

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1865.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF MASONIC
EVENTS DURING 1864.

(Continued from page 354.)

The aspirations of a number of excellent brethren towards reforms in the organisation of Freemasonry are worthy of especial attention. The writer first mooted the subject in the *Latonia* some years ago. For two years past it has been discussed in the *Bauhütte* in a remarkable manner; the course of reform has found thereby many zealous, nay over zealous, adherents, enspirited polemics being awakened. The *Freimaurer Zeitung* also has taken up the matter, in a series of excellent articles, favourable to a moderate reform. Every intelligent Mason will admit that Freemasonry, no more than any other social institution, can preserve its organisation unaltered for an age, if it means to live and flourish, and that, consequently, reforms are urgently called for by the spirit of the age in which we live.

The history of the Craft teaches us that Freemasonry underwent serious alterations from time to time in bygone ages. The confederation has never been proof against the various follies of the times (*Modethorheiten*); but it has shaken them off again, one by one, and in most parts of Germany it has resumed its original form, though somewhat affected by the various previous transformations. Its history has cleared itself more and more, and thus the impediments have been removed that obstructed its path. But, with all due consideration and respect for the institution as it exists, erroneous opinions ought to be rectified by instruction, and undue restrictions, the inheritance from ages of darkness, ought to be exposed and impugned—considering that with us prejudice itself enjoys a legal recognition and right of existence.

This is the path that, for several years past, has been trodden upon by unpresuming friends of progress, noiselessly, but not altogether unsuccessfully. Their simple and honest aspirations, unadulterated by any selfish motives, have secured respect and acknowledgment even from such antagonists as considered the traditions of the past as a *noli me tangere*, as a construction whose very foundations would be endangered by the slightest movement.

All endeavours hitherto made to bring about a general Masonic Congress have failed, however

obvious the expediency of this project may appear; even the aspirations towards a “salutary reform” have remained sterile on the whole. This result is to be attributed partly to the advocates of reform themselves. A total want of insight in the existing circumstances is evinced in most of those well-meant, but altogether unpractical, extravagant proposals. Many promoters of reform are utterly in contradiction with themselves, and in varying opposition to their fellow reformers. As an instance of those inconceivable blunders that result from this mania of changing, we may quote the proposal for the establishment of “Masonry in action,” lately started by Bro. Henne, the author of the valuable treatise “*Adhuc Stat.*”

Bro. Henne, in his project, first abuses the tame progressists, whose aspirations he asserts tend much less towards progress than return to the “rotten old platform.” He bestows much encomium upon the endeavours of the Masonic press to bring about the repeal of the useless and preposterous high degrees, and then introduces his Freemasonry of the future, whose degrees, seven in number, he designates as follows:—

1. Apprentices.
2. Assistants.
3. Masters.
4. Warriors of mankind, *i.e.*, labourers for its material good.
5. Knights of mankind, *i.e.*, superintendents of the labours for the material good.
6. Teachers of mankind, *i.e.*, labourers for its intellectual good.
7. Priests of mankind, *i.e.*, superintendents of the labours for intellectual good.

Nobody will consider our energetic brother as a lukewarm reformer after a perusal of his project, by which he overreaches the mark entirely. However we must leave our readers to judge of Bro. Henne's production as it deserves.

Having alluded to various other adventurous reform projects, the other continues:—As a counterpart to Bro. Henne's “Grand Lodge of the future,” Bro. Schauberg proposes, in the *Bauhütte*, for the next general meeting of the association of German Masons, to be held at Eisenach in August, to establish a German National Grand Lodge. Of course this requires but a firm will and a series of articles as a platform, which Bro. Schauberg is kind enough to supply with the bargain. Bro. Schauberg is a thorough-going reformer. He does away with the illustrious protectors, so obnoxious

in many respects, and on the other hand he reconciles the adherents of the high degree system by allowing the St. John's degrees to remain, and leaving individual lodges and Masonic authorities at liberty to create for themselves higher and more intimate degrees of love and friendship, knowledge and experience. The objection may be raised that under the existing political circumstances, which are not likely to undergo any alteration at the hands of the Eisenach Congress, these high protectors alone have guaranteed the existence of Masonry in many German States, and that upon their removal the further toleration of the Craft would become questionable; but the secondary considerations are not of the slightest weight with Bro. Schauberg: no doubt he will settle with the protectors and the high degrees men, to his satisfaction.

The first articles of his new platform are a mere circumlocution of the existing constitution. Query, where is the necessity of modifying the latter? Bro. Schauberg proposes, for his German National Grand Lodge, to organise a Universal Grand Lodge, in conjunction with the high Masonic authorities of other countries. Unfortunately, these latter authorities will adhere to the obnoxious old Constitution, and we are at a loss to guess how Bro. Schauberg means to carry out his proposed reform, supposing even he should meet with full and entire approval on the part of the forthcoming Eisenach Congress.

(To be continued.)

THE MAJESTY OF ARCHITECTURE.

All study confirms the proposition that there are but few subjects in the range of history, art, and science, that are indebted to architecture either for illustration or confirmation. Thinking, in the exigencies of our daily task, of the requirements of modern life to be provided for in modern buildings, we are apt to undervalue the versatility, overlook the antiquity, and deny the majesty of the grandest of the arts. We have been especially impressed recently with the services architecture has rendered to ethnologists. No one now treats of the origin of the races of man without bringing forward in evidence the remains of Egyptian buildings. Dr. Nott, in his "Types of Mankind," Dr. Colenso, Mr. R. S. Poole, all produce the testimony of Egyptian remains in support of their views. Dr. Nott writes,—"Ethnology was no new science even before the time of Moses. It is clear and positive that at that early day (fourteen or

fifteen centuries B.C.), the Egyptians not only recognised and faithfully represented on their monuments many distinct races, but possessed their own ethnographic systems, and already had classified humanity, as known to them, accordingly. They divided mankind into four species, viz., red, black, white, and yellow. . . . When Egypt first presents itself to our view, she stands forth, not in childhood, but with the maturity of manhood's age, arrayed in the time-worn habiliments of civilisation. Her tombs, her temples, her pyramids, her manners, customs, and arts, all betoken a full-grown nation." We are not going to follow Dr. Nott in the inferences he draws from this early civilisation, our object being simply to show how ethnologists have turned to the architecture of the Egyptians as to a storehouse of proof of the antiquity of man. In the same strain we have Lepsius writing (*Briefe aus Egypten*),—"We are still busy with structures, sculptures, and inscriptions, which are to be classed, by means of the now more accurately determined groups of kings, in an epoch of highly flourishing civilisation, as far back as the fourth millennium before Christ." Delitzsch awaits the proof of a manifold division of the human race from an investigation of Egyptian monuments. Kenrick notes that, 1,000 years before the Deluge, the same hieroglyphics were used on monuments as at the end of the monarchy of the Pharaohs, marking an organised monarchy and religion in that remote era. Additional researches have been made in the same field for the same purpose by Bunsen, Birch, Humboldt, Hincks, and Osborn. The size of the human race, too, in old times, is determined by the same test. The traditions of former gigantic stature are exploded by the passages, chambers, and sarcophagi of the pyramids. Again, students of theology, deciphering with microscopic care every passage in Holy Writ, find in architectural remains some of their most stupendous references. Thus, Dr. Colenso, connecting the mention of the tower of Babel with the famous unfinished temple of Belus (Birs Nimrud), quotes Kalisch for a description of that terraced pyramidal edifice,—"The tower consisted of seven distinct stages, or square platforms, built of lime-burnt bricks, each about 20ft. high, gradually diminishing in diameter. The upper part of the brickwork has a vitrified appearance; for it is supposed that the Babylonians, in order to render their edifices more durable, submitted them to the heat of the furnace; and large fragments of such vitrified and calcined materials are also intermixed with the rubbish at the base." Professor Rawlinson thus interprets the history of it, as related on the cylinders by Nebuchadnezzar, who endeavoured to complete the work,—"The building named the Plainisphere, which was the wonder of Babylon, I have made and finished. With bricks, enriched with lapis lazuli, I have exalted its head. Behold

now the building, named 'the stages of the seven spheres,' which was the wonder of Borsippa, had been built by a former king. He had completed forty-two cubits of height; but he did not finish the head. From the lapse of time it had become ruined. They had not taken care of the exit of the waters, so the rain and wet had penetrated into the brickwork. The casing of burnt brick lay scattered in heaps. Then Merodach, my great lord, inclined my heart to repair the building. I did not change its site, nor did I destroy its foundation platform. But, in a fortunate month, and upon an auspicious day, I undertook the building of the raw brick terraces, and the burnt-brick casing of the temple. I strengthened its foundation, and I placed a titular record on the part which I had rebuilt. I set my hand to build it up, and to exalt its summit. As it had been in ancient times, so I built up its structure. As it had been in former days, thus I exalted its head." Oppert, however, substitutes for the sentence "From the lapse of time it had become ruined," "Since a remote time people had abandoned it, without order expressing their words;" thus making the cylinder bear evidence of the identity of the building with that mentioned in the Mosaic writings. We must see the incomparable value of ancient architectural testimony as opposed to that of early writings. In the latter case meagre outlines are filled up by different readers, according to their own measure of learning; but in the former there is reality before us. The superb remains uncovered by Mr. Layard in Assyria impress us more with the magnificence of that monarchy than any literary work could do.

Nowhere is the majority of architecture more apparent than in our own land. What grandeur is shed upon the memory of the ancient Briton by Stonehenge and Abury! In these examples of early effort we may recognise how potently architecture ennobles those who pay her tribute. But for these stupendous monuments of organised labour we should view with scepticism the Triads of Dyvnwal Moelmud, imputing a high degree of cultivation to the Cambrians 2,000 years ago. But with these temples before us we read them with light upon the page. Dyvnwal Moelmud speaks always of a verdict of 300 men to decide disputed questions. All contests about land were decided by appeal to this large number of men. "The counter party shall stand by the person who purchased the land, upon taking possession, and bringing forward unquestionable evidence of heirship, shall repay a just counter price to the previous purchaser, and shall lay down the money upon the back-fire stone, horse-block, boundary-stone, or upon the nearest white stone that is found in the place, or into the hand of the judge of the Court of the Commot, or upon the area in the presence of the Court. Where this is done the country enacts that he is to have his land, and the defend-

ant the counter-price." Can we not picture these assemblages of 300 jurymen with almost photographic precision, as we linger among their "stones of convention!" There is another triad we could scarcely comprehend, but for some such assurance of power and skill as the disposition of these mighty stones gives: "There are three things that preserve a record respecting land and family, and stand as decisive evidence,—a back fire-stone, a lime-kiln, and a horse-block,—because the arms of a family are cut upon them." May some of the enigmatical figures now found in different parts of the country incised on rocks be interpreted as these "arms," or distinguishing marks? "There are three other stones," says another triad, "which, if any man remove, he shall be indicted as a thief,—the boundary-stone, the white stone of convention, and the guide-stone; and he that destroys them shall forfeit his life." Mention is made of a custom of writing the warning of the country upon the king's posts or stones. But these have all been lost sight of, as completely as we have lost all trace of the ship of Nwydd Nav Neivion, which brought in it a male and female of all living things when the lake of floods burst forth; or of the large horned oxen of Hu the Mighty that drew the crocodile from the lake to the land: or of the stone of Gwyddon Ganhebon, upon which all the arts and sciences in the world were engraven; whilst Stonehenge and other specimens of their concentric monolithic architecture stand as a testimony of labour as organised as that which conveyed the winged bulls to their sites in the palace at Kouyunjik, and as sufficient as that employed by the ancient Egyptians in moving their colossal figures from the quarries. So expressive, too, as well as majestic, is architecture, that we may truly say show us a building or a pile and we will tell you who built it. Who could have reared Stonehenge but a race rejoicing in strength and might, scornful of ornament, regardless of colour, unimpressed by beauty of form, apparently conscious only of the dignity of simplicity? And, as if to confirm this estimate of the taste of the ancient Britons, we find their representatives, the Welsh, at the present day engaged in two undertakings, neither of which has colour, form, nor ornament, in its composition. The principal manufacture of the modern ancient Britons, if we may call them so, is the colourless woollen textile known and esteemed as Welsh flannel: the principal export is slate despatched from the Cambrian shores in the same condition as that in which it is procured from the quarries. The unextinguished cast of mind that put the huge blocks of Stonehenge into place and left them in their natural simplicity is here apparent; we see no artistic feeling stirring to find vent in a manipulation of the slate; no craving for colour satisfying itself in rich dyes of the staple manufacture. The huge blocks of slate tell again of confidence in strength, and might, and admiration of masses, undisturbed by creations

of the imagination calling to be expressed in material forms; and the vast lengths of colourless flannel, of continuous labour handed down from generation to generation in a certain groove, unassailed by temptation to riot or revel in the gorgeousness of colour. Contrast this with the tendencies of the Oriental mind, every phase of which, in its exhibition of colour, is as a plane upon a crystal prism, and which, in like manner, exhibits the same tastes as ancient buildings indicate that the remotest occupiers of all the soil possessed. Exhumed specimens of Assyrian architecture, with their brilliant blue and red, deep yellow, and black and white decorations, assure us that under the glaring sun of the desert the earliest races rejoiced in colour as their modern representatives do to this day. They display, too, further characteristics of their builders which are also present in the people now occupying their neighbourhood. We have, in the multiplicity of figures and incidents, depicted in their basso-relievos traces of the root of the restless, passionate, impressionable temperaments that now inhabit the desert. The eye-hunger for colour of the ancient Assyrian could not have been more insatiate than that which induces the owners of the white asses of the Bagdad to dye them with kenna and dip their tails and ears bright red, or dictates the use of variegated turbans and striped abas to the Bedouins, or of robes of the scarlet silk of Damascus, or of scarlet and white fretted with threads of gold worn by the ladies of Bagdad.

Philological archaeology affords us many clues which, if we follow, will lead us back across Europe and through faint-tinted and faint-outlined centuries into our old Asiatic home. Professor Simpson notes that the vast populations springing from the Aryan stock "all use words, which, though phonetically changed, are radically identical for many matters, as the nearest relationships of family life, for the naming of domestic animals and other common objects. Some of these archaic words indicate by their hoary antiquity the original pastoral employment and character of those that formed the parental stock in our old original Asiatic home: the special term, for example (the 'pasu' of the old Sanskrit), which signified 'private' property among the Aryans, and which we now use under the English modifications 'peculiar' and 'pecuniary,' primarily meaning 'flocks,' or possession of flocks; the Sanskrit word for protector, and ultimately for the king himself, 'gopa,' being the old word for cowherd, and consecutively for chief herdsman; while the endearing name of daughter (the 'duhitar' of the Sanskrit) as applied in the leading Indo-European languages to the female children of our households, is derived from a verb which shows the original signification of the appellation to have been the milker of cows." But architecture, in its calm enduring majesty, does still more than this. The sculptured decorations of the ruined palaces and temples on the

banks of the Tigris and Euphrates show us that their builders were acquainted with most of the arts now, and in Mediaeval times, common to Europe. The various contrivances used in the Middles Ages in warfare were all known to the people who reared and subsequently abandoned these piles. The movable tower running on wheels, the battering-rams, the catapult, scaling-ladders, huge shields capable of covering several men at work at the various processes of mining and picking a breach, were depicted by the Assyrians and Egyptians thousands of years ago. The prophet Ezekiel, announcing the approaching destruction of Tyre, says of Nebuchadnezzar, "He shall slay with the sword thy daughters in the field: and he shall make a fort against thee and lift up the buckler against thee. And he shall set engines of war against thy walls, and with his axes he shall break down thy towers." And the storied sculptures and bricks of the overthrown structures of Nebuchadnezzar—mere disregarded mounds in the desert for centuries—when examined "in a fortunate month and upon an auspicious day," confirm the fulfilment of the prophecy. In a word, Assyrian architecture tells us the language, the arts, and the materials at command of the nation in the days of its magnificence. Egyptian architecture, after centuries of reticence, yields similar information to modern explorers. We are still more familiar with the fidelity with which Roman buildings reflect the successive acquisitions of the mistress of the world. Seeing, then, that architecture thus tells the history of peoples, and thus teaches the measure of man's learning in so many of the arts and sciences, is it not meet that we should approach its practice with due reverence and understanding?—*Builder*.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

FREEMASONRY AND ODD-FELLOWS.

In the *American Freemason* some five or six years back I met with a letter complaining that the Odd-fellows there burlesqued the forms and ceremonies of Freemasons. The letter is so interesting that I send it entire but what I would ask is,—Do the Odd-fellows in England act in like manner?—Ex. Ex.

It is as painful to me as it can be to you, to say a word against a society that numbers so many of the best men of the nation; of the members of the Masonic fraternity and of my personal friends in its ranks. Nor would I, were the rulers of that Society to let Masonry alone. Surely it is not too much to ask that the G. L. of Odd Fellows should cease to appropriate the Masonic features—features that have distinguished the Royal Art for three thousand years, have made it an universal association, and given it all the dignity, weight, and usefulness it possesses! yet that is all I have ever asked of Odd Fellowship, and for that asking I have been by some (not by you) deemed an enemy by that society. As this is the first opportunity I have had in my present volume to discuss

this subject, and as in my pile of communications under the *Letter O*, I have more than a score of requests to speak, or *not to speak*, upon it, I deem this a fitting occasion to clear up the *letter O* and my duty at the same time.

If I understand the aim of your society from the several very excellent magazines with which I exchange, it is to organise sociality and benevolence. This you do by uniting yourselves together, secretly, electing such as you will to share in your work, and guarding yourself by all lawful measures against imposition. All this you have a right to do. Whether there is anything in all this requiring another society—seeing that Masonry does it as well as the highest earthly wisdom could contrive it—or whether there is anything in your new and local institution to tempt members of our old and universal one to enter your ranks, is a matter that I do not pretend to understand. My opinion is merely based upon what I see, and upon that observation I have long advised Masons to let it alone. If it is good, ours is better; if not good, it ought not to be patronised at all.

The objectionable features are these:—*The free use without permission and without acknowledgment of the Masonic Ritual.* This extends—1. To the use of our symbols; 2. Our technical phrases; 3. Our furniture and clothing.

To illustrate the first, read the following letter from one of the most enlightened Masons in the land:—

"I was greatly interested in the notice in the *American Freemason* by our Oregon brother, showing that the bundle of rods and axe (the old Roman lictors' symbol) is, or was, and should, therefore, now be, an emblem of Masonry. As a curiosity, for even Masons sometimes are curious, a year or two since I purchased an Odd Fellows' Manual, filled, like Cross's Chart, with emblems, and of the large number contained in the book, I saw at once that all, *except two*, were taken from Masonry. Those two were the "bundle of rods" and the *three links*.

"In the course of a conversation with our mutual friend, Bro. J. M. S., I related the above circumstance to him, when, to my equal surprise, he gave me the following statement:—

"That Bro. St. John, of Tuscan Lodge, Segur, Ind., had in his possession a *Masonic Diploma*, dated in the year 1816, having upon it all the Masonic emblems of Cross, and in addition thereto those of the bundle of rods and axe, the *three links* and key. Now Cross published his Hieroglyphic Chart in 1819, three years later than the date of diploma, and let them off for the Odd Fellows to take up most appropriately. I wish you, in the proper way, to make use of these facts, and press them home upon our brethren. Let us keep not only what we have, but get all that properly belongs to us.

"Why have all of Cross's successors in book or picture-making followed him? Why not rather search out the hidden and lost treasures of our fathers and give them as a lawful heritage of their sons."

Second. In relation to technical phrases. You use the letters M.W., R.W., &c., just as we do. You call your associations *Lodges*; you speak of *work* in the Masonic sense; you install, lay corner-stones, &c., and, as a glance at your manuals prove, imitate everything that will bear imitation in Masonry, except the

perpetuity of the pledge and unchangeableness of the rites.

Third. In relation to clothing, &c. You use our gavel, our apron, our altar, our three stations, &c.

Now why appropriate these things? Was it necessary to make the community believe that you were *quasi* Masons? Then, 'tis an imposition; or would other phrases, furniture, &c., be expressive of your aims? Then 'tis superfluous. In either case it is a wrong upon our Order, and every Mason who is not afraid to speak out says so.

What I beg leave to suggest, then (as I have several times suggested before in former volumes), is that your Grand Lodge, which exercises the power of making the most radical changes in your rituals, &c., at discretion, should make one more, and leave Masonry and Masonic property to the votaries of Masonry. Change all your symbols, your technical phrases, and your paraphernalia into something which is *unlike* Masonry, and then no one would have a right to complain of you. Is this too much to ask?

Have I spoken plainly? it was my desire. Unkindly? it was not my wish. My words are only addressed to Masons. Outsiders are as much your property as ours; and if you exceed us in the number and weight of your converts, I can only regret that Masonic votaries are less zealous in their works than you; but for the sake of honour and honesty, for the sake of the venerable mother who gave you birth; for the sake of our common end and aim, work upon *your own merits*, and leave the Masonic possessions to Masons.

FIFTEEN POINTS.

Where do the annexed fifteen points come from?—W. G. C.

The first point. Whoever would study and practise the Masonic art, was required fervently to love God and his Church, the Master with whom he labours, and his Masonic Fellows; for this is the genuine spirit of Masonry.

The second point. The Mason shall work on working days to his full ability, so that he may enjoy his reward on holy days! Labouring faithfully at his vocation he will merit the wages to which he is entitled.

The third point. The Mason must ever hold and conceal the secrets of his Master and Fellows in a faithful breast, divulging the arcana of the chamber and Lodge to no one. Whatever he sees and hears, the privacy of hall and habitation, he will keep honourably sealed from every person. A failure in this would subject Masonry to contempt, and himself to stinging shame.

The fourth point. The Mason is enjoined not to be false to the Craft, nor entertain iniquity against it. He must do no prejudice to his Master or Fellows, and in like manner no prejudice shall be done to him.

The fifth point. The Mason is instructed that when he draws his wages from the Master according to his contract, he must do it with meekness, and the Master is bound to notify him lawfully, in private, if he should no longer desire his services. The Mason must not strive against the society if he would thrive in his Masonic vocation.

The sixth point. If a case arises amongst the Brotherhood through envy or malice, a case of discord

and unfraternal contention; then, if possible, both parties shall be for a time apprehended. But no day for the settlement of the dispute shall be designated until the work in hand be completed. Leisure may be found in the holy days for this purpose. The work day must not be consumed in the consideration of quarrels.

The seventh point. The Master shall not commit whoredom with the wife or concubine of his Master or Fellows, any more than he would have them do with his. The penalty for such offence shall be severe, for great evils would grow out of such deadly sin.

The eighth point. If the Mason has undertaken any contract of work, he shall be true to his Master, and a faithful daysman between his Master and Fellow, dealing honourably by both parties.

The ninth point. The Stewards of the Masonic Hall must serve each other in brotherly love, performing the duties alternately week by week. None shall gain aught at the expense of another, and none refuse to bear his portion of the outlay; all shall share equally in the expense. All accounts made for provisions shall be honourably paid, that no public scandal grow out of neglect of this matter. Let a true entry be made against each Brother for his share in the entertainment, and see that exact records be kept of all expenses, where and how and to what purpose moneys are applied; and the Stewards shall make an exhibit of these matters to the rest whenever required so to do.

The tenth point. Masonry encourages peace and a quiet life. If the Mason lives in sin, and is false to his work—if, through his mis-statements, he scandalise his brethren, and by his slanders cause the Order to be despised—if he do such villany as this to the Craft, let them show him no manner of countenance, and uphold him not in his evil ways, lest the peace of the Brotherhood be endangered. Yet you must not totally exclude him, only summon him to appear at a time and place appointed. Cite him to the next assembly before his Fellows, and if he will not obey, let him be made to forswear the Order. He should then be punished according to the law ordained of olden time.

The eleventh point. A Mason, versed in the skill of the Craft, seeing a brother working upon a block so unskillfully as to threaten to mar it, must, if possible, correct the work and point out the error to the brother. He must instruct the unskillful workman with such brotherly words as God may teach him. For the sake of Him that sitteth on high he must act the counsellor in a fraternal spirit.

The twelfth point. Wherever the Grand Communication is held, there the Master and Fellows, Noblemen, and many others shall assemble. The sheriff and mayor of the city shall join them, together with knights, squires and aldermen. The ordinances they may establish there shall be maintained entire against every member of this Order who breeds strife against it. Every unruly member shall be imprisoned.

The thirteenth point. The Mason shall swear never to be a thief, nor aid one in his villany for any fee or reward.

The fourteenth point. The Mason shall take a good and true oath before those who are present at his

making, to be faithful and steadfast to every ordinance herein recorded. Also, to the Sovereign Lord, the king, to obey him above all others. All Masons, high and low, must assume the obligations to keep every point established by such high authority, and each shall enquire in his own circle of Masonic acquaintance whether any have violated the same; if so, let them be found and brought up to the assembly.

The fifteenth point. An ordinance was made at this assembly, that the Mason who should prove disobedient to these articles agreed upon by the Lords and Masons aforesaid, if he be charged openly before the assembly, and proved guilty, and make no amends for his guilt, then must he be made to forswear the Order. But if he make suitable amends, all is well.

The sheriff shall seize him who is contumacious, and incarcerate him during the king's pleasure, and take his goods for the king's use.

[They appear to be a paraphrase of what Anderson terms "the old Gothic Constitutions," reprinted in various forms during the last fifty years.]

CHARITY DEFINED.

The following definition of charity is as good as it is true. Where does it originally come from?—W. G. C.—This is a constant and universal rule, that no consideration of any advantage, no regard of any person, whatsoever, must ever prevail with us to do an ill thing. The Mason who practises the virtue of charity, prefers the good of others before his own private pleasure or profit. That which frequently passes for charity, is really no better than a selfish and carnal principle. True charity seeks not its own advantage; and the man possessed of this principle sets no undue value upon himself or others. For the same reason "charity envieth not;" because envy is a passion proceeding from selfishness and pride. Charity looks upon God as the sole beginning and end of all good, the source from whence it flows, and the immense ocean in which it is swallowed up. And therefore the true brother and just Mason takes no part of the merit or honour to himself; he is not profuse in the commendation of others, but ascribes the whole glory of every virtuous action to Him whose originally and in truth it is. Little need be said to show that one thus disposed, thus persuaded of God, as the only, the universal good, must have set his heart on things above. Many links are added to that golden chain of charity, which ere long will encircle the whole family of man. And then—

"At thy shrine, O Masonry,
Shall admiring nations bend;
In future times thy sons shall see
Thy fame from pole to pole extend.
To worlds unknown thy heaven-born light dispense,
And systems own thy sacred influence."

RED CROSS KNIGHTS.

What is a council of Red Cross Knights, having a Sovereign Master and Master of Dispatches?—D.

LILAC GLOVES.

Is there any reason why I may not wear lilac coloured kids in lodge? Some one objected to it lately.—S. W.—[White gloves are the prescribed tone, but there is no law to prevent any other colour being worn. Neither is there any law which would interfere with your dyeing your hair or whiskers blue,

green, crimson, or any other tint you might prefer, but custom would be sadly outraged by such a display. Either wear white gloves in lodge or go without them altogether, unless you are in mourning, and then no one would object to your sporting the lilac "kids" you so evidently pride yourself upon.]

THE GRAND STEWARDS LODGES.

Which are the lodges that provide Grand Stewards?—ONE IN ESSE.—[They are the Grand Masters, No. 1. Antiquity, 2. Somerset House, 4. St. George and Corner Stone, 5. Friendship, 6. British, 8. Tuscan, 14. Emulation, 21. Globe, 23. Castle Lodge of Harmony, 26. St. Albans, 29. Old Union, 46. Felicity, 58. Peace and Harmony, 60. Regularity, 91. Shakespeare, 99. Jerusalem, 197, and the Prince of Wales's, 259.]

THE MASONIC LADDER.

How many staves or rounds are there in the Masonic ladder.—W. G. C.—[Three in the Craft degree. Five in the Knights of Malta. Seven in the 18th and 30th degrees.]

FLORAL DECORATION OF LODGES.

Churches have at various seasons of the year very pretty floral decorations, and it has become almost an art study how to produce these with the best effect. Would not such a custom be quite as appropriate in a lodge room, and who has ever seen it so ornamented? Precedents of this kind, describing what should be done in flowers, and how, will be esteemed by—HORTICULTURALIST.

CLUBS AND LODGES.

Did any lodges have clubs attached to them in the time of the first and second Georges? A large number of Freemasons belonged to the Beef-steak Club. Did any belong to the celebrated club at Medmenham?—F. M.—[We never heard of them. It is to be hoped there were no Freemasons that ever saw the interior of that disgraceful society. Have a better opinion of the Order than to suppose any of its members votaries of such an unhallowed place. It might suit Wilkes, Potter, Lord Sandwich, and others of the like notoriety, but it would not have done for the fastest of the fast brethren ever admitted to the Order.]

METAPHYSICAL MASONRY.

Where has Freemasonry been treated of metaphysically?—†.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND GOOD FRIDAY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Though not a "Knight Templar" nor a "H.R.D.M.K.D.S.H.," and not aspiring to the dignity involved in the very odd (not to say silly) designation "Sir Knight," I have been given to understand, on pretty good authority, that Masonic Templary is distinguished from Craft Masonry by being professedly and exclusively a Christian Order, and having reference to, if not founded upon, the

most solemn mysteries of the Christian religion. Yet it appears from your last number that the "Royal Kent Encampment" of Newcastle-on-Tyne, meeting (appropriately enough) on Good Friday, "according to ancient custom," think it decent and becoming on such a day to wind up with "the usual banquet," drinking of toasts, and speechifying, and to "spend the evening in that harmony and good fellowship which always," &c.

I am no more a "high puseyite" or "formalist" than any of the "Sir Knights," nor do I make any profession of excessive sanctity; yet it appears to me, and doubtless to others, that it is shockingly irreverent for persons making such professions as "Knights Templar" must do, to make such a day the occasion of feasting and revelry, however harmless, or even laudable, such things may be in themselves.

It can scarcely be necessary to tell such distinguished personages that "Good Friday" is instituted to commemorate the "Cross and Passion" of our Redeemer—the torture and agony which He suffered for our sakes, and which He closed with the awfully significant declaration, "Consummatum est;" and it is customary with very many Christians, who do not pretend to be in any especial sense "soldiers of the sepulchre," to spend the day in fasting, prayer, and meditation, or, at least, in abstinence from anything like extra jollification. Whether they are right or not in so doing is not the question; but surely the very different proceedings of the "Sir Knights" are calculated to cast ridicule and reproach upon Christianity or Masonry or both. It is due, I think, to their character, and that of the Craft of which they profess to be exalted members, that they should have an opportunity of explaining the incongruity of their profession and their practice, and with that object I should feel obliged by your insertion of this letter of inquiry and expostulation.

Yours fraternally,

A MASON, BUT NO "KNIGHT."

CAUTION.—AN ITINERANT MASON.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—There is, at the present time, a Spaniard who professes not to understand English, going about London, Woolwich, and the suburbs, calling upon brethren, and soliciting alms under the pretence of being a brother. The individual in question is short, with a thin sharp visage, sallow complexion, shaved close, and has very dark hair. He was recognised as having done the same thing some thirteen months ago, when he made a pretty good harvest out of the officers, who belong to the Craft, at Woolwich. This may put some of the unwary on their guard, if inserted in the next MAGAZINE.

Yours truly and fraternally,

ONCE BITTEN TWICE SHY.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

MASONIC MEMS.

The members of the St. James's Lodge of Instruction continue to meet every Monday, at eight, at Bro. Copus's, the Swan, Mount-street, Grosvenor-square.

Mark Masonry is extending itself in the far west—two lodges having been consecrated this week in Cornwall, one at Millbrook and the other at Truro, each of which has been established by members of the St. Aubyn Lodge (No. 64), Morice Town, Devonport, by the officers of which the ceremony of installation, &c., was performed.

METROPOLITAN.

PANMURE LODGE (No. 720).—The installation of the newly-elected W.M., Bro. Thomas, took place on Monday evening last, in the presence of an unusually large number of members and visitors, the ceremony being performed by Bro. Read, the retiring Master. After the investiture of the officers for the ensuing year, Bros. Avery, S.W.; Cranswick, J.W.; Read, P.M., Treas.; Stevens, P.M. Sec.; and the initiation of Messrs. Geo. White and R. W. Huntly into the mysteries of the Craft, a resolution of thanks to the late Treasurer, Bro. Farmer, P.M., was ordered to be entered on the minutes and engrossed on vellum, and presented to that brother in recognition of his many services. A Past Secretary's jewel was also voted to Bro. Stevens, who is again appointed to the laborious office which he has hitherto so worthily filled. The Secretary communicated to the lodge that two of its most esteemed members, Bros. Thomas, the W.M., and Hodges, P.M., P. Prov. G. Sec., had been elected, at the last special General Court, as members of the General Committee of the Boys' Institution. A sum of money was then unanimously voted to the widow of a deceased member. The banquet was attended by a very considerable number of members, the W.M. being supported by Bros. Emmens, G. Purst.; Farmer, P.G. Purst.; Hodges, P. Prov. G. Sec.; Read, and several other P.M.'s of the lodge; Nunn, W.M. 22; Bowles, W.M. 160; Boyce, W.M. 813; and several P.M.'s and other officers and brethren of various lodges. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and a P.M.'s jewel, voted at the last lodge, was presented to the I.P.M. In the course of the evening, Bro. Hodges made an effective appeal on behalf of the Boys' Institution, and referring to the inauguration ceremony and Festival on the 8th July, Bro. Hodges, as one of the Stewards on that occasion, solicited the attendance and support of the brethren interested in the success of the charity. It was a source of gratification to many members to witness for the first time in this lodge the investiture of an Organist, in the person of Bro. Smith, who, during the ceremony of installation and subsequently at the banquet, presided at an harmonium expressly purchased for Masonic purposes.

ST. JAMES'S LODGE (No. 765).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 2nd inst., at the Leather Market Tavern, New Weston-street, Bermondsey. Bro. T. Blakeley, W.M., presided. All the three ceremonies were given, viz., one initiation, three passings, and one raising. Bro. J. Howes, P.M., did the passings and raisings in his usual good style. The W.M. performed the initiation in an able and efficient manner. The lodge was then duly closed for the season. The brethren, among whom were visitors Bros. F. Walters, M. A. Lowenstark, and others, afterwards spent a delightful evening at the festive board.

ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 871).—This prosperous lodge met on Friday, April 28th, at Bro. J. Stevens's, the Royal Oak Tavern, High-street, Deptford. Bro. H. A. Collington, W.M., assisted by Bros. J. Stevens, P.M., as S.W.; G. S. Hodgson, J.W.; F. Walters, P.M., Sec.; J. Rosenstock, J.D.; J. Hawker, I.G.; W. Jeffrey, W.S.; G. Wilton, P.M.; J. Truelove, D. Masson, G. Holman, H. J. Wells, H. Stevens, M. Concanen, G. L. Tilbrook, J. Sampson, and W. Andrews, opened the lodge. The visitors were Bros. F. H. Elsworth, J.D. No. 73; M. A. Loewenstark, W.S. No. 73; J. Donnithorne, 73; J. Brown, 140; T. Blakeley, 765; H. Pook, 766, and others. The business was raising Bros. M. Concanen and J. W. Sampson to the third

degree, passing Bro. J. Brown to the second degree, and initiating Messrs. W. and G. F. Honey. The whole of the work was well and ably done. After business the brethren partook of an excellent banquet, and spent a happy evening together.

THE LEIGH LODGE (No. 957).—This young but prosperous lodge met on Monday, the 8th inst., at the Wellington, St. James-street, when after the ceremonies of raising Bro. Robert Gray, and initiating Mr. Albert Delonde into the mysteries of the Craft, had been most impressively performed by Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, the first P.M. of this lodge, in the absence of the W.M., Bro. W. Redwin was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, who appointed for his officers Bros. C. J. Hampden, S.W.; Cockerell, J.W.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.M., Sec.; Gallo, S.D.; after which the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, at which, after the usual loyal toasts had been drunk, they passed a very pleasant evening, and harmony held her sway. The ceremony of installation was ably performed by Bro. Cottebrune, P.M. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Watson, P.M., Lyons, P.M. 25, and several distinguished members of the Craft.

PROVINCIAL.

BERKSHIRE.

ABINGDON.—*Abbey Lodge* (No. 945).—The annual festival of this lodge took place on Thursday, May 11th, when the brethren assembled to elect, as a joining member, Bro. Thomas Parr, of Wantage, and raise Bros. B. Badcock and Samuel Simpson. After this the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. the Rev. T. Gwynne Mortimer, Prov. G. Chap. Oxfordshire, took place, the ceremony being conducted in a masterly and eloquent manner by Bro. the Rev. R. W. Norman, Warden of Radley College, P. Prov. S.G.W. Oxon. The W.M. then appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. J. B. Jenkins, P.M.; H. D'Almaine, S.W.; E. J. Trendell, J.W.; Rev. R. W. Norman, Chap.; R. Badcock, Treas.; J. T. Morland, Sec.; E. G. Hedges, S.D.; — Morland, J.D.; M. Simpson, Dir. of Cers.; G. Phillips, I.G.; Hunt, Tyler. On the conclusion of the business the brethren, about thirty in number, dined together at the Council Chamber, when Bro. Phillips, of the Crown and Thistle Hotel, placed before the guests, in his usual admirable style, an entertainment including every delicacy of the season. Champagne, *ad libitum*, was contributed by the W.M., and a dessert, every way worthy of the dinner, followed. The W.M. presided, and was supported by the D. Prov. G.M. of Oxfordshire, Bro. Alderman Spiers. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were introduced in eloquent and appropriate terms by the W.M., and a stirring exposition of the claims and merits of Masonry by Bro. Norman, P.M., who treated the subject in his capacity of clergyman, was listened to with deep interest and pleasure, and elicited much applause. During the evening several excellent songs were sung, and the proceedings altogether were of the most agreeable character.

DEVONSHIRE.

MORICE TOWN, DEVONPORT.—*Lodge St. Aubyn* (No. 954).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 9th inst., at half-past four in the afternoon. The lodge having been duly opened, the minutes confirmed, and the candidates been balloted for, the lodge was passed to the second degree, and four F.C.'s examined as to their researches in that degree were dismissed, and the lodge was then opened in the third degree, and the W.M.'s chair assumed by Bro. Metham, P.M., P. Prov. G.W. The candidates having been re-introduced were raised to the sublime degree; the ceremony being rendered with great impressiveness and force. Bro. Kent, W.M., having again taken possession of the chair, resumed the lodge to the first degree, and made examination of several brethren of that degree, and the same proving of a satisfactory character, they were entrusted and subsequently passed to the Fellow Craft's degree. The candidates for initiation were then introduced into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry, the duties being most ably performed by Bro. Chapple. The nomination of the elective officers and the proposal of a candidate for initiation having been made, the labours of the evening were brought to a close with the usual prayer. The pleasures of the evening were much enhanced by a return visit to the officers and other brethren of the Bedford Lodge, Tavistock, on behalf of whom Bro. Merri-

field, sen., expressed himself as being highly gratified at his visit. He himself had been a brother of the mystic tie for nearly 40 years, was now a P.M. and P. Prov. G. Org., and had three sons of similar rank. This he hoped would be thought a guarantee of his good opinion of Freemasonry.

ESSEX.

COLCHESTER.—*Angel Lodge* (No. 51).—At the monthly meeting of this lodge, on Tuesday evening, the 9th inst., Bro. Edwin Bean, of Mersea, was chosen Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The lodge continues to add very rapidly to its number, there having been three initiations that evening.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

WALTHAM CROSS.—*Gresham Lodge* (No. 869).—The first meeting of the season of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 13th inst., at the Four Swans Hotel. The lodge was opened at three o'clock p.m., by Bro. Harcourt, W.M., assisted by Bros. J. Smith, M.D., acting as S.W.; Walter Lean, S.D., acting as J.W.; Thompson, S.D.; Mitchell, I.G.; H. J. Thompson, P.M. Sec., and several other brethren. The visitors were Bros. Partidge, P.M. 22; Wilcox, P.M. 22; and H. J. W. Thompson, W.M. 65 and W.M. 898. The business before the lodge was the raising of Bro. Clark to the degree of M.M., which ceremony was ably rendered by the W.M., who gave the traditional history. This being the meeting for electing a W.M. for the ensuing year, the brethren proceeded to ballot, which resulted in the unanimous election of Bro. H. J. Thompson, Sec., who was one of the founders of the lodge. Bro. Vallentin was re-elected Treasurer. Business being ended, the brethren adjourned to banquet, after which the usual toasts were duly honoured.

OXFORDSHIRE.

BANBURY.—*Churchill Lodge* (No. 599).—The Annual Festival was held on Friday, the 5th, when the brethren assembled at the Masonic Hall for the purpose of installing the W.M. Elect, Bro. the Hon. William Henry North, M.P. The ceremony of installation was performed in an able manner by the retiring Master Bro. W. E. Gumbleton, P. Prov. G. Reg., of Brasenose College. On the conclusion of this ceremony the W.M. appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. W. E. Gumbleton, Brasenose College, P.M.; E. Handley, Magdalen College, S.W.; C. C. Webster, Corpus Christi College, J.W.; Rev. F. W. Short, New College, Chaplain; Alderman R. J. Spiers, Treasurer; G. H. Rainy, University College, Sec.; W. Burch, Assist. Sec.; Sir D'Arcey Legard, Oriel College, kins, S.M. of Cers.; S. G. Beal, Exeter College, J.M. of Cers.; S.D.; Geo. Gumbleton, Christ Church, J.D.; R. S. Haw-Lionel Darell, Christ Church, I.G.; J. G. Tetley, Magdalen College, Org.; J. H. Phillpotts, Christ Church, Stew. The business of the lodge being brought to a termination, the brethren proceeded to Kennington Island, where they celebrated the festival by a sumptuous entertainment, served up in excellent style by the host, Mr. Harrison, and to which the W.M. and Wardens presented the wine. About twenty brethren were present, and under the presidency of the W.M., who fulfilled the duties of the chair in an admirable manner, a very delightful evening was spent.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

BRADFORD.—*Lodge of Hope* (No. 302).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall on Monday, the 8th inst. The W.M. with characteristic punctuality took the chair at 7 p.m., prompt, and was well supported by his officers—Bros. Wm. Ibbetson, S.W.; Jas. Pickard, J.W.; Wm. Fearnside, B.A., P. Prov. G. Chap., Chaplain; James Lumb, P.M., Treas.; R. Holt, Sec.; J. R. Armitage, S.D.; W. H. France, as J.D.; Wm. Bottomley, I.G.; J. J. Holmes, O.G.; and John Hill, Curator. There were also present Past Masters Wm. Gath, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Henry Smith, P. Prov. S.G.D.; C. H. Taylor, P. Prov. S.G.D.; Thos. Hill, P. Prov. S.G.D.; Manoah Rhodes, P.G. Steward; J. T. Robinson, H. O. Mawson, and Alexander Hunter; also, Bro. H. Butterworth, W.M. Airedale (No. 387). The brethren mustered in goodly number, and amongst the visitors we noticed Bro. Wm. Leeming, P.M. 306, and others. The lodge was properly opened in the first degree, when the minutes of last lodge and subsequent lodge of emergency were read by the

Secretary and duly confirmed by the brethren present. Bro. Geo. Richardson and Bro. John Taylor, passed a satisfactory examination as E.A.'s, and the lodge having been opened in the second degree, they were separately and respectively passed to the degree of F.C. by the W.M., assisted by Bro. P. M. Hunter, Bro. P. M. Smith explaining the working tools. The W.M. then lowered the lodge to the first degree, and announced to the brethren the death of Bro. James Holt Buckley, P.M., who departed this life in the blessed hope of immortality on Friday, the 29th ult. Bro. Buckley joined the Lodge of Hope in 1822, and worked his way up to the chair with diligence and honour. He was W.M. in 1835 and 1839, and discharged the duties of his position with goodness and wisdom, and so zealously as to secure for himself the hearts, good feeling, and respect of the Craft generally. His sight failing him he was obliged to relinquish his business, and his chief support for many years has been derived from services rendered to the Lodge of Hope, its chapter and Encampment of Faith (No. 29). In 1858 he was fortunate enough to be elected an annuitant of the Benevolent Fund, being third of ten successful candidates out of thirty-two on the list. Bro. Buckley died at the advanced age of seventy-two, and was interred at the Scholesmore Cemetery, near Bradford, in the presence of his surviving brethren on Wednesday, the 3rd inst., making the second annuitant removed by death from this province within a few months; Bro. John Beckett, of Wakefield having died in January last. The lodge unanimously voted the sum of £10 to Bro. Buckley's widow, and delegated the W.M. to do everything possible for the alleviation of the distress caused to herself and family by the deeply lamented death of her esteemed husband. A presentation was afterwards made to the Chaplain, Bro. Wm. Fearnside, B.A., P. Prov. G. Chap., on his leaving the locality for Todmorden. Bro. P.M. Manoah Rhodes presented to the Rev. Brother, on behalf of the lodge, a complete set of provincial clothing, and jewel with inscription. Bro. Fearnside leaves the lodge with the hearty goodwill and esteem of every brother in it, and it is hoped he will be long spared to continue his career of usefulness to the Order of which he is so distinguished a member.

WAKEFIELD.—*Unanimity Lodge* (No. 154).—A meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield, Bro. the Rev. C. E. Camidge, M.A., W.M., in the chair. The minutes being read and confirmed, and there being no other business, the Worshipful Master proceeded to advocate the pressing claims of the Boys' School. Bro. Binckes, the Secretary's, circular was read. Bro. Henry Smith gave some information respecting the Schools, and it was resolved, on the motion of Bro. M. E. Nailor, seconded by Bro. Hulbert, J.W., that the sum of ten guineas be paid out of the lodge funds for the purpose of qualifying the Senior and Junior Warden's chairs life subscribers. A sincere hope was expressed that every lodge in the province would do its share towards placing the Boys' School free from debt, by the opening day, July 8th. The W.M. then called attention to the subject of a new Masonic Hall, which had been mooted by the W.M. of the other two lodges, and it was resolved that the matter be left to the three W.M.'s to take such steps as they considered necessary, to bring the matter fully before their respective lodges. The lodge was closed in perfect harmony at half-past nine.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

UNITED PILGRIM'S CHAPTER (No. 507).—The regular quarterly convocation of this prosperous chapter was held on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., at the Horns Tavern, Kennington. The business was of a formal character, there not being any candidates for exaltation. Comp. F. J. Lilley, M.E.Z., supported by Comps. C. H. Murr, H.; W. Stuart, J., &c. After the chapter was closed, the companions adjourned to refreshment.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

LIVERPOOL CHAPTER.—*Mariner's Chapter* (No. 219).—This chapter was duly opened on Friday, the 12th inst., at half-past five o'clock, by Comps. Pepper, M.E.Z.; Langley, H.; Taylor, J., and a very full chapter. Comp. Pepper, M.E.Z., then proceeded with the installation of Comp. Langley as the M.E.Z. of the chapter, assisted by Comp. Hamer, M.E.P.Z., who then

duly installed Comps. Taylor as H., Marsh as J., and invested Comps. Goepel S.E.; W. Crane, as P.S.; and Johnson, S.N. The ballot was taken for Bro. Smith, Lodge 823, who was duly elected, and being in attendance was exalted to the degree of Royal Arch Freemason. Two brethren were proposed for exaltation, and the chapter was duly closed. The companions then adjourned to the banquet. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly proposed. "The Three Grand Chiefs, Earls of Zetland, De Grey and Ripon, and Hall." "The Grand Chapter of Ireland," was next given, and duly responded to by the Grand Chaplain of Ireland. The M.E.Z. proposed "The Health of Comp. Pepper, P.Z.," and highly complimented him upon the efficient execution of the duties of the office from which he had just retired. Comp. Pepper said he deeply entertained their kindness for the manner in which his name had been received. He begged to propose "The Health of their Comp. Langley, M.E.Z." They all knew his zeal for the chapter, and that he was always willing to fill any office. He trusted that his year of office might be more prosperous than his own had been. Comp. Langley said he felt quite unable to acknowledge as he ought to do the extremely kind manner in which his health had been proposed and drunk. He assured them he should endeavour, during the forthcoming year, to conduct the business of the chapter as nearly as possible as his predecessor had done, and in seeking in that way to win their approbation, he was sure he might confidently look for support from the officers of chapter. Comp. Hamer's health having been drunk, he proposed the health of the officers, which was duly responded to by Comps. Taylor, Marsh, Johnson, and Crane. "The Health of the Visitors" was next proposed, coupling with it the name of Comp. May, P.Z., of Chapter 220, who returned thanks, and said he was much pleased with the good working of this flourishing chapter, believing it to be the largest in Liverpool. The proceedings were brought to a close by Comp. Wylie, M.E.P.Z., singing an excellent song.

NORFOLK.

NORWICH.—*Cabbell Chapter* (No. 807).—This flourishing chapter held a convocation on Monday, the 8th inst., at Freemason's Hall. The business of the evening commenced with the induction of Comp. the Hon. Frederick Walpole, P.J., into the second chair. The following Comps. G. E. Simpson, A. M. F. Morgan, J. Barwell, J. Marshall, Rev. S. Titlaw, and W. Weeks having formed a conclave of Past Principals, the induction was performed by Comp. Mason, who gave the lecture on the Scripture readings in a style most comprehensive and instructive, which elicited the highest satisfaction. The Comps. in attendance, amongst whom were J. Boyce, J. of Perseverance Chapter (No. 213); Capt. Warnes, G. F. Deacon, G. L. Coleman, J. Stanley, &c., were then admitted, when a ballot was taken for Bro. Gervase Holmes, of Faithful Lodge (No. 100), Harleston, who was unanimously elected. His exaltation was performed by Comps. Simpson, Z.; Walpole, H.; Morgan, J.; and D. Penrie, P.S. The three lectures were given from the several chairs, and the whole ceremony was conducted in a way which gratified all present. A subscription was then entered into, independent of a donation from the chapter in aid of the funds required for the Royal Freemasons' Boys' School; after which, a vote of thanks was given to Comp. Mason for his zeal and assiduity in furtherance of the prosperity and welfare of the chapter, and for the trouble he had taken in the renovation of its regalia. The chapter was then closed in due form with solemn prayer.

MARK MASONRY.

CORNWALL.

MILLBROOK.—The first Markmasters' Lodge in this county was opened on Monday last, in connection with Lodge Meridian, Millbrook, where the ceremony of installation was conducted by Bros. S. Chapple and Keat, assisted by other brethren from Plymouth and Devonport. Bro. E. J. Worth, P.M. of Lodge Meridian, was duly installed as the first Master. The following are the other officers of the lodge:—Bros. C. Keil, S.W.; H. Whitmore, J.W.; Blackney, M.O.; Stephens, S.O.; Bickford, J.O.; Henwood, Secretary. Four brethren were afterwards regularly advanced to this degree.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

GRAND CONCLAVE.

The May meeting of the Grand Conclave of Knights Templar was held on Friday, the 12th inst., in the Masonic Union Company's Hall, which has now been finished, the arms of all the Grand Masters of the Order, the Supreme Grand Council, the whole of the members of the 32°, and all the Prov. G. Commanders having been painted on the ceiling, and looked very well; and although three o'clock was the hour appointed, the procession did not enter the hall until a quarter past four—an unpardonable waste of time, which was very freely commented on and severely condemned by many who had come from long distances, or left important business, and were kept waiting for some few laggards whose reading appears to be so correct that an hour mentioned means, to them, any other time they choose to fix. Masonic punctuality is so frequently neglected that all supreme authorities would add immensely to their popularity if they steadily set their faces against such trifling with the time of those who do their duty, and would always commence their proceedings promptly. This done, once or twice, would have a most salutary effect, and the heads of the rite would not be kept waiting, as well as avoid the grumbling and dissatisfaction their kind, but amiable and ill-judged, leniency calls forth against themselves.

The list of those present included the following Grand Officers past and present:—The M.E. and S.G.M., Sir Knt. W. Stuart; the V.H. and E.D.G.M., Lieut.-Col. George Vernon; W. J. Meymott, G. Dir. of Cers.; M. H. Shuttleworth, G.V. Chan.; W. Lean, 2 G. Her.; R. W. Falconer, *M.D.*, Prov. G. Com. Somerset; E. Pierpoint, 2 G. Capt. of Lipes; J. S. Tulloch, *M.D.*, P. 1 G. Capt.; R. Rodda, P.G. Capt.; C. H. Cox, P.G. Stand. Bearer; H. H. Burchell-Herne, P.G. 1 Capt.; C. W. Griffiths, 1 G. Expert; C. J. Vigne, P.G. Com. Dorset; Rev. John Huyshe, Prov. G. Com. Devon; Capt. N. G. Phillips, P.G. Sub-Prior; Matthew Cooke, Grand Organist; W. Paas, G. Banner Bearer; J. H. Law, Grand Chancellor; Rev. C. R. Davy, G. Hospitaller; Geo. Harcourt, *M.D.*, Prov. G. Com. Surrey; R. Spencer, P.G. Banner Bearer; C. Swan, P.G. A.D.C.; H. W. Spratt, P.G. 1 Capt.; J. Smith, G. Constable; W. Bristow, P.G. Capt. of Lines; D. Peacock, G. Chamberlain; Newton Tomkins, Grand Treasurer; W. H. North, P.G. Sword Bearer; J. Tepper, P.G. 2 Capt.; and J. Stohwasser, P.G. Standard Bearer.

These were supported by the attendance of Sir Knts. Rev. J. H. Grice, Mount Calvary; W. M. Wright, Prov. G. Chan. Lancaster; S. R. P. Shilton, D. Prov. G. Com. Notts.; R. Costa, St. George's; H. Hollingsworth, P.E.C. Royal Naval; George Lambert, Stuart; W. Merrill, P.E.C. Plantagenet; G. Cornwall Legh, *M.P.*, United; W. H. Wood, E.C. St. Amand; C. H. Watts, Mount Calvary; Jas. R. Clase, E.C. Royal Sussex; Vincent Bird, Royal Sussex; C. F. Marshall, Bladud; H. J. Mason, Cabbell; G. M. Ingram, Union; H. C. Finch, Stuart; G. T. Davies, Observance; T. Wilton, Antiquity; J. R. Thomson, E.C. elect Kemys Tynte; F. Gough, *LL.D.*, Richard de Vernon; Sir Patrick M. Colquhoun, Faith and Fidelity; W. A. Brunton, Mount Zion; Charles Goolden, E.C. Faith and Fidelity; Joseph Lyons, Kemys Tynte; Maxwell C. Close, *M.P.*, No. 12, Dublin; F. M. Williams, *M.P.*, Cornubian; E. J. Stillwell, Mount Calvary; J. B. Phillips, St. Michael's; S. Rosenthal, Mount Calvary; W. Anslow, Richard de Vernon; W. M. Bayley, Walfruna; H. Mulliner, Shakespeare; J. W. Brown, William Stuart; C. Robinson, All Souls; H. Leet, Observance; W. Stone, Mount Calvary; C. Allen, Mount Calvary; F. Jackson

Ancient York; J. C. Sharp, Observance; and several others, who did not sign the books, making a total of ninety-one.

The Grand Conclave having been opened, a photographer and his assistants were introduced for the purpose of taking a picture of the brilliant assembly.

After the routine business was disposed of, the M.E. and S.G. MASTER announced that he had appointed Sir Knt. the Duke of Newcastle, Prov. G. Commander for Nottinghamshire. Sir Knt. Dr. Falconer, of Bath, was then obligated as Prov. G. Commander for Somerset.

Sir Knt. NEWTON TOMKINS, G. Treas., then rose and said—he felt it utterly impossible for him to hold office any longer, and proposed Sir Knt. Charles Goolden, P.E.C. of the Faith and Fidelity, as his successor, stating that he knew him to be everything they could desire.

This was seconded by Sir Knt. TEPPER, and carried unanimously.

Sir Knt. GOOLDEN was then invested by the M.E. and S.G.M., and on taking his place said, that words failed him to express his sense of the high honour and trust they had reposed in him in electing him to that onerous position, made doubly so by succeeding one who had so long, ably, and eminently filled that office. (Hear, hear.) Young as he was in their confidence, he felt he should be very remiss in his duty if he did not, as his very first act, propose a vote of thanks to Sir Knt. Newton Tomkins, for his excellent administration during the nine years he had been their Grand Treasurer. (Great applause.)

Sir Knt. the Rev. JOHN HUYSHIE begged to second the motion, convinced, as he was, that Sir Knt. Tomkins had been the right man in the right place. (Cheers.)

The V.H. and E. Deputy Grand Master, Colonel VERNON, was sure that there was no one present but would have been glad to have proposed the motion, and it had his warmest support.

The M.E. and S.G. MASTER then put it *pro forma*, when it was received with an outburst of enthusiasm, and carried by acclamation.

Sir Knt. NEWTON TOMKINS said it was quite impossible to close his career of honour and credit in their service without thanking them for the kind way in which they had recognised his exertions. He ever had the interests of the Order at heart, and when it was in difficulties he had joined with others to render it every support. (Cheers.) Now it was taken up by younger Knights, and he felt, having done his best, it was time for him to retire. The Order had increased and succeeded beyond expectation, and, like the bee that made the honey, he should leave the hive well stocked. Thanking them all for the trust they had reposed in him for nine years, and for the honours they had accorded him, he gratefully and gracefully retired from active participation in their service. When Sir Knt. Tomkins resumed his seat, he was again most heartily applauded.

The offertory was then commenced, and the alms collected amounted to £13 12s. 6d. After which, the M.E. and S.G. Master proceeded to appoint and invest his officers, as follows:—

Lieut.-Colonel George Vernon (re-appointed), V.H. and E.	Deputy Grand Master.
Lord Kenlis, Cœur de Lion.....	G. Seneschal.
The Hon. F. Walpole, Cabbell ...	" Prior.
Lord Glenworth, Royal Sussex ...	" Sub-Prior.
Rev. E. Moore, Faith and Fidelity (reappointed).....	" Prelate.
R. Costa, St. George's 1st	" Captain.
C. J. Banister, Royal Kent 2nd	" Captain.
Sir Patrick Colquhoun, S. Michael and S. George	" Chancellor.
M. H. Shuttleworth, Mount Calvary (reappointed)	" Vice-Chancellor.

Joseph Lavender, Observance.....	" Registrar.
Charles Goolden, Faith and Fidelity	" Treasurer.
Cornwall Legh, M.P., United	" Chamberlain.
Dr. Smith, Sepulchre	" Hospitaller.
W. J. Meymott, Observance (re-appointed)	" Dir. of Cers.
James R. Thomson, Kemys Tynte	" Assist. Dir. of Cers.
W. Hollingsworth, Royal Naval...	" Supt. of Works.
W. Gumbleton, Mount Calvary ...	" Constable.
J. Thomas Lewis, Godfrey de Bouillon	" Provost.
Rev. J. H. Grice, Mount Calvary	" Almoner.
George Lambert, Stuart	" Warden of Regalia
W. Smith, St. George's 1st	" Expert.
C. F. Marshall, Bladud 2nd	" "
S. R. P. Shilton, Abbey 1st	" Standard Bearer.
Rev. — Phillips, St. Michael ... 2nd	" "
Rev. Thos. Wilton, Antiquity... 3rd	" "
E. J. Stillwell, Mount Calvary... 4th	" "
Thomas Jackson, Ancient York... 1st	" Aide-de-camp.
W. H. Wood, St. Amand..... 2nd	" "
G. F. Davies, Observance..... 1st	" Capt. of Lines.
C. Greenwood, Harcourt 2nd	" "
H. Thompson, Mount Calvary... 1st	" Herald.
W. Lean, Mount Calvary 2nd	" "
Matthew Cooke, Kemys Tynte (reappointed).....	" Organist.
Jas. W. Brown, William Stuart...	" Sword Bearer.
I. J. Clase, Royal Sussex	" Banner Bearer.

The following Sir Knts. were nominated by the Grand Master to serve on the committee for the ensuing year:—Rev. E. Moore, Grand Prelate; H. H. Burchell-Herne, P.G. Capt.; R. J. Spiers, D. Prov. G. Commander Oxford; Lieut.-Colonel H. Clerk, P.G. Sub-Prior, and P.G. Reg. The Grand Conclave elected Sir Knts. W. J. Meymott, G. Dir. of Cers.; Dr. Tulloch, P.G. Capt.; Captain Philips, P.G. Sub-Prior; and J. H. Law, P.G. Chancellor.

Sir Knt. HUYSHIE, Prov. G. Commander for Devon, thought they could not pass over Sir Knt. Law's services without tendering him a vote of thanks.

This was warmly advocated by the Deputy Grand Master, and carried by acclamation.

Sir Knt. LAW, P.G. Chancellor, was taken by surprise at their kindness. He was deeply grateful for his past honours, and would always do his best for the Order. (Cheers.)

The D.G. MASTER proposed a grant of two guineas to the widow of a Royal Arch Mason. This was opposed on principle by Sir Knts. Spratt, Lambert, and Stebbing, who all maintained their funds should be devoted to those who belonged to the Order, and that Royal Arch Masons should claim relief from the Grand Chapter, who had funds, but never applied them to charitable uses.

Sir Knt. HUYSHIE proposed a grant of £5 to a distressed and aged Knight Templar, but was met with its being out of order, because, by the revised statutes, it had not been submitted to the committee. The difficulty, however, was overcome by the Grand Master, in right of his supreme authority, ruling it should be put, when it was unanimously carried; after which, the Grand Conclave was closed, and the Sir Knts. sat down to dinner.

Grace having been said and the cloth removed, Bro. W. Ganz, Mr. Reichart, and another German professional singer were introduced, and the M.E. and S.G.M. gave the toast of "The Queen."

The Rev. Sir Knt. J. HUYSHIE said that as there were present two professional gentlemen not Freemasons, the toasts would be responded to as at public dinners. The first toast after the Sovereign of the realm was that of the Grand Master, or Sovereign, of the Order, and he knew they would all drink it with the loyalty they everyone bore to him. He (Sir Knt. Huyshe

would not say what he felt in his presence, but he might be permitted to state that the Grand Master was the personification of good-heartedness, and was eminently qualified to preside over a meeting of Christian Freemasons, as no one could doubt he was a most Christian Knight. He then called upon them to drink "The Health of the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master."

Sir Knt. W. STUART, M.E. and S.G.M., was much gratified by the manner in which the toast was always received; and though he felt he could not take to himself all the credit that the Provincial Grand Commander for Devon had ascribed to him, he hoped he might be reckoned a Christian, and it was a pleasure to endeavour to do his duty in that character, and as their elected head. (Hear, hear.)

The GRAND MASTER had to propose the health of one who was beloved by all. Col. Vernon, the Deputy Grand Master, had been seriously ill, and did not deem himself justified, in his state of health, to remain with them to the banquet, but he, the Grand Master, was quite sure they would all do as much justice to the toast of their Deputy Grand Master in his absence, as they would if he were present. (Hear, hear.)

The GRAND MASTER had next to propose the toast of "The Very Eminent Provincial Grand Commanders." They all knew their value, and the respect they were held in by the Grand Conclave and the Order in general. With that toast he coupled the name of the Senior Provincial Grand Commander of the Order.

Sir Knt. the Reverend JOHN HUYSE, Prov. G. Commander for Devon, rose on behalf of himself and the Very Eminent Sir Knt. Bryant, to respond. It was true, he said, that there were only two of them left there that evening, but others had been present earlier, and it must be taken into consideration that they all lived at a distance, and were desirous, while attending to their duties in the Conclave, to execute many little commissions and some business during their stay in town, which was no doubt the reason there were but two remaining. They would also consider that it was at no little loss of time, as well as at considerable expense, they came to London to be present and keep up the dignity of the Order, that being the highest Order to which any Freemason could go, and beyond it there was nothing higher. For thirty years he had been a member of Grand Conclave, during seventeen of which he had held the proud position of a Provincial Grand Commander, and could boast that he had nearly five hundred knights in his province. If he looked back thirty years he was astonished at the progress the Order had made. Then there was not one fiftieth part of the numbers they had now—(hear, hear)—and the social status of the members was so inferior to those now admitted, that it was a wonder to him how, in his early days in the Order, it had been so perpetuated. (Hear, hear.) He hoped there would never be any attempt made to join that, the highest, Order of Freemasonry with any other Order whatever, and he considered so long as they kept their own position so long would they prosper, increase, and become more and more respectable and respected. (Hear, hear.)

The GRAND MASTER next proposed the toast of "The Grand Officers," coupling the same with the name of Sir Patrick Colquhoun, the new Grand Chancellor, who returned thanks.

The GRAND MASTER said there were two Sir Knights they were bound to honour. They owed their late Grand Chancellor, Sir Knt. J. H. Law, great thanks for having so zealously worked for the Order for some years, and whose conduct and manner during his tenure of office was one which was a pattern of knightly courtesy and honour. Sir Knt. Meymott would, it was to be hoped, remain in office for many years to

come. His exertions as Director of the Ceremonies was all that could be desired, and the way in which he carried out his duties was pleasant and most satisfactory.

Sir Knt. LAW, P.G. Chancellor, was called upon unexpectedly to return thanks, for he considered his merits to lie in a very small compass. (No, no.) He certainly had gained his experience when performing the routine work as Grand Vice-Chancellor, but it was very flattering to him after five years service as Grand Chancellor to find his endeavours stamped with their approval. (Hear, hear.) It would still be his endeavour to merit a continuance of their good opinion by rendering any services he could to his successor. (Hear, hear.)

Sir Knt. MEYMOTT, whose rising was hailed with prolonged cheers, said,—If the lights of that degree bore the light in law, which he had so ably diffused, in him they had an energetic and new light. When he was appointed Director of Ceremonies, he felt that without increased attention to the ceremonial the ritual itself suffered, and the more impressive it could be rendered, he was sure it would be the more appreciated. (Hear, hear.) He desired to abstain from all questions as to other parts of Freemasonry, but to uphold that, the Order of the Christian degrees, which few could appreciate but those who had been Installed Knights. Knight Templary had increased very largely during the last few years, and must continue to increase (loud cheers), and as Sir Knt. Law had earned for himself the praise he justly deserved at their hands, so he, Sir Knt. Meymott, hoped his endeavours would be equally successful (hear, hear); and he should be amply repaid for his exertions, and he did exert himself for the good of the Order (hear, hear) by receiving such kind encouragement from the M.E. and S.G.M. and the Grand Conclave, and hoped to take his place again in their service next year. (Hear, hear.)

The Grand Master then vacated the chair, and the Grand Chancellor, Sir Patrick Colquhoun, assumed it, when a toast or two was given, and the Sir Knights enjoyed themselves right royally. Bro. Ganz played two or three pianoforte concertos in the course of the evening, which were much, and deservedly, admired. Mr. Reichart sang two songs, and the other German gentleman also sang. Bro. Fennell placed a very good dinner on the table, and the whole meeting passed off most agreeably.

SOUTH AMERICA.

(From our own Correspondent).

BUENOS AYRES.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. MASEFIELD, OF EXCELSIOR LODGE (No. 617).

An unusually large and interesting meeting of this lodge was held on the evening of Thursday, 17th November last, for the purpose of presenting Bro. Masefield with a P.M.'s jewel, and congratulatory address. Amongst those present were Bro. J. Chubb Ford, P.G.M., and his officers, Bro. José Roque Perez, G.M., G. Com. of the Grand Oriente of the Argentine Republic, with several of his officers, and representatives from all the lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Oriente.

The lodge having been opened in due form, and the last minutes confirmed, a deputation from the brethren of the lodge requested admission for the purpose indicated. The requisite permission being granted, Bros. A. Dorr, F. W. Moore, and R. H. Kinch entered, the brethren meanwhile standing to order.

Bro. Masefield having stood forward, Bro. MOORE addressed him thus:—Brother Masefield, I have been deputed by several of our brethren to address you a few words this evening on their behalf. My pleasing duty is to present you with a P.M.'s jewel, which, as is engraved on the reverse of it, is "presented to Bro. R. B. Masefield, P.M. Excelsior Lodge (No. 900), Buenos Ayres, by several of his brethren, as a token of their recognition of his services to the

Excelsior Lodge, and as a mark of their appreciation of his moral and social virtues. June 24th, 1864." Unable in so few words to express the feelings that prompted this offering, we have endeavoured to do so at greater length in the following address, which I shall now proceed to read to you:—"Brother Richard Briscoe Masfield—It affords us the sincerest pleasure to request your acceptance of a P.M.'s jewel, which we trust you will not hesitate to accept in the same Masonic spirit that prompts us to present it, as a token of our recognition of the services you have rendered to the Excelsior Lodge, and as a mark of our appreciation of those moral and social virtues that form the truly Masonic ornaments of your character. No temple reared by mortal hands can boast of perfection, nor do we arrogate for the Excelsior Lodge an equality with the noble structures planned by the master minds of antiquity; but still we claim for our modest building some beauty of design and some accuracy of execution, and in these your personal qualities render it a pleasure for us to trace your master hand, and to recognise the knowledge that is accompanied with discretion and enhanced by modesty. May your life be typified by Jacob's ladder, which forms a union between earth and heaven, so that every year you pass among us may be for you one step nearer to the Grand Lodge above, whose Builder and Maker is a recorder of every faithful workman. Buenos Ayres, June 24th, 1864." This address, you will observe, is signed by above fifty of your brethren, who have voluntarily, I might almost say spontaneously, come forward to show you this mark of respect. For this presentation was not got up, as too many are, by a systematic solicitation of subscriptions, but while every member had an opportunity of doing so not a single one was even asked to join. Even the words of this address very inadequately portray the feelings of respect, esteem, and affection with which we must ever regard you. And do not think that these sentiments are confined to the members of the Excelsior Lodge, over which you have so frequently presided, and which we trust will be graced by your presence on many future occasions. A glance around you will show how a mere intimation to the effect that an honour was about to be paid to you sufficed to bring to our lodge numbers of foreign brethren, to render the tribute of their presence to the cause of honour and virtue. Bro. Dorr, on you, as having first recommended Bro. Masfield to a participation in the secrets of Freemasonry, reflects a portion of the honour we wish to pay him. Who, then, can be better fitted to affix this jewel on his breast to cover a heart that we all know to beat with sincerity and truth? Bro. Masfield, I request you to descend to receive the jewel we have to present to you. Bro. Kinch, your hand has never been disgraced by an unmanly or cowardly action. It is worthy, then, to place this address in the hands of Bro. Masfield—hands that are ever ready to relieve the distressed and necessitous amongst us. Bro. Masfield, I beg you to receive the address from Bro. Kinch. It is our earnest hope that the knowledge of our admiration of your character as a man and a Mason may lighten your labours during the years our Master above may spare you to work among us, and may support you when in His wisdom He may remind you that your long day's work is done, and that the moment has arrived for you to

Fold your arms across your breast,
Fold your hands and sink to rest.

At that moment we pray that He may comfort you by the consciousness of a life spent in the faithful discharge of your duty, and by the prospect of a certain reward in the Grand Lodge above, not made by mortal hands.

The ceremony of presentation concluded,

Bro. MASEFIELD expressed his acknowledgment in the following terms:—"Brethren, it were difficult for me to find words to express my grateful feelings to you for this valuable and unexpected mark of your esteem. I shall ever hold and care for this mark of your favour as one of the brightest and most cheering incidents in my Masonic career. Ever it has been my wish and endeavour, as far as in my power lay, to show that Masonry was not a plaything; with me its duties and claims are paramount, and from the expression of your confidence this evening I feel that, although undeserving so much of your respect and affection, I have not laboured in vain. I have credit not so much, perhaps, for what I have done, as for what I wished to do. Rest assured, my heart will ever beat responsive to the brotherly and affectionate feelings which instigated the gift of the valuable jewel which now covers it; and every fresh perusal of the beautiful address just presented to me, will inspire me with fresh energy to advocate and follow out

those grand principles of our Order which, when faithfully practised, make Masons better men, and men better citizens; showing to those who are not with us that Freemasonry is not a bauble. Brethren, you must kindly excuse my brevity, as I can only further repeat my thanks for this token of your confidence, and trust that when we are called from our labour in this sublunary abode, it may be our happiness to be reunited in the Grand Lodge above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns supreme.

Bro. SILORENT, of the Lodge Amis des Naufragés, after congratulating Bro. Masfield on the honour just conferred, presented him with an elegant bouquet of flowers, as a token of the high estimation in which he was held by the brethren of the French Lodge; to which Bro. Masfield replied in a few appropriate remarks.

The business of the evening thus concluded, the bag for the Benevolent Fund was passed round, after which the lodge was closed in due form.

The brethren afterwards partook of a cold collation, spread for the occasion, when the jewel and address were handed round for inspection.

The touching manner in which Bro. Masfield's health was proposed by Bro. Perez, and the hearty response given to it, proved how truthfully Bro. Moore, in his speech in the lodge, had delineated the sentiments of the brethren, both the English and foreign.

Bro. PEREZ then gave a brief sketch of the marked progress Masonry had made during the past few years throughout this portion of South America, and the increased favour with which its principles are received, counting, as it does, in its ranks not only his Excellency the President of the Argentine Republic, but several of his ministers and state dignitaries, and concluded by a pointed reference to the dignified and leading position attained by the Excelsior Lodge under the fostering care of the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. J. Chubb Ford.

Bro. J. CHUBB FORD, in an eloquent speech, gracefully acknowledged the compliment paid to himself and the officers of the Excelsior Lodge, and further reverted to the obligation they were under to Bro. Perez, as head of the Grand Oriente, for the unceasing attention and encouragement received from him and the various lodges working under his jurisdiction. Many other appropriate toasts and speeches enlivened the proceedings of the evening, and altogether the meeting was fraught with instruction and enjoyment. Every brother understands the general design and scope of Masonry, but there are times and circumstances, as in the present instance, when its "spirit and influence" are more keenly felt. In Buenos Ayres Englishmen are literally "strangers in a strange land," and yet, strange anomaly! here were men from all parts of the world, of various creeds, and speaking divers tongues, drawn together by the same invisible influence, extending to us the right hand of fellowship, and addressing us by the endearing appellation of brother. A superficial observer might retire from such a meeting under the impression that he had passed a pleasant evening; but the thoughtful brother would find in it not only a pleasing relief from his daily toil, but see in it the practical result of the working of a mighty system, silent and unobtrusive in its operation, but sublime in its aim and object—the spread of civilisation and the advancement of science.

INDIA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

RANGOON.

VICTORIA IN BURMAH LODGE (No. 832).—The members of this lodge were delighted at the return amongst them of Bro. Col. Greenlaw, the founder of this lodge, especially as he has lately had the very high but well deserved honour of P.S.G.W. conferred upon him by the M.W. Grand Master, whilst at home. He has been received with all honour, also, in Lodge Ilas of Burmah, a strong lodge in Rangoon, and one that works well. Our "bright Mason" has already opened a Mark lodge here, which masters strong, has sent home for a Royal Arch charter, and is now sending home a petition for a charter to open a Knight Templar Encampment. Other lodges are in formation under this brother's assistance in the above degrees, namely, Mark Masonry, Royal Arch, and Knight Templar's Encampment. We have tried to fit up a petition to the M.W. Grand Master of England for a Provincial Grand Lodge in these provinces; but

Bengal is against it, not liking to give up four lodges out of twenty-seven. The reason is plain. The subscriptions and fees to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bengal are very heavy, and all the Provincial Grand Lodge gets is clear gain; for although there are charities here and also objects deserving of relief, though we pay, and have done so for years, large sums to Bengal. This is particularly hard; therefore we need a Provincial Grand Lodge of British Burmah, and trust to our M.W. Grand Master looking upon our application in a Masonic spirit, though the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bengal does object. This land of the Bhoochists now under English rule is very extensive, and is rising daily in importance. We have now a Chief who is to be Deputy Governor; three Commissioners over the three provinces, with many officers under them; a Recorder and a High Court, a General commanding a large force, and some eighty or ninety ships in the river. This will be a rising, large, and important province. The whole of these provinces are officially designated "The Province of British Burmah." Under these circumstances we feel that we ought also to be a province. Each of the two lodges in Rangoon musters upwards of forty-two members; and if Col. Greenlaw succeed in filling up the Arch and Templars as he has done the Mark, many more will no doubt join us. Each lodge pays to the Bengal Provincial Grand Lodge for every subscribing member, 2 rs.; for initiation, 2 rs.; for joining, 1 r.—and gets, in return, no charity; so that forty-two members pay 84 rs., besides the initiation and joining fees.

MARK MASONRY.

RANGOON.—*Victoria in Burmah Lodge* (No. 68).—This lodge was opened on Thursday, February 23, by Bro. Col. Greenlaw, W.M., assisted by Bros. Wilkins as S.W., O'Donnell as J.W., Simpson, M.O., and a full attendance of members. Although this lodge has only met three times, it numbers twenty-five members; and a great many brethren are solicitous of advancement, for this is the first Mark lodge in these provinces—nor is there, I believe, one in Calcutta working under the English Constitution. There is one at Madras, and two more will shortly be opened in British Burmah. The ballot having been taken for Bros. Berrill, Godfrey, Blenkin, Balhazar, Doughty, Gregory, and White, and proving satisfactory, they were severally advanced to the honourable degree of Mark Masters by the W.M. with great solemnity, which elicited the highest satisfaction from all present. Some other candidates having been proposed for advancement to this degree, the lodge was closed with prayer and in solemn form.

CHINA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

INSTRUCTION.

SHANGHAI.—*Lodge of Assiduity* (No. 570).—A meeting of this lodge of instruction took place on the 25th of February. The following brethren acted as officers for the evening. Bros. Jamieson, W.M.; Maitland, S.W.; Johnson, J.W.; Brown, S.D.; Lloyd, J.D.; Wheelock, I.G. After an introductory address from the preceptor, Bro. Gould, P.M., elucidatory of the scope and utility of lodges of instruction, the ceremony of initiation was proceeded with. The two first sections of the first lecture were worked by Bros. Dunlop and Parker, P.M.'s, and the explanation of the tracing board terminated the business of the evening. The attendance was very numerous, and several brethren were proposed as joining members.

SHANGHAI.

ROYAL SUSSEX LODGE (No. 501).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge took place on the 23rd February. Present—Bros. C. E. Parker, P.M., in the chair; Holdsworth, S.W.; Martin, Acting J.W.; Seaman, Sec. and Treas.; Andrews, S.D.; Fellowes, J.D.; Wheelock, I.G.; Adams, M.C.; Phillips, Tyler. Bro. Gould, P.M., Northern Lodge of China (No. 570); Spencer, Endriott, Eckfeldt, Roggen, Oppert, Day, King, Croad, Jury, Reeve, Crooni, Gilmour, Dudfield, Stephenson, and Morrill. Visitors—Bros. Blanchard, Eyles, Brockham, Runble, Lloyd, Keir, Mackay, Smith, Johnston, Baldwin, and Birchard. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes having been confirmed of the two previous meetings, Bro. Gould, P.M., requested the use of the gavel for a few minutes, which was granted by the W.M. Bro. Gould then addressed the brethren as follows:—I have solicited the use of the Master's hiram,

brethren, in order that the few observations I am about to make may be addressed directly to you instead of, as is customary, to the W.M. The proposition I am introducing need be a surprise to no member of the lodge, save him whom it especially concerns, Bro. C. E. Parker. Bro. Parker's year of office has been in every way a most successful one, and those brethren who have conversed on the subject are agreed that the lodge's appreciation of his admirable mastership ought to be signified by the award of a Past Master's jewel, on the reverse of which should be inscribed our brother's valuable services to the Royal Sussex Lodge, together with the esteem in which he was held, both personally and Masonically, by those whose good fortune it was to be situated under his rule in the year just concluded. As the oldest resident member of the lodge present this evening, I beg to lay this proposal before you. It will be seconded by the Senior Warden, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Heard, W.M. The year 1864 was a most critical period in the history of the Royal Sussex Lodge, and to Bro. Parker is justly due the merit of having raised its prestige to the level of the other Masonic bodies in China. Bro. Rawson, in his farewell speech, paid Bro. Parker no undue compliment in speaking of his services in lodge, chapter, and encampment, as second to those of no member of the Craft in Shanghai. I am particularly opposed to an indiscriminate voting of testimonial jewels, yet I offer the proposition now before you under a firm conviction that our Brother Parker has, by most distinguished Craft services, amply merited some special acknowledgment at the hands of this lodge.—Bro. Gould then formally proposed that a Past-Master's jewel of the value of 25 guineas be presented to Brother Parker, which motion, cordially seconded by Bro. Holdsworth, S.W., was put to the lodge by Bro. E. Martin, Acting J.W., and carried most enthusiastically. Bro. Gould having requested the Secretary to take a note of the resolution, briefly communicated the decision of the lodge to the W.M., and resigning the gavel into the hands of that brother, resumed his seat.—Bro. PARKER, on resuming again the gavel, rose after an interval of a few moments, and said,—Brethren, for the first time, I believe, I rise from this chair without being in a measure prepared for what I have to say. This is so complete a surprise to me that I can with difficulty find words to express to you my thanks, and my sense of the high honour and compliment you have just paid me. During the past year, I feel I can conscientiously say, I have striven to do my duty as your Master, and faithfully fill the chair of your lodge, and I accept your kind present as an earnest of your approval, and shall ever value it as a token of your friendship, and a memento of the kind assistance, support, and encouragement, you have given me in my labour. These latter are what enable a Master worthily to discharge his duties, and although you have been kind enough to attribute the present successful working of the Royal Sussex to my exertions, it is to you I feel I am indebted and upon you that I would call to continue the exercise of that harmonious and energetic spirit you have thus far displayed, and extending to your new Master the right hand of fellowship and fidelity, foster and support him during the coming year. That you will do this, I feel assured, and I look forward to a future of success and prosperity for our lodge. For myself, I can only again give you my best thanks for the honour you have done me, and assure you that I shall cherish the jewel as a token, I trust, of many friendships and a memento of my year of office as your Master, which I shall look back to as one of the happiest twelvemonths of my life. Bro. Parker then resumed his seat amidst the subdued applause of the brethren. The ceremony of the first degree was then worked, and Messrs. Kent, Geary, Talbot, and Grinnell were severally initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry, after which the lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bros. Endicott, Croone, and Gilmour separately passed to the degree of P.C. All labour being finished, the W.M., before closing, called to the minds of the brethren that Bro. Rawson had requested that his name might be put upon the list of absentee members, as he had returned to England. In consideration, however, of the many valuable services which they had received from Bro. Rawson, and as a mark of their esteem, he begged to propose that Bro. Rawson be elected an honorary member of the lodge. This was seconded by Bro. Fellowes, J.D., and carried unanimously. The W.M. then called the attention of the brethren to the meetings of the Assiduity Lodge of Instruction, under the auspices of the Northern Lodge of China, and recommended a constant attendance of the members. Nothing more offering for the good of the Craft, the lodge was closed in due form at 11.45 p.m.

Obituary.

BRO. N. W. OLIVER.

It is with extreme regret that we have to announce the death of W. Bro. Norman Washington Oliver, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Western India under Scotland, and Worshipful Master of Lodge Perseverance, in the 46th year of his age. This melancholy event occurred on Saturday, 26th March, and has cast a gloom on the whole of the community of Bombay. The remains of our deceased brother were conveyed to their last resting place, the cemetery at Colaba, on Sunday afternoon, where they were interred by the side of the late Mr. Oliver, whose death took place just a week before. His Excellency the Governor, attended by his Military Secretary and Aide-de-Camp, and a large number of other gentlemen, including many of the fraternity, were present at the funeral. The Rev. Ward Maule officiated on the mournful occasion. The body arrived at St. John's Church shortly after 4 o'clock, when a portion of the beautiful and solemn service of the Church of England was performed, after which the sad procession re-formed and proceeded to the graveyard, when the Rev. Mr. Maule concluded the ritual of the burial of the dead in a very impressive manner.

No mortuary record can excite more universal grief in Western India than the simple announcement of the death of this great and good man and Mason, for no being, be he of the most exalted station, was more intimately known or esteemed. The high Masonic standing, tried worth, and true devotion to the interests of the Order, of our deceased brother, are too well known to require any eulogy from us.

There are few men who could be more generally regretted. He was not only a good citizen, but a good man, and his death is as much a public loss as a private misfortune. He was so courteous in his manners, so gentlemanly in all he said and did, as to have attracted every one who knew him, and made him an universal favourite. But his politeness and affability were the unstudied expressions of a gentle, kind heart, which excited in those who had the privilege of intimacy with him, the warmest attachment.

May his memory be long cherished in the hearts of the members of the Fraternity in whose service so large a portion of his valuable life has been spent, and who by his pure life and upright conduct has so fully exemplified the Divine teachings of Freemasonry.

To mark the respect, affection, and esteem in which our deceased brother was held, we understand that Lodge Perseverance will go into mourning for a period of three months, and that a general subscription is to be raised amongst the Fraternity for erecting a monument to his memory.

We cannot better express the general sentiments in regard to the public career of our deceased brother, than by quoting the following feeling remarks from our respected contemporary and brother of the *Bombay Gazette*:—

"The announcement of the death on Saturday last of Norman Washington Oliver, our Chief Police Magistrate, has spread a general gloom over society. Everywhere the sad intelligence has been received with the deepest regret. With the prospect of improved health from a change to Europe, Mr. Oliver was about to leave India on Wednesday next, much shaken in constitution from a prolonged residence and from close attention to duty over a series of years. One of those faithful, hard-working, painstaking servants of Government, he was himself the last to perceive the slow but certain evil influences which climate and toil were surely working on what had been a sound frame. He quitted his post only when actual disease had proceeded so far that attendance to duty was no longer possible. The power

of medicine could do but little, and change to Europe was ordered by his medical attendants. It was proposed he should leave by the steamer of the 14th, but by that date it was thought necessary to defer his departure until the 29th, in the hope that his strength might be brought up a little. On the 20th Mrs. Oliver died after a protracted illness, and this event helped in no small measure to bear down the strength of the patient, to add mental distress to bodily illness, and thus give unfavourable turn to the disease under which he sank on Saturday, in the forty-sixth year of his age.

"Mr. Oliver served with distinction in China under Captain Basil Hall, R.N., in 1840-41 in the steamer *Nemesis*. After the conclusion of the treaty of peace by Sir Henry Pottinger, he came to Bombay and was transferred to the Department of the Master Attendant as First Assistant, and from thence he was advanced to the Magistracy in 1851, we believe on the retirement of Mr. Rivett. It is as a Magistrate he was best known to this community; that he performed the duties of this office not only with satisfaction to the Government, but that the general public voice accorded him the praise of being a pattern man, and the members of the legal profession, while acknowledging his gentlemanly urbanity, acknowledged also the justice of his decisions. The Judges of the High Court seldom had a word against Mr. Oliver's cases. It is the best proof of the general esteem in which he was held in Bombay, that when the post of Senior Magistrate became vacant on the retirement of Mr. Crawford, and it was known that Government for the first time thought of departing from the old established rule of conferring the post on a Civil servant or a Barrister by appointing Mr. Oliver Chief Magistrate of Bombay, not a voice was raised by Barrister or Civil Servant against the appointment, but all concurred in the justice of the selection of Government, and he had just attained to the highest appointment ever held by an uncovenanted servant in this Presidency when the hand of death removed him.

"As a Naval Officer he was known as a smart sailor and a considerate commander. Duty must be performed he thought, but obedience should be exacted more by love and respect than by the terrors of the articles of war. Regularity and precision afloat were brought with him ashore, and were observed as distinguishing characters in his official duties. Method and kindness made even police business tolerable where Norman Oliver presided. We are sure the people of his office will keenly feel his loss, and so will all who came within the circle of his acquaintance. His friends will remember his noble qualities of heart and soul, a bright example of a British gentleman. He leaves a large orphan family; who can tell the depths of their distress at the loss of a father such as Norman Oliver? It is not the province of the journalist to enter into the affairs of private life; they are sacred to us and to all. But what has been the loss to Government? We are sure Sir Bartle Frere will acknowledge the virtues and faithfulness of the dead, and especially when the Supreme Government has lately thought the duties of the Magistracy in Bombay were less zealously performed than in Calcutta. Who could say Norman Oliver spared himself? In him the true spirit of the officer of Justice was markedly manifested. This Government must mourn him a conscientious servant, regardless of self, stricken down by exertions and toil, a victim to his own faithfulness.

"While we mourn his loss, while his virtues are still fresh before us, and while we are seeking to establish our title to an appreciation of what is good and lovely, should we not carry the name of Norman Oliver down to future generations along with the blessing of a living charity, which, while doing honour to his memory, would have been acknowledged by him in life as a deed in every way worthy of our wealth and of our fame."—*Masonic Record of Western India.*

LITERARY EXTRACTS.

BEHIND THE SCENES.—Fay meets fay with a cordiality (although they have doubtless their jealousies) which is very rare among ladies of fashion. "Jemima, darling, just set my quiver right, will you?" or "Kitty, dear, let me straighten your wings." Their behaviour, too, with those young gentlemen who are evidently *habitués* of the place is artless and sister-like. There was certainly less flirtation than is seen after a *déjeuner à la fourchette* on the lawn of many a respectable villa-residence on the banks of the Thames; and perhaps less misunderstanding of mutual position. I am bound to say that there was one exception to this good conduct upon the part of a certain visitor, who, in graphic and well-chosen words of an indignant goddess about to ascend to the empyrean upon a cloud, was both "old and ugly enough to know better." This ancient gentleman—or nobleman for all that I know—went about with his faded airs and smileless face, whispering soft nothings to very little purpose, and, as it appeared to us, got considerably snubbed; but after a little, to our great content, he took himself off, instead of being taken, as he ought to have been, down the nearest trap, by demons, and condemned there to wind windlasses of endless chains until the theatrical season terminated. There were depths below that would have afforded every accommodation that he deserved; gloomy abysms, which we presently explored, with a vague impression of dust and darkness, and the lifting of heavy weights, such as might have been produced by visiting Great Tower-street in July during an eclipse. Then again we mounted the "flies," where, in gloom, the carpenters sat by the vast cylinders of rope, with their fingers on the iron handles, waiting for the signal from below; also into the Painting Room, a desolate chamber, whose immense extent might have taught perspective to the artist of the willow-pattern plate; nay, we were even shown the door—only the door—that opened on the sanctum which "young persons" in the receipt of a guinea a week as ballet-dancers entered, shawled and cloaked, and came forth glorious with gauze and spangles as daughters of the sun. But wherever we went, no matter what the gloom, through cracks and clefts, the glare and glitter of the stage would force its way; and no matter what the distance from "the house," those sullen waves of sound, that were applause, would yet be heard.—*Chambers's Journal*.

A SEASONABLE HINT.—A person leaving a warm room, and going into a colder, or into the open air, should carefully close the lips for a few minutes, until he has become, as it were, acclimatized to the colder atmosphere, and breathe through the nostrils alone, by which the cold air is made to traverse the long, warm nasal passage before it reaches the windpipe and vocal organs; and its temperature being thus raised, one common mode of "catching cold" is avoided. Most persons upon leaving a warm church or hot concert-room immediately open their mouths to discuss the merits of those they have just heard, and many a severe cold is taken. It is equally common, but still worse, for a public speaker to do so, for his throat is more heated from his recent exertions, and he may, and often does, become hoarse for a month by such apparently trifling neglect.—*C. W. Smith's "Clerical Elocution."*

BAYNARD'S CASTLE.—Baynard's Castle stood in Thames Street, and was close to the river, so as to secure a good landing-place. It must originally have been important as a stronghold, and, from its favourable position for defence, no doubt afforded a very effectual barrier against interlopers, who, in those early times, sought to plunder the citizens of London. No vestiges of the building remain above ground; but the massive foundations are still visible at low water. Some years ago the site was used as a timber yard: an old engraving of the Castle represents a very extensive structure with three front buttresses, with their basements in the river, and

raised far above the roof; while, surmounting all, towards the centre, a lofty tower or steeple is shown. The buttresses, and all the intervening projections, are pierced with long narrow lights, and the walls probably had openings in every direction for the discharge of missiles, and, after the introduction of gunpowder as a means of aggression, for the employment of gunnery, and even of mortars and small pieces of artillery. It is not known how the place fell to the Crown, but, when destroyed by fire, in 1428, it was rebuilt by Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester. Henry VI. made it a royal residence, but ultimately granted it to Richard, Duke of York, who made it his head-quarters during the Wars of the Roses. A scene in Shakspeare's play of "Richard III." is laid in the court of Baynard's Castle; and its importance as a military station must have been immense, as it would so readily control the artisans as to political manifestations, from its great strength, its situation in the centre of London, and from overlooking the Thames.—*The Old City, its Highways and Byways*.

ST. PAUL'S CROSS.—About forty years ago, I can well recollect, at the north-east end of St. Paul's Churchyard, a small, stunted, ill-conditioned tree, now long decayed, which marked the spot where the Cross stood during so many ages. This unhappy-looking tree was believed to be one of several which had been planted when green leaves were not exceptional in the district, and probably its branches, or those of its kindred, had actually waved around and shaded the City rostrum itself. Paul's Cross, or pulpit, was set up in the year 1449, by Kempe, Bishop of London, on the site of a former ancient cross which had been thrown down by an earthquake in 1382. It was first named in 1259, when Henry III. commanded the Mayor to oblige all the City youths, from fourteen years of age upwards, to take the oath of allegiance, at St. Paul's Cross, to him and his heirs. In all likelihood it was in use for similar purposes, and for open-air exhortations from the clergy, as early as the first Norman monarchs. Out-of-door preaching, denounced and ridiculed in the days of Whitfield and Wesley, was there quite a recognised institution, although, from disuse, entirely forgotten. During several centuries the Cross was used for almost every purpose, whether political or ecclesiastical. We hear of it continually from the pages of our old chroniclers. Monks declaimed, officials and law officers proclaimed, legends or doctrines, acts of Parliament or the kings who made them; and while the fourth estate (the press) was absolutely unknown, the people crowded around the Cross to hear news, or receive precepts, as almost their only source of information.—*The Old City, its Highways and Byways*.

Poetry.

MASONIC MUSINGS.

THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE GAEL.

Weird old sentinels of monarch time,
Mute and motionless, yet mighty and erect,
Closer than thy concrete bond in lime,
The secret lies of thy unknown architect;
Egyptian, Syrian, Roman, Greek and Goth,
Their spires and shafts, and pyramids will fail
Wizard Round Towers, that shall perish not,
The grand old architecture of the Gael.

The world long since had solved thy mystery, if
In Coptic, Sanscrit, or Arabic tongue;
Nor Hebrew, Greek, nor graven hieroglyph,
Nor complex Ogham would have held it long
Keeps, bellfries, beacons, or what else thou wert,
Decay and war as whilom may assail,
Wizard Round Towers, time-proof on the earth,
The grand old architecture of the Gael.

Oh! couldst thou speak, we surely then would hear,
 Did Druids hold converse, in your cone-capp'd head,
 To fix the stars and cycles for each year,
 Or offer holocausts to gods instead.
 Pagan or Christian, wherefore unexplain'd;
 Why standing lorn thou in Innisfail;
 Wizard Round Towers, proudly have you reign'd,
 The grand old architecture of the Gael.

Old bards have sung and senachies relate,
 Thy founder was the mighty Goban Seer;
 Who flourish'd back, beyond the Christian date,
 A wondrous architect without a peer.
 With many a castle and old fort, his name
 Is link'd by ode and Ossianic tale;
 Wizard Round Towers of his majestic fame,
 The grand old architecture of the Gael.

Live on, old sentinels of monarch time;
 Your heirs are dead, your treasure-trove is gone;
 Some grand old prophet, with a soul sublime,
 May tell thy secrets to the world anon.
 Live on, old warders, challenging assault,
 Inspire with hope, give courage to the frail;
 Wizard Round Towers, piercing heaven's vault,
 The grand old architecture of the Gael.

C. C. H.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

On Monday night a new operetta, entitled "The Miller's Daughter," was produced at this theatre. The music, composed by Mr. Langton Williams, is light and pleasing, without advancing any strong claim to originality; and two songs, "The first sweet dream of love" and "Not the man for me," respectively rendered with artistic skill and piquant liveliness by Miss Louise Keeley, well merited the spontaneous encore they received, and will doubtless be found in request over the counter of the music publisher. To the vocal powers and histrionic ability of the vivacious actress who is identified with the title, the operatic trifle was largely indebted for the applause obtained. The entire plot is conveyed in the information that Miss Louise Keeley represents the daughter of a rich miller, who wants his child to marry one of noble station, and that after discovering the impudent pretensions of a discarded footman, who passes himself off as a distinguished personage, the father readily gives his consent to her union with a young farmer, who has been an old sweetheart. Mr. Whiffen and Mr. Cooper, who made their first appearance on this stage in the parts of the youthful yeoman and the miller of lofty notions, have a ballad and share of a trio. As a prelude to the more substantial entertainment of the evening, the operetta will sufficiently answer its obvious purpose; and the composer, who received the customary congratulations at the end, has every reason to be satisfied with its kindly reception.

LYCEUM.

"Don Caesar de Bazan," a drama which, twenty years ago, went the rapid round of the metropolitan theatres, was on Monday night represented here, with Mr. Fechter in the prominent part. Although one of his early personations on the English stage, it was not till this occasion introduced by him on the Lyceum boards; and the evident gratification derived by a numerous and

fashionable assemblage, from the spirited performance of the daring but dissolute nobleman, suggests a regret that Mr. Fechter did not somewhat earlier in his managerial campaign present himself in an assumption which peculiarly displays the special talent of the actor. The romance and chivalry of the character are peculiarly developed by the present performer; and the light-hearted spirit with which he endures his vicissitudes, the polished gallantry with which he accepts the lady to whom he is so mysteriously united, and the keen sense exhibited of his triumphant position in the striking situation of the last act, are but so many marked phases of an impersonation which is throughout distinguished by abundant proofs of sustained artistic power. Although only announced for six nights, the drama was produced with as much completeness as if its renewed representation was to be prolonged for a career of as many months; and with Mr. Ryder as the subtle Minister *Don José*, Miss Carlotta Leclercq as the gipsy *Maritana*, and Miss E. Lavenn as the boy *Lazarillo*, the admirable *Don Caesar* of Mr. Fechter received adequate support.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—On Saturday afternoon the Queen, accompanied by the younger members of the Royal Family, came up from Osborne to Windsor. Her Majesty travelled from Portsmouth by the South-Western line, and reached Windsor about eight o'clock. In the morning of the same day his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge, with their attendants, arrived in town from their trip to Dublin. The journey was accomplished without accident, though the Royal party was detained for some time at Holyhead. The Queen came to town on Monday by the Great Western Railway, and drove with her suite to Buckingham Palace, where she held a Court in the course of the afternoon. The invitations comprised almost all that is eminent in rank, station, political, or diplomatic influence now in the metropolis. In the course of the evening her Majesty returned to Windsor. On Tuesday evening there was a grand ball at Buckingham Palace, at which the Prince and Princess of Wales did the honours. The visit of the Prince of Wales to Ireland was brought to a termination on the 12th inst., when the Royal yacht steamed out of Kingstown harbour amid the cheers of an immense concourse of people. The regret of the Irish people at the departure of the Prince is mitigated by the hope that his Royal Highness will revisit Ireland during the course of the summer, accompanied by the Princess of Wales. The Prince reached Marlborough House at an early hour on Saturday morning. Prince Alfred visited Vienna on Monday, and from thence proceeded to Bonn.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the House of Lords, the 11th inst., the County Courts Equitable Jurisdiction Bill was read a third time and past. Several other measures were advanced a stage.—On Friday, Lord Shaftesbury moved an address to the Crown praying that the Commission appointed to inquire into the employment of children and young persons in certain trades and manufactures should include within its inquiries those employed in "agricultural gangs." The noble Earl stated that persons who called themselves "undertakers" were in the habit of collecting gangs of children and taking them from parish to parish, hiring them out to the farmers. The results of this system, he said, were deplorable; and his remarks were con-

firmed by the Bishop of Lincoln. The motion was agreed to, Lord Granville, however, expressing his belief that the case was not so bad as represented by Lord Shaftesbury.—The Marquis of Westmeath, who appears to have taken the Protestant faith under his special protection, raised a short discussion on Mr. Wagner's objection to break the "seal of confession," at Trowbridge, and on the alleged excessive ritualism by which the services at some of the metropolitan churches are marked. Several bills were advanced a stage.—On Monday, the grievances of the Indian officers formed the subject of a discussion, in the course of which Lord Dufferin (the Under Secretary for India) stated that a commission would be appointed to enquire how far the recommendations of the previous Commission had been carried out. In reply to a question from Lord Wicklow, Lord Granville said the Government had under consideration the subject of a more thorough checking of the accounts of the public departments.—Lord Houghton asked whether the Government intended to withdraw the "concession" of belligerent rights to the Confederate States. Lord Russell said there never had been any "concession"—it was a matter of right from the moment the blockade of the Southern coast was proclaimed. It was impossible, he said, to answer Lord Houghton's question until they saw what course the Government of Washington intended to take.—On Tuesday, the Duke of Somerset, in reply to a question, said it was proposed to abolish the rank of Master in the royal navy—a measure strongly objected to by Lord Hardwicke. The Utilisation of Sewage Bill was read a second time, and several other measures advanced a stage.—In the HOUSE OF COMMONS on Thursday, the 11th, on the order for going into Committee on the Union Chargeability Bill, Mr. Bentinck moved that it be an instruction to the Committee, with a view to rendering the working of the system of Union chargeability more just and equal, to facilitate in certain cases the alteration of the limits of existing Unions. Mr. Packe seconded the motion, and an animated debate ensued. Upon a division, the motion of Mr. Bentinck was negatived by 193 to 118.—Mr. Thompson then moved that the Bill be referred to a select committee, which was seconded by Mr. Ferrand, and another debate ensued. On a division, the motion for adjournment was negatived by 174 to 80.—Mr. Lygon then moved the adjournment of the House. This was negatived, but subsequently the debate was adjourned until Monday next. The other business on the paper was disposed of, and the House adjourned.—On Friday Mr. Cave called attention to the allowance to postmasters in respect of Post-Office Savings Banks, and moved that, in the opinion of this House, it is neither just nor expedient that labour and responsibility should be imposed upon public servants without adequate remuneration.—Mr. Ayrton said there had been a loss of 60,000*l.* on Government Savings' Banks, and therefore they ought not to encourage any additional expenditure on their behalf.—Mr. Peel thought it was reasonable that persons should receive additional remuneration for additional duties, but that was now done under the Post-Office Savings' Bank system, but it was not desirable that post-masters should have an interest in larger as against smaller deposits. After some discussion the matter dropped. The House went into Supply, which occupied the rest of the sitting.—On Monday Mr. Whalley gave notice of his intention to move for a select committee, to inquire into the manner in which the services at St. Paul's Church, Brighton, are conducted by Mr. Wagner, the clergyman to whom Miss Constance Kent made her terrible confession. Mr. Ferrand asked whether Mr. H. S. Wilde, lately registrar of the Leeds Bankruptcy Court, was called upon to resign his office, and, having refused, was

then "informed that if he would resign at once and obtain a medical certificate he should have a pension of 600*l.* a year, although he was then in a good state of health;" whether the medical certificate was obtained and the pension granted; whether Mr. Wilde was not succeeded by Mr. Welch, who was then in a precarious state of health; and whether it was not arranged that Mr. Welch should hold the appointment until the outlawry of the Hon. Richard Bethell was reversed. The Attorney-General replied that Mr. Wilde was not called on to resign, but to answer some complaints of irregularities—not, however, amounting to "personal or pecuniary defalcation"—in his office. The Chief Registrar was informed that Mr. Wilde's health was not good, and he was allowed to resign on a pension of £600 upon his own petition, supported by a medical certificate. As to the charge of Mr. Welch having been appointed as a mere warming-pan for the convenience of Mr. Bethell, it was explained that his appointment took place in July, while the Lord Chancellor's heir was not outlawed until December. Mr. Welch had been strongly recommended to the Lord Chancellor by the late Sir William Atherton and other members of the Northern Circuit; and his lordship was not aware that he was in a delicate state of health. When Mr. Bethell resigned the registrarship in London, the Lord Chancellor positively refused to transfer him to Leeds, and to give the appointment to Mr. Welch.—Mr. White put a question relative to the Confederate States similar to that addressed to the Government by Lord Houghton in the Upper House; and Lord Palmerston's reply was of course to the same effect as Lord Russell's.—The debate on the Union Chargeability Bill was resumed by Mr. Henley, who strongly opposed the measure. He was followed by Mr. Bruce, Mr. Peacocke, and other members. Ultimately, the bill was allowed to go into Committee by a majority of 266 to 93.—On Tuesday, Lord Hartington, in reply to Mr. Hussey Vivian, said the Government had not yet come to any definite decision on the subject of converting Enfield rifles into breech-loaders. In reply to Lord Stanley, Mr. Cardwell said no fresh war had broken out at Lagos. The recent hostilities were merely a continuation of the old dispute, and were justified on the ground that an invasion of British territory was threatened. The Attorney-General stated, in reply to a question from Mr. Cox, that it was hopeless to expect to pass a bill this session for the amendment of the patent laws. The hon. and learned gentleman also stated that he had received a letter from Mr. Welch confirming the accuracy of the explanation he gave on the previous day respecting the appointment of that gentleman to the registrarship of the Leeds Bankruptcy Court. A discussion was raised by Mr. Arthur Mills upon the regulations for the examination of candidates for the Indian Civil Service. Lord Stanley, among other members, urged that the present system required reform, while Sir Charles Wood stated that efforts were being made to obviate the most objectionable results of a scheme which necessarily led to a good deal of what is known as "cramming." The House was counted out during a discussion on bankruptcy law reform.—On Wednesday, Mr. Monsell moved the second reading of the bill for the repeal of the oaths which the Irish Roman Catholics consider so "obnoxious." Mr. Lefroy moved as an amendment that the bill be read a second time that day six months; and he found a seconder in the member for Peterborough. Sir George Grey and another member of the Government—Mr. Chichester Fortescue—supported the bill, which was opposed by Mr. Whiteside and Mr. Walpole. After some further discussion the House divided, when the second reading was carried by a majority of 56. The numbers were 190 for, and 134 against.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The health of the country is still

on the ascending scale. In the eleven towns selected as specimens the deaths have fallen from 25 in the thousand, which they were a fortnight ago, to 22. And the mortality of London is two less than even this low rate of average. The highest is, as usual, Liverpool (31); the lowest, Birmingham (18). The total number of deaths in all the towns was 2,453, of which those in London were 1,167, or less by the large number of 139 than the average of the previous ten years. The births were 3,967, of which 1,999 belong to London, a little over the average number.—The long-continued cotton distress seems at last to be on the point of being brought to a happy close. Blackburn was one of the most distressed districts, and from Blackburn we now learn that the applicants for relief are so few that the Relief Committee have determined to bring their labours to a close in the course of the present week. In consequence of the improved circumstances of the district, the Poor-Law Board have signified their intention to discontinue the weekly publication of the return of pauperism in the cotton manufacturing unions. These statistics have been now laid before our readers, with few intermissions, during the past three years, and in parting with them we take the occasion of pointing out, very briefly, a few of their more marked results. The area affected by the cotton famine contained a population of rather more than 2,000,000 persons. The distress, which began early in 1862, rose to its maximum at Christmas, when the Guardians relieved from the poor rates 275,000 poor, or between four and five times the number that was on the relief lists in the corresponding season of 1861. From that point the pauperism slowly declined, and at the end of last August the number was 79,000, when a general increase was experienced, which by the middle of November brought 33,000 more claimants on the rates. Since November the distress, with some slight checks, has diminished. According to Mr. Purdy's latest report the Guardians had 86,000 paupers on their books, or about 1 in 24 of the population.—The Convocation of Canterbury resumed its session on Tuesday, when both Houses entered on business. The attention of the Upper House was mainly occupied with the report of the commission on clerical subscription. Convocation met again on Wednesday, and the Upper House continued the discussion upon the motion to petition the Crown in favour of the report on clerical subscription. The resolutions were agreed to, and their lordships then adjourned to meet the Prince of Wales at the Festival of the Sons of the Clergy. The Lower House continued the discussion on the Court of Final Appeal, and in a succession of divisions they negatived all the amendments that were moved, and finally the resolution itself, so that the long protracted discussion has not been productive of any results.—The 211th anniversary Festival of the Sons of the Clergy was held the other day in St. Paul's Cathedral as usual, and was graced by the presence of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and several of the bishops and other dignitaries of the church. The sermon was preached by Dr. Goodwin, the Dean of Ely. In the evening the Prince took the chair at the dinner, where a brilliant company was assembled.—The annual meeting of the National Rifle Association was held at Willis's Rooms, on Wednesday. As the Duke of Cambridge was prevented from taking the chair by an attack of gout, Lord Elcho presided in his place, and briefly called the attention of the meeting to the business before it. The funds of the association are in a flourishing condition; there is no point of dispute arising among them to disturb their harmony; the prospects for the next Wimbledon competition are most encouraging; and there is a disposition to unite, on certain conditions, with the Artillery Association which

has been lately formed.—In a despatch dated the 11th inst. Lord Russell intimates to the heads of the various Government departments that, "in the existing state of the civil war in America, and the uncertainty which may be felt as to its continuance," it has been deemed expedient to withdraw the order issued three years ago requiring Federal or Confederate cruisers calling at British ports for repair or stores to put to sea again within a given time. The regulations limiting the quantity of coal to be supplied to such ships and the period within which it might be obtained are also cancelled.—The Russian squadron, with the remains of the late *Czarewitch*, anchored in Plymouth Sound on Wednesday morning. Every mark of respect was paid—flags were hoisted half-mast high on all the ships in commission, on the forts, and at the public departments; and a salute of 22 guns fired from the *Liverpool* and *Royal Adelaide*.—At the last meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works a report was read from a committee, recommending that a gratuity of £6,000 should be given to Mr. Bazalgette, and that £4,000 should be distributed among the other engineers employed under him, as an acknowledgment of the ability and skill displayed by them in the construction of the main drainage. At the same time protests against this waste of the money of the ratepayers were presented from several parishes, and the question was raised whether the funds of the board could legally be applied to such a purpose. A discussion on this subject was adjourned.—A "National Reform Conference" was held at the Free-trade Hall, Manchester, on Monday, Mr. George Wilson occupying the chair. Resolutions were passed affirming the right of the working classes to the franchise, and expressing disappointment at the course taken by the Government upon this question.—There appears to be no disposition on the part of the men engaged in the building trades of Plymouth and its neighbourhood, to accept the proposition of the employers, and between three and four thousand men were expected to leave their employments on Saturday. In addition to these, during the present week some fifteen hundred men, it is calculated, in various callings dependent on the building trade will have to be dismissed by their masters, as the result of the cessation of the demand for materials. Virtually, the building trade of Plymouth will be at a standstill in all its branches.—The Ven. John Sinclair, M.A., archdeacon of Middlesex, held a visitation of the clergy of that part of the London diocese which is under his jurisdiction on Tuesday. The visitation was held at St. Paul's Church, Covent-garden. The main topic of the archdeacon's address was the recent theological decisions of the Committee of Privy Council; the principles laid down in these cases, he said, would justify the most infidel propositions in Hume's Essays if they had been put forth by a clergyman of the Church. He was, therefore, in favour of a change in the Court, but he was afraid, after the recent decisions, there must also be a change in the law. But if the law would not allow infidels to be driven out of the Church, let them keep their emoluments but cease to take part in the celebration of services in which they did not believe.—The preliminary list of prices of the National Rifle Association has been issued. The gross money value of the prize is understood to be nearly £16,000.—The Poor-law Board has given its decision in the case of the pauper, Richard Gibson, who died in St. Giles's Workhouse, under circumstances that led to an inquiry, which it will be remembered was conducted by Mr. Farnall. The board having considered the evidence, are satisfied that Gibson was shamefully neglected during his illness, and while they bear in mind that the doctor who made the *post mortem* examination gave it as his opinion that death was not caused by neglect, still they are of opinion that the assistant surgeon and the head nurse should

be called upon to resign their situations. The master of the workhouse is censured, and reminded that he will for the future be held responsible for the management of the infirmary as well as for the other parts of the house.—An inquiry has been opened at the St. Pancras Workhouse into the treatment which two pauper inmates of the house had received from the master. The inquiry, which was conducted by Mr. Farnall, was instituted in consequence of letters written by the paupers themselves complaining that they had been confined for a month in an offensively-smelling and unhealthy ward, without being allowed any exercise whatever. The master and doctor of the workhouse were examined yesterday, after which the inquiry was adjourned.—A singular case of dispute between two clergymen has occupied the attention of the Court of Queen's Bench. The Rev. Mr. Haslewood, formerly incumbent of St. Mark's, Marylebone, agreed to exchange livings with the Rev. Mr. Widrington, of St. Michael's, Coventry, on certain representations being made as to the value of the livings. Mr. Haslewood now alleges that Mr. Widrington deceived him as to the value of the Coventry living, and he seeks for compensation. The Lord Chief Justice regretted that the case could not be settled out of court, but the defendant declined to accede to the suggestion.—Sir Thomas Staples, who is described as the last surviving member of the Irish House of Commons, died at Dublin the other day. He was in his 90th year.—Eight men were apprehended at Dewsbury on Friday week, on a charge of being participators in the riotous proceedings which appear to have prevailed in that town for two or three days, and which have been of a more serious character than any that have occurred since the memorable "plug" riots, when the district was in a state of anarchy. On Saturday last the magistrates committed seven of the men for trial at York assizes, at the same time refusing bail.—Matthews, the cabman, of Muller notoriety, has again been before the Bankruptcy Court petitioning for his discharge. The creditors opposed on the ground that he had prevented the 100% awarded to him by the North London Railway Company from coming into their hands. Matthews replied that as the creditors had got 200% of the reward, they might well afford to let him keep this sum. It was at last agreed that the money should be paid over to an officer of the court, but Matthews was remanded once more.—The woman Banks, who was so shockingly injured by her husband at Whitecross-street, St. Luke's, last week, has so recovered as to be able to make a deposition. The Lord Mayor, therefore, proceeded to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where the woman was lying, and her husband having also been brought there, the woman was sworn, and deposed that she had had a quarrel with her husband on the night in question. She could not remember anything about the blows being inflicted, but there was nobody present except herself and her husband, and she was quite sure she did not inflict the wounds herself. The prisoner did not deny the crime.—On Saturday night warrants were issued for the apprehension of Mr. William Whelon, a borough magistrate and ex-Mayor of Lancaster, on a charge of stealing 100 share certificates, the property of the (Little) North-Western Railway Company, of which he was secretary. Mr. Whelon had, however, disappeared, and on the following day his body was found in the water near Fleetwood.—A man named Robert Willis was brought up at the Worship-street Police-court on Monday charged with attempting to murder Charles Turner. The prisoner seems to have entertained a strong dislike of Turner, and on Saturday night last beat him about the head with a hammer while he was asleep in bed. Turner's life is in danger. The prisoner was remanded.—

Two serious railway accidents occurred on Monday evening. At the Nine Elms station of the South-Western Railway a Twickenham passenger train was wrongly shunted, and ran into a goods train. Several persons were most seriously injured. At the Great Western Railway station, at Paddington, a wall fell into the road, under the pressure of coals. Two men were seriously hurt, and Captain Charles Newbury, who was passing, and was buried under the coals, is not expected to survive.—Inquests have been held on the body of Mr. W. D. Wills, a well-known and highly-respected citizen of Bristol, who was run over by an omnibus when crossing Holborn-hill on Thursday last. The unfortunate gentleman underwent amputation at St. Bartholomew's hospital, but he sank under the shock, and died on Saturday. The evidence clearly showed that no one was to blame, and a verdict of "accidental death" was returned.—On a young woman who was drowned out of a boat near Blackwall. The waterman Nolan, who was with her in the boat, was examined, and declared that he could not account for her disappearance. The coroner did not appear to consider his evidence very straightforward, and the jury returned an open verdict.—In the case of a little boy who had been bitten by a dog about three months ago. The wound had healed up, and the circumstance was almost forgotten, when a few days ago symptoms appeared which at first excited fears of its being a case of Russian pestilence, till the malady became more developed and the bite was recollected. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Hydrophobia.—On the body of a woman named Costello, when evidence was given, as before the police magistrate, tending to show that the woman had been throttled. The inquest was adjourned for the attendance of the prisoner.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The Emperor Napoleon arrived at Oran on Sunday evening, and met with a magnificent and enthusiastic reception. An address, professing to emanate from the native populations, has been published in the Algerian papers, in which a protest is entered against the allegation that they are personally hostile to the French colonists or inimical to the French rule. With a firm reliance on the Emperor's sense of justice, they love and esteem the French. The new French loan of 360 millions for public works is anything but well received, and promises to give rise to a stormy debate in the Chambers, where it is quite as unpopular as with the masses out of doors. The projected sale of Crown property in order to raise the money is considered to be specially objectionable.

INDIA AND CHINA.—The Calcutta and China mail has not brought any news of much interest from India or China. The Australian advices state that the Legislative Council of Victoria was likely to reject the protective tariff proposed by the Ministry, which intended, however, to incorporate the tariff with the Appropriation Bill, in the hope of cowing the Legislative Council by the dread of a financial and administrative deadlock.

NEW ZEALAND.—The intelligence from New Zealand contains the satisfactory announcement that parties of friendly Maoris had successfully encountered bands of insurgents. But at a place called Opotiki the Maoris had murdered a missionary named Volkner with cannibal atrocity, had made captive another missionary and several other Englishmen, and had destroyed a schooner.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. P. S.—It is understood that the hall is to be completed in February next.

OBSERVER is altogether out in his reckoning.

P.M.—Certainly not. We are astonished that a brother signing himself as a P.M. is evidently unacquainted with the leading principles laid down in the Book of Constitutions.

J. J.—We cannot spare the time to answer every trivial question by letter, and in the present instance it is too trivial to be even mentioned in our Answers to Correspondents.