

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 1865.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF MASONIC EVENTS DURING 1864.

(Continued from page 374.)

GERMANY AND ENGLAND.—Bro. Schauberg's mania to substitute for existing institutions new tenets of his own contrivance is in glaring contradiction with his zealous endeavours to graft upon the Freemasonry of the present century the most obsolete ceremonies and usages of ancient nations. He entertains a strong antipathy to the "innovating and ruling tendencies brought forward by the establishment of the new English Grand Lodge of 1717." He adheres imperturbably to the point of view that formed a general standard for Masonic historiography during the first quarter of this century; thence his fantastic idea of a *new English Grand Lodge*—thence the alleged genuineness of the so-called York Manuscript.

History, however, often led another path than many learned men imagined. The York Manuscript is a tangible illustration of this. Bro. Schauberg says: "A *York constitution*, may it date from the year 926, or from a later period, whether written in Anglo-Saxon, Old English, or Latin, is decidedly the oldest common platform for the Order of the Masons of England, and on this account the York Lodge is certainly the oldest chief lodge of England. The York Constitution and lodge are to the other Constitutions and lodges of English stonemasons what the Strasburg "*Steinmetzordnung*" of 1459, and the Strasburg brotherhood of Masons are to the other German Masons' Constitutions and congregations. In this lies the great historical signification of the York Manuscript which has not as yet been sufficiently explored and known." Thereupon Bro. Schauberg proposed a subscription towards defraying the expenses of a journey to England for scientific researches on this subject.

This journey was undertaken by Bro. Findel in the course of last year, and its results published in a late issue of the "*Communications from the Association of German Masons.*" The following is a summary of Bro. Findel's report:—

"The ancient city of York (*Eboracum* of the Romans) has gained a certain importance in the history of Masonry, being alluded to in some legends preserved in the old documents and constitutions of the Masonic Craft; besides a docu-

ment that has not been discovered in the original tongue, which seems to have been forged, and is certainly not of a very ancient date, but pretended to be of 926, was for a long time considered as the original constitution, granted by Prince Edwin, and led Masonic writers to the computation that the Masonic Brotherhood dated from the ancient Roman building societies, or even a more remote period of history. This supposition was based especially on the fact that some years before the middle of the 18th century, Masonic Sectarious in London assumed, most illegitimately, the title of *Ancient York Masons.*" Bro. Findel further states that the existing magnificent Minster of York was built from 1171 to 1426, and continues thus:—

"The facts of a Grand Lodge having never been in existence in York, and a general gathering of Masons having never taken place during that period, are patent and proven by their not having been mentioned nor even alluded to in the Fabric Rolls of York Minster, published by the Surtee Society. No doubt whatever can be entertained as to the non-existence of a Masonic document dating from 926. Thus all conclusions drawn from the pretended antiquity of the so-called York Manuscript collapse, and are eliminated. It is not impossible, though improbable, that an original identical with Krause's translation, or other document corresponding in appearance to those issued by Krause and Anderson, may be discovered; but it is most undoubtedly certain that such a manuscript must needs be of a much more recent date than those known at the present time. At all events, such a document, if discovered, cannot on any account pretend to the appellation of "*The York Manuscript.*"

We are not informed whether Bro. Schauberg will be contented with the results of these researches, which are in such glaring contradiction to all his assertions, or whether he will himself undertake a voyage of discovery after the "*lost manuscript*;" we only know that the whole of his time has been taken up of late by his labours towards the foundation of a National German Grand Lodge.

In concurrence with the above eccentric reformers, the *Bauhütte* and the *Freimaurer Zeitung* have published, during the past year, many moderate and reasonable proposals for practical reforms in the existing constitution of the Craft; surely every intelligent Mason will coincide with the opinions expressed by Bro. Findel in his articles:

one excerpt is sufficient to show their general character. Bro. Findel says: "A reform in the constitution of Masonry is not intended for the purpose of creating any new nor demolishing any existing institutions; it only purposes to complete the original plan, the inherent idea, according to the spirit of the Confederation, to embellish, purify, and render it more effective. The chief object of all reformatory endeavours must consist in regenerating the lodges from within—to cause the real and genuine Masonic spirit to dwell therein—that our sublime Art may be professed with earnestness and enthusiastic resignation."

It is an undoubted fact that more and more lodges are awakened to new spirit; that intellectual life, far from having decreased in our Federation, has been advanced especially by the furtherance of scientific education in all classes, the more so as the Craft encompasses them all, thus strengthening more and more the foundation upon which alone the progress and future of Masonry must rest. The defects in the constitution of the Masonic congregations are due to the defects inherent to the former brotherhood. They will become more patent by the intellectual progress of society, by education and instruction, and will be eradicated and vanish as soon as they have proved untenable, in face of the irresistible progress of mankind.

The number of lodges in Germany has increased by no more than three, amongst which the Kaiser's Lantern Lodge is particularly remarkable. Masonic associations, however, have become very numerous, and they contain the real germ for the formation of new lodges. Besides, the large number of new temples inaugurated last year proves the consolidation of the visiting lodges. In Goerlitz, the celebration of the centenary of the lodge afforded a suitable occasion for the inauguration of the new building. A similar festivity in Weimar was marked by the gift of a fund of 500 thalers towards the relief of indigent sisters. Many large contributions for similar purposes were made at various anniversaries and jubilees—amongst other gifts of 1,000 thalers, at the Fifty Years' Jubilee of Bro. Oberbergrath Bresthaupt, of Freiberg, 600 thalers at the Fifty Years' Jubilee of Bro. Superintendent of Forests Maron, of Oppelu. A Sixty Years' Masonic Jubilee was celebrated by Bro. Grebe I., of Hildesheim.

Besides these, we may name a fund of 3,000 thalers, subscribed by the Wurzen Lodge towards the relief of the silent poor, and of 100,000 thalers

appropriated by Bro. Gerstkamp, of Dresden, towards the support of indigent pupils of the Dresden Polytechnic Institution (a real Masonic action).

We augur a great benefit for the future of the Craft from the gatherings of lodges and brethren for mutual transactions and festivities. Various meetings of this kind have taken place during the past year, both in North and South Germany—amongst others, the Kösen May Meeting and the Meeting of German Masons at Hamm, which gave rise to various peculiar transactions.

(To be continued.)

CONCERNING STAINED GLASS.

IN your impression of the 13th instant you insert a few "Queries concerning Stained Glass," and appear desirous that they should lead to "some useful expression of views." I have given the subject of stained glass some serious attention, and therefore trust my following remarks may be found worthy of insertion in your pages; and although they may not be considered useful in themselves, yet they may prove so by leading to the expression of others more valuable. Bearing in mind the great demand upon your space, I shall endeavour to condense my remarks as much as possible. I shall take the queries seriatim.

1. "What is the object of stained glass: is it an effect of colour?"

Stained glass is obviously a decorative medium, and it is unquestionably the most splendid ornamental adjunct ever dedicated to the service of architecture. As a decorative medium it depends upon two things, *i.e.*, colour and form; and in a truly good work both must be present in equal degrees. Stained glass cannot be said to be an effect of colour only, or to depend for its beauty or value on colour alone. It is capable of displaying the greatest efforts of the artist, and of being made a genuine and perfect work of art. If it depended upon colour only, we should find perfection in a properly arranged mosaic window, for in its effect of colour can be developed to any extent; but we do not consider mosaic glass, however good, highly artistic, because it is mechanical in design and systematic in colour.

2. "What is good colour in stained glass: loud and flaring, or quiet and cool?"

This query is not one which admits of a very definite answer, owing to the diversity of tastes and opinions regarding colour, and because in all cases the same class of colouring will not apply. The saying "circumstances alter cases," applies to stained glass as forcibly as to other things. I think, however, that we may safely say that good stained glass work should never be "loud and flaring," for those words imply the very richest colours associated inharmoniously. A rich effect,

full of beauty and repose, may be obtained by the proper use of the most brilliant colours, at the disposal of the artist. That it requires much greater knowledge and taste to treat these rich colours than the low-toned tints and dingy neutrals now so much used, no one, I believe, will deny; but until they are adopted, and the requisite skill in their grouping acquired, we need not hope to rival the effect of ancient glass, or to do anything that cannot be pronounced "loud and flaring." At the present day there are too many colours and tints used, and some of these are very objectionable, such as bottle-green, brown-purple, claret, brown, neutral tint, &c. How can these dingy tints, which absorb all the light that attempts to pass through them hold their own when associated with such colours as ruby, blue, yellow, and green? or how can these last escape being pronounced loud and flaring when surrounded by tints which are positively discordant and dead? I believe if our artists would take one or two hints from ancient glass, and use fewer colours, and those well balanced and of similar intensity, we should soon have a marked improvement in stained glass—at least, as far as colouring is concerned. In stained glass, as in all branches of decorative art, a perfect uniformity of effect is required: this can only be obtained by the use of properly balanced colours properly distributed and arranged. I hold that a window may be composed of ruby, blue, yellow, green, purple, and grey glass (or white very sparingly used), and yet present a beautiful quiet bloom to the eye. The three windows of the twelfth century in Chartres Cathedral are constructed of these colours, and their effect is superb.

3. Is it advisable to place figures coloured on broad spaces of white glass, as in perpendicular glass? Does not this get a quiet, cool effect?

To the first question I unhesitatingly reply that it is not advisable to work figures in colour upon spaces of white glass; and to the latter question I must reply that I am convinced that such a practice is not well calculated to produce a cool, much less a quiet effect.

White glass should be used very sparingly in windows where positive or deep-toned colours are introduced, for the simple reason that, by admitting a direct and powerful light, it destroys the brilliancy and effect of all colours placed near it.

As an illustration of this, take two strips of rich blue glass of similar tint: place one across a pane of white glass in a common window, and place the other edge to edge between two pieces of rich ruby over another pane, so as to cover it. When this is done, it will be observed that the strips of blue glass appear quite different in tint, that over the white glass being dark and dead, while that which is in contact with the ruby appears in its proper tint, and full of brilliancy. Modern windows are more frequently destroyed

by the practice of using large quantities of white glass along with rich-coloured glass than by any other means. In the fine twelfth and thirteenth century windows in Chartres, and in the superb glass of Bourges Cathedral, we find white glass used more sparingly than any colour.

4. "Ought canopies to be much coloured, or in simple white and black, to get quiet effect; and how drawn, with reference to next paragraph?"

5. "Ought geometrical diagrams to be drawn with absolute mechanical accuracy, or to be freely drawn?"

As the last query in your list alludes to the question of canopies, I shall add it to the above, and treat the three together.

7. "What is the difference between a thinly-designed and richly-designed canopy?"

I am decidedly of the opinion that canopy work in glass is a great mistake, and that it is an inartistic and clumsy way of filling up spaces over the heads of figures. Canopies are purely architectural features peculiar to stone and wood construction, and are, therefore, out of place in stained glass. If anything in the shape of canopy-work is used, it should be introduced in great moderation, and in colours to harmonise with the rest of the window. Some of the windows in the choir of Rheims Cathedral present valuable studies in this respect.

The query No. 7 is somewhat difficult to answer in a few words; but I believe that a thinly designed canopy may be understood to signify that which is composed of representations of meagre tracery, wire-drawn pinnacles, impossible flying buttresses, &c.; while a richly-designed canopy may be understood to be one in which a proper conventional treatment, suitable to the material in which it is wrought, is more observed in the attempt to represent cast-iron Gothic, and in which the colouring is in perfect harmony with the rest of the composition. With regard to query No. 5, I am of opinion that canopies and all geometrical patterns should be drawn correctly, and at the same time the freedom of curves and other lines of beauty, which cannot be truly drawn by mere mechanical means, should be carefully studied and sought after. We are not called upon in any way to forego our skill in drawing, much less, at the present day, to copy the imperfections of old work. We have ample proof that the ancient artists did not draw badly on purpose, or make crooked curves because they considered them more beautiful than true ones.

6. "How ought draperies to be drawn—thinly or richly, à la Durer?"

In the treatment of draperies in stained glass, I am of opinion that severity and simplicity should in all cases be observed. Rich drapery demands a great amount of shading, and that is certain destruction to the brilliancy which is the greatest charm of stained glass.

The question of shading, as applied to glass, is

one which demands careful consideration at the present time; for much modern work is rendered imperfect by the objectionable mode in which it is shaded.

The usual style of shading (called smudge shading) which is produced by covering the surface of the glass with a thin graduated coating of brown enamel, resembling the soft chalk shading of lithography, is obviously a most dangerous mode, from the simple fact that it destroys the natural brilliancy of the glass. Smudge shading is excessively tame and ineffective, and should not be used either for drapery or foliage. It is more suitable for the treatment of flesh because it takes away the overpowering glare of the white or flesh-tinted glass, and tends to unite it with the coloured glass around it. For drapery and foliage, or other ornamental features, line or hatched shading alone should be used. I allude to the style of shading found in fine old engravings, and to which they owe their great effect and brilliancy; it is composed of lines drawn in one direction, or cross hatched at an acute angle. If an old engraving be examined, it will be found that between the lines of the shading small spaces of the paper are left untouched; these give the transparent and bright effect to the shadows. In stained glass a precisely similar result would be obtained by the adoption of line shading: the untouched portions of the glass between the lines, retaining their original transparency, would impart the brilliant scintillating effect required, and which cannot be secured by the use of smudge shading. There exists the same difference between glass line and smudge shaded as between line and mezzotint engraving.—G. A. AUDSLEY, in the *Builder*.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

A writer in one of the most widely circulated weekly newspapers, in commenting on the Fenians and their principles, introduces his subject by the following peroration against secret societies in general:—

“Whether it is the love of mystery or the love of exaggeration, both of which seem ineradicable from the human mind, I know not, but certain it is secret societies and mystical brotherhoods have existed in all ages and conditions of civilisation. Conspiracies and insurrections have been more or less connected with them, though sometimes very large organisations of the kind have been peaceful and orderly. Generally, however, such societies have been connected with resistance to the existing authority, and very curious works have been written on the Secret Associations of the Middle Ages. In proportion as enlightenment and the means of intellectual communication were established these mysterious institutions declined. The Knights Templars were, perhaps, the last great body formed on such a principle that were successful, although they were overcome in our country by the potency of the monarchy. The

Jesuits acted on an intellectual method, and rather in accordance with a creed and a ritual than on any formal compact. They instituted a system founded on implicit obedience to certain authorities, and thus acquired unity of action.

“Of course, there are always large portions of mankind waiting anxiously for the marvellous, and who seem to have a morbid assimilation with the mysterious and the terrible. It is this part of the population that catches up notions that spring from credulity or terror, and which, when fully excited, commits the barbarities of the Middle Ages—sometimes running into the fanaticism of the Crusades and the massacres of the Jews, and sometimes breaking out into the sanguinary ferocity of the great French Revolution. But when these inflammable and credulous creatures do not manifest themselves in acts, they are ready recipients of asserted extraordinary manifestations. They have visions and fits—are prophets and denouncers. They give themselves up to magnetism, table-turning, and spirit-rapping, and must always have something of the sort to gratify their chronic irritation and restless nervous condition. Nor does education—at least, the education now common—seem to have much effect on them. Knowledge seems only to add to their spiritual excitement, and has little effect on their reasoning powers. No race seems proof at all times against such mental or spiritual epidemics, and no form of religion seems to guard them against such attacks, or to help the cure when attacked.

“This excitable class of beings is not only dangerous to itself, but to the community. It is power in the hands of subtle and potent men who know how to use them; and they are always the victims, and never the gainers, in the violent movements into which they are lured. It is a comfortable fact for the more sedate and steady portion of mankind, that their means of doing harm certainly lessen as Governments are more enlightened and as societies are based on broader and juster feelings and principles. It is very much to the credit of nations that their later political movements have not been the result of secret societies and mere insurrectionary conspiracies. The re-establishment of Italy has been a national movement, and the revolution which drove the Bourbons from the rule of France was an open and universal movement. It is, indeed, possible that there were secret associations in both the cases I have cited to carry out certain views and promote the interests of particular personages; but this is a different thing to organising really national movements by secret societies. In times when despotism was powerful, and the people weak and divided from their extreme ignorance and the difficulty of the inhabitants of distant places communicating readily, secret societies might be a necessity; but in these days of communication and easy interchange of opinion and thoughts, nations require no such aids, and all such secrecy is to be looked upon with suspicion as to its motives, and with contempt as to its capacity.

“It would hardly be worth while to make even these remarks on secret societies, so utterly are they dead in England, but that there are some races and some classes who seem still to cling to them, as a means either of political regeneration or of gratifying certain fanatical feelings. It is hardly to be believed,

and yet we are loudly told that such a secret society exists no further off than Ireland, and that a secret sect, called the Fenians, are organising a rebellion, or rather a massacre, in which all trace of the Saxon in Ireland is to be obliterated, and the great Keltic race are to resume possession of their now green but then ensanguined soil."

Ought we not, as members of the most respectable secret society in the world, to put forward a disclaimer of such views and to prove that Freemasons, at least, are free from the blame of being disloyal subjects, and are as vigorous now as they were in the early days of the Craft? Will you, or some of your correspondents, answer the above?—L. W.—[We shall not reply. Public writers often assume a great deal to lead up to their text, and, in the extract, we see nothing that calls for any disclaimer, or protest on our behalf. If we were to notice every shadow that crosses our path, however transiently or harmlessly, we should have nothing else to do but write replies, rejoinders, remarks, comments, and the thousand and one other forms that denial takes, to every man who pens a sentence not up to our standard of Masonic belief. If you think it necessary that an answer should be written on behalf of Freemasonry, which we do not, do it yourself, and send it to the paper in which the original appeared, and not to us.]

OLD BY-LAWS.

The following "Rules for the conduct of the Brethren" belonging to one of the daughters of Mother Kilwinning were drawn up and adopted in 1765. Perhaps Bro. Matthew Cooke will have the kindness to take note of them. The charter of the lodge in question bears to have been purchased by eighteen brethren—"all *Domatick* Masons."—D. MURRAY LYON.

"1. That, at the third stroke of the Grand Master's hammer, always to be repeated by the Senior Warden, there shall be a general silence; and every brother shall keep his seat, and not move about from place to place during the communication, except the Wardens, as having more immediately the care of the lodge; and whoever shall break silence without leave of the Grand Master, or Depute Master, or not keep his seat and keep strict silence when called to order, shall be publicly reprimanded, and fined in twopence sterling.

"2. Every brother, when he has anything to say, shall address himself to the Chair, standing in a proper posture, and not speak twice to the same purpose, unless it be to explain himself, under the above penalty; nor shall any interrupt him while he is speaking, without having the liberty of the Chair, under the above penalty; and in case any brother, while speaking, shall waver from the subject in debate, the Master shall order him to silence and to sit down until liberty be given him from the Chair.

"3. If any brother shall transgress the above rules after he has been twice called to order, and be guilty a third time at one meeting, the Grand Master, after he has ordered him to be fined, as above, shall peremptorily order him to quit the lodge for that meeting.

"4. Whoever shall be so rude as to hiss at any brother while speaking shall be solemnly excluded the communication, and be declared incapable of being a member of the lodge until, at another meeting, he be

allowed to come and acknowledge his fault publicly, and his grace be granted.

"5. No motion for any new regulation, or altering any of the old ones, shall be made until the said motion be handed up to the Chair in writing, and the same be perused by the Grand Master about five or ten minutes, and then audibly read by the Secretary; and if he be seconded or thirdded by any brother, then it shall be considered by the whole, and their sense of it heard. After that, it shall be put to a vote of the company *pro* and *con*.

"6. If any brother shall recommend a friend to be made a Mason, he shall pass his word that he really and truly believes him to be such a man as will conform himself to the rules of the lodge, lest the lodge should suffer any reflections through his conduct.

"7. That no person shall be made a Mason unless he pay 14s. sterling into the person's hand who is to recommend him, before a meeting be called, and do actually meet for that purpose; and if the person retract, or refuse to enter, then, in that case, he shall lose 7s., and have the other 7s. delivered back, and the 7s. that's forfeited shall be put into the box. And if the person that wants to be made a Mason has served an apprenticeship to a Mason, then he shall only pay 7s. for his entry; and in case he shall draw back and not enter after a meeting is called to enter him, he shall lose his 7s., which shall go into the box, as above. And if any brother shall receive any money from any person for the above purpose, and not deliver it into the hands of the Master, or the Wardens, or the Secretary, he shall be excluded the brotherhood for ever. And every one that enters shall pay the Tyler *Gd.* sterling.

"8. Every Entered Apprentice, when he is made a Fellow Craft, shall pay 1s. sterling, and every Fellow Craft who is raised to a Master shall pay 1s. *Gd.* sterling.

"9. None shall vote for the Grand Master but such as are raised to a Master; nor shall any bear any office unless he be raised to a Master.

"10. There shall always be a working Mason made either Grand Master, or Depute Master, and one of the Wardens and one of the Stewards.

"11. Whoever shall break a drinking glass at any meeting, he shall pay immediately the expense, stating for every one he breaks, before he be allowed to leave the room or company.

"12. The brethren shall always meet the first Wednesday of every month, at seven o'clock at night, from the 1st of February until the 1st of October, and at five o'clock at night from the 1st of October until the 1st of February; and whoever is not present one hour after the appointed time, shall forfeit and pay 2d. sterling.

"13. Every brother shall pay into the box at the first Wednesday of every quarter 3d. sterling.

"14. Every brother being within three miles of the lodge and does not come once every year, at least, and clear his accounts, shall have his name blotted out of the book; and if any brother belonging to the lodge be within fifty miles, and does not come, or send and clear his accounts once in four years, at least, he shall likewise have his name erased out of the book.

"15. That no member of this lodge shall be a

witness, or accessory, to making a Mason, unless he enter himself to a certain constituted lodge.

"16. None to be entered to the lodge unless he be recommended at a monthly meeting by two of the brethren, unless it be a case of necessity.

"17. The box is never to go out of the town of —, and no person is to be entered in any place but where the box is kept, unless it be more than three miles from the town.

"The above seventeen rules were made with the consent of the whole brethren, with this addition—That if any brother shall come to a meeting, he being intoxicated with liquor, shall be fined as he deserves."

At a subsequent communication, it was enacted—

"That if any brother belonging to the lodge (the ministers alone excepted), and being within three miles of the town at the day of the yearly meeting, and does not attend at the parade upon that day, shall be fined in 5s. sterling for the use of the lodge, unless he, or they, send an excuse in writing, which excuse must be approved of by the meeting; and if any brother be absent at a monthly, and not send his excuse in writing, and the same approved of, shall be fined in 6d. sterling for the use of the lodge; and every brother shall wear a leather apron, the Master only excepted."

FREEMASONRY IN FRANCE.

The lodges of the Rit Ecosais remain under the same ancient jurisdiction—that of the Supreme Grand Council of France, and the lodges of the French Rite under the same ancient jurisdiction as before—that of the Grand Orient of France. To the former belong one third of the lodges, and to the latter two-thirds. There are no longer lodges under the two rites in France. As a general principle abroad, symbolic or Craft lodges of the Rit Ecosais are under a Supreme Grand Council. The office of the Supreme Grand Council is 46, Rue de la Victoire; and of the G.O., Rue Cadet. The records of the Supreme Council are very carefully kept, and contain many objects of interest. The Grand Orient has a fine Masonic hall, which I described formerly in the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.—HYDE CLARKE, 33°, Member of the Jurisdiction of Supreme Grand Council of France, and of the G.O. of France.

A HINT.

[Almost a quarter of a century back, an elaborate controversy raged in the *British Critic*, in which no less persons than Mr. A. Herbert, Dr. Gilly, Mr. Maitland, of Lambeth, and Dr. Todd took part, a good deal of which turned upon the unaccountable disappearance from the Cambridge University Library of certain Vaudois MSS., circumstantially alleged to have been deposited there by Sir S. Morland in the time of Cromwell. In due time Mr. Bradshaw is appointed to the charge of the Cambridge MSS., and behold there the MSS. are after all; and what is more, there they plainly had been all the while, all right. Moreover, upon examination, Mr. Bradshaw discovers an erasure, the effect of which is to alter the date of the MS. where it occurs, by just 300 years. The interest which the question has for the general reader is, that the date of all the Vaudois MSS., in Dublin, and in Geneva, as well as in Cambridge, is now conclusively brought down to the end of the fourteenth

or beginning of the fifteenth century, instead of the twelfth; and among the rest of these MSS., one broaching the theory of the Papal power being Antichrist. Dr. Todd publishes an account of the matter in a small volume, of which the title will explain the contents—*The book of the Vaudois: the Waldensian MSS. preserved in the Library of Trinity College, Dublin; with an Appendix containing a Correspondence (reprinted from the British Magazine) on the Poems of the Poor Men of Lyons, the Antiquity and Genuineness of the Waldensian Literature, and the supposed Loss of the Morland MSS. at Cambridge, with Mr. Bradshaw's Paper on his recent Discovery of them.* (Macmillan). Those brethren who know how intimately, this early anti-papal sect was identified with Freemasons long before such a name was borne by a secret society, will thank us for giving them a hint where they may find some very curious matter well worthy of being carefully weighed and examined according to the lights we respectively possess.]

INFIDEL FREEMASONRY.

What is meant by the term infidel Freemasonry? —X.V.—[We do not know any more than you do, but we feel sure it cannot by any means be made to comprehend Christian Freemasonry.]

THE FOUNDER OF FREEMASONRY.

I have a catalogue of nineteen persons, all of whom are said to be *the* founder of Freemasonry. Is there any list in existence which gives all the reputed founders and the works wherein their claims are set forth?—STUDENS.

YORK MASONRY.

Which of the Yorkshire lodges is the most perfect for working the York Masonry, and why is York Masonry different to London work?—W. G. C.—[A Yorkshire lodge is one thing, and a York Mason another. The first is a lodge held in that county, the second a brother of the York rite—once the great rite of the world, but now—*n'importe*. If the York working is different to that of the metropolis, it is only in some slight deviation not of any especial moment. Yorkshire Masons are—as a rule—innocent of the York working.]

BRO. J. CAWDELL, COMEDIAN.

Wanted, some biographical notes of Bro. J. Cawdell, comedian, who wrote the Ode for the consecration of the Sunderland Lodge in 1778. Particulars will oblige—*.*.

MASONIC FUNERALS.

Some one inquired if the Masonic burial service superseded the use of the Church liturgy at the funeral of a brother? A reply was sent giving a reference to what had been done on one occasion in Jersey. That reply was totally beside the point. "The Ceremony and Service at a Mason's Funeral," as laid down in most of the text books, says:—"When the procession arrives at the gate of the churchyard, the lodge to which the deceased brother belonged, and all the rest of the brethren, must halt, till the members of the different lodges have formed a perfect circle round the grave, when an opening is made to receive them. They then march

up to the grave; and the clergyman, and the officers of the acting lodge, taking their station at the head of the grave, with the choristers on each side and the mourners at the foot, the service is rehearsed, an anthem sung, and that particular part of the ceremony is concluded with the usual forms." I am not the original querist, but I re-echo his query with an addition of my own. Does the above mean that the clergyman of the parish is to follow out the scheme as laid down above, and not to admit the body to the church, where those hopeful portions of the most beautiful liturgy ever compiled are sung or said, or is the Masonic lodge ceremony to be considered as an equivalent for this? Also, if a brother receives Masonic burial does that justify his lodge taking away his body from his friends—performing over it a ceremony unblest by pastor, priest, or church, and then, in the face of heaven taking to themselves the place of mourners at the head of the grave and thrusting the relatives to the foot?—CHRISTIAN CHARITY.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

THE GRAND LODGE LIBRARY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In your last number there appeared a short letter, headed "Records of Modern Freemasonry," drawing general attention to that mysterious cupboard so long preserved in Great Queen-street. "Alieni Appetens" has done good service and deserves the thanks of all Masonic students for reminding them of the existence of those concealed treasures.

From trustworthy authority I have frequently heard of this hoard of Masonic documents and papers, and, from equally reliable sources of information, have been given to understand that during several years—twelve or fourteen—no human eye has seen the interior of the closet that contains them; indeed, there is some confusion in the statements made as to the precise locality where these records are deposited, the balance of assertion being in favour of the Tavern itself, and against the tradition that they ever occupied any part of the premises just vacated, and lately known as the Grand Secretary's offices.

If my informants are correct—and I have not the slightest reason to question the accuracy of their information—these papers were collected by our venerable Past Grand Secretary, Bro. Wm. Henry White, and it is very probable they are his own personal property and have not yet been removed into the new buildings, even if they are ever destined to be so. The very location—according to report—in the Tavern and separate from the official apartments tends, somewhat, to corroborate the prevailing idea of their being private property. If, however, they should turn out to belong to the Craft, and have found their way, as your correspondent hints, into the custody of the present Grand Secretary, then they might just as well have remained where they have reposed so long, or have been deposited in the most inaccessible place in Great Britain for all the use, information, or benefit the Craft will ever derive from them, it being the peculiar study of that gentleman to prevent, by any impediment

or discouragement his brain suggests, all attempts at study or the elucidation of most points in our history—

—"Scilicet improbae
Crescunt divitiæ; tamen
Curtae nescio quid semper abest rei."

Your original correspondent's letter is not only valuable for having dealt with a subject of much interest to the studious brethren, but it is suggestive of Masonic literature in general and of the Grand Lodge Library in particular. With your permission I shall turn my attention to the latter, and if my suggestions appear crude, or ill-digested, I must ask the indulgence of your readers, and hope to elicit from some of them a more able expression of opinion than I lay claim to.

For a score of years and more, every now and then, there appears to have been a mild form of agitation on behalf of a library for the Craft. Admitted on all sides that such a provision was not only desirable but requisite, for want of some one to lead the way, the scheme has, hitherto, always ended in talk. Now, however, something may at last be done in the matter, for I believe—but am not sure on the point—that in the original plan for the new buildings a library was included as one of the requirements. Common report says that there is to be both a library and coffee room, but as no one I have inquired of knows whether they are to be separate and distinct or comprehended in one apartment, I can only hope for the former and fear for the latter. The coffee room should be furnished with the newspapers and periodicals of the day, in which they may be read; refreshments served, gossip carried on, appointments made, and that room should be, to all intents and purposes, the lounge for such as may drop in from time to time. In the library silence and quiet ought to be maintained, all refreshment forbidden, and small talk and talkers excluded.

If we are to have a library we must, as it were, commence *de novo*. It is true there are some three hundred volumes or thereabout, which have hitherto been dignified by the appellation of the Grand Lodge library, and although many of them are both scarce and interesting there must be other books, beyond those of our own immediate speciality, for daily use and reference.

Before we enter upon the question as to what books are necessary the first object must be to provide the requisite funds for their purchase. For the next five or six years we ought to have an annual grant from Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter—the latter body should come out liberally on this occasion as it has considerable funds which no one seems to know the appropriation of—and this grant, if it is to be of service, must be one of a good round sum—say one thousand pounds—for what will the purchase of a general library and Masonic books, the latter being eagerly bought up, in all directions, for America, and the opportunities for enriching our collection, with this class of books, having been let slip one by one, we shall have to go into the market and compete for works which, even, ten years since could have been obtained at a merely nominal price. This will cause the larger portion of our proposed grant to be appropriated and leave but a small fraction for working expenses, such as a librarian's salary, binding, and stationery.

And now we come to the books themselves. Our library, it is presumed, is to be one such as a club, or society of gentlemen, would desire to consult. Therefore it will have to embrace many popular series of books, cheap enough if a few numbers only are required, but costly when complete sets are indispensable.

Amongst the books for daily reference will be Peerages, Directories, and Calendars, and these must be replaced annually with the editions of the current year. Dictionaries, Lexicons, and Encyclopædias, will comprise both English and Foreign productions, of the best editions, and such works as Du Cange, Facciolati, Smith's Greek and Roman Antiquities, Dictionaries of French, German, Italian, Latin, Greek, Spanish, Portuguese, Sanskrit, Hebrew, and many other tongues and dialects will be absolute necessities. Rees, the Penny Cyclopædia, the Encyclopædia Methodique, Zedler's Lexicon, &c., are quite as requisite. In the series of literary journals no library is considered complete without sets of the Gentleman's Magazine, or Annual Register, the Edinburgh and Quarterly Reviews, Tait, Blackwood, Saturday Review, Westminster Review, Dublin, North British, Fraser, United Service Magazine, Revue des Deux Mondes, Journal des Savans, Archæological Journals, Athenæum, &c. In history, Hansard's Parliamentary Debates, Sismondi, Thiers, Michelet, Hearne, Lodge, the Harleian Miscellany, Macaulay, Hallam, Gibbon, Mahon, Grote, Froissart, Rymer, Tauner, Lingard, Rollin, and numerous others. In topography, Lysons's Magna Britannia, Knight's Land We Live In, Neale's Seats, and works relating to Great Britain, Ireland, the Colonies, and the world in general. In geography, voyages, and travels, several Atlases and a good Gazetteer, Pinkerton, Hakluyt, Bescherelle, Humboldt, Murray's Handbooks, &c. In classics, such a series as Valpy's Delphin Classics, Lemaire, or Didot. In poetry, Dryden, Pope, Shakspeare, Calderon, Goethe, Schiller, &c. In belles lettres, British Essayist, Hallam, Scott, Southey, Swift, Johnson, Goldsmith, Franklin, Guizot, and many others too numerous to mention. In the class of biography, Nicholls, Chalmers, Biographic Universelle, Bayle, Anthony Wood, and others. In architecture and the fine arts, some of the best authors. In general philosophy, the Journals of the British Association, Philosophical Transactions, works on Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, Astronomy, Metaphysics, Political Economy, Chemistry, Ethnology, Geology, Natural History, Botany, and amongst other authors the works of Lavater, Agassiz, Murchison, Buffon, and Cuvier. In the department of jurisprudence, the State and Trials, Viner's Abridgement, Burns's Justice, &c. In theology, Bibles, Prayer-books, Missals, Commentaries, Concordances, and Liturgies. In Ecclesiastical History, such authors as Stype, Burnet, Fuller, Collier, Fleury, Maroni, Baronius Dupin, Butler, and others.

Fearing I may have trespassed to too great a length, I will reserve what I have to say, if it meets with your approval, on the internal arrangement, catalogue, and general management, of such a library, until some future opportunity,

And am, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours truly and fraternally,

MATTHEW COOKE.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

GRAND LODGE.

The following is the official agenda of business to be transacted on Wednesday next, the 7th inst. :—

1. The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 1st March, for confirmation.
2. The minutes of the Grand Festival of the 26th April, for confirmation.
3. The Deputy Grand Master, the Earl De Grey and Ripon, will move "An Address of Condolence to the M.W. Grand Master on the sad affliction which has befallen his lordship by the death of the Countess of Zetland."
4. The President of the Board of General Purposes will move "That the London and North Western Lodge of Fidelity (No. 616), Crewe, and the South Suffolk Lodge (No. 627), Sudbury, having neglected to make the prescribed returns and payments, and having been duly summoned to show cause, be erased."
5. Pursuant to notice given, the M.W. Grand Master will move "That Brother Thomas G. Dickie, late Grand Pursuivant, do take rank and wear clothing as a Past Grand Pursuivant."
6. Election of members for the Board of General Purposes.
7. Election of members for the Colonial Board.
8. Election of members for the Committee of Management of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows.
9. Report of the Board of Benevolence for the last quarter.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

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

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

1. A complaint was preferred by the Lodge of Benevolence against the Lodge of Faith (No. 314), Radcliffe Bridge, for having certified to the petition of a brother, an applicant for relief, that he had been a regular contributing member, paying the stipulated subscriptions for the space of forty-three years, whereas the Grand Lodge dues had been paid for him for thirty-two years only. The lodge having been called upon for an explanation, it was stated on their part that the brother had been very irregular in his payments, and his lodge subscriptions had got into arrear; that the lodge had subsequently compounded with him on his paying an agreed sum, and excused him the remainder of the debt; but it was admitted by the lodge that they had not fully paid up Grand Lodge dues on account of the said brother. The Board having considered the circumstances of the case, and it appearing that the lodge had too much relied on the statement of the brother, but had not given a wilfully incorrect certificate, resolved, "That the Lodge of Faith (No. 314) be admonished to be more careful for the future, and be required forthwith to pay up the arrears due to Grand Lodge in respect of the said brother, and that the Master be required to have the decision of the Board read in open lodge and recorded in the minutes."

2. The Board have had their attention called to the want of sufficient safeguards which appears to exist in the present mode of admitting brethren to Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communications. They have consequently directed certain instructions to be drawn up for the guidance of the Scrutineers, and these, if properly attended to under the supervision of the Grand Pursuivant and his assistant, will, they trust, answer the object intended.

3. The Board desires to call the attention of Masters and Wardens of lodges in the London district to the law in the Book of Constitutions," page 76, section 7, which provides that they shall, within one month after appointment in each year, respectively sign their names in a book at the office of the Grand Secretary. The Board regret to find that the breach of this regulation is of very frequent occurrence. This is a Masonic offence resulting in great inconvenience, and the Board trust that their having called attention to the matter will insure a better observance of the law.

(Signed) J. LLEWELLYN EVANS,
Freemason's Hall, President.
23rd May, 1865.

The business of the day being concluded, it was unanimously resolved, "That the cordial thanks of this Board are due and are hereby tendered to the V.W. Bro. J. Llewellyn Evans, the President, for his unremitting attention to all questions that have come before the Board for consideration, as well as for his kind and courteous bearing to its members."

(Signed) J. M. CLABON,
Vice-President.

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on the 12th instant, showing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £6,053 12s. 6d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash, £50. Of these sums, there belongs to the Fund of Benevolence, £1,429 11s. 8d.; to the Fund of General Purposes, £4,200 13s. 5d.; and in the Unappropriated Accounts, £473 7s. 5d.

11. REPORT OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE.

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

The Committee beg to report that the building of the first section, with the exception of the grand staircase, being completed, and the necessary arrangements having been made, the Grand Secretary, the Clerks, the Grand Tyler, and the various boards and lodges were transferred to their new quarters on Monday, May 1st, since which time all Masonic meetings have been held in the new building.

The Committee report that, for the present, and until the whole of the new Freemasons' Hall is completed, there must be some degree of inconvenience to the brethren attending. This inconvenience arises chiefly from the necessity of having a temporary access to the premises whilst the façade is being carried up, and is adopted in order to avoid interruption of the works or excuses for delay in construction. It is hoped that the permanent entrance from Great Queen-street will be fit for use within three months. Until that time it will be convenient that all brethren having business at the offices should enter at the temporary entrance in New-yard, and that brethren attending lodges should enter by the temporary entrance to the Tavern, from the staircase of which there is access on each floor to the grand and upper corridors respectively. The grand staircase is being rapidly proceeded with, and it is hoped that it will be finished very shortly.

The Committee also report that the pulling down of the Tavern front was commenced on the 1st of May, and that it is nearly completed; and that, according to agreement, the temple, the library, the clerk's office, the Grand Secretary's office, and the rooms on the ground floor and basement of No. 63, hitherto occupied by the Grand Tyler, have been cleaned, lighted, and made over to the use of the tenants whilst they are deprived of the use of the rooms heretofore occupying the front of the Tavern.

The Committee have made every arrangement in their

power to secure the comfort and convenience of the Executive officers, of the tenants, and of the brethren generally, and they have the satisfaction of believing that the arrangements made have been approved of; the Committee will spare no pains to promote, and, if possible, to increase the comfort and convenience of the brethren, and will willingly consider any suggestions which may be made.

The Committee also report that they have used every exertion to secure a greater degree of despatch in the future conduct of the works, and that the contractor has undertaken to complete the whole of the Masonic part of the building, and to give possession of it, by the first day of February next; the new workshops in Middle-yard (in lieu of those surrendered by Mr. Malby) are to be completed by the 1st of August, and according to present arrangement, the great banqueting-room of the new Tavern will be commenced on the 1st August, and will be roofed in within six months from that date.

The Committee (finding that the services of one man-servant will be sufficient for the present) have engaged James Portch to assist the Grand Tyler in the general care of the house, and the M.W. Grand Master having granted a dispensation for that purpose, James Portch has been regularly initiated as a serving brother. The Committee have also made the requisite temporary arrangements as regards women-servants, and will again report to Grand Lodge when experience has enabled them to determine what amount of service will be required.

It is evident that there still exists a considerable amount of misapprehension on the part of many of the brethren in reference to the new buildings, and especially as to what part of the buildings have been let on lease, and what part is to be retained for Masonic purposes.

The Committee beg to repeat that the new Freemasons' Hall and the Tavern will be totally distinct, both in external appearance and in internal arrangements. The one is let to tenants, the other is devoted solely and exclusively to the use of the Craft.

"Freemasons' Hall" will include the whole of the new rooms which have been recently built, the present great hall, and the rooms which are now being commenced and which will occupy the front of the building, viz., on the ground floor, the library and coffee room; on the first floor, the Grand Master's room, the Grand Officers' robing room, and a dining room; and on the second floor, a lodge room, ante room, and dining room. These together will constitute Freemasons' Hall or the Masonic Temple, which will be retained in the hands of the Craft, and may be devoted to the sole and exclusive use of the society. It may thus be clearly understood that the lease has no reference to Freemasons' Hall, from which hereafter the public will be entirely excluded.

"The Tavern" will consist partly of some of the old rooms, but chiefly of a spacious and commodious building to be erected on the east side of Freemasons' Hall, containing noble banqueting and subsidiary dining rooms, and every accommodation for the carrying on of a first-class business. The Tavern is let on lease on the terms which have been already reported: it will be used by the tenants for general purposes, and in it will be provided the banquets of the various lodges.

(Signed) JOHN HAVERS,
Chairman.

London, May 23rd, 1865.

12. The Annual Report of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, dated 19th May, 1865, will be laid before the Grand Lodge.

13. A memorial from the Grand Chapter of Scotland, inquiring—

1st. If the Grand Lodge of England is prepared to sanction the working of the Mark Master's degree in England.

2nd. Whether the Grand Lodge is prepared to recognise the body styling itself "The Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England, Wales, and the Colonies and Possessions of the British Crown" as the lawful head of the Order of Mark Masters in England.

14. Copy of a report made by a special Charitable Institutions' Committee to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Victoria, with respect to the proposed formation of a local Masonic Asylum for Aged Decayed Freemasons and their Widows; a Girls' School and a Boys' School for Orphan Children, and those of Decayed Freemasons, as nearly similar as circumstances will permit to those established under the sanction of the United Grand Lodge of England; and a resolution passed thereon soliciting the Grand Lodge to support the objects sought to be obtained by a donation towards its funds.

15. Memorial from the District Grand Lodge of South Australia, setting forth certain alleged inconveniences, and praying—

1st. That District Grand Lodges be assimilated in their functions to the Grand Lodge.

2nd. That they shall not cease to exist on the death or resignation of the Provincial Grand Master.

3rd. That they shall have the power of investigating, regulating, and deciding all matters relative to the Craft or the particular lodges, or to individual brothers within their respective districts; which they may exercise either of themselves or by such delegated authority as in their wisdom or discretion they may appoint—their decisions in all cases to be regulated by the "Book of Constitutions," and subject to appeal to Grand Lodge.

The papers numbered respectively 13, 14, and 15, are in the Grand Secretary's Office, and open for perusal till the meeting of Grand Lodge.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

By Bro. JOHN UDALL, P.G.D.:—"That the sum of £50 be given from the Fund of General Purposes, and placed in the hands of the Secretary to supply the inmates of the Asylum of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, with coals."

ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED MASONS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

The annual meeting of the governors and subscribers to this Institution was held at Freemasons' Hall on Friday, the 19th ult., Bro. John Udall, P.G.D., V.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the report of the auditors from 1st April, 1864, to 31st March, 1865, was read, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. From this it appeared that the total income for the year for the Male Fund (including £1,201 19s. 6d. for the previous account) had been £4,449 16s. 9d., and the disbursements (including £1,090 10s. for the purchase of £1,200 Three per Cent. stock) £3,112 2s. 1d., leaving a balance of £1,337 14s. 8d.

On the Widow's Fund the receipts (including £931 4s. 11d. from the last account) amounted to £3,754 11s. 7d., and the disbursements (including £727 purchase of £800 Three per Cent. Consols) £1,954 3d., leaving a balance of £1,800.

For the Sustentation Fund the total (including £78 9s. 5d.

from the previous account) was £109 5s. 5d., and the disbursements £66 1s., leaving a balance of £43 4s. 5d.

The total balances were, therefore, £3,181 10s. 5d.*

The report of the Committee stated that the festival on the 25th January, over which the Earl de Grey and Ripon, D.G.M., presided, resulted in a subscription list of £3,548 16s. 6d. The permanent income of the Male Fund now amounts to £1,134 per annum, and the Widows' Fund £587. After the last election there were 80 male annuitants, of whom 9 have since died, and 1 having become a lunatic had been placed entirely on parochial funds for support—leaving 70 on the funds, to which number the Committee recommended the addition of 14 by election. At the last election, there were 47 widows on the funds, of whom 3 had since died, and the Committee recommended 6 for election, making 50. There were also 9 widows receiving half the amount of their late husband's annuities.

Of the male annuitants 16 were from London lodges receiving £370, and 54 from country lodges, £1,205.

Of the widows 22 are from London lodges receiving £465, and 22 from country lodges, £460. Of those receiving half their husband's pensions, 3 are from London lodges receiving £35 a-year, and 6 from country lodges, £58. The total number of annuitants for the year was 123, receiving £2,593.

There are now standing in the names of the Trustees for the Male Fund, £17,800 Three per Cent. stock; Female, £7,900; and Sustentation Fund, £1,000.

The report having been adopted, Bro. Henry J. Thompson was elected on the committee, in the room of Bro. H. Bridges and Bros. H. G. Warren and Wm. Young, re-elected.

Bros. Jno. Symonds, P.G.D.C., H. G. Warren, and J. R. Sheer were re-elected Auditors.

The election was then proceeded with, and resulted as follows:—

MALE ANNUITANTS.—SUCCESSFUL.

Bro. William Warran	11,794
„ Samuel M. Shrubsole.....	10,911
„ Samuel Julyan	10,281
„ Joseph Kent	10,249
„ Charles Geary.....	9,941
„ Richard Adams	9,799
„ John Thompson	9,634
„ W. R. George Key	9,441
„ Francis Frewer	9,420
„ Jesse Taylor	8,852
„ Jonas Broughton	8,355
„ Stanley Holt	8,275
„ John Hodgson	7,948
„ Joseph Redfern	7,932

UNSUCCESSFUL.

Bro. Joseph B. Ellis	7,394
„ Robert Adams	5,248
„ John Lucas	2,926
„ Robert Spencer	2,662
„ John Carvell	2,118
„ Benjamin Chew	1,773
„ Thomas Osborne	1,561
„ Thomas Storey	1,496
„ Thomas Shearer	1,467
„ Henry Martin	819
„ John Rowe Brewer	598
„ Lewis Breveau	529
„ William Jackson	418
„ Walter Spicer	294
„ John Broadbent	252
„ James P. Munro.....	241
„ Robert Parkinson	56
„ Richard Griffiths	43
„ Thomas Burgum	28

* Of this amount, we believe £2,000 has since been invested.

WIDOWS.—SUCCESSFUL.

Mrs. Mary Ann Swain	4,946
„ Rebecca Hammett.....	4,825
„ Mary Ann Osborne	4,590
„ Sarah Crow.....	4,357
„ Ann Slater	4,113
„ Jean Rule	3,981

UNSUCCESSFUL.

Mrs. Margaret Dale	3,853
„ Ann Butler Lawrence	3,759
„ Ann Isabella Tisoe	3,701
„ Elizabeth Wilkins.....	2,293
„ Elizabeth Dickinson.....	1,707
„ Mary Marson.....	1,653
„ Ann Harmer	1,519
„ Ann Kinnear	1,254
„ Mary Ann Harper.....	1,227
„ Martha Dixon Brown	1,156
„ Betty Partington	1,085
„ Rachel Mayoh	886
„ Mary Ann Johnson	762
„ Sarah Dixon	365
„ Sarah Buxton	260
„ Mary Rickards	246
„ Sarah Kauffman	36
„ Elizabeth Mott	12
„ Elizabeth Lyon.....	10
„ Elizabeth Greenhalgh	0

Notes of thanks were given to the Scrutineers and Chairman for their services that day, and the result of the election ordered to be advertised in the usual papers.

PROVINCIAL.

BERKS AND BUCKS.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

A Provincial Grand Lodge was held in the Town Hall, Aylesbury, on Tuesday, the 23rd inst., for the transaction of the business of the province. The Right Worshipful Bro. Aeneas J. McIntyre, Grand Registrar of England, and Acting Provincial Grand Master for Berks and Bucks, occupied the chair. The attendance of Masons was not so large as was anticipated, owing, doubtless, to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Oxford being held on the same day.

The business of the lodge having been transacted, the brethren attended divine service at St. Mary's Church. The sermon was preached by the Rev. and Very Worshipful Bro. Simpson, P. Prov. S.G.W. Durham, Prov. G. Chap. of Berks and Bucks; at the close of which a collection was made, amounting to £6 5s. 6d., which has been handed to the Treasurer of the Bucks County Infirmary. The service over, the brethren walked in procession to the County Hall, where some further lodge business was transacted, the Prov. G.M. installing and investing the officers for the ensuing year.

The brethren then proceeded to the George Hotel, and sat down to a sumptuous repast prepared by the worthy host, to a number of nearly seventy, under the presidency of the Prov. G.M.

At the conclusion of the repast, the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given from the chair, and heartily responded to, the musical brethren present singing the National Anthem with great feeling.

Then followed the toasts of "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland;" "The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, the Earl De Grey and Ripon, and the rest of the Grand Officers," which were received with Masonic honours.

Bro. R. J. SIMPSON, P. Prov. S.G.W., then proposed "The Health of the Right Worshipful the Acting Provincial Grand Master." He eulogised the ability and firmness with which he governed the province, and paid a well-deserved compliment to the courtesy and consideration which every brother met with from him in the discharge of his Masonic duties.

Bro. MCINTYRE, in responding, thanked the brethren for the cordial and truly Masonic manner in which his health had been received, and expressed the pleasure it afforded him to meet so many brethren of the province in Aylesbury. He hoped this

might lead to other equally fraternal meetings, and in concluding a most able speech, proposed "The Health of the Provincial Grand Officers," coupling with it the name of Bro. W. H. Hole, P.M. 414, and Prov. S.G.W.

Bro. HOLE briefly responded on behalf of himself and brother officers.

The toast of "The Visitors" brought this agreeable and successful meeting to a rather speedy finish, the non-resident brethren present having to leave by train at seven o'clock, which was rather unfortunate, inasmuch as the musical brethren were also obliged to retire at the same time, and could not, therefore, go through the whole of the programme prepared for the occasion.

HAMPSHIRE.

WINCHESTER.—*Lodge of Economy* (No. 76).—The usual monthly meeting of the lodge took place at the Masonic Rooms adjoining the Black Swan Hotel on Wednesday evening, the 31st ult., when the following brethren were present:—Bros. E. Sheppard, W.M.; Joseph Rankin Stebbing, Past Senior Grand Deacon of England; J. Naish, R. S. Hulbert, A. Smith, C. Sherry, P.M.'s; W. Best; H. Huggins, Sec.; H. Newman, T. Stopher, Rawlins, W. Whale, Gibson, &c. The lodge having been opened with solemn prayer, the minutes of the last lodge were read by the Secretary and confirmed. The business entered on the agenda paper included the raising of two brethren to the sublime degree of Master Masons; but the united brethren unanimously resolved to postpone the regular business in order to show their sympathy with the Most Worshipful the Earl of Zetland, K.T., the Grand Master of England, under the circumstances of his lordship's late sad domestic bereavement.—Bro. J. R. STEBBING made an eloquent introductory speech, and then moved the adoption by the lodge of an address of condolence to the Earl of Zetland. He said it was his painful duty as the Immediate Past Master of the lodge, to move a vote of condolence to the Earl of Zetland, Grand Master of England, under the heavy bereavement he had lately been subjected to, having had the deep misfortune to lose his amiable Countess, with whom his lordship had lived so long in the blessings of married life. The Countess of Zetland had taken a great interest in Freemasonry, and particularly in the welfare of the Masonic Charities, always making herself deeply concerned in the management of the Girls' School, and by her assistance rendering it more perfect through her knowledge and experience, and peculiar qualifications as a lady. The noble earl and brother had for twenty-one years been the Sovereign of their Order, and any event affecting his lordship affected the Masonic body. In the time of his lordship's predecessor in office, there were greater vicissitudes happened—the late Duke of Sussex had lost his sight, and suffered other misfortunes, and that had called forth deep expressions of sympathy and kindness from the united brethren to his Royal Highness and his family. The Earl of Zetland was very dear to the Masonic Order as their Grand Master, and by this expression of our deep sympathy and condolence they might hope, in the midst of the noble earl's affliction, to assuage to some extent his distressed feelings, and, therefore, he anticipated a general support to the address in this sad hour of bereavement. They would, he knew, be glad to have the honour of being the first body of Masons to sympathise with his lordship as their Grand Master, theirs being about the first lodge meeting after the deplorable event. He had a melancholy satisfaction in proposing the address, which he would read.—[It will be found under the head Obituary in another page.] Bro. J. NAISH, P.M., experienced a melancholy satisfaction in seconding the motion. They must naturally all condole with the noble earl and brother in this his sad hour of bereavement; it was a blow his lordship would feel to the end of his life. He (Bro. Naish) had himself lost a partner in life, and by experience he could tell what were the feelings of the noble earl on the present occasion.—The motion was put to the lodge by the W.M., and carried unanimously. The lodge progressed to the second, and then to the third degree, and Bros. E. Rawlins and W. Whale were admitted and raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons, the ceremony being worked by Bro. Sheppard, assisted by Bro. Smith, P.M. Subsequent to the ceremony alluded to, Bro. SMITH, P.M., rose to address the lodge on another subject. He said he was informed that the present night was the last occasion of the lodge's meeting on the present premises. Bro. C. Sherry, P.M., their worthy host, had, over a period of a great many years, been a strenuous supporter

of Masonry. He had drawn up a form of resolution without consulting Bro. Sherry, and he now, with considerable pleasure, begged to move as follows:—"That this lodge, having been informed that Bro. Sherry is about to retire from the management of the Black Swan Hotel, records its thanks to Bro. Sherry for his zeal and energy in advancing the interests of the lodge, and his generous and obliging disposition in promoting the comfort and convenience of the brethren during the eleven years they have assembled there; and it cordially wishes him prosperity and happiness in his new undertaking.—Also, that this resolution be entered on the minutes of the lodge, and a copy be sent to Bro. Sherry."—Bro. STEBBING seconded the resolution with a vast deal of pleasure and satisfaction. Bro. Sherry, to his own knowledge, had done some excellent things in regard to Masonry; he was now getting in years, and, as men get older, they were gratified to see anything like an open recognition of their past services. This was put to the lodge, and was carried *nem. con.*—Bro. SMITH then proposed Bro. J. Snary as a joining member of the lodge, and this was seconded by Bro. Sherry.—Bro. SHEPPARD, W.M., then proposed Mr. Charles Gamblin, professor of music, of Winchester, as a candidate for initiation in Freemasonry, which was seconded by Bro. Naish, P.M. The brethren then adjourned for refreshment, and on their return to the lodge proceeded to consider the important question of purchasing some house property in the city, with the view of converting it into a Masonic Hall, and some material progress was made in this direction.

KENT.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

On Wednesday, the 24th ult., the annual Grand Festival of the province of Kent was held at Ramsgate, and the members of the Royal Navy Lodge, noted as they are for their strict observance of the Masonic rule of hospitality, determined that nothing should be wanting to make the reception of their brethren a right royal one. It was one of the largest known gatherings of the Craft in this county.

The weather was remarkably fine, and the streets had a very animated appearance, being spanned with flags and banners; in fact, from the bottom of the High-street to nearly the corner of Hardres-street, the street was literally roofed in with them. An excellent arch was erected across Church-hill, in which was worked some Masonic emblems, and it had a very pretty effect. It was decorated by Messrs. Chapman and Son, of the Vale Nursery, who had also the decorating of the church gates and pillars. An excellent arch spanned the High-street, from the Mitre Tavern to the New Inn, and was erected in a very short space of time, at the expense of eight or ten tradesmen residing near. It was very handsome, and in the evening was brilliantly illuminated by a fine gas star. This arch was decorated by Bro. Dillistone, of the Trafalgar Nursery. Bros. White and Axford suspended across Harbour-street a large square and compass, and a double triangle, made of evergreens, as well as other devices which were fixed against their houses. Bro. Sawyer displayed a huge representation of a double triangle, also made with evergreens. Amongst the display of flags we noticed a very handsome Masonic flag displayed from the top of Bro. Barrow's house.

The breakfast took place at the Royal Hotel at ten o'clock, and was attended by a large number of the Craft. The band of the Ramsgate and Margate Rifle Corps was in attendance, and played some excellent selections of music. At noon the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent was opened at St. James's Hall by the R.W. Prov. G.M., Bro. Viscount Holmesdale, and, after the usual business had been transacted, he appointed and invested the following brethren as Prov. G. Officers for the ensuing year:—

Bro. W. C. Fooks, W.M. 299.....	S.G. Warden.
" T. H. Groove Snowden, P.M. 429	J.G. Warden.
" B. Thorpe, P.M. 709	G. Treasurer.
" J. B. Shepherd, W.M. 31	G. Registrar.
" E. Wates, P.M.	G. Secretary.
" W. S. Elers, W.M. 874	Assist. G. Secretary.
" W. M. Cavell, S.W. 784.....	S.G. Deacon.
" J. Tolpitt, P.M. 503	J.G. Deacon.
" J. H. Radley, W.M. 20	G. Dir. of Cers.
" J. Blake, W.M. 184	G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.
" J. English, W.M. 558.....	G. Supt. of Works.
" J. Fenwick, W.M. 429	G. Sword Bearer.

" H. Boyton, P.M. 199	G. Organist.
" E. Denton, P.M. Sec. 913	G. Pursuivant.
" J. Matthews, P.M. 127	} G. Stewards.
" J. Kappy, S.W. 20	
" H. Mansell, P.S.W. 709.....	
" W. Rumble, J.W. 158	
" A. W. Ayers, J.W. 199	
" Bower Marsh, J.W. 1050	

The Rev. W. A. Hill, M.A., was re-appointed Provincial Grand Chaplain.

The sum of £100 was voted from the Provincial Grand Lodge Charity Fund for division amongst the five following lodges, to constitute them in perpetuity Governors of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, viz.:—Ashford (No. 709), Canterbury (No. 31), Faversham (No. 133), Hythe (No. 125), Gravesend (No. 483.) The sum of fifty guineas was voted from the Provincial Grand Lodge Fund, as a donation to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

Amongst the brethren of the province present were the R.W. Prov. G.M. Viscount Holmesdale, M.P.; V.W. D. Prov. G.M. W. F. Dobson; P. Prov. D.G.M. J. Harvey Boys; Bros. the Revs. W. A. Hill, P.G. Chap., and G. W. Sicklemore; C. E. Shirley Woolmer, P. Chap. 429, Ramsgate; J. H. Bridge, Chap. 429 Ramsgate, and Graham. P. Prov. S.G.W.'s—Bros. T. Hills, James Delmar, Solomon, Eastes, and O. G. Phipps. P. Prov. J.G.W.'s—Bros. F. B. Eilers, and G. Hodge. Past Masters—Bros. F. T. Southgate, Hemery, Pout, T. Philpott, W. Philpott, Southgate, W.M.; W. C. Fookes, Prov. S.G.W.; and T. H. G. Snowden, Prov. J.G.W., &c.

The whole of the business having been disposed of, the Provincial Grand Lodge adjourned, and the brethren proceeded to the Pier Yard, where a procession was formed.

The procession passed through Harbour-street and High-street, which were lined with spectators, to St. George's Church, where the following clergymen took part in the service:—The prayers were read by the Rev. J. M. Nisbet, the first lesson by the Rev. C. E. Shirley Woolmer, and the second lesson by the Rev. J. H. Bridge. The Rev. Bro. Hill, Prov. G. Chap., preached an excellent sermon, taking for his text the 7th, 8th, and part of the 9th verses of the 3rd chapter of the 1st book of Kings. At the conclusion a collection was made, and a sum amounting to £19 14s. 3d. obtained, which will be divided between the Parochial Schools and the Masonic Charities.

The brethren having retired to the lodge room the Provincial Grand Lodge was reconstituted and a vote of thanks passed to the Chaplain for his excellent sermon. A vote of thanks to the Grand Master closed the proceedings, and the brethren adjourned to St. George's Hall to dinner.

The walls of this room were very chastely and effectually decorated by Bro. Brown with Masonic emblems. Over the entrance was a large evergreen square, and compass, supported by the mallet and chisel, and surmounted by an eye which had been painted in water colours by Bro. Brown.

The tables were laid for 220 and every place was occupied. The dinner, which was provided by Bro. Hiscocks, of the Royal Hotel, included all the delicacies of the season, and gave general satisfaction. The comfort of the guests was greatly enhanced by the services of the following brethren, who acted as Wine Stewards:—Bros. Finch, Emmerson, Bridge, Cramp, Brown, and Powell.

After the cloth had been removed,

The Prov. G. MASTER rose to propose the first toast of the evening—the health of the Queen. It was usual, he said, to add to that toast the Craft, and he was sure that the toast would be received by them as it was received by all Englishmen. They had to be grateful for the example set by their Sovereign, than which no one could desire a greater. He concluded by proposing "The Queen and the Craft," and added that as the room in which they had assembled could not possibly be tyled, they must abstain from all manifestations in drinking, and abandon the ceiling of the toasts.

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, and the National Anthem was also played and sung.

The Prov. G. MASTER, on again rising, said,—I have now to ask you to fill your glasses and drink to "The Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family." We hope one day to greet him as one of us. (Applause.) Although he has not yet taken the pledge, as so many of his predecessors have done, I hope and trust the time is not far distant when

we shall have him as one of us in the bond of Freemasonry. Pending that day, I hope you will drink the toast with all the enthusiasm it deserves.

The toast was drunk with three times three.

After a short pause,

The PROV. G. MASTER again rose and said,—Brethren, I know there is a special train leaving here by the South Eastern line at 6.30, and I am, therefore, somewhat hurrying on the toasts. We have drunk the toast of all our luminaries, and I now give you the health of that nobleman who has for several successive years been called to the head of the Craft—the health of Lord Zetland. We ought to drink that toast with gratitude, because under his sway the Craft has prospered in a manner unprecedented. (Applause.) Those of you, who have had the chance of meeting him, know as I do, that there is no man who, when you go to him, whether it be upon private matters, or upon matters connected with Freemasonry is more courteous and kind. (Applause.) I give you “The Health of our Master, Lord Zetland.” (Loud applause.)

The PROV. G. MASTER in proposing the next toasts “The Deputy Grand Master of England,” said,—It would have been impossible for Lord Zetland to carry on the affairs of the Craft in the manner he had done, had he not been supported by a superior body of officers. The approval of their efforts was the only reward they could give those officers. As regarded the Right Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master, it was rarely that a gentleman so much occupied with other important duties as Earl de Grey and Ripon was, could find sufficient time to give up to Masonry. He was sure they would all do honour to this toast. He saw a gentleman in the room who had filled most of the offices in the Grand Lodge; he referred to Bro. Patten, and he should couple his name with the toast.

The toast having been drunk with enthusiasm,

Bro. PATTEN, P.G.D., rose to return thanks. He was sorry that he was the only officer of the Grand Lodge present that evening, for had any other member been present he would have been able to return thanks in more words than he was about to do, although he would not have done it with more sincerity. With regard to the Grand Master, he would only say that he was the right man in the right place. With regard to the officers, he had to thank their Chairman for the way in which he had proposed, and them for the way in which they had drunk the toast. He could assure them that any services which he could render to the Province of Kent, would be rendered with pleasure, although, perhaps, at some little trouble to himself. (Loud applause.)

Bro. FOOKES, Prov. S.G.W., in proposing the next toast, said,—One of the first duties I have to perform before I introduce the toast I have to propose to you is to see that you are all changed, and not charged only, but charged with bumpers. (Applause.) That toast, gentlemen, I am satisfied you will anticipate long before it comes from my lips. I have to propose to you “The Health of the gentleman who presides over us this evening.” I am proud, not having attended at Provincial Grand Lodge for twenty-five years, to see among Masons the old faces I see among them now. (Applause.) It is no small matter of congratulation to ourselves that we have the nobleman at the head of the table as our Grand Master. (Loud Applause.) He comes from a good stock. (Continued Applause.) I know that he is a Mason, and, as a neighbour who lives near him, I say I do not wish for a better. He is described as a man who never did an unkind action—(applause)—and it is no slight thing that we have a gentleman who can spare time from the other pursuits which he has chosen to come here on a great occasion and preside over us. (Loud Applause.) I am sure you will cheer this toast to the echo; and long may our noble Master continue in his career of usefulness, for I feel that we should never be able to find another gentleman who would carry on the affairs of the lodge as he has done. His time, I know, is short. I do not mean his time for presiding over us as our Master, for may the day be far distant that will separate him from us. But there is a train awaiting him, which must take him to other careers, and, as he is anxious to be going, I will not detain you by telling you of those principles of Freemasonry, of which I hope to hear more this evening. This is the principal toast, and I propose it to you that you may accept it as such.

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm.

The PROV. G. MASTER rose to return thanks. He said,—I rise, brethren, to return thanks, nay, my sincere thanks, for the very kind manner in which your Provincial Grand Warden has

proposed, and the way in which you, brethren, have received the toast of my health. Brother Fookes spoke of those pursuits from which I have torn myself away for a short time. I can assure him that it would be no slight occasion that would cause me to absent myself from taking the chair at one of these meetings. It is at these meetings that I am enabled to get at the progressive increase of the Craft in Kent. Year by year I see your numbers increase, and year by year the number of your lodges get greater and greater, and surely we will be in the position of the “little old woman who lived in a shoe, she had so many children she did not know what to do.” (Laughter and applause.) But now it is a matter for serious consideration what we shall do with all our children as their numbers increase, although the summary treatment of the old woman would not be very palatable to you. (Laughter.) Surely, something will have to be done soon, for we shall suffer so from the plethora of numbers that we shall not be able to find a place large enough to meet in. However much these numbers may increase, I am sure there is not one present who would not be glad of it. (Applause.) I rejoice to see this increase, because you are enabled to increase the number of votes at each of your Charities, and will in course of time be able to secure relief to any one in the province who is deserving of it. When we are satisfied that the number in Kent is such that we can without fail secure, without regarding our neighbours, the return of a candidate or a number of candidates, who may have occasion to seek benefit among us—when we feel we can administer to the relief of all those, then and not till then shall I say that the members of Kent are strong enough. I am afraid that the day is far distant when that may be said of Kent. In the meantime I trust that we may go on and prosper, and I trust that we may year after year rise in influence in the country and throughout the world. (Applause.) I believe that the county of Kent is one of the first if not the first in the country. And now to return to the toast of my health. It gives me the greatest pleasure to be here to-night amongst you. I am afraid I have been compelled to hurry on the toasts which I have had to give from the chair; but as time and tide wait for no man, the early departure of the train must be my excuse. I hope and trust that the next time I shall have the pleasure of meeting you I shall not be compelled to cut short the evening, but may be able to spend a longer time than I can this evening. Believe me it is a press of business and not my will that calls me away. (Loud and protracted applause.)

Silence having been restored,

The PROV. G. MASTER said he had time to propose one other toast to them before he departed. He felt certain that the toast he was about to propose to them would meet with their entire satisfaction. He flattered himself and the Province of Kent in having secured the services of a most efficient Deputy Grand Master. He thought there was scarcely a lodge in the Province that Bro. Dobson had not visited. He could assure them that unless he had his assistance he should not know how to carry on the business of the province. (Applause.) He was unable himself to make the acquaintance of each of the lodges, and he therefore knew how to value the 1,001 services which that officer rendered to him. He was obliged to rely upon the Deputy Provincial Grand Master to perform those duties which he was unable himself to see about, and he could inform them that they had been performed very satisfactorily. (Loud applause.) He gave them “The Health of their Deputy Grand Master,” than whom he knew no one better to fill the office.

The toast was drunk with cheers.

The Prov. G.M. having vacated the chair, it was taken by the D. Prov. G.M., who called for three cheers for his Lordship as he passed down the room, which call was responded to most heartily.

The D. PROV. G. MASTER, as soon as silence had been restored, said,—The first duty he had to perform on taking the chair was to return thanks for the manner in which they had drunk his health. There was something very suggestive in the toast. Their Prov. G. Master in proposing it, had told them that the whole of his exertions on behalf of the Craft were labours of love, and then immediately after they had that sweet piece of music “There is no rest but the grave for the labourer of love.” (Applause.) He did not think that this was done by previous arrangement, but it was certainly suggestive. He did not know whether there was, or was not any affinity, between him and the province, but so long as he was received in it as he was now, he should be sorry that anything but the grave should sever him from them. (Hear.) Now as to the province itself. They had

that day heard the report of its progress read. A few years ago, when their Grand Master was called to preside over them, there was not more than 500 Masons in the province. That was only five or six years ago, viz., in the October of 1859, and now they numbered 1,006. They were still extending their influence and their numbers, and this had led his lordship to ask "what shall we do with the plethora of numbers?" The numbers in their Grand Lodge would soon be so large that they would not be able to find a room large enough for them. Then came the question, what will be the best arrangement in order to meet the requirements of the large number of brethren who attended their Grand Lodge. (Hear.) The only thing he thought that they would be enabled to do was to get into a tent, which would be more expensive than a room, and they would then have to be satisfied with soup and a cold collation. (Hear.) It must be borne in mind that they must provide for the requirements of all the lodges attending their festival. They required some sustenance after their business. (Hear.) It was all very well to dispute that fact, but human nature after all was only human nature, and required keeping up in the proper manner. They breakfasted at ten o'clock in the morning, after which they attended to the business of the lodge, and they went till four or five o'clock without refreshment. If that was the case they must provide for the members who attended, for to ask them not to attend would be to ask them to neglect an important duty; and it was important that they should have the opportunity of meeting in Grand Lodge. It was necessary that they should have the opportunity of knowing each other personally, and interchange their sentiments the one with the other. (Hear.) It was important that they should know what was going on; that they should be able to testify by their presence what an important body Masons were (hear), and that they were not only an important body in themselves, but to the country at large. (Loud applause.) He asked them to look for a few moments at Freemasonry. It was essential in Freemasons that they should be always ready to hold out the right hand of hospitality and liberality. Hospitality and benevolence were the principal virtues of Freemasonry, and they assembled together on their festivals to promote those virtues to the utmost. It had been alleged against them that they assembled for the purpose of eating and drinking. That was easily disproved, for of the 4s. a year which they paid towards the funds of the Provincial Grand Lodge, one half they were bound to appropriate to the three Charities in connection with the Craft, and 2s. was devoted to make lodges members, and members for ever, not as with an individual whose membership died with him, but they were members for ever of the three Charities in connection with the Craft. Not one 6d. of that money could be touched for any other purpose. This was, he thought, a sufficient denial to the assertion that they assembled for the purpose of benefitting themselves and themselves alone. The other 2s. they were obliged to spend in the manner which their own laws provided. There were 125 subscribers of 2s. a year, and they had that day voted £50 towards one of the Charities. It would be absurd to suppose that any one of the provinces in the country could set to and build almshouses of their own and maintain them. Nothing of that kind could be done. It was well therefore for them to go on as they were, for each of them would have a chance of partaking of the benefits of one of the Charities if they should ever meet with misfortune. (Applause.) He was asked that day in Grand Lodge to move a vote to a poor widow at Sheerness; a very deserving case, he would grant them, but he was unable to do so, inasmuch as it was set forth in their own laws that such motions must be brought before the preliminary meeting, which is to be held a month before the Grand Lodge. Then if the preliminary meeting thought it was a deserving case, they were at liberty to recommend the Grand Lodge to make a grant. There was plenty of time before the preliminary meeting and the case could be taken into consideration by them, and he was sure they would not be slow in dispensing the great virtues of the Craft in any deserving case. The Boys' School was then spending £30,000 (he was speaking under correction from Brother Binckes, if he made any errors) in increasing the establishment, so as to maintain, instead of 100, 200 of the sons of any Masons who might by misfortune or otherwise require assistance. This was a great outlay, and the Committee of the Boys' School had spent a great deal of money and had got into debt in making these alterations. As men of business they did not desire to open the establishment having,

as they had, a debt hanging over their heads. They did not desire to make these improvements and have to mortgage the building in order to pay for them. That, he knew, was a common way of building, but he, for one, thought it was a most expensive one. (Applause.) They desired to act as men of business, and, as he had already said, not open it with a debt hanging over their heads. The committee had spent £30,000 and they now had to appeal to their brother Masons to help them out of their dilemma. He, for one, was sure that that appeal would not be made in vain. Their chairman had told them that day that Solomon when a young man was very wise, but when he became an old man he got into foolish ways. Let him warn them against getting foolish in their old and prosperous days. They had been told that they were in a prosperous condition, and that in no province were Freemasons so much respected and admired as in the Province of Kent. Let them keep up their character. They were noted also for their benevolence, and let them keep up their *prestige* for that as well. (Applause.) It was a matter for congratulation that in five or six years their numbers had so increased. This must reflect credit upon the management of the Grand Master. He said their numbers had increased, aye, they had increased one hundred per cent. (Loud and protracted applause.) Thus much for the Craft. And now, as far as he was concerned, he would refer them to his past conduct, and, as far as he was aware, any little intellect and time he could devote to their service they were willing to claim. (Applause.) Whenever they required his assistance, they had but to command and he was at their service. (Applause.) He knew them all as neighbours, and he knew them as Masons, and good Masons too. He would say no more, but content himself with returning them the sincere thanks for the way in which they received the toast.

After a short interval,

The D. Prov. G. MASTER again arose, and said he had a toast which he wished to propose to them. It was "The Health of the Officers appointed in the Grand Lodge that day." His office, he was aware, was likely to bring him into disgrace with some of them for not having elected different officers from those he had chosen, yet he assured them he had done his duty conscientiously, and to his own satisfaction. He always made it a rule to be very careful what gentlemen he proposed for election by the Grand Master; and he thought that at the expiration of their term of office his selection would meet with the entire approval of all. (Loud and protracted applause.)

Bro. FOOKES returned thanks. He said they had risen to return thanks for the compliment that had been conferred upon them by those present in drinking their healths in the manner they had done. They felt—he spoke as a Mason, and was sure his brother officers would all concur with all he said—proud at being Masons, and they esteemed being elected to office as an honour of which they were unworthy. He hoped that they should perform their duty to the satisfaction of the brethren (applause), and not only satisfactory to them but also to the Grand Master and the Craft throughout the country. It was a matter of no small congratulation to him that he had been chosen to fill an office of so much importance. He felt the more proud of the honour, because he could remember his father being in the same position before him. This was when a young man had made him the more anxious to become a member, and now he was a member he had been elected to this office. Their Craft impressed everybody by its influence, and by that manly feeling which it exhibited the one towards the other. As they had already been told, it had been said that their Craft had assembled for the purpose of enjoying themselves. There were, however, things deeper set and deeper rooted in the heart of all true Masons than the mere enjoyment of themselves, but which they themselves could but imperfectly express. He never went to the Provincial Grand Lodge or to his own county lodge without feeling how much importance there was in Freemasonry. It was astonishing how much a small body of men might do for the good of the country, especially when they worked well together as the Freemasons did. He only hoped they would so continue to deport themselves as to remain worthy of the dignity which they had now attained. He could assure them that he was not speaking for himself alone but for the whole of the brethren who had that day been called to office. He felt certain that the whole of them would endorse his opinion. (Loud applause.) In conclusion he would only express a hope that he and his brother officers might perform their duties to the satisfaction of their brethren at large. (Applause.)

The D. PROV. G. MASTER next rose to propose "The Health of the Worshipful Master and Brethren of the Entertaining Lodge." He was sure all would agree with him when he said they were all very much indebted to them for the way in which they had that day been received by them. (Applause.) Had her most Gracious Majesty been coming to visit Ramsgate the demonstration that had been made could not have been more universal than it was. It was especially gratifying to Masons to see these demonstrations, because it proved that the brethren of the Royal Navy Lodge conducted themselves as Masons should do. (Loud Applause.) He said it was evident that they conducted themselves well, for if they had not comported themselves as they ought to have done, the townspeople would not have come forward as they had. Had the Masons of Ramsgate been a set of drunken fellows their fellow inhabitants would not have shown that wonderful token of respect towards the Craft they had shown that day. (Applause.) This was another proof that their funds were not all spent in eating and drinking. Had this been all they assembled for, without having any holier mission, without some object with much deeper root in their heart, they could not expect that the people of Ramsgate would have shown those tokens of respect towards them which they had. He had great pleasure in thanking the members of the entertaining lodge for the extremely kind way in which they had been received, and he doubted not that they would drink their healths most cordially. To the toast he would also add "Prosperity to the Royal Navy Lodge."

Bro. T. H. G. SNOWDEN said that as a Past Master of the Royal Naval Lodge, and also as Chairman of the Committee appointed to carry out the arrangements for the reception of the other lodges, he had risen at the request of the brethren to return thanks for the kind way in which their health had been proposed. He could inform them that the arrangements for the day had been a source of much anxiety, and that anxiety had been partly caused by the very liberal manner in which they had previously been received at Gravesend, Ashford, and other places which they had visited. They had experienced so much kindness at the hands of other lodges, that they had had a great deal of anxiety to discover how to repay them. This had also been increased by the limited time which they had had at their disposal. They had done their best to give them a right welcome reception. He hoped their efforts had been crowned with success. If he might judge from the happy faces he saw around him—if he might form a judgment from that, he should say that the efforts of the committee were such as had given them satisfaction. He could tell them that there was a ball that evening at the Albion Hotel, and he did hope that those who did and could dance would come and bring their wives, and if need be their sweethearts (loud applause), and show them that,

"No mortal can more
The ladies adore,
Than a Free and Accepted Mason."

Then let us go to this ball and prove to them that—

"We are true and sincere
And just to the fair;
They may trust us on every occasion."

(Loud applause.) He did hope to see many of those whom he saw around him then at the ball that night. He had great pleasure in thanking them for the honour they had done the brethren of the Royal Naval Lodge.

The D. PROV. G. MASTER said he was sure they would not be pleased if he neglected to perform one part of the duty allotted to him. It was, too, a most important duty which he was about to name to them. At one of the lodges some time since they had a discussion as to whether they should or should not on their festival go to church in procession. Notwithstanding all the difference of opinion upon the question, there was not the slightest hesitation on the question of their asking God's blessing upon their day's work. (Applause.) They were always to go to church; whether they went in procession, or not, was another question. It was then decided that, on their festival, they were to go to church in procession, and there ask the blessing of the Divine Architect. This was all connected with his toast, for he had to propose to them the health of the Provincial Grand Chaplain, who, had not the distance been so far from his home, would have remained at Ramsgate that night. They must all have been gratified to see him amongst them that day, and they were always glad to recog-

nise in him a brother Mason. Although he had been called away, his place was now filled by a gentleman whom he recognised as a Past Provincial Grand Chaplain. He referred to the Rev. Shirley Woolmer. (Loud applause.) He was glad to find that, in Freemasonry, the Church and the laity could go hand in hand together about the same works of benevolence and hospitality. (Loud applause.) He had much pleasure in proposing "The Health of the Provincial Grand Chaplain, Bro. Hill," and coupling with the toast the name of Bro. the Rev. S. Woolmer.

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm.

Bro. the Rev. S. WOOLMER said he had to rise to return thanks for the Provincial Grand Chaplain. He had attended several Masonic festivals, and had always had to return thanks as deputy for some one else. He had great pleasure in returning thanks on this occasion for Bro. Hill, for when he first entered Maidstone the first gentleman he knew was Brother Hill (applause), and from that day he had known him as a good brother clergyman and a good Mason. Had Brother Hill been present he would have returned thanks to them much better than he could do for him. He was proud of Ramsgate and of the Royal Navy Lodge for the way in which they had acted that day. He was proud of the spirit they had shown that day, and he predicted glorious things for Ramsgate, not only in Freemasonry, but in the other capacity which it held, that of a watering place—that it might be more important than Brighton; and he hoped they would soon have an esplanade and carriage drive from the East Cliff across the West Cliff to Pegwell, and round by St. Lawrence to Ramsgate. (Applause.)

Bro. BEECHING said he should like to make one or two observations, if the Deputy Provincial Grand Master would give him permission. (Having received the necessary permission, he continued.) Some years ago he went to the funeral of a brother Mason. He did not know at that time the Rev. S. Woolmer was a Mason, but he knew that the clerk was a Mason and that all round the grave were Masons too. To his surprise, at the end of the service he discovered that the clergyman was likewise a Mason. He should not have discovered this, but for an expression the Rev. Mr. Woolmer then made use of. He was so impressed with this ceremony that he believed he should never forget it. (Applause.)

Bro. the Rev. S. WOOLMER said the only expression he made use of was "Alas, my brother."

The D. PROV. G. MASTER said,—He had taken upon himself to propose to them one other toast. It was usual for them to recognise those brethren who did not belong to the province in which they were assembled. There were some gentlemen who made it a general rule to be among them on every occasion. One of them was present that evening—he referred to Bro. Binckes, who came before them as the representative of their Boys' School. Bro. Patten, the representative of the Girls' School was also present, and it was well known to all of them that both those gentlemen came there with an object. They would doubtless tell them the state of the finances of either and both charities, and if they found it necessary to appeal to them, he was sure that that appeal would not be made in vain. They never had appealed to them in vain, and he hoped they never would have to do so. (Applause.) Those gentlemen would doubtless by their eloquence find a way of inserting their hands into the pockets of those who were present. He had much pleasure in proposing "The Health of the Visitors," and he should ask the two gentlemen he had named to return thanks.

The toast having been drunk with enthusiasm.

Bro. PATTEN, P.G.D., in returning thanks said,—Bro. Binckes had given way in order that he might address them first. He came among them as the Secretary of one of their Charities, but he had no plea of poverty to put before them that evening, and he knew Bro. Binckes had. Last year they spent £600 in enlarging the Girls' School, and he was sorry to say that on comparing the balance sheet of 1863 with that of 1864 there was a deficiency of £600 in the receipts, making a total deficiency on the year of £1,200 and yet so munificently had the funds been previously sustained that he had now no plea of poverty to put before them. (Applause.) So long as their balance sheet showed a balance in the hands of the Treasurer, he, as Secretary, said he was perfectly content not to ask them for any money. He believed there were twelve provinces in the country, and of them he believed the Province of Kent stood third on the list. While they maintained that position and the balance was on the right side, he should be perfectly

content with them. He returned them his sincere thanks for the honour they had done him. (Applause.)

Bro. BINCKES said he was afraid that if at that late hour of the evening he attempted to make a long speech to them he should be thought very wearisome. He should, therefore, confine himself to facts, and endeavour to be as brief as possible. Under the peculiar circumstances, however, he must ask them to bear with him for a very few short moments, and he would promise them that he would not weary them, but would endeavour to carry them through the matters he was about to refer to as well as time would permit him. There were just two opinions upon Freemasonry; the one opinion was held by those without the pale, and who said they did nothing but benefit and enjoy themselves, while the other was held by those within the pale, and who knew better. The latter knew what true Freemasonry was and the other did not. They did not care one iota however much they might be stigmatised by those without the pale, because they felt they were doing precisely what was right. If there was anything in Freemasonry at all, it was the feeling of hospitality and benevolence to which their Worshipful Master had referred that evening. Bro. Patten, on behalf of the Girls' School, had told them that they did not require their assistance. He was sorry he could not give them the same information with respect to the Boys' School. He was there that evening, as Brother Dobson had told them, to endeavour by his eloquence to extract from their pockets something towards the support of this Charity, which was truly Masonic in its character. They were there that evening as their honoured guests. They had come not only to enjoy themselves, but, when the proper moment had arrived, to enlist their sympathies with the Charities with which they were connected. Twelve years ago, when the school was at Wandsworth, they were so confined for space that they were obliged to keep the children together during the time that disease was raging among them. Some time since, when the Girls' School was enlarged, the committee was compelled to take every penny of their funded property in order to make the improvements, but he was glad to say that the Craft did not permit them to lose by doing so, for they had now an amount of money in the funds nearly equal to what they had previous to the alterations. (Loud and protracted applause.) He hoped they would do the same by the Boys' School, they having been compelled to take every fraction of their money out of the funds for the purpose of making their alterations, and he believed the Freemasons would never permit them to mortgage the building for want of funds. They would, however, be compelled to do so, if the debt which they had incurred in making the alteration was not reduced by them. (Applause.) Some persons might call him extravagant because he had advised these alterations, but he could tell them that having seen what they had done for the Girls' School, he felt inclined to try, and he believed they would rally round him. They must remember that this Charity was in reality a charity for themselves, as they would be enabled to place children of Masons therein to be educated. (Applause.) He had spoken to the Province of Kent before and had never been denied, and hoped and trusted that on this occasion also he should not meet with a refusal. (Applause.) Whatever had been done in lodge that day he hoped they would not permit it to have any effect upon them, but that they would take his remarks as applying to themselves individually and collectively. (Applause.) He would also draw their attention to the fact that the Festival for the Boys' School was fixed for the 8th of July next, and that the success of that festival depended a great deal upon themselves. Whatever his object might be in pleading for the charity it was not a selfish one, but he believed they were all agreed that it was a very useful one, and one that commended itself to Masons in general. Hoping that he had not been wearisome in his remarks, and that he had not spoken without effect, he returned his sincere thanks for the kind way in which they had drank his health and listened to his observations.

The Deputy Grand Master having invited all present to the ball, the proceedings terminated.

The ball took place at the Royal Albion Hotel. Jarrett's Quadrille Band from Dover was in attendance and gave great satisfaction. About 100 persons were present, and everything passed off merrily.

TRUE love, like Greek fire, is inextinguishable; but, unlike Greek fire, it burns with a pleasant fragrance.

Obituary.

THE COUNTESS OF ZETLAND.

It is with sincere regret we have to record the death of Sophia Jane Countess of Zetland, the wife of the M.W. Grand Master, which occurred at her residence in Arlington-street on the 24th instant. Her ladyship, who was a daughter of the late Sir Hedworth Williams, and sister of the present Sir Hedworth, P.G.W., was in her 62nd year, and has for many years been in delicate health—a source of great anxiety to the noble earl.

The remains of the Countess were taken to Upleatham Hall, Yorkshire, from London, on Friday morning. Early in the forenoon of Saturday the funeral took place and, in accordance with the wishes of the deceased, the proceedings were of an unpretending character. The funeral procession from Upleatham Hall to Marsk consisted of a hearse and two mourning coaches. The first contained the Earl of Zetland, Mr. W. Hamilton Williamson, and Mr. R. H. Williamson (brothers of the countess), and Miss Barclay (niece of the countess); the second, the Hon. John Charles Dundas, Mr. Victor A. Williamson, Colonel Lane, and Mr. J. Bowe, M.D. On arriving at Marsk Church, the burying-place of the family, the body was received by the rector, the Rev. E. A. Lane, and the procession proceeded at once to the interior of the church. The funeral procession was met on its way to Marsk by many of the principal tenantry and gentry, who wished to pay the last tribute of respect to the amiable lady deceased. The church was crowded to excess, and among the congregation the aged portion seemed to feel deeply the loss of a kind and sympathising friend in the countess. Ultimately the coffin was deposited in the family vault under the chancel in Marsk Church, amid the audible grief of many of the poor who were present, by whom the countess was much beloved. The countess took great interest in the Masonic Charities, the more especially the Girls' School, to which she was a frequent visitor. The following address of condolence has been forwarded to the W.M.G. Master by the Restoration Lodge, Darlington:—

To the Right Hon. Thomas Earl of Zetland, Grand Master of England, K.T., &c.

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER,—Fraternally and deeply sympathising with your lordship in the bereavement you so recently have sustained, and in the irreparable loss you are now, alas! called upon to endure, the brethren of the Restoration Lodge (No. 111) beg very humbly, but sincerely, to assure you that at this their first meeting after the sad event on the 19th inst., it was the spontaneous and unanimous wish of every brother to unite in a feeble but faithful expression of hearts knitted together in fidelity and love, fructifying and disseminating comfort in distress—trusting that the Great Architect of the Universe, and He who, throughout life, inculcated the true principles of Freemasonry may support and console you in this hour of deepest woe. As the interpreter of my brethren, and on my own behalf, I have the honour to subscribe myself, Most Worshipful Grand Master,

Your lordship's very humble Brother,
EDWARD WALDY, W.M.

Restoration Lodge (No. 111),
Darlington, 25th May, 1865.

Aske, Richmond, Yorkshire.
May 30th, 1865.

WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER,—I am desired by the Grand Master to convey to you his most heartfelt thanks for the kind expressions contained in the address of the Restoration Lodge of the 25th inst.

If any *earthly* means can soothe the first days of so bitter a bereavement, it will be such brotherly sympathy as that which has been shown by the lodge over which you preside.

I have the honour to remain,
Yours fraternally,

VICTOR A. WILLIAMSON, J.G.W.

Bro. Edward Waldy,
W.M. Restoration Lodge (No. 111),
Darlington.

The following address was adopted at the Lodge of Economy, Winchester, on Wednesday last:—

To the Most Worshipful the Earl of Zetland, K.T., &c.,
Grand Master of England.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,—We, the Worshipful Master, officers, and brethren of the Lodge of Economy of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons (No. 76) late 90, holden at Winchester, in the Province of Hants, beg most respectfully to tender our cordial and fraternal sympathy with your lordship under the afflicting and bereaving hand of an all-wise Providence.

In this, the first dark hour of your lordship's great and irreparable loss—when only "the heart knoweth its own bitterness," and even the expression of friendly condolence may cause pain—we would refrain from multiplying words, and rather venture, in mournful sympathy, to share in some measure your lordship's bitter sorrow, which we feel ourselves utterly unable to alleviate.

We beg to record our grateful recollection of the many and valuable services which the distinguished lady, whose loss we deplore, rendered to the cause of our venerable Order.

In common with our brethren throughout the country we shall ever retain a most pleasing remembrance of her ladyship's warm and active sympathy with our Masonic Charities, and of her winning, yet dignified, courtesy which so often graced our public ceremonies.

We humbly and fervently pray that it may please the Great Architect of the Universe to afford to our lordship strength and consolation under this most distressing bereavement, and to prolong your lordship's life for many years, that the brethren may continue to enjoy the benefits of the wisdom, justice, and firmness which have distinguished your lordship's rule over the Craft.

(Signed, in open lodge, on behalf of the brethren)
EDWD. SHEPPARD, W.M.
(Countersigned) HENRY HUGGINS, Sec.

REVIEWS.

Hardwicke's Science-Gossip; a Monthly Medium of Interchange and Gossip for Students and Lovers of Nature. London: Robert Hardwicke, 192, Piccadilly.

We have received six parts of this very interesting work, and recommend it strongly, as worthy of a place in every family circle. We do not know of any other publication containing so much valuable information upon so many interesting natural history subjects, written in such an easy popular style, and published at so small a price, viz., 4d. monthly, which places it within the reach of those having the most limited incomes.

IRELAND.

THE NEW MASONIC HALL FOR DUBLIN.—We understand that the prospectus of the New Masonic Hall, which is to be erected on the North side of Molesworth Street, will be issued in a few days. The Hall will be constructed both as to size and architecture in a manner worthy of the object to which it is to be devoted, the necessary capital being raised in shares of £5 each, which, until the completion of the building, can be held only by members of the Order, but which after the opening of the Hall can be transferred in the market like the shares of any other company. The Directorate will consist of forty, and we believe that no time will be lost in commencing the building; which will, it is expected, be completed and ready for use before the end of 1866. The Banqueting Hall will, we understand, be constructed to contain 300, and the other departments of the building will be on an equally extensive scale.

MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL.—Amongst the contributions in aid of this valuable institution which will be acknowledged in the forthcoming report is one for £30 from the Freemasons of Lima in Peru. The fact of this contribution being sent from so distant a part of the world is the best proof of the esteem in which this excellent institution is everywhere held.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty and the younger branches of the Royal Family remain in Scotland. The Prince and Princess of Wales are still resident at Marlborough House. The Prince was present at the running for the Derby on Wednesday.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—THE HOUSE OF LORDS did not sit on Thursday, the 25th ult., it being Ascension Day.—On Friday, the bill for altering the terms of subscription required by the clergy was read a second time—the Primate expressing his approval of the measure. Several other bills were advanced a stage.—On Monday, Lord Granville moved the omission of a clause in the Companies Workmen's Bill, which requires that all children attending the schools to be established under the bill shall be taught the Church catechism. The Bishop of London and Lord Grey supported the noble Earl's proposition, which was, however, opposed by the Archbishop of York and Lord Carnarvon. On a division, there was a majority of 15 in favour of retaining the clause.—On the motion for going into Committee on the Clerical Subscription Bill, the Archbishop of Dublin moved an amendment, but, after some discussion, the most rev. prelate withdrew his opposition to the progress of the measure, which passed through Committee, with certain modifications.—On Thursday, Lord Russell, in reply to a question from Lord Chelmsford, said the latest intelligence received from Massowah was to the effect that the English captives in Abyssinia were suffering no additional hardships. Several measures were advanced a stage.—In the HOUSE OF COMMONS on Thursday, the 25th, the Union Chargeability Bill was read a third time and passed, after a parting shot from Mr. Henley, Mr. Bentinck, and Mr. Knight. The bill permitting private partnerships to be established on the principle of limited liability, was also read a third time and passed.—On Friday, Lord Palmerston, in reply to a question from Sir J. Walsh, stated that a correspondence had recently taken place relative to the American claims for an indemnity for the depredations of the *Alabama*, and the question had been discussed "on the most friendly and amicable terms."—In reply to Mr. Baxter, Lord Palmerston said Her Majesty's Government had made renewed overtures to the Government of the United States on the subject of co-operation in the suppression of the slave trade.—Mr. Darby Griffith moved for papers relating to the case of Colonel Dawkins, of the Coldstream Guards. Lord Hartington, on the part of the

Government, opposed the motion, while General Peel argued that no case had been made out for the interference of Parliament. After some remarks from Mr. Headlam, Colonel Dickson, and Mr. W. O. Stanley, the motion was negatived without a division.—On Monday, Mr. Cardwell, in reply to a question from Mr. Warner, said he had no reason to believe that the policy adopted by the Governor of the Cape with reference to the Caffres had been repudiated by the Colonial Legislature. A good deal of time was occupied in discussing, in Committee, the Irish Constabulary Act Amendment Bill—a measure based upon the report of the Commissioners who inquired into the late riots at Belfast. The bill passed through Committee.—On Tuesday the House held a morning sitting. The adjourned debate on the bill abolishing the oaths which the Roman Catholics consider “obnoxious” was resumed by Mr. Newdegate, who moved as an amendment to Mr. Monsell’s motion that the House go into Committee on the bill that day six months. Mr. Whalley seconded the amendment, while Mr. Gregory supported the motion. Sir John Pakington, who may be regarded as the mouthpiece of the Opposition on this occasion—Mr. Disraeli being laid up with the gout—was willing to sacrifice so much of the existing oaths as required Roman Catholics to deny mental reservation, and to abjure the doctrine that princes excommunicated by the Pope may justifiably be murdered. He could not, however, consent to relax the declaration with reference to the Protestant settlement of the Crown, and the solemn pledge not to disturb the Established Church. Mr. Horsman strongly supported the bill, but observed that in his opinion no declaration beyond the oath of allegiance was necessary. After some remarks from Sir Hugh Cairns, Lord Edward Howard, and Sir Percy Burrell, the House divided, when the motion for going into Committee was carried by 193 to 126. The House then went into Committee, but progress was at once reported. At the evening sitting, Mr. Cardwell stated that no letters patent would be conferred upon the new Bishop of Rupert’s Land—the first colonial bishop appointed since the decision of the Privy Council in the Natal case. In reply to Lord Robert Montagu, Sir George Grey said a commission had been appointed to consider the best means of remedying the pollution of rivers by mines and factories. Lord Palmerston, in reply to Mr. Lefevre, said that a claim for compensation on account of the depredations of the Southern cruisers had been presented to the Government since the accession of President Johnson, but he was unable to state whether the instructions had been given by that gentleman or by his predecessor, Mr. Lincoln. Mr. W. E. Forster said he believed the impression that new claims had been made in a different spirit from that which marked the demands sent in by Mr. Lincoln, was entirely unfounded. Mr. Layard said that no “fresh” claims had been presented, which means, we presume, that the demands lately made were merely a repetition of the previous calls for an indemnity. Mr. Moffatt moved a resolution, which was agreed to, affirming that the report of the Select Committee on the Bankruptcy Act of 1861, deserves the “prompt and serious attention” of the Government. The House was counted out.—Wednesday being “Derby Day,” the House did not meet.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The average rate of mortality in the eleven largest towns of the kingdom was exactly the same as last week—23 in the 1,000. London mortality is below this average. Birmingham, which is lowest in the scale, only shows 18 in the 1,000; Liverpool, Manchester, and Glasgow, are alike in showing the highest rate, or 29. The total number of deaths was 2,527, of which London contributed 1,249, being slightly above the ten years’ average. The total births were

3,794, of which 1,876 belong to London, or about 100 below the average.—The *Gazette* contains the appointment of the Duke of Buckingham, Sir John Pakington, and some other gentlemen, to be additional commissioners for England in carrying out the Universal Exhibition to be held in Paris in 1867.—The east of London has now a working men’s exhibition. It was opened on Monday by Sir John Shelley, with the ceremonies usual on such occasions. There were comparatively few persons present on the occasion, and it appears from that and other circumstances that the supply of this kind of exhibition has for the present rather out-run the demand. The contents of the present exhibition, however, it is but fair to say, are fully equal to any of its predecessors.—A public meeting was held in the Agricultural Hall, on Friday, to present medals commemorative of the late International Reformatory Exhibition to the representatives of the various schools that had sent articles for exhibition. There were 72 English schools and 60 foreign ones that had so contributed. The Earl of Shaftesbury presided, and distributed the medals; and, in the course of his speech, he reminded the meeting of the immense salvage that was made from the wreck of human existence by means of the reformatory institutions.—A meeting of the Roman Catholic body has been held at the Hanover-square Rooms, to determine on the means for erecting a cathedral as a memorial of the late Cardinal Wiseman. Dr. Manning presided, and announced to the meeting that it had pleased the Pope to appoint him to fill the cardinal’s place as Archbishop of Westminster—an announcement that was received with cheers. Some liberal subscriptions for the object were handed in at the close of the proceedings.—At a meeting of the Court of Common Council a resolution was passed to the effect that Mr. Commissioner Kerr had been guilty of a breach of the privileges of the Court in seeking an interview with the Lord Chancellor, to induce his lordship to insert a clause in a bill now before Parliament that would have the effect of increasing the commissioner’s salary without having previously consulted the Court and the Lord Mayor.—The resignation of the Rev. Dr. Mortimer, the head master of the City of London School, was received. He has held the office for 25 years, to the entire satisfaction of the Court, and it was remitted to a committee to consider in what way the Common Council could mark their sense of the value of his long services.—At the weekly meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works the proposed gratuity of £10,000 to Mr. Bazalgette and his assistant engineers was under discussion. Several petitions and remonstrances were presented against the grant; a legal opinion was read casting doubt on its validity; and, finally, after a long discussion a motion of Mr. H. L. Taylor, that the grant was excessive and premature, was carried by a small majority. There is, therefore, an end to the proposition for the present.—At a meeting of Middlesex magistrates held at the Sessions House, Clerkenwell, a discussion ensued on the bill before Parliament amending the regulations of the County Reformatory School at Feltham. The Select Committee of the Commons assented generally to the alterations proposed in the management of the school, but they struck out the clause which provided that the school should receive the same assistance from Government that other reformatory schools did, and they had inserted a clause that any boy who dissented from the Established Church should be entitled to have his own clergyman to attend him, and should not be compelled to attend the services of the Church in the institution. There was a strong feeling manifested against these alterations, and it was resolved, by a large majority, rather than submit to them, that they would withdraw the bill altogether.—A dinner was given at the St. James’s Hall, on Saturday, to Mr. Gavan Duffy, who, after

having been tried several times for sedition in Ireland without ever finding a jury that would agree upon a verdict, came afterwards to sit in the House of Commons, then went out to Australia, where he was a member and a minister in the Legislative Council of Victoria, and is at present in England on a visit. The chair was taken by Sir George Bowyer, and the principal persons present were Irish or Australian friends of the guest. Mr. Duffy made a long speech, which was chiefly devoted to the defence of the system of representation in the Australian colonies against the recent attack made upon it by Mr. Lowe, Mr. Gregory, and others, in the House of Commons.—The Board of Trade returns for April, have been issued. The exports during the month amounted in value to £12,071,111, against £13,225,039 in 1864, and £11,897,177 in 1863. For the first four months the value of the exports is £47,706,818, and £49,892,420 in the corresponding period of 1864, and £39,458,381 in the first four months of 1863. With regard to the precious metals, the import in the four months is £5,949,457, and the exports £1,229,215.—The 86th Derby was run on Wednesday, and the blue ribbon of the turf was borne off by a French horse. Up to a few yards of the winning post, Mr. Chaplin's Breadalbane kept well in front, and seemed to have secured the victory, but just before the finish a rush was made by Gladiateur, Christmas Carol, and Eltham, who successively passed to the front, and the Count de Lagrange's horse came in an easy winner. The crowd is estimated by good judges to have been greater than ever before appeared on the race course. The Prince of Wales occupied a conspicuous place on the Grand Stand. The day did not pass over without one fatal accident. One Wednesday morning three gentlemen set out to Epsom in a dog cart, to witness the race. They had not proceeded far beyond Westminster Bridge when the horse became excited, and Mr. Leggatt, who was driving, lost all control. The animal set off at a furious pace, and came in contact with a heavily loaded van, by which all three were thrown out and terribly injured. Mr. Leggatt is since dead, the other two remain at the hospital in a precarious state.—It is reported by a telegraphic despatch from Calcutta that the *Nemesis*, one of the steamers belonging to the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Company, and running between Calcutta and Suez, went ashore in the Hooghly river soon after leaving Calcutta, and was in a dangerous state. No particulars are given of the cause of her stranding, but her captain, Mr. Castles, is well known to be a brave and skilful seaman, tried in former seasons of emergency, and not likely to have been forgetful of his duty on this occasion.—The manufacture of the telegraph cable intended for another attempt to connect this country with America was finished at the factory on Monday. It will be conveyed on board the *Great Eastern* with all convenient speed, and the great ship, conveying the whole cable as its cargo, will start on its important mission of laying down the cable towards the end of the next month.—A trial took place in the Common Pleas last week, which curiously illustrates the literary taste of the frequenters of our popular concert-rooms and the patrons of public-house amusements. The publisher of a song, called "Jolly Dogs," prosecuted a rival for taking from it the words "Slap bang, here we are again!" which are put into the mouths of the dancers of a polka. It was stated on the trial that the first song had become so popular that the sale in February last reached 3,000 a week. The composer of the song confessed that this did not say much for the taste of the British public. The trial went on for some time, till the jury got tired of it, stopped the case, and returned a verdict for the defendant.—A very singular will case has been for three days before the Court of Probate. A

Mr. Ring died in 1850. With the exception of some legacies, he directed that his property should be allowed to accumulate for twenty-one years, that the whole should then go to the existing heir-at-law. This will was dated in March, 1850, and has been acted on ever since. But in 1862 a codicil dated in May, 1850, was sent anonymously to a lady who took a beneficial interest in the first will, and this codicil gave a different direction to the property, a clergyman of the name of Barton, among others, coming in for a share of the accumulations, which were to be divided in twelve years. The witnesses to this codicil, with the solicitor who drew it up, are dead, and the executors believe it to be a forgery. No one appears to know from whom the codicil came. It is to test the genuineness of the document that the present trial is instituted. The principal witness examined against it was Mr. Chabot, and his testimony, going into curiously minute points of resemblance and of difference in handwriting, excited much interest in court. The Judge, without calling on the opponents of the codicil to reply, held that the evidence of Mr. Chabot, the expert, was decisive of the case. There were no fewer than six points which Mr. Chabot had indicated in which the codicil differed from the admittedly genuine writing of the testator; and any one of these the learned judge said, if it stood alone, would be enough to convict the codicil of being a forged document. He, therefore, pronounced it to be a wicked and clumsy forgery and condemned Mr. Barton, who propounded it, to pay the costs of the suit. It ought to be added that no one seemed to know who had sent the codicil to the executors, nor was it insinuated that Mr. Barton was connected with it further than as a legatee under its provisions.—A case of revolting cruelty to a child was inquired into at the Thames Police-court on Wednesday. A married woman, named Ann Ross, was charged with grossly ill-treating her own son, a boy eight years of age. From the evidence it seemed that for trifling offences the boy had been severely beaten, his hand burnt with a red-hot poker, and his face with a red-hot skewer. The last infliction was said, in defence, to have been done by accident. The magistrates committed the woman for trial.—Some time ago the Master of the Rolls made an order that a child of three years old, the daughter of a Roman Catholic gentleman named Austin, but whose widow was a Protestant, should not be taken from the custody of the mother and given up to her Roman Catholic relatives. This order was appealed against, but the Lord Chancellor on Saturday gave judgment, confirming the order of the Master of the Rolls, and ordering that the child should remain under her mother's care at least till she was seven years old. The appellants to pay the costs.—The Rev. Mr. Wagner was assaulted on Sunday night as he was leaving his church, and knocked down. The ruffian assailants were chimney-sweeps who had just been released from militia drill. They were immediately taken into custody, and having been examined before the magistrates were sentenced to two months' imprisonment, with hard labour.—The inquest on Captain Newberry, who was killed by the falling of a wall at the Paddington station, was resumed and concluded on Monday. It was proved that the dangerous state of the wall, pressed outward by the weight of the coal stored up behind it, had been observed for some time before the accident occurred; and the jury, while they returned a verdict of accidental death, appended a censure both upon the Lilleshall Company, the pressure of whose coals caused the accident, and the Great Western Railway Company, for their negligence in the matter.—A great fire broke out at Nottingham about ten o'clock on Thursday week, in a warehouse belonging to one of the leading

manufacturers there, and, extending to another warehouse in the neighbourhood, could not be subdued till a late hour the next morning, causing immense damage. The destruction of property was estimated as high as £50,000.—A shocking murder has been perpetrated at Middlesbro' by an Irishman named Henry Hughes. The crime was committed in the public street, and within sight of several persons. The name of the victim was Francis Coates, who was stabbed three times by Hughes, and apparently without any provocation on his part.—A strange tale of horror reaches us from King's county. A Mrs. Hayes disappeared some days ago, and her husband sought to avert suspicion by stating that she had gone away with some relatives to America. Hayes was taken into custody, and he then confessed that he had kicked the woman out of bed, that some time afterwards he found she was dead, and that he then buried her body, together with every article which had belonged to her, in a bog at some distance from his house. He was taken to the bog by the police, and pointed to a spot, where the body of the unfortunate deceased was found. The head showed several serious wounds—wounds which entirely refuted Hayes's statement that a kick out of bed was the only violence to which the woman had been subjected.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The Emperor Napoleon has visited Prince Napoleon with unsparing and public censure for the speech which the Prince lately delivered at Ajaccio. In a letter addressed to the Prince, and published in Saturday's *Moniteur*, the Emperor declares that his cousin's speech has produced a "painful impression" upon him, and can only be useful to the enemies of the Imperial Government. The speech expresses "sentiments of hatred and rancour which are no longer of our day." Napoleonic ideas can be applied to the present time only by one who has "passed through the severe trials and responsibility of power." It is hard to "estimate at its true value the great historical figure of Napoleon." But, adds the Emperor, for a warning to his cousin, "that which is clear to all the world is, that to prevent anarchy, that formidable enemy of true liberty, the Emperor had to establish, first in his family and then in his government, that severe discipline admitting but one will and one action. I cannot, henceforth, deviate from the same rule of conduct." Immediately after the publication of this letter, Prince Napoleon resigned his posts of vice-president of the Privy Council and president of the Commission of the Universal Exhibition. The private secretary of the Emperor Maximilian has arrived in Paris with instructions to urge the immediate dispatch of 25,000 additional troops to Mexico. There is no doubt that one brigade has already started. It is thought that the Duke de Magenta will succeed Marshal Magnan, who died on Monday, at the age of 74, in the post of commander-in-chief of the army of Paris.—A proposal for electoral reform was brought forward in the Spanish Congress on Friday week, which, however, being opposed by the Government, was rejected. The object of the proposal was to put an end to the present withdrawal of the Progressists from political business. The Emperor of the French has politely declined the invitation of the Queen of Spain to visit Madrid on his return from Algeria.—The elections in Greece have terminated, and with a few trifling exceptions, without any interruption. The telegram does not inform us whether they have been favorable or not to the Government. The Ministers wisely refrained from interfering in the elections.—It appears from a letter received at the Board of Trade from Mr. Hutt, that the International Commission at Vienna has decided upon splitting itself up into committees, each committee to take charge of some particular branch of industry. A committee has already been appointed with the view

of examining and reporting upon the operation of the Austrian tariff as regards the metal manufactures of the United Kingdom, and Mr. Hutt desires that delegates from the metal trade should be at once sent to Vienna to assist the members of the Commission. Every other trade, will of course, require an equal amount of attention, and an official appeal is made to Chambers of Commerce to render what aid they can in furnishing the Commission with trustworthy evidence. Sir J. E. Tennent, writing to our Chamber of Commerce urges "the great necessity that there should be, as far as practicable, a thorough concert and organisation amongst the representatives of the various industries who may be designated by the respective Chambers to proceed to Vienna as delegates."

AMERICA.—The *Scotia* brings intelligence from New York to the 17th instant. Wilson's cavalry captured Jefferson Davis, his wife, sister, and brother, at Irvinville, Georgia, on the 10th instant. Several officers forming Mr. Davis's staff were also captured, and the whole of the prisoners have been forwarded to New York under a strong guard. It would appear now that President Johnson withdraws his reckless and malicious charge, which no one for a moment believed, implicating Mr. Davis in the conspiracy to murder Mr. Lincoln. The Judge Advocate has probably offered himself as Johnson's scapegoat in the matter, since upon him has been laid the onus of what is now characterized as a blunder. That legal functionary was mistaken in the nature of the evidence—so the official admission has it—and thus misled the President. No doubt under compulsion from the universal outcry against a secret trial of the conspirators, the court is now thrown open, and the proceedings are reported from day to day. An expedition is being organised at New Orleans against Texas, where Kirby Smith still keeps the field. A new amnesty proclamation is spoken of. Enlistments still go on for the Mexican "emigration" scheme; although the business is being conducted less ostentatiously. The arrival of the *Hibernia* furnishes us with advices from New York to the 20th inst. Mr. Davis and his fellow prisoners have been consigned to Fortress Monroe. Governor Brown, of Georgia, at present in the Old Capitol prison, is expected, according to report, to furnish the Government with evidence implicating Mr. Davis in the assassination plot. It may be safely asserted that any evidence of such an import will be but false evidence. A reward of 25,000 dollars is offered for the arrest of Governor Smith, of Virginia. A troop of cavalry was in pursuit of Governor Magrath, in South Carolina. The trial of the prisoners at Washington was still progressing. The amnesty, it is asserted, is to extend to all below the rank of Lieutenant-General. The war is still being prosecuted, and it is not expected now that there will be an immediate surrender by the Confederates who are yet in arms. Kirby Smith speaks hopefully, and hints at assistance from an unexpected quarter. Washington despatches state that the Confederate General has been seen in negotiation with the Emperor Maximilian.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- Bro. BOWES.—We shall be happy to receive the address.
 S. S.—About 1857.
 P. G. S.—A Committee of the Board of General Purposes was appointed to consider the subject, but we have not heard the result of their deliberations.
 D. D.—We are not aware whether any of the parties alluded to are Freemasons.
 X. X.—An idle canard.
 S. D.—Both George the IV. and William the IV. were Grand Patrons of the Order.
 BETA.—Apply to Bro. Farnfield, at the Grand Secretary's Office.
 * * * Several communications are unavoidably postponed till next week.