

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1863.

THE KNIGHTS TEMPLARS.

By ANTHONY ONEAL HAYE.

*(Continued from page 367).*BOOK III.—CHAPTER I.—*(contd.)*

Saladin, on his part, prepared to dispute every inch of the march, and posted his troops in the defiles, through which the Crusaders had to pass. He destroyed his superfluous baggage, and retained only what was absolutely necessary for the requirements of his men. His cavalry hovered upon the skirts of the Christian army, harassing them by incessant attacks and slaying every straggler, having resolved not to encumber himself with captives.* Saladin shunned pitched battles, in which the Christians had the advantage, but contented himself with skirmishing, causing the Christians severe loss, and Richard writing to the Abbot of Clairval says, "Saladin dares not engage the christians, but, like a lion in his den, lies secretly in ambush in the heights, for the purpose of slaughtering the friends of the Cross, like sheep destined for the slaughter."†

The march to Joppa was one continuous skirmish. The Templars encamped for a night on the banks of the Kishon, and fording it the next day, cut their way to Caiphaz, where they halted till the arrival of the others. On the third day they resumed their march, and halted at Capernaum. At Merla the commands were changed on account of the loss sustained in the rear. The Templars removed thither, Richard led the van, and the Hospitallers commanded the main body. On the 28th the Crusaders prepared to force the defiles of Mount Carmel, then in the possession of the Saracens. For this purpose the commanders were changed. The Templars led the van and cut their way through the dense masses of the enemy, but, on the march to Tortura, they lost so many of their number, that Richard again had to lead the van, and they returned to the rear.

Saladin, on the Christians approaching Cæsarea, ordered that town to be destroyed. The Christians halted beside the ruins during Sunday, and on Monday (2nd September) the Templars with the leading division, crossed the Crocodile river, and advanced upon Joppa, thirty miles distant.

The Templars on the march lost so many horses that they were reduced to despair.* On Saturday (7th November) Richard succeeded in bringing the Saracens to a pitched battle at Assur. The Templars formed the first rank, after them came the hardy Bretons, and the men of Anjou, followed by King Guy, and the men of Poitou. The Normans and English came next, guarding the royal standard, while the Hospitallers brought up the rear. They kept together so closely that, according to Vinsauf, an apple, if thrown, would not have fallen to the ground, without touching a man or a horse.† At nine o'clock the Saracens, with hideous yells, commenced the attack. Among them were a troop of Bedouins, a savage race of men, blacker than soot, who fought on foot, armed with bow, quiver, and round shield.‡ The Hospitallers suffered severely in the battle, and were nearly overcome, when Gurnier de Napes, one of them suddenly exclaimed, "Oh excellent Saint George, wilt thou permit us to be put to confusion? Whereupon the Marshal, without waiting for orders, fiercely attacked the Saracens, when the battle became general. Saladin was defeated, and retired to Ramla, there to defend the passes leading to Jerusalem, while the Templars pushed on to Arsoof and encamped before the town.

Saladin pursuant to a plan which he had laid down, destroyed all the cities in front of the Crusaders, burnt the crops, and drove away the cattle. Ascalon, one of the most beautiful cities of the East, strongly fortified and possessing edifices remarkable for their majestic grandeur, fell among others, but not without causing a pang to strike the Sultan's heart. He declared that he would rather have sacrificed a son, than touched a stone of the city, but what God willed, and the good of Islam required, should be performed at any price. It took an army of thirty thousand men to throw down the fortifications, and at the end of fourteen days, the work of demolition was so incomplete, that Saladin commanded the town to be fired. The tower of the Hospitallers alone withstood the flames, and Saladin would not leave the place till it was destroyed. It stood by the seaside, and was of amazing size and strength. No battering engines could produce any effect, so it was filled with combustibles, and so overthrown. Ascalon has never been rebuilt. Its ruins still

* Bohadin, pp. 187, 188.

† Hoveden A.D. 1191

* Vinsauf, Lib. IV. c. 15.

† Vinsauf Lib. 14 c. 18.

‡ Vinsauf, Lib. IV. C. 17.

encumber the sea shore, verifying the words of Scripture, "Ascalon shall not be inhabited."

The news of the advancing destruction of Ascalon was brought to Richard while lying at Joppa, and he was advised at once to march upon it, to arrest its demolition. This advice was overruled by the French who loved better the pleasures of Joppa than battles with the Saracens; another grave mistake, for possession of Ascalon would have routed the enemy from that part of the country. The Templars were engaged rebuilding plans, when the Saracens attacked them with a thousand cavalry and an innumerable host of foot, but the King coming to their aid easily put them to flight. On another day, while the esquires and men at arms were out foraging guarded by a small body of Templars, four thousand Turkish cavalry suddenly attacked them. Undismayed by this surprise, the Templars dismounted, and standing back to back with their faces to the enemy, defended themselves bravely. Three of them were in an instant slain, and a fierce combat ensued, as the Turks assailed them with the utmost fury and attempted to take them captive. Notice of this attack was conveyed to the camp, and Andrew de Chamguy galloped up to the rescue with fifteen Knights in his train, and, attacking the Turks, liberated the Templars from their dangerous position. King Richard following with some troops, completely routed the enemy.*

Richard about this time, wrote Saladin proposing peace, upon the Christians being put in possession of Jerusalem and the True Cross. These terms, as might have easily been foreseen, were rejected by Saladin, and Richard ordered preparations for the march to be resumed upon Jerusalem, which the Sultan had strongly fortified. In the middle of the night of the Holy Innocents, the Templars left the camp on a foraging expedition, and, in the morning returned with two hundred oxen, which they had driven off from the mountains near Jerusalem.

The Crusaders were impatient to be led against Jerusalem, the preparations for the advance being complete, but the Templars and others experienced in the Saracens strongly deprecated such a course. They pointed out that while besieging Jerusalem, the Saracens gathering upon the mountain heights, would place them between two dangers, and, even

if they did succeed in capturing the Holy City, they would require to place some of their bravest troops in garrison there, which could hardly be done from the eagerness of the people to complete the crusade, and to return home to Europe. For these reasons they advised the siege to be delayed and the army kept together, but this advice was spurned. The Templars, however, succeeded in delaying the march till Ascalon was slightly fortified, so as to hold the Saracens in check. The Duke of Burgundy and the French disgusted, retired to Joppa, forsaking the standard of Richard, and abandoned themselves to pleasures. Other Crusaders joined the rebellious Conrad at Tyre. The Templars, single minded, remained with the King, and aided him powerfully against the Turks.

Conrad having thrown for the crown, with but indifferent success, resolved to be King of Jerusalem at any price, and intrigued with Saladin for the throne, offering to make war upon Richard, to attack Acre, and join his troops to Saladin. Richard to withdraw him from this league, had him named King of Jerusalem, a dignity which he did not enjoy long, for being at Tyre he went to dine with his friend the Bishop of Tyre.* Passing through a narrow street, two assassins having watched their opportunity approached him. The one presented a petition, and while Conrad was perusing it, both plunged their daggers into his breast exclaiming, "Thou shalt neither be King nor marquis!" One of them was instantly cut down by Conrad's attendants, but the other sought refuge in a neighbouring church, whither the wounded marquis was carried. Here the surviving assassin rushed upon him and stabbed him anew. Conrad was carried home and lived long enough to receive the sacrament, and give his last instructions to his wife. These assassins who were both youths had been for some time in Tyre, some say six months, before they had an opportunity of despatching the marquis. They had feigned a conversion to Christianity, and one entered Conrad's service, the other Balian d'Ibelin. Richard has been accused of prompting this murder, but such an accusation could only be made by one ignorant of the King's character. To enter into

* Vinsauf, Lib. IV. c. 30.

* Conrad is the Montserrat, about whom Sir Walter Scott, in his "Talisman" makes so many historical blunders, leaving out of the question his utter ignorance of anything concerning the Templars, as displayed in that novel and in Ivanhoe.

such a silly charge, or to refute it, is to admit that it is really worthy of answer.*

Isabella, Conrad's wife, did not long remain a widow, for six days after his death, she married Henry, Count of Champagne, Richard's nephew. This nobleman was much esteemed by the Christians, who desired to have him crowned King of Jerusalem, whereupon the Templars, anxious to settle for ever the vexed question of the sovereignty, prevailed upon Guy de Lusignan to abdicate in favour of the Count and Isabella, and on his doing so, ceded to him Cyprus, which proved a more substantial kingdom than that of Jerusalem.†

Once more the Crusaders clamoured to be led against Jerusalem, but this Richard would not agree to without first consulting the Templars, in whose experience and sage councils, he had complete confidence. A military council was convened composed of five Templars, five Hospitallers, five Syrians, and five French. On consultation they were unanimous in discountenancing a march upon Jerusalem, and urged an attack upon Babylon.‡ Saladin meanwhile had attacked Joppa, took the town, but before he reduced the castle, Richard hastened thither with the Templars and Hospitallers, and compelled him to raise the siege. Richard, by a winding chair which he had observed in the house of the Templars, was the first to enter the town. The Christians at the same time issuing from the castle, the Turks were caught between the two foes, and were slaughtered.

Saladin and Richard had both become heartily tired of the war, and the Lion Heart was anxious to return to England, where his brother John was aiming at the possession of the throne.§ Negotiations were accordingly entered into between the opponents, one of the proposed conditions of peace being the marriage of Adel the brother of Saladin with the sister of Richard, the widowed Queen of Navarre. The Bishops however interfered, and would not hear of the marriage unless Adel became a Christian. Pending these deliberations, peace was concluded between the parties, and the Christians and Musselmen spent the time together in harmony. The officers and soldiers of both creeds went daily from camp

to camp, and in turns entertained each other. They passed the time in various kinds of sport, running at the ring, slashing at the head, and with combats in the lists, which were followed by merry-makings and splendid entertainments. Saladin and Richard from the mutual respect and esteem which they entertained for each other, when a peace could not be concluded on the terms proposed on account of the opposition of the bishops, concluded a truce by which all the coast from Joppa to Tyre was to belong to the Christians, and the Sultan was to have all the rest of Palestine except Ascalon, which at the end of the war was to become the property of the strongest. The Christians were likewise to have permission to go to Jerusalem, freely there to perform their devotions, provided they went in small companies unarmed; and the truce was to last three years, three months, and three days. To ratify the terms of the truce, the Christian princes and the chief officers of Saladin took a solemn oath, but a clash of the hand was considered enough for the good faith of Richard and Saladin.

We have already said that although esteeming the Templars as brave and gallant soldiers, Richard had little love towards them. This might have arisen from their friendship to John, who was a great patron of the Order, and likewise from the support they had given the King of France. He never lost an opportunity of creating a laugh at their expence.

The celebrated Fulk de Neuilly while engaged preaching the fifth crusade came to him one day said, "I warn thee, O King, on behalf of Almighty God, to marry as soon as possible the three most shameless daughters whom thou hast, lest something worse befall thee. Oh place thy fingers on thy lips, for He will prove an accuser who has told the truth. No man is born without faults; blessed is he who is burthened with the fewest, and elsewhere are we informed that there is no man living free from sin." To this Richard is said to have answered, "Hypocrite, to thy face thou hast lied, inasmuch as I have no daughter whatever." On which Fulk coolly answered, "Beyond a doubt I do not lie, because as I said, thou hast three most shameless daughters, of whom one is pride, the second avarice, and the third sensuality." The King thereupon called around him the nobles who were present and said, "Listen, all of you, to the warning of this hypocrite, who says that I have three most shameless

* Wendover A.D. 1193, Vinsauf Lib. V. c. 24, 25, 26, 27, Michand, Hist. des Crois. Liv. VIII.

† Vinsauf, Lib. V. c. 28, Paris A.D. 1191. Hoveden A.D. 1192.

‡ Hoveden A.D. 1192. Vinsauf, Lib. VI. c. 1 and 2.

§ Vinsauf, Lib. v. c. 42.

daughters, namely Pride, Avarice, and Sensuality, and recommends me to get them married. Therefore that they may get fitting spouses, I give my daughter Pride to the Templars, my daughter Avarice to the Benedictines, and my daughter Sensuality to the prelates of my churches." The King laughed loudly as Fulk slung away crest-fallen at this rebuff.

However so highly did he esteem the honourable character of the Templars that when he was preparing for his return to England he sent for Robert de Sablaus, and said to him, that he knew by many he was not loved, and that he ran great risk of his life on his way to his kingdom; he therefore besought the Grand Master to permit him to assume the dress of the Templars, and also to send with him two of the brethren. Robert readily granted his request, and the King went on board ship in the garb of a Knight of the Order, receiving a blessing from the Templars and Hospitallers.* His subsequent capture and imprisonment by the Duke of Austria are well known.

So ended the third Crusade, a brilliant series of passages-at-arms, in which thousands were slain, without any benefit being derived by the Christians, The character of the Templars shines out gradually through the blaze of these battles. Noble, self-denying, they sacrificed themselves without a murmur for their fellow Christians. Ever in the midst of danger, an undaunted few, they defied armies, and put to flight thousands, ready, as Gibbon says, if not to live for Christ, to die for him.

(To be continued.)

(No. 9.)—THE PROVINCE OF JERSEY.

PART II.

(Continued from page 365.)

The lodge now designated the "Yarborough" was formerly styled the "Farmer's" Lodge, but when Bro. the late Earl of Yarborough, Deputy Grand Master of England, visited Jersey some years ago, he became so popular among the brethren that they obtained permission to alter the name of their lodge in his honour. When Bro. Lord Yarborough arrived in Jersey, Bro. Albert Schmitt, Prov. G. Sec., in the absence of the

Prov. G.M., addressed the following letter to his Lordship:—

"Province of Jersey,

"September 11, 1856.

"My Lord and Brother,—In the temporary absence of the R.W. Prov. G.M., J. J. Hammond, and his D. Prov. G.M. Bro. Crosse, I have taken the liberty of addressing the present to your Lordship. I feel confident that, had those brethren enjoyed the opportunity of so doing, they would have felt, as in duty bound, to make some Masonic demonstration in honour of the visit to Jersey of so distinguished a member of the Craft as your Lordship.

"There are, however, my Lord, many Masonic hearts that would beat warmly at the idea of enjoying the presence and countenance of the Deputy Grand Master of England.

"I beg respectfully to inform your Lordship that the regular meeting of the Royal Sussex Lodge (No. 722) will take place this evening, at seven o'clock; and that, should your Lordship honour the said lodge with a visit, the brethren would highly appreciate the honour thus conferred upon them.

"I remain, my Lord and Brother,

"Yours fraternally,

"ALBERT SCHMITT, P.M., Provincial

"Grand Secretary.

"To Bro. the Right Hon.

the Earl of Yarborough,

"Deputy Grand Master of England."

The reply of his Lordship was eminently fraternal and characteristic, and was as follows:—

"R.Y.S. schooner Zoe,

"September 11, 1856.

"Dear Sir and Brother,—Your very fraternal note has just reached me. I am going out for a drive this afternoon; but, if you will have the goodness to send me here a note to say when the brethren of the Royal Sussex Lodge meet, I will return from my drive in time to have the pleasure of forming the acquaintance of the brethren who may this evening attend the lodge.

"My health has prevented my attending any lodges for more than a twelvemonth; heated rooms being forbidden by my medical man. I must, therefore, request you to ask the W.M. of the lodge to retain his seat, and allow me to be

* Vinsauf, Lib. VI. c. 14.

spared the trouble of in any way working the lodge.

"I remain, dear Sir and Brother,
 "Yours fraternally,
 "YARBOROUGH.

"P.S. It was my intention, in my drive to-day, to have called on Bro. Hammond; but, as I now learn of his absence, I will not do so."

There was also once a lodge of "Fidelity" in Jersey, but it is said to have ceased to exist more than sixty years ago, and consequently all traces of it are lost. The Lodge of Fortitude, now extinct used to meet at St. Clement's, but subsequently was held at an inn called the "Old Kent House," and now known as the "Caledonian Hotel," St. Helier. This lodge was at one time very influential, and numbered among its members the late Bailiff of Jersey, Sir Thomas Le Breton, and the late Attorney General Mr. Du Pré. There are still one or two brethren surviving who were connected with this lodge including "Father" Le Geyt (the oldest Mason in the island), and, we are informed, Mr. Judge Le Quesne, and Mr. Judge Le Gallais.

At one time there was a Union Lodge, but its existence is not remembered by even the oldest brethren. The only relic of this lodge which we have heard of or seen, consists of a printed copy of the "Entered Apprentice's Song" pasted on card board, and which Bro. W. Adams was kind enough to present to us. It is headed "Union Lodge No. 197," and the printing is in the old style of type. At first we thought it might not have been used in a Jersey Lodge at all, but having carefully separated the song from the card-board, we found that the printer whoever he may have been—peace to his ashes!—was an economical man, and had availed himself of some unused legal document of the Royal Court of Jersey. This version of the song differs somewhat from that now printed with the "Book of Constitutions." Thus in the first verse, instead of

"Let's drink, laugh, and sing,
 Our wine has a spring;
 Here's a health to an Accepted Mason."

This copy has it:—

"To drink, laugh, and sing,
 Be he beggar or king;
 Here's a health to an Accepted Mason."

We fancy we know some Temperance brethren in whose opinion the latter version would be the

best of the two, provided water was the beverage used to celebrate the health.

In the second verse, instead of

"Till they're shown the light,
 They'll ne'er know the right
 Of a Free and Accepted Mason."

It ends:—

"They ne'er can divine
 The word or the sign
 Of a Free and Accepted Mason."

In the fifth verse, instead of

"It maketh men just in their station."

It reads:—

"To keep up our old reputation."

This version is, we believe, from "Preston's Illustrations, while that given in the "Book of Constitutions" is copied from Anderson.

There was a lodge denominated "Charity," which held its meetings at the house of the late Bro. Deal—father of Bro. James W. Deal, at present Centenier of St. Helier—in Mulcaster-street. We are assured that Mr. Deputy Hugh Godfray is the only remaining member of this lodge, which has been dead for forty years. The Very Rev. Mr. Du Pré, formerly Dean of Jersey, was connected with it.

Another lodge, named "Harmony," used to meet in Queen-street, St. Helier, at the house of a Mr. Clark, confectioner. This lodge died about thirty years ago.

Under the Irish Constitution there was a lodge called "Leinster" some thirty years ago, which met at St. Peter's, and of which Bro. Asplet, "The Quaker Mason," is believed to have served as W.M. The Rev. Mr. Dumaresq, a former rector of St. Mary's, was another W.M. of this lodge. It is said that in addition to the Leinster, there were over two Irish military lodges in the island meeting at Bree's Hotel, in Hill-street, but we have been unable to ascertain the names of these lodges.

The Irish Knight Templars had also an encampment at St. Helier, in connection with the Lodge Justice, still existing. The present Mr. Judge Le Quesne, the late Sir Thomas Le Breton, and the late Mr. Du Pré, Attorney-General, are stated to have been Sir Knights. At different times there have been a Mechanics' Royal Arch Chapter, now united with the Royal Sussex Chapter, and a Prince of Wales Chapter, which became merged in the Harmony Chapter. From the "Channel Islands Masonic Calendar,"

brought out by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, in 1865, it appears that at that time there was a Military Lodge, named "Unity, Peace, and Concord," held at the Barracks, Fort Regent.

The Samerès Lodge, which now only exists in name, was established as a superior lodge, somewhat similar to that of the Grand Steward's Lodge in London. It was intended for Past Masters and Past Grand Officers, and, with a view to keeping out new members, the fee for initiation was fixed at 20 guineas.

It is very desirable that, ere it is too late, the facts connected with the defunct lodges should be rescued from oblivion. No doubt valuable information could be obtained from Masonic documents in London and elsewhere, but much might still be learnt in the province. In a few years, however, as the older brethren die off, the task will be more difficult than at present. If we may be permitted to make a suggestion, the Masonic Temple ought to be an Archæological Museum for the Craft. Diligent search should be made for the old charters of the lodges which have ceased to exist, and it would be well to preserve the certificates of deceased brethren who were initiated in extinct lodges—if the same could be discovered. Documents of this nature may appear to some people to be worthless, but they are invaluable to the historian and archæologist.

It would be well when the Grand Lodge is reorganised to appoint some literary brother to the office of Grand Historiographer, with the special duty of preparing a History of Freemasonry in Jersey up to the present time, and of writing a new chapter at the end of each year on the events of the past twelve months. In this way very valuable information would be preserved, and a work of great interest to the public, as well as to Masons would be the result. Some day we hope to see every province possessing its own Grand Historiographer.

The Jersey brethren have not only the advantage of a noble temple to carry out their ritual when living, but at death they are buried with such a display of Masonic pomp and ceremonial as probably cannot be witnessed in any other part of the world. On the death of a brother the temple is draped in black, and the body is lying in state there for several days, during which the public are admitted by ticket and march round, during which the solemn strains of funeral music proceed from the organ. The corpse is accompanied to the

grave by a procession of brethren in full regalia, while a band of music giving impressiveness to the scene by playing the "Dead March in Saul." We are assured by brethren and also by non-Masons, that the effect of these funeral ceremonies is singularly and indiscribly awe-inspiring, and we need scarcely add that in our opinion they are a beautiful exemplification of Masonic principles, showing the outside world that all Masons are brethren, and that the loss of one brother is mourned by all.

The *Freemasons' Review* for 1846 gives an account of the loyal reception given by the Freemasons of Jersey to her Majesty and the Prince Consort when they visited the island. It is stated that "Her Majesty and Royal Consort were graciously pleased to acknowledge with courtesy the endeavours of the Fraternity to do honour to the Royal visit." The following brethren appear to have been most active in carrying out the arrangements Bros. Judge Le Gallais, Rd. Spurring, John Baker, P.M., Thomas Dunell W.M. of Lodge then 302, Beck, W.M. of Lodge then 306, and Bro. John Andrews, P.M.

Among our brethren in Jersey are several Jews including the Rabbi Hanau, who is librarian of La Cèsarée Lodge. In some instances Jews who have been admitted have been allowed to take the Masonic oaths on the Old Testament, printed in Hebrew. Our Jewish brethren informed us that on the continent and elsewhere there are lodges the members of which all profess the Hebrew faith.

For more than twenty years and until the last few months Bro. J. J. Hammond, now W.M. of Samerès Lodge was Grand Master of the province. With regard to the varying phases of popularity and unpopularity which marked Bro. Hammond's term of office we have nothing to do, but we may be permitted to hope that whoever the next Grand Master may be he may succeed in conciliating all parties. Above all he should be of high character and prepared to rule the province with dignity and firmness. Few Provincial Grand Masters have duties to perform which are at once so easy and so difficult as in Jersey. This may appear paradoxical but it is true. The Temple with its splendid appointments not less than the great number of experienced brethren in the island make the ceremonials of the Order grand, impressive, and at the same time easy. But on the other hand, with so many lodges in a limited territory, there

naturally ensue peculiar evils, as for instance a tendency to cliquism, and perhaps a want of care as to the character of persons admitted to membership. Nevertheless we believe it would be quite possible to find a Grand Master who would command the respect and obedience of the brethren.

In Guernsey there is a great desire to have Bro. Gallienne appointed Grand Master for that province, thus entirely separating Jersey and Guernsey. This would, we believe, be the best possible arrangement, and, as far as we can learn, it would be generally approved in Jersey. In Bro. Gallienne the Guernsey brethren would have a Grand Master, not only admirably qualified in other respects, but also fully competent to do the work, which unfortunately is not the case with all similar officers. In these matters the wishes of the brethren are doubtless considered by Lord Zetland; and seeing that the whole province is anxious for Bro. Gallienne's appointment, we sincerely hope that the M.W.G.M. may deem it wise to accede to their wishes. The only objectors are one or two individuals who are probably afraid of being called to account for sundry irregularities, and who indeed deserve severe censure for the discredit they have brought on the Craft. That such persons should dread Bro. Gallienne's appointment is a most valuable testimony in his favour, and a proof that he would be likely to discharge the duties with right and justice. Having received from a brother of high standing in the province, an account of the reasons which induced him to leave the lodge in which these persons meet—the same in which Bro. Dr. Hopkins was so rudely treated some time ago—we can only regret that they have so long been unpunished for a course of conduct which has been equally un-Masonic and ungentlemanly. It is due to the other brethren in Guernsey to say that they have been unanimous in condemning the goings-on of the small clique referred to.

There may be persons disposed to think that Guernsey and Jersey would do very well without either Grand Lodges or Grand Masters; but such individuals take only a very superficial view of the state of affairs. A province without a Grand Master is like a nation without a ruler, and the brethren have a right to complain if they are debarred the purple. In Guernsey a Grand Master is the more necessary, because Alderney is remote from every other place. It is, therefore, to be hoped that in any case a Grand Master for

Guernsey may be appointed, and especially that Bro. Gallienne may be the man.

The advantages of Grand Lodges to the Guernsey and Jersey brethren are very great, inasmuch as Grand Lodge meetings are easily accessible. In England, on the contrary, members of Provincial Grand Lodges have often to travel forty to fifty miles to attend meetings.

The brethren in Jersey appear to be unanimous in expecting that their next Grand Master will be Bro. Colonel E. C. Malet de Carteret, Lord of St. Owen's. Bro. Malet de Carteret has served as W.M. of St. Aubin's Lodge, in succession to Bro. Dr. Hopkins, and has occupied the office of Grand Warden of the province. Bro. Malet de Carteret also took a great interest in the erection of the Temple, and is a considerable shareholder. Belonging to the "upper ten" of the island, and possessing large estates, Bro. De Carteret is qualified no less by birth and position than by Masonic zeal for the high honour of Grand Master; and there is reason to believe that his appointment would put an end to matters of variance which during past years have arisen, from the peculiar condition of this province.—J. A. H.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

ON MASONIC OATHS.

Subjoined is a transcript* of a portion of the entries on this subject contained in my letter and memorandum books (June to December, 1866). See page 127 of the present volume. Copies of most of them are already in the hands of learned brothers; but hitherto none of them have been printed.

The matter is one the practical importance of which in parts of Queen Victoria's dominions where the English lodge is established, should what I have heard be true, it will not be easy to exaggerate.

Some of the correspondents, to whose inquiries my letters were the answers, were aware of a circumstance the statement of which in this place will probably not be thought altogether irrelevant.

In the year 1832, soon after the late Lord Campbell became Solicitor-General, there were sundry consultations with him, at which I was one of the counsel present, respecting the validity of Chancery depositions taken upon commissions executed at Calcutta, Canton, and the Cape of Good Hope. All sorts of questions arose in consequence of the way in which witnesses had been "obligated." There were Hindoos, some of whom were Mystical Pantheists, and some Atheistical Pantheists; Chinese, some of whom were Laotzists, some Confuzists, and some Buddhists; and Africans, who were Fetichists. The

* The "transcript" mentioned above will appear in future numbers.

conclusions arrived at on that occasion enabled me to overcome with ease all the difficulties of the kind which presented themselves in a subsequent practice, extending to more than a quarter of a century, during which time, the five first years excepted, a silk gown gave me increased professional occupations.—C. P. COOPER.

TRANSUBSTANTIATION.

All religions necessarily require a belief in some incomprehensible thing. But the religion that requires a belief in incomprehensible things, not required by Natural Theology, which is the religion of Freemasonry as a Universal Institution, or by pure Christianity, which is the religion of English Freemasonry as a particular Freemasonry, for instance, a belief in transubstantiation in the Eucharist, must in the end lead to scepticism.—From one of Bro. Purton Cooper's Masonic Note-books.

WORK BY BRO. A. O. HAYE.

To the first inquiry of a correspondent who writes from Paris, my answer is, that it appears from a Bibliographical circular in my possession that there was published at Edinburgh, in 1865, a work by our learned brother, Anthony Oneal Haye, entitled, "Persecution of the *Knights Templars*," and not "Persecution of the *Freemasons*," as my correspondent seems to have been told. To my correspondent's second inquiry I am not able to give any useful answer.—C. P. COOPER.

MARTINEZ PASQUALIS.

See my communication, "Martin Paschalis," page 205 of the present volume. It is there said, "The name of Martin Paschalis has no place in the 'Biographie Universelle, 1823.'" Look, however, for the name "Martinez Pasqualis," which is the true name.—C. P. COOPER.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire was held on Wednesday, the 15th of April, in the Masonic Hall, Huddersfield; the R.W. the Hon. Earl de Grey and Ripon, D.G.M., presiding.

The lodge was opened in due form, and a most satisfactory meeting was held, after which about ninety brethren sat down to an excellent dinner. The usual loyal toasts were given, and heartily responded to; but yet every one appeared to be disappointed that such a noble gathering should totally lack any kind of music whatsoever, if we except an apology for "God save the Queen," and a second attempt at a "ditty," which signally failed.

Now, sir, it is to draw attention to the neglect of musical ceremonial in many of our Yorkshire lodges that I write at present. As a lover of music at all reasonable times and in all places, I am very anxious

to conserve and improve, if possible, the *harmonious* element in all our lodge ceremonies, and especially so whenever the brethren are gathered together in the meetings of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

There cannot be any substantial reason why musical honours should wane amongst the craft. The noblemen of our country generally are fond of music, and all our noble brethren who constitute the Grand Officers of our glorious craft are especially so. Therefore, it is the more unpardonable that any of our brethren who have the management and carrying out of the arrangements of such meetings of the craft should neglect to provide at all times suitable musical performances; for such things amongst our brethren are, comparatively speaking, easy to accomplish, for we may venture to say that every lodge—at least in Yorkshire—possesses abundantly the means of offering to their brethren solos, songs, and part music in infinite variety. Therefore, we do hope that the stewards for the meetings of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire—in Huddersfield especially—will in future see to it that the musical Masonic standard is kept up as it has been in times gone by, and worthy of the choral character of West Yorkshire.

Yours fraternally,
E. S.

MASONIC LIFE-BOAT FUND.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—In a recent letter of Bro. Woodhouse, after some words bespeaking the bitterness of disappointment, comes a passage enunciating an opinion from which, alas! I altogether dissent. At some future and more suitable time the reason of my thus dissenting shall be communicated.

Yours fraternally,
C. P. COOPER.

LODGE MUSIC.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—I am at present W.M. of a lodge possessing a certain amount of musical knowledge, and fully convinced of the value of appropriate vocal and instrumental music in aiding to impress the mind of the neophyte with the solemn nature of his engagements. There are many musical brethren in my lodge whose help is freely accorded to me, even at some inconvenience to themselves, so that our musical services are being spoken of in the district, and our lodge meetings largely attended.

We were very grateful for the treat you lately gave us by inserting music in your Magazine appropriate to the several degrees, which has, I have no doubt, been eagerly made use of throughout the Masonic world; and I now write you to suggest the propriety of a further instalment. Possibly some of our brethren eminent in the musical profession might be induced to arrange an appropriate service, either for publication in your paper (if you could spare sufficient of your valuable space) or as a separate publication, in which case I think a fair edition could be disposed of. It seems strange that with so many eminent musicians amongst us, and with the undoubted necessity for such a work, there has not

been published long ere this time a book with appropriate music and words for our several degrees, from which we might have some choice of material to suit either our taste or capabilities; a standard work, prepared or edited with such ability as to render it almost a necessity for every lodge to possess at least one copy. Perhaps our worthy and eminent brother, the P.G. Org. for Yorkshire, might take the hint, as I understand it was his intention some time ago to publish appropriate music for our Masonic degrees.

Yours fraternally,
D. L.—I.X.

[A complete edition of appropriate music to be used in lodge has been prepared by Bros. Dr. H. Hopkins and Johnson, which will shortly be published.—ED. F. M.]

LADIES AT THE FESTIVE MEETINGS.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—On perusing No. 458 of your issue, I find a statement made by Bro. J. E. Wilson, R.W.M. of the Lodge Caledonian Railway (No. 354), at their festive meeting. He says that "it was also deserving of note that but a few years since we did not hear in the province of Masonic festive gatherings which allowed the presence of the ladies, and that the first suggestion for a reform on this head and for the institution of Masonic festivals at which the pleasures of the evening could be participated in by fair sisters originated with this lodge." I beg to suggest to Bro. Wilson that he should not allow his *locomotive* propensities to travel so fast. Before the Caledonian Railway Lodge (No. 354) had existence, such meetings were held in the sister Lodges in the province. I remember being at such a meeting as that which took place on the 27th ult, *three* years before the charter was granted to No. 354.

Yours fraternally,
THISTLE.

RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—I shall not attempt to follow your correspondent ✠ through the involutions of his erratic epistle. It is so easy to prove a negative that I doubt not he and his friends are congratulating themselves upon having satisfactorily proved that the Red ✠ Order has "sprung forth a Pallas, armed," from the creative brain of the cloud-compelling Jupiter, Bro. Little, without having undergone the tedious process of development generally experienced in the history of similar fraternities. The late Archbishop Whately, we know, successfully demonstrated the non-existence of a fabulous personage called Napoleon Bonaparte, and of course we are equally bound to accept the *ipso dixit* of ✠ upon the subject now under consideration.

✠ appears to be much in the position of the famous lawyer, who, having "no case," abused the plaintiff's attorney; but I trust, as he gathers experience, he will realise the truism that in Masonic discussion, at least, ridicule is not always wit; neither is abuse argument. I shall confine myself, therefore, to

stating a few *facts* relating to the Order in England, all of which can, if necessary, be supported by documentary evidence of such an indisputable character as perhaps has never entered within the dreams of ✠'s limited philosophy.

The Order of the Red Cross of Constantine, so far as regards its working in England, has been conferred upon *Masons only*.

A Grand Council of the Order existed under Lord Raneliffe in 1796. His Lordship was succeeded in 1804 by Consul-General Waller Rodwell Wright, who handed over his sceptre to the Duke of Sussex, and his Royal Highness was followed by Bro. W. H. White, elected at the revival; upon whose decease, in 1866, Lord Kenlis was chosen as the Grand Sovereign of the Knights.

So much for our monarchical succession.

The Order has no connection with the American degree given to Royal Arch Masons as a preliminary to that of the Templars. The term "Knight Grand Cross," frequently used in its old records, would alone prove this assertion, as that designation is not to be found in any American ritual; and, moreover, the historical traditions of the two Orders are totally dissimilar—the one referring to events in the Christian era, and the other to circumstances said to have occurred in the reign of Darius, King of Persia.

As a further proof, I may mention that Bro. W. H. White was installed as a Knight Grand Cross of the Order of Constantine in 1809, and did not become a Royal Arch Mason until 1811. *Ab uno disce omnes.*

In the records of the Order the terms "Grand Council of this enlightened degree," "general Masonic instruction," "Craft Masons," &c., used in connection with the members will surely be held sufficient to evince the relation borne by the Red Cross Knights to the Masonic fraternity; and the service required of noviciates at a *Grand* or *Subordinate* Council will equally demonstrate the existence of a ruling body.

In addition to the testimony above referred to, a charter from Lord Raneliffe, bearing date 1796, issued to Sir Knight Robert Gill and others, is still extant, and in the possession of the proper parties.

Again, the Order has never claimed jurisdiction over the Templars, or any other cognate association, as asserted by "A Templar" in a recent number of the *Freemasons' Magazine*; neither has it ever been dependent upon that distinguished Order of Knighthood, although I am pleased to admit that many of the most eminent Red Cross Knights in days gone by, as well as some at the present time, are also to be found upon the roll of the Knights Templar; and, to quote "A Sketch of the History, &c., of the Red Cross Order,"* "the two Orders, although kept strictly separate, worked amicably and harmoniously together." So mote it ever be, notwithstanding the foolish bluster of ✠ about "putting down" "spurious" degrees. There is but one more point to which I deem it necessary to draw the attention of your readers, viz., to the insinuation that no ritual was used by the Knights in former days. It is true that Knights of the Grand Cross were empowered to confer the Noviciate Cross upon any brother deemed worthy; but such Noviciate Knights were afterwards

* *Vide the Freemasons' Magazine, No. 393, page 23.*

required to attend a conclave of the Order, for the purpose of being regularly installed. The ceremonial used at the installation of a Grand Cross was most elaborate, and was, I consider, wisely curtailed in 1865. This ritual has been seen by Knights entitled to read it; amongst others, by the worthy Sir Knight Hughan. The paper upon which it is written bears the water-mark "1812," and it does not require an "expert" to discover that the copy referred to was made about the same period, as it palpably bears the impress of authenticity.

In conclusion, allow me to say that I should not have thus intruded upon your valuable space were it not for the desire, so natural to every English Mason, to see fair play. I, therefore, subscribe myself

Yours fraternally,

AUDI ALTERAM PARTEM.

THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—The great interest manifested on this continent, both in the dominion of Canada and in the United States, relative to the history of the Order of the Templars induces us to hope that the talented author of the interesting sketches of the Knights Templar (Bro. Anthony Oneal Hays), published in the *Magazine*, will be given to the world in a separate volume, and that he will be induced to elucidate the mystery which hangs over the Order since the martyrdom of De Molai. No correct history since that event has ever been written, and such an one up to the present period—showing the real connection between Freemasonry and the Templars, at what time it occurred, and in what manner the Order has been transmitted to modern times—would probably assist more than by any other means of uniting under one common head the existing orders of the Temple, and would greatly tend to produce unanimity of sentiment among the brethren of the different Masonic rites, and to place the Order in its true position before the world.

Can any of your correspondents inform us—

If the Masonic Knights Templar of England ever assumed the name of Herodem Knights Templar? If so, where? And was it ever connected with the Knights of Malta and Rose Croix?

How old is the ritual (used before the present revision by Grand Conclave in 1851) of the Observance and Cross of Christ Encampments of London? And is either what was called the "Dunkerley Work and Ritual"?

If the Order of Knights Templar was suppressed by the death of Jaques de Molai, did not the Knights Templar become merged into Knights of Malta? If so, when or how did the Knights Templar again become an independent Order? Should we not view a union as having taken place at that time? And by what authority was the Order revived?

Is that part of the ceremony of the small c—) w—e, &c., in ritual of ancient date?

Desiring information on these matters,

Yours fraternally,

A 

G. Com. and Prior of the Temple and Hospital, Canada, and S.G.I.G., 35°.
Canada, April 10, 1868.

GLASGOW CHARTERS.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—Bro. Buchan has so fairly conducted this controversy that no one can judge better than himself of the course to be adopted.

Professor Cosmo Innes had better look carefully as to the Charter of No. 1190. It is an early date for such dispositions to be made.

Yours fraternally,
R. Y.

MASONIC EXCHANGE.

NOTICE.

The system of exchanges of objects wanted, by newspaper correspondence, has of late afforded considerable assistance in mutual accommodation, and we are disposed to afford the same facilities to our subscribers.

Communications addressed to us will meet with attention.

Non-subscribers can remit sixpence in postage stamps for notices to be inserted of objects wanted, or at disposal.

The following inquiries have been received.

1. D. C. wishes to dispose of some old seals and diplomas.

3. X. Y. Z. has a set of new clothing for the officers of a lodge under the Grand Orient of France, or Grand Oost of the Netherlands.

4. T. B. would exchange copies of seals.

5. W. J. L. wants rituals of the degrees below the 18th in English and French. He does not want what are called philosophic rituals.

6. R. T. wants the loan of the ritual of the old Templars, which is partly in Latin.

7. W. H. is open to exchange originals or copies of Masonic documents, charters, &c.

8. D. O. L. has a set of miniature furniture and officers' collars and jewels, &c., for a Lodge of Instruction, the pedestals fold; he will be glad to exchange them for a complete set of "Masonic Quarterly, Monthly, and Weekly Magazine and Mirror."

10. X. offers a perfect set of the quarto series of the *Freemasons' Magazine* for a collar and jewel of the English 31°, and a set of Provincial Grand Officers' clothing.

12. J. L. wants an Irish Past Master's apron, collar, and jewel, and will give in exchange those of an English P.M.

14. V. B. will be glad to purchase either new or second-hand Rosettes, distinguishable of the Arch Papal Church; also wanted an old York Ritual.

15. J. M. wishes to purchase R.A. medal as worn by the Companions of a Chapter.

NOTE.—Nos. 2, 9, 11, and 13 have been withdrawn.

All answers to be addressed (post paid) to the respective numbers and initials, *Freemasons' Magazine office*, Salisbury-street, W.C., London.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEMS.

THE Fifteenth section will be worked in the Faith Lodge of Instruction for the first time on Tuesday, the 19th inst., at the Westminster Chambers, Victoria-street, Westminster, when Bro. Cottebrune has kindly undertaken to take the chair. The lodge will be opened at seven precisely, and it is hoped that as many brethren as can make it convenient, will support our Bro. Cottebrune on this occasion, and show by their presence that they appreciate his valuable services, and are grateful for his patient and pains-taking endeavours to bring the members of the lodge to a high state of proficiency in Masonic working.

ON the occasion of the laying the foundation stone of the Royal Albert Asylum for Idiots and Imbeciles of the Northern Counties, on June 17th, Grand Lodge will be opened in that town prior to the ceremony.

BRO. J. CALDWELL, of Dean-street, Soho, announces his annual benefit at the Royalty Theatre, on Thursday, May 21st. We hope that Bro. Caldwell's friends will muster in large numbers, and testify their hearty appreciation of the sterling merits of this esteemed brother.

WE wish to call the attention of our readers to an appeal from Trinidad, soliciting aid to rebuild the Masonic Lodge, destroyed by fire on the 24th February last. Subscriptions in aid of the fund will be received by Bro. W. Gray Clarke, G. Sec., Freemasons' Hall.

ROYAL FREEMASONS' SCHOOL FOR FEMALE CHILDREN.

The eightieth anniversary festival took place on Wednesday evening last, and as usual was extensively patronised by the Craft. About three hundred sat down to a dinner prepared in the style for which Bro. Gosden's catering is proverbial, and it reflected great credit upon the worthy managers of the Freemasons' Tavern Company. It consisted of every delicacy of the season, and was abundant in quantity. The Right Hon. the Lord Kenlis, Prov. G. Master for Cumberland and Westmoreland, presided, and he was supported by the following brethren:—Bros. Colonel Bowyer, Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire; Head, P.G.D.; Cox, P.G.D.; Symonds, P. Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.; John Emmens, P.G. Purst.; Hogg, P.G.D.; Crombie, P.G.D.; Phillips, P.G.D.; Empson, P.G.D.; R. J. Spiers, P.G.S.E., D. Prov. G.M. for Oxon; Dr. Woodward, P.G. Chap. of Sydney, and Chap. of the Institution; J. Ferner, head master of the Boys' School; Meggy, W.M. of the Fitzroy Lodge, and about thirty of the members of it, who all appeared in their scarlet uniform, and made a great feature in the proceedings; Bros. Peter Matthews, Treasurer of the lodge; Farnfield, P.A.S., and Secretary to the Royal Benevolent Institution, and about two hundred and fifty brethren of London and provincial lodges. The gallery was also filled with elegantly dressed ladies, who appeared to take a deep interest in the proceedings.

At the Festival for the Boys' School a different arrangement of the tables was made, being placed cross-wise instead of longitudinal, and it was expected, from the dissatisfaction the experiment then excited, that it would never have been repeated, but that did not appear to be the case, for on this occasion the same variation took place with no better results. We spoke to no one

as to his opinion who did not heartily condemn the change that had been made, and leading only to the inconvenience of the brethren, whilst the waiters at some parts of the room were only able to perform their duties with considerable difficulty.

The cloth having been withdrawn, grace was sung by the professional singers.

The Chairman said: Brethren, in rising to introduce to your notice the first toast of the evening, I shall only preface it with a few remarks. It is "The Health of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen," who is not only beloved on account of her royalty and position, but as daughter of one of our respected Grand Masters, and a patron of our Order by descent from the most ancient sovereign of the realm. On this occasion I think I ought to be your mouthpiece in conveying a small tribute of respect to the Queen, and to congratulate her on the escape of one of her children in one of the most distant portions of her dominions; to express our regret at such an occurrence, and also to convey to her our congratulations and happiness that the designs of the assassin were only partly accomplished.

The toast was drunk with every manifestation of respect and cordiality.

The Chairman next gave "The Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," and said he hoped the enthusiastic reception the Prince of Wales had lately received in another portion of the kingdom, would be an omen of the future when it should please Providence to place him on the throne of these dominions.

The toast was enthusiastically received and responded to.

The Chairman said: Brethren, the next toast I have to propose stands second to none this evening, for it is "The Health of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Zetland, Patron and President of the Institution." I am sure that there is no one who is in the habit of attending Grand Lodge, but will admit the *éclat* with which our Grand Master is always received there, while others know well the suavity with which he discharges his duties. I am sure there is no one here but will cheerfully fill his glass, in the hope that our Grand Master may for many years continue as the able and noble leader of our Order.

The toast was drunk with enthusiastic cheers.

The Chairman said: Brethren,—I now rise to propose a toast which I hope will be received as well as it merits. It is "The Right Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the rest of the Grand Officers past and present." We are all aware of the difficult duties of the Deputy Grand Master, and we ought to give him our tribute of praise, but at the same time we ought not to forget the rest of the Grand Officers, for the kind manner in which they perform their duties.

The toast was well received.

Bro. Browne, J.G.D. returned thanks for the Deputy Grand Master, who most efficiently discharged the duties of his office, but more especially so as Provincial Grand Master for West Yorkshire. The Earl de Grey and Ripon while performing his onerous duties as a statesman had never forgotten his other duties as a Freemason. The rest of the Grand Officers were not less deserving of their thanks, for they were a body of men who were most zealous in the discharge of their duties. Although the present Grand Officers were young in their offices, he could assure them that they were a body of men united for the purpose of carrying out those duties with a fervency and zeal alone known to Freemasons for the purpose of promoting the benefits of the Craft, and therefore on their part he had much pleasure in returning their sincere and heartfelt thanks.

Bro. Colonel Bowyer, P.G.M. for Oxfordshire, said in proposing the next toast he wished the duty had devolved upon some other brother who could have done more justice to it. At the same time he had the greatest possible pleasure in proposing it, as it was the health of a brother, who had with such ability and eloquence proposed the toasts, and who now filled the chair. It had been his (Bro. Bowyer's) pleasure in the province of Oxford to introduce their noble brother into Freemasonry, and in his presence he would not occupy their time further than to say that it was a great thing to find the cause of Freemasonry supported by such rank and devotion to it, and he (Bro. Bowyer) was sure that they would prove to him by their contributions that evening how ably he had advocated the cause of the charity they were met to support. He asked them to drink the health and prosperity of their noble chairman, with thanks to him for his attendance that day.

The toast was very cordially received.

The Chairman said: Brethren, I assure you that I cannot thank you sufficiently for the cordiality with which you have received the toast of my health, nor can I adequately thank my brother, Colonel Bowyer, for the kind way in which he proposed it. Had it not been for his endeavours to promote the interests of the Craft, and the beneficial influence which he as Provincial Grand Master exercises in the province of Oxfordshire you would never have seen me in this room to-night to support this charity and to do my utmost amongst you. At the same time I am proud to occupy any place that may devolve upon me as a member of our fraternity, but I hope you will make excuses for my inability in the present, with a promise to do better for the future.

The Chairman again rose, and said he felt some diffidence in proposing the next toast, which was "The Provincial Grand Masters and Provincial Grand Officers," as he was obliged to include in that toast his own health. They were no doubt all aware in their connection with the Order of Freemasonry, how much depended upon the provinces for the support of their institutions. He had had many opportunities of observing how the Charities were supported in the provinces, but he felt that some of them were inefficiently supported in distant parts of the kingdom (as the noble lord was understood to say), although the provinces contributed more to them than in London. He coupled with the toast the name of his preceptor, Bro. Colonel Bowyer, who had for twenty-four years been a member of the Grand Lodge, and for fifteen years he had scarcely missed one occasion in being present to support that particular Charity. He gave "The Provincial Grand Masters and Provincial Grand Officers," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Colonel Bowyer, Prov. G. Master for Oxfordshire.

Colonel Bowyer said he must feel grateful for the kind manner in which their noble chairman had proposed the toast. He was happy to see in the chair one of his own instruction into the Order, and when they saw the Masonic feeling which he had carried out, in bringing their chairman into Masonry it was something that Oxford had reason to be proud of. He (Col. Bowyer) was sorry to say that he was the only Provincial Grand Master then present, but they had other duties in their own provinces which prevented them from attending, and in conclusion he thanked the brethren for the manner in which they had received the toast.

The Chairman said: Grand Officers and Brethren—I hope that you have your glasses well filled, for the toast I am now about to propose is undeniably the toast of the evening, and you will say so when I tell you it is "Success to the Royal Freemasons' School for Female Children," and I am sure amongst this large assembly it will scarcely excite any feeling of jealousy, appealing as it does

to our gallantry, when I say that it is the first of our Institutions. We have often many enemies and cowans ready to cast a shaft at us, who are like narrow-minded politicians, but we care not for them, as we have amongst us the principle of mutual advancements, going on together shoulder to shoulder for our mutual defence and support, and therefore in all matters, whatever may be said of us, we generally come off pretty well. Our foes say that our works are carried on in darkness, but what is our answer as to the cause in which we are labouring. Why, the present large assemblage collected here to-night to uphold one of the three great lights of Freemasonry, the school for our female children. I visited the school a few days ago, and I must say that I there passed one of the most pleasant afternoons I ever spent in my life; for my heart warmed at the sight of those children. I was greatly pleased at the kindly demeanour Miss Jarwood, the matron, and the care that Miss Davis, the head governess had bestowed upon them. When I saw those children in their play-room it was a most pleasing sight, for I there heard their excellent performances of some pieces of music, and I afterwards listened to some of the best recitations I ever heard in my life. This charity has now existed for nearly a century, having been started ninety years ago by the members of two private lodges; but for some years it was not acknowledged by the Grand Lodge. At the present time over one hundred children are supported in it. Since 1861, the collections have been greatly on the increase, and last year upwards of £6,000 was collected, and during the last six years the amount has nearly trebled, which sufficiently proves the good the society is doing. Therefore we may hold up our heads proudly all over the world, and never haul down our banners to any cowan wherever he is to be found. This institution is most admirably adapted for teaching the girls their domestic duties, as well as the different branches of education. The admirable way in which the building has been constructed shows how well the funds that have been collected have been applied, and I say that any one who has not visited the institution for two or three years, will now experience great gratification in seeing the excellent way in which Miss Davis discharges her duties. I hope, brethren, by your subscriptions in 1868, you will show that you are not behind any year that has preceded it. I give you "Success to the Royal Freemasons' School for Female Children," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Head.

The toast was drunk enthusiastically.

Bro. Head, P.G.D., and a member of the House Committee, returned thanks in the absence of Bro. Benjamin Bond Cabbell, the Treasurer of the school, who was always ready to assist the institution, and he could assure them that he felt just as great an interest in it as he always did. After other remarks he thanked the brethren for the honour conferred upon him.

Bro. E. H. Patten, the Secretary, then read the list of subscriptions, and amongst them we caught the following: Lodges, 259, £17, and the Grand Master's donation of ten guineas, for the twenty-fifth time; 214, £31 10s.; 813, £25 4s.; 142, £42; 108, £54 12s.; 435, £25 8s.; 231, £36 15s.; 186, £56 14s.; Grand Red Cross Conclave, per Bro. Robert Wentworth Little, P.M. 975, £56 14s.; Sir G. Grant, 357, £70; 82, £122 7s.; 534, £34 4s.; 18, £77 1s. 7d.; 1, £33 12s.; 10, £83 9s.; 144, £27 16s.; 119, £59 17s.; 228, £36 4s. 6d.; Percy (a Steward only announced that day), £21; 22, £78 15s.; Abbey Lodge, Abingdon, £31 1s.; 507 (Bro. John Thomas), £42 10s.; 53, £109 6s. 6d.; 73, £32 11s.; 174, £15 15s.; 871, £55 2s.; 29, £42; 63, £25 4s.; 858, £32 10s. 6d.; 165, £16 16s.; 822, £40 19s.; 259, £50; 3, £122; 172, £92 10s.; 46, £39 7s. 6d.; 90, £31 10s.; 226, £52 10s.; 91, £42; 1,098, £20; 715, £87 3s.; 92, £64 11s. 6d.; 28, £26 5s.; 99 (Shake-

spare), £133 2s.; 723, £81 18s.; County of Northumberland, £189 5s.; 5, £65 2s.; 21, £68 5s.; Bro. Wiinn, of the Canonbury Lodge, a further donation of 50 guineas.

The total of the lists received amounted to £3,820 14s.; with nineteen lists to come in.

The Chairman then gave "The Vice-Presidents, Trustees, various Committees, and Medical Officers," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Udall.

Bro. Udall returned thanks; and said it was most gratifying to him as an old man to see such an assemblage as they had that day; and although he had been associated with Freemasonry for more than thirty years, when he mixed with his fellow men on such occasions it was most gratifying to him to see the large amount of good that had been done. He thanked the brethren for the way in which they had responded to the toast, and he felt sure that all the officers would do their duty.

Bro. Col. Bowyer proposed "The other Masonic Charities, and success to them, viz: Royal Masonic Institution for Boys and The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution." He warmly enlorged the merits of these institutions, and said that although from unforeseen circumstances over which they had no control, they might be reduced to the lowest ebb of poverty and distress, yet their noble institutions were established to succour them in the time of need. He proposed the toast, coupling with it the names of "Bro. Binckes and Bro. Farnfield.

Bros. Binckes and Farnfield respectively returned thanks.

The other toasts were given and the proceedings brought to a close.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. W. Fielding, assisted by Miss Edith Wynne, Miss Palmer, and Bros. Wilbye Cooper, Edward Land, Lawler, and Chaplin Henry, and they gave unequalled satisfaction.

Bro. Spencer discharged the duties of toast master in his usual able and efficient manner, and the proceedings were brought to a close without a single incident to mar the general happiness that prevailed.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AND ANNUAL ENTERTAINMENT.

A visit to the beautiful and picturesque institution provided for the reception of the female children of our poorer brethren, is at all times one of peculiar interest to any member of our noble Order, for, independently of the fact of its being the oldest of our institutions, its special mission is to administer to the wants, and take, as it were, with a parental care of those who are the least able to take care of themselves. Indeed, its objects are well stated in the report of the committee, and coming as they do from the best authority, we shall here allow the committee to speak for themselves. They say:—

"The Royal Freemasons' School for Female Children was instituted on the 25th March, 1788, at the suggestion of the late Chevalier Bartholomew, surgeon-dentist to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, for the purpose of clothing, educating, and maintaining a limited number of female children, orphans or otherwise, of brethren belonging to the ancient and honourable society of free and accepted Masons of England, whose reduced circumstances in life might prevent them affording their female offspring a suitable education. His late Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, with other members of the Royal Family, the nobility, clergy, and gentry, and many of the most influential and benevolent members of the Craft, gave the project their warmest support, and by their united efforts established this institution, which has preserved numbers of children from the dangers and misfortunes to which females are peculiarly exposed, trained them up in the knowledge and love of virtue and habits of industry, and cultivated the practice of such social, moral, and religious duties as might best conduce to their temporal welfare and happiness."

Such are the purposes for which this institution was founded,

and it is further stated that since its establishment, 860 children have been educated, clothed, and maintained within its walls, most of whom, at the expiration of their term of residence, have returned to their parents or friends; those who had no home have been provided with suitable situations, or apprenticed to respectable trades, in which they have invariably so conducted themselves as to deserve and receive the commendation of their employers and the approbation of their benefactors.

The institution having now existed eighty years, its nature has been abundantly testified by the uniformly satisfactory reports which have been made long after the pupils have left the school, showing the lasting value of the training and instruction received within its walls; and numerous have been the instances where homes have been made happy mainly by the exercise of those principles inculcated in their early Masonic home, and which many of those who have passed away, carried out to the end of their lives, and at the same time left them as a valuable legacy to their children. Long may such an institution flourish, and long may it receive from the Craft that support which it so well deserves.

Friday, the 8th inst., was the day *par excellence*, when a visit to the school became especially agreeable, for it had been set apart for the examination of the children in their different branches of learning, and to distribute the prizes awarded to them by the examiners for their proficiency in the different branches of their studies. The day was lovely, and indeed all that could be desired, and that no doubt was partially the cause of so large an attendance of visitors, as there were upwards of 400 present, the greater portion of the ladies appearing in summer toilet, which very materially added to the beauty of the scene.

The majority of the visitors adopted the London and South-Western Railway to reach the spot, and although Clapham Junction station is always tolerably well patronised the thronged appearance of it showed that the neighbourhood that day presented more than usual attraction. The walk from the station to the school, splendidly situated on Battersea-rise, after crossing the railway, was an easy one, and on entering the hall of the building the company were kindly received by Bro. Udall, Bro. Patten, Bro. Muggeridge, or some members of the house committee, and the floral decorations gave the interior a delightful aspect, showing the pains that had been taken to receive the visitors in a proper manner. We ought not to omit to mention that Mrs. Jarwood, the amiable matron, was ever attentive to the lady visitors, so that nothing might be wanting to render the occasion as agreeable to the them, as it was the hope and earnest desire of the committee that it should be, and one of unmixed pleasure. Having inspected the building, a goodly portion of the company proceeded to the garden and orchard, which bore evidence of the attention that had been paid to them, and not the least interesting part was those little bits of ground set apart to the pupils for their own especial cultivation, and the condition of some of these plots showed that floriculture is well cared for at this establishment.

At four o'clock the children were assembled in the recreation hall, and their neat attire, and happy and healthy appearance was the theme of general admiration. Miss Davis, the amiable and accomplished head governess, took her place at the lower end of the hall, and the general company having assembled, the following programme of music was performed by the pupils:—

Hallelujah Chorus (Handel)	8 performers on 4 pianos.
Thine, O Lord, is the greatness	Vocal Trio.
Andante con moto (Beethoven)	4 performers on 4 pianos.
Finale from Symp. in D. (Haydn) ...	4 performers on 4 pianos.
Airs Suisses	12 performers on 4 pianos.
Oberon (Weber)	8 performers on 4 pianos.
Where the bee sucks (Dr. Arne).....	Vocal Duet.
Etude (Heller).....	4 performers on 4 pianos.
Batti, Batti, "Don Giovanni"	(Mozart) 4 performers on 4 pianos.
The Heavens are telling (Haydn) ...	8 performers on 4 pianos.
Les Orgies de Caraffa	2 performers on 1 piano.
Kinderleben (Kullak)	4 performers on 4 pianos.
Overture to Zampa (Herold)	8 performers on 4 pianos.
Chough and Crow (Bishop)	4 performers on 4 pianos.
Marche from Idomenio (Mozart) ...	12 performers on 4 pianos.
God save the Queen.....	4 performers on 4 pianos.

It would be difficult when all was gone through so well to particularise any piece as worthy of special commendation, but we cannot withhold our meed of praise for the skilful execution

of "Batti, Batti," "Les Orgies de Caraffa," and the "Overture to Zampa." The performance of each was faultless, and the company testified their approbation by loud cheering. In some of the pieces twelve performers were engaged at the same time on four pianos, but nothing could exceed the most complete unity of their performances, and showed the great care that had been taken in their musical training. The whole of these performances were received with the most enthusiastic applause, and those who were present for the first time, expressed the delight they had experienced in being there, with a promise that no future occasion should occur without a repetition of their visit. It is a sight that every Freemason ought to be proud of, and it is to be hoped that those resident in London who have not had the enjoyment of witnessing the effects of the bounty of the Craft in its most interesting aspect, will not allow another opportunity to pass without doing so.

The company then proceeded to the school-room, where the recitations by the pupils were to be given and the prizes distributed. The Right Hon. Lord Kenlis, Prov. G.M. for Cumberland and Westmoreland, presided, supported by the members of the House Committee. The children were ranged on each side and at the bottom of the school-room, and the company in the centre; but many of those present in the building were unable to obtain admission. The musical performances were greatly enhanced by two new pianofortes expressly provided for the occasion by Bro. Collard Moutrie, of Southampton Row, Russell Square. They were greatly admired for their touch and quality of tone. Miss Davis here again took her place to superintend these performances.

Annie G. Winter recited Southey's poem of "The Battle of Blenheim," and nothing could exceed the excellent way in which the childlike inquiries were put to an aged man as to the reason why so many men could go into a field to kill each other, and the uniform answer that was given to them that it was a "great victory," and that such sacrifices must be made. At the conclusion there was very general cheering.

Augusta Maud Dickens then, with great judgment, recited Cowper's poem of "The Poet's Cat," which appeared to be highly relished, especially by the lady visitors.

Emily Redgrave and Ada Fanny Triggs then recited in French "A Dialogue des Morts," by Fénelon, and "Louis XII. et François Premier."

This was followed by a recitation by Ellen Blanche Henty, "A Lesson of Faith," by Mrs. Gatty, being a supposed conversation between a butterfly, a caterpillar, and a lark, in which some excellent moral lessons are inculcated. She was rewarded at the close with loud and hearty applause. This young lady last year made a great impression upon the audience by her recitation of Tennyson's poem of "The May Queen," and her performance this year has added to her high reputation as an elocutionist, for every word received its full force and emphasis.

Emily Redgrave recited Macaulay's "Horatius," with, if anything, superior ability to her rendering of the same piece last year, and it won for her loud acclamations.

The presentation of the prizes to the successful candidates then took place.

The first one called upon to receive honours upon this occasion was Emily Redgrave, who stands first in position in the school for general proficiency. She was awarded the gold medal, in addition to three guineas, part of the Canonbury prize, annually given by Bro. Winn.

Lord Kenlis placed the ribbon round her neck, and on her retiring she was greeted with loud cheering.

The second highest prize in the order of merit was awarded to Julia Sophia Slaymaker, for good conduct. It consisted of the silver medal and two guineas, being part of the Canonbury prize. On receiving these honours she was greatly applauded.

The following additional prizes were then distributed:—

- Emily Redgrave, for music—workbox.
- Edith G. Collis, for French, 1st class—workbox.
- Mary A. J. Stevens, for French, 2nd class—books.
- Hannah F. Gregory, for French, 3rd class—student's case.
- Julia S. H. Slaymaker, for needlework—workbox.
- Ellen L. Winter, for vocal music—desk.
- Elizabeth S. Saunders, for music—desk.
- Mary A. Parsons, for good conduct—desk.
- Frances Feast, for general usefulness—workbox.
- Clara H. Measor, for domestic duties—workbox.
- Sarah Ann Littlewood, for domestic duties—workbox.

- Mary J. Palot, for needlework—workbox.
- Alice F. Pratt, for writing and map drawing—desk.
- Kate Briggs, for order and attention—desk.
- Emily S. Goodchild, for neatness—workbox.
- Priscilla S. Buck, for general amiability—desk.

By Bro. Henry F. Bowker, for general proficiency:—

- Emily Redgrave, 1st class.
- Frances M. Feast, 2nd class.
- Hannah F. Gregory, 3rd class.
- Annie G. Winter, 4th class.

By Bro. the Rev. P. H. E. Brette, for French recitation:—

- Ada F. Triggs, 1st class.
- Augusta Maud Dickens, 2nd class.
- Annie G. Winter and Elizabeth Hutchinson, 3rd class.

By Mrs. Brette, for music:—

Jane A. Rumbrow.

By Mrs. Crick, for elocution:—

Emily Redgrave and Ellen Henty—books.

By Bro. Raynham Stewart, for dictation:—

- Alice E. Isborn, 1st class—desk.
- Elizabeth A. Measor, 2nd class—desk.
- Edna J. Johnson, 3rd class—books.
- Elizabeth Hutchinson, 4th class—books.
- Harriette Jordan, music—book.

At the conclusion of the distribution of prizes, the Chairman congratulated the children on their proficiency in obtaining the prizes, and said he should feel great pleasure in attending on any future occasion.

Bro. Udall proposed a vote of thanks to Lord Kenlis for taking the chair, which was carried unanimously.

Lord Kenlis briefly acknowledged.

The company then retired for tea and a cold collation, and, on reassembling in the exercising-hall, they had the gratification of witnessing a further proof of Miss Davis's triumphs in the training of the children, who there went through their calisthenic exercises. They entered the hall in two columns, to the air of "Partant pour la Syrie," in marching order, and with great precision formed into squares open and solid, and went through a variety of evolutions with an accuracy that perfectly astonished some of those belonging to volunteer corps who were present, and one captain of volunteers privately said that he only wished the men of his corps were as efficient in their drill as the children he saw before him, and then he would have nothing to complain of.

Several songs and choruses were sung by the children, concluding with "God save the Queen."

This terminated the business of the day, but the rest of the evening was devoted to dancing by the guests and children, which was carried on with great spirit till past ten o'clock, when the visitors retired, highly delighted with the treat they had received.

In concluding this notice we cannot but congratulate the committee on the success of the Institution, and especially so in having at the head of it a lady so eminently qualified for the multifarious duties as Miss Davis. When it is considered that she is the responsible instructor of 105 children in so many branches of study, including the French language, music, and calisthenics, the task appears almost herculean; but there is no doubt that her duties are considerably lightened by the cheerfulness and kindly spirit in which they are performed, and it is to be hoped that for many years the Institution may have the benefit of her services. At the same time we ought not to omit to mention the courteous, able, and painstaking exertions of Bro. Patten, the secretary, to do all he can to promote the benefit of the School; and the indefatigable care and attention of the house committee, of which Bro. Udall is a worthy representative; and it is to be hoped that the coming festival will enable them to carry out with equal efficiency in the future what they have so worthily done in the past.

METROPOLITAN.

VILLIERS LODGE (No. 1,194).—A regular meeting of this new lodge was held at the Northumberland Arms Hotel, Isleworth, on Saturday, the 2nd inst. The lodge was duly opened by Bro. E. Clark, W.M., assisted by Bros. S. E. Clarke, M.D.,

S.W.; J. Trickett, C.E., J.W.; R. Gurney, Treas.; R. W. Little, P.M., Sec.; W. Dodd, S.D.; C. Higgins, J.D.; Lancaster, Smale, Steel, Allman, &c. Visitors: Bros. J. Mann, W.M. 186, and J. Faithful, P.M. 946. After the confirmation of the minutes and other preliminaries, Bro. Little, P.M., took the chair, and raised Bro. Steel to the third degree, giving the traditional history so often and so improperly omitted from the ceremony. On the lodge being resumed to the first degree, the W.M. initiated Messrs. William Harvey, John Jones, and Thos. Pulteney Leckie into the mysteries of the Craft. Bro. Allman was appointed I.G. The brethren signed their balloting papers in favour of Mrs. Green, a candidate for the Annuity, and handed them over to Bro. Little, who has undertaken to support the case at the forthcoming election on the 15th inst. A banquet followed, the brethren being called from labour to refreshment, and after a very pleasant evening spent at the festive board, the lodge was closed, and the brethren retired to their respective habitations. A lodge of emergency will be held on Saturday, the 30th inst., for the purpose of passing Bro. Leckie, who is going abroad at an early date.

PROVINCIAL.

DEVONSHIRE.

TOTNES.—*Pleiades Lodge* (No. 710).—The monthly meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, the 30th ult. The lodge was opened at half-past six o'clock by Bro. J. Heath, W.M., assisted by Bros. Marks, P.M., as S.W.; Niner, as J.W.; Dr. Hopkins, as I.P.M.; Watson, P.M. and Sec.; and Pridham, as I.G. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. There was a candidate named on the circular for each of the three degrees, neither of whom was present. The one for initiation had been proposed at seven days' notice, with respect to whom a discussion took place at some length, which terminated satisfactorily. This gentleman was re-proposed in open lodge by the acting I.G., and seconded by the W.M. As there was no further business to be transacted, the W.M. requested Bro. Dr. Hopkins to give a lecture on the third degree, which he did, afterwards receiving the thanks of the brethren, through the W.M. The lodge was closed at half-past nine o'clock.

DURHAM.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—*St. Hilda's Lodge* (No. 240).—The brethren of this lodge held an emergency meeting in their hall, on the evening of the 8th ult., for the purpose of passing and raising several eligible brethren; Bro. Robertson, W.M., presiding, supported by his Wardens and the other officers. After the ceremony and other business had been concluded, the W.M., in the name of the members of the lodge, presented to Bro. J. P. Simpson, P.M. and P. Prov. J.G.D. of Northumberland, with an elegantly-written and fraternal address on his leaving this country for Port Natal, South Africa. In appropriate terms the W.M. spoke of the character and bearing of the worthy brother as a good citizen. The address wished him every prosperity in the land of his adoption, accompanied with health and happiness. Other brethren added their mead of praise; several in the lodge being visibly affected. The W.M. and Wardens having signed their names, the address was presented in due form. Bro. Simpson, who was much moved, returned his grateful acknowledgements for the unexpected proof of their kindness for his future welfare, and trusted he would ever prove himself worthy of their regard. The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to refreshment, and a happy hour was spent in "love and harmony."

ESSEX.

COLCHESTER.—*United Lodge* (No. 697).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held at the George Hotel, on Wednesday, the 29th ult. Bro. J. Newman, W.M., occupied the chair of K.S., supported by Bros. Sutherland, P.M., S.W.; C. Carnegie, P.M., P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works, Essex, J.W.; G. H. Ray, S.D.; Calthorpe, J.D.; Eustace, I.G.; Witten, Tyler, &c. The lodge was opened in due form in the first degree, and the summons conveying the meeting was read. Letters were read from Bro. Mann, Prov. G. Sec., requesting the lodge to forward the annual return for the Provincial Grand Lodge; and from Bro. Barrow, 82nd Reg., requesting the lodge

to accept his resignation, as he had left the station, which was acceded to. The W.M. was requested to fill up the voting papers for the Royal Benevolent Institution for aged Freemasons and their widows, which he did in favour of Bro. Clarke and Mrs. Mott. A summons to attend the Grand Lodge, and the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge was read. The lodge was then opened in the F.C. degree, and Bro. Tarleton, Lieut. 16th Reg., a candidate for the sublime degree, was examined as to his proficiency, which, proving satisfactory, he was entrusted, and retired. The lodge was then opened in the M.M. degree, when Bro. Tarleton was re-introduced and raised to the sublime degree by Bro. Sutherland, P.M., in his usual impressive manner. The lodge was then resumed in the first degree, and some other business having been transacted, it was closed in peace, harmony, and brotherly love.

KENT.

DOVER.—*Corinthian Lodge* (No. 1,208).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held at the Royal Hotel, Clarence-place, on the 28th of April, at 6.30 p.m. There were present Bros. Adamson, W.M.; Fahr, S.W., in the absence of Bro. Thomson; Laforest, J.W.; Neall, S.D.; Tyler, J.D.; Prebble, I.G.; Rose, Tyler. The minutes of the last regular lodge were read and confirmed. The brethren then proceeded to ballot for Bro. Nils Herman Corfitson, of Sincerity Lodge (No. 174), as a joining member, who was unanimously accepted. Bro. Nils Herman Corfitson having answered the usual questions satisfactorily, the lodge was opened in the second degree, and the candidate duly passed to the degree of F.C. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and responded to, the brethren expressing their great sympathy for his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh at the dastardly act of an assassin, wishing his Royal Highness a speedy and safe return to his native shore, under the guidance of the Great Architect of the Universe. Some excellent songs were sung by several brethren, twenty-four being present; and the brethren departed at an early hour, expressing their joy with so happy a meeting and large attendance for a lodge of emergency.

LANCASHIRE (EAST).

MANCHESTER.—*Consecration of the Strangeways Lodge* (No. 1,212).—This new lodge was consecrated at the Assizes Courts Hotel, Strangeways, on Tuesday, the 21st ult. The lodge having been opened in form by Bro. H. T. Baldwin, W.M. designate, the following Prov. G. officers entered:—Bros. Stephen Blair, R.W. Prov. G.M.; W. R. Callender, jun., V.W. D. Prov. G.M.; J. L. Hine, Prov. S.G.W.; J. M. Wike, Prov. J.G.W.; Jos. Littler, Prov. G. Chap.; R. M. D. Smith, Prov. G. Treas.; G. Brett, Prov. G. Reg.; John Turnah, Prov. G. Sec.; John Chadwick, Prov. G.S.D.; W. Birch, Prov. G.J.D.; Austin Sheldard, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; S. Timas, Assist. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; H. Maiden, Prov. G.S.B.; T. C. Nicholls, Prov. G. Purst.; H. Holder, Prov. G. Standard Bearer; W. Ryder, Prov. G. Steward, and Jos. Hinkins, Prov. G. Steward. The R.W. Prov. G.M. then consecrated the new lodge with the assistance of his Prov. G. officers. Bro. Baldwin having several times served the office of W.M., was then placed in the chair. Eight propositions for initiations and joining members having been made, the lodge was closed at 5.30, and about thirty-seven brethren adjourned to a splendid banquet provided by Bro. Ryley, the host. We are glad to say the first act of this new lodge was one of charity, by voting a subscription to that excellent Masonic charity the Systematic Benevolent Fund, which has done such good service in East Lancashire.

MANCHESTER.—*Shakespeare Lodge* (No. 1,069).—On Thursday the 23rd ult., at the Freemasons' Hall, Bro. W. Rowaue Callender, jun., the newly-installed V.W. D. Prov. G.M. East Lancashire, in his usual able manner installed Bro. Thomas Alderson W.M. for the ensuing twelve months.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

LANCASTER.—*Rowley Lodge* (No. 1,051).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Monday evening, the 4th inst., at the Masonic rooms, Athenæum. The chair of K.S. was occupied by Bro. Dr. Moore, W.M., Prov. G. Std. Bearer for West Lancashire; there were also present:—Bros. Ball, I.P.M.; Hall, S.W.; Bagnall, W.M. 281, as J.W.; T. Mason, Sec.; W. Barker, S.D., Treas.; Coupland, J.D.; Taylor, I.G.; Paley, Howitt, Rev. A. Wright, Russel, E.A.P. Visiting brethren, Bros. J.

P. Irvine, of Sefton Lodge (No. 680), Liverpool; and Thos. S. Maccall, of Musselburgh Kilwinning Lodge. The lodge was opened in the first degree, and the usual business transacted. The ballot was taken for Bro. the Rev. W. Bramwell Smith, *M.A.*, P. Prov. G. Chap. for Warwickshire, P.M. Apollo Lodge, Alcester, as an honorary member (he having been proposed by the W.M., and seconded by Bro. Ball, I.P.M., at the previous meeting), which resulted in his unanimous election. John Broadhurst, Esq., surgeon, and superintendent of the County Lunatic Asylum, at Lancaster, who had been proposed by the W.M., and seconded by Bro. Dr. Mercer, J.W., was then balloted for and unanimously elected. The ballot was then taken for Edward Denis de Vitre, Doctor of Medicine, of Lancaster, proposed by the W.M., seconded by Bro. Ball, I.P.M., who was also declared unanimously elected. Both these gentlemen being in attendance were duly initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry by the W.M. Bro. Russel, *M.B.*, having given proof of his proficiency in the E.A. degree, was then passed to the degree of F.C. The W.M. reported that he had during the last week attended the meeting of the Grand Lodge of England, on the occasion of the installation of the Earl of Zetland for the twenty-fifth year, as M.W. Grand Master of England, and that previous to the meeting of the Grand Lodge he had attended on a deputation to the Earl of Zetland, to solicit him to lay the foundation stone of the Royal Albert Asylum for Idiots and Imbeciles of the northern counties, at Lancaster, with Masonic ceremonial. This his lordship kindly consented to do, and fixed the 17th of June for the ceremony. The labours of the evening being finished, the lodge was closed in the usual manner.

WARRINGTON.—*Lights Lodge of Instruction* (No. 148).—This lodge, which has been in existence about three months, brought its first session to a close on Thursday, the 30th ult., with a "high" tea at the Patten Arms Hotel. The members present were:—Bros. W. Mossop, J.W.; W. S. Hawkins, W. Richardson, W. Savage, T. Jones, J. Robinson, Horatio Syred, J. Laitlwaite, and J. E. Goodried. Bros. H. B. White, P.M., Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; and John Bowes, P.M., Prov. G. Reg., Cumberland and Westmoreland, were invited guests, and Bro. G. Beasley, solicitor, St. Helen's Lodge of Loyalty, was a visitor on the occasion. After tea Bro. John Bowes was requested to take the chair, and proposed the usual loyal and patriotic toasts. Bro. W. Mossop, S.W. 148, rose to propose "The Healths of the Preceptors of the Lodge of Instruction, Bros. White, Bowes, and Robert Stevenson." Bro. White, by reason of his numerous professional engagements, had been unable to give them much attention, but he was sure he wished them every success. Of Bro. Bowes' kindness and attention he could not speak too highly, he had only been absent from them once, and had at all times evinced the greatest interest in the progress. His (Bro. Bowes') remarks during and at the close of their weekly meetings were fully appreciated by them all, and he begged on his own behalf, as well as on behalf of the lodge generally, to tender him his and their warmest thanks. Bro. Stevenson lived at too great a distance from the lodge to be of much use to them, but he (the speaker) had no doubt that they had his best wishes. He begged to propose "The Preceptors of the Lights' Lodge of Instruction attached to No. 148." Bro. H. B. White, in responding, after thanking the brethren for their kind mention and acceptance of his name, said that his absence from them was unavoidable, but he did not regret it very much, as the position of Preceptor was ably filled by his son in Masoury, Bro. Bowes. He had heard good accounts of the efforts of the members, and if they continued as they had begun, complete success would attend them. Bro. Bowes thanked the brethren, and assured them that he was amply repaid for any little sacrifice he had made in their behalf by the zealous manner in which the working of the lodge had been conducted. Every member had made certain progress, so much so that they would no longer experience difficulty in selecting an efficient brother to preside over the lodge. It was a source of regret to him that their excellent Secretary, Bro. D. W. Finney, S.W., 148, was not with them that evening. He had been most active and efficient in the discharge of his duties, and thereby had rendered good service. He saw one officer present; he would therefore propose "Success to the Lights Lodge of Instruction," and call upon Bro. Thomas Jones, Treas., to respond. Before, however, listening to Bro. Jones' oratory, he would call upon Bro. Savage for a song. Bro. Jones, in responding, said his duties had been light indeed, for the Secretary had done all the work, and therefore deserved all the

honour. Bro. H. B. White said there was one brother whose health should not be forgotten, and that was the W.M., Bro. James Hepherd. Bro. W. Mossop, J.W., responded. Bro. Bowes said they were favoured with the presence of a visitor in the person of Bro. Beasley, of St. Helens. He had met that brother in his own lodge and had reason to know how highly he was esteemed by those who knew him best. They were pleased to see him, and begged he would assure St. Helen's Lodge of Loyalty of their hearty good wishes. Bro. Beasley was exceedingly obliged by the very flattering manner in which his name had been mentioned and received. He had long heard of the Lodge of Lights, and had often wished to visit it. They in St. Helen's were not so favoured. They had no Bro. Bowes at hand; their nearest help coming from Liverpool. He was a warm admirer of the Craft, and often felt the want of an able brother to afford explanations. He hoped to visit them again and again, and what he could not get at home, to find in Warrington. He should not fail to report what he had seen and heard, and by that means stimulate the members of his own lodge to greater exertions. He begged to thank the chairman and brethren for the honour they had done him. After sundry other speeches and songs, the pleasures of the evening were brought to a close and the brethren separated,

"Happy to meet,
Sorry to part,
Happy to meet again."

NORTHUMBERLAND.

WILLINGTON QUAY.—*Tynside Lodge* (No. 991).—On the 16th ultimo a number of brethren belonging to the above lodge assembled at the house of Bro. Thompson, Black Bull Inn, Howdon, to take a farewell of Bro. J. P. Simpson, of Chirton, P.M., and to make a suitable presentation prior to his leaving the district for Port Natal. An excellent company partook of a well-served repast. The chair was occupied by Bro. W. A. Allan, W.M. (No. 991), and the vice-chair by Bro. Fenwick, S.D.; and among those present were Bros. Twizell, P.M.; J. Roddam, W.M., St. Bede, Jarrow, Reid, Tulloch, P.M.; and other brethren. The usual preliminary toasts having been given after supper, the Chairman called upon Bro. Twizell to make the presentation, and, in doing so, Bro. Twizell said he rose with mingled feelings to perform a duty imposed upon him—he was sorry, too, from circumstances over which they had no control. They were about to lose their old friend and neighbour; yet he was glad and proud to testify in the name of many subscribers the high esteem and regard in which Bro. Simpson was held by all who knew him. There was hardly an institution in the whole district but had been indebted to Bro. Simpson for his aid, which on all occasions was freely and pleasantly given. Nature had blessed him with a fine musical voice, and Bro. Simpson had always been willing and ready to freely render his services where by so doing he could please his friends or contribute to the success of the institutions of the district in which he resided. As a friend, he was always kind, affectionate, and honourable, and in the circles in which he moved his face was ever welcome. In his career as a Freemason, Bro. Simpson had ever shown a high appreciation of the beautiful doctrines taught in lodge, and had ever carried them out in practice out of lodge. As a working Mason, there were few better able to conduct the business of a lodge more efficiently than Bro. Simpson; his heart and soul were in the work, and those who knew him, knew him in and out of the lodge to be a thorough good and worthy Mason. He was sure he was speaking the feelings of all present when he said that Bro. Simpson would take with him their best wishes for his success in a new career now before him, and also when he expressed the hope that they would ere many years had elapsed see their brother once more among them. In the name of the subscribers, he had much pleasure in presenting their guest with a purse of gold, a handsome gold fancy P.M. jewel, and a beautiful photographic album. The jewel had engraved upon it the following: "Presented, with a purse of gold, to Bro. James Patterson Simpson, P.M. and P. Prov. J.G.D., by the members of the Tyne Lodge and other Masonic brethren, on his leaving England for Port Natal, South Africa, as a token of their great esteem and regard for him. April 16, 1868."—The Chairman, in a few appropriate remarks, endorsed all the previous speaker had said, and banded the presentations to Bro. Simpson, amid loud and prolonged applause.—Bro. Simpson, who was much affected, thanked the subscribers for the handsome and

substantial manner in which they had expressed the feelings and esteem in which they held him. That was to him "the night of nights and day of days," and the most eventful period of his life, and he would ever remember it. Although he would be separated from them by many long distances, he would often in spirit be in their midst. Although there would be a severance in the body, he trusted there would ever be a communion of spirit. He considered that one of the greatest and best gifts the Almighty Maker had bestowed upon mankind was the power to revisit the scenes that were most endearing to their affections, and to see those friends in imagination that were dearest to their souls. Although he was about to leave his native country to try his fortune in distant lands, he would carry with him, he hoped, many sunny memories of pleasant scenes and kind friends; and he hoped that in his after life, when the sun shone upon his path, there would still be the brighter ray, and when shadow and sorrow came upon him he would find consolation in the knowledge that he lived in their esteem. In the colony to which he was going he hoped to meet with brethren, and to them he would endeavour to be useful. He hoped that all the kind things said to and of him by Bro. Twizell would be ratified in his (Bro. Simpson's) future life; and he hoped during all his journeyings he would ever hear glad tidings of the individual members of all the lodges on the Tyne; and he trusted that the harmony which had ever characterised the business of those lodges would long continue. —Bro. Simpson afterwards presented a handsome and valuable silver salver to the Tyne Lodge. The salver bore the following inscription: "Presented to the Tyne Lodge (No. 991) by Bro. J. P. Simpson, as a parting gift and token of fraternal regard." —Other complimentary toasts followed, and a very pleasant and harmonious evening was spent.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—*Lodge de Loraine* (No. 541).—The usual monthly meeting of this highly prosperous lodge was held in Freemasons' Hall, Blackett-street, on Friday evening, the 17th ult. Bro. John Stokoe, W.M., presided, supported as usual by a large and influential number of officers, P.M.'s, brethren, and visitors. On the dais during the evening were present, Bros. C. J. Bannister, P.M., F.G. Sword Bearer, England; J. S. Challoner, P. Prov. S.G.W. Northumberland; R. J. Banning, P. Prov. J.G.W. Durham; Strachan and Hall, P.M.'s 24; Jensen, W.M. 48; Hugill, P.M. 48; and those P.M.'s of De Loraine, without whose presence the lodge seems incomplete, Bros. T. Anderson, Prov. G. Treas. Northumberland; J. B. Winter, J. Smith, R. Smaile, and B. Smaile, I.P.M. There were present also as visitors:—Bros. J. Pritchard and W. Cockburn, 24; R. F. Cook, Sec. 47, and several others. The lodge was duly opened by the W.M., when three gentlemen proposed at the previous meeting, were duly balloted for and declared accepted. Two of them, Mr. J. Swann and Capt. A. Colas, being in attendance, were admitted and initiated into the mystic art by the W.M. Bro. J. Bell was afterwards examined, entrusted, admitted, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, also by the W.M., who was again indebted to the assistance of the musical brethren of the lodge for their aid in seconding his efforts to give due solemnity to this beautiful ceremony. The appropriateness of the music (which appeared in the pages of this MAGAZINE) called forth encomiums from all who had not previously heard it. The lodge was then closed in due form, and about thirty brethren sat down to refreshment. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M., the latter calling upon Bro. C. J. Bannister to respond for the Grand Lodge of England; Bro. J. S. Challoner responding for the Provincial Grand Lodge of Northumberland; and Bro. Dr. Banning for the Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham. The W.M.'s health was proposed in most eulogistic terms by Bro. Bannister, who spoke of the pleasure he had derived from the excellent and efficient working of the lodge by the W.M. and his officers. Bro. Jensen, W.M. 48, responded for "The Visitors." Songs and glees, interspersed with the toasts, soon brought the parting hour, and the Tyler's toast brought this happy evening to a close.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—*Northern Counties Lodge* (No. 406).—The annual installation and festival of this lodge was held in the lodge-room on the 23rd ult. (St. George's Day), in the presence of a large number of brethren. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. H. Saniter, and after the minutes had been confirmed, the W.M. proceeded to instal his successor, Bro. John Ridsdale, S.W., which was excellently well done. The newly-installed W.M. then invested the following brethren as his

officers:—Bros. J. Frölich, S.W.; J. Gibson Youll, J.W.; J. Cook, Sec.; W. Punshon, Treas.; G. A. Ohren, S.D.; —Temperley, J.D., &c. The lodge was closed, and the brethren then held their festival at Bro. W. Miller's, Queen's Hotel, Grey-street, when about thirty sat down to a sumptuous dinner. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and a pleasant evening was spent.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

HULL.—*Humber Lodge* (No. 57).—The forty-first anniversary of laying the foundation stone of this lodge was celebrated on Thursday, the 7th inst., by the meeting of the lodge, followed by a banquet. Bro. John Walker, W.M., presided. The following Past Masters were also present:—Bros. J. P. Bell, M.D., D. Prov. G.M. for N. and E. York; Jacobs, A. Bannister, Seaton, Hay, Keyworth, Kemp, Clarke, Chaffin, Hewson, and Coakworth; Runtou, S.W.; Vivian, J.W.; Hudson, S.D.; Tesseyman, J.D.; Fountain, Treas.; Backwell, Sec.; Haigh, Dir. of Cers.; Oates, Chap.; and about forty brethren of the Humber Lodge; also Bros. Todd, S.W.; Walliker, J.W.; S. N. Samuelson and Dumbell, of the Kingston Lodge; Croft and Leggott, of the Minerva Lodge; and Bro. Smith of the Bedford Lodge. After the banquet, which was provided by Bro. Peacock in his usual good style, had had ample justice done to it, the chairman proposed "The Queen and the Craft," which was followed by the usual Masonic toasts, and in proposing them, several good speeches were made. In the course of the evening, Bro. A. Bannister, after complimenting the W.M. and officers on the appearance of the lodge, very kindly promised to present the lodge with a clock. A very pleasant and harmonious evening was spent, and the brethren retired a few minutes past eleven o'clock.

SCARBOROUGH.—*Old Globe Lodge* (No. 200).—We are most happy to be able to report the complete success of a grand Masonic concert given by the brethren of the above lodge, in aid of the funds of the Boys' School, on Thursday, the 30th ultimo. The hall was beautifully decorated with banners and flowers, the latter being very kindly supplied by John Woodall, Esq., Saint Nicholas House, whose head gardener, Mr. Reynolds, superintended their arrangement. A large and respectable audience assembled. The ladies appeared in full-dress concert costume, and the brethren in Masonic clothing, every diversity of which was represented from the E.A.'s badge of innocence to the Knight Templar and Rosierucian degrees. The singers were chiefly resident artistes, viz., Miss Woodall, Miss Alice Carlton, Bros. Harcourt, Johnstone, W.M., Drake, J.D., Fletcher, Grover, Walshaw, and Hick. The pianists were Miss Emily Carlton and Mr. W. Leggatt, and the readers were Bros. Rowan and Thos. Pybus Smith. All of them played their parts well. The singers were in admirable voice, and discoursed excellent music. It is not our intention to enter into any critical detail of the songs *seriatim*; we shall content ourselves with a general expression of commendation; suffice it to say the most unanimous approval was signified by the audience. The national anthem (Masonic version) having been given, the entertainment broke up at half-past ten in the greatest good humour, and the audience retired well pleased with their evening's enjoyment. We are happy to add that the net proceeds of the concert amount to about 20 guineas, which will be invested in two life governorships, to be the property of the lodge.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

DOXCASTER.—*St. George's Lodge* (No. 242).—The members of this lodge held their anniversary a few days ago, in their elegant new lodge room in High-street. Bro. C. M. Hartley, W.M., was in the chair. Soon after three o'clock in the afternoon, the Master elect was duly installed by a Board of Past Masters, the choice of the brethren having fallen upon Bro. Bentley as W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. E. Drury, of Sheffield, acted as Installing Master. The W.M. having appointed his officers, the lodge was lowered to the first degree, and finally closed. Later in the evening the brethren adjourned to the Woolpack Hotel, where a banquet had been prepared, to which all did ample justice, and reciprocated the best wishes to each other, and for all brethren throughout the universe.

It is a fact which will not be questioned by anyone conversant with the subject, that the morality of the Church is identical with that of Masonry.

IRELAND.

GRAND LODGE.

A meeting of the Grand Lodge of Ireland was held on the 7th inst., at the Grand Lodge Rooms, Freemasons' Hall, Bro. the Hon. Judge Townsend, D.G.M. in the chair.

The attendance was very large. The following brethren were elected Grand Officers for the ensuing twelve months:—

Bros. His Grace Augustus Frederick, Duke of Leinster, M.W.G.M.; Right Hon. Baron Athlumney, R.W.S.G.W.; Sir Edward Borough, Bart., R.W.J.G.W.; Thomas Mostyn, R.W.G. Treas.; Maxwell C. Close, R.W.G. Sec.; Rev. James MacSorley, and Hon. Rev. William C. Plunket, R.W.G. Chaps.; Arthur Bushe, W.S.G.D.; Edmund R. Digges La Touche, W.J.G.D.; Charles D. Astley, W.G. Supt. of Works; Joseph Manning, W.G. Dir. of Cers.; Theophilus E. St. George, W.G. Steward; George Hepburn, W.G. Sword Bearer; Francis Quin, W.G. Org.; Stuart Nassau Lane, W.G.I.G.

The following notice of motion, the recommendation of the Board of General Purposes, was negatived by a majority of 70 to 52:—

"That the Grand Officers from that of Senior Deacon down shall not be held continuously for a longer period than one year by the same person, such brother to be eligible to a superior office, but to be ineligible to the vacated office, or any inferior, for twelve months."

It was unanimously decided that an address be prepared and presented to the Queen through his Grace the Duke of Leinster, M.W.G.M., expressing the sympathy of the Grand Lodge of Ireland with her Majesty, on the recent brutal attempt upon the life of the Duke of Edinburgh.

A committee having been appointed to carry out the above resolution, the brethren separated.

LONDONDERRY AND DONEGAL.

OPENING OF MASONIC LODGE "NORTHERN STAR" (No. 438), AT RAPHOE.

At half-past four p.m. on the 23rd ult., the following members of the Craft assembled at the Masonic lodge rooms, William-street, Raphoe, viz.:—Bros. R.W. William Brown, D.P.G.M.; John King Irwin, P.G.S.W.; Edward Smith, P.G. Sec.; William Miles P.G.I.G.; William Rogan, P.M. 69, Derry; Connolly Skip-ton, W.M. 52, Derry; Robert McCleery, W.M. 102, Lifford; William Martin, P.M. old 407, Ramelton; Charles Smith, W.M. Morrow; William Wilson, W. B. Kerr, James King, William Mitchell, and Edward G. Cotter. The new lodge Northern Star (No. 438), was opened in due form by the R.W. D. Prov. G.M., who performed the solemn and impressive ceremony of dedication, and installed the various officers of the new lodge—R.W. Bros. J. K. Irwin, as Master; Smith and Morrow as Wardens.

After a most instructive address from the R.W. D., P. G. M. to the new lodge, the brethren retired to the Plough Hotel, where a substantial and plentiful dinner was served to them in a style which reflects the greatest credit on Mrs. McFeeters, the manager of the establishment. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been drunk the brethren separated at an early hour. The ceremony of the day was happily styled by one of the brethren as rather the resuscitation than the inauguration of a lodge in Raphoe, a Masonic Lodge having worked there from 1762 to 1832, when it became extinct, after having founded several lodges in the neighbourhood; and among them the oldest of the Derry lodges, "Northern Star" has risen brilliantly on the horizon of Masonry, and we doubt not, will guide numbers by its rays from "darkness" into "light."

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

GUERNSEY.

DOYLE'S LODGE OF FELLOWSHIP (No. 54).—On Friday, the 21st. ult., being exactly one month from the date of the last emergency lodge, another emergency lodge was held. There were present, Bro. Martin, W.M., in the chair, Bros. Guilbert, I.P.M.; Gallienne, P.D. Prov. G.M.; Stickland, P.M.; Church-house, P.M.; Sparrow, P.M.; Wilcocks, P.M.; Hutcheson, P.M. and Treas., acting S.W.; Glencross, J.W.; Sarchet, Sec.; Millington, S.D.; Parker, J.D.; Muntz, I.G.; Lucas, Brown,

Clarke, Cohen, Rowe, Nicolle, and Manger, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. Dudley Batty, 244; Hunt, S.W. 168; Smythson, P.M. 168; and Porter, 243. The summons stated the object of the meeting to be the raising of Bros. Brown and Carroll. 66th Regt., to the third degree. When the summons was issued it was very doubtful whether it would not be without avail, as Friday was the day on which the Transport, on board of which the 66th were to embark, was expected in Guernsey. Fortunately however that vessel did not arrive in due time, and the troops did not embark until Saturday. Bro. Carroll was we are sorry to say not present, he being with the head-quarters of his Regt. in Jersey, and unable to obtain leave to quit that island. The lodge was opened at half-past seven in the first degree and afterwards in the second, when Bro. Brown was questioned in the usual manner, found proficient, and dismissed for preparation. The lodge was then opened in the third degree and Bro. Brown on his readmission was duly raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. Bro. Churchhouse, P.M., evinced his usual kindness in ably presiding at the harmonium, thereby adding much to the impressiveness of the ceremony. It is a subject of much regret to us that the effective choir which he with the assistance of worthy Bro. Dr. Hopkins established, should have flourished for so short a time. We wish he could manage to reform it. The whole of the ceremony including the lecture on the tracing board, was worked by the W.M. in his usual careful and correct manner. The M.M.'s Lodge was closed in solemn form also the F.C.'s, and then the lodge in the first degree. A short time was spent in refreshment, when the brethren separated, all uniting in one harmonious regret that the fortunes of war had not permitted Bro. Carroll to take his third degree in Doyle's Lodge, and that both he and Bro. Brown were obliged to quit the Channel Islands so soon after they had become Master Masons. We believe Bro. Carroll was raised to the degree of M.M. at the Yarborough Lodge in Jersey on the same evening as Bro. Brown was raised here.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

ADELAIDE.

ALFRED MASONIC HALL.—Some time ago we announced that the Duke of Edinburgh, in compliance with the wish of the Masonic body (I.C.), conveyed to him by Bros. Fivensh and W. R. Cobbin, had graciously given leave that his name should be given to the new Hall in Weymouth-street. On the occasion of the interview it appears that the representatives of the Order requested His Royal Highness to leave behind as a memento of his visit a copy of his portrait, which he consented to do. This has now been framed, and is hung in a conspicuous position in one of the rooms of the new building. It is a full-length photograph, very accurately delineating the features of the Prince, which have become so familiar to South Australians, and at the foot appears the autograph of the Royal Duke. Altogether it forms a very handsome remembrance of the donor, and will, of course, be highly prized by the receivers. A photographic copy of the address presented to His Royal Highness, and the correspondence relating to the naming of the Hall, have also been framed and hung near the likeness.

The highly interesting ceremony of opening a new Masonic lodge under the jurisdiction of the I.C., took place on Monday, December 30th, at the Goolwa. The want of a lodge had been long felt in the district, and in October a number of the brethren applied for a dispensation—which has been granted—to form one, to be called the Corinthian. There was a goodly attendance of members from the various constitutions, amongst whom were Bros. W. Fivensh, R. L. Magrath, J. P. Boncaut, Hines, Goldsworthy, and Crampton, and about thirty other brethren. The meeting commenced at half-past six o'clock, when the ceremony of consecration and dedication was performed by the R.W. Deputy, assisted by the officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, Bro. T. Good, J.P., being installed the first W.M.; after which four candidates were duly initiated, and the lodge closed. An excellent banquet had been provided in Bro. John Varcoe's best style, to which the brethren did ample justice, the new W.M. filling the chair, assisted by his Warden. The usual loyal, Masonic, and patriotic toasts were each given and responded to in appropriate terms, the intervals being enlivened with some good music.—*South Australian Register.*

WEST INDIES.

TRINIDAD.

BURNING OF THE MASONIC LODGE.

Between two and three o'clock on 24th February the town was alarmed by the fire-bell, and the news spread that the Masonic Lodge on Mount Zion—an isolated building on a hill-top to the east—was on fire. Long before assistance could arrive the flames had thoroughly mastered the building, and as there was little danger of the conflagration spreading, no very serious feelings of alarm were excited. Nothing definite is known as to the cause of the fire. But as there was a meeting on the evening before, and the sitting may have been prolonged to a late hour, there are half a dozen possibilities and probabilities, any one of which would account for the accident. The foundation of the building was laid in 1850 by Lord Harris, and its cost, exclusive of its internal fittings, was 6,000 dollars.

The following appeal is made to the Craft:—

27th February, 1863.

WORSHIPFUL SIRS AND BRETHREN,—It is our painful duty to announce to you the total destruction, by fire, of our Masonic Hall, on the evening of Monday, the 24th inst.

The building was erected in 1850 at considerable expense, indeed, an amount much larger than can again be raised in this community, consequent on the distress which prevails.

At a special meeting of the brethren, held on the 26th inst., it was agreed, amongst other measures adopted, that an appeal should be made to the Masonic Body abroad, and we were accordingly appointed to carry out those measures.

We, therefore, in announcing the calamity which has befallen us, at the same time beg to solicit your fraternal aid in assisting with such amount as may be in your power to subscribe, so as to enable us to rebuild our Hall.

The undermentioned parties have been appointed to receive subscriptions in aid of our object, viz.: Bro. Wm. Gray Clarke, Grand Secretary, Freemasons' Hall, London; Messrs. Maitland, Phelps, and Co., Bankers, New York; and Bro. Robert Scott in this island.

Yours Fraternally,

DANIEL HART, D.G.M.

JOHN BLACK, D.S.G.W.

JAMES MCCracken, W.M., Royal Philanthropic Lodge, No. 405.

To the Worshipful Masters, Officers and Members of the Lodge of the United Kingdom and elsewhere,

ROYAL ARCH.

DURHAM.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—*St. Hilda Chapter* (No. 240).—A regular convocation of the companions was held on the 15th ult. After the preliminary business had been disposed of the companions proceeded to ballot for the Principals and officers for the ensuing year. The following were elected:—Comps. Wright, Z.; Lawson, H.; Hewison, P.Z., J.; Roddam, Treas.; Buchanan, E.; White, N.; Bootiman, P.S.; and Dacchar, Janitor. Two auditors were also appointed, and the chapter was afterwards closed in solemn form.

WARWICKSHIRE.

BIRMINGHAM.—*Howe Chapter* (No. 587).—The regular quarterly meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic Rooms, on the 7th inst. The chapter having been opened in due form, and the minutes read and confirmed properly, Bro. W. Short was admitted, properly prepared, and exalted to the supreme degree; at the conclusion of that ceremony Comp. W. H. Sproston installed Comps. Helbert, Warriol, and Genever, into the principal chairs. The officers elect were then duly invested. The companions, numbering about twenty-five, then adjourned to refreshment.

MARK MASONRY.

DURHAM.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—*Telectio Lodge*.—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Freemasons' Hall, on Tuesday, the 28th ult., when there were present:—Bros. W. W. Brunton, W.M.; G. Kirk, M.D., S.W.; R. B. Harpley, J.W.; S. Gourley, M.D., M.O.; Emra Holmes, 30°, J.O., as S.O.; E. Hudson, Sec., as J.O.; M. Rickinson, Treas., as Reg.; J. W. Cameron, S.D.; J. Miller, I.G.; J. Mowbray, Tyler, &c. The lodge was opened in due form, and with solemn prayer, and the minutes of the two previous meetings having been read and confirmed, Bre. Ernest Julius Berner, of the St. Helen's Lodge (No. 531), Hartlepool, having been balloted for and accepted, was presented and advanced to the degree of Mark Master. The business of the evening being ended, the lodge was closed, and the brethren retired for refreshment.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—*Fowke Lodge* (No. 19).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, on Tuesday evening, the 28th ult., Bro. Kelly, W.M., Prov. G.M., in the chair. The following officers being also present.—Bros. Pettifor, P.M.; Brewin, S.W.; Smith, J.W.; Duff, M.O.; Herbert, J.O.; Seulthorpe, as Sec.; I. A. Clarke, as Registrar; Weare, S.D.; Bithrey, as Dir. of Cers.; Manning, I.G.; Bainbridge, Tyler. The lodge having been opened a ballot was taken for Bros. Baines, Richardson, and Turner, of the John of Gaunt Lodge (No. 523), who were duly elected; and Bros. Baines and Richardson being in attendance were advanced as Mark Masters, as were also Bros. Hunt, Moor, and Wardle, elected at a former meeting. Bro. Bithrey presided at the instrument during the musical portion of the ceremony. The advancement of nine other candidates was postponed until the regular meeting in May. The lodge having been closed the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

SCARBOROUGH.—*Star in the East* (No. 95).—This lodge of Mark Masters was held at the Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday evening, the 22nd ult. Present:—Bros. J. W. Woodall, W.M.; W. Foster Rooke, P.M.; H. A. Williamson, S.W.; W. T. Farthing, J.W.; J. F. Spurr, P.M.O.; W. H. Garnett, S.O.; D. Fletcher, J.O.; W. Peacock and Hardgrave, as Deacons; H. C. Martin, Reg. of Marks.; J. A. Chapman, Treas.; and several other brethren. The lodge was opened at seven o'clock in the evening, when the minutes were read and confirmed. Bro. J. W. D. Middleton, previously balloted for and approved, was advanced to the degree of Mark Master, after which the lodge was closed in due form at nine o'clock.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

SOUTH WALES.

SWANSEA.—*Palestine Encampment*.—This encampment was formally consecrated and opened on Monday the 27th ult., with every observance of detail required by the statutes and customs of the Order. The ceremony of consecration was most beautifully and effectively performed by Sir Knt. Richard James Spiers, P.G. Captain, D. Prov. G. Com. Oxfordshire, &c., Sir Knt. C. R. Davey, D. Prov. G. Com., Somerset, acted as Prelate on the occasion. The other offices being temporarily filled by Sir Knts. T. Mansel Talbot, P.G. Herald, and P.E.C. Cœur de Lion Encampment; W. L. Lawson, E. C. Bladed Encampment; Edward J. Morris, St. George's Encampment; T. G. South, and G. E. Robinson, Baldwyn Encampment; T. B. Hosken, Cœur de Lion Encampment, &c. The consecrating commander afterwards installed Sir Knt. T. Mansel Talbot, as first E.C. of the Palestine Encampment, who at once appointed his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Sir Knts. Edward J. Morris, 1st Capt.; T. G. South, 2nd Capt.; Rev. T. B. Hosken, Prelate; W. Cox, Reg.; D. Williams, Treas.; Chas. Bath, Dir. of Cers.; Rev. C. S. Heartley, Almoner; G. E. Robinson, Expert; Rev. D. Thomas, and S. B. Power, Standard Bearers; P. A. Hopwood, and George Bradford, Heralds; James G. Hall, Capt. of Lines. The E.C. then immediately proceeded to instal seven duly qualified companions as Knts. of the Order, winning golden

opinions by the impressive manner in which he conducted the ceremony throughout. The Knights dined together in the evening at the Castle Hotel, the E.C. presiding, and a most agreeable party of about thirty assembled to do honour to the occasion. The Palestine Encampment has thus started most successfully, and has, it is confidently believed, a career of great prosperity and usefulness marked out. The appointments and decorations are of the best and most tasteful descriptions, and the care and attention bestowed by the managing committee upon the preliminary proceedings augurs well for the future good conduct and working of the encampment.

WARWICKSHIRE.

BIRMINGHAM.—*Howe Encampment.*—The quarterly meeting of this encampment was held at the Masonic Rooms, on the 8th inst. The Sir Knights assembled at four o'clock, and the usual preliminaries having been gone through, Comp. W. Warren was admitted and installed into the Order. The M.E.C. elect not being present, his installation was postponed until the next conclave. Two companions were proposed for installation. This encampment, which has been languishing for some time, is now in a fair way to progress; in a short time no doubt many influential and worthy Masons will range under its banners.

RED CROSS KNIGHTS.

METROPOLITAN.

PLANTAGENET CONCLAVE (No. 2).—The third anniversary assembly of this conclave was held at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury, on the 30th ult. The conclave was opened by Sir Knt. R. W. Little, G. Reg., as M.P. Sov. (owing to the recent decease of Sir Knt. Turner, who occupied that position); Sir Knts. Wescombe, G. Herald, as V.E.; T. Cubitt, as S.G.; J. Brett, P. Sov., J.G.; A. A. Pendlebury, P. Sov., as H.P.; D. G. Berri, Prefect; G. F. Cook, Standard Bearer; J. G. Marsh, G.A. Recorder; B. Cook, as Herald; B. P. Todd, P. Sov.; H. Parker, Org., and others. Ballots were then taken for several candidates, and Bros. W. Norman Leslie, of the Cotteswold Lodge (No. 592), Cirencester, and David R. Still, of the Royal Union Lodge (No. 382), Uxbridge, being in attendance, were then regularly admitted and installed as Knights of the Order. The next ceremony performed was the enthronement of Sir Knt. Wescombe as M.P. Sov. for the ensuing year, and the remainder of the officers were invested as follows:—Sir Knts. D. G. Berri, V.E.; J. Brett, S.G.; G. F. Cook, J.G.; R. W. Little, H.P.; T. Cubitt, Treas.; J. G. Marsh, Recorder; T. G. Murray, Prefect; H. Parker, Org.; B. Cook, S.B.; D. R. Still, Herald. It was then unanimously resolved to record upon the minutes a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Sir Knt. Turner, G. Std. Bearer, who held the office of M.P. Sov. at the time of his death, and also of the regret felt by every companion at the loss the conclave had thereby sustained. The nights of meeting of the Plantagenets were altered, and the conclave was closed, when the chevaliers adjourned to a capital banquet under the presidency of Sir Knt. Wescombe, M.P. Sov., and a most agreeable evening was spent, enlivened by the masterly performances of Sir Knt. Parker on the pianoforte, and the speeches and songs of the other members present.

Poetry.

NEW YEAR'S EVE.

By T. J. SWAIN.

Now Year's Eve—what different feelings
 Agitate the human breast,
 As its advent finds us happy,
 Or with misery distressed.
 Some look back with sweet emotions
 On a past of joyous hours,
 Some have—through the year just ended,
 Trod a pathway strewn with flowers.

Others hearts are sadly aching,
 Pain'd by heavy trials and cares,
 Mournful—as the Old Year closes,
 Are their feelings and their prayers,
 Some—by Death—from loved ones sever'd,
 O'er their fresh bereavements grieve,
 Little wonder that in sadness
 They are found on New Year's Eve.

Ought not all endow'd with blessings
 To remember those who mourn,
 And alleviate the anguish
 Of each heart by sorrow torn?
 Oh! it is our bounden duty
 Other's suffering to relieve,
 If we would with joyous feelings
 Welcome every New Year's Eve.

MEETINGS OF THE LEARNED SOCIETIES FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 23RD, 1868.

TUESDAY, 19th.—Institution of Civil Engineers, at 8.
 WEDNESDAY, 20th.—Society of Arts, at 8.
 WEDNESDAY, 20th.—Geological Society, at 8.

METROPOLITAN LODGE MEETINGS, ETC., FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 23RD, 1868.

MONDAY, May 18th.—Lodges:—Grand Masters, 1, Freemasons' Hall. British, 8, Freemasons' Hall. Emulation, 21, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Felicity, 58, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. Panmure, 720, Balham Hotel, Balham. Whittington, 862, 14, Bedford-row. Chapter:—Prudence, 12, Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street.

TUESDAY, May 19th.—Board of Gen. Purposes, at 3. Lodges:—Mount Lebanon, 78, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Eastern Star, 95, Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street. Honour and Generosity, 165, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. St. Paul's, 194, Cannon-street Hotel. Salisbury, 435, 71, Dean-street, Soho. Camden, 704, Lamb Hotel, Metropolitan Cattle Market. St. Mark's, 857, Horns' Tavern, Kennington, Surrey. Chapter:—Mount Sinai, 19, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

WEDNESDAY, May 20th.—Gen. Com. of Grand Lodge and Lodge of Benevolence, at 7. Lodges:—Sincerity, 174, Cheshire Cheese Tavern, Crutchedfriars. Beadon, 719, Greyhound Tavern, Dulwich. Nelson, 700, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich. Maybury, 969, Freemasons' Hall. Marquis of Dalhousie, 1, 159, Freemasons' Hall.

THURSDAY, May 21st.—House Com. Female School, at 4. Lodges:—Constitutional, 55, Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street. St. Mary's, 63, Freemasons' Hall, Temperance, 169, White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford.

FRIDAY, May 22nd.—Lodges:—Universal, 181, Freemasons' Hall. Jerusalem, 197, Freemasons' Hall, Royal Alfred, 780, Star and Garter, Kew-bridge, Ealing.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

T. B. HARRIS (Canada West).—The numbers you requested are forwarded by the usual route.

J. T. (St. Thomas).—Portraits forwarded per book post. It will always give us pleasure to receive reports of your Masonic doings.

J. W. (Hull).—The advertisement noting the result of election was not sent to our office, hence the omission.