

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1863.

THE KNIGHTS TEMPLARS.

By ANTHONY ONEAL HAYE.

(Continued from page 245).

BOOK FOURTH—CHAPTER IV.

Arrest of the Templars at Paris—In the Provinces—Treatment of the prisoners—List of those arrested at Paris—The King writes a letter to Edward of England, requesting him to follow his example—Edward writes back deprecating the course pursued by Philip, and denying that the crimes charged against the Order were true—Philip issues an Act of Accusation—The Dominicans preach against the Order—Appointed to take the depositions of the Knights—Torture ordered to be used—Modes of torture—A.D. 1307.

Meanwhile the Templars were unacquainted with the dangers which surrounded them, and unsuspecting of the King's hatred. They accordingly frequented the Court, and often saw the King, who treated them always with the greatest consideration, and bestowed upon the Grand Master and De Peyraud many marks of his favour. They had forgotten the charges against their Order, and nothing happened to create a suspicion that such had ever been seriously entertained. So far did the King carry his dissimulation, that on the very eve of the arrest, he appointed De Molai one of the pall-bearers at the funeral of the Princess Catharine, wife of the Count de Valois. There is a strange poetry running through many of the saddest events of history, a shadow which foretells the coming event. On his election to the Grand Mastership, De Molai held Philip's son at the baptismal font; and now when his disgrace is settled upon, the King apportioned him a high place at a funeral. Our rough and less courteous Scots ancestors, paid their victims a similar piece of cruel courtesy in the dish containing a black bull's head. This act is a complete index to the cold-blooded and treacherous character of a King, whose villany ranks him among the chief of the crowned Iscariots of history.

The fatal day at length arrived. At daybreak of the 13th, the Temple at Paris was surrounded by the King's myrmidons, the gates burst open, and the Templars dragged forth from their beds and pinioned. No ceremony was used. The Grand Master, De Peyraud, Guy the Prince Dauphin, Geoffrey de Goneville, the Grand Prior of Aquitaine, and all the Templars, to the number

of one hundred and forty, were seized at the same place and moment. They made no resistance: the surprise was too complete; and they were hurried off to prison, most of them to the horrible dungeons of Melun. No explanation being offered, the surprise and consternation of the captives were intense* Paris was in a ferment at the news; and the citizens could ascribe the arrest of the Templars to no other reason than the anger of the King, at their resisting his obnoxious edict for sounding the money. Had the arrest not been carried through so skilfully, the people would have rescued the Templars and the King's life have been the immediate forfeit of his rashness. But Philip knew how to tame the courage of the people who would have made common cause with the Templars, had they been charged simply with conspiring against the crown; but the boldest shuddered and drew back as from a leper, when told that they were Heretics, and had been condemned by the Pope. This turned the tide of popularity against the Templars. The King's bold stroke won the victory, and he had only now to secure it.

No sooner had the King been informed of the arrest of the Grand Master and the Knights, than he at once repaired to the Temple, and took possession of it by personal installation resolving to reside there. He made himself master of all the gold and silver which had been brought from Cyprus, as well as of the money which had been before in the house. He confiscated all the rich trappings, armour, and furnishings, and seized upon the title deeds of the Order. He made no mention of this spoliation to the Pope, nor does he appear to have caused an inventory of the goods to be taken. After he had established himself in the Temple, he ordered all the wealth and deeds of the Order to be seized in other parts of the kingdom, and transported to Paris.

Upon the night of the 12th, the governors and officers throughout the kingdom opened the packets sent them. They were astonished at the orders, but dared not disobey them. They took instant steps to fulfil the desire of the King, and brought to their assistance all the forces at hand, anticipating considerable resistance in making the arrest. Upon the morning of the 13th, they invaded the houses of the Templars, who surrendered themselves without resistance, not having any suspicion of the crimes with which they were charged. They

* Dupui, Grutler, Vertot, Mezerai, Chron de Nangis.

were conducted to separate prisons, according to command. The number of Templars arrested in France is not known; but, from the immense possessions the Order had in that country, it must have been large* Twenty-eight are known to have been arrested in Normandy, thirteen at Caen, ten at Pont-de-l'Arche, five at Bayeux, three at Troyes, twelve in Languedoc (of whom six were at Carcassone and as many at Beaucaire), seven at Cahors, and eleven at Bigorre. No particulars have come down of the arrests in other provinces, but there can be little doubt of their being numerous, especially in Burgundy, where the Order was held in peculiar favour by the Dukes. The Templars being arrested, their goods were seized, and commissioners appointed to take charge of them. The Preceptory of Caen was entrusted to Hugo de Châtel and Walter de Boisgilon, two principal lords. These appointed as their deputies in the management, William de Fontenoy and Robert de la Planque de Tornebus.

In L'Isle-de-France, the commissioners of the King occupied all the houses of the Order, secured all the furnishings and other effects therein, and ordered all the revenues to be paid to them. Inventories were prepared, and the farmers and planters instructed to forward the fruits and produce to the commissioners for the King's behoof. They, however, never accounted for these, but enriched themselves at the expense of the Order, evidently with the cognisance of the King, whose chief aim was to prevent anything from reaching the Pope.

The list subjoined of the names of the hundred and forty Templars arrested at Paris is interesting, from embracing those of the greatest families in France at the time, and whose representatives were among the noblesse of the Court before the terrible Revolution came, and the guillotine extinguished for ever the blood of the bravest soldiers which France had given to the Crusades. Among them were scions of the great houses of Montmorency, De Hanget, De Lonqueval, De Raineval Du Plessis, and De Hondelot. The names of the prisoners were:—

1, John de Fouley. 2, Renier de l'Archant. 3, Renaud de Tremblay. 4, Guy, Prince Dauphin, Grand Prior of Normandy. 5, John de Nivelles. 6, Peter de Tourtville, a serving Brother. 7, Matthew de Bosc Adhemar. 8, John de Tourtville. 9, Ferry de Rheims. 10, John de Saint-Loup. 11, Theobald de Bauffremont. 12, William de Giac, a serving Brother. 13,

* Dupui.

Gerard de Sauche. 14, Robert de Surville de Yzis. 15, Peter Brocart. 16, Peter Gafet. 17, Geoffrey de Charny. 18, William de Châlons de la Reine. 19, William de Bicey. 20, Richard de Caprey. 21, Gaucher de Lienticour. 22, William de Herbley. 23, William de Vernage. 24, Nicholas Doublet. 25, Imbaud de la Boissade. 26, Jacques de Molai, Grand Master. 27, John de Cagy. 28, Robert d'Arblay. 29, John de l'Aumone. 30, Peter de Suire. 31, Thomas de Quenay. 32, Nicholas de Chapelle. 33, John de Crotoy. 34, John de Venier. 35, Giles d'Epervant. 36, John du Duc de Taverniac. 37, John le Moine. 38, John de Tournon. 39, Bernard de Brosse. 40, Peter de Grosmenil. 41, Thomas de Brele. 42, Guy d'Oratoire. 43, Raoul Quarre. 44, Pariset de Bure. 45, William d'Yvriac. 46, Ordon de Laignac-Liecon. 47, William de Montfort-l'Almeric. 48, Stephen de Domont. 49, Bernard de Paris. 50, James de Rubemont. 51, Arnold de Fontaine. 52, Michael de Saint-Main. 53, Adam Marechal. 54, Nicolas de Pouzzol. 55, Robert de Somnac. 56, Olo de Viermy. 57, William d'Hermont. 58, Peter Pidansat. 59, Peter de Blois. 60, Michael du Fl s. 61, John de Bauffremont. 62, John d'Amblainville. 63, Raoul de Betoncourt. 64, Peter de Villars. 65, Dominic Toussaints. 66, John de Laigneville. 67, Robert de Monbain. 68, Matthew de Quenoy. 69, Renaud de Fontaine. 70, Walter de Bure. 71, Peter de Montezand. 72, John de Cormeil. 73, Walter de Bailleul. 74, Richard de Liobard. 75, Peter de Boulogne, a Chaplain, and Attorney-General of the Order at Rome. 76, John de Saint-Remy. 77, Constantine de Biciac. 78, James de Crumel. 79, Albert de Rocher. 80, Raoul de Granvilar. 81, John de Buvine. 82, Frere Raynald. 83, James Duc. 84, John de Valbande. 85, Raymond de Farde. 86, William de Hautmenil. 87, Hugo de Peyraud, Grand Prior of France. 88, Raoul de Gisy. 89, Imbert de Saint-Josse. 90, John de Dansiac. 91, John de Livriac. 92, Dominic de Rivon. 93, John de Châteaunivars. 94, Nicholas de Sarte. 95, Matthew d'Arras. 96, Giles d'Ecey. 97, Raimbaud de Caron, Preceptor of Outre-mer. 98, Henry d'Hercigny. 99, Raoul de Taverniac. 100, John de Pont-l'Evêque. 101, John de Tournon. 102, Matthew de Table. 103, Simon Chrétien. 104, Gerard de Galle. 105, Falk de Trécy. 106, John de Chorme. 107, Walter de Payans. 108, John de Paris. 109, Gillion de Cherreuse. 110, John Bersec. 111, Geoffrey de Fer. 112, Elias de Jotro. 113, Baudouin de Vabe. 114, John de Morfontaine. 115, Lambert Flaming. 116, Milo de Saint-Fiacre. 117, Lambert de Coisy. 118, Dreux de Viviers. 119, Laurence de Tarnay. 120, John de Poisson. 121, James de Verjus. 122, Geoffrey de Goneville, Grand Prior of Aquitaine. 123, Henry de Sirpy. 124, Bon de Sirpy. 125, Nicholas de Menil. 126, Bertrand de Montiniac. 127, Nicholas de Trecey. 128, Raoul des Sauts. 129, Albert de Romecourt. 130, Ponce de Bounœuvre. 131, Raoul Moiset. 132, Stephen de Romain. 133, Peter de Montiniac. 134, Guy de Feriere. 135, John de Gisy. 136, Peter de Laigneville. 137, Nicholas d'Ambian. 138, Thomas de Roquencourt. 139, Nicolas d'Agrégé. 140, John de Maison Dieu *

They were all committed to different prisons in Paris and its neighbourhood, the greater number to the prison of Melun. Although it was the king's desire that they should be kept in separate dungeons, the number at first made this impracticable. Over each prison a great lord was ap-

* Dupui.

pointed as governor, and Hugo de la Celle and William de Marsilly appear in this dishonourable office. Under the governors; certain men of quality were placed as subalterns, who appear from records to have been belted Knights. These were Philip Coquerel, Gerard Robert, William de Bretigny, John de Boiesmont, Imbert de Saint-Jara, and John Pitard. These appointments were all made by the king. Over the governors, again, Philip placed as inspector-general his confessor, William Imbert, a Dominican and Inquisitor of the Faith, one of an Order inured in Languedoc to blood, and profoundly versed in all inquisitorial arts and practices.* He was an extremely learned man, possessed of the complete confidence of the king, and blindly devoted to his interests. The wishes of the unprincipled monarch were a law to the director of his soul. William was perfectly cognisant of the king's intentions towards the Templars. He had a personal interest in the destruction of the Order, as the Templars intercepted the wealth which the Dominicans desired to direct into their own coffers. The King likewise appointed, as assistants to Imbert, his unscrupulous chancellor, Nogaret, and William Plasian, who had taken part in the capture of Pope Boniface, and afterwards swore, before an assembly of the peers and prelates of France, that Boniface was an atheist and a sorcerer, and had a familiar demon. The whole Order of St. Dominic, stirred up by Imbert, went hand in hand in the work, and, as we shall afterwards show, with complete success. In charging the Templars with heresy, the king had acted wisely; for treason, or any other political charge, would have fallen unheeded upon the public ear, while the charge of heresy acted like a trumpet-blast, and roused the people into a fury of passion and hate.

The day succeeding the arrest, the doctors of the University of Paris and several canons assembled, with the ministers of the king, in the Church of Notre-Dame, when Nogaret read over the charges upon which the Templars had been seized. On the 15th they again met at the Temple, when some of the Templars were examined, and are said to have confessed the crimes imputed to the Order, and which they declared had prevailed in it for the last forty years.† Upon this the king

ordered the act of accusation to be published. This was a furious document, and evidently the work of Imbert. In it the Templars are styled "devouring wolves in sheeps' clothing, a perfidious and idolatrous society, whose deeds and whose very words are sufficient to pollute the earth and infect the air." To aid the effect of Imbert's eloquence, the Parisians were assembled in the royal gardens, when the king's agents spoke against the accused. The pulpits, too, were filled with Dominicans, who thundered forth curses against the unfortunate Templars.

Upon the 13th of October, the very day of the arrest, Philip wrote to his son-in-law, Edward II. of England, who had just ascended the throne, urging upon him to follow his example, and to seize the Templars in his territories. This letter he sent by a confidential agent, a priest, named Bernard Peletus, who was instructed to use every means in his power to influence Edward to destroy the Order. Edward replied to this letter, on the 30th of the same month, that he had considered the matter very seriously, and had listened to the statements of that "discreet man," Master Bernard Peletus; that he had furthermore caused Peletus to detail the charges made against the Templars before himself and many of his prelates and nobles, but found them so monstrous as to be incredible; that such abominations and execrable deeds had never before been heard of by the king, the prelates, or the nobles, and it was therefore unjust to expect that they should give them credence. He added, however, that he would consult with the seneschal of Agen, and then take what steps he might think fit for the punishment of the guilty, and the protection of the Catholic faith.*

The violent proceedings of the king had mortified the Pope, who bitterly complained of not being consulted in the matter, and of the manner in which his name had been introduced; but Philip easily overcame his scruples, and the command was given to proceed with the examination of the Templars. This was left entirely in the hands of Imbert and Dominicans. A writer in the *Quarterly Review* has admirably sketched the character of this Order. Although of so recent creation, for the Franciscans and Dominicans date from the Sixth Crusade, it had already won a fearful name in Christendom, and the members

* Philip had condemned the Inquisition in former times. Milman's Latin Christianity, Vol. vii., p. 135; Dupui, Mezerai.

† Dupui. The clergy we have already seen hated the Templars on account of their wealth and power.

* Rymer's Foedera, Tom. iii., p

formed the domestic police of the Papacy. They were men of marble hearts, incorruptible fidelity, and unwavering fixedness of purpose. Their awful, yet single-minded, fanaticism bordered on the terribly sublime, for each one was as fully convinced that humanity was a crime when it endangered immortal souls, as that there was a God in Heaven. Their very discipline, in its fearful rigour, drove out all sentiments of charity. They were the votaries of the haircloth; their cells resounded with the crack of the scourge, plied with unmerciful vigour; their chapels at midnight echoed the cries of the monks as they kept their rapturous vigils, in which they conversed with angels and saw visions; while their ever-recurring austere and prolonged fasts, withered the flesh from their bones, and made them look but spectres of humanity. To these men were the hapless Templars consigned for examination—to men, whose lives illustrated the maxim, that they who proscribe happiness in themselves, care not what misery they inflict upon others—men, whom a dark and fanatical perversion of religion, made equally ready to lay down their own lives, or take away those of others. But these qualities made them the more popular with many churchmen; and the Abbot of Usberg stated that by their means the Church had renewed her youth. True it is, they carried the doctrines of Christ into Asia; but their ferocious habits in Europe, instead of quelling, only fanned that spirit of religious freedom in the hearts of the people, which finally led to the Reformation.

The manner in which the Templars were tortured, to wring confessions from them, is worthy of some attention. There were various modes of applying the torture, but the favourites were these:—The patient was stripped naked, his hands tied behind his back, heavy weights fastened to his feet, and the cords with which his hands were bound attached to a pulley. At a given signal, the victim was hoisted into the air, where he hung suspended by his arms, which being drawn out of their natural position, caused the most excruciating torture. Having in this position suffered for some time, the cord was suddenly slipped, but before the victim could reach the ground it was checked, and a severe shock given to the frame. Another mode of torture was to fasten the feet of the victim in an instrument not unlike stocks, which holding them by the ankles, prevented the patient from drawing them back.

The soles were then rubbed with some unctuous substance and set before a glowing fire. A board was occasionally placed between them and the fire, and withdrawn at times, in order to increase the pain by intervals of cessation. The heels of the patient were oftentimes enclosed in an iron frame, which could be tightened by screws, and caused the most excruciating agony. What was regarded as a very mild torture, and only administered to those who had not strength to undergo the severer ones, was to place round sticks between the fingers, and compress them till the bones cracked. Sometimes the Templars had their teeth drawn, and were oftentimes hung up by clamps fastened in the jaw, until the unfortunate Knights agreed to confess, or fainted.

The use of the torture was a very clumsy mode of getting access to the truth. In certain circumstances, it might have been excused, where it was absolutely necessary to obtain information regarding conspiracies, but never to force an acknowledgement of guilt. It was dangerous, because the innocent, from weakness of body, plead guilty to crimes which he would have shuddered to hear of committed. When used judicially, torture was always a dubious course, and produced falsehood oftener than truth, as the weakness of the body must in many cases have subdued the strength of the mind. For this reason, at Athens, only those guilty of high treason were condemned to suffer it, and only when it was a question of discovering the accomplices. At Rome, the birth and dignity of a citizen, and his service in the militia, prevented torture, except in a charge of high treason.*

(To be continued.)

ASSOCIATION OF GERMAN FREE-MASONS.†

The last issue of the Official Communications of the German Masons' Union, to the principles and scope of which we have repeatedly referred in previous numbers of this MAGAZINE, contains a full report of the annual meeting, held at Hagen, on May 30th and 31st of the present year, from the

* Grutler, L'Esprit des Loix, Vertot.

† This Association is known as the Central Masonic body of Germany; its object may be stated briefly to be as consisting in the preservation and re-establishment of Freemasonry in its original purity, and to form the nucleus of a United Grand Lodge of Germany, and to promote the creation of a central Masonic Authority for the Universe.

pen of Bro. Rudolf Seydel, of Leipzig, the president of the Association. Our space does not permit us to give the paper in full, but we doubt not that even in a condensed shape it will be welcomed by all those brethren who take an interest in the progress and development of our Institution in foreign countries.

"Once more," said Bro. Seydel, "the Association of German Masons may look back upon a successful and fertile annual meeting, and this time, again, as heretofore, at Hagen, with the consciousness of having conquered the obstacles that darkened its prospects. Besides the apprehension naturally awakened by the prohibition on the part of the Grand Lodge of the three Globes, of holding the meeting in a lodge room (at Elberfeld), the holding of the meeting was all but jeopardised by the inauspicious circumstance of Bro. Findel, (the Secretary) being at first prevented from attending, owing to a severe domestic affliction with which he had just been visited. However, in the evening of the first day we were all rejoiced by his telegraphing that he would arrive early on the morrow. His arrival, just at the opportune moment, relieved the chairman, Bro. Seydel, from such embarrassment as would inevitably have fallen upon him, from his being at first but imperfectly instructed by Bro. Findel as to the proper course of proceeding."

Having warmly eulogized the committee of reception, consisting of Bros. Grote, of Hagen, Schlemmer and Lohmann, of Witten, and Kleye and Schutz, of Bochum, for the manner in which they had paved the way to a most courteous and hospitable reception of the members of the Union in the "Black Country" of Westphalia,—the reporter goes on as follows:—

"The first sitting was opened on Saturday, May 30, at five p.m., by the chairman thanking the local committee for their valuable efforts, and welcoming all those present. Bro. Seydel then explained the reason of Bro. Findel's unavoidable absence, and proceeded to give a synopsis of the history of the Union, showing as he did so, how the latter, containing, as it does, adherents of the most various shades and opinions, not only tolerates them all, but endeavours to cause them to act upon each other with a view to mutual improvement and rectification. Its resolutions had never been of an extreme character; some, indeed, had looked upon the Association as a reactionary body, but the very hostility they met with from

extreme parties, tended to prove that they were moving in the right track. Why, even their legal *locus standi* had been questioned, yet no Masonic or civil statute could be discovered that was infringed upon by the existence and doing of this Association. The prevailing usage of placing such Masonic meetings under the control, or holding them under the auspices, of some lodge or grand lodge could not be looked upon as a valid objection in this case, the Association consisting of members of *all* lodges and grand lodges, and if they were asked what lodge or grand lodge they recognised as their head, they plainly replied none. Lastly, the name of Association of German Masons had been animadverted upon, *e. g.*, by German brethren of Switzerland, who consider this appellation as a *de facto* repudiation of Masonic cosmopolitanism. This designation, however, related only to the language used in our proceedings. But the most severe censure the Union had been held up to was for having sent letters to, and by this means attempted to put themselves on a level with the grand lodge; and this step imbued with the highest legality, based upon a sense of which we submit our proposals to the competent authorities, on account of which we have been charged in America with "Kimming," (Halbeit) and self humiliation, in the most violent language; this step is interpreted as an act of revolutionary presumption. All these reproaches are falsified by the actual doings of the Association, and we cannot do better than pass over the aspersions in silence. The order of the day, to which we shall now proceed, relates first and foremost, to practical aims, *viz.*, the appropriation of the funds of the Union."

The annual report of the Association having been read by Bro. Schatz, in the absence of Bro. Findel, and the appointment of auditors having been allowed to stand over until the arrival of the Treasurer, the various motions were read by the chairman. Those previously put on the standing order related to the establishment of a General Masonic Relief Fund (Centralhilfskasse); the awarding of a prize for the best paper on the practice of charity, most in keeping with the ground work of Masonry, and the foundation of Masonic Co-operative Societies (Legengenensenschaften). In the preliminary discussion on these proposals, Bros. Ackermann, of Cologne, P.M. of the Rendsbury Lodge, Koster and Flasche, of Barmen, Prosch, of Elberfeld, and Graff, of Bingen,

took exception to the laying of too much stress on the outer practice of charity and splitting up of the funds of the Union, and advocated the appropriation of these towards inner or spiritual objects in conformity with the rules of the Association. Bro. Schutz pleaded in favour of the proposed prize for a paper on Masonic charity, and in this was backed by Bro. C. Van Dalen, who also supported two additional motions brought in after the opening of the proceedings, viz:—

1. By Bro. Barthelmess, that the Association undertake to provide a new and exhaustive Masonic Bibliography, &c.

2. By Bro. Van Dalen, that the Association support such lodges as may be newly erected in Austria.

The second of these motions was advocated also by Bro. Ritcher, of Elberfeld, who warmly espoused the claims of the Masonic Mission in Austria. Amendments to the various motions having been submitted by Bros. Alsbach and Dullhener, besides several of the previous speakers, the debate was adjourned to the next day. The labours of the meeting were followed by a *conversazione*. The well known poet, Bro. E. Ritterhaus, delivered an exhaustive speech on the social question, and the claims of the working classes; and in addition to a recitation by Bro. Holschmidt, the brethren were treated to various speeches in prose and verse, animating heart and mind, as well as to harmonic performances of various descriptions, which brought the proceedings of the first day to a conclusion.

SECOND DAY.

A committee meeting having taken place early in the morning, at which the revised standing orders were determined upon, the second sitting was held at the Lumenschloss Hotel, at twelve o'clock, on May 31. Many brethren "from far and near," who had not attended the first days' meeting, had now joined the assembly and given in their names. The chairman having briefly addressed the "fresh arrivals," Bro. Kamp welcomed all those from more distant parts, such as Saxony, Berlin, and the Upper Rhine, who had now made their appearance on the "red earth" of Westphalia. Bro. Holschmidt having read the minutes of the previous sitting, the chairman gave a brief account of the labours of the committee and another synopsis of the aims and objects of the Union. Bro. Findel, whose appearance was hailed

by all those present, read letters from Bros. Seyd (of Friedburg), Treu, (of Mannheim, formerly of Constantinople), Nutten, (of Aix-la-Chapelle), and all the other members of that East. Similar greetings were received by telegraph, from the brethren in Oppenheim, and through Bro. Graff, from those of Bingen.

The first motion was for an alteration of the rules, by which a donation of fifteen thalers were to entitle the donor to life-membership.—Advocated by Bro. Findel.

Additional clause, moved by Bro. Van Dalen:—
"That a fund be formed out of the monies thus obtained, and the interests derived therefrom to be exclusively devoted to the scientific objects of the Union; one moiety of the interest to be specially appropriated towards the purchase of the following books, &c., to be given to newly-erected and other lodges as a nucleus of lodge libraries, viz., "Henne's Adhuc stat," "General Handbook of Freemasonry," "Findel's History of Freemasonry," "Van Dalen's Masonic Calendar and Annuary," and the following periodicals:— "Bauhutte," "Freimaurer-Zeitung and Communications of German Masons." Bro. Graff seconded, Bro. Fromme, of Bielefeld, opposed the motion. Bro. Van Dalen added Seydel's "Orations of Freemasonry" to the list of books proposed to be purchased. After a further debate in which Bros. Ackermann, Kamp, Richter, and Findel, took part, the original motion was defeated by a majority of votes and thus Bro. Van Dalen's additional clause also fell to the ground.

The next subject of discussion were the prizes proposed by the committee to be awarded to the authors of the essays treating most ably and exhaustively the question of "the most approved and fertile mode of Masonic charity, and which is most in keeping with the fundamental ideas of Masonry." Moved—"That a prize of seventy thalers be awarded to the author of the best, and of thirty thalers to the author of the second best, of these works; that neither do exceed three sheets of print in extent; the competitors to send in their essays by the end of the present year; Bros. Graff, Ritterhaus (of Barmen), and Seydel, to be appointed jurors; the best essay to be reprinted in the *Communications*; and, the second in order, in the *Bauhutte*." Bro. Schutz delivered a lengthy and substantial speech, reporting on the question as well as on that relating to the foundation of Masonic co-operative societies, mooted

by Bro. Von Selchow, W.M., Ratibon Lodge. He advocated the adoption of the motion of the committee and the rejection of Bro. Von Selchow's proposal, which, in the reporter's opinion, had not yet reached the proper stage of maturity. The debate on both questions was joined in by Bros. Fromme, Taddel, Van Dalen, Bruno, and Schutz, and eventually the proposal of the committee relating to the prizes was carried *in toto*, and without a division; whilst Bro. Von Selchow's motion was withdrawn from the standing Orders.

The meeting then proceeded to the question of the establishment of a General Masonic Relief Fund. Bro. Findel, though advocating the foundation of such a fund, holds that they ought to await the results of the competition determined upon by their previous vote; yet he was in favour of the proposal tacked to the original motion, to receive and give acknowledgements for contributions tendered as loans by individual brethren, and thus create a kind of international Masonic currency. Bro. Richter opposed this proposal, but advocated the relief fund. Bro. Bruno preferred that the whole affair be adjourned. Bro. Kamp would have liked a nucleus of the relief fund to be secured by voluntary donations to be collected *séance tenante*. After some further discussion, sustained by Bros. Fromme, Taddel, and Schutz, the meeting agreed to the "foundation of a general relief fund (*Centralhilfskafse*)," for the purpose of a kind "of charity in keeping with the ideas of the Masonic Craft," and requested the committee to draw up a statute to that effect, which is to be published in the *Bauhutte*, and submitted at next year's meeting.

Bro. Van Dalen's motion relating to the support of new lodges to be founded in the Austrian Monarchy, was debated upon by Bros. Graff Findel, Bruno, and Schutz, and agreed to in its original tenour. The meeting also resolved, without a discussion, "to notify to Bro. Barthelmess, of Brooklyn, N.Y. U.S.A., that the Association is ready and willing to support him, as far as practicable, with its funds, in the publication of a new and complete Masonic bibliography he has undertaken, but to finally resolve thereon only at next years' meeting, upon Bro. Barthelmess sending in his manuscript." The motion for an increase of the existing charity fund to the figure of 200 thalers, at the expense of the general fund, was withdrawn, but the meeting determined upon

transferring the existing fund of benevolence, amounting to 95 thalers, to the account of the general relief fund, after Bros. Richter, and Bruno opposing and Bros. Fromme and Flasche supporting the motion. A collection in favour of the same fund, made on the spot by Bro. Kamp, yielded 43 thalers and 11 silbergroschen. The following motion, viz:—those relating to contributions to the fund of the life boat association and to a widow and orphan fund; to invest in shares for the building of lodge houses; to support by a donation the educational establishment started by the Hudson Lodge, No. 71, of Hoboken, New York, were withdrawn by the committee without a discussion.

The whole of the standing orders being now disposed of, the assembly resolved to select Leipzig as the place in which next years' meeting is to be holden; the time to be the latter part of the summer, instead of Whitsuntide. Bro. Seydel having thanked the retiring committee members for the creditable mode in which they had discharged their duties, declared the meeting to be closed.

A banquet, enlivened by speeches, songs, and recitations, was held in the evening, Bro. Kamp, the venerable *Altmeister*, of Elberfeld, in the chair. Bro. Findel read an address from the Germano-American brethren, together with a spirited and well turned poem on "German Masonry," by Bro. Hentz, of Gleuvitz. The following day was devoted to an excursion, in company with the ladies, to Bro. Huckenholz's Gardens, at Welter, which having once been inhabited by *Freiher von Stein*, form a valuable relic of the party, and yet, though highly remarkable on account of the historical reminiscences connected with them, are fully in keeping with the character of the present day, surrounded, as they are, by modern habitations and extensive manufactories. A visit to Lohmann's Park at Witten, brought the sequel of this years' meeting to a conclusion, and the brethren separated in peace and harmony.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

CHRISTIANITY AND FREEMASONRY.

In my communication to the *Freemasons' Magazine* (vol. 14, p. 391) entitled "Christianity and English Freemasonry," there is a statement that Christianity and Freemasonry united may civilize the whole human race. Upon this statement a brother at Paris has sent me some strictures, which the statement would perhaps deserve were his notions of the present

condition of Christianity correct. But are those notions correct? I think not. My brother plainly belongs to the same school of philosophy as the late Monsieur Jouffroy. I therefore recommend to his consideration the ensuing passage, taken from that distinguished Professor's lecture, "Du Problème de la Destinée Humaine:"—

"La mission sublime du Christianisme, elle est loin, bien loin d'être accomplie sur la terre. Elle ne l'est pas même entièrement dans ce pays, que sa civilisation place à la tête de l'humanité; elle est plus loin encore de l'être dans les autres parties de l'Europe; et elle est à peine commencée dans le reste du monde. Ceux-là sont bien aveugles qui s'imaginent que le Christianisme est fini, quand il lui rest tant de chose à faire. Le Christianisme verra mourir bien des doctrines qui ont la prétention de lui succéder. Tout ce qui a été prédit de lui s'accomplira. La conquête du monde lui est réservée, et il sera la dernière des religions."—From Bro. PURTON COOPER'S Masonic Letter Book, June, 1866.

MYSTIC NUMBERS.

One is *the* number of Freemasonry, and stands in all societies—ancient and modern—for the Creator. In the Pythagorean, Hebrew, and Rosicrucian mysteries, it—the Monad—represents the central fire-God, without beginning and without end—the *point within the circle*. It also denotes piety, friendship, harmony, peace, and love. It symbolises identity, equality, existence, and universal preservation. I purpose sending to the *Magazine* an article on this subject shortly.—A. ONEAL HAYE.

THE M.W. BRO. J. WHYTE MELVILLE, ESQ.

Bro. C. (Edinburgh) is not quite correct as to dates. The Immediate Past Grand Master Mason of Scotland—the M.W. Bro. John Whyte Melville, of Bennoch and Strathkiness—was, as far back as the year 1819, a member of an English lodge. It is the "Royal Clarence Lodge" (now No. 271), Brighton, Sussex, that had the honour of enrolling him as an affiliated and joining member; he was proposed Nov. 17, 1819, and balloted for and approved Dec. 15, 1819, and continued a member during his residence in Sussex in the years 1819-20 & 21.—L.K.

PRICHARD.

In consequence of R.W. Bro. Purton Cooper's note on Prichard, I take the opportunity of repeating an observation that it is very questionable whether Prichard was a Mason, as he has mixed up the second and third degrees. His book has the appearance of being made up of a ritual of the first degree and of imperfect memoranda of the second and third.—HYDE CLARKE.

SCOTCH.

In England we say Scotch and Scotchmen, as French and Frenchmen. In Scotland, of late years, some have taken to saying Scottish, but still many natives of that distinguished country are not ashamed of calling themselves, and being styled Scotchmen, which has long been considered a title of honour, though W. P. B. now thinks differently. I very much fear it is rather late in the day to put down the word in England.—A SCOTCH MASON, BUT NOT A SCOTCHMAN.

GLASGOW CATHEDRAL.

Some years ago, while spending a few days in Glasgow, I paid a visit to its magnificent cathedral, and in a short time succeeded in obtaining copies of over a hundred different marks. It is a pity some brother in Glasgow does not devote himself to this subject. In Jocelin's crypt there are the following lines:—

"Our life's a flying shadow, God's the pole:
The index pointing to him, is our soul:
Death's the horizon, when our sun is set
Which will through Christ a resurrection get."

A. ONEAL HAYE.

BRO. "R."

Bro. "R.," in a letter entitled "The Creed of Freemasonry" (page 190 of the present volume), evidently speaks of Speculative Masonry as a universal institution. Speculative masonry, as a universal institution, is a pure *Theism*. It is philosophically incorrect to call it a pure *Deism*. See my communication, "Theism, Deism," *ante* page 170. Christian Speculative Masonry, Jewish Speculative Masonry, Parsee Speculative Masonry, and Mahomedan Speculative Masonry, when, as in our admirable English Speculative Masonry, there is superinducement and adoption of fitting toleration, becomes Universal Speculative Masonry, and may rightly be considered a pure Theism.—C. P. COOPER.

CANON OF CRITICISM.

It is very awkward to discuss a question about the immortality of the soul in the *Freemasons' Magazine*, and with a Bro. Rosa Crucis, who finds out that Moses wrote the Book of Job. When we have got as far as this, and which Rosa Crucis and many very respectable people believe, we are in danger of discussing whether Moses wrote the books of Moses—matters very clear to Rosa Crucis and his friends, but under discussion among scholars. Under these circumstances the time has perhaps come when, as in other scientific matters, we can cease to introduce the Bible as a scientific authority in matters of science, and reserve its sanctity for its proper domain.—R. Y.

FREEMASONS AND FREESTONE.

If "Freemasonry" is derived from Freestone, meaning Freestone-Mason, as Bro. Wyatt Papworth states, is "Freeborn" derived from Freestone born? In my humble opinion, this is just as likely, but I should not like to be too positive about it till I see it in print. Please print this.—W. HARRIS, P.M.

PICTUS DERICTUS.

As King Solomon (p. 230) did not use the Grecian, Corinthian, or the five orders, what are the "three" Greek orders he did use? If masonry be medieval in its form there can be no great harm in preserving a medieval legend of the *five orders of architecture*, and three cannot be better than five. It is these medieval touches of anachronism which are more truthful than a sham purism.—C. M. D.

MIRACLES.

See my communication, "Miracles" (vol. 18, page 66 of this periodical). A correspondent is right. Change or modification caused by some unknown law of nature, such unknown law being the expression of the Will of the Great Architect of the Universe, is, in my apprehension, a miracle.—C. P. COOPER.

THE CORINTHIAN ORDER.

Accustomed to understand by "Solomon built his house," the "house of the Lord," I misunderstood Rosa Crucis. If he, however, turns to Whiston's translation he will find "palace" heading the chapter he refers to, and a footnote doubting the existence of the Corinthian Order in the time of Solomon. I am sorry that I cannot doubt with Pictus the fact that Callimachus was the originator of the Corinthian Order. In fact, this style of building was not used till the time of Alexander the Great, the earliest example extant being the Choragic monument of Lyssicrates, B.C. 335. There are, also, the Temple of Winds, and that of Jupiter Olympus at Athens; the latter being one of the largest and finest examples of the style. The Corinthian, to some extent, combines the characteristics of the Doric and Ionic, and unites and blends together the Egyptian and the Assyrian elements. Although invented in Greece, it was not brought into use till after the power of the republics—to which we owe the finest works of Greek art—had begun to wane, but from its richness and splendour it became afterwards the greatest favourite with the Romans. The Doric took its rise from the rock-cut tombs of Beni-Hassan in Egypt; the Ionic in 500 B.C., originating from the influence of Assyrian art, as Layard discovered. The characters of the three Orders are well emblemised in the Masonic W., S., and B., and a study of them will be found alike interesting and instructive to the young student. I may add, that in all my readings, and in conversations with architectural and art students, I have never heard nor read of the claim of Callimachus having been disputed. Our late Bro. D. R. Hay, a voluminous and careful writer upon the Greek art, had no doubt of his being the inventor.—A. ONEAL HAYE.

GRAND LODGE LIBRARY.

The suggestion of "Excelsior" is right, that each lodge should have a library, but that must not distract us from the first necessity that the Grand Lodge of England shall have a library, and I believe the first step to that is to have a librarian, who will get books together.—P.M.—[We entirely agree with P.M.—Ed. F.M.]

GRAND LODGE LIBRARIAN.

I do not think there is much harm in appointing a Librarian at a small salary, if there were no outlay for buying books, and I should not mind paying a small sum, so that we should not be pointed at for encouraging ignorance. As a member of Grand Lodge, I shall object to any proposition for devoting rooms to books, which I consider a purpose not Masonic. Our buildings ought to be appropriated to Masonic purposes, such as dining, for which our tavern premises are so well adapted, and if there were a library members might sit there instead of the proper place—the tavern—where they can be social, and enjoy the social glass and pipe. Except lovers or little girls, no two people read out of one book, and so it is unsocial and un-Masonic.—W. HARRIS, P.M.

CHRISTIAN FREEMASONRY.

Christian Freemasonry, without toleration, is a true Freemasonry. It is not *the* true Freemasonry.—C. P. COOPER.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—Among the candidates are three sons of Master Mariners; two of these poor captains, having lost their lives by the perils of the sea. This class has small chance of assistance except from the Masonic Charities. The Master Mariners, wandering about, find in Masonry a genuine solace, and they are generally—however rude—genuine Masons at heart.

Yours fraternally,
A GOVERNOR.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—In referring to the letter of "H. H. W." in your number of the 12th ult. I am sure I am right in expressing the gratification felt not only by those connected with the conduct of the affairs of this Institution, but also by the able and distinguished brother who presided at our annual fête in July last—Bro. Bentley Shaw—at a probability of the realisation of the result anticipated from a publication of the admirable and eminently practical address delivered by him at the conclusion of the distribution of the prizes to the successful pupils.

That address has been published in your columns and, during the past week, circulated far and wide through the Craft, and I most earnestly hope that many other brethren may, from its perusal, be similarly impressed as your correspondent, and that the course of action he has commenced, may be extensively imitated.

Could but one member of each lodge be induced thus to act, I am confident that an aggregate amount would be obtainable in small sums, which aided by the larger donations of wealthy brethren, would go far to reduce our debt, if not entirely to extinguish it.

There are two suggestions of means for the accomplishment of this most desirable object, I will take this opportunity of submitting for consideration—I would fain hope—for adoption:—

1. That each lodge should provide a box inscribed "Boys' School Mortgage Redemption Fund," for the reception of small contributions from individual brethren, the proceeds of certain collections, and the surplus of various funds.

2. That during the ensuing season each lodge should do as has already been done by the Lewis Lodge at Wood-green—give up one banquet and devote the amount thus saved to the above purpose.

I beg that your correspondent "H. H. W." will hereby accept our best thanks for having brought this subject prominently and practically to the attention of the Craft, and shall be happy to furnish him, and others, with cards, circulars, and any information calculated to facilitate their exertions.

I am perfectly aware that by some it is thought that sufficient—too much—has been said and written with regard to the condition of this Institution, and the encumbrance entailed upon it in bringing it to its present state of efficiency. These ideas, and the not

altogether friendly expressions occasionally resulting therefrom, proceed, I find, from the apathetic or careless section of our community, and not, I am happy to say, from earnest, active brethren, whose diligence keeps them well-informed as to the great work set us to do, and who are never weary in assisting in that work. For myself, I would wish to plead no stronger justification than that derived from the facts presented in the voting papers, just issued, of the ensuing election, wherein will be found the names of *fifty-three* applicants for admission, *nine only* of whom can be elected, though we have accommodation for as many more. Can I—can anyone—need a more forcible stimulus than that supplied by a realisation of the painful feeling embodied in the aggregate disappointment of *forty-four* deserving objects of our sympathy, their stricken and distressed relatives and friends.

Yours fraternally,

FREDERICK BINCKES,

6, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.,
21st Sept., 1868.

D. P. G. M.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—Being a London Mason, I am not very well acquainted with Provincial distinctions. We make very small account of Provincial Masons at our lodge. As they have different clothing, we generally sit them down after the M.M.'s of London lodges, giving London its rightful precedence of the country, and then we put all the Provincials, without troubling ourselves about their clothing, together, unless sometimes a London Apprentice, who is not known, may be put after them.

I am quite surprised to find that they sometimes receive Grand Office in Grand Lodge, but do not well know the distinctions, if any, between G.S.B., and Deputy Grand Masters, and should like to be enlightened. Which is the highest dignitary in the Provinces; the Sword Bearer, the D.P.G.M., or the Grand Pursuivant? We have none of these in Craft Lodges, and we do not go to Grand Lodge. If we have by mistake put a D.P.G.M. above a S.B. or P.M. of a lodge we should be very sorry.

Yours fraternally,

A LONDON MASON.

— Tavern, E., Sept. 30, 1868.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—Your correspondent, "Another D.P.G.M.," is noticing my former communication, is amusingly facetious as to the recognition of the Craft in general and by the M.W.G.M. of the status and services of the D.P.G.M.'s, and the dignified position in Grand Lodge to which, as a reward for many years' service as the representatives, not only of the R.W.P.G.M.'s, but of the M.W.G.M. in their respective provinces, a few of the more fortunate ones may look forward.

The remarks of "Another D.P.G.M." recalled to my mind, and inclined me to laugh heartily at the recollection of an incident connected with Grand Lodge in my younger days.

As a D.P.G.M. I am "no chicken," but a good many years ago when, newly fledged, I was spending

a few days in town, I was reminded at a private lodge that a quarterly communication of Grand Lodge would take place on the following Wednesday evening. Accordingly I determined to be present, and, doubtless, thinking myself, as the deputy ruler of a province, a constellation of no small magnitude in the Masonic hemisphere, I presented myself in the ante-room with all my blushing honours thick upon me—collar, jewel, and all—forgetting that at headquarters I only possessed the rank of a "full private." After signing my name, official rank, &c., I was about to pass into the Temple, when I was suddenly stopped by one of the brethren in attendance saying, "You cannot be admitted in that collar and jewel; we don't know them here" (and, of course, legally, he was quite right). Greatly crestfallen I went across the way and borrowed—either of Bro. Spencer or his predecessor, Bro. Evans—a P.M.'s collar and jewel, again presenting myself for admission. Once more I was stopped by the remark, "You have no right to wear these gauntlets here." I began to think I was in the position of the daw in borrowed plumes, and was going to be stript, when another brother suggested, "Suppose we let him pass, and see whether he'll be allowed to remain with them." Upon this I was admitted; and, although it was not my first visit to Grand Lodge, I was so impressed with my reception that I departed both "a sadder and a wiser man," and, although a good many years have now elapsed, I have only once since that event put in an appearance there. Doubtless my vanity as a young official from the country required to be repressed, and it was done thoroughly! But, joking apart, I have not given these details simply as a personal matter, but as a humble member of a class of Masons who "have done the state service," and which ought to be thought worthy of greater recognition than it receives. It is a well known fact that, in the great majority of provinces, the whole of the work belonging to the office of Prov. G.M. is done by the D. Prov. G.M., and that, although not a few Prov. G. Masters are active and zealous rulers, even in most of those instances the chief part of the *unseen* labour is done by the Deputy. Now, surely, one who, perhaps for years, has had the whole of the active rule of a Masonic province in his hands, and consequently (as your correspondent truly observes) "representing not only the R.W. Prov. G.M., but the M.W.G.M.," is equitably entitled to hold, *ex officio*, a higher position in the Great Council of the Craft than is accorded to the mere P.M. of a private lodge, too many of whom, as is well known, have passed through the chair without having qualified themselves to perform its duties.

It seems to me logically just that, as in the table of precedence in Grand Lodge, the D.G.M. (if there be no Prov. G.M.) ranks next after the G.M., so ought the D.P.G.M.'s to rank next to the P.G.M.'s. This opinion, I know, will be met, *in limine*, by the objection that, as the P.G.M.'s appoint their Deputies, if this, or any other position in Grand Lodge, were accorded to them *ex officio*, it would be an interference with the prerogative of the M.W.G.M., who is the fount of all honours in Grand Lodge except that of Treasurer. This difficulty might, however, be easily remedied by the M.W.G.M. appointing the Deputies on the nomination or recommendation of the P.G.M.'s, during pleasure or for a limited time, the office becoming

vacant, as at present, on a vacancy occurring in the office of P.G.M.

Doubtless many occupants of the dais in our Great Council, and other brethren of less eminence, will differ from me in this opinion; but, as the views held by the fraternity at large on the D.P.G.'s as regards Grand Lodge and the Craft in general can only be elicited by discussion, I give it for what it is worth, and if I am wrong I shall be glad to be set right, feeling assured, at all events, that no change for the worse can take place in the status of the D.P.G.M.'s, which, I repeat, is, at least, "an anomaly."

Yours fraternally,
D.P.G.M. (No. 1).

RE S. SAX AND OTHERS.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—I chanced to see, for the first time in my life, the *Freemasons' Magazine and Masonic Mirror* at a brother's house a few days ago. I did not know until then that there was any publication devoted exclusively to our ancient and honourable Order; and, on turning over the pages of the number there laid before me, I caught sight of the several letters relating to the proceedings of Mr. Sax and denoting some of his successes in obtaining money from the members and officers of various lodges in the provinces. He paid me a visit, but got only one sovereign out of me, for I was just hurrying away to keep an urgent professional engagement when he solicited the loan of five pounds. Upon his representations I lent him the only piece of gold I then had in my purse, which he promised to return by a post-office order from London in two days from that time, but, though it is two months ago, he has not done so. I now know the reason, after reading those letters and some which appeared in previous and subsequent numbers of your *Magazine*, which I have since borrowed from my friend and brother, at whose house I first saw the *Magazine*. I have now to suggest two things: *first*, that every lodge should take your *Magazine* and send it immediately to the W.M. and to the Treas. of the lodge, and to be returned by them to the lodge room for reference by other members; *second*, that where an individual member of a lodge cannot afford to pay 26s. per year, or does not choose to do so, several members should club together to subscribe.

I have just joined another brother who lives near to me, and have ordered the *Magazine* to be sent in future, so that we may know what is going forward in Freemasonry. I feel, I must add, I am very much pleased with the perusal of those numbers I have had lent to me; indeed, I am very much interested with many things I have there seen mentioned for the first time in my life, although I am neither a chicken in years nor a young Mason, but am—

Yours fraternally,
"AN OLD LAWYER."

* * * * Sept. 28, 1868.

ZETLAND TESTIMONIAL OR FESTIVAL.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—When is it proposed to celebrate the event of our very dear and much

respected G.M., the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Zetland, having presided over our Order in his own proper person as G.M. for the past 25 years (in addition to his previous services in the Order)? Can you also tell me *where* it is to be celebrated, and in *what manner*?

Yours fraternally,
A P.M. OF 25 YEARS' STANDING.

[We really cannot, as we have not been officially informed.—Ed. F.M.]

A MASONIC AND GENERAL LIBRARY OF REFERENCE FOR THE FREEMASONS' HALL.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—I think the necessity for doing something—at once—to supply so great a want, strongly felt amongst Freemasons generally, and in this great metropolis in particular, ought to be self-evident to the "powers that be" at the head quarters in the East. I know several brethren who would contribute books to such a library if it was formed and formally announced in your pages. If the R.W. Bro. John Havers would but give some attention to this matter, and allow his master mind to dwell upon it, I feel assured that success would promptly attend any exertion of his to that end.

Do, Mr. Editor, allow a little space in the *Magazine* to be devoted to urging this subject upon the attention of those in whose power it is to say, "The thing shall be done, and done at once, too."

Yours fraternally,

ONE WHO BELIEVES THERE IS MUCH MORE IN THE WRITTEN HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY THAN IS GENERALLY UNDERSTOOD.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTERS.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—It has been intimated to me that complaints are being made by several members of this degree of the neglect of their communications, and of delays in the issue of documents.

This intimation—recently and kindly conveyed—has occasioned me extreme regret.

There is no character I have endeavoured more earnestly to obtain and secure, than that of punctuality in correspondence, and I had, until now, every reason to believe that I had been successful, and have yet to discover proof of failure.

I have not the means of ascertaining by whom complaints are made, and therefore take this mode of making known my ignorance of any foundation for such complaints, and of inviting information from any brother who feels himself aggrieved.

So far as I am aware, there is not in this office one unanswered communication, and if letters have been addressed to me, to which replies have not been received, they have miscarried.

Let me call attention to the correct address of this office at foot.

Yours fraternally,

FREDERICK BINCKES, G.S.

Office,—4, Featherstone-buildings,
Holborn, W.C.

ZETLAND TESTIMONIAL OR MEMORIAL.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—In the south of England we are considered by your great London folks to be all, more or less, ignorant and slow-going people, and, perhaps, to be so in connexion with Masonry too as in other things. That we should be ignorant of what is proposed to be done in connexion with the above-named matter, is not at all surprising, seeing that we are kept in the dark as to what shape it is proposed to give effect to the proposition to do suitable honour to our M.W.G.M. Can you tell us what is really to be done? I asked one of our Prov. Wardens, a man of great intelligence and good worldly position, but he did not know, never having been invited to take part in the project; but he promised to ask the D. Prov. G.M., who it turns out knows but little more of the affair. By dint of repeatedly writing and inquiring, I learn that the committee appointed by Grand Lodge delegated their duties to a sub-committee before their own powers were confirmed to them by Grand Lodge. Was this so? If it was, it will account for other errors of omission committed by them.

Yours fraternally,

"WEST COUNTRY."

IMPORTANT MASONIC CONFERENCE.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—As I was sitting at home in the evening, Mrs. Harris working after tea, and myself engaged in literary labours, a knock was heard, which Mrs. Harris went to answer. I am now engaged in collecting newspaper cuttings and extracts from books for my two great original Masonic works—the Mysteries of Masonry explained from the Sanscrit and Hindoo languages, and the Twenty-one Knocks, or Vademecum, explaining all the Chivalrous Orders of Masonic Knighthood. The Mysteries of Masonry will throw a new light on that subject. By copying the proper selections from the Hindoo Pantheon, and uniting the Hebrew and Celtic illustrations, I expect to produce one of the most learned and abstruse works on Masonry which has ever appeared, and far indeed beyond anything which has yet been done in that line. For real Hebrew I have a great advantage in a neighbour, a travelling Jewish glazier from Poland, a most learned man, though his English is rather difficult, and he knows nothing of Masonry, but I supply that. I have the advantage also of a large mass of Masonic MSS. collected by me in my former labours as a Masonic instructor, and obtained from my predecessors. A great deal of it has been fairly copied by good hands, and some that is fairly copied is properly spelled. It will take a world of trouble in that way, but luckily printers understand all about spelling and pointing, as is their business.

Mrs. Harris conveyed in the stranger, a tall, thin gentleman of dignified presence, in black, with a satin waistcoat.

"Bro. W. Harris, P.M.," says he.

"The same," says I.

"The celebrated inventor of the Order of the Garter," says he.

"The humble improver," says I; "as it was invented by King Arthur, the first Grand Master of Masons in England (see Pocket-Book)."

"Bro. Harris," says he, "your learning, of which I have heard so much, is as great as your modesty, and I wish I had as much of either. I am Sir Knight Jones, from America, United States, the inventor of Prince Masonry, come to put myself at the feet of the Gamaliel of Masonic chivalry."

He told me the name of the place besides in three letters, which was either I.O.A., I.O.I., I.O.U., O.I.U., or U.I.O., or something of the kind.

"Sir Knight Jones," says I, "you are heartily welcome to my humble castle. I cannot say that I know your name, my acquaintance with America being limited to those valuable manuals from which I have copied so much, and which leave little more to be printed or revealed. I give you a hearty greeting. Here's to you," says I, and I passed him the tumbler of weak toddy with which I had been soothing my arduous literary labours.

"Bro. Harris," says he, "we have heard of you in America, United States, of what you have done for Masonic chivalry, of how you have been maligned and persecuted, and of your wonderful constancy in carrying on your Order and adding other Orders to it in face of ridicule and contempt, and when respectable and timid men abandoned you. Perseverance must carry the day; it is a Masonic virtue, and must have its due reward."

I felt much comforted to find that, while as Sir Knight Jones said, there had been a sad falling off here, I was covered with glory in America, United States.

"Bro. Harris," says he, "here's to you; persevere and faint not. In America we have as great a want of new orders as you have here, and my motto is always 'Business.' You have invoked Knight Masonry; I have summoned forth from the vasty deep Prince Masonry, and I propose that we form a league to promote the glorious Craft and science, and the progress and development of the knowledge of Masonry and light among the thousands of nations who will be enrolled under our banners. Masonry is the only universal science, the only universal aristocracy, and the only universal knighthood. May it flourish!"

"Sir Knight Jones," says I, "I know nothing of Prince Masonry."

"Then," says he, "I will make you a Prince Mason in a jiffy; but I have a sudden inspiration. You are not a Prince Mason, I am not a Knight of the Garter, let us swear allegiance to our respective jurisdictions."

We knelt down on the hearthrug, and did so. He then conferred on me all the orders of Prince Masonry, and I did the like by him.

We then began a long and confidential conference, during which Mrs. Harris, who had been sitting in our kitchen picking a bit of supper, went quietly upstairs to bed, after supplying us with refreshment.

Sir Knight Jones had come here upon one of those important Masonic delegations which are entrusted to our American brethren. His object was to illustrate the connexion of the English aristocracy with the Masonic chivalrous orders. He had made a very large and valuable collection of objects belonging to the aristocracy—cards of lords and ladies,

iphers, crests, impressions of seals, part of the same blue ribbon from which the Duke of Hopborough was furnished, several garters bought wholesale in the Burlington Arcade, being of the same pattern and from the same lot as supplied to H.R.H. the Princess Maria Anne. Sir Knight Jones presented me (for Mrs. Harris) with a small piece of the Duke's blue ribbon and several other remarkable objects. This tended very much to mollify Mrs. Harris the next day, as she is devotedly attached to fashion and high life.

Being privileged as an American citizen, he had the means of acquaintance with many connected with the aristocracy, an invaluable advantage for the promotion of chivalrous Masonry. We agreed that it was most desirable a young nobleman should be appointed to preside over the Order of the Garter, but Sir Knight Jones said there were plenty of old lords could be got as well, and that we might be made beautiful for ever. As he is to find a lord, and is sure of doing so, the Order of the Garter may be looked upon as now established. Many respectable tradesmen and influential professional men, an accountant, the clerk to a leading solicitor, a surveyor, a professor of dancing, a mercantile agent, a photographic artist, and others in my neighbourhood are quite willing to take high dignities.

Among other high deeds on that memorable night, we formed a Primeval Grand Sanhedrim of Chief Viceroy and High Patriarchs, and I was elevated to the dignity of a Chief Viceroy and High Patriarch of Prince Masons and of the Ineffable and Imprescriptible Order of the Garter, being the highest Sir Knight Jones could confer, as he reserved for himself the post of Sovereign Viceroy. This Sir Knight Jones is quite willing to resign to H.R.H. Prince Arthur or Lord B., and to become Past Sovereign Viceroy and Suzerain Patriarch.

It was a great night, illuminated by the scientific star of Masonry, and softened down by spirits and water in tumblers. Sir Knight Jones has a wonderful ready address and an expert memory for all kinds of charges, addresses, orations, &c., at conclaves, encampments, &c. He would give me some specimens, among others *his* original Masonic oration in inauguralating of the Grand Socratic Encampment at Bubastisville, *Za or Ya*. He went on for some time with passages more or less familiar to me, when I took it up verbatim, being part of *my* original address at the installation of an encampment.

"Bro. Harris," says he, "I did not take from you, but from the sermons of the Rev. Franklin Drowry, a distinguished American divine of the last century."

"And he and I took it from Tillotson," says I.

"I know nothing of Tillotson," says he. "But what a shame for a Christian minister to deceive me in this way, and pass off other men's sermons as his own. I shall never place faith in Drowry again; and he supplied me with a mass of matter for original orations, for, where he put 'Christianity,' I put 'Masonry,' and so on, and admirable and original Masonic addresses they are, quite edifying, as is universally allowed and attested under certificates of our leading Masons."

I offered to read him some of *my* original addresses, but he proposed instead to give me the Sacred Sword Song of the Prince Mason Crusaders of Galilee, as

composed for his Order by a very eminent American poet, well known in his state. A French brother, he said, had never seen or heard anything so imposing as the Sword Song given by 500 Prince Masons with swords and charging glasses working in unison, and assisted by an organ, corps of drums, three military bands, and the bells of Jerusalem. No other Masonic country could produce the like, but America, United States, said he. For want of swords he managed that I should take the poker and he would take the shovel, but that could give me, he said only a very faint notion of this heartstirring congregation of high-souled Masons.

THE SACRED SWORD SONG OF THE PRINCE MASON CRUSADERS
OF GALILEE.

The Hozaunas are sounding,
The gavels are bounding,
We will guard the Sanhedrim (or Sanhedrim).
By the brook of Kedron,
With our swords and our gavels,
Against all cowans and cavils.
Hurrah! hooray!
Up with the Oriflamme,
In earnest, no sham!
Our vespers we say,
Hurrah! hooray!
By our glaives in the caves,
We will guard the Sanhedrim.
Hurrah! hurrah! hooray! hooray!

Whenever we came to "Sanhedrim," or "Hurrah," or any point, we clashed the swords, or, as Sir Knight Jones poetically called them, "glaives." We had got through three out of the seven verses of the Sacred Sword Song about half-past one in the morning, when our labours were brought to a sudden and untimely close by two unmysterious knocks on the ceiling from the Grand Mistress above.

So closed this ever-memorable evening for Masonry in peace and harmony—so far as Sir Knight Jones was concerned, and he left his fraternal respects for Mrs. Harris—but, I regret to say, not so far as that lady is concerned, for she forthwith applied to our distinguished and illustrious brother the term "Masonic reprobate," and to me other epithets equally disrespectful. On the announcement of the liberal and handsome presents of Sir Knight Jones, she consented to be mollified, but hoped the best sitting-room fireirons had not been damaged.

Mrs. Harris said she had not had a wink of sleep with the row, but dosed till she dreamed that villain, Jones, after much struggling, had put her on a grid-iron, while I held a poker, and a legion of devils with rough music danced round in Masonic aprons. She awoke to the Sacred Song in full swing.

Sir Knight Jones has promised to bring on his next visit a distinguished American brother and Sir Knight, experienced in the working of the Sacred Sword Song, so as to give me a notion of an evening of harmony.

I began the collection of the water-rates rather late on the morning after this memorable night, and may, as Mrs. Harris says, be snubbed by a tyrannical Board, being so near quarter-day; but it is a sacrifice I endure in the cause of Masonic chivalry.

Yours fraternally,

W. HARRIS, P.M.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEMS.

A PROV. GRAND LODGE of the Western Division of Lancashire will be held at the Public Hall, King-street, Wigan, on the 6th day of October, under the presidency of Bro. Lieut.-Col. Sir T. G. F. Hesketh, *Bart.*, *M.P.*, Prov. G. M.

LORD PELHAM, the Prov. G. Master for Sussex, has appointed Wednesday, the 21st inst., for laying the foundation stone of the Masonic Hall at Lewes, on which occasion his lordship will perform that ceremony with Masonic honours, assisted by all his provincial officers; and as the Prov. G. Master is deservedly a great favourite, and highly popular amongst the brethren in the province, a very large muster is expected to be present.

BRETHREN are reminded that the Lodge Music published a few weeks ago, in several issues of the MAGAZINE, has been republished in a convenient form for Lodge use, price 2s. 6d.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).—The annual Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at the Town Hall, Hull, on Thursday, the 15th October, under the auspices of the Minerva Lodge (No. 250).

LEICESTER.—The annual General Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at the Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Wednesday, the 7th October, under the presidency of the Right Hon. R. W. Prov. G. Master. St. John's Lodge (No. 279), will be opened at a quarter past two o'clock.

Boys' SCHOOL.—The votes of brethren are solicited on behalf of Josiah Marjason, whose father, Joshua Marjason, a respected member of the Franklin Lodge, No. 838, Boston, died on the 16th October, 1865, leaving a widow and seven children. This is the sixth application.

THE Earl of Jersey has accepted the post of a vice-president of the Rosicrucian Society of England; and we are informed that the next meeting of the Society will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern on Thursday, the 8th inst., on which occasion twelve aspirants will be admitted to the grade of Zelator.

THE appointment of the Earl of Carnarvon to the post of Provincial Grand Master of the Freemasons of Somerset, which we notified some weeks since, has been officially communicated to the brethren of the province, and an address of congratulation to his lordship has been sent by the Bath lodges, who have also sent an address to Colonel Adair, expressing their regret at his retirement from the P.G. Mastership of the province. The Earl of Carnarvon has been for many years an honorary member of the Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41) Bath, which is the oldest lodge in the province, the Royal Sussex Lodge (No. 53), Bath, ranking second in seniority and having the largest number of members of any lodge in Somerset. These circumstances, coupled with the unusual facilities of accommodation afforded by the New Masonic Hall in Bath for grand Masonic ceremonies, induce the hope that the new P.G.M. will select Bath as the place in which to hold his installation.

ROYAL UNION LODGE, No. 382, UXBRIDGE, MIDDLESEX.—This lodge, of which the present W.M. is Bro. James Glaisher, *F.R.S.*, of world-wide celebrity as a scientist, has, we are glad to learn, recently been removed to a commodious hall, unconnected with any tavern or place of public resort. The Belmont

Hall has been fitted up in a manner to suit it admirably for the purposes of Freemasonry.

THE UNIVERSAL MASONIC CALENDAR, DIARY, AND POCKET BOOK FOR 1869.—We are requested to remind the secretaries of Craft and Mark lodges, and Scribes of R.A. chapters, under the English, Irish, and Scotch jurisdictions, and the secretaries and other officers of other Masonic bodies at home, in the colonies, and abroad, that they should forward the fullest and latest information intended for publication in the next issue, with all convenient speed, to the editors of the Calendar; and all communications may be addressed to them at the office of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, or in Glasgow.

METROPOLITAN.

ROYAL ALFRED LODGE (No. 780).—A meeting of this lodge took place at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew-bridge, on Friday, the 25th ult., for the transaction of business, and to install the W.M. for the ensuing year. The attendance of brethren was very numerous, and amongst the visitors we noticed Bros. W. Ough, Assist. G. Purst.; B. P. Todd, P.M., No. 27; T. J. Maidwell, No. 73; J. J. Pope, P.M., 389; J. R. Tisen, 1056; H. C. Barnes, 11; B. Ringrose, 1,185; Charles Slooman, 25; A. Glover, 1,185; T. Bartleman; &c. The lodge having opened, the minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed. The audit committee then presented their report. Bro. Naylor having been questioned as to his proficiency, and answering satisfactorily was most impressively raised by the W.M. to the sublime degree of M.M. Bros. Lloyd and Gough being candidates for the second degree were examined and respectively admitted to that degree. Messrs. Alexander Brown and Charles Mark Abbot having been balloted for and approved of were initiated into the mysteries and privileges of the Craft. The lodge voted five guineas to the Grand Master Testimonial Fund, the brethren subscribing an additional £5 5s. Bro. May having consented to serve as Steward to the next festival of the Boys' School, fifty guineas were voted, thus constituting the W.M. for the time being a Vice-President of the institution. All below the degree of P.M. having retired, a board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Samuel May was duly installed into the chair of K.S., under dispensation from the W.M. the G.M., Bro. May being the present W.M. of lodge 101. The W.M. elected as his officers for the ensuing year Bros. Littlewood, S.W.; Longhurst, J.W.; J. Smith, P.M., Treas.; H. G. Buss, P.M., Sec.; Clarkson, S.D.; H. Lloyd, J.D.; T. Brown, I.G.; Hall, P.M., W.S.; T. W. Fry, D.C. The lodge having been closed, about sixty brethren sat down to the banquet under the presidency of the W.M. Justice having been done to the excellency of the repast, and the cloth having been drawn, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. A very pleasant evening was spent, which was considerably enhanced by the excellent singing of Bros. Bartleman, Pope, Sloman, and other brethren.

SOUTHERN STAR LODGE, (1,158).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening, 22nd ult., at the Montpelier Tavern, Walworth. Bro. T. H. Pulsford, W.M. presided, supported by his officers, and several visitors, amongst whom was Bro. Thomas, P.M., of the United Pilgrims, Panmure and several other lodges, and Bro. Richards of Domatic. Bro. Thompson, the indefatigable secretary, was absent through indisposition. The lodge having been duly opened, Bro. Hancock (*Sec. pro tem.*) read the minutes of the last lodge, which were received and confirmed. The first business was to initiate Mr. William Hooker into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, which ceremony was performed by the W. M. in a faultless manner. This was followed by the initiation of Mr. Jennings, which was also equally well performed. Bro. Wise was now questioned as to his proficiency in the science, and that being considered satisfactory, he was most ably and impressively raised by the W.M. to the sublime degree of a M.M. The W.M. went through the entire ceremony, giving the often omitted traditional history belonging to this degree. The ceremony was most ably performed, and elicited approbation from every one who witnessed it. The lodge having been resumed to the first degree, the Secretary

pro. tem. read a communication from the Grand Secretary in reference to the intended celebration on the occasion of the Grand Master completing a service of 25 years in that high office, and this communication was left for consideration at the next meeting. A communication was read from the Masonic Fire and Life Association. The lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. The banquet was supplied in Bro. Allatts' usual style of excellence, and it gave general satisfaction. On the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to; the newly initiated brethren were obliged to leave, and did not remain for the banquet. The W.M. on giving the health of Bro. Thompson, P.M., and Treas. of the Lodge, in very complimentary terms alluded to the services he had rendered, and believed he possessed the esteem of every member of it. The toast was very cordially received. Bro. Thompson, P.M., and Treas., said the W.M. in the exercise of his good nature, had, if he would allow him to say it with all due deference gone out of his way to pay him a compliment, but as the W.M. could do no wrong he accepted it with gratitude, although as he had so long basked in the sunshine of their favour, and received so many substantial tokens of it, he thought some one else might have been preferred to him at that early part of the evening to receive it. Their W.M. had spoken in flattering terms of what he (Bro. Thompson) had done for the lodge, as its founder, and their P.M. and Treasurer, but if he had done so he was amply repaid by the success which had attended it, but at the same time he must say that from the first when the lodge was proposed, he had always found the W.M. a most energetic supporter, and they had gone on shoulder to shoulder together. He thanked the brethren sincerely for that renewed mark of their kindness, and would at all times do everything in his power to promote the prosperity of the Southern Star Lodge. The W.M. next gave "The Health of the Visitors," for which Bros. Thomas, Richards, and Hancock respectively returned thanks. Bro. Thompson, P.M., said the W.M. had for a very brief period entrusted him with his emblem of authority, and the brethren doubtless knew the use to which he would apply it. At the risk of their patience, he should say a few words as to the toast which he was about to propose, as to how he had been supported by their W.M. As he had already said, their W.M. had most ably seconded him in the foundation of the lodge, and during its progress it was his warmest wish and highest inspiration to see their W.M. in the chair which he then so ably occupied. He felt a peculiar interest in their W.M., inasmuch as he introduced him into Freemasonry, he passed him through his different degrees, and, finally, he installed him into the chair as W.M. of the lodge. Having seen how he had performed his duties that evening, he thought he had no reason to be ashamed of what he had done. He would ask any one who had witnessed the manner in which he had that night gone through the third degree, whether they had ever seen that beautiful ceremony more correctly or more impressively performed. He (Bro. Thompson) had watched him most attentively, and he felt sure that there was not an improper word used, or one improperly applied, and there was the still further merit due to Bro. Pulsford, for while he was proficient in the performance of the different ceremonies, he was equally good in his knowledge of the lectures in which those ceremonies were illustrated and explained, and he was the preceptor of a lodge of instruction by whom he was highly esteemed, not only for the excellence of his working, but for the readiness with which he imparted his knowledge to others. He wished him a prosperous year of office, and called upon the brethren to drink his health in bumpers. The toast was enthusiastically responded to. The W.M. in responding briefly to the toast, said that their P.M. Thompson had passed compliments upon him he did not deserve, but he would endeavour to follow in his steps, and do all in his power to promote the comfort of the brethren and the welfare of his lodge. He thanked the brethren sincerely for the cordial manner in which his health had been drunk. The W.M. proposed "The Health of their Bro. Secretary," and expressed his great regret that illness had kept him from them. Bro. H. Thompson, P.M., returned thanks, and said he felt sure that nothing but the cause to which the W.M. had referred, would have kept his son from among them, for he was always most attentive and indefatigable in the discharge of his duties as Secretary of the lodge. Bro. Hancock, by permission of the W.M., proposed "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge," and said as a visitor he was highly pleased at the excellence of their working, and

that evening had really been a great Masonic treat to him. He belonged to a lodge in Staffordshire, but if he remained in London he should like to become a joining member of the lodge of which he had the honour to be a visitor that evening. Bro. Clarke, S.W., returned thanks. The Tyler's toast brought a very happy meeting to a close, which had been really assisted by some excellent songs by Bro. Mackway and others.

MIDDLESEX.

UXBRIDGE.—*Royal Union Lodge* (No. 381).—A meeting of this lodge took place at the new lodge room at the Masonic Hall, Uxbridge, on the 21st ult. The W.M. Bro. J. Glaisher, supported by all his officers, viz.:—Bros. Magnus Ohren, S.W.; G. Fehrenboch, J.W.; Cloisen, P.M. Treas.; W. Coombes, P.M.; W. H. Coulton, S.D.; Joquin, J.D.; Lonsdale, I.G.; Saqui, P.M. Org.; Bonner, Steward. There were also present, Bros. J. Adams, P.G.P.; William Smith, C.E., P.G.S.; Horsley, P.M.; Weidon, P.M.; Wirtzfield, P.M.; and many other members of the lodge. Visitors:—John Ohren, G. J. Mumford, No. 148; H. F. Peng, No. 145. The lodge having been opened in ample form, and the gentlemen previously balloted for not being in attendance, the lodge was raised to the second degree, when Bros. Davis, French, Louville, Lucas and Lloyd, being questioned and found efficient, were accordingly passed. The lodge was then raised to the third degree, and Bros. Terry, Lambert, Jennings, and Woodward, were raised to the sublime degree of M.M's. The whole of the ceremonies were ably performed by the W.M. Upon the lodge being lowered, the W.M. read a letter respecting the Zetland Commemoration Fund, and the Palestine Exploration Fund, also as to the case of Theresa Mary Claison, daughter of the late Bro. Theodore Claison, who is a candidate for the next election for the Girls' school. A vote of thanks was given to Bro. W. Smith, C.E., P.G.S., for his present to the lodge of a portrait of the Right Hon. the Earl of Dalhousie, K.T. and K.G., the M.W., the G.M.M. of Scotland, and six copies of Masonic lodge music for the three Craft degrees. Also to Bro. W. H. Coulton, S.D., for the manner in which he re-decorated the lodge furniture at his own cost. Bros. T. Adams, P.G.S.P., and W. Smith, C.E., P.G.S., were elected full members of the lodge Bro. Coulton proposed, and Bro. Horsley, P.M. seconded, that the lodge become annual subscribers to the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE. Other business having been transacted, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet which was provided at the "Chequers" Hotel. A very enjoyable evening was spent, and the brethren separated at an early hour in peace and harmony.

PROVINCIAL.

CHESHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Right Hon. Lord de Tabley, R.W. Prov. G. Master of Cheshire, held a Prov. G. Lodge on Wednesday, the 16th ult., in Macclesfield. The attendance of the brethren was more than usually numerous, and comprised members from every lodge in the province. The interest in the meeting was also enhanced by the presence of officers holding high positions in the Grand Lodge, and the principal Provincial Grand Officers, W. Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens. It was admitted by all present that not only as regards the members present, but the distinguished position of the officers, that this was the most successful meeting that has ever been held in the province. The Prov. G. Lodge having been opened the minutes of the last Prov. G. Lodge were read and confirmed.

Bro. Latham, G.D. and P. Prov. G. Reg., brought up a report of the committee appointed at the last lodge to revise the rules. The alterations made he said were but few, and he moved that copies be printed, which was agreed to.

Bro. Cope, Prov. S.G.W., in pursuance of notice which he had given, moved that the sum of twenty-five guineas be presented by this lodge to the Zetland Commemoration Fund. The present M.W.G.M., the Earl of Zetland, had presided over the Craft for upwards of a quarter of a century, and it was considered desirable that on such an occasion the various lodges should bear their testimony to his great personal worth. He therefore moved the resolution of which he had given notice.

It was proposed with the contributions obtained, to found a scholarship for the sons of Freemasons.

Bro. Smith, P. Prov. G. Reg., seconded the resolution.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. before putting the resolution, said he felt exceedingly gratified that such a proposition had been made in this lodge, because it was a most deserved mark of respect to their Worshipful Grand Master. The resolution was unanimously carried.

Bro. Willoughby, P. Prov. J.G.W. proposed that 20 guineas be given to the Cheshire Educational Masonic Institution. He said that two or three years ago many of the brethren entertained some doubt as to the success of the institution, and indeed his own most sanguine expectations did not lead him to suppose that by this time the institution would be in such a prosperous position. It was making gradual and successful progress and he strongly recommended it to the support of the brethren.

Bro. Cope, Prov. S.G.W. had great pleasure in seconding the motion, and said that when the institution was founded he had some misgiving lest it should interfere with the Masonic charities. He had however seen reason to change that opinion, and he could bear testimony that it was silently but surely doing a great deal of good, and that it was well worthy of support. He concluded by stating that he should himself give the same amount to the institution which the lodge subscribed.

The resolution was carried.

Bro. Latham brought forward another motion of which notice had been given, namely, that the sum of 21 guineas be given to the Palestine Fund. They were all no doubt aware that at the present time certain parties were engaged in exploring the foundations of the ancient city of Jerusalem in order to bring to light every vestige of that ancient city. This subject was particularly interesting to Freemasons because although some of them might doubt whether the earliest traditions of the Craft were absolutely and accurately true, yet the greatest sceptic amongst them did not hesitate to believe that their ceremonies and forms were derived from the ancient Temple of Jerusalem. Everything therefore that was discovered in that temple, even the particular shape and marks of the building must be interesting to them as Masons. He thought therefore every brother would be glad to contribute to such an object. The Grand Lodge of England had shown its appreciation of this movement by voting 100 guineas. Up to the present time he believed the efforts of the explorers had been most successful. They had got to the foundations of a building which was certainly far anterior to what had always been considered the ancient Temple of King Solomon. The fact that they had been able to discover such a building must be so satisfactory to all the brethren that he was sure they would most willingly vote the grant which he had named to the Palestine Exploration Fund.

Bro. Bland, Prov. G. Treas. seconded the resolution and it was unanimously agreed to.

On the motion of Bro. Latham, seconded by Bro. the Rev. Dr. Beales, a grant of £15 was allowed to the widow of a deceased brother in Congleton.

Bro. Bland then read the treasurers' account which showed that the finances of the provincial lodge were in excellent condition, and the report was adopted.

The Prov. G.M. then appointed Bros. George Cornwall Legh, D.P.G.M.; Cap. Cope, P.S.G.W.; J. P. Platt, P.J.G.W.; E. Newbold, (Macclesfield), P.S.G.D.; Davies, (Norwich), P.J.G.D.; John Wood, (Bredbury), P.G.S.B.; Woodcock, S.B.; and Jackson, M.C.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. said it had been his custom on previous occasions before closing the lodge to make a few observations with reference to the progress of Freemasonry in the province of Cheshire since the previous Provincial Grand Lodge, and should do so on the present occasion. In the first place he had to lament the retirement from office of the D. Prov. G.M., Lord Combermere. He received his resignation a little while ago, accompanied by the expression of his regret that his time would not permit him to bestow that attention to the duties of his office which he desired. His regret on receiving this resignation was somewhat diminished by the kindness of his good Bro. George Cornwall Legh who had consented to accept the office of D. Prov. G.M. Since the last Prov. G. Lodge he had reason to believe that Freemasonry in Cheshire had made steady progress. He had not had occasion to consecrate any new lodges, but he understood that all the lodges were working well. This after all was the best test of progress, much better

than the increase of lodges. Since the last meeting the Prov. G. Lodge of Cheshire had been very successful in reference to the charities. In October they obtained the election of a boy and in May of an aged brother. This must be very satisfactory to the brethren of the province. They had previously had on the charities one aged widow, and one aged brother, so that they had now five. All this had been done in three years. He had the honour to attend in his capacity of Prov. G.M. at the laying of the foundation stone of the Idiot Asylum at Lancaster when their excellent Grand Master visited them in person. He mentioned this to show the interest which the Grand Master took in the welfare of the Craft by coming down specially from London, even at his great age. As a proof also that the spirit of charity was increasing amongst them he might refer to the handsome gift which Bro. Cope had promised. He would say no more on this occasion, but would thank all the Past Prov. officers for the consistent support they had given him. In conclusion the Prov. G.M. announced that the next Provincial Grand Lodge would be held at Birkenhead.

The lodge having been closed,

The members of the lodge then formed in procession, and walked from the lodge room to St. Michael's Church.

The body of the church was appropriated almost exclusively to the brethren, the galleries being occupied by the general public. There was full cathedral service. The choir consisted of Bros. Edmondson, Stafford, N. Dunville, Andrews, Roscoe, and Hayter, assisted by the excellent amateur choir of St. Michael's Church, who had in the kindest manner offered their valuable assistance in the cause of charity. Bro. Twiss, of Knutsford, P.G. Org. of Cheshire, presided at the organ. A very able sermon, and one most appropriate to the occasion, was preached by the P.G. Chap. Bro. the Rev. E. D. Garven, after which a collection was made, the proceeds of which are to be divided between the Macclesfield Infirmary and the Provincial Fund of Benevolence. At the close of divine service the brethren walked in procession to the Town Hall to the banquet. The Prov. G.M. was supported by Bros. Cope, Latham, and Bland, the Prov. G. Chap., and the principal officers of the province. During the after dinner proceedings songs and glees were sung by the professional brethren, Bros. Edmondson, Stafford, Dunville, Andrews, Roscoe, and Hayter.

After the usual loyal toasts had been given, the Prov. G.M. said that he felt quite certain that the manner in which they had drunk the previous toasts was no mere lip loyalty, but he was equally sure that were it possible even with more hearty loyalty they would drink the health of the M.W.G.M. the Masonic sovereign of their order. The M.W.G.M., as they all knew, was worthy of their utmost respect and gratitude, because during a long life he had devoted his best energies and abilities to promote the interests of the Craft. He had mentioned to them to-day in the lodge that the M.W.G.M. came from London to Lancaster to perform a ceremony of consecration, and although he was 73 years of age he returned to London. He (the P.G.M.) had the honour to accompany him back to London on the third day. This was the 25th year of his Masonic rule, and most rightly had the Craft determined to celebrate that event. Highly gratified was he to co-operate most cordially in the commemoration which they had determined for such an occasion. The fund would be devoted to no mere purposes of personal gratification. The money would be devoted to an exhibition for the preferment in the world of some youth, some orphan, or perchance some poor Masonic sister, who, for want of such aid might be left in distress. Such was the M.W.G.M.'s wish, and he was sure it would be acceded to by the Craft in general. The G.M. was not merely the Masonic sovereign, but by his commanding manner, by his tact and discretion, he had done more to promote the cause of Masonry than any one now living. He therefore begged to propose the health of "The Most Worshipful the Grand Master" with all the honours they could give him. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm.

The Prov. G.M. then proposed the health of "The Earl de Grey and Ripon, M.W.D.G.M., and the other officers of the Grand Lodge."

Bro. Aeneas M'Intyre, G.R., responded, and said he felt great pleasure and satisfaction in rising to return thanks for the D.G.M. of England and officers of the Grand Lodge past and present. As the P.G.M. had said, most truly the conduct of Lord de Grey and Ripon as D.G.M. required very little eulogy, because his services were so well known. In each succeeding year he had more and more endeared himself to the hearts of the Masons

over whom he presided. On all occasions his lordship set an example which might well be followed by the grand officers. Always to be in his place and at the right moment, and always to be able to discharge his duty, were the chief characteristics of the M.W.D.G.M. It was inculcated upon all masons to come punctually to the lodge, and to prepare themselves well in the performance of the duties they had to fulfil. The officers of the Grand Lodge who were present on this occasion (Bros. Latham and Cope) were so well known that he could only say of them that it would be well if all grand officers would emulate them. For himself, he could never forget that his first step in advancement in masonry was when he was connected with the Cestrian Lodge. He was glad to see the members of the craft assembled here in such large numbers. He must also congratulate them on the admirable discourse which they had heard from their Prov. G. Chap.

Bros. Cope and Latham also responded.

Bro. McIntyre again rose and proposed the health of the Prov. G.M. They were now, he said, in Masonic times of considerable importance. As they had been told by the Prov. G. M., the G. M. of England had completed the 25th year of his presidency over the Craft, and he had now for the first time seen established in the metropolis a hall for the benefit of the whole Craft. They had now a structure which was worthy of the name of masonry. They had a hall that did credit to the G. Supt. of Works; and, after 25 years of his presidency, the work of the G.M. seemed to be completed. In this province they had a Prov. G.M., over whom so many years had not yet passed, but immediately on his coming amongst them a new state of things seemed to have sprung up. Unless they had a good Prov. G.M., Freemasonry would never go in the right path. He proposed the health of the Prov. G.M. the Rt. Hon. Lord de Tabley.

The toast was drunk with true Masonic honours.

The Prov. G.M., on rising, was most loudly applauded, and, in acknowledging the toast, said that he had endeavoured to fill the office faithfully and diligently, and it was a great encouragement to a Mason in his position to find that his endeavours were rewarded with success. To prove that his labours had been attended with success, he might repeat the words of Sir Christopher Wren, "If you wish to see my works, look around." It was an assembly of Freemasons of which any Prov. G.M. might be proud. Three years ago they numbered very few subscribers to the Masonic charities, but now they had five recipients of charity from this province. He found at this table associated with him two brethren of the Grand Lodge. All this was a great encouragement to him to go on in the path of duty. He trusted they would all go on animated with the sentiments of charity. He owed a deep debt of gratitude to all his brethren in the province, and particularly gratified was he to see assembled so many brethren to hold the Grand Lodge in Macclesfield. Owing to the short time at their disposal in the Grand Lodge, one or two matters were omitted. He wished to supplement the proceedings of the day with a vote of thanks to the minister of St. Michael's Church for the kind manner in which he had lent his church for their service. In the name of the Prov. G. Lodge, he would direct the secretary to convey to that gentleman their very sincere thanks. The services of the Prov. G. Chap. should also be acknowledged. He had discoursed most eloquently, and deserved their thanks for his excellent sermon. There had also been another omission. At the last Grand Lodge a resolution was passed that after a brother had served twice in the office of treasurer of any educational charity of the Order, he should, at the expense of the Grand Lodge, receive a jewel. It was a very small acknowledgment; but they knew that the Victoria Cross was only made of iron, yet perhaps it was the most precious thing that a man could have. He had great pleasure in presenting it to Bro. Cope, who had seven times served the office of steward.

The Prov. G.M. then invested Bro. Cope with a handsome and costly jewel, amid loud applause.

He (the Prov. G.M.) had nothing more to say than to thank his brethren from the bottom of his heart for the cordial support they had always given to him in the performance of his duties.

Bro. Cope replied in suitable terms.

The Prov. G.M. then proposed the health of the D. Prov. G.M. coupling with it the name of Bro. Terry, Prov. G. Chap.

Bro. Terry responded.

The Prov. G.M. next proposed the health of the W. Masters and officers of the Macclesfield Lodges, Nos. 295 and 297.

Bro. Bates expressed the sincere thanks of the officers and

brethren of the Macclesfield Lodges for the very flattering manner in which their healths had been received. It was a source of the highest satisfaction to the members of these lodges to find that they had succeeded so well to-day.

Bro. McIntyre proposed the toast—"All Poor and Distressed Masons," which brought the proceedings to a close.

ESSEX.

UPTON.—*Upton Lodge* (No. 1,227).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 22nd ult., at the Spotted Dog, Upton. Bro. I. Bellerby presided, Bros. Gibbs and Kernott were elected joining members. Messrs. F. Wayland, Affendell and Grover having been ballotted for and approved, were initiated by the W.M. into the mysteries of Freemasonry in a very able and efficient manner. No further business being before the lodge, it was closed according to ancient form, and the brethren retired to an excellent banquet, supplied by Bro. Vause, the service of which gave unqualified satisfaction. The W.M. presided and gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts with great ability. Bro. Wayland returned thanks for the newly initiated brothers in a very able and eloquent manner. The "Visitors" toast was acknowledged by Bro. Decent, the W.M. of the Earl de Grey and Ripon Lodge. The W.M., Bros. Watton, Stephen, and Westcombe contributed greatly to the harmony of the evening, the latter brother giving a very humorous Indian song that elicited roars of laughter.

SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW.

GLASGOW.—*Lodge of Glasgow St. John* (No. 3).—At the meeting of this lodge on the 15th ult. there was a large concourse of brethren, Bro. Ramsay, R.W.M. in the chair; Bro. McMillan, S.W.; and Bro. McAulay, J.W. On the minutes of the last meeting being read, they were objected to as being incorrect, as it appeared from them that the report of the Historical Committee had been referred back to the said committee; whereas the said report had merely been postponed until the next meeting night on account of the absence of the R.W.M. After some remarks, the objection was sustained, and the minute ordered to be altered so as to agree with the facts. The business of the lodge was then proceeded with, and one candidate was initiated by the S.W., Bro. Park, P.M., acting during the ceremony as S.W. Thereafter "the report of the Historical Committee postponed from the last meeting" was read by request—simply in its integrity—by Bro. Buchan. Bro. Baird offered a few remarks which might be interpreted as expressive of regret at the necessity that had arisen "for parting with Malcolm"; this however merely had the effect of causing the ceremony to go down a little easier. Bro. Park followed Bro. Baird by remarking to the same effect, as he did at the meeting at which Bro. Buchan brought forward the motion for the appointment of a Historical Committee, viz., "that if the charter of this lodge was granted by a King Malcolm, it could not be that of Malcolm III., because he had no brother called David." Bro. Ramsay, the R.W.M., suggested that as it seemed a difficult matter to find out the real truth, the spirit rappers should be consulted, &c. There was also a feeling amongst some of the members that although the Malcolm document is not the real charter, it may be a copy; this elicited the remark that as the lodge and the incorporation had been so long connected, the copy might have been made out for the use of the lodge, when the name of Malcolm might have been substituted for William, and the date 1051 for 1191, so therefore, copy or no copy, there was no longer any use in trying to hail from any charter older than 1190, one of William the Lion. A few more remarks were made, and Bro. Buchan having replied, the report was then passed unanimously. The greater portion of the substance of this report has already appeared in the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE for June 20th, and July 25th. In the report read by Bro. Buchan it is added that although the Melrose St. John's Masons are said to have very old documents, yet the oldest they have produced is an old minute book, commencing at 1674, which is not so old by seventy-four years as that of the Glasgow Incorporation Masons, still extant, which begins at 1600, and in which is a lodge minute of date 1613 put in the corporation book at date 1620. In the year 1628 appear the names of the brethren elected to office who signed the Kosliu

Charter. Some remarks were also made relative to the builders of Kilwinning Abbey being a branch from those engaged at Glasgow Cathedral. A cordial vote of thanks was, upon the motion of Bro. Buchan, passed unanimously to Bro. Professor Cosmo Innes. It was also agreed that the lodge should endeavour to get a photograph of the 1190 William the Lion Charter. The lodge was shortly afterwards closed in due form.

IRELAND.

NORTH CONNAUGHT.

OPENING OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

In consequence of a certain portion of this province having been formed into a district for the establishment of a Masonic Provincial Grand Lodge, and his Grace the Duke of Leinster, G.M. of Ireland, having been pleased to appoint Bro. Hugh Lyons Montgomery, D.L., late M.P. for Leitrim, as G.M. of the district, the latter brother convened a meeting of all the lodges in the province of North Connaught, in the Masonic Hall, Sligo, on Thursday evening, the 17th ult., for the purpose of formally opening the Prov. G. Lodge, and in making all other necessary arrangements. There was a very large attendance of the members of the Craft, several of whom came a long distance for the purpose. Shortly after seven o'clock the proceedings commenced by a lodge being opened in the third degree, on the completion of which the R.W.G.M. for the province was conducted in the throne, on which he took his seat, when he received the usual Masonic salute. Bro. Montgomery thanked the brethren for assisting in placing him in the high and exalted position he then occupied—a position that any member of the Craft ought justly to feel proud of—and assured the brethren that nothing should be wanting on his part to further extend the benefits of their ancient and noble Order, whose influence was found of the greatest advantage in all parts of the earth. The R.W.G.M. next announced that he would appoint Bro. J. L. Woods, P.M. 20, Sligo, as D. Provincial Grand Master, after which Bro. Robert Jenkins, P.M. 187, Manorhauilton, was unanimously appointed Prov. G.S.W., and Bro. Alex. Gillmor, P.M. 20, Sligo, Prov. G.J.W. Bro. James Joynt, P.M. 217, Ballina, was next appointed Prov. G.S.D., and Bro. S. M. Cherry, P.M. 20, Sligo, as Prov. G. Sec., the nomination of the other officers being postponed until the next night of meeting.

The private business of the lodge was next gone through, after which the brethren retired for refreshment, when they partook of an excellent supper, the hospitality of the Prov. G.M., after which they separated in peace, love, and harmony.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

ROYAL JUBILEE CHAPTER (No. 72).—A convocation of the above chapter was held at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, on Thursday, the 10th ult., for the purpose of electing the Principal and officers for the ensuing year. Comp. Webb was installed M.E.Z.; and C. Platt and C. T. Foxall were respectively elected H. and J. The brethren then sat down to the banquet, and a very enjoyable and pleasant evening was spent, enlivened by the singing of Comp. Webb and other musical brethren.

DEVONSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER.

The half yearly provincial meeting was held on Wednesday, Sept. 23rd, at the Hayshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth, at 3 p.m. Upwards of 20 present and past principals having assembled, the Prov. G. Supt., the Rev. J. Hayshe, M.A., M.E.Z., accompanied by Comp. Metham H., and Radford J., entered and opened the Prov. G. Chapter, the Comps. were then admitted. The chairs of E.N., Prince Soj., and Assist. Soj. were respectively filled by Comps. Rogers, Elphinstone, Nicholls, and Clemens. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The accounts of the Treasurer were then read and passed, showing a balance in hand of about £40. On the proposition of Comp. Matthews, seconded by Comp. Watts, Comp. Hambley was elected Treas. for the next year. The M.E.Z. expressed the

pleasure he had in conferring the collar upon so excellent and well qualified a Comp., since to him as Chairman of the committee of management of the Masonic Temple, the Prov. G. Chapter was mainly indebted for the ample and kind accommodation of this meeting in the building. Comp. Metham H., proposed and Comp. Radford J. seconded a grant of £10 10s towards the testimonial fund in honour of the Earl of Zetland, the head of Masonry in England, explaining at some length the intention to mark the appreciation of his long and efficient services for 25 years, by raising a sum which it was hoped would amount to some thousands of pounds, not to be expended in paying him any personal compliment, which would be in direct opposition to his own wishes, but for the support of Masonic principles, probably by affording substantial aid to the charities. These views were endorsed by the M.E.Z., and after some discussion the resolution was passed unanimously.

On the proposition of Comps. Watts and Rae the sum of £10 10s. was voted to the Fortescue Local Annuity Fund. The M.E.Z. took this opportunity of expressing his personal thanks to the companions in the southern part of the province for their kindness and forbearance in having placed on the list of annuitants a distressed but most worthy Mason in a distant portion of the district, when they were numerically strong enough to carry the election of a candidate from their own neighbourhood, at the same time stating that their generosity would be rewarded, since they and the Craft generally would derive benefit from the course which had been pursued, inasmuch as many companions in the locality indicated, who had previously taken no interest in this fund, had been induced to become active supporters of it, and to work in its favour. Bro. Dr. Dowse introduced to the notice of the meeting the case of the widow of a companion recently deceased, and who had been a most active labourer in the Craft, even to the sacrifice of the interests of his own family. On the proposition of Comps. Woolf and Rae a grant of £5 5s. was made in relief of this case. The same amount was voted to the Boys' School on the proposition of Comps. V. Bird, and Dr. Hopkins. The M.E.Z. made the following appointments to office for the ensuing year:—Comps. Metham, H.; Radford, J.; Whitehouse, E.; Phillips, N.; Bird, Prin. Soj.; Sadler and Bell, Assist. Soj.'s; Brewster, Reg.; Stoneman, Sword Bearer; Cox and Dr. Foster, Standard Bearers; Wiltshire, Dir. of Cers.; Browning, Org.; Chaplin, Banner Bearer; Rogers, J.; Gregory, Assist. J. Considerable discussion, in which many took part, then arose on some minor matters of arrangement, and the Prov. G. Chapter was closed at about five o'clock.

SCOTLAND.

ARDROSSAN.—*Ardrossan Chapter* (No. 111).—The hall belonging to the Lodge Neptune Kilwinning, Ardrossan (No. 441), was re-opened on the 23rd ult., on the occasion of the annual election in connection with this chapter. The lodge room has for a short period been under the hand of Bro. R. C. Orr, painter, Saltcoats, whose well-known decorative taste is a sufficient guarantee for the chaste and appropriate style in which the work has been executed. The walls are done in oak pannels, which with those shown in the cove of the ceiling, contain some of the leading emblems in Craft and Royal Arch Masonry—the canopy being beautifully depicted on the ceiling. That the Lodge No. 442 should at this early stage of its existence possess such a hall redounds to the credit of its sons and serves also as an index of its prosperity. The chapter having met on the evening in question, proceeded to elect the following office-bearers for the ensuing year:—Comps. J. Robertson, Z.; D. Goodwin, H.; J. Macdonald, J.; F. Goodwin, Treas.; John Robertson, Scribe E.; J. Norris, F.; C. Adair, R. Mathews, W. Ross, Soj.'s; and H. Hamilton, Janitor. After the election, three brethren were exalted and added to the already long roll of Royal Arch Companions belonging to Neptune Kilwinning Chapter. His re-election to the chief chair in the chapter, viewed in connection with his continued occupancy of the orient in the lodge, shows the high respect in which Comp. James Robertson is held by the brethren in Ardrossan.

AIRDRIE.—*Airdrie Chapter* (No. 78).—This chapter held its annual meeting for the election of office-bearers on Tuesday evening, the 22nd ult. The chapter having been opened, the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. The following companions were with perfect unanimity elected, viz., Comps. A. Bizzett, Z.; P. Mackinnon, H.; J. Barr, J.; Dr. Torrance, P.Z.; A. Mackenzie, E.; G. Ellis, W.; D. Anderson,

Treas.; A. Burns, 1st Soj.; J. Levaek, 2nd Soj.; R. Gray, 3rd Soj.; J. Spence, S.B.; and James Taylor, Janitor. This being the only business, the chapter was duly closed.

MARK MASONRY.

DEVONSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

On Wednesday, Sept. 23rd, this Prov. G. Lodge met at the Haysla Masonic Temple, Princess-place, Plymouth, at 1 p.m. Present, the V.W.P.G.M. the Rev. J. Hayshe, M.A.; the V.W. Dr. Dowse, D.P.G.M.; the R.W. Dr. Hopkins, J.G.W., acting as P.G.S.W.; Bros. H. B. Kent, P.G.S.B., acting as P.G.J.W.; S. Jew, M.C.; P. Burrett, S.O.; W. J. J. Spry, J.O.; J. W. Hawton, Treas.; W. H. Maddock, Sec.; E. A. Davis, J.D.; W. Essery, A.D.C.; W. B. Clemens, Supt. of Works; S. Willoughby, W. D. Thomas, M. Paull, Stewards; Foxwell, Org.; J. Masters, acting as Pursuivant; J. Rogers, Tyler, and the representatives of lodges 16, 23, 26, 35, 48, 64, 91, 96, 100. The Prov. G. Lodge having been opened, the minutes of the previous regular meeting were read and confirmed. The minutes of a special meeting having also been read, Bro. Bird, P.G.M.O., proposed that they be confirmed with the exception of the portion relating to a reduction in the dues payable by each Mark Mason in the Province to the Prov. G.M. Lodge. A lengthened discussion took place thereupon, and an amendment was proposed by Bro. Davies. The matter terminated in a confirmation of the minutes, as the point in question could not be legally settled on this occasion, and it was considered preferable to give notice of a distinct motion for discussion at the next meeting. The Treasurer's accounts were read by Bro. Hawton, and passed, with a vote of thanks to him for his successful efforts in bringing them into so good a condition, and for the clearness of the statement. It appeared that there was a balance in hand of more than £18, that there were no outstanding accounts unpaid, and that all dues had been received.

By a vote of the Prov. G. Lodge Bro. Hawton was reappointed as Treas. for the next year.

A motion was then made by Bro. V. Bird, of which due notice had been given, altering and clearly defining the manner in which the election of Treas. should in future be conducted; it was seconded by Bro. Rae.

A long discussion took place upon it, in the course of which the Prov. G.M. stated his opinion that the proposed change was unconstitutional, and that therefore he could not put it to the meeting. Bro. Harvey, P.M., brought forward an amendment, seconded by Bro. S. Jew, to the effect that the mode of electing the treasurer should remain as before. Although some modifications in the original motion were made to meet the objections of the Prov. G.M., the amendment was carried by a majority of one, and Bro. Bird's proposition was therefore negatived.

Bro. Dr. Hopkins, G.J.W., referred to the satisfactory state of the funds, to a remark made by the P.G.M., in the course of one of the discussions that the anomalous position of the mark degree as being unrecognized in this country, would be best removed by active efforts in the mark lodges, to advocate the interests of the Masonic charities, and to the neglect of the schools in this province, no contributions being made to them by the Prov. G. Craft Lodge, the Prov. G. Mark Lodge, or the Prov. G. Chap. He concluded with a proposition that a grant of £10 10s. be made to the Boys' school, thus creating a life governorship.

This was seconded by Bro. Kent, put to the meeting, and carried unanimously.

The Prov. G.M. invested Bro. J. Brown with the rank of P. Prov. G. Purst, in pursuance of a motion made and seconded. He also conferred past rank on all brethren who had served their term of office and paid the fees of honour.

The V.W.P.G. Master appointed his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. Dr. Dowse, D.P.G.M.; L. P. Metham, S.G.W.; Captain Shanks, J.G.W.; Rev. J. E. Risk, G. Chap.; John Heath, G. Reg.; J. J. Hambley, M.O.; G. Merrifield, S.O.; S. Keys, J.O.; J. W. Hawton, Treas.; W. H. Maddock, Sec.; F. Codd, S.D.; J. Hiffley, J.D.; W. Littleton, D.C.; Wiltshire, A.D.C.; M. Paull, Supt. Works; S. Willoughby, S.B.; W. D. Thomas, Org.; John Way, Samuel Jones, Roseveare, Stewards; John Rogers, Tyler, The Prov. G. Lodge was then closed in due form, with solemn prayer, at 2.45 p.m.

RED CROSS KNIGHTS OF CONSTANTINE.

ROSE AND LILY CONCLAVE (No. 3).—An assembly of this conclave was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, on Saturday, the 26th ult. The conclave was opened by Sir Kt. Little, G.R., in the unavoidable absence of the M.P.S., assisted by Sir Kts. R. Ord. V.E.; J. Terry, P. Sov., Recorder; Capt. J. W. C. Whitbread, Insp. Gen. for Suffolk; C. A. Cottebrune, S.G.; A. Thompson, Prefect; J. Dyer, S.B.; J. McKiernan, Herald; G. S. Noyce, J.G.; J. G. Marsh, P. Sov., No. 1, G.A., &c. &c. After the confirmation of the minutes, Colonel Francis Burdett 32°, of Ancaster House, Richmond, was installed as a Knight, and afterwards admitted to the priestly and princely orders, so as to qualify him for a seat in the grand council to which he is nominated. The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:—Sir Kts. R. Ord. M.P.S. and Treas.; C. A. Cottebrune V.E., and Comp. Gilbert, Sentinel. The Chevaliers then adjourned to the banqueting hall, and spent a most pleasant evening together. The usual chivalric and loyal toasts were duly honoured, and the health of Colonel Burdett, the newly installed knight, was received with applause, a compliment which the gallant officer suitably acknowledged. We believe Colonel Burdett is likely to be elected a member of the Supreme Grand Council 33° for Ireland, in the room of the lamented Bro. T. Mostyn 33°, G. Treas., just deceased.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

CANADA AND THE FAR WEST.

Bro. W. H. Edwards, the well-known "American Wanderer," is now exhibiting his mammoth panorama at the Beaumont Institution, Mile-end, illustrative of 9,000 miles of the magnificent scenery of Canada and the Far West. Bro. Edwards gives an excellent descriptive account of the various scenes as they pass before the audience, and the attractiveness of the entertainment is still further enhanced by the introduction of some Transatlantic ballads and choruses illustrating the several incidents portrayed in the panorama. Mr. Palmyre, negro delineator, appears nightly in a new and exceedingly telling song, "Jemima Jargonell," illustrative of a coloured fancy ball occurring upon the panorama. The majority of the ballads in the entertainment are original, having been written expressly for it by Bro. J. C. Manning, composer of some of the most popular songs of the day.

MASONIC FETE CHAMPETRE.

A LIVELY DAY AT BOULEVARD GROVE.

On the afternoon and evening of the 8th ult., the members of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, under the jurisdiction of the Most Worthy United Grand Lodge of the State of New York, celebrated their annual reunion with a grand picnic, or *fête Champêtre*, at Boulevard Grove, Brooklyn, E.D. For the information of the "uninitiated" it will probably be well to state that this entertainment was conducted under the auspices of the coloured wing of the Masonic brotherhood, and that its patrons were solely persons of African lineage. Not more than half-a-dozen of the descendants of Japhet were on the ground, and these, together with a trio of metropolitans attired in blue and bearing staves, appeared to be present on business. And perhaps 'twas well 'twas so "very select and exclusive," for those for whose pleasure and recreation the festival was gotten up appeared to enjoy themselves as well if not better than they could have done with a crowd of gaping Caucasians surrounding or mingling with them. Everything "went merry as a marriage bell," and a great many marriageable belles went merrily too and came away in a similar mood, and doubtless in some instances with the hymeneal contract fairly open.

The weather was charmingly suitable to the occasion, and the grounds were in excellent order, and, with a social company present, the day was devoted to enjoyment and the interchange of courtesies. It was four o'clock before any considerable number of the picnicians were at the grove, but from that hour until nine o'clock at night they came "afoot," in buggies, and by the street railroad cars. At six o'clock about four or five hundred pleasure seekers were hard at work enjoying themselves at clam counters, restaurant tables, in "swinging boats," on the turf 'neath the leafy trees, and lastly, though to a decidedly predominating extent, in dancing on the floor of the pavilion devoted to the votaries of Terpsichore. The company present was, with few exceptions, very respectable and precise in their deportment, and while displaying in a majority of cases evident attention in the matter of their attire, to the latest fashion bulletins, there were also a number of "old jokers" present who had evidently outlived the age they were intended to flourish in, and (without intending any sarcasm) appeared like "the light of other days," though perhaps not quite so far gone as "the dark ages." They were all men in tight-sleeved coats, of a greenish brown variety of shade and colour, with hats that would have concealed the wearer's ears if those organs would have submitted to be "hid under a bushel," and these old gents shuffled round among the throng with sun-faded umbrellas under their arms and were indiscriminately greeted by the patriarchal appellation of "pop" or "uncle." A number of these fogies had their conjugal partners with them, attired in the plain old costume of the grandmothers of this generation, with bonnets of undoubted coal-scuttle proclivities and proportions. The later editions of these antique works were also on hand, exquisitely gotten up in calf, cloth, and morocco, with occasional patent leather finishes and illuminated with gold. They were represented in almost every shade and tint, from the sombre black to the deep olive, with the blood flushing richly beneath the semi-transparent skin and the pale white that showed the blue veins traversing the cheeks and temples. Men who might have been Othellos, had not "the accident of birth" made them American citizens, flirted with and cavaliered women who might have bamboozled a Mark Antony into fighting Cæsar's navy with a fleet of sixty sail of Egyptian war vessels, as Cleopatra did. Fortunately, however, for ordinary mortals, the world is not now held by a Cæsar, a Pompey, or an Antony, and these courtly ladies, whose "infinite variety" perchance "age could not wither nor custom stale," content themselves by enslaving the hearts of modern "Augustuses" and the "George Washingtons" of to-day; and, instead of picknicking on the Nile in a sixty-oared galley, with a poop of gold, and sails whose perfumed surface the winds loved to kiss, were pleased to go to Boulevard Grove for a day's amusement at a *fête champêtre*.

But, though those who had assembled yesterday were not immortalized by Shakspeare, they were doubtless as happy, being devoid, apparently, of anxiety concerning kingdoms and crowns, and filled places in the community much more consonant with this progressive age and its institutions. They troubled no one, and enjoyed themselves to the fullest extent, and to the music of "Champagne Charlie" and "Captain Jinks" "chased with flying feet the silver hours," until near midnight, at which seasonable time they betook themselves to their homes with pleasing recollections of a day harmlessly and enjoyably spent.—[*New York Herald*.]

PARTY spirit consumes in idle contests that energy which the whole fraternity and humanity needs. By the perpetual interchange of hard names, it makes the brethren suspicious and uncharitable; or it makes them think lightly of the kind of offences which they hear so often charged against our most eminent brothers.

Poetry.

DAWN AND DEATH.

By Bro. J. C. MANNING.

The sobbing winds of winter
Lingered sadly round the door,
Then ran, in mystic moanings,
Through the dark across the moor.
The window-panes were streaming
With the tears which Heaven wept,
And a mother sat a-dreaming
O'er an infant as it slept;
Its little hands were folded,
And its little eyes of blue
Were clothed in alabaster,
With the azure peeping through.
Its wee, wan face, so starlike,
Was as white as maiden snow,
And it breathed in faintest ripples,
As the wavelets come and go.

The morn, in golden beauty,
Through the lattice fairly peep,
But muffled was the window—
Of the room where Darling slept!
The mother's heart was breaking
Into tears, like summer cloud,
For a starry face was circled
With a little lily shroud;
And a soul from sunny features
Like a beam of light had fled;
Before her, like a snowdrop,
Her miracle lay dead!
Ah! 'twas cruel thus to chasten,
Though her loss was Darling's gain,
And her heart would rifle heaven,
Could she clasp her babe again.

METROPOLITAN LODGE MEETINGS, ETC., FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 10TH, 1863.

MONDAY, October 5th.—Lodges: Robert Burns, 25, Freemasons' Hall. Unity, 69, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. Royal Jubilee, 72, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. St. Luke's, 144, Pier Hotel, Cheyne-walk, Chelsea. Joppa, 188, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Chapters: Old King's Arms, 28, Freemasons' Hall. Victoria, 1,056, George Hotel, Aldermanbury.

TUESDAY, October 6th.—Colonial Board at 3. Audit Com. of Female School at 2.30. Lodges: Albion, 9, Freemasons' Hall. Temple, 101, Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street. St. John's, 167, Holly Bush Tavern, Hampstead. Old Concord, 175, Freemasons' Hall. La Tolerance, 538, Freemasons' Hall. St. James's, 765, Leather Market Tavern, New Weston-street, Bermondsey. Chapter: Temperance, 169, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.

WEDNESDAY, October 7th.—Lodge: Stability, 217, George Hotel, Aldermanbury. Chapter: Prince Frederick William, 753, Knights of St. John Hotel, St. John's-wood.

THURSDAY, October 8th.—Quarterly Gen. Court Female School, at Freemasons' Hall, at 12. Lodges: Lion and Lamb, 192, George Hotel, Aldermanbury. Friendship, 208, Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street. Lily Lodge of Richmond, 820, Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey. Dalbousie, 860, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Capper, 1,076, Marine Hotel, Victoria-docks, West Ham. Chapters: Mount Lebanon, 73, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Hope, 206, Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich.

FRIDAY, October 9th.—Lodge: Domestic, 177, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Chapter: Britannic, 33, Freemasons' Hall.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Dr. P.—We have received your letter, which we shall answer privately in a day or day.