

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1886.

LODGE OFFICERS, THEIR POWERS AND DUTIES.

*From a Lecture delivered before Stella Lodge
(No. 458, N.Y., U.S).*

(Continued from page 328.)

Says Preston: "Were the brethren who preside at our meetings to be properly instructed previous to their appointment, and duly apprised of the offices they are chosen to support, a general reformation would speedily take place. This conduct would establish the propriety of our government, and lead men to acknowledge that our honours were not undeservedly conferred; the ancient consequence of the Order would be restored, and the reputation of the society preserved. Till genuine merit shall distinguish our claim to the honours of Masonry, and regularity of deportment display the influence and utility of our rules, the world in general will not be led to reconcile our proceedings with our professions."

Commenting on which Dr. Oliver remarks:

"In coincidence with these sentiments, I am decidedly of opinion that much general knowledge is necessary to expand the mind and familiarise it with Masonic discussions and illustrations before a brother can be pronounced competent to undertake the arduous duty of governing a lodge. A Master of the work ought to have nothing to learn. He should be fully qualified not only to instruct the younger brethren, but to resolve the doubts of those who are more advanced in Masonic knowledge; to reconcile apparent contradictions; to settle chronologies, and elucidate obscure facts or mystic legends, as well as to answer the objections and render pointless the ridicule of our uninitiated adversaries."

Dr. Mackey says: "In the whole series of offices recognised by the Masonic Institution there is not one more important than that of the Master of a lodge. Upon the skill, integrity, and prudence, of the presiding officer depend the usefulness and welfare of the lodge; and as lodges are the primary assemblages of the Craft, and by representation constitute the supreme tribunal or Grand Lodge, it is evident that the errors of government in the primary bodies must, if not duly corrected, be productive of evil to the whole fraternity. Hence in the ceremony of installation it was required as a necessary qualifi-

cation of him who was proposed to the Grand Master as the Master of a lodge that he should be of good morals, of great skill, true and trusty, and a lover of the whole fraternity wheresoever dispersed over the face of the earth. And it was on such a recommendation that it was to be presumed that he would discharge the duties of his office with fidelity."

Bro. Townsend, in a lecture which ought to be in the hands of every Master of a lodge, and also in those of every brother who looks forward to the attainment of that honourable position, says:—

"To become Master of a lodge is the legitimate object of every young brother who takes any interest in our society. Now my young brethren may rest assured that although we may place a careless or ignorant Mason in the chair, invest him with the badge of authority, and address him with the external forms of respect, we cannot command for him the deference and consideration which will be sure to follow the enlightened expert. In small things, as in great things, knowledge is power, intellectual superiority is real pre-eminence."

"Some inexperienced brethren may think that that no difficulty can ever arise in the decision of Masonic questions, because they have never seen any such difficulty in our society. But I can assure them that, in a well-regulated lodge, there is a very ample scope for the exercise of intellect; and that the Master will soon find that he requires even more than a knowledge of Masonic law and usages to acquit himself creditably of his responsibility. He should know his own limits, so as not to encroach on the rights of the brethren, of which, I candidly warn every young Master, he will find us not a little jealous. If he falls short of his own bounds, or oversteps them, he will find clear heads and keen tongues to remind him—respectfully but unmistakably—of the fact. The lodge will soon feel what sort of a hand holds the helm; and as they are bound to acquiesce in his opinion as their Master, he must show equal deference to theirs."

"We may teach him our forms, explain to him their meaning, stimulate his ambition to discharge his duties creditably; but, after all, we must leave him to look within his own heart for instruction, and to be guided by his own good sense and good feeling in his general conduct."

I am willing to admit that the standard set up by the distinguished brethren whose sentiments I

have quoted, is somewhat ideal, and that in general practice, it is seldom if ever reached; but we may be reminded that if we never raise our eyes from the ground we shall fail to perceive the beauties that are placed above our level, nor should we be deterred from attempting to reach higher elevations on account of the apparent difficulties of the ascent; for he is unworthy of his manhood who does not strive to equal the best, and to leave beneath him the common herd of grovelers. While then I would deter no brother from looking to the Mastership as the goal of a legitimate ambition, I would make it a post of such honour, an office of such distinction, and requiring of its occupant so much knowledge, tact, and discrimination, that the dull, the indifferent, the apathetic should fear to aspire to its responsibilities.

The powers of the Master of a lodge, in these days, are, indeed, very great, and are appropriately summed up in the word autocratic; but he may well be reminded that, should he attempt their undue exercise, he would find a power greater than himself ready and prompt to check his excesses: happily for us, the assumption of high office always seems to put a check on extreme tendencies, and a man's own good sense and desire to merit the approval of his fellows leads him to act with caution, reserving his power for an emergency which he earnestly desires may never occur. He fails, however, in the proper discharge of duty, if he allows the feeling of conciliation to interfere with the strict and serious discipline ever to be maintained in a Masonic lodge.

The first prerogative of the Master is the right to congregate his lodge. Not only to issue the usual notice, or to call a meeting of emergency, but in the strictly technical sense of the word, which really means setting the Craft at labour, * * *. This is a most important function, and one which can only be delegated to others under certain fixed conditions. As, for instance, where it is impossible for the Master to be present at the meeting of his lodge, he cannot lawfully give the warrant to another Master, to a Past Master, or floor member, and authorise them to proceed with the business of the lodge, because he cannot invest them with power to compel obedience to their mandates. The reason is that the Master being absent, or unable to act, his powers for the time being revert to the Wardens in turn, and the lodge, would, therefore, be bound to obey the Warden and not the person delegated to act in

their place by the Master. When actually present in the lodge, however, his power of delegation and substitution is unlimited. He may then cause the lodge to be congregated, and all the work to be performed by the youngest Master Mason present under his direction, he, of course, being responsible for all that is done. He has the right to preside at all meetings of the lodge, except when the Grand Master, or his duly authorised agent, appear for that purpose, when, of course, his right, temporarily, disappears. The right to fill temporary vacancies in the lodge offices, and that without any other proviso than that the appointee for the time being shall be a Master Mason in good standing.

The right to control the admission of visitors is a most important, and sometimes delicate, exercise of power on the part of the Master of a lodge. Abstractly every Master Mason is a member of the fraternity in general with the right to participate in its deliberations whenever or wherever he may think proper to attend, but practically a Master Mason can only be a member of one lodge, and can only claim to exercise the full rights of such membership so long as he continues to conduct himself with propriety, and to observe the by-laws and regulations of the lodge. Hence, when he proposes to visit a lodge, of which he is not a member, his admission will depend on the will and pleasure of the Master of that lodge, and the exercise of that will is always governed by the pleasure of the brethren; so that if a sitting member refuse to fellowship in the lodge with a brother from another lodge, the intimation of the objection is always respected by the Master in the exclusion of the visitor. The Grand Master of England holds the right to visit to be absolute, and that all lodges are so far bound to respect the broad seal of the Grand Lodge of England as to admit those bearing it without other condition than that they shall prove themselves in possession of the degrees. It is unnecessary to say more than that if this be sound doctrine then the duty imposed on the Tyler of "suffering none to pass or repass except such as are duly qualified and have permission of the Worshipful Master" is an idle formula, and the Master is at once impeded in the right to rule and govern his lodge. We are not much given to waiving what we consider established rights, and it is, therefore, unlikely that the English idea will ever prevail among us.

The right to regulate the debates in his lodge. It is, or ought, at least, to be, understood that parliamentary law is not Masonic law except in so far as it may be convenient to the Master to allow its forms to be used. It is his right to set the Craft at labour, and to govern them while thus engaged, and he must, of necessity, be allowed to select such method of doing business as will best comport with the dignity and harmony of the lodge. He will, therefore, suffer no unseemly wranglings, no motions to adjourn or for the previous question; he cannot be hampered by rules of order or orders of business; but, governed by his knowledge of the business of the lodge, will conduct it to a proper termination with promptitude and dispatch. From this it follows that when in his judgment a question has been sufficiently debated, when the discussion is falling into puerilities and repetitions, it is his duty to rise in his place, and thus put an end to it.

The right to appoint all committees naturally vests in the Master, or Warden, presiding in his absence, and he would not be bound by a by-law to the contrary, because such a by-law would be an invasion of his rights, and therefore void. Circumstances might arise to warrant him in waiving this right temporarily, but of that he must always be the judge.

He has so far control of the minutes as to see that they contain nothing improper to be written, and that nothing be omitted essential to a fair record of the transactions.

He is exempt from trial by the lodge, because while in office the brethren are not his peers and cannot control the committee to which charges would have to be referred, nor prevent the Master, should he suffer a commission to be named, from suppressing their report or refusing them permission to make one.

He cannot resign his office, because he has entered into a solemn covenant to attend to its duties for the official term, and there is no power in the lodge or in Masonry to absolve him therefrom.

It is not to be supposed, however, that there is no limit to his will, or that he may do as he pleases without let or hindrance. The desire to merit the approbation of his lodge by his endeavours to promote its harmony and prosperity has always hitherto acted as a sufficient restraint on all Masters who could be restrained at all; but, that failing, there is a more efficient one known to

every Master of a lodge, to say nothing of the power of the Grand Lodge by its agents to enforce respect for the rights of the humblest members as well as for the power of the Master, and it is alike creditable to the brethren who have selected and the Masters who have served, that in the long array of worshipful brethren who have presided in the east since the introduction of Masonry into this country so few, so very few, have stepped aside from the path of duty, forgotten their solemn covenants, and failed to honour their high calling. Be it ours, my brethren, to prevent an increase of the unfaithful by magnifying the office, by exalting the qualities necessary to its occupancy, and by serving with a zeal according to knowledge those whom we elect to preside over us.

FREEMASONRY IN FRANCE.

Statute of the Public Lending Library, founded by the Masonic Lodges of Rouen.

1. With a view to promote education and taste for literature, the Masonic Lodges of Rouen hereby establish a public lending library, provisionally on the premises of the St. Jean Public Nursery (*crèche*), 10 *bis* Rue d'Elbeuf.

2. To be considered as founders all members of Rouen and other lodges and such other subscribers as contribute, either in coin or in books, an amount equivalent to ten francs at one time.

3. The foundation of the library to take place chiefly in co-operation with the Société Franklin, established in Paris, and authorised by ministerial decree of September 19, 1862, and to be promoted by the purchase of books and the donations of the founders and patrons.

4. The library to be managed by a committee. Each lodge endorsing this Statute to be represented by three members; the W.M.'s of the lodges to serve on the committee *ex officio*.

5. The duties of the members of the committee to be discharged gratuitously.

6. The committee to be appointed for one year; its members to be re-eligible, but during no more than three consecutive years.

7. The committee to appoint a Board of Superintendance, consisting of one chairman, one deputy chairman, and one secretary-treasurer; besides, the committee to be at liberty to entrust a librarian, who need not be a member of the committee, with the care of the library, and allow him a considera-

tion for the time and trouble he may devote to the work.

8. The chairman to superintend and insure the carrying out of the statute and the rules and regulations. The secretary-treasurer to keep the books and carry on the correspondence. The librarian to have charge of the management of the library, the lending and claiming of the books, and all the writing that relates thereto.

9. The members of the committee to attend at the meeting upon the call by the Board, whenever the service of the library requires their concurrence.

10. The committee to meet every two months regularly, and besides, in special session, upon the summons by the chairman, whenever steps have to be taken in the interest of the library.

11. The committee to select, examine, and designate the books to be bought; to accept or decline accepting works that may be offered to the institution, without being bound to state in every case the reasons that may have induced it to decline an offer.

12. The resources of the library to consist of—

- a. The yield of the subscriptions of the Masonic lodges.
- b. The subscriptions by the founders.
- c. The amount of the entrance fees and those to be paid by borrowers.*
- d. Donations that may be made to the library from various quarters.

13. The expenditure to consist of the expenses incidental to the opening of the library, the lease of suitable premises, the keeping of the books and carrying on of correspondence, the committee meetings, carriage and hire of books, the purchase and binding of literary property, &c.

14. The catalogue to be made up under the superintendence of the committee, the books belonging to the library to be put down in this catalogue as they come in, and a special list to be kept of those books (circulation books) borrowed from the Franklin Society.

15. The committee to issue every year a report on the state of the library; this report to be laid before all the founding lodges which are at liberty to make such observations as they may think proper.

* It appears from Clauses 4 and 5 of the "Rules and Regulations," for users of the library, that beyond an entrance fee of one franc per annum, no fee is claimed; and only in case of loss and deterioration of any work, its value is to be returned by the borrower.

16. The committee to have full power to modify the rules and regulation of the library hereafter, if they think proper, with a view to ensure the success of the undertaking. Such changes to be embodied in the annual report addressed to the various lodges, which may either approve them or claim their repeal.

[According to Clause 12 of the Rules and Regulations the library is open from nine a.m. to four p.m. in winter, and from nine a.m. to three p.m. in summer; on Sundays respectively from eight or nine to ten a.m.]

THE DOCTRINES OF JESUITISM.

We continue the reproduction of these interesting injunctions, the seventh and eighth chapters of which are devoted to the manner of dealing with wealthy widows and other persons possessed of large property, with a view to increase the worldly possessions of the Order,—the ninth chapter containing a *tout ensemble* of hints and instructions as to the means of increasing the property of the Fraternity. We think we have in former numbers shewn sufficiently that in republishing this *opusculum*, we had no intention whatever of waging war against the creed of a large number of our fellow-countrymen and fellow-Masons; and having thus succeeded in dispelling the alarm and susceptibilities that had been awakened in some quarters, we shall, in future, dispense with further comment on the subject, and forbear from all allusion to the connection that may exist between the organs of any particular persuasion and such excrescences as may have sprung out of its bosom. We hope to conclude the whole of the *Monita* in our next two numbers, after which we shall have much pleasure in laying before our readers some further data, chiefly of a statistical character, for which we are indebted to an esteemed brother, who has devoted the whole of his energies to the diffusion of light on religious subjects.

MONITA SECRETA SOCIETATIS JESU. SECRET INJUNCTIONS OF THE SOCIETY OF JESUS.

(Continued from page 325.)

CHAPTER VII.

How widows are to be secured (conservandæ), and how their property is to be disposed of.

1. They should be continually urged to persevere in devotion and in good works; thus, they should not allow

a week to pass without appropriating something out of their superfluities, of their own free will, in the honour of Jesus Christ, the Blessed Virgin, or the patron saint, either for the poor or for the adornment of churches, until they have been divested of most spoils and first-fruits (*donec spoliis plerisque et primitiis Egypti sint caute*).

2. If, beyond a general goodwill, they show themselves liberal towards our Society, and persist in doing so, the special favours of the Society are to be conferred on them, even the special indulgences of the Provincial, or, should the person be one of great substance, those of the General.

3. If they have taken a vow of chastity, they are to renew it twice every year, according to our usage, and for that one day an "honest recreation" with members of our Order is to be conceded to them.

4. They should be frequently visited, cheered up, and fostered by pleasant talk, by spiritual and facetious stories, in each case according to their particular humour and propensities.

5. In the confessional they should not be treated with too much severity, lest they might become morose, save in cases when the recovery of their goodwill, secured in other quarters, be despaired of. Great discretion and caution should always be used in judging of the fickleness of the female mind.

6. They should be skilfully prevented from visiting the churches and joining in the religious celebrations of other clerical bodies. The belief should be instilled into them that all indulgences issued by other Orders are condensed in an indulgence granted by our Society.

7. When they are in mourning, they should be allowed to combine something more worldly with the spiritual in the solemn demeanour the occasion requires, so that they may not believe they are steered only with a spiritual rudder. Besides, provided they do not incur the danger of inconstancy, and are always found faithful and liberal to the Society, they are to be furnished with all they require with reference to their sensual cravings (*concedatur illis quiddam ad sensualitatem requirunt*), but with moderation, and so as not to lay themselves open to scandal.

8. Other modest girls, belonging to wealthy or noble families, should be associated with those widows, and gradually accustomed to our guidance and our mode of living. They should have for their governess a person chosen and appointed by the confessor of the whole family. They are to be subjected to the ministrations (*syndicationibus*) and other customs of the Society, and those who behave recalcitrant are to be sent back to their parents or those who brought them, and described as intractable, of bad propensities, &c.

9. No less attention should be paid to their health and recreation than to their salvation; thus, whenever they are suffering from ill-health, fasts, penance, and corporal punishment should be dispensed with. They are not to be allowed, then, to go to church, but be ministered to at home in secret and cautiously. No notice should be taken of their entering the garden or college, provided it is done clandestinely; and they are to be permitted to converse with those towards whom they are most favourably disposed, and enjoy themselves with them, but all secretly.

10. With a view to induce a widow to appropriate her income in favour of the Society, she should be told of the blessed state of holy men who, having retired from the world and all that was nearest and dearest to them, devoted themselves, with abnegation and hilarity of mind, to the service of God. They should be taught all that is in the constitution and rules of the Society relating to this mode of resigning and withdrawing from all things of this world. The examples of widows who in a very short time had become saints should be quoted, a hope held out of eventual canonisation, if they were to persevere in the right path, and it should be shown to

them that we have great influence with the Holy See for such purposes.

11. It is to be firmly impressed upon them that, if they wish to enjoy a perfect tranquillity of conscience, they should, without murmur, chagrin, or internal reluctance, follow both in temporal and spiritual matters the instructions of their confessor, just as if they came from God himself.

12. They are to be taught, at the proper opportunity, that it would be a good thing if they were to appropriate their charitable gifts in favour of ecclesiastics of a particularly pious and exemplary life, but not without the previous knowledge and approval of the confessor.

13. Confessors of widows are to keep their eye upon their pupils, more especially to prevent them from resorting, on any consideration, to the ministry of other clerics, or contract any kind of friendship with them. For this purpose they are, in proper time, to hold up the Society as an Order of the greatest prominence above others, of the very greatest utility in the Church, and of the very greatest influence with the Pope and all princes; that it is most perfect in itself, as it dismisses from within its pale those who are prejudicial or useless, and thus contains neither scum nor sediment (*sine spurca et fecibus vivit*), as is the case with monks who are mostly ignorant, insipid, lazy, careless about their salvation, fond of studying their belly, &c.

14. Confessors are to suggest and advise the grant of regular pensions and contributions to defray the annual expenses of the colleges and congregations (*domus professe*), and chiefly the congregation of Rome. They should not be unmindful of church ornaments, candles, wine, &c., and other requisites for the celebration of the mass.

15. If a widow has not during her lifetime allotted the whole of her property to the Society, it should be impressed upon her at the proper opportunity, and chiefly in case of a serious illness or danger of life, that many of our colleges are very needy, that some require reconstruction, others ought to be founded, and she is to be induced, gently and strongly, to make a donation on which she might found her eternal glory.

16. The same is to be done with princes and other benefactors; indeed, they should be convinced that eternal glory may be conferred on them by God for having done things that will be perpetual in this world and that to come. If any evil-minded persons should quote the example of Jesus Christ who had no place to rest his head upon, or the companions of Jesus who had also been very poor during their life, it should be shown and impressed upon all, in proper time, that the Church of God is now changed, and has become a monarchy that has to support itself by great authority and power against most powerful enemies, and that it represents the small square stone that grew up to be a great mountain, according to the predictions of the prophet.

17. To those who are addicted to charity and to the adornment of temples, it should be shown frequently that the highest perfection consists in their divesting themselves of their worldly possessions in favour of Jesus Christ and his ministers, whom they would instal as owners of them.

18. We shall see in the following how it is that less is always to be expected from widows who bring their children up for the world.

CHAPTER VIII.

How it is to be managed that widows' sons and daughters embrace a religious and pious career.

1. In matters of this kind the mothers are to act by energetic, and our associates by gentle means. Mothers are to be instructed to coerce their children from tender years by means of vituperation and chastisement, and, when daughters reach a more mature age, they should be refused female adornments and pageant,

their minds should be turned towards a religious life, and a large inheritance promised to them if they would become nuns. The difficulties incidental to matrimony, which are common to us all, should often be dwelt upon, and if the respective widow should have experienced any in her own particular case, it should be deplored that she had not preferred the state of celibacy to matrimony; and, finally, the daughters themselves should be caused to seriously think of joining a religious Order, having been disgusted by the life they led while staying with their mothers.

2. With the sons, on the other hand, the members of our Order are to converse freely. If any of them seem well adapted for the Society, they are to be introduced in proper time into the college, and their attention is to be drawn to those things which may be agreeable to them, and through which they might be incited to join the Society. Thus, the gardens, vineyards, country houses, and pleasure grounds designed for our recreation are to be shown them. It is to be impressed upon their minds that they might travel to various countries, come into contact with princes and the great of the world; and into this is to be mixed all that is palatable to a juvenile age, such as the attractive exterior of our refectories and sleeping apartments, the pleasant conversation among ourselves, the laxity of our discipline, on which, however, the glory of God depends (*regulae nostrae facilitas cui tamen compromissa est gloria Dei*); and, lastly, the prominence of our Order above all others; and facetious talk is to be happily combined with pious colloquies.

3. First of all, a religious life in general is to be recommended to them from time to time, as if it were by revelation; then the superior perfection and commodity of our Order above others is to be impressed upon their minds, and they should be told by admonitions in public and in private conversation, that it is a grave sin to prevaricate against the divine vocation; and, finally, they are to be induced to embark in spiritual exercises, previous to embracing any career in life.

4. In this manner are to be procured junior instructors belonging to our Society, who are to watch and admonish continually; and if they should be recalcitrant, they are to be kept on short allowance, so that they may soon become disgusted with life. The mother is to speak to them about the embarrassments of the family. If they should not become more tractable, and turn their minds of their own accord to the Society, they are to be put into distant schools belonging to our Order, with a view to their improvement, and no luxuries be allowed to them by their mothers, whilst the Society is to use all sorts of gentle means to promote their affection for us.

CHAPTER IX.

On the means of increasing the revenues of the colleges.

1. As far as possible nobody is to be allowed to join the Society definitively (*ad ultimam professionem admittatur*) so long as he expects any inheritance, unless he has a younger brother in the Society, or for other exceptional reasons. In everything, however, and above all, the development of the Society is to be secured, with a view to the objects known to the superiors, whose endeavours should chiefly tend to restore the Church to its original splendour, for the promotion of the glory of God, and to inspire the whole of the clergy with one and the same mind. It should, therefore, be often declared and proclaimed, that the Society consists partly of professors so wretchedly poor, that they are entirely dependent on the liberality of the faithful, and but for this would be doomed to starvation; and partly of other fathers, poor also, but who have acquired some landed property, that they may not, in the discharge of their spiritual and mundane duties, be chargeable to the people, like those other beggars. The confessors of princes, noblemen, widows, and other persons from whom

the Society may expect much are, therefore, to seriously impress upon them, with reference to this matter, that while they confer upon the latter spiritual and divine goods, they in their turn should supply them with earthly and temporal ones; and they are not to allow any opportunity to pass without taking hold of such property as may be offered. If any donation of this kind has been promised and put off, the party is to be cautiously reminded of it, but in such a manner that the solicitant may not appear to be actuated by greed. If any one of the confessors of noblemen or others should seem not to be a fit and proper person for such practices, he is to be removed in due time and cautiously, and another to be substituted for him. Under certain circumstances, if the conscience of the penitent wants appeasing, the confessor, on being removed, should be sent to a more distant college, under the pretext that the Society requires his person and superior talent at the other place. Indeed, it has come to our knowledge that some young widows who died of a premature death some time since had not bequeathed to the churches of the Society sundry most eligible moveable property, through the sheer neglect of some members of our Order, who had not accepted the bequest in time. In cases of this kind, the suitability of the time should be considered less than the good intention of the penitent.

2. Prelates, canons, priests, and other ecclesiastics of good standing are to be induced, by various artifices, to attend our spiritual exercises, and rendered favourable to the Society by fostering their spiritual tastes, and thus their liberality is to be gradually forestalled.

3. Confessors should not neglect to ask their penitents in proper time about their names, families, friends, relations, and goods, and inquire also about their expectations, their social standing, their mind and intentions. If the latter are not yet favourable to this Society, they should be made so. If it appears at first sight that a profit of some kind may be expected from them, and it might not be thought proper to ask them about everything at the same time, they should be requested to attend the confessional once a week, with a view to the more efficiently lighten their conscience, or for the sake of their undergoing a salutary penitence; and the confessors should invite them in a friendly manner, and thus extract from them at various times that information which cannot be gathered at once. If the penitent is a woman, a frequent confession and visitation, if once agreed upon, should be persisted in; and as to men, they are to be induced, if possible, to visit the Society, and confer with us as frequently as possible.

4. It is to be understood that the practices suggested with reference to widows should be followed also with traders, wealthy citizens, and such as are married, but have no issue. From these the Society may not unfrequently acquire an inheritance, if the suggestions made heretofore be properly carried out. But such course is to be followed more particularly with respect to wealthy pious women frequenting our Society. If these are not of very noble family, we shall not encounter any obstacle but just, perhaps, the grumbling of the mob.

5. Rectors of colleges* should always contrive to keep a roll (*notitiam*) of all the houses, gardens, benefices, villages, and other places and estates owned by merchants or citizens, and, if possible, of their yield, and of the mortgages with which they are encumbered. But they should procure such information very cautiously, by confession, social intercourse, and private conversation. If a confessor has found out (*adeptus sit*) a wealthy

* By "colleges" (*collegia*, from *colligere*, to gather), are not meant institutions for public education, but conventicles (or "homes," as they are styled now-a-days in Anglo-Catholic parlance) from which the fathers of the Order hail in each respective "province."—ED. F.M.

penitent, he should immediately inform the rector thereof, and cultivate his acquisition to the best of his ability.

6. But this is a point of the most vital importance, that our associates should apparently ignore entirely the benevolence of penitents and others with whom they communicate, and not seem to captivate their goodwill, but accommodate themselves altogether to the particular propensities of each individual. The provincials should take care to send many to such places as are inhabited by wealthy persons and by noblemen; and the rectors, to enable the provincials to act more efficiently and with more foresight, should never forget to keep them properly informed of the harvest that may be expected.

(To be continued.)

THE PANTOMIME: HARLEQUIN-FREEMASON.

In No. 351, page 225, of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, we published a general account of this pantomime, performed for the first time on the 29th Dec., 1780, at Covent Garden Theatre. In accordance with a promise we then made to our readers, we now reproduce an account and critique of this pantomime, published in the *Morning Chronicle*, December 30th, 1780; and having exhumed some further data on this highly interesting performance, as well as a selection of songs that were given upon the same occasion, we hope to be enabled to lay the same before our readers in one or more future numbers of our journal.

From the *Morning Chronicle*, Dec. 30th, 1780.

"A new pantomime, obviously prepared with great pains and at great expense, was last night performed at Covent Garden Theatre, under the title of "Harlequin Freemason." To give our readers any tolerably intelligible idea of a representation so mixed, so incongruous, and generally so unconnected as a modern pantomime, is at all times a difficult, and frequently an impracticable attempt; but when a pantomime is founded on Masonry, it must strike every observer that as the essence of the entertainment is avowedly wrapped in mystery, the difficulty must be doubled; and that none but a brother of the Art can unfold and explain the ceremonies of the night. Without attempting to display any knowledge and skill in Masonry (for we are determined not to betray any of the secrets of the Art), we shall proceed in the plainest and most homely language to describe the work of yesterday evening, performed in the Grand Lodge of Covent Garden.

"The opening scene of this entertainment is conformable to the opinions held by all Freemasons, 'that the original of Architecture is taken from that great building, Man.' Agreeable to this idea, three Masons are discovered at work; one, a figure representing a man, composed of the different orders of architecture, as

The Head of the	...	Composite.
Arms	...	Corinthian.
Body	...	Ionic.
Thighs	...	Doric.
Legs	...	Tuscan.

"On the Masonic signal for leaving work, they depart; when the shade of Hiram Abiff, Grand Warden to King Solomon, and his assistant in

building his temple, rises, and from the stone figure produces a harlequin, instructs him in the use of tools, and endues a trowel with magic power, which, like the customary sword, is to assist him in all his difficulties. Hiram Abiff, after this ceremony, leaves him. Harlequin's first sight of Columbine, who is the daughter of a Jew, is with her father, while he is surveying a house, which he is about to have built, just rising from the foundation. Harlequin and Columbine, as usual, are reciprocally enamoured at sight, and the first proof he makes of the virtue of his travel (trowel?) is by showing the building completely at a touch. In the general astonishment at this miracle, Harlequin finds means to steal Columbine from her father; who recovers her, however, soon after, and introduces her to a Dutch lover, whom he wishes her marry. Various amusing incidents arise among the common characters. The exertion of Harlequin's trowel is amidst a group of peasants at the Alps, by raising the Temple of Bacchus, and the next by a representation of the wooden building in Covent Garden, where the aloe was shewn. Many more adventures are introduced and changes of the scenery, particularly a frost scene in Holland, with skaters, to a tumultuous sea; a court of justice to the market at Billingsgate; and the whole interspersed with occasional airs, catches, and choruses; untill Hiram Abiff again appears and obtains the Jew's consent to the marriage of Harlequin and his daughter. This point settled, he signifies the necessity of his attendance at a Grand Lodge, it being the anniversary feast to install a new Grand Master of the ancient and noble Order of Free and Accepted Masons. This naturally introduces the *procession*, wherein, by a regular succession of the principal Grand Masters, from Enoch to the present time, the antiquity, advancement, and dignity of Masonry are illustrated in a pleasing and instructive manner.

"Besides the introduction of the capital characters. an explanation whereof, together with that of their respective pageants, is very properly subjoined to the printed songs,—the whole is embellished with some striking historical events in the reign of our own kings, particularly Edward III. and his son the Black Prince, releasing John, king of France, and his son, who were made captives in the battle of Cressy. Queen Elizabeth taking the Masons under her protection. Guy Faux's intended conspiracy discovered. Sir Robert Kner's whimsical address to Charles II. at the Guildhall, and the humiliated Dutch imploring him to grant them peace.

The pantomime part of this entertainment is light and rather thinner of business than usual. The story, it must be confessed, (exclusive of the ultimate disposal of harlequin and columbine, which is left to the audience by imagination to supply) is more intelligible than in many preceding pantomimes, but its effect would be more pleasant if it afforded greater food for laughter. Columbine's father, as above mentioned, appears as a Jew, the clown as an awkward Launcelot, and the lover as a Dutchman, who are wonderfully turned into laughter by the force of pantomimic skill, by which alone, perhaps, humour and merriment could be extracted from characters naturally so very grave and gloomy.

The scenery is admirable, and does infinite credit to Messrs. Richards, Carver, Hodgins, and Trench. The

first scene exhibits a Mason's yard, bounded with a view of a wide river, the opposite bank of which presents a rich rural landscape, the whole forming one of the most beautiful, correct, and finished stage pictures ever exhibited in a theatre—a picture that will bear the closest examination of the eye of the connoisseur through the best opera glass that ever was made by Dollond. The frost scene is also a very picturesque representation of the subject it is designed to represent. The side wings have been seen before, but the whole of the centre is new, and painted with great skill and success. The skating figures are artfully managed, but they would have a better effect if they shifted their feet and used their legs alternately, an alteration which we conceive a skilful mechanist might easily contrive.

The procession (the idea of which is evidently taken from the procession in Mr. Garrick's entertainment of the Jubilee) is as grand and splendid a theatrical pageant as ever was seen since pageantry became the vice of the stage, and when we say this we are aware that we speak boldly. There is, however, if anything, too little gradation of pomp, and too uniform a glare of show in the objects presented. They are not quite so theatrical, as less expensive objects have been before rendered. Solomon's throne ought certainly to be superb, but its grandeur is carried to such an elevation that it leaves little room for a higher degree, and destroys the climax of effect which should be produced by the last magnificent Masonic fabric, in which the Grand Master of modern Masonry appears seated in conscious superiority over every other figure produced as a part of the spectacle.

The principal performers very kindly lent their assistance to this expensive effort of the manager by walking in the procession, and giving it every support deducible from skilful dumb-show and adroit pantomime. Their great master, Mr. Garrick, set them the example in the Jubilee, and though we neither wish nor hope to see the best actors ordinarily reduced to the mortifying situation of pageant kings, popes, and princes, we cannot but confess that it argues a most laudable zeal for the service, when they condescend to put themselves in that situation during the first run of an entertainment which must have cost the manager so much, and which promises to draw such large audiences to the theatre.

The music was rather pleasing than excellent. The performers did the pantomime justice, but no one tried more successfully to keep the piece alive than Mr. Stevens. This young man has not afforded any great promise to become a capital comedian, though he is considerably improved of late, but in pantomime he seems determined to stand conspicuously forward, and to show that he knows, what few comedians are master of—the art of expressing a good deal when he does not utter a syllable.

Harlequin Freemason was received with loud and repeated plaudits, and will, we doubt not, become as great a favourite during the remainder of the season as any holiday show before contrived.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

MONSIEUR VACHEROT'S IDEALISM.

It is sufficient answer to a Brother at Versailles sending two folio pages which he designates "Notes

and Queries respecting Monsieur Vacherot's Idealism," to say that a repudiation of Atheism and Pantheism is vain when there is not a recognition of our Great Architect of the Universe. A God, who is a mere abstraction, existing only in the Human Mind, is not the Supreme Being whom Freemasons acknowledge and adore. Our brother should get a book with which he ought not to be unacquainted if, as he states, he never fails to read the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE. In my communications to that publication "Positivism and Freemasonry," vol. xiii., page 57, and "Naturalism and Freemasonry," vol. xiii., page 189, he will find mention made of Monsieur Caro's Treatise "L'Idée de Dieu et ses nouveaux Critiques." He should get this book and attentively peruse the chapter entitled "Le Dieu de l'Idéalisme; le Système de M. Vacherot." The exposition is most elaborate and the refutation most convincing. My opinion is clear that a disciple of Monsieur Vacherot ought not to be received into Freemasonry.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

THE GOD OF ENGLISH FREEMASONRY. EXPLANATION OF A FORMER COMMUNICATION.

A Brother has sent me some suggestions respecting my communication to the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, vol. xii., page 474, entitled "A God who is not the God of English Freemasonry." It is hoped that a few lines will afford the explanation which my Brother seems to desire. The God of English Freemasonry is either the God of Christianity, or the God of Natural Theology. See my communication to the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, page 209 of the present volume, "English Freemasons, their notions of the Deity." Now, a God "sine dominio, providentiâ et causis finalibus" is neither the God of Christianity, nor the God of Natural Theology, and therefore not the God of English Freemasonry. It would, however, have been correct, as my Correspondent intimates, had I, instead of *English* Freemasonry written Freemasonry generally. See my communication to the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, vol. xii., page 391, "Religion of Freemasonry as an Universal Institution." But the letter of the Brother, "who substitutes for his own name that of a celebrated German Professor of Philosophy," speaks of the God of *English* Freemasonry, and my communication was fashioned to his language.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

FREEMASONRY AND THE GREEK CLERGY.

As Freemasonry is spreading among the Greeks in Turkey, some of them at the late Easter Communion confessed to the priests that they were Freemasons. The uniform answer was that there is no harm in that, as Freemasonry is a very good and charitable institution. This the clergy can ascertain by the handsome benefactions of the Hellenic lodges under the English constitutions to the schools and hospitals. How these Freemasons came to confess what they had no reason to think a sin or to be of doubtful morality it is not easy to make out. Some say they did it to try the priests, but others think it was to make themselves safe, for the devil is as inseparably connected with Freemasonry in the East, as the gridiron and red-hot poker are in the West. At all events an expression has been elicited from the Greek clergy much more complimentary to them than the

conduct and language of their Roman Catholic rivals.—PHILHELLENE.

BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS.

The Book of Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England has been transmitted and printed for the Hellenic Lodges in Turkey under the English jurisdiction by the Arete Lodge of Constantinople. This is a most valuable service to the cause of Masonry in the East, and does great honour to that distinguished lodge.—PHILHELLENE.

WAS VIRGIL A FREEMASON.

In Virgil's account of Æneas' descent to Tartarus, I find, among others, the following passage, (*Æneid* vi., 264 and following):—

*Dī quibus imperium est animarum, Umræque silentes,
Et Chaos, et Phlegeton, loca nocte silentia late,
Sit mihi fas audita loqui; sit numine vestro
Pandere res altā terrā et caligine mersas.*

The tenour of this passage and the spirit which pervades a considerable portion of the same book, leads me to infer that P. Virgilius Maro must have been initiated in the secret arts of antiquity which are generally supposed to be akin to modern Freemasonry. Is this view borne out by the opinions of any classical authorities?—ENQUIRER.

[You are mistaken. Virgil was not a Freemason. The view entertained by several authorities that the great imitator of Homer had been initiated in the mysteries of Eleusis rests only on conjecture. The chronological data I have at my disposal render it certain, that at the time when our poet wrote the 6th book of his epic song, he had long returned from his journey to Hellas; but not one of his biographers ventures to assert that he ever attended the Eleusinia. Even if he had done so, that would not qualify him as a Freemason. The mysteries of Attica had nothing whatever to do with Masonry. The Eleusinia were symbolical representations of the labours incidental to the tilling of the soil, they were taken from agriculture, and their religious foundation was Polytheism. Modern Masonry, on the contrary, derives its symbols from the building arts, from architecture; and its religious foundation is the Christian dogma of the Trinity. Thus, mathematically speaking—

Eleusinia : Masonry :: Agriculture : Architecture, or
: : the polygon : the triangle,
the various terms of the proportion being entirely different in themselves. In A. J. Valpy's small Variorum edition of Virgil (published by Longman, Brown, Green, and Longman, 1847) the passage alluded to is thus explained:—

267. *Mersas*. In several States of Greece, festivals had been instituted in honour of Ceres; the most celebrated were those held, every fifth year, in the town of Eleusis, on the sea coast of Attica. A succession of feasts, sacrifices, lustrations, and other public ceremonies, was accompanied by some secret rites, the admission to which required previous initiation. These mysteries, as they were termed, were looked up to with great awe, and the disclosure of them was reckoned among crimes worthy of divine indignation.

*Vetabo qui Cereris sacrum
Vulgārit arcana, sub isdem
Sit trabibus, fragilemque mecum
Solvat phaselum.*

—Hor. Carm. iii., 2, 26—9.

Bishop Warburton imagined that Virgil had been admitted to the celebration of these mysteries, that in the present book

he means to give a figurative description of his initiation and even to reveal the secret doctrines there inculcated. This hypothesis has given occasion to a masterly and most convincing tract, from the pen of our great historian, in which his reasons are assigned for disbelieving that Virgil had any such design. The episode, Gibbon thinks, is borrowed and, as usual, improved from the *Odyssey*.—Misc. Works, ii., 497—530.

It is contrary to all the teachings of history and religion to confound the mysteries of Attica with those of Masonry; still, they may, by way of analogy, be recommended as a most interesting and attractive study, and it is to be regretted that even in the most recent and most excellent historical works on Freemasonry that attention is not paid to them which they so highly deserve. (See FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, No. 346, page 136). The compilation of a monograph on the mysteries of Egypt, Judea, and Hellas is "a consummation devoutly to be wished." △

SIMEON'S IDEAS ON FREEMASONRY.

I quote the following passage from "Recollections of the Conversation Parties of the Rev. Charles Simeon, M.A.," by the Rev. Abner William Brown, M.A., page 326:—"At the laying of the foundation stone of the new church at Doncaster the Freemasons assisted with their rites and Masonic speeches, the clergyman closing with the usual prayer for such an occasion. One of the trustees protested against mixing the rites of Freemasonry with those of the Church. Perhaps this zeal of the trustee was indiscreet. It depends on circumstances whether his protest was not an over-nice attention to trifles. Freemasonry is foolish, but so far harmless. All mutual bonds for the promotion of love and kindness towards our fellow-creatures are good, and so far the Freemasons are well (*sic*), and, probably, their reciprocal charity is not more exclusive than that of various sects. Their pretences to superior knowledge, and to mysteries and secrets, are wrong—are probably nonsense. Vital religion, however, may be called a kind of Freemasonry; it has its feelings, its signs, its ways, not understood except by the true Christian."—JOHN KINGSTON, P. Prov. G. Chap.

FREEMASONRY IN GREECE.

The lodges established under Italian auspices in Greece have partaken of the disorders affecting Greek and Italian Masonry, but have latterly shown indications of a more favourable condition.

There are lodges, it is stated, at Athens, the Piræus, Patras, Chalcis, and Syra. At Athens there are two lodges; one of these is said to have 135 members. Theodore Colocotronis has been lately chosen W.M. The W.M. of the other lodge is Spulius Aitonopoulos. At Syra the name of the lodge is the Sons of Leonidas and the W.M. is Bro. Anastasius Caravelas. Here, as at Athens, and Salonika, a strong desire is expressed to adopt the English Constitutions.—PHILHELLENE.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

THE PUBLIC MASONIC LIBRARY AT ROUEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.
DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The Freemasons of the

East of Rouen have addressed no protestation to the head of the Roman Catholic Church with reference to his recent bull of excommunication representing Freemasonry as a work of darkness. They thought the best reply they could give would consist in the actions of Freemasonry, and thus they have, on the 16th of November last, solemnly inaugurated a public circulating library, founded under the auspices of the Rouen lodges.

In 1844, some brethren established in one of the most densely populated manufacturing quarters of this city (the Faubourg St. Sever) a public nursery (*crèche*), in which the babies of workwomen are received gratuitously and nursed during the day. It was thought that the building of this institution would be most appropriate and convenient also for the public library, and a committee deputed by the lodges met there, and conducted those preliminary labours of which the final organisation of the library was the result.

I annex to the present a copy of the statute, rules, and regulations that have been agreed upon. You will observe that no payment whatever is claimed for the use of the books, the very liberal original project having been modified in this most extensively Masonic direction. The managing committee consists exclusively of members of the Craft, and the following is a list of those deputed by the various lodges:—

By the Lodge Les Arts Réunis—Bros. Dumas, Franck de Gaudal, Bosc, Lejueux, and Planchon.

By the Lodge La Persévérance Couronnée—Bros. Michel Durand, Guéry, Théodore le Breton, Rondeaux, and Eugène Viénot.

By the Lodge Constance Eprouvée—Bros. Lervy, Richard, and Loroud.

By the Lodge La Vérité—Bros. Lamory, Lucas, Boissel, and Gully.

By the Chapter Les Arts Réunis—Bro. Jules Godefroy.

By the Chapter La Persévérance Couronnée—Bros. Blocmanne and Coudy.

The following members were appointed officers by the committee:—Bros. Michel Durand, Juror of the Court of Commerce, Common Councillor, W.M. of Lodge Persévérance Couronnée, Chairman; F. Dumas, Freeholder, W.M. of Lodge Les Arts Réunis, Deputy Chairman; and Jules Godefroy, Freeholder, Secretary.

In conclusion, I am happy to inform you that, even before the committee commenced their labours, they had received considerable support both from Masonic and non-Masonic quarters, and this support has continued ever since. At present those persons who cannot afford to purchase books, and are yet anxious to read for their instruction or amusement, will find in our library books on history, science, literature, &c., for gratuitous perusal. The catalogue of this library is nearly completed, and will be issued shortly.

You are at liberty to use this letter and its contents for whatever purpose you may think proper. At all events, accept, dear Sir and Brother, the assurance of my fraternal sentiments.

Rouen, April, 1866.

EUGENE VIÉNOT.

[We warmly thank Bro. Viénot for his letter. Our columns will always be open to receive communications of the same character, bearing witness as they

do to the rapidly-increasing development and spread of practical Freemasonry on the Continent of Europe.—Ed. F.M.]

METROPOLITAN CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It has long been a matter of regret to zealous Royal Arch Masons that the beautiful ritual of the Order is so imperfectly studied by the companions generally, and even by those who aspire to the principal offices of a chapter. One reason, probably, is that instruction in the ceremonies and lectures of the Royal Arch is not so readily attainable as in Craft Masonry, and there may be another reason in the fact, that as yet no chapter of instruction has been established on the model of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, and the companions of the metropolis have therefore no certainty of hearing the ceremony rehearsed, and the lectures rendered in a correct and thoroughly efficient manner. An attempt is now, however, being made to supply in some measure this obvious want. Upwards of sixty Royal Arch Masons have resolved to found a truly metropolitan chapter of instruction, and at a preliminary meeting held on the 10th ult., at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury, Comp. T. Beard in the chair, it was agreed to establish it under the sanction of the Rose of Denmark Chapter, No. 975. Comp. Brett, P.Z., 177 and 975 (whose fame as a teacher of Royal Arch Masonry has reached far and wide) was unanimously elected as the first President; Comp. Buss, P.Z. 177, and Treas. 975, as Treasurer; and Comp. Little, Z. 975 and S.W. 177 as Hon. Scribe E. As the number of founders is limited to seventy-two, companions wishing to assist in the work should apply immediately to Comp. J. Brett, 33, Jewin-crescent, E.C., who will be happy to furnish any information that may be required.

It only remains to add that the Metropolitan Chapter will be opened and consecrated by Comp. Watson, P.Z., on the 15th inst., at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury, when a goodly number of Royal Arch companions will, doubtless, be present.

Yours fraternally,

SUMMUM BONUM.

BRO. STEPHEN BARTON WILSON.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—We have lost our dear old friend and brother, Stephen Barton Wilson. (Peace to his ashes). Surely the brethren of the mystic tie will raise some monument to mark their feeling to our faithful teacher. I hope that every lodge of instruction in which he was mentor will observe the sad occasion, and liberally subscribe to erect a lasting tribute to so good a Mason.

Deeply regretting our great loss, in which thousands will join, I remain, dear Sir and brother,

Yours fraternally,

SAMUEL MAY, 101, &c.

35, Bow-street, W.C., May 3rd, 1866.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEMS.

THE NEW GRAND CHAPLAIN.—Amongst the appointments of Grand Officers for the year there is none that has given greater satisfaction than the appointment of Bro. Thomas to the office of Grand Chaplain, Bro. Richard James Francis Thomas, who is vicar of Yeovil, Somersetshire, was initiated, passed, and raised in 1834, in the Alfred Lodge, Oxford, of which he is a subscribing member. He joined the Lodge of Brotherly Love, Yeovil, in 1856, of which he is P.M. He held the office of Provincial Grand Chaplain for Somersetshire in 1857 and 1862. He was first W.M. of the Parrott and Axe Lodge, Crewkerne, Somersetshire, in 1860. He was M.E.Z. of the Yeovil Chapter in 1865 and 1866, and Provincial Grand Prelate of Knight Templars for Bristol from 1864 to 1865. He was very warmly congratulated on receiving the reward of his long services by his appointment in the Grand Lodge of England.

METROPOLITAN CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—We have pleasure in drawing the attention of our Royal Arch readers to a letter, which will be found in another page, announcing the opening and consecration, by Comp. Watson, P.Z., of this chapter of instruction, on the 15th inst., at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury.

The M.W.G.M. having granted a warrant for a new lodge at Reading, to be called the Grey Friars Lodge (No. 1101), the R.W. the acting Prov. G.M., Bro. Æ. McIntyre, has kindly consented to perform the ceremony of consecration, which he has ordered to take place at the Masonic Hall in that town on Thursday, the 17th inst., when a goodly muster of the brethren is expected, further particulars of which will appear in our next impression.

METROPOLITAN.

PTHAGOREAN LODGE (No. 78).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 30th ult., at the Lecture Hall, Greenwich. Bro. F. W. Ward, W.M., presided, and did the initiation; Bro. J. Hasler, I.P.M., did the raisings. All the work was well done. There was a good full lodge, and several visitors were present.

LODGE OF ST. JAMES (No. 765).—On Tuesday, the 1st inst., the regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Leather Market Tavern, New Weston-street, Bermondsey. The W.M., Bro. Montagu Scott, assisted by his officers, opened the lodge, when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. There being no candidates present, the W.M. presented to Bro. Thomas Blakeley, I.P.M., a handsome gold Past Master's jewel, voted by the members of the lodge for the able manner in which he had presided over them as W.M. Bro. Blakeley returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him. The jewel was of a very neat design, and was supplied by Bro. Loewenstark and Sons, of Devereux-court, Strand. The lodge was then closed with solemn prayer, after which the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The following brethren were present: Bros. Dr. Parker, Howes, and Blakeley, P.M.'s; Boyce, White, Pridmore, Hide, and several others. Visitor: Bro. M. A. Loewenstark, I.G. 7.3

ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 871).—This flourishing lodge held its meeting on Friday, the 27th ult., at the Royal Oak Tavern, High-street, Deptford, (Bro. G. Ellis's). Bro. H. A. Colling-

ton, W.M., presided. He was supported by nearly all his officers, viz.: Bros. W. Andrews, S.W.; J. Truelove, J.W. pro. tem.; J. Stevens, P.M., Treas.; F. Walters, P.M., Sec.; J. Hawker, S.D.; W. Jeffery, J.D.; G. Holman, I.G.; S. Garrett, P.M., Tyler; G. Wilton, P.M.; W. H. Truelove, S. G. Cooke, G. F. Honey, H. Whittle, J. W. Sampson, W. J. Honey, and many others. The visitors were, Bros. J. Whiffen, W. Dalziel, C. G. Dilley, 147; and T. Beaton, 467. The lodge was duly opened at five p.m., and the minutes of the last lodge meeting read and unanimously confirmed. Ballots were taken for the following gentlemen, and declared to be unanimous in favour of their admission, viz.: Messrs. G. Ellis, S. O. Lewin, G. S. Ditton, W. Poyer, and J. W. T. Barrett. The lodge was opened in the second degree. Bro. S. G. Cook being a candidate for passing, was interrogated, entrusted, and withdrew. The lodge was opened in the third degree. Bro. S. G. Cook was introduced and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The whole of the ceremony was given, including the traditional history and the tracing board. The lodge was closed both in the third and second degrees. Messrs. G. Ellis, G. S. Ditton, S. O. Lewin, W. Poyer, and J. W. T. Barrett being in attendance were introduced and initiated into Ancient Freemasonry. These ceremonies were most beautifully and impressively given, which elicited the praise and admiration of all present. Bros. W. Billington, 73, and W. Dalziel, 147, were proposed as joining members for the next lodge meeting, subject to the ballot. A gentleman was proposed for initiation. The sums of five guineas was voted from the Charity Fund of this lodge for the Boys' School; and five pounds from the Charity Fund to the widow of a deceased member. Bro. J. Stevens, P.M., was elected the Treasurer, his father having resigned that office. Bro. F. Walters, Sec., presented Bro. G. Wilton, with a Past Master's jewel, which had been subscribed for him by about a dozen members of the lodge. As this was a private gift, there was not any speech made, either in giving or receiving it. The jewel bears this inscription—"Presented to Bro. G. Wilton, P.M., the father and founder of the lodge, by voluntary subscriptions of the members of the Royal Oak Lodge, No. 871, as a mark of respect and gratitude for the able, talented, and efficient manner he presided as W.M. during his term of office 1863." The jewel was made by Messrs. A. D. Loewenstark and Sons. Business being ended, the lodge was closed until Wednesday, July 25th.

VICTORIA LODGE (No. 1056).—The installation meeting of this young lodge was held at the Sir John Cass tavern, South Hackney, on the 26th ult. The lodge was opened by the W.M. Bro. Wrenn, assisted by Bros. Pendlebury, S.W.; Turner, J.W.; Snow, S.D.; Soilleux, J.D.; Morris, I.G.; and many other brethren. The minutes were duly confirmed and after the usual preliminaries Bro. Robbins was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. Bro. Pendlebury, the W.M. elect, was then presented to Bro. H. Mugeridge, P.M., 192, who assumed the chair for the purpose of performing the ceremony of installation, and in a most impressive manner he discharged the duties devolving upon him, and regularly installed Bro. Pendlebury as W.M. The appointment of officers for the ensuing year was the next business, when the following brethren were invested, viz.: W. Turner, S.W.; G. M. E. Snow, J.W.; W. Wrenn, I.P.M., Treas. (elected), J. Robottom, Sec.; G. Roberts, S.D.; J. W. Williams, J.D.; U. Latreille, I.G.; F. Y. Latreille, Wine Steward; W. Morris, Dir. of Cers.; Johnson, Tyler. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous repast, under the presidency of the new W.M., when a very pleasant evening was spent. Bro. Wrenn, the retiring Master, was presented with a handsome P.M.'s jewel and expressed his grateful acknowledgements in appropriate terms. There was a large number of visitors present, and they expressed themselves highly pleased with the working of the lodge, and also with the hospitable treatment they experienced at the social board. The proceedings of the evening were agreeably diversified by several capital songs and also a recitation by Comp. Terry, P.M., 228, who was one of the visitors.

INSTRUCTION.

STABILITY LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

The forty-ninth anniversary of the Lodge of Instruction under sanction of the Lodge of Stability, No. 217, was held at Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars, on Friday, the 27th ult., under the precedence of the distinguished and respected

Preceptor, Bro. H. Muggeridge, P.M. 192, W.M. By the time fixed for opening the lodge, about 150 brethren, including several of the Grand Officers, who (in whose praise be it said) invariably evince the great interest they take in the welfare of the Order by being present on these occasions were assembled. Among the number were Bros. Æneas M'Intyre, G. Reg.; E. S. Snell, G.D.; J. A. Evans, President of the Board of General Purposes; A. W. Woods, G. Dir. of Cers.; J. S. S. Hopwood, Benjamin Head, Geo. Cox, J. R. Stebbing, P.G.D.'s; S. E. Nutt, P.G. Dir. of Cers.; John Herney, P.G.S.B.; F. Binckes, G.S. (Sec. of Boys' School); H. Grissell, P.G.S.; A. A. Richards; P.G.S.; E. M. Hubbuck, P.G.S.; David Law, P.G.S., and later in the evening the arrival of Bro. Havers, P.G.W., was warmly greeted.

Lodge having been opened, the lecture of the first degree was worked in sections by the following members:—Bros. Henry Child, I.G., 192; Thomas White, 22; John Lacey, W.M. 49; Joseph H. Cox, P.M. 49; J. H. J. Goldsbro', P.M. 998; Thos. H. Norman, J.D. 22; J. H. Townsend, 715.

On the conclusion of the last section, Bro. J. Havers took the chair of W.M.

Bro. ÆNEAS M'INTYRE, in an eloquent address, spoke in the highest terms of eulogy of the ability and zeal of Bro. Muggeridge, and of his powers of imparting instruction as evinced by those who had come forward that evening to assist in working the sections, and concluded by saying that he had much pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to Bro. Muggeridge, and that the same be recorded on the minutes, which was carried unanimously.

Bro. J. Ranking Stebbing, P.G.W., expressed the great gratification it had been to him to be present; that he had paid great attention to all that had passed, and had been deeply gratified by the excellence of the working, and that he had much pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to the brethren who had so ably assisted Bro. Muggeridge in working the sections, and that the same be entered on the minutes. Carried unanimously.

Bro. GOLDSBRO' returned thanks on behalf of the working brethren.

Bro. HAVERS then informed the brethren that this lodge of instruction purposed voting from its funds no less a sum than £46 to the Charities, of which £10 10s. would be allocated to the Girls' School, £15 15s. to the Boys' School, and £20 to the Benevolent Institution for the Aged.

These propositions, having been put to the lodge, were carried unanimously.

The lodge was then closed, and at eight o'clock the brethren, to the number of 130, sat down to a banquet, at which Bro. Havers (who for several years past has been present on these occasions) presided.

On the removal of the cloth, grace was said.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed "The Health of the Queen and the Craft, which being duly honoured, the National Anthem was sung by Bros. G. Tedder and T. A. Wallworth.

The next toast was that of "The Right Honourable the Earl of Zetland, Most Worshipful Grand Master," and the CHAIRMAN observed that there had only been two Grand Masters in the last fifty-three years; that at one time it was thought by some that a change of Grand Masters would be beneficial, but that he for one prayed that the present Grand Master may be spared to preside over the Order for some years to come.

Song—"The red cross banner," Bro. George Tedder.

The CHAIRMAN then said: Brethren, the next toast is "The Health of the Deputy Grand Master, the Earl De Grey and Ripon," one of her Majesty's Secretaries of State. I have often said, and am not afraid to repeat it, that there is nothing more advantageous to our Order, than for the nobility of the land to preside over it. We have been most fortunate in our Deputy Grand Masters—the Earl of Yarborough, Lord Dalhousie, and the present Secretary of State. I cannot name three men who have done greater service to Masonry. Of Lord Ripon, you also know how he works for the public, and for our Order; we will drink his health, and with him "The Health of the Grand Officers." There are three present, and many Past Grand Officers. I cannot repeat all their qualifications, suffice it to say that we have the Grand Registrar, Bro. MacIntyre, a most earnest worker; also the President of the Board of General Purposes. If any proof were wanting of the way in which they discharge their duties as Grand Officers, it would be found more than in any other, by their attendance at these meetings. I had almost forgotten a new appointment (I beg that brother's

pardon), that of my good friend, Bro. Snell; he may not have done a great deal at our public meetings, but look through the lists of all the Charities of which he is a vice-president; we'll drink his health and that of all good men. So must we pay a tribute for the services rendered by the Grand Director of Ceremonies (I hope he will forgive me for passing him over). Let me pay a just compliment to the Grand Officers present. They have done and are still doing good work for us. The duties of a Grand Officer do not cease when he has obtained the honour of the purple; he is more bound to exert himself for the good of the Craft than he was before it was conferred on him. There has been a wide difference made between the appointment of Grand Officers now and in former years. Every man, when his time comes, will reap the reward of his labours, it will come if he will be patient. We will drink "The Health of the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Officers, past and present," and I will couple with the toast the name of my friend, Bro. M'Intyre, the Grand Registrar.

Song—"Poor Jack," Bro. T. A. Wallworth.

Bro. MACINTYRE, in replying to the last toast, said: I esteem it a high privilege to be permitted to return thanks for the Deputy Grand Master and for the Officers of the Grand Lodge. The Deputy Grand Master is too well known to all to need thanks on my part. We all feel we are deeply indebted to him for the great ability he displays in forwarding the interests of the Craft; the other Grand Officers are also well known to you. They have earned their honours by steady perseverance. When I look around, there is not a single brother Grand Officer who has not endeared himself to us, and advanced the cause of Masonry; for them, brethren, and for myself, I beg to return our sincere thanks, and can assure you that at all times and on all occasions it will be our pleasure to forward the interests of Masonry and to merit the approbation of the brethren of our Order.

Bro. HAVERS then said: Brethren, I ask your attention to the toast of the evening, and I feel utterly inadequate to do justice to it, and it is partly my fault, partly yours. You have no right to put me in the chair every year, and to propose this toast every year, and expect something new. But there is something about this old toast which brings with it new ideas, or old ideas which bring with them or suggest something new on each occasion on which I have to propose it. It is nearly thirty years since I became a member of this lodge of instruction; and at one time I was never absent from it, and many others I see around me can say the same. There are a great many of us who do not think sufficiently of the value of lodges of instruction. The world has taken commendable pains to ascertain everything connecting us with extinct species; philosophers from Darwin to Murchison have laboured to show the relation one species bears to another, and the bonds which connect past ages with the present. But of all the bonds which tie one thing to another, there is none which appears more marvellous than the bond of Freemasonry, and well may we think it so, for there is something more mysterious, more honourable, and more friendly in the Masonic tie,—and where is the origin and mainspring of this tie? In our lodges of instruction. For as an admiral cannot become great, unless he has been a "middy," and has received an education fitting him to become so, so we to be great in Masonry must begin in a lodge of instruction. Let no man imagine that he can forego the mystic part of the road to realise that great object. The man who is above learning the ritual will be above learning the principles of Masonry. If there be one lodge of instruction which has an able and kind preceptor, surely this is one. No one could have more ably presided over a lodge, or obtained more the love of his brethren, than Bro. Muggeridge. It has been said that he could not succeed. The work never was done more beautifully or more effectively than it was this evening, and he is sending to the north, south, east, and west, not merely the forms of Freemasonry, but those, his pupils, who will disseminate its beautiful principles; and I pray God he may live for another fifty years to carry on this lodge of instruction, in which he has been so earnest a worker. Another point, when I have done, is to remember the principles on which our Order is founded. Never was our Order in greater prosperity, and never were our Charities better supported. We are in a certain kind of danger arising from that prosperity itself. The time has arrived when it is necessary we should be most careful whom we admit into Freemasonry. If we most scrupulously examine the character of those who propose to join us, the Society will be

benefited. I do not wish for one moment to keep out the workers. A great many who have joined have been an accession to our Order in the provinces; but I do desire to impress on your minds that, though there is a vast deal to be done to cultivate your Charities as the brightest jewel in Freemasonry, I earnestly urge upon you and them by precept and example to proclaim your intention to be more careful in the introduction of members. I now return to the more pleasant part of the toast, and let me wish this lodge a long and glorious prosperity, and I most earnestly wish health and prosperity to Bro. MUGGERIDGE, who will next year, we trust, celebrate its fiftieth anniversary.

Song—"My father's love," Bro. John Lacey.

Bro. MUGGERIDGE, who on rising to respond to the last toast, was greeted with the most enthusiastic cheers, which continued for some time, replied as follows:—Worshipful Chairman and Brethren,—I assure you I feel most grateful for the very kind manner in which our worshipful chairman has spoken of me, and for the kind manner in which the brethren have responded to his remarks. I can assure you that is a greater gratification from my knowing that I have endeavoured to the utmost of my power, to promote the prosperity of this lodge of instruction, into which I was elected a member twenty-six hours after my initiation into Masonry. I was initiated on the Thursday, and was proposed by the late Bro. P. Thomson, on the following evening, and that was in the year 1839—twenty-seven years ago. I have been a constant attendant since that time, and have done my best to promote its prosperity. There are a great many brethren present who will say that I have not been unsuccessful in my endeavours. Allow me to tell you that this lodge of instruction was founded in 1817 by the late Bros. Peter Thomson and Philip Broadfoot, the latter of whom conducted it until he left London in 1835, when my preceptor took the management and carried it on until his death in 1851, when I succeeded him. It is now fifteen years ago, but it does not seem so long. I assure you it appears to me more like a dream since our Bro. Thomson departed from this sublunary sphere. This lodge of instruction will have completed its jubilee in the next year, and I hope and trust that the brethren whom I see around this table, especially our brother chairman, will then be present. I do think that I have been connected with this lodge of instruction so long, that it is almost time that some one else should take my place. I can assure you I feel great pleasure in attending this lodge of instruction, but I candidly tell you it is a very great tie. I attend this lodge from September to April inclusive, and the time has arrived when some one younger should take my place. I have a great anxiety that the prosperity of the lodge should continue. Be that as it may, I must confess that I should like to have the management of it until the next year. I should like to say Philip Broadfoot commenced and Bro. MUGGERIDGE completed the jubilee. If any young Mason will take the lodge off my hands I should be happy to give it up. For I think when people come to a certain age the duties can be carried on much better by younger men. I have been particularly pleased with the manner in which I have been assisted by my younger brethren; there are several of them who would be able to act as preceptors of this lodge of instruction. There is one thing I must say that if any person aspire to the position I hold, it is no use his thinking of doing so unless he make up his mind to attend punctually. Unless the schoolmaster attends regularly, you may be certain that the pupils will not be regular in their attendance. I have endeavoured to set a good example to my Masonic children, I always endeavour to be punctual myself. I do consider that punctuality is a great principle, and ought to be brought more prominently forward. Among those who have kindly assisted me in the work this evening there are some who stand high in Masonry, and some who are but young Masons. There is one, however, whom I wish particularly to name, our Provincial Grand Senior Warden for North Wales and Shropshire, Bro. Goldsbro', and there is one who has only been introduced into Masonry a year or two ago, Bro. Townend (a son of our old friend Bro. Townend, who not only worked under the late Peter Thompson, but me also). I have great pleasure in introducing Bro. Townend, who went through his section with great credit. But I am digressing, and shall leave this to our Worshipful Chairman. Allow me, Worshipful Chairman, to thank you for the kind manner in which you have proposed, and the brethren who have responded to the toast. The lodge has prospered and I hope it will prosper. I will continue my endeavours to promote its success to the best of my power.

Bro. ÆNEAS M'INTYRE then rose and said: Brethren, you must be well aware that I have now to propose "The Health of our Worshipful President of the evening," and it is a toast which will meet with a hearty response from every brother in this room. Our President has spoken of its being desirable that he should not continue to take the chair at these meetings. Now, brethren, I must say that I think the argument which our Worshipful President used with respect to our Most Worshipful Grand Master ought to be carried out in those subordinate to him, and I mean to say that we have now the right man in the right place. I believe that it is sixteen or seventeen years since Bro. Havers was first President, and that on every occasion since, he has said something new, or has said the old things in such a new way that they come as new truths to elevate and improve our minds. Masonry ought to prosper with us with such a President, and I hope you will not permit him to be absent at the jubilee. If there be a man who has earned distinction, it is the brother who enlists the sympathies of his hearers, and can convince the world that Masonry is not a sham. When he sits there we shall have the same Preceptor who has taught the lodge so well. He says that his connection with this lodge is "a great tie"—a tie which I hope will not be severed for many years to come. I hope that he will not only be here at the jubilee but also very nearly at the centenary of the lodge, and I hope that he will be at the left of the chair, which I am sure will be to the advantage of the Craft. Brethren, I call upon you to drink "The Health of the Worshipful President—long life and prosperity to him, and may he long preside over this lodge."

Song—"The Old English Gentleman," Bro. T. A. Wallworth.

Bro. HAYERS, who was greeted with cheers, replied: Brother Wardens and Brethren, I can hardly tell you how deeply I feel your kind reception, and I thank you most gratefully for all your kindness; I thank my friend on my right, at the same time I don't take all for granted, or that it is intended to convey all that is said in after-dinner speeches. I don't mean to deny that I am conscious that I have worked very hard, and we will continue to work hard that Masonry may prosper. I believe, moreover, that I am well acquainted with my shortcomings in a want of forbearance in my early days, but as to courting popularity I have never done it, I have only done what I have thought right, and I am obstinate enough whenever I think I am right to advocate my opinion, and if many more would do what is right we all should prosper. Let us always endeavour at least to respect the motives of each other. I thank you again most cordially. I do say I feel that I have rendered some service, and which will hereafter be acknowledged to be a great service in being the means of getting for you, for this noble society, a worthy temple of your own. I do feel that the committee are working out a great end in Freemasonry, the dignity of our Order. As for this lodge of instruction, though I should be sorry to see it moved from Bro. Hurts, I should rejoice to see it into our new house for one of our annual meetings. The Grand Lodge and the body of Freemasonry will welcome you. Let me thank you earnestly and sincerely, and in this and everything else that can conduce to the prosperity of the Order, I shall always be at your service.

Bro. ÆNEAS M'INTYRE, Grand Registrar, then rose and said: Brother Wardens and Brethren, at the request of the President I have undertaken to propose the health of the brethren, who have assisted Bro. MUGGERIDGE in the excellent working this evening. I had occasion to speak in eulogistic terms of your preceptor in the lodge, but I also saw there in the working that his good instruction had not been thrown away, as fully exemplified in the apt pupils who so admirably discharged the duties allotted to them on this occasion, but especially in Bro. Goldsbro', Prov. Grand Senior Warden, whom I saw working, and in a manner that could not be surpassed by anyone in any lodge in the Craft throughout England, or throughout the world. He has shown by his work that he knows how to fulfil the duties of a subordinate position, and that he is well qualified to fill a higher position. I would also especially allude to a young Mason, whom I believe I saw initiated in the Panmure Lodge not many months ago, a worthy follower in the footsteps of his father, and who has admirably succeeded. From all the brethren have heard, they must learn that Masonry inculcates the noblest sentiments, and that our great object should be to reduce into practice the beautiful principles which they hear inculcated the lodges of instruction, and not leave there for

the purpose of forgetting them. They will thus make the world at large respect Freemasonry. It is necessary that the ground should be well prepared where the seeds have to be sown, and in good ground they will bring forth fruit a hundred fold. We should remember that Freemasonry is a great fact, founded upon the purest principles of piety and virtue, which should be carried out in private life as they are taught in our lodge rooms.

Song—"Tom Bowling," Bro. W. Wrenn.

Bro. GOLDSBRO' replied to the last toast on behalf of the working brethren, and thanked the R.W. Bro. for the very highly complimentary terms in which he had spoken of the manner in which they had carried out the duties respectively assigned to them, and remarked that he was sure that each and all regarded it a pleasing duty to do all in their power to assist in promulgating that which it had been their happiness to receive through the Stability Lodge of Instruction, and that the expressions of approval were the more gratifying, as the working brethren had been the means of reflecting some of the incidental rays derived from their distinguished and esteemed preceptor, Bro. Henry Muggeridge.

Songs—"My village home," Bro. J. Lacey. "My pretty Jane," Bro. Sturch.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the next toast, "The Sister Lodges of Instruction," and said he did so in a plural sense. We usually drink the toast of "Our elder sister, the Emulation Lodge of Improvement," between which and this lodge, exists an honourable rivalry, and we drink to them every success. This brings me to speak of our late Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, who succeeded on the death of the late Bro. Peter Gilks, who, for a long period of years, conducted this lodge. He possessed an indisputable desire to carry out his knowledge, and was ever ready with a reason for everything connected with Masonry. He was for many years the victim of painful disease, and was called to his rest at the age of seventy-one. I trust, on a more public occasion, to record in our annals his name; for the present let us content ourselves with "The memory of Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson."

The last toast proposed by the CHAIRMAN was, "Success to the Charities," who remarked that as he was about to preside at the Festival for the Girls' School, he would not forestall anything he had to say on that occasion, but would at once propose "Success to the Charities," and couple with the toast the name of Bro. Binckes, Secretary of the Boys' School.

Bro. BINCKES replied: In rising to respond to this toast, I would express my regret at the circumstance, that I am the only representative of the Charities present this evening. I wish that Bros. Patten and Farnfield were here, but as they are not it devolves upon me to reply however imperfectly I may do so. Warned by the late hour of the evening, I shall occupy your attention for a very few moments, but they will suffice for me to express my deep feelings of gratification at the prosperity of our institutions, most sincerely and honestly. The Masonic charities were never on a more sound basis than they are at the present moment. The aggregate amount received in the past year, however much it may now appear to casual observers, will be greatly exceeded in future years. The great body of our brethren are now learning their duty. They know not yet the Charities, what are their merits, what their claims, or how very important are our duties towards them. At the present moment they are in a sound condition of prosperity. In reference to our own Charity it is perhaps a question in the counties whether we need support? By your munificence and that of other brethren, we were enabled to add ten additional boys, and we hope to increase the number to a hundred in October. We ask you to support us and to justify us in what we are doing. Without any risk of discussion, our excellent Chairman and myself always agree in Masonic matters. I listened with intense delight to the true Masonic sentiments that the brethren should be careful as to whom they introduce into Masonry. I felt that the want of this is one of the *depressants* of our great Charities. You who only look at the outside know not how painful are the duties of the various Committees; how they are taxed in making judicious selections; how much they would be spared and their labours diminished if every Mason were true to his trust in not introducing into Masonry improper persons. I beg to indorse every word that fell from our excellent Chairman, and I hope not one will leave this room without being duly impressed with and ready to carry out his suggestions. Bro. Binckes in a feeling manner alluded to the absence of the late Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson who, for several years

had been an honoured guest on these occasions, and asked permission to add his testimony to his character, whether as a man, a Mason, or in his professional calling, and concluded by saying, "For those who are absent, allow me to be their mouth-piece, and thank you all for the constant support of the Charities, and make an earnest appeal that will not induce, but stimulate you year by year to make it more gloriously manifest that our Charities are the brightest jewels of our Order. I entirely agree with our chairman that, before the Charities were, Masonry was. Masonry has a mission of its own, of which very few of those who look on the surface have an idea. May it continue to be supported, and may the beauties of its practical effects become more and more evident!"

The Chairman then retired, but several of the brethren remained with Bro. Muggeridge, and spent another hour in social conversation.

DORIC LODGE (No. 933).—At the meeting of this lodge, held on the 27th ult., at Bro. Scurr's, the Three Cranes, Mile End-road, under the presidency of Bro. Saqui; the fifteen sections were worked by the W.M., assisted by Bro. T. J. Barnes, sen. It is a fact deserving of notice, that although the sections are worked in this Lodge of Instruction every three months, this was the first occasion on which the whole of the answers to the several questions were given by one brother. Too much commendation cannot be awarded to Bro. Barnes for the masterly and efficient manner in which he assisted Bro. Saqui in the delineation of the beautiful language comprised in the lectures. At the conclusion of the proceedings, an unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Bros. Saqui and Barnes, and in further recognition of their services rendered upon this, and previous occasions, they were both elected honorary members of this Lodge of instruction. The brethren separated at a timely hour, much gratified with the proceedings. We have, on previous occasions, noticed with pleasure the efficiency of the East End lodges of instruction, and the rapidly increasing number of zealous, efficient, working Masons which they have produced. In this respect the Doric Lodge stands pre-eminent, and may justly claim to be worthy of its appellation. "Strength."

YARBORO' LODGE (No. 554).—On the 24th ult. the usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held at Bro. Walters', the Green Dragon, Stepney; Bro. Barnes, senior, in the chair. The event of the evening was the working of the fifteen sections, the W.M. being ably assisted by Bros. Scurr, Bowron, and Stevens; the sections being worked in the following order:—Bro. Stevens 1st 3rd and 4th sections in the 1st lecture, 1st section in the 2nd lecture, and the 1st section in the 3rd lecture; Bro. Scurr, 6th and 7th sections in the 1st lecture, 2nd and 3rd sections in the 2nd lecture, and the 3rd in the 3rd lecture; Bro. Bowron 2nd and 5th sections in the 1st lecture, the 4th and 5th in the 2nd lecture, and the 2nd in the 3rd lecture. A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Bro. Barnes the W.M.; the lodge was closed at ten o'clock.

PROVINCIAL.

BERKS AND BUCKS.

The M.W.G.M. having granted a warrant for a new lodge Reading, to be called the Grey Friars Lodge (No. 1101), the R.W. the acting Prov. G.M., Bro. Æ. McIntyre, has kindly consented to perform the ceremony of consecration, which he has ordered to take place at the Masonic Hall in that town on Thursday, the 17th inst., when a goodly muster of the brethren is expected, further particulars of which will appear in our next impression.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

KENDAL.—*Union Lodge* (No. 129).—The regular monthly meeting of this ancient and flourishing lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Kent-street, on Thursday, 26th ult. The W.M., Captain Whitwell, Prov. G. Reg., was supported on the occasion by Bros. Rev. James Simpson, S.W.; Thomas Atkinson, J.W.; Edward Busher, 30th, P.M., Prov. G. Sec.; John Bowes, P.M., Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; C. G. Thompson, Treas.; W. Cartmel, Sec.; James Taylor Dir. of Cers.; E. Medcalf, jun., S.D.; W. Doubleday, J.D.; A. K. Wood, S. Steward; J. Ottley Atkinson, I.G.; W. Wilson, 18th, S.W., 1074; George Cartmel, John Holme, W. Tattershall, James W. Scott, Thomas Busher,

E. Hibbert, Dr. Noble, Jones Taylor, Dr. Seeming, Samuel Gawith, T. Wilson, George B. Greenall, and D. Cleady, Tyler. Visitor: Bro. Jesse Banning, 348. The lodge was opened in due and solemn form, when the minutes were read and confirmed. The W.M. announced the receipt from Bro. C. Pettitt (a former member and S.W. of the lodge) of three Knights Templar certificates belonging to the lodge, and Bro. Secretary was requested to acknowledge that these certificates were of considerable interest, and were given verbatim by Bro. Yarker in his history of the Jerusalem encampment, Manchester. Considerable discussion then took place on the subject of a centenary jewel, after which it was unanimously resolved to apply to the M.W.G.M. for permission to wear one, and a committee was appointed to decide upon a design and arrange the matter. A variety of sketches were submitted to the lodge by Bro. James W. Scott. A gentleman was proposed as a candidate for the mysteries. As the brethren who claimed advancement were unable to attend, the remainder of the evening was devoted to instruction, the 3rd degree being the subject. After spending a profitable evening the W.M. closed the lodge in ancient form at nine o'clock.

DURHAM.

DURHAM.—*Marquis of Granby Lodge* (No. 124).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 1st inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Old Elvet. Present: Bros. Fitzgerald, W.M.; Blackett, S.W.; Young, J.W.; Stoker and Jones, P.M.'s; Raine, Treas.; T. Sarsfield, Sec.; Roulandson, S.D.; W. Briguall, jun., J.D.; G. J. Stimpson, Org.; Ebdy, I.G.; Carter, Tyler; and about twenty others. The lodge was opened in due form, and, after the confirmation of the minutes, Bro. W. R. Waddingham was examined as to his proficiency in Masonry, and, having acquitted himself satisfactorily, was dismissed. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, when he was readmitted, and passed according to ancient form. The lodge was then closed in the second, and resumed in the first degree, when Messrs. George Moor and Henry Carr were severally introduced and made E.A.'s. Bro. Stoker, P.M., having stated the result of the meetings of the Building Committee, and, no further business being brought forward, the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The W.M. only gave the formal toasts, the brethren having decided to leave early in consequence of the sudden death of Bro. Thomas Turner, whose funeral was appointed for the following morning. On the morning of the 2nd inst., between forty and fifty brethren attended to pay their last mark of respect to Bro. Turner. The deceased brother became a joining member of this lodge on the 7th of July, 1863, and from that period down to the time of his sudden death on the 28th ult. he enjoyed the esteem and respect of the entire lodge.

ESSEX.

BRIGHTLINGSEA.—*Lodge of Hope* (No. 433).—The regular monthly meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Monday evening, the 23rd ult., at the Swan Inn; the lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Lake, with Bros. G. Riches, and York, Wardens; Bro. Francis and Bro. Bragg, Deacons; Bros. Ames, Bishop, Blyth, and Claney, Past Masters; Bro. Minter, I.G.; Bro. Wiseman Sec. There were also present Bros. Ling, E. Stammers, Wenlock, Griggs, and Harmer, Tyler. The minutes of the last meetings having been read and confirmed, the balloting papers for the Aged Freemasons and Widows were read over and discussed. Ultimately it was proposed by Bro. Francis, and seconded by Bro. Bishop, that we give ten votes to Bros. James Pattison Munro, of Hermitage, St. Evanton, Ross-shire, North Britain, late a commercial clerk in London; and ten votes to Thomas Shearer, of Rye, Sussex. It was proposed by Bro. Ames, P.M., and seconded by Bro. E. Stammers, that we give eight votes to Mary Marson, of Writtle Green, near Chelmsford, Essex, widow of William Marson, late Governor of the House of Correction, at Colchester. It was also proposed by Bro. Francis, and seconded by Bro. Bishop, that we hold a lodge of instruction at the Anchor Inn, this night fortnight. The business of the evening being ended, the lodge was closed in due form and the brethren repaired to refreshment. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and most cordially received. "The Health of the Visitors" was then given, which was most ably responded to by Bro. Wright, of the Prince of Wales Lodge, Ipswich, Prov. G.S.D., Suffolk. A most agreeable evening was spent. In consequence of the host, Bro. Harmer, being very ill songs were dispensed with.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

PRESTON.—*Lodge of Peace and Unity*, No. 314.—On Monday, the 23rd ult., at the usual monthly meeting of this lodge, held in the spacious lodge room, in the buildings of the Preston Literary and Philosophical Society, a very handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. T. Moss Shuttleworth, Prov. G.S., who occupied the chair as Master of the lodge for two years consecutively, 1864 and 1865. At the termination of the general business of the lodge, Bro. John Walker, W.M. expressed to Bro. Shuttleworth the pleasure which he felt in having been deputed on behalf of the members of the lodge to present to him that jewel as a mark of their esteem. For his own part he did not fully approve of the principle of presentations of this nature, but, knowing the valuable services which Bro. Shuttleworth had rendered to the lodge he thought it a case for departure from the general rule, and now performed the duty which devolved upon him with much pleasure. That testimonial was not intended as any reward for services rendered to the lodge, but was a mark of the high esteem of the members for Bro. Shuttleworth and of their appreciation of his untiring exertions for a space of two years for the good of Masonry in general, and also of their sense of the advantages which they themselves had derived from the admirable manner in which he had filled the chair, and had on so many occasions (he believed on every lodge night but one during the two years) performed one or more of the ceremonies of initiating, passing, and raising, in so instructive and impressive a manner. He trusted that that jewel would be handed down as an heirloom in Bro. Shuttleworth's family and that, if in course of time any of his sons should occupy a similar position, they might perform the duties in as satisfactory a manner as Bro. Shuttleworth had done. The W.M. then placed the jewel on Bro. Shuttleworth's breast, and thus addressed him, "I have great pleasure, Bro. Shuttleworth, in presenting you with this Past Master's jewel; long may you live to wear it, and when it shall please the Great Architect of the Universe to remove you from this earth may you ascend to the Grand Lodge above, where the Great Architect lives and reigns for ever." Bro. Shuttleworth in feeling terms acknowledged the compliment thus paid him. He expressed the pride with which he had filled the high position in which they placed him when elected as Master of the lodge in 1864, and stated that when re-elected for a second year he looked upon it as an acknowledgment that his services had met with their approval. He would ever treasure that jewel himself, and would wear it on every occasion when he entered a Masonic lodge; and his family would, he was certain, feel highly gratified with the compliment that the brethren had paid him. He could assure them that it would always be his endeavour still to attend all meetings of the lodge and to give every assistance in his power in furtherance of its success. After the presentation of the jewel, the brethren partook of refreshments and the health of Bro. Shuttleworth was drunk with suitable honours. The jewel, which was a magnificent one, was supplied by Bro. Bragg, of Birmingham, and bore the following inscription—"From the Brethren of the Lodge of Peace and Unity, (No. 314), to Bro. Thomas Moss Shuttleworth, P.M., to mark their appreciation of his services as Worshipful Master, during the years 1864 and 1865."

WARRINGTON.—*Lodge of Lights* (No. 148).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge took place on Monday evening last at the Masonic rooms, Sankey-street, at half-past six. In the absence of the W.M., Bro. Gilbert Greenall, M.P., Senior G.W., the lodge was opened by Bro. H. B. White, 18°, P.M. Prov. G. Steward; who was supported by Bros. Robert Stevenson, as S.W.; Rev. John Porter, 18°, as J.W.; John Bowes, P.M. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; D. Finney, J.D.; James Hamer, P.M. Prov. G. Treas.; A. Waring, Captain Reynolds, W. Richardson, Christophe Elkkert, Org.; Thomas Jones, W. Savage, Jabez Plinston, H. Cunningham, A. S. L. Leonhardt, P. Pearse, W. Mossop, W. Woods, Dr. Spinks, Dr. Pennington, and Jos. Robinson, and James Johnson, Tylers. The lodge was opened solemn form and the minutes were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Bro. William Mossop, of 119, Whitehaven, as a joining member which was unanimous in his favour. The chair was now assumed by Bro. Bowes, P.M. Bros. Captain Reynolds, A. Waring, Jabez Plinston, and H. Cunningham, being candidates for advancement, and having proved their claim were entrusted and retired. The lodge was then opened in the 2nd degree when the candidates were readmitted and passed to the degree of F.C. At the conclusion of the ceremony Bro. H. B. White delivered an address explaining the difference

the purpose of forgetting them. They will thus make the world at large respect Freemasonry. It is necessary that the ground should be well prepared where the seeds have to be sown, and in good ground they will bring forth fruit a hundred fold. We should remember that Freemasonry is a great fact, founded upon the purest principles of piety and virtue, which should be carried out in private life as they are taught in our lodge rooms.

Song—"Tom Bowling," Bro. W. Wrenn.

Bro. GOLDSBRO' replied to the last toast on behalf of the working brethren, and thanked the R.W. Bro. for the very highly complimentary terms in which he had spoken of the manner in which they had carried out the duties respectively assigned to them, and remarked that he was sure that each and all regarded it a pleasing duty to do all in their power to assist in promulgating that which it had been their happiness to receive through the Stability Lodge of Instruction, and that the expressions of approval were the more gratifying, as the working brethren had been the means of reflecting some of the incidental rays derived from their distinguished and esteemed preceptor, Bro. Henry Muggeridge.

Songs—"My village home," Bro. J. Lacey. "My pretty Jane," Bro. Sturch.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the next toast, "The Sister Lodges of Instruction," and said he did so in a plural sense. We usually drink the toast of "Our elder sister, the Emulation Lodge of Improvement," between which and this lodge, exists an honourable rivalry, and we drink to them every success. This brings me to speak of our late Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, who succeeded on the death of the late Bro. Peter Gilks, who, for a long period of years, conducted this lodge. He possessed an indisputable desire to carry out his knowledge, and was ever ready with a reason for everything connected with Masonry. He was for many years the victim of painful disease, and was called to his rest at the age of seventy-one. I trust, on a more public occasion, to record in our annals his name; for the present let us content ourselves with "The memory of Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson."

The last toast proposed by the CHAIRMAN was, "Success to the Charities," who remarked that as he was about to preside at the Festival for the Girls' School, he would not forestall anything he had to say on that occasion, but would at once propose "Success to the Charities," and couple with the toast the name of Bro. Binckes, Secretary of the Boys' School.

Bro. BINCKES replied: In rising to respond to this toast, I would express my regret at the circumstance, that I am the only representative of the Charities present this evening. I wish that Bros. Patten and Farnfield were here, but as they are not it devolves upon me to reply however imperfectly I may do so. Warned by the late hour of the evening, I shall occupy your attention for a very few moments, but they will suffice for me to express my deep feelings of gratification at the prosperity of our institutions, most sincerely and honestly. The Masonic charities were never on a more sound basis than they are at the present moment. The aggregate amount received in the past year, however much it may now appear to casual observers, will be greatly exceeded in future years. The great body of our brethren are now learning their duty. They know not yet the Charities, what are their merits, what their claims, or how very important are our duties towards them. At the present moment they are in a sound condition of prosperity. In reference to our own Charity it is perhaps a question in the counties whether we need support? By your munificence and that of other brethren, we were enabled to add ten additional boys, and we hope to increase the number to a hundred in October. We ask you to support us and to justify us in what we are doing. Without any risk of discussion, our excellent Chairman and myself always agree in Masonic matters. I listened with intense delight to the true Masonic sentiments that the brethren should be careful as to whom they introduce into Masonry. I felt that the want of this is one of the depressants of our great Charities. You who only look at the outside know not how painful are the duties of the various Committees; how they are taxed in making judicious selections; how much they would be spared and their labours diminished if every Mason were true to his trust in not introducing into Masonry improper persons. I beg to indorse every word that fell from our excellent Chairman, and I hope not one will leave this room without being duly impressed with and ready to carry out his suggestions. Bro. Binckes in a feeling manner alluded to the absence of the late Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson who, for several years

had been an honoured guest on these occasions, and asked permission to add his testimony to his character, whether as a man, a Mason, or in his professional calling, and concluded by saying, "For those who are absent, allow me to be their mouth-piece, and thank you all for the constant support of the Charities, and make an earnest appeal that will not induce, but stimulate you year by year to make it more gloriously manifest that our Charities are the brightest jewels of our Order. I entirely agree with our chairman that, before the Charities were, Masonry was. Masonry has a mission of its own, of which very few of those who look on the surface have an idea. May it continue to be supported, and may the beauties of its practical effects become more and more evident!"

The Chairman then retired, but several of the brethren remained with Bro. Muggeridge, and spent another hour in social conversation.

DORIC LODGE (No. 933).—At the meeting of this lodge, held on the 27th ult., at Bro. Scurr's, the Three Cranes, Mile End-road, under the presidency of Bro. Saqui; the fifteen sections were worked by the W.M., assisted by Bro. T. J. Barnes, sen. It is a fact deserving of notice, that although the sections are worked in this Lodge of Instruction every three months, this was the first occasion on which the whole of the answers to the several questions were given by one brother. Too much commendation cannot be awarded to Bro. Barnes for the masterly and efficient manner in which he assisted Bro. Saqui in the delineation of the beautiful language comprised in the lectures. At the conclusion of the proceedings, an unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Bros. Saqui and Barnes, and, in further recognition of their services rendered upon this, and previous occasions, they were both elected honorary members of this Lodge of instruction. The brethren separated at a timely hour, much gratified with the proceedings. We have, on previous occasions, noticed with pleasure the efficiency of the East End lodges of instruction, and the rapidly increasing number of zealous, efficient, working Masons which they have produced. In this respect the Doric Lodge stands pre-eminent, and may justly claim to be worthy of its appellation, "Strength."

YARBORO' LODGE (No. 554).—On the 24th ult. the usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held at Pro. Walters', the Green Dragon, Stepney; Bro. Barnes, senior, in the chair. The event of the evening was the working of the fifteen sections, the W.M. being ably assisted by Bros. Scurr, Bowron, and Stevens; the sections being worked in the following order:—Bro. Stevens 1st 3rd and 4th sections in the 1st lecture, 1st section in the 2nd lecture, and the 1st section in the 3rd lecture; Bro. Scurr, 6th and 7th sections in the 1st lecture, 2nd and 3rd sections in the 2nd lecture, and the 3rd in the 3rd lecture; Bro. Bowron 2nd and 5th sections in the 1st lecture, the 4th and 5th in the 2nd lecture, and the 2nd in the 3rd lecture. A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Bro. Barnes the W.M.; the lodge was closed at ten o'clock.

PROVINCIAL.

BERKS AND BUCKS.

The M.W.G.M. having granted a warrant for a new lodge Reading, to be called the Grey Friars Lodge (No. 1101), the R.W. the acting Prov. G.M., Bro. E. McIntyre, has kindly consented to perform the ceremony of consecration, which he has ordered to take place at the Masonic Hall in that town on Thursday, the 17th inst., when a goodly muster of the brethren is expected, further particulars of which will appear in our next impression.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

KENDAL.—Union Lodge (No. 129).—The regular monthly meeting of this ancient and flourishing lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Kent-street, on Thursday, 26th ult. The W.M., Captain Whitwell, Prov. G. Reg., was supported on the occasion by Bros. Rev. James Simpson, S.W.; Thomas Atkinson, J.W.; Edward Busher, 30th, P.M., Prov. G. Sec.; John Bowes, P.M., Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; C. G. Thompson, Treas.; W. Cartmel, Sec.; James Taylor Dir. of Cers.; E. Medcalf, jun., S.D.; W. Doubleday, J.D.; A. K. Wood, S. Steward; J. Otley Atkinson, I.G.; W. Wilson, 18th, S.W., 107th; George Cartmel, John Holme, W. Tattershall, James W. Scott, Thomas Busher,

E. Hibbert, Dr. Noble, Jones Taylor, Dr. Seeming, Samuel Gawith, T. Wilson, George B. Greenall, and D. Cleady, Tyler. Visitor: Bro. Jesse Banning, 343. The lodge was opened in due and solemn form, when the minutes were read and confirmed. The W.M. announced the receipt from Bro. C. Pettitt (a former member and S.W. of the lodge) of three Knights Templar certificates belonging to the lodge, and Bro. Secretary was requested to acknowledge that these certificates were of considerable interest, and were given verbatim by Bro. Yarker in his history of the Jerusalem encampment, Manchester. Considerable discussion then took place on the subject of a centenary jewel, after which it was unanimously resolved to apply to the M.W.G.M. for permission to wear one, and a committee was appointed to decide upon a design and arrange the matter. A variety of sketches were submitted to the lodge by Bro. James W. Scott. A gentleman was proposed as a candidate for the mysteries. As the brethren who claimed advancement were unable to attend, the remainder of the evening was devoted to instruction, the 3rd degree being the subject. After spending a profitable evening the W.M. closed the lodge in ancient form at nine o'clock.

DURHAM.

DURHAM.—*Marquis of Granby Lodge* (No. 124).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 1st inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Old Elvet. Present: Bros. Fitzgerald, W.M.; Blackett, S.W.; Young, J.W.; Stoker and Jones, P.M.'s; Raine, Treas.; T. Sarsfield, Sec.; Roulandson, S.D.; W. Brignall, jun., J.D.; G. J. Stimpson, Org.; Ebdy, I.G.; Carter, Tyler; and about twenty others. The lodge was opened in due form, and, after the confirmation of the minutes, Bro. W. R. Waddingham was examined as to his proficiency in Masonry, and, having acquitted himself satisfactorily, was dismissed. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, when he was readmitted, and passed according to ancient form. The lodge was then closed in the second, and resumed in the first degree, when Messrs. George Moor and Henry Carr were severally introduced and made E.A.'s. Bro. Stoker, P.M., having stated the result of the meetings of the Building Committee, and, no further business being brought forward, the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The W.M. only gave the formal toasts, the brethren having decided to leave early in consequence of the sudden death of Bro. Thomas Turner, whose funeral was appointed for the following morning. On the morning of the 2nd inst., between forty and fifty brethren attended to pay their last mark of respect to Bro. Turner. The deceased brother became a joining member of this lodge on the 7th of July, 1863, and from that period down to the time of his sudden death on the 28th ult. he enjoyed the esteem and respect of the entire lodge.

ESSEX.

BRIGHTLINGSEA.—*Lodge of Hope* (No. 433).—The regular monthly meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Monday evening, the 23rd ult., at the Swan Inn; the lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Lake, with Bros. G. Riches, and York, Wardens; Bro. Francis and Bro. Bragg, Deacons; Bros. Ames, Bishop, Blyth, and Claney, Past Masters; Bro. Minter, I.G.; Bro. Wiseman Sec. There were also present Bros. Ling, E. Stammers, Wenlock, Griggs, and Harmer, Tyler. The minutes of the last meetings having been read and confirmed, the balloting papers for the Aged Freemasons and Widows were read over and discussed. Ultimately it was proposed by Bro. Francis, and seconded by Bro. Bishop, that we give ten votes to Bros. James Pattison Munro, of Hermitage, St. Evanton, Ross-shire, North Britain, late a commercial clerk in London; and ten votes to Thomas Shearer, of Rye, Sussex. It was proposed by Bro. Ames, P.M., and seconded by Bro. E. Stammers, that we give eight votes to Mary Marson, of Writtle Green, near Chelmsford, Essex, widow of William Marson, late Governor of the House of Correction, at Colchester. It was also proposed by Bro. Francis, and seconded by Bro. Bishop, that we hold a lodge of instruction at the Anchor Inn, this night fortnight. The business of the evening being ended, the lodge was closed in due form and the brethren repaired to refreshment. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and most cordially received. "The Health of the Visitors" was then given, which was most ably responded to by Bro. Wright, of the Prince of Wales Lodge, Ipswich, Prov. G.S.D., Suffolk. A most agreeable evening was spent. In consequence of the host, Bro. Harmer, being very ill songs were dispensed with.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

PRESTON.—*Lodge of Peace and Unity*, No. 314.—On Monday, the 23rd ult., at the usual monthly meeting of this lodge, held in the spacious lodge room, in the buildings of the Preston Literary and Philosophical Society, a very handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. T. Moss Shuttleworth, Prov. G.S., who occupied the chair as Master of the lodge for two years consecutively, 1864 and 1865. At the termination of the general business of the lodge, Bro. John Walker, W.M. expressed to Bro. Shuttleworth the pleasure which he felt in having been deputed on behalf of the members of the lodge to present to him that jewel as a mark of their esteem. For his own part he did not fully approve of the principle of presentations of this nature, but, knowing the valuable services which Bro. Shuttleworth had rendered to the lodge he thought it a case for departure from the general rule, and now performed the duty which devolved upon him with much pleasure. That testimonial was not intended as any reward for services rendered to the lodge, but was a mark of the high esteem of the members for Bro. Shuttleworth and of their appreciation of his untiring exertions for a space of two years for the good of Masonry in general, and also of their sense of the advantages which they themselves had derived from the admirable manner in which he had filled the chair, and had on so many occasions (he believed on every lodge night but one during the two years) performed one or more of the ceremonies of initiating, passing, and raising, in so instructive and impressive a manner. He trusted that that jewel would be handed down as an heirloom in Bro. Shuttleworth's family and that, if in course of time any of his sons should occupy a similar position, they might perform the duties in as satisfactory a manner as Bro. Shuttleworth had done. The W.M. then placed the jewel on Bro. Shuttleworth's breast, and thus addressed him, "I have great pleasure, Bro. Shuttleworth, in presenting you with this Past Master's jewel; long may you live to wear it, and when it shall please the Great Architect of the Universe to remove you from this earth may you ascend to the Grand Lodge above, where the Great Architect lives and reigns for ever." Bro. Shuttleworth in feeling terms acknowledged the compliment thus paid him. He expressed the pride with which he had filled the high position in which they placed him when elected as Master of the lodge in 1864, and stated that when re-elected for a second year he looked upon it as an acknowledgment that his services had met with their approval. He would ever treasure that jewel himself, and would wear it on every occasion when he entered a Masonic lodge; and his family would, he was certain, feel highly gratified with the compliment that the brethren had paid him. He could assure them that it would always be his endeavour still to attend all meetings of the lodge and to give every assistance in his power in furtherance of its success. After the presentation of the jewel, the brethren partook of refreshments and the health of Bro. Shuttleworth was drunk with suitable honours. The jewel, which was a magnificent one, was supplied by Bro. Bragg, of Birmingham, and bore the following inscription—"From the Brethren of the Lodge of Peace and Unity, (No. 314), to Bro. Thomas Moss Shuttleworth, P.M., to mark their appreciation of his services as Worshipful Master, during the years 1864 and 1865."

WARRINGTON.—*Lodge of Lights* (No. 148).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge took place on Monday evening last at the Masonic rooms, Sankey-street, at half-past six. In the absence of the W.M., Bro. Gilbert Greenall, M.P., Senior G.W., the lodge was opened by Bro. H. B. White, 18°, P.M. Prov. G. Steward; who was supported by Bros. Robert Stevenson, as S.W.; Rev. John Porter, 18°, as J.W.; John Bowes, P.M. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; D. Finney, J.D.; James Hamer, P.M. Prov. G. Treas.; A. Waring, Captain Reynolds, W. Richardson, Christophe Ekkert, Org.; Thomas Jones, W. Savage, Jabez Plinston, H. Cunningham, A. S. L. Leonhardt, P. Pearse, W. Mossop, W. Woods, Dr. Spinks, Dr. Pennington, and Jos. Robinson, and James Johnson, Tyers. The lodge was opened solemn form and the minutes were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Bro. William Mossop, of 119, Whitehaven, as a joining member which was unanimous in his favour. The chair was now assumed by Bro. Bowes, P.M. Bros. Captain Reynolds, A. Waring, Jabez Plinston, and H. Cunningham, being candidates for advancement, and having proved their claim were entrusted and retired. The lodge was then opened in the 2nd degree when the candidates were readmitted and passed to the degree of F.C. At the conclusion of the ceremony Bro. H. B. White delivered an address explaining the difference

between some portions of the 1st and 2nd degrees. The lodge was then closed in the 2nd degree, when, at the request of the acting W.M., Bro. Hamer, Prov. G. Treas., delivered an exhaustive lecture on the 1st tracing board, at the conclusion of which a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him. Bro. Bowes drew the attention of the brethren to the distinguished honour conferred on the W.M. by the Grand Master, in appointing him Senior Grand Warden. He also distributed some copies of the prospectus of the "Fraternity of Genealogists." The lodge was duly closed at nine o'clock.

LIVERPOOL.—*Everton Lodge* (No. 823).—The monthly meeting of the brethren of this lodge was held on Friday, the 27th ult., at the Clarence Hotel, Everton-road. The lodge was opened by Bro. G. R. Goepel, P.M., and the minutes read and confirmed. There being no business on the summons, the W.M. called upon Bro. Hamer for the lecture on the tracing board in the first degree. To this call Bro. Hamer very willingly responded, and for about three quarters of an hour rivetted the attention of the brethren to his discourse, and explained to them the meaning of the furniture, ornaments, and jewels, strongly directing their attention to the spiritual tracing board by which, as through a glass, they could see the wisdom, strength, and beauty of our Order. A vote of thanks was recorded to Bro. Hamer. Three gentlemen were proposed for initiation. This lodge is now in a very flourishing condition, and it is mainly through the indefatigable exertions of Bro. Goepel, to whom too much praise cannot be given for having brought about so happy a state of things. The W.M. invited the brethren to refreshment after the lodge was closed.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

DEWSBURY.—*Lodge of the Three Grand Principles* (No. 208).—A meeting of the above numerous and flourishing lodge was held in the old Masonic Hall on Thursday, the 26th ult., at half-past six o'clock, and presided over by Bro. Henry Day, W.M., assisted by his officers, Bros. J. France, S.W.; E. T. Oates, J.W.; John Spiking, P.M., Hon. Sec.; James Cardwell, as S.D.; W. J. Wilkinson, J.D.; George Crawshaw, I.G.; Frank Aked, Prov. G. Tyler, O.G. There were also present Bros. James Clay, P.M., P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; L. A. Shephard, P.M., Prov. G. Steward; J. O. Gill, P.M., P. Prov. G. Purst. and Supt. of Works; Charles Oldroyd, P.M., P. Prov. G. Reg.; George Fox, B. Oates, Thomas Hallewell, W. Audesley, Treas., and John Rhodes, P.M.'s; John Johnson, James Hunter, C. E. Rhodes, W. Carlisle Greaves, George Tolson, M. Thurmond, Dr. Hallewell, Charles Stapleton, Albert Kirk, J. Turner, John Wilson, Jonas Sheard, John Brook, A. Winch, Henry Smith, P. Prov. S.G.D. P.M. 302, 387, and others. Unusual interest was attached to this meeting from the circumstance that it was the last that would be held in the present building, resolutions having been passed to rebuild on the same site larger and more suitable rooms, at a cost of upwards of £3,000. We hope shortly to give our readers some further information respecting the proposed new Masonic Hall, as, in support of this most desirable work, the brethren have come forward in a most praiseworthy manner with the main portion of the necessary funds, and it is hoped that, by the end of this year, a Masonic hall second to none in this province will be completed. In the meantime rooms have been secured at the Man and Saddle Hotel, in the Market-place, which are well adapted for the emergency. The business of the evening commenced by the reading and confirmation of minutes, including the important resolutions relating to the rebuilding of the lodge rooms and adjournment to the before-mentioned temporary rooms. The ceremonies of the three degrees were ably gone through by the W.M., Bro. Henry Day, and his officers, Bro. George Fox, P.M., being called upon to give the charge and illustrate the working tools in the various degrees. The lodge was closed in due form at half-past nine. The Stewards provided an excellent banquet, and a very agreeable evening was spent. Many of the brethren seemed to feel some regret at the demolition of the temple where they had so long and happily met, earnestly hoping that the new structure would afford even more prosperity and happiness both to them and those who were to follow.

Despondency under misfortunes impairs our health and hastens our death.

ROYAL ARCH.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

LIVERPOOL.—*Sacred Delta Chapter* (216).—A convocation of this chapter was held on Thursday, the 26th ult., at the Temple, 22, Hope-street, the following Chiefs and Past Chiefs being present, viz.:—Laidlaw, Z.; Moore, H.; Sedgwick, J.; Armstrong, P.Z.; D. Jones, P.Z.; Hamer, P.Z.; Pepper, P.Z. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, when the companions retired and the ceremony of installation was proceeded with.

The M.E.Z. installed his successor, Comp. Moore, to the chair of Z.; Comp. Sedgwick to the chair of H, and Comp. Phillips to the chair of J.; Comp. Jarvis as Scribe E.; Comp. McKane, P.S. The way in which Comp. Laidlaw performed his duties was admirable, and the beautiful charges he delivered to each called forth the commendation of every one present. Two brethren were proposed for exaltation, when the chapter was closed and the companions retired to the banquetting room.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.—*Celestial Encampment*.—The Sir Knts. assembled in obedience to the summons, at nine o'clock, p.m., on the 15th Dec. last, the following answering to their names: Sir Knts. Markham, E.C.; Butcher, Acting Prelate; Hill, 1st. Capt.; Fearon, 2nd Capt.; Martin, Registrar; Jameson, Acting Expert; Overney, Capt. of Lines; Coutts, 1st Herald; and Phillips, Equerry; also Sir Knts. Hooper, Donaldson, K.C.T., Devine, Lloyd, Bernard, Nutt, Blanchard, and Partridge. The encampment was opened in ancient form with solemn prayer, and the minutes of the last regular meeting were duly confirmed.

The Sir Knts. then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, when the following were chosen unanimously: Sir Knts. R. I. Fearon, to be E.C.; J. P. Martin, Treas.; W. Phillips, Equerry. Comps. A. J. Johnson and D. A. Emery, of the Zion Chapter, 570, were then admitted and installed. The Sir Knts. then retired to refreshment, and upon re-assembling, listened to an able eulogy from the E.C., to the memories of those knights of the encampment who had been taken from their number by the grim messenger during the past year, Sir Knts. Gordon, Wheelock, and Dunlop. All were true and worthy members of the Order, and deserving of every mark of honour and respect at our hands. During the last monthly meetings of the year our encampment had worn the habiliments of woe, and he would wish that some fitting testimonials of respect to their memories, should be ordered by the encampment. Sir Knt. Gordon had been one of the most zealous and hard working members; Sir Knt. Wheelock was one of the oldest and most constant attendants; and Sir Knt. Dunlop, our late Rev. Prelate, had most thoroughly endeared himself to us all by his many private as well as Masonic duties. He therefore proposed that the Celestial Encampment should unite with the other Masonic bodies of Shanghai in raising to the memories of the deceased Sir Knts. memorial windows in the new church about to be erected, upon which should be inscribed their many virtues, and also their ranks in Masonic circles. This was seconded by Sir Knt. Donaldson, and carried unanimously. The encampment was then closed at a quarter to twelve.

REGULAR MEETING JAN. 19.—The following Sir Knts. answered to the roll call, Sir Knt. Markham, E.C.; Butcher, Acting Prelate; Jameson, 1st. Captain; Fearon, 2nd Captain; Martin, Registrar; Overney, Expert; Partridge, Capt. of Lines; Coutts, 1st Herald; Phillips, Equerry. Also Sir Knts. Donaldson, K.C.T.; Parker, P.E.C.; Hooper, Devine, Lloyd, Partridge, Seaman, Blanchard, Alabaster, and Deslandes. The minutes of the meeting of 15th Dec. were duly confirmed. The Treasurer's account were then presented by Bro. Parker, P.E.C., who informed the Sir Knts. that he had duly audited the same finding them entirely correct, showing the handsome balance of 895.16 taels to the credit, he therefore proposed that they should be passed as audited. This being seconded by Sir Knt. Fearon, was unanimously carried. The Registrar then read a communication from Bro. Ransom, P.G.C., thanking the Sir Knts. for the valuable present they had made him in forwarding through Sir Knt. Spencer, of London, a P.G.C. jewel, which he said

would be worn with pride, and would serve to remind him of that encampment of whose prosperity he would always most gladly hear. Sir Knt. Markham then advanced Sir Knt. Robert Inglis E.C. for the current year, and having undertaken a solemn obligation to perform the duties of that office with assiduity and fidelity, all Sir Knts. below the degree of Installed Commander were requested to retire. Sir Knt. Fearon was then duly installed and invested with the insignia of office, and on the return of the Knights was proclaimed and saluted thrice in the usual form. The E.C. then proceeded to appoint his officers, and the following Sir Knts. were invested with the badges of their respective offices: Sir Knts. C. H. Butcher, Prelate; W. Jackson (by deputy), 1st. Capt.; R. A. Jameson, 2nd Capt.; J. C. Couatts, Expert; D. Patridge, Capt. of Lines; J. P. Martin, Treas.; V. Seaman, Reg.; C. Alabaster, 1st Herald; J. M. Lloyd, 2nd Herald; E. J. Des Landes, 1st Std. Bearer. Sir Knt. Donaldson then moved a vote of sincere thanks to the retiring E.C., Sir Knt. Markham, for his zeal during his term of office, this being seconded by Sir Knt. Parker, P.E.C., was carried unanimously, amid the hearty applauses of those present. P.E.C. heartily thanked the knights for the manner in which they had expressed themselves toward him, and assured them that although he had endeavoured to do his utmost, still he must include the office bearers for the past year, as having a great share in furthering the prosperity and harmony of the encampment, and sincerely tendered to them his thanks. Nothing further offering for the good of the encampment, it was closed at eleven p.m.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.

LODGE LA CESARÉE (No. 590).—A more than usually interesting meeting of this important lodge was held on Thursday, the 26th ult., which was attended by nearly sixty of its members. The lodge was opened in the first degree, at half-past six, p.m., by Bro. C. Le Sueur, W.M., assisted by the Wardens, Bros. Chevalier and Oatley, Bro. Dr. Hopkins as acting I.P.M. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge having been opened in the second degree, Bro. Danguy passed a satisfactory examination and was entrusted. He then retired for preparation, and the lodge was opened in the third degree. The candidate was re-admitted properly prepared, and duly raised to the sublime degree of M.M. After the lodge had been resumed in the first degree, Bro. Durell entered and assumed his place as I.P.M. A ballot was taken for Mr. Philip Messervy, a candidate for initiation at seven days' notice, after ample testimony had been given as to his character and eligibility. This proved unanimous in his favour. A note of resignation of membership was received from Bro. Grimmond, P.M., but owing to an unwillingness to lose the co-operation of one who has attained considerable eminence in the Craft, a deputation was appointed to request him to reconsider his decision. Several matters of business relative to accounts and the arrangements for the installation and annual banquet were settled. On the proposition of Bros. Binet and Mannan, Bro. H. Du Jardin was re-appointed Tyler; and on the proposition of Bros. Dr. Hopkins and Starek, Bro. Goupillot was again elected Treasurer. Messrs. Ph. Gibaut, previously balloted for, and Ph. Messervy were admitted, and regularly initiated as E.A. Freemasons by the W.M. The W.M. stated that the second year of his occupation of the first chair of the lodge was now nearly expired, and after thanking the brethren for the courtesy invariably displayed towards himself, the unanimity by which the proceedings had been characterised, and the fraternal feelings which had existed between them, thus rendering his responsibilities and the performance of his duties comparatively light, he introduced the question of his successor, for whom it would now be necessary to ballot. He especially pointed out Bro. Manuel as eminently entitled to the suffrages and confidence of the brethren, by his long standing in the lodge, his abilities, his social status, and the great services he had rendered to the Craft in general, and the Césarée Lodge in particular, in a variety of ways, where his zeal, his administrative powers, and his influence had combined to carry out important objects. The W.M. earnestly impressed on the members the benefits which would certainly follow such an appointment, and exhorted them

to remove all doubt as to its acceptance by not contenting themselves with giving a majority of votes, but by making the election unanimous. Such had been his own case when he was chosen W.M., and to this fact he mainly attributed the success which had attended his efforts and the cordial support he had received. Bros. Schmitt and Durell spoke to the same point, and the latter cited a recent case in Jersey, where the absence of perfect unanimity had seriously interfered with the manifest interests of a lodge, by depriving it of the services of a brother especially qualified for the rank of W.M. A ballot was then taken, and on examination of the papers it was found that all the votes were in favour of Bro. Manuel. A deputation was then appointed to convey the intelligence of the result, and to escort the W.M. elect into the temple. In a few minutes they returned with the worthy brother, who was received with due honour, all rising as he entered. The W.M. having offered his congratulations, Bro. Manuel addressed the lodge in most feeling terms and under great emotion. He frankly admitted the desire he had long felt to occupy the high position which had just been accorded to him, and at the same time the impressions he had formed that the gratification of such ambition was impossible, owing to the circumstance that in one point, generally considered essential in a W.M. he could not undertake the duty. He referred to the due performance of the ritualistic ceremonies, the precise kind of knowledge requisite for the performance of them being beyond his power, chiefly on account of the multiplicity of his engagements. In vain had he urged this consideration on the leading members of the lodge, since they had most kindly offered to supply his place in this respect. He wished the brethren to be distinctly aware of this, in order that hereafter he might not be chargeable with neglect of duty. He considered it to be a compact, that he should not be expected to conduct any of the ceremonial observances, and on the other hand pledged himself in all other respects to exert his powers to the utmost for the advantage of the lodge. With these views and on this understanding, he appreciated the highest honour which the lodge could confer upon him; he thankfully accepted it, and, moreover, he felt conscious that at the end of his term of office it might be felt that his rule would be found to have been productive of substantial benefits, to which his full energies should be directed. Finally, he solicited the kind consideration, indulgence, and support which had been so cordially given to his predecessors, by the help of which he trusted he should be enabled to maintain the high character, the dignity, and the efficiency of the lodge in the march of moral and intellectual progress. The preceding is but a faint outline of an address delivered with great power and earnestness. No other business offering, the lodge was closed with the usual solemnities, at half-past nine, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room, to partake of refreshments beyond the ordinary arrangements, kindly provided by the liberality of the W.M. elect. In the reports of the Césarée Lodge, it has not been usual to record what takes place at the social board after the close of the legitimate business. An exception must, however, be made on this occasion. The usual routine of toasts was observed and duly honoured, three only of which will be noticed. The W. Master called attention to the services rendered by the public Press to the cause of justice, of civilization, of progress, of all that is good and true, pointing out that the claims of Freemasonry to admiration and support, are ably advocated through this channel, and that consequently it is the duty of the members of the Craft to honour it on all suitable occasions. He felt this to be one, since a brother who is rarely seen at the social board, though always punctual at the lodge, was then present, who, as the exponent of the proceedings of the Césarée Lodge, and as the general advocate of all that is honourable in the Craft, presented a faithful record, and fearlessly expressed his opinions, founded on long Masonic experience at any risk of personal consequences. Long would his name be held in respect by the Césarée Lodge. He alluded to Bro. Dr. Hopkins. The toast having been enthusiastically received, the correspondent of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE rose to acknowledge it. While thanking the W.M. and the lodge on behalf of that portion of the Press devoted to Freemasonry, he disclaimed any peculiar merit from himself on this score. Every man feels that he had individual tastes and powers, which he ought to use and adapt to the circumstances in which he is placed for the general good. He had performed a simple duty, which he hoped and believed tended to the advantage of the lodge and to the dissemination of Masonic knowledge. This he had endeavoured to discharge in

several ways; first, by extending an acquaintance with the proceedings of a numerous and intelligent lodge; secondly, by correspondence on matters connected with Masonic principle, rule, legislation, and principle; and thirdly, by occasional articles of general interest on the spirit of the Craft. It was true that he sometimes incurred obloquy and misrepresentation by the course he pursued, but so long as he adhered to truth and following the dictates of his conscience, he could afford to disregard such false aspersions, against which long experience had rendered him proof. He was the more pleased at the words which had been uttered by the W.M. and confirmed by the brethren, because he had just received a letter expressive of confidence in his discretion, judgment, and correct motives from the conductor of one of those journals for which he wrote, and while earning the approbation of both these parties, he had every encouragement to persevere. It could be no matter of surprise that he should be more peculiarly the corresponding representative of the Césarée Lodge; mere gratitude urged him to it, since there was at a time, when coming as a stranger to Jersey, and suffering from misconceptions of him, he had been kindly and favourably received in this alone among the lodges of the island, to which favour he could not be insensible, and consequently, notwithstanding the difficulty of the French language, had attached himself to it; he still hoped to merit the same approbation so long as he should continue a resident in Jersey. Lastly, as the Masonic press had been so faithful and indulgent to this lodge, he urged the propriety of making the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE more accessible to the members by taking a larger number of copies, with a view to its more extensive circulation and perusal. The W.M. in a few complimentary words proposed the toast of the W.M. elect. Bro. Manuel in his reply briefly repeated the statements he had previously made in the lodge as to his disqualification for the office, by reason of his inability to carry out the rituals, from the peculiar constitution of his mind, and his extensive public engagements; he should therefore fully depend on the assistance kindly offered by the Past Masters, and on the indulgence of the brethren; but though he could not remember exact verbiage, he could take in and retain facts and arguments, and make use of them to enforce his own ideas. He felt that Masonry has a higher mission than ritualistic observances, that wherever its principles prevail, and in proportion to their extension, there will be found all that is elevating in morals, in arts, in sciences, in religion. Thus it became an essential part of a Master's duty to promulgate and propound those principles, and in this respect he hoped to inaugurate a new era in the lodge, by instruction, by addresses on special subjects, by the encouragement of independent thought. An arrangement of this kind formerly existed in this lodge in the appointment of an orator, the spirit of which he hoped to revive. Thus he desired to fulfil an important duty, and to confer advantages which had not been within the scope of his predecessors, whose merits on other points he fully and gratefully acknowledged. Having obtained permission to propose the next toast, the W. Master elect said: That before doing so he wished to refer to another subject, which might have been appropriately introduced by the W.M. while speaking of the services rendered to the Césarée Lodge and the Craft in general, by Bro. Dr. Hopkins. He fully endorsed all that had been remarked on that portion of the Press which was devoted to the interests of Freemasonry, and the connection with it maintained by that brother, who had made an effort to benefit the fraternity in another manner also, quite in accordance with such a connection, which Bro. Manuel had pleasure in now announcing. It was true that a Masonic building had been erected, to be regarded as a means to an end, merely as a shell which would be of little value *per se*, unless devoted to the purposes for which it was intended. Rightly to advance Freemasonry, literature and the various arts and sciences must be cultivated, requiring an amount of study which is quite impossible without books. Hitherto no steps had been adopted to supply such means, but Bro. Dr. Hopkins had generously and characteristically made the first move by offering 120 volumes for the acceptance of the Masonic Temple Company, an offer which had been gratefully accepted. To him, then, would belong the honour of being the founder of the library, a worthy example which it was hoped would be followed by many others. Reverting to the immediate object of his rising, Bro. Manuel remarked, that all, whether Masons or not, delighted to honour the good citizen, the able man, the honourable and courteous gentleman, the worthy Freemason.

In the fullest sense did these appellations apply to the existing W.M. whose mantle would soon fall from his shoulders, to be placed on those of one who he feared might prove an unworthy wearer of it, at least in those qualities and powers by which the W.M. had earned the good opinion of his brethren. The lodge had shown their appreciation of his worth by re-electing him to office a second year, and well had he fulfilled the favourable anticipations formed as to his career in that chair by the skill he had displayed when passing through the subordinate offices. His powers had been unflinching, his zeal inexhaustible, his energies untiring, his tact remarkable, and thus he had earned the respect and affection of all over whom he had ruled so efficiently and yet so courteously. The brethren having received the toast with the utmost enthusiasm, Bro. Le Sueur briefly replied. When he was first placed in the chair, he was but a young Mason of limited experience, diffident of his own powers. The brethren had trusted to his assertion that he would do his best, and whatever may have been his shortcomings, he was conscious that he had at least endeavoured to redeem his pledge; as a result he now experienced the highest satisfaction at receiving an ample reward, the confidence and approbation of those over whom he had been called to rule. Other toasts of less importance were honoured, that of the newly initiated being followed by the entered apprentice's song, and the party broke up at about eleven o'clock, after a most exciting, elevating, and enjoyable meeting.

MEETINGS OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND LEARNED SOCIETIES FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 12TH, 1866.

Monday, May 7th.—ROYAL UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION, at 8.30.

Tuesday, May 8th.—INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.

Wednesday, May 9th.—SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8. GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, at 8.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen, accompanied by Princess Helena, Prince Leopold, and Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, went out in the grounds on the morning of the 25th ult., and drove in the afternoon, accompanied by Princess Louise and Prince Arthur. The Queen walked in the grounds on the morning of the 27th ult., with Princess Louise, and drove out in the afternoon, accompanied by Princess Helena, Prince Arthur, and the Hon. Mrs. Wellesley. The Queen walked and drove in the grounds on the morning of the 28th ult., accompanied by Princess Louise and Lady Frances Baillie, and went out in the afternoon with Princess Helena, attended by Lady Churchill. The Queen, Princess Helena, Princess Louise, and Prince Arthur attended Divine Service on the 29th ult. at Whippingham Church. The Rev. George Prothero, assisted by the Rev. William Jolley, administered the Sacrament of the Holy Communion. The Queen went out in the grounds on the 30th ult., accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena and Prince Arthur, and drove out in the afternoon, attended by Lady Churchill and the Hon. Emily Cathcart. The 1st inst. was the birthday of his Royal Highness Prince Arthur. The Queen went out in the grounds on the morning of the 1st inst. with Princess Helena, and drove out in the afternoon, accompanied by Prince Arthur and attended by Lady Churchill.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.—In the HOUSE OF LORDS on the 1st inst. there was an interesting discussion, when the Lord Chancellor moved the second reading of the Capital Punishment Bill. The general features of the measure have been already stated. If we may judge by what fell from the Lord Chancellor

he proposes to strike out in committee one of the most valuable parts of the bill, namely, that which enables the jury to declare whether there has been malice aforethought. The bill orders that executions shall be private. To that the Earl of Malmesbury strenuously objected. The Bishop of Oxford defended it. Lord Romilly objected to capital punishment altogether. The bill was read a second time. The Earl of Derby, having hitherto always opposed the Qualification for Offices Bill, on the occasion of its going through committee, expressed regret it was not more comprehensive.—In the HOUSE OF COMMONS the Reform debate was resumed by Mr. Lowe, in a speech of which it is almost enough to say it was loudly cheered by the Tories. Never, probably, since the days of Colonel Sibthorp has there been heard in the House more undiluted Toryism than Mr. Lowe talked. He spoke for nearly two hours and a half, and concluded with a peroration almost as effective as the one he appropriated the other day from Canning. Mr. Hodgkinson, in a brief, plain speech, put the question once more on its true footing, and showed the utter fallacy of the statistics which have been produced. Mr. Yorke opposed the bill, which was ably supported by Mr. Leeman. Lord Royston did not share in the fears of working-class predominance which afflicted Mr. Lowe; but he should oppose the bill as tending to degrade the franchise. Mr. Allen gave the bill his hearty support. Mr. Bromley as heartily disapproved of it. Mr. Otway thought the Conservatives would act wisely in agreeing to the bill. Mr. R. W. Duff detailed the reasons why he was throwing in his lot with the Adullamites, and Mr. Edward James ended a speech in dispraise of the bill by saying that he should vote for the second reading. Mr. Schrieber stoutly opposed the bill. Mr. Childers came next, and produced a most favourable impression by a speech in which he thoroughly showed up the inconsistencies and tergiversations of Mr. Lowe. Lord Cranbourne moved the adjournment of the debate, and after some complaints from members who wanted to speak but could get no opportunity, the debate was adjourned.—On the 27th ult. the debate on the Reform Bill was resumed, but we cannot congratulate either the House or the country on the result of the momentous division. A Ministerial majority of no more than five bodies ill for the early and tranquil settlement of the Reform question. We must look forward to new delays, fresh difficulties, prolonged intervals of complication and confusion. During the previous night's debate, the broad question of the popular franchise was as directly and fiercely debated as in any of the Parliamentary struggles in 1831-2. The debate which preceded the closing scene, illustrated the fixity and clearly marked distinctness of the views of Reform held on each side of the House. Personal idiosyncrasy had of course its weight, but the issue between the two parties is now so thoroughly understood that no amount of ingenuity could disguise it. If sophistry could have confused the question before the House, the speech of Lord Cranbourne, otherwise not remarkable, would have had a considerable effect. We have heard a good deal in this discussion of false sentiment, and Mr. Gladstone has been much found fault with for pleading, on behalf of the men proposed to be added to the electoral body, that they were too much allied to their fellow-countrymen in blood, religion, and domestic affection to be challenged with the harshness that might be applied to an invading army. At least the sentiment involved in this appeal was sincere. Mr. Gladstone proved that he was ready to act upon it, not only by proposing the admission of a considerable proportion of the working classes to the franchise, but by doing this in a manner which exposed himself and his Government to almost unre-

cedented machinations, in order that, come what might and whatever else might fail, the extension of the franchise might be pressed upon the attention of Parliament. But what shall we say of Lord Cranbourne's sentiments? We find them equally gushing, and, judged by his own standard, equally soft and tender with those which are deemed unmanly and ridiculous in Mr. Gladstone; but we find them tainted by a Radical inconsistency, which, if it do not prove them utterly insincere, at least casts upon them the reproach of being mere shallow professions of a theoretical and unfelt belief.—According to the division list on the Reform Bill, it seems that there were no less than thirty-three Adullamites, including some half-dozen whom few people expected to find in such company. Notably there was Mr. Osborne Stock, the returned of Carlow, who previously to finding an opening in Ireland, made great professions of liberalism at Coventry. He is petitioned against; but the Tories will hardly press him very closely after this vote. Two Conservatives—if Sir George Bowyer may be called one—voted for the Government. There were six absent Liberals, some of whom had good cause of absence, and others who had none. The Government will not gratify Mr. Lowe and his Tory friends by going out of office. They will do what they have promised—stand or fall by the Reform Bill.—The House on the 30th ult. was very full at the hour for commencing public business, in anticipation of hearing from the Chancellor of the Exchequer a statement as to the course the Government proposed to pursue in reference to the Reform Bill. The Peers, Gallery was crowded. Shortly before five o'clock the Chancellor of the Exchequer rose and announced that the Government would proceed with the bill; that on the 7th inst. leave would be asked to introduce the Distribution of Seats Bill; that bills for Scotland and Ireland would be introduced on the same evening, and that they would be proceeded with at the same time as the Franchise Bill. The Budget would be brought in on the 3rd inst., and he appealed to the House to allow it to be got through. He hoped to be able to state on that evening the course which would be taken with reference to Church-rates. There was a fire of questions, eliciting nothing more than has been stated, and Mr. Bouverie, while expressing his satisfaction at the course taken by the Government, made a suggestion that the Reform Bills should be referred to a select committee. Mr. White wanted to know if the Government intended to accept any alteration in the standard at which they had fixed the borough and county franchise. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, however, only answered the question by declaring that the Government would stand or fall by the vital parts of their bill.—Some matters of small importance were then disposed of, and the House went into committee on the Civil Service estimates. Many votes were passed, including one for £7,000 for restoring the Westminster Chapter-house.—On the 1st inst. the House was engaged first with motions for the issue of commissions of inquiry into the prevalence of corrupt practices at Totnes, Lancaster, Reigate, and Great Yarmouth. The discussions upon the motions were general. Finally all of them were agreed to. Then Mr. Ferrand wanted to alter his motion in reference to the Harden petition, and in the discussion which ensued, Mr. Smollett read a letter in reference to the getting-up of the Glasgow petition in favour of the Franchise Bill. The letter made a series of allegations as to the petition, the effect of which was that numerous fictitious signatures had been put to it. An inquiry, however, elicited the fact that the letter was anonymous. Finally, Mr. Ferrand withdrew his motion, and the committee on the Harden petition will remain as before. Several bills were advanced a

stage, and early in the evening the House was counted out.—In the House on the 2nd inst., Sir George Grey was interrogated with reference to the Rev. G. R. Gray, the Worcestershire magistrate, who had committed a little girl for four days on a charge of stealing a penny. He said that the Lord Chancellor had not considered it necessary to remove the rev. gentleman from the commission of the peace.—Mr. Thomas Chambers moved the second reading of the Bill for legalising marriage with a deceased wife's sister. There was a long and animated discussion, which ended in the Bill being rejected by 174 votes to 155. The other business was of no general interest.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The health of London, although on the whole favourable as compared with other large cities and towns, continues to furnish returns of deaths beyond the estimated average number for the week, corrected for increase of population. The annual rates of mortality last week were per 1,000—London, 25; Dublin, Bristol, and Hull, 26; Edinburgh, 27; Birmingham and Sheffield, 28; Newcastle-on-Tyne, 29; Manchester, 32; Leeds, 33; Salford, 36; Glasgow, 37; and Liverpool, 38. A considerable increase is reported in the deaths from typhus and phthisis, there being from the former 63 as against 48, and for the latter 227 as against 187 in the week previous. A fatal case of Asiatic cholera is reported from Bristol.—The election committees made steady progress on the 25th ult. The only one in which the proceedings possessed much interest was that for Wakefield. It was stated that a man, who had absconded since, having embezzled money, had betted heavily on the result of the election, and in order to insure winning had bribed those to whom money had been given. Mr. Leatham was examined, and declared that his election cost him nothing, for that his committee had borne the whole of the expense.—At the Mansion House the man Smith, who is charged with being concerned in the Cannon-street murder, was brought up for re-examination. Arabella Robins, the witness who alleges that she saw the prisoner leave Messrs. Bevington's house on the night of the murder, again identified him as the man who passed her and gave her a glance. She was subjected to a somewhat severe cross-examination, but did not vary her statement. The further evidence was important. Witnesses were called from Eton who deposed that on the night of the murder the prisoner had been heard to say he was going to London and that he was seen on his way to Slough in time to catch a train which would arrive in London at 8:40. A further witness deposed to seeing the prisoner the same night at nearly twelve o'clock coming from the direction of the Windsor station, there being a train arriving there from London at 11:43. The prisoner was remanded to the 4th of May.—An inquest was held on the body of Walter Robert Marsh, a child seven years and a half old, whose death had been occasioned by starvation and ill-usage. The details brought out were horrible. The jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against the father.—If the report is to be believed the conspirators against the Government so far made up their minds that they must be sent for on the 28th ult., they held a meeting to arrange for a new Cabinet. The meeting is said to have been held at the house of Mr. Laing, and the names of Mr. Disraeli, Mr. Lowe, Lord Grosvenor, and Lord Elcho are mentioned as having been present.—From Dublin we learn that a police constable has been shot dead in that city. Two shots were fired at him. The first did not take effect; the second killed him instantly. It is said that a civilian and two soldiers were seen running away from the spot.—A fearful accident happened on a line of railway in course of construction between Mitcham and Sutton. A bridge

fell in and buried six men who were at work. They were all killed.—The only election committee which concluded its labours on the 30th ult was that for King's County. Mr. Hennessy and his friends had boasted loudly that Sir Patrick O'Brien must be unseated as soon as the case was opened. All the boastings came to nought. The committee perplexed themselves with the poll-books for four days, and then decided that Sir Patrick O'Brien was duly elected. Mr. Hennessy must therefore betake himself to another constituency. The cases of Cheltenham and Huddersfield are not yet closed.—Lord Clarence Paget is going to join the Mediterranean fleet, and therefore has resigned his seat for Sandwich. A new writ for the borough was ordered. Mr. G. Shaw-Lefevre has accepted a post in the Admiralty, and must offer himself to his constituents at Reading for re-election. The writ has been issued.—Another election committee commenced its sittings on the 1st inst.—the one for Harwich. It appears that the validity of Captain Jervis's election is impugned on two grounds—first, because it is alleged that he held an office of place and profit under the Crown at the time of his election; and secondly, on the ground of corrupt practices. Mr. Phinn opened the case for the petitioners. The office which it was contended disqualified Captain Jervis was that of Assistant Superintendent of the Royal Small Arms Establishment in London. After hearing arguments and witnesses, the committee decided that this was not an office which disqualified Captain Jervis. The allegations of bribery against the captain and his colleague, Mr. Kelk, are to be gone into. The Cheltenham and Huddersfield committees were occupied all day in receiving evidence.—There has been a meeting of the National Reform Union at Manchester, presided over by Mr. George Wilson. Mr. Bright, M.P., was present, and spoke briefly. He pointed out the necessity of all Reformers doing what they could to strengthen the hands of the Government. As to the Distribution Bill, he said, if it were as good a measure as the Franchise Bill, it ought to have the support of all Reformers. He declared that if the Government departed from the vital principles of their bill no measure they could pass would be a permanent settlement of the question. If they maintained their position—and there was no reason to doubt they would—then, if they were beaten, they ought not to resign, but to appeal to the country.—Convocation assembled in the Jerusalem Chamber. The first business done in the Upper House was to receive the Queen's reply to a congratulatory address on the approaching marriage of the Princess Helena. In the Lower House a large number of petitions were presented, and there was a long discussion in reference to the proposed court of final appeal in ecclesiastical cases.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

J. McG. (Boston).—We have replied to all the queries and await your news.

BETA.—Send us your address and we will send you the information through the post,—the fitting channel for our replies.

P. Prov. W.—1. Your question is anticipated by the announcement in our advertising columns, of the Anniversary Festival of the Girls' School, which takes place on Wednesday next. 2. We feel assured that if you address yourself to Bro. Patten upon the points referred to, he will, with his accustomed courtesy and alacrity, afford you the desired information.

ANON.—Received with thanks; we have been compelled to defer them from want of space.