

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1865.

FREEMASONRY AND THE POPE.

We continue our extracts from the articles given by our contemporaries upon the above subject.

[*Masonic Record of Western India.*]

INTOLERANCE.

"Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise."

The *Bombay Catholic Examiner* of the 28th October has the following tirade against Freemasonry. As the Pope has fulminated his Bull against Freemasons at Rome, so the editor has followed suit by raising his feeble voice at Bombay:—

"Half the battle is won, when a just appreciation has been gained, of the weakness of the enemy on the one hand, and of one's own resources on the other. Acting on this principle, it is always our desire to bring forward into our columns all the information we can procure, that can serve to show the increase of Catholicity in the different quarters of the world, and the weakness of its opponents in their efforts to check its progress. Not that we look upon everything under a sunshine view; on the contrary, we carefully present at times very gloomy pictures, such as, this very day, that of the state of Spain. Of Belgium, too, we very often state facts which sadden the heart, and make one fear the true faith is on the decline in that country, which, from our earliest recollection, has always been represented as a very Paradise of Catholicity.

"But neither in Spain nor in Belgium is there serious cause of alarm for the triumph of religion. In both countries religion has its enemies, and where could there be a victory or a triumph, except where there are those who oppose? Now, the opponents of religion in these countries are by no means so numerous and strong as they are represented. Let us look at Belgium, and compare the strength of the rival camps in that part of the battle-field. There are the Freemasons, or, as they are there called, the *solidaires* on the one side, and, opposed to them, on the other, are the Jesuits. These Belgian Masons are indeed a bad set, and we find them most aptly styled the fanatics of irreligion. As to their numbers, however, we learn on good authority that we are not to believe all that they put into circulation about themselves. According to the ministerial Belgian papers we should have to believe that they make up a large host, numbering not fewer than 13,500 men; whereas those who know them well maintain that there are not more than 3,000 of them. This, however, is a dark mass of beings, sworn together, not only as *free-thinkers*, but also as *free-doers*. To captivate the public eye, they carry before them the former of these titles, but they do so only to succeed in their desire to act and do as they like; the perversion of their mind walks generally side by side with the perversion of their heart. Even wicked priests serve for recruits to their ranks; for instance, one joined them lately at Brussels, and the unhappy man, before dying without the last sacraments, appointed, as his universal legate, the secretary of this shameless society. Even women are among them. Lately a woman free-thinker died at Ixelles (near Brussels), and her last moments were so frightful that the *solidaires* themselves who stood around her bed fled with horror. She blasphemed, gnawed at her arm, tore out her hair; it was the repetition of the death of Voltaire. The Masonic lodges that govern Belgium have another object in view besides the anti-religious one—they aim at emancipating women. Fourier could not succeed in this,

and his phalanstere provokes disgust; they have another sort of system now. They establish schools from which they banish every religious symbol, practice, and teaching; an American importation this. A certain Miss Gattide Gamond (escaped from phalanstere) has entered upon this business with all seriousness, and she works at it as though it were a social mission. One remarkable thing about the institution is this, that its founder, M. Anspach, the Mayor of Brussels, who has a daughter almost grown up, has taken good care not to entrust her to Miss Gatti. He remembers that his duty as a father comes before that which he holds as burgomaster. But enough of this view of the *solidaires*; we will mention but one fact more connected with them. A Belgian paper has unblushingly announced that a reward of 30,000 francs will be given to whosoever shall be able to find a Jesuit guilty of a breach of morals; some crime of this kind is alone needed for drawing forth a decree for the expulsion of the Order from the kingdom. And to show that the promise is not an empty one, they have already tried by base calumnies to realise this abominable manœuvre."

The noble Order of Freemasonry has always been feared by the Roman Catholic priesthood, because they have rarely been able to obtain any information of its secret arts and hidden mysteries, even by means of the Confessional. They have also invariably found that the most intelligent of their flock, when once they have entered into the Order, have become more independent, and less easy to be coerced by spiritual restraint. Masonry expands the intellect, and opens the heart to consider the wrongs and to alleviate the sorrows of mankind. It leads those who embrace it to act with firmness and decision upon questions wherein once they had been dependent and perhaps subservient. This is antagonistic to the Roman Catholic system, and although neither politics nor religion—as is well known among Masons—are ever permitted to be discussed within the recesses of the tyed lodge, yet the Roman Catholic priesthood will not believe this, and tremble lest means should be devised in these localities to crush their power and destroy their influence. It is no matter that Roman Catholics when they have become Freemasons, attend as regularly as formerly to their religious duties; another authority seems to their priestly guides to be set up, antagonistic to their own—a kind of *imperium in imperio*—which they cannot withstand; and since Rome can endure no rival near her throne, she never fails to visit those of her children with denunciation, anathema, and excommunication, who hesitate to repudiate their OB., and refuse to yield their Masonry, as well as submit their conscience to the dictates of the imperious and tyrannic system by which they are enchained.

We have Catholic members of the Order who have proved themselves good and true, faithful and

sincere brothers, who have added lustre to our Masonic escutcheon, and who have been invested with the highest dignity that Masonry or any earthly power could confer on man. Are such men to be persecuted because they are Masons, and love and cherish those principles which adorn the whole life, in their social and religious duties? Why, they are assisting the Church, by disseminating a pure morality — Christianising and humanising the whole human family.

Thank God! the bigotries of a by-gone age, when the lips of men were closed by the terrors of the Inquisition, no longer exist. The puny attempts that are made in this enlightened age to put down the Order, by refusing the sacrament to the dying, denying the benefit of clergy to the dead, and refusing the rites of baptism to the children of Freemasons, tend only to bring those guilty of such acts into contempt; and induce all reasonable men of the Roman Catholic faith to view the noble Order of Freemasonry with greater respect.

FREEMASONRY AND POLITICS.

In the charge printed below, which is written by Madame Dudevant (George Sand), an imaginary candidate for Freemasonry is taught to believe that the lessons of the lower grades of the Craft refer only to a fictitious liberty, fraternity, and equality, and that the real object of the institution is disclosed in the higher grades, which are as so many "subterranean laboratories" for the preparation of "a great revolution, of which Germany or France will be the theatre." Madame Dudevant's language is rather misty, and it is, therefore, not clear whether the revolution she alludes to is to be of a social or of a political character. Whatever may be her meaning, she evidently approves of what she believes to be the mission of Freemasonry; but in this feeling of approbation we cannot share, unless she means that Freemasonry, like Christianity, is exerting a passive and salutary influence in countries where, owing to the system of religion or the system of government, the judgment has been comparatively fettered, and all aspirations for political freedom have been checked. If our principles are favourable to the cause of civilisation and liberty, and opposed to everything like despotism and priestcraft, they must work their way silently, like light, or like the secret operation of Christianity on such institutions as slavery. "Christianity

never, in so many words, pronounced it criminal for man to hold property in man; but by its doctrines of the brotherhood subsisting amongst men, by the large philanthropy which it inculcated, by its positive requirement that we make every effort at communicating spiritual blessing; and, therefore, by indirectly demanding that we remove from society whatever institutions may be found detrimental to the advance, whether of public or private religion—in these and the like modes did it set itself against the continuance of slavery. And nothing, therefore, we believe, can be needed but that Christianity be universal, and slavery will be annihilated."

It is a favourite accusation of the enemies of Freemasonry that our lodges are the hotbeds of sedition, and those whose dearest wish would be gratified if they could throw us back into the condition of society in the middle ages (witness the late Encyclical Letter of the head of the Romish Church) are ever endeavouring to confound us with Orangemen, Ribbonmen, the Illuminati, and other secret societies which are formed for political purposes. We have recently been under the necessity of personally repelling such a charge. We tell our calumniators, once for all, in the words of the Marquis of Hastings to George III. that "it is written in the institute of our Order, that we shall not, at our meetings, go into religious or political discussion." If there are men on the continent of Europe (and probably there are such) who assume the badges of our Order for the purposes of political intrigue, we consider them as rotten branches: they have no part or lot in us. Condemn them, and we will join heartily in the reprobation of those who are so unfaithful to their obligations. Why make the misconduct of a few a handle for passing a sweeping sentence on an immense body of men who are spread throughout the globe? We could give the explanation. Abstractedly, it is not always wrong to meddle in political matters. There are many who consider Garibaldi a true patriot, and who do not see anything to admire in that loyalty which would submit to the rule of a Caligula, or of tyrants like the Emperor Paul of Russia. It may then be admitted that a man may sigh for political freedom without incurring the eternal displeasure of his Maker. But Freemasons have been repeatedly told by the Romish priests that they have incurred "eternal damnation." Surely, not because they meddle in affairs of State (granting

that they do meddle in such affairs). No; the bitter hostility to Freemasonry of the Romish priests, and of even certain classes of Protestant priests,* is really founded on other grounds, which it is not our purpose to touch upon here. Our present object is only to show the dishonesty of the "political" cry raised against us.

We have been told that it is the sincere belief of the Romish priests that the funds of lodges in England are transmitted to the Continent in aid of plots against States. In support of this "belief," however "sincere" it may be, no proof can be adduced; while, in contradiction of it, we offer our sincere belief, founded on our perfect knowledge of our organisation, laws, principles, and obligations, and of the right of supervision vested in our Grand Master and Grand Lodge.

In Ireland, the head of the Order, the venerable Duke of Leinster, is respected by all classes of the people, whether Masons, anti-Masons, patriots, Protestants, or Roman Catholics. Of him it was truly said by Signor Marani, "It is only through the zeal and perseverance of your noble Grand Master that the Order in Ireland has been able to stand the brunt of superstitious and ignorant foes, who, under the false zeal of religion, pretend, though they could not believe it, that a philosophical institution, having for its foundation the Book of Books, and for its guiding principles fraternity, liberty, and equality, could have anything to do with the plotting schemes of blood-thirsty assassins, filling with horror and consternation your otherwise happy and tranquil valleys."

When, last year, the Marquis of Donegal, at a Masonic banquet, alluded to the Belfast riots, the Duke of Leinster administered to him a severe rebuke, and issued "a caution as to the avoidance, throughout the Order, of any discussion calculated to produce a disunion at meetings of Freemasons." The Marquis expressed "his regret at having introduced topics of a political character at the dinner given in Belfast."†

In France, Prussia, and Sweden, where the heads of the Government are Freemasons, the

* Some of our readers will probably remember the controversy between Mr. Mackinnon, of Mussoorie, and the Rev. Mr. Woodside, with reference to the refusal of the latter to baptize an infant, except on the condition of the father renouncing Freemasonry. In reviewing the controversy, we quoted the words of Macaulay, that Protestants like Mr. Woodside, "in spite of their hatred of Popery, too often fall into the worst vices of that bad system—intolerance and extravagant austerity." See *I. F. M.* for 1865.

† "*Irish Times.*"

lodges have need to be very careful how they lose sight of their legitimate objects by intermeddling in affairs of State. In France, Marshal Magnan was elected Grand Master through the influence of the Emperor Louis Napoleon. In Turkey, the Grand Vizier is a Freemason, and our Ambassador, Sir Henry Bulwer, is the English Provincial Grand Master. In Russia, the Emperor is the "Protector of Freemasonry," and as such, he lately gave a favourable reception to a petition of the Grand Lodge for a prohibition of the interference of the Roman Catholic priesthood with members of the Romish Church who belong to the Craft. In Prussia, on the other hand, it has been argued by many lodges that Roman Catholics cannot become Freemasons, as they are not to be considered free agents.

But, *place aux dames*; we have been keeping Madame Dudevant waiting too long.

"Now we are about to instruct you in your duties towards God and towards us. Learn, therefore, beforehand, the three words which are the secrets of our mysteries, and which are only revealed to most of our afflicted with so many delays and precautions. You have no need of a long apprenticeship; and yet you will require some reflection to understand their whole extent. Liberty, Fraternity, Equality; this is the work of the INVISIBLES.

"Examine the state of the societies and you will see that, to men accustomed to be governed by despotism, it is an entire education, an entire conversion, a whole revolution, to come to understand clearly the human possibility, the social necessity, of this triple precept. Liberty, Fraternity, Equality. The small numbers of upright minds and pure hearts who protest naturally against the injustice and the disorder of tyranny, seize on the doctrine at the first step. Their progress in it is rapid, for with them it is only requisite to teach them the process of application, which we have discovered. But far the greater number, with the people of the world, the courtiers, and the powerful, imagine what precaution and discretion are necessary before submitting to their examination the sacred formula of external work; it is necessary to surround it with symbols and evasions; it is necessary to persuade them that it refers only to a fictitious liberty confined to the exercise of individual thought, or a relative equality, extended only to the members of the association, and practicable only in its secret and benevolent assemblies, in fine, to a romantic neighbourhood, agreed upon between a certain number of persons and limited to temporary services, to some good works, to mutual assistance.

"Europe—Germany and France especially—is filled with secret societies, subterranean laboratories in which is being prepared a great revolution, of which Germany or France will be the theatre. We have the key, and we endeavour to have the directions of all these associations, without the knowledge of the greater part of their members, and without any of them having knowledge of our connection with others. You will know the secret of the Freemasons, a great brotherhood, which, under the most varied forms, and with the most different ideas, labours to organise the practice and to spread the notion

of equality. You will receive all the degrees of all the rites, we shall give you all the insignia, all the titles, all the formulas necessary for the relations which we shall cause you to establish with the lodges, and for the negotiations with them which we shall entrust to you; and your profession, your travelling life, your talents, your youth and your virtues, your courage, your uprightness and your discretion fit you for that part, and give us the necessary guarantees. Your past life, the smallest details of which we know, is a sufficient pledge to use. You have voluntarily undergone more trials than the Masonic mysteries could invent, and you have come out from them stronger and more victorious than their adepts, from the vain forms intended to try their constancy. From this moment we must put you on your guard against the principal disgust attached to your mission. The lower grades of Masonry are almost insignificant in our eyes, and serve us only to try the instincts and the dispositions of the candidates. The greater part never pass those first degrees. In the following grades are admitted only persons who give us hopes, and yet these are still kept at a distance from the end; they are examined, they are tried, their souls are probed, they are prepared for a more complete initiation, or they are given up to an interpretation which they could not pass without danger to the cause, and to themselves. That is still only a nursery, from which we choose the strong plant, destined to be transplanted into the sacred forest. To the highest grades alone belong important revelations, and it is by them that you will enter upon the career. But the part of *Master* imposes many duties, and there cease the charms of curiosity, the intoxication of mystery, the illusion of hope. You have no longer to learn, in the midst of enthusiasm and emotion, that law which transforms the neophyte into an apostle, the novice into a priest.

"For hundreds of the children full of vanity at employing the formulas of equality, and affecting its appearance, you will hardly find one man penetrated with their importance and courageous in their interpretation. You will be obliged to speak to them in enigmas, and through symbols. The greater part of the princes whom we enroll under our banner are in this situation. Some, nevertheless, are sincere, or have been so. Frederick, surnamed the Great, was received as a Freemason before he was King, and at that time, liberty spake to his heart, equality to his reason."

STATISTICS OF FREEMASONRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

We are indebted to Bro. Andrew Cassard for a statistical account of the state of Freemasonry in the Western Hemisphere, commenced in the first issue of *el Espéjo Masonico*. The following excerpt from Bro. Cassard's labours gives a numerical view of Masonic life in the United States; we have added a statement of the number of inhabitants in each State (according to the Census of 1860), to enable the reader to form a comparison between the aggregate and the Masonic population of the country, allowance having been made for the enormous loss of life during the late war.

There are at present thirty-nine Grand Lodges in the United States, all of them in a flourishing state; the number of subordinate lodges is about

5,000, and that of working Masons not far from 400,000, as will appear from the following table:—

State or Territory.	Date of Introduction of Masonry.	Number of Lodges.	Number of Brethren.	Population in 1860.
STATES.				
1. Massachusetts	1733	141	12,500	1,231,066
2. Pennsylvania	1764	174	13,988	2,906,115
3. North Carolina*	1771	107	5,010	992,622
4. Virginia *	1777	126	4,614	1,506,318
5. New Jersey	1777	67	4,306	672,035
6. New York	1781	578	40,480	3,880,735
7. Georgia *	1786	221	12,027	1,057,286
8. South Carolina *	1787	92	3,100	703,708
9. Maryland *	1788	114	2,513	687,049
10. Connecticut	1789	70	7,384	460,147
11. New Hampshire	1789	73	3,663	326,073
12. Rhode Island	1791	16	1,885	174,620
13. Vermont	1794	63	4,685	315,098
14. Kentucky *	1800	324	9,158	1,155,684
15. Delaware	1806	151	500	112,216
16. Ohio	1808	314	15,564	2,339,511
17. District of Columbia ..	1811	13	650	75,080
18. Louisiana *	1812	128	4,050	708,002
19. Tennessee *	1813	174	7,250	1,109,801
20. Indiana	1818	235	12,244	1,350,428
21. Mississippi *	1818	205	7,310	971,305
22. Maine	1820	133	8,100	628,279
23. Alabama *	1821	217	7,223	964,201
24. Missouri *	1821	126	4,903	1,182,012
25. Minnesota	1823	24	850	172,123
26. Michigan	1826	169	10,078	749,113
27. Florida *	1830	38	1,234	140,425
28. Arkansas *	1832	103	1,929	435,450
29. Texas *	1837	212	2,451	604,215
30. Illinois	1840	395	18,311	1,711,951
31. Wisconsin	1843	127	4,990	775,881
32. Iowa *	1844	152	5,416	674,913
33. California	1850	173	6,700	365,439
34. Oregon	1851	28	888	52,465
35. Kansas *	1856	137	1,327	107,206
TERRITORIES.				
36. Newaska	1857	7	125	23,841
37. Washington	1859	10	285	21,168
38. Colorado	1860	7	300	34,277
39. Nevada	1865	8	98	6,857

* The number of lodges and brethren in these States could not be ascertained with accuracy, owing to the late war; the numbers stated are those previous to the outbreak of the hostilities (1861).

The York rite is predominant throughout the extent of the United States.

The Grand Lodge for each State has an absolute authority over all the symbolical lodges within the province of its jurisdiction, and does not allow any

other power encroaching on its rights and privileges; thus, even the Scottish and French lodges of New York and New Orleans are subject to the respective Grand Lodges of the States of New York and Louisiana.

The Grand Lodge of New York, the Province of which includes 630 symbolical lodges, with upwards of 41,000 members, has for its Grand Master Bro. Robert D. Holmes, and Bro. James M. Austin for its Grand Secretary. This Grand Lodge entertains fraternal relations with all other Grand Lodges and Supreme Masonic authorities of both hemispheres.

There are at present in the United States two Supreme Councils of the Scottish rite, the jurisdiction of the one extending over the North, that of the other over the South. The one for the South, having its seat in Charleston, S.C., was the first Supreme Council ever established; it was created in 1801. Both Supreme Councils have various "Grand Lodges of Perfection," Cross Chapters, and Consistories under their respective jurisdictions, and amongst their members some of the most illustrious and distinguished men of the nation are to be found.

In the City of New York there are also held one Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection, one Council of Princes of Jerusalem, one Chapter of the Rose Croix, and one Sovereign Cosmopolitan Grand Consistory.

DESTRUCTION OF MASONIC PROPERTY BY FIRE.

For years out of number the brethren of St. George's Lodge, at Doncaster, have been in the habit of holding their meetings in the council chamber at the Town Hall. A few weeks ago, however, they were informed that, in consequence of some alterations which were about to be made, the room could not in future be rendered available for their meetings. Hence they had it in contemplation to remove to some place where they could meet in a more private manner, and have a proper room for the purpose.

Before this could be effected, however, they were doomed to suffer a severe loss by fire. A convenient back room, near to the lodge room, was used for the purpose of storing the Masonic effects, which were kept locked-up from profane eyes in chests and boxes provided for the purpose.

In this room, on the night of Monday last, a man who had something to do with a dancing

party sat down to smoke his pipe, and was furnished by the hall-keeper with a spittoon filled with sawdust. It is supposed that, having emptied his pipe into the box, the sawdust ignited, and set fire to the premises. At all events, at about seven o'clock the next morning, smoke was seen issuing from the Town Hall, and, on an examination taking place, it was found that the flooring of the room in question had been burnt through, and considerable damage done to the Masonic property.

The entire of the jewels, composed of solid silver, were found to be welded together in the mass; several aprons, belonging to the brethren, were utterly destroyed; the vestments used by the Royal Arch chapter were burnt to rags; and it is supposed that the loss will not be less than from £40 to £50. It is, at the same time, a subject of congratulation that the warrants of both the Craft and Royal Arch lodges were preserved, as well as some valuable documents, three beautiful tracing boards, the chairs and pedestals, some presents which had been made to the lodge at different times, and several matters which it would have been difficult, if not impossible, to have replaced.

It is a matter of surprise, considering the inflammable nature of most of the articles in the room, that the entire building was not destroyed by the fire, which must have been smouldering and burning for about seven hours.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

THE POPE'S ALLOCUTION.

The following paragraph, *apropos* of the Pope's recent allocution, appeared in the *New Frankfort Gazette* of the 10th ult., and is translated by a brother of the Third Lodge of Ireland, Cork:—

DIFFERENT EFFECTS.—The Master of the lodge at Erfurt has, in consequence of the papal excommunication against the Freemasons, resigned his office; and the Master of the lodge at Calbe has, for the same reason, left the Roman Catholic and gone over to the Protestant Church. Forty years ago, as the Freemasons' lodge at Palermo now reveals, the young Lieutenant of dragoons, Count Mastai, belonged to the most zealous members of Italian Masonry; at present, the same Mastai, now Pope Pius IX., pronounces curses over the faith of his youth.—E. W. W.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

RELIGION OF FREEMASONRY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—A worthy and learned correspondent, whose letter signed "J. J." appears in your last number, has not, I am persuaded, seen my

communication of the 28th October, "The Religion of English Freemasonry." Perhaps he will be so obliging as to look at it, and I venture to suggest that he should then reconsider his criticism of my communication of the 11th inst., "Religion of Freemasonry as a Universal Institution."

Yours fraternally,

CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

Chateau Frampas, 30th November.

ITALIAN MASONRY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—On perusing the various documents in your valuable Magazine, I cannot but wonder at the gross imprudence and un-Masonic bearing of our Italian brethren.

Not content with the handle they have afforded the Pope by their previous political meddling, they then come forward in confirmation of the Papal allocution with a circular on the Italian elections!

What have they to do with the elections, or what has any Masonic body to do with elections? What do they mean by professing to eschew politics, and their coming forward to intermeddle in elections, and above all assailing the political convictions of brethren by affirming that all true brethren will vote for the cause of progress, and pointing out those who do not adopt their political creed, as false brethren.

With the late unfortunate events in the States, and the division of the brethren of the North and South, we had quite a sufficient warring how much internal strife may become prejudicial to Masonry, and now we find a renewal of this experience in Italy.

The fact is, an eternal self-conceit more moves the Italians than the dictates of experience, and instead of profiting by the slow and steady experience of England, Scotland, Ireland, and Holland, the Italians wish to shine in Masonry beyond the old and the slow, and to come before the world in a brilliant attitude.

The same mania has affected our French brethren, and this desire of display has overcome discretion in the publication of various replies to the Pope, not one of which can be satisfactory to the advocates of constitutional Masonry.

The Pope, by the publication of his allocution, brought upon himself ridicule and contempt; but he is already gaining ground, in consequence of the proceedings of our injudicious champions.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

SCRUTATOR.

CONSECRATION AND DEDICATION OF THE UNDERLEY LODGE (No. 1074).

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Be good enough to allow me to correct an error in your report of the above proceedings. Your correspondent gives me the credit of "having charge of the arrangements" for the banquet.

This is a mistake. I simply announced the toasts. The "arrangements" were efficiently made, and zealously carried out by the Hon. Sec, Bro. Henry Davis.

I am, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

12th Dec. 1865. JOHN BOWES, P.M., P.G.D.C.

MASONIC LIFE BOATS.

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

SIR,—While standing upon our southern coast during the recent gales, the thought came into my mind that perhaps before daylight some brother might be shipwrecked, and I wondered whether the Freemasons would subscribe and place a life-boat on our eastern, southern, and western shores, through that valuable institution, the National Life Boat Institution, for the benefit of our brethren upon the mighty waters.

As this is the season for London lodges, and as the brethren are nightly gathering around the festive board, this suggestion is just forwarded in the hope that it may be taken up by abler hands than mine. If only a trifle from every true Mason in this country were subscribed, the above might soon be carried out.

I am willing to act as Hon. Sec. if any brethren like to come forward to form a committee to carry out what to me appears a truly Masonic object.

Yours, &c.,

Dec. 1865.

A.B.

THE FRENCH LODGE IN JERSEY.

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

On looking calmly at the proceedings which have taken place at Jersey, I cannot but regret that the S.C. of France, the oldest S.C., and one of the oldest legitimate authorities on the Continent, should have adopted the course of founding a lodge within the jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge.

It is to be the more regretted, because I have very good reason for knowing that it is a step taken out of pique against the *morgue Anglaise*, as they consider it, of our Grand Lodge in abstaining from intercourse, and withholding recognition. They have, after several years' threatening, adopted this measure to excite the Grand Lodge of England.

At the same time, the G.O. of France and the S.G.C. of France have some grounds for irritation. Our Grand Lodge authorities are said to consider that the two French jurisdictions are in schism, and on that ground withhold their recognition, awaiting the ultimate abatement of the schism.

This is scarcely a just or judicious view. The G.O. of France has, and always has, exercised jurisdiction over the high and the Craft degrees of the French Rite, and the S.G.C. over the high and the Craft degrees of the Scotch or Ancient and Accepted Rite. Occasionally they have acted together, and have issued joint warrants and joint certificates and diplomas, that is to say, lodges and chapters were authorised by the respective jurisdictions to work both in the French and the Scotch Rites, and their members holding a diploma to that effect were qualified for the lodges and offices of either.

The S.G. Council does not profess to grant warrants or diplomas for the French Rite; and the G.O. has its jurisdiction over the French Rite in its lodges and chapters, and it can only be in schism so far as it professes to give degrees above the 18th, unless it has a constitutional right to create new degrees.

The jurisdictions are rather to be compared with those of the Craft and Royal Arch in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and of these and of the Ancient and Accepted Rite in Scotland and Ireland.

There is no real and effective reason in Masonic policy why the Grand Lodge of England should not acknowledge both jurisdictions, and receive representatives from both. The questions of rite has nothing to do with it, for the Grand Lodge of England has a representative of the Scotch Rite from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and a representative of the French Rite from the G.O. of Holland. Of course, the representative of the S.G.C. of France would sit in virtue of the symbolic Grand Lodge ruling the Craft degrees, as the representative of the the G.O. would represent the Craft and not the high degrees, no more than the Netherlands representative does.

If the Grand Lodge of England acknowledges the S.G. Council of France, the latter will have obtained its object, and, according to its own principles, can issue no more warrants in England, which it now purposely treats as a "No Man's Land," so far as its Masonic relations are concerned.

Surely this is a matter worthy of the serious care of the M.W. Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of England.

I am, dear Sir and Brother,
Yours fraternally,
P.M., P.Z.

FREEMASONRY IN JERSEY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Your Number of the 18th November contains a report of the proceedings in the Lodge La Césarée, No. 590, on the 26th October, 1865, in which I read the following paragraph:—

"A very unpleasant occurrence took place, caused by one who, it appears, is generally considered a troublesome member of the Province, and who presented himself armed with his Grand Lodge certificate, claiming a right to be admitted as a visitor to the lodge. Thereupon Bro. Durell, I.P.M., formally declared that he and other members of the lodge could not possibly sit and work in harmony with a brother who had so far forgotten himself as to calumniate and openly slander in the Royal Sussex Lodge the members of the Board of the Masonic Temple."

The lodge decided that Bro. Huard's application for admission be refused.

I have the honour to be the troublesome member above alluded to, although I have been long a Mason, and never been thought troublesome before.

In order to refute the unjust imputations laid to my charge, I shall give you, for the information of your readers, a simple narrative of the facts which have led to this unpleasant occurrence.

At the September regular meeting of the Royal Sussex Lodge, in which lodge I hold office, a proposition was made at the suggestion of the members of the committee of the Masonic Temple Company, to the effect that the lodge should contribute a sum of money towards a projected bazaar, under the auspices of the Temple Company; a bazaar said to be for the benefit of the widows and orphans of Freemasons. I knew that as soon as the bazaar had taken place, the proceeds, expected to amount to about £500, were to be applied to the purchase of shares in the Temple Company.

I further knew that these shares had really no marketable value, that they had as yet paid no in-

terest to their holder, and I have good reasons for believing that they never will yield anything like a fair interest on the capital invested. I felt that though the widows and orphans should become shareholders, they never could desire any pecuniary benefit therefrom, and, although they might have their share certificate in their pockets, it would never procure them bread if they wanted it. For these reasons I was strongly opposed to the proposition; convinced that the funds of the lodge if thus voted would be misapplied, and I added that I thought the Jersey Masonic Temple Company, in thus asking the Sussex Lodge to help them in relieving the widows and orphans, was throwing dust in our eyes; the only widows and orphans relieved, would be the actual shareholders of the Temple speculation. I conscientiously expressed my opinion, as I had the undoubted right to do; a deputation of the committee was in the lodge, and was heard in support of the proposition. If they had considered that I was *calumniating and openly slandering* them, it was there and then they should have found fault, and there the matter should have ended. I had the more reason to believe it had come to a conclusion, as the members of the committee stayed and fraternally partook with us of the usual refreshments.

Some time after this I presented myself, as I was in the habit of doing, as a visitor to the Césarée Lodge. To my astonishment, I am simply told I should not be admitted. I complained of this act to the R.W. Prov. G.M., who, after due investigation, gently informed the "Césarée Lodge" that they were in the wrong. After the explanation given before the Grand Master, in which I distinctly stated that I had neither insulted nor intended to insult any one of the brethren, and that the remarks I had made were intended to oppose measures and not to attack men. I had at least hoped that matters would go no further, and that the brethren who at first thought themselves aggrieved had now been convinced that my wrongs towards them were more imaginary than real. I again presented myself to the door of their lodge last Thursday week, and sought admission; a deputation was sent informing me that the minutes of the former meeting had been duly confirmed, and that inasmuch as I had not made an ample apology, they must refuse to admit me. Nothing was left for me to do but to retire and to apply to the Prov. G.M. for protection.

Because I have expressed in my lodge an opinion which is shared by a great many Masons in Jersey, I may be, without accusation or judgment of any kind whatever against me, and in spite of the decision of the Prov. G.M., proscribed by all the lodges in Jersey, for there are members of the before-mentioned committee in all the lodges, and how long this state of things may continue heaven only knows.

I think I have now said enough to vindicate my own character, and to show every impartial man that if I have attempted to seek redress and thus proved troublesome to my oppressors, it is not without just cause, and that your reporter, H. H., has here acted a very unjust—I may say a very malicious—part.

Apologising for the length of my epistle,

I remain, yours fraternally,

G. HUARD.

Jersey, Dec., 1865.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEM.

The following is the title of a Pamphlet in octavo, which, we understand, is now in the Press; by the learned Masonic Historian, Dr. Oliver, viz.:—"Papal Teachings in Freemasonry." Being a rectification of the errors and misrepresentations contained in a recent Allocution, promulgated from the Secret Consistory at Rome, by Pope Pius IX.

METROPOLITAN.

ALBION LODGE (No. 9).—This lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Tuesday evening, December 5th, at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Poulton, W.M. The business consisted in the transition of Bros. Marshall and Parker to the degree of F.C., and of the elevation of Bro. Webb to the sublime degree of M.M. The visitors were Bros. Farnfield, Secretary of the Royal Benevolent Institution; Hass, "Amis du Commerce et Perseverance, Antwerp;" Fox, Gresham Lodge; and Charles Sloman (Robert Burns, No. 26). The result of the ballot for W.M. placed Bro. Stephens in that enviable position. An excellent banquet succeeded the business. Bro. Haas, in returning thanks for the visitors, gave some very interesting information as to Freemasonry in Antwerp, and said that the same brotherly feeling prevailed there that does in this country. Bros. Stevens, Buckland, Buller, and Charles Sloman contributed to the harmony, and the result was an evening spent in conviviality and intellectual enjoyment.

ROBERT BURNS LODGE (No. 25).—The brethren of this old-established, well-worked, and much-esteemed lodge congregated on the evening of Monday, the 4th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, under the domination of the W.M., Bro. John T. Nicholls, when Mr. William James Caldwell was inducted into the initial degree of E.A. Bros. Short, Hunt, Oppermann, Oestermann, Baum, Harrison, and Wall were forwarded to the degree of F.C.; and Bro. Westlake received the crowning reward of his perseverance by being raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The onerous duties incumbent upon so much work were ably performed by the W.M.; indeed, so well as to call forth the encomiums of the brethren present. This being election night, a ballot took place, when Bro. Welch was unanimously chosen to fill the office of W.M. for the ensuing session. There being no further business, the lodge was closed in the usual form, and the brethren retired to an elegant banquet, and the evening was passed in harmony and conviviality.

STRONG MAN LODGE (No. 45).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 7th inst., at Bro. Ireland's, the Falcon Tavern, Fetter-lane. Bro. J. F. Booser, W.M., assisted by his officers, initiated Mr. Charles Bradley and Mr. W. A. Challenor into the mysteries of Freemasonry. Bro. Mayer was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. The business of the lodge being concluded, the brethren retired to banquet, Bro. Ireland catering in his usual able manner. About thirty sat down, the W.M. presiding. After the repast, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk, which were followed by the "Health of the Initiates," "The Visitors," coupled with the names of Bros. J. D. Mills and Brett, who respectively acknowledged the compliment. A very pleasant evening was spent.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).

The anniversary meeting of this lodge was held on Friday evening, December 8, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Bro. J. B. Osborne, W.M., presided; Bros. Simpson, S.W., and F. W. Smith, J.W. The other officers were present, and the following P.M.'s:—Bros. Thompson, I.P.M.; Smith, Treasurer; W. Carpenter, T. Marshall, Elmes, Secretary; Haydon, Brett, Russen,

and Wilson. There was a numerous body of visitors, and amongst them were Bros. Collett, Royal Albert; Stevens, Albion; King, Old Concord; Randall, Enoch; Boyd, P.M. and W.M. Prudent Brethren; W. Y. Laing, P.M. Strong Man; Benton, P.M. Albion; Savage, Industry; Moore, Dalhousie; Banks, Confidence; Lee, P.M. Albion; Hamilton, Whittington; Gilbard, Polish; Rippin, St. John's; Davy, Panmure; Carter, P.M. Prudent Brethren, &c.

The first business, after the opening of the lodge, was to ballot for Mr. Barber, who was a candidate for initiation into the mysteries of Freemasonry, which being unanimous in his favour, he was introduced and entrusted with the secrets of the first degree, the ceremony being ably performed by the W.M. The chair was then taken by Bro. Thompson, I.P.M., who proceeded to question Bros. Thompson, Manton, and the other brethren, as to their proficiency in the science, and their answers being considered satisfactory, they withdrew. The lodge was opened in the second degree, and they were severally passed to the degree of F.C. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and Bros. Coathupe and Bennett were then raised to the sublime degree of M.M., Bro. Thompson performing that ceremony in an impressive manner, and for which he received the warm congratulations of many old P.M.'s who were present. The chair was then taken by Bro. Brett, P.M., who had been requested to perform the ceremony of installation.

Bro. JOSEPH SIMPSON, the W.M. elect, was then presented by Bro. J. Smith, to receive the benefit of installation, and Bro. Brett went through that duty in a very able manner in the presence of nineteen P.M.'s. The brethren below the chair having been admitted and saluted the new W.M., he appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. F. Smith, S.W.; T. Prior, J.W.; Woolfe, S.D.; Lindfield, J.D.; Foulger, I.G.; Bradley, Tyler; J. Smith, Treas.; H. Elmes, Sec.; Pulsford, Assist. Sec.; Tanner and Margerison, Assist. Deacons; Potter, Dir. of Cers. The W.M. invested the whole of his officers, and to each made a suitable address on the duties appertaining to his appointment.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, and seventy-nine sat down to a banquet, prepared in the usual style of Anderton's Hotel.

After the cloth was drawn, the W.M. gave briefly the formal toasts, which were duly honoured.

The W. MASTER said the next toast he had to propose was one always peculiarly pleasing to the Master of a lodge, as it afforded them gratification to receive a new member amongst them. From what he had seen of Bro. Barber, he believed he would become a good Mason, and it was therefore with great satisfaction he proposed his health.

The toast was well received.

Bro. BARBER returned thanks, and said he would endeavour to become all that their W.M. desired that he should, and be a good Mason.

Bro. OSBORNE, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and descanted on his many excellent qualities, hoping that he would have a happy and prosperous year of office.

Drunk with great cordiality.

The W. MASTER acknowledged the compliment so heartily responded to, and said that during his year he would do his best, and nothing should be wanting on his part to merit the confidence of the brethren. The W.M. then said he had a very pleasing task to perform, which was to present Bro. Osborne, the I.P.M., with the jewel which the brethren had voted to him in recognition of his eminent services, and he hoped he might live long to wear it.

Bro. OSBORNE, I.P.M., thanked the brethren for their kindness, and said he should ever have a lively recollection of the good feeling entertained towards him by the members of the Domatic Lodge.

The W. MASTER said the next toast was a particularly pleasing one to him, as it was "The Health of their brother Visitors," and he gave them in the name of the lodge a hearty welcome.

Bro. LEE, P.M. of the Albion, and Bro. LAING, P.M. of the Strong Man, severally returned thanks.

"The Health of the Officers of the lodge" was given, and for which they severally returned thanks.

Some other toasts were given, and the proceedings were brought to a close after a very harmonious meeting, interspersed with songs, &c.

PROVINCIAL.

CHESHIRE.

CREWE.—*Lodge of the Four Cardinal Virtues* (No. 979).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Crewe Arms Hotel, on Wednesday, the 6th inst. Present: Bros. Bullock, W.M.; Whale, S.W. *pro tem.*; Eardley, J.W.; Mould, I.P.M.; Doyle, S.D.; Ratcliffe, J.D.; Davies, I.G. *pro tem.*; Moody, Sec.; Gibson, Org.; and a good muster of the members. Visitors: Bros. Bowes, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. Cumberland; Spinks, Lodge of Lights; and Jones. Just before the lodge commenced working, a visitor sought admission, who had recently been appointed to a highly respectable office in the town. The W.M. retired to prove him, but found he had never received a Grand Lodge certificate, though initiated twenty years. He, therefore, declined to examine or admit him, unless a Mason would vouch for him. The gentleman was much annoyed, as he said he had visited other lodges frequently; but the W.M. was firm. This little episode rather hindered and disturbed the officers, who had to work the three degrees in succession. Bro. Bagshaw was first passed to the F.C. degree. Bro. Dobson was then raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The lodge was closed down, and a ballot taken for an emergency initiation, the candidate not being able to attend at the next regular lodge. Mr. John Phillips was then initiated into the Craft, and was very favourably impressed with the beautiful ceremony. After the ceremony, the W.M. duly cautioned the candidate against giving relief to travelling Masons, as the lodge had provided a proper examiner and Almoner to meet such cases. This proved quite necessary, as the next day only he was waited upon by a German, without a certificate, named Schwartz, who did not at all confine himself to one of the three grand principles—truth. This name figures, too, in a list of beggars for this year, from Wolverhampton and Warrington, proving that he is trading on Masonry from town to town. A resolution was passed that the by-laws of the lodge be printed. The W.M. then read a letter from Bro. Cope, G.S.B., who consecrated this lodge, stating that he was accepting the office of Steward for the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, and expressing a wish that this lodge would forward him some assistance. The W.M., after alluding to the excellent working qualities and great kindness of Bro. Cope on all occasions, proposed that two guineas be granted from the lodge. This was seconded by Bro. Mould, and carried unanimously. Bro. Bullock also solicited each of the brethren to give something, so as to make at least five guineas. This call was readily responded to, and that sum was nearly raised there and then. It was also carried that a lodge of emergency for instruction be held on Wednesday, December 20th. Each of the ceremonies were worked by the W.M. under somewhat trying circumstances, viz., the interruption before alluded to, and the absence of two officers. The visiting brethren from Warrington retired at the conclusion of the ceremonies. The brethren then partook of supper, but the lateness of the evening prevented the usual toasts. "The Health of the Initiate," however, was given, and Bro. Phillips, in response, expressed his pleasure and gratitude in being admitted to the Craft, and promised to devote himself to its workings and teachings. This lodge has never yet had a barren meeting, and the three degrees will be worked at the next meeting, as a candidate was proposed by the W.M. for initiation.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

CONSECRATION OF THE GRETA LODGE, KESWICK.

The romantic village of Keswick was on Thursday, Nov. 23rd, the scene of high festivities in the Masonic world consequent upon the consecration and dedication of a new lodge named the Greta Lodge. There was a large attendance of brethren, amongst whom we noticed the R.W. Bros. Dr. Greaves, D. Prov. G.M.; W. B. Gibson, P.M., Prov. S.G.W.; Pearson, Prov. J.G.W.; E. Busher, Prov. G. Sec.; Morton, Prov. S.G.D.; Fisher, Prov. J.G.D.; Cook, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Arnison, Prov. G.S.B.; Bamber, Prov. G. Standard Bearer.

Bro. Bowes, Prov. G. Dir of Cers., wrote stating his inability to be present.

Besides this large number of Provincial Officers there was a good attendance of brethren.

The brethren having assembled in the lodge room, the con-

secrating officer, Bro. Dr. Greaves, assumed the chair of K.S., and, with the assistance of his Wardens, opened a lodge.

The brethren of the new lodge having been arranged in order, the lodge was opened to the third degree. Dr. Greaves then addressed the brethren on the nature of the meeting. The warrant from the Grand Lodge was read, and the usual formalities completed, and the lodge declared dedicated and constituted according to ancient custom. The ceremony of Installation was then proceeded with, when Bro. Teather, a P. Prov. G. Officer, and a brother who is very highly esteemed, was installed according to ancient custom into the chair of K.S. He having received the salutations and honours usual on such occasions, proceeded to appoint and invest his officers. Bros. Walker and G. G. Boulton were honoured in the west and south respectively. The collar and jewels were greatly admired for elegance of design and superior workmanship, and Bro. Wheatley (Carlisle), who supplied them, was warmly complimented for the highly satisfactory manner in which he had executed the order. There being no further business, the lodge was solemnly closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment.

THE BANQUET.

This took place at the Keswick Hotel, and was set out and served in Bro. Rudd's best manner. The chair was occupied by the R.W.D. Prov. G.M. Dr. Greaves, while the west was superintended by the newly-installed W.M. Bro. Teather. After the withdrawal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed from the chair and duly honoured.

The W. MASTER then rose to propose the health of the R.W. Chairman, who had so ably performed the important ceremonies of the day. They all knew Bro. Greaves' zeal in Masonic matters, and how devoted he was to its best interests. That this was generally felt by the brethren in the province, he had tangible proof at the last meeting of the Provincial Lodge at Cockermonth. For nearly eleven years he had been the acting head of the province, and he begged to assure Dr. Greaves that his labour of love was duly appreciated. (Loud cheers.)

Drunk with all honours.

The CHAIRMAN, on rising to thank the brethren, was very warmly received. After giving expression to the gratitude he felt for the regard and esteem of his brethren in Freemasonry, said that day had conferred upon him an additional honour as Deputy Provincial Grand Master, inasmuch as he had consecrated for the fifth time a lodge in his province. This was no mean distinction, and he was happy the inauguration of the Greta Lodge had drawn together such a large and influential company as he now saw round the festive board. (Applause.)

The D. PROV. G. MASTER said it now devolved upon him to propose what he might call the toast of the evening, that of the Greta Lodge and its first W.M. (Cheers.) Bro. Teather was too well known to render it necessary to resort to eulogistic language in referring to him. His store of Masonic lore was both varied and extensive. He had never before heard a newly installed W.M. address his wardens in such an efficient manner. He begged, therefore, to propose "Success to the Grand Lodge," and to couple with it the name of its excellent W.M., Bro. Teather.

Drunk with all honours.

The W. MASTER rose to thank Dr. Greaves and the brethren for so warm a recognition of his name. It had long been his desire to see a lodge at Keswick, and he thought the newly formed railway had done much towards accomplishing that end. He doubted not that the Greta Lodge would go on its way rejoicing, and he was sure that himself and his officers had but one object in view, viz., the prosperity of the Craft in general, and the Greta Lodge in particular. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN next proposed "The Health of the Prov. G. Wardens," both of whom he saw present.

Drunk with all honours.

Bros. GIBSON and PEARSON acknowledged the compliment in suitable speeches.

Bro. TEATHER proposed "The Healths of the W.M.'s of the lodges in the province." He was sure in their hands the ancient landmarks were in safe keeping. He saw a goodly representation present, and he begged them individually to respond. (Loud cheers.)

Drunk with all honours.

Bro. BUSHER (Kendal), Bamber (Workington), Morton (Cockermonth), Cooke and Fisher (Whitelaven), Arnison (Penrith), answered to the call, each individually expressing their acknowledgments.

Bro. TEATHER, W.M., then in eulogistic terms, proposed "The Health of his Wardens." They were both ardent Masons, and he was confident that they would discharge their respective duties *con amore*. He begged to call upon Bro. Boulton, J.W., to respond.

Drank with all honours.

Bro. BOULTON responded, and in doing so, expressed the pleasure he felt in being invested the first J.W. of the Greta Lodge. For himself he could say that his best energies should be brought to bear on his new duties. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. TEATHER then proposed "The Visitors," which was responded to by Bro. Bromhead, P.M. Then followed "The Meet" and "The Ladies." The interesting proceedings were brought to a close by the Tyler's toast "To all poor and distressed Masons," and the brethren separated in perfect harmony, well satisfied with a most interesting and enjoyable day.

CARLISLE.—*Union Lodge* (No. 310).—In consequence of the consecration of a Royal Arch Chapter at Kendal, on Tuesday, Nov. 28th, the regular summoned meeting of the above lodge was postponed until Wednesday, the 29th ult. When the chair of E.S. was occupied by W. Murray, W.M., and opened in due form, and after the minutes were read and confirmed in the usual way amongst Masons, was advanced. Bros. Binning, Bates, and Thompson, being candidates, were examined, and proved themselves proficient in answering the necessary questions, retired and duly prepared, were raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons (at the request of the W.M.) by Bro. R. N. Hayward, P.M., in that solemn and impressive manner which none but the worthy are able to do, supported by J. Lewthian, S.W., J. Blacklock, P.M., J.W., J. Barnes, I.G.; and as the three candidates were raised together, they were ably deaconed by Bros. G. G. Hayward, S.D.; J. Slack, J.D.; G. Somerville, Sec., assisted by W. Irwin, L. Hall, and A. Woodhouse, after which the lodge was closed down to the E.A. degree; and this being the night for the election of W.M. for the succeeding year, the ballot was taken for Bros. Lowthian and Cockett, Chaplain, J.W., which resulted in favour of Bro. Cockett by a majority of two votes, and has caused a dissension in the lodge, which will ultimately be the means of a new lodge being formed in this bonnie city; therefore being not only a blessing but a prosperity to Freemasonry in general. The lodge was closed by Bro. W. Murray with prayer, and the brethren retired to the refreshment-room then to drink each other's health, and some gave their parting speech and farewell for ever.

DURHAM.

HARTLEPOOL.—*St. Helen's Lodge* (No. 531).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 7th instant, when there were present Bros. James Groves, P.M. and Prov. S.G.D. (Mayor of Hartlepool); Simpson Armstrong, P.M. and Treas.; A. Nathan, S.W. and W.M. elect; W. J. Siveright, J.W.; W. Stonier Leigh, Sec., and about fourteen other brethren. The first business after the confirmation of the minutes of several previous lodges, and the reading of the minutes of several instruction lodges, was the reading of the by-laws. The annual report of the finance committee, and abstract of the balance-sheet for the year was then read, the only noticeable point in the report being a recommendation to the lodge to amend the by-laws by a more equal adjustment of the subscriptions of some of the members, in accordance with which Bro. Nathan gave notice that he would make a proposition next regular lodge. A ballot was then taken for two candidates, which proved favourable; and being present, they were admitted and initiated into the secret arts and hidden mysteries of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masonry, Bro. Nathan in both instances performing the ceremony. After a little discussion it was determined that the installation of the W.M. elect should take place on St. John's Day, the annual banquet to be afterwards held at the King's Head Hotel. A proposition by the Secretary relative to travelling beggars through the lateness of the evening, was then postponed by the W.M., and the lodge was closed in love and harmony with solemn prayer. At refreshment, after the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, the toasts—"The Initiates," "The Visitors," "The W.M.," "P.M.'s Groves and Armstrong," concluding with "All poor and distressed Masons," were warmly received and responded to, and the brethren separated at 11 p.m.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Gloucestershire was held at Tewkesbury on Friday, the 24th ult., under the presidency of Bro. G. F. Newmarch, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, in the unavoidable absence of the Provincial Grand Master, Lord, Sherborne. There was a large muster of the brethren of the province, and of brethren from the adjoining province of Worcester, among whom were Bro. Royd, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of that province, and Bros. Stone and Griffiths, the provincial grand wardens. The lodge was held in the Town-hall, which was kindly lent for the occasion by the Mayor, Bro. G. Blizard. Among the brethren we noticed Bro. Newmarch, D.P.G.M.; Bro. Ridge, Senior Warden; Bro. Waite, Junior Warden; Bro. Palmer, Treasurer; Bro. Trinder, Secretary; Bro. Wallace, P.S.G.W., Charity Secretary; Bro. Swinburne, Director of Ceremonies; Bro. Cowle, Senior Deacon; and Bro. Shirer. Among the brethren of the province were Bros. Nicks, Kendall, Captain Price, Brooke, Smith, Bain, Blizard, Mullings, Jeffs, Bass, Smith, Treasure, Taynton, F. Moore, &c.

Bro. WALLACE reported that £208 12s. 6d. had been collected in the province during the past year for charitable purposes, and had been forwarded to the several institutions supported by the Masonic body. Bro. Wallace, in his report to the Grand Lodge, submitted to it a proposal of raising a fund sufficient to found a scholarship at the University of Oxford open to the boys educated at the Masonic Boys' School. His plan is that this province should, in five years, raise a sum of £500, and that the four adjoining provinces of Bristol, Oxford, Somerset, and Worcester, be requested to raise a like sum, making a total of £2,500, the interest of which should be applied to the above object. The suggestion was exceedingly well received. The Provincial Grand Lodge voted £21 towards the object, and many brethren in the room agreed to give £10, to be paid by yearly instalments. We feel sure that the plan will be carried out, and that brethren in this and the other provinces mentioned will come forward and raise the sum required for so desirable a purpose. The brethren of the province will doubtless feel a pride that so novel and excellent an idea should have been originated in their own province by so zealous and active a man as Bro. Wallace.

Several sums of money were voted by Provincial Grand Lodge to the various Masonic charities.

The officers for the ensuing year were appointed as follows:—

Bro. Nicks	Prov. S.G.W.
" Treasure	" J.G.W.
" Swinburne	" G. Reg.
" Palmer.....	" G. Treas.
" Trinder	" G. Sec.
" Cowle	" S.G.D.
" Cooke	" J.G.D.
" Mullings	" G. Supt. of Works.
" Blizard.....	" G. Dir. of Cers.
" F. Moore	" G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.
" Shirer	" G. Purst.
" Jeffs.....	" G. Swordbearer.
" Woodward	" G. Org.
" Wiggins	" G. Tylers.
" Harmer	

The brethren subsequently dined together at the Swan Hotel, under the presidency of Bro. Newmarch, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and a very pleasant and agreeable evening was spent.

Bro. Palmer, the Provincial Grand Treasurer, in his speech suggested that it would be a graceful act on the part of Grand Lodge to take the opportunity of their visit to Tewkesbury to vote £10 towards the fund for the restoration of the fine old Abbey Church. The suggestion was heartily received, and the brethren present instantly passed a resolution sanctioning the payment of that sum by the Grand Treasurer to the Restoration Fund.

LANCASHIRE (WEST.)

WARRINGTON.—*Lodge of Lights* (No. 148).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, on Monday, Nov. 27th. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. Gilbert Greenall, M.P., and Prov. S.G. Warden, the chair was occupied by Bro. H. B. White, P.M., S.W., and Prov. G. Steward. The following brethren were amongst those who supported the acting W.M. on the

occasion.—Bros. Shaw Thewlis, P.M., as S.W.; William Smith, J.W.; Maxfield, P.M.; Capt. Cartwright, Dr. Pennington, Dr. Spinks, Rev. J. N. Porter, W. H. Spring, Ekkert, Oakden, Rev. Thos. Doughty Pearse, D. Finney (acting Hon. Sec.), Higginbottom, Holloway, Richardson, C. Pettitt, Robinson, Pilling, Hephherd, Gibbons, W. Savare, &c. The lodge having been duly opened, the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. announced the receipt of a note from Bro. Bowes explaining the cause of his absence from the lodge. The ballot was then taken for Bro. Barlow as a joining member, and Mr. William Savage as a candidate for initiation. In both cases the ballot was unanimous, and Mr. Savage being present was duly and solemnly initiated. The W.M. announced that Bros. Pearse, Oakden, and Doughty were candidates for preferment, and having given proof of proficiency, were intrusted and retired. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and the three brethren being duly admitted, were passed to the degree of F.C.'s by Bro. White, Bro. C. Pettitt acting as Deacon. The lodge was then opened in the second degree. Several gentlemen were proposed as fit and proper persons, &c. Bro. White read the report of the Centenary Committee, by which it appeared that there was a balance of £31 10s. over and above the expenses, and that that amount had been sent to Bro. Binckes for the Boys' School. The W.M. for the ensuing year was then ballotted for, when the present W.M., Bro. Gilbert Greenall, M.P. and Prov. S.G.W. (West Lancashire), was re-elected. Bro. H. B. White was re-elected Treasurer, Bros. Jos. Robinson and Jas. Johnson were re-elected Tylers. It was then decided, as Christmas Day fell on the day of the next lodge meeting, that the Festival of St. John the Evangelist be celebrated on Friday, Dec. 29th. The appointment of a Lodge-room Committee was then made. The reading of communications brought the business to a close, and the lodge was closed in harmony.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—*Howe and Charnwood Lodge* (No. 1,007).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Bull's Head Hotel, on Tuesday, the 5th inst., under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Brewin, P. Prov. S.G.W. and P.G. Treas., who was supported by the following brethren:—Bros. W. Kelly, D. Prov. G.M.; W. Lowe, S.W.; Wilson, Sec.; Rowbotham, S.D.; Dougherty, J.D.; Rev. E. G. Anderson, H. Warner, Dobell, Woodruffe, &c. Visitor, Bro. Smith. The lodge having been opened in the first degree, and the minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Mr. Brunt, of Loughborough, as a candidate for admission into the Order, who was duly elected. A F.C.'s lodge was then opened, and the Rev. Bro. Anderson and Bro. H. Warner were called to the pedestal and examined in that degree; after which a N.M.'s lodge was opened, and they were raised to that sublime degree in admirable style by the W.M. The lodge was lowered to the first degree, when the chair was taken by the D. Prov. G.M., who initiated Mr. Brunt. Bro. Wilson presided at the harmonium during the ceremonies. The D. Prov. G.M. brought before the lodge the claims of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and asked the support of the lodge and of the brethren individually, in his capacity as Steward for the province. The W.M. and Bro. H. Warner gave in their names as life subscribers at £5 5s., and it was intimated that one or two other brothers would probably do the like, whilst, as the funds of the lodge would not admit of a grant being made from them, it was resolved that the sum of £5 5s., or, if possible, £10 10s. should be raised by smaller contributions amongst the members, in the name of the W.M. for the time being. The lodge was then closed for refreshment.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

NEWPORT.—*Silurian Lodge* (No. 471).—Being in Newport on the first Wednesday in the month, I wended my way to the Masonic Hall, Great Dock-street, and on gaining admission found there something to come on the chequered pavement that night which seemed to interest a great many of the members of the Craft. One by one they began to drop in, and by the time business had fairly begun, there were, I should say, over eighty present.

Three gentlemen were initiated—Mr. Thos. Graham Robinson,

of Ebor Vale Iron Works; Mr. Henry Newcombe, of Newport corn merchant; and Mr. George Tweedy, of the Newport Docks.

The lodge was then opened in the second degree, when Brothers Sheppard and Clark were passed to the degree of F.C. Masons, after which the F.C. Lodge was closed, and W.M., Bro. Griffiths, in a short and neat speech, introduced the particular business of the evening, namely, the election of a W.M. for the ensuing year. I should have previously stated the D. Prov. G.M. honoured the lodge with his company this evening, and several brethren having tried to provoke a discussion as to the merits and demerits of the two candidates for the chair—Bro. Bartholomew Thomas, S.W., and Bro. Henry Hellyer, S.W.—the D. Prov. G.M. very opportunely interposed and said it would be thought be wrong to allow such a discussion to proceed, and they had better resort to a ballot; but as far as he was concerned, so satisfied was he with the two candidates, he did not intend to vote at all.

The ballot then took place, and Bros. E. Wells and R. B. Evans, two P.M.'s, having been appointed Scrutineers, they, with the assistance of the D. Prov. G.M., proceeded to cast up the votes on each side, and eventually it was announced the election had fallen on Bro. Hellyer—the numbers being for that brother, 33; for Bro. Thomas, 27. Majority, 6.

Bro. HELLYER immediately returned thanks in a neat speech to the following effect:—Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, and Brethren—It is with humility I rise for the first time before you as Worshipful Master elect for the ensuing year, inasmuch as I feel my own inefficiency in talent and position of life, to fulfil all those highly important offices of the typical seat of King Solomon the Wise to the satisfaction of each and every member of the same exalted institution. Yet since it has been your good will and pleasure to advance me to that high position, I dedicate my abilities to your service, and trust I may not only merit your confidence, but also your esteem and love. At this particular moment it appears to me I have but two duties to perform, ere I take my seat, and the first is to invite you, brethren, one and all, to unite with me in trampling under foot all our little past differences, and in lieu thereof to invoke a blessing from the G. A. O. T. U. upon ourselves and our gatherings upon this chequered pavement during the ensuing year. May He grant us such a competency of wisdom from above to contrive, strength to support, and beauty to adorn that spiritual temple. We desire to build so that we may rise a superstructure alone to his glory, honourable to the builders, and the welfare of our inner man. May His grace find its way to each of our hearts so that, being cemented together in one common undissoluble bond of fraternal affection and brotherly love, we may climb that mystic ladder whose spokes or rounds of virtue (especially those of faith, hope, and charity) will bring us nearer and nearer to that Grand Lodge above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for ever. Secondly, I have to express to you all my heartfelt gratitude for the high honour you have conferred upon me, as also for the great esteem you have demonstrated on my behalf. In doing this, I fail to find adequate words expressive of those natural emotions within my breast; therefore, without comment, permit me with my lips, and out of the abundance of my heart, to say to you, in all sincerity and truth, and in good old English, "Brethren, I thank you." Let me here also ask you to rally round me with your support, your advice, and your assistance, so that we may labour and build together in a kindred spirit, and also practice in our daily life those lessons which we are taught within these sacred walls; and convince those who are not Masons that the principles of our arcane science are pure, and that all its requirements are just.

Bro. THOMAS, the defeated candidate, also feelingly returned his sincere thanks to those brethren who had voted for him. He considered it was a laudable ambition for any man to be a candidate for the chair, and to be appointed W.M. over such a worthy lodge; and he had, during his Masonic career, learnt the lesson that it is the duty of a brother to bow with submission, resignation, and respect to the care of the Master and his Wardens, and a majority of the brethren. The election had been carried out in a most honourable manner, and he for one would join with Bro. Hellyer and his friends in forgetting all that had past, and may by-gones be by-gones for ever and ever.

The W. MASTER elect here again rose and said it was his wish that the installation should take place on St. John's Day, Dec. 27th, and he would propose that the banquet should take place at the Westgate Hotel at five the same evening. This was

seconded and carried, all preliminaries being left to the Secretary, the W.M., the P.M., and the W.M. elect.

Bro. Pickford was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Macfee, as Tyler, for the ensuing year.

A petition to the Board of Benevolence on behalf of a Mrs. Louisa Clarke, of Bristol (widow of a deceased brother, Chas. Clarke), was here introduced by the Secretary, Bro. Williams, and at his request a majority of the brethren present belonging to 471, signed the usual recommendation on the back thereof.

Bro. Williams also proposed that a subscription be started in the room on behalf of Mrs. Clarke; but Bros. Evans and Wells, P.M.'s, said they thought £2 2s. had better be given out of the general funds of the lodge. After some discussion this was agreed to.

The W.M. and the D. Prov. G.M. then severally intimated that a Provincial Grand Lodge meeting would be held at Abergavenny on the following day, and invited all the brethren present to go with them.

The lodge was then closed in harmony at twenty minutes past ten a.m.

[Several of the Newport brethren have intimated a wish to know who reports for us there. We reply, "our own correspondent," when he is able to be present; and when he cannot attend we gain our information from purely legitimate sources. If our reports are incorrect, we invite correspondence on the subject.—ED. FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.]

SOUTH WALES (WESTERN DIVISION).

CONSECRATION OF THE ABERYSTWTH LODGE (No. 1072), ABERYSTWTH.

This beautiful sea-bathing town has now a lodge of the ancient Fraternity established. It was consecrated on Thursday, the 30th November, 1865, under the authority of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, by Bro. Richard Eve, P.M. 395 and 651, P. Prov. G. Purst., who ably discharged the high office conferred on him. Bro. Eve has on very many occasions shown his ability in rendering our beautiful ceremonies, but in this instance it must be acknowledged that he particularly excelled, though it was the first time for him to give the consecration ceremony.

It is with regret we have to record the resignation, through ill health, of the R.W. Bro. John Jones, late Prov. G. Master for South Wales, Western Division.

The lodge was opened in due form, and with solemn prayer, at four p.m., in a very convenient room at the Belle Vue Royal Hotel, when the following brethren were present:—Bros. R. Eve, P.M., 395 and 651, P. Prov. G. Purst.; J. D. Perrott, W.M. 651, and W.M. designate of 1072; Lord Vaughan, 1072; John Jones, S.W. 1072; Geo. T. Smith, J.W. 1072; J. Vaughan, 1072; John Davies, 1072; W. P. Hughes, 1072; R. Northey, 1072; A. Monteith, 595; J. Baker, 595; Rev. W. P. Jones, Chaplain 651; George Causick, 651; C. Boniface, 651; H. C. Rich, 651, Prov. G. Steward; T. A. Frater, 651; John Morris, 651; R. W. Price, 651; H. Davies, 651; and Adam Scott, Tyler 651.

Bro. Eve informed the brethren that he was authorised by the M.W. Grand Master of England to consecrate that lodge and instal Bro. Joseph Denton Perrott, and he would at once proceed with the duties. The petition and warrant were then read and the brethren signified their approval of the officers nominated therein; viz., Bro. Joseph Denton Perrott to be 1st W.M., Bro. John Jones, first S.W.; and Bro. George Tempany Smith, first J.W. He then gave a most elegant oration on Freemasonry, fully illustrating the grand principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth.

Bro. H. Powell Jones, Chaplain 651, in an impressive manner, offered up the consecration prayer, and Bro. Eve gave the invocation, after which the Chaplain completed the prayer and pronounced the benediction.

Bro. Eve then constituted and dedicated the Aberystwith Lodge (No. 1,072) in the registry of the Grand Lodge of England, for the purposes of Freemasonry.

After concluding the ceremony of consecration, Bro. Eve installed Bro. Joseph Denton Perrott, W.M. 651, W.M. of this lodge for the ensuing year. He then invested Bro. John Jones S.W., and Bro. George Tempany Smith J.W.

The W. Master appointed Bro. Lord Vaughan S.D., Bro. J. Baker, J.D. pro tem., and Bro. John Vaughan I.G., who were also invested by Bro. Eve.

The W. MASTER, in thanking Bro. Eve for the able manner in which he had performed the ceremonies of that day, and for his kindness in coming from Aldershot to Aberystwith, ordered a vote of thanks to be entered on the minutes of the lodge.

Bro. EVE acknowledged the compliment, and assured the brethren that he felt at all times ready and willing to contribute his services, especially so on this occasion, when he had the pleasure of meeting some of his Brecknock brethren.

Bro. JONES, S.W., felt proud in having the honour to propose Bro. Lord Vaughan as a joining member, which was duly seconded.

Ten gentlemen were regularly proposed and seconded as candidates for initiation.

The labours in the lodge were now completed, when the W.M. commanded the J.W. to call the brethren from labour to refreshment, and a most sumptuous banquet awaited their attention, consisting of all the delicacies of the season, which was well served, and reflected the highest credit on Mr. and Mrs. Fell; we may also add that the wines were of the choicest description. The usual Masonic toasts were given and very cordially responded to, and the brethren spent a most agreeable evening, which will not be forgotten as the opening of the Aberystwith Lodge (No. 1,072).

The lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer at 10 p.m.

SOUTH WALES (EASTERN DIVISION).

CARDIFF.—*Bute Lodge* (No. 960).—There was a very large attendance of the members of this lodge, and of visiting brethren at the regular meeting on Tuesday, 6th instant; the R.W. Prov. G.M., Bro. T. M. Talbot, having signified his intention of paying a semi-official visit. Lodge was opened at six o'clock precisely by the W.M., Bro. W. H. Martin, Prov. S.G.D., supported by Bros. John Williams, S.W.; M. Davies, J.W.; W. H. Moreton, Sec.; J. B. Bell, S.D.; H. Allen, J.D.; T. G. Glass, Prov. G. Steward; J. G. C. Thorpe, P.M., &c. The minutes of the last regular lodge, and a lodge of emergency, having been read and confirmed, ballots were taken for Messrs. S. Weichert and McMillan, who being duly accepted were, together with Mr. W. Treseder (accepted at the last regular lodge) introduced into the lodge, and initiated into the E.A. degree in due form and according to ancient custom. The ceremony was ably performed by the W.M., who this night completed his year of office. The charge was delivered by the Senior Deacon, whose accustomed fluency in discharge of that duty was rewarded by the warm applause of a crowded lodge. The R.W. Prov. G.M. was then announced and entered, and attended by his deputy, Bro. Morris, Bros. Langley, South, and Gaskell, P.S.G.W.'s; D. Roberts, W.M. 36, Prov. G. Reg.; E. J. Thomas, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; R. J. Fisher, Prov. G. Org.; and Howel Williams, Prov. G. Purst. The W.M. having resigned the chair, the same was occupied by the Prov. G.M., who congratulated the W.M. and brethren of the lodge upon the influential position they had in so short a time assumed, paying a very flattering but well deserved compliment to the P.M. and founder of the lodge, Bro. Thorp, to whose devoted and untiring services that position is mainly due. The Dir. of Cers. was then requested to advance Bro. Willans, S.W., to the pedestal; thereupon the Prov. G.M. duly invested him with the collar and insignia of Prov. G.S.B., this brother being absent in America when the provincial meeting was held. Bro. Willans suitably returned thanks conferred upon him, and the W.M. resumed the chair. A candidate for initiation having been duly proposed, lodge was closed shortly after eight, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, in the shape of an elegant supper provided by Bro. Samuel Mark at the Windsor Hotel, the W.M., Bro. Martin, ably presiding. A very agreeable evening was spent, and the usual Masonic toasts duly proposed and responded to. The next meeting will take place on the 19th inst. for the election of W.M., when there is no doubt that the remarkably well qualified brother who was upon this occasion invested with the purple, will be unanimously elected, as Bro. A. Dalziel, P.S.W., who would have filled that important post, has been nominated first W.M. of the newly-formed Talbot Lodge.

SUFFOLK.

WOODBIDGE.—*Doric Lodge* (No. 81).—At the monthly meeting of this lodge on Wednesday, the 6th. instant, Bro. Frederick Spalding, W.M., presided; there was a good muster of the brethren, and the S.W. Bro. Joseph Cullingford, was

unanimously elected as W.M. for the ensuing year; Bro. John Brickels, Treas., was again unanimously elected to that important office, Bro. M. Moore was also re-elected as Tyler. The W.M. appointed the following brethren as his assistants:—A. Jeffries, S.W.; Hayward, J.W.; T. Grimwood, S.D.; B. Dove, J.D.; G. Middleditch, Steward; B. Gall, J.G.; E. Fitz-Gerald, Sec.; J. Dallenger, Dir. of Cers.; and Reverend Tighe Gregory, Chaplain. A vote of thanks was proposed by P. M. Dallenger to the W.M., for his able and effective service in the chair during the past year, which was seconded by P.M. Gissing, and unanimously carried. The W.M. returned thanks in a feeling manner, after which the lodge was closed in harmony.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

CONSECRATION OF THE HUMBER LODGE.

The building of the Humber Lodge in Osborne-street, Hull, having become too small for the members of the lodge, to which additions are being continually made, it was determined, more than twelve months ago, during the period Bro. C. S. Todd was W.M., to reconstruct the same. The work, which was begun several months ago, is now completed, and on the 5th inst. the new lodge-room was consecrated according to the rites of the Order, and set apart for the uses of Freemasonry.

The ceremony of consecration was performed by Bro. George Marwood, D. Prov. G.M. for the province of North and East York, assisted by Bros. M. W. Clarke, W.M.; J. G. Milner, S.W.; J. P. Runcton, J.W.; Oates, Chaplain of the Lodge; and other officers of the lodge, in the presence of a very numerous attendance of brethren, including Bros. Major Smyth, the D. Prov. G.M. for Lincolnshire; E. H. Lucas, Prov. G. Sec. for Lincolnshire; Nelson, Prov. G. Sec. for the West Riding of York; J. P. Bell, M.D., Prov. G. Sec. for East and North York; Mosely, Croft, Jacobs, Seaton, Todd, Holden, Harrison, and numerous other P.M.'s, the W.M. and officers of the Minerva and the Kingston Lodges.

The ceremony was performed with great solemnity and care, and favourably impressed all who were present. The lodge room, its fittings and furniture are excellent, and it is undoubtedly one of the best, if not the best, lodge room in the provinces.

At six o'clock a number of the brethren sat down to a well-served banquet in the banquetting room of the lodge, which is under the lodge room.

The W.M., Bro. M. W. Clarke, presided. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and Bro. Marwood was heartily thanked for his presence and services in consecrating the lodge.

Bro. Stephenson presided at the piano, and some excellent songs and glees were admirably sung.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

PRESENTATION TO BRO. WILLIAM FOSTER, P.M., AND PROV. G.S.B.

BRADFORD.—*Pentalpha Lodge* (No. 974).—This lodge held its monthly meeting on the 7th inst. In the absence of the W.M., the lodge was opened by Bro. James Lumb, P.M. The minutes of last lodge having been read and confirmed, the W.M. entered the lodge and took his chair. He apologised for his unavoidable absence at the opening of the lodge, and expressed his regret that the pleasing duty which he had to perform had been so long delayed, owing to domestic affliction, viz., the presentation of a testimonial of esteem and regard to Bro. William Foster, P.M. and Prov. G.S.B., who was the first Master of the Lodge.

The testimonial, which was beautifully illuminated on vellum, and signed by the whole of the members, expressed the deep obligation the lodge was under to the worthy brother, in having provided at his own expense the jewels and other costly paraphernalia for the due observance of the ceremonies, and concluded with expressions of fraternal regard.

Bro. WILLIAM FOSTER, in his reply, said: It is with feelings of no ordinary character that I rise to thank you for the testimonial you have presented to me this evening. It is in itself a work of art, on which great labour and taste have been bestowed, yet how infinitely is its beauty surpassed by the eloquent language expressing warm sentiments of esteem and approval from my brethren of the Pentalpha Lodge. Brethren, accept my hearty thanks. Bro. Briggs, I am deeply in-

debted to you for the kind expressions you have been deputed to convey on behalf of the lodge. It would be difficult to find a more zealous Mason in every good work than our Worshipful Master, yet I fear, in this instance, his unbounded charity has led him to say far more in my favour than I can ever possibly observe. Brethren, when the heart is full of gratitude, it not unfrequently is least able to give expression to it. How then can I stand before you this evening without embarrassment, deeply sensible of your kindness, at the same time fully conscious of my own short comings; it is to you, brethren, I owe my high and enviable position, and not to any merit of my own. When the Pentalpha Lodge was formed, you did me the honour of selecting me its first Master, probably influenced more by personal esteem than Masonic qualification. I accepted the chair with diffidence—nay, even with reluctance, although a member of the Lodge of Hope (No. 302) for some years, and whilst living in the town a regular attender, my private engagements have so rapidly increased, and with less vigorous health of late, I have not been able to devote as much time to the duties of the lodge as I could have wished. In the formation of the lodge, I was pleased to find many of the Past Masters of the Lodge of Hope were amongst its promoters, and it is to them more particularly that I am indebted for the success which has attended my period of office; and I would take this opportunity of thanking them for the kind support, counsel, and assistance they have so willingly rendered, and which has contributed so much to the prosperity of the lodge. During the term of my office, it has forcibly struck me that the strength of a lodge depends, less upon its numbers than the zeal, efficiency, and sterling work of those who rightly appreciate our system; and I would earnestly advise a continuance of that caution which has, so far, been one of our characteristics. Brethren, allow me again to express my gratitude and heartfelt thanks for the honour you have done me in assuring me, by the testimonial you have now presented, that my humble efforts in the service of our ancient Craft have merited your approval. Trusting that we may all be long spared to continue and firmly cement the good-fellowship already existing amongst us, I once more return you my warmest thanks.

The next business was the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. David Little, which ceremony was ably performed by Bro. Jas. Lumb, P.M.

After a portion of Holy Scripture had been read by the Chaplain, the lodge was closed in harmony at 8.30.

The brethren then retired to celebrate the Festival of St. John.

Amongst the brethren present were the following P.M.'s:—Bros. Rogerson, Salmond, Hill, Gath, H. Smith, H. Mawson, Taylor, M.D.; Lumb, sen.; Hunter, M. Rhodes, Schoppi, Pratt, Matthews, Briggs, W. Foster, and Little; also, Bros. Rev. H. Willis, D.D.; Rev. H. J. Barfield, M.A.; Rev. — Flynn, M.A.; Leeson, M.D.; Beanland, Lawrie, J. Foster, Walmsley, Wrigley, Mee, Watson, J. Hill, Beav, &c.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

ROSE OF DENMARK CHAPTER (No. 975).—A convocation of the above chapter was held at the White Hart Hotel, Barnes, Surrey, on the 2nd inst. The chapter was opened by Comp. Brett, M.E.Z.; Little, H.; Hubbard, J.; Buss, P.Z., Treas.; and Cottebrune, P.Z. 177; after which the companions were admitted, and the minutes of the previous convocation read and confirmed. The following companions were then severally and unanimously elected to office for the ensuing year, viz.:—Comps. R. W. Little, M.E.Z.; Hubbard, H.; Terry, J.; Oliver, E.; Smith, N.; Pendlebury, P.S.; Buss, P.Z., Treas. A vote of three guineas for a P.Z.'s jewel to Comp. Brett in acknowledgment of the great ability, courtesy, and Masonic feeling he had displayed during his year of office was then carried by acclamation, and the companions further augmented the amount by individual subscriptions. The M.E.Z. elect then proposed, and Comp. Wilcox seconded, Bro. J. Barnes, of the present lodge, for exaltation; after which the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to the banquet, a very pleasant evening being spent under the presidency of Comp. Brett, and enlivened by recitations and songs by Comps. Terry, Squire, &c.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—*Chapter of Fortitude* (No. 279).—A quarterly convocation of this chapter was held at the Freemasons' Hall, on the 30th ult., at which were present the following companions:—Comps. Brewin, M.E.Z.; Goodyer, H.; Weare, J.; Kelly, P.Z. and P.G.H.; Pettifor, P.Z.; Moir, as E.; Manning, N.; Morris, Marris, G. H. Hodges, Herbert, Bithrey, and Ride. Visitor—Comp. S. S. Stattard. The minutes of the last chapter having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Bros. the Rev. E. W. Woodcock, L. A. Clarke, and C. Stretton, of St. John's Lodge (No. 279), and H. P. Green and Jemson Davies, of the John of Gaunt Lodge (No. 523), all of whom were duly elected. Bros. John Edward Hodges, W. Boulton, and Jos. Harris (ballotted for at the last chapter) together with Bros. C. Stretton, H. P. Green, and J. Davies being in attendance, were exalted into the Order in ancient form. In the absence of the P.S. (Comp. H. J. Davis), the duties of the office were discharged with his usual efficiency by Comp. Pettifor, P.Z. The whole of the duties of the chairs (with the exception of the symbolical lecture, which was delivered by Comp. Kelly, P.G.H.) were performed in a most admirable manner by the M.E.Z. A letter was received from the Rev. Bro. Woodcock, apologising for his unavoidable absence on this occasion. The D. Prov. G.M. and P.G.H. of the province (Comp. Kelly) having undertaken to represent the province as Steward at the next Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, the sum of £10 10s. was unanimously voted from the chapter funds, constituting the M.E.Z. for the time being a Life Governor of the charity. Bro. Luke Turner, of the John of Gaunt Lodge (No. 523) having been proposed as a candidate for exaltation, the chapter was closed in solemn form, and with prayer, after which the companions adjourned to refreshment.

SUFFOLK.

WOODBIDGE.—*Royal York Chapter* (No. 81).—A meeting of this chapter was held in the private lodge-room, Doric-place, on Wednesday, the 8th ult. The following companions were appointed officers:—Comps. J. S. Gissing, Z.; W. Trott, H.; John Dallenger, J.; T. Bays, E.; W. Wilmshurst, N.; J. Brickels, P.S.; W. Dousing, A.S.; M. Moore, Janitor. Bro. Benjamin Dove was exalted to the supreme degree, and expressed his satisfaction and delight at the interesting ceremony. The mystical lecture was delivered by Comp. W. Trott, P.Z.; the symbolical by Comp. Gissing, P.H.; and the historical by Comp. Dallenger, P.J.; the latter also officiated as P. Soj. At the conclusion the companions adjourned from the chapter-room to Comp. W. Wilmshurst's, where an excellent banquet awaited them, the goodness of which was duly appreciated and done justice to, and an harmonious evening spent.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

LEEDS.—*Chapter of Fidelity* (No. 289).—This chapter assembled at the new Masonic Hall, Great George-street, on Tuesday evening, the 12th instant, at seven o'clock; but in consequence of some misunderstanding was but thinly attended. Comp. Samuel Clarke, P.Z., acted as Z.; and Comps. R. Harrison, P.Z., as H.; and Henry Smith, P.Z., as J.; Swabey, as S.E., read the minutes of November the 14th, which were confirmed. There being no other business, Comp. R. Harrison, P.Z., expressed his regret that the companions attended so badly, but felt sure that the new rooms being found so eligible, a full attendance might be expected in future. Comp. Clarke then proceeded to impart some useful instruction, Comp. Jno. Wordsworth, of 208, acting as P. Soj. The chapter was closed at half-past eight in harmony.

AFFECTION, like spring flowers, breaks through the most frozen ground at last; and the heart which seeks for another heart to make it happy will never seek in vain.

IN all your dealings be perfectly honest and upright, and as much as possible avoid all mistakes in the transaction of business.

A LEARNED judge once said—A judge is like a God; men worship or they blaspheme him. Both to him are indifferent.

FORGIVENESS, that noblest of all self-denial, is a virtue, which he alone who can practice in himself, can willingly believe in another.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

GRAND CONCLAVE OF MASONIC KNIGHTS
TEMPLAR.

The half-yearly meeting of Grand Conclave took place on Friday, the 8th inst., at the Great Hall of the Masonic Union Club, 14, Bedford-row.

The business announced in the summons was as follows:—

The minutes of Grand Conclave holden May 12th, 1865, to be read.

The report of the Committee of General Purposes to be read.

The Provincial Grand Commanders for the Northern and Eastern Province of Yorkshire, and for the Province of Kent, to do homage on their appointment.

Petitions for donations from the Grand Almoner's Fund to be considered, and divers urgent and important matters to be transacted.

Punctually at three o'clock the M.E. and S.G. Master, Sir Knt. William Stuart, entered the Great Hall with the usual procession and accompaniments, and took his place on the throne, supported by the D.G. Master, Grand Chancellor, and a goodly display of Grand Officers, past and present, and many distinguished Metropolitan and Provincial members of the Order in their magnificent and highly picturesque attire (to the correctness of which much more attention now appears to be given than formerly), and, it may be said with truth, that a more brilliant array of Masonic talent never was assembled together upon any previous occasion, as every member present was well known as standing deservedly high in Craft Masonry, and in its highest ranks.

The Grand Conclave was then opened in form with solemn prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting of Grand Conclave were then read and confirmed.

The report of the Committee of General Purposes was then read by the Grand Chancellor, the following being the substance thereof:—

In my capacity of Grand Chancellor, which honourable office I received at your hands in May last, it becomes my duty to report to you in Grand Conclave on the present state of the Order over which you preside.

1st. As to the proceedings of the Committee of the Grand Conclave (not being matters of mere administrative detail).

2nd. To invite your attention to those which contain suggestions requiring the deliberation and decision of this body, and, finally, to those points which refer especially to the execution of the office which I have the honour to fill.

The Order at the present time consists of 104 commanderies, or private encampments, of which four are newly constituted. Of this total number, however, nine are dormant or in abeyance, but some of these will probably be revived. Two only have become extinct.

The new commanderies are—the Hinxman, of Queensland; the Loyal Burmah, of Rangoon; the Grove, of Ewell, Surrey; the Invicta, of Chatham. In addition to these, the Holy Rood, Warwick; the Percy, Victoria, South Australia, formerly holding under the Baldwin Encampment, but which has now joined under the banner of the Grand Master. The Camps of Joppa of Sunderland, and St. John of Simla, have become extinct. There are seventy-two commanderies in England and Wales, and thirty-two in British possessions, or colonies abroad, holding under yourself, and presided over by twenty-one Provincial Grand Commanders at home, and eight abroad. The total number of knights may be stated approximately at 2,000.

The command of the province of China having fallen vacant,

you have been pleased to select Sir Knt. Murray to administer it, with Hong Kong for his residence. In doing so, you have been guided by the obvious rule of having your head-quarters on British soil, in preference to a foreign country, though it is well known that the equal claims and capacity of the respective leading members of Templary in Hong Kong and in Shanghai caused you no little embarrassment in your choice. The vacancy of the province of Kent has been filled by your appointment of Sir Knt. Colonel Clerk, who will be present to do homage on his appointment previous to his installation on his province.

There has been but one consecration of a new encampment since the Grand Conclave of May, that of the "Royal Plantagenet" of Ipswich, but others will shortly take place. The Order of the Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, Rhodes, and Malta was revived in connection with the Order of the Temple about two years ago, and since that time has made such progress, that it has been already adopted by about two-thirds of the total number of encampments ranging under your banner, who have under the powers of their respective warrants established priories. Some inconvenience has arisen from the number of knights necessary to fill all the offices in a priory; but inasmuch as all these offices have existed in the Order ever since its first foundation, it would be neither proper nor expedient to introduce any modification.

Under these circumstances I have to congratulate you, Most Eminent Supreme Sir, on the gradual and steadily increasing prosperity of the Order and the consequent improvements in its funds.

Two applications have been made to the Committee of the Grand Conclave for relief. The former by the widow of a late Provincial Grand Commander, and the latter by the equerry of the camp of St. Michael and St. George, of Corfu, which I had the honour to inaugurate under your auspices, but which from political circumstances has ceased to exist.

Your committee has found considerable difficulty in dealing with the former case, in consequence of the social position of the applicant, whose late husband undoubtedly did good service to the Order. Your committee then, in recommending the case to the consideration of the Grand Conclave, forbears making any further suggestion on a matter in which no precedent exists.

In the latter case your committee suggests that a sum of Ten guineas be presented to the applicant.

On my accession to office I found a correspondence had taken place between the late Grand Chancellor Masson and the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master of Scotland, on which at that time no action could be taken.

The difficulties which then stood in the way having since been removed, an opportunity now presents itself of entering into more intimate relations with the Scottish branch of the Order, to the mutual advantage of both, and the general advancement of this degree in chivalry.

The mode in which this object could be carried into effect would be by your appointing, Most Eminent Sir, one of your officers to negotiate the terms of a convention with the Grand Master of Scotland, or such person as he might delegate in that behalf, upon a basis having for its object an assimilation of the two branches of the Order, consisting in a mutual recognition of rank and privileges, and, as far as practicable, an approximation in form and ceremonies.

The ratification of such convention belongs to the prerogative of the respective Grand Masters.

Should this prove successful, a similar course might with advantage be pursued with reference to the branch of the Order in Ireland, whereby the Order in the three kingdoms would be

drawn more closely together, and be in a position to act in concert with greater advantages to the general cause of Templary.

This federal confederation would in no respect interfere with the individual rights, privileges, and prerogatives of the respective Grand Masters. With respect to suggestions more especially referring to the office which I have the honour to hold, I have to report that since the last meeting of the Grand Conclave four appeals have been made to the Supreme Authority under Paragraph 7, intitled "Of the Grand Master." The former of these is an appeal to the decision of the Provincial Grand Commander of Victoria, South Australia by a Knight Past Eminent Commander of the Pembroke Encampment.

The latter were three appeals by Deputy Provincial Grand Commander Farnham, and one from the Zion Encampment, from the judgment of the Provincial Grand Commander of Bombay. These being appeals against the ruling of Provincial Grand Commanders, it will be my duty to submit them to the consideration of the Grand Conclave, in accordance with the statute in that case made and provided.

I have carefully considered the four cases, and marshalled the facts, in order to be in a position to present the cases to the Grand Conclave on the conclusion of this report, in such a form as will render the issues of law and facts easily intelligible.

The fact of so unusual a number of appeals having come in during the first half-year of my appointment to office, has led me to consider this subject, and to recommend that some rules should be laid down with a view to regulating the form in which appeals should in future be framed to the Supreme Authority with a view to uniformity and for facilitating the ends of justice. The absence of such rules materially increases the difficulty of decision and renders it less satisfactory than it might otherwise be to the litigants and the Order generally. Indeed, it is often difficult to ascertain the real issue between the parties from the confused mode in which the case is stated, entailing on the officer whose duty it is to draw up the decree the necessity of familiarising the whole litigation, in exemplification of which it may be stated that the judgment in the former of the appeals above referred to extended over many foolscap sides.

I would therefore recommend the adoption of the following example rules, the observance of which would not necessarily imply legal knowledge:—

That every appeal be intitled "Before the Grand Master of the Knights of the Temple of St. John, Rhodes, and Malta."

That the name of the province be written on the margin.

That the name of the appellant and the camp to which he belongs, and that of the respondent and of his camp follow the title.

That the issues or complaints be set forth simply, and numbered consecutively. That a concise statement of facts follow the above.

That the grounds of appeal or argument on the above facts come next in order.

That the appeal conclude with a prayer. That the documents or evidence in support be appended in order of date, followed by a list with reference numbers.

That the same form and order be adopted in the answer and reply. That no new document or evidence be produced with the reply.

That no rejoinder be permitted. That in all cases the litigant parties mutually communicate to each other copies of the appeal answer and reply, and evidence which they adduce, and certify such fact at foot of such copy with the date.

That fourteen clear days be allowed in each case from the

date of service on the opposite party after the expiry of which any document shall be considered out of time and be rejected *ex-officio*.

That appeal, answer, and reply be written uniformly, and in a clear hand on one side only of brief paper with the usual margin, the pages to be numbered consecutively at the foot of each page.

That the whole be forwarded under cover to the Grand Vice Chancellor in accordance with the statutes.

That all decrees be signed by the Grand Master, and countersigned by his Grand Chancellor in duplicate, and recorded in the Chancellerie of the Grand Conclave.

The Court will award costs in accordance with the terms of the decree.

That a duplicate original of the decree be forwarded to the Provincial Grand Commander of the province to which it applies, who shall forthwith summon a Provincial Grand Conclave *ad hoc*, and cause the decree to be read and published by the Provincial Grand Registrar and see that it be duly executed.

Considerable inconvenience, irregularities, and questions having arisen in the colonies and British possessions abroad on the statute, which makes it imperative that a camp held for the election of an Eminent Commander should, in all cases, be presided over by an Eminent Commander, and that the installation of such Eminent Commander take place at a regular meeting of such encampment, as provided by its by-laws. I have to recommend that, since it has by experience been found practically impossible to carry out this provision, the following addendum to the paragraph 3, intituled "Private Encampments"—

"In order to obviate inconvenience and delay in the election and installation of Eminent Commanders in the colonies, or British possessions abroad, it shall be lawful for a Provincial Grand Commander to authorise a past or actual 1st or 2nd Captain of any encampment to preside at such encampment for the purpose of electing an Eminent Commander, provided he certify that the case is one of unavoidable necessity, and that no Past Eminent Commander can be found to preside; and it shall furthermore be lawful for such Provincial Grand Commander to instal the Eminent Commander so elected at a meeting specially summoned *ad hoc*, notwithstanding such meeting be not a regular meeting prescribed by the by-laws of the camp for such purpose; but in all cases the Provincial Grand Commander shall make a special return thereof."

And with reference to paragraph 11, intituled "Of the Committee," there should be added *in finem* "Except in the colonies or British possessions abroad, in which case the Committee shall proceed on the written evidence, without requiring the presence of the parties."

That at page 17, paragraph 3, intituled "Of Provincial Grand Commanders," after the words (except the Treasurer) by minute registered in the books of the Provincial Grand Conclave, or by warrant under his hand and seal of office, and in the first case the Provincial Grand Registrar shall, on request, deliver to such officer a certificate of such minute.

With these recommendations, I have the honour to close my first report for the summer session.

The Ex.G. CHANCELLOR, Sir Knt. Law moved, and the G.D.C., Sir Knt. Meymott, seconded a motion "That the report just read be received and entered in the minutes, and that it be printed and circulated; that in future a printed copy of the report of the Committee of General Purposes be printed, and sent to each Encampment and to each present and Past Grand

Officer prior to the meeting of Grand Conclave." Carried unanimously.

The Provincial Grand Commanders recently appointed then attended and did homage.

Two petitions were next read from two applicants for donations from Grand Conclave, and in each case money was granted: The D.G.M., Sir Knt. Vernon, having proposed, and Sir Knt. Nelson seconded the grant of £15 to the widow of a deceased Knight, and Sir Knt. Gooldeu having proposed, and Sir Knt. George Lambert seconded a grant of £10 to a distressed Knight of Corfu, the M.E. and S.G. Master then put these propositions separately, which were carried unanimously.

The G. CHANCELLOR then proceeded to read the several cases of appeal which had been before the Committee of Grand Conclave, and he submitted for the approval of Grand Conclave the drafts of judgments relating to three of the cases, and an opinion upon a fourth case of appeal which had been submitted. The D.G.M. proposed, and Sir Knt. J. Huyshe seconded, and it was carried unanimously, that the judgments read by the G. Chancellor be approved and recorded. The D.G.M. then moved, and Sir Knt. Huyshe seconded a motion, that the opinion relating to the fourth case be approved, confirmed, and seconded.

The following notices of motion were then given:—

By Sir Knt. HUYSHE:—"That in future an agenda paper containing the business to be brought before Grand Conclave, be prepared by the Grand Vice Chancellor, and when approved by the General Committee be printed and issued to every encampment and to every Provincial and Past Grand officer."

By Sir Knt. BINEKES:—"That in all cases where appeals or other questions to be submitted to Grand Conclave for confirmation or otherwise, the papers in connection therewith, after they have been before the general committee be open for inspection at the office of the Grand Vice Chancellor by all duly qualified members of Grand Conclave."

By Sir Knt. W. J. MEYMOTT:—"That a fund of benevolence be established; that a fine be imposed on every Grand Officer who neither attends Grand Conclave nor finds a substitute, and those fines together with the Grand Almoners fund, and the fees or costs of appeals be added to the benevolent fund."

The M.E. and S.G. MASTER having inquired whether any member of the Grand Conclave had anything to propose for the good of Masonry in general, or for Knight Templary in particular, the Grand Conclave was closed with prayer in the usual impressive manner.

Grand Conclave having been closed, the M.E. and S.G. Master, the D.G.M., the G. Chancellor, the G. Prior, the G. Sub-Prior, the several present and past Grand Officers, and present and past Provincial Grand Officers, and the various Sir Knights present, were marshalled together and grouped for the purpose of taking a series of photographic views of the new hall, and the various personages therein assembled, in their full Masonic clothing, &c., with the intention on the part of Bro. Rosenthal to commemorate the event upon canvas. The picture, which we understand is to be painted in oil, will contain correct portraits of all the celebrities of the Order present upon the occasion, and it will afterwards be reproduced in chromo-lithography.

THE BANQUET.

If further evidence were necessary of the greatly improved condition of things now existing at the Masonic Union Club, it was to be found on the occasion of the banquet given after the last Grand Conclave. Dinner and wines equally good in quality were served admirably, and gave entire satisfaction to every one present.

The M.B. and S.G. Master presided, supported by Sir Knts. Huyshe, Lord Glentworth, Sir Patrick Colquhoun, Dr. Harcourt,

Nelson, Meymott, and numerous other dignitaries of the Order.

The usual loyal and other toasts were given and responded to, and the company separated before ten o'clock, highly delighted with the meeting and the banquet.

SCOTLAND.

THE FREEMASONS AND ST. ANDREW'S DAY.

The annual meeting for the election and installation of office-bearers of the Grand Lodge of Scotland for the ensuing year was held in Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, on Thursday evening (St. Andrew's day), when the following brethren were unanimously elected to office, viz. :—

John Whyte-Melville, Esq., of Bennoch and Straithkinness,
Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason of Scotland.

The Right Hon. George William Baron Kinnaird and Rosse,
K.T. R. W. Past Grand Master.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Haddington, R.W. Deputy Grand Master.

Right Hon. Lord Loughborough, R.W.S.G.M.
Sir A. P. Gordon Cumming, Bart, R.W.S.G.W.

The Duke of Athole, R.W.J.G.W.

Samuel Hay (Union Bank), R.W.G.T.

William Alexander Laurie, W.S., R.W.G.S.

Alexander James Stewart, W.S., R.W.G.C.

Rev. David Arnot, D.D., and Rev. T. G. Faithfull, V.W.G.C.

Right Hon. the Earl of Dunmore, V.W.S.G.D.

W. Mann, V.W.J.G.D.

David Bryce, V.W.G.A.

Alexander Hay, V.W.G.J.

Andrew Kerr, V.W.G.B.B.

Captain P. Deuchar, R.N., and Charles S. Law, G.D.C.

James Balltine, G.B.

Major B. D. W. Ramsay, G.S.B.

Charles W. M. Muller, G.D.M.

John Coghill, Chief Grand Marshal.

John Laurie, Grand Marshal.

William M. Bryce, Grand Tyler.

After the election the brethren adjourned to the large hall to celebrate the festival of St. Andrew. Large deputations from the various lodges in the metropolitan province were present. The Grand Master, who presided, was supported by the Hon. the Earl of Dalhousie, K.T.; Henry Inglis, of Torsance; W. Mann, A.G.S.W.; Dr. McCowan, A.J.G.W.; Major Balcarras; D. W. Ramsay; George Harriott, of Killiemore; the Rev. Dr. Arnot and the Rev. V. G. Faithful, M.A.; W. A. Laurie; A. J. Stewart; J. Wolf Murray, of Cringletie, &c.

The meeting, which was one of the most harmonious nature, was carried on with great spirit, and afforded much gratification to all present.

During the evening, Bro. Balltine, the Grand Bard, sang the following song, composed by himself, in honour of the occasion, and which was received with great enthusiasm :—

Tune—"Let Haughty Gaul."

We're here on Auld St. Andrew's night,
A' brithers and a' freemen;
But still we lack the lustrous licht
That shines in angel women,
Rab Burns, deep laired in human ken,
Aye when he filled his can fu',
Drank "Scotland's lassies, wives, and men,
And Scotland's boast, St. Andrew."

It's said that women whiles gae daft,
And secrets canna keep, boys;
But I hae kissed my lassie aft,
An' ne'er o't heard a cheep, boys!
And, mind ye, gin a wife's weel used,
She'll aye be to her man true;
So wherefore should she be refused
A keel o' Auld St. Andrew?

Though woman tasted first the fruit
That wrocht us a' sic ill, boy—
A woman soon gat to the root
O' a' Masonic skill, boys.

When Solomon let Sheba's Queen
His Holy Temple scan through,
She trigged the mystic marks wi' een
As clear as slee St. Andrew.

A woman wears Great Britian's crown,
And reigns o'er half the world, boys;
And gathers glory and renown
Whaure'er her flag's unfurled, boys.
And should our Queen e'er daunder here,
And proffer her wee haund true,
We'll hail her wi' a brither cheer.
A sister o' St. Andrew.

[We observe that Bro. D. Murray Lyon, who is favourably known to our readers, has been re-elected one of the Grand Stewards in the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and a member of the committee on the Fund of Scottish Masonic Benevolence.]

IRELAND.

MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL.

The ordinary monthly meeting of the Board of Governors of this institution was held at the Schoolhouse, Burlington-road, Dublin, on the 5th inst., when, in addition to the usual routine business, an election took place of five pupils out of a list of fourteen candidates, all of whom had been declared eligible.

The scrutiny of the voting papers, which took place the previous evening, occupied nearly six hours, the number of votes recorded being above 4,000. On the bringing up of the scrutineers' report the following were declared duly elected :— Felicia Catherine Browne, daughter of George Browne, late paymaster to the Constabulary; Jane Dunbar, daughter of Henry Dunbar, late first-class clerk in the National Board of Education; Sarah Little, daughter of Joshua Little, late of Belfast; Ellen R. Shields, daughter of Francis Henry Shields, merchant, and proprietor of the *King's County Chronicle*; and Louisa Bradshaw, whose father was formerly J.P. of the county Tipperary.

TYRONE.

OMAGH.—Lodge (No. 334 I.C.)—This old lodge met on the 27th ult., at the White Hart Hotel, where the lodge room has been enlarged and renewed owing to the great increase of members. The lodge was opened in the first degree, with solemn prayer, at seven o'clock. The W.M. Bro. Major Dawson, and several other brethren of 332 attended, and were saluted according to ancient custom. The following gentlemen were ballotted for and initiated into Masonry :—Messrs. William Crawford, James Worthington, John L. Harvey, and Robert Reid. The W.M., Bro. Charles J. McMullin, conducted the ceremonies in an able and impressive manner, assisted by Bro. Dr. Love, P.M. 332. Bro. Michael Delany gave the lecture on the tracing board and working tools of E.A., and acquitted himself to the satisfaction of the brethren. The lodge was then passed to the second degree, when Bros. William Wilson and McElroy having made suitable proficiency, were advanced to the degree of F.C. The lodge was then called down to the first degree; the new by-laws were read and confirmed. Bros. Charles J. McMullin re-elected as W.M.; Michael Delany, S.W.; W. J. Robinson, J.W.; S. D. Montgomery, S.D.; John Scoles (Sergt.), J.D.; Wm. Wilson (Sergt. R.I.F. Militia), I.G.; and Thos. Collins, Tyler. Three more candidates were proposed. Lodge was then closed in piece and harmony at ten o'clock, when the brethren retired to refreshment. About twenty brethren, including the landlord of this fine hotel, Bro. Mullen, were present. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given with the customary honours, the brethren were called upon by a P.M. to drink the "Healths of the W.M., and newly-elected Officers of 334." Bro. C. J. McMullin, in responding, thanked the brethren heartily for the cordial manner they received his health, and alluded to the great progress Freemasonry was making at present. Formerly this very same lodge

over which he had the honour of presiding could scarcely muster enough members to form a meeting, and now he was delighted to see around him not only the brethren of 334, but several very influential brethren visitors; indeed, he could assure them nothing but the very inclement weather prevented a much larger attendance on this evening. He did not flatter himself it was altogether owing to his exertions the lodge was prospering, but he always found that when brethren were united in their efforts to advance the Craft and conduct the ceremonies in an orderly and proper manner, it was sure to flourish. Nor must he omit to thank the W.M. of 332 and the visiting brethren for the kindness and assistance he always received from them. He was certain the brethren of 334 would uphold him in saying that, had it not been for their assistance some time ago, when, unfortunately, a screw was loose, that the warrant must have been surrendered; but Bro. Love, who presided over 332, and Bro. Major Dawson, W.M., and all their brethren gave them the use of their room, jewels, &c., and the benefit of their experience in labour. Now look at the result. There will be more than forty members of this lodge present at the Festival of St. John. He again begged to thank them one and all for his re-election, and hoped he would see a greater number of his fellow townsmen join the society where peace, love, and harmony is and ought to prevail. Bro. Michael Delany, S.W., assured them it gave him pleasure to see the progress this lodge was making, and to meet so many brethren of position and influence, some of them companions in arms. As an old military man, he would assure them that discipline and obedience, coupled with the Divine truths and precepts unfolded to them in the lodge, would not only make them better men and more universally respected, but would also raise the society in this neighbourhood, where it is again raising its head up. He thanked them sincerely for the manner in which they received the toast, and would continue to support the W.M. as long as he could, and forward the interests of this lodge; but he must remind them that many years of foreign service and scourgings he had served in might prevent his regular attendance every night, but he would endeavour to meet them. (Hear, hear.) The newly-initiated brethren were ably given and responded to by each of the initiates. The W.M. gave the Visiting Brethren. Bros. Dawson, Love, and several others, amongst them the worthy host, Bro. Mullen, returned thanks afterwards. The sympathetic toast given in a very feeling manner by the W.M., who alluded to the loss the lodge had sustained by the death of a well-known brother who was one of the brightest Masons in the lodge, and who has now since the last night of meeting been called, we humbly hope to the Grand Lodge above, leaving his family only poorly provided for. Brethren, it has long been our custom here to give effect to the toast by giving a small sum to the charitable relief fund of this lodge. We don't miss a small sum, and oh, brethren, if you were all aware of the many cases of real distress and the appeals for aid I received when I was Secretary, you will contribute handsomely to this fund. Remember the divine command. Love ye one another even as I loved you. Several pounds were realised on this occasion. "Burns' adieu" closed the proceedings of the evening. The night was the severest known here for some time, and the brethren were obliged to take shelter in the hospitable roof of the White Hart long after the meeting broke up, and several with difficulty reached their homes in the country on account of the floods, the river having overflowed with the rains.

Obituary.

BRO. THE REV. HENRY VERE WHITE.

On the 29th ult., shortly before ten o'clock, after a long and painful illness, borne with Christian resignation and fortitude, died, Bro. the Rev. Henry Vere White, Chaplain of Swift's-alley Episcopal Free Church, Limerick, for nearly twenty years, and Chaplain to the Masonic Female Orphan School. He was the second son of the late Benjamin Newport White, Esq., J.P., for many years Deputy Mayor of Cashel, under the old Corporation; and was born at Conahy House, in the county of Kerry, on Christmas Day, 1817.

In his earliest years he seemed specially called to the service of God, for even then his piety was remarkable,

and his constant ambition was to be a minister of the Church, and to this end had offered himself as a Missionary of the Church Missionary Society; however, when over twenty years of age he commenced the study of the classics and science necessary for entrance into college (being almost self taught, except for the kind instruction of the Rev. George Lawless); he entered into Trinity College, Dublin, where he passed a creditable collegiate course.—He was ordained on the 20th October, 1845, on Letters Dimissory, from the Lord Bishop of Cork, by the Lord Bishop of Dublin, for the Free Church, in Cork. After being some time in Cork he was obliged to resign on account of ill-health; his next curacy was that of Ballyshannon, in the Diocese of Derry and Raphoe, and he received Priest's orders from the Bishop of that diocese, but soon removed to the Chaplaincy of Smith's-alley Free Church. Here in the heart of the Liberty and in the poorest district of Dublin he laboured earnestly and incessantly for both the spiritual and temporal wants of his flock.

In 1849 he was Chaplain to the South Dublin Fever and Cholera hospitals, and, exhibited a devotion to the service of his Master through scenes of extreme danger; he was an active member of the Committee of Brown-street Magdalen Asylum, and by his personal exertions rescued many a brand from the burning; in short, wherever God's work was to be done he was ready to spend and be spent. He was for some years Secretary to various religious societies, and for them and the Protestant Orphan Society (which had his warmest sympathies) he travelled and preached much. He was an earnest and eloquent preacher, *preaching* what he felt and *feeling* what he preached.

He had attained to the highest rank in Freemasonry, and was greatly esteemed by the members of the Order; in him his friends lose the kindest and most sympathetic friend, the ministry a devoted and consistent servant of Christ, while the Church above has one added to its number; his surviving friends sorrow not without hope, for he has departed with the sure and steadfast hope of a joyful resurrection.

BRO. JOSEPH DUNN.

We regret to have to announce the death, on the 3rd inst., of Bro. Joseph Dunn, for many years manager of the Windsor Bridge Iron Works, Manchester. The deceased Bro. was, at the time of his death, S.W. of the St. John's Lodge, 325, Pendleton.

We are compelled, from want of space, to defer giving until our next issue an account of the funeral ceremony.

REVIEWS.

El Espejo Masónico, Publicado por Andres Cassard, 33. (The Masonic Mirror, edited by Bro. Andrew Cassard). New York, November, 1865.

It gives us much pleasure to announce the appearance of this first Masonic periodical, written, we believe, in the Spanish language. Our readers will not be astonished to find that the "Espejo" is not published within the dominions of Queen Isabella II., considering that Romish priestcraft and popish obscurantism have, up to this day, been successful in preventing the light of Masonry from penetrating openly into Spain and the majority of the Spanish Colonies. But the six million inhabitants of the Central and South American Continent, speaking the Castilian tongue, have long since shaken off the yoke of priestcraft along with that of the Mother country, which had proved a raven mother, and amongst these ten millions our Order counts some fifty thousand adherents.

The "Espejo" is designed to be the organ of this light amongst the Latin races of the Western Hemis-

phere, and in giving our fraternal greeting to our new contemporary, we hope it will prove equal to the noble task that it has undertaken. Prefixed to the first issue of the "Espejo" are these words, by Bro. Cassard:—

"My life has been devoted to the great work of the redemption of the human species; and though I may not attain my object, I shall at least be conscious of having, to the best of my ability, contributed towards the welfare of mankind."

The Editor, Bro. Cassard, is assisted in his work by Bros. Albert G. Mackey, Albert Pike, A. Ma de Zubiria y Herrera, and A. T. C. Pierson, all of them belonging to the thirty-third Scottish grade. An excerpt from the "Espejo" is given in another column of our present issue.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen, Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, Princess Beatrice, and Princess Hohenlohe, and the ladies and gentlemen in-waiting, attended Divine service on Sunday morning in the Private Chapel. The Rev. C. Kingsley, Chaplain in Ordinary to her Majesty, preached the sermon. Her Majesty received on Sunday afternoon, with profound sorrow, the announcement of the loss which has fallen on her Majesty and the Royal family by the death of the King of the Belgians, her Majesty's last surviving uncle, and the last of his generation of the House of Saxe Coburg. The loss, though not unexpected, is not less felt by the Queen, who, in the King of the Belgians has lost a most affectionate relation, and a most sagacious adviser—a friend and councillor of the Prince Consort, to whom he was warmly attached, and whom from early childhood the Queen has looked upon in the light of a father, whose interest in the Queen's welfare was unceasing, and whose kindness the Queen will never forget. It being indispensably necessary for the despatch of public business, her Majesty held a Council on Monday at one o'clock, at which were present Earl Granville, the Duke of Somerset, and the Right Hon. E. Cardwell. The Prince of Wales, attended by Lieutenant Colonel Keppel, arrived at Marlborough House on Tuesday night from Sandringham.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—We trust for the honour of the magisterial bench that there is no other court in England in which such a scene as that which is reported to have taken place at Leamington on the 6th inst., could have occurred. It would have been much better to adjourn the proceedings altogether than to have allowed so indecent an altercation in a public court. While the oath was being gabbled out to witnesses by two persons at the same time the crowd enjoyed the fun, but it must have occasioned sorrow to many who do not like to see a court of justice turned into a bear garden.—We regret to have to report another sanguinary poaching encounter which was attended with serious results. The affray took place in the preserves of Mr. Rowland Burden, near Hartlepool. Shots were exchanged between the two parties, the result being that a county policeman and a keeper's son were severely wounded, and that one of the poachers called out that he was killed. Such are some of the fruits of the game laws.—An action for breach of promise of marriage was tried in the Court of Common Pleas. A young girl named Berry sued a Mr. Da Costa for damages. There could be no doubt that the promise had been made, and that the plaintiff had been seduced. Ultimately the defendant married his mother's maid. The jury gave the plaintiff a verdict for £2,500.—The lingering and painful illness of the King of the Belgians has at last terminated in death. He died on Sunday morning in the 76th year of his age. The intelligence that has been received from time to time of his condition, both from public and private sources, could

leave no doubt that this must be the result. His Majesty had been for some days past conscious of his serious condition and of the certainty of his speedy dissolution. On this account the Duke and Duchess of Brabant had taken up their abode in the palace, and were constant in their attentions to the illustrious sufferer. The dying scene is described as most touching, the King, up to the moment of his death, being surrounded by his children and his grandchildren, who were bathed in tears. The grief of the nation bears evident proofs of sincerity. In France and on the Continent generally the newspapers speak highly of the late King.—A murder is reported from the neighbourhood of Wolverhampton. Some Irish labourers had been drinking and got into a quarrel with a policeman, who called to his assistance one of his companions. A man named Hooper came up and was about to seize one of the rioters, when he was stabbed with a sharp-pointed knife, or rather dagger, and died almost instantly. The man who is charged with the crime is in custody.—A densely-crowded meeting, under the auspices of the National Reform League, was held in St. Martin's Hall on Tuesday evening. Indeed, so great was the crowd seeking admission, that a number of those who could not get into the great hall filled a lower room, and there held another meeting. In the hall Mr. Edmond Beales, the president of the League, occupied the chair, and delivered a sound speech, in which the necessity for Reform was insisted upon. Various other speakers addressed the meeting, and resolutions and a memorial in accordance with the object of the gathering were enthusiastically agreed upon.—A great Reform meeting was held at Halifax on Monday night. Mr. Stansfeld and Sir F. Crossley delivered good Reform speeches, the former emphatically protesting against handing over the question to a royal commission. A memorial urging Lord Russell to introduce a Reform Bill in the next session was enthusiastically adopted.—The Smithfield Club Cattle Show was visited on Tuesday by over 20,000 persons. The exhibition appears rather to grow in attraction than otherwise. An action was tried in the Court of Exchequer on Tuesday, in which Mr. Moss Defries sought to recover damages from the South Eastern Railway Company for injuries received by him in the accident at Staplehurst. After hearing a good deal of evidence, the jury found for the plaintiff, with £3,500 damages.—At the Bow-street police office a case was heard which has attracted some attention in the theatrical world. Mr. Charles Hoskins, formerly a comedian at Drury-lane Theatre, and now a licensed victualler, at Cheltenham, was summoned by Mr. Meagreson, comedian, and now engaged at Drury-lane Theatre, for having written certain threatening letters to him. Both parties are also concerned in an action for libel which is now pending. On Tuesday the defendant pleaded guilty to having written abusive letters, and was bound over to keep the peace for six months. The libel case is said also to have arisen from the writing of anonymous letters.—An important case growing out of the railway demolitions in Somers Town was decided in the Marylebone county court, and many similar cases will be ruled by the judgment which Mr. Lake Russell has now given. He decided the principle that weekly tenants are entitled to no compensation from railway companies who may have occasion to remove their dwellings. This decision is in strict accordance with the law, but it will inflict immense hardship upon large numbers of small tradesmen in Somers Town.—The young man Storer, who was committed for trial for causing the death of Miss Blake at Salisbury, has committed suicide in Salisbury Gaol. On Tuesday he was allowed to take a warm bath, and contrived to drown himself in the water. Once before, since he has been in gaol, it is said he endeavoured to

commit suicide. He sent to a friend to get him some pills made up, and the prescription he forwarded contained a deadly poison. —At the Guildhall on Wednesday a veterinary surgeon, named Poudry, was charged with assaulting a police-constable while in the performance of his duty. The defendant, it appeared, made strenuous efforts to walk along the carriage way of the temporary bridge at Blackfriars, although the police on duty remonstrated with him, and pointed out that it was both dangerous and contrary to orders. The elevation of the paths for foot passengers above the carriage road is a contrivance so admirably calculated to prevent accidents that we are surprised that any reasonable man should endeavour to break through the rule that has been laid down. The fine of ten shillings will no doubt act as a caution to others.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The currency difficulty in Rome has led to the publication of a Pontifical decree prohibiting any premium being charged on the current coin of the Roman States.—The Swedish House of Nobles has adopted the proposed reform of the Constitution by 361 votes to 294. The Chamber of the Clergy will undoubtedly also agree to the step. There is great popular rejoicing in consequence.—The *Patrie* says that President Johnson has instructed the American Minister in Chili to offer his good offices for the settlement of the Hispano-Chilian question. The *Patrie* thinks that this, in conjunction with the good offices of France and England, may help to bring about a reconciliation between Spain and Chili.—The editor of the Bohn newspaper which published an account of the sentence upon Count Eulenburg, for the murder of Ott, has been snubbed by the local military authorities, and ordered to announce that the sentence is not yet given. The editor, however, remains firm to his original statement, for which, he says, he had authority admitting of no doubt.—The Belgian Chambers met on Monday, and received the announcement of the death of King Leopold. The president of each Chamber briefly expressed their regret, and the Chambers adjourned. The funeral takes place to-day (Saturday), and to-morrow the new King will make his entry into Brussels.—The Emperor of Austria arrived at Pesth on Tuesday, and, says the telegram, “was received with great ceremony.” Many members of the Hungarian Diet were at the castle of Buda to meet his Majesty, and last evening the town was to be illuminated. Herr Bernath has been chosen by a conference Senior President of the Chamber of Deputies.—There are materials for a nice little quarrel at Berlin. It appears that the French and English ambassadors were invited to be present at the marriage of the King's niece, the Princess Alexandrine; but that when, after the ceremony, they discovered that places had not been reserved for them at the royal table, they marched off in high dudgeon. The Chamberlain justifies himself on the ground of precedent. The ambassadors had also no doubt potted over the records of Court ceremonials, and come to an opposite conclusion. As, according to gold and silver sticks in waiting; the honour of England must be involved in this sublime point of etiquette, perhaps Lord Clarendon will exchange notes with Count Bismarck on the subject, and agree to refer the matter to a commission of Court flunkys.—After all it seems that Turkey has contracted for a new loan of £6,000,000. The contract has been made with the Credit Mobilier of Paris, and will be issued on the 18th inst. at Constantinople, London, and Paris simultaneously.—A Constantinople telegram says that the passage of the Bosphorus and Dardanelles by night is about to be opened to steamers of all flags and classes. It is to be hoped that the report is correct.

AMERICA.—By the *Persia* we have intelligence from New York to the 29th ult. The members of Congress were begin-

ning to assemble at Washington, and the general tone of their conversation is said to indicate a strong feeling against the immediate admission of Southern members to seats in Congress. In Texas and Mississippi so strong were the fears of an insurrection of the negroes at Christmas that the military authorities were taking precautions against such an event, and the planters of Texas were sending their wives and families and valuables to the seacoast. The Mexican question continued to excite much attention. According to the *Tribune*, the President, in his Message, will admit the importance of what is passing in Mexico, but deprecate interferences as likely to prove injurious to the United States and the Liberal cause. The Fenian flag has been hoisted over the Fenian head-quarters in New York. Toronto dispatches had been received in the latter city, containing exaggerated accounts of the number of Fenians in Canada, and of the mutual arming of Catholics and Orangemen.—The *Moravian* has arrived with dates from New York to the 2nd inst. The difficulties in North Carolina had been finally adjusted by the ratification on the part of the local Legislature of the constitutional amendment abolishing slavery. President Johnson has restored the operation of the Habeas Corpus Act in the Southern States. A collision had taken place between the military and the negroes somewhere in Mississippi.

INDIA, CHINA, &c.—Telegrams from Shanghai and Canton do not give us any very elevated idea of the peace of China. Piracy is said to have increased, and several of the pirates in the neighbourhood of Amoy had been hunted out by gunboats. The Burgevine business is likely to cause trouble. The American Consul declares that the treaty with the United States has been violated. Chief-Justice Adams was dead. From Japan we hear that the foreign Ministers had gone on an expedition to open foreign trade at some new place, the name of which is not clear.

AUSTRALIA, &c.—From New Zealand we have the unpleasant news that there are no indications of a speedy termination of the war. It is said the natives laughed at the Governor's peace proclamation, and murdered the first messenger who bore copies of it to them. Mr. Broughton, the interpreter of the Imperial forces, had been murdered by the Wanguani natives. A warlike meeting of the chiefs had been held, at which they all expressed their determination to retake the Waikato territory. From Melbourne we hear that the legislative dead lock was likely to be got over. A conference between the Legislative Council and the Assembly in reference to the Tariff and Appropriation Bills, had been agreed to, and it was reported that the Government would consent to separate Tariff and Appropriation Bills, while the Legislative Council would agree to the former if its duration was not to exceed two years. Pending a settlement, the Government has determined to collect the Customs under the old tariff. An appeal to the country on the free trade question was expected in August next.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS IN ARREARS.—Subscribers who are in arrears are requested to forward without delay the amounts due from them by Post-office Order, payable to the Proprietor, Bro. William Smith, C.E., 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, W.C.

CHARLES PUFTON COOPER.—Your communication, “Masonic Anecdotes,” shall appear in our next.