

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1866.

A SKETCH OF THE PHILOSOPHY, TRADITIONS, AND RECORDS OF THE MASONIC ORDER OF THE RED ✠ OR KNIGHTS OF CONSTANTINE, AT PRESENT UNDER THE COMMAND OF LORD KENLIS, M. ILL. G. SOV.

By Bro. ROBERT WENTWORTH LITTLE, P.M., &c.

(Continued from page 466.)

Macarius, Patriarch of Jerusalem, in order to provide for the defence of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, requested the Emperor Constantine to place under his command a body of Knights who should be sworn to defend the sacred sanctuary against the incursions of the barbaric tribes of Syria. The patriarch's desire was complied with, a certain number of Red Cross Knights being selected, who after having received the sacrament solemnly vowed to defend the Holy Sepulchre, and never to forsake the Christian religion.

The Knights of the Holy Sepulchre therefore derived their origin from the Order of Constantine, and formed the nucleus of those great orders of chivalry which became so renowned and powerful in the twelfth and following centuries.

After the death of Constantine the Red Cross Order continued to flourish, in the year 456 it was confirmed by Pope Leo, in a letter which that pontiff addressed to the Emperor Marcian, and the rule of St. Basil was directed to be adopted by the order. Many of the philosophical members accordingly withdrew into the Deserts of Thebais, and other wild places where they lived such exemplary lives as to be termed "Kadosh" or "Kodesh," a Hebrew word signifying "holy" or sanctified.

The Emperor Leo I. also recognised the institution by according the privilege of admission into the revived *Ordo equestris* of the Holy Roman empire to the military section of the order.

The *labarum* or standard of Constantine was deposited with great solemnity in one of the Churches in Brescia where it continued to be exhibited as a relic down to the period of the French Revolution. In 1099, after the entry of the Crusaders into Jerusalem, Godfrey de Bouillon remodelled and extended the Order of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre and many of the most zealous members became also Knights of St. John of Jerusalem.

Richard Cour de Lion was enrolled as a follower of the Red Cross banner and in after days another of our Plantagenet Kings, Edward I. was initiated into the mysteries of the order, and fought in Palestine.

After the first Crusades eighty-one Knights, under the conduct of Garimont, patriarch of Jerusalem, travelled into Sweden, and having admitted the Archbishop of Upsal into their fraternity, they entrusted to his charge the archives of the order which the prelate received and placed in a tomb of marble, sealed with four seals.

The warriors then returned to Jerusalem, but finding that all hope of permanently reconquering the Holy Land was at an end they resolved to abandon the attempt, and seek in their several countries the means of perpetuating the order. Some sought refuge in Perugia, and others offered their services to the Emperor Isaac Angelus Comnenus, who having directed inquiries to be made as to the alleged antiquity of the brotherhood, and finding the proofs satisfactory, in 1190 revived the order on a scale of increased splendour.

The Comnenian family were considered to be the lineal descendants of Constantine, and no less than thirty-four emperors were afterwards Grand Masters of the Order. From this epoch the Knights were sometimes called the illustrious order of the Golden Angel, or the angelic society, in allusion to the name of the Emperor who reorganized the confraternity. The Knights of the Holy Sepulchre were incorporated with the Knights of Rhodes, the name adopted by the Order of St. John after their expulsion from Jerusalem, and as members of the latter body they possessed great wealth in most of the European kingdoms. Their chief seat in England was at Clerkenwell, then a village adjoining London, where their ancient habitation is to be found at the present day. The last Grand Master of the House of Comnenus, who ruled over the Order of the Red Cross was Andrew Angelus Flavius Comnenus, titular Prince of Macedonia, and Duke of Drivasto, who in 1699 resigned that dignity into the hands of the reigning Duke of Parma, who completely eliminated the masonic element from the ceremonies of the order, and continued it merely as an honorary institution of Knighthood. It has since been annexed to the crown of Naples, but in 1816, the Ex-Empress of France, Maria Louise declared herself the supreme

head of the Order, founding her claim from its having been attached to the Court of Parma (of which she was then Grand Duchess) for more than a century. It is unnecessary, however, to enlarge upon the fact that the connection of the Comnenian branch of the Order with masonry ceased in 1699, long before which time nearly every nation possessed the degrees of Freemasonry. "Bands" or conclaves of Red Cross Knights were undoubtedly in existence in England in the early part of the eighteenth century, particularly in the Metropolis and Lancashire. The Premier Conclave of England, which has existed from time immemorial, gave rise to the formation of the Council of "Emperors of the East and West," a body which was established in Paris about the year 1758, and is considered as the parent of the Ancient and Accepted Rite.\* In 1780, among the members of the Premier Conclave, the names of Sir John St. Aubyn and Lord C. Montagu are mentioned, but the records of that period are very meagre. In 1788 a revival took place, Major Charles Shirreff, of Whitechurch, Salop, was elected Grand Master, and conferred the Grand Cross or Sovereign rank of Prince Mason upon the following brethren: James Heseltine, Esq., Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of London; William White, Esq., Grand Secretary; John Allen, Esq., Provincial Grand Master for the County of Lancaster, and P.J.G.W.; James Galloway, Esq., P.J.G.W.; and George Sweetinbourg, a P.M., and Assistant to the Grand Secretary of the said Grand Lodge. It is worth noting that the first Grand Lodge of Perfection, known to have been held in England was opened by the above-named Knights. In 1790 Sir Knight T. Dunckerly was installed and endeavoured to amalgamate the Red Cross and Sepulchre degrees with the Order of the Temple. In this he partially succeeded as some of the members of the former being also allied to the latter body communicated their secrets to the Templars, who thereupon styled themselves "Knights of the Holy Temple and Sepulchre."† In 1796 Lord Rancliffe was the head of all the degrees then practised outside the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, including the Order of the Red Cross. In 1804 he was succeeded by Walter Rodwell Wright, (Prov. G.M. for the Ionian Isles), and soon afterwards Prince Edward, Duke of Kent,

was admitted and declared Royal Grand Patron of the "Illustrious Order of the Red Cross."

(To be continued.)

#### MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

##### OLD MINUTE BOOK.

At page 42 of the second edition of Mr. Halliwell's "History of Freemasonry in England," it is said in a foot note that Mr. Black possesses a minute book of the Freemasons of Chester, of the commencement of the seventeenth century. As there is a great interest attaching to the early history of the Chester Freemasons, whose "Constitutions" are still extant, I should be glad if any brother could say where that minute book now is, or could be seen.—HIRAM.

Does any brother know what is the date of the earliest Craft warrant in England?—HIRAM.

In what Masonic work is the quotation used by Mr. Gilbert Scott in his "Gleanings of Westminster Abbey" to be found? that in an old work of the Freemasons it is said that good proportions may be obtained from the square, but better from the equilateral triangle.—HIRAM.

##### FREEMASONRY IN TURKEY.

I see in your number for Nov. 8, p. 349, a letter dated Constantinople, Oct. 15, and signed "P.M." The beginning of it refers to a paragraph in your MAGAZINE of the 15th Sept., signed "William Compass." This correspondent had stated that he saw a building near the Hippodrome in Constantinople, within the courtyard of which, on each side of the gateway, and on massive walls full twenty feet high, "he found depicted a gigantic pair of compasses, a triangle, a great twenty-four inch gauge, and other emblems."

"P.M." says "a more absurd mis-statement was never printed. No such emblems appear on the walls of the building. The boards he noticed on the wall are simply similar to those on all public buildings, and have no resemblance whatever to Masonic symbols."

The description of "William Compass" is clear, and the denial of "P.M." is decided, and "P.M." says he writes from Constantinople on Oct. 18, and puts himself forward as an authority in Turkey.

I happen to have been in Constantinople too as late as "P.M." As to boards, "William Compass" says nothing about boards, and "P.M." will do well to state what boards are on the walls of the building, and on all public buildings in Constantinople, for boards are not, as he supposes, usual things. The name of the building is sometimes inscribed on a board or stone over the doorway, and sometimes there is a copy of verses on stone; but what his boards can be it is not easy to see.

I will go a step further, and tell him that at the time he wrote all that "W. Compass" describes was on the walls, and there "P.M." could have seen it in black and white, if ever he had entered the building. Within the courtyard I have seen over and over again on those walls the gigantic pair of compasses, the triangle, the twenty-four inch gauge, &c. Whether these have any resemblance to Masonic

\* See *Acta Latomorum*.

† This title was afterwards abandoned.

symbols your reader can judge, and he can inform himself, whenever he goes to Constantinople. He can learn from some brother who is an official in the building.

I have several times inquired as to the origin of these emblems without getting any satisfactory answer. Of course they do not belong to Freemasons, but to masons they belong as do similar groups of tools recorded in archaeological works as found in ancient buildings. I have been told it was because there is a special school or *Rushdiyeh*, also because there is in the building the office of the *Ebniyeh* or Board of Works, but as the designs are in close contact with the hooks used by the firemen for pulling down buildings, it may have some connection with that department.

As to "P. M.'s" correction of a misprint for *Tijaret*, he exposes himself to criticism, as he has been hypercritical with a brother. *Tidjaret* is in English written *Tijaret*, as it is spelled with a *J* or *J*, and it is thus we write it for Arabic, Persian, Turkish, and Hindostanee words, but his friends at Constantinople take these things as second-hand from the French, who, for want of the *J* sound write *Dj*, and in some cases his friends follow the Germans and write *Dsch*.

There can be no doubt "P. M." is thoroughly assured that the *Tijaret* is so called, being a meaning for the Ottoman Tribunal of Commerce, for most of his friends do believe it. Although the law is so dogmatically laid down by "P. M.", he has made a blunder. The Turks called the building *Tijaret Kapusse*, before the Tribunal of Commerce was introduced into the building, as it is so named after the *Tijaret Nazare* or Minister of Commerce. The building contains the offices of the Ministers of Commerce, Public Works, Public Instruction and Agriculture; the Departments of Mines, Forests, Steamship Inspectors, the *Ebniyeh* or Board of Works, a college, the Tribunals of Commerce, the Bankruptcy Court, a debtor's prison, &c.

It is further to be observed that it is not an absurd statement that Freemasons are not allowed by the Turkish Government, notwithstanding the circumstances he states, because he knows, if he knows anything, that the lodges throughout the empire might be shut up by the police at any moment, that Freemasonry is not approved by the Government, and that Freemasons have been persecuted this very year. Freemasonry is not even tolerated by the Government, as in France or Italy.

It is very easily to be understood that "P. M." even if an old resident in Constantinople, or more properly speaking in the Christian suburbs, should make this tissue of misstatements, and that an intelligent traveller like "W. Compass," or a resident in London like myself, should be correct; but apart from those who go from Dan to Beersheba and find all barren, the Europeans out there cluster together like the French in *Lestarr Squarr*, and propagate their mutual ignorance and blundering.

What is not quite so readily to be understood is, that any brother in the position of a P. M. should be so ready to attack another brother without justification. This denotes a malevolent, and not a Masonic disposition. Under these circumstances, I do not append my name, but if "P. M." publishes his, you know mine.—*ANGLUS*.

## THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

### MASONIC MEMS.

ROBBERY OF VALUABLE MASONIC JEWELS.—The *New York Tribune* of the 1st inst., says: "About half-past five o'clock on Wednesday evening, the 28th Nov., the jewels belonging to St. John's Lodge of Newark, were stolen from the preparation room of the Lodge while the Secretary was engaged in writing up his minutes in the main room. The jewels were highly prized on account of their great antiquity, and the interesting associations with which they had been connected. They were the same used by Gen. Washington, when Gen. La Fayette was made a mason at Morristown, during the Revolutionary War, and were 104 years old. The articles stolen had engraved upon them the words, "St. John's Lodge, Nov. 1, 1761," and comprised a square and compass crossed with a star in the middle, a level, a plumb, two cornicopias, two cross swords, a mallet, cross keys, cross quills, and a square. A reward is offered for the recovery of the jewels, and the losers, in a published advertisement, promise to "ask no questions" of the person or persons returning them."

### METROPOLITAN.

ST. GEORGE'S LODGE (No. 140).—This old lodge met at the Lecture Hall, Greenwich, on Wednesday, December 19th. Bro. C. J. Badger, presided and there were present:—Bros. W. Noak, S.W.; A. H. Tattershall, J.W. and W.M. elect, 13; G. Edington, P.M., Treas.; H. A. Collington, P.M., Sec.; E. W. Pook, S.D.; Hodson, J.D.; Johnson, I.G.; G. N. Mourylian, P.M.; E. W. Habbuck, P.M., and others. Visitors were:—F. Walters, P.M. 73, 147, Sec. 871; J. Hasler, P.M. 79; J. Bavin, P.M., Sec. 147, and others. The business done was passing four brethren and initiating one gentleman into the Order, all of which was rendered in an able and impressive manner. The election for W.M. for the ensuing year was unanimous in favour of Bro. W. Noak, S.W., and unanimous for Treasurer for Bro. G. Edington, P.M., Treas., who has thus far been elected on very many occasions. Bro. Riley was unanimously re-elected Tyler by show of hands. The audit was appointed to be held on Friday, January 10. The bye-laws were altered so as to increase the initiation fee to £3, joining fee to £3 3s., and the subscriptions were also increased, which will, no doubt, increase the future prosperity of this lodge. Business being ended the lodge was closed. The brethren then partook of banquet at the Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich, Bro. J. Moores.

LODGE OF TEMPERANCE (No. 169).—This old lodge met on Thursday, December 20, at the White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford. Bro. N. Wingfield, W.M., presided, and was assisted by Bros. J. Searle, I.P.M.; J. Tibbals, P.M. Sec.; G. Brown, P.M. Treas.; G. Bolton, P.M.; R. Moore, P.M.; Nowlan, P.M.; Barrett, P.M.; Paine, S.W.; Moss, J.W., and other members. Several visitors were present, Bros. Walters, P.M., 73; Nash, 79; Lightfoot, 147, and others. All the three ceremonies were as usual ably and well rendered, which reflected the greatest amount of credit on Bro. N. Wingfield, W.M. Ballots proved unanimous for Bros. Paine, S.W. as W.M., and Brown, P.M., Treasurer, re-elected. Show of hands was unanimous for Bro. Holt, P.M., Tyler, re-elected. A £5 5s. Past Master's jewel was unanimously voted to Bro. N. Wingfield, W.M. for his efficient services, who, in an appropriate reply, acknowledged the favour. The officers for Benevolent Fund and Audit Committee were duly appointed. Then the lodge was closed. Refreshment followed.

## PROVINCIAL.

## BERKS AND BUCKS.

ANNUAL FESTIVAL.—*Grey Friars Lodge* (No. 1,101).—On Thursday the 13th instant, the ceremony of installing the W.M., Bro. W. P. Ivey, for the second time took place. On that occasion a very important gathering of brethren from this and the adjoining provinces of Hants, Oxon, and Wilts, assembled to compliment this spirited young lodge on the great success which had attended its labours. This lodge, which was consecrated only in May last, has made great and rapid progress, and already numbers about thirty members. An additional interest to that of the installation of the W.M. was manifested by the initiation of one of the members for the borough, viz., G. J. Shaw Lefevre, Esq., also the editor of the *Berkshire Chronicle* newspaper (a spirited local journal of some forty years standing), A. Welch, Esq. Such an attractive programme could not fail to secure a numerous and highly influential meeting, indeed it is not often that in a provincial town so many Masonic notabilities are seen assembled, and we heartily congratulate the brethren of Grey Friars Lodge on the status they have attained in the Craft. At three o'clock the brethren began to assemble, soon after which the lodge was opened by the W.M., the minutes of former lodge and Lodge of Emergency were read and confirmed, the W.M. then retired and superintended the preparation of Mr. Lefevre for the ceremony of his initiation, which was most effectively done by Bro. W. Biggs, I.P.M. 110, P. Prov. S.G.W., Wilts, &c., &c., in his usual clear and correct manner. The W.M. then resumed the chair and initiated Mr. Welch into the secrets and mysteries of ancient Freemasonry with his usual correctness. The installation ceremony was performed by Bro. W. Biggs, I.P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W. of Wilts, who is so well known for his love of the art as well as being a most erudite student of the science of Masonry, in a most expressive manner. The W.M. was then saluted by the board of Past Masters, which he duly acknowledged, after which the procession of Master Masons preceded by the Installing Master, and the usual charges were effectively given, the W.M. replying that he could not find words to express the deep feelings of gratitude he experienced. The W.M. was then saluted by the F.C., to which he also feelingly responded, closing with the salutations of the B.A. and newly-initiated brethren. The lodge proceedings were brought to a close by the nomination of other candidates for initiation, &c., and a vote of thanks to Bro. T. Weightman, Treas., for his magnificent present of the perfect ashlar, suspended from solid brass fittings, of his own design and make, the W.M. stating that he would challenge the world for its equal. The brethren then adjourned to the Town Hall, where a banquet was provided by Mrs. Cocks, of the Queen's Hotel, whose catering, it need not be said, was excellent, as that has now become patent. The chair was taken by Bro. Ivey, W.M., who filled the office in a very effective and genial manner. Among the brethren present, most of whom had been at the installation, were Bros. A. W. Adair, Prov. G.M. Somersetshire; W. W. Beach, M.P., P. Prov. S.G.W. Oxon and Hants; the Rev. Sir John W. Hayes, Bart., P.G. Chap.; J. Devereux, P.M. 771, Prov. G. Sec. Berks and Bucks; C. Holden, Prov. G. Treas.; H. D'Almaine, W.M. 945, Prov. J.G.D. Berks and Bucks; the Rev. T. G. Mortimer, P.M. 945, P. Prov. G. Chap. Oxon; W. H. Valpy, St. John's Lodge, Maidenhead; C. W. Wyndham, P.M. 536, Prov. G. Supt. of Works, Wiltshire; F. A. Builey, P.M. 414, P. Prov. G.S.B. Berks and Bucks; W. W. Moxhay, P.M. 414, P. Prov. G. Reg. Berks; R. T. Woodhouse, P.M. 414, P.D. Prov. G.M. Berks; C. Sherry, P. Prov. S.G.W. Hants, P.M. 76; R. S. Halbert, P.M. 676, Prov. J.G.W. Hants; W. J. Ford, F.M. 694, Prov. G. Reg. Hants; J. Blandy Jenkins, (late High Sheriff of Berks), P.M. 945, P. Prov. J.G.W. Berks and Bucks; C. Smith, S.W. 414, Prov. G. Supt. of Works, Berks and Bucks; A. Sellar, W.M. 414; P. Prov. J.G.D. Berks and Bucks; J. Smith, Steward 414, Prov. G. Purst., Berks and Bucks; R. B. Body, I.G. 414, P. Prov. G. Steward, Berks and Bucks; J. W. Hounslow, 414, Prov. G. Steward, Berks and Bucks; R. Bradley, 413, Prov. G. Steward, Berks and Bucks; J. H. Walker, 414; Charles Butler, 414; J. R. Rogers, 414; R. Lovegrove, 414; Granville Sharp, and the following officers of Grey Friars Lodge; Bros. W. Biggs, I.P.M.; P. Prov. S.G.W. of Wilts, &c.; the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Chap., P.M., 771, P.

Prov. G. Chap. Berks. and Bucks.; J. Ellis, S.W.; Prov. Assist. G. Dir. of Cers., Berks. and Bucks.; A. Beale, J.W.; J. Weightman, Treas., G. Steward, Berks. and Bucks.; F. B. Houghton, 99; W. P. Ivey, Jun. Sec.; R. C. Hurley, S.D.; Prov. G. Steward, Berks. and Bucks.; George Lyddon, J.D.; Prov. G. Steward, Berks. and Bucks.; G. Chancellor, I.G., P. G. Steward, Berks. and Bucks.; E. J. Tabor, I.C.; J. Stransom, Steward; W. H. Birch, Org.; W. Godsmark, Steward and Almoner; J. T. Brown, J. T. Freeman, J. Egginton, E. Margrett, W. W. Wynne, H. L. Righton, W. W. Ridley, G. J. Shaw Lefevre, A. Welch, J. Hemmings, &c. On the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. Bro. the Rev. Sir John W. Hayes in responding to that of the Grand Officers of Grand Lodge, congratulated this lodge on its great prosperity and success, expressing his belief that the annals of Freemasonry did not afford a parallel case; indeed the principles of Freemasonry had become now to be more thoroughly appreciated and developed, evincing most clearly the popular feeling by the great progress which Masonry was making not only in England but throughout the whole world. The W.M., in proposing the health of the Prov. G.M. of Somerset, Bro. A. W. Adair expressed the great gratification he felt at being surrounded by so high and influential a gathering of dignified brethren of the Craft, it being the first festival this lodge had met to celebrate, and he trusted that at every annual meeting each brother in succession who had the honour of filling the chair would be supported in a similar manner. Bro. Adair who had a most cordial reception, said that he had heard a most glowing description of the state of the lodge, but had found that the picture was not overdrawn; he complimented Bro. Biggs most highly upon the efficient manner in which he had conducted the ceremony of installation; and also the officers of the lodge generally, upon showing such a thorough acquaintance with their duties. He also alluded to the gratification it afforded him to meet Bro. Beach, by whom he was initiated into the Order some years ago. Bro. W. Biggs, I.P.M., in proposing "the Health of Bro. Beach and the Grand Officers of Hampshire," said they esteemed him as a friend, as a member of society, as a country gentleman, and as one holding a high position in the Order of Masonry, and remarked, in highly eulogistic terms, that in no province were there more working Masons to be found than in that of Hants; but when they considered the number of years it had been under the rule of that distinguished and venerable Bro. Sir Lucius Curtis, he should have been surprised had it been otherwise. He hoped it would please the Great Architect of the Universe to spare our Bro. the Prov. G.M. of Somerset, so that in course of time he might arrive at the same dignified position in the Craft as that of Hampshire, the premier Prov. G.M. of England. Bro. Beach, in reply, made an able speech, in which he expressed his thanks to Bro. Biggs, to whom he was well known, as an old Mason of Hampshire, for having proposed his health, and stated the pleasure it gave him to meet so large a gathering, particularly amongst them one whom he had the pleasure of initiating, viz., the Prov. G.M. of Somerset, who, having proved himself so worthy of honour, had been raised to his present high position. Referring to Masonry in general, he said that all attacks upon it had proved futile, for it had held unchangeably to its principles, and steadfastly, and, therefore, it could not be shaken. Nothing could disperse the halo which surrounded her. One of these principles was, that all political and religious discussions were banished. Long might it continue to be the pride and privilege of Masonry to advance the prosperity and well-being of society. Bro. Simpson, Chaplain, congratulated the brethren upon the events of the day, and of that most important part, the installation of the W.M. Having had the experience of six months working from him, and of the way in which the work had been done, it augured well for the prosperity of the lodge. He concluded by proposing the health of their highly esteemed Bro. Ivey. The W.M. returned thanks in a most feeling and appropriate manner. Bro. J. Ellis, S.W., proposed "Prosperity to the Masonic Charities," which was responded to by Bro. Biggs, I.P.M., as Steward to the Girls' School for the province, at the same time placing on the table, as a gift to the Grey Friars Lodge, a most unique and elegant broken column for the collections, which was passed round for contributions, and a most liberal response was made by every brother. Other toasts were given, for which we have not space in our present number, and were replied to by Bros. Ellis, A. Beale, Lefevre, and A. Welch. A very agreeable evening was spent. About sixty were present at the dinner.

## CHESHIRE.

*Lodge of the Four Cardinal Virtues (No. 979).*—The monthly meeting on Tuesday, the 18th inst., was one of the most numerously attended. The new W.M., Bro. G. Lord, occupied the chair for the first time since his installation, and was supported by all his officers, viz., Bros. W. J. Bullock, 321, I.P.M. 979; Eardley, S.W.; Reade, J.W. and Treas.; J. Cope, S.D.; Gibson, J.D. and Org.; Whale, Sec.; Dobson, I.G., and the following members and visitors: Bros. D. Lord, Whiting, Heap, Banks, Heginbotham, Bagshaw, and Price; visitors, Bros. Burdett and W. Newton. The W.M. initiated Messrs. Miller and Fletcher into our mysteries, and performed his duties with great satisfaction, and so did all the officers, each emulating the other in the discharge of duty. Bro. Bullock also passed Bro. Banks to the Fellow Craft degree in his usual correct style. A letter was read from the Prov. G. Secretary, stating that Bro. Captain Cope, G.S.B., S.G.W. Cheshire, would represent this province as Steward at the next festival (when the Prov. G. Master will preside) of the Royal Benevolent Institution for aged Masons. Bro. Bullock suggested that the lodge should vote three guineas and add two guineas by subscription among the members, and forward this sum to Bro. Cope, who had shown so much kindness to this lodge. This was carried unanimously. Bro. Bullock, P.M., said on a former occasion he had the unpleasant duty of refusing admission to a visiting brother who had no certificate, nor anyone who could vouch for him. He hoped this lodge would never act otherwise under similar circumstances. Having found, however, that the brother had been registered in Grand Lodge as an Entered Apprentice only, he put himself in communication with the lodge, the Royal Sussex, Bath, and then found that Bro. Newton had been duly raised, and also acted as Secretary, but through certain irregularities then existing, had never received his certificate. Bro. Bullock said he was very pleased to see Bro. Newton present at his invite, and also to be able to hand him his Grand Lodge certificate, which he ought to have had twenty years ago, and which Bro. Payne, Prov. G. Treas. Somerset, had forwarded free of expense. Bro. Newton's feelings overcame him, and he expressed his gratitude for Bro. Bullock's unasked-for kindness. This is the fourth certificate that this lodge has obtained for brethren under somewhat similar circumstances. The brethren having closed the lodge retired to supper, and spent a most pleasant and sociable evening.

## CUMBERLAND.

*WHITEHAVEN.—Lewis Lodge (No. 872).*—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the lodge room on the evening of Monday, the 17th inst., Bro. Fisher, P.M., in the chair. After Messrs. R. Foster and W. Wilson had been passed, a discussion, originating with Dr. Rogers, of Millom, took place upon a point of order in reference to the funeral of the late Bro. F. L. B. Dykes, of Dovenby Hall, Prov. G.M. for Cumberland and Westmorland. A large number of Masons attended the funeral, but in plain clothes, a fact which had been animadverted upon by some of the local papers, the suggestion being that the members of the Craft present ought to have worn the usual insignia on the occasion. Bro. Dr. Rogers raised the question whether the animadversion was well founded, and the W.M. stated that a dispensation had been granted, but it arrived too late, besides which, in his view of the question, the gentlemen present at the funeral would have been wrong in wearing their insignia, &c., unless (which he believed was not the case) the late Prov. G.M. had expressed a wish to that effect before his death. Therefore the animadversion of the local press was ill-founded in point of order, and in point of bad taste. The W.M. proceeded to propose that a letter or resolution of condolence with Mrs. Dykes and family should be prepared for presentation from this lodge, which was seconded and unanimously agreed to. The lodge then proceeded to the installation of Bro. Hughes as W.M. for the ensuing year, the Installing Master, being Bro. Morton, P.M., who performed the ceremony in very excellent style.

## DURHAM.

*DURHAM.—Marquis of Granby Lodge (No. 124).*—On Tuesday the 4th inst. a regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Freemasons Hall, Durham, Bro. Nicholson, P.M. in the absence of the W.M., presiding. All the regular officers were present and a large number of the members attended. The lodge was opened in the first degree and the minutes read and

confirmed. The ballot was then taken for T. C. Thompson, Esq., of Sherburn Hall, with a satisfactory result as also in the case of Bro. H. A. Noel, of No. 893, who was regularly proposed as a joining member. Bros. Sewell and Chapman being candidates for advancement underwent the usual examination and acquitting themselves satisfactorily, were entrusted and withdrew. The lodge was then opened in the second degree when they were respectively introduced and passed to the degree of F.C. The lodge was then resumed in the first degree when Bro. Stoker, P.M., took the chair and initiated Mr. J. L. Wharton who had been approved of at a previous lodge. Having explained the working tools, &c., Bro. Nicholson resumed the chair when the voting was taken for the W.M., Treas., and Tyler for the ensuing year. The result proved that Bro. W. Stoker, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing twelve months, J. Raine re-elected Treas. and J. Carter re-elected Tyler. This having finished the business of the evening the lodge was closed in harmony and with prayer, after which the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

*DURHAM.—Marquis of Granby Lodge (No. 124).*—On Tuesday evening, 11th inst., a lodge of emergency regularly summoned, was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Old Elvet. The lodge was opened at seven o'clock precisely by the W.M. Bro. Fitzgerald, assisted by Bros. Blackett, S.W.; Young, J.W.; T. Sarsfield, Sec.; C. Rowlandson, S.D.; W. Brignall jun., J.D.; and T. C. Eldy, I.G. Among the brethren present were the R.W. Bro. Fawcett, Prov. G.M., and P.M.; W. Stoker, P.M.; W. Brignall, P.M., &c. The summons calling the meeting having been read and placed on the minutes, the lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bro. H. J. Baker, who was a candidate for raising underwent the usual examination in an exemplary manner. He was then entrusted and retired for preparation. In the meantime the lodge was opened in the third degree, when he was re-admitted and raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The ceremony was performed by the R.W. Prov. G.M. in a truly impressive manner. The lodge was then closed in the third and second degrees, and Mr. T. C. Thompson who was approved of at the last general lodge being in attendance, he was introduced and regularly initiated by the W.M., who explained the working tools. The business of the evening being thus ended, the lodge was duly closed and a number of the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

## MARQUIS OF GRANBY LODGE (No. 124.)

On Friday the 21st inst. a lodge of emergency regularly summoned was held in the Freemasons Hall, Old Elvet. The lodge was opened at five o'clock precisely by the W.M., Bro. W. R. Fitzgerald, assisted by Bros. W. C. Blackett, S.W.; J. Young, J.W.; Rev. G. R. Bulman, M.A., Chap. Prov. G. Chap.; T. Sarsfield, Sec.; J. Raine, Treas.; C. Rowlandson, S.D.; W. Brignall, jun., J.D.; T. C. Eldy, I.G.; W. Stoker, and T. Jones, P.M., &c.; visitors: Bros. J. Do Pledge and R. A. Barrell, 375. The circular convening the lodge and the request in writing to the Master having been duly entered on the minutes, the ballot was taken with a satisfactory result for the Rev. Henry Holden, D.D., head master of Durham School. The Right Hon. J. R. Mowbray, M.P., who was approved of at a former lodge, being in attendance as also Dr. Holden, they were respectively introduced and properly initiated as E.A.s. The W.M. having explained the working tools and no further business brought before the lodge the same was closed in duo form, after which the brethren, to the number of forty-three, adjourned to the County Hotel, when an excellent banquet was provided by Mrs. Turner, the obliging hostess, it being the occasion of the annual festival of St. John, the Evangelist. Grace having been said and the loving cup passed round, desert with wine was placed on the table.

The W.M. rose and said: "Brethren as I know all of you present are loyal subjects, you can easily anticipate the first toast I have to propose, viz., that of our Most Gracious Sovereign, Queen Victoria. Her Majesty, brethren, I am glad to say, has proved herself in a great measure a Freemason, by identifying herself with the noble charitable institutions under the management of the Masonic body." The toast being duly honoured, the W.M. rose and said: "Brethren, I have next the pleasure of proposing the health of 'The Prince and the Princess of Wales, Prince Alfred, and the rest of the Royal Family.' Although the Prince of Wales and his brother are not Masons, I believe there is every prospect of their being initiated before long, I sincerely hope they will lose no time in doing so, and follow in the footsteps of their royal ancestors. This toast like the first was well received."

After a slight pause the W.M. again rose and said: Brethren, I have now extreme pleasure in calling upon you to do honour to the next toast, that of the rulers of the Craft, viz., "The Earl of Zetland and the Earl of Grey and Ripon." It is now more than twenty years since the Grand Lodge of England first elected the Earl of Zetland to his present exalted position and during the whole of this period he has guided the affairs of the Craft with great care, zeal, ability, and wisdom. The Earl of Grey and Ripon, although a somewhat younger servant of the Craft, has always demonstrated in the best possible manner; how thoroughly he has its interest at heart by seldom if ever being absent from the meetings of the Grand Lodge, and this too, when his time was so much occupied by the onerous duties of the official post he so long and until recently held. I am happy to say that this toast is never proposed without being received in a most enthusiastic manner.

The W.M. next said: Brethren, I have also great pleasure in proposing "The Health of Bro. J. Faucett, the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master." I am glad we are so happy in having him at our head as Provincial Ruler, and to find he is so popular. Since he has been entrusted with the management of the local affairs he has been extremely cautious and conducted his labours with care and to the satisfaction of every Mason in the province. Those brethren who attended the Provincial Grand Lodge recently held, derived great pleasure from hearing the excellent oration delivered by him, as it contained sentiments which, if pondered over and acted on, would be a safe guide in conducting the affairs of the lodge. He always takes a great delight in attending the various lodges in the province and he is unavoidably absent this evening. The more you see of his works the more you will be inspired with love and respect for him. Brethren, without occupying your time further, I call upon you to drink his health in a bumper.

The W.M. again rose and said: I now rise to propose the "Health of Bro. Henry Fenwick, D. Prov. G.M." I deeply regretted his absence at the last Provincial Grand Lodge in consequence of ill-health. I trust the worthy brother will soon be enabled to return to his native land and take an active part in the management of local matters.

Bro. J. Cundell, P.M. Prov. S.G.W. and Prov. G. Treas. said: The next toast cannot come from the chair, but as the Senior P.M. present it becomes my duty to propose it. It is always pleasing to know that the present is one of those cases where the mention of a name is sufficient to draw forth sentiments of approval. There are many Masters of Lodges who, notwithstanding careful attention to their duties, can only arrive at a certain point of excellence. "Good wine needs no bush." You brethren who have attended during Bro. FitzGerald's term of office have in fact tasted good wine, by experiencing the excellent faultless and truly impressive manner in which he conducted the proceedings of the lodge. Brethren I call upon you to respond to the toast with cordiality and affection.

Bro. FitzGerald, W.M. Prov. S.G.D., in returning thanks, said: After the flattering and encouraging reception you have given the toast proposed in such kind terms by Bro. Cundell, I feel unable to say all I should like to do on the present occasion. In undertaking the office of W.M., I made up my mind to perform the various duties appertaining to the same, and though I may not have discharged them to the satisfaction of all, yet I have done so to the best of my ability. No one but those who have preceded me know the anxious hours a W.M. passes, and the labour he has to undergo. However I feel myself amply repaid for what part I have taken by the honour bestowed towards me this evening. I have now the pleasure of discharging a duty which is at all times a pleasant one, but more particularly so on the present occasion when I call upon you to drink to the healths of the two brethren I have initiated this evening, viz.: Bros. the Right Hon. J. R. Mowbray, M.P., and the Rev. Henry Holden, D.D. I have had the good fortune during the two years I have held the present office of initiating many of rank and honour, and those who would reflect honour on their choice, but when I initiate two, who are so generally respected and admired as the two newly initiated, I feel somewhat pardonable pride in bringing them before your notice. Political and theological discussions and sentiments are very properly, rigidly excluded from a lodge of Freemasons, but notwithstanding this most excellent and desirable fact we must necessarily feel proud in admitting a member of her Majesty's Government on the one side, and a gentleman occupying a high position in the Church on the other. I am convinced they will not regret that moment of their lifetime when they sought admission into Freemasonry.

Bro. J. R. Mowbray, M.P., first returned thanks in a pleasing and humorous speech, remarking, much cannot be expected from me this evening. I have already seen quite sufficient of Freemasonry to convince me that it is founded on the true principles of piety and virtue. Men of all grades and positions range themselves under its banner, and I feel great regret at not having joined the Order earlier. This feeling is however in some measure compensated by my being joined in the ceremony of initiation with one of my college friends at Oxford, viz.: Bro. Holden. This fact recalls former associations, and pleasant reminiscences of college life to my recollection.

Bro. Holden also replied in a lively manner, and in the course of his remarks said: Since my young brother disclaims me, I must answer for myself. I was led to select the honour of becoming a Freemason from making inquiries, in consequence of having preconceived a favourable opinion of the institution. I will endeavour to evince the interest I already entertain for Freemasonry by attending lodge as frequently as possible.

Bro. Fitzgerald, W.M., in appropriate terms, proposed "The healths of the Past Masters."

Bro. Cundell, as senior P.M., returned thanks in an able manner. He said: There was a time when the lodge was not so well worked as at present, but by this I do not mean to underrate the services of former Masters. The subordinate officers then did not appear to fully feel their position. I am now happy to say that in consequence of a large accession of numbers the various duties are now performed in a most satisfactory manner. I am sorry I have not been able to attend so much as I would have liked, but it is pleasing to find, whenever I am present, so good a feeling existing among the members. I must, however, admit, one fact has recently occurred which has slightly diminished from the lustre of respect which the lodge has hitherto enjoyed. I trust when respectable men are proposed as candidates for initiation, members will not allow themselves to be carried away by feelings of an unfavourable nature first created whilst in other duties, and assist in rejecting any who, in a social and moral view, and so far as essential qualities were required, would do honour to the Craft in general, and the lodge in particular, if admitted. I deeply deplore what has recently occurred, and hope it will never be repeated. Let it be a thing of the past, and let us endeavour, both individually and collectively, to do unto others as we would have others to do unto ourselves, in the struggle and race of existence.

Bro. T. C. Thompson rose and said: Brethren, the Master has kindly deputed me to discharge a duty belonging to the chair, viz., to propose "The health of the W.M. Elect." In doing so I am proposing the health of a tried and old friend as a claimant for the office of W.M. for the ensuing year, and it is a toast which I am sure is acceptable to you all. In the friendship Bro. P. M. Stoker has displayed to us all, I am convinced he will not fail in performing those duties which assist in the spread of love and brotherhood. He has been W.M. on several previous occasions, and I am certain any new ideas he may acquire from the excellent working of Bro. FitzGerald, the present W.M., he will adopt them, bearing in view the longer we live the more we learn.

Bro. Stoker, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W., and W.M. elect, said: Brethren, I rise with feelings of sincere gratitude to thank you for the kindness displayed towards me on this, as on all previous occasions. As I have undertaken the office for the sixth time, I cannot plead ignorance of the duties. I will endeavour to deserve the confidence placed in me, more especially when I consider the compliment paid me, is all the more enhanced by the unanimous way I was elected. The ensuing year, from various causes, will find the duties of the W.M. very arduous, but I trust that the officers will co-operate with me and make it as prosperous as the one whose close we are now celebrating.—The worthy brother resumed his seat amidst loud and continued applause, thus showing the great respect entertained towards him by the brethren.

The W. Master proposed "The Health of the Officers," in appropriate terms, which Bro. W. C. Blackett, S.W., responded to as follows: W.M. and Brethren, in the name of the officers I have the pleasure of thanking you for the toast which has been so kindly received. It has been the earnest wish of the officers, one and all, to perform their duties not only to your satisfaction, but that of the lodge at large, which from its flourishing condition is now becoming a numerous one. Other toasts followed, and throughout the evening they were interspersed with song and glee, by Bros. J. Worthy, Prov. G.

Steward, J. Walker, and Stimpson. The brethren separated at ten o'clock, thoroughly delighted with the events of the evening.

#### LANCASHIRE (WEST).

GARSTON.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 220).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at Bro. Wood's, Wellington Hotel, on the 3rd inst., by Bro. C. Leedham, W.M., supported as usual by all the officers; among the visitors were Bros. Geo. Gilbert, Holt, Sec., 986; Hinks, 203; Yates and Burrows, 673; J. Goldbloom, 73. The lodge having been opened, and the minutes confirmed, the following brethren were examined in the first degree, viz.: Bros. Taylor, Wagner, Hessenmuller, Morrin, and Prensław, which proving satisfactory, the lodge was opened in the second degree, and they were severally passed to the degree of Fellow Crafts, by Bro. Leedham, the W.M., Bro. Warhurst presiding at the new and elegant organ recently purchased for the lodge. Bros. Evans, Tait, Kavos, and Sellar, were then examined for the third degree, and being approved and prepared, they were duly raised to the sublime degree of M.M., the whole ceremony being given and the working tools explained by the W.M. A petition from an old Past Master of the Mersey Lodge, and formerly member of the Lodge of Sincerity, and the Mariner's Lodge was presented, asking the lodge to recommend his case to the Board of Benevolence, which was unanimously agreed to, he being well known to the brethren as a good working Mason. Nothing further being brought forward the lodge was duly closed.

A lodge of emergency of this lodge was also held on the 20th inst., when the following candidates were admitted to light, viz.: Messrs. Platt, Warhurst, Daglish and Clegg, and declared themselves subscribing members. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Lovelady, Byron, Clayton, and Lloyd, 1,035; W. Cook, and S. Lewin, P.M., 477.

#### LEICESTERSHIRE.

MELTON MOWBRAY.—*Rutland Lodge* (No. 1,130).—A monthly meeting of this lodge (the third since its consecration) was held at the George Hotel, on Tuesday, the 18th instant, under the presidency of the W.M. Bro. George Norman, J.P. The following brethren were also present:—W. Kelly, D. Prov. G.M.; Rev. W. K. Robinson, S.W.; Rev. W. Langley, J.V.; Hugh Morriss (P.M. 216, and Prov. G.S.), as S.D.; Selby, J.D.; Johnson, I.G.; Douglas, Adcock, Weaver, Bright, Bembridge (279), and others. The minutes of the last lodge having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Mr. Thomas Markham, of Saxby, and for Mr. J. B. Leadbetter, of Thorpe Satchville, who were declared duly elected. The chair was then taken by the D. Prov. G.M., and the lodge having been opened in the second degree, Bros. Douglas, R. W. Johnson, Adcock, Weaver, and Turville were called to the pedestal, and passed an examination as F.C.'s, when, having retired, the lodge was opened in the third degree, and they were severally raised to the sublime degree of M.M.'s. The lodge was then lowered, and Bros. Bright and R. Weaver were passed to the degree of F.C. The lodge was then closed in the second degree, and Messrs. William Lloyd (elected at the last lodge), Thomas Markham, and J. B. Leadbetter were severally initiated into the mysteries, had the tracing-board of the degree explained to them, and received the charge. The W.M. then appointed and invested Bro. R. W. Johnson as Sec., Bro. Douglas as S.D., and Bro. Weaver as J.D. Two gentlemen having been proposed for initiation at the next meeting, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

#### WARWICKSHIRE.

BIRMINGHAM.—*Fletcher Lodge* (No. 1,031).—At the meeting of this lodge held on Wednesday, the 12th inst., at the Masonic Rooms, Bro. J. G. Bland, W.M. elect, was installed into the chair of K.S., according to ancient custom, in the presence of a large number of brethren and visitors. Among those present were Bros. Stimpson, G.O.; Rev. W. B. Smith, P. Prov. G.C.; J. Russell, P. Prov. G.D.C.; T. Bragg, Prov. D.C.; J. Bedford, Prov. G.W.; H. Sproster, P. Prov. G.P.; M. Wilson, Prov. G.P.; J. Blanckensee, W.M. 54; M. Swaib, W.M. 74; J. Archer, W.M. 483; W. Lee, 739; H. Bourne, S.W. 1,016; J. Bragg, S.W. 739; M. O. Sufield, W.M. 925, &c. Bro. T. Partridge, P.M. 1,031, performed the ceremony of installation, after which Bro. C. Winn was passed to the second degree by the newly-installed W.M., in a clear and impressive manner. Bro. West

was then presented with a handsome P.M.'s jewel, as a mark of the esteem and regard in which he was held by the brethren. The annual report showed the lodge to be in a most flourishing condition, both as regards members and funds, several grants having been made during the past year to the masonic charities. Eleven initiations had taken place, and the number of paying members was thirty-seven. After the usual business was completed the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet-hall, and partook of an excellent dinner, provided by Bro. Benson. The pleasure of the evening was much increased by the excellent singing of Bros Glydon, Pursall, Bragg, &c., and the brethren separated at an early hour.

#### YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

HULL.—*Humber Lodge* (No. 57).—On Tuesday evening, the 18th inst., the brethren of this old and prosperous lodge met at the hall in Osborne-street, to elect the officers for the ensuing year. Previous to the election a very beautiful tablet, consisting of a scroll of pure white marble, laid upon a background of dove-coloured marble, in the form of a shield, and decorated with appropriate Masonic emblems, which had been placed upon the wall of the south-east corner of the lodge to the memory of the late Past Master, Bro. J. Stark, at the cost of subscribers, was unveiled. Bro. Martin Kemp, W.M., Prov. S.G.D., for the North and East Ridings of York, having unveiled this appropriate memento, invited Bro. J. P. Bell, M.D., D. Prov. G.M. for the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, to deliver an address upon the occasion. In responding, the D. Prov. G.M. gave a very interesting account of Bro. Stark, P.M., and his connection with the Humber Lodge, shewing that he was at all times an energetic member, discharging the duty of the several offices he was called upon to fill in the most efficient manner. Bro. Stark on more than one occasion received substantial testimonials from his brethren in Freemasonry; and when he was unable through infirmity to follow his usual avocation the Humber Lodge purchased by subscription an annuity that enabled him to spend the remainder of his days on earth in comfort and repose. The incidents of his life, which were many and various, were reviewed and commented upon by the D.G. Master, who concluded his able and valuable address by earnestly exhorting the brethren to work while it is yet day, and to so square their lives and actions that when it may please the Great Architect of the Universe to call them hence they may be found acceptable in his sight, and enter "that Grand Lodge above, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." Upon the tablet was engraved, in the old English black letter, with red capitals, the following inscription: "This tablet was dedicated by the Brethren of the Humber Lodge of Freemasons, No. 57, to the memory of Bro. Jeremiah Stark, P. Prov. G.S. for North and East Yorkshire, P.M. and P.Z. of the Humber Lodge and Chapter, and during a period of twenty years its honorary secretary, in grateful remembrance of his many invaluable services on behalf of the lodge for thirty-two years. He died 28th July, aged 77 years." The memorial was executed by Bro. W. D. Keyworth, of Savile-street. The M.W.D. Prov. G.M. was also requested, on behalf of the lodge, to present to the W.M. Bro. Martin Kemp, Prov. S.G.D. for the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, a very handsome and valuable testimonial, consisting of a P.M.'s jewel of gold on masonic blue enamel, also a Prov. S.G.D.'s jewel of gold on purple enamel, on the back of both of which were engraved suitable inscriptions; these were accompanied with a full suit of Prov. Grand Lodge clothing in purple and gold, purchased by the voluntary contributions of the members, as an acknowledgment of their appreciation of valuable services rendered to the lodge by Bro. Kemp during the period he has held the office of W.M. The W.M. in an appropriate manner acknowledged the high honour conferred upon him, and said he would ever deeply value that distinguished mark of their favour. It was his determination at all times to further the interests of the Humber Lodge to the utmost of his power. When his work was done he should have a pardonable pride to hand down this present to his children for their descendants, to be treasured by them as a memento that their father or ancestor was held in some slight esteem by the brethren of his lodge. The brethren then proceeded to ballot for the W.M. for the ensuing year, when Bro. William Day Keyworth was elected.

#### ROYAL ARCH.

CHAPTER OF HARMONY (No. 220).—A chapter of emergency

was held at the Wellington Hotel Garston, on the 20th inst., at four o'clock. Companions Leedham Z., Pepper as H., and Pearson as J. There were also present as visitors, Comps. Lewin, P.Z. 477, Baker, 249, and Jones, 203. The following were ballotted for and unanimously accepted: Bros. Joseph Lloyd, 1035; H. Lovelady, 1035; Henry Barrows, 673; and E. Kyle, 673; and the first three being present, were duly exalted. The chapter being closed the companions adjourned to the banqueting table, furnished in the usual style by the excellent host companion Hood,

### MARK MASONRY.

#### CUMBERLAND.

CARLISLE.—*Cumberland Lodge* (No. 60).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 20th inst., at the Masonic Hall. The chair was occupied by Bro. F. W. Hayward, P.M., supported by Bros. G. G. Hayward, S.W.; J. Rodney, J.W.; W. Nevin, M.O.; W. Carrick, S.O.; J. A. Wheatley, J.O.; A. Woodhouse, Sec.; G. Turnbull, I.G.; B. Busher, as Chap.; J. Barnes, Tyler; and Bros. T. Blacklock, and S. Gawith. The lodge was opened in due form, after which the ballot was taken for Bro. J. Porter, Lodge Concord, No. 343, Preston, which proved unanimous in his favour, the candidate being in attendance, was prepared, admitted, and duly advanced by Bro. S.W., at the request of the W.M., in first-rate style. Bro. Carrick then proposed, and Bro. G. G. Hayward seconded, that a letter of condolence be sent to the widow of Bro. J. Howe, I.P.M. of this lodge, this being the first time the lodge has been opened since his decease. Bro. E. Busher, proposed, and Bro. S. Gawith seconded, that Bro. Lord Kenlis, Prov. S.G.W., be admitted a joining member of this lodge, which was carried with applause. The lodge was then closed with prayer, and the brethren retired to the refreshment room, and spent an hour very agreeably, all parting in love and harmony, well pleased with the night's work. The vocal part was sustained by Bro. A. Woodhouse.

#### SCOTLAND.

CONSECRATION OF LODGE KELBURNE (No. 459) ISLE OF CUMBRAE.—On Friday, the 21st inst., the Lodge Kelburne (No. 459, S.C.) was consecrated in the Masonic Hall, Cambrae Hotel, Millport. The proceedings were most successful, and passed off with great *éclat*. We are indebted to an esteemed correspondent for a fully detailed report, which want of space compels us to defer giving until our next. We may here add that the office bearers of the new lodge are Bros. the Rev. H. H. Richardson, R.W.M.; D. Fairley, D.M.; W. E. Gumbleton, S.M.; Adam Dickson, S.W.; James Gillies, J.W.; John McGowan, S.D.; Alex. Hunter, J.D.; R. P. Rees, Secretary; J. Ross, Treas.; J. King, I.G.; and W. McWha, Tyler.

MASONIC FESTIVAL AT GLASGOW.—The sixth annual festival of all the lodges in the province of Glasgow under the auspices of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow, and open to friends, was held on the 12th inst., in the City Hall, which was filled in every part, and presented an imposing scene. The members of the various lodges appeared in costume, many of the ladies present were in full dress, the front of the galleries were festooned with red drapery, and around the walls and the platform there was a numerous display of flags and banners. Sir A. Alison, Bart., Prov. G.M., occupied the chair, and among those present were the following distinguished brethren: Bros. Cruikshank, D. Prov.G.M.; Alex. Smollett, Prov. G.M. for Dumbartonshire; Rev. Bros. Park (Cumberland), and Crosskey; Bros. J. Thomson; J. Leith, Prov. G.D.C.; Robert Craig; D. Sutherland, Prov. G. Treas.; J. Anderson, Prov. G. Sec.; and Messrs. Neil Dalveen, Robert Robb, James Campbell, and others. After tea Bro. Sir A. Alison delivered an admirable address, which we purpose giving in an early issue.

#### IRELAND.

##### DEDICATION OF A NEW MASONIC HALL AT CORK.

The new Masonic Hall, in Maylor-street, in this city was solemnly dedicated on the 18th inst., according to ancient usage

The hall, which is a noble room, 55ft. long, 25ft. wide, and 20ft. high, is built upon the site of the former lodge room of No. 8 lodge. The present structure has been designed and superintended by Bro. R. Walker, jun., of St. Patrick's Lodge (No. 8), now nearly a century established in Cork. The ante-rooms are very spacious and convenient with a handsome stair-case, cloak-room, lavatory and kitchen. The entire building reflects the highest credit on the zeal and taste of the brethren concerned. At half-past eleven the members of the different lodges in the province began to assemble in large numbers. At noon the Directors of Ceremonies proceeded to marshal the procession as follows:—Tyler with drawn sword, lodges 67, 1. and 3, Deacons, members two and two, Wardens, Worshipful Master, Banner of Provincial Grand Lodge, Provincial Grand Deacons; Past Master, carrying the cornucopia containing finest wheat; two Past Masters, with gilt vases holding the wine and oil; Past Provincial Grand Officers, Provincial Grand Secretary, with Book of Constitutions; Holy Bible on a rich velvet cushion, carried by Past Master, and supported by two Past Masters bearing the great lights; the Provincial Grand Chaplain, Provincial Grand Inner Guard, Provincial Junior Grand Warden, bearing his column; Senior Grand Warden and column, R.W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master, supported by Grand Stewards, Tyler, with drawn sword. When the procession was formed in the ante-room, it proceeded slowly along the grand hall, and on arriving at the Grand Master's chair in the east, the brethren opened right and left by allowing the Grand Lodge to advance. The R.W. Deputy Grand Master then took the chair. The G. Purst. then duly proclaimed the Provincial Grand Master by the following style and titles—"The most excellent, most illustrious and right worshipful Brother, General Sir James Charles Chatterton, Baronet, Knight Commander of the Bath, Knight of Hanover, Sovereign Prince, Grand Inspector General, 33rd or dernier degree, Provincial Grand Master of Munster." The procession then moved as before, three times round the hall, accompanied by solemn music on the harmonium. The D.G. Master took the chair—the brethren took their places seated. The vases containing the corn, wine, and oil, were placed upon the altar. The Bible open, with gold square and compass, were placed on a pedestal. The book of constitutions upon another. The first anthem being sung by a large choir of the brethren, with very fine effect, Bro. G. Chatterton, J.P., D. Prov. G.M., proceeded to open the Grand Lodge in ample form. Bro. F. Gny, W.M. Lodge No. 8, then informed the D.G.M. of the wish of the brethren of that lodge to have the hall dedicated according to ancient usage. The Prov. G. Sec. having read the authority of the M.W. the D.G. Master of Ireland, for the performance of the ceremony, the V.W. Bro. the Rev. A. Hill, M.A., rector of Fermoy, the Prov. G. Chap., read the prayer of dedication as prescribed by the constitutions. The D.G. Master then dedicated the hall to Freemasonry. The Grand Chaplain strewed wheat upon the hall. The D.G. Master then dedicated the hall to religion, virtue, and science. The Chaplain poured wine. The D.G. Master dedicated the hall to universal benevolence. The Chaplain then sprinkles oil. The grand honours were then given. After the invocation by the Grand Chaplain, and the response by the brethren, "Glory be to God on high, &c., &c.," the D.G. Master proceeded to deliver a solemn address upon the antiquity of the ceremony of dedication, its frequent use amongst the Jews, its symbolic meaning, and the useful lessons both religious and moral to be derived from it. The D.G. Master dwelt at length on the solemn duties and obligations of the brethren, and the necessity for brotherly love and harmony among them. The second anthem was then performed by the choir, and after the benediction by the Grand Chaplain the lodge was then closed. The D.G. Master was supported by the Very Rev. the Dean of Cork, the Rev. Bro. Hort, Chaplain to the Forces, and other distinguished brethren as visitors. Lodges, 1, 15, 68, 71, 95, S4, 190, 555, and 557, attended in large numbers and lined the hall at either side during the passage of the grand procession. Bro. J. Roche, Prov. G. Org., presided at the harmonium. The utmost order and regularity prevailed during the entire proceedings. The brethren appeared in full Masonic costume.

#### ISLE OF MAN.

##### DOUGLAS

ATHOLE LODGE (No. 1,004).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the lodge rooms, Douglas Hotel, on



Wednesday, the 19th inst., when a goodly muster of the brethren were present. Two ceremonies were performed during the evening, one in the third and another in the second degree. Bro. W. A. Coutts, having given satisfactory proofs of efficiency as a Fellow Craft, was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, the imposing ritual being very effectually delivered by the W.M., Bro. Henry Mayle, who may almost be regarded as the father of Freemasonry in the island. Bro. John Mosley White, who had been initiated at the previous meeting, was passed to the second degree. Bro. T. S. Shaw, J.W. *pro tem.*, in proposing a vote of thanks to the W.M. for his services in the chair during the past year, said that he did not know what the lodge, being a young one, would have done without the assistance of a Mason of Bro. Henry Mayle's experience in, and profound knowledge of, the working of the Craft. The lodge could not but feel great gratitude to him for the zealous and efficient manner in which he had filled the chair during the past year. This motion was met so warmly, that half-a-dozen brethren started up at once to second it; and it is scarcely necessary to state that the proposal was carried without a dissentient voice. The W.M., in returning thanks, said that he had only one object in view in connection with the lodge, and that was to see it prosper, and its members advance in knowledge of the ancient and honourable Order of which they had the honour of being members. He was very much obliged to them for the compliment they had paid him, and he could not but congratulate them on the additional members and the additional talent the lodge had secured during the past year. It was agreed that the lodge should meet on Thursday, the 27th inst., for the purpose of celebrating the Festival of St. John; and the brethren then adjourned from labour to refreshment.

#### NOTES ON LITERATURE, SCIENCE, MUSIC, DRAMA, AND THE FINE ARTS.

Mr. Stephen Massett, who will be better known in this country under his literary *alias* "Jeems Pipes, of Pipesville," the celebrated American comic lecturer, author, composer, vocalist, reciter, and traveller, recently received his farewell complimentary testimonial in the Dodworth Hall, New York, previous to his departure to this country on a professional tour, whither he will arrive by an early mail. Mr. Massett's entertainment is called "Drifting About," and is a medley of wit, humour, pathos, recitation, imitation, song, and a good deal of everything that is amusing. His reading of two poems "The Snow" and "The Vagabonds" are unusually fine. The American press is unanimously eulogistic of Mr. Massett's great and versatile talents, and he only wants to be once known to become eminently popular, as such *artistes* are few and far between.

We understand and learn with pleasure that a Civil List pension has been conferred on Mr. H. J. Doogood, formerly a reporter on the *Morning Chronicle* and the *Daily News*.

One of Lord Westbury's daughters, the Hon. Augusta Bethell, has published a book called "Helen in Switzerland."

Since the process of photographing upon silk and linen has been perfected in France, many persons have their portraits upon their linen instead of their names or initials. Washing it is said does not injure the portraits.

The Princess Sophie Lichtenstein, who died at Pesth not long since, was, in her unmarried days, Mdlle. Sophie Lowe, long the idol of the Berlin Opera House. She was the daughter of an actor.

LLOYD'S GREAT TOPOGRAPHICAL AND COUNTY MAP OF THE BRITISH ISLES.—Mr. J. T. Lloyd, the eminent map publisher, of London and New York, has succeeded in placing within the reach of the public, at a most reasonable price, a large map, 5ft. by 4ft., excellently engraved on steel, and coloured, showing every city, town, and village; every railway and railway station; and the distances between each station throughout the United Kingdom; all rivers, lakes, and canals; the mountains, with their altitudes in feet, and all the principal forts and lighthouses along the coasts. The railway lines are very bold and large, and the method of showing every station is original and singularly clear. We believe there has been no other map ever published which shows all the railway stations, and this feature is a very valuable one. Every village, it might be said nearly every hamlet, is shown upon the map, and all the turnpike roads denoting the way between every town, are put with such clearness, that a stranger examining the map would easily comprehend the nature of the country and the route to take. In fact, no object of interest or importance to the tourist or traveller is omitted. To engineers, surveyors, professional or commercial men, this map must prove invaluable. The compilation of this map from the Ordnance surveys has, we understand, involved an outlay of some £20,000. We can with pleasure bear testimony to the excellence and value of these maps, and notice with satisfaction that they are finding their way rapidly throughout the British Isles.

#### Poetry.

##### A NEW YEAR'S REVERIE.

Old Year! thine end is drawing near,  
Thy closing hours approaching fast!  
How many pause to drop a tear,  
In retrospecting o'er the past.  
How many watch thy parting breath,  
With loveliness and grief of heart?  
How many hath the hand of death,  
Within thy twelve months torn apart.

Such are the thoughts which cross my mind,  
For well and painfully I know,  
(Although I strive to be resigned),  
That I have felt the bitter woe  
Of losing some with whom I shar'd  
Each previous year the season's mirth.  
Ah! little can we be prepared  
To yield up all we priz'd on earth.

Yet desolate as we may feel,  
What consolation may we gain,  
In striving others' wounds to heal—  
In mitigating others' pain.  
Though cherish'd friends have gone before—  
Though pleasures of the past have fled,  
We've yet one treasure still in store—  
True Charity is never dead.

Then may we each year feel the joy,  
That ever waits on deeds of love,  
And whilst we thus our thoughts employ,  
May Faith direct our hearts above.  
Thus, though each New Year's dawn may seem  
To find our lot still cast in shade,  
Sweet Hope will fling her radiant beam  
On pleasures this world cannot fade.

L. TWINING.

## THE WEEK.

**THE COURT.**—The Queen, accompanied by Princess Christian, drove out on the afternoon of the 19th inst., attended by the Dowager Duchess of Athole; and her Majesty walked in the grounds on the morning of the 20th inst., with Princess Christian. The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, rode in the grounds in the afternoon, and her Majesty walked and rode in the morning, attended by the Dowager Duchess of Athole. The Queen, accompanied by Princess Christian and Prince Louise, drove out on the 21st inst. The other members of the Royal family walked and drove. The Queen, accompanied by Princess Christian, walked in the grounds on the 22nd inst. The Rev. George Prothero performed the service on the 23rd inst. at Osborne, before the Queen, Prince and Princess Christian, Princess Louise, Prince Arthur, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice. The Queen walked and rode in the grounds on the morning of the 24th inst., accompanied by Prince Arthur. Her Majesty the Queen distributed Christmas gifts in the afternoon to the labourers on the Osborne Estate, and their wives, assembled at four o'clock. Soon after four o'clock, the Queen, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Christian, Princess Louise, Prince Arthur, Prince Leopold, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Henry of Prussia, entered the Servants' Hall, where the gifts were laid out. Her Majesty then, assisted by the Royal Family, distributed the presents. The Queen and the Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Christian, Prince Louise and Prince Arthur, attended service at Whippingham Church on the morning of the 25th inst., where the Rev. G. Prothero and the Rev. R. Duckworth officiated and administered the sacrament of the Holy Communion. The Queen drove out in the afternoon with Prince and Princess Christian, and her Majesty accompanied by the Princess, drove out on the morning of the 26th inst., attended by the Dowager Duchess of Athole. On the 21st, 22nd, and 24th inst., the Royal Bounty and Royal Gate Alms to aged persons, blind, paralysed, and other meritorious poor, who had been selected by the Lord High Almoner and the Sub-Almoner, from persons who had been previously recommended by the clergy of the various parishes in and around London, were distributed at the Almonry Office, in Scotland-yard, and on the 26th inst., the payment was resumed. The number of persons relieved exceeded 1,000.

**GENERAL HOME NEWS.**—The latest great railway bridge over the Thames was opened on the 20th inst. It spans the river between Battersea and Pimlico, and is the medium of conveying from shore to shore the vast West-end traffic of the London, Chatham, and Dover, and the Brighton Railways. This bridge, if not the largest or the longest, has the honour of being the widest in the world. The workmen's train was the first to pass over it, and the artisans employed in this great engineering work improvised a rough and ready sort of illumination in honour of the event.—The body of the poor lady who was killed on the Metropolitan Railway, was formally identified by her brother on the 20th inst. As contradictory theories of the cause of the accident are presented, nothing more need be said on that point until after the inquest.—On the 20th inst. the metropolis was shrouded in a dense fog, the like of which has perhaps not been seen for years. At first it was comparatively light and vaporous, and occasioned no extraordinary inconvenience. But as the morning advanced it became thicker, more and more yellow, and at last filled the streets with the gloom of midnight. A more insufferable fog—a fog more like the darkness of Egypt—has, perhaps, never descended on this great city and occasioned discomfort and perplexity to the good

citizens.—Some information has been elicited at the Guildhall Police-court. The information has reference to "Selling off, or, more properly speaking, "mock auction" shops. A Theodore Levine, who has been for some time past carrying on business at 43, Ludgate-hill, was summoned before the magistrates for having, in conjunction with another personage, a Charles Wood, described as a commission broker, conspired by "various false and fraudulent pretences" to cheat a visitor to his shop out of £8 2s. In the course of the evidence the *modus operandi* on such occasions was fully explained. It will well repay perusal. The goods in question were shown to be of no value except as old metal. They were not, as represented by the auctioneer, electro-plated. They were merely a mixture of pewter and lead. The secret of the electro-plate like appearance was that in the course of manufacture the articles are put into a certain solution which makes them bright. A little exposure to the air, however, has the effect of turning the silvery appearance into a suspicious-looking black. The auctioneer and his aide-de-camp were remanded. The great wonder in connection with such swindles as this is that, after so many exposures, any persons can be found idiotic enough to invest in plate in any establishment having the least appearance of a mock auction shop.—At the Southwark Police-court, the young woman, Charlotte Williams, alias Emma King, charged with the wilful murder of her male child three weeks old, was brought up for final examination. That she drowned her child in the River Thames was proved beyond doubt, but her reasons for doing so were not very clearly ascertained. It was shown that previously to drowning her infant she had accused herself of having drowned two of her children, who at the time were safe and living in the Clerkenwell Workhouse, and that she had attempted to deprive herself of life by leaping the Caledonian Canal. The accused was committed for trial.—The shareholders of the Crystal Palace Company were some hours, on the 21st inst., in rather noisy convulse respecting the oft-discussed and still-vexed question of opening the Palace to the public on Sundays. It will be remembered that at the last meeting of the proprietors a motion was brought forward against, and an amendment in favour of, opening the Palace on Sunday afternoons. The amendment was moved by Mr. Baxter Langley, and seconded by Mr. Billings, and was carried by a large majority of the shareholders present. In compliance with a notice given by Mr. James Girdlestone, as soon as the ordinary yearly business was disposed of, a special meeting was held for the purpose of taking into consideration a motion by that gentleman, to the effect that Mr. Baxter Langley's resolution, in favour of the opening on Sundays, should be rescinded. Mr. Girdlestone's proposition met with little favour from the meeting. It was negatived by a towering majority. But the decision was not looked upon as final by either side, as both threatened to persevere till one or other is definitely triumphant.—Two interesting and important questions occupied the attention of the Metropolitan Board of Works, on the 21st instant, viz., the supply of gas to the metropolis and the encroachments on Hampstead Heath. Regarding the gas question, the board decided that in the event of the Government introducing a bill into Parliament next session for establishing a more efficient control over the existing gas companies of the metropolis, and of vesting such control in the board, the maximum price of gas should be fixed at 3s. 6d. per thousand cubic feet, that the illuminating power of the gas should be equal to eighteen sperm candles, and that certain rules should be laid down which would have the effect of giving to the public somewhat purer and more innocuous gas than that at present in use. The board also fixed the terms upon which it was considered the anticipated

change should be made. With respect to the encroachments on Hampstead Heath, a resolution was passed requesting the chairman of the board to seek an interview with Sir Thomas M. Wilson with the object of ascertaining whether that gentleman is prepared to negotiate for a sale of his interest in Hampstead Heath and adjoining lands to the public, and, if so, upon what terms. The result of the interview will be communicated to the board in the shape of a report.—The 21st inst. being St. Thomas's Day, the municipal elections took place in the various wards of the City. They occasioned but little excitement, the fact being that just now the civic world is undisturbed by any agitating or troublesome questions.—Mr. Coroner Payne opened an inquest into the cause of death of the three persons who were killed by the fall of a girder on to a carriage on the Metropolitan Railway. Much of the evidence taken was formal, but one witness was called who described how the girder fell. There seems to have been some neglect of the precautions which it had been ordered should be taken. The inquest was adjourned.—A few days since the steamer *Velocity*, from Calais, was coming up the river, when, off Gravesend, the barque *Mary* ran into her. The steamer was sunk, and, unfortunately, a boy named Squire was so much injured that he died. The poor lad was coming home from school to spend Christmas with his parents. An inquest was held on the body at Gravesend, but was not completed.—Two wretched people have been sentenced to death at Maidstone. Annie Lawrence was convicted of the murder of her illegitimate child. When asked what she had to say in arrest of judgment, she protested her innocence, and charged the man with whom she had lived with the murder. She left the dock declaring that she was not guilty. The other prisoner who was condemned was James Fletcher, who, while under sentence of penal servitude at Chatham, had murdered a warder. The judge, Baron Channell, held out no hope that his life would be spared.—A shocking accident happened on the 22nd inst. in Somers-street, one of the narrow thoroughfares between Leather-lane and Saffron-hill. The workmen had been engaged during the day in repairing the gas mains in the street. They left work about two o'clock, when, as they thought all was safe. There must have been, however, a formidable escape of gas which found its way into an adjoining house, for just before six o'clock an explosion took place which tumbled to the ground Nos. 4 and 5 in the street. Several people were in the houses at the time, and were more or less injured. One poor lad—an Italian—was taken out of the ruins dead, and two more of the sufferers—a man and a woman—died in the hospital. One more of the hurt men is not expected to live. No account is yet given of how the gas escaped or how it became ignited.—There was a fire on the 22nd inst. in the Protestant convent at Brighton. This is the establishment in which Constance Kent made her confession of the Road murder. The building and its contents were much injured.—A new system of waylaying and robbing people at night has been introduced by some East-end garrotters. At the Thames Police-court, on the 21st inst., a person who was introduced to the magistrate as John Leighton, *alias* Lucy, was charged with assaulting and robbing William Kenny, an ex-policeman. On the 23rd inst. at half-past twelve o'clock, the prosecutor was on his way home, quickly walking along the Bow-road when he met Leighton, another man, and three women: Leighton came suddenly in front of William Kenny, and commenced rubbing mud and gravel into his face, whilst the others were trying to choke him. The ex-policeman made a manful resistance, and after suffering much rough treatment from the highwayman and his companions, succeeded in effecting

his escape, and soon after in accomplishing the capture of his principal assailant. The prisoner was remanded.—According to statements made at the Guildhall Police-court on the 24th inst. whilst English butchers can be summoned and punished for sending bad meat to the London market, Continental butchers can send it with impunity. Mr. Newman, inspector of meat at Newgate Market, applied to the magistrate in the usual way for the condemnation of some carcasses of sheep which had been imported from the Continent, and which were unfit for human food. In making the application Mr. Newman stated that that morning he inspected a crate of sheep that had come from Rotterdam to a Newgate Market butcher, and that he found six of the carcasses were rotten and totally unfit for human food. He also found that five sheep had been sent to another butcher in Newgate Market in a similar condition. He further stated that the Commissioners of Sowers had applied to the Customs to stop meat of that description on landing, but that it appeared that they had no power to do so. Alderman Wilson, in ordering the condemnation of the meat, expressed his great surprise that nothing could be done to prevent Continental butchers importing such dangerous stuff. Everybody reading the case will no doubt share the same feeling of surprise: but it is equally, if not more astonishing, that our London butchers so easily get rid of the responsibility of having meat of this description on their premises. If there was no demand in London for the article, the foreign supply would soon cease. The question may well be asked in such a case, which of the two is most to blame—the Continental butcher, who sends his bad meat to the nearest and best market, or the London butcher, who encourages such a disreputable trade.—Christmas Day brings with it much rejoicing, but very little news. In London the day was observed as a strict holiday, and in all the churches there were services. It is to be feared that, owing to the want of employment in the East of London, many poor people had but a scanty apology for a Christmas dinner.—A somewhat remarkable correspondence has taken place between the Aborigines Protection Society and Mr. Walpole, on the subject of the exhibition of the so-called "Wild Men of Jesso." That society, moved by the representations of many influential persons residing in various parts of the country, requested the Home Secretary to take steps to release "the wild men," on the ground that they were improperly confined in a cage, where they lived and slept, and that the exhibition was in every respect a degrading one. Mr. Walpole replied in a letter the plain meaning of which was that the supposed savages were not savages at all, and that the public were "deceived." This is certainly very singular. Commander Ellis, for example, says that they are Asiatics, and a Japanese gentleman, who recently had an interview with them at the request of the society, is of the same opinion. The great ocean yacht race from New York to Cowes has been won by the *Henrietta*. She arrived off Cowes on the 25th inst., at twenty minutes to six o'clock. The *Henrietta* is the property of Mr. James Gordon Bennett, the son of the proprietor of the *New York Herald*. She is described as being a most beautifully modelled schooner. She was not at first entered for the race—the match being made between the *Vesta* and the *Fleetwing*. However, on paying down her stakes (30,000 dollars) she was admitted to the race, and, as we have seen, has won it. Boxing Day was kept pretty nearly as a holiday. The streets during the day were full of pleasure-takers. The Crystal Palace had thousands of visitors, and in the evening the whole of the theatres were densely crowded by audiences eager to witness the burlesques and pantomimes which most of the managers had prepared.—The *Fleetwing* and the

*Vesta* arrived at Cowes on the 26th inst. a few hours only after the *Henrietta*, the yacht which has won the great Atlantic race. The *Henrietta* has come across without the least injury, or losing even a rope. The *Fleetwing*, on the contrary, has had the grave misfortune to lose six men, washed overboard at one time, and several of her sails. To these casualties her loss of the race is attributed. The yacht clubs at Cowes are showing the American visitors every attention.—There has been a horrible affair at Edmouton. A woman named Gudgeon, cut the throats of two of her children while they were in bed. She would have murdered a third, but the child escaped and gave an alarm. When the neighbours came in the woman was found dead, having cut her own throat.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.—Again we have a semi-official assurance that the visit of the Empress of the French to Rome is postponed. It is not difficult to imagine that the proposed visit is beset with dangers to the peace of Rome, and is likely to cause much exasperation in Italy. How to obviate these, and yet yield to the desire of the Empress to go to Rome, is no doubt a matter of grave consideration with the Emperor; and his inability to settle the question is the reason, in all probability, of the contradictory reports published from day to day. One thing is certain, that the Empress will not go to Rome, unless the visit can be made without giving rise to disorder and ill-feeling. Meantime, it is said Signor Tonello is not flourishing with his mission. The Pope resolutely refuses to make any concessions, and remains obstinate, in spite of the advice tendered to him from France. So says the *Opinione*; but that paper has never been friendly to the mission to Rome, and may, therefore, be not very exact in its statements, or not very well informed.—The Italian Budget for 1866—7 is not a very promising document for it shows a very dreary deficit. It is divided into two parts—one relating to Venetia, the other to the rest of the kingdom. For Venetia the total receipts are given at 76,502,338 lire, and the expenditure at 54,302,338 lire, leaving a surplus of 22,200,000 lire. But for the rest of the kingdom the figures show a widely different result. The total revenue is given at 788,900,078 lire, and the total expenditure at 997,566,612 lire, leaving a deficit of 208,666,534 lire. Taking the two parts together, the deficit is 186,466,334 lire, a formidable amount. It must be borne in mind, however, that Italy is only just out of a war, and that her resources have yet to be fully developed. It is stated that two ships of war are being fitted out to support the demands of the Italian Government on the Porte for satisfaction of the detention of an Italian mail steamer in Candian waters. Of course, the Turk Government will make the required apology.—After all, Austria and Russia are fast friends. The Prussian and the Russian papers have been writing in another strain. They would have it that Russia was sorely annoyed at the conduct of Austria in Galicia. But the *Journal de St. Petersburg*, the official Russian paper, declares all these things to be misconceptions. There is no reason to suppose that the present good understanding between the Russian and Austrian Cabinets has been in any way disturbed. Very satisfactory.—Meanwhile Austria is apparently trying in earnest to conciliate Hungary. Baron von Beust's visit to Pesth seems to have been chiefly for the purpose of convincing the Hungarian leaders that their demands would meet with every consideration. He told one deputation that the formation of a Hungarian Ministry is only a question of time.—The Emperor Napoleon has received General Dix, the new American Minister. His Majesty spoke of the United States in marked terms of courtesy and friendship. The Emperor not only attaches the highest value to the good relations which subsist between the two countries, but finds in the past "a

sure guarantee that the future will be undisturbed by any serious misunderstanding." The *Moniteur* confirms the announcement previously made on American authority, that Mr Seward's despatch of the 23rd of November—"the cable dispatch," as it has been called—was never presented by Mr. Bigelow. The fact was that before the arrival of this document, which said a good many tart things of the French Government, Mr. Bigelow received such satisfactory assurances from the Emperor with regard to the evacuation of Mexico by his troops, that he deemed its presentation inexpedient and unnecessary. Mr. Bigelow acted wisely in exercising this discretion, for Mr. Seward's angry missive would undoubtedly have led to misunderstanding and recrimination.—According to a report at Hong Kong, the French expedition to the Corea has been defeated. The squadron has returned to Shanghai. It will be remembered that this expedition was organised to avenge the late massacre of French Roman Catholic missionaries.—Our Paris correspondent writes that the visit of the Empress to Rome is definitively abandoned. Oddly enough, the objection is said to come from the Pope. His Holiness was quite willing to receive a visit from her Majesty as a pilgrim, but he declined entirely to receive her as a political emissary, in which capacity it was the desire of Napoleon and Baron Ricasoli she should go to Rome.—A letter written by Baron Ricasoli in answer to an appeal made to him as to the bishops in Rome has been published. In it the Italian Premier gives very clear expression to his opinions in reference to the relations between Church and State. He instances America as a place where, according to the Catholic bishops themselves, they have the most perfect freedom to practise their religion, and he asks why should not the same state of things exist in Italy. The question is one not easy to be answered.—We have a telegram from Trieste which states that intelligence has been received from Athens corroborating the story previously to hand, of the repulse of Mustapha Pasha, at Caros, by the Cretan insurgents. The defeat is represented as being of much importance in a strategic point of view.

AMERICA.—The *City of Paris* has arrived, bringing news from New York to the 15th December. The only item of much importance has been forestalled by the Atlantic Telegraph. It is that Congress has in both Houses passed, by a two-thirds majority, the bill granting the suffrage to negroes in the district of Columbia. Both Houses of the North Carolina Legislature have rejected the constitutional amendment by a nearly unanimous vote.—General Millen, president of the Fenian Military Council in Ireland—now prudently content to await the course of events in New York—has issued an address to "the sincere members" of the Fenian Brotherhood, in which he plainly enough charges Stephens with being a charlatan and a cheat. According to the general, Stephens is arrogant and boastful; profuse in spending other peoples' money; chimerical in his military and financial schemes; fond of good living, costly wines, and luxurious furniture; and just now particularly in love with the south of France. Stephens, it appears, thought an Irish army could be maintained in the field for £1,200 a-year; and recommended the establishment of a Fenian cannon foundry in the heart of Dublin, where he affected to think a park of artillery could be manufactured with perfect impunity. There may be a mixture of truth and falsehood in the New York Fenian's bill of indictment against his chief; but it illustrates the old truth that Irish conspiracies only require to be let alone to prove their own destruction.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

S. I.—We are glad to find our communication was to the point. We shall always be pleased to hear from you.

W. M.—Yes; the course taken by you is perfectly consistent with the Book of Constitutions.

