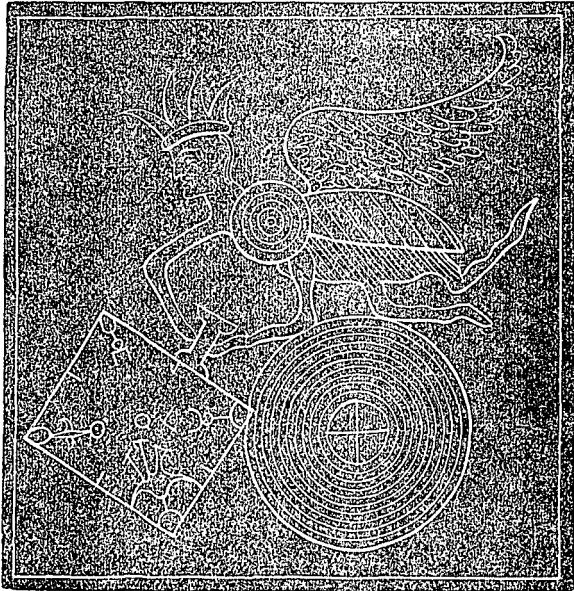


LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1865.

ANCIENT MASONIC HIEROGLYPHS.

BY BRO. ANDREW CASSARD, 33°.

The figure illustrated in the accompanying wood-cut represents the most sublime of all ancient secrets, known originally by the name of *Bahuméd*



and *Kraruf*, *i.e.*, the secret of the nature of the world, or the secret of secrets, and the beginning and end, or alpha and omega of all things.

It would be impossible to do more than scanty justice to the paramount importance of this figure, in an article the space of which is necessarily limited. Brethren anxious to enter deeper into the subject may consult Kircher's "Treatise on Hieroglyphs," based on a most important MS. he found in Malta amongst the Turks, which had been translated by the Syrian, Aben Vahschia, into Turkish from the original Chaldean and Arab languages, and deposited by him, in 214, in the Treasury Chamber of Abdolmelic.

The accompanying figure is one of the most important of those known in Arabian as belonging to the alphabet of Hermes, who, according to Oriental history, was the King of the ancient Egyptians, and it is evidently the one Kircher calls *anima mundi*; but this name has never been explained. Its original name is *Bahumed* or *Bahumid*, for which the Arabian translation is *Kraruf*. But it is demonstrated that it was invented by Hermes, and belongs to his alphabet or else to the *Τριμέγιστος* of the ancient Hellenes, which was kept in close secrecy by his descendants;

it is possible, also, that it belongs to the triple frame of the Indians.

The Hermesians used to communicate their secret knowledge and sciences to their disciples only, for fear lest "arts and sciences might be vulgarised and perverted." By means of their alphabet they concealed their secrets and valuable treasure, which were impenetrable to all save the "sons of the light of truth and learning."

Those initiated in the mysteries of the school of Hermetic philosophy were divided into different classes, but all recognised Hermes the Great as their common head and chief. In order to avoid all intercourse with strangers, by which the essential secrecy of their sciences might be jeopardised, "they formed matrimonial alliances with none but daughters of the same race (the initiated), all of whom were considered as members and integral parts of one and the same family." And it is positively asserted that no stranger ever invaded the stronghold of those well-founded secrets which they alone possessed.

These Hermesians were the authors of those works known as the "Edris," or Books of Enoch. They built temples dedicated to the Divinity; they professed the unity of God, and blessed the name of the "Supreme Creator of all things." The few adepts of the Hermetic secrets* who have lived down to the present day are to be found in some islands adjacent to the confines of China,† and they are still adhering to the same doctrines that are taught in our own temples nowadays, *viz.*, the preaching and practising of the purest morals, and of the most wholesome philosophy, the sublime principles of which were inculcated to them by their forefathers, and have been handed to them from age to age.

We cannot venture here to expatiate on the antiquity of the *Hermetic* mysteries and philosophy, or on the mysterious feeling of veneration entertained for the Bahumed or *Kraruf* by the initiated. It would be superfluous also to repeat all that has been said and written on the *Apis* of Egypt, revived by the Israelites in their veneration of the *Kraruf*, and preserved to the present day in the mysteries of the Drusians. Suffice it to draw the attention of the reader to the peculiar and intimate relationship existing between the institutions of

* The Bramans were adherents of the philosophy and mysteries of Hermes.

† See Sir William Jones's "Asiatic Discourses and Investigations," in the record of his voyages through India, Egypt, and China.

Freemasonry as now practised, and the name of *Bahumed* of the figures that forms the subject of this paper.

In the history of the Knights Templar, so intimately connected with the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, reference is made to the *Bahumed* or *Bahumet* as the mysterious *formula* or watchword by which these worthy knights used to work in their secret meetings, and which they considered as "the secret of the nature of the world," "the Father of Light and Life," the Omnipotent, Beginning and End of all things." This proves conclusively that in the eminent mysteries the existence of a supreme being* was believed in, which the Freemasons adored as the "Grand Architect of the Universe;" that the Knights Templar were possessed of the secrets and the science of the Hieroglyphs which they probably acquired in Syria when it had been introduced from India and Egypt, the mother countries of the ancient mysteries; and also, that these mysteries were known of the very first inhabitants of the earth.

THE LATE KING OF THE BELGIANS.

We had the painful office of announcing in our last issue, the death of our august Brother, King Leopold the First, the oldest king of Europe. His late Majesty, was, at the time of his death, an illustrious member of our Order, and it redounds greatly to the credit and enlightenment of the Roman Catholic Hierarchy of Belgium, to learn that, notwithstanding our deceased illustrious brother's Protestant persuasion, and with the knowledge also of his late Majesty being a Freemason, that they have not been behindhand the advanced Liberal party of Belgium in their expression of profound regret at the decease of his Majesty the late King. The address upon the sad event issued by the Archbishop of Malines "to the clergy and faithful of his diocese" is a most touching document, and most unsparing in its tribute of respect and compliment paid to "Leopold the Wise." This will be found further referred to in another page, under the head of "Freemasonry and the Pope."

The following is a translation of the circular

* In Egypt, fifteen centuries before Moses, a "supreme God and sole creation," used to be adored in the mysteries; to Hermes the Great is due the revelation of the (Indian) cult, which Moses revealed soon afterwards, with the sole difference of the plurality of his mystic divinities.

forwarded by the Grand Orient of Belgium to the various Masonic bodies under its jurisdiction:—

"Very dear brethren,—Masonry has just suffered a cruel loss in the death of one of her most illustrious members, of him who, called to the throne by the free and enlightened suffrages of the Belgian people, has never abnegated his title of Mason, but, on the contrary, has extended to us his powerful protection. We have lost an eminent brother, who, faithful to his oath, has, during a reign of five and thirty years, practised with love and sincerity those grand principles of humanity which constitute the basis of our Order, thus acquiring the esteem and friendship of his brethren, the veneration of the Belgian people, and the respect and admiration of his contemporaries. Leopold, King of the Belgians, who had acquired the grade of Chev. K. D., 30th degree, died yesterday, with the calm and serenity of a just man, and with the stoicism of a true Mason. He was, in this supreme moment, surrounded by his children, his ministers, and the presidents of our legislative chambers, the official representatives of the Belgian people he so much loved, and to whose happiness and prosperity he so much contributed by his lofty wisdom. Our august brother has left us a noble example to follow! We should all, like him, march on the way traced out for us, boldly and without hesitation. Like him, we should hold sworn faith in respect, and each should, unfalteringly, fulfil the duties imposed upon us. This is the best homage we can render to his venerated memory. This is the feeling which above all others, vibrates in a Mason's heart—it is the love of country. Guided by this sentiment, let us rally round the son of our well beloved brother, and help him with all our might to preserve to our dear Belgium her liberties and her independence.

"(Signed)

"The National Grand Master (*ad interim*),
"J. VAN SCHOOR."

FREEMASONRY AND THE POPE.

The special correspondent at Brussels of the *Irish Times*, in commenting upon the high compliment paid to Leopold the First in the address issued by the Archbishop of Malines, proceeds to add:—

This address is lavish of compliment to King

Leopold; but tell it not in Gath—I mean in the North Dublin Union Workhouse; whisper it not in the ears of the Rev. Mr. Behan, for he will not believe it, when I mention that his late Majesty was at his death a continued Freemason, high in the Order. If the reverend gentleman should write to the Archbishop I am sure he will get just as candid a reply as he did from the Bishop of Namur relative to the Freemason's carriage in which the new bishop says he did not travel to the chapel of the Sisters of Charity, though one of his lordship's brother bishops was permitted to become a Master, and to soil his soul and person by sitting in the banned vehicle. By the way, according to Mr. Behan, we must suppose the seat in which a Freemason sits to be anathematized as well as himself. I am very glad to hear this, for I shall be cautious for the future of where I sit down, and I shall eschew all public cabs, unless the driver can solemnly assure me that no member of the mystic Craft has ever desecrated his ill stuffed cushions. By the way, when the Duke and Duchess of Brabant drive into Brussels next week in one of the late King's carriages, will Mr. Behan write to Belgium and get the terrible deed denied, or explained, or softened by some childish casuistry? If I could look on this matter in a serious point of view, however, I would ask Rev. Mr. Behan to give a copy of his letter to the respected Bishop of Namur, in order that we might learn if it were he who told his lordship that the *Irish Times* was an anti-Catholic journal. Your paper is read by tens of thousands of the Catholics of Ireland, and I defy anyone to point at one line or syllable in which you have ever by sneer or insult used a disrespectful word against the religious opinions of the majority of your countrymen. In my own humble case, it is well known, as a sincere believer in Christianity, that I have always used my poor pen, so far as I could, in battling against the freethinking infidelity of foreign countries. I have never even said a word for the Freemasons, but I have simply told your readers a story of two when they came to my knowledge.

THE PROVINCIAL MASONIC CHARITIES.

MANCHESTER MASONIC RELIEF COMMITTEE.

We have been pleased to receive the fifth report of this most useful Charity. The following is a copy of the report:—

Since the last report was issued (November

17th, 1863) there have been 125 applicants for relief, 120 of whom have been relieved in sums amounting in the aggregate to £84 5s. 3d.

The cases so relieved have been of an ordinary character, and do not call for any special remark further than that the applicants are principally Masons hailing from under the Scotch and Irish Constitutions.

There have been eight new warrants recently granted in Manchester and the neighbourhood, namely:—St. Thomas', Robert Burns, Shakspeare, Derby, Callender, Alexandra, Egerton, Richmond; and the committee presume that such lodges will contribute their proportion to the funds of this committee.

On reference to the balance sheet it will be perceived that the sum of £20 18s. 3d. is due to the treasurer, and the committee in laying a rate of 1s. per member upon contributing lodges to meet this liability, trust you will instruct your Treasurer to pay your proportion into the hands of Bro. Blackburn as early as practicable.

You are also respectfully requested to elect immediately on the reading of this report, a representative from your lodge to this committee, and communicate the name and address of the brother so elected (in the enclosed form) to Bro. J. L. Hine, Freemasons Hall.

The committee beg to tender their sincere thanks to Bro. Marsh, the Secretary of the Liverpool Relief Committee, for his continued attention to the report of cases relieved by that committee, and to Bro. Hine, Secretary, and Bro. Blackburn, the Treasurer, for their very valuable services, involving, as it does, much of their time, and calling forth much tact and discrimination in administering the funds of this committee.

Signed on behalf of the committee,

J. L. HINE, Secretary.

Freemason's Hall, Cooper-street,
Manchester, Nov. 24th, 1865.

The abstract of the financial statement is as follows:—

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Receipts from several lodges | £84 19 0 |
| Special donations, &c. | 19 17 11 |

The disbursements, including relief to the applicants, amounting to £84 5s. 3d., with a balance of £13 15s. 3d. due to the Treasurer from the last statement, leaves a balance now of £20 18s. 3d. as due to the Treasurer.

We trust that the funds of the committee will soon be in a more satisfactory state.

ROYAL ARCH.

The following is the revision of the Constitution and General Regulations for the government of the Order of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, as finally agreed to at the Eighth Annual Convocation of the Canadian Grand Chapter, held on the 8th of August, A.L. 5865, A.D. 1865, at Prescott, Canada West:—

THE GRAND CHAPTER.

I. The style and title of the Grand Chapter shall be The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, and the members shall rank in the following order:—

| | |
|--|-----------|
| The Grand Z. | |
| Past „ „ | |
| The „ H. | |
| Past „ „ | |
| The „ J. | |
| Past „ „ | |
| Grand Superintendent, London | District. |
| „ „ Wilson | „ |
| „ „ Huron | „ |
| „ „ Hamilton | „ |
| „ „ Toronto | „ |
| „ „ Ontario | „ |
| „ „ Prince Edward | „ |
| „ „ Central | „ |
| „ „ Montreal | „ |
| „ „ E. Townships | „ |
| „ „ Quebec | „ |
| Past Grand Superintendents of Districts in the same order of precedence. | |
| Grand Scribe E. | |
| „ „ N. | |
| Past Grand Scribes E. and N. | |
| Grand Principal Sojourner. | |
| Past „ „ | |
| Grand Treasurer. | |
| Past „ „ | |
| Grand Registrar. | |
| Past „ „ | |
| Grand First Assistant Sojourner. | |
| Past „ „ | |
| Grand Second „ „ | |
| Past „ „ | |
| Grand Sword Bearer. | |
| Past „ „ | |
| Grand Standard Bearer. | |
| Past „ „ | |
| Grand Director of Ceremonies. | |
| Past „ „ | |
| Grand Organist. | |
| Past „ „ | |
| Grand Pursuivant. | |
| Past „ „ | |
| Grand Stewards. | |
| Past „ „ | |
| The three Principals of every subordinate Chapter. | |

Past Z., H., and J. of every subordinate Chapter, being subscribing members to some regular Chapter.
Grand Janitor.

N.B.—All First and Past First Grand Principals are styled Most Excellent; all other elective Grand and Past Grand Officers are styled Right Excellent, and all appointed and past appointed Grand Officers are styled Very Excellent. The Grand Janitor is styled Companion.

II. The Officers of Grand Chapter shall be respectively elected or appointed, as hereinafter provided, and hold their offices for one year, or until their successors shall have been regularly elected or appointed, and installed.

The election and appointment of all officers shall take place at the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, when they shall be duly installed and invested in ancient form.

III. The following officers shall be nominated for election, and if more than one Companion be nominated, the election between them shall be decided by ballot, viz.:—

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| The Most Excellent Grand Z. | |
| „ Right Excellent „ H. | |
| „ „ „ „ J. | |
| „ „ „ „ Scribes E. and N. | |
| „ „ „ „ Principal Sojourner. | |
| „ „ „ „ Treasurer. | |
| „ „ „ „ Registrar. | |

But where only one nomination takes place the ballot is unnecessary.

By an open vote of the Grand Chapter,—
The Grand Janitor.

By a majority of the Representatives of the Chapters of their respective Districts present at the Annual Convocation, subject to the confirmation of the Grand Z.—

The Right Excellent the Grand Superintendents of Districts.

IV. The following officers shall be appointed by the Grand Z.

| | |
|---|--|
| The V.E. Grand First Assistant Sojourner. | |
| „ „ „ Second Assistant Sojourner. | |
| „ „ „ Sword Bearer. | |
| „ „ „ Standard Bearer. | |
| „ „ „ Director of Ceremonies. | |
| „ „ „ Organist. | |
| „ „ „ Pursuivant. | |
| Four „ „ Stewards. | |

V. The elective officers, except the Janitor, shall require a majority of all the votes present. The elective officers must be First or Past First Principals, and the other Officers, except the Janitor, Principals, or Past Principals of a Chapter.

VI. Should neither of the representative officers, nor a past Z. of a Chapter, attend any Convocation of the Grand Chapter, such Chapter, by a vote properly certified by the First Principal and Scribe E., under seal, may delegate any Companion entitled to a seat in the Grand Chapter to

represent their Chapter, but no Companion can represent more than three Chapters.

VII. Every Companion elected or appointed to office in the Grand Chapter shall, during his period of office, be a subscribing member to some regular subordinate Chapter; and any Past Grand officer or member, who shall for twelve months continuously cease to be a subscribing member to some subordinate Chapter, shall be disqualified from attending the Grand Chapter—such disqualification to continue until he shall have again become, and continue to be, a subscribing member to some regular subordinate Chapter.

VIII. Should a vacancy occur in any office of the Grand Chapter, the Grand Z. shall nominate a qualified Companion to supply the place *pro tempore*. But no officer can resign his office after he has been installed and invested; nor can he be removed except for cause which appears to the Grand Chapter to be sufficient, to be ascertained by the votes of the majority of members present, on complaint laid before it by the Grand Z., in which case another must be elected or appointed in his stead, as the case may be. This includes the Grand Janitor.

IX. The Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter shall be held on the second Tuesday in August, at which the place of holding the next Convocation shall be decided. None but members shall be present without the permission of the presiding officer.

X. The Grand Z. may convene Grand Chapters of Emergency when necessary. The reason for convening a Grand Chapter of Emergency shall be expressed in the summons, and no other business shall be entered upon at that meeting. In all cases where summonses are issued, whether by Grand or Private Chapter, at least seven clear days' notice shall be given.

XI. No officer or member shall be permitted to attend in Grand Chapter without his proper clothing and jewel.

XII. The Grand Director of Ceremonies shall, at every meeting of the Grand Chapter, attend without the entrance for the purpose of guarding under the superintendence of the Grand Pursuivant against the admission of any but those who are qualified, and have their proper clothing and jewels, and have signed their names to the accustomed papers, and are in all respects entitled to admission.

XIII. If at any Grand Chapter, stated or occasional, any of the Grand Principals be absent, the chairs shall be filled by the Grand Officers next in rank and seniority who may be present, provided they be installed Present or Past First Principals of any regular subordinate Chapter. And if no such Grand Officer be present, then by the First Principals of Chapters, according to seniority, and the powers of any such *pro tempore* presiding

officers shall be the same as those properly belonging to the office so filled by him.

The Grand Chapter is declared opened in *ample form* when the Grand Z. is present, at all other times in *due form*, but with the same authority.

XIV. An annual report of the transactions of the Grand Chapter, with an account of the funds and property belonging to it, shall be printed without delay, and one copy thereof transmitted to every Officer of the Grand Chapter, and two copies to every subordinate Chapter, immediately after the general Convocation in August.

XV. In the Grand Chapter alone resides the power of enacting laws and regulations for the government of the Royal Arch, and of altering, amending, repealing, and abrogating them. The Grand Chapter has also the inherent power of investigating, regulating, and deciding all matters relating to the Royal Arch, and the Intermediate Degrees, and to subordinate Chapters and individual Companions; which it may exercise either of itself, or by such delegated authority as it may appoint; but in the Grand Chapter alone resides the power of erasing Chapters and expelling Companions from this Order of Freemasonry.

XVI. When the Grand Lodge, or any other competent authority in the Craft, shall suspend or expel any Brother who is a Royal Arch Mason, the Grand Chapter shall immediately, on such suspension or expulsion, and the circumstances relating thereto being communicated to it by the Grand Z., proceed to consider and decide whether such Companion shall be suspended or expelled from his Arch-Masonic functions for the period whilst such Craft suspension or expulsion continues in force. But he shall not, neither shall any Companion, under any circumstances, be suspended or expelled, until he shall have been summoned to show cause why such sentence should not be recorded and enforced, and afforded every opportunity of defending himself, either in Grand Chapter as aforesaid, or before other duly constituted authority.

XVII. Should any Chapter have neglected to make its returns and payments to the Grand Chapter for more than one year, the representatives of such Chapter shall not be permitted to attend any meeting of the Grand Chapter until such returns and payment shall have been completed.

XVIII. No Companion shall be qualified or permitted to attend Grand Chapter as Principal or Past Principal, unless and until his name and appointment shall have been transmitted to the Grand Scribe E.

XIX. Companions of eminence and ability, who have rendered service to the Craft may by a vote of the Grand Chapter be constituted members of the Grand Chapter, with such rank and distinction as may be thought proper.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

MASONIC ANECDOTES.

The ensuing is the full title of the work which, a correspondent mentions, was seen in the library at *Denton Court*, one day in the autumn of 1858:—"Dictionnaire amusant et instructif ou Recueil de Découvertes, Inventions, Faits intéressans, Evénemens remarquables, et Anecdotes curieuses. Par F. P. A. MAUGENET. Paris: 1809. 2 vols. octavo." These volumes were included in a portion of my library collections, sold by Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson four years ago. They contain, as I believe, not more than three Masonic anecdotes, a memorandum of which was inserted by me in a former *Place Book*, when they first came under my notice. I transcribe the memorandum:—"1. The four lodges of Amsterdam meet, and subscribe forty thousand Dutch florins in aid of a meritorious brother in distress. 2. The liberation of the Freemasons imprisoned at Naples, said to be owing to the solicitations of a 'Grande Principe.' 3. Story of a poor fellow who, having heard that the Freemasons in their meetings manufactured gold, in the hope of learning the secret, concealed himself behind the tapestry of the room in which the lodge was held."—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

FREEMASONRY AND ASTROLOGY.

I purchased lately at a book-stall in London an old and, I believe, a rare work—"A Complete Illustration of the Celestial Science of Astrology; or, the Art of Foretelling Future Events and Contingencies by the Aspects, Positions, and Influences of the Heavenly Bodies; founded on Natural Philosophy, Scripture, Reason, and Mathematics. By (Bro.) Ebenezer Sibly, Astro. Phil. Printed for Green and Co., No. 176, near Surrey-street, Strand, London, 1788." The dedication runs thus: "To the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons."

"Gentlemen and Brethren,—The antiquity of your excellent fraternity, the universality of its plan, and the moral rectitude and purity of its design, claim a decided pre-eminence over every other bond of society into which mankind have ever formed themselves for the mutual welfare and happiness of each other. The nobleness of soul which first prompted to its institution, and the benevolence of heart which has ever since prevailed throughout all its members, will remain a subject of lasting admiration!

"To you, therefore, as the promoters of liberal sentiment, and the guardians of every useful science, I commit this venerable pile of ancient astrology; a fabric obviously constructed by the Great Architect of the World, primeval with the ordination of nature, and inseparable from one of the grand subjects of your official contemplation.

"This science, by being little known, and less understood, may meet with censure and disapprobation from that description of learned, as well as of illiterate men, whose rule of faith uniformly keeps pace with their own arbitrary conceptions. But the dispassionate part of mankind with every good Mason will candidly weigh the evidence 'by the balance of the Sanctuary,' and reserve their sentence till after a fair and impartial trial.

"Sheltered, therefore, under the wing of your fraternal regard, and patronised by every sober admirer of the secret works of nature, I shall attempt to lay the foundation stone of an illustrious building, sacred to Urania, upon which some more able and ingenious workman, sanctioned by your patronage and protection, may hereafter raise the edifice to out-top the skies, and, like Jacob's ladder, pierce the starry regions, leading the intellectual faculties of the soul to the most sublime contemplation of God and nature.

"I have the honour to profess myself, with unequivocal attachment and esteem, Gentlemen,

"Your accepted brother and faithful servant,

"Portsmouth Common,

"E. SIBLY.

"In the year of Masonry 5784."

I am bound to say that Bro. Sibly manifests considerable ability and erudition throughout the work for which he claims the patronage of his brethren. Can any brother supply information respecting this astrological Freemason?

Max Müller, in his very learned "Lectures on the Science of Language," delivered at the Royal Institution of Great Britain, in 1861, says, p. 9, "Astrology was not such mere imposition as it is generally supposed to have been. It is counted as a science by so sound and sober a scholar as Melancthon, and even Bacon allows it a place among the sciences, though admitting that 'it had better intelligence and confederacy with the imagination of man than with his reason.' In spite of the strong condemnation which Luther pronounced against astrology, astrology continued to sway the destinies of Europe; and, a hundred years after Luther, the astrologer was the counsellor of princes and generals, while the founder of modern astronomy died in poverty and despair. In our time, the very rudiments of astrology are lost and forgotten." However, to these remarks Müller appends the following note:—"According to a writer in 'Notes and Queries' (2nd series, vol. x., p. 500), astrology is not so entirely extinct as we suppose. One of our principal writers," he states, "one of our leading barristers, and several members of the various antiquarian societies, are practised astrologers at this hour. But no one cares to let his studies be known, so great is the prejudice that confounds an art requiring the highest education with the jargon of the gipsy fortune-teller." Will any brother who, impelled either by the love of antiquarian research or a desire to seek into the mystic, has given his attention to astrology, kindly communicate the result of his investigations to the undersigned, care of the editor of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE? His communication will be held strictly confidential, and be gratefully received.—JOHN KINGSTON, P. Prov. G.C.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

FREEMASONRY IN JERSEY.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—At the close of my letter which you kindly inserted on Nov. 18th, I said that having exhausted the subject, I should not weary you and your readers by any further communication.

The letter of J.W. which you give to-day fully bears out my assertion, for no attempt is made to refute my statements. There is, however, one portion from which it may be inferred that I have been guilty of direct falsehood. For your information, and to clear myself from any such imputation, I send you a copy of the by-laws of the Césarée Lodge in French, the only form in which they are published, being in accordance with the language adopted in that lodge.

Yours fraternally,

Jersey, Dec. 9th, 1865.

P.M.

CHARITY STEWARDS.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The annual circulars from Bros. Binckes, Patter, and Farnfield, to the country lodges, respecting the festivals of their respective charities, are, I fear in a majority of instances, a waste of printing and postage. This arises in some degree, no doubt, from a want of information respecting the expenses and duties appertaining to the office of Steward. I recently asked an important Mason for information on this head, but could get no more than "he thought it cost each ten guineas." If twenty Masons were asked in this province for similar information, I should be deceived if two out of that number could supply it.

Again many are deterred from accepting the office of Steward from hearing of the large sums returned by some, and knowing their inability to raise anything approaching it, they therefore decline altogether. These large returns I fully expect are often raised from many lodges, and sometimes from a whole province. Would it not be far better for every lodge to have its own Steward, and if not large enough, for two or three neighbouring lodges to send one alternately to each of the charities with such a sum annually that can be raised without any violent strain either on the lodge funds or its members? One of my principal reasons for troubling you with this is, that Lord de Tabley, our Prov. G. Master, will preside at the next Festival of the Boys' School, and I should imagine, judging from his very great popularity among the brethren, that nearly every lodge in his province will endeavour to send a representative next March as a mark of respect and esteem. I feel sure the lodge over which I preside, although not a large one, will do so for one. There are lodges in this province I hear, with large balances in hand. The objects of hoarding these I cannot divine, but I do hope that some of the Cheshire Stewards, will give Bro. Binckes the benefit of their past economy. I would, therefore, ask you, Bro. Editor, to kindly define the whole duties and responsibilities of Charity Stewards in a prominent position of an early issue, stating what would be considered a fair amount for each to return. I would also suggest to Bro. Binckes, the propriety of forwarding something of the kind to each of the twenty-nine Cheshire lodges, and those of the neighbouring provinces, for if the ice is once broken and a lodge sends a Steward, the good example will emulate others on future occasions. Trusting that the space you kindly award this may be of some little benefit to each of the four great charities.

I am, dear Sir and Brother,

Yours very fraternally,

Dec. 18th, 1865.

BETA.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

METROPOLITAN.

ENOCH LODGE (No. 11).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge took place on the 13th inst., in the new rooms of the Freemasons' Hall. The W.M., Bro. William Greaves, with his officers, were, as usual, at their posts, with the Secretary, Bro. Peter Matthews, P.M., and the Treasurer, Bro. Charles Watson, P.M., supported by Past Masters H. Potter, Ruel, Moutrie, F. Ledger, &c. Mr. Henry Whittaker was initiated into the mysteries of our Order, and other business concluded, the brethren retired to a most *recherché* and liberal banquet provided by the new management, deserving of all praise. A most delightful evening was passed, aided by the vocal and instrumental abilities of Bros. John Baptist Clabatta, C. Watson, P. Matthews, and the W.M., Bro. Greaves.

VIRUVIAN LODGE (No. 87).—On the 13th inst. the regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the White Hart Tavern, College-street, Belvidere-road, Lambeth. At about half-past five the W.M., Bro. J. G. Bond, assisted by his officers, opened the lodge in due form. Bro. Whiting, P.M., Secretary, read the minutes of the previous meeting, and they were confirmed. The next business was the initiation of Mr. Richard Mitchell and Mr. Thomas Willetts; after which, the lodge being opened in the second degree, Bro. George Gardner was advanced and passed as F.C. Bros. Woods and Wright were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The working of the lodge was ably performed by the W.M. and his officers. The business of electing the W.M. elect followed, and Bro. Bain was selected to fill that high position. Bro. Voke, P.M., was re-elected as Treasurer, as was Bro. Ellis as Tyler. The election of auditors closed the business of the lodge. At nine o'clock the brethren proceeded to the banquet, well served by Bro. Host Fairman. Upwards of fifty sat down, Bro. Bond, W.M., presiding. The repast over, the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which having been responded to with the usual cordiality, a most convivial and harmonious evening was the result.

EASTERN STAR LODGE (No. 95).—The regular lodge meeting was held on Tuesday, December 20th, at Bro. Painter's, "Ship and Turtle Hotel, Leadenhall-street. Bro. Goode presided, and with his usual ability passed to the second degree Bros. Johnston and Ward. A candidate for initiation at the next lodge was approved of. The accustomed pleasant banquet followed, at which thirty-three brethren were present, the W.M., Bro. Griffiths, in the chair.

LODGE OF JUSTICE (No. 147).—On the 13th inst. this old lodge met at the White Swan, Deptford, presided over by Bro. J. Bavin, W.M., being his last day in office. Five raisings, two passings, and four initiations, constituted the first part of the business. The brethren then proceeded to elect a W.M. for the ensuing year, and the unanimous choice of the lodge was in favour of Bro. J. Lightfoot, S.W. Bro. G. Bolton, P.M., was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. S. Garrett, P.M., Tyler. A five-guinea P.M. jewel was then voted to Bro. J. Bavin, W.M., and a similar honour was accorded to the excellent Secretary, Bro. C. H. Davis, P.M., for his efficient services on behalf of the lodge. There being no further business the lodge was closed. There was no banquet.

ST. JAMES'S UNION LODGE (No. 180).—This lodge met on Tuesday, the 12th inst., when there were present Bros. H. Robinson, W.M.; G. H. Davies, S.W.; Stoner, J.W.; Gurton, P.M. and P.G.S.; Trens.; H. A. Stacey, Sec.; Archard, S.D.; Sams, I.G.; Herf, as I.G.; Sedgwick, Jackson, Simpson, and Francis, P.M.'s; and upwards of forty members of the lodge, besides the following visitors:—Bros. Patten, P.G.D., Secretary to Girls' School; Russell, W.M. 28, Master of Boys' School; Dr. Harding, 50; Heath, 198; Browne, 176; Sutton, 207; Sultro, 239; Dettelbach and Winch, 256; Fielder, 715; Dr. Key Hardey, S.W. 753; Smeed, 946; Porter (Montefiore). The initiate was Jean Joseph Brice, more popularly known as the Giant "Anak," whose unusual height of 8ft. gave him a

very formidable appearance. He was introduced by Bro. Andrew Nimmo, and seconded by Bro. J. Gurton, P.M. and P.G.S. The ceremony was performed in the most impressive manner by the W.M. The initiate, although a Frenchman, spoke English pretty well, and went through the ceremony in a very becoming manner; after which Messrs. Hamilton, Busch, and Smithett were made, and Bro. Terry received the third degree. This being the night of election, Bro. Stoner, J.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. G. H. Davies, S.W., declining to take the chair this year, but hoping to be able to do so next. Bro. Gurton was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. J. Crawley, Tyler. After the business of the lodge was ended, the members and their friends, numbering over fifty, sat down to an excellent banquet, at which the W.M. presided in his usual efficient style. Bros. Hamilton, Busch, and Smithett returned thanks for "The Initiates," Bro. Brice being absent (having an engagement at the Standard and Marylebone Theatres); Bro. Patten, P.G.D., &c., for "The Visitors." The usual jewel was voted to the W.M. for his ability and working the chair, and after spending a very pleasant evening the company separated at eleven o'clock, the vocalists being Bros. E. Hart, Briggs, J. R. Stacey, Gurton, the W.M., &c.

LODGE OF TRANQUILLITY (No. 185).—On the 18th inst., the members of this flourishing lodge met at Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars, when the W.M., aided by his very efficient officers, most impressively conferred the second degree upon Bro. Gashron, and initiated into the Order Messrs. Joseph Harry Thornber, Elias Harris, and David Goldberg. The sum of ten guineas was unanimously voted towards a testimonial jewel for the W.M. on his leaving the Chair in February; and the brethren adjourned to one of Bro. Hart's *recherché* banquets, the viands and wines being all that could be desired.

ROYAL ALBERT LODGE (No. 907).—A meeting of this young and flourishing lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on Monday, the 18th inst. The lodge was opened at five o'clock by Bro. J. A. Farnfield, W.M., assisted by Bros. T. Peters, S.W.; W. H. Farnfield, J.W.; J. Smith, P.G. Purst., P.M. and Treas.; T. Lewis, Assist. G. Purst.; W. Watson, P.M.; Rev. Little, P.M., Sec.; C. Chard, J.D.; H. J. Lewis, I.G.; C. P. Farnfield, Dir. of Cers.; Rev. J. M. Vaughan, Chap.; C. T. Chard, J. Hallet, H. Ravaisson, E. Terry, C. Walker, &c. The minutes having been confirmed, a ballot was taken severally for Messrs. Thomas Morton and Robert Downes as candidates for initiation, and they were both declared duly elected. Bro. Worley then presented himself as a candidate for passing, and, having been examined, was entrusted, and retired. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Worley was duly advanced to the F.C. degree, the W.M. rendering the ceremony in a very able and impressive manner. The lodge was then resumed to the first degree, and Messrs. Morton and Downes being in attendance, were regularly introduced, and initiated into the mysteries of the Order. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet; and we may here remark that a great improvement in the character of the viands and wines was visible on this occasion, so much so, that the brethren who had at previous meetings expressed the greatest dissatisfaction, were now unanimous in praising the arrangements of the new manager to promote their comfort at the social board. After the removal of the cloth, the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, Bros. Lewis and Smith responding for the Grand Officers. One of Bro. Peters' characteristic songs then followed. The W.M. then rose, and said he had great pleasure in proposing "The Health of the Initiates," and he was quite sure that the more they saw of Freemasonry the better they would be able to appreciate its beauties. Bros. Morton and Downes briefly responded. Bro. Smith then gave "The Health of the W.M.," and expatiated on the many good and estimable qualities of Bro. Farnfield, who was not only an excellent working Master, but a capital chairman at the banquet table, never allowing the toast or song to flag, but endeavouring to the utmost of his power to maintain the high character of the lodge for hospitality and social good feeling (cheers). This toast being most cordially received, Bro. J. A. Farnfield, W.M., thanked the brethren for the hearty reception given to him at all times by the members, and he assured them that his best exertions should be given to promote the prosperity of the lodge; he had risen from the position of S.D. to his present proud position, but in every office he had filled he had been equally anxious to perform with credit the duties entrusted to his charge. Bros. Watson and Little

replied in appropriate terms to the health of the P.M.'s. The W.M. then proposed "The Visitors," and Bros. Dr. Goldsborough, W.M. 998., P.M. 201, J. G. Marsh, P.M. 28, T. Frampton, P.M., 142, and J. W. Kay, S.S., responded *seriatim*. Bro. Kay in choice language alluding to the hospitality he had experienced from the fraternity in England, but which he assured the brethren was equally shown in the Australian lodges, so that in reality their noble Craft was at all times engaged in practising the social virtues. Bros. Peters, S.W., and W. H. Farnfield, J.W., responded to the toast of the officers. Bro. Vaughan as Chaplain, and the Tyler's toast, brought the proceedings of their very happy and enjoyable reunion to a close. We must not omit to mention that Bros. T. and H. J. Lewis Peters, Marsh and Terry favoured the brethren with several excellent songs.

INSTRUCTION.

UNITED MARINERS' LODGE (No. 30).—The annual banquet meeting of this flourishing and hard working lodge of instruction took place on the 14th inst., at Bro. Scurr's, The Three Cranes, Mile End-road. Bros. Barnes, sen., W.M.; Taylor, S.W.; Alston, J.W.; Ritzbach, S.D.; Geary, J.D.; Iron, I.G.; J. Scotcher, Hon. Sec.; Saqui, and a numerous attendance of the members and visiting brethren being present. The ordinary lodge business having been disposed of, the brethren partook of a banquet provided by Bro. Scurr, in the sumptuous manner for which he has become so deservedly well known. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and cordially received and responded to. Bro. Barnes, sen., W.M., referring to the toast of "The Mother Lodge," with which the name of Bro. Johns had been coupled, expressed a hope that the members of that lodge, and more especially the Past Masters, would by their presence at the lodge of instruction, oftener than had previously been the case, encourage the members to become frequent attendants and zealous and efficient Masons. The toast of "The Health of the neighbouring Lodges of Instruction," was responded to by Bro. Joseph Hudson (W.M. of the Yarboro Mother Lodge) on behalf of the Yarboro Lodge of Instruction, and by Bro. Munday, on behalf of the Eastern Star Lodge of Instruction. The toast of "The Health of the Visiting Brethren" was given and responded to. The W.M. then gave the next toast, "The Press," coupling with it the name of Bro. Stevenson, of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR, who was present amongst them. This toast having been gracefully acknowledged, Bro. Saqui gave "The Health of Bro. Barnes, sen., W.M. of the United Mariners' Lodge of Instruction," and paid a just tribute to the many qualities of that esteemed brother. This toast having been gracefully acknowledged by Bro. Barnes, "The Health and Happiness of the worthy Host, Bro. Scurr, and that of Mrs. Scurr and Family," was next proposed, and cordially acknowledged by Bro. Scurr in most suitable terms. "The Health of the indefatigable and veteran Honorary Secretary, Bro. Scotcher," next followed, and having been thankfully responded to, "The Tylers Toast" brought the proceedings of this annual fraternal gathering to a close at a seasonable hour, and the brethren dispersed in peace and harmony. The happiness of the brethren during the evening was considerably enhanced by the admirable singing volunteered by Bros. Scotcher, Barnes, jun., Hudson, Scurr, Newman, and other brethren. We must not omit to add also that most able and pathetic appeals for support to the various Masonic Charities were made by Bros. Barnes, sen., W.M.; Taylor, S.W.; Saqui, and others.

PROVINCIAL.

LANCASHIRE (EAST).

FUNERAL OF BRO. JOSEPH DUNN.

We announced in our "Obituary" of last week the decease of this well-known and highly-esteemed brother, who was interred on the 7th inst. at St. John's Church, Pendleton, near Manchester. The following is an account of the funeral ceremony:—

The deceased brother was, at the time of his death, S.W. of the St. John's Lodge (No. 325), and shortly before his death he expressed a wish that he should be interred with Masonic honours. A dispensation was accordingly obtained from the

Prov. G.M., Bro. Stephen Blair, and at one o'clock on Thursday, the 14th inst., a large number of Masons, belonging to his own and other lodges, assembled at Bro. Henry Holder's, the Rose and Crown Hotel, Pendleton, for the purpose of carrying out the desire of the deceased brother, and of showing the respect in which they held his memory. Among those present were Bros. Samuel Statham, W.M.; James Booth, P.M.; James Perceval, P.M.; J. L. Hine, P.M., Prov. G. Treas. for East Lancashire; John Thorley, P.M. 325, P. Prov. J.G.D. for West Lancashire; Gilbert Yorston, Treas.; R. N. Ingle, Sec.; John Parsons, S.D.; E. B. Warner, J.D.; James Polson, I.G.; &c.

The lodge having been opened in the three degrees, and the dispensation having been read by Bro. J. L. Hine, P.M., Bro. the Rev. P. C. Nicholson, Chap., proceeded with the Masonic service used on these occasions. The choir, under the direction of Bro. John Marsden, Org., then sang with great effect and impressiveness Kent's anthem, "The Lord is my Shepherd."

The lodge was then adjourned, and the brethren walked in procession from the Rose and Crown to the house of their deceased brother, where they received the body. The funeral cortege was then formed by the Masters of Ceremonies, Bros. James Booth, P.M., and J. L. Hine, P.M. On arriving at the church the brethren and workmen alighted from the carriages about twenty-four in number, and were arranged by Bro. Booth in two parallel lines, through which the body was carried into the church. The usual church service was read by Bro. the Rev. P. C. Nicholson, P.M., P. Prov. G. Chap. East Lancashire, and the intonations and Kent's anthem, "When the Son of Man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory," were sung by an efficient choir, under the direction of Bro. John Marsden, Organist of Christ Church, Salford. The assemblage then proceeded to the churchyard, where the body having been deposited in the grave, the Rev. P. C. Nicholson read the exhortation commencing "Here we view a striking instance of the uncertainty of life," &c.

The following invocations were then made by the Chaplain, the usual honours accompanying each:—

Chaplain: May we be true and faithful, and may we live and die in love.—Answer: So mote it be.

Chaplain: May we profess what is good, and always act agreeably to our profession.—Answer: So mote it be.

Chaplain: May the Lord bless us and prosper us, and may all our good intentions be crowned with success.—Answer: So mote it be.

Chaplain: "Glory be to God on high; on earth peace and good will towards men!"—Answer: So mote it be, now from henceforth and for evermore.

The Chaplain concluded the ceremony at the grave by the following address:

"From time immemorial it has been a custom among the fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, at the request of a brother on his deathbed, to accompany his corpse to the place of interment and there to deposit his remains with the usual formalities. In conformity with this usage, and at the special request of our deceased brother, whose memory we revere, and whose loss we deplore, we are here assembled in the character of Masons to resign his body to the earth whence it came, and to offer up to his memory before the world the last tribute of our fraternal affection, thereby demonstrating the sincerity of our past esteem and our inviolable attachment to the principles of this Order. With all proper respect to the established customs of the country in which we live, with due deference to our superiors in church and state, and with unlimited good will to all mankind, we here appear clothed as Masons and publicly express our submission to order and good government, and our wish to promote the general interests of mankind. Invested with the badge of innocence we humbly bow to the Universal Parent, implore his blessing on all our zealous endeavours to extend peace and goodwill, and earnestly pray for His grace to enable us to persevere in the principles of piety and virtue. The great Creator having been pleased out of his mercy to remove our worthy brother from the cares and troubles of this transitory life to a state of eternal duration, and thereby to weaken the chains by which we are united man to man, may we who survive him, anticipating our approaching fate, be more strongly cemented in the ties of union and friendship, and during the short space which is allotted to our present existence wisely and usefully employ our time in the reciprocal intercourse of kind and friendly acts, and mutually promote the happiness and welfare of each other. Unto the grave we

have resigned the body of our deceased friend, there to remain until the general resurrection, in favourable expectation that his immortal soul will then partake of the joys which have been prepared for the righteous from the beginning of the world, and may Almighty God of his infinite goodness at the grand tribunal of unbiassed justice extend his mercy to all of us, and crown our hope with everlasting bliss, in the expanded realms of a boundless eternity. This we beg for the honour of his name to whom be honour and glory now and for ever. Amen."

At the conclusion of the service the brethren gave the usual honours over the grave, each brother throwing into it a sprig of acacia, accompanied by the words, "Peace be unto thee." The procession was then re-formed, and returned in the former order. The brethren, after escorting the mourners to the residence of their late brother, again assembled at the Rose and Crown, when the lodge was duly closed, after which the brethren partook of a plain repast. After the cloth was drawn, the brethren united in singing "Martin Luther's Hymn:"

Great God, what do I see and hear?
The end of things created:
The Judge of Mankind doth appear
On clouds of glory seated;
The trumpet sounds, the graves restore
The dead which they contained before:
Prepare my soul to meet him! &c.

The singing of this hymn, which was joined in very earnestly by the whole of the brethren, had a most impressive effect.

The W.M. then addressing the lodge, said: We have again been painfully reminded of the uncertainty of life, and of the vanity of all earthly pursuits. In the inscrutable designs of an all-wise Providence it has pleased the Great Architect of the Universe, whose designs are past finding out, but who is too wise to err, and too good to be unkind, to remove from amongst us one with whom we have often taken sweet counsel, one who has long been connected with many of our most happy associations, and still more closely endeared to us by the ties of union and friendship. And I have no doubt it has afforded you all a melancholy pleasure to assist me in paying our last sad office and tribute of respect to our late friend and brother Joseph Dunn. He has indeed passed away from us, but he has left behind him a memory which will long be cherished with affection by many who had the happiness of his acquaintance. Our deceased brother, it may be said with truth, was a faithful husband, an affectionate father, and a true friend. And, holding as he did for many years the responsible, and at times no doubt difficult, position, of manager of a large establishment, it is no small honour and gratification to be able to say, that he was universally respected by every individual in the employ, from the highest to the lowest. As a Mason and a brother, he was thoroughly imbued with the true principles of Masonry; he believed that his obligation involved something more than the mere profession of its theory, and it was his constant endeavour at all times to exemplify in his own life and actions those great principles which it is the object of our society to inculcate. Still, brethren, although we deplore his loss, and sympathise most deeply with those whom he has left behind, yet we do not sorrow as those without hope. We have the pleasing and gratifying assurance from our worthy Chaplain, who was most attentive in his ministrations upon our deceased brother, and which I can most freely endorse from my own personal interview with our late Bro. Dunn, that he was truly prepared for this great change and I trust we shall all strive to meet him in that Grand Lodge above where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for ever and ever. Brethren, these events are solemn and painful ones, and ought to warn us to perform our allotted tasks while it is yet day, and do all the good we possibly can in our day and generation, for "the night cometh," we know not how soon, "when no man can work." I now call upon you to drink in solemn silence to the memory of our dear departed brother, Joseph Dunn. The toast having been duly honoured, the proceedings terminated. We understand the Rev. Mr. Nicholson preached the funeral sermon of the late brother at St. Philip's church.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

St. HELEN'S.—Lodge of Loyalty (No. 897).—The brethren of this lodge held their regular monthly meeting at six o'clock on Tuesday, the 28th November, in the Masonic lodge-room

Fleeco Hotel. It being the evening for the installation of the W.M., there was a goodly attendance of the brethren of the lodge and also visitors, which was very gratifying, and made the meeting an unusual lively and interesting one. The lodge was duly opened by Bros. Knowles, W.M.; F. Wignall, S.W.; Jas. Morris, J.W.; Clarke, S.D.; Seddon, J.D.; Butler, I.G. Present: Bros. Webster, P.M.; W. C. Marsh, P.M.; McGill, J. Johnson, P. Robinson, Jos. Robinson, &c. Visitors: Bros. Baxendale, P.M. 580; Lambert, P.M. 613; Swift, 86, &c. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. proceeded to open the lodge in the second degree, and Bros. Acock and Biram having previously been examined as to their efficiency were duly passed by Bro. Baxendale, P.M. 580; they then retired, and the ceremony of the installation of Bro. Wignall, S.W., took place. The following brethren were then invested by the W.M.:—Bros. J. Morris, S.W. and Treas.; C. F. Clarke, J.W.; W. C. Seddon, S.D.; P. Robinson, J.D.; Jos. Robinson, Sec.; W. Butler, I.G.; and Sephton, Tyler. The lodge was then closed according to ancient custom. This lodge held its Festival of St. John on Tuesday following at five o'clock p.m., and was numerously attended by brethren from adjacent lodges in the province. Bro. Wignall, W.M., presided, and Bro. Webster, P.M., kindly took the S.W. chair in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Morris through indisposition. The J.W. and assistant officers occupied their appointed places. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts being given, the brethren separated at an early hour. The banquet was replete, and served in an excellent manner by Bro. Taylor.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 279).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Halford-street, on Wednesday, the 6th inst., the W.M. Bro. Tibbitts presiding. In addition to whom there were present Bros. W. Kelly, P.M. and D. Prov. G.M.; Underwood, P.M.; C. Morris, P.M.; W. Weare, P.M.; Rev. E. W. Woodcock, S.W.; J. Ride, S.D.; F. Ptacek, J.D.; C. Stretton, I.G.; J. Barratt Jacques, as Sec. Visitors—Bro. Chas. Johnson, 491, and P. Prov. S.G.W. for Jersey; and Bros. F. Goodyer, R. Brewin, W. Johnson, W. B. Smith, and W. Millican, P.M.'s; H. P. Green, S.W.; W. Moor, J.D.; F. Manning, I.G.; J. A. Bolton, J. Davies, J. C. Clarke, and W. S. Bithrey, of the John of Gaunt Lodge. The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the last lodge read and confirmed, a ballot took place for the Rev. Isaac George Packer, of Birstall, and for Mr. Augustus Oliver Davies, of Leicester, as candidates for initiation. Mr. George Norman, of Goudby Hall (cousin to the Duke of Rutland), who was initiated in the lodge thirty years ago, was, on the proposition of the D. Prov. G.M., also balloted for as a joining member. The D. Prov. G.M. having taken the chair, proceeded severally to initiate the Rev. Isaac George Packer and Messrs. Edwin Gosling, Burkill Jacques, and Augustus Oliver Davies, the lecture on the tracing board and the charge being delivered by Bro. Brewin, P.M. 523. Bros. Geo. Norman and Thos. Blunt were then called to the pedestal, and underwent an examination in the first degree, after which they retired, and the lodge having been opened in the second degree, they were duly passed as Fellow Crafts, and had the tracing boards explained to them by the D. Prov. G.M., after which the Fellow Craft's lodge was closed. It being the period for the annual election of Worshipful Master, a ballot was taken, which resulted in the unanimous election of the Senior Warden, the Rev. Bro. Woodcock (rector of Beeby), whose regularity of attendance and zeal in the course of Masonry, together with the esteem in which he is held, warrant a conviction that under his rule the lodge will flourish. The sum of £5 5s. was voted for the lodge funds to the collection now being made in the province by the D. Prov. G.M. as Steward for the Boys' School. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, and spent a few hours very pleasantly. The toast of the newly-joined and newly-initiated members being severally responded to by Bros. G. Norman and Packer, Jacques, Gosling, and Davis. Bro. Chas. Johnson (who very efficiently presided at the organ during the ceremonies), and Bro. Brewin responded to the toast of the visitors. The festival of the lodge will take place on St. John's Day.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The annual meeting, which had been postponed, in consequence of the continued illness of Bro. John Etherington

Welch Rolls, Prov. G.M., was held at Abergavenny on Thursday, the 7th inst. The V.W. Bro. Major Lyne, D. Prov. G.M., occupied the chair. The lodge having been opened in due form, the routine business was entered upon. The Prov. G. officers were nearly all reappointed, the only alterations being Bro. Richard Laybourne, P.M. Isca Lodge, appointed Prov. J.G.D.; and Bros. James Maddocks and G. I. Hands, Silurian, Prov. G. Stewards. The following is a complete list of the officers:—

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bro. J. P. King..... | Prov. S.G.W. |
| „ J. Maund | J.G.W. |
| „ G. Roberts | G. Chap. |
| „ J. A. Rolls..... | G. Reg. |
| „ W. Williams..... | G. Sec. |
| „ W. Pickford | G. Treas. |
| „ H. M. Kennard | S.G.D. |
| „ Richard Laybourne..... | J.G.D. |
| „ S. Hancorn | G. Supt. of Works. |
| „ J. Pierce | G. Dir. of Cers. |
| „ R. B. Evans | G. Assist. Dir. of Cers. |
| „ Thomas Beynon | G. Sword Bearer. |
| „ H. J. Groves..... | G. Org. |
| „ S. Browning..... | G. Purst. |
| „ James Maddocks | „ |
| „ Wyndham Jones | „ |
| „ S. T. Hallen | „ |
| „ P. Morgan | G. Stewards. |
| „ G. I. Hands | „ |
| „ J. Morgan | „ |
| „ L. T. Preece..... | G. Tyler. |

The brethren of the Grand Lodge then visited the Philanthropic Lodge (No. 818), where about seventy members and visitors were assembled. The D. Prov. G.M. reported progress, and the lodge having been closed with the usual ceremony, the brethren adjourned to

THE BANQUET.

which was held at the Angel Hotel, the D. Prov. G.M. presiding, Bro. Pearce, W.M. of the Abergavenny Lodge, occupying the vice-chair. Present—Bros. Charles Lyne, D. Prov. G.M. (in the chair); J. Allan Rolls, Prov. G. Reg.; H. M. Kennard, P.S.G.D.; J. Griffiths, W.M. 471; W. Williams, Prov. G. Sec.; W. Pickford, Prov. G. Treas.; J. Middleton, W.M. 683; H. Hellyer, W.M. elect, 471; S. T. Hallen, G. I. Hands, P. Morgan, Prov. G. Stewards; C. H. Oliver, J.W. 471; H. Roberts, 471; W. Watkins, 471; F. C. Hanbury Williams, 457; Thos. Williams, Sec. 683; A. Isaacs, S.D. 683; James Phillips, John Smith, Dir. of Cers.; William Sanders, Joseph Cresswell, W. Williams, jun.; D. Meredith, T. Morgan, T. Dew, William Evans, W. Williams, Crawshaw Bailey, jun.; Jas. Pierce, W.M.; Harris Butterfield, Richard Wain, J. Gosden, Edward Price, Edwin Tucker, H. Hazard, J. Morgan, Henry Harris, S. H. Facey, Samuel Bames, Thomas Harby, W. Holman, and Thomas Gath, all of Lodge 818.

The volunteer band engaged for the occasion was stationed in an ante-room, and played appropriate airs during the evening.

The PRESIDENT gave with all honours, the usual loyal and other toasts pertaining to the Order as follows:—“The Queen and the Craft,” “The M.W.G.M. Earl of Zetland,” “The R.W.D.G.M. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the rest of the officers of the Grand Lodge of England.”

The PRESIDENT proposed “The Bishop and Clergy of all denominations.” (Hear, hear.) Without them there would be but anarchy and confusion, with them they were encouraged to higher and holier aims. (Cheers.)

Bro. H. M. KENNARD, in proposing “The Army, Navy, and Volunteers,” passed a graceful eulogy on the services of the British forces. He coupled with the toast the names of Bros. Capel Hanbury Williams, Major Lyne, and Capt. Crawshaw Bailey.

Bro. C. H. WILLIAMS responded on behalf of the Army. Bro. Major LYNE responded for the Navy, and Bro. CRAWSHAW BAILEY, jun., also, appropriately returned thanks on behalf of the Volunteers.

The PRESIDENT then rose, and said:—I have now to propose that which, I may safely say, is the toast of the evening, viz., “The Health of the R.W. Prov. G.M., Bro. John Etherington Welch Rolls” wishing him a speedy restoration to his usual health. Brethren, if ever there was a time when I felt diffidence and anxiety in giving a toast that time is the present moment. I have frequently had the honour and happiness of proposing the health of that good and worthy brother, but

on such occasions he has generally himself been present to respond with that flow of geniality which his friends so fully appreciate. Comparatively speaking, my duties at such times were easy; but I feel now, in the absence of our Prov. Grand Master, those duties are no longer of a nominal character. It is difficult to do justice to the merits of a brother in a few words, especially such an one as our worthy and worshipful Prov. G.M., who reigns in the heart of every Mason in the province (cheers), a brother justly endeared to his family, and beloved, not only within the pale of Freemasonry, but by all with whom he has come in contact (applause), a brother at whom the finger of scorn has never dared to point. (Loud cheers.) In speaking of Bro. Rolls, we cannot help a feeling of deep regret at his absence from amongst us, especially when we consider the cause. It has pleased Providence to afflict him with a grievous illness. We hope, may, we, one and all, from the Master to the entered apprentice, earnestly pray the Omnipotent Being—we pray, in all sincerity, as Masons, as Christians, and as men, that it may please Him to restore our brother to his wonted health. Brethren, I could have wished that the Prov. G. Master were here to receive this token of your esteem—this tribute of Masonic love in person—that I had the happiness, a happiness in which you would have so warmly shared, of seeing him receive it into his own hands, and of being privileged to affix that which I deem as one of the highest honours in Masonry, to his breast. But it has been ordered otherwise. It will, however, be my duty and pleasure to present this jewel to my Masonic brother, his son, on my right. That son, I am happy to say, is following closely in the footsteps of his good, kind, and amiable father. He is respected by us, and I am sure that in entrusting this gift for transmission to the P.G.M., I cannot place it in better hands. (Hear, hear.) I cannot conceive a higher tribute paid to any brother than a Masonic memento, because it is well known that Freemasons in general will not bestow that which they conceive to be not merited and not deserved, and sure I am those who have contributed to this handsome jewel have done so with pride and cheerfulness, happy in the knowledge that they were paying respect to him whom we have chosen as our chief in this province. And now I will ask our Brother Allan Rolls kindly to present this token of our esteem to his father, leaving it to our brother, under the circumstances, to select such time for that presentation as he deems most opportune. Say all that is kind, for you cannot speak of too much kindness on our behalf. Assure him that my heart—that our hearts—are overpowered with feelings and emotions in consequence of his severe illness, and yet, I will add, buoyed up with hope of his recovery, and that he may be spared to enjoy many, many years of happiness and prosperity. The toast was drunk with all the honours.

Bro. JOHN ALLEN ROLLS, Prov. G. Reg., &c., received the jewel, and returned thanks for the compliment on behalf of his father. He said, it is at all times difficult to find words of acknowledgment. How much more so when, as on this occasion I feel myself placed in a most difficult position. I know not how to convey to you my gratitude for the kind feelings evinced towards my father, and for this magnificent testimonial to him, which you have placed in my hands. I can assure you this splendid memento of your regard will be very precious in the eyes of my father, and for various reasons. Not only its costliness and beauty as a work of art, but above all the very kind and fraternal feeling which has prompted this presentation will prove your attachment towards him whom you have chosen as your ruler, in a manner which cannot fail to be most gratifying. I cannot tell you how much I regret that my father is unable to be present to acknowledge this and other kindnesses which he has experienced as Grand Master of this province. Indeed, I may say it is a great grief to him that he cannot meet you at this festival. Such a gathering as the present cannot but be a source of pleasure and happiness to us all, for we meet at the social board as equals, animated by that unanimity and concord which so markedly characterise Freemasonry in general, and this province in particular. Without this essential element Masonry cannot exist, and long may it prosper. Let all know we do not meet merely to put on fine clothing, to eat good dinners, and to make a parade, but let it be shown that we endeavour to do our duty in life, and also to carry out the principles of the Craft, which are based on the volume of the Sacred Law. Let all bear in mind that we are one of, if not the most ancient Craft on record, and our faithful allegiance—our walking uprightly in the world, and our respecting our,

elves, shall ensure the respect of others. (Applause.) In conclusion allow me most earnestly to thank you again and again a thousand times, for this magnificent gift, and to join with you in the prayer already expressed, that the Great Architect of the Universe in his infinite mercy may restore my father to his former health, so that he may be enabled to come among us to preside over this goodly fraternity for many years to come. Bro. Rolls concluded by proposing "The Health of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Major Lyne," whose name he introduced with great respect, attributing the successful conduct of the Grand Lodge business since the illness of the Prov. G.M. to Bro. Major Lyne.

Bro. Major LYNE, in responding, remarked, assuredly he had "lost his head" by the illness of the Prov. G.M., nevertheless, he felt he had his arms in the Masters and officers of this province, and he trusted the brethren would rally round the great and abiding principles of Freemasonry, and that the Order would continue to progress amongst the intelligent classes of the community. The Masons in the province of Monmouthshire already numbered 250, and he anticipated within the next twelve months another offshoot would spring into existence in the shape of a new lodge at Tredegar.

Bro. H. HELLYER, W.M. elect, proposed "The Provincial Grand Officers," which was responded to by Bro. J. A. ROLLS.

Bro. J. PIERCE (vice-chairman) gave "The Visiting Brethren."

By the PRESIDENT: "The Lodges of the Province," all the Masters being present.

Bros. ROLLS, GRIFFITHS, PIERCE, and MIDDLETON returned thanks.

By the PRESIDENT: "The Provincial Grand Secretary, Bro. W. Williams, and the Provincial Grand Treasurer, Bro. W. Pickford."

Bro. WILLIAMS suitably returned thanks. He said, with such worthy brothers to rule over them as the Prov. G.M. and the D. Prov. G.M., who were respected by every one, his labour as Prov. G. Sec. was a labour of love; and so long as they considered him competent, so long would he be most happy to act.

Bro. PICKFORD, in acknowledging, urged a subscription in aid of the New Royal Masonic Institute for Boys, which has recently been established at an expense of £30,000. There is a debt of £5,000 on the charity, and the Order is appealed to for its discharge. The suggestion of the Prov. G. Treasurer was readily adopted, and a handsome sum was in a few minutes placed in his hands.

The PRESIDENT then proposed in very appropriate and eulogistic terms "The Press," coupled with the name of Bro. Thomas Williams, of the *Star of Gwent*, who acknowledged the compliment.

"The Host" was next proposed, and acknowledged by Bro. Morgan, and the concluding Tyler's toast, "To all distressed Masons," was the signal for the vacation of the chair, which was afterwards occupied by the W.M. of the Abergavenny Lodge, Bro. Pierce.

SOUTH WALES (EASTERN DIVISION).

CARDIFF—*Bute Lodge* (No. 960).—There was a very full attendance at the regular meeting of this flourishing lodge on Tuesday, 19th inst., this being the night for election of W.M., &c. Lodge was opened punctually at seven o'clock by the W.M., Bro. W. H. Martin, Prov. S.G.D., supported by Bros. J. C. Thorp, P.M., and Prov. S.G.D. Oxford; John Willans, S.W.; M. Davies, J.W.; P. Bird, Treasurer; T. B. Bell, S.D.; H. Allen, J.D.; and J. Gibbs, I.G. The minutes of the last regular lodge having been confirmed, a ballot was taken for Mr. John Nixon, C.E., regularly proposed at the last lodge, and the candidate was duly accepted. The W.M. reminded the brethren that it was now their duty to elect a W.M. as his successor, and after strongly inveighing against the practice of re-election, already once indulged in by this lodge, requested the Deacons to distribute printed forms containing the names of all the brethren qualified for the chair, and afterwards to collect them in the usual manner. An attempt to raise some discussion was warmly deprecated by one of the brethren, and very properly suppressed by the W.M.; the by-laws of the lodge providing that the ballots be taken in so impartial a manner, that any attempts (either from the dais or elsewhere) to influence the decision of the brethren would be highly improper. The balloting papers having been handed in and scrutinised, Bro. John Williams S.W., was declared duly elected by an almost

unanimous vote. Bro. Philip Bird, Treasurer, from the formation of the lodge, having expressed a determination to retire from that office, the ballot was taken for a successor, when the present W.M. was unanimously chosen Treasurer. The Tyler having been reappointed, Bro. Williams, W.M. elect, suitably and with much feeling returned thanks for the honour so far conferred upon him. The W.M. also thanked the brethren for the confidence reposed in him by his appointment to the office of Treasurer. The usual day of installation falling on Saturday it was proposed, and unanimously resolved, that the ceremony take place on Monday 1st January, 1866, and that the banquet be held immediately afterwards at Bro. S. Marks, Windsor Hotel. The W.M. then introduced to the lodge Bro. R. F. Langley, P. Prov. S.G.W., &c., as the Steward who had undertaken to represent the province at the forthcoming Festival of the Boys' School. Bro. Langley appealed to the brethren for support in a forcible and eloquent speech, in which he fully explained the past conduct and present position of that excellent (if at any time mismanaged) charity, and also gave an interesting and graphic account of the results of a recent special visit to and full inspection of that Institution. Although disapprobation and dissatisfaction were expressed in some quarters at the very lavish and extravagant expenditure upon the building, the appeal was liberally responded to, and the sum of £15 collected instantaneously. Bro. Ware proposed, and it was resolved unanimously, that all the contributions from this lodge, and from its members, unless otherwise specially directed, be handed to the Charity by the Steward in the name of the W.M. *pro tem.* (already a life governor), in order to raise him to the position of vice-president as speedily as possible. There being no other business, lodge was closed in perfect harmony at nine o'clock.

SUFFOLK.

STOWMARKET.—*Phoenix Lodge* (No. 516).—The brethren of this lodge held their usual monthly meeting, on the 15th inst., at the lodge room, Fox Hotel, Bro. S. H. Wright, Prov. S.G.D., W.M., presiding. After the lodge had been opened, the W.M. elect, Bro. F. B. Marriott, was duly installed, the ceremony being impressively performed by Bro. James Franks, W.M., Perfect Friendship Lodge, Ipswich, No. 376. The W.M. then appointed his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. W. G. Ranson, S.W.; Frederick Long, J.W.; J. D. Larkin, S.D.; J. W. Sheridan, J.D.; George Sydeman, I.G.; and Bro. A. Sheriff, D.C. and Librarian. Bro. Wright, I.P.M., was elected Secretary, and Bro. Spencer Freeman, P.G., Treasurer, was elected Treasurer of the lodge. Amongst the P.M.'s present were:—Bros. F. Betts, C. W. Sutton, R. Fox, &c.; also some visitors from other lodges. After closing lodge the brethren adjourned to refreshment, and a most agreeable evening was spent.

SUSSEX.

EASTBOURNE.—*Hartington Lodge* (No. 916).—This lodge held their first meeting since the election of their W.M., Bro. R. K. Blessley, and the rest of the new officers, at the Anchor Hotel, on Friday, the 8th inst. Present: Bros. Blessley, W.M.; C. Law, P.M.; Cunningham, S.W.; J. H. C. Coles, J.W.; Geo. Adams, S.D.; J. Perry, J.D.; G. Wallis, I.G.; and other brethren. The W.M. raised Bro. John Mossop and Henry E. Rumble to the sublime degree of M.M., and initiated Bro. J. C. Pitcher, who was balloted for at a previous meeting; after which Bro. B. Roberts, being present, was passed to the degree of F.C. The banquet was served up in excellent style. Bro. Law proposed the toast of the W.M., and some good speeches were made. The visitors were represented and returned thanks for by Bro. C. Meeking, of the Apollo Lodge, Cambridge, with some little care. This lodge, although newly constituted, is becoming one of the best lodges in the county.

WILTSHIRE.

SALISBURY.—*Lodge Elias De Derham* (No. 586).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was holden on the 12th inst., at the White Hart Hotel. The following brethren were present:—Bros. C. W. Wyntham, W.M., in the chair; E. G. Benson, S.W.; P.M. Dure, as J.W.; P.M. Cardell, as Sec.; P.M. King, S.D.; T. J. Blake, J.D.; R. S. Bryan, I.G.; P.M. Brown, H. Ward, W.M. 622; J. A. Lush, W. Pain, and W. S. Fussell. Visitors: Pros. the Rev. Wm. Mortimer Heath, Prov. G. Chap. Dorset; Michael Phillips, 130, and C. Trininan, Tyler. The lodge was opened in form and with solemn prayer. The

minutes of the last lodge were read and confirmed. Mr. Wm. Samuel Fussell was balloted for and unanimously approved, and Bro. P.M. Cardell having taken the chair, the candidate was initiated. The W.M. then resumed the chair. Bro. Heath gave the lecture on the first tracing board in the first degree. Bro. Benson was balloted for, and unanimously elected as the W.M. for the year ensuing. Bro. Stokes, P.M., was balloted for, and re-elected as Treasurer. Bro. Trininan was balloted for, and re-elected as Tyler. The W.M. proposed, and Bro. King seconded, a vote of thanks to Bro. Heath, for his kindness in giving his admirable and instructive lecture, and the ability with which it was rendered, proved a very great Masonic treat to the brethren. (Carried unanimously.) Bro. P.M. Philip P. Cother having sent in his resignation as Secretary on account of his ill-health, Bro. Cardell proposed, and Bro. Dore seconded (which was carried unanimously), that a vote of thanks should be recorded in the minutes, and a copy of the same be forwarded to Bro. Cother, as an acknowledgment of his valuable services rendered to the lodge since its formation—a period of fourteen years. The report of the furniture committee was read, and Bro. King explained the desirability of not purchasing any additional furniture at present, until a favourable opportunity should occur for removing the lodge to private rooms. Bro. Ward gave notice that at the next meeting he should propose that the lodge be removed to more suitable premises, and that a committee be appointed to seek for the same and report thereon. Bro. Cardell proposed, and Bro. Bryan seconded, a candidate for the mysteries of Freemasonry. The lodge was closed in due form, and with solemn prayer.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

CONSECRATION OF THE HUMBER LODGE (No. 57), HULL.

The Humber Lodge having become too small for its members (now upwards of two hundred) it was resolved about a year ago, to build a new one over the then existing lodge room.

The new building, consecrated on the 11th inst., consists of a very handsome entrance hall, beautifully laid with encaustic tiles, from which is obtained an entrance to a banquetting hall 45 feet by 18 feet, an entrance to a committee room or library, to a private room for the W.M., and to spacious and convenient lavatories &c., a kitchen with cooking apparatus capable of dining 150 brethren, as also hot water apparatus for heating the new lodge room; two stewards' rooms with closets and every convenience, also a private entrance from Osborne-street to the Tyler's house.

The upper floor is approached by a handsome stone Masonic staircase, leading from the entrance hall and landing in a corridor having an organ loft over it, the corridor sufficiently large to allow of the formation of Masonic processions, and giving access not only to the new lodge itself (which is of the same size and over the banquetting hall) but to a preparing room and Tyler's room adjoining.

The Tyler's apartments are to the east of the grand staircase, and consist of a sitting room and kitchen and two good sized rooms above.

The facade which is in the cemented Italian style, presents a very handsome appearance, and adds to the number of beautiful buildings already possessed by the town.

The new lodge was consecrated by the R.W. Bro. George Marwood, D. Prov. G.M. of North and East Yorkshire, assisted by Bros. Clarke, W.M.; Milner, S.W.; Runtou, J.W.; Oates, Chaplain; Fountain, P. Prov. G.S.B., Treasurer; Backwell, Secretary; Ranson, J.D.; Kemp and Hogg, Directors of Ceremonies; Stephenson, Organist; Johnson and Gawthorp, I.G.'s; Johnson, Tyler; and Norton Assist. Tyler; and in the presence of a very numerous attendance of Freemasons, including Major Smyth, the D. Prov. G.M. for Lincolnshire; Bros. E. H. Lucas, the Prov. G. Secretary for Lincolnshire; Nelson, Prov. G. Secretary for West Yorkshire; Dr. Bell, Prov. G. Secretary for North and East Yorkshire; Jacobs, Peck, Seaton, Craft, Catt, Coateworth, Henson, Tadd Moseley, Holden, Harrison, and numerous other Past Masters, the W.M.'s of the Minerva and Kingston Lodges, and several other visiting brethren.

The ceremony was performed in a very solemn manner, and favourably impressed all who were fortunate to be present. The W.M. in the course of an address delivered to the brethren present, congratulated the members of the Humber Lodge on the completion of their beautiful building. He pointed out

their duties when in the world they were not to show a mere admiration of virtue, but by works to manifest that by becoming Masons they were made better men, and that by trust in God, and benevolence to man, they might hope to ascend from this sublunary lodge to the Grand one above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for evermore.

At six o'clock the brethren sat down to a well-served and sumptuous banquet in the banqueting hall of the new lodge, given by the W.M. (Bro. Clarke) of which about 120 partook. The W.M. presided. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and Bro. Marwood heartily thanked for his presence and services in consecrating the lodge. Bro. Stephenson presided at the piano-forte, and several excellent songs and glees were admirably sung by Bros. Jell, Needler, Carr, Vivian, and Tall.

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

METROPOLITAN.

METROPOLITAN CHAPTER OF SOVEREIGN PRINCES ROSE CROIX.—An emergency convocation of this chapter was held on Tuesday, the 12th inst., at the Masonic Hall, in Bedford-row—the Illustrious Bro. Dr. R. H. Goolden, W.M. Sov., presided. There were present the Illustrious Bros. Phillips and Wentworth Bowyer, 33°; Charles Goolden and R. J. Spiers, 31°; Major Finney, 30°, 1st Gen.; Capt. Lamert Raphael; J. Howe, 30°, as Grand Marshal; R. Spencer, 30°, Capt. of Guard; W. G. Meymott, Harrison, Brunton, and others. Sixteen candidates were proposed, and the following brethren being in attendance were admitted and installed into this princely order:—John Watson, *M.D.*; Charles Cradock Watson, George Taunton, William Alex. Barrett, Alan Stephen Gulston, Robert Taunton Raikes, George Haygarth Rainy, and Douglas Moffatt. The ceremony was most efficiently performed by the able Sovereign of the chapter, who was well assisted by his officers. The beautiful hall had a most brilliant appearance—the diligent Secretary, Bro. C. Goolden, being most indefatigable in his efforts to leave nothing wanting to give due effect to this beautiful degree of Freemasonry. Several candidates are proposed for admission at the regular meeting of the chapter in January. The financial report presented a greatly improved state of the funds, there being a considerable balance in hand. All business being concluded, the brethren adjourned to the banquet.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

A Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the thirty-third and last degree of Masonry, Ancient and Accepted Rite, assembled in the city of Charleston in November last. Ill. Bro. General Albert Pike, of Arkansas, presided as Sovereign Grand Commander; Ill. Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, of Minnesota, as Lieutenant Grand Commander, and Ill. Bro. A. G. Mackey, of South Carolina, as Secretary General, with a considerable number of distinguished Masons from every part of the union. Among them were Ill. Bros. Colonel Wm. S. Rockwell, of Georgia; H. Shaw, of California; Henry Buist, H. W. Schroder, and B. Rush Campbell, of South Carolina; Colonel Tal. P. Shaffner, of Kentucky; Charles T. McClenagan, of New York; and Lucius K. Paige, of Massachusetts.

This high and distinguished body of Masons did much work, their meetings having been suspended during the war. Among other things of interest to the Craft, we may notice that they appointed Ill. Bro. Colonel Tal. P. Shaffner, Special Deputy for Europe, and elected the following persons honorary members of their Council:—

His Majesty Charles XV., King of Sweden and Norway.

His Royal Highness Oscar, Crown Prince of Sweden and Norway,

His Majesty Christian IX., King of Denmark,

His Royal Highness Constantine Nicolavich, Grand Duke of Russia.

Ill. Bro. Henry Buist was elected Treasurer General in place of Achille Le Prince, deceased.

The Supreme Council adjourned late on November 18th, after being in session several days, to continue their session on the third Monday of March, at the city of Washington, D.C.

This, the Mother Council of all the Supreme Councils of the world, comprises among its members some of the most distinguished men of this country and Europe.

During their stay General Pike, Colonels Shaffner and Pierson, were the guests of the Hon. A. G. Mackey. The two latter left with Bro. Mackey on Sunday morning to attend the meeting of the Grand Lodge of the State in the city of Columbia, which assembled there on the 21st ult.

ROYAL ARCH.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

LEEDS—Alfred Chapter (No. 306).—A meeting of this chapter was held at their rooms, Albion-street, on Monday evening, the 11th inst., at seven o'clock; Comps. Isaac Booth, of Chapter 258, Heckmondwicke, acting as Z.; Wm. Chadwick, H.; Henry Smith, Bradford, P.Z. of 302, 387, and 495, as J.; Samuel Clarke, P.Z.; Franks, S.E.; S. Freeman, S.N.; L. Flick, P. Soj.; also Comps. F. Blackburn, W. Pepper, S. C. Paviell, Green, Jowett, and others. After the chapter had been declared opened, the minutes were read and confirmed. A letter of apology was received from Comp. Richard R. Nelson, Prov. S.B. A resolution was proposed and seconded that in future the Stewards be requested to provide refreshments. Comp. J. Booth then proceeded to instal the following companions to their respective offices, they having been duly elected by ballot: Comps. W. Chadwick, 1st Prin.; R. Harrison, P.Z., 2nd Prin.; S. Freeman, 3rd Prin.; F. Blackburn, S.E.; Wm. Pepper, S.N.; S. C. Paviell, P. Soj.; Leonard Hick, Treas.; Green and Jowett, Assist. Soj.'s The chapter was closed at nine o'clock.

MARK MASONRY.

METROPOLITAN.

SOUTHWARK LODGE (No. 11, S.C.)—On Monday, the 4th inst., the regular December meeting of this lodge was held at the Green Man, Tooley-street, Bro. A. P. Leonard, W.M. Bros. Hider, Taylor, Schuck, Daly, and Mansir were advanced to this ancient degree. A gift of one guinea was voted to a brother who had applied for assistance. A letter was read from another brother applying for aid; but on its being stated that this brother was making the round of the lodges on the same mission, and as this was all that was known of him, the lodge unanimously refused to take any notice of his application. Letters of resignation were read from two brethren, and, the business being ended, the lodge was closed. It will meet again on the first Monday in February, 1866. Bros. Cottebrune and Watts, both of Thistle Lodge (No. 8), were among the visitors, and among the members of the lodge were Bros. Leonard, Gooddy, F. J. Lilley, Vallentin, Worthington, Ord, G. Morris, Harris, W. H. Loewenstark, M. A. Loewenstark, and F. Walters.

CUMBERLAND.

CARLISLE—Cumberland Lodge (No. 60).—This highly esteemed and flourishing lodge held an emergency meeting at the Masonic Rooms, Barwise-court, English-street, on Tuesday evening, the 5th inst. The chair was occupied by Bro. Wm. Murray, R.W.M., and after the minutes of a former meeting were read and confirmed in the usual way amongst Mark Masters, Bro. the Rev. J. Losh, of 872, was regularly advanced by Bro. G. G. Hayward, J.W., at the request of the R.W.M. (but in consequence of the bad state of the weather the proposed officers were not in attendance), and he was ably supported by Bro. F. W. Hayward, L.P.M., J.G.D., as S.W.; Bros. J. Wilson, who has become a joining member to this lodge, as J.W.; Thomas Blacklock, M.O.; Walter Irwin, S.O.; Dr. Thomas D. Wheatley, J.O.; Bro. William Pratchett, as Chap.; Thomas Dean, S.D.; and Arthur Woodhouse, Sec., as I.G. After which the ballot was taken for the Rev. J. Simpson, 129, and Bro. Whinfield, 962, which proved unanimous in their favour. No other business being on hand, the lodge was duly closed with solemn prayer by Bro. W. Murray, R.W.M., and retired to the refreshment room, when the usual Masonic toasts were dispensed with the healths of Bros. J. Losh, G. Wilson, and Woodhouse (the latter for presenting to this lodge a horn nicely mounted for the purpose of holding spills for pipe lights), with musical honours, the brethren retiring at an early hour.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.

LODGE LA CESAREE.—(No. 590).—Owing to an impression that matters of grave and unusual importance would be brought under consideration on Thursday, Nov. 30th, there was, as had been anticipated, a very numerous attendance of members and visitors, nor was the expectation as to what might take place a vain one, though but few, perhaps, believed that a recurrence of the events which had disturbed the harmony of the previous meeting in October would happen. Unfortunately, however, prudence, discretion, and kindly Masonic feeling did not influence the individual to whom the present state of things must be attributed, as will be shown by the proceedings which it is our painful duty to record.

The lodge was opened at a quarter to eight by Bro. Durell, I.P.M., acting as W.M., assisted by the Bros. Chevalier, S.W.; Oatley, J.W.; and Du Jardin, acting as I.P.M. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The usual questions on the first degree were put to Bros. Puel and Boudier, who, having been subsequently entrusted, retired for preparation. Bro. C. Le Sueur, W.M., at this time entered and took his own chair, Bro. Durell occupying his place as I.P.M. The W.M. reminded the meeting of the occurrences at the last meeting in reference to Bro. Huard, who had since laid a complaint on the subject of the refusal to admit him into the lodge before the Prov. Grand Master. In consequence the W.M. and several others had been summoned before that official, who instituted an inquiry into the matter, the result of which was a communication from the Prov. G.M. which the W.M. now called upon Bro. E. D. Le Couteur to read. The following is an exact copy of this most extraordinary document:—

Jersey, Nov. 20, 1865.

The Provincial Grand Master having received from Bro. Huard, a member of Royal Sussex Lodge (No. 491), also of the Prince of Wales Lodge (No. 1003), a certain complaint dated Jersey, 27th October, 1865, setting forth that Bro. Huard had on Thursday, 26th October, 1865, presented himself as a visitor to the Loge La Cesaree (No. 590). That after having regularly signed the visitors' book, and being announced by the outer Guard, was by order of the lodge refused admission without assigning any reasons. The Provincial Grand Master having summoned Bro. Le Sueur, W.M. of Loge La Cesaree, to meet him on Thursday, November 2nd, 1865, Bro. Le Sueur having attended on the above day, stated in his defence, and in the presence of Bro. Huard, that he had refused admission to the complainant on a representation made by Bro. Durell, P.M., that he, the said Bro. Huard, had, at the last regular meeting of the R. S. Lodge, grossly insulted Bro. Durell, in stating that Bro. Durell was throwing dust in people's eyes, and that if Bro. Huard was permitted to enter the lodge, Bro. Durell would be obliged to retire, as he could not sit or remain in the lodge with Bro. Huard. Bro. Le Sueur further stated that he had, in refusing Bro. Huard to enter the lodge, not taken upon himself the sole responsibility, but after a resolution duly made and seconded, viz., that Bro. Huard be not admitted as a visitor, inasmuch that Bro. Huard was in the habit of speaking derogatory of certain members belonging to Loge La Cesaree. The words imputed by Bro. Huard having been spoken in the Royal Sussex Lodge, the Provincial Grand Master, in justice to all parties felt it his duty to adjourn the investigation to Wednesday, 9th November, 1865, so as to enable Bro. Scott, W.M. of the Royal Sussex Lodge, of giving the Provincial Grand Master every information that was required touching the complaint in question.

The W. Master of the R. S. Lodge, having attended on the above day, stated that Bro. Durell, member of Loge La Cesaree had visited his lodge at the last regular meeting as one of a deputation to advocate the cause of a certain bazaar, the proceeds of which were to be devoted to the purchase of shares unsold in the Masonic Temple Company, which shares afterwards to be transferred to the widows' and orphans' fund.

That Bro. Huard, in giving his opinion respecting a certain document presented by Bro. Durell, stated that he would strongly recommend the Royal Sussex Lodge to weigh well the matter before voting any money towards the support of this bazaar, that the document now read was throwing dust in people's eyes. The Worshipful Master feeling that similar language ought not to have been spoken, called the brother to order, and further admonished him to be more careful for the future when giving his opinion upon any subject before the

lodge. After the above words had been uttered by Bro. Huard, Bro. Durell not only remained in the lodge, but received and accepted an invitation from the Worshipful Master, officers, and members of the lodge to partake of the monthly banquet of the lodge.

The Provincial Grand Master begs to state that every brother visiting a lodge is not only subject to the by-laws of the lodge, but is equally under the protection of the Master as any of its members. Had Bro. Durell, whilst in the lodge, felt in any way aggrieved at any remark Bro. Huard may have made, it was Bro. Durell's duty in the first instance to appeal to the Worshipful Master for protection, for it is clearly laid down that all differences between, or complaints of, members that cannot be accommodated privately or in a regular lodge, &c.; and what lodge is more proper and fit to obtain redress and satisfaction than in that lodge in which the offence had been committed? Had Bro. Durell been refused proper redress, the laws and constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England give him full power and authority to appeal to the Provincial Grand Master, who is the proper and constituted authority to hear and determine all subjects of Masonic complaint or irregularities respecting lodges or Masons. Bro. Durell, not having followed the proper course, was not justified in bringing the case before the members of Loge La Cesaree, who could possibly know nothing of the circumstances, except through the representation of *au ex parte* statement.

But even admitting that Bro. Durell was justified in the course he adopted, it was the duty of the Worshipful Master and members of Loge La Cesaree, before proceeding to put the proposition for the opinion of the lodge, then and there to intimate, or cause to be intimated, to Bro. Huard, that Bro. Durell had objections to meet him in the lodge.

In so doing, the members of Loge La Cesaree would have given not only an opportunity to Bro. Huard of withdrawing any hasty expression he may have made, but would also have acted more in the spirit of the charge delivered to every brother on his initiation, as well as a manifestation of a desire to reconcile any differences that may have arisen between a member of their lodge and a member of another lodge. Had the members of Loge La Cesaree adopted this course, one so much in unison with the true principles of Masonry, much uneasiness and heart-rending would have been prevented.

The Provincial Grand Master trusts that so long as he has honour in holding that office, he may never again be called upon to investigate or adjudicate a complaint of a similar nature against the Loge La Cesaree.

J. J. HAMMOND, Prov. G.M.

Bro. E. D. Le Couteur also read a copy of the reply to the preceding communication, forwarded by Bro. C. Le Sueur, W.M., to the Prov. Grand Master, as follows:—

22, Ann-street, November 22, 1865.

Right Worshipful Sir and Brother,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication dated 20th inst., respecting Bro. Huard and the Cesaree Lodge, and beg to state I will take the earliest opportunity to bring the said communication before my lodge.—I am, Right Worshipful Sir and Brother, respectfully and fraternally,

CLEMENT LE SUEUR,

W.M. Cesaree Lodge (No. 590.)

To J. J. Hammond, Esq., R.W. Prov. G.M.

It was proposed by Bro. Du Jardin, P.M., and seconded by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M. 43 and 958, that the document received from the Prov. G. Master, in reference to the complaint of Bro. Huard, a member of the Royal Sussex Lodge (No. 491), against a resolution of this lodge unanimously adopted at its last regular meeting, refusing his admission for reasons mentioned in the said resolution be entered in the minutes, and that in copying this document the Secretary be requested to observe perfect exactitude, and to record its peculiarities with the utmost minuteness; also that the reply of the W.M. to the Provincial Grand Master be inserted in the minute book.

After a short a short discussion the W.M. put the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

It was proposed by Bro. E. D. Le Couteur, and seconded by Bro. Hopkins:—

Considering that truth ought to prevail in all our actions; Considering that the communication of the Prov. G.M. relative to the affair of Bro. Huard contains a recital of the depositions of Bros. C. Le Sueur, W.M., and J. Durell, P.M., which is totally incorrect;

Considering that the same statement also contains an equally

incorrect deposition of the W.M. of the Royal Sussex Lodge (No. 491);

Considering that the inexplicable refusal on the part of the complaining brother to reply to the questions which Bros. Le Sueur, Durell, and Le Couteur had put to him, had served only farther to complicate this very simple affair;

Considering that the opinion, or rather the advice, expressed by the Prov. G.M. on this subject, based upon depositions so false and deceptive, can be but a reflex of them;

Lastly,—Considering that the Prov. G.M. has pronounced no decision on the subject of the said complaint which Bro. Huard had made;

Resolved—That the lodge maintain in its integrity the resolution unanimously adopted at its last regular meeting with respect to the said Bro. Huard, and that the following addition respecting a circumstance, at that time forgotten and overlooked, be added thereto after the words, “to offer an apology or excuse to those whom he had traduced,”—“and above all to Bro. Schmitt, P.M., whose honour, uprightness, and probity he has disgracefully outraged, in a conversation with non-Masons, by attributing to him, as a Mason, vile motives and interests, in order thereby to enable him the better to impose on the credulity of his brethren, and (*exploiter*) to take mean advantage of them.”

Bro. Tracey, W.M. of the Yarborough Lodge (No. 244), though merely a visitor, felt it his duty to state that he had been present at the last meeting of the Royal Sussex Lodge (No. 491), when Bro. Manuel also attended, and that he could bear testimony to the conciliating spirit and gentle manner in which he had spoken of the conduct of Bro. Huard, giving him every opportunity to retract or explain any hasty expressions which he may have uttered in a moment of excitement, but that far from accepting the chance thus kindly offered to put an end to this unpleasant affair, he had repeated his insulting language, and Bro. Tracey added that his impression was that the scene was the most disgraceful he had ever witnessed in a Masonic lodge.

Bro. Manuel stated, that knowing the Prov. G. Master would be present at the last meeting of the Sussex Lodge, he had attended, in order that, whatever might occur, the Prov. G. M. might be a witness, and be unable to profess ignorance or difficulty in reconciling the conflicting statements of others, and especially as in his communication to Bro. Le Sueur the Prov. G. M. had cast reflections on the inconsistency of Bro. Durell in remaining to partake of the banquet in the presence of Bro. Huard, when he felt that he had been insulted by him. Bro. Manuel said that he attended on this occasion, as a member of the Royal Sussex Lodge, and desired to explain the motives of Bro. Durell on a former occasion in remaining as a visitor after the indignities to which he had been exposed, and of himself now in coming to the meeting. It was simply to afford every facility to Bro. Huard, if brother he could be styled, for recalling or explaining words used under misapprehension or excitement. Bro. Manuel could not but feel that the Prov. G. M. had taken advantage of Bro. Durell's kind motives in remaining without evincing angry feeling, and had misrepresented them so as to turn them against him. He (Bro. Manuel) had not only spoken in the mildest terms possible with regard to Bro. Huard, but had gone further, by saying that it was possible that his own ears had deceived him, and that he may have been totally mistaken as to what fell from Bro. Huard's lips; if so, he required no apology, but was willing to receive any disclaimer or explanation which might be offered. Any right minded Mason would have eagerly embraced such an opportunity of setting himself straight with his brethren; nay, any man, Mason or not, who had a heart in his breast, would have adopted such a course. All attempts at reconciliation were, however, futile, for the only reply obtained from Bro. Huard was a reiteration of the insulting remarks previously made. Bro. Manuel concluded by saying, “May we not congratulate ourselves on having shut our doors against such a man?”

Bro. Schmitt, P.M. and Sec., again read the preamble and resolution proposed, and indignantly rebutted the charges made against himself by Bro. Huard.

Several other brethren having made a few remarks expressive of opinions in favour of the resolution, the W.M. gave a brief *résumé* of the circumstances, and concluded by putting the resolution to the meeting, which was carried unanimously.

Scarcely had matters reached this point, before, to the surprise of all present, the Inner Guard announced that Bro. Huard

was in the ante-room claiming admission to the lodge. After a short consultation as to the course to be pursued, the following brethren were appointed as a deputation to confer with Bro. Huard, and to carry out their instructions. Bros. Du Jardin, P.M. 590; Tracey, W.M. 244; Rogers, W.M. 1003; Grimmond, P.M. Justice Lodge, Irish Registry, 34. They accordingly left the lodge with the minute book. On their return, Bro. Du Jardin stated that they had read to Bro. Huard the resolution passed, and had expressed the determination of the Lodge not to admit him until he had made an ample apology in writing to the members of the Cesaree Lodge, several of whom as Directors of the Temple he had insulted, as well as openly in the Royal Sussex Lodge, where the expressions were used, and also an apology to Bro. Schmitt, whom he had calumniated as a Mason in the presence of several who were not Masons. In reply Bro. Huard observed that he had not insulted the brethren named, nor calumniated Bro. Schmitt; consequently he had no apology to make, but that if any definite charge were preferred against him, he would either acknowledge or deny the truth of it.

Bro. Grimmond observed that in reply to a remark made by himself, Bro. Huard had said that he had established a right to visit a lodge, and had a judgment from the Prov. G. Master to that effect; on this Bro. Grimmond had asked him to produce it, which he said he was unable to do, as he had not brought it with him.

Thus ended for the time this disagreeable and vexatious affair, of which, however, more will of course be heard; from it however will probably ensue results not only beneficial to the province, as enabling the Craft to pursue its course unfettered and with great advantage, for numerically it is stronger in Jersey than in most places, but also beneficial to Freemasonry in general, as leading to the settlement of a question which is by no means well defined in the “Book of Constitutions.”

The lodge having been opened by the W.M. in the second degree, Bros. Pinel and Boudier were admitted and passed to the rank of Fellow Craft, after which they received the usual charge.

The lodge was closed in the second degree.

The following resolution was proposed by Bro. Grimmond, seconded by Bro. John Blampied, and carried unanimously.

That the Secretary do transmit a copy of the minute of October 26th respecting Bro. Huard, and confirmed this evening, to the W.M.'s of the Royal Sussex and Prince of Wales Lodges, of which Bro. Huard is a member, accompanied by a statement of his claim for admission to the lodge this evening, and of the course of action pursued thereupon.

Bro. Manuel proposed his brother-in-law as a candidate for initiation at the next meeting. He also mentioned that a serious accident had recently occurred to a respected member of the lodge, who was entitled to the kind sympathy of the brethren, inasmuch as it was highly probable that amputation of the leg would be found necessary. A deputation was accordingly chosen to see Bro. Oules, and to assure him of the kindly feeling of the members of the lodge under these afflicting circumstances.

No other business offering, the lodge was closed at ten o'clock, and the brethren retired to the banqueting room to partake of refreshment, and to endeavour, by the exhibition of social and fraternal feeling, to do away with the unpleasant impressions which the events of the evening had produced on their minds.

[Our local correspondent considers that some apology is due for the unusual length of the above report, which, nevertheless, has been considerably curtailed. The importance of the subject, the possibility that the same circumstances may arise elsewhere at any time, and the desirability that the subject should be well ventilated with a view to final settlement, are offered in explanation, and, as a reason for entering somewhat into detail. It may be added that, before transmission, it has been submitted for approval to the W.M. and I.P.M. of Lodge La Cesaree.—*ED. F. M. MAG. AND MASONIC MIRROR.*]

ST. AUBIN'S LODGE (No. 958).—The regular monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, November 21st, at the Masonic rooms. In the absence of the W.M., who was in England, Bro. Dr. R. G. F. Smith, P.M. 342, presided, assisted by Bro. Otley acting as S.W.; Bro. Mannan, J.W.; and Bro. Dr. Hopkins, I.P.M. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Several matters of business having been transacted, the lodge was opened in the second and afterwards in the third degree. By request the I.P.M. gave a lecture on the third

tracing board to two brethren who had lately been raised to that degree. No other business offering, the lodge was closed down at an early hour, and the brethren partook of the usual frugal refreshment.

BRITISH BURMAH.

(From our own Correspondent.)

RANGOON.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LODGE STAR IN BURMAH (No. 614.)

A special meeting of this lodge was called on Tuesday, the 3rd October, at 7.30 p.m., to receive the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, G. O'Donnell, W.M.; Bros. S. Porter, S.W.; J. Cotton, J.W.; J. W. Simpson, S.D.; W. Hall, J.D.; J. White, I.G.; and J. Paul, Tyler; besides twenty other members. There was a large number of visitors, including R.W. A. J. Greenlaw, P.S.G.W. of the Grand Lodge of England; W.P.M. E. Pillar, of Calcutta; Bros. Reinhold, Montgomerie, Dr. Cowie, Major Ryan, Major Babington, Captains Banbury, St. John, and Prust, Dr. Wade, T. B. Hardinge, Gregory, Aga Bey, Wilkie, Barrington, and Owen.

The lodge was opened up to the third degree.

The Prov. Grand Master having arrived, was received by the P.M. and Deacons, and by them conducted into the lodge, where the W.M. and brethren hailed him with the honours due to his high office.

The lodge was then worked down to the E.A. degree to enable all members of the lodge to hear the R.W. Brother's address.

All F.C.'s and E.A.'s were admitted.

Bro. O'Donnell then addressed the Right Worshipful Brother.

He was proud to have the honour of receiving their P.G.M. for the second time. On the former occasion, owing to the incompleteness of the building, the meeting was held to receive the R.W. Bro. at a very great disadvantage, but now the interior of their magnificent hall was finished, and the members trusted that visitors would not suffer any discomfort. He also hoped that what had been done for the good of the Craft would meet with the approval of their Prov. Grand Master.

The Worshipful Master stated that on taking charge of the lodge there were twenty-seven members, and that in twenty-one months that number had increased to thirty-eight. He then showed that the lodge had possessed 3,450 Rs., and that they had realised a further sum of 8,703 Rs. by subscriptions, donations, &c., for this noble building. The hall had cost 16,550 Rs., so that there was a sum due, which he was glad to say was being fast cleared off. The lodge would then possess a Masonic hall second to none in India, and which would be a lasting memorial of the exertions of the Star in Burmah to raise a temple in Rangoon fitting for our noble Order. He regretted to say that Government had made them pay 2,000 Rs. for the ground on which their lodge was built. Once more he welcomed the R.W. Bro. Prov. Grand Master, H. Sandeman, to Rangoon.

Bro. Sandeman thanked the W.M. and brethren for the cordial reception they had accorded him, and as he might have to say something about the lodge, he thought he had better assume the hiram, which the W.M. accordingly placed in his hands.

The R.W. Brother then sincerely congratulated the W.M. and brethren on the success of their exertions, that they certainly had now a noble building. He was fully aware how hard they had endeavoured to prepare their lodge for his reception last year; indeed that the operative Masons were moved out to enable them to receive him at all, and gave all praise to Bro. O'Donnell.

He was exceedingly pleased with the working of the lodge throughout, and said that in one or two things it was superior to what he had seen elsewhere; and he felt that great credit was due to the Master and brethren; and he was sure that with the two lodges in Rangoon, having such Masons as Bros. O'Donnell, Greenlaw, and Duncan, Masonry would get on, and he hoped there would be a wholesome rivalry between the lodges, with much paternal love. The lodge had set an example to other lodges. In Calcutta, he regretted to say, they had not a temple of their own worthy of the Order and the place. Some lodges in the Mofussil (up country) had their own buildings, but as yet Calcutta had no temple.

The R.W. Brother remarked that the list of members had increased very largely, and no doubt it was a subject of congratulation to see the Order exalted; but he thought it necessary to warn the brethren to be very cautious who they admitted, to see that all were good men and true. He was happy to inform the brethren that he hoped he would shortly be in a position to deliver to brethren their Grand Lodge certificates, so that a brother in Calcutta could, on his being raised, receive his the following day, and those in the district by return of post. He also trusted the day was not far distant when Provincial Grand Masters in their colonies would be permitted to confer provincial rank on zealous and deserving Masons in their district. The R.W. Brother then returned the hiram to Bro. O'Donnell, who closed the lodge with prayer at 8.30.

THE BANQUET.

The brethren then adjourned to the banquet, Bro. G. O'Donnell, W.M., in the chair, supported on his right by the Prov. G.M., and on his left by Bro. Col. Greenlaw, P.G.S.W. of England, the P.M.'s and officers each looking after visitors, the well-known splendid band of H.M. 60th Royal Rifles, by the kindness of Bro. Colonel Roe, being in attendance.

The first toast given by the W. Master was "The Queen; a Mason's daughter," which was drank with full Masonic honours. The band played "God save the Queen," all brethren upstanding. The W.M. then proposed "The Prince and Princess of Wales and all the Royal Family."

Air, "God bless the Prince of Wales."

The W.M. then gave "The Earl of Zetland, Grand Master of England, and the M.W. the Grand Masters of Scotland and Ireland." The toast was most enthusiastically responded to with full Masonic honours.

Bro. O'DONNELL then called on all the brethren to do full honour to the next toast, "The Guest of the Evening, the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Sandeman." It had been his (the W.M.'s) privilege to first know their R.W. Brother in Calcutta nearly two years ago, when he met with that reception as Master elect of this lodge from their distinguished guest as gave him a fresh impetus in his Masonic career, and induced him still further to devote his best energies for the good of the Craft. It was, however, needless to point out all the claims Bro. Sandeman had upon all present. He was the first Provincial Grand Master who had ever visited them, and he felt so great an interest in them, that he had come among them a second time, embracing the only opportunities for so doing that his position admitted of. The W.M. reminded the brethren that the Order is supported by three pillars, the pillars of wisdom, of strength, and of beauty. In the interior economy of the Order, the M.W. Grand Master in the Craft, the Provincial Grand Master in his province, and the W. Master in his lodge, severally represent the pillar of wisdom; and who is there that knows how our Provincial Grand Master rules his province that does not admit that he is the pillar of wisdom amongst us, and that much is due to his wisdom, that we are so strong, so well organised, and so able to maintain the credit of our Order? After a few other remarks, the brethren did full honour to the toast.

Air, "There's nae luck about the house, when our gude man's awa'."

The PROV. G. MASTER, in returning thanks, said he did not expect such a reception from his brother Masons as he had received this evening, and heartily thanked them for it. He felt he owed it more to the kindly feelings of the brethren than to his own deserts, and he was right glad to offer the hand of friendship and brotherly love to, and receive the same from, his brethren in Rangoon. He remarked with reference to his being the first Prov. G.M. who had visited this part of his district, others before him would have done so had they been able; we were now in the time of steamers and railroads; that he must confess that he liked the sea, and that he always went to sea whenever he had the opportunity, and that had something to do with his coming to Rangoon; but it was from no want of zeal on the part of his predecessors that they had not before visited Rangoon. He spoke in very high terms of Rangoon, and of the superiority of the natives of the country over those of India, the former being frank, open, and independent, the latter mean and cringing, having no sympathies with us. He concluded with much sound sense and advice, coupled with a good deal of wit and humour, amidst a perfect uproar of applause.

The W. MASTER rose to propose "The Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of England and all Provincial Grand Officers."

In doing so he observed that they had the unusual honour of having among them that evening a past officer of the Grand Lodge of England, no other, in fact, than a Past Senior Grand Warden, Bro. Colonel Greenlaw. This was an honour seldom enjoyed by private lodges anywhere, and certainly never in the colonies, much less in the far-off land of Burmah; but whilst they, as Masons, were bound to do all honour to Bro. Greenlaw's exalted rank—the highest that can be given—it was just to remember that he had special claims upon them independent of that rank. The offices of the three pillars that support our lodge had already been alluded to. In Bro. Greenlaw we have represented the pillar of strength, and when the representative of that pillar is possessed of the zeal and untiring energy of the R.W. brother, when the minutest as well as the most important acts that had been done and objects that had to be attained received the assistance of talents such as his, where was the wonder that Masonry should succeed, and its boundaries be enlarged? In short, to the fact of a brother working among us as he has done, for the good of the Craft, was solely due the immense strides Masonry had made in Rangoon and Burmah, where it was securing to itself a position that must command the respect of all Masons, as well as that of the outer world.

The toast was most warmly drunk to the air of "He's a jolly good fellow," the brethren joining heartily in the song.

Bro. GREENLAW, in returning thanks, said that it was with no little pride that he rose to return thanks for the toast so very kindly proposed and so very warmly responded to, including as it did some of our most influential members. He certainly was not prepared to be received with so very flattering and kind a mark of their friendship, and most heartily thanked them for the enthusiastic reception they had given him, though he feared he could not claim to deserve it. He told the brethren that there were, perhaps, few among them who knew what a deep debt of gratitude they all owed, as Masons of England, to their beloved Grand Master. The Earl of Zetland, the M.W.G. Master of England, was now for the 23rd year successively Grand Master of the Order, showing the love and esteem for, and confidence in, his lordship the brethren ever have had. On the other hand, his lordship had shown his devotion to us during these many years, as also his great wisdom in governing us, by the officers he has ever selected for his Grand Lodge—earnest good Masons who had ever endeavoured to carry out the Grand Master's views and plans for the real good of Masonry. It is customary to drink his lordship's health at all Masonic banquets, but he begged the brethren prayerfully to do so, for should his lordship's health fail and he be obliged to give up his post, Masonry would indeed suffer, and it would be difficult to find another who could for 23 years govern so large a body as the Freemasons of England, and give during that time such universal satisfaction, and also hold the love, esteem, and respect of all. He prayed that God would grant his lordship long life and happiness, and spare him in health long to rule over us. The R.W. brother then thanked the W.M. for the pleasure he had afforded him this evening of being present to do honour to so high and distinguished a Mason as their Prov. Grand Master. It was useless for him to say to those present much of their guest as a Mason, they all know him to be an earnest and most zealous one, with a warm, kind heart, ever ready to forward Masonry; he (the R.W. brother) had, he was proud and happy to say, the personal friendship of Bro. Sandeman, they had travelled home together, and on board ship friendships are often made that last a lifetime, and he could say that their distinguished guest was a most kind, warm-hearted, merry man, and a right good Mason, and he trusted that he might be blessed with all honour, happiness, and health, and be long permitted to rule over Masons either in this country or in England. The W.M. has been pleased to speak of his (W. Bro. Greenlaw's) exertions for Masonry. He would tell the brethren that he had been a subscribing and a working brother for nearly a quarter of a century; that during that time both at home and in India he had really worked hard for the Order; he could assure the brethren of Star in Burmah, that he ever had devoted his best energies for Masonry, and that all they had witnessed of his exertion was for the good of the Order and for their lodge also, as well as for every member of it, and that he had never done anything intentionally to hurt any brother's feelings. When he came six years ago to Rangoon he found a small lodge in the town and visited it, as he considered it the duty of every Mason in going to a town to visit the lodge there even if he

does not join it, that he may show himself and make himself known as a Mason, otherwise how are brethren to know you are one? (hear, hear, from the Prov. G.M.) that small lodge is now a large one; another lodge has been formed, also a large one; you have the Mark degree, Prov. Grand Mark, the Royal Arch, and an Encampment, all in these six years. He referred with pride to his position in Masonry, and reminded all present that they had but to work zealously and faithfully to receive their reward. The R.W. brother said he could not conclude without returning his special thanks to them for having drunk the health of his own Prov. Grand Master, for a better and kinder man, a finer soldier, or a more charitable, honest, warm-hearted good man and Mason was not to be found than Bro. Colonel W. Pitt Macdonald, Prov. G.M. for Southern India. He is personally known to their distinguished guest, who would, he was sure, bear him out in what he had said. The R.W. brother said he had known Bro. Macdonald for 30 years, and if there was a man who is really beloved, and bears the esteem, respect, and good wishes of all who are fortunate enough to know him, whether Mason or non-Mason, it is our good and worthy Prov. Grand Master Colonel Macdonald. To know him was to love him; he heartily wished all did know him, they had drunk his health, and wished him health, and he most fervently hoped the G.A.O.T.U. would accord them fully their wishes. After again thanking the brethren the R.W. brother sat down. The reception given to Bro. Macdonald's name during the speech was denfening.

The Prov. G. MASTER then proposed "The Health of Bro. O'Donnell, the W.M. of Star in Burmah. He sincerely congratulated the members of the lodge on the great success of the lodge under his rule, and reminded them that the time was just approaching when that worthy brother must resign his hiram, that it must be a matter of anxiety to him as to who shall succeed him, so as to carry on what he has so successfully commenced and improved, and he sincerely trusted that his successor would emulate the example, zeal, and energy, of Bro. O'Donnell, and if he did so, their lodge would assuredly flourish. The R.W. Bro. wished to remark upon what had been said by R.W. Bro. Greenlaw with regard to Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Col. Macdonald. The R.W. Bro. has stated "that he has known Col. Macdonald for thirty years;" that he himself had not known the Col. for so long, as he then must have been but barely weaned (immense cheering), but he knew Col. Macdonald, and could say that Bro. Greenlaw had not expressed himself one bit too warmly; that the first name he heard in Madras was Col. Macdonald's, and that whenever, or wherever, he had heard that name mentioned, it was always in the same sense, with a feeling of deep regard, respect, and love, and he must say that all seemed proud to be known by that good man. After further eulogising Bro. Greenlaw and Bro. O'Donnell, he requested the toast might be drunk with full honours.

An Irish air.

Bro. O'DONNELL returned thanks for the honour done him in a most appropriate speech, putting all the credit on his officers, and receiving the honour so warmly given to the toast, as their kind acknowledgment of any little exertion he may have made, and at the same time as an evidence of the glorious success of Star in Burmah.

Bro. M. PHILL, P.M., then in a pithy and smart address proposed "The Army and Navy," which was received with full honours.

Air, "British Grenadiers."

Bro. Col. GREENLAW returned thanks: he was happy to say that a very large number of both services were Masons, and appreciated Masonry, and so they should do; they often had much time on their hands to devote to it, and to doing real good, and which they were ever ready to do. They visit many countries, consequently as Masons could in all of them find a brother and a home.

The W. MASTER then proposed "The Officers and Past Officers of this lodge," he told the brethren that it should afford them intense satisfaction to hear their Prov. G. Master speak of their work, praise their arrangements, and express his satisfaction in the way he had done this evening. He would remind them that the lodge was composed of many members, and that the W.M. alone could not work the lodge nor support its credit; he must have the help, and right hearty help too, of his officers, if he looked to keeping up the good name of his lodge. He could with a thankful pleasure say that during the time he had occupied the eastern chair, he had certainly had

the cordial help and co-operation of all his officers, and that therefore, to them was due almost all the encomiums passed upon the W.M. and the lodge—he proposed then “Health and Happiness to the Past Masters and Officers of Lodge Star in Burmah.” The toast was drunk with all honours.

Bro. NANABHOY BURJOJEE, P.M., responded shortly, but very much to the purpose: he has been one of the chief, if not the chief stay of this lodge, and is therefore very much and deservedly respected and beloved by all the members. His reply was then warmly received. The W. Brother before sitting down proposed “The Health of Guests and Visitors,” coupling the name of Bro. Pittan, P.M. of St. Johns’ Lodge, Calcutta, with the toast.

This was drunk with that right hearty good will with which the members of Star in Burmah even accord to the toast of visitors.

Air, “Come let us be happy together.”

Bro. PILLAR returned thanks in a very amusing and humorous speech, keeping the brethren in a fit of laughter, and concluded with “one small bit of advice,” that the members of Lodge Star of Burmah should be careful how they treat their visitors, for if always treated as they had been this evening, he would not answer but that all the Calcutta Masons would be taking advantage of their holidays to run down and visit the lodge and partake of such kindness. As for himself, he was sorry that a more eloquent brother, who had been detained at Moulmein had not been present, for he would have so captivated them that they would have felt as if “everything was nothing, and nothing was all the world.”

Bro. GREENLAW then, with the permission of the W.M., proposed a toast, which he trusted every brother would drink with real prayerful desire. It was, “Success to the Masonic Charities of England.” He gave a short account of the charities, the asylum for the Aged Masons, and for the Widows, also of the two Institutions for Boys and Girls, and after giving an account of the satisfactory state of the finances of the Girls’ School, noticed the great necessity there was for a helping hand for that of the Boys’. The funded property had been expended in late necessary outlay for the improvement and enlargement of the school. The brethren in England had most liberally, as they always do, come forward, and he congratulated the lodge and brethren in Burmah on having also liberally opened their purses for this object. He did now ask them for charity. Masons acknowledge charity to be one of the chief rungs of their ladder leading to that Heavenly Mansion above, and that without charity there was no Masonry. But charity was not merely giving money, charity included kind feelings and wishes. Englishmen worked hard for money, but no people were more ready to open their purses and their hearts at charity’s call for the distressed of every land than Englishmen, and especially English Freemasons. When the French visited England, they said nothing struck them more than that in almost every street of that “little village,” London, there was to be seen some charitable institution for the distressed, diseased, aged, or poor. This is true; and we, as Masons, may now point with no little pride to our own peculiar charities. He might say that Masonry and her charities was now looked upon as one amongst England’s well known many institutions for good. All that he asked them now to do was, to drink with earnestness “Success to the Masonic Charities of England.” Bro. J. J. Hardinge then proposed, “Masons’ Wives and Daughters,” which was received and responded to as Masons ever do respond to this toast.

Air, “Green grow the rushes, O.”

Bro. DICKIE, in a very pretty speech, felt himself honoured at being selected to respond for the dear ladies.

The rest of the evening was passed in conviviality, and many good and excellent songs were sung, particularly a Scotch one by Bro. Dickie.

At midnight the Tyler’s toast was given, “To all distressed Masons throughout the Universe and speedy relief to them;” and lastly, “Happy to meet, sorry to part, and thrice happy to meet again.”

“Auld lang syne” by the band, and sung by the brethren.

The Prov. G. MASTER having expressed himself much gratified, now retired, leaving the room amidst the most hearty and stirring cheers.

The brethren then departed, after having spent a most delightful evening, seldom surpassed, but which they hope to again often enjoy, for all seemed happy and pleased, and perfect harmony and good feeling reigned throughout.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

The performances are announced to commence on Boxing Night, the 26th inst., with Mr. C. Deffell’s new opera, in one act, “Christmas Eve,” to be followed by a new Christmas pantomime, entitled “Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp; or, Harlequin and the Flying Palace.”

DRURY LANE.

The pantomime to be introduced on Boxing Night is entitled “Little King Pippin; or, Harlequin Fortunatus, and the Magic Purse and Wishing Cap,” written by E. L. Blanchard, Esq. The decorations, transformation, scenes, &c., are entirely designed, and for the most part executed by the celebrated artist, William Beverley.

HAYMARKET.

Mr. Sothorn’s return is announced for Boxing Night, in *Lord Dundreary’s* “Brother Sam,” to be followed by a new Christmas travestie, by Mr. Planché.

PRINCESS’S.

In consequence of the success of “It’s never too late to mend,” the present performances are announced to be given on Boxing Night and during the Christmas holidays.

LYCEUM.

The new drama produced on Saturday last is taken from Sir Walter Scott’s “Bride of Lammermoor,” and is entitled “The Master of Ravenswood,” Mr. Fechter taking the part of the *Master of Ravenswood*. The new scenery is by Mr. T. Grieve.

OLYMPIC.

The performances during the past week have consisted of “Always intended,” followed by the new drama entitled “Henry Dunbar, or the Outcast,” founded on Miss Braddon’s novel of that name; followed by a divertissement from the favourite extravaganza of “Prince Camaralzaman.”

ROYAL ST. JAMES’S.

“Lady Audley’s Secret” was produced on Thursday night week, followed by a non-descriptial rehearsal, called “Remember the Grotto; or, the Manageress in a fix.”

PRINCE OF WALES’.

At this theatre, under the management of Miss Marie Wilton, a new operatic burlesque extravaganza, entitled “Little Giovanni; or, Leporello and the Stone Statue,” written by Henry J. Byron, Esq., is announced for Boxing Night.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen, accompanied by the Royal Family, went on the 14th inst. to the Royal Mausoleum at Frogmore, and remained for some time; after which, by her Majesty’s command, the Mausoleum was opened for the members of her Majesty’s household, and some of the Royal tradespeople in

Windsor, to visit it and testify their respect for the memory of the lamented Prince Consort. The Queen, Princess Helena, 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 Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster preached the sermon. Her Majesty the Queen, with their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena, Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, Prince Leopold, and Princess Hohenlohe left for Windsor Castle on Monday morning at a quarter past ten o'clock, for Osborne, and arrived at a little before two o'clock, having crossed over from Gosport in the Royal yacht *Alberta*.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The health of the country continues on the whole good. The weekly return for the principal towns shows a mortality of 3,090, or at the rate of 28 in the thousand. London this week figures as the healthiest town in the whole—healthier even than Bristol, for its death rate is 25, while Bristol is 26. Liverpool has also lost for the nonce its character as the deadliest place in England; that disgrace is this week reserved for Salford, whose death rate is 45, while Liverpool is 43. Of the whole number of number of deaths, 1,440 belong to London, which is ten below the average. The births were 4,130 for all the towns, of which 2,098 were in London. This is slightly above the average.—The Smithfield Club Cattle Show was brought to a close on the evening of the 14th inst. It has been as successful as any of its predecessors, notwithstanding the forebodings respecting it. Not less than 130,000 persons have, it is said, paid for admission to this building during the show.—A deputation of farmers and country gentlemen waited upon Sir George Grey on the 14th inst., to ask that Government would put a stop to all transit of cattle in the kingdom. Not unnaturally, Sir George expressed doubts whether such a thing would be either wise or practicable. This official opposition only emboldened the deputation to demand more extravagant things. They absolutely wished that the Government should prohibit the removal of cattle from one part of a man's farm to another. Sir George Grey said he would communicate to the Lords of the Council the wishes of the deputation.—A Liberal banquet was held at Dewsbury on Wednesday night the 13th inst. There was a large attendance of members of Parliament and of well-known public men. Lord De Grey more than hinted at a Reform Bill when he asked that the county would give its confidence to Lord Russell. Lord Houghton also delivered a speech in the same sense. The meeting proved that the old Reform spirit of Yorkshire has been thoroughly revived.—A melancholy accident happened to the Doyer and Calais mail steamer *Samphire* on Wednesday night the 13th inst. She was on her voyage to Calais when she was run into by the American barque *Fanny Bock*. The forward compartments of the steamer were filled with water. She was, however, towed to Dover. There, in her fore cabin, the bodies of one gentleman and two ladies were found. The mails were all saved.—In the Court of Queen's Bench a cornchandler named Oddy brought an action for slander against Admiral Lord George Paulet. An apology and a verdict for 40s. was accepted by mutual consent.—An extraordinary charge of burglary was preferred at the Westminster Police-court on the 15th inst. against a young man named Swyer. On the Tuesday evening previous a Mrs. Barrington, Walton Villas, Brompton, went to a theatre, taking with her the housemaid. The cook was left in charge of the house, but she, too, went out, and in her absence the front door was opened, and a large quantity of jewels belonging to Mrs. Barrington, and wearing apparel belonging to Lord Seaford, were stolen from the house. Suspicion fell upon a young man

named Pettis, who lodged in a house near, and at which the cook had called when she went out. On the following Thursday he was accused of the offence. He admitted his guilt, and made a statement implicating Swyer. Pettis then went into the washhouse and committed suicide by cutting his throat. Swyer was arrested the same day. He is remanded for further examination.—The first Fenian prisoner put upon his trial at Cork was a Captain M'Afferty, who had served in the Confederate army, and who was a subject of the United States. He was, it seems, arrested while on board a steamship from America, and was brought ashore in custody. His counsel objected that he was an alien, who in his own country could not commit the offence with which he was charged, and who had not set foot on our land so as to become guilty when he was arrested. The judge held that this objection was fatal to the indictment, and the jury under their direction returned a verdict of not guilty.—In the Court of Exchequer on Saturday Sir R. J. Clifton, M.P., sued Mr. Howatt, the publisher of the *Patriot*, for damages for libel. An article had been written in the *Patriot* just after the election at Nottingham, which article contained some very strong expressions relative to Sir R. Clifton. This was the cause of action. The judge held that the action was libellous, and the jury awarded the baronet £50 damages.—The inspectors of prisons who made inquiries into the escape of Stephens from Richmond Gaol have given in a report recommending the dismissal of Mr. Marquess, the governor. Their decision dissatisfied the Board of Superintendence—a committee of the corporation—and they memorialised Lord Wodehouse to appoint a special commission to make a new investigation. The Lord Lieutenant refuses to do so, is satisfied with the report of the inspectors, in accordance with whose recommendations he has dismissed the governor, and intimates, in conclusion, that henceforth he shall keep the appointments to the City gaols in his own hands. The board is very dissatisfied, and talk of instituting an inquiry of their own.—The December Sessions of the Central Criminal Court began on Monday, and one of the first cases brought forward was the trial of the two young men Jones and Merrick for the assault on Dr. Hunter. It will be remembered that Merrick was the husband and Jones the brother of the young woman who charged Dr. Hunter with assaulting her, and that they went to Dr. Hunter's house and inflicted on him personal chastisement for the alleged outrage. The circumstances of the assault were fully proved, and Dr. Hunter again denied on his oath the truth of the charge brought against him. The jury returned a verdict of a common assault against both. Sentence was deferred.—A man was brought before the Bow-street police magistrate on the charge of being a Fenian Centre. The warrant for his apprehension came from Cork and he was sent there; but he stated in his defence that he had not been in Ireland for the last eighteen years. If this be so it is the first case of London Fenianism that has yet occurred.—At a meeting of the Court of Common Council held on Tuesday, it was resolved to add fifty more men to the City police force. The object of this is that there may be a sufficient number of constables to regulate the traffic in the City. At the same meeting a report recommending plan for a dead meat market at Smithfield was adopted.—The third performance of the "Trinummus" of Plautus by the Westminster scholars took place on Tuesday evening. There was a brilliant gathering of old Westminsterians and others. The performance went off very well.—The Thames Police-court was invaded on Tuesday by an army of indignant rate-payers. They sought to induce the magistrate to grant them summonses against a Mr. Fleck, who it seems collects the

Queen's taxes in the district, and whom they charge with making illegal distrains. Certainly, if half what was stated to the magistrate be true, the ratepayers have good cause of complaint. The magistrate said he could give them no redress, and advised them to apply to the Inland Revenue Commissioners. They said they should do so. There ought to be an inquiry into the charges made.—The danger of a newly invented firework was fatally demonstrated on Tuesday. Some time ago two men took rooms at the top of a house in Mitre Court, Mitre Street, Aldgate, professing at the time to be cigarette makers. It seems they were really dealers in a new chemical compound called Chinese Light. Soon after a customer called to buy some of this stuff, and went up to their room. Shortly afterwards an explosion took place, and soon the whole of the top storey of the house was ablaze. When the fire was extinguished, two men, one of the traders and the customer, were found frightfully burnt and dead in the room. The other trader had been blown out of the window, and was found senseless on the flags in a backyard. He died soon afterwards.—An action of rather an unusual character was tried in the Court of Queen's Bench on Tuesday. It was brought by Mr. Turner, of Wilderness Row, to recover £250, the reward offered by Mr. Walker, of Cornhill, for information which might lead to the apprehension of the burglar or burglars who broke into his shop and stole jewellery worth £6,000. Mr. Turner also sought to obtain part of a further reward of £750 for the recovery of the property stolen. The question really was whether the information given by Mr. Turner led to the apprehension of the burglars and the recovery of part of the property. Evidence was called on both sides, and the jury found for the plaintiff.—Cambridge had a public meeting on the Jamaica question on Tuesday evening. A placard had been issued calling on Englishmen to attend the meeting to oppose the object of its promoters and to support Governor Eyre. The response to this was the attendance of a great number of persons, who appear to have answered to the calls of the Conservative leader of the place. They cheered all allusions to the cruelties practised on the negroes, and expressly approved the execution of Mr. Gordon, and the shooting, and hanging, and flogging of the black people. Eventually an amendment was carried, declaring it to be unjust to Governor Eyre to pass any opinion upon his conduct pending inquiry.—An extraordinary action was tried in the Court of Exchequer on Wednesday. Messrs. Pearce and Countze, coach-builders, of Long Acre, sued a woman named Brooks for a sum of money on account of a brougham, which they said they had sold to her. The defence was that the brougham had been hired, and, further, that it was lent by the plaintiffs, as they well knew, to enable the defendant to carry on her vocation as a prostitute. The evidence was of a conflicting character, and strangely significant. Finally the jury returned a verdict for the defendant, on the ground that the plaintiffs supplied the vehicle to her as a prostitute.—In the Court of Queen's Bench on Wednesday a Miss Saunders sued a Mr. Short, a money-lender, for breach of promise of marriage. Letters about as absurd as are usually read in such cases were put in, and the jury found a verdict for the plaintiff for £200.—A fearful colliery explosion is reported to have taken place near Merthyr Tydvil on Wednesday. It is said that twenty-nine men were killed and three injured.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The funeral of the late King of the Belgians took place on Saturday. The body was removed from Brussels to Laeken, where it was interred in the family vault. In Brussels and along the route of the funeral procession great crowds gathered, and there were marks of the

deepest mourning. On Sunday King Leopold II. took the oath to the constitution before both Houses of the Belgian Parliament. On their way from Laeken to the Houses of Parliament both he and the Queen were loudly cheered. He made a short speech to the Houses, in the course of which he declared he would be a Belgian King from his heart and soul. He loved, he said, the institutions of the country, and would do all he could to foster them. The speech, says the telegram, excited great enthusiasm.—A Vienna telegram says that a supplementary convention to the Treaty of Gastein has been concluded between Austria and Prussia, relating to the garrison arrangements at Rendsburg.—The Queen of Spain is said to be improving in health, and it is probable she will open the Cortes in person. It seems the Council of State have approved the report of the commission condemning the bishops who protested against the recognition of Italy.—We (says a morning contemporary) think the British public, little as they care in general for Prussian politics, will be sorry to hear of the death of Bockum-Dolffs, Vice-President of the Berlin Lower Chamber. Bockum-Dolffs died in Berlin on Saturday. Few people can have forgotten the famous scene in which, rather than allow the House to be bullied by the War Minister, he called for his hat and brought the debate temporarily to a close. Bockum-Dolffs's hat thus became for a time a sort of emblem of freedom—a cap of liberty. The hat of Frederick the Great is, if we remember rightly, enshrined in the Berlin Museum. Bockum-Dolffs's hat would be, to our thinking, a far more interesting relic.—A telegram from Berlin brings the welcome news that Herr Bockum Dolffs, the Vice-President of the Prussian Chamber of Deputies, is not dead. Some person of the same name, a Government official, committed suicide, it seems, and hence the mistake.—It appears that Bishop Colenso will be met at Natal with an address expressing "the singular pleasure," which his return to his diocese occasions to the subscribers, and hailing him as a courageous representative of the rights of free inquiry. But the three other Anglican bishops are determined if possible to prevent him from exercising his episcopal functions, and have called upon the clergy to elect another bishop.—It is stated that Lord A. Hervey, the Hon. Mr. Strutt, and Mr. Corre have been seized by brigands in Greece. £1,000 ransom was demanded, and the brigands allowed Lord A. Hervey and Mr. Strutt to go at liberty to look after the money, while Mr. Corre was held as a hostage for its payment.—After the Prince of Wales had attended the funeral of King Leopold, he proceeded on a tour in Germany. He visited Darmstadt, and doubtless made calls on various of his German cousins.—At last there is good reason to believe that Count Eulenburg has been sentenced to a term of imprisonment for his connection with the affray in which M. Ott was killed. It is now announced that this fire-eating young nobleman has been sentenced to imprisonment in a fortress for five months and a half.

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.

J.—Address the Grand Secretary upon the subject referred to. It is not within our province to interfere. We are sure that Bro. White will, with his usual courtesy and promptness, reply to the points raised by you.

R.—The English translation of Bro. Findell's work will be ready, we are informed, early in the new year.