

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1866.

HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY IN CORNWALL.

By ✠ Bro. WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN, 18°, &c,
(Continued from page 342.)

Brother Thomas Groube was interred on April 28th, and on May 18th Brother William Retallick was interred. The widow, it is stated, presented the brethren who attended, with gloves. The lodge was invited to attend the festival of St. John, at Redruth, on June 24th, which request was responded to by the members.

August 22nd.—“An extra lodge, called in the absence of the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Arundel, presided. Bro. Poole recommended Mr. Wm. Brooke to be made an E.A.P., he leaving town to-morrow, it was unanimously agreed to by the brethren present, on which he was made E.A.P. and F.C.” This is the first instance of a Warden initiating in the Love and Honour Lodge. Undoubtedly such was the practice of the ancient lodges, and we can see no objection to the custom being carried out now in any country where the Grand Master does not recognise the Installed Masters’ degree, *e.g.* Scotland, but under Grand Lodges where that degree is recognised as a part of Craft Masonry belonging to the York Rite, it seems to us that there are grave objections to a Warden initiating or occupying the Master’s chair, during his absence, or when any regularly qualified brother is not in the lodge, although under such circumstances he might rule the lodge. This subject is still open to question, and as the constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England are not considered explicit on the matter, we hope certainty will soon take the place of the present equivocal position and privileges of a Warden in this country. The next twenty meetings, although of an interesting nature, were not such as to require recording here. We may just say that several gentlemen of position were initiated, and the general prosperity of the lodge continued unabated. The Tyler was relieved by the Secretary at this time, as his necessities required, being ill and in poor circumstances. The P.G.M. occupied the chair, 24th June, 1758, at the annual festival. The officers’ names appointed at the meeting are unfortunately omitted, notwithstanding space was left in the minute for that purpose. The Master of the Truro Lodge, Bro. Young, and his Warden, Bro. Penrose, with other brethren attended as visitors. At the next election of officers, Bro. Arundel was chosen Master for the ensuing season, who appointed Bro. Lilly, Senior, and Bro. Poole, Junior Wardens. “A quarterly communication being ordered on Tuesday, the 26th September,

the Masters and Wardens were ordered to attend and carry with them two guineas for the general charity. Ordered (Sept. 14th) that a messenger be sent to Redruth for the candlestick lent by the lodge, also the colours lent by Bro. Bluett; likewise a letter to Bro. Bennett, including the bill for the collars, with a desire to return the jewels, and that a new set be sent for the use of the lodge. N.B.—The jewels cost 19s. each.” The custom to simply put the dates and the very brief notice of “No particular business” on all general occasions, was adopted by the Secretary, and thus the majority of the meetings are disposed of much easier than now, yet certainly not on that account to be commended, as we much prefer the present method of inserting the names of the brethren in attendance, and all the business transacted at the various meetings, whether special or not, in the minute book.

June 25th, 1759, Celebration of St. John.—Some twenty brethren dined together, but no appointment of officers is mentioned, and a little laxity in lodge duties is apparent.

On August 13th, 1761, Bro. Captain Francis Bassett was made an E.A.P. and F.C. at an emergent meeting, being liable to be called away upon service. Lodge in ample form, Oct. 29th, 1761; Provincial in the lodge. Bro. Thomas Yonge was by ballot chosen Master, who appointed Bro. Alexander Moses, Senior Warden; Bro. Thomas Dickerson, Junior Warden; Bro. Matthew Allison, Secretary. For the first time the names of the brethren who attended are registered, and Bro. Allison again resumes his duties as Secretary of the lodge to our delight, as we can read his writing much easier than that of his late substitute. November 12th, 1761.—Lodge in due form. November 26th.—Lodge in ample form. The precise meaning attached to the terms “ample” and “due” is not indicated according to any authority we know of about this date, neither can we gather from the “Book of Constitutions” in force anything positive on the subject or definite in those of later dates. “Constitutions,” 1756, declare that the Grand Master after his election was to be saluted by all the members of Grand Lodge in due form.

On November 22nd, 1725, it was ordained that the “Master of a lodge, with his Wardens and a competent number of the lodge assembled in due form, can make Masters and Fellows at discretion.” The present rule is to consider the lodge opened in ample form, due form, and form, respectively, when the Grand Master, the Provincial Grand Master, and the Master (or other qualified officer) presides. Evidently the Secretaries’ plan was to describe the lodge opened in ample form when the P.G.M. presided, and in due form, and form, when the D.P.G.M. or the Master and an inferior officer, respectively, occu-

piated the chair. Such would not be right now. The next minute concludes with "The question demanded and nothing proposed, lodge closed in due form (the Master was in the chair), and adjourned to the next regular lodge night." Then follow the minutes of several meetings, showing that great activity prevailed in the lodge, and in consequence much work of a general nature was despatched each even, and the meetings were both frequent and well attended.

February 11th, 1762.—"Lodge of Masters opened in due form.;" The W.M. was in the chair, and after the usual routine, and ceremonies of an ancient and sacred character had been observed, a subject of peculiarly solemn import was introduced and discussed. It appears that one of the members had been charged with a breach of his Masonic obligations, and accordingly it was proposed by the W.M., and unanimously agreed to that "Brother Polack be refused admittance in this lodge, until he has acquitted himself of a complaint laid against him of a breach of the degree of a Master Mason, and that notice thereof be sent to the lodges in the county." Of what nature the alleged crime was, is not recorded (and wisely not, most probably). The Secretary was fined 7s. 6d. on March 11th, "for not sending the key" (!). We think the question of fines has not received that amount of attention it deserves, as surely their infliction would tend to secure more diligence and punctuality from the brethren of the lodge, and the cause of Masonry itself would thus be advanced by newly admitted members witnessing the eagerness and aim of every officer to acquit himself creditably, and be at his post at the appointed hour. Our Falmouth friends were alive to this fact, and no doubt reaped the benefit of several such wholesome penalties.

On January 28th, 1762, Bro. Charles Bennett was admitted a joining member of the lodge. He was initiated at Truro according to our belief, and was the author of that vigorous Masonic song, "On the Revival of Masonry," commencing with "When Masonry expiring lay." It is a production superior to many of its class. Masonic poetry does not occupy so high a position as it should in England. In Scotland happily lodges in several instances appoint competent brethren to the office of Poet Laureate, and thus give honour to those who commit the "sin of rhyme."

Before me is a neat little book containing the by-laws of the Cannongate Kilwinning Lodge, No. 2, Edinburgh. The office of Poet Laureate is placed in the list of Office Bearers in that lodge between the Inner Guard and the Master of Ceremonies. We are informed in the choice "Songs and Ballads," by the present Poet Laureate of the lodge, that the laureateship of the Cannongate Kilwinning was instituted to do honour to Robert Burns, and after his

death it was conferred upon James Hogg, the Ettrick Shepherd, who again was succeeded by William Pringle. Anthony Oneal Haye was the next appointed, and we believe this accomplished scholar and Mason still occupies that distinguished position. We have been led a little aside from the dry details of minutes because of a correspondent of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE seeking light on this subject.

(To be continued.)

PROFESSOR ROBERTSON ON FREE-MASONRY.

(Continued from page 262.)

Now, we cannot conceive that in this article, which clearly sets forth the mind of Scripture, there is anything condemnatory of the Masonic OB. It is *vain* and *rash* swearing that is therein deprecated; and surely there is nothing vain or rash in the oath administered to the Freemason. It is not vain; for it is taken in the cause of charity. It is not rash, for it is not proposed without consideration, nor until the candidate has had ample opportunity of withdrawing, should he wish it. The article goes on to say, "A man may swear when the magistrate requireth in a cause of faith and charity." May we be permitted to give the following quotation from Professor Harold Browne's able "Exposition of the Thirty Nine Articles" on this point? He says, "It is probably an admitted fact that oaths were lawful under the Old Testament. This article refers to a passage in the Prophet Jeremiah (iv. 2), 'Thou shalt swear, the Lord liveth, in truth, in judgment, and in righteousness.' The only prohibition was against false swearing, or swearing by false gods. It seems likely that the Jews somewhat abused this permission, and were rather free in their use of oaths, and of the name of the Almighty on trivial occasions. Accordingly, some strict and ascetic sects among them were led to the opposite extreme of refusing to take an oath under any circumstances. If the Jews were thus profane and careless in swearing, we can readily see the object of our Saviour's denunciation of rash oaths. There are obvious and very great dangers in a habit of this kind. If, on every trivial occasion, we have recourse to an oath for attestation, it will almost necessarily follow that we shall lightly regard an ordinary assertion, and that the sanctity of an oath itself will be less revered. Hence, such swearing must foster a spirit of untruthfulness. And again, the

readily bringing into common conversation the most sacred name of God, must necessarily lead to irreverence and impiety. What can be more alien to the spirit of the Gospel than these two habits of falsehood and irreverence?

"Now it seems very apparent that it is this evil habit which our Lord condemns. The Jews appear to have satisfied themselves, that they might swear as much as they chose, if they did not forswear themselves. But our Lord, enforcing the spirit, not merely the letter, of the commandment, tells them to swear not at all; and enjoins that, in their common discourse, they should only say, yea and nay; as more than this can come only from the evil one, Matt. v., 37. The very words used, and the whole tenour of the passage show, that it is to common conversation that the precept applies. St. James's words, James v., 12, are so nearly a repetition of our Lord's, that the former must be interpreted by the latter. So far then we see the great evil of profane swearing, and of solemn asseverations on unimportant occasions. All such are strictly forbidden by, and thoroughly opposed to, the Gospel of Christ.

"But on solemn and important occasions, and especially in courts of justice, we have New Testament authority for believing, that oaths are lawful to Christians, as well as to Jews. . . . Our Lord consented to be put upon his oath. St. Paul frequently, in very weighty matters, calls God to witness, which is essentially taking an oath, see Rom. ix., 1; 1 Cor. xv., 31; 2 Cor. i., 18, 23; xi., 10, 31; xii., 19; Gal. i., 20; Phil. i., 8. This is St. Augustine's argument against the Pelagians; though he says truly, that we must not swear carelessly, because St. Paul swore when there was good reason for swearing. Again, in the Epistle to the Hebrews, iii., 11; vi., 16, 17, the Almighty is represented as swearing; and, in the latter passage, the apostle compares God's swearing with the swearing common among men, saying, 'Men verily swear by the greater; and an oath for confirmation is the end of all strife,' Heb. vi., 16. With this we ought to compare Matt. xxiii., 16-22; see also Rev. x., 6. . . . "In short, profane swearing is altogether forbidden to Christians; but religious attestation upon oath seems to be acquiesced in as necessary, and admitted as lawful."

To this true and Scriptural statement, we should imagine, every right-minded Mason will subscribe.

Professor Robertson's second objection to our Masonic obligations is that "the oaths of the Freemason are not only secret, but, at the best, unnecessary; for, should we even be unable to prove that in very many countries the ultimate objects of Freemasonry are most culpable, yet all admit that the matter sworn to in the minor grades are most frivolous and puerile. But a frivolous or unnecessary oath is in the eyes of the Church a guilty oath."

With what charming simplicity does the Professor take it for granted that "all admit that the matters sworn to are most frivolous and puerile." Who, we ask, are the all? We turn to the commencement of Mr. Robertson's pamphlet, and we find that the *all* comprise his most trustworthy authorities, viz., the Abbé Barruel, Professor Robison, the infidel Carlile, and M. Eckert! We ask, in the name of common sense, are the statements of such men as these to be preferred to those of the host of worthies whose names are emblazoned on Masonry's scroll; whose lives and conversation prove them to be genuine followers of that Blessed One who went about doing good? Are Barruel, and Robison, and Carlile to be believed in preference to Wellington, and Washington, and Scott, and Locke, and Oliver, and the other great and good men of our Order, to mention whose names time would fail us? Are all the beneficent deeds of Masonry to be ignored, because a few pretentious, self-satisfied men choose to utter maledictions and slanders against her; knowing neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm?

No! so far from *all* admitting that the matters sworn to are most frivolous and puerile, we can safely assert, that we never met a single well-informed brother who was not deeply affected by, and delighted with, the teachings of our Craft, when first brought to light. And this light grows brighter, and this admiration strengthens as she leads him higher up her mystic ladder.

(To be Continued.)

EARS OF WHEAT FROM A CORNUCOPIA.

By Bro. D. MURRAY LYON, one of the Grand Stewards
in the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

Compulsory Attendance at Funerals.—Masonic
Poor Rates.

In a code of bye-laws recently submitted by a daughter lodge for approval of the Grand Lodge

of Scotland, there was one to render compulsory the attendance of brethren at funerals of deceased members: but the law was disallowed. We are not aware of the existence of any ancient Scottish statute bearing upon the subject of this rejected bye-law; but from the tenour of a minute given below, framed a century and a half ago, it may be inferred that it had once been the custom for Craftsmen in their corporate capacity to accompany to the grave the mortal remains of departed brethren,—to pay a like tribute of respect to the wives of their brethren, and to the representatives of burghal authority within the bounds of their jurisdiction. According to the Strasburg Constitution (1459), given in his “History of Freemasonry” by our talented brother, Findel of Leipzig, Masters and Fellows were bound to assist at and contribute to the religious service following upon the death of a member of their lodge. The second of the undernoted extracts, while showing that the wearing of aprons at “unlawful burials” (the funerals of non-craftsmen) subjected to a fine, favours the idea that aprons worn at burials of brethren was in accordance with the usages of the time:

“xxv December, 1702. . . . Qulck day John Andersoun, masoun, John Shearer, wricht, Gilbert Bannerman, masoun, and Allan Campbell, sklaittor, were all and ilk ane of them fyned and unlawed be the deacon, ilk ane of them in twentie-two schillings Scots, for their being absent at the Kirk dyke at ane unlaw buriall, viz., the buriall of umquhill Alexander Campbell, late baillie, notwithstanding they were lawfully warned for that effect in the usual way;—and also, the said John Shearer is fyned and unlawed in fourtie-four schillings Scots for his second falt in not meeting at the sd kirk dyke with the Tred, at the buriall of umquhill Margaret Wight, a frieman’s wife.”

“xi Dec., 1723. . . . Item, The deacon and other members of trade, taking to their consideration that John Common did at his own hand poyn severall of the members of the trade on pretext of their wearing aprons at unlaw burials, and that without the allowance of or authority from the deacon or trade, do therefore fyne and unlaw him in six pounds Scots money.”

Fifty years later we find Craftsmen not only giving personal attendance at the interment of brethren, but contributing towards the expenses in connection therewith. In addition to wearing the apron at Masonic funerals of the period to

which our next extract refers, the officebearers’ rods were mounted with crape; and this was the only feature in the celebration of obsequies over the graves of Craftsmen different from those which obtained amongst neutrals. Here is a note of expenses incurred by the Lodge Ayr Squaremen Kilwinning in burying one of its members:

“June 20, 1776. . . . There was presented to the meeting on account due by the lodge for the funeral of the deceased Thomas Wood, a member of this lodge, to the amount of £1 13s. 1d. sterling. For crape, 5s. 2d.; drink, 9s. 11d.; for the coffin, 10s.; bread, 6s.: grave maker and bell man, 2s. The meeting ordered a draft to be drawn on the Treasurer for payment.”

“4th December, 1776. . . . The meeting having taken under their consideration the motion anent the lodge defraying the funeral charges of indigent brethren, they are unanimously of opinion that the species of charity therein mentioned is very becoming a society of Freemasons. And therefore they adopt it in the following terms: that the officebearers of the lodge, upon application to them from the friends of the deceased member of the lodge who may not have left funds for his interment, be at the liberty to give a sum towards defraying that expense, not exceeding one guinea.”

Nor was the care manifested for the indigent by our ancient brethren altogether of a posthumous character; for, speaking of the festive celebrations witnessed in the Lodge of Ayr a century ago, many a poor brother’s heart was gladdened by the “pye and bottle of punch” which accompanied the annual donation sent from the lodge on the eve of St. John’s Day to the abode of honest poverty. And in this we but see the reflex of that charity which has ever permeated the Fraternity, whose records are hoary with the age of centuries. The earliest enactment as to the assessment of Craftsmen for the support of the poor that in our researches has fallen under our observation, is that contained in the following excerpt:—

“xxvi December, 1615. . . . The quilk day the decken foirsaid, be advyse of his brethren of craft conventit this day for the supplie and help of sic charges as ordinarie occurris to be laid upoun the Craft presentlie for the support of distressit pure anes, and uthers sic effaires as fallis out,—it wes statut and ordanit, that fra this day furth ilk frieman brother of craft being frie with

the Squairmen of Air sall pay into the commoun purse of the sd Craft fourtie penneis for ilke taske that he taks in hand that sall exceid and be abone four punds, all and everie, quither it be massoun work, seaffwricht work, sclaitor work, painter work, or ony uther work pertaning to the Squairmen and to the societie thereof. . . . Item, It is statut and ordanit upon the respectis and considderanis abouvevritten, that fra this dāy furth ilk wricht brother of craft sall pay into the commoun box of the said craft fourtie penneis money of this realme for everie ilk mort-kist [coffin] belanging to ane man or to ane woman that sall be sauld be thame heirefter within the liberties of the burgh. All mort-kists sauld be sd wrichtis for bairnis and minoris being alwyis exceptit and reservit. This act to stan in all cuming."

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

(Continued from page 322.)

At the last meeting of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky the following report from the committee of Masonic jurisprudence, made by Bro. Woodruff was concurred in, viz:—

The committee on Masonic Jurisprudence respectfully report that they have considered the matters referred to them, and offer the following as their opinion respecting the several points presented:

The question as to receiving the petition of one who has been made in a "travelling lodge" by a lodge under this jurisdiction, without demit, is of such a nature, that they consider it within the province of the subordinate lodge to determine, and they therefore ask to be discharged from the further consideration thereof.

As to the questions, in the communication presented by the Master of T. N. Wise Lodge, No. 349, it is the opinion of the committee that no lodge, subordinate or Grand, has power to interfere with or control the ballot. When a profane has been black-balled, nothing can be done in aid of the party, unless the black-ball is withdrawn in proper form at the proper time according to the constitution by the brother who cast it. If the facts are true as stated in this communication, the subordinate lodge should at once prefer charges against the offending brother, and if on proper trial they are sustained by satisfactory proof he should be expelled.

As to the questions presented in the communication from Bro. Welsh, it is the opinion of the committee that the 1st question is fully answered in paragraph 7, section 1, of article 4, of the Constitution. "The brother restored *is not* replaced in his former membership in his lodge when the Grand Lodge simply reverses the decision of the subordinate lodge." It is only where the trial is declared *irregular*, and the sentence therefore *illegal*, by the Grand Lodge, that the accused shall be replaced on his former footing in all respects, subject however to a new trial upon the former or new charges if the lodge deems it proper to entertain them.

A brother having been expelled by his lodge, and who has been restored to the privileges of Masonry by the Grand Lodge, may use the proceedings as reported in his case as a demit to accompany his petition, and shall be so regarded, by the lodge petitioned, as non-affiliated.

In regard to the questions propounded in the Grand Master's address, it is the opinion of the committee that the derelictions and omissions of duty complained of, the Grand Lodge has already provided for, and can offer no suggestions that would insure a better observance of these duties.

As to that portion of the address that sets forth a plan to secure uniformity of work, they are of the opinion that it is a matter of doubtful policy—and think it is the better plan to let well enough alone, and not tamper or interfere with the present prevailing mode.

As to that part of the Grand Master's address which refers to the conferring a degree on more than one person at a time—under instruction of the Grand Lodge, they report that not more than one candidate shall receive the 1st section of the first and second degrees, and the first and second sections of the third degree, at one and the same time.

As to that part of the address in which the question is propounded, "Whether or not an officer of a lodge can resign before the expiration of his term of office," they are of opinion, that no regularly elected officer, who has been installed and assumed the duties of the office to which he has been elected by his lodge, can resign. He must serve out his term; if he dies, removes, is expelled or suspended, his place must be filled *pro tempore* by the Master's appointment. If the Master's place should become vacant, in any of the

above ways, it is filled by the Senior Warden first, and so on.

As to that part of the address that has reference to "members of lodges of other jurisdictions seeking admission as members of lodges in this jurisdiction without a demit," they are of opinion it is the better policy to allow subordinate lodges to be the judges in these cases.

THE NEMESIS: A TALE OF THE DAYS OF TRAJAN.

By BRO. A. ONEAL HAYE, K.M., K. Cal., Corresponding Member of the German Society, Leipzig, Knight Templar, Scot.; Author of "The History of the Knights Templars;" "Vava Queer;" "Gatherings in Wanderings;" "Songs and Ballads;" "Poemata;" "Legends of Edinburgh," &c., &c., &c.; Poet Laureate of the Canonicate, Kilwinning; P.M. St. Stephens; P.P.Z. of St. Andrews, R.A. Chap.; &c.; &c.

(Continued from page 348.)

CHAPTER VIII.

IN THE BATHS OF CARABALLUS.

Nil ibi plebium: nusquam Temesæa videbis
Æra, sed argento felix propellitur unda,
Argentoque cadit, labrisque nitentibus instat
Delicias mirata suas, et abire recusat.—*Statius.*

Nothing there's vulgar: not the fairest brass
In all the glittering structure claims a place.
From silver pipes the happy waters flow,
In silver cisterns are received below.
See where with noble pride the doubtful stream
Stands fixed in wonder on the shining brim,
Surveys its riches, and admires its state,
Loth to be ravished from the glorious seat.

The Baths of Caraballus the Senator were the favourite resort of the literati of Rome. Thither did they repair to interchange thought, set afloat good stories, utter premeditated impromptus, and cut up with all the venom of a modern critic, their more successful competitors for the wreath of fame. The use of the Bath as a place of resort became common during the time of Augustus, and Maecenas built a splendid one. These baths in later times swelled into extravagant proportions, Titus, Caracalla and Dioclesian expending large sums upon their erection. The floors were paved with tessellated marble and precious stones, the roofs were curiously vaulted and richly painted, and were upheld by pillars of the costliest materials. The walls were covered with arabesques and bas-relievs. To such a pitch did this extravagance go that Pliny wished good old Fabricius had been alive again to see the women have their seats in baths of solid silver.

Amongst the constant attenders of the Baths of

Caraballus, were Murtius, Balbus, the pamphleteer Lucius Cenna and Julius Mamma the poet. The two first were intimate friends, but the last two hated each other with a perfect hatred.

"How marches thy great tragedy, Julius?" asked Cenna, one day as the poet, Balbus, and he lounged in the baths. "I hear thou has given up plagiarising from Sophocles, and turned to till the fallow of thy brain."

"Friend Lucius," replied the poet, "thy researches into the mud and structure of the Cloaca Maxima, have given thee a taste for the slime of envy, and the teeth of asps."

"By Apollo, Julius, thou soarest too high for me. I confess that I love the ancient works of Rome, whether they be of the mind or of the hand. My work on the Cloaca Maxima will be read, when all thy doggerel lines will have passed from the memory of man."

"Ha, ha, ha, Lucius, thou art such a wag," said the poet, writhing under the words of the pamphleteer, and stinging in turn, "they say in Rome that thou art truly great upon Sewers, but that no one can read thy works from the fearful stench which emanates from the papyrus, upon which thou hast laid thy hand."

"Oh," replied the pamphleteer, in his turn annoyed, "let them speak; the ladies tell a different tale."

"Nay, then, again thou art wrong, my friend, for the ladies too declare that thou hast a peculiar odour about thee, which all thy bathings and perfumes cannot do away with. I am not fastidious myself, but I must confess thou art rather high flavoured; the dames indeed speak the truth."

"Thou art a fool, friend Julius, what dames did'st thou ever speak to but some sorry trull of the Suburra. Go to with thy dames, an obolus would purchase each of them."

"Let me tell thee, thou foul mouthed sludge drinker, that the fairest dames of Rome have hung upon this arm, and been enchanted with my conversation. There was Parthenissa, my modesty forbids any further name, who almost died, when Lœlia wooed me from her."

"Thy modesty, thou brazen-faced liar—why I knew Parthenissa, her father was the Carnifex, the common hangman. I have seen thee sneaking out of the city of a night to his house beyond the walls, to dally with thy dear. I am glad to hear that thou hast escaped the squint-eyed Siren's

charms, for it was currently reported in the Suburra, that thou hadst married her, and become her father's assistant."

"I can afford to smile at thy spleen."

"My spleen thou botcher of trochees, I verily believe the report was true, that the old hangman refused his consent to the wedding, because thou art so squint-eyed, thy sword would have chopped off the wrong head. And as for Laelia, was she not the lurchback cripple, that the very dogs barked at?"

"Dost thou know Cenna, that thy mouth is very like the Cloaca Maxima, only the filth of the city runs through it, ha, ha, ha!"

"Why, thou gaping niunny, had I thee in the Cloaca Maxima, I would souse thee in the mud."

"And had I, thee," began the poet angrily, but Balbus who had been enjoying the scene now thought fit to interpose, and become the peace-maker.

"Be silent both and resume your seats. You have drawn the gaze of all the bathers upon you. Sit down, for you are both a set of pig-headed asses."

The pamphleteer and the poet were perforce thrust back into their several seats by Balbus, where they sat glaring at each other like enraged monkies.

"What brings you two here at all, disturbing sober thinking men with your unseemly quarrels. Is it a good thing to have the plebs know that we the literary men of Rome, instead of being on amicable and loving terms, fight with each other like the wild brutes in the amphitheatre. I am ashamed of you."

"Are you," replied Cenna, with a sneer, "pray who may be the literary men of Rome? Are you one?"

Balbus turned his eyes haughtily upon him and said: "Inquire of Marcus, the bibliopole, how many copies of my 'Gentes Romae' have been ordered."

"By Bacchus, I forgot that excellent work. I have not seen it, but I hear thou hast chronicled all the scandal of Rome since the days of the Great Julius, shown up all the little private stories, which were carefully stowed away in the urns of the dead, and chronicled the conversations which thou hast heard at the table."

"In fact, friend Balbus," thou hast done for society, what Cenna has done for the sewers,

painted its dirtiest patches, and shown up its ugliest sores."

"My friend," said Balbus, "you are mistaken. My work was written for a pious purpose, to show up the vice and degradation of fallen Rome, and to incite us to resuscitate the ancient glories of the first Brutus' days."

"A laudable scheme hadst thou kept to facts, but it is currently reported that the Bibliopole refused to write one part, where the language was so gross as even to have disgusted easy Sibiris, besides being entirely mendacious."

"A future generation may do me more justice. I cast my work upon the tide of time, willing to leave it to the verdict of posterity."

"Posterity, I fear me, will pay little attention to it or its author. Is it true that the young Adrian, thrashed thee in the Forum for some libel upon his sire?"

"Thrashed me? I never saw the man in my life."

"Rumour is a liar; but can you find no dirt spots in the togas of Romulus, and our earlier heroes?"

"I have abandoned prose for ever. I have drunk of the inspiring waters of Castalia, and have resolved to fashion me out a throne upon Parnassus."

"Gods, Chaos has come again, since every scrawler who has read the odes of Horace, sets up as a rival."

"My friend, Cenna, thou hast a bad tongue in thy head. It may work thee danger some day."

"Ah, sayst thou so, perhaps. I can use the cestus well, there will be little chance of my brooking a scourging without returning it with interest."

"Thou consortest with bullies, friend Cenna, improve thy company, and thy manners will refine."

"Aye, worship with thee at the shrine of the Grecian Lais, recline at the same table with the fair Phryne, and get drunk with the learned Murtius."

"Thou art a scurvy knave, the Cloaca mud is honey to the outrageous slime of thy mind."

"Thou art a fair judge, doubtless, but let me tell thee, Balbus, when thou advisest me to frequent good company, I am equal with thee. We both frequent the Suburra, and far on in the night, too."

Balbus started at this homethrust, coloured deeply, but made no reply.

"Pray Balbus," continued Cenna, "what would the fair *Lais*—is it not she whom thou affectest, and art about to marry?—what would she say to her gallant bridegroom haunting a certain house in the *Suburra*?"

"Harkie, Cenna, there is a small sum of *sestercii* thou owest me. I will trouble thee for repayment."

The pamphleteer stared aghast at this demand, which so neatly turned the tables upon him.

"Why Balbus thou hast not taken my innocent raillery in bad part. Tush, man, everyone knows that my bark is worse than my bite. Be friends again, and as for that small sum I owe you, I shall pay some of these days, indeed, very soon."

"I warn thee, Cenna, to beware of that innocent raillery. It may make thee acquainted with the chains and hard-fare of a debtor's prison. Mind my caution. Here comes *Murtius*," and with a slight salute he left.

"Pluto seize the usurer," muttered Cenna to himself, "he has a hold on me that I would I had on him."

"Cenna," asked Mamma, "do you owe him money?"

"Aye, like a brainless fool as I am."

"By *Plutus*, then, we pull in the same trieme."

"What, my poet, are you a fly caught in his net?"

"Yes. He came about me with his offers of money, pressed it upon me, and I took it. Since then I have never been my own master—I write a song, or perhaps an ode. In comes this Balbus and snaps it up, for interest of his money. My poor tragedy I perceive will go the same way, unless I can find means to pay off his debt. How came you under his claws?"

"By *Capitoline Jove*, Mamma, give me thy hand. My poor poet, for thou hast the fire within thee, in spite of all thy brag of fair dames, I shall never laugh at thee more."

"Dost thou then believe that I am a poet," asked Mamma, glowing with pleasure.

"That I do, my friend. I bite, for my life is soured within me. *Jove*, to think that that licentious beast should win a reputation for ability upon our works. It takes me all to keep my patience in his presence. Listen. My father was

reputed wealthy, I was young and extravagant in dress, a leading fop, a patronizer of pugilists and gladiators, and I was in love. In short I was a fool. The mistress of my love," and Cenna's brow grew dark as he spoke, "took my money, flattered my hopes and left me upon my father's death for this beast, this Balbus. I borrowed money from him, his purse was opened wide to me in these days, he professed friendship, I took him with me to my mistress. You know the rest. My father died, Balbus, by my directions settled his affairs, and I found myself worse than a beggar, two hundred di-drachmae in the the usurer's debt, who seized upon my patrimony."

"But by the *Claudia Lex* no usurer dare lend money to anyone in his nonage, to be repaid after his parent's death, and *Vespasian* still more strongly wrote it 'That those usurers who lent money to any son under his father's tuition, should have no right ever to claim it again, not even after the death of his parents.'"

"I knew the law, but I was owing the money, and the loss of gold was more preferable than the loss of honour. I have since learned that instead of being in his debt, Balbus has choused me out of nearly two thirds of my paternal estate, one third would have paid my debts.

"But why not appeal to the law?"

"I will tell you, because I must have revenge, a deep revenge for my wrongs; but listen. He came to me one day with sundry papers which I signed. I was thunderstruck after doing so to learn that I could have nothing from my father's estate, and that I had signed among these papers a bond for the two hundred didrachmae. I got furious and threatened to have him to law, but he shrugged his shoulders and laughed, and on leaving me said: 'Friend Cenna, cease thy visits to *Cornelia*, as she has accepted me for a protector.'"

"My heart chilled within me at these ominous words. I rushed to *Cornelia*. the slaves laughed in my face, and shut the door. Where to turn, what to do for a livelihood. But to be brief, I had to descend from my throne of foppery, lay aside my jewellery, my fine robes, and become a hireling pen-driver. For my meat and clothing, I pen Balbus's speeches."

"Who or what is he?"

"His grandfather came to Rome in the latter days of *Nero's* reign. Hark in your ear, he was a Jew. He rendered himself serviceable to the Emperor, who made him a Roman citizen. He

amassed great wealth, succeeding in some strange manner to gain the favours of Galba, Otho, Vitellius, and Vespasian. During the latter's reign he died, but his son still succeeded in increasing his wealth, so that when he departed to Hades, Balbus came in for enormous riches, which he is still adding to by the most nefarious means. But he is different from his father and grandfather, who were sober sedate men, men of business and of unimpeached probity. Balbus is a voluptuary, a renegade from his religion. He scorns the name of Jew, and ridicules the idea of his being descended from such people. I know him, and when the moment is ripe, the tool will smite the feet of the master."

Meanwhile Balbus had ranged alongside of Murtius, who received him with marked courtesy.

"How fares the queenly Lais and the fair Phryne, by the Loves, Murtius, thou art happy in possessing such women to comfort thy leisure."

"Thou thinkest so? thou mayest have one, if thou canst gain her consent."

"A word in your ear, Murtius," said Balbus, speaking slowly, you owe me money, I love Lais, give her to me."

"You love Lais. You?" said Murtius.

"Yes, I," replied Balbus, his face working with emotion. "Give her to me. I will release thee of thy debt, and add more to thy store, when I marry her."

"Marry her," answered Murtius, mechanically.

"Hark'ye, Murtius, you know me. I have money in abundance, enormous wealth. I know how empty your coffers are, can you hesitate?"

"But Balbus, are you serious in your offer—*marry her*," and he laid a strong stress on the words.

"I know to what you refer, Murtius, but believe me, I am not squeamish, and do not consider it even a blemish, that which the world esteems a crime. She is intelligent, beautiful, of a commanding presence. I have not lived the best of lives, I am tired of these ceaseless debaucheries, and I would fain hold a high position in Rome. Her person and address, my wealth and knowledge of the Romans, will give us a standing before which the proudest of Rome's proud senators will fall back and give place. It only remains to be seen whether you have any objections."

"I! what objections can I have? but I would rather you had chosen Phryne."

"No, no," answered Balbus, coolly. "I know what way to roll the balls. I tell you that I have a certain purpose to effect by marrying Lais. I shall give you a noble, perhaps the noblest son-in-law of Rome at the present hour. What say you to Caius Fabius?"

"Murtius, are you mad? Caius Fabius, the hero of the Dacian war, the rich Senator, the favourite of the Emperor, such an idea is absurd."

"Is it? I know Caius well, within fourteen days I shall have him in your house, mark my words, within fourteen days. You can tell Phryne how to play her cards with him, and lay my proposal before Lais. Vale," and Balbus left the Baths.

Murtius sat long buried in thought, and when he arose a tear trickled from his eye. "Balbus," he muttered, "thou mayest have her for me, and Phryne too—but will my gentle Myra be left to me? I fear not—I fear not, and life is worthless without her."

(To be continued.)

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

THE HIGH GRADES IN FREEMASONRY.

"A Brother" is mistaken in supposing that whilst Provincial Grand Master and Provincial Grand Superintendent for Kent that I expressed any opinion respecting the High Grades in Freemasonry. The lines subjoined are sent to the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE in compliance with my Brother's request. They occur in the second volume of the "Annales Maçoniques," published at Paris, in 1807. "Nous l'avons déjà dit, nous ne cesserons de le répéter, la véritable maçonnerie est renfermée dans les trois premiers grades. Ou ne trouve au-delà que suppositions vagues, pratiques pueriles et souvent odieuses aux yeux de ceux qui connaissent la doctrine qu'elles renferment."—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

REFORM OF ENGLISH FREEMASONRY.

A German Brother has written me a long letter upon this subject. He intimates the intention of shortly sending me a "Project of Reform." With much humility I venture to make two suggestions, which may possibly save our Brother a little trouble. First, that before he commences his interesting task he should acquire some slight knowledge of English Freemasonry, a step which, as yet, he has plainly thought it quite unnecessary to take. Next, that he should bear in mind that there are Reforms, which, preserving the shape, take away the substance; which, leaving the name, take away the thing; and that such Reforms are not likely to find favour in the eyes of English Freemasons.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

THE BIBLE IN THE LODGE.

I have received the letter of "X. Y." to this effect, By the tolerance of a Christian Lodge, an individual

not a Christian, has become a member, and, it seems, he now causes considerable annoyance by frequent and loud complaints that the sight of the Bible, placed before the Worshipful Master, is to him something intolerable. I venture to suggest that representations should be made to this Brother that he is availing himself of the Lodge's tolerance to manifest his intolerance; and then, if he is a true Freemason, the complaints will cease. — CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

SOUL'S PRE-EXISTENCE.

A Brother has been misinformed. It is Monsieur Jean Reynaud, who in his book entitled, "Terre et Ciel," makes the Soul's pre-existence the basis of a new system of Religious Philosophy.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

DUKE OF ORLEANS (*Egalité*).

The fragmentary notes respecting a man, famous alike in the history of the Revolution and in that of Freemasonry, which are here subjoined, form part of a collection filling several pages of a Common-Place Book, and are sent to the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE as affording, substantially, all the information desired by a Brother at Nottingham, whose letter reached me a few days ago. 1. The 26th June, 1771, Meeting of the Grand Lodge, at which the Duke of Orleans (the Duke of Chartres) was proclaimed Grand Master of French Freemasons. 2. The 7th October, 1773, a deputation of Freemasons congratulate the Duke of Orleans upon the birth of the Duke of Valois, afterwards King Louis Philippe. 3. The 28th October, 1773, the installation of the Duke of Orleans, fifth Grand Master of French Freemasons, takes place "dans sa petite Maison dite la Folie-Titon, Rue de Montreuil, Faubourg Saint Antoine." 4. "Après la mort du Comte de Clermont le Duc de Chartres se fit nommer Grand Maître de tous les Francsmaçons de France, et l'influence de cette secte put l'aider beaucoup, par la suite, dans ses projets politiques." 5. "La vie du Duc d'Orleans a été le sujet d'une foule d'écrits dont la plupart sont peu dignes de la postérité. Ce sont presque tous des pamphlets de circonstance, où les injures et les accusations sont accumulées sans choix et sans discernement." — CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

SOMETHING TO WHICH FREEMASONRY WITHOUT RELIGION MAY BE LIKENED.

Bro. * * * Fancy the telegraphic wire, poles, and signs without the electric fluid, and you have something to which you may very properly liken the Freemasonry which is without Religion.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

HOMO SIBI DEUS.

Bro. * * * in these three words you have the theological creed of thousands in the countries which you mention; and of those thousands very many, I am told, are Freemasons.—C. P. COOPER.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

MASONIC TITLES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I see very often in your journal, when reporting the meetings of Pro-

vincial Grand Lodges, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master styled *Right* Worshipful.

This is wrong! there are Right Worshipful, Worshipful, and Brother; the first are members of the Grand Lodge. The second, brethren who have ruled lodges and so are Past Masters. And the last, brethren who have not passed the chair.

The Right Worshipful brethren are the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Wardens, and Provincial Grand Masters, and the Past Officers of those positions, these being members of the Grand Lodge. The Grand Deacons are but *subordinate* officers, but they are styled *Worshipful*, not as belonging to the Grand Lodge, but in virtue of being Past Masters, without which rank they cannot be Grand Deacons.

The Chaplains, Treasurer, Registrar, and Secretary are called *Very* Worshipful.

Provincial Grand Masters are *Right* Worshipful because holding this high rank they are members of Grand Lodge, *vide* Constitutions.

Deputy Provincial Grand Masters are not members of the Grand Lodge, so are only styled *Worshipful*, not because they are Provincial Deputy Grand Masters, but because they are Past Masters of lodges, without being so they cannot hold the rank of Deputy Provincial Grand Master; and so with the Provincial Grand Wardens, the Provincial Grand Deacons, they may be *Worshipful* or not as they have or have not governed lodges.

This is the true meaning of the different appellations. The Deputy Grand Masters and members of Grand Lodge that is Wardens, *not* the subordinate officers, take the right of the Master's chair in all lodges they visit, not Grand Deacons. In Provincial Grand Lodge down to Wardens take the right of the Master's chair when visiting lodges in their own province, no where else. Deacons take Past Master's place if Past Masters, if not, only as other brethren.

I send you this because many assume what they are not entitled to, and as it is not clearly laid down in our Constitutions it may be instructive so some.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

"A. S. G."

CAUTION AS TO THE ADMISSION OF CANDIDATES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In your reports of lodge meetings I have noticed frequent commendations of the very excellent and much needed circular addressed by the Grand Master to the heads of the several provinces, calling attention to the facilities for the admission of unworthy men to our Craft, and for the reception, without due inquiry, in distant lodges, of those who have been rejected elsewhere. In my experience of nearly twenty years, I have known two cases of the latter kind. In the first, I myself strongly objected to the admission of a gentleman into the lodge of which I was then S.W. and subsequently W.M. His name was in consequence withdrawn. Very shortly after I found that he had obtained initiation in a lodge eight miles distant. Had he then come to my lodge as a visitor, I must

either have left the room or opposed his entrance, which would have been productive of unpleasantness. The other case is a singular one, which presents greater difficulties, inasmuch as another Grand Lodge is involved. A gentleman offered himself as a candidate to several, perhaps half-a-dozen, lodges under English Constitution, by all of which he was rejected, or rather his name was withdrawn under a certainty that he would be black-balled, on grounds of defective character, whether rightly or not I do not undertake to say; indeed, I was rather inclined to take a favourable view of the case. Determined, as I know he was, to become a Mason, he presented himself to a lodge working under Irish warrant in the same town, where no such refusal being encountered he was initiated, passed, and raised. Now mark the result. He obtained Masonic privileges at much less cost, the fees being lower than in lodges under English Constitution, and not only so, but he afterwards claimed and obtained admission as a visitor to the English lodges, of which he had failed to obtain membership in a constitutional manner. Again, in the same town there is a lodge working under authority from the Grand Orient du rite Ecossais in France, the formation of which produced much unpleasantness three or four years ago, is still the ground of an uncomfortable feeling, and caused the suspension of all English Masons who joined it, which suspension is still in force; but though so long a time has elapsed, no further measures have been taken, either by the Prov. G.M. or the Grand Lodge, which, on an appeal, sanctioned the course he had adopted. Well, some of these brethren have been admitted as members of the Irish Lodge, under the direct sanction of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, whence an opinion on the question was obtained. Thus the two Grand authorities, having an authority in the same district, are working on different principles, and in this instance have clashed. I do not wish to blame the Grand Lodge of Ireland for taking a different view, but it appears to me that if a foreign authority be permitted to exist on English territory, the two Grand Lodges ought to agree on a similar course of action, and if they cannot do so, then other measures should be taken.

Every genuine Mason must rejoice at the step taken by the R.W. the Grand Master, to which I alluded at the beginning of this letter, and be anxious to see his suggestions carried into effect. In my opinion, however, it loses much of its force, when I bear in mind the support which he and other Masonic authorities have given to the continuance in office of a Prov. G.M., who is repudiated by nearly all the members of his province on moral grounds, and the difficulties which have been encountered when attempts have been made to obtain an official inquiry with a view to his removal, so as positively to stifle it. Many of the circumstances were detailed in correspondence in your pages last March, April, May, and June. One Office Bearer in Grand Lodge of great influence has repeatedly admitted the unfitness of this Prov. G.M. for the place, in conversations with several Masons of the province, but still persists in keeping him there, to the great injury of the character of the Craft among non-Masons.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,
Nov. 3, 1866.

P.M.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEM.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WILTSHIRE.—The R.W. the Prov. G.M. of this province, Bro. Lord Methuen, has appointed a Provincial Grand Lodge Meeting to be held at the New Hall, Chippenham, on Tuesday, the 20th inst. at 2 p.m.

METROPOLITAN.

WOOLWICH.—*Florence Nightingale Lodge* (No. 706).—This distinguished lodge, composed principally of the officers of the garrison for its members, held the usual monthly meeting at the Freemasons' Hall, William-street, on the 2nd inst. Bro. G. Morris, W.M., presided. One gentleman was initiated, in an able manner. Several were proposed for next meeting, both as joining members and candidates for initiation. The lodge was closed until Friday, December 7th. The brethren partook of the usual first-class dinner at De Grey's Freemason's Tavern. There were two visitors present.

LODGE OF FINSBURY (No. 861).—This influential lodge met on Friday, the 26th ult., when Bro. T. G. Purdy, the W.M. (son of the late regretted Bro. J. Purdy, one of the founders), most creditably conferred the third degree on various candidates. There were numerous visitors, and at the banquet a very handsome silver cup was presented to Bro. Mackie, P.M., as a token of the brethren's esteem, and in consideration of his valuable and energetic services whilst in the chair.

UNIVERSITY LODGE (No. 1118).—On the 2nd inst., this lodge was consecrated by the R.W. Bro. T. H. Hall, Prov. G. Master, Cambs. Such an event has been unknown at the Freemasons' Hall, since the time of the late M.W.G.M., Bro. the Duke of Sussex, and naturally it created great interest. The R.W. brother was supported by Bros. Deighton, D. Prov. G.M. Cambs.; Spiers, D. Prov. G.M. Oxfordshire; Bedford, Prov. G. Chap.; Williamson, Prov. G.W.; G. Clarke, G.S.; J. Newton Tomkins, Prov. G.D.; A. Woods, G. Dir. of Cers.; with many others, and by Bro. S. Tomkins, G. Treas., who was installed the first W.M. of the new lodge. The consecration was most ably performed by Bro. Hall, in which he was efficiently assisted by Bro. Bedford, and the musical arrangements conducted by Bro. D. King gave additional interest to the ceremony. The W.M. then appointed Bro. E. T. Leith and D. W. Bruce Gardyne, his Wardens, and stated that he would defer making the other appointments until the next meeting of the lodge. After the banquet the W.M., in proposing the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the University Lodge," made a few remarks on the grand principles of the Order, showing how the duties of universal toleration and charity were inculcated and practised by all members of the Craft, and further said that it was a matter of regret that up to this time the Cambridge Masons had had no opportunity offered them of continuing their Masonic career in London without breaking up all their old associations. This lodge was instituted not only to give them this opportunity, but also that of meeting other Masons from the sister university of Oxford, as well as Masons of mark and influence in London. It was the union of the three that was aimed at, thus practically teaching the lesson of universal brotherhood. The W.M. disclaimed any feeling of rivalry with the ancient lodge which now receives the Oxford Masons removing to London, and was sure that there was room for both. He was told that the numbers of the Lodge No. 10 now amounted to 140. The W.M. was warmly cheered, and we think the lodge fortunate in having been able to secure the services of so excellent a Mason as the Grand Treasurer, and we heartily wish the new lodge every success.

INSTRUCTION.

STRONG MAN LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 45).—This lodge of instruction which was established in 1797, having been in abeyance since 1861, was re-opened by Bro. F. Jacob, W.M. of the lodge, assisted by his P.M., Bro. Booser, and several of his

officers (Bro. Kurton, I.G., acting as J.W.) at the White Horse Tavern, Little Britain, on Tuesday, the 16th ult., when, after the preliminary business had been disposed of, the W.M. very ably worked the first ceremony, and numerous brethren having joined as members, it was resolved to hold it in future at the above house, every Tuesday throughout the year, at half-past seven. Bro. Challoner, of Lodge No. 45, was elected Treasurer, and Bro. T. Vesper, P.M. 554, Hon. Sec. After a vote of thanks to the W.M. and brethren of the Strong Man Lodge, the lodge was closed and adjourned, and has met every Tuesday since. On Tuesday last, Bro. J. Lepastrier was the W.M. for the evening, and very ably worked the third ceremony; Bro. Welsford, assisted by the brethren, worked the first and second sections of the first degree; Bro. Kurton, I.G., was elected W.M. for the following week, and the lodge adjourned. We have much pleasure in recommending this lodge of instruction to the notice of our city brethren.

DORIC LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 933).

The annual banquet meeting of this exemplary, hard working lodge of instruction took place, and was celebrated with unusual *éclat*, on the 2nd inst., at Bro. Scurr's, the Three Cranes Tavern, Mile-end-road. The lodge having been opened, and closed in due form, and according to ancient custom, by the W.M., Bro. Barnes, Sen., supported by his well-drilled and efficient officers, the brethren adjourned to the banquet, and, as Bro. Scurr is so well and deservedly known as an admirable caterer upon the festive occasions of similar gatherings of the Craft, it will be sufficient for us to state that every provision was made for the creature comforts of those assembled. The tables were replete with all that could be desired to promote "the feast of reason and the flow of the soul." The viands and wines were excellent. The attendants were provided in ample numbers, and were prompt and well up to their duties. About forty brethren in all sat down, including amongst those whom we noticed, Bros. Barnes, sen., W.M.; Yetton, S.W.; and Robotton, J.W.; with a formidable muster of the members of the lodge of instruction, including the veteran Instructor, Bro. Saqui, Bros. Stevens, Bowron, Dr. Swyer, Alston, Fordham, Pickett, Jarman, Shenton, &c. Amongst the visiting brethren we noticed Bros. Hamilton, and Hudson, P.M.'s Yarboro Lodge, No. 554; W. J. Harris, P.M. United Mariners' Lodge, No. 30; C. Harris, P.M. British Oak Lodge, No. 831; Hemingway, Merchant Navy Lodge, No. 781; Roberts, Yarboro Lodge, No. 554; with numerous other well known brethren. The cloth having been drawn, and grace returned, the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and, as usual amongst Freemasons, most cordially received. The W.M. then gave the toast of "Prosperity to the Doric Mother Lodge, No. 933," coupling therewith the name of their esteemed Bro. Scurr, I.P.M. of the mother lodge. The toast having been right warmly received, Bro. Stevens rendered in an admirable manner the song of "The Likeness."

Bro. SCURR thanked the W.M. for the honour done the mother lodge in the last toast. He was glad to find that there were amongst them this evening so many members of the Doric mother lodge, as that was an evidence of the interest taken by the mother lodge in the welfare and prosperity of its nursery; and he could assure the W.M. and members of the Lodge of Instruction that the mother lodge was well pleased with the Instruction Lodge and the progress made by her members in the truths of Freemasonry.

The toast of "Prosperity to the Doric Lodge of Instruction," with which Bro. Saqui's name was coupled, followed, and was most cordially received.

Bro. HUDSON animated the brethren with a favourite and appropriate sea song.

Bro. SAQUI, in returning thanks, said he regretted he was not sufficiently gifted to state in so lucid a manner as he could wish, his appreciation of the kind manner in which the toast first given had been rendered, and with which his name, as Preceptor, had been identified. Bro. Saqui then proceeded, in a few pointedly spoken words, to recapitulate some of the many advantages to the Craft arising from lodges of instruction, and their labours. As important auxiliaries to our charities, Bro. Saqui gave some very pleasing evidence of the tangible support rendered in that direction by lodges of instruction. Bro. Saqui would not conceal the fact from those present, that it was a matter of gratification to him to find that his humble efforts had met with such a cordial acknowledgment; his sole desire in persistently labouring as an instructor in Freemasonry

was to see the thing properly done, and that every officer and member of our lodges should be capable of creditably performing the several duties devolving upon them; and that they should be well versed in the truths and beauties of Freemasonry as imparted in the instruction lodges. When he looked round him and saw so many brethren young in the Craft, whom it had been his pleasing lot to instruct, now able to take position with accomplished Mnsos of much older standing; it was a pleasing evidence of what could be accomplished by a constant attention to the duties of lodges of instruction; and, to this he mainly attributed the efficiency which was now generally received as characterising the working of lodges at the East End of London, and he alluded more especially to the younger lodges.

Bro. W. J. HARRIS, P.M. of the United Mariners' Lodge, rose with pleasure to endorse Bro. Saqui's remarks as to the important part which our Masonic Charities formed in the organisation of English Freemasonry, and of the material aid rendered to our charities by lodges of instruction; Bro. Harris, as one of the earliest supporters of the United Mariners' Lodge of Instruction, had much pleasure in bearing testimony to the services rendered by Bro. Saqui as a zealous and never-tiring preceptor. He (Bro. Harris) when in the chair, had ever found Bro. Saqui ready with good offices. He never had occasion to call for, or send for him, when required, but he came, and that promptly and willingly. Bro. Harris considered Bro. Saqui to be a genuine Mason, and also a most useful one; and when he (Bro. Harris) on retiring from the chair of the United Mariners' Lodge, was presented with a testimonial, he felt a gratefulness to Bro. Saqui, which he should ever continue to feel in appreciation of the assistance and instruction he had received at the hands of that esteemed brother.

Bros. IRONS, HAMILTON, and BARNES, Sen., followed Bro. Harris, on behalf of their respective Lodges of Instruction, which they represented in awarding to Bro. Saqui that commendation which he so deservedly merits as the pains-taking preceptor to whom so many of the brethren, more especially of the Metropolis, were indebted for the efficiency they had been able to arrive at in the discharge of their Masonic duties, and generally, for their progress in the Craft.

Bro. BARNES, Sen., in referring to the United Mariners' Lodge of Instruction, regretted that though that was one of the oldest Lodges of Instruction at the East-end, it was not in that flourishing state enjoyed by the other Instruction Lodges of much more recent formation; indeed he regretted to say the United Mariners' Lodge of Instruction was in a languishing state. He trusted, therefore, that as many of the members of the younger Lodges of Instruction had been nurtured in that Lodge of Instruction, to which they were so much indebted for their Masonic education, he (Bro. Barnes) trusted the brethren would rally in strong numbers around their *alma mater*, resuscitate, and support it.

The toast of "The Visitors to the Doric Lodge of Instruction" having been given, was most cordially received. Bro. Jarman rendered most effectively the beautiful melody, "The last rose of summer."

Bros. MORRISON and HARRIS returned thanks on behalf of the visiting brethren.

Bro. Morrison obliged the brethren with the song of "The bold chamois hunter."

Br. BARNES, Sen., in proposing the toast of "The Masonic Charities," coupling therewith the name of Bro. Keddel, remarked that Charity was the chief ornament of the Order, and he often regretted that nature had not endowed him with the ability to speak on this important subject as he could wish; he regretted his tongue would not respond to his heart.

Song by Bro. Yetton.

Bro. KEDDELL, as a steward for one of the coming festivals, responded on behalf of the toast of the Masonic Charities in a few very appropriate words. He pleaded earnestly for our charities generally, and that in particular which he had undertaken to represent. He reminded the brethren of the beautiful Scriptural sentence, "He who giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord."

Bro. HARRIS, P.M. United Mariners' Lodge, stated his own experiences of the excellence and value of our Masonic Charities, and instanced the case of a boy whose admission to the Boys' School had been mainly effected by the endeavours of the lodge which Bro. Harris represented, and so pleased were Bro. Harris and his wife upon the occasion of their visiting the school, after the admission of the boy, that he became a life governor, and his wife a subscriber to this excellent institution,

Bro. Harris trusted that the brethren would more generally than had hitherto been done, visit our different charitable institutions as he felt assured they would thereby be induced to take an increased interest in their prosperity. Bro. Harris concluded his remarks by proposing, with the consent of the W.M., the toast of "The Healths of Bros. Binckes, Patten, and Farnfield, the Secretaries of our three great Charities," and in doing so he passed a very high eulogium upon the zeal and energy which distinguished Bro. Binckes and the Secretaries of the other two charities, in all appertaining to the welfare of the respective institutions which they represented.

The W. Master then proposed in very suitable terms, the toast of the press of the Craft. "The FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR," coupling therewith the health of Bro. James Stevenson, the representative of the MAGAZINE, whom the W.M. was glad to see amongst them this evening. Bro. Barnes pointed out to the brethren the importance to the Craft of being thoroughly represented by an organ devoted as is this journal to the interests of the Order.

The toast having been most cordially received—

Bro. Stevenson briefly returned thanks in acknowledgment of the compliment which had just been paid, through him, to the journal which he had the honour to represent, and he could assure the brethren that so long as he was connected with the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR, no pains should be spared to render it worthy of the increasing support of the Craft, and that it should remain, the firm unflinching exponent of the interests of the Order, and the faithful MIRROR of its proceedings. Bro. Stevenson regretted the hour was too far advanced to permit of his saying what he could have wished in reference to the important bearing of Lodges of Instruction upon all appertaining to the prosperity of the Order. He proceeded to make a few remarks upon the subject, and, in alluding to the recent circular issued by the M.W. the Grand Master, as to the exercise of caution in the selection of candidates for initiation, he showed how necessary it was that brethren should, by a regular attendance at a Lodge of Instruction, become fully conversant with the truths of Freemasonry, so as to enable them to become fully competent to judge of a friend's adaptability or worthiness to be introduced into our Order. And, moreover, many *dormant* brethren might probably be now active members of the Order if they had had the opportunities of instruction afforded them; that they might become conversant with the real truths and teachings of Freemasonry, so as to attach them more strongly to the Order, they required "more light," and lodges of instruction formed the desideratum.

Bro. Saqui then proposed in justly deserved eulogistic terms, the toast of "The Health of the Worshipful Master, Bro. Barnes, senior," and in doing so, paid a well merited tribute to the many excellent qualities which distinguished their esteemed W.M., and which pre-eminently entitled him to be worthy of the appellation of Freemason. The toast having been most warmly received, Bro. Barnes responded in his usual terse manner, and assured the brethren if, as Bro. Saqui had just stated, the brethren considered that he—Bro. Barnes—had rendered them services by instruction in Freemasonry, he could only say that it always afforded Bro. Barnes much pleasure to give this instruction upon every occasion possible.

The W. MASTER then proposed "The Health of the esteemed and ever attentive host, Bro. Scurr," coupling with the toast "The Health of 'Sister' Scurr," and in very appropriate terms alluded to the handsome manner in which, through the combined exertions of their worthy host and hostess, every provision had been made for the comfort and enjoyment of the brethren. The toast having been most enthusiastically received,

Bro. SCURR responded briefly in acknowledgment of the compliment paid by the W.M. He assured the brethren that he took it as a great kindness and compliment on their part, to find the humble exertions of himself and Mrs. Scurr so well appreciated. It would be his constant aim to continue to prove worthy of that approval.

The customary Tyler's toast brought the proceedings of this happy meeting to a timely close.

PROVINCIAL.

CUMBERLAND.

CARLISLE.—*Union Lodge* (No. 310).—On Tuesday, the 30th ult., the regular monthly meeting was held in the Freemasons'

Hall, the Rev. Bro. W. Cockett, W.M., P. Prov. G. Chap. in the chair of K.S., supported by Bro. G. G. Hayward, S.W.; J. Slack, J.W.; G. T. Clark, Sec.; W. H. Palford, S.D.; G. Turnbull, J.D.; A. Woodhouse, I.G.; G. Somerville, Steward; J. Barnes, Tyler; J. Sherrington, P.M.; R. S. Dixon, J. Atkinson, W. Court, M. Fisher, J. Rodney, J. Gibson, and R. M. Hill, No. 412, visiting brother. The lodge was opened with solemn prayer. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Mr. Morley, the city surveyor, which ended in his favour, Bro. R. Metcalf was tested as to his proficiency to pass to the second degree, by Bro. F. W. Hayward, P.M., Dir. of Cers., Prov. G.S.W., and was intrusted and retired. The lodge was then opened in the second and third degrees, for the purpose of obligating Bro. T. Cockbain, 26, S.C., who is a joining member to this lodge, under the English Constitution. The lodge being closed to F.C., Bro. Metcalf was admitted in due form and passed, by Bro. G. G. Hayward, S.W., the W.M. read a letter in the E.A. degree, from Whitehaven Lodge, No. 872, notifying the death and interment of Bro. Thompson, M.D. Prov. G. Treas. of Cumberland and Westmorland; also a letter was read by Bro. A. Woodhouse, from a friend and brother Mason, that a man representing himself as a Junior Steward and P.M. of the Longtown Lodge, No. 412, did apply for and obtain relief (so he said at a lodge at Keighly, somewhere in Yorkshire). The brethren of that lodge called on him to open and close the lodge, it being lodge night; and this he did (he said) to their satisfaction. Since being relieved at Kirby Lonsdale, Bro. Woodhouse's friend, above referred to, had written to the Secretary of Lodge No. 412, who replies that he must be an impostor, as no one of that name is on the list of members,—he is a weaver by trade,—and is making his way back to Longtown. The thanks of the meeting were given to Bro. A. Woodhouse and friend, for their timely notice. The lodge was finally closed by Bro. Cockett, W.M., and the brethren retired to the refreshment room to spend an hour in toasts, speeches, and test questions in the second degree, for the benefit of Bro. Metcalf. The brethren parted at a convenient hour in harmony.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

ROYAL LEBANON LODGE (No. 493).

The annual festival in connection with this Lodge, and the re-election of the W.M., Bro. Henry Jeffs, P. Prov., G.S.E., and P.G. Supt. of Works, took place at the Spread Eagle Hotel, on Monday, the 5th inst. There was a large muster of the Craft.

The lodge was opened at 5.30 p.m., when the W.M. was duly installed by Bros. Skinner and Brown, P.M.'s.

The banquet which followed did credit to the hotel and catering of Mr. Ellis, and afforded general satisfaction to the brethren.

On the removal of the cloth, amongst the toasts proposed were, "The Queen and the Craft," "The Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master, Lord Sherborne, and his Deputy Bro. Newmarch, and Officers."

In proposing the toast of "The Grand Lodge of England," the W. MASTER complimented the province upon Sir Michael Hicks Beach occupying the position of Senior Grand Warden, whose intellectuality and urbanity, and the interest he took in Masonry, it was remarked, would render him very popular amongst the Craft. In introducing the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," the W.M. said that, agreeably with the time-honoured custom, the leading toast at their tables of refreshment was expressive of loyalty to the throne and attachment to their Masonic institutions. At their previous annual meeting, in alluding to the allocution which had shortly before been published by the Pope, in which Masons were stigmatized as disloyal to Princes, he (the W.M.), on behalf of the brotherhood in England, had denied the imputation, and as far as his humble reach permitted, he gathered a few flowers, interwaved them into a chaplet, and laid them upon the memorial erected to Masonic loyalty.

To eulogise the virtues of Queen Victoria, was like an attempt to gild refined gold. With the exception of Mary who to the cruelties perpetrated upon some of her unfortunate subjects, added the disgrace of the loss of Calais, England had acquired high renown under her female sovereigns.

Elizabeth shed lustre and glory upon the English name when threatened with Spanish invasion, Sir Francis Drake scoured the sea and made a clean sweep of the enemy's ships, which culminated in the defeat and destruction of the Spanish armada.

Marlborough gained great victories in the reign of Queen Anne. If Elizabeth had her Drake, Anne had her Rooke. It was Sir George Rooke who played his men so well upon the chess board of war, that although matched against France and Spain, he checkmated them, captured that great stronghold Gibraltar and prevented their castling again. Very unlike Elizabeth, but very like Anne is Queen Victoria. What Elizabeth lacked of real heart and womanly grace that Anne possessed, and that Victoria possesses. Elizabeth's physical accomplishments are said to have been unexceptionable. Sir Walter Raleigh, when in disgrace and in prison, wrote a letter to Sir Robert Cecil which he no doubt intended and perhaps expected Elizabeth would see, in which he compared her riding to Alexander, her hunting to Diana, and her walking to Venus. If honest Drake's opinion had been asked he would, no doubt, have rallied Raleigh on his fulsome flattery and averred that his angust mistress, instead of walking like Venus waddled like a duck; for, be it remembered, Elizabeth at that time, if fair, was fat and sixty. In the Camp of Tilbury, where Elizabeth enlisted enthusiasm by her display of courage and eloquence, she declared she had "the heart of a king, and of a king of England too." Truly, she had the heart of a king, in some respects of the king, her father; but he (the W.M.) need not stay to put his hand upon the blots which disfigured the pages of English history.

It was, no doubt, a subject of felicitation with Queen Anne's subjects that she had "the heart of a queen, and of a queen of England, too," as it is our happiness to say of Queen Victoria.

Political discussion very properly was strictly forbidden at Masonic meetings. Having no political opinion, therefore, at that date, it did not matter to them that Anne allied herself heart and soul to a party of the day called the Tory party, as she as heartily disliked another party called Whigs. Why should it concern us if Anne chose to wear her own hair, preferring that which was natural to what she may have considered as artificial. It did concern Masons, however, that the nation with unanimous voice applied the simple but expressive epithet to that sovereign "Good Queen Anne." Equally applicable was that epithet in our day—"Good Queen Victoria." Whatever victories had been gained by land—whatever achievements had been won by sea during the reign of Queen Victoria, as Masons their glory and exultation should be that she had builded up a moral power which gave England position and influence amongst the nations. The moral teaching of the life and character of Queen Victoria stood out in high relief, not only for the admiration of England but of the whole civilised world. With a mother's fondness for her people, and living in their affections, their aspirations went heavenward for the blessing of the Most High to rest on their Queen.

As to the Craft, he (the W.M.) needed not to dwell at length upon their noble institutions for the support and education of orphan boys and girls—upon their houses of refuge for the aged and infirm poor—of their benefactions to distressed Masons and their widows—of their local public and private acts of benevolence.

Dickens, in his "Uncommercial Traveller," relates an incident where a man in a workhouse had a grievance. The pauper alleged he was a Mason, as was also the master; that he had given the master the sign, but the master refused to give him (the pauper) the countersign.

It was the duty of the affluent Mason to assist his poor and distressed brother, no matter how low the spoke of Fortune's wheel on which he might be placed, provided he was worthy. Was Dickens's pauper worthy? Their social gatherings at refreshment were very pleasant, but it must not be lost sight of that primarily Masonry is a moral institution, and ought to be a test at all times of character to candidates seeking admission to the brotherhood. Was ever a man, inherently bad, fit for service that was good?

KENT.

ERTHEL.—*St. John and St. Paul's Lodge.*—At a numerous meeting of this highly respectable and prosperous lodge holden at the Pier Hotel, Mr. Manuel Garcia de la Torre was initiated, Bro. Woodard passed, and Bro. Mathew raised. This being the day appointed for installation, Bro. Neville was installed in the chair of K.S. After which the brethren adjourned to an elegant banquet.

LANCASHIRE.

ROBY.—*Alliance Lodge* (No. 667.)—This lodge was held on

Tuesday, November 6th, at the lodge room, Stanley Arms, Roby. The lodge was opened at five o'clock, p.m., by Bro. John Porter, W.M., assisted by Bros. William Doyle, S.W.; Bolton, J.W.; Winkup, P.M.; Howarth, P.M., &c. Amongst the visitors we noticed, Bros. T. Marsh, P.M., Prov. S.G.W.; L. Jones, W.M., 249; Robertson, Org., 241, &c. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the second degree, when three brethren were passed to the degree of F.C. by the W.M., rendering the ceremony in his usual impressive and painstaking manner. The working tools in this degree were given by the S.W., Bro. Doyle, in a very impressive manner. The lodge was then closed to the first degree. The W.M., Bro. John Porter, then rose and said: Brethren, since last we met here, it has pleased the Great Architect of the Universe to take from amongst us our respected Bro. Jones, P.M. I am sure there is not a member of the lodge, and more especially those who were more intimately acquainted with him, who will not feel that they have lost a sincere and kind-hearted friend and brother. Life is very uncertain; it was only on Wednesday last Bro. Jones was about transacting his usual business, and yet in a few short hours he is called hence to give an account of his words and actions through life. Let us hope and trust he has been prepared to meet his merciful Judge. Are we not truly reminded to perform our allotted task while it is yet day, so that we may be prepared whenever it shall please the Almighty to summon us from this sublimary abode to ascend to the Grand Lodge above where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for evermore. Brethren, I have to propose that a vote of condolence be placed upon the minutes of this lodge, and that a letter of condolence be sent to the wife and family of our late Bro. Jones. The motion having been seconded by Bro. Howarth, P.M., was duly carried. Bro. Jones, W.M. 249, on behalf of the visitors stated that he had visited many lodges but never saw one in which more good friendship, kindness, and brotherly love prevail. He complimented the W.M. and officers of the lodge on the good working. The lodge was then closed with solemn prayer.

SOUTH WALES (EASTERN DIVISION).

CARDIFF.—*Bute Lodge* (No. 960.)—The usual bi-monthly meeting of this, the largest and most flourishing lodge in the province, was held at the Masonic hall, Bute Docks, Cardiff, on Tuesday 6th inst. There were present Bros. John Willans, Prov. S.G.D., W.M.; W. H. Martin, P. Prov. S.G.D., P.M. and Treas.; T. B. Bell, Prov. G. Pustl., S.W.; W. H. Sladen, J.W.; T. G. Glass, S.D.; W. Coleman, J.D.; James Willans Dir. of Cers.; T. Daniel, I.G.; H. W. Moreton, P.M., Sec.; R. Evans, Prov. G.S.; P. Bird, F. Ware, C. Coaffee, 68, Bristol; and numerous other brethren. The lodge was opened at seven o'clock precisely, and the minutes of the last regular stated lodge read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Mr. James Tamplin who was duly accepted. A ballot was also taken for Bro. Thomas Griffiths, resident in Cardiff, but initiated in a Bristol lodge, which was also declared favourable. Previous to taking this ballot the W.M. announced, and ordered the fact to be recorded upon the minutes, that the very excellent and commendable by-laws of this lodge had been duly complied with, which enacts—that "No person residing in Cardiff, who shall be initiated away from Cardiff, shall be eligible for election in this lodge unless he had a previous recommendation from the M.M. of this or one of the other Cardiff lodges, to the lodge in which he was initiated." The lodge having been opened in the second degree, Bro. T. V. Yorath (previously undergoing a satisfactory examination), was duly passed to the second or F.C. degree, and the lodge was again closed down to the first degree. The candidate for initiation was not in attendance, but the W.M. having announced his intention to give the explanation of the tracing board in this degree, and secured the attendance of a large number of recently initiated brethren who were desirous of hearing the same, proceeded to deliver the customary lecture, with a degree of fluency which elicited the warmest approbation of all the brethren present, many of them much older Masons than himself. The Junior Warden by command of the Worshipful Master now called the brethren off to refreshment, which, however, consisted of no more potent beverage than a draught of fresh air,—very acceptable nevertheless, to a crowded lodge in which the large fires and a considerable amount of gas were consuming, with an outward temperature very much above the average. The brethren having been recalled from this unsubstantial refreshment to resume labour, lodge was at once opened

up to the third degree, and Bros. W. E. Vaughan and R. C. Jones were raised to the sublime degree in that impressive manner, with which the ceremony is always performed in the lodge. Lodge having been closed down to the second, and subsequently to the first degree, some routine business having been transacted, was finally closed in perfect harmony at eleven o'clock. Your correspondent, who is only an occasional attendant at this lodge, was deeply impressed with the able and efficient manner with which the whole duties of a most arduous meeting, were performed by the able W.M. and his most intelligent and painstaking officers. The W.M. and his Wardens were also warmly congratulated after their recent appointment to important Prov. Grand Lodge offices, such distinction being felt to be due only to deserving and distinguished merit and ability.

WARWICKSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The annual meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons of the province of Warwickshire, was held at the Warden Lodge, No. 794, Sutton Coldfield, on Tuesday, the 30th ult. The brethren of the Warden Lodge assembled at the Moot Hall, at half-past one o'clock, there being present a large number of visitors from the other lodges in the province. After the lodge had been opened in due form by Bro. M. W. Wilson, W.M., the Right Hon. and E.W. Bro. Leigh, Prov. G.M., attended by his officers, was received. The Provincial Grand Lodge was then opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The accounts of the Benevolent and Annuity Funds were also severally read, together with the auditor's reports, &c., and were unanimously received, and were ordered to be printed and forwarded to the Warwickshire Lodges. Several annuities were granted, and £10 10s. was voted to the Masonic Boys' School. The Prov. G. Master then appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year, namely, Bros. Major Machen, D. Prov. G.M.; G. Hudson, Prov. G.S.W.; W. B. Briggs, Prov. G.J.W.; Hon. and Rev. J. Leigh and Rev. H. L. Elliot, Prov. G. Chaps.; J. T. Collins, Prov. G. Treas.; C. Read, Prov. G. Reg.; J. Astley, Prov. G. Sec.; D. Malins, Jun., Prov. G. Assist. Sec.; J. Pursell, Prov. G.S.D.; Turner, Prov. G.J.D.; H. Mulliner, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; W. L. Harrison, Prov. G. Assist. Supt. of Works; J. Isaacs, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; G. Jones, Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; M. W. Wilson, Prov. G.S.B.; S. Fenn, Prov. G. Assist. S.B.; C. Lee, Prov. G. Std. B.; T. Halbeard, Prov. G. Assist. Std. B.; T. Naden, Prov. G. Purst.; J. Coates, Prov. G. Tyler. The brethren then formed in procession and proceeded to the parish church, where, after full choral service, in which Bros. the Rev. T. Cochrane, H. L. Elliot, and W. K. R. Bedford took part, Bro. the Hon. and Rev. J. Leigh, Prov. G. Chap., preached an excellent sermon from Job, chap. 38, verses 4, 6. A collection was afterwards made in behalf of the Benevolent and Annuity funds, amounting to £20. The brethren then returned to the lodge room, and having transacted the remaining business, the Grand Lodge was closed in due form. A large number of the brethren afterwards dined together, under the presidency of the Prov. G.M.

ROYAL ARCH.

UNITED PILGRIMS' CHAPTER (No. 507).—The installation meeting of this chapter was holden on Tuesday, the 6th inst., at the Horns Tavern, Kennington. The chapter was duly opened. The minutes of the previous convocation were read and unanimously confirmed. Comp. H. Muggeridge, P.Z., installed Comps. J. W. Halsey, H.; C. R. Harrison, J. W. Stuart, P.Z. was placed in the M.E.Z. position. Companions were invested and appointed officers as follows, viz., F. J. Lilley, P.Z., Treas.; H. Garrod, P.Z., S.E.; Brandon, S.N.; W. Radford, Janitor; C. H. Murr, P.Z. The chapter was closed until February 4th. Banquet followed. Visitors: Comps. H. Muggeridge, P.Z. 13, 22; and F. Walters, M.E.Z. 73, 169.

MORE LIGHT.—It will require the strongest efforts of all good Masons to maintain the character of our institution. Wisdom, prudence, and especially *firmness*, should prevail in our councils. The dying Goethe exclaimed, "Throw open the shutters and let in more light." Let our Masonic shutters be thrown open and more light be admitted, lest the dark days come again.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.

LODGE LA CESAREE (No. 590).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Temple, on Thursday, the 25th ult., there being a goodly attendance of the members and visitors, amongst whom were, Bros. W. Adams, P.M. 244; W. J. Eckford; Jaboneau, S77; F. W. Shields, S.D. 33; S. Gale, 33, and others. In the unavoidable absence of Bro. H. L. Manuel, W.M., Bro. A. Schmitt, P.M., opened the lodge in the first degree, assisted by Bro. J. Oatley, S.W.; and A. Viel, J.W. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. The lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bros. Ph. Le Geyt, C. Aubin, and E. Carré being candidates for promotion, and after having undergone a satisfactory examination as to their proficiency as Fellow Craftsmen, were entrusted and retired. The lodge was opened in the third degree. The candidates were severally admitted and raised to the sublime degree of M.M.'s. The ceremony was performed by the acting W.M., in a highly efficient manner. The working tools, as well as the tracing board, were explained by the presiding officer, who also delivered the charge belonging to this degree. The lodge was closed down to the first degree. Bro. Jaboneau having obtained permission, delivered an interesting lecture on the intolerant conduct of the Rev. Dr. Dupanloup, Bishop of Orleans, who lately in a pastoral letter, fulminated again his maledictions and anathemas against the institution of Masonry and freethinkers (*libres penseurs*). Bro. Jaboneau, by forcible and lucid arguments, demolished the undeserved, groundless, and merciless attacks of the French prelate, one of the forty happy mortals composing the learned institution denominated "l'Academie Française." He demonstrated to evidence that the wrathful thunders of the bishop could not but animate and increase the zeal and energy of the Craft to new efforts in the right direction, by disseminating the principles of truth, virtue, and morality, and thus dispelling the dark power of superstition and bigobry. He concluded by maintaining that we ought, as Freemasons, to respect every conscientious opinion, but we must also fight against the spirit of ignorance and intolerance. According to promise, here is the discourse pronounced by Bro. H. L. Manuel:—"Brother, I am most happy to receive you amongst us. There are now more than one hundred and fifty thousand men in the British possessions who are linked to each other by the fraternal bond of Freemasonry; numbers, therefore, do not fail us; but we love to see them on the constant increase, more especially when the neophytes are, like yourself, upright and intelligent men. A cordial greeting, therefore, to our new brother. We love, I say, to see the numbers of our brethren increase; for we hold a deep conviction that Masonry has yet a grand place to fill in the destiny of society; and in the great cause of progress and civilisation, there cannot be too many workers, disciples, apostles. Brother, your experience in the world must have proved to you that the olden temples are crumbling away, bringing down with them many imaginations, many superstitions, many institutions, the possessions of a time are no longer ours. Now, amongst ourselves, I may be permitted to tell you, destruction has no place; our business is to construct. As apprentice, and later, as Master Mason, you will have to labour with us in the work of such construction, and we rely, be anticipation, on your activity and devoted zeal. The new temples which we seek to rear—and rear them we shall—are those worthy of dedication to the Great Architect of the Universe, and to his grand creations—labour and brotherly love; temples, you will understand, which are not material, but moral, intellectual, spiritual. And what does all this mean? It means that every true Mason should adore and serve the Creator,—should study and work in everything that tends to the development of human intelligence, or to ministration to the wants of society; and should ever practise virtue towards all men,—charity like space, without bounds, and beyond any possible limitation. A Mason that man is not, whose creed is a mere negation. The blind cannot be good workers. He is not a Freemason who stands with folded arms, saying, "Temples can be built without me!" and he is not a Freemason whose heart is too narrow to be, so to speak, the perpetual seat of those pilgrims of Heaven—love, forgiveness, charity. But he is a Mason who, without pharisaic ostentation, bows down his soul before the Great Architect; who, with mallet or pen, in the fields or on the seas, in the counting-house or the workshops, the castle or the cottage, fulfils the mission confided to him, the chosen man, of labouring for the unceasing welfare and

progress of humanity. He, in fine, is a Mason whose device is, "Intelligence, faithfulness, kindness." In but a few words, I have sought broadly to sketch out for you that which we consider Masonry to be; to explain to you how we practically translate the word "Mason." Our interpretation of it, there is no doubt, my newly-initiated brother, will not only be accepted by you, but welcomed with joy and eagerness; and in that conviction, we fraternally grasp your hand." The acting W.M. proposed a highly respectable candidate for initiation. The business being over, the lodge was closed at half-past nine o'clock in love and perfect harmony.

Obituary.

BRO. DR. JOHN THOMPSON.

Bro. Dr. John Thompson, of Whitehaven, died on Sunday morning, the 28th ult., after a protracted illness. He was one of the many martyrs to his laborious profession. About three years ago a bad fever visited Whitehaven, and caused great mortality. During the prevalence of that epidemic, Bro. Thompson's labours by night and day were literally incessant. The fatigue which he then underwent shook a constitution naturally robust. A long rest might have restored him. But he found no rest; and until exertion became impossible he continued to exercise his profession. His age was only forty-five. He will be much missed by rich and poor. Few men have passed from among us more generally beloved. All that was mortal of him was laid yesterday in the cemetery near our town. The chief mourners on the occasion were John Thompson, Esq., of Kelswick House, father of the deceased; Master W. Thompson, deceased's eldest son; his Grace the Archbishop of York and Capt. Edward Thompson, brothers of the deceased; and W. Jefferson, Esq., London, his brother-in-law, and Dr. Henry. The attendance of townsmen, in carriages and on foot, was unusually large, almost everyone having turned out in token of respect to the memory of the departed, and of sympathy with his bereft and grieving family. The Craft, including Bros. Busher, of Kendall, and Greaves, of Penrith, joined in procession, the deceased brother having held posts of honour and trust in the Craft. The burial service was read by the Rev. Mr. Payne, curate of St. James's. We need only add that the deceased was a pre-eminently skilful surgeon; and of good reputation as a general practitioner. Shortly before his death the critical state of his health induced him to form a partnership with his assistant, Dr. Henry, who, we understand, will continue the practice of the firm. The late Bro. J. Thompson was initiated October 15th, 1860, in the Sun, Square, and Compasses Lodge, No. 119, Whitehaven; was first J.W., and served the office of W.M. in the Lewis Lodge, No. 872, Whitehaven, and was also at the period of his decease, Grand Treasurer of the province of Cumberland and Westmoreland. He was universally beloved by the brethren, who will deeply feel the loss of so true and so zealous a Mason.

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

CHESHIRE.

On Monday evening, the 29th ult., the second amateur dramatic performance in aid of the funds of the Cheshire Educational Masonic Institution, under the distinguished patronage of Bro. the Lord de Tabley, R.W. Prov. G.M. Cheshire; Sir T. G. Hesketh, Bart., M.P., Prov. G.M. West Lancashire; Sir W. W. Wynne, Bart., M.P., Prov. G.M. Shropshire and N. Wales; Lord Viscount Combermere, D. Prov. G.M., Cheshire; G. B. Leigh, M.P., Prov. S.G.W. Cheshire; John Laird, Esq., M.P., Birkenhead; W. Hind, Esq., Chairman Birkenhead Commissioners; G. Harrison, Esq., Major W. Laird, J. Laird, Jun., Esq., H. K. Aspinall, Esq., all of Birkenhead; &c., took place in the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, before an overflowing house. The pieces selected for performance were calculated to put to a severe test the capabilities of amateurs, the first being Messrs. Tom Taylor and Chas. Reade's semi-historical drama of "The King's Rival," followed by John Poole's still very popular farce of "Deaf as a Post." The "brotherhood," however, were equal to the occasion, and a very agreeable performance was the result. The drama we may remind our readers, turns upon the foibles

of that king who "never said a foolish thing, and never did a wise one." The wandering glances of the merry monarch have fallen on the handsome Mistress Stewart, who is beloved by and gives her heart in return to the brave Duke of Richmond. To protect herself from the King's importunities, by having her lover near her, she persuades the monarch to deprive the duke of a dangerous naval command. But the duke misunderstands her motives, suspects her of cold-hearted treachery, and a wish to ruin him, and, under the torture of this feeling, plunges into a vortex of dissipation, and is now led by a remaining fifth monarchy man into a treasonable plot against his royal master and rival. Mistress Stewart sees with pain his altered feelings, and suspects him of being, after all, but hollow-hearted. Through the generosity of Nell Gwynne, with whom the duke has become enamoured, and whose best sympathies are awakened by his sufferings, the lovers are brought together, happily married,—in rather an off-handed way, by-the-bye,—and all parties to the treason escape through the influence of fair Nelly. The piece is full of striking situations and lively dialogue, which was on the whole well delivered. Miss Stewart had a fitting representative in Miss Ness, of the Royal Amphitheatre, and Miss Bessie Harding was a sprightly Nell Gwynne, and looked the part to perfection. The little that had to be done by Catherine of Braganza, the slighted queen, was well done by Miss Jenny Lemoine, and all the ladies, being members of either Mr. Henderson's or Mr. Byron's companies, were of course well up to their business. Of the gentlemen amateurs we are able to speak in terms of general commendation, but Mr. R. B. Cummins, as the Duke of Richmond, Mr. W. N. Nuttall as Samuel Pepys, Mr. Alfred T. Haddock as King Charles the Second, and Mr. S. Pearson as Major Wildman, the moving spirit of the conspiracy, deserve special mention. Mr. T. Walters as Lord Buckhurst, occasionally lacked animation, and, if he will pardon us for saying so, a more accomplished bearing for such an experienced *roué* as his lordship. The set speeches, with which the piece abounds, took amazingly with the audience; and when, in the midst of the mad orgie, the Duke is awakened to reason by the guns of the Dutch invaders at Chatham, and gives a parting toast in the presence of the masked king and his fellow revellers, his apostrophe to Cromwell, "the protector of all that was good and great in this country," literally "brought down the house" in thunders of applause. The piece was well put upon the stage; the dresses supplied by Mr. Henry Jeffreys, were suitable to the royal character of the play; and, under the direction of Mr. Norman Hill, the stage business was well managed. In the farce, Bro. W. J. Hammond's Tristram Sappy stood out distinctly as an excellent conception, and Bro. T. E. Hignett as Capt. Templeton, had all the ease of a finished actor. The female characters were well filled, and Miss Bessie Harding was a most lively Sally Moss. Perhaps the best compliment to the whole of the actors and actresses was paid in the circumstance of the audience, almost without exception, staying to the very last. Amongst those present, we noticed Mr. W. Hind, chairman of the Birkenhead Commissioners; Capt. W. Horner, and Lieutenant Roper, 2nd C.R.V.; Mr. Thomas Gaskell, Mr. E. Gaskell, Mr. James Darbyshire, and other well-known gentlemen. The orchestra was well filled by the band of the 2nd C.R.V. During the drama an incident occurred which showed the bravery of Miss Bessie Harding. In the burning of the treasonable documents which implicated Richmond, the management had forgotten to supply a "practicable" fireplace, and the scenery took fire, to the alarm of some of the audience. Nell Gwynne, however, with characteristic promptness, assisted the King to extinguish the flames, and somebody behind the scene was so active in the emergency that it was generally suspected his Grace of Richmond had a hand in it. Confidence was restored almost ere it had begun to be lost, and what might have been a serious accident happily avoided. The institution is well worthy of support. It is now in its fourth year of existence, and the objects of it being for the education and advancement in life of the children of distressed and deceased Masons, it is patronised by all the distinguished and influential Masons in the county, but its origin and success are mainly owing to the exertions of Mr. J. P. Platt. It has at present under its care eight orphans, children of deceased and decayed Masons, and has a funded capital of £500. The success of the performance and its patronage was mainly owing to the exertions of the various Masters, Past Masters, and officers of the Mersey, Zetland, and Combermere Lodges in Birkenhead and Seacombe, and to the Chester Lodges; but a generous public came forward

with great liberality, and numbers of tickets were purchased by parties unable to be present. There was a sum of upwards of £20 taken at the doors, and great numbers went away unable to find accommodation. This sum, including the amount received for tickets, will reach nearly £120, leaving, after deducting expenses, a handsome sum for the benefit of the charity.

Poetry.

CAMOENS TO CATHERINE.

[Camoens, the celebrated but unfortunate author of the "Lusiad," first met Dona Caterina de Ataide, in the Church of Christ's Wounds, at Lisbon. She seems to have aroused love of the deepest and purest character in the bosom of the young poet, a love returned afterwards by the lady, for it was only after months of assiduous adoration that she gave him a silken fillet, instead of a tress of her hair which he had asked for. Camoens previous to this appears to have despised the dear creatures, and thought none of them at all worthy of his regard. Caterina being one of the Queen's ladies, great restraint was put upon her, and Camoens, having been found in the royal apartments, was sent into banishment, likely at the instigation of the lady's relatives, who did not favour the poet's suit. He, however, secretly returned, again had an interview with his lady love, again was detected, and sent a second time into banishment, with a hint to beware how he returned without permission. He joined King John III. in an expedition against the Moors in Africa, where he lost an eye, but covered himself with renown. His gallantry procured his recall to Court, whither he rushed with all the impetuosity of a lover, and found his Caterina dead. Many of his finest pieces are addressed to Caterina, whose memory in all his after sins and sorrows, fortunes and misfortunes, sickness and health, shone like a beacon of hope before him.]

The early mass was singing,
The altar bell was ringing,
Thick clouds of incense streaming, wrapt the host in perfumed
smoke,
Kneeling by the oaken screen,
First I saw thee, Catherine,
Then my heart of ice in liquid waters at thy beauty broke.

Ah! then, my heart beat quicker,
And my labouring breath came thicker
Through my parched lips, as on thy beauty feasted wild mine
eyes;
Prudence fled, and, all unwarly,
I, as if led by some fairy,
Fell into the sea of love, and knew it only by my sighs.

I who once had laughed
At love's most blessed draught,
And scoffed at womankind, and at all their fell bewitching
wiles;
I, the stony hearted,
Felt, as Eros darted
His keen arrow, from thy beauty, life was only in thy smiles.

When the Mass was done,
And thou wert from me gone,
I felt as if with thee had fled the broad proud sun of day.
Ah! dreary then seem'd life,
With pain and sorrow rife,
My choicest blooms lay wither'd, and turn'd before me to decay.

But from that fated hour
The church became a bower,
Beside the screen each morning, found me waiting there for
thee.

All tremblingly I stood,
And wildly gushed my blood,
When thro' the porch I saw thee, like some angel, come to me.

And time flew on, and I
At length dared utter sigh,

Thou heard'st me, and thou turn'd'st to me, thou did'st not
turn away.

No need of words when eye
Could answer back to eye,
Thou loved'st me! a high feast still I keep that holy day.

Alas! that love should be
But constant misery.
Alas! that hearts mayn't freely tell the love they bear to other.
Only the stolen glance
Where love doth gaily dance,
Reveals the vow and passion that 'fore the gibing world we
smother.

Oh, hours of bliss! Alas,
Such heavenly moments pass.
Proud eyes had seen what we, poor fools, so fondly thought
unseen.

I asked a tress of hair
To comfort my despair,
When from thy side thou gavest me thy fillet's silken sheen.

High words of pride were spoke
When on us fierce they broke,
And drove me from thee, by their might, to lonely banishment.
Ah! wildly then I wept,
I would have crouch'd and crept
To their proud feet, and begged, would they have changed the
punishment.

What cared I for thy state!
I felt thou wert my fate,
As proud and blue blood swept my veins as swept in theirs or
thine.

But, ah! was I not poor?
They drove me from thy door
Out into the cold, the bitter air, to wither there and pine.

Who set them up for gods?
Who bade them fashion rods
To scourge the heart's blood from me, and drive me wildly on
despair?

In Heaven there is but love,
Can we earth-worms more prove
Our right to Heaven than doing what the angel ones do there?

I stole back from exile—
With studied watch and wile
We met. Oh, blessed night! although to say a sad farewell.
Fainting I press'd the kiss,
And, strange, I felt but bliss,
Even while I heard the parting sounding from the chapel bell.

Though storms dash'd o'er thine eyes,
Broke on thy heart in sighs.
Though sorrow toll'd in harsh hoarse notes affection's parting
knell,

Oh! yet to me 'twas bliss,
For as kiss answer'd kiss,
Ah! then I knew at last all that I wished—thou loved'st me well.

For love so hid before
Was secret then no more,
That kiss told all that thou before had'st timidly concealed,
For love wept in thine eyes,
And sobb'd among thy sighs,
Each pang that shook thy heart, only the more his face re-
vealed.

I could but think of bliss,
When love dwelt on the kiss,
And hope, with golden pinions, on a glorious morning broke.
It seem'd then to console,
And soothe my anxious soul—
"Affection's child in woe that's born shall die in bliss," it spoke.

But ah! accursed fate,
They thunder'd at the gate.
Once more, ev'n like the timid dove, I was thrust out of the ark,
To wander o'er the deep,
To rave, and moan, and weep,
And friends to make of those sad sombre spectres of the dark.

I battled in far scenes,
My thoughts but Catherine's,

Then home I bled, like pilgrim to the Saviour's holy shrine.
I dream'd of perfect bliss,
Ah! who could dream of *this*?
Dead, dead! my love! my only love! my soul's beloved Catherine!

I asked for thee. In gloom
They led me to thy tomb,
Where lilies rear'd their fair and gentle faces above thine.
I shriek'd for death to come,
For death to take me home,
That in heaven at least I might possess my Catherine.
Edinburgh, 1866. —ANTHONY ONEAL HAYE.

MEETINGS OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND LEARNED SOCIETIES FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOV. 17TH, 1866.

Monday, Nov. 12th.—ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, Burlington House, at 8.30 p.m.

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen, accompanied by Princess Louise, and attended by the Hon. Emily Cathcart, went on the 31st ult. to the Boys' Parish School, and afterwards called at the Manse to inquire after the Rev. Mr. Anderson, who is confined to the house by serious illness. The Queen drove out in the afternoon, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, and attended by the Hon. Emily Cathcart. Her Majesty the Queen, with their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess Christian, Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice, left Balmoral on the 1st inst. at five minutes before one o'clock, and arrived at Windsor Castle on the 2nd inst. at a quarter before nine. The Queen, accompanied by Princess Christian, drove in the grounds in the afternoon, and her Majesty drove with Princess Louise on the 3rd inst. The Queen inspected at Windsor Castle the testimonial which was presented through the Earl of Bessborough to the late Mr. Charles Davis, who was for upwards of forty years Royal Huntsman, from noblemen, gentlemen, and farmers frequenting the Royal Hunt. This testimonial was specially bequeathed to her Majesty by Mr. Davis. Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Louise and Princess Beatrice, drove in the Home Park in the afternoon. The Queen, their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince and Princess Christian, Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice, and the ladies and gentlemen in waiting, attended Divine service in the private chapel. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor officiated. The Queen, with Princess Christian, drove in the grounds on the morning of the 5th inst. The Queen, with Princess Louise and Princess Beatrice, drove in the Home Park in the afternoon. Prince and Princess Christian went out driving also. Her Majesty, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Christian, drove in the grounds on the morning of the 6th inst. The Queen walked and drove in the grounds in the afternoon, and went out on the morning of the 7th inst., accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Louise.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The Registrar-General's weekly return of the births and deaths in the metropolis, records 73 deaths from cholera and 28 from diarrhoea. Bronchitis, phthisis, and pneumonia appear to have been unusually fatal; the deaths having been from each respectively 161, 157, and 113. The annual rates of mortality for the week ending Oct. 22nd, were per 1,000—Birmingham and Hull 20, Bristol 21, London 24, Salford 26, Glasgow 28, Sheffield 30, Leeds 31, Edinburgh 36, Liverpool 37, Dublin, Manchester, and Newcastle-on-Tyne, 38.

The deaths in Liverpool declined last week very considerably —The retirement of Lord Kingsdown from the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council has afforded an opportunity for the return of Lord Westbury to public life. According to a contemporary, who speaks with some authority in the matter, Chancery business will entirely engross the time of Sir Hugh Cairns, and his services therefore cannot be made available in the higher court. Lord Westbury, however, has offered to preside over the deliberations of the Judicial Committee, and his proposal has been accepted.—The sudden death of Mr. Thomas Phinn, formerly member for Bath, and Secretary to the Admiralty, is announced. He was arranging to pay a visit to Lord Clarence Paget, in the Mediterranean, when he expired from disease of the heart.—The Lord Mayor, in the course of the sitting of the Court of Common Council on the 1st inst. took occasion to refer to the approaching termination of his year of office. After thanking the members of the Corporation generally for the assistance they had afforded him in the discharge of his duties, his Lordship defended the character of the Corporation against those who decry it and say that it is useless. He declared that those who said so knew nothing about the matter. He regarded the Corporation as a most ancient and honourable institution, and one which had ever been foremost in upholding civil and religious freedom and the rights of the people.—There was a frightful colliery explosion near Newcastle-on-Tyne a few days since. A large number of men descended into the Pelton pit about two o'clock in the morning, and about half-past five there was an awful explosion in one part of it. In this part about forty men were at work, and of these twenty-four or twenty-five were killed. The explosion is supposed to have been caused by blasting, as no lights, save in locked safety lamps, were allowed in the pit.—A melancholy affair is reported from the Hammersmith Police-court. A carpenter named George Stone was sent to prison for twenty-one days for assaulting a county court bailiff. Stone's wife was near to her confinement, and the news of the committal of her husband threw her into convulsions. Attempts were made to procure the man's release, but they failed. Mrs. Stone became worse, and is since dead, leaving six children uncared for. Representations are being made to Mr. Walpole with a view of obtaining the release of the husband.—The law courts re-opened on the 2nd inst. after the long vacation. There was more than usual interest attaching to the event, in consequence of the changes which have taken place in the judicial bench since the court last sat. In the Lords Justices' Court Sir Hugh Cairns was greatly cheered by those in court.—The Lord Mayor elect, Mr. Alderman Gabriel, was, in accordance with ancient custom, presented to the Lord Chancellor. The Recorder introduced Mr. Alderman Gabriel, and briefly sketched his career. The Lord Chancellor formally signified Her Majesty's approval of the choice which the citizens had made of a Lord Mayor. In the evening, the Lord Mayor elect entertained a brilliant company to dinner at the Albion tavern.—The death of Mr. G. Lort Phillips, M.P., has created a vacancy in the representation of Pembrokeshire. He was a Conservative in politics, and the seat is likely to be contested by the Liberal party.—A Commandership of the Bath is to be conferred on Staff-Commander Moriarty, R.N., whose services in navigating the *Great Eastern* and in discovering the position of the old cable were for a time insufficiently recognised.—An Anthropological Society has been organised at Manchester. Those who are acquainted with the society of the same name in London can easily imagine what the tendency of this body is likely to be. One thing is certain: that it will emulate the parent society in its hatred of the negro and in its contempt for

authorities like Professor Huxley, Mr. Mill, and Mr. Herbert Spencer. Dr. Hunt appealed to Dr. Beddoe to confirm his own wild theory that the evils from which the Irish people are suffering are due, not, as Mr. Bright argues, to the conditions to which they are subjected, but to peculiarities of race. Dr. Beddoe, however, did nothing of the kind, but remarked that the misfortune was that England had undertaken to govern a people whom she could not understand. —The Mansion House Police-court the other day was thronged by persons anxious to hear the examination of some persons who are charged with conspiring to defraud an insurance company, and with scuttling the ship *Severn*. Several witnesses were examined, and if their testimony is uncontradicted, it would seem that the whole affair is of a most abominable character. A plan was most carefully elaborated by which the underwriters were to be defrauded. The prisoners charged with the offence were remanded for further examination. —Tichborne-street was the scene of a strange altercation the other evening. According to the evidence adduced in support of a summons heard before the presiding magistrate at the Marlborough-street Police-court, a friend of the Hairdressers' Early Closing Association was on the evening in question indulging in the distribution of bills for the promotion of the early closing movement in front of a hairdresser's shop in Tichborne-street, when the proprietor came to the door and threw a pail of water over the person distributing the bills. The latter inquired why he was treated so, and the answer he received was a blow in the face. The proprietor of the shop acknowledged that he had thrown the water and struck the complainant, but excused himself on the plea that he was provoked to do so by the repeated annoyances of the advocates and bill-distributors of the early closing movement. The magistrate informed the anti-early-closing master hairdresser that he did wrong in taking the law into his own hands, and fined him 20s. and costs. —Several vagrant children were brought before the magistrate at the Clerkenwell Police-court, and those of them for whose future good behaviour ample security was not given were remanded for a week that they might be transferred to an industrial school. The more general enforcement of the provisions of the Act by which vagrant children may be rescued from the streets, is a measure which public opinion is quite prepared to support. Out of the 150,000 children who, in London alone, are without any means of education, there must be some thousands who come within this category. —A fire of a very extensive and destructive character has occurred in the parish of St. Luke's. By it the extensive premises of Mr. J. Strickland, veneer merchant and picture-frame manufacturer, situated at the rear of Pear Tree-street, close to Goswell-road, were entirely consumed, and no less than nine houses so extensively damaged that the occupants, who were struggling working people, have been not alone sadly put about, but severe losers. —Lord Justice Cairns took his seat in the Court of Chancery on the 3rd inst. This event excited great interest in the profession. —Further legal changes are spoken of. Thus it is said Vice-Chancellor Kindersley will retire to make room for Mr. Malins, Q.C., who did not get in for Wallingford at the last election, but who has done his party good service. Then Chief Justice Erle is stated to have sent in his resignation, and it is added that he is to be succeeded by Sir W. Bovill. All this haste to find permanent places for political supporters looks very much as if the Derby Government did not expect to hold power very long and was resolved to make the most of its time. —It is gratifying to find that the appeal for help for the people of Quebec is being generously met. There was a meeting

in Manchester on the 5th inst., when a canvass for subscriptions was resolved upon. Already the Mayor of Quebec has been directed through the Atlantic Cable to draw upon the Mayor of Manchester for £1,000. The Lord Mayor of London publicly invoked subscriptions for the distressed people of Quebec. —Mr. Howard, the celebrated implement maker of Bedford, has recently been upon a tour in the United States, and has read a most interesting paper before the members of the Farmers' Club, at the Salisbury Hotel, upon "Things in America, Social as well as Agricultural." Mr. Howard spoke in most eulogistic terms of America, and said that it must be seen to be at all understood or appreciated. Dickens and Trollope might have met the characters whom they had portrayed in their works, but from what he had seen he was unable to corroborate them. Mr. Howard's remarks upon agriculture and farming were of a most practical character, and will repay perusal. —Moses Moses, the man upon whose premises a large quantity of stolen goods was recently found, was brought up at the Mansion House for further examination. In one case it was clearly shown that goods found had been stolen while in transit to the docks, and upon this charge the prisoner was committed for trial. —A strange manslaughter case was brought under the notice of Dr. Lankester. It appears that an elderly person, named Hoskins, a surveyor, residing in Kentish Town, has been in the habit of dropping into a tavern called after the Prince of Wales. A few days before the old man's death the landlord of the tavern accused him of insulting his wife, and the deceased was forthwith ordered off the premises. On a subsequent day deceased seems to have gone to the tavern again, for, according to his son's account, the purpose of "clearing up matters." Instead, however, of the visit having that effect, the landlord and the old man quarrelled, and the quarrel ended in the death of the deceased. The result of the coroner's inquest was a verdict of manslaughter against Richard Parry, proprietor of the tavern. —A deputation waited, on the 6th inst., on Sir Stafford Northcote, President of the Board of Trade, in reference to the currency question. The deputation represented the Currency Reform Association, and its views were explained by Mr. A. Alison, chairman of that association. He traced all the panics and commercial evils of these times to the fact that the Bank of England is a trading concern, with a share capital, and bound to make profits. He proposed that there should be created a Bank of Issue, which should take away from the Bank of England the right of issue, and give out bank notes to whomsoever chose to take them in exchange for gold or Government securities. Sir Stafford Northcote did not seem to understand how the project would work advantageously, but he promised to confer with the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the subject. —The Master of the Rolls has given judgment in a very important case affecting the episcopal income of the Bishop of Natal. It is well known that Dr. Colenso's salary from the Colonial Bishops' Fund has been withheld for some time past, and that he has instituted an action in Chancery for its recovery. His lordship gave an absolute judgment in favour of the plaintiff, laying down the principle that so long as he remained Bishop of Natal his salary must be paid, and that none of the issues which have been decided in the other courts exempt the trustees from the responsibility they assumed on his elevation to the colonial see. —A meeting was held on the 6th inst. in one of the committee rooms of Exeter Hall, to take certain steps in reference to the open church movement. Mr. J. J. Powell, Q.C., presided. The meeting discussed various matters in connection with the proposal for having the churches open for daily prayer, and also

for having the seats free.—The Rev. C. H. Spurgeon delivered an address to the Society of Friends, in the Friends' Institute, Bishopsgate-street, on the 6th inst. The subject was the "Life and character of George Fox." The speaker strongly urged upon the members of the society the duty of taking an active part in the contest against Ritualism, they occupying a peculiarly eligible vantage ground for engaging in such a contest. The meeting was largely attended.—The Poor-law Medical Officers' Association met at the Ship Hotel, Charing-cross, and by formal resolution, as well as by speeches, strongly deprecated any interference on the part of boards of guardians with the life appointments of medical officers. It appeared from the statements made that attempts had been made to displace such officers. A resolution was likewise passed urging the desirability of medical officers having a seat at the board, to advise the guardians on questions of medical management. Dr. Rogers, of the Strand Union, occupied the chair.—There was a meeting on the 7th inst. in Willis's Rooms, in support of the Universities Mission to Central Africa. The Bishop of Oxford was to have presided, but was detained by a slow train, and the Bishop of Lincoln took the chair in his stead. The proceedings were of an interesting character. The conduct of Bishop Tozer in removing the mission station was strongly defended, and an urgent appeal was made for funds.—There was also a meeting at the Mansion House to take steps in respect to raising a fund for the relief of the sufferers by the great fire at Quebec. The urgency of the case was pointed out, and various subscriptions were announced. Among these were the Duke of Cambridge £50, and the Earl of Carnarvon £200. The total amount of subscriptions is about £7,150.—An order in council is published in a supplement to the *Gazette*, according to which store markets may be opened with the licence of the Privy Council in counties where there has been no cattle plague for a month previously.—On the 7th inst. Mr. J. D. Coleridge, Q.C., M.P., inaugurated the third session of the Articled Clerks' Society by delivering an address to the members and friends of the society in the Great Hall of King's College, Strand. The address, as might have been anticipated, was most interesting and instructive, and was delivered in Mr. Coleridge's most felicitous style. There were kindly words of advice and encouragement to the young men engaged in the study of the arduous profession of the law, and the value of a general cultivation of the mind was enforced in most eloquent terms. The address was listened to with the greatest attention, and at the close a discussion upon the present state of the law of libel was introduced, and carried on in a very able manner by several articled clerks who were present.—At the Surrey Sessions, a case of a curious character was tried. A barman named Britton was charged with robbing his master. The master, it seems, suspected Britton of robbery, and took serjeant Ham, a detective officer, into counsel as to how he should test the correctness of his suspicions. Ham told him to mark some money, and send some one with it to get drunk. This was done, and then Ham being called in, Britton was charged with robbery, and his box searched, when two of the marked coins were there discovered. But it came out in cross-examination that Ham had previously lent the prosecutor keys by means of which he had opened Britton's box, and the prosecutor admitted that he had on three occasions used the keys and searched the box. The Chairman of the Sessions in summing up severely commented upon Ham's conduct in lending the keys for such a purpose, and the jury, who acquitted Britton, expressed their entire concurrence therein.—Some extraordinary evidence has been given at an inquest on

the bodies of three children of a Mr. Lazarus, a clothier in the Hampstead-road. The premises of Mr. Lazarus were destroyed by fire on the 5th inst., and the children were then burnt to death. Two servants who lived in the house deposed that when the cry of fire was given, they took a baby out of the front door and then wanted to go back for the other children, when the police interfered and prevented them. Both witnesses declared there was plenty of time to save the lives of the children had they been permitted to make the attempt. In this they were corroborated by a man named Cornelius Reading. He gave the first alarm of fire, and when he was told there were five children upstairs went up to the top of the house and brought down one. He went a second time and brought a second, and when he wished to go again and bring the others, the police interfered and prevented him. The inquest is adjourned for further inquiry into the matter.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—The *Presse* has a story to the effect that Prussia and Russia have really come to a perfect understanding, and are about to divide the greater part of Europe between them. Prussia is to do what she likes with Denmark, and annex as many German States as she pleases. Russia is to have Galicia and Turkey. Italy is to have some sop thrown to her, and England is to be quieted with the protectorate of Egypt. This is surely the maddest of mad rubbish. What is to become of France in this arrangement? She probably would have something to say about Egypt and also as to Turkey. Sooner or later there can be no doubt the Mahommedan rule must cease out of Europe, but it will not be in consequence of any such arrangement as that which the *Presse* talks of. It is quite possible that Austria would be willing to give up Galicia for a consideration; but where is that compensating transfer of territory to be had? If we were to place implicit reliance upon the Vienna papers, we might conclude that Austria has made peace with Italy with a strong mental reservation. The *New Free Press* denies that the Emperor Francis Joseph has renounced his rights of succession to the territories of the dispossessed Italian princes. No one, however can suppose that the Emperor has any serious intention of endeavouring to enforce these so-called rights. Austria's connection with Italy has not been of such a pleasant or profitable kind that she would be likely to wish it renewed.—A Constantinople telegram gives with some detail of a defeat of the Candiot insurgents which must have completely destroyed all their hopes of ultimate success. The battle took place near Vrissa, and of 10,000 Cretans engaged, 700 were killed. It is added that 3,000 insurgents who had taken refuge in the caves of Melidoni were drowned by the rising of the tide. It must be remembered that this account comes from Turkish sources, but it has not yet been contradicted, and if the Greeks had had any room to discredit the report they would doubtless have done so before this.—A Vienna telegram says that the accession of Baron von Beust to the Cabinet is most acceptable to the other members of the Ministry. It is further said that the appointment of the Baron means that a policy of conciliation is to be pursued towards Hungary. This, indeed, is what might be expected, bearing in mind Baron von Beust's recent political course. Moreover, there can be no doubt that Austria's future existence as a Power will depend largely on the manner in which she deals with Hungary.—There can be little doubt that the Constantinople telegram announcing a defeat of the Cretan insurgents was in the main true. A message from Athens, in fact, virtually confirms it; for the admission is made that the Cretans had pressed by the Turks, had been compelled to retreat. The announcement is softened, however, by the statement that the Christians have gained partial success elsewhere.