Sedgwick as J. The chapter being closed, the companions adjourned to the banquet. The M.E.Z. proposed "The Health of the two newly-installed Chiefs," which was duly responded to by M.E.J. Sedgwick. Comp. M.E.Z. Laidlaw returned thanks on behalf of the First Principal, and proposed "The Health of the newly-exalted Companions," which was suitably acknowledged by Comps. Ferry and Brooks. The health of the Visitors having been proposed, was duly responded to by M.E.P.Z.'s Hamer and Marsh. This chapter is one of the most flourishing in Liverpool.

SOUTH WALES (EASTERN DIVISION).

SWANSEA.—*Chapter Virtue and Hope* (No. 237).—The usual monthly meeting of this chapter was held on Monday, the 19th ult., when the members mustered in strong force. Comps. E. J. Morris, P.Z. presided as M.E.Z.; J. G. Hall, as H.; and P. D. Michael, as J. Bro. W. H. Essey, of the Indefatigable Lodge, was balloted for as a candidate for Royal Arch Masonry, and being elected was exalted to the supreme degree by the Acting M.E.Z.; the lectures being carefully given from the three chairs as usual. The companions having retired, Comp. Wm. Cox, P.H. was duly installed M.E.Z. of this chapter for the ensuing year, by Comp. E. J. Morris, P.Z. The M.E.Z. then invested Comps. J. G. Hall and E. J. Morris to the second and third chairs; D. Williams, Scribe E.; G. Allen, Scribe N.; P. H. Rowland, P. Soj.; J. D. Michael, Treas.; R. Phillips, Dir. of Cers.; and J. Probett, J. Two brethren were proposed for exaltation at the next chapter meeting in May, and the companions, after closing the chapter, adjourned to the Mackworth Arms Hotel to dinner, at which M.E.Z. Comp. Cox presided. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and heartily responded to, and a most agreeable evening was spent. Comp. E. J. Morris, at the removal of the cloth, announced amidst loud cheers that the candidate from this province for election to the Boys' School had been returned fifth on the list, having received 700 votes.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

HULL.—*Ancient York Conclave of Redemption*.—The annual meeting of this conclave for the installation of E.C. officers was held on Wednesday, the 3rd inst., in the Hall of the Minerva Lodge, Prince-street. The encampment was opened at four o'clock by the E.C., Sir Knt. Walter Reynolds, 18°, assisted by Sir Knts. M. C. Peck, 18°, 1st Capt.; G. Wilkinson, 18°, 2nd Capt.; Rev. G. O. Browne, M.A., Prelate; R. G. Smith, 18°, Expert; F. Jackson, 18°, as Capt. of Lines; George Fox, Org.; Frater Wm. Johnson, Equerry. There were also present Sir Knts. Thomas Walton, J. F. Holden, R. E. Harrison, Charles Wells, Thomas Dale, T. Manis, R. V. Allison, &c. Visitors: Sir Knts. William White, 30°, P.E.C.; Eusa Drury, 18°, P.E.C.; Joseph Rogers, 18°, De Furnival Encampment, Sheffield. The conclave having been opened in ancient form, the minutes of the last conclave were read and confirmed. The ballot box was then prepared for Comps. J. W. Pease and W. W. Batty, both of whom were unanimously accepted as candidates for this degree. Comps. J. T. Drake, A. E. Hargrove, J. Brooh, R. W. Hollon, J. W. Pease, and W. W. Batty were then severally admitted, and installed Knights Templar by the E.C. Sir Knts. M. C. Peck and Thomas Walton then presented Sir Knt. Gilbert Wilkinson, the E.C. elect, for installation, who was regularly installed by Sir Knt. Wm. White, 30°, P.E.C., assisted by the other P.E.C.'s present. The E.C. then appointed his officers, viz.,—Sir Knts. Thomas Walton, P. Prov. G. Purst., 1st Capt.; R. E. Harrison, P.G. Dir. of Cers., 2nd Capt.; Rev. G. O. Browne, P.G. Purst., Prelate; Walter Reynolds, P.G.C., P.E.C., Reg.; J. N. Scherling, Expert; F. Jackson, Capt. of Lines; Geo. Fox, Herald; M. C. Peck, P.G. Chancellor, Org.; Frater Wm. Johnson, Equerry. A vote of

thanks to the retiring E.C. and installing officers having been carried, the encampment was closed in ancient form, and the Sir Knts. adjourned to the Royal Station Hotel, where the banquet was held, and passed a pleasant evening.

MARK MASONRY.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

HULL.—*Minerva Lodge* (No. 12).—At a regular meeting held on Monday evening, May 1st, pursuant to summons, there were present—Bros. Thos. Walton, W.M.; R. E. Harrison, S.W.; M. C. Peck, J.W.; J. P. Holden, Treas.; W. Reynolds, Sec.; J. H. Peart, M.O.; J. M. Scherling, S.O.; J. T. Robinson, J.O.; J. G. W. Wilson, Reg.; J. Linwood, S.D.; F. Jackson, J.D.; J. M. Hodgkinson, as I.G.; J. Norton and W. Johnson, Tylers; S. B. Colman, G. Lyott, &c. The lodge having been opened in due and ancient form, the ballot box was prepared for Bros. W. K. Brown, P. E. Stabell, B. Miln, C. P. Gibson, and W. W. Hall; also as joining members Bros. Thos. Hewson and Martin Kemp (late of this lodge); and as a serving brother (for whom a dispensation from the Grand Master had been obtained) Bro. J. Faulkner, all of whom were unanimously accepted. Bros. George Hardy and W. K. Brown were then admitted and regularly advanced to this honourable degree by the W.M., Bro. M. C. Peck giving the signs and explanation of the degree. Three brethren having been proposed for ballot at the next meeting the lodge was closed in due and ancient form, and with solemn prayer.

IRELAND.

SKIBBEREEN.

FIFTEENTH MASONIC LODGE OF IRELAND.

On Wednesday evening, April 26, the members of the above lodge assembled at their Rooms, North-street, Skibberdeen, to present to Bro. J. W. Potter, jun., the following Address, accompanied with a handsome Master Mason's Jewel, previous to his departure for America, to which country he is about to return, after an absence of seven years. After all had partaken heartily of the excellent supper provided by the hostess of the Prince of Wales hotel, Bro. Charles Clerke, W.M., proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were duly and truly responded to. He then said—

Brethren,—I rise to propose the toast of the evening—"The Health of our worthy Brother, John Potter," who is about to leave us for the far distant West, and I assure you, Brethren, I feel deeply my own inability to do justice to this toast, and nothing would induce me to occupy this chair to-night did I not feel that, were it filled by one of Ireland's greatest orators, he could not add *one iota* to the respect and esteem that you hold that worthy Brother in. Who, when duty called, saw John Potter flinch? When the widow, the orphan, or the distressed brother called for assistance, was not the hand, heart, and purse of that honest brother ever open? Brethren, you have known him from his childhood, and has the breath of slander ever passed over that worthy brother? If you look at that journal which he has been for some time conducting, and in which he never forgot the interest of 15, you will see there the articles emanating from his pen are the terror to the evil, while they are the friends to the well-doer. Brethren, allow me to bear my humble testimony to the efficient manner in which he conducted the duties of Secretary to this Lodge. Those, among many others, are the reasons we regret the departure of our respected brother.

The W. Master then said,—Brother John Potter, I am deputized by Lodge 15 to present you with these small tokens of our regard and esteem—small tokens indeed they are, but we trust that you will accept the will for the deed—and when you look on them in that distant land of your adoption, you will think of your brothers at home. And now allow me on the part of 15 to express a wish—nay, an earnest prayer—that in after years you will again visit the land of your birth, crowned with wealth and honour, and that you will find old 15 as it should be, one of the best lodges in Ireland.

"Skibberdeen, April 26th, 1865.

"Dear Sir and Brother,—We beg you will accept this slight testimony of our esteem, offered to you from a conviction that

we should be deficient in fraternal feeling and regard, as well as in justice to your merits as a friend and brother, if we suffered you to leave Skibberdeen for a foreign land without some such evidence of our feelings and your worth.

"If the course of uniform integrity and good feeling which has won the respect of all who know you, may be considered to entitle you to such an expression of our sentiments as we now offer, your claim is indeed indisputable.

"And, therefore, while we regret your departure, we avail ourselves with pleasure of the opportunity it affords of thus expressing our sincere esteem, as well as our warmest wishes for you and your family's welfare and happiness, and beg your acceptance of the accompanying Jewel to remind you of the friends you part from.

"We remain, dear Sir and Brother, most faithfully and fraternally yours,

"CHARLES CLERKE, W.M.
RICHARD LEE, S.W.
JOHN F. LEWIS, J.W."

The W.M. here handed to Bro. Potter the jewel, an exceedingly neat emblem, manufactured by Bro. Spencer, of London, and bearing the following inscription:—

"Presented by the Fifteenth Masonic Lodge of Ireland, Skibberdeen, to Brother John W. Potter, jun., as a mark of esteem, on the occasion of his leaving his native country for America. April, 1865."

In reply Bro. Potter said:—

"Brethren,—The truly brotherly and affectionate address with which you have been so kind as to present me, accompanied by a unique and valuable Masonic Jewel, as a mark of your favour which, I fear, I am not justly entitled to; but knowing the willingness of the Craft to overlook the shortcomings of their brethren, and to view their exertions, however humble, from the sunny side, to accept with unbounded pleasure and thankfulness this assurance of your friendship. For the expression of good-will contained in your kind address, I am extremely grateful, and my every exertion shall be to retain unsullied my Masonic reputation, so that neither the Craft nor my Mother Lodge may ever regret that I became possessed of the secrets and mysteries of the noble Order of Free and Accepted Masons. No matter where I may be thrown by the chances and vicissitudes of this life, I shall ever remember with true Masonic love your exceeding kindness; and believe me, I shall always anxiously watch the rise and progress of the 15th Lodge of Ireland. Should it be my lot to never again return to my native land, I can assure you that to my latest hour, and with my latest breath, I shall wish success and prosperity to the brethren of 15. In the country to which I am going Masonry is a great and grand institution. There the right hand of fellowship is cordially extended to all true and worthy brothers. There, as here, all the generous impulses of our nature are quickened into life by that talismanic touch—the grip of a Master Mason—whereby they are at once recognised as members of the great Masonic family, and treated as only Masons treat each other—with equality and fraternity, kindness, and consideration. Wishing you, my brethren, all the comforts of this world, and those of the world to come, and should we not meet again in this life, when the dread mandate shall summon us home, may we be found duly and truly prepared, so that we may meet again in the Grand Lodge above. Again thanking you sincerely for your great kindness towards me on this as on many other occasions, I have only to add that I heartily hope the Great Author of the Universe may take you into his safe and holy keeping. Such is the prayer of your affectionate brother."

During the evening several of the brethren proposed and responded to toasts, each availing of the opportunity to express his deep regret at Bro. Potter's departure, but they felt sure his kind disposition, would gain for him in America, as it did in Skibberdeen, many sincere friends.

During the evening songs were sung, and a few hours passed as pleasantly as could be expected under the circumstances, and at its close, the chairman, in the name of the Lodge and in language truly affecting bid the sad farewell, "good-bye."

TELL a plain countryman that the sun is much bigger than his cart-wheel, and he laughs thee to scorn; yet the scholar by the eye of reason plainly sees and acknowledges the truth. Such is the difference between ignorance and knowledge.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.

CONGRATULATORY ADDRESS TO THE W.M. OF THE ST. AUBIN'S LODGE (No. 958).

The ordinary monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 18th ult. The lodge was opened at half-past six o'clock, by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, I.P.M. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for the admission as a candidate for initiation of Mr. Joseph Newington, after ample testimony as to character had been given by the I.P.M. and Bro. Joshph Stevens, which proved unanimously favourable. Notice of a proposition for the next meeting was given, with a view to the removal from the list of members of two brethren whose suspension by the Prov. G.M. had been confirmed by Grand Lodge. Bro. Dr. Hopkins having announced that the birth of a son and heir to the W.M. had seemed a fitting occasion for a congratulatory address to him, and that such a document had been prepared, submitted to the brethren individually, received their assent, and afterwards forwarded, signed by the Wardens and Secretary on behalf of the lodge, it was resolved, on the proposition of Dr. Hopkins seconded by Bro. Le Sueur, that this proceeding be formally confirmed by the lodge as a body, and that the address, as follows, be entered on the minutes:—

St. Aubin's Lodge, April 4th, 1865.

Worshipful Sir and Brother,—Towards the close of your first year at the head of St. Aubin's Lodge, it cannot be inappropriate, particularly in connection with a recent auspicious event, to address you in terms of sincere congratulation, since we have the satisfaction of knowing that you have zealously and efficiently discharged all the duties required by your position, and have well and worthily maintained the dignity of your chair and the reputation of the lodge.

When you were installed in that high station, you were especially reminded that a good Freemason is one "to whom the burdened heart may pour forth its sorrows, to whom the distressed may prefer their suit;" and in the address delivered to us all on that occasion we were told that it is our duty "to pour the healing balm of consolation into the bosom of the distressed." Surely the converse of this is equally a portion of Masonic duty and privilege. If we "mourn with those that mourn," we should also "rejoice with those that rejoice." In this spirit allow us to offer to you who bear the name, and are the representative of the most ancient and illustrious house in this island of Jersey, our sincere congratulations that unto you "a son is born"—an heir who we trust will in his turn, if spared to realise your fond hopes, transmit to his posterity the honour, virtue, and high social position of his parents and his family. May you have reason to rejoice in the prospects thus opened to you, and be blessed in your offspring.

Pray permit us to join in best wishes for the partner of your life, and in the prayer that she and you may long continue to share in unison all the rational enjoyments of earth, and the expectation of a happy reunion in the realms beyond "that bright morning star whose rising brings peace and salvation to the faithful and obedient of the human race."

Believe us to be, on behalf of the members of St. Aubin's Lodge,

Yours most faithfully and fraternally,

GEORGE ORANGE, S.W.

PHILIP M. DE LA TASTE, J.W.

HENRY HOPKINS, P.M. and Sec.

To Bro. E. C. Malet de Carteret, W.M.
of St. Aubin's Lodge (No. 958).

Bro. Theophilus Le Cappelain, after having submitted in a most satisfactory manner to an examination on the first degree, was entrusted, and retired. The lodge was opened in the second degree. Bro. Le Cappelain was reintroduced, properly prepared, and duly passed to the degree of Fellow Craft by the I.P.M., who also gave him the customary charge. Bro. Malet de Carteret now entered the lodge room, and took the first chair. Bro. Dr. Hopkins announced to him the resolution which had been passed, to which the W.M. gave a hearty and appropriate reply, expressive of the gratification of himself and lady on receiving such a token of kindly feeling from the members of the lodge. The lodge was resumed in the first degree.

Bro. Dr. Hopkins reminded the brethren of the letters repeatedly received from the Prov. G.M., forbidding them to visit, or in any way countenance, a French lodge called Les Amis de l'Avenir, as being irregular, and threatening pains and penalties to those who should do so, which letters had filled

pages of the minute books of this and other lodges in which the Prov. G.M. had ordered them to be entered. The I.P.M. farther referred to the fact, well known among the Craft, that, within the last month, this proscribed lodge had been visited by a number of English Freemasons, stated to be between thirty and forty, most of whose names the Prov. G.M. had acknowledged to him that he knew, and yet had intimated, in reply to a direct inquiry, that he should take no action on the subject, on the plea that no one had made any formal charge. On the proposition of the I.P.M., seconded by Bro. C. Le Sueur, who, as W.M. of Lodge La Césarée, confirmed the statements already made, and expressed similar opinions respecting the circumstances referred to, it was resolved unanimously, inasmuch as no such charge can be made by any one who was not present at the meeting of the Lodge Les Amis de l'Avenir, from knowledge superior to that which the Prov. G.M. himself possesses, namely, the confession of some of those who had thus disobeyed his directions—That this lodge, while avoiding any expression of opinion on the abstract question as to the propriety of forbidding English Masons to visit the lodge referred to, but anxious to obey directions issued by the highest authority in the province, cannot but express its regret that much unnecessary trouble has been given to the Secretaries of this and of other lodges, in calling upon them to record instructions and threats which are openly disregarded with impunity, and its hope that such a proceeding will not be repeated, since it is evidently not the intention of the Prov. G.M. to carry them out.

The W.M., Treas., and I.G. were reappointed to office for the next year—the two former by ballot, after some highly complimentary remarks had been made on the manner in which they had performed their duties.

Mr. Joseph Newington, having signed the usual declaration, was introduced, properly prepared, and duly initiated into the mysteries of the Craft by the W.M., at whose request the charge was subsequently given by Bro. Dr. Hopkins.

A committee was appointed to make arrangements for the annual banquet, after the installation of the W.M., on the next day of meeting. No other business offering, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony and with solemn prayer at a quarter to nine. The brethren spent another hour together at the refreshment board, when the usual complimentary toasts were honoured, being introduced and replied to in appropriate addresses.

LODGE LA CESAREE (No. 958).—At the regular monthly meeting held on Thursday, April 27th, at the Masonic Temple, the lodge was opened at a quarter-past seven by Bro. C. Le Sueur, W.M., assisted by Bros. P. E. Le Sueur, S.W., Binet acting as J.W., and Dr. Hopkins acting as I.P.M. The minutes of the last regular meeting, and also of an emergency meeting held only for the initiation of a gentleman who was suddenly called from the island, were read and confirmed. Bro. J. Le Goupillot was examined in the usual manner as to his proficiency in the first degree by the W.M., and to a much greater extent by Bro. Schmitt, P.M., the replies to whose questions were given so fully and fluently, as to show an unusually extensive acquaintance with the subject, and to call forth marks of approbation from the brethren. The candidates having been entrusted retired from the lodge, which was then opened in the second degree. Bro. Le Goupillot was subsequently readmitted and passed to the second degree by the W.M., receiving also the charge connected with it. A petition was received from a well-known distressed brother for assistance from the local Board of Benevolence, and a recommendation of the case was adopted and signed in open lodge, in compliance with the regulations of the province. The lodge was resumed in the first degree. A great amount of routine business was gone through, this being the day for election of W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. C. Le Sueur having been proposed for reappointment by Bro. T. J. du Jardin, a ballot was taken, which proved unanimous in his favour. Bro. Le Sueur thanked the brethren for this mark of confidence and approbation, and accepted the charge for the next year, from which, however, he would gladly have been released, in consequence of his numerous engagements, which, in his own estimation, seriously interfered with his efficiency; he relied, however, on the continued support and indulgence of his officers and brethren. Bro. Le Goupillot, sen., was re-elected Treas., and Bro. H. Du Jardin, Tyler. Arrangements were made for the installation and banquet, which were fixed for May 29th, there being public military engagements in Jersey on the regular day of meeting. The lodge was closed at half-past nine, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room for refreshment.

Obituary.

BRO. PHILIP LE CRAS.

Again, for the second time this year, have we to record the sudden death of one of the leaders of the Masonic body, in Jersey, one whose name must be familiar to those of our readers who have perused the reports of the Césarée Lodge, regularly inserted in our columns. But a few weeks ago Bro. Philip Le Cras was apparently an active, robust, healthy man, forty-three years of age, of whom any one would suppose that he had many years of usefulness before him; and now his place knows him no more. The public position which he had held for fifteen years as Usher of the Royal Court and of the States of Jersey, had rendered his face and his voice familiar to all the inhabitants who frequented the meetings, and there are few who do not occasionally attend, either on legal business, to witness the proceedings of the Court, or to hear the debates of the local legislature. By all he was justly respected and esteemed; for his activity, his courtesy, and obliging manners as a public officer were proverbial; indeed, it has been said of him that he was one who never made an enemy, and yet he always maintained a proper independence of spirit. By the members of the two bodies named, to whose comfort and interests he was ever most attentive, he is especially regretted, nor less so by the members of the Craft, among whom he was a ruler, having during two years in succession ably filled the chief chair of the Césarée Lodge about five years ago, and having also been a useful member of the Board of Directors of the Temple.

On Good Friday, April 14th, the writer of these lines met him in the country with his wife and family, in a tolerable state of health, enjoying the hospitality of friends. On the next day he complained of slight indisposition, the danger of which was not at once apparent. Medical advice, however, in a few days became necessary, and though three physicians were ultimately called in, their skill proved of no avail, and he expired on the morning of Monday, May 1st, leaving a widow and six children to lament his loss.

To an attached friend and brother on the previous evening he expressed his wishes in regard to his interment, namely, that he should be followed to his last resting place only by the members of the Césarée Lodge, to which he belonged, and without the honours sometimes paid to distinguished brethren. Accordingly, to these only and the directors of the Temple were invitations officially issued, with orders to attend in plain black dress, with white gloves and cravats.

On Thursday, May 4th, all the shops and buildings in the Royal-square, where the deceased resided, were partially closed, as were also those of Freemasons throughout the town of St. Helier, the flag at the Temple and that at the English and Jersey Union Bank (the manager and several assistants in which belong to the Order) having been at half-mast since Monday morning. At two p.m. the members of the Césarée and some from other lodges assembled at the Union Hotel, while the funeral cortège was being formed. In half an hour all preparations having been completed, the procession set out for All Saints Church in the following order. The directors of the Temple, visitors being members of the Craft, and the Césarée Lodge, each brother bearing a sprig of acacia, in number about seventy. The Rev. Bro. F. A. Rey, Prov. G. Chap.; and the Rev. Bro. Charles Marott, P. Prov. G. Chap.; the hearse, the relatives of the deceased, the bailiff, the judge of the Petty Court, nearly all the magistrates, the solicitor-general, the greffier, the members of the Royal Court, the centeniers and honorary police, to which body the deceased belonged; the United Club, of which also he was a member, and a long train of private friends, amongst whom were some of the leading merchants of the island. It was computed that

nearly two hundred persons took part in the mournful procession, bearing testimony to the respect with which the lamented brother was regarded.

On arriving at the church the Freemasons opened their ranks to allow the body covered with the Masonic pall of his lodge to pass through. Then closing up all entered the sacred edifice, where the psalms and lesson were read by the Rev. Bro. F. A. Rey in the French language. The procession having been again formed in the same order as before, proceeded to the cemetery in Green-street, where the honoured remains were consigned to the tomb.

The ceremony was most effectively conducted, and to our mind was far more solemn and affecting than when attended with Masonic decorations and forms, banners, and a band of music: moreover, its character was quite in accordance with the simplicity of the life and habits of the deceased and his last wishes. His cheerful, open countenance, his pleasant, cordial salute, his willing assistance, his intelligent advice, his urbanity in the performance of his duties, will long be missed in the various circles to which he belonged, whether Masonic, civil, executive, or social.

The following additional particulars appeared in a local evening paper on the day of the funeral.

A death has taken place this week which has caused a general and painful sensation: it is that of Mr. Philip Le Cras, Huissier of the Royal Court and Vingtenier of the Canton-de-Haut. After an illness of less than a fortnight's duration, he died on Monday morning at the comparatively early age of forty-three.

No person in the island had a larger number of friends. The offices he held brought him in constant contact with all classes, and from all he enjoyed the greatest regard and esteem. He was, in the full sense of the term, a thoroughly respectable man. In the varied walks of life there never trod a more upright man than he. He was truthful, active, courteous, intelligent—ever anxious to perform his duty and render himself serviceable. None but those who knew him well can form an idea of the extent of his practical usefulness, or of the personal sacrifices which the generosity of his nature often impelled him to make. Hence the consideration in which he was held during his lifetime, and the universal regret and sorrow manifested by everyone at his untimely death.

Mr. Le Cras was an enthusiastic member of the Masonic body. On two occasions he had been W.M. of the Césarée Lodge. His loss will be deeply felt by the Fraternity.

The closing scene of the career of this estimable man, exemplary alike as a christian and a citizen, a husband and a father, a brother and a friend, was in character with the whole of his life. Although so suddenly laid on a death-bed, he bowed without the faintest murmur to the Divine will. His physical sufferings were acute, for he died of tetanus. But he was courageous, resigned, and content to the end. And verily he had his reward even before passing away. Almighty love vouchsafed the dying man a ray of celestial light. Almost his last words, calmly and solemnly spoken, were, "I see Him to whom I am going."

Mr. Le Cras' funeral took place this afternoon. The body was preceded by the brethren of the Lodge La Césarée and the board of the Temple, in black dress with white gloves and neckcloth, each brother carrying a sprig of acacia. The cortège that followed was very numerous, including members of the States, the bailiff, several jurats, the solicitor-general, the greffier, and other members of the Royal Court, and the honorary police of St. Helier. The flags of several establishments hung at half-mast, and the shops in the Royal Square were partially closed. The ceremony altogether was of a most solemn and impressive nature. Every man who attended was, in truth, a genuine mourner. And each as, with a tear and a heavy heart, he left the early grave of Philip Le Cras, responded to the utterance, "Cy git un homme de bien."

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty and family remain at Osborne. The Prince of Wales proceeded on Monday to open the Dublin Exhibition, an event which came off with *éclat* on Tuesday. Prince Alfred has returned to Bonn to complete his studies.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the HOUSE OF LORDS on Thursday, the 4th inst., the Lord Chamberlain brought down her Majesty's reply to the address on the assassination of Mr. Lincoln. The Queen states that she "entirely participates" in the sentiments of the House on this painful tragedy, and has directed her representative at Washington to make known to the United States Government the feelings which their lordships entertain "in common with myself and my whole people, with regard to this deplorable event."—Bills providing for the registration of titles in Ireland, for the recovery of compensation by persons whose sheep or cattle have been worried by dogs, and for the protection of the earnings and property of women deserted by their husbands in Ireland, were read a second time.—The select committee on the Public Schools Bill was nominated.—On Friday, Lord Derby corrected a mistake "which had crept" into the report of the Committee on the Edmunds case. He stated that there was no division on the paragraph "exculpating the Lord Chancellor."—On Monday, Lord St. Leonards laid on the table a bill providing for the formation of courts of conciliation for the settlement of disputes between masters and workmen.—Upon the order of the day for the third reading of the Courts of Justice Concentration (Site) Bill, Lord Redesdale moved, as an amendment, that no money should be expended in the purchase of a site until the full plans and estimates were laid before Parliament. The amendment was carried by a majority of three, so that, as the Lord Chancellor remarked, the Bill had been "entirely defeated."—The Courts of Justice Building Bill was also amended on the third reading by a majority of one.—On Tuesday, Lord Redesdale defended the Parliamentary Offices Committee against the statement in the report of the Edmunds Committee with reference to the granting of a pension to Mr. Edmunds. The Committee, he affirmed, had no idea that Mr. Edmunds had not satisfied all the claims of the Government, nor were they aware that there was any reason why he should not have continued to hold his clerkship in the House of Lords. He concluded by moving two resolutions embodying these statements. Lord Granville said there was no intention to reflect upon the conduct of the Offices Committee, and after some further discussion Lord Redesdale, expressing himself satisfied with the explanations which had been offered, did not press his resolution. Lord Wynford presented a petition from Mr. Edmunds praying to be heard by counsel at the bar or before a committee, but their lordships passed a resolution, which Lord Granville moved, cancelling the grant of a pension. This was refused, and the pension cancelled.—In the HOUSE OF COMMONS on Thursday, the 4th, Sir George Grey, in reply to a question from Mr. Heygate said he could not undertake to introduce a bill for the extension of the Factories Act to the clay-yards of South Staffordshire until he had received the report of the commission which had been appointed to inquire into the subject. In answer to a question, Mr. Baring said it was not intended in the Continuance Act for this year to schedule for discontinuance all turnpike trusts that are out of debt. Mr. Hennessy put a question respecting the omission of Irish airs from the programme of music to be performed at the opening of the Dublin Exhibition. His question seemed to imply that this was the result of Lord Wodehouse's revision of the programme, but Sir Robert Peel said he

believed the whole matter had been arranged by the Exhibition Commissioners. The Comptroller of the Household brought down the Queen's reply to the address on the assassination of Mr. Lincoln. Its terms were identical with those of the reply to the address of the Upper House. The House then went into Committee of Ways and Means on the Budget resolutions; and Mr. Gladstone, while objecting to the principle of such concessions, yielded to the demand of the trade that the reduction of the tea duty should operate from the 1st of June instead of the 6th of May, as originally proposed. The resolutions relating to the income tax and the fire insurance duty were agreed to.—On Friday, in reply to a question from Lord Stanley, Sir Charles Wood said the question of transferring Singapore, Malacca, and Penang from the India to the Colonial Office was under the consideration of the Government. Mr. Villiers, in reply to a question, said the Poor-law Board were anxious to obtain the services of experienced nurses for work-houses; and they had also directed Boards of Guardians to make arrangements for obtaining supplies of expensive medicines when necessary. In reply to a question from Mr. W. E. Forster, Mr. Layard said the new Zollverein tariff would come into force in July, and England would share in the advantages of the reduced scale of charges. Some conversation took place respecting the accommodation at the National Gallery and the British Museum, and it was stated on the part of the Government that it was proposed to enlarge both buildings.—On Monday, Sir Charles Wood, in reply to questions from Mr. Crawford and Mr. Caird, said it was not intended to raise any large loan for India, and that with regard to Sir C. Trevelyan's proposals, it was not his intention to sanction the imposition of duties on "the principal staples exported from India."—The debate on the Borough Franchise Bill was resumed by Mr. Gregory, who defended the Government from the charge of insincerity on the reform question, and maintained that public opinion, though in favour of Liberal measures, was averse to organic changes in the direction of democracy. Sir George Grey entered into an elaborate defence of the course which the Government had taken upon this question. He submitted that her Majesty's Ministers had fully redeemed their reform pledges, and that the present state of things was due to the obstacles which the House had thrown in the way of the measure which the Government introduced soon after its accession to office. He gave his support to the present Bill, but the Government reserved for future consideration many points connected with the question of reform, which Mr. Baines's proposals left untouched. At the same time, he wished it to be distinctly understood that the Government would not consider itself pledged to a large measure of reform, until it could ascertain the feelings of the country on the question. The debate was continued by Mr. W. E. Forster, Mr. Liddell, Mr. C. Buxton, Mr. Disraeli, and other members. Ultimately the Bill was defeated by a majority of 74, the numbers being 288 and 214.—On Tuesday, Mr. Whalley asked whether the Government intended to introduce a Bill to prohibit such clergymen as Mr. Wagner, of Brighton—who declined to answer certain questions at the examination of Miss Constance Kent, on the ground that his mouth was closed by "the seal of confession"—from ministering in the Church of England. Sir George Grey replied in the negative; and stated that the magistrates at Trowbridge obtained from Mr. Wagner and Miss Gream all the evidence which they considered necessary to warrant the committal of the prisoner for trial. Mr. Whalley then announced his intention of recurring to the subject on an early day. The Attorney-General, in reply to a question from Mr. Paull, said it would be impossible to introduce a bill this session for the amendment and

consolidation of the bankruptcy laws.—It having been stated in a circular recently issued by Mr. Gladstone's Committee at Oxford, that the general election would take place in the second week in July, Sir Robert Clifton asked whether information to that effect had been furnished to Dr. Jacobson by any member of the Government. Mr. Gladstone said it had not; adding that the statement in the circular was nothing more than a speculation as to the period at which the general election would take place. Sir W. Gallwey moved a resolution on the subject of railway companies providing means of communication between passengers and guards; but, after, an explanation from Mr. Milner Gibson and Mr. H. S. Thompson, the chairman of the North-Eastern Railway, the motion was withdrawn.—A Select Committee was appointed to inquire into the complaints of the miners of Great Britain.—On Wednesday, Mr. Newdegate moved the second reading of the Church Rates Commutation Bill. The measure proposed the substitution of a charge of 2d. in the pound on real property in lieu of church rates. The assessment was not to extend to property except such as had been assessed to church rates within the last seven years, nor to parishes which had manifested their dislike of church rates by three successive rejections of such rates at polls. This would give relief to the whole occupying body, and would exempt those parishes where church rates were refused. Sir Charles Douglas moved the rejection of the bill. Sir G. Grey opposed the bill. It was understood that the question should rest for the present. The compromise which was proposed might have been accepted at one time, but now would only be regarded as giving a new sanction to church rates. After some discussion the bill was negatived by 126 votes to 42. The County Voters Registration Bill passed through committee with several amendments. Mr. Locke was moving the second reading of the Theatres, &c., Bill, when a quarter to six o'clock arrived, and the debate was suspended.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The Registrar-General has added Hull to the number of towns from which weekly returns of births and deaths are made. The rate of mortality has fallen considerably during the week, as it is reported to be only 2½ in the 1,000 on the aggregate of the eleven towns. London shows to advantage in the return, as the average here is only 21 per 1,000. Bristol alone is one lower, and only Hull and Salford as low. Liverpool, as usual, is highest, followed by Glasgow, the rates being 34 in the former case, and 30 in the latter. The total number of deaths in the eleven is 2,626, to which London contributes 1,236, or 81 less than the average of the last ten years. The births were 4,044, of which 2,074 belong to London.—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge, with their respective suites, left Euston-square railway terminus on Monday morning about half-past seven on their way to Dublin, to be present at the opening of the Dublin Exhibition. The Prince was attended to the platform by the Crown Prince of Denmark, with whom he remained in conversation till the train started. Holyhead was reached a little after two o'clock in the afternoon, and the Royal party landed at Kingstown at six, where they were received with immense enthusiasm by the crowd of persons assembled, and again at Dublin. The city was gay with illuminations on Monday night, and the principal streets were thronged with sightseers. The thoroughfares were in many cases impassable from the crowds of people, but the greatest good humour prevailed, and there were no accidents. There had been a silly seditious meeting on the previous day, at which the people were recommended to treat the Prince with silent contempt, advice which found no favour from the crowds on Monday night and Tuesday, when the Exhibition was opened

amidst great popular enthusiasm. The ball given by the Lord Mayor in the evening was numerously attended, the Prince opening it by dancing with Lady Wodehouse. The illuminations in the streets were general, but the effect was marred by the rain, which, threatening all day, fell heavily at night.—The Poor-law Board's return of pauperism in the cotton manufacturing unions exhibits but little change this week. Sixteen unions are reported to have experienced no alteration; four have more paupers, amounting in all to 4,608; eight fewer, the decrease being 710. This, therefore, shows a net diminution over the whole district of 210. There was an increase of 240 paupers in the Chorlton union, and of 150 in the Rochdale union. There was an increase of 180 paupers in Manchester, and of 270 in the Preston union. The adult able-bodied decreased by 203; and the guardians expended in outdoor relief £40 less than in the week immediately preceding the last.—Mr. Maclure's monthly report, read at the meeting of the Central Relief Committee, shows that during the past month there has been an important increase of employment in the cotton-manufacturing districts, and, of course, a corresponding diminution of pauperism.—Earl Granville presided, on Tuesday, at a meeting for admission to degrees in the University of London. His lordship made an appropriate address on the occasion.—Earl Russell presided at the meeting of the British and Foreign School Society. His lordship spoke strongly in favour of the beneficial working of the society.—The Festival of the Metropolitan Schools took place at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday. Notwithstanding the bad weather it was a complete success.—The annual dinner of the Royal Literary Fund took place on Wednesday evening. The Archbishop of Canterbury presided, and, in proposing the toast of the evening, rated the power and influence of literature very highly. His speech was warmly applauded.—A meeting was held in St. Pancras Vestry Hall on Wednesday evening, to take steps for the erection of a statue to Richard Cobden. The churchwardens presided. The vestry have granted a capital site for the statue, and last evening it was unanimously resolved to raise the necessary funds.—The Brompton boilers are to be broken up, and the Government has formed the benevolent project of presenting them in pieces to different parts of London. A meeting in reference to the subject was held on Saturday, presided over by Earl Granville, and attended by a large number of gentlemen interested in obtaining local museums for different parts of London. Earl Granville explained that that the "boilers" would make three good-sized buildings, and the Government would deliver them on sites to be fixed, provided the parties interested would pay for their re-erection and for the site. Claims were at once put in by different gentlemen for at least five local museums. As only three are to be given, somebody will certainly be disappointed.—The ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the new Surrey Theatre was performed on last Saturday morning. The building, it is confidently expected, will be completed in five months.—The Rev. Dr. Manning, formerly Protestant Archdeacon of Chichester, has been appointed to succeed the late Cardinal Wiseman in the Roman Catholic Archbishopric of Westminster. In making this appointment the Pope is said to have passed over the nominations of the Roman Catholic chapter of Westminster altogether.—The report of the Lords' Committee on the Edmunds case has been issued. The most interesting paragraphs of the document are those which deal with the conduct of the Lord Chancellor and Lord Brougham. With regard to the former, the Committee are of opinion that when the question of granting a pension to Mr. Edmunds was submitted to the proper Committee, it was incumbent upon him to have e

explained the "pecuniary transactions" which had led to Mr. Edmunds's resignation; but, at the same time, they "have no reason to believe that the Lord Chancellor was influenced by any unworthy or unbecoming motives." As regards Lord Brougham, the Committee "express their gratification that the result of their inquiry should have been to remove the possibility of any suspicion attaching to the character of so distinguished a member of the House."—At the last meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works the report of a committee was brought forward, recommending that the Board should buy up the private rights connected with the commons and open spaces in the neighbourhood of London, and keep them unenclosed for the recreation of the public; the money to be raised by the sale of certain portions of those commons for building purposes. The report, after some discussion, was agreed to. A motion was made to refer to the drainage committee the question what special remuneration should be offered to the engineer and his assistant engineers for the successful manner in which they had carried through the main drainage scheme. This motion also was adopted, though not without some hesitation on the part of a minority. In the course of the discussion it was said to be in contemplation to present Mr. Bazalgette with a gratuity of £10,000, in addition to his salary.—The Middlesex magistrates met on Tuesday to hear an appeal from the police magistrate who had convicted Mr. Strange, the proprietor of the Alhambra, of acting stage plays in the Alhambra without a license. After hearing counsel on both sides and witnesses, the magistrates, who, it appeared had gone to witness the performance for themselves, gave their unanimous judgment, through Mr. Bodkin, the assistant judge, that in the performances there had been no infringement of the law or of the terms of the license. They therefore quashed the conviction, and refused a case to take the matter to the Court of Queen's Bench.—A curious charge of libel was investigated at the Lambeth Police-Court on Saturday. Mr. Frederick Jacob Pillot was charged with libelling Mrs. Rachel Chappuis, and with seeking to extort money by threats. Mr. Pillott and Mr. Chappuis lived near each other at Tulse-hill, and were on terms of close intimacy. Mr. Chappuis photographed some horses for Mr. Pillott, and as the latter refused to pay for them an action was brought in the Lord Mayor's Court, which resulted in a verdict for Mr. Chappuis for £35 15s. This, of course, broke up the friendship, and a short time afterwards Mrs. Chappuis received a letter from the defendant, threatening to expose her in some way if she did not pay the £35 15s. back to him. The defendant mentioned in his letter that he had the portrait of the lady, her wedding ring, a coin given to him by her, and her garter—and these, he said, he would produce in some way to her detriment. She showed the letter to her husband, and while he and his solicitor were considering what should be done with it, another letter came from the defendant, enclosing a photograph of Mrs. Chappuis, pencilled in a disgraceful way. There was also another demand for repayment of the money. A warrant was at once obtained for the apprehension of the defendant, and he was brought up at Lambeth police-court on Saturday. The defence was, that pending the trial he had given the money to settle the action to Mrs. Chappuis, and that as she had not applied it as requested, he was in his letters asking for it back. He was committed for trial for libelling Mrs. Chappuis, and the magistrate took time to consider whether he would commit the defendant also for seeking to extort money.—At the Central Criminal Court the Grand Jury returned true bills against the Messrs. Barry, charged with certain frauds upon insurance companies. An application made to postpone the trial to the June sessions was acceded to. John Samuelson, convicted of

stealing £700, the property of the Bank of England, was brought up and sentenced to five years' penal servitude.—A young woman, named Elizabeth Suter, was charged with the murder of her illegitimate child. She had, beyond doubt, thrown it into the Serpentine, and it was found there dead. The medical man who examined it, however, said there were no marks of drowning, and the defence was that the child died of inanition before it was thrown into the water. The jury accepted this view of the matter and acquitted the prisoner.—McNaughten, who assassinated Mr. Edward Drummond, Sir Robert Peel's private secretary, in 1813, died at the Broadmoor Lunatic Asylum the other day.—A man named Moratti, a confectioner, living in the Hackney-road, attempted to murder his wife and to commit suicide. The couple had lived together unhappily, and once the wife left her husband, but subsequently returned to him. The other morning she was seen by a neighbour in the cistern of the house where she lived, and on being rescued it was found that her throat had been cut. She said her husband had done it. On search being made in the house Moratti was found with his throat cut. Both he and his wife have been removed to the hospital, and it is not expected that they will live.—Miss Constance Kent, who stands charged upon her own confession with the murder of her half brother, Francis Saville Kent, has been examined before the magistrates at Trowbridge, the result being that she was committed for trial at the assizes. The Lady Superior of the Anglican convent at Brighton, of which the prisoner had been an inmate for some months, was among the witnesses examined. She gave the substance of Miss Kent's admissions to her on the subject of the murder. The prisoner told the witness that she did not kill the child because she disliked it, but from a feeling of revenge against her stepmother.—Several inquests have been held during the week. One on the body of an old man who, though he appears to have saved some money, was an inmate of a common lodging-house. It was said that he had been drugged and robbed by two men who entered the place while the landlady was absent, poured some liquid down his throat, and then rifled his pockets and his bed, carrying off his money. The singular fact was that he does not appear to have been stupefied by the drug, but was able, before he died, to give information who the men were that made the attack upon him. The case was adjourned.—An inquest was held at Blackwall on the body of a woman named Bruce, who was drowned in the river on the 26th April. On that day she went with two other women to Blackwall, and they were drinking in an hotel there, when they were joined by a boatman named Nolan and another man. Bruce and one of the women agreed to go in a boat with the two men, and they went to Charlton. They had more drink there. When they returned to Blackwall it was dark, and the second woman and one of the men got out, leaving Nolan and Bruce in the boat. A short time afterwards Nolan landed, and said Bruce had gone from the boat he did not know how. Her body was found the other day.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- Z. Z.—1. Entered Apprentices have the same right of voting as other members. 2. A brother elected W.M. in opposition to his own wish cannot be compelled to serve. He has only to refuse to go through the ceremony of installation, and there the matter ends.
- LIBRAIRE.—1. We know nothing of the words "usually sung after certain lodge toasts," or the music. We never heard anything of the kind, and the practice must be local. 2. It is totally impossible to give any reliable information relative to American Masonic publications, they having, we believe, mostly died out in the war. Let us hope they may be revived in happier times. 3. *Le Monde Maçonnique* has no London agent. It may, however, be obtained through Bro. Spencer, Great Queen-street, or Bro. Trübner, Paternoster-row.
- BROMWYCHAM.—In England, the Knights Templar. On the Continent, about equal.
- J. K.—The ornamentation alluded to is not admissible.