

LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1865.

FREEMASONRY IN GERMANY.

HAMBURG.—The general assembly of the lodges of the province of the Hamburg Grand Lodge took place on the 5th ult.

The following report is compiled from accounts given by the *Freimaurer Zeitung*.

At five o'clock, p.m., the members of the Grand Lodge, upon the invitation of the Grand Master, met and partook of refreshment. The labour of the Assembly commenced at half-past seven. Out of the twenty-five lodges of the province, four Hamburg lodges and seven country lodges, viz., those of Brunswick, Oldenburg, Rostock, Lübeck, Neubrandenburg, Wismar, and Eisenach, were represented by deputies, and two, Heilbronn and Bremerhafen, by proxy; the Grand Master endeavouring, during the whole of the business transacted, to secure the rights of those lodges that were not represented.

The current business having been disposed of, the Grand Master laid before the meeting the motion and the supplementary motion of Bro. Amelung, of Weimar,* the latter being calculated to secure against any erroneous interpretation the proposal of excluding every representation save the direct representation of the individual lodges in the general meeting of the Grand Lodge. The additional motion was impugned by the Grand Master, and the whole of the discussion related chiefly to the latter, after the explanation and justification of the motion had been given by Bro. Amelung. However, the supplementary motion was withdrawn, most of the brethren, even the adversaries of the proposition, being satisfied that the inadmissibility of any but a direct representation of the lodges by deputies was contained in the original motion. An exception, however, was allowed in favour of those transatlantic lodges that are too far distant from the seat of the Grand Lodge, and the motion was finally carried by 42 votes out of 70.

On the following morning the brethren met again for an aquatic trip on the Alster, and a fraternal breakfast at Eppendorf. The resolution of the Hamburg Grand Lodge is the first step towards the realisation of a salutary reform in the constitution of the Masonic brotherhood in Germany.

EISENACH.—The general meeting of the asso-

ciation of German Masons took place at Eisenach on the 12th and 13th of August. We shall lay before our readers a full report of this important meeting in our next issue.

BERLIN.—The Grand Lodge "zu den drei Weltkugeln" issued its annual report on last St. John's day. The following data are extracted from this document:—No new lodges have been founded during the past Masonic year. There are at present 102 lodges, with an aggregate of 11,800 members (642 being honorary members) belonging to the province of this Grand Lodge.

THE KRONPRINZSTIFTUNG (Crown Prince Fund) has received subscriptions to the amount of 1,000 thalers; 3,793 thalers have been appropriated towards the relief of distressed members, and 1,985 thalers for general benevolent purposes. The "Augustenstiftung" that had been founded in commemoration of the 11th June, 1854, is possessed at present of a fund of 16,460 thalers; from this fund four honorary donations of 25 thalers each were paid to jubilaries, and 939 thalers to Masons' widows and orphans. Since the foundation of this fund 416 jubiliary couples have received the commemoration medal. Great alacrity has prevailed in most lodges during the past year; three lodges only, viz., those of Anclam, Brandenburg and Gotha, complain of slackness in the attendance of the members. The new song-book of the Grand Lodge has been completed. From the St. John's day's circular of this Grand Lodge we extract the following passages:—"Let us faithfully and steadily persevere upon our old ground, in our old limits, within our time-honoured circle. This ground, beyond which none is firm and secure, will appear to the seeker, if he lays his hand upon the Bible, which is the 'word of God, on which the Order rests as on a firm foundation.' If we remain on this ground, within these limits, in this circle, the spirit of the Order will enlighten us to recognise the truth; it will warm our hearts, and ennoble the whole of our life. If we abandon this ground the Order will cease to exist, little by little, and dissolve itself in the great life of mankind, as a drop of water in the ocean, and with it will disappear its activity, and the blessings it bestows upon its adepts. The Freemason also is and remains a creature of Time; and though he may shut his eye to the *ignes fatui*, and his ear to the allurements of the spirit of the time that ever changes and oscillates, he willingly opens both to the true and the good that it carries with it, and

* This has already been given by us in our issue of August 5th, 1865, No. 318.

appropriates to himself the wholesome fruits that it has matured. Therefore the Order speaketh a language that may be reproduced in every language and every idiom of the time; it is the language of symbols and ceremonies; and, if expressed in this language, its doctrines will apply to all circumstances of human life that may be changed and reformed by the stream of Time."

On the 11th of August Bro. Johannes di Dio, Councillor of Domains in the Royal Treasury Department, died at the age of sixty-four years. In him the Government loses a faithful, assiduous, and conscientious servant. The *Spencersche Zeitung* adds, that his demise will also be deeply felt by the Grosslandesloge of Germany, over which he had presided for thirty years past, with much zeal and ability. The deceased enjoyed, throughout the German and foreign lodges, a well-deserved respect and consideration.

SUMMER RAMBLES.—DOWN THE MEDWAY.

Looking down from the old battlements of Rochester Castle—regal domain of the Conqueror, usefully appropriated by the noble Earl, its present owner, to picnic parties, at the charge of three-pence per head—a singular picture, all but unique in England, presents itself to the view. At our feet lies an ancient cathedral, covered with the dust of eight centuries; there lie quaint, high-gabled houses of the time of Queen Elizabeth; there stands, close to them, a monstrous ugly railway bridge of the time of Queen Victoria; then there is a sixteenth-century almshouse for poor travellers, in which, as clearly inscribed over the gate, "neither rogues nor proctors are admitted;" and not far from it there is a grand modern joint-stock hotel, which, though "limited," admits everybody—even proctors. The juxtaposition of all these things, old and new, is odd enough, but it does not complete the curious picture outspread at the foot of Rochester Castle. The most striking portion of it is the wide river which creeps, in many tortuous windings, among windmill-clad hills, and bears on its back a number of extraordinary-looking objects—big ships, without masts and sails, flags and streamers; weird and ominous in appearance, like dead whales cast ashore by the sea. Far as eye can reach to the east, where land and sea are mingling together, there the dead whales are lying, closely packed, the spray of the waves chasing around them, and the white mist floating over their heads. How did they get there, the monsters of the deep? The answer is prosaic—the big creatures, queer-looking as they may be, are real ships, duly entered in the Navy Lists as "Her Majesty's fleet in reserve."

A trip down the Medway to inspect this phantom fleet is a matter easily accomplished, and well worth the trouble. At the foot of Rochester Bridge we step on board a small steamer, not very clean nor elegant, yet on the whole not much worse as regards dirt than the sister vessels of the metropolis. The little boat called the *City of Rochester* is crowded with a very miscellaneous company of labourers, fishwomen, young recruits, navvies, English sailors, and Irish hop-pickers, through which, with some difficulty, we elbow our way to the stern, reserved to such select travellers as can command an extra sixpence. Even here the compound smell of tar and onions, fish, tobacco, and stale beer, is somewhat strong; but once fairly started, with a good breeze in front, the voyage is pleasant enough. A few minutes' ride brings us to Chatham pier, right in front of an immense mass of stone and masonry, on the top of which little red-coated soldiers are seen stalking up and down, like distant figures in a pantomime. The sight is rather picturesque, but carries with it a train of contemplation. We feel very much in the mood of a friend in whose company we once went to Shoeburyness to see the famous gunnery practice. He was delighted with the spectacle till, all on a sudden, he bethought himself that the play of the big guns must be expensive, and inquiring upon the subject, he discovered to his horror that every shot was equal in cost to the amount of his income-tax. "There they blaze away *my* income-tax." The idea was overwhelming, and spoilt what pleasure there was in the thunders of Big Will and his brothers and sisters. We dare not imagine the sorrows of our sensitive income-tax-paying friend in visiting Chatham. What mortal man can reckon up the millions that are sunk in this endless maze of fortifications, towers, battlements, piers, barracks, ditches, scarps, and counter-scarps? What mortal man, even be he the Chancellor of the Exchequer, can calculate the millions more that will be sunk here into the bottomless mud of the Medway? And all because one fine morning, nigh two hundred years ago, Mynheer de Ruyter and friends came sailing up the river and burnt some of Old England's wooden walls. The time of wooden walls is gone long ago, and so is that of Flying Dutchmen; yet do we keep on sinking stones in the Medway till the mass has outgrown in size the pyramids of Egypt.

Our *City of Rochester* has scarcely quitted the pier at Chatham when we find ourselves right in the midst of the first detachment of dead whales—that is, her Majesty's fleet in reserve. An odd fleet it is. Sails and masts, ropes, chains, spars, and the whole paraphernalia of outward tackle which make a ship a ship, have been taken from these vessels of her Majesty's navy, and there they lie now, bereft alike of useful wings and ornamental feathers, like creatures dying or already dead. They lie in twos and threes together, strewn here and there—some in the midst of the river, others

close to the banks; others, again, up the muddy little creeks which stretch inward along the flat shore. The smaller ones of the company in particular have taken the fancy of hiding themselves up these muddy creeks. They are, we learn, the representatives of that portion of her Majesty's fleet in reserve called mortar vessels, sent into being some ten years ago to knock down the walls of Cronstaät, and teach humility to the Czar of All the Russias. They did not do it, the little ones, and for punishment have been exiled to this Medway shore, to contemplate the movement of the tides and the growth of periwinkles. The British nation, we may be certain, is rich enough even to keep men-of-war for looking after the periwinkles.

The scene gradually changes as we are gliding further down the Medway. Passing a large island called Bishop's Marsh, memento of the good old times when all the lands far and wide stuck to the crosier, the river changes into a lake, surrounded by flat and dreary shores, overgrown with rank grass. Until the farthest horizon there is one immense plain, made up apparently of a close union of dark land and darker water, overhung by a fleecy canopy of grey mist, through which the sun's rays cleave their way at fitful intervals. There is only one object distinctly visible before us, and that is more outlandish than any we have yet seen in this curious Medway river. It looks about as big as Rochester Cathedral, but is altogether of fantastic outline, and seems to have three or four steeples instead of one. While we are wondering whether this, too, can be one of her Majesty's ships in reserve, the waves of luminous mist are driven away by a sudden gust of wind, and before us stands in all her glory the world-renowned big ship, the *Great Eastern*. Even the Irish hop-pickers on board the *City of Rochester* are stirred by the sight, and for a moment leave off smoking and jabbering, giving way to their emotion in beautiful flashes of silence. It is a grand sight indeed, that of the Leviathan of the waves, as she now lies there in towering majesty, with her six masts and three immense steam funnels, the noblest house ever built by man to swim on the wide ocean. Though by no means inclined to worship mere bigness, we cannot suppress a feeling of real admiration for the colossal structure resting here on the placid waters of the Medway. There is something in her proportions so absolutely noble and commanding that it makes the giant ship stand out at the first glance from among other vessels, as a splendid old oak from among the common shrubs of the field. At this moment the *Great Eastern* looks particularly venerable, returned as she is from a bout of Herculean work, with all the signs of the travel-stained warrior about her. A rusty weather-beaten coat, with a thick lining of seaweed at the bottom, battered skylights, broken paddles, and fragments of chains which hang over the sides, are some of the tokens which show the hard work the Leviathan has gone through. Even that she has

failed to do the almost superhuman labour she was sent to accomplish, adds to the halo of renown hanging about the big ship. They look so tiny, the little wheels which project both from the prow and stern of the *Great Eastern*, that the mind is filled with wonder however they could undertake the task of tying together two continents by a rope thousands of miles long, and, once broken, fishing the cable up again from the bottom of the sea, from a depth little less than the height of Mont Blanc. Were it not for the horrible loquacity of our daily "liners," who have been prating about the Atlantic telegraph till the thing has become almost a nuisance, one might remember the recent voyage of the big ship as the very Odyssey of the age.

Near the *Great Eastern* commences the station of the second division of her Majesty's fleet in reserve. The crowd is much more dense here than at Chatham; indeed in some places on the right bank of the river, the men-of-war seem to swarm literally as thick as blackberries. We count thirty-two of them between Burntwick Island and Queenborough, a distance of little more than a mile. Oh for British taxpayers to come this way, and see how the income-taxes of whole generations are rotting away ingloriously in the mud, good to none but the periwinkles! "That's one of the things I could never understand," says an old sailor, our neighbour in the stern of the *City of Rochester*, whom we interrogate on the subject. "Them millions spent in building all these heavy ships is sheer waste; I could never understand it." "Does anybody live on board?" we ask. "Oh yes; each ship has an officer, with about eight or ten men to wait upon him and keep the place clean." "A comfortable berth, it seems?" "Yes, I should think, if ever there was. The captain has nothing on earth to do but to draw his pay, and allow himself to be waited upon. On fine days he has a sail up or down the river, or goes a fishing, or shooting, along the banks. A splendid residence, too, and no rent, nor rates and taxes to pay—entirely out of the parish, you know." The last words our sailor friend is grunting forth with a kind of savage chuckle. Poor man, we dare say he has got a cottage somewhere in Kent, with wife and pickaninnies, and the parish tax-gatherer does not leave *him* alone.

While exchanging notes about the mysteries of English naval administration, our little steamer has brought us to the terminus of her voyage. We clamber up some fishy steps, full of the odour of shrimps and seaweed, and hastening along a tiresome wooden pier, as slimy as the steps, find ourselves at Sheerness, in the Isle of Sheppey. Like its brother higher up the river, Sheerness has sprung from the flying visit of Mynheer de Ruyter and his Dutchmen, who unfortunately found an old fort here, and knocked it to pieces. Though standing in the midst of an unwholesome swamp, and not worth the cost of its keep, the

old fort was a thing which John Bull thought he could not afford to see damaged, and therefore, so far from thanking Mynheer de Ruyter for ridding him of the place and saving men's lives, he determined in savage mood to raise it again and make it bigger than ever. Thus arose Sheerness—two miles of dockyards and heavy fortifications, in such a dismal swamp as the world never saw before. Certain it is that henceforth no sane Dutchman, however thick his skin and his nasal organ, will enter Sheerness if he can help it. The dockyard is built upon a hundred thousand piles, and the barracks are built upon piles, and the houses are built upon piles, and the fortifications are built upon piles. It is a Venice upon piles; with this difference, that while the Italian city stands upon the rocky bottom of the Adriatic, the Isle of Sheppey town is suspended over the bottomless mud of old Father Thames. Here is the Alpha and Omega of the mighty stream of sewage which the ocean of mankind above sends as a tribute to the ocean of waters below.

Yet even Sheerness has its bit of romance. There stands on what is nicknamed the Marina, a large house, with "Royal Hotel" over the gate. The place appears to be now joint-stock, limited, and all that, and so far decidedly unromantic; but it was not meant to be so from the commencement. Some thirty or forty years ago, when the whole of the million of piles had not yet been rammed into the dismal swamp, the foundations of this house were laid by a man of very singular character, who, though not entitled to be called great in the strict sense of the word, had some of the elements of greatness about him. The man was Edward Banks, afterwards Sir Edward. He began life as a farm labourer, but in course of time became a navvy, and in 1805, when thirty-six years old, was with others engaged in making a railroad between Chipstead and Merstham, close to that famous old brough of Gatton which had only one inhabitant, yet sent two members to the House of Commons up to the time of the Reform Bill. Railroad-making, being new, was probably well paid in those days, and in an unlucky hour Edward Banks resolved upon saving money, and becoming what Englishmen north of the Tweed call thrifty; of course, he thereupon rose rapidly in the world. Employing first a few of his brother navvies under him on "jobs," he gradually came to be a master builder, then a Government contractor, and so forth to the top of the ladder. For a quarter of a century, from 1810 to 1835, he was busy in executing some of the most extensive engineering works of the time; he built the Waterloo, Southwark, London, and Staines bridges over the Thames, erected Government dockyards at Sheerness, and made new channels for the rivers Ouse, Nene, and Witham, in Norfolk and Lincolnshire. All the while his heart yearned for the life of labourer he had been leading on the green wooded slopes of Chipstead. However, though

gifted with that iron determination which can accumulate hundreds of thousands, and make a rich Government contractor out of a poor labourer, he had not moral courage enough to follow the bent of his own inclinations. So, instead of retreating to a quiet little country house on the Surrey hills, Edward Banks, knighted Sir Edward, built himself a big house upon piles in the dismal swamp; that same house now styled the "Royal Hotel." Needless to say that Sir Edward felt very wretched in his big house, and, yearning evermore after the green hills, died in the summer of 1835, his last words expressing the desire to be buried in the little church of Chipstead. There now lie the remains of the great Government contractor, under a pompous monument of white marble, recounting all his virtues, not omitting the "honourably acquired wealth."

Strange, that while pacing the miry streets of pile-grown Sheerness, we thought of little else but the fate of poor Sir Edward Banks!—*Spectator*.

OUT AND ABOUT: IN DERBYSHIRE.

Derbyshire presents remarkable variety, and offers something to interest most minds—suit most tastes. The lover of nature, the lover of art; the inquirer as to progress, the student of Mediæval practices and powers; the invalid in search of health, and the eager spirit-seeking excitement and pleasure, may each there find what he wants, and a great deal more. Starting from London, take a run, for example, to Derby, then to Dove Dale, to pleasant Rowsley, where the Wye is lost in the Derwent, and whence you attack Haddon Hall and Chatsworth, and make a trip to vulgarised Matlock; get across the country to Chesterfield, for the purpose of viewing Hardwick Hall, Bolsover Castle, and Wingfield Manor House; and then rail away to Buxton, and the route will include several churches of interest, many remarkable sepulchral monuments, some historic houses of world-wide fame, rich with associations; a large number of fine pictures, several wonderful caverns, Nature's architecture, sparkling with gems; not to speak of man's work, that has opened them; and some of the loveliest views of moor, of mountain, and of plain, that ever gladdened eyes and filled the heart with delight and thankfulness. One is tempted to exclaim with an untaught poet of a more northern county—

"Look round on this world—it is sweet, it is fair;
There is light in its sky, there is life in its air;
Sublimity breathes from the forms of its hills,
And beauty winds on with its rivers and rills:
The dew, as with diamonds, its meads hath besprent;
From its groves are a thousand wild melodies sent;
While flowers of each tint are by morning impearled:
Oh! why is there woe in so lovely a world?"

But we will think not of the woe in the world just now—only of the pleasant, elevating, and instructive things that are to be found in it, and

especially in this part of it—and will seek by a little gossip on the line we have indicated to interest in it such of our readers as do not happen to know the places included, and to awaken the recollection of those, doubtless the much larger proportion, who are already acquainted with them. The tourist student taking this road should not forget his sketch-book, and might return by way of Manchester, Chester, Shrewsbury, Hereford and Gloucester, or Worcester: of this part of the business, however, some other time.

Derby, the *Derwent-by*, or Derwent town, of the Saxons and Danes (first from the Celtic *Dwr*, water) has little of its old architecture now to show. The ugly red bricks of the locality are at present used with little pretence to taste. Few modern red-brick towns in England, by-the-bye, are pleasing to the sight. A new church of some size is growing up not far from the railway station, the west front "inspired" by that of Tintern Abbey. The fine, well-known Perpendicular Tower of All Saints' is hampered with a wretchedly ugly church tacked on to it, by Gibbs, in 1725. The Albert memorial window by Clayton and Bell, which has been set up at the east end of the chancel, is richer in colour and more effective than the majority of modern works. We had not an opportunity, however, to examine it properly. Some modern monuments in the church deserve more than a look, including one to that Elizabeth Countess of Shrewsbury, the noted "Bess of Hardwick," who built so much in the county. This remarkable woman married four times, and raised herself to greater power each time. Her second son, William, was the first Duke of Devonshire. It is well known that a fortune-teller asserted her death should not happen while she continued building. Whether because of this or not need not be asked; certain it is she built the original Chatsworth, Hardwick, and Oldcotes, and ultimately died during a hard frost, when the men had left off work! Her character has been variously painted. Fuller speaks of her as a woman of undaunted spirit and wit, beautiful and discreet, living a creditable and happy life; while lodge days she was proud, selfish, and unfeeling, kept her husband in terror, and died immensely rich without a friend. She is said to have set up her own monument in All Saints' Church. It is noticeable how many good things the world owes to people who have been called bad by their contemporaries.

Kedleston Hall, Lord Scarsdale's place, four miles from Derby town, built by the Adams Brothers, exactly a hundred years ago, has an entrance-hall of striking character, given by a range on each side of noble Corinthian columns of Derbyshire alabaster, with white marble capitals. These columns are 25ft. high. Waagen, in his "Art Treasures," describes them as "of one piece," and they have that effect, but examination shows that this is not the case, each being in two or three pieces cleverly put together. The ceiling

is poor, the ornaments of genuine "Adelphi" character, and the colour of the walls is not well calculated to give the best of effect to the columns; nevertheless this hall, 67ft. long between the walls and 42ft. wide, is unquestionably a fine one, and leaves an impression on the mind. The doorways of the withdrawing-room are formed with handsome columns and pediment of alabaster; the floor of the curved corridor that connects on each side the central building and its six-columned portico, on high stylobate, reached by handsome external flights of steps, with the wings, is an excellent piece of work: still, as in most of the buildings and art of the time, no bit of sentiment or feeling is to be found. The inscription, to his friends and himself (*Amicis et Sibi*), is nevertheless a feature in that direction. There are several good pictures—a head, ascribed to Rembrandt, in the music-room; a fine Giordano; a curious landscape, with Scripture composition in foreground, by De Momper, Velvet Brughel, and old Franks, conjoined; a particularly fine Claude; a head by Salvator Rosa, and some others; but notably the picture of Daniel foretelling ruin to Nebuchadnezzar, ordinarily attributed to Rembrandt, but by some, and with more correctness, as we venture to think, to Solcmon Koningk, his worthy scholar and follower. Rembrandt would scarcely have painted such a Daniel—the blot in the picture. This remarkable work was in the Manchester Great Exhibition, and may be remembered by the deceptively-painted opal in the king's throne, even by those who have forgotten the composition. Tradition and the housekeeper point to a picture over one of the doors as "Shakspeare, by Vandyck." Who would not rejoice if these two respectabilities could be believed? Six-and-thirty small works, in Limousin enamel, after a series of wood engravings by Albert Durer, are so hung as to do them great injustice. Coming out, the Circular Saloon, 42ft. in diameter, and 20ft. more than that in height to the eye of the dome, will commend itself to the attention of all who are interested in planning. The park is charming, and the church, close to the house, shows some bits of Norman work and two monuments below the paving, where in each case a sculptured head, in full relief, is seen within a quatrefoil opening. Heads, in such a position, of smaller size and in lower relief, are less uncommon.

Alton Towers, with its exquisitely beautiful grounds, its hill and dale, art and nature, come here into the route, but we have so recently alluded to its beauties that we run on to Ashbourne Church, noted as a dated example of thirteenth century work. A small brass plate (perhaps 7in. by 3½in.), of some age, now in the church, gives the inscription, showing that the building was dedicated in the year 1241—"In honore sct. Oswaldi, Regis, et Martyris," &c. The original inscription is engraved in Pegge's Sylloge, and reproduced in the "Companion" to the Oxford

"Glossary." The chancel, large, and the north transept have lofty lancet windows. Some valuable monuments to the Cockayne family are being injured by damp. Amongst the Boothby monuments, one of a child in unquiet sleep is a good work by Banks. It has a pedantic inscription in English, Latin, Italian, and French.

The town itself is quaint and interesting, with many schools, almshouses, and other parochial structures scattered about; and the views of the valley in which it stands, seen when approaching it, are fine. Canning made it talked about years ago by these two lines in one of his "skits"—

"So, down thy dale, romantic Ashbourne glides
The Derby Dilly, carrying six insides."

The drive from Derby to Dove Dale is charming, too, though it is hard now-a-days, when sitting behind a pair of horses after a railway journey, to avoid remembering the little girl, who having ridden fifty miles in a train, then took a coach to her uncle's house, some five miles further, and being asked on her arrival if she had come by the train, replied—"We travelled a little way in the train, and then all the rest of the journey in a carriage."

Approaching the dale we reached Ilam, with its pretty prim cottages, built for effect, and a memorial cross, by Derick, after the fashion of that at Waltham, but including a fountain, inscribed to Mrs. Mary Watts Russell, by her husband, the owner of the estate. The inscription says—

"Free, as for all these crystal waters flow,
Her gentle eyes would weep for others' woe;
Dried is that fount; but long may this endure,
To be a Well of Comfort for the poor."

This fount, however, would seem now to be dry too, or, at any rate, drying. The water in the basins round the cross, when we were in the neighbourhood, had evidently been there for some time, and was not attractive. The disinclination of even water to run away at Ilam is understandable; it is certainly a pretty spot. Ilam Hall comes well into the picture; and, as we approach the Izaak Walton Hotel, Thorpe Cloud on one side (a truncated cone as seen here, though a pointed mountain viewed from behind), and Bunster Hill on the other, mark the entrance to the picturesque dale. The name of the hotel alluded to will remind readers of the connection of this beautiful piece of Derbyshire and Staffordshire (here the counties touch) with the well-known hosier of Fleet-street, "Father of angling," and his son-in-law, Charles Cotton, who has sung the merits of the Dove with brave words. The Tiber, the Tagus, and the Po cannot show such streams,—

"The Maese, the Danube, and the Rhine,
Are puddle-water all, compared to thine;"

and Tame and Isis, when conjoined, are made to lay their trophies at its feet. This is simply stuff, but Dove Dale is a lovely place notwithstanding. The stream here smoothly flows, with its often-painted "stepping-stones," and

there rushes impetuously through a narrower channel and dashes itself into foam against fallen stones that impede it; while on either side tree-covered hills alternate with craggy masses of rock; in one part grass land smiles, in another precipices frown. The view from the Lover's Leap (of course there is a lover's leap) is truly grand, including an amphitheatre of Scotch firs, ash, and beech, mixed up with limestone rocks of quaint shape. The more prominent rocks have names of old standing, and "Dove Dale Church," "The Sugar Loaves," and other masses are pointed out to the tourist. The "photographing gentlemen," as our guide puts it, are changing the names; why or wherefore does not seem clear. Thus on their views they call the group long known as "The Twelve Apostles" "Tissington Spires North;" surely a stupid alteration. Do, pray, gentlemen of the camera, leave the old names alone.

The path here and there is rugged, and in ascending to Reynard's Cave, the highest aim of the enterprising examiner of Dove Dale, the difficulty almost amounts to danger; at any rate, care and a steady head are necessary.

Ilam Hall, though just out of Derbyshire, must not be passed by us without a few notes and praises. It is one of the best of the modern Gothic houses erected at the commencement of the present century. The first stone was laid in 1821, and the late Mr. Shaw was, we believe, the architect. As the residence of a private gentleman, not pretending to be a palace or a castle, it is complete and homogeneous. Good taste appears to have had direction over every part of it, nothing incongruous or poor meets the eye. The grounds, too, are charming, and the ancient village church within them, and near the house, backed by Thorpe Cloud, comes into the view from the windows. Why called Thorpe Cloud, by the way—this mountain? Thorpe is the hamlet whence it springs, and the Cloud will be seen most days hanging lovingly around its shoulders. The Hall contains some fine pictures—two good Vandycks, Landseer's "Dogs of St. Bernard rescuing a Traveller," a landscape by Gainsborough, a portrait of Congreve, who wrote at Ilam his comedy, "The Old Bachelor," which was produced in 1693, and part of "The Mourning Bride," produced in 1697; a charming sea-piece by Calcott, full of movement; a good picture by Opie, "The Dame School" (the head of the old woman worthy of Rembrandt); and Howard's "Pleiades and the Morning Star," suffused with poetic feeling. There is, too, an admirable bust of the late Mr. Watts, by Chantrey, who also executed an elaborate and beautiful monument to his memory, erected in the church hard by. In this Mr. Watts is represented as rising from his bed, by the side of which are his only daughter and her children, who, it is understood, wait to receive his dying words. An open book in his hands, to which he is directing their attention,

prevents the immediate recognition of this idea by one viewing the monument for the first time. It is, nevertheless, a work of high merit, and can scarcely be contemplated without some emotion. The church, mostly of the decorated period, was restored not long ago by Mr. Scott: the font is Norman, rude and coarse.

And now away to Rowsley, with its model inn "The Peacock," dear to anglers, and indeed to all who like a pretty place, quiet kindly attention, and a good cook. Autumn is upon us:—

"Now sheaves are slanted to the sun
Amid the golden meadows;
And little sun-tann'd gleaners run
To cool them in their shadows."

But all is at present green and fresh; we do not yet see those varied tints that make—

"The gorgeous autumn woods so beautiful
That even old Winter moans, as he sweeps through,
To spoil such solemn beauty."

In the neighbourhood a good deal of the land belongs to Mr. Whitworth, the well-known great-gun maker. This includes Darley Dale stone quarry, from which the getting of stone has been stopped, in order that it may be rendered, by planting, an ornament to the estate. Darley Dale Church is distinguished by the possession of a number of early gravestones, besides some that were taken away, and are to be seen in the museum of the late Mr. Bateman, not far off. Several noticeable incised stones are set up in the church, especially two, in memory of members of the family of Rollisley, in the sixteenth century, one of which, dated 1513, we have no hesitation in placing amongst the finest examples now remaining. The inscription around this—partly in Latin, partly in English—is very curious; it runs thus:—
"Hic jacet corpus Johes Rollislei armigi Elesabeth uxore ejus the therde dei of juin the yere of owre Lord a thowsand V. C. and thritten."

A stained-glass window, in memory of Raphael Gillum, put up not long ago, over archaic as it may be, displays by some of the figures a very tender expression, and gives those who will look into it something to think about. The very ancient yew tree outside, the tree which seems to mourn over what it shadows, measures 32ft. in circumference in the largest part. We do not remember one bigger.

In Rowsley Church stands the monument to Lady John Manner, by Calder Marshall and Forsyth. The lower part (arches and small marble columns) is rather confused, and the angles being taken off below the slab makes the tomb look somewhat top-heavy. The figure, however, is devout and charming, and the whole effect very praiseworthy. The floor of the little chapel in which the monument stands has a pavement of marble mosaics, by Tomlinson, of Bakewell, rich and satisfactory. The church, Norman in manner, was designed by Mr. Salvin the younger.

Close by is Haddon Hall, whose general external appearance is best seen approaching it from Rowsley. The building stands beautifully—well elevated and embowered in trees, above which appear its towers and battlements—a capital skyline. Coming nearer, the bridge over the Wye leading up to its gate-house gives another picture, and entering the outer court the nineteenth century is quite cut off, and the mind may revert without difficulty to the men who fought for the Roses and those who danced with Elizabeth—to say nothing of that earlier time when the manor belonged to the Conqueror's son, Peverill "of the Peak." This old hall has many ghosts for those who can see them—much music for those who can hear. Such practical gossip as we can get out of it will serve to begin another paper of jottings Out and About.—*Builder*.

STATISTICS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF NEW YORK.

There is nothing which can go further to satisfy the Masonic mind of the, we fear, too rapid growth of Masonry, than a reference to statistics. During the anti-Masonic excitement, and for years subsequent thereto, the number of both lodges and their membership were exceedingly limited; but such as they were, they were of the true material, devotedly attached to the institution for the excellence of its precepts, and willing to face obloquy and even danger in its defence. The storm blew over; by degrees the society became more popular, until the rush was so great, and the anxiety to boast of numbers so general—indeed, we will almost say universal—that the barriers have, in many instances, been broken down, different teachings inculcated from those practised by the fathers who preserved the institution in its days of trouble, the result of which has been made apparent, not only by the choice of individuals to office in the Grand Lodge of New York, of neither Masonic reputation or standing; many of whom were, but a very few years since, almost universally looked upon as revolutionists and abettors of Masonic treason and schism.

Nor has the legislation of the Grand Lodge been otherwise than in accordance with the falling off in the character and status of its officers, and their appointees, as the recent assassination trial and other proceedings clearly prove.

In 1836, when we were initiated, there were but a handful of lodges within twelve miles of the city of New York, and in all the State not seventy Lodges. The Grand Secretary in his report, says:

"The number of Lodges which made returns at the annual communication of 1864, was 486. From those returns the following statistics are derived:—"

The number of initiations for the year ending June 1st, 1864, was.....	8,591
The number of affiliations.....	840
Whole number registered.....	9,431
Dimitted.....	887
Expelled.....	32
Suspended.....	29
Stricken from roll for non-payment of dues.	897
Restored to membership.....	230
Died.....	540
Total number of members in good standing on the 1st June 1864, was.....	40,480

The Grand Secretary, who looks so much and so often to an increase of salary, and the means of prolonging his tenure of office, rejoices over this immense increase, and says: "The above statement plainly indicates a state of prosperity, both financially and numerically, heretofore unknown in the history of Masonry in this jurisdiction. And I have the satisfaction of announcing to the Grand Lodge that, from the returns just received, it is established beyond a doubt that the Masonic year just closed has been, if possible, more prosperous than the preceeding."

When a dissection of the above statistics clearly proves that of the number of 9,431, initiations and affiliations, 1845, or one-fifth of the whole dimitted, refused to pay dues, or were suspended and expelled, we do not think "the above statement indicates a state of prosperity," such as conservative Masons, those who look beyond their noses, would rejoice in. Nearly 900 Masons, it is proved, cared so little for the institution, as in one year to be stricken from the rolls for non-payment of dues; while nearly the same number dimitted. It is possible, that these immense numbers, seeing the management of the Society in New York in such doubtful hands, or finding chicanery and all species of pettifogging the *open sesame* to position in the Grand Lodge, abandoned our institution, or became careless of further association with it. Be this as it may, the figures furnished the facts as above stated; and while it may rejoice the Grand Secretary, whose large salary was secured in parts by the fees and dues received from these 1800 Masons, we cannot think that the fraternity at large will agree with him, that a greater degree of that same kind of prosperity in 1865 ought to be viewed as a satisfactory announcement.—*New York Courier*.

MAN is strong—woman is beautiful. Man is daring and confident—woman is diffident and unassuming. Man is great in action—woman in suffering. Man shines abroad—woman at home. Man talks to convince—woman to persuade and please. Man has a rugged heart—woman a soft and tender one. Man prevents misery—woman relieves it. Man has science—woman taste. Man has judgment—woman sensibility. Man is a being of justice—woman of mercy.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

K * * * * H LADDERS.

The K. H. referred to in No. 321, describing the mystical ladder, is the French *Grand du Chevalier Kadosch* of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. Dr. Oliver, in his "Landmarks," enumerates six degrees of K. H. All, we believe, were more or less connected with the Knights Templar. It was included with the latter in this country until 1851, when, with the Knights of St. John and Malta and the Rose Croix, it was severed from the Templars by the Grand Conclave, and transferred to the authority of the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, but mutilated by cutting off all part of the ritual which had reference to the Templar, although, in fact, the legend is a history of the destruction of the Order and the barbarous murder of Jacques de Molay. It has, consequently, no meaning; 'tis neither fish, flesh, nor good red herring. There is good reason for believing that the K. H. was the High Priest in the old Royal Arch degree, as the chief officer, the priest, wore the fillet, with the words "Kadosh Lahoiva," as described in Exodus xxviii. 36. To confer the rank of High Priest nine were necessary to be present, and these were called the nine worthies, the number of the Supreme Council; their meetings took place at the Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell-green. Perhaps, among the documents in the mysterious closet, some information might be afforded of the practices of our ancient brethren, and, with this view, we should like to see a committee formed to overhaul the collection, with some brother upon it who knew what to look for.—NEKAM.

R. C. BROTHERS IN HOLY ORDERS.

Your readers must have seen with deep regret the attempts of the Italian Masons to interfere with the religious and political convictions and independence of brethren. The constitutions, as you have reported, only allow a Masonic funeral on condition that no religious funeral service be performed, whereas the practice of Masons in all countries has been to demand religious rites for their deceased members, and there have been well founded complaints where these have been rejected.

This practice, with reference to being buried in the habit of the Order, is as common among respectable persons in the peninsula.

In your number for the 6th Aug., you report that the Lodge of Pisa has assailed Bro. Antonelli, a member of another lodge, because as a member of the Chamber of Deputies he has advocated what they call reactionary principles with reference to the suppression of convents, and because he is understood to be a registered lay member of the Benedictine and Franciscan orders. Had Bro. Antonelli been a monk, others have been monks, and Masons, and priests, and Masons. The Bishop of Arrasaburt thirty years ago was a Mason, and so was the Bishop of Castello Branco in Portugal.

These rabid acts of political partisans disgrace Masonry, and afford weapons to its enemies. Masonry claims to be a religious institution, and to have religious men for its members, and to respect all religious men.—Z.

UNITED STATES.

The general Grand Chapter of the Holy R. A. for the United States was obliged to adjourn its triennial convocation intended to be held at the City of Memphis, in Tennessee, in 1864, and now profits by the return of peace to hold its convocation on Thursday, the 7th of Sept., 1865, at Columbus, in the State of Ohio, for which purpose summonses have been issued by Comp. Albert G. Mackay, the G.S.H.P., to members of the G.S. Chapter. The "Book of Constitutions" has at the same time been reissued.—Z.

HEALING.

According to the York rite the degree of R.A. must be preceded by the Mark, Past Master's, and M.E. degrees. Now the English R.A. Comp. does not possess these degrees, and is not, therefore, held by chapters of the other rite to be a perfect R.A. Comp.

He is, however, admitted to the proceedings of a R.A. Chapter, but he cannot be a legal member until he has obtained the other degrees. This process is called healing, making him whole or complete, and is one of those processes of regularisation which has passed out of practice in England, but which we find in so many other places as our old and subsisting institutions of Masonry.—P. H. P.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

ORIGIN OF FREEMASONRY.

(Continuation of Illustration of E.A.P.)

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

The whole of this degree is indeed typical of the entry into this life in a state of innocence and childhood of the second Adam, our Lord, the son of Mary the Blessed Virgin and Immaculate Mother of God. "Behold, a Virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a Son, and they shall call His name Emanuel, which, being interpreted, is God with us" (Matt. i. 23). "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He hath visited and redeemed His people, and hath raised up a mighty salvation for us in the house of His servant David" (Benedictus Luke i. 6—8). "The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us" (1 John i. 14). "And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women. And it came to pass that when Elizabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost, and said, Blessed art thou among women" (Luke i. 28, 41, 42). "And poor and penniless, for she brought forth her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes,

and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn at Bethlehem, already occupied by the wealthy Jews, who had all come up to be taxed, everyone unto his own city" (Luke ii. 3, 4, 7).

Gentle star of ocean,
Portal of the sky,
Ever Virgin Mother
Of the Lord Most High.

Show thyself a mother,
Offer Him our sighs,
Who for us incarnate
Did not thee despise.

Still as on we journey,
Help our weak endeavour,
Till with thee and Jesus
We rejoice for ever.

"And His raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow, so as no fuller on earth can white them" (Mark ix. 3). "And as He prayed, the fashion of His countenance was altered, and His raiment was white and glistening" (Luke ix. 29). White clothing has, indeed, in all ages been the emblem of purity. The Templars adopted it, with the distinctive mark of the Cross on their mantles; still earlier the Christian neophytes; and, following their example, the Masons adopted it as "the badge of innocence and bond of friendship." We also read, "And He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them, and Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man" (Luke ii. 51, 52).

Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
He whom the choir of angels praise,
At whose command they fly,
His earthly parents now obeys,
And lays His glory by.
In stature grows the heavenly Child,
With death before His eyes,
A Lamb unblemished, meek, and mild,
Prepared for sacrifice.

Such, my brother, is the example the most lowly Jesus, the Son of Mary, the Incarnate Deity, set to his followers. Cherish, my brother, in your heart of hearts the morals and precepts wrapped up in the allegorical language of our glorious Craft; read and ponder upon the works of Moses and the prophets, for, said Jesus to the Jews, "If you hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will you be persuaded if one rose from the dead." The Masonic Apprentice has now passed through the stage of infancy and pupilage, and ascended the three first steps of the "mysterious ladder which leads from darkness to the mansions of glory and perfection," but he has many more steps to climb before he can become a free brother of his guild, or a F.C. Freemason.

Yours fraternally,
ROSA CRUCIS.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS IN ARREARS.

Subscribers who are in arrears will oblige by remitting at once to the office, No. 19, Salisbury-street, Strand. [Post Office Orders to be made payable to Bro. William Smith, C.E.]

* * All communications to be addressed to 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MASONIC MEM.

PROVINCE OF SOUTH WALES (EASTERN DIVISION).—A Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at the Town-hall, Cardiff, on Thursday, the 28th day of September instant, at the hour of high twelve punctually. The banquet will take place at the Stuart-hall, at five o'clock precisely.

PROVINCIAL.

CHESHIRE.

CREWE.—Lodge of the Four Cardinal Virtues (No. 979).—The regular meeting of this lodge took place in the Town Hall on Wednesday, the 6th inst., when the following brethren were in attendance:—Bros. Wm. John Bullock, W.M.; Reade, P.M., as S.W.; Geo. Lord, J.W.; Mould, I.P.M.; Eardley, Sec.; Price, S.D.; Moody, J.D.; Davies, I.G.; Cope, Whitting, Gibson, and several visiting brethren. After the confirmation of the minutes the lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Gibson passed his examination as a F.C., and retired. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and Bro. Gibson was raised to the M.M. degree, each officer being very correct and efficient in his working. The lodge was then closed down to the first degree, when the election of W.M. took place, which gave a majority in favour of Bro. Bullock's re-election. The W.M. thanked them for the honour conferred on him a second time, but expressed himself perfectly willing to resign in favour of the J.W., Bro. Geo. Lord, if the brethren present thought it would be to the lodge's interest for him to do so. Bro. Reade, P.M., was of opinion that they could not possibly do without their late W.M., who founded the lodge, and he hoped he would retain that office another year. Bro. Mould expressed his pleasure in hearing the remarks of the W.M., and, if Bro. Lord was up to the work, he thought Bro. Bullock's offer might be accepted. Bro. Lord, J.W., then rose, and said that, as he fully expected that the late S.W. would have been elected, he was not prepared at so short a notice to take the responsible office just now, and he thought it best for Bro. Bullock to rule the lodge another year. The W.M. then said that, if he did so, he must protest against his re-election being taken as a precedent for Masters holding the chair two years in succession, unless under very peculiar circumstances, as he had expressed on former occasions his objections to this very thing. Under the present circumstances, he thought he was perfectly consistent in accepting a second year's Mastership, and he felt sure that he should be able to hand over the Master's gavel next year to Bro. Lord with increased numbers, larger funds, and improved working. The next business was the resolution as to the removal of the lodge. The W.M. expressed a hope that each brother would say a few words, and let them know their feelings before any resolution was proposed. Removing was a rock that had wrecked many lodges; but he asked the brethren, if possible, to do this with a unanimous vote, so that not one resignation might ensue. It was truly Masonic to give way to the majority, and if there was a good one in favour of one particular place, he trusted that, when the resolution was put, that minority would merge in the majority. After various speeches, it was found that nearly all were in favour of the Crewe Arms Hotel. Bro. Whitting wished that a hall might be built near the railway station, and he would give £5. The W.M. thought that, if the Lodge of Unity (No. 321) would join them, that project might succeed; but the next thing to a private hall was a good room at the head hotel. Bro. Mould, P.M., proposed, and Bro. Reade,

P.M., seconded, that the lodge be removed at the most convenient time to the Crewe Arms Hotel, which was carried unanimously. Bro. Bullock thanked the brethren, and congratulated them on so happy a termination. He had taken no steps himself in the matter; in fact, he thought the time had hardly arrived to moot so important a question, but he was released from some anxiety now the step was taken, which, he was sure, would be for the benefit of Masonry in general, and the Lodge of Four Cardinal Virtues in particular. A resolution was also passed that the Prov. G. Master, Lord de Tably, be invited to the St. John's Festival in October. A distressed brother was present, who was relieved by each of the brethren. A candidate was also proposed for initiation, and the lodge was closed with prayer, in love, peace, and harmony at ten o'clock.

KENT.

FORMATION AND CONSECRATION OF MALLING ABBEY LODGE

Several influential brethren in the neighbourhood of West Malling being desirous to establish a lodge in their immediate locality, and thus improve themselves in Masonic knowledge, without the inconvenience of visiting more distant lodges, petitioned the Grand Lodge of England for that purpose, and a warrant was in due time granted, investing them with all the privileges and powers of the ancient fraternity. By permission of Lord Holmesdale, the Prov. G.M. of Kent, the brethren named in the warrant were empowered to initiate candidates previous to the interesting ceremony of consecration, and accordingly, on the 14th of August, the W.M., Bro. Page, assisted by his Wardens and other advanced brethren, held his first lodge in the handsome new room at the Bear Inn, which has been suitably erected for the purpose of Masonry. On this occasion the following candidates, having been unanimously elected, were initiated into the mysteries of the Order, viz.:—The Hon. Ralph Nevill, Rev. J. H. Timins, Dr. Prall, Lieut. Luck, H. D. Wildes, W. Gilbert, R. B. Stedman, T. Longhurst, and R. Pointer. The business of the evening having been concluded, the lodge was closed with solemn prayer, and the brethren separated with mutual congratulations.

Monday, the 4th inst., was fixed for the consecration of the lodge and installation of the W.M., when a large number of brethren from various lodges were in attendance, amongst whom were Bros. W. F. Dobson, D. Prov. G.M.; Edward Wates, G. Sec.; B. Thorpe, G. Treas.; J. S. Keddell, W. H. Vale, J. S. Eastes, and T. Nettleingham, P.S.G.W.'s; E. A. Hilder, P.J.G.W.; C. Philpott, S.G.D.; W. Page, S.G.D.; R. Pearson, J.G.D.; J. B. Tolpott, J.G.D.; E. H. Patten, Secretary to Girls' School, P.S.G.W.; Samuel Austen, P.M. 216, and W.M. 1050; Rev. Shirley Woolmer, &c.

The following lodges were also represented:—

77, Gravesend—Bros. Pottinger and Hinks, P.M.'s; Holingbam, Sheen, Hunt, Hart, and Hills.

133, Faversham—Bros. Harlow, Dodd, Bayley, Hogben, Giraud, P.M.; Gillett, Bathurst, and Sharp.

158, Sheerness—Bros. Green, P.M.; and Keddell.

184, Brompton—Bros. E. T. Barling, Barford, Barwick, and Usher.

299, Dartford—Bros. Catt, W.M.; Thomas, Newman, and Moore.

503, Maidstone—Bros. Colonel Scott, S.W.; E. Stephens, J. W. Grundy, Goodwin, J. H. Spencer, J. S. Bartlett, Semark, Foord, Nutt, and Hubbard.

1050, Rochester—Bros. G. Ashdown, Fry, Curel, Ransome, Watson, J. Dyke, and Aldersley.

1063, Malling Abbey—Bros. the Hon. Ralph Nevill, Rev. J. H. Timins, J. B. Jude, Prall, Busbridge, W. Monkton, Norton, Carstairs, Wildes, Luck, Gilbert, Stedman, Viner, Dickens, Longhurst, and Pointer.

The following brethren were also present:—Bros. C. B. Payne, G. Tyler; C. Relf, 188; G. J. Airress, 158; Rev. C. Laue, P.M. 41; Rev. H. W. Steel, 693; Rotway, 20; Harris, 205; Crisp, P.M. 812; Wray, 194; Sennett, 115; Tedder, &c.

The ceremonies of consecration and installation were admirably conducted by Bro. Muggeridge, P.M., and the whole proceedings were of the most satisfactory character. Bro. the Rev. Shirley Woolmer, who officiated as Chaplain, delivered a talented and eloquent oration on the principles of Freemasonry, which, he observed, had been universally acknowledged as "a system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols." The address was listened to with the deepest interest by all who had the pleasure of being present.

Bro. Muggerridge afterwards proceeded to invest the following brethren with the insignia of their several offices:—Bros. Wm. Page, W.M.; G. B. Bunter, S.W.; G. F. Busbridge, J.W.; R. B. Stedman, Sec.; Walter Monckton, S.D.; Geo. Carstairs, J.D.; B. Norton, I.G.; Richard Pointer, Tyler. Bro. the Hon. Ralph Nevill, it was understood, was to be proposed as Treasurer on the next assembling of the lodge.

At the conclusion of the business the Rev. J. H. Timins, vicar of Malling, invited the brethren, in the interim of preparing the room for the banquet, to an inspection of the church, when, after pointing out various interesting remains of the original building, which was erected in the time of Bishop Gundulph, he afterwards delivered from the pulpit a very learned address on the employment of the earliest Masons, mentioning the occasional discovery of their works in every part of the civilised world, bearing indubitable proofs and marks of a society in possession of the highest abilities in science and the fine arts.

The rev. gentleman afterwards courteously conducted the brethren through his own very beautiful grounds to the remains of the abbey, and by permission visiting the old cloisters and other ecclesiastical buildings in use at the time of the abbey's palmy days. After remaining a brief period in examining the venerable ruins, and admiring the picturesque and well-kept grounds, the brethren returned, extremely pleased with the treat which the vicar had so kindly afforded them.

At six o'clock upwards of eighty of the brethren sat down to an excellent dinner, which had been prepared by the worthy landlord, Bro. Longhurst, and which was much needed by all who had been for many hours engaged without refreshment on one of the hottest days of the summer. The dessert and wines corresponded in quality with the dinner, the whole being of the most *recherché* character. The D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Dobson, presided, and under his auspices a very delightful evening was spent. The usual loyal and complimentary toasts were appropriately given and responded to, interspersed with some excellent singing; and the brethren separated, after spending a most agreeable day in the celebrations incident to the establishment of the new lodge, and with "pleasant memories" of the town, the church, the abbey, and the friends who had assembled together at West Malling.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

NEWPORT.—*Silurian Lodge* (No. 471).—This lodge was opened in due form on the 6th inst. by Bro. John Griffiths, W.M., and as the brethren have had their usual holidays (the lodge having been closed during the three summer months), there was a large number of the brethren present. One gentleman, Mr. John Price, was initiated, and arrangements made for holding a lodge of instruction on the second Friday in every month, under the able management of Bros. R. B. Evans, P.M.; W. Williams, Sec.; and H. Hellier, as Treas. The W.M. announced that a Provincial Grand Lodge meeting would be held at Abegavenny on Thursday, the 26th of October next, when a jewel valued at 100 guineas would be presented to their popular and worthy Provincial Grand Master, and that a large number of high magistrates in Masonry would be present. We are happy to say that Masonry flourishes well in Monmouthshire, a new lodge being about to be opened at Tredegar Ironworks. What are our Chepstow brethren thinking about that they do not establish a lodge there? It has been talked about for years.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

MOUNT LEBANON CHAPTER (No. 73).—An emergency meeting of this newly-established chapter was held on Monday, September 11th, at the Green Man Tavern, Tooley-street, Southwark (Comp. C. A. Cathie's), John Dixon, M.D., M.E.Z.; Fredk. P. Walters, H., and Edward N. Levy, J., presided, assisted by Comps. Robert Watts, P.Z.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.Z.; A. Avery, S.N.; A. D. Loewenstark, P.S.; R. Thomson, C. A. Cathie, M. A. Loewenstark, and many others. Ballots were taken for Bros. G. R. Warren, C. C. Graham, and J. H. Spencer, which were declared to be unanimous in favour of their admission. Bros. G. Morris, G. R. Warren, and C. L. Graham, being in attendance, were regularly advanced into the supreme degree

of Royal Arch Freemasonry. The ceremony was well rendered, as every official was versed in his duty, and the talented First Principal excelled in his position of the ceremony. The by-laws were agreed to. It was announced that Comp. Frederick Walters, H., with his usual liberality, presented the chapter with their new five guinea floor-cloth. Business being ended by several propositions of candidates for the next regular meeting of the chapter on Thursday, October 12th, the chapter was duly closed.

SOUTH AMERICA.

NEW GRANADA.

The *New York Courier* gives a translation of some important Masonic official documents, received from the Grand Orient of New Granada, addressed to Grand Lodges, &c., of the United States. We append copies of these documents, as the subject treated of is of grave importance, and should be thoroughly understood by every brother who desires to know something more of Masonic matters than he can pick up from his own daily observation.

Ad Universi Terrarum Orbis Summi Architecti Gloriam.

"Grand Orient of Neo Granadino, Cartagena, the 4th day of the 1st M. : M. : Nisan 5865, corresponding to the 31st of March, A.D. 1865.

"To the M.W.

"By the documents which you will see published in the official Masonic Register, No. 27, which I have the honour to transmit herewith, you will be apprised of the disorder which has been introduced in this Grand Orient by a few erring Masons in the valley of Bogota, pretending, in open violation of our respected Constitution, to create a new Grand Orient in this Republic.

"By said documents you will see the strict conduct which the Most Serene Masonic Senate, the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and myself have observed under such afflictive circumstances, and of the feeling we entertain of exercising full discipline till we fell to the ground the simulachre of such a new Masonic power, created in the very face of the legitimate Masonic government established here, said spurious body not having found any countenance amongst the true Masons under our jurisdiction.

"I do not entertain the least doubt as to the speedy establishment of order in this Grand Orient, and I entertain the hope that these erring brothers will retrace their steps, giving a public testimony of their repentance.

"But in order to terminate as soon as possible such an unpleasant state of things, and to make a proper manifestation of high morality, striking a death-blow to such unlimited and unjustifiable proceedings of those who have brought scandal and discord to the sacred places where peace, harmony, and silence ought to reign, I think proper and necessary, illustrious and puissant brother, to ask of you to lend us without delay your co-operation by issuing an edict disapproving and condemning the unlawful acts of those at Bogota, and ordering that these erring brethren whom I have previously suspended be not admitted in the bodies under your jurisdiction, and that you will approve all our proceedings and resolutions, as being in accordance with the traditional and constant practice of the Constitutions of the Order.

"With such proceedings you will perform an immense service to Masonry, and the faithful and true Masons of the Grand Orient of New Granada will always remember with pleasure your exalted feelings, and the solicitude with which you have guarded the sacred treasures which have been entrusted to you. With high consideration I salute you, puissant brother, with all the signs and tokens known to us.

"ANTONIO A. TATES, 33D.

"The first representative in charge of the executive power, by absence of the Grand Grand Master.

"JUAN UCROS, 33, *Secretary General.*"

The following is a copy of the document alluded to in the above circular, as translated from the official Masonic register.

"Proclamation of the 28th March, 1865, condemning the Masonic rebellion initiated in the district of Bogota.

"The M.S. Grand Master of the Order, by virtue of the resolution of the M.S. Grand Masonic Senate, dated the 23rd day of the Masonic month Ve-Adar 5864 (25th March, 1865, E.V.) condemning the Masonic rebellion formed in Bogota, and which

resolution precedes this proclamation; and further, having considered the report of the committee which framed the same, and having previously solicited the will and pleasure of the Sup. Council of Sov. Gr. Ins. General, as also that of the administrative council, both of which were unanimous in their decisions, including that of the senate; and having a perfect harmony and concordance with each and all, and also by virtue of the faculties with which the M.S.G. Master is invested, according to paragraphs 1st and 2nd of the 26th article of the Constitution, and which is applicable to the case, all of which clearly points out the genuine Constitution statutes of the Order.

"It is therefore decreed as follows—to wit:

"Art. 1. The resolution of the Sup. Gr. Masonic Senate, dated the 23rd day of the Masonic month Ve-Adar, 5864, (corresponding to March 26th, 1865, E.V.) shall have full force and effect in all the extent of the district under the jurisdiction of this Grand Orient, wherein and whereby the Masonic rebellion which exists in the G.E. of Bogota is condemned, beginning from May last past; and all Granadian Masons who shall fail to pay the most absolute obedience to this decree, shall be punished conformably with the grand statutes.

"Art. 2. The following persons, who appear to have figured as the authors and principal accomplices in the above-mentioned rebellion against the Masonic institution, and the government which has been legitimately formed for the last thirty years, shall be provisionally suspended from all Masonic rights, lights, and benefits, viz.:—SS. G. L. I. Generals Thos. C. de Mosquera, Francisco Valeria Barreja, and Francisco Villalba; and the S.P.R.S. Leon Hechevarria, Manuel Ancizar, Juan N. Ponton y Nicolas Anzola Tabar; the Grand I.I. Com. Rafael Elizer Santander, and the K.D.S.H. Jose de D. Ueros Luis Garcia Evia, Vincente Gutierrez de Pinerez and Francis Aquedelo.

"Art. 3. Official notice having been received that Charity Chapter and Star of Tequendama Lodge (both within this jurisdiction) have affiliated themselves with the clandestine body known as the Gran Oriente Columbiano, they are each and both of them hereby suspended from labour. The period of suspension is indefinite, and until such time as these erring bodies realise their delinquency, retrace their steps, and give undoubted proof of sincere repentance.

"Art. 4. All the so-called Masonic associations created by the clandestine parties at Bogota—as, for example, the one entitled Propagadores de la Luz, form no part of the Order of Freemasonry. Under these circumstances, all institutions which are or may hereafter be made, and all increase of wages which they concede, or may hereafter be conceded, or may have heretofore conceded, are null and void.

"Art. 5. They are declared irregular and are equally suspended, provisionally, all of those brethren who, in the Chapter R. X. Caridad and in the Lodge Estrella del Tequendama, have contributed to raise the standard of rebellion against the constituted Masonic government of our country, likewise those who did and have consented to such an outrage, are hereby provisionally suspended from all their rights and privileges.

"Art. 6. The Masons mentioned in Articles 1st and 5th, and those intruders mentioned in Art. 4, will not be admitted under any excuse or pretext in any of the lodges and bodies of the Grand Orient of New Granada, under the penalty of incurring the responsibility mentioned in Art. 13 of the General Statutes of July 13, 1857.

"Art. 7. The bodies in state of rebellion are responsible for the amounts they have not paid and may hereby become due to the Treasurer of the H.E.; and the puissant brother who has charge of this department will give the necessary instructions to the brother charged with the collection of said funds at Bogota; but if this brother is one of those declared as irregular, then said puissant brother will withdraw the power given to him, demanding of him a proper account.

"Art. 8. The visiting brethren, appointed by the executive power, near the Chapter R.X. Caridad, and Lodge Estrella del Tequendama, will not make use of their powers till further orders.

"Art. 9. The competent Masonic tribunals, without loss of time, will proceed to try and punish the guilty parties, considering them individually or collectively.

"Art. 10. The present decree will be communicated to all the foreign grand bodies, requesting them to adhere to the determination of this grand body, as has been done in similar cases which have occurred over the globe.

"Art. 11. It will also be communicated to the bodies in correspondence, so that they may withdraw their representatives

from these rebellious bodies, and forbid any communication with them.

"Art. 12. If within three months from date, these erring brothers will not return to the bosom of the great family, very stringent measures will then be adopted to expel those contumacious, and to strike out for ever their names from the golden book.

"Art. 13. Let all the above be communicated and published through its proper channel.

"Given at the Orient of Cartagena, capital of the Grand Orient of New Granada, under the great seal of the Grand Master, on the 1st day of the 1st month Nisan, 5865, corresponding to March 28th, A.D. 1865.

"DEUS MEUMQUE JUS,
"ANTONIO A. TATIS 33,

"First representative, in charge of the executive power.
"JUAN UCROS, 33rd,
"Secretary-General of State."

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

CEREMONY OF LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF A NEW MASONIC HALL.

The members of the several lodges in Shanghai met together at the Hall in Canton-road, and formed at five p.m., July 3rd, a procession in the following order:—

- The Consular Body.
- The Municipal Council.
- The Commissioners of Customs (Two and Two).
- The Shanghai Rangers.
- The Rifle Corps.
- Police Band.
- Tyler, Brother McMillan.
- Visiting Brethren, not members of any lodge present (Two and Two).
- The Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, Past Wardens, Officers, and Members of the lodges present, in the following order:—

- Tyler.
- Banner of the Northern Lodge of China.
- Brethren two and two, Juniors first.
- Inner Guard.
- Senior Deacon with Wand. Junior Deacon with Wand.
- Secretary. Treasurer.
- Senior Warden. Junior Warden.
- Past Masters.
- Steward with Wand. Steward with Wand.
- Worshipful Masters.
- Ancient Land Mark Lodge under charge of brother W. C. Blanchard, S.W.
- The Cosmopolitan Lodge, under charge of Bro. Coghill, D.M.
- The Tuscan Lodge, No. 1027, under charge of Bro. A. J. Johnston S.W.
- Northern Lodge of China, No. 570, under charge of Bro. R. A. Jamieson, J.W.
- The Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 501, under charge of Bro. Holdsworth, S.W.
- Band of the 67th Regiment.
- Banners.
- Steward, { Cornucopia with Corn, borne by Bro. } Steward,
Brother { C. E. Hill, W.M., Ancient Land } Brother
W. Reme. { Mark Lodge. } A. J. Adams.
- Ewer with Wine, Bro. A. J. Wheelock.
- Ewer with Oil, Bro. H. J. Canham.
- Assistant Director of Ceremonies, Bro. F. Farr.
- Director of Ceremonies, R.W. Bro. Donaldson.
- Silver Trowel, borne by Past Master Bro. Underwood, No. 570.
- Acting Grand Superintendent of Works, with plans, Bro. J. Clark.
- Steward, { Secretary, with "Book of Constitutions," } Steward,
Brother { Bro. I. M. Lloyd. } Brother
Partridge. { Treasurer, carrying a phial containing } Brother
{ Coins, to be deposited in the stone, } Collins.
Bro. V. Seaman.
- Rough Ashlar, Bro. Forrester.
- Perfect Ashlar, Bro. Mackenzie.

Volunteer Guard.

Volunteer Guard.

The Corinthian Light, borne by Bro. W. Jackson.
 Column of Prov. Junior Grand Warden, borne by Bro. D. Gilmour.
 The Acting Junior Grand Warden, with the Plumb Rule, Bro. Nutt, W.M. 570.
 The Doric Light, borne by Bro. D. King, jun.
 Column of Provincial Senior Grand Warden, borne by Bro. J. E. Waller.
 The Acting Senior Grand Warden with the Level, Bro. Parker.
 The Square by Bro. Col. Yonge.
 The Compasses by Bro. M. L. Smith.
 The Volume of the Sacred Law on a cushion by Bro. Tarrant.
 Steward } The Chaplain, Rev. C. H. Butcher, M.A. { Steward
 Roggers } { Penrose
 The Ionic Light, borne by Bro. Myburgh.
 The Acting Deputy Grand Master with the Square, Bro. Dunlop, P.M. 570.
 The Executive Committee.
 Bros. Whittall, No. 501, Fearon, 570, and Tilby, 1020.
 The Mallet, borne by Bro. Tilby, P.M.
 Bro. Phillips, Acting G. Tyler.
 Bro. Gould, P.M.
 Acting Grand Stewards.

Volunteer Guard.

Volunteer Guard.

Seldom, we apprehend, has a public procession been better managed—there did not seem to be one out of his place; this being due mainly, no doubt, to the pains taken by Bro. I. M. Lloyd, Acting Grand Secretary, in profusely distributing among the brethren the programme as above, supplemented again by the tact of Bro. Donaldson in his capacity of Acting Grand Dir. of Cers.

During the earlier part of the day there was continual rain. As the time drew near for meeting, however, the heavens smiled on the undertaking, and better weather—taking into consideration that this is July, the hottest month of the year—could not have been looked for: it was cool as autumn. The distance from the old lodge to the site of the new Temple is about a mile and a quarter, the greater part of the distance along the Bund, the spectacle to lookers-on being, as admitted by all, most imposing, and superior to any thing of the kind ever before attempted in China.

On arriving within a short distance of where Messrs. Farnham and Co.'s pile driving shears marked the building site, the procession halted—the brethren opening to the right and left, so leaving room for the principal officers to pass up the centre, the brethren following in succession from the rear, so inverting the order of procession.

The foundation stone in the north east corner of the intended building was placed on red brick, raised a yard or so above the ground, with a substantial platform built around it, on which was placed a table for the various Masonic implements used in the work. Around this were assembled the Acting Provincial Grand Master, his Deputy, the Provincial Grand Wardens, Masters of Lodges, Executive Committee, Chaplains and other officers; on the platform also, as spectators, being the several principal Consular and Municipal Officers, and some invited guests.

Bro. the Rev. C. H. Butcher offered up the usual prayer. Response, "So mote it be."

The Acting Grand Superintendent of Works then produced the plans of the building, and the Acting Grand Secretary read the following inscription engrossed on vellum:—

On Monday, July 3rd, 1865,

This Foundation Stone was laid by

W. Bro. Robert Freke Gould, P.M., Nos. 178, 570, 743,

P. Prov. S.G.W., Andalusia, in due Masonic Form,

In the presence of

The Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 501,

The Northern Lodge of China, No. 570,

The Tuscan Lodge, No. 1027,

The Cosmopolitan Lodge, No. 428 (Scotch),

The Ancient Landmark Lodge (American),

The Municipal Councils of the Foreign Settlements,

The Consular Representatives of Foreign Powers,

And the Shanghai Volunteer Corps,

The undermentioned brethren acting as Grand Officers,

L. G. Dunlop, P.M., 570,

C. E. Parker, P.M., 501,

D.P.G.M.

Prov. S.G.W.

J. Nutt, W.M., 570, Prov. J.G.W.

John Clark, Prov. Grand Superintendent of Works and

Architect.

I. Mathias Lloyd, Prov. Grand Secretary.

After which was read a list of the articles placed in a bottle for deposit in the cavity of the stone. These were:—

The current coins of England, India, China, and Japan; *Friend of China* newspaper of the 1st July, *North China Herald* of same date, *North China Daily News* of 3rd July, and *Shanghai Recorder* of same date. By-laws of the Sussex, Northern, and Tuscan lodges, Circulars of each of said lodges announcing the ceremony, and parchment bearing inscription, a programme of the proceedings being also deposited.

Under the superintendence of the architect, the upper stone was then raised and the lower one adjusted, the bottle and papers mentioned being placed by the Acting Grand Treasurer, the band playing solemn music. Cement was then placed on the upper face of the bottom stone; and, with three distinct stops, the upper stone was lowered by Mr. Le Blethen, the builder, to its proper position. The Acting Provincial Grand Master then walked to the end of the stone, and opened the following colloquy:—"Bro. Deputy, you will cause the various implements to be applied to the stone that it may be laid on its bed according to the rules of Masonry."

This having been done, the architect then handed the mallet to the Prov. G.M., who struck the stone with it three times, saying, may this undertaking be conducted and completed by the craftsmen, according to the grand pland, in peace, harmony, and brotherly love.

Turning to the large assemblage on the Bund, and bowing to the ladies who in great numbers were viewing the proceedings from the windows and verandah of Messrs. Pastau and Co.'s premises adjacent, the Prov. G.M. then called for three cheers, which were given with hearty goodwill, the bands playing lively music. During the music the cornucopia was delivered to the D.G.M., and the ewers with wine and oil to the Senior and Junior Grand Wardens respectively. When the music ceased the cornucopia and ewers were delivered to the Prov. G.M., who then strewed corn on the stone, and said I strew this corn as an emblem of plenty.

He then poured wine, saying I pour out this wine as a symbol of joy and gladness.

He then poured oil, saying I pour this oil as a symbol of comfort and peace.

The Prov. G. MASTER then offered the following prayer:—"As Jacob, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham, fled from the face of his brother Esau, he tarried in a certain place all night, when he slept on the cold ground all night with a stone for his pillow in great discomfort. Here he had a vision of the gates of heaven, and when he awoke he anointed the stone on which he slept with oil, and named the place Beth-el, or the House of God. In like manner I anoint this stone with pure oil, praying that in the building which may arise from it none but good men may enter, and men that fear God. Thus may it truly be said, behold how good and joyful a thing it is, brethren, to dwell together in unity."

The prayer concluded, the Grand Dir. of Cers. led off two verses of the Old Hundredth, after which the Grand Officers retired to the table, and the Prov. G.M. thus addressed those present:—

Brother Craftsmen and Fellow-residents,—It has been customary with Masons from time immemorial to lay the foundation stones of public buildings in a manner akin to the ceremony in which we have now participated. The usage arose when the great body of the Craft were operative Masons, and advantage is generally taken of an occasion like the present to explain to those in attendance, who may not be members of the Order, the import of many of our forms, which, though connecting links with ages far remote, are only made use of under circumstances of peculiar interest and solemnity. I have, therefore, to claim your attention to an oration which will be delivered by the reverend Chaplain, Bro. Butcher, and now to add, in conclusion, the expression of my sincere conviction that the proceedings of this day will redound to the credit of Freemasonry, and be a testimony of vigorous vitality by the settlement.

Bro. the reverend Grand Chaplain then said:—

Worshipful Master, Past Masters, Wardens, and Brethren,—There are two points from which Freemasonry may be regarded. It may be regarded from without and within. The external world and the brotherhood have each an account to give of us. There are three points which strike the uninitiated with respect to Freemasonry. First, its antiquity. Its origin is in the far-off past. Before the Temple of Solomon rose on the hill of Moriah—a mount of snow fretted with glorious



pinnacles—it existed. Its birthday belongs to that antiquity which Bacon calls the youth of the world. Secondly, Freemasonry is remarkable from its universality. Extensive influence was the dream of the world's heroes; world-wide empire the idea of Alexander, Caesar, Charles, and Napoleon. But that which kings and conquerors failed to accomplish, has been attained by our Masonic art. Europe, Asia, Africa, and America have their lodges, regalia, and ceremonies. We have engaged to-day in a ritual which, with slight variations, has been used for centuries in every country in the world. The third point which commands Freemasonry to the outside world is its beneficence. Its charity is large and liberal. The foundation precepts of Masonry are based on those two great texts on which all the Law and the prophets depend—"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God and thy neighbour as thyself." From its immemorial antiquity, wide-spread influence, and generous charity, Freemasonry claims the respect of the uninitiated. Regarded from within, it is no less worthy of honour. We who are admitted to participate in its secrets are assured that we have learnt much from its symbolism. We are no longer the sole architects. Others outside the pale of Masonry rear edifices of marble and stone. But recollect, a character built on the three maxims of our Order, is a nobler monument of what Masonry can do than the spire of Salisbury or the dome of St. Peter's. Gothic traceries and corbels—Puladian architraves and balustrades—are beautiful to the eye; but brotherly love, relief, and truth, are nobler and fairer yet. We have laid the foundation stone of a lodge on the banks of a river, of which the fathers of Masonry never perhaps heard the name. In this outpost of civilisation we are far from many cherished home associations. We should be thankful then that we may even here be influenced by the glorious principles of the Craft. May the Great Architect of the Universe grant that peace, hospitality, and charity may reign for ever within the walls of the hall of which we have to-day laid the foundation stone.

The PROV. G. MASTER then addressed the acting G. Chaplain thus:—Reverend Bro. Butcher, I have to return our warm acknowledgements of your excellent oration, and before our Bro. Donaldson, the Director of Ceremonies, re-forms the procession for a return to the place of starting, I would take the opportunity of expressing, in the name of the craftsmen present, and indeed on behalf of all who have shared in the recent ceremony, our grateful thanks to the ladies who have graced the proceedings by their attendance. The ladies, it is quite unnecessary for me to say, are everywhere foremost in the cause of charity, the virtue alluded to so feelingly by the Reverend Chaplain, and which is one of the leading principles of our Order; the charity which waits on all below, and is the first of the bright hosts above.

The band then played "God save the Queen," and the procession re-formed, though in inverted order to that in which it arrived, returning at quick step (rain falling slightly) to the old hall, where the lodges were closed and the brethren dispersed. Time does not permit us to pass remark on this interesting ceremony—beneficial as it will prove, we hope and believe, to the settlement generally, and Freemasonry in particular. Great praise is due to Mr. Le Blethen, the builder, for the very able and efficient manner in which every detail under his charge was carried out—the Grand Superintendent of Works and Grand Director of Ceremonies being loud in his praises.

The silver trowel used will bear the following inscription:—

"Presented to Robert Freke Gould, Esq., W.M., Nos. 153, 570, 743, P. Prov. S.G.W. Andalusia, on the occasion of laying the foundation stone of a Masonic temple for the foreign settlement of Shanghai, by the executive committee charged with the construction of the building. Bros. L. G. Dunlop, P.M. 570; E. Whittal, 501; R. J. Fearon, S.W. 570; A. R. Tilby, P.M., 1027.

A DIAMOND which loses its value in proportion as it is obtruded on the public gaze. A prayer in secret for those who have wronged us. The brightest jewel in the casket of virtue. The act giving and forgiving. Looking on the faults of others with the same eyes we look on our own. A celestial fountain whose spring is never dry. "And now abideth Faith, Hope and Charity, but the greatest of these is Charity."

INDIA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

RANGOON.

VICTORIA IN BURMAH LODGE (No. S32).

This flourishing lodge met in the Cantonment Lodge Rooms on the 13th July, 1865, Bro. Greenlaw officiating as W.M. in the two first degrees, when a candidate was initiated into Masonry, and a brother passed to the second degree.

Bro. GREENLAW then addressed the lodge to the following effect:—

Brethren,—We have been told, and rightly, too, that to be invested with a Mason's apron in open lodge, or, in other words, to be made a Mason, is the highest honour for a man to obtain. These are not mere words, for, in many countries, and especially in our own, as far back as Athelstane, who wrote a book of laws for our Order, kings have considered it a high honour to be Masons, and have laid by the sceptre for the hiram, and have delighted to assist in our rites and ceremonies. When we look at the fact that many of the clergy have joined us, and work with us; that men like Dr. Oliver can spend a long life in promoting our Order, heaping volume upon volume in explaining the good of the Order; and when we see men like the Earl de Grey and Ripon, our Deputy Grand Master, who, as one of her Majesty's ministers, is hard worked as such, sitting in his place in Parliament night after night, attending, too, to his country, and at the repeated calls of his country to preside at meetings, &c.; and the same with his predecessor, Lord Pammure, now Earl Dalhousie, who held the same offices both in State and in Masonry; when we see such men finding time to attend to Masonry, it is an encouragement to us, and we may well feel that there must be some good in our Order, and feel that it is an honour to wear a Mason's apron; indeed, it is that badge that points out to the world that we belong to a society whose object and aim is the glory of God and the welfare and happiness of the human race. The highest honour to be had after a man has become a Mason is to be elected by his fellows to preside over them for the year as their W.M. This is, indeed, a very high honour attained by a few, yet it is found that the choice of the brethren is generally so good, that few have disappointed the expectations of their fellows. A brother so elected and installed feels it to be indeed a high honour; but what must be his feelings when, at the end of the year, he finds that he has not only given entire satisfaction to his brethren, but has secured their goodwill, respect, esteem, and fraternal affection. Brethren, I am quite sure that, in expressing my own feelings, I do that of every brother of our lodge present or absent, when I say that Bro. Harvey Tuckett Duncan has not only performed his last year's work to our entire satisfaction, but has won the esteem, regard, and love of all who know him. We are greatly indebted to him for the flourishing state of our lodge with regard to the numbers, funds, efficient working, as well as in the harmony and good feeling that is so characteristic of Victoria in Burmah Lodge; indeed, his kindness and consideration is known to you all. It is my pleasing duty then, this evening, in the name of you all, and with the permission of our W.M., to invest Bro. Past Master Duncan in open lodge with a Past Master's gold jewel, as a mark of our esteem, regard, and fraternal love. Bro. Past Master Duncan, I present you with this jewel, which it is our wish you should wear in your breast in every lodge that you may attend. Do not look at its intrinsic value, but upon its real worth as a token of our heartfelt, unfeigned love and regard for you. It is a proud thing to win the love of those over whom you rule; this jewel proves their love. It also shows that you have a Master mind, for without it you could not have ruled the lodge to the entire satisfaction of every one of its members as you have done. It is a great pleasure to us to mark you to all Masons as a ruler in the Craft, who by his conduct as such, has merited such high reward as the love of his fellows. When you revisit dear old England, and your own loved Scotland, you will feel proud to display this jewel to your brethren; and, doubtless, when you visit the lodge in your own fair city of Perth, the brethren will with joy hail their townsman they deservedly honoured. As to myself, I feel that go where you will, amongst Masons or others, you will ever win the love of all who are fortunate enough to know you, as indeed you have already done, both in India and in Burmah. May the Great Architect of the Universe bless and protect you, May He grant you many years of health and happiness, and

may you, brother, not forget Him. May Masonry bring you nearer and nearer to Him; and let me tell you and all the brethren present, that as our Sacred Volume tells us to some is given ten talents, to some five, and to some one, so this is a talent entrusted to each of you, and for which each will have to give an account, for Masonry teaches you to practise every virtue. It teaches you to love and serve your God, and to aid, assist, and befriend you fellow-man, and to extend that light, that Masonic light, with which you have yourself been blessed, to all. This then is a talent for which you are responsible. Let brotherly love still guide you to charity—charity in its fullest meaning, and especially in “example.” Our example, be assured, is for good or evil to our fellow-man. Then let our desire be to show a good example by a godly and holy life and acts, by assisting and befriending all, and by showing to all of the human race a true, sincere, and heartfelt brotherly love. *This will ensure you the love of your fellow-men, and by this obedience to your God, entitle you to hope in the promises He has made to all those who with full heart endeavour to do His will, viz., a place in that eternal home where He lives and presides for ever, and where He is we may be also.*

Bro. DUNCAN, in reply, said, Right Worshipful Sir and brethren of Lodge Victoria in Burmah, it is with extreme gratification I receive this very handsome jewel you have bestowed on me. It is just two years ago since I first sat as presiding officer in the chair of this lodge, and those of the brethren who can remember the time know that it was the chance of R.W. Bro. Greenlaw going home that gained me that privilege. When the election of the Master came round, the brethren did me the honour of placing me in the chair, and you now confer on me the still higher honour of expressing your satisfaction with the way in which the duties of that chair have been performed. But, indeed, it has been due to the forbearance, consideration, and cordial support, which I have always received from the officers and brethren of the lodge. It was with no little apprehension I first took up the duties of Master, but my shortcomings I found accepted with all good feeling and kindness, and so the lodge went on, and, I think I may add, prospered under our united efforts. I always looked forward with pleasure to my work in the lodge; it has gained me many friendships, and taught me far better than I knew before that Masonry has in it a mine of good things, in the hands of willing and trusty brethren. I shall with pride, my brethren, wear this jewel on every occasion I can. It did not need this to keep in my memory the many happy meetings we have had together in Lodge Victoria in Burmah, but I most heartily thank you for this handsome mark of your approbation, and many times oftener than I shall ever likely wear it, I shall look back with great pleasure on this evening.

Bro. GREENLAW then stated that the last mail had brought the very sad and melancholy news of the bereavement that it had pleased the Almighty to inflict on our esteemed and much loved Grand Master, and proposed that a letter of condolence and expressive of the deep concern of every member of this lodge, and to assure his lordship that every brother of our lodge sincerely sympathises with him in the loss he has had by the death of the Countess of Zetland.

This was seconded by Bro. DUNCAN, P.M.

The letter was then read and signed in open lodge.

Bro. GREENLAW then made over the hiram to Bro. Wilkins, W.M., who raised two brethren to the third degree, after which the lodge was closed in harmony.

NOTES ON MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Mr. Henry Smart is writing another opera, libretto by Mr. Frederick Enoch.

Felicien David's “Saphir” has been purchased for England by Messrs. Cramer and Co.

Mr. F. C. Burnand is preparing a burlesque on the the “Africaine” for the Strand Theatre.

Mr. Sims Reeves, who is suffering from relaxed throat, is staying at one of the water-cure establishments in Malvern.

Drury Lane Theatre will be opened for the regular dramatic season on Saturday, September 23rd, when the performances will consist of “Macbeth” and “Comus.”

Madame Ristori, ever ready in works of charity, lately organised a dramatic soirée at the San Carlo, in Naples, for the benefit of the cholera patients in Ancona and San Severo. The receipts reached 15,000 francs.

The *Reader* reports that a hitherto unknown pianoforte composition of Beethoven's has been discovered by Professor Nohl, of Munich—a piece in A minor written in the composer's own hand and inscribed “Poor Eliza, April 27.”

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean have been playing at Montreal to crowded houses. At their farewell benefit on the 19th of August, Mr. Kean announced that on their return to England in the spring, they would commence a series of farewell engagements previous to their final retirement from the stage.

Mr. Boucicault's “Arrah-na-Pogue” is now being played at New York, San Francisco, and Melbourne (Australia), besides several places in the United Kingdom. An ingenious person has calculated that the performance of the play hardly ceases during the twenty-four hours, for almost as soon as it is over in one part of the world, it is beginning in another.

We perceive by advertisement that the drama of “Rip Van Winkle” has been copyrighted in America, and Mr. Boucicault has wisely reserved it in England for Mr. Jefferson, for whom it was written. Managers are cautioned against treating for spurious imitations.

REVIEWS.

Public and Middle-class Education: what it is, and what it should be. By a PRACTICAL MAN. London: Virtue and Co.

Our attention has recently been attracted by a pamphlet published on the subject of Education, which it appears to us not undesirable to comment upon; not that the work has any merit, but to show how extremely incompetent to deal with the subject is the author, notwithstanding that he claims to be a “Master in a public school,” and in fact from his style one would be almost inclined to think that he writes (we cannot say, argues) against his own views, and is desirous of bringing ridicule upon the opinions he pretends to support, by the feebleness and frivolity of his remarks. It is stated in a notice to the reader that “this book is only a sort of preface or introduction to another,” which, however, we may hope will not be completed if it is to contain no more edifying matter than its precursor.

While objecting to the amount of instruction given in the classical languages, the author cannot help crowding his pages with what may be termed Latin Grammar quotations. Thus in the sixty-seven pages, “tempora mutantur,” &c., is dragged in *twice* complete and *once* indirectly; and many other equally juvenile propensities may be detected.

We shall now quote at random various passages, with the view of giving our readers something like an accurate idea of this literary effort, or some portions of it; for, from its garrulous, disjointed style, we cannot take one part as being a sample of the remainder.

Page 5.—“Epicurus refused to recognise the noble aspiration of human nature. His name is now a by-word by which the sensualist is known to many of us.”

We are under the impression that Epicurus was one of the first to elucidate the corpuscular theory which forms the basis of physical science; and in this matter we are corroborated by Pierre Gassendus, in his “Opera Omnia.”

Page 6.—“Ancient literature cannot, then, meet the requirements of the practical times in which we live, although a certain (anything but the practical) part of society considers it downright wickedness for any one to say so.”

This remark is not preceded by any reasoning more potent than that developed in the sentence about Epicurus. It is observed at page 8 that so many boys were unsuccessful because, in regard to the schools they were sent to,

"They knew full well that the knowledge to be got in those schools was not *the* sort of knowledge they would require in after life."

Is it not absurd to suppose that boys, when sent to school, can know what sort of knowledge they will want in *that after life* of which they can have had no experience? It is astonishing that any one could have held such an idea seriously, though, by the way, the book is not seriously written, some facetious remarks being attempted, which savour somewhat more of the common music hall than of the student's closet, as in

Page 33.—"But before I or 'any other man,' can or will attempt to do that."

Which refers to the revision of Euclid's works, &c. In this case it appears also presumptuous on the part of the practical (?) author to so positively state the inability of others: his own we do not doubt.

Page 16.—"That warfare as carried on in our days is entirely different from that spoken of in the classics."

So we are not to read history, because in effect we can only get the history of the past. If we felt disposed to be very critical, we might say something about the beaked vessel and our rams, but there is no need to seek for inaccuracies.

Page 22.—"Look not for inspiration in ancient writings, for Racine is well nigh forgotten, and Milton scarcely read; Schiller, Dante, and Shakspeare more spoken of than perused. Few care for Homer or Virgil; and Gil Blas, as well as Telemachus, has had the fate of Don Quixote."

This passage does possess the merit of originality, and its matter fully accounts for the professed scholar by whom it was penned appearing nameless in the literary lists.

Page 21.—"Indeed, most boys must grow to be almost young men before they can be convinced of the advantages to be derived from a thorough knowledge of any one subject—natural science excepted."

This hardly agrees with the passage we quoted from page 8. As to making natural science an exception, that is accounted for by the pleasing phenomena with which it is associated in the minds of boys who usually first have it brought before them at some lecture devised to show it in its brightest colours. Speaking of the age between boyhood and manhood our author says—

Page 27.—"Fencing, boating, boxing, smoking, ay, and drinking too, are now more favourite themes than classics, or even divinity."

We can see no harm in the proper physical development which is aided so much by manly exercises, and which gives the desideratum the "*mens sana in corpore sano*." We must be excused for giving way to this small quotation, but we must not exceed the capacity of the work to which we are referring, lest our classical knowledge should be offensive. The assertion as to the admiration of drink in the rising generation might have been omitted with better taste than that which has dictated its introduction.

On page 29 we are treated to a catalogue of machines and sciences, of which the ancients are asserted to have known nothing. "Blowing" and "pumping" machinery they certainly had, although it would, of course, be crude in form; and, moreover, we much mistake if Thales, the philosopher, was not the discoverer of electricity:—

Page 29.—"What should we do now without glass? Did the ancients know it?"

Glass was certainly known to the Phœnicians, and it

has been found formed into urns near Herculaneum and Pompeii.

Page 30.—"The workman is at once made to work at that which is practically useful; thus he is almost a perfect workman at the age of twenty."

This is simply incorrect. A few weeks passed in an engineer's shop will prove the matter. We can scarcely ever find a man of twenty years who is a good hand for both turning and fitting.

On page 64, the old style of talking about the accomplishments of the fair sex is adopted, but so worked out as to be not only absurd, but contradictory. Now, for instance, can we reconcile the idea of a portfolio of drawings taking up the length of time implied, if the works are actually executed by the masters? What evil is there in dressing in good taste, and having a graceful style? We know of many highly-accomplished ladies who do not neglect domestic matters.

We turn from our subject with a feeling of weariness, vexed that we can find no redeeming features to relieve the irritation caused by the frivolous and inconsequent system (a want of system) which pervades the pamphlet. To confute it would be a work of supererogation. The author, in conclusion, tells us he is about to publish "*The Life and Times of Albert the Good*." We most sincerely trust that he will adopt a more dignified mode of expression than that exhibited in his remarks on education, for it would be a great pity if a work on a subject so dear to all intellectual Englishmen should teem with childish rhapsodies and shallow arguments.

If no other good may be derived from a sound classical education, it is very certain that it imparts a tone to conversation and description, the want of which in the illiterate is so repulsive to those who are well read, and which alone furnishes a clear and distinct manner of expressing our thoughts as they arise.

Let it be understood that in no way do we wish to decry the value of scientific knowledge, but it is a certain fact that many commercial men will more strongly object that scientific knowledge is more useless to their clerks than classical reading; for while the former so absorbs the mind as in many cases to cause an abstraction detrimental to the readiness which is indispensable to the commercial man, the latter improves his address and widens the scope of his knowledge of humanity.

Poetry.

SONGS OF YORE.

Oh, wake again that dormant strain
That long hath slept in silent cells;
Sound forth that olden strain again,
For of a joy it tells;
We must not let the music sleep,
That ever gave a gladdening thrill;
But rouse it from its slumber deep,
That it may vibrate sweeter still.

Time cannot dim the spirit eye,
Nor break the wondrous heart of soul,
Though it may long neglected lie,
And weary years may onward roll;
The human heart is ever like
An old "Cremona," waiting till
Some master-hand its strings shall strike
To make our hearts with passion thrill.

'Tis ever thus—the same old tale—
The same old story told before;
The heart that long hath lived to wail
Smiles at the sound of songs of yore;
For memories come thronging in,
Borne by the magic of the song,
And waking echoes within
The bosom that have slept so long.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

NEW ADELPHI THEATRE.

This beautiful theatre is now open, Bro. Benjamin Webster being the sole proprietor and manager, and much has he done for the comfort of his patrons, the house having been entirely repainted and re-embellished, and the seats throughout restuffed.

A new drama by Mr. Dion Boucicault, called "Rip Van Winkle; or, the Sleep of Twenty Years," introduces a new American actor, Mr. Joseph Jefferson, and both are eminently successful. The story of Rip Van Winkle is familiar to every reader, and the subject has been more than once turned to dramatic purposes. Mr. Dion Boucicault has made as much as possibly could be made out of the materials of the old tale, and the success of the piece the first night was never a moment in doubt.

The success of the actor is even greater than that of the drama. Mr. Jefferson enjoys a very high reputation in America, and holds the first rank as an artist of a peculiar line. The natural ease of his manner is surprising, and his style is exceedingly simple and free from elaboration. There is not the slightest tendency to exaggeration in anything he does or says; and it is really astonishing to observe the effect he produces on an audience who are accustomed to breathe the very atmosphere of extravagance and caricature. The drunken sot, goodnatured at heart, and fond of everything but his wife, whose illtemper worries him and makes him a vagabond, is sustained with marvellous skill throughout the first act, not a point in the details being lost sight of; while the semblance of old age in the last act is even more striking, and has only one fault—that it is too real, and is occasionally overpowering in the intensity of its feeling. Some touches of pathos, indeed, are worthy of any actor we ever saw.

The scenery is beautifully painted and very cleverly put upon the stage. The first scene—The Village of Falling Waters—occupies nearly the whole depth of the stage, and is principally built, giving a reality to the exterior of the cottages rarely seen on the stage. The second scene is a shut-in scene, to give time for the clearance of the first and the arranging of the third—a representation of the interior of *Rip's* cottage—almost as elaborate in arrangement as the first scene, and which is effected in the incredible short time of about two minutes; all this reflects the highest credit on Messrs. J. Gates and Charker the scenic artist and machinist.

The house is nightly crowded in every part, and the drama is sure to have a long run.

NEW ROYALTY

This pretty little theatre has changed its management, and to a certain extent its class of performances, light and vivacious opera being hereafter the predominant attraction. It wisely, however, does not forsake the more glittering and popular production of burlesque, which has given the theatre so favourable a notoriety. It is now open under the direction of Miss Fanny Reeves, a singer of repute and ability, who has collected a very excellent musical company, consisting of Mr.

Eliot Galer as the leading tenor; Mr. George Honey the inimitable buffo singer; and Miss Susan Galton, who recently made a successful *début* at Her Majesty's Theatre. Miss Reeves herself makes up the quartette, which is extremely efficient; and, indeed, for so small a theatre, remarkably excellent, the leading singers being all first-class artists, and having Mr. Kingsbury as the musical director, it is as well organised as may be.

"The pieces selected are "Poor Pillicody," a new and original comic opera entitled "Castle Grim," and Mr. Brough's burlesque of "Amabel."

Mr. Honey has the unction of the old comic actors, and is forcible without being violent. Altogether the New Royalty has begun extremely successfully, and gives good promise of obtaining popular support.

POLYTECHNIC.

The nearest approach to novelty at the Polytechnic Institution is the collection of the performing birds, by Madlle. Emile Van der Meersch—which was given for a short period some months since. The exhibition is indeed extraordinary. There is a Java sparrow, a finch, and others, who seem to understand whatever is said to them, and to select printed cards, which they read and present in reply. The gentleman from Java is funnier than the others; as the peculiar collar mark round his throat gives him an air of being dressed for the occasion. If he is asked the day of the week, he hops from his cage on to the table, and selects the right answer from a mass of closely packed cards, by the edge, and "hands it" in with his beak. With a bow he hops in doors again. A variety of such performances displays the perfection of his training, and gets through a very amusing half-hour. The "Wonderful Proteus," by Mr. Tobin and Mr. Pepper, is even increasing in attraction, whilst the mystery is in no way solved. Sir David Brewster may have mastered it, but he has certainly not divulged it, and it remains the most astonishing illusion of the age.

LITERARY EXTRACTS.

LONDON IN SHAKSPEARE'S TIME.—Our London is something less bright than it was in Shakspeare's time. Coal was then burnt in London; and Shakspeare imagined it was common in Athens, Rome, and Troy; but only in great houses, few and far between; and the smoke produced from chimneys was not much more apparent than that from pipes. Green trees brightened the streets. The river bank was a series of lawns and shrubberies. Fruit for the royal table was grown under the walls of Denmark-house. Near the Strand there was a botanical garden. Field-lane and Saffron-hill were famous for wild flowers, and prisoners confined in Newgate spoke of the scent of roses floating into their yards from the trellices of Ely-place. The houses were more picture-like than ours; at least, than those which come to us from the Georgian era in our lifeless Harley-streets and Dorset-squares. We are wiser now, returning to the good old English style of dwelling—to the porch, the sky-line, and the planted path—to the love of roses and lilacs, fruit-trees and thorns. Then every tavern had its bush, every doorway its creeper, every roof its stonewall and mosses. The squares were less common and less lively than with us. The streets were narrow and unpaved, and the people more gaily dressed. On the whole we

admit that the London of Elizabeth was a smaller, a brighter and a more pictorial city than that of our present Queen.—*Athenæum*.

AN ORIENTAL JUDGE.—A certain merchant left in his law will and testament seventeen horses to be divided among his three sons according to the following proportion, viz:—The first was to receive one-half, the second one third, and the youngest a ninth part of the whole. But when they came to arrange about the division it was found that to comply with the terms of the will without sacrificing one or more of animals was impossible. Puzzled in the extreme, they repaired to the "Cadi," who, who having read the will, observed that such a difficult question required time for deliberation, and recommended them to return in two days. When they again made their appearance, the judge said, "I have considered carefully your case, and find that I can make such a division of of the 17 horses among you as will give each more than his strict share, and not yet one of the animals shall be injured. Are you content?" "We are, O Cadi!" was the reply. "Bring forth the seventeen horses, then, and let them be placed in the court," said the Cadi. The animals were brought in, and the Cadi ordered his groom to place his own horse with them. He then bade the eldest brother count the horses. "There are eighteen in number. O Cadi!" he said. "I will now make the division," responded the Cadi. "You, the eldest, are entitled to half; then take nine of the horses. You, the second son, are to receive one third; take therefore, six; whilst to you, the youngest, belongs the ninth part, namely, two. Thus the seventeen horses are divided among you. You have each more than your share, and I may now take my own steed back again." "O Cadi! your wisdom equals that," said the brothers, "of our Lord Soleiman Ibn Daood."—*Notes from Nineveh*.

THE NEW MASONIC HALL, BIRMINGHAM.—The foundation stone of the hall and buildings about to be erected near the Post-office in New-street will be laid by the Right Worshipful Brother Lord Leigh, Lord-Lieutenant of the county, and Provincial Grand Master of Masons of Warwickshire, on Wednesday, the 20th instant. The arrangements will include a procession from the Town Hall, to the site, when the stone will be laid with the usual Masonic honours, and a luncheon in the Town Hall, to which ladies will be admitted. The price of the tickets to the luncheon, including wines, will be—ladies, 10s. 6d. each; gentlemen, 12s. 6d. each. Double ticket to admit a lady and gentleman, 21s.; to be obtained at the offices of the Secretary. Brethren are expected to appear in Craft clothing and jewels. A large number of influential ladies and gentlemen connected with the district have already intimated their intention of being present, and it is confidently anticipated that the occasion will be a brilliant and successful one. Any information will be gladly given by Mr. David Malins, jun., secretary to the Masonic Hall Company, at the offices, Temple Buildings, New-street.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty held a Council at a quarter before two o'clock on Saturday last, at which were present Earl Granville, the Duke of Somerset, and the Right Hon. E. Cardwell. Lord Granville had an audience of the Queen. Mr. Helps was Clerk of the Council, and Lord Rivers and Lieut.-Colonel Kingscote the Lord and Groom in Waiting. The Bishop of Chester arrived at the castle to do homage on his appointment, and was introduced by the Right Hon. E. Cardwell. The ceremony of christening the infant son of the Hon. and very Rev. the Dean of Windsor and Mrs. Wellesley, took place in the private chapel of the Castle on Sunday afternoon; her Majesty the Queen standing in person as one of the sponsors; the others being the Duke of Wellington and Lieut.-Colonel C. Ellison. The Hon.

and Rev. C. L. Courtenay, Canon of Windsor, performed the ceremony. Her Majesty the Queen, with their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena, Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold, left the Castle on Monday evening at a quarter before seven o'clock for Balmoral. The Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse and Princess Hilda, of Anhalt-Dessau, arrived at Marlborough House from the Continent on Sunday afternoon.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—Notwithstanding the unusual heat of the weather—which was last week five degrees hotter than in the hottest corresponding week of the last ten years—the death-rate of London continues satisfactorily low. The number registered was 1,179, the estimated number being 1,228; and London is stated by the Registrar-General to be healthier than any other large town in England except Bristol, which is credited with the same rate. With the thermometer marking nearly ten degrees more than its average for fifty years this is pleasant news for Londoners. On last Friday the mercury was higher than on any September day since 1846.—Mr. Deputy-Assistant-Judge Payne passed a well-deserved sentence on Timothy Connell, a fellow who had attempted to commit suicide. Connell had on a previous occasion accused himself of the murder of Emma Jackson in St. Giles's. He now affected lunacy, but the prison surgeon said that he was perfectly sane, though a silly fellow. Mr. Payne sent him to gaol for three months.—On Wednesday, the 6th inst., Mr. French, jeweller, of Clerkenwell, gave to his errand-boy, James Connor, a parcel containing £350 worth of jewellery, to be taken to a parcels booking-office in Gresham-street, City. The lad did not return to his master that day, but the next morning was brought back by his father. He then said that when near the booking-office on the previous day some one hit him on the back of the head, and at the same moment the parcel was snatched from under his arm. The manner of the boy led his master to suspect the truth of his story, and he gave the lad into custody. He was brought up at Clerkenwell police-court, and remanded in order that further inquiries may be made.—The Foreign Office have received some disappointing news about Consul Cameron. He is only released from his chains, it seems, but has not yet got out of the power of King Theodore. According to information received from Egypt since the telegram of the other day, the news of his entire release was premature. But King Theodore had invited Mr. Rassam to come to him at once through Egypt, and the messengers Mr. Rassam had sent to the King had been well treated and allowed to return to Massowah, the port of Abyssinia on the Red Sea. This looks as if humane and reasonable counsels were likely to prevail; but the news coming so soon after the too sanguine report received the other day, cannot be felt otherwise than as a severe disappointment in England.—Thomas Wood, lately one of the cashiers of the Bank of London, was on Monday fully committed for trial on a charge of stealing £1,900, the money of the bank. The prisoner appears simply to have taken the money and falsified the books. There is another charge of stealing an additional £1,600 against him.—Another mysterious death is recorded. It is that of a young lady, daughter of a surgeon named Blake, in Salisbury, who died under all the appearances of having been poisoned with strychnine. The facts, so far as they are yet known, are that the deceased was given some pills by a Mr. Storer, an assistant of her father, who had sought her hand, but had been dismissed from his employment. There was nothing in the deportment of the young lady previous to her death to show that she contemplated suicide, and nothing in the *post mortem* examination to indicate that anything had gone wrong with her. Storer is

in custody.—A number of cases of stack burning on an extensive scale is reported from North Lincolnshire. They are vehemently suspected to be the work of incendiaries, and fears of a repetition of the destructive fires of last year are entertained.—On Tuesday there was a cheap excursion from Calais to the Crystal Palace, the fare, including admission, being only five francs. During the afternoon, the Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by some of their Royal relatives, went down to Sydenham and wandered through the palace, enjoying themselves, apparently, as well as anybody else—there being no reason why they shouldn't. In the evening, notwithstanding the heat, they went to the Adelphi Theatre to witness the performance of Mr. Jefferson in "Rip Van Winkle."—A small but influential meeting of the inhabitants of Twickenham and its vicinity was held on Tuesday, to consider what measures should be taken to remedy the present state of the Thames, which everybody agrees is intolerable at that point, owing to the diminution of water consequent on the withdrawal of so much for thirsty London. A committee, formed of some of the most distinguished residents, was appointed to devise a remedy for an unquestionable nuisance.—The Davenport Brothers have come to grief in Paris. On Tuesday they were giving a public exhibition, when one of the audience discovered their *modus operandi*, as indeed he might easily, after the exposure of the precious pair here. There was a row, whereupon the police cleared the room, and the Davenports were compelled to refund the entrance-money. The affair looks like a repetition of their Liverpool experiences.—The Ockham elopement case is finished. George Smith, the groom who carried off Miss Crosse, or was carried off by her, was brought up at the Wandsworth Police-court on Wednesday morning on remand, to answer the charge of abduction. No prosecutor appeared, however, and Smith was discharged. It was stated that the young girl's father had withdrawn from the prosecution after hearing the evidence she had given. She had gone home to her father's house again.—The *Gazette* on Tuesday night contained an Order in Council further proroguing Parliament from the 1st November, on which day it was appointed to meet, until the 23rd of the same month; also similar orders respecting the meeting of Convocation.—A married woman, Sarah Drewe, has been committed by the Gillingham bench for the murder of her child, four weeks old. The wretched mother deliberately threw the infant into a privy, where it was of course at once suffocated in the soil. It is charitable to suppose the statement true which says the woman was under mental aberration at the time.—A man named M'Intosh has been fined five pounds and costs for attempting to kiss a young lady in a carriage of the South Eastern Railway Company while the train was passing through a tunnel.—English and Scotch hides, horns, hoofs, and other parts of dead oxen, were last week prohibited from being sent to Ireland. An Order in Council, however, appeared permitting the transference to that Island of such articles imported here from India, South America, and Australia.—Mr. Henley has made a very moderate and sensible speech at Bicester. Eschewing politics he bespoke the co-operation of the breeders of stock with the Government measures to check the cattle disease, and indulged in anticipations of good root-feeding for the animals from this year's green crops, which he said would help to keep down the price of meat, which the disease would certainly send up. The right hon. gentleman also bore testimony to the desire of the agricultural labourers to improve their children in education and position, if they had only wages enough to enable them.—On Wednesday night Mr. Layard, M.P., presided at a musical meeting at the Agricultural Hall, Islington. He made a speech in which he

pointed out the advantages of local permanent museums of art and science in different quarters of the metropolis, and urged the working classes to accept the offer of the Government to take part of the "Brompton boilers" for this purpose. The Government, he said, would also give duplicates of interesting works. Mr. Layard is against opening the National Collections in the evenings.—An exhibition of art and industry was opened on Wednesday at Reading, and the Bishop of Oxford delivered the address on the occasion. The objects exhibited are principally works of art, collected for the occasions from various quarters, and the purpose of the exhibition is to bring nearer to the eyes and minds of the people of Berkshire the beauties and influence of these productions. The Bishop's speech was commonplace.—A statue to Jenner has been raised in Boulogne. This graceful tribute to an Englishman is the result of the combined exertions of the Boulogne municipality and a society of *avans* in Paris.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The Italian Parliament is dissolved. The elections will take place on the 22nd of October, and the new Parliament will open on the 15th of November.—A telegram from Vienna states that Earl Russell has replied to the communication announcing the Gastein convention. His lordship is stated to have expressed his satisfaction that the arrangement is only provisional and transitory—another way, in fact, of expressing dissatisfaction.—France has taken alarm in respect to the cattle plague. The minister of agriculture has addressed a report on the subject. The result is that decrees have been published, prohibiting the importation of cattle, hides, &c., from England or any of the countries where the disease is supposed to exist.—Fire follows the cholera at Constantinople. On Tuesday evening the 5th inst., a fire broke out in Stamboul. A telegram dated the 7th says that up to that time about 2,500 houses, mosques, and public buildings had been destroyed, and the conflagration was still spreading. It is said the cholera has nearly disappeared, only nine deaths being reported on Tuesday.—The conversion of the Internal Debt of Turkey is reported to be progressing up to Monday last; the total amount of all kinds of stock converted was £3,500,000.—The *Nord Deutsche Zeitung* asserts that Austria and Prussia have resolved to separate the Customs administration of Schleswig and Holstein, and to give them a distinct chief management. This is a curious commentary on the result of the war which was waged by Austria and Prussia to maintain the principle of the inseparable unity of Schleswig and Holstein.—The Italian papers report the death, after a protracted illness, of the wife of Louis Kosuth.—The Queen of Spain has received Prince Amadeus, Duke of Aosta, son of King Victor Emmanuel. The Italian Ambassador was received at the same time. The Prince dined with the King and Queen in the evening. There is again a talk of a project of marriage between Prince Amadeus and the Princess Isabella, eldest daughter of the Queen of Spain.—France, it seems, has given Austria and Prussia a sharp rebuke, although not in a direct form, touching their Schleswig-Holstein compact. No protest has been addressed to the German great Powers; but the French Government has despatched a circular note to its diplomatic agents analysing the character of the Gastein convention in a style which must make glad the heart of Denmark. A Brussels paper professes to publish the text of the despatch. According to this version the French Government declares the Gastein Convention indefensible, whether viewed as a violation of treaty arrangements, a betrayal of German national interests, a wrong done to a rightful claimant, or an infringement of the principle of nationalities. The one only satisfactory feature which the French Govern-

ment finds in the Convention is that of it professes to be only a conditional and temporary arrangement.—The French Government appears to have formally moved in regard to the murder of the Frenchman Ott in Bonn by Count Eulenburg. According to one statement a note has been addressed to the Prussian Cabinet, demanding justice; another report alleges that the demand has only been made verbally by the French Ambassador in Berlin. The difficulty, it appears to us, will in any case be that Prussian law really affords no chance of obtaining justice against a military offender of high rank.—The *Moniteur* of Monday is very enthusiastic on the meeting of the Emperor Napoleon and the Queen of Spain. The meeting, it says, was "most cordial." It adds that the "entire population by its enthusiasm appeared to take part in an event which is of a nature to draw closer the ties between the two Sovereigns and the two countries." Meanwhile the Spanish journals continue to find great offence in the Emperor's allusion to the frequent changes of Spanish ambassadors when he received the news representative of Queen Isabella the other day.—The parting entertainment given by the Copenhagen citizens to the Schleswig deputation was made the occasion for a number of speeches, in which on both sides the most resolute determination was expressed to maintain unaltered the bonds of national brotherhood between the Danes in Schleswig and the Danes under the rule of King Christian. Here is another nationality question to be solved in the future.—The *Moniteur* gives a detailed summary of the progress of the Imperial arms in Mexico, and the steps taken for the pacification and improvement of the country. This appears to be proceeding favourably, if we trust only to the information contained in its columns; but from other sources we learn that there are occasional checks. Thus the *Moniteur* states that the Imperial troops had occupied Huacatlan; but omit to add that previous to the occupation of the town an Austrian detachment which had entered the city, but was not supported as it ought to have been, was nearly cut to pieces.—The Queen of Spain has returned the visit of the French Emperor at San Sebastian, by visiting the Emperor and the Empress at Biarritz. The interview lasted for some time and was marked by great cordiality. The people received the Spanish Queen with warm demonstrations, and everything passed off in the most pleasant manner. The French papers see nothing beyond an interchange of personal courtesies in these interviews.—The fact that Count Eulenburg has been sent by the Prussian Government to be tried before a mixed tribunal of soldiers and civilians is attributed by the French papers to the effect produced by the dispatches of M. Drouyn de Lhuys on the subject.—General Lamoricere is dead. The general won his promotion, as so many other men who were afterwards celebrated did, in the Algerian campaigns. In 1818 he took part with the insurgents against the Government of Louis Philippe, and was appointed commander of the National Guard. He was one of those who were incarcerated at the *coup d'etat* of December, 1851, and on his release he went into exile. Once only since that period he came into active life, when he accepted the command of the brigade formed by the Pope in the course of the late Italian troubles. This appointment did not add to his military fame and he soon resigned it.—A Vienna paper asserts that in addition to the published convention Austria and Prussia have drawn up a special protocol, engaging themselves, to negotiate within a stated time on the definitive solution of the Schieswig-Holstein question. We should like to know the date of the protocol, if any such document exists.—The semi-official journal of Berlin publishes what it calls the reliable version of the Ott affair, in which it

states that Count Eulenburg's sabre was plucked from its scabbard by some unknown hand in the beginning, of the quarrel, and that he only defended himself with the sheath. The same papers denies that either the French or English Government has expressed any opinion whatever on the Gastein Convention.

AMERICA.—The *China* has arrived, bringing news from New York to the evening of the 31st ult. Perhaps the most interesting paragraph in the despatch is that which states that Jefferson Davis is to be tried in a United States Circuit Court, probably at Norfolk, before Mr. Chief Justice Chase. Another very important announcement is that the cotton crop is likely to be less than half an average. President Johnson has issued a proclamation removing all restrictions on trade with the Southern States. This measure will no doubt have its effect in this country. It shows pretty clearly that the President is satisfied with the manner in which the work of reconstruction is proceeding. The telegram has two or three paragraphs which show that difficulties continue to spring up the way of perfect union and good government in the South; but these obstacles are no more, indeed they are much less than might have been anticipated. It is noteworthy that the citizens of Richmond have been holding a meeting to protest against the doubts as to their loyalty expressed by the Northern papers. In addition to doing this, they suggested that similar meetings should be held all over the South. That there might be no mistake about the matter, they specially included the abolition of slavery in the list of measures with which they were quite satisfied. This in the midst of the great slave-breeding state is a thing to be marked most especially. The trial of Wirtz continued, though not without some hitches. The State is going to prosecute Ketchum, the fraudulent banker. The Shenandoah is said to be still continuing her piratical career in the Pacific. She has captured and destroyed many whalers. Gold on the evening of the 31st was quoted at 144.—The *China* also brings Mexican news. A despatch from Vera Cruz dated the 14th August states that the Imperialists had re-entered Tacambero, completely routing the Republican army and capturing all its artillery. The town of Zongolica, in Orizaba, had, however, declared against the Empire. Meanwhile it is asserted that the Emperor Maximilian is desirous of standing better with the United States Government, and has determined on sending an official personage to Washington.—The *Belgian* has arrived from New York, but her news is very meagre. It is reported, though we can hardly credit it, that General Butler is to be employed along with the Attorney General in the prosecution of Jefferson Davis. It appears that the firm of Ketchum is in a condition to pay a dividend to its creditors of 60 per cent.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * * All communications to be addressed to 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, W.C.

J. W. (Chatham).—You are in error, as you will find on reference to the "Book of Constitutions," wherein it is distinctly stated with reference to Military Lodges, that "no warrant shall be granted for the establishment of a Military Lodge without the consent of the commanding officer of the regiment, battalion, or company to which it is to be attached."

M. M. (Boston, U. S.).—We forwarded the particulars as wished, but as yet there is no response; we should be glad were it otherwise.

R. A. (Bombay).—1. The latest edition of the "Regulations of Royal Arch Masonry" was published last year. 2. In the First Royals, No. 316.